U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE	2. Award Or Grant Number
	02-50-M09071

Performance Progress Report

	4. Report Date (MM/DD/YYYY)
	04-03-2012

1. Recipient Name	6. Designated Entity On Behalf Of:
Connected Nation, Inc.- Alaska	The State of Alaska

3. Street Address	8. Final Report?	9. Report Frequency
1020 College Street,	◯ Yes ⦿ No	⦿ Quarterly ◯ Semi Annual ◯ Annual ◯ Final

5. City, State, Zip Code		
Bowling Green, KY 42102-3448		

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:
06-01-2010	05-31-2015	03-31-2012	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

None to report.

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 has been collected through extraction or extrapolation.

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

Connect Alaska has deployed an interactive mapping web application. The application is housed in a highly available, monitored, and managed environment. The application includes 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 also 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) program. 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.

As of this report, field validation has been completed on 69.57% of the provider universe. The year-end goal for 2012 (testing a minimum of 60.00% of the viable provider universe) has been achieved.   While additional testing is contemplated for 2012, these tests will supplement previous activities and will focus primarily on providers with a substantial (or statewide) presence and will occur in geographic locations not previously tested.

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

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

An interactive broadband map is publicly available on the Connect Alaska website (http://www.connectak.org/interactive-map) and received a total of 135 visits between January 1, 2012, and March 31, 2012.

During this quarter, the project received no broadband inquiries. Additional information received through e-mail from consumers that can also be used for verification purposes totaled 1 for this quarter.

For this reporting period, no new field verification tests were conducted. Thus far, project staff conducted multiple tests on the following providers: Ace Tekk Wireless Internet; AlasConnect, Inc.; Alaska Communications Systems Holdings, Inc. (d.b.a. ACS); Alaska Power and Telephone Company; AT&T, Inc.; American Broadband Communications (also d.b.a. TelAlaska Long Distance Inc.); Borealis Broadband; Clearwire Corporation; Copper Valley Telephone Cooperative, Inc.; Cordova Telephone Cooperative, Inc.; GCI Internet; Ketchikan Public Utilities; Matanuska Telephone Association; SPITwSPOTS LLC; Verizon Wireless; and Yukon Telephone Company.

As of this reporting period, validation testing has been completed against 16 companies (out of a universe of 23 viable providers) totaling 69.57% within the state.

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?
5.24

Connect Alaska's FTEs reported for the quarter include 5.15 FTEs for staff, 0.04 FTEs for permanent consultants, and 0.05 FTEs for temporary, cyclical contractors. The project is fully staffed with a base of 5.19 FTEs.

Connected Nation has numerous staff, consultants, and contractors working on the Connect Alaska 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 by 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

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?

The project is fully staffed with a base of 5.19 FTEs.

10n. Staffing Table

Job Title	FTE %	Date of Hire
Connected Nation - Business Programmer Analyst	1	04/02/2007
Connected Nation - CAI Coordinator	2	12/13/2004
Connected Nation - CAI Coordinator	49	09/16/2009
Connected Nation - CAI Data Analyst	2	03/24/2009
Connected Nation - CAI Data Manager	3	08/09/2010
Connected Nation - Compliance Coordinator	6	08/01/2008
Connected Nation - Director Program Support	1	12/01/2004
Connected Nation - ETS Analyst	1	07/13/2009

Connected Nation - ETS Analyst	16	07/13/2009
Connected Nation - ETS Manager	13	07/01/2007
Connected Nation - GIS Analyst	1	05/14/2007
Connected Nation - GIS Analyst	2	04/01/2010
Connected Nation - GIS Analyst	4	11/16/2009
Connected Nation - GIS Analyst	21	10/19/2009
Connected Nation - GIS Services Manager	3	05/15/2007
Connected Nation - Grants Management Officer	7	02/24/2003
Connected Nation - Outreach & Awareness Manager	5	03/24/2009
Connected Nation - Outreach & Awareness Specialist	4	02/02/2009
Connected Nation - Outreach & Awareness Specialist	7	10/01/2007
Connected Nation - Outreach & Awareness Specialist	11	01/04/2010
Connected Nation - Outreach & Awareness Specialist	18	01/04/2010
Connected Nation - Program Coordinator	100	05/23/2011
Connected Nation - Program Director	11	08/04/2008
Connected Nation - Program Manager	100	11/28/2011
Connected Nation - Project Coordinator	1	11/16/2010
Connected Nation - Project Coordinator	7	04/01/2005
Connected Nation - Project Management Director	6	12/16/2009
Connected Nation - Project Manager	1	03/16/2010
Connected Nation - Project Manager	2	08/20/2007
Connected Nation - Project Manager	3	09/04/2007
Connected Nation - Project Manager	5	01/14/2008
Connected Nation - Project Manager	6	09/01/2006
Connected Nation - Project Manager	39	03/16/2010
Connected Nation - Provider Relations Manager	3	02/17/2005

Connected Nation - Research & GIS Analyst	1	05/14/2007
Connected Nation - Research Analyst	1	06/01/2009
Connected Nation - Research Analyst	3	09/19/2011
Connected Nation - Research Analyst	10	02/01/2010
Connected Nation - Research Manager	26	05/14/2007
Connected Nation - State Services Manager	5	07/01/2007
Connected Nation - State Services Specialist	6	02/02/2009
Connected Nation - State Services Sr. Specialist	2	12/20/2009
Consultant - Associate Counsel	3	09/14/2009
Consultant - General Counsel	1	01/01/2007
GISbiz, Inc. - Programmer	3	02/27/2012
GISbiz, Inc. - Systems Architect	2	02/27/2012

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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
Throughbred Research Group	Research Surveys	Y	Y	02/09/2010	02/08/2012	167,350	0
Various	AK Planning & Application Development	N	N	06/01/2010	05/31/2015	18,622	0
Contract Labor	Contract Labor	N	Y	06/01/2010	05/31/2015	152,573	98,965

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Funding

10p. How much Federal funding has been expended as of the end of the last quarter? $1,910,099   10q. How much Remains? $4,468,099

10r. How much matching funds have been expended as of the end of last quarter? $741,289   10s. How much Remains? $856,993

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	$564,637	$914	$565,551
Personnel Fringe Benefits	$356,364	$24,513	$380,877	$113,565	$196	$113,761
Travel	$436,598	$0	$436,598	$122,334	$582	$122,916
Equipment	$132,432	$0	$132,432	$71,994	$0	$71,994
Materials / Supplies	$47,610	$0	$47,610	$35,054	$0	$35,054

Mapping Budget Element	Federal Funds Granted	Proposed In-Kind	Total Budget	Federal Funds Expended	Matching Funds Expended	Total Funds Expended
Subcontracts Total	$1,802,334	$319,791	$2,122,125	$357,747	$98,965	$456,712
Subcontract #1	$476,827	$0	$476,827	$167,350	$0	$167,350
Subcontract #2	$1,000,000	$125,000	$1,125,000	$18,622	$0	$18,622
Subcontract #3	$266,416	$194,791	$461,207	$152,573	$98,965	$251,538
Subcontract #4	$20,408	$0	$20,408	$10,044	$0	$10,044
Subcontract #5	$38,683	$0	$38,683	$9,158	$0	$9,158
Construction	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0
Other	$201,988	$1,110,343	$1,312,331	$27,673	$639,375	$667,048
Total Direct Costs	$4,638,688	$1,568,282	$6,206,970	$1,293,004	$740,032	$2,033,036
Total Indirect Costs	$1,739,510	$30,000	$1,769,510	$617,095	$1,257	$618,352
Total Costs	$6,378,198	$1,598,282	$7,976,480	$1,910,099	$741,289	$2,651,388
% Of Total	80	20	100	72	28	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:
Interactive Mapping Application - $63,636
Computers & Software - $19,445
GIS Software Maintenance - $4,550
Speed Test Software - $4,081
Google Earth Pro - $585

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, ArcInfo/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 Alaska received an Alaska Statewide Digital Mapping Initiative Orthoimagery dataset from the Alaska Department of Natural Resources as part of an in-kind match contribution to assist Connect Alaska with its mapping and planning goals - $177,933

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

10aa. If yes, please list
During Q1 2012, Connect Alaska worked in close coordination with the Technology Coordinator for the Alaska Department of Education & Early Development to continue gathering data on locations and broadband connectivity of Community Anchor Institutions (CAI), in accordance with the data requirements of the State Broadband Initiative (SBI) Notice of Funds Availability (NOFA) Technical Appendix. This effort garnered significant results from Alaska public schools. Efforts continue to be focused on outreach and awareness throughout the state.

Connect Alaska (CAK) successfully submitted to the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) an update to the state broadband dataset. The data update submission includes datasets for approximately 95 percent of the Alaska provider community, or 21 of 22 total viable providers. Of the 21 participating providers, 7 supplied an update to their network or coverage areas, 13 have reported no change, and the remaining provider previously supplied data but was non-responsive in this update effort; therefore its previous dataset was submitted.

10bb. Please describe any challenge or obstacle that you have encountered and detail the mitigation strategies the project team is employing
The Connect Alaska program continues to be challenged with educating Community Anchor Institutions on the importance and the nature of gathering data on locations and broadband connectivity in accordance with the requirements of the SBI NOFA Technical Appendix. The challenge is minimized by engaging sector and organizational leaders, with the assistance of our state partner, as stakeholders to distribute a CAI broadband survey on our behalf. Response has been significantly higher when the survey is distributed by the sector leaders. Connect Alaska will focus on building relationships with state leaders that can distribute the survey on our behalf and focus on one sector per month to better direct attention and outreach efforts toward specific sectors.

10cc. Please provide any other information that you think would be useful to NTIA as it assesses your Broadband Mapping Project
CAK counts nearly 2.9 million (2,899,898) positive Mainstream media stories in Q1 2012. Stories that point to CAK's research and work and raise awareness of the CAK program include:

Alaska Business Monthly – Alaska Native Corporations Develop Opportunity: Alaska Native regional corporations are planning projects to help villages and regions improve their economic conditions. Projects from mining to tidal wave energy capture are being explored and all will need the support of adequate broadband to ensure project success and the sustainability of jobs. In northwest Alaska, a high school program offers focused programs in academic and vocational areas for careers in Alaska occupations which will rely more and more on resources and tools delivered through broadband. The real challenge is to balance the lifestyle and culture with economic opportunities in Alaska's villages, which is why the Alaska Department of Commerce, Community and Economic Development (DCCED) is helping strengthen Alaska's broadband services through the Connect Alaska project and the statewide broadband task force. http://www.akbizmag.com/Alaska-Business-Monthly/February-2012/Alaska-Native-Corporations-Develop-Opportunity/

CAK updated and released broadband availability estimates at the statewide and county levels using the most recently published 2010 Census data. The estimates reveal that 81.4 percent of Alaska households have access to fixed broadband service of at least 3 megabytes per second (Mbps) downstream and 768 kilobytes per second (Kbps) upstream (excluding mobile and satellite services), but 8.6 percent of Alaska households do not have access to basic broadband service of at least 768 Kbps downstream and 200 Kbps upstream. http://www.connectak.org/blog/post/connect-alaska-releases-updated-broadband-availability-estimates

...Please refer to the Q1 2012 ALASKA Supplemental Answer Document for further details.

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
Broadband Capacity Building Quarterly Milestones Year 3, Quarter 1
Milestone: Year 3, Quarter 1 Connect Alaska program office administration
This milestone was met. The Connect Alaska Program Office in Anchorage is fully staffed and interacting with our Alaskan stakeholders. They meet weekly with a representative from the Department of Commerce, Community and Economic Development (DCCED) to discuss the status of the project and have briefed the Alaska State Rural Subcabinet and Broadband Task Force as well. The Connect Alaska team provided administrative support to the Task Force including agendas and dissemination of minutes following the meetings.

Milestone: Meeting of the Alaska Broadband Task Force complete
This milestone was met. The Alaska Statewide Broadband Task Force convened meetings on January 23, 2012 and February 22, 2012. At the February meeting the Task Force approved two major research studies. One study will be conducted by the Institute of Social and Economic Research (ISER), University of Alaska Anchorage (UAA) and will compare socio-economic conditions in rural Alaska communities before and after the arrival of broadband. The other is a geo-visualization economic model that will represent the effect of various speed tiers on economic development done by Scenarios Network for Alaska and Arctic Planning (SNAP), University of Alaska Fairbanks (UAF).

...Please refer to the Q1 2012 ALASKA Supplemental Answer Document for further details.

11b. Please describe any challenge or obstacle that you have encountered and detail the mitigation strategies the project team is employing
Broadband Capacity Building
Nothing to report.

Technical Assistance
Connect Alaska is working closely with our program stakeholders to ensure upcoming research is meaningful and conducted in a manner so the results can be used to make an impact on broadband access, adoption, and use throughout Alaska.

The peer review process was unable to be finalized before the end of Q1 2012. At this time, an appropriate peer review candidate has been identified and a contract has been signed. The peer review process is anticipated to be completed in Q2 2012.

Connect Alaska has had to refine its volunteer community engagement "train the trainer" program reflecting new feedback from the

Alaska Regional Development Organizations in Q1 2012. Not all of the ARDORs have expressed an interest to participate in the program initially, although non-participating ARDORs haven't precluded the option of changing their mind if the participating ARDORs find the community engagement to be constructive in their respective communities.

Application Use
Discussions on the E-Government Assessment have taken a lower priority for DCCED because of concerns of keeping the Alaska Broadband Task Force's capacity planning effort on track, which is the highest priority for the State of Alaska. However, Connect Alaska has been actively engaging the DCCED in Q1 2012 on applications development issues and anticipates accelerated work in Q2 2012.

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

Broadband Capacity Building
Nothing to report.

Technical Assistance
Due to delay in the peer review process, the public release of the 2011 Business Technology Assessment has been moved to Q2 2012.

As a result of stakeholder input, and with the intention of ongoing collaboration with the Alaska Broadband Task Force and DCCED, Connect Alaska will release a Request for Quotes (RFQ) in Q2 2012 to determine whether a different market research vendor would be able to conduct the program research surveys in Alaska in a cost effective, methodologically sound manner to acquire the most accurate survey results from Alaska respondents.

Pending granting agency approval of the research plan agreed upon by Connect Alaska and state stakeholders, the 2012 residential survey is now scheduled to be initiated in Q2 2012 instead of Q1 2012. In turn, the 2012 residential survey will be analyzed and initial results will be released to the state in Q3 2012, with the final residential survey results release planned for Q4 2012.

Connect Alaska and DCCED have decided to adjust their approach to the summit and instead of hosting a single summit they are scheduling a robust round of presentations during the annual Alaska fall conference season. Five conference venues have been identified to date. Several members of the Task Force and Connect Alaska will present the draft Task Force report to conference attendees and collect feedback. The round of conferences will take place in Q3 and Q4 2012 (from September 2012 – November 2012).

...Please refer to the Q1 2012 ALASKA Supplemental Answer Document for further details.

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

11i. Planning Worksheet						
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?

Connect Alaska (CAK) publicly announced the appointment of its executive director, who will lead the Alaska broadband initiative through the role of program manager. The CAK Executive Director facilitated Alaska Broadband Task Force (AKBBTF) meetings in January and February to discuss the progress of broadband mapping, planning, and research efforts in Alaska. As a result of these meetings, and at the instruction of the AKBBTF, CAK entered into negotiations for Technical Writer and Research Assistant independent contractor positions, which will support further research initiatives as directed by the AKBBTF.

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

No additional obstacles or challenges were encountered during the quarter.

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

Broadband Capacity Building

Alaska Journal of Commerce – Movers & Shakers: James Dunn is appointed executive director of Connect Alaska. Dunn will lead the nonprofit's mission of creating jobs and new economic opportunities across the state through expanded telecommunications. Dunn has been involved in telecommunications in rural Alaska for more than 25 years. In that time he has worked with tribal governments, rural local exchange carriers, Internet service providers, and retail customers throughout the state to secure broadband connectivity. http://www.alaskajournal.com/Alaska-Journal-of-Commerce/AJOC-February-12-2012/Movers-Shakers-02-12-12/

TERRA-Southwest: One week away from an Alaska broadband revolution
http://www.connectak.org/blog/post/terra-southwest-one-week-away-alaska-broadband-revolution
The town of Bethel and surrounding villages will be getting access to faster and more reliable high-speed Internet. TERRA-Southwest is set to provide broadband service to 65 communities in the Bristol Bay and Yukon Kuskokwim Delta regions. That includes more than 9,000 households and 750 businesses.

Technical Assistance

The Alaska Broadband Task Force commissioned the University of Alaska Fairbanks Scenarios Network for Alaska & Artic Planning (UAF SNAP) to perform an innovative geo-visualization economic model that will represent the impact of various broadband speed tiers on a variety of economic development scenarios put forth in the model.

The Alaska Broadband Task Force commissioned the University of Alaska Anchorage Institute of Social and Economic Research, led by renowned international communications development scholar, Dr. Heather Hudson, to perform a groundbreaking broadband research study comparing socio-economic conditions in remote Alaskan native communities before the arrival of broadband with those same conditions after broadband is introduced via TerraSW.

...Please refer to the Q1 2012 ALASKA Supplemental Answer Document for further details.

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) 04-27-2012