U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE	2. Award Or Grant Number
Performance Progress Report	05-50-M09009
	4. Report Date (MM/DD/YYYY)
	07-11-2011

1. Recipient Name	6. Designated Entity On Behalf Of:	
Connect Arkansas	N/A	

3. Street Address	8. Final Report?	9. Report Frequency
200 S. Commerce Street, Suite 400,	◯ Yes ◉ No	◉ Quarterly ◯ Semi Annual ◯ Annual ◯ Final

5. City, State, Zip Code		
Little Rock, AR 72201		

7. Project / Grant Period Start Date: (MM/DD/YYYY)	7a. End Date: (MM/DD/YYYY)	7b. Reporting Period End Date:	9a. If Other, please describe:
09-15-2009	09-14-2014	06-30-2011	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
75	72	70	24	43	56

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

74 Providers listed above is based on Parent or Holding Company. 78 when counted by DBA name. Connect has not had any success in acquiring data from the following companies: 1) Alliance Communications, which has stated several occasions that they are simply too busy to provide the data requested. 2) Black Sheep Computing, Black Sheep has expressed their desire to not participate in the program as they have a "Libertarian business model" 3) HughesNet, after initial commitments to provide coverage data, HughesNet stopped responding to all forms of contact. Connect has not received any reason for HughesNet's sudden refusal to cooperate. Phone calls and emails to all 3 were unreturned for the spring 2011 Data collection. Since the last report Connect has identified the following providers as providing Broadband in the state that were previously unidentified: 1) Velocity Broadband Incorporated, & 2) Communications Specialists Inc; both have agreed to provided data but have not prior to April 1st deadline. Two companies in the state have gone out of business or are in the process of discontinuing to offer Broadband: 1) IOCC & 2) Vista Vox, both being fixed wireless providers. Crystal Broadband Network mentioned as a new provider in last quarterly report, in fact has no infrastructure in Arkansas at this time. Also worth noting that Cobridge Communications aquired all of Charter's cable infrastructure in Arkansas. Connect has recently identified HortonTV as a Fixed Wireless provider in Arkansas.

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

At this time, Connect is not utilizing any additional sources other than the actual broadband providers for collecting broadband coverage data, with exception of HughesNet with is assumed to have coverage statewide as with Wild Blue and Starband. Speeds given for HughesNet are as per providers website.

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

Connect Arkansas has been using Self Reported Consumer data combined with targeted surveys, FCC form 477 data and speed test data from our website to verify provider coverage data. In addition to these verification methods, Connect has been collecting feedback from the interactive version of our broadband coverage map. This data is compared to coverage information gathered from providers.

10g. Have you initiated verification activities? ◉Yes ◯No

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

Connect Arkansas has been using Self Reported Consumer data combined with targeted surveys, FCC form 477 data and speed test data from our website to verify provider coverage data. In addition to these verification methods, Connect has been collecting feedback from the interactive version of our broadband coverage map. This data is compared to coverage information gathered from providers.

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

N/A

Staffing

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

4.94

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

We will hire in July a second full time GIS Analyst Specialist who will assist the GIS manager with the mapping, service providers and data analysis tasks.

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

6.77

10n. Staffing Table

Job Title	FTE %	Date of Hire
GIS Manager	50	08/04/2008
GIS Analyst Specialist 1	100	11/19/2009
Community Outreach Leader 1	82	08/16/2010
Community Outreach Leader 2	36	05/16/2011
Compliance Officer	50	11/19/2009
Compliance Analyst	50	02/01/2011
Administrative Assistant 1	20	07/01/2007
President (Management)	38	07/01/2007
Senior Vice President 1 (Management)	8	07/01/2007
Marketing Director (Management)	40	01/05/2010
IT Director (Management)	10	07/01/2010
Human Resources (Management)	10	07/01/2010

<div style="text-align:center">[Add Row]   [Remove Row]</div>

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
Arkansas Geographic Information System	Will work with 28 counties to develop geographic information system address points statewide	N	Y	12/01/2010	11/30/2013	944,400	571,792
CT&T Communications Consultant	Engineering Assessments	N	N	10/01/2011	09/30/2012	253,000	0
The Gadberry Group	Geo-code, process provider coverage data, build web-based interactive broadband map	N	Y	12/31/2009	12/09/2011	250,000	0
Not selected	Statewide survey for validation	N	N	12/01/2011	03/31/2012	150,000	0

The Gadberry Group	Website hosting fees to support interactive broadband map	N	Y	09/01/2011	10/31/2014	150,000	0
Information Network of Arkansas	County websites	N	Y	04/01/2011	12/31/2012	104,000	0
University of Arkansas at Little Rock	Surveys	N	Y	01/01/2010	12/21/2010	40,323	0
Not selected, work done in house	Facilitation	N	N	09/01/2010	09/30/2011	3,397	0
Not selected	County Broadband adoption, fundraising	N	N	09/01/2011	10/30/2014	68,000	0
Information Network of Arkansas	Annual county website maintenance	N	Y	04/01/2011	02/28/2013	58,800	0
Not selected, work done in house	Fixed wireless propagation reports	N	N	07/01/2010	12/31/2010	10,535	0
Aristotle	Website re-development	Y	Y	05/01/2011	08/31/2011	40,000	0
Not selected	Monthly newsletter distribution	N	N	09/01/2011	10/30/2014	36,000	0
Not selected, work done in house	Travel to e-Communities to facilitate meetings	N	N	09/15/2009	09/30/2011	6,190	0
The Political Firm	Statewide survey	Y	Y	01/03/2011	02/28/2011	25,000	0
Datamax	Plotter lease	N	Y	09/15/2010	09/30/2011	18,127	0
Not selected	Media Outreach	N	N	01/01/2012	09/30/2014	17,455	0
Not selected	Fixed wireless propagation map	N	N	09/01/2011	08/30/2012	5,400	0
Staffmark	Contractual labor	N	Y	07/06/2011	07/27/2011	8,000	0
Not selected	Data validation	N	N	10/03/2011	12/30/2011	102,741	0
Not selected	Focus groups to assist with the efforts to educate and promote the use of broadband in rural areas	N	N	10/01/2011	04/30/2012	40,000	0

Add Row	Remove Row

Funding

10p. How much Federal funding has been expended as of the end of the last quarter? $1,462,399   10q. How much Remains? $4,712,967

10r. How much matching funds have been expended as of the end of last quarter? $650,407   10s. How much Remains? $893,435

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	$2,114,056	$370,280	$2,484,336	$609,129	$217,073	$826,201
Personnel Fringe Benefits	$410,661	$80,697	$491,358	$103,496	$60,831	$164,327
Travel	$49,262	$16,339	$65,601	$4,887	$16,339	$21,225

Mapping Budget Element	Federal Funds Granted	Proposed In-Kind	Total Budget	Federal Funds Expended	Matching Funds Expended	Total Funds Expended
Equipment	$65,835	$22,479	$88,314	$21,552	$22,479	$44,031
Materials / Supplies	$190,843	$33,850	$224,693	$72,355	$33,850	$106,205
Subcontracts Total	$2,371,045	$601,065	$2,972,110	$407,209	$159,370	$566,579
Subcontract #1	$944,400	$571,892	$1,516,192	$92,039	$130,097	$222,136
Subcontract #2	$253,000	$0	$253,000	$0	$0	$0
Subcontract #3	$250,000	$0	$250,000	$217,000	$0	$217,000
Subcontract #4	$150,000	$0	$150,000	$0	$0	$0
Subcontract #5	$773,645	$29,273	$802,918	$98,170	$29,273	$127,443
Construction	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0
Other	$645,208	$378,065	$1,023,273	$161,777	$140,465	$302,242
Total Direct Costs	$5,846,910	$1,502,775	$7,349,685	$1,380,403	$650,407	$2,030,810
Total Indirect Costs	$328,456	$41,067	$369,523	$81,996	$0	$81,996
Total Costs	$6,175,366	$1,543,842	$7,719,208	$1,462,399	$650,407	$2,112,806
% Of Total	80	20	100	69	31	100

Hardware / Software

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

10v. If yes, please list

N/A

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

EDX wireless mapping software renewal, two computers for mapping. We haven't got to the point when the software/hardware are necessary yet.

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

10y. If yes, please list

No data sets have been purchased since ESRI Internet Usage Survey Data was purchased to be used alongside the MicroBuild Broadband Indicator data obtained from the Gadberry Group, LLC that was purchased in the Q4 2010 quarterly report.

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

10aa. If yes, please list

During this quarter, Data from Spring 2011 was updated to the interactive map.

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

Preparing for reporting data in Census 2010 data for providers that submit data in 2000 format is challenging due to the fact that the census blocks do not match one to one, or even one to many.

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

Several Providers have mentioned they are experiencing "survey fatigue", from having to provide different sets of data to different groups i.e. form 477 coverage data to FCC, coverage data as requested by the NOFA to Connect Arkansas, etc. These providers have expressed a reluctance to submit any additional data than what is required in the NOFA Clarification.

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

Engineering Assessments for the first two counties in the schedule are completed. Assessments for Desha and Arkansas counties are complete showing the broadband infrastructure currently in place for each respective county. Engineers have taken each study and determined the infrastructure costs necessary to expand service in each county to 1.5 mbps and 4 mbps download speeds. Next steps are to present the assessment data to each provider for comment with a follow up meeting being held between broadband providers and county leaders. eCommunities staff visited 15 cities and met with 123 people in the quarter. eCommunity Strategic Plans for Ashley, Bradley, Calhoun, Chicot, Drew, Jefferson, Lincoln, Ouachita, and Union are complete and posted on the Connect Arkansas website. The county website for Sharp county was begun in May with an anticipated completion date of August.

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

Engineering Assessment work was held up for several weeks due to flooding in south east Arkansas. Contractors worked overtime for several days after floods had subsided in order to complete the work on time.

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

N/A

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						
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

11i. Planning Worksheet						
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?

Connect has completed eCommunity strategic plans for 17 counties. Implementation is scheduled to begin in three counties in Q3.

This quarter, we completed a follow up survey to our statewide survey. This follow up survey was conducted in our 17 eCommunities counties using the same questions and methodology as our statewide survey to give us an accurate baseline figure to run comparison figures on throughout the life of the grant.

Connect Arkansas's new website will feature vignettes from Arkansans on why they want high-speed Internet and how they are or will be using it to be more informed and efficient when conducting day-to-day routines and how they will use it to increase their educational, business, health, and recreational opportunities. This quarter we finalized the Discovery Phase of the website with the developer, Aristotle, and mapped the content for the site. As of this writing, Aristotle was writing the code and finishing building the inside works of the website so that we can begin building pages in August. Expected launch date is Fall 2011.

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

None.

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

None

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 Grace Morrissey	12c. Telephone (area code, number, and extension)
	12d. Email Address gmorrissey@connect-arkansas.org
12b. Signature of Authorized Certifying Official Submitted Electronically	12e. Date Report Submitted (Month, Day, Year) 08-15-2011