

**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**

**Performance Progress Report**

2. Award Or Grant Number  
02-50-M09071

4. Report Date (MM/DD/YYYY)  
09-13-2010

1. Recipient Name  
Connected Nation, Inc.- Alaska

6. Designated Entity On Behalf Of:  
Alaska

3. Street Address  
1020 College Street,

8. Final Report?  Yes  No  
9. Report Frequency  
 Quarterly  
 Semi Annual  
 Annual  
 Final

5. City, State, Zip Code  
Bowling Green, KY 42101-2137

7. Project / Grant Period  
Start Date: (MM/DD/YYYY)  
06-01-2010

7a. End Date: (MM/DD/YYYY)  
05-31-2015

7b. Reporting Period End Date:  
09-30-2010

9a. If Other, please describe:  
N/A

**10. Broadband Mapping**

10a. Provider Table

Number of Providers Identified	Number of Providers Contacted	Number of Agreements Reached for Data Sharing	Number of Partial Data Sets Received	Number of Complete Data Sets	Number of Data Sets Verified
21	21	14	1	18	18

10b. Are you submitting the required PROVIDER DATA by using the Excel spreadsheet provided by the SBDD grants office?  Yes  No

10c. Have you encountered challenges with any providers that indicate they may refuse to participate in this project?  Yes  No

10d. If so, describe the discussions to date with each of these providers and the current status

Alaska Communications Systems (ACS) - August 2010. Per e-mail from a company representative of ACS, they choose not to participate in the Connect Alaska project at this time. However, as it is an on going situation, they may choose to participate at some later date.

10e. If you are collecting data through other means (e.g. data extraction, extrapolation, etc), please describe your progress to date and the relevant activities to be undertaken in the future

We have not collected any data through extraction programs.

10f. Please describe the verification activities you plan to implement

ESRI deployed and is hosting Connected Nation's BroadbandStat (BBStat) web application. ESRI houses the customized BBStat application in their highly-available, monitored and managed environment. Their services includes setting up a staging environment for data verification and compatibility as well as a production environment for client access.

Connected Nation has been and will continue to collect consumer feedback from broadband inquiries. These inquiries represent any type of communication received from the public regarding broadband service. Once inquiries are received across the state, this information is overlaid with the broadband availability information which was collected through the SBDD program. This allows for a real-world comparison of the broadband landscape to the information received from broadband inquiries. These inquiries are able to provide three types of information: 1) residents who do not have broadband but want it; 2) residents who have broadband but want a different provider; and 3) residents who do not have broadband, but the broadband inventory maps indicate that they do. If residents within a region states that they are without broadband, but the broadband inventory maps show otherwise, it allows Connected Nation to approach the providers within that area in an effort to more accurately represent real-world availability on the ground.

During the fourth quarter of 2010, before December 31, 2010 Connected Nation will target an additional 2 randomly selected companies in order to achieve a total field validation rate equal to or exceeding 45%. Due to the unique nature of the state's terrain and the remote population centers, Connected Nation has also used these travel opportunities to attempt to meet with representatives from federally recognized tribal communities. During recent trips to Alaska, additional CAI data has been collected as a result of personal visits with the Native American Tribal Communities in Nenana and Dot Lake.

10g. Have you initiated verification activities?  Yes  No

10h. If yes, please describe the status of your activities

BroadbandStat was launched publically during this quarter on the Connect Alaska website and received a total of 383 visits between September 1, 2010 and September 30, 2010.

During this quarter, the Connect Alaska project has received a total of 23 broadband inquiries. Additional information received through e-mail from consumers that can also be used for verification purposes totaled 2 for this quarter.

Connected Nation has completed 44 on-site validation tests and has verified all, or parts of, the data for 8 companies. This testing schedule has ensured that 38.10% of the broadband provider universe has received some form of field testing and data verification technique. Field tests have been completed in Anchorage, Girdwood, Wasilla, Juneau, Fairbanks, Auk Harbor, Douglas, Mendenhall and other remote areas of the state.

Before December 31, 2011 Connected Nation will target an additional 4 randomly selected companies in order to achieve a total field validation rate equal to or exceeding 40%. Due to the unique nature of the state's terrain and the remote population centers,

Connected Nation has also used these travel opportunities to attempt to meet with representatives from federally recognized tribal communities. During recent trips to Alaska, additional CAI data has been collected as a result of personal visits with the Native American Tribal Communities in Nenana and Dot Lake.

10i. If verification activities have not been initiated please provide a projected time line for beginning and completing such activities

N/A. Verification activities have begun.

### **Staffing**

10j. How many jobs have been created or retained as a result of this project?

3.98

10k. Is the project currently fully staffed?  Yes  No

10l. If no, please explain how any lack of staffing may impact the project's time line and when the project will be fully staffed

N/A

10m. When fully staffed, how many full-time equivalent (FTE) jobs do you expect to create or retain as a result of this project?

3.98 Please note that we use functional job titles and these titles may be staffed by multiple individuals. Their hire dates vary so for the purpose of uploading a complete report, we have used a hire date of 1/1/2010 to signify various hire dates.

10n. Staffing Table

Job Title	FTE %	Date of Hire
Associate Counsel	2	01/01/2010
Business Programmer Analyst	4	01/01/2010
CAI Data Analyst	10	01/01/2010
CAI Data Manager	7	01/01/2010
ETS Analyst	40	01/01/2010
ETS Manager	4	01/01/2010
General Counsel	4	01/01/2010
GIS Analyst	21	01/01/2010
GIS Intern	2	01/01/2010
GIS Services Manager	5	01/01/2010
Outreach & Awareness Manager	12	01/01/2010
Outreach & Awareness Specialist	20	01/01/2010
Project Coordinator	3	01/01/2010
Project Management Director	3	01/01/2010
Project Manager	53	01/01/2010
Provider Relations Manager	7	01/01/2010
Provider Relations Specialist	8	01/01/2010
Research & GIS Analyst	3	01/01/2010
Research Analyst	84	01/01/2010
Research Manager	6	01/01/2010
State Services Associate	25	01/01/2010
State Services Manager	25	01/01/2010
State Services Specialist	49	01/01/2010
State Services Sr. Specialist	1	01/01/2010

Add Row

Remove Row

**Sub Contracts**

10o. Subcontracts Table

Name of Subcontractor	Purpose of Subcontract	RFP Issued (Y/N)	Contract Executed (Y/N)	Start Date	End Date	Federal Funds	In-Kind Funds
Throughbred Research Group	Research Surveys	Y	Y	02/09/2010	02/08/2012	87,350	0
State of Alaska - This contract has not yet been executed - Awaiting further details from AK on specific planning activities/budget	Planning Activities	N	N			500,000	125,000

**Funding**

10p. How much Federal funding has been expended as of the end of the last quarter? \$600,219      10q. How much Remains? \$5,777,979

10r. How much matching funds have been expended as of the end of last quarter? \$95,637      10s. How much Remains? \$1,502,645

10t. Budget Worksheet

Mapping Budget Element	Federal Funds Granted	Proposed In-Kind	Total Budget	Federal Funds Expended	Matching Funds Expended	Total Funds Expended
Personal Salaries	\$1,661,362	\$113,635	\$1,774,997	\$135,825	\$17,541	\$153,366
Personnel Fringe Benefits	\$356,364	\$24,513	\$380,877	\$27,087	\$7,530	\$34,617
Travel	\$436,598	\$0	\$436,598	\$38,739	\$0	\$38,739
Equipment	\$132,432	\$0	\$132,432	\$62,786	\$0	\$62,786
Materials / Supplies	\$47,610	\$0	\$47,610	\$13,769	\$0	\$13,769
<b>Subcontracts Total</b>	<b>\$1,802,334</b>	<b>\$319,791</b>	<b>\$2,122,125</b>	<b>\$134,878</b>	<b>\$40,887</b>	<b>\$175,765</b>
Subcontract #1	\$86,618	\$0	\$86,618	\$44,875	\$0	\$44,875
Subcontract #2	\$500,000	\$125,000	\$625,000	\$0	\$0	\$0
Subcontract #3	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Subcontract #4	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Subcontract #5	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Construction	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Other	\$201,988	\$1,110,343	\$1,312,331	\$2,768	\$1,306	\$4,074
<b>Total Direct Costs</b>	<b>\$4,638,688</b>	<b>\$1,568,282</b>	<b>\$6,206,970</b>	<b>\$415,852</b>	<b>\$67,264</b>	<b>\$483,116</b>
<b>Total Indirect Costs</b>	<b>\$1,739,510</b>	<b>\$30,000</b>	<b>\$1,769,510</b>	<b>\$184,367</b>	<b>\$28,373</b>	<b>\$212,740</b>
<b>Total Costs</b>	<b>\$6,378,198</b>	<b>\$1,598,282</b>	<b>\$7,976,480</b>	<b>\$600,219</b>	<b>\$95,637</b>	<b>\$695,856</b>
<b>% Of Total</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>100</b>

## Hardware / Software

10u. Has the project team purchased the software / hardware described in the application?  Yes  No

10v. If yes, please list

Hardware/software purchases for the project to date include the following:

- BroadbandStat-\$60,000
- ESRI Software Maintenance-\$1,840
- Computers-\$4,365
- Ookla Net Metrics Speed Test Software-\$2,686

10w. Please note any software / hardware that has yet to be purchased and explain why it has not been purchased

Remaining purchases may include SQL server for mapping geodatabase, SQL server software, multiple dedicated storage servers, security application, additional backup replication solution, computers, GPS units BroadbandStat maintenance, ESRI ArchInfo/ArcGIS maintenance, and speed test updates as well as computers and software maintenance.

10x. Has the project team purchased or used any data sets?  Yes  No

10y. If yes, please list

N/A

10z. Are there any additional project milestones or information that has not been included?  Yes  No

10aa. If yes, please list

\* Connected Nation, the designated entity on behalf of the state of Alaska, was awarded \$4,457,388 by the NTIA under the State Broadband Data and Development Grant Program aimed at overcoming the states unique barriers to widespread high-speed Internet service.

\* Maintained and updated the budget/finance cost model for Connect Alaska

\* Revised the project schedule and work breakdown structure (WBS) with the revised SBDD timeline

\* Continued to process speed tests and broadband inquiries from the Connect Alaska website

\* Updated the project communications plan and outreach strategy

\* Produced and distributed weekly status reports, data collection activity log, and website statistics to the Connect Alaska project team

\* Continued to identify and collect data from Community Anchor Institutions within the state of Alaska

\* Surveyed Alaska native communities for broadband availability information

\* Distributed and executed NDAs with the broadband provider community

\* Continued to solicit broadband coverage datasets from the provider community

\* Distributed broadband coverage datasets to the GIS Mapping team for processing

\* Conducted field validation tests of broadband provider data in and around several Alaskan communities

\* Created and updated static maps of broadband coverage in Alaska and uploaded them to the Connect Alaska website

\* Created the Alaska BroadbandStat instance with updated data layers and broadband maps

\* Launched the Alaska BroadbandStat application via press release and webinar

\* Conducted demonstrations of the Alaska BroadbandStat application

\* Completed the analysis of raw data from the Alaska residential broadband survey

\* Compiled and delivered the results of the Alaska residential broadband survey

\* Conducted a business broadband survey and initiated the analysis process of the raw data

\* Submitted quarterly project reports and mapping data updates to the NTIA

10bb. Please describe any challenge or obstacle that you have encountered and detail the mitigation strategies the project team is employing

Time continues to be of essence. We continue to assign resources to the extent practical in order to meet the predetermined deadline.

10cc. Please provide any other information that you think would be useful to NTIA as it assesses your Broadband Mapping Project

No additional information to report at this time.

## 11. Broadband Planning

11a. Please describe progress made against all goals, objectives, and milestones detailed in the approved Project Plan. Be sure to include a description of each major activity / milestone that you plan to complete and your current status

On behalf of the state of Alaska (AK), Connected Nation (CN) is working with its subcontractors to collect and analyze demand-side data through statistical telephone surveys. These surveys collect data among residents by demographic and among businesses by size and industry sector. The 2010 residential surveys were conducted in March, 2010, by Thoroughbred Research. Analysis and processing of these results were completed with help from Lucidity Research and released in Q3, 2010.

CN has also designed the 2010 Alaska business survey. Thoroughbred Research started this survey in June, 2010; analysis of these business survey responses began in Q3, 2010, results will be released in Q4, 2010. Updates to surveys will occur in Q1, 2011 and Q3, 2011.

The data was analyzed along with supply-side broadband data gathered through the AK SBDD mapping grant. The tool for this ongoing analysis is BroadbandStat, an interactive GIS application that offers location-based consumer feedback on the accuracy of the map, as well as an interactive tool for data analysis, planning, and decision-making.

CN will continue to work with the state of AK to facilitate research and data based planning discussions and prepare an analysis of broadband survey data.

11b. Please describe any challenge or obstacle that you have encountered and detail the mitigation strategies the project team is employing

Connected Nation has been relying heavily on Alaska's recommendations to ensure that our work, as well as the work of our subcontractors, exceeds expectations. During Q3, 2010, there were no significant obstacles during the planning process.

11c. Does the Project Team anticipate any changes to the project plan for Broadband Planning?  Yes  No

11d. If yes, please describe these anticipated changes. Please note that NTIA will need to approve changes to the Project Plan before they can be implemented

On September 27, 2010, Connect Alaska received notice of a grant award extending SBDD mapping and planning activities an additional three years. The project plan is being revised to include these new activities. Details of the new plan will be reported in the fourth quarter.

## Funding

11e. How much Federal funding has been expended as of the end of the last quarter? \$0

11f. How much Remains? \$0

11g. How much matching funds have been expended as of the end of last quarter? \$0

11h. How much Remains? \$0

### 11i. Planning Worksheet

Planning Budget Element	Federal Funds Granted	Proposed In-Kind	Total Budget	Federal Funds Expended	Matching Funds Expended	Total Funds Expended
Personal Salaries	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Personnel Fringe Benefits	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Travel	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Equipment	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Materials / Supplies	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Subcontracts Total	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Subcontract #1	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Subcontract #2	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Subcontract #3	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Subcontract #4	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Subcontract #5	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Construction	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Other	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total Direct Costs	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total Indirect Costs	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total Costs	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
% Of Total	0	0	0	0	0	0

### Additional Planning Information

11j. Are there any additional project milestones or information that has not been included?

None at this time.

11k. Please describe any challenge or obstacle that you have encountered and detail the mitigation strategies the Project Team is employing

Connected Nation has been relying heavily on Alaska's recommendations to ensure that our work, as well as the work of our subcontractors, exceeds expectations.

11l. Please provide any other information that you think would be useful to NTIA as it assesses your Broadband Mapping Project

All planning costs have been combined with the mapping costs and reported in the mapping section above.

12. Certification: I certify to the best of my knowledge and belief that this report is correct and complete for performance of activities for the purpose set forth in the award documents.

12a. Typed or Printed Name and Title of Authorized Certifying Official

Bernie Bogle

12c. Telephone  
(area code, number, and extension)

12d. Email Address

bbogle@connectednation.org

12b. Signature of Authorized Certifying Official

Submitted Electronically

12e. Date Report Submitted  
(Month, Day, Year)

12-06-2010

Performance Progress Report  
OMB Approval Number: 0660-0034  
Expiration Date: 08/31/2010