

**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**

**Performance Progress Report**

2. Award Or Grant Number

32-50-M09056

4. Report Date (MM/DD/YYYY)

10-12-2011

1. Recipient Name

Connected Nation, Inc - Nevada

6. Designated Entity On Behalf Of:

Nevada

3. Street Address

1020 College Street, P.O. Box 3448,

8. Final Report?

Yes

No

9. Report Frequency

Quarterly

Semi Annual

Annual

Final

5. City, State, Zip Code

Bowling Green, KY 42102-3448

7. Project / Grant Period  
Start Date: (MM/DD/YYYY)

12-20-2009

7a. End Date: (MM/DD/YYYY)

12-19-2014

7b. Reporting Period End Date:

09-30-2011

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
0	0	0	0	0	0

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

ACI, Inc.: In addition to contact attempts made on July 1, 2010 and January 5, 2011, 2 additional attempts were made this period.

Air-Internet, Inc.: In addition to contact attempts made on July 1, 2010 and January 5, 2011, 2 additional attempts were made this period.

Ezznet, Inc.: Five contact attempts were made between April 17, 2011 and August 8, 2011 with no response.

Pyramid Net: On August 05, 2011, a representative of the company replied to a request for participation asking that they be removed from our list.

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

No data was collected through extraction or extrapolation.

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

ESRI has deployed and is hosting the BroadbandStat (BBStat) web application. ESRI houses the customized application in their highly available, monitored, and managed environment. Their services include maintaining a staging environment for data verification and compatibility as well as a production environment for client access.

Consumer feedback in the form of broadband inquiries is collected. These inquiries represent any type of communications received from the public regarding broadband service. Once broadband inquiries are received across the state, this information is overlaid with the broadband availability information which was collected through the State Broadband Initiative (SBI). This allows for a real-world comparison of the broadband landscape to the information received from broadband inquiries. Broadband 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 state that they are without broadband, but the broadband inventory maps show otherwise, this allows Connected Nation to approach the providers within that area in an effort to trim down their coverage to more accurately represent real-world availability on the ground.

Within the Q2 Performance Progress Report (PPR) Connected Nation proposed to target 4 additional companies in order to achieve a total field validation rate equal to or exceeding 70.69% before December 31, 2011. As of this report, Connected Nation has completed

field validation on 73.08% of the provider universe.

10g. Have you initiated verification activities?  Yes  No

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

BroadbandStat is publicly available on the Connect Nevada website (<http://connectnv.org>) and received a total of 177 visits between July 1, 2011 and September 30, 2011.

During this quarter, the project received a total of 2 broadband inquiries.

For this reporting period, 5 field verification tests were conducted. Thus far, Connected Nation's staff conducted multiple tests on the following providers: A&J Hardy Enterprises (d.b.a. Comnet Computer Services and Peak Internet Services); Arizona Nevada Tower Corporation; AT&T; Avant Wireless; Baja Broadband LLC; Beehive Telephone Company Inc.; CalNeva Broadband LLC; CC Communications; CenturyLink; Charter Communications; Citizens Telecommunications Company of Nevada (d.b.a. Frontier Communications of Nevada); Clearwire Corporation; Cox Communications; ETAN Industries (d.b.a. Clark Cablevision and CMA Cablevision); Great Basin Internet Services; High Desert Internet Services; High Speed Networks – Mound House LLC; Highlands Wireless Inc.; Hot Spot Broadband Inc.; KeyOn Wireless; Las Vegas Net; Leap Wireless (d.b.a. Cricket License Company LLC); Lincoln County Telephone; Moapa Valley Telephone Company; Mt. Wheeler Power; Oasis Online Inc.; Oregon-Idaho Utilities (d.b.a. Humboldt Telephone Company); Performance Computing Internet; Reliance Connects (d.b.a. Rio Virgin Telephone & Cablevision); Satview Broadband Ltd.; Schatnet Internet LLC; Sprint Nextel; TelePacific Communications (d.b.a. Nextweb); United Cable Management; Vegas Wi-Fi Communications LLC; Verizon Wireless; Wells Rural Electric Telephone; and Yonder Media.

In addition to the field verification tests that have been conducted, Connected Nation has also conducted work in the field to collect information for the non-participating provider, Avant Wireless, in which by nature of the methodology required for this collection is also included in the above list.

(For more details, please refer to the Q3 Supplemental Answers Document.)

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

Verification activities have been initiated.

## Staffing

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

13.63

Connected Nation has numerous staff working on the Connect Nevada project, some at only a small percentage of their time. This approach is beneficial to the project in various ways: some staff provide necessary project support, many staff work together utilizing a team approach, and others are subject matter experts in their respective areas, and by leveraging their expertise, the project benefits from their knowledge and skills without the necessity of supporting a more expensive full-time resource.

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

The positions not currently staffed are related to Connect Nevada's new local and regional tech teams. The positions are expected to be filled during the fourth quarter of 2011.

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

16.63

10n. Staffing Table

Job Title	FTE %	Date of Hire
Associate Counsel	4	09/14/2009
Business Programmer Analyst	2	04/02/2007
CAI Coordinator	43	09/16/2009
CAI Coordinator	6	12/13/2004
CAI Data Analyst	8	03/24/2009
ETS Analyst	40	02/08/2010

ETS Analyst	1	11/01/2007
ETS Manager	5	07/01/2007
General Counsel	4	01/01/2007
GIS Analyst	64	04/01/2010
GIS Analyst	3	04/01/2010
GIS Analyst	2	11/16/2009
GIS Analyst	1	10/19/2009
GIS Services Manager	3	05/15/2007
Outreach & Awareness Manager	8	03/24/2009
Outreach & Awareness Specialist	19	01/04/2010
Outreach & Awareness Specialist	10	01/04/2010
Outreach & Awareness Specialist	9	02/02/2009
Outreach & Awareness Specialist	6	10/01/2007
Program Coordinator	100	05/16/2011
Program Director	8	08/04/2008
Project Coordinator	8	04/01/2005
Project Management Director	4	12/16/2009
Project Manager	72	08/20/2007
Project Manager	12	09/04/2007
Project Manager	7	09/01/2006
Project Manager	3	01/14/2008
Project Manager	1	03/16/2010
Provider Relations Manager	8	02/17/2005
Research & GIS Analyst	2	05/14/2007
Research Analyst	97	02/16/2010
Research Analyst	97	02/16/2010
Research Analyst	97	02/16/2010
Research Analyst	97	02/16/2010
Research Analyst	97	02/16/2010
Research Analyst	97	02/16/2010
Research Analyst	97	02/16/2010
Research Analyst	97	02/16/2010
Research Analyst	97	02/16/2010
Research Analyst	97	02/16/2010
Research Analyst	97	02/16/2010

Research Analyst	12	02/01/2010
Research Analyst	3	03/22/2010
Research Analyst	2	06/01/2009
Research Manager	4	05/14/2007
State Services Associate	1	12/01/2009
State Services Manager	4	07/01/2007
State Services Specialist	1	02/02/2009

**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
Thoroughbred Research Group	Research Surveys	Y	Y	02/09/2010	02/08/2012	152,675	0
Contract Labor	Contract Labor	N	Y	12/20/2009	12/19/2014	132,378	90,281

**Funding**

10p. How much Federal funding has been expended as of the end of the last quarter? \$1,346,440      10q. How much Remains? \$2,647,001

10r. How much matching funds have been expended as of the end of last quarter? \$281,988      10s. How much Remains? \$785,985

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	\$1,225,643	\$272,721	\$1,498,364	\$365,919	\$87,566	\$453,485
Personnel Fringe Benefits	\$262,898	\$0	\$262,898	\$77,652	\$22,838	\$100,490
Travel	\$260,881	\$0	\$260,881	\$59,514	\$316	\$59,830
Equipment	\$134,194	\$0	\$134,194	\$68,938	\$0	\$68,938
Materials / Supplies	\$42,431	\$0	\$42,431	\$17,203	\$0	\$17,203
<b>Subcontracts Total</b>	<b>\$802,096</b>	<b>\$75,649</b>	<b>\$877,745</b>	<b>\$298,941</b>	<b>\$90,281</b>	<b>\$389,222</b>
Subcontract #1	\$265,231	\$0	\$265,231	\$152,675	\$0	\$152,675
Subcontract #2	\$477,079	\$75,649	\$552,728	\$132,378	\$90,281	\$222,659
Subcontract #3	\$21,104	\$0	\$21,104	\$5,430	\$0	\$5,430
Subcontract #4	\$38,682	\$0	\$38,682	\$8,458	\$0	\$8,458
Subcontract #5	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Construction	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Other	\$111,699	\$628,571	\$740,270	\$16,937	\$27,729	\$44,666
<b>Total Direct Costs</b>	<b>\$2,839,842</b>	<b>\$976,941</b>	<b>\$3,816,783</b>	<b>\$905,104</b>	<b>\$228,730</b>	<b>\$1,133,834</b>
<b>Total Indirect Costs</b>	<b>\$1,153,599</b>	<b>\$91,032</b>	<b>\$1,244,631</b>	<b>\$441,336</b>	<b>\$53,258</b>	<b>\$494,594</b>
<b>Total Costs</b>	<b>\$3,993,441</b>	<b>\$1,067,973</b>	<b>\$5,061,414</b>	<b>\$1,346,440</b>	<b>\$281,988</b>	<b>\$1,628,428</b>

Mapping Budget Element	Federal Funds Granted	Proposed In-Kind	Total Budget	Federal Funds Expended	Matching Funds Expended	Total Funds Expended
% Of Total	79	21	100	83	17	100

### 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
- Computers & Software-\$5,347
- Spectrum Analyzer-\$4,477
- Speed Test Software-\$3,893
- GIS Software Maintenance-\$3,035
- Google Earth Pro-\$266

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 server, security application, additional backup replication solution, computers, a spectrum analyzer, GPS units, interactive map upgrades/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

Connect Nevada obtained a dataset containing Nevada health care Community Anchor Institution (CAI) data. Since the dataset was developed using federal funds, it was not valued nor was it counted as match toward the program.

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

10aa. If yes, please list

- Connect Nevada (CNV) submitted broadband provider mapping data updates in accordance with the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) semi-annual requirement. The submission included participation of just over 91% of the Nevada provider community.
- Performed audits of provider records, researched provider mergers and acquisitions, and reviewed Federal Communications Commission (FCC) documentation on broadband providers.
- In conjunction with the Task Force, outreach was conducted to continue identification of Community Anchor Institution connectivity data.
- The CNV project mission statement was developed.
- Processing and downloading of 2010 Census Block and road data continued.

10bb. Please describe any challenge or obstacle that you have encountered and detail the mitigation strategies the project team is employing  
 Non-federal match amounts account for 17% of total grant expenditures. This percentage is below the required 20%. Connect Nevada is working with the state of Nevada to obtain datasets that have been collected using state resources in order to enhance the value and functionality of the broadband maps. Two Community Anchor Institution datasets were received this quarter. One of which was utilized by the program, but was not valued or counted as match as it was developed using federal funds. The second dataset received is being valued at this time and will be accounted for in Q4. Additional match will also be received from local/regional broadband team meetings, the first of which was held in Q3 2011, but has yet to be valued.

10cc. Please provide any other information that you think would be useful to NTIA as it assesses your Broadband Mapping Project  
 Connect Nevada maps were published and used to further identify unserved and underserved areas and to help communities plan for expanding service to unserved households: <http://connectnv.org/mapping/>

During Q3 2011, Connect Nevada continued gathering data on the location and broadband connectivity of Community Anchor Institutions (CAI), in accordance with the data requirements of the State Broadband Initiative Notice of Funds Availability (NOFA) Technical Appendix. Efforts have been focused on conducting outreach and raising awareness of this important project through a statewide campaign.

Research was conducted with the Nevada Broadband Task Force during Q3 2011 to identify existing, centralized sources for CAI connectivity data. One source that was identified within the state in the health care sector was the Nevada State Health Information Technology (HIT) Coordinator's Office. This office provided Connect Nevada with a database of broadband connectivity for thousands of health care providers throughout the state. Connect Nevada continues to work closely with statewide organization and government agencies, such as the Nevada State Library and Archives and the Nevada Department of Education, to distribute the CAI survey to

contacts throughout the state.

The program continues to utilize an online survey and raise awareness of the importance of CAI broadband connectivity. Connect Nevada has an ongoing mission to educate CAI throughout the state on the importance of participating in the project.

Additionally we continue to utilize a CAI newsletter which was released during Q2 and remains available on the Connect Nevada website. An update for this newsletter is planned during Q4 2011.

**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

State Broadband Capacity Building Milestones Year 2 Quarter 3 per approved Project Plan:

- State broadband program office administration complete – This milestone was met. Project status reports were presented to the Task Force, office space was established in the Nevada State Library and Archives building, the project plan was maintained, and regular meetings were held with the Task Force Chair.
- Meeting of the Year 2 Quarter 3 Nevada Broadband Task Force complete – This milestone was met. The Nevada Broadband Task Force met on July 7 and September 16 where NTIA project plan deliverables were discussed, updates were provided, and broadband planning components of the program were reviewed in detail. Feedback from the Task Force was garnered and next steps identified. The CNV involvement transitioned to more of a coordinating role in addition to participant.

Technical Assistance Milestones Year 2 Quarter 3 per approved Project Plan:

- Initiate 2011 statewide business survey research – This milestone was met. The business survey was initiated.
- Analyze 2011 non-adopter oversample survey results – This milestone was met. On behalf of the state of Nevada, Connected Nation (CN) conducted the 2011 non-adopter telephone survey, incorporating recommendations received from state stakeholders and third-party consultants where appropriate. In Q3 2011 CN finished surveying respondents across Nevada, began analyzing the results, and presented initial results to the state stakeholders.
- Analyze 2011 residential survey research results – This milestone was met. On behalf of the state of Nevada, CN conducted the 2011 Residential Technology Assessment, incorporating recommendations received from state stakeholders and third-party consultants where appropriate. In Q3 2011 CN finished surveying respondents across Nevada, began analyzing the results, and presented initial results to the state stakeholders.

(For more details, please refer to the Q3 Supplemental Answers Document.)

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 working closely with the state of Nevada and the Nevada Broadband Task Force to ensure that our work exceeds expectations. During Q3 2011, 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

No changes are anticipated.

**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

11i. Planning Worksheet						
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?

Connected Nation conducted a survey that oversamples households that do not subscribe to broadband. This second survey was in addition to the previously scheduled residential survey. This updated and improved methodology will provide a greater level of analysis regarding barriers to technology adoption among different socioeconomic and demographic groups by surveying non-adopters in Nevada in a way similar to that conducted by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) as part of the National Broadband Planning effort. This approach will help create a demographic and socioeconomic profile of the population of non-adopters in Nevada, which can then be applied at the local level of detail by area planning teams to assist in developing local adoption initiatives that will target the barriers that are unique to that area. In Q3 2011, CN surveyed 1,830 adult heads of households who do not subscribe to broadband across the state of Nevada and presented the initial results to state stakeholders.

Additional Project Activities Include:

- Interviews were conducted for Regional Planning Consultant positions.
- Worked extensively developing partnerships locally and regionally and encouraging coordination with other state projects. Numerous community meetings were held across the state to assess local broadband need and begin planning for better access, adoption, and use.

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

Connect Nevada encountered a problem identifying qualified candidates for the Regional Planning Consultant positions which delayed the hiring process (originally targeted for completion by 9/30/11). Recruiting continues through posting of open positions on the Connect Nevada website, posting open positions on Career Builder, and eliciting candidate recommendations from stakeholders. Consultants will be hired, as identified, beginning Q4 2011.

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

- Humboldt Development Authority (HDA) joined Connect Nevada in forming a pilot project of regional planning with a local advisory committee in support of the effort to increase technology use in the county.
  - o Press Release: Humboldt County Group Forms to Expand Broadband in Area – [http://connectnv.org/press\\_release/?id=tag%3Ablogger.com%2C1999%3Ablog-1635452833530028143.post-8166670608427088635](http://connectnv.org/press_release/?id=tag%3Ablogger.com%2C1999%3Ablog-1635452833530028143.post-8166670608427088635)
- Connect Nevada was present at the Nevada Association of Counties (NACO) annual conference in Churchill County in September.
  - o Blog: NACO's Land of Opportunity – <http://connectnv.org/news/?id=tag%3Ablogger.com%2C1999%3Ablog-3500607592216986829.post-4097741497550342337>
- State news outlets presented stories on the Connect Nevada project planning initiative, generating more than 82,000 positive impressions:
  - o Sample: Local Leaders Join Statewide Broadband Initiative to Improve Technology in County (Silver Pinyon Journal, 7/18/11) – <http://myspj.com/features/56-miscellaneous/1480-locals-join-statewide-broadband-initiative>

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)

10-28-2011