

**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**

**Performance Progress Report**

2. Award Or Grant Number

30-50-M09049

4. Report Date (MM/DD/YYYY)

04-14-2011

1. Recipient Name

MONTANA DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

6. Designated Entity On Behalf Of:

N/A

3. Street Address

301 South Park Avenue, P.O. Box 200501,

8. Final Report?

Yes

No

9. Report Frequency

Quarterly

Semi Annual

Annual

Final

5. City, State, Zip Code

Helena, MT 59620-0501

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

01-01-2010

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

12-31-2014

7b. Reporting Period End Date:

03-31-2011

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

Montana's Constitution imposes unique and extraordinary challenges on companies that wish to protect their confidential and proprietary information from disclosure with State Government. The public's right to know is protected by the Montana Constitution, and this right has been strengthened and delineated by the Montana Supreme Court. The Department's NDA and Affidavit comport very specifically to this right – placing the burden on the owner of the confidential information to specify what documents should be kept from public view. This process lets the courts -- not the agency – decide what is confidential and what is not. Because of this process the State has had no success in getting any signed NDA's.

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

Montana has taken on a vast array of alternatives to collect data by other means and has been successful in collecting the data via alternative measures Here is a list of the data sources we have used:

- Commercial data providers - infrastructure
- Crowd sourced – infrastructure and coverage
- Provider web sites – infrastructure and coverage
- Government records – infrastructure and coverage
- PSC Records - Central offices and Remote terminals / subscriber data and lines
- Web Research
- Field Research
- PSC Office Research
- Using FCC data & other public sources - Form 477 by providers, zip code data
- FAA records
- Proposals submitted to state contracting opportunities by providers

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

We have developed a system to quantify "validated" data for the purpose of determining what is suitable for delivery to NTIA. The operational data model maintains reliability and validity codes, together with completeness checks to track which data elements are complete or still in process of refinement. Infrastructure is compared to public data, independent measurements, and telecommunications provider submittals at varying levels of geography. As more data is obtained from providers and systematically checked against infrastructure points, the reliability and validity progress along the spectrum from 1 (not validated or reliable) to 10 (validated and reliable). Completeness is primarily dependent on provider input, and can be supplemented in many instances with independent measurements. The process is iterative. Our validation methods provides the ability to use general information and iteratively cross check and improve the coverage models as more accurate data is obtained.

10g. Have you initiated verification activities?  Yes  No

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

Verification has been completed for all data submitted to NTIA

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?

1.85

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

In addition to what is listed there is a Program Manager Position and a Program Specialist Position with the Montana Department of Commerce that are newly created position(s) (2 FTE) for this grant. These position(s) are being funded by state match through June 2011. From June 2011 going forward these will be funded by Federal funds. In addition, there is a also a position available (1FTE) for Capacity Building that is estimated to be filled in year 2 or 3 as that part of the program begins.

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

4.0

10n. Staffing Table

Job Title	FTE %	Date of Hire
Project Manager - Tetra Tech (0.52 FTE)	28	01/15/2010
Broadband Mapping Lead - Tetra Tech (0.7 FTE)	38	01/15/2010
Broadband Sr. GIS Analyst - Tetra Tech (0.63 FTE)	34	01/15/2010

Add Row

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### 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
Tetra Tech EM	Collecting, processing, formatting data, mapping its usage, and providing this data to NTIA. Web Portal Development and Data Verification.	Y	Y	01/15/2010	12/31/2014	1,850,000	0
Montana ITSD	Data migration to allow data sharing with Montana's Base Map Services, allowing data to be openly shared to public and private entities.	N	N	01/01/2012	12/31/2014	230,000	0
TBD	Conduct a state wide benchmark survey on digital literacy in year 2 with a follow-up survey in year 4 or 5.	N	N	01/01/2012	12/31/2014	110,000	0

Certified Regional Development Corporations	Collection of information from area entities and business to determine the degree of need for expansion of Internet adoption and digital literacy.	Y	Y	07/01/2011	12/31/2014	390,000	0
TBD	For consultants, speakers, trainers and other partnerships to assist in the Local/Regional Training as well as the Capacity Building	N	N	07/01/2011	12/31/2014	400,000	0
Contingency for Best Practices	Contingency fee for future best practices variances that may develop in the life of the grant.	N	N	07/01/2011	12/31/2014	100,000	0

Add Row

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### Funding

10p. How much Federal funding has been expended as of the end of the last quarter? \$593,693      10q. How much Remains? \$5,491,132

10r. How much matching funds have been expended as of the end of last quarter? \$449,901      10s. How much Remains? \$1,072,139

#### 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	\$840,500	\$211,100	\$1,051,600	\$0	\$127,515	\$127,515
Personnel Fringe Benefits	\$178,750	\$111,400	\$290,150	\$0	\$34,952	\$34,952
Travel	\$122,698	\$19,914	\$142,612	\$400	\$4,554	\$4,954
Equipment	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Materials / Supplies	\$74,858	\$8,000	\$82,858	\$256	\$8,909	\$9,165
Subcontracts Total	\$3,080,000	\$0	\$3,080,000	\$589,217	\$0	\$589,217
Subcontract #1	\$1,850,000	\$0	\$1,850,000	\$589,217	\$0	\$589,217
Subcontract #2	\$230,000	\$0	\$230,000	\$0	\$0	\$0
Subcontract #3	\$110,000	\$0	\$110,000	\$0	\$0	\$0
Subcontract #4	\$390,000	\$0	\$390,000	\$0	\$0	\$0
Subcontract #5	\$500,000	\$0	\$500,000	\$0	\$0	\$0
Construction	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Other	\$1,713,072	\$1,141,714	\$2,854,786	\$3,179	\$273,971	\$277,150
Total Direct Costs	\$6,009,878	\$1,492,128	\$7,502,006	\$593,052	\$449,901	\$1,042,953
Total Indirect Costs	\$74,949	\$29,912	\$104,861	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total Costs	\$6,084,827	\$1,522,040	\$7,606,867	\$593,693	\$449,901	\$1,042,953
% Of Total	80	20	100	57	43	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

N/A

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

10y. If yes, please list

GeoTel Inc - purchased central office information.  
\$2,000.00

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

10aa. If yes, please list

- Attended State Conference for state co-op ISPs, participated in a panel discussion, met directly with ISPs, disseminated information about our program and efforts.
- Meeting with the Montana Independent Telco Systems general manager.
- State Map Application live on internet and Speedtest updated.
- Beginning discussions on automation tools to deploy to increase submissions success rates with providers
- New Website under development
- Meetings to discuss time table for the next 6-9 months of new techniques and tools and their deployment to continue our efforts to refine and improve on our mapping data (such as crowd sourcing, in-the-field analysis, collaboration with other agencies etc).

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

State does not have any NDAs with providers due to Montana's open records laws. This poses challenges and obstacles getting accurate data at a detail level. To mitigate this, the state is using a gradient scale for validation/authentication of provider data that is obtained. Future efforts will also go into continual efforts to refine current tools; to utilize public data and validation through these refined measures; as well as continue efforts to work with providers to validate data.

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

N/A

## 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

Preliminary planning meetings are now underway with both public and private entities. Discussions have focused on goals and objectives of the planning efforts and who the preliminary stakeholders may be and options available. Discussions on best practices to disseminate information have also been discussed. As a result of these planning meetings, future meetings have been scheduled and consultants scheduled to come to speak to the Broadband Program to outline some options for developing a local/regional work groups across the state.

Discussions have begun on the development of Montana Broadband Task Force, whom should be involved, considered etc. Looking at possibilities for moving forward with this process and potential tools that might be helpful to the task force to have available.

Broadband Strategic Planning Document completed. Document outlines program goals and objectives over the remainder of the grant.

RFP near completion for State Facilitator to travel the state in structured workshops/meetings with CRDCs to assess broadband levels of adoption across state.

Completed Kick-Off meeting with CRDCs to engage them with the broadband program and upcoming workshops/meetings. Begun discussions on developing workshop planning for 10 regions in the state. Follow up meetings with CRDCs to continue planning is scheduled in May, and again in June prior to the kickoff of regional workshop meetings. The workshops/meetings with CRDCs in their

communities is scheduled for 2nd Quarter 2011.

Program has started RFP for Tribal Facilitator to allow for a more specialized approach to address the 7 tribal nations in Montana.

Meeting with the Montana Independent Telco Systems general manager to keep discussions open with providers.

New Montana Broadband website under development - will be deployed 2nd Qtr 2011.

Have been in talks with Native American Development Corporation to help incorporate some broadband discussions in their upcoming conference in May.

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

Program has started communications with some tribal officials and will continue these efforts going forward to begin building the relationships needed with the Tribal Nations in Montana so that we can have successful outcomes with them going forward. We are very optimistic that we will get a good working relationship established that will help greatly moving forward.

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
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?

In addition to the workshops/meetings that the Broadband program will be doing with the CRDCs, we are also looking at developing a web tool or portal that can be used by the CRDCs to look at broadband mapping data specific to their regions and other key indicators that are important to them to assist in community assessments - which are important for future community development etc.

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

Nothing at this time

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

In section 10t above, for subcontract #5 - that item consists of two separate line items. One is for \$400K and the other is for \$100K. Please refer to section 10o for a description of those two items. They are the last two items listed respectively in section 10o. At this time neither has been expended so no further breakout of these items have been provided.

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

Chad Hultin

Broadband Mapping Program Mgr.

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

(406) 841-2875

12d. Email Address

chultin@mt.gov

12b. Signature of Authorized Certifying Official

Submitted Electronically

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

07-07-2011