



## C.3 Additional Info



Michael Preston  
SECRETARY OF COMMERCE  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
Arkansas Economic  
Development Commission

December 8, 2022

Senator Jonathan Dismang, Co-Chair  
Representative Michelle Gray, Co-Chair  
Performance Evaluation and Expenditure Review Committee  
Arkansas Legislative Council  
State Capitol Building  
Little Rock, AR 72201

Re: Requested Appropriation for ARC Grant Awards

Dear Senator Dismang and Representative Gray:

The United States Treasury has awarded the State of Arkansas \$158,086,576 from the Capital Projects Fund ("CPF") authorized under the America Rescue Plan Act ("ARPA"). Funding from the CPF is separate from the \$1.6B in funding awarded under the ARPA State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds ("SLFRF") program. Unlike the SLFRF program, which may be spent in a variety of authorized categories, the CPF award from Treasury specifies that it may only be used for broadband projects and related administrative expenses. Treasury has allocated \$150,236,576 of the award to be used for broadband projects, with the balance of \$7,850,000 to be used for broadband administrative expenses through 2026. AEDC is requesting appropriation for these amounts.

The CPF broadband projects will be subject to the terms of the Arkansas Rural Connect grant program. AEDC has recently completed a rule promulgation that will govern all CPF projects. This rule was approved by ALC on November 18, 2022 and is now in effect. The broadband office has concluded a round of competitive grant applications and challenges to the submitted applications. Attached to this letter is a detailed list of the proposed projects, along with supporting documentation concerning the project areas.

There is one additional project for Jefferson County that is not included in the attached list due to incomplete documentation from the applicant. It is expected that this award will be presented for legislative review in January, provided the documentation is submitted by the applicant ISP.

Thank you for your consideration of our request.

Sincerely,

Michael Preston  
Secretary, Department of Commerce



# Arkansas Rural Connect Proposed Projects Round 3

Arkansas Department of Commerce Broadband Office  
December 8, 2022

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Summary of Proposed Projects

Count of Proposed Projects  
**20**

Count of Households (HH) per BSLF  
**19,192**

Total Grant Request Amount  
**\$135,821,471.92**

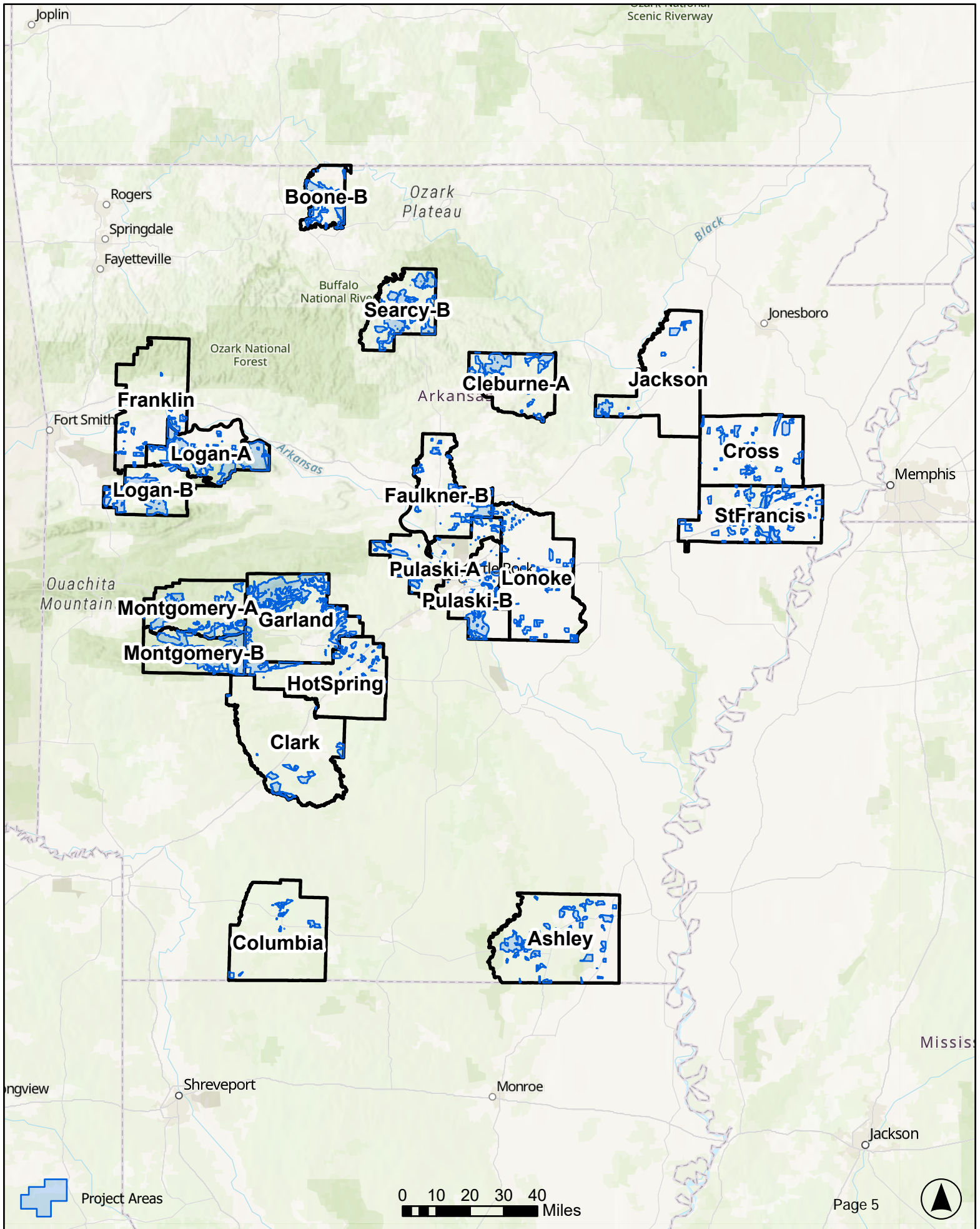
Average Total Cost per HH  
**\$7,076.98**



## Proposed Projects Detail

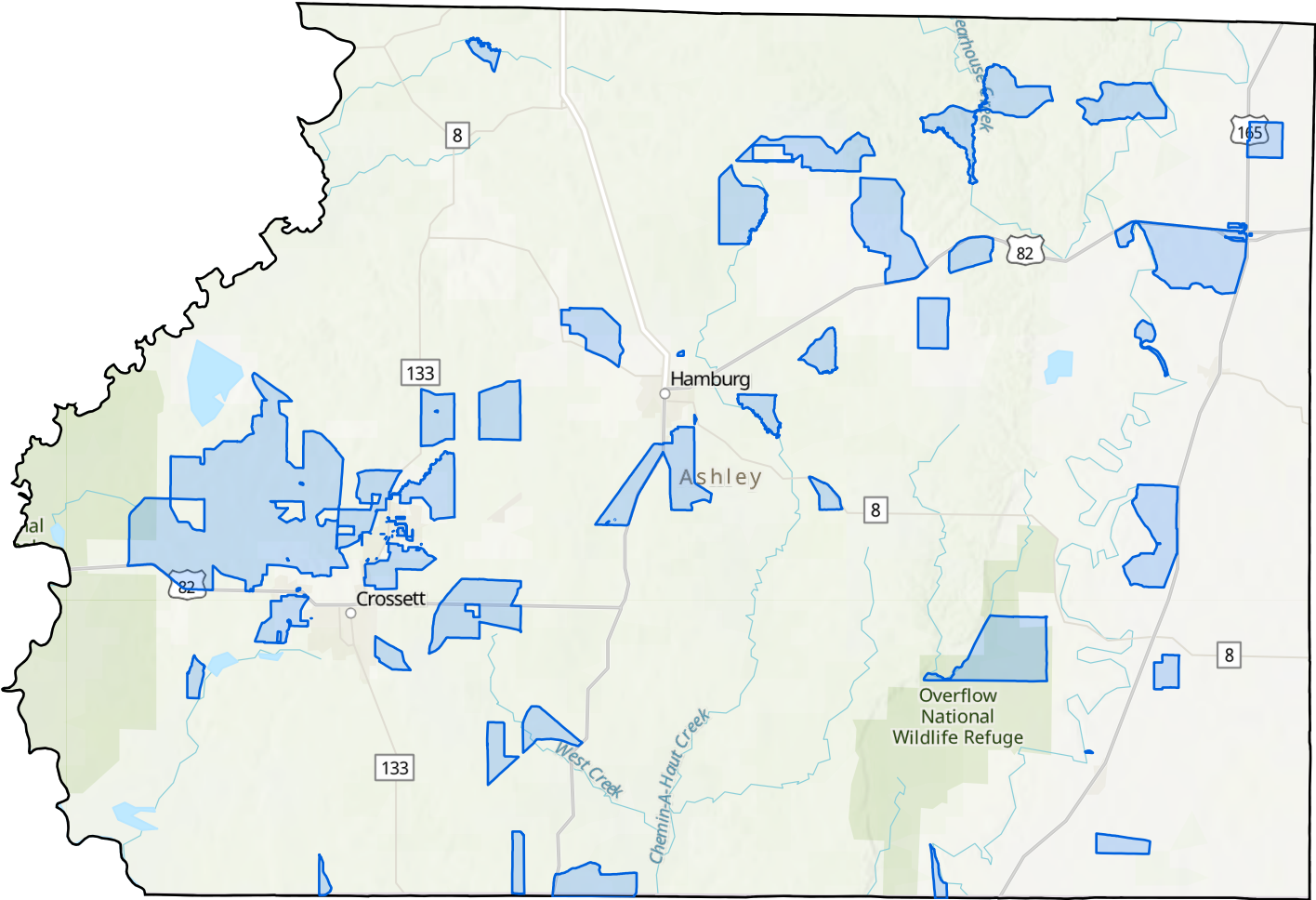
Project ID	Internet Service Provider	HH per BSLF	Total Cost of Project	Requested Grant Amount	Grant Request Amount %	Grant Cost Per HH
Ashley	Ashley-Chicot Electric Cooperative, Inc	1,248	\$20,913,733.52	\$15,685,299.39	75	\$12,568.35
Boone-B	Hometown Internet, LLC	775	\$9,869,876.00	\$7,402,407.00	75	\$9,551.49
Clark	South Central Connect, LLC	111	\$2,236,182.55	\$1,677,136.16	75	\$15,109.33
Cleburne-A	Connect2First Internet	807	\$7,785,780.60	\$4,593,610.56	59	\$5,692.21
Columbia	Four States Fiber	494	\$8,011,464.09	\$5,207,451.66	65	\$10,541.40
Cross	Comcast Cable Communications, LLC	534	\$7,493,181.85	\$5,230,990.25	70	\$9,795.86
Faulkner-B	Comcast Cable Communications, LLC	1,645	\$14,125,034.99	\$7,717,919.12	55	\$4,691.74
Franklin	Wave Rural Connect, LLC	598	\$8,766,044.00	\$4,756,000.00	54	\$7,953.18
Garland	South Central Connect, LLC	1,718	\$15,338,684.50	\$11,504,013.40	75	\$6,696.17
HotSpring	South Central Connect, LLC	870	\$3,547,509.40	\$2,660,632.10	75	\$3,058.20
Jackson	Farmers Rural Connect, Inc	249	\$3,588,823.50	\$2,691,617.60	75	\$10,809.71
Logan-A	Wave Rural Connect, LLC	1,714	\$8,307,233.20	\$5,750,000.00	69	\$3,354.73
Logan-B	Wave Rural Connect, LLC	1,702	\$13,957,257.20	\$9,000,000.00	64	\$5,287.90
Lonoke	Connect2First Internet	876	\$14,793,646.10	\$10,947,298.10	74	\$12,496.92
Montgomery-A	Four States Fiber	1,082	\$14,678,882.09	\$11,009,162.57	75	\$10,174.83
Montgomery-B	South Central Connect, LLC	839	\$11,621,606.40	\$8,716,204.80	75	\$10,388.80
Pulaski-A	Comcast Cable Communications, LLC	891	\$7,573,326.99	\$3,884,359.41	51	\$4,359.55
Pulaski-B	Comcast Cable Communications, LLC	1,333	\$5,766,702.78	\$1,574,886.53	27	\$1,181.46
Searcy-B	Petit Jean Electric Cooperative Corp	755	\$8,182,903.16	\$6,137,177.37	75	\$8,128.71
StFrancis	Woodruff Electric Cooperative Corporation dba Enlightened	951	\$13,074,737.66	\$9,675,305.90	74	\$10,173.82

# Arkansas Rural Connect Broadband Project Areas



Project ID: Ashley

Top Applicant ISP: <b>Ashley-Chicot Electric Cooperative, Inc</b>	
Total Cost of Project: <b>\$20,913,733.52</b>	
Number of Households: <b>1,248</b>	Grant Request Amount: <b>\$15,685,299.39</b>
Grant Cost per Household: <b>\$12,568.35</b>	Grant Request Percent of Total Project Cost: <b>75%</b>



# Project ID: Boone-B

Top Applicant ISP: **Hometown Internet, LLC**

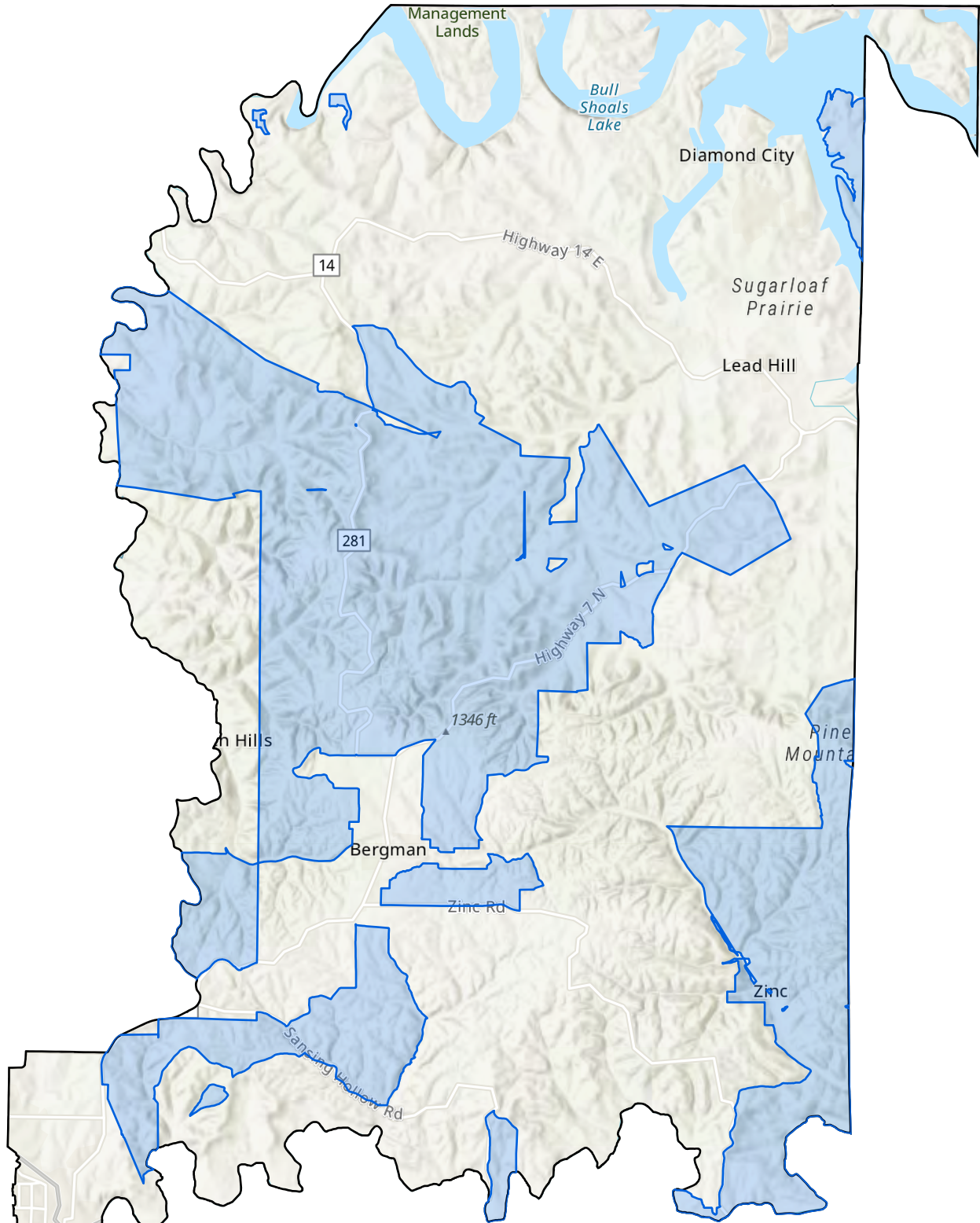
Total Cost of Project: **\$9,869,876.00**

Number of Households: **775**

Grant Request Amount: **\$7,402,407.00**

Grant Cost per Household: **\$9,551.49**

Grant Request Percent of Total Project Cost: **75%**



Project Areas

0 1 2 3 4  
Miles

Page 7





# Project ID: Clark

Top Applicant ISP: **South Central Connect, LLC**

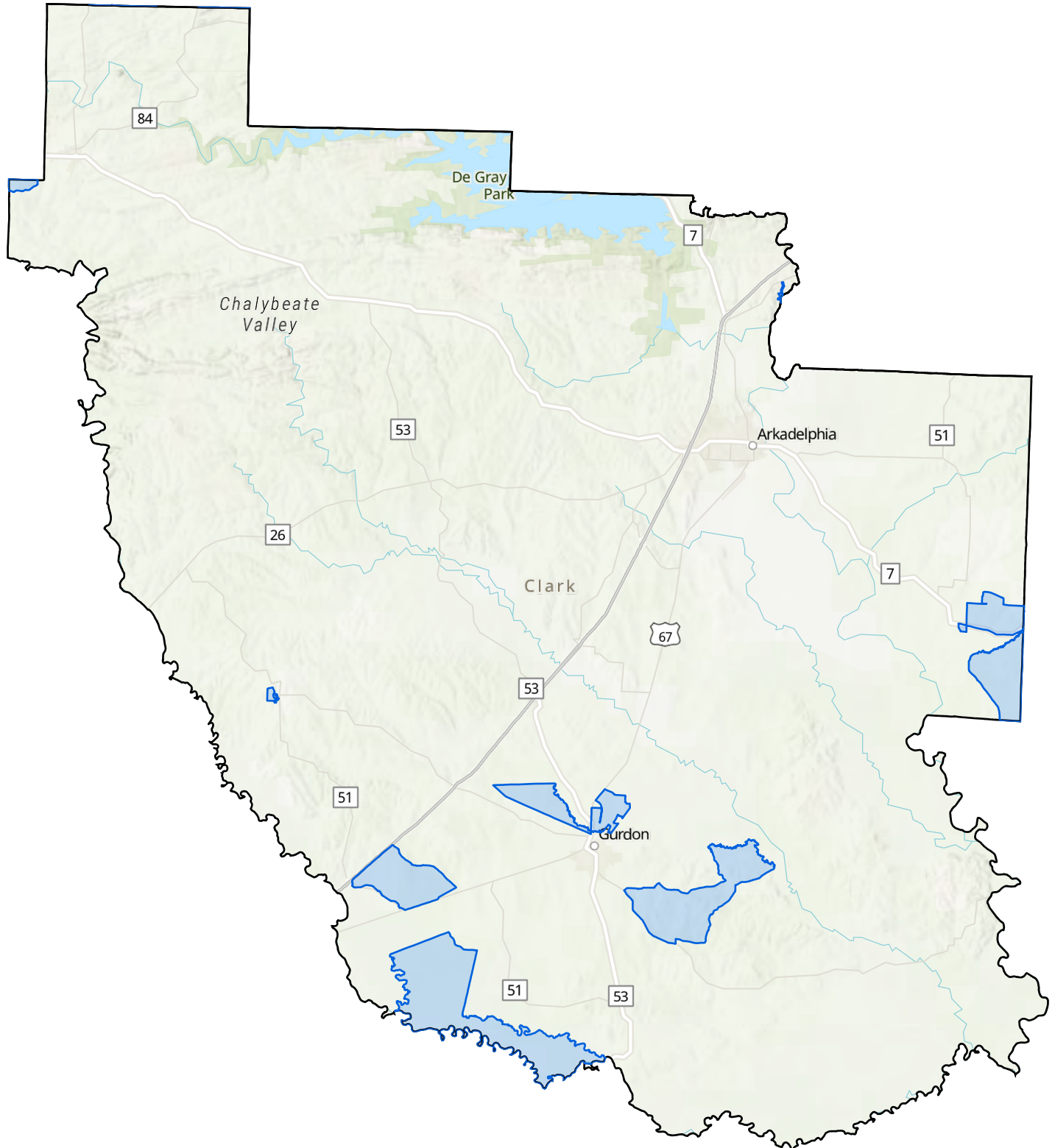
Total Cost of Project: **\$2,236,182.55**

Number of Households: **111**

Grant Request Amount: **\$1,677,136.16**

Grant Cost per Household: **\$15,109.33**

Grant Request Percent of Total Project Cost: **75%**



Project Areas

0 2 4 6 8 Miles



# Project ID: Cleburne-A

Top Applicant ISP: **Connect2First Internet**

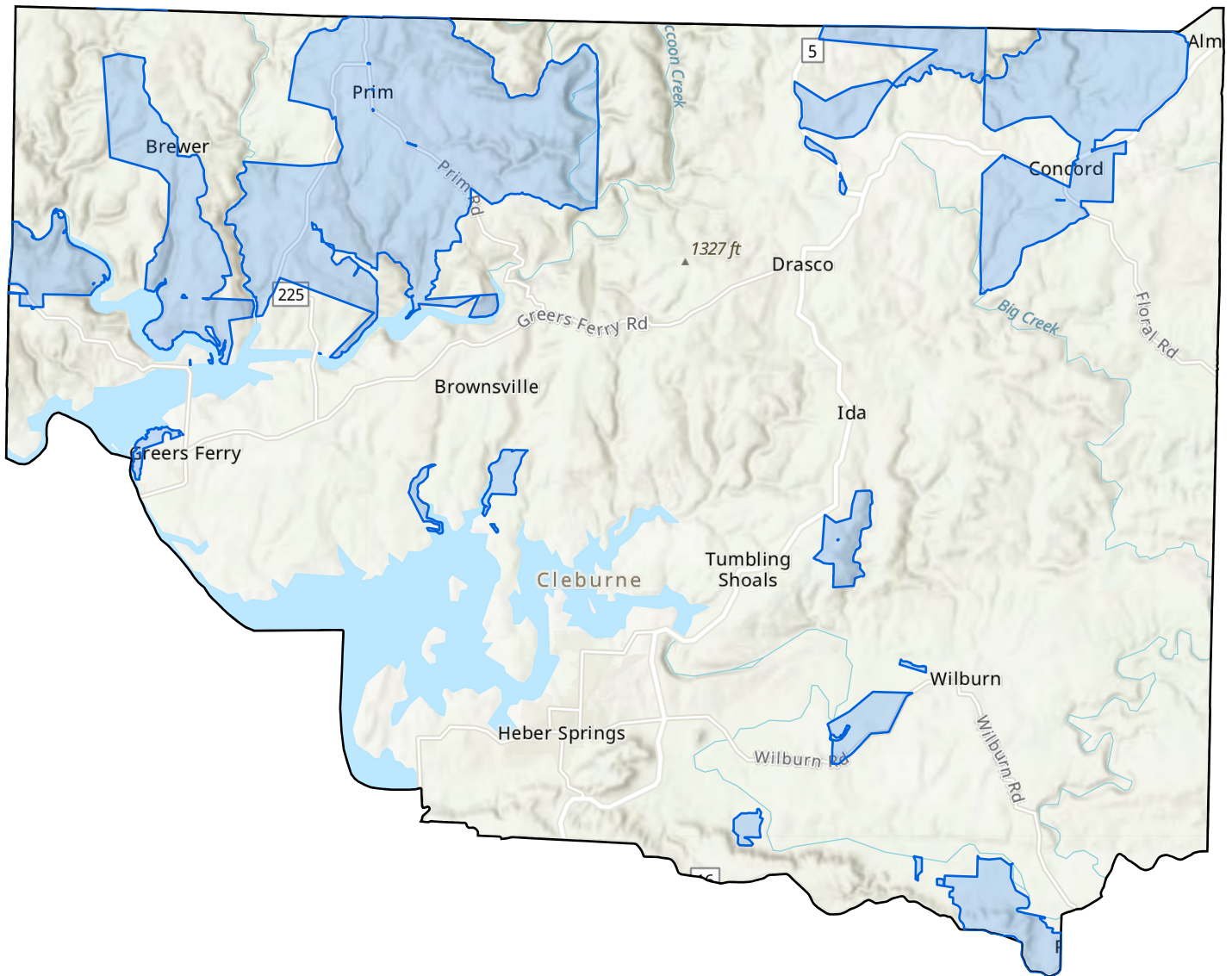
Total Cost of Project: **\$7,785,780.60**

Number of Households: **807**

Grant Request Amount: **\$4,593,610.56**

Grant Cost per Household: **\$5,692.21**

Grant Request Percent of Total Project Cost: **59%**



Project Areas

0 2 3 5 6 Miles

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# Project ID: Columbia

Top Applicant ISP: **Four States Fiber**

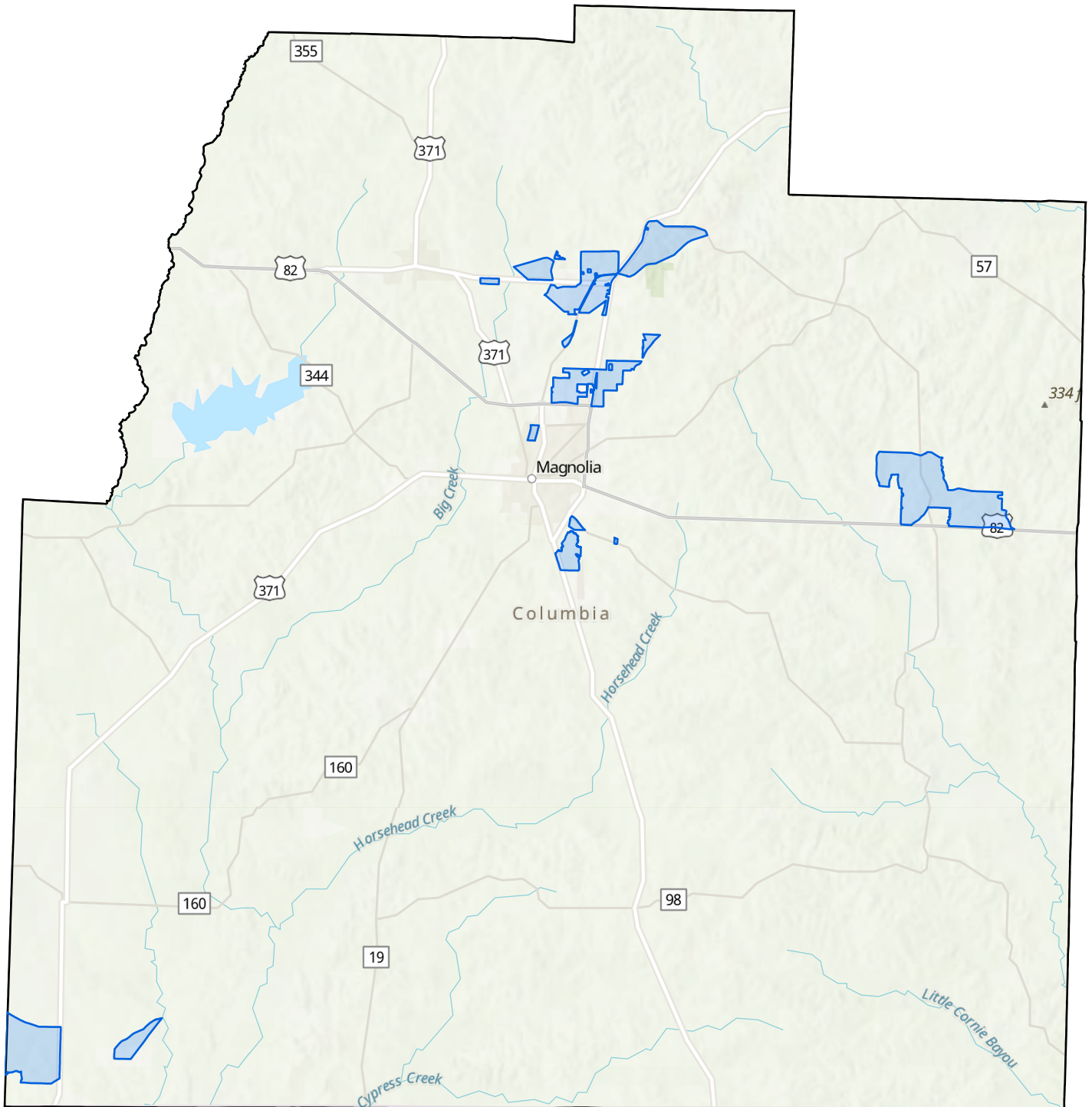
Total Cost of Project: **\$8,011,464.09**

Number of Households: **494**

Grant Request Amount: **\$5,207,451.66**

Grant Cost per Household: **\$10,541.40**

Grant Request Percent of Total Project Cost: **65%**



Project Areas

0 2 3 5 6 Miles





# Project ID: Cross

Top Applicant ISP: **Comcast Cable Communications, LLC**

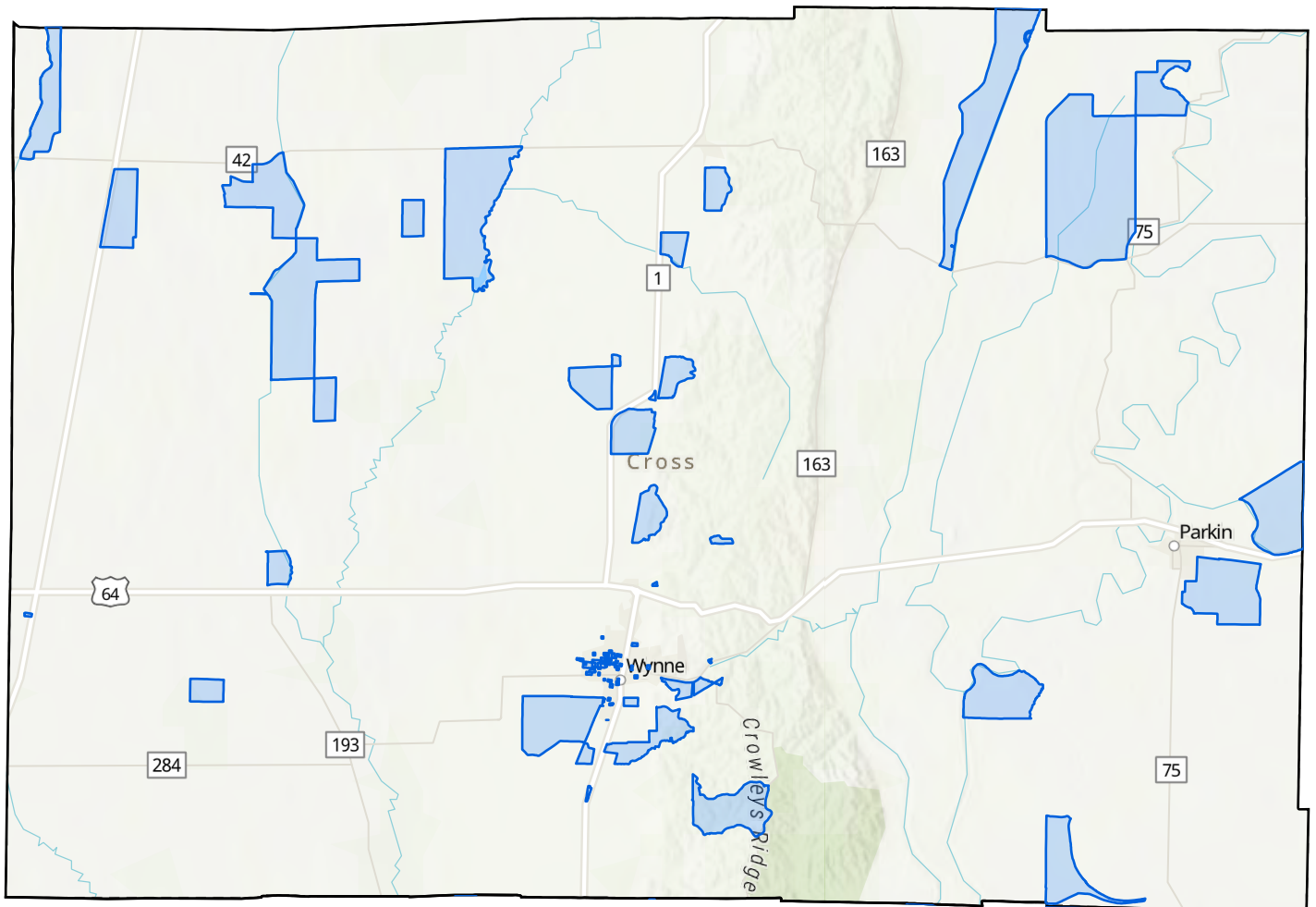
Total Cost of Project: **\$7,493,181.85**

Number of Households: **534**

Grant Request Amount: **\$5,230,990.25**

Grant Cost per Household: **\$9,795.86**

Grant Request Percent of Total Project Cost: **70%**



Project Areas

0 2 4 6 8 Miles



# Project ID: Faulkner-B

Top Applicant ISP: **Comcast Cable Communications, LLC**

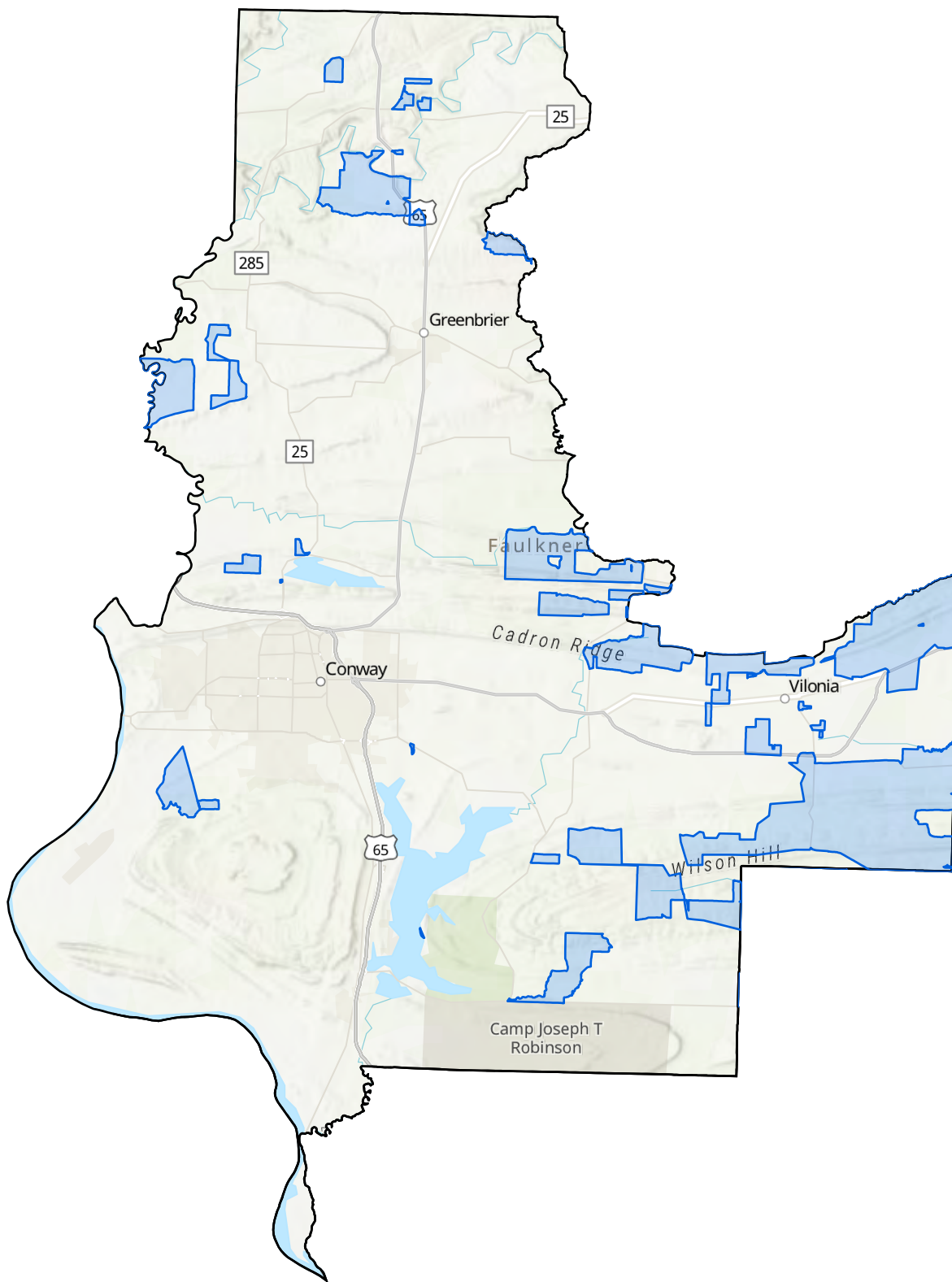
Total Cost of Project: **\$14,125,034.99**

Number of Households: **1,645**

Grant Request Amount: **\$7,717,919.12**

Grant Cost per Household: **\$4,691.74**

Grant Request Percent of Total Project Cost: **55%**



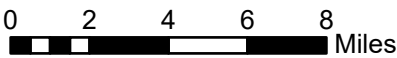
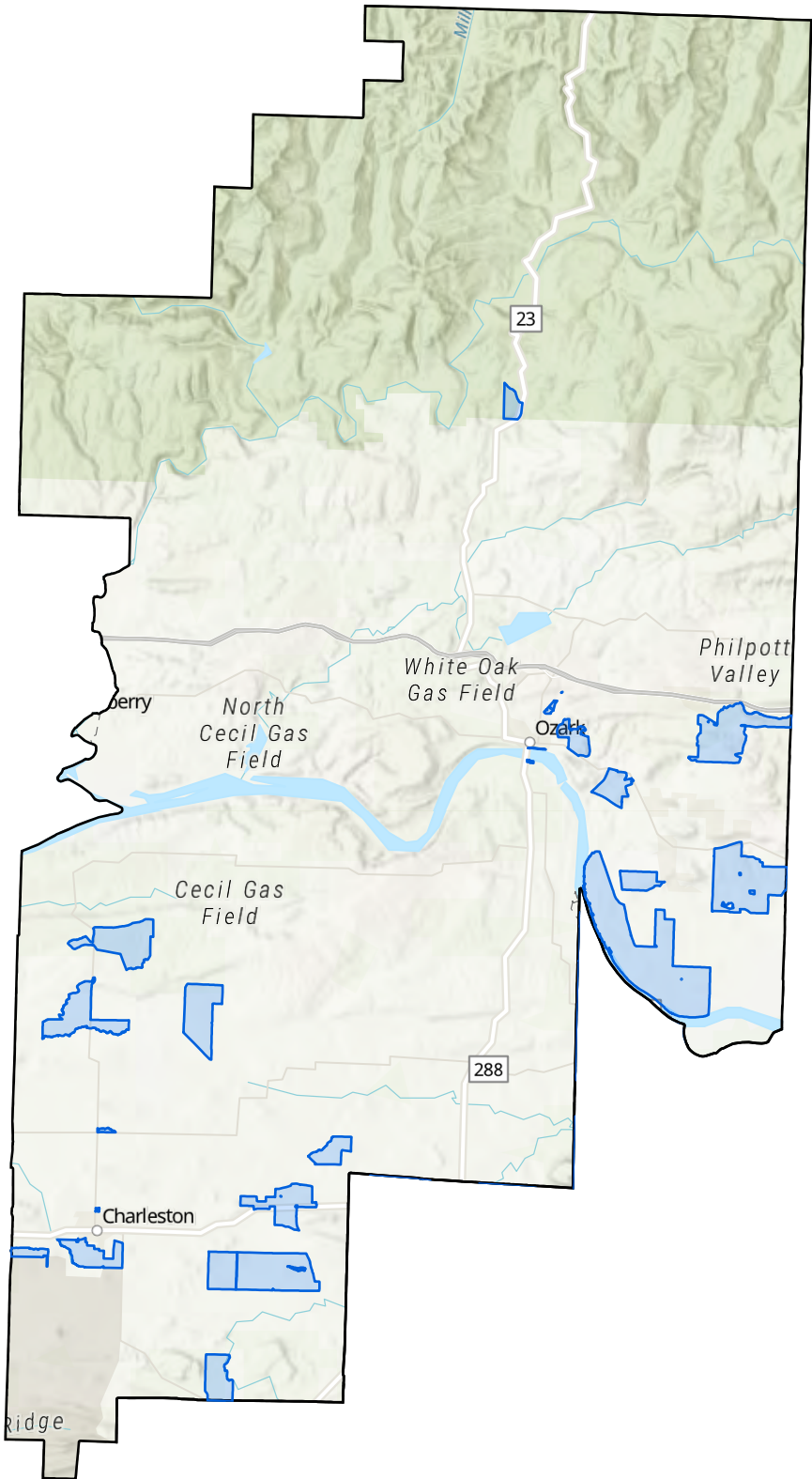
Project Areas

0 2 4 6 8 Miles



Project ID: Franklin

Top Applicant ISP: <b>Wave Rural Connect, LLC</b>	Total Cost of Project: <b>\$8,766,044.00</b>
Number of Households: <b>598</b>	Grant Request Amount: <b>\$4,756,000.00</b>
Grant Cost per Household: <b>\$7,953.18</b>	Grant Request Percent of Total Project Cost: <b>54%</b>



# Project ID: Garland

Top Applicant ISP: **South Central Connect, LLC**

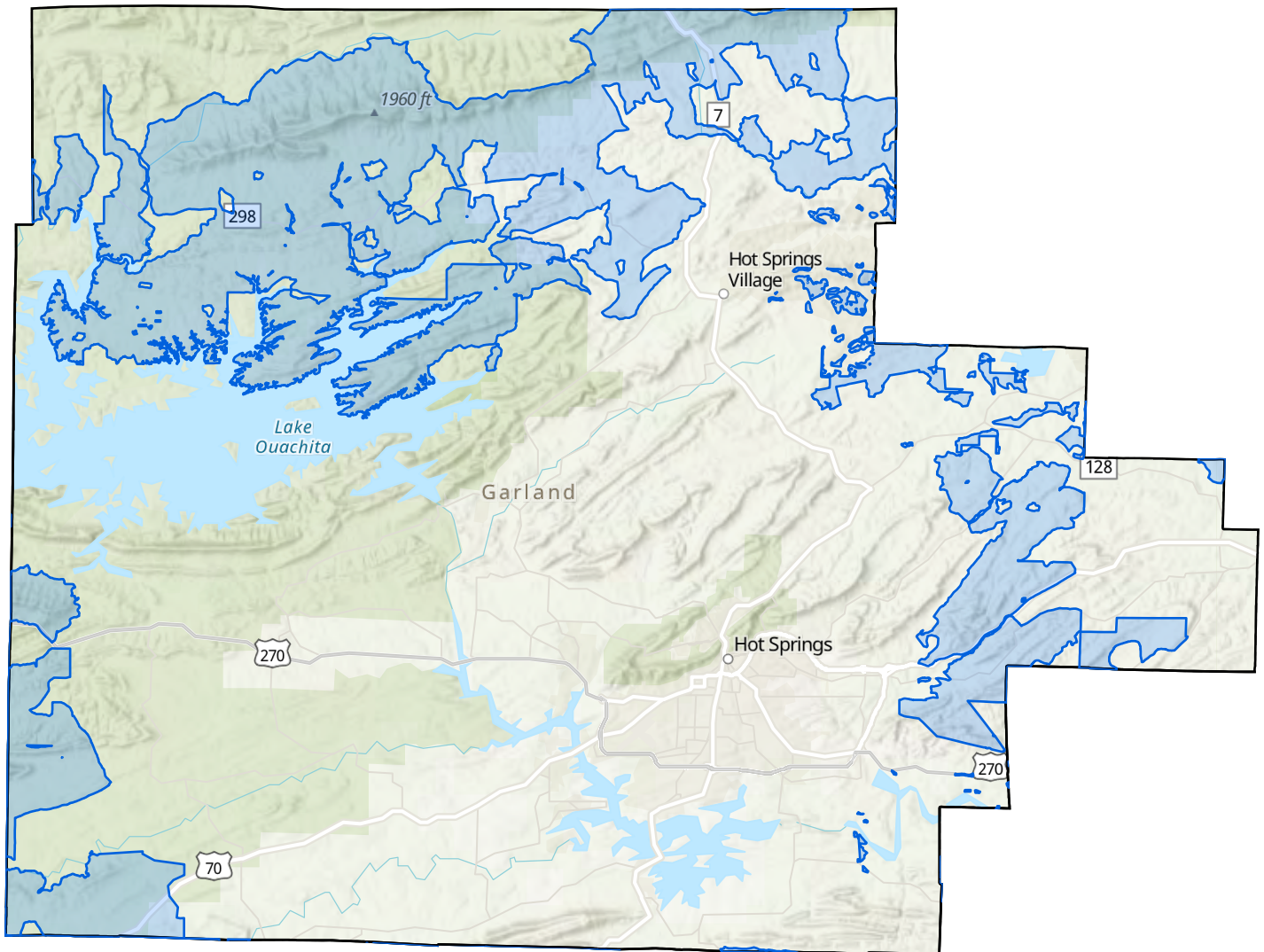
Total Cost of Project: **\$15,338,684.50**

Number of Households: **1,718**

Grant Request Amount: **\$11,504,013.40**

Grant Cost per Household: **\$6,696.17**

Grant Request Percent of Total Project Cost: **75%**



Project Areas

0 2 4 6 8 Miles



# Project ID: HotSpring

Top Applicant ISP: **South Central Connect, LLC**

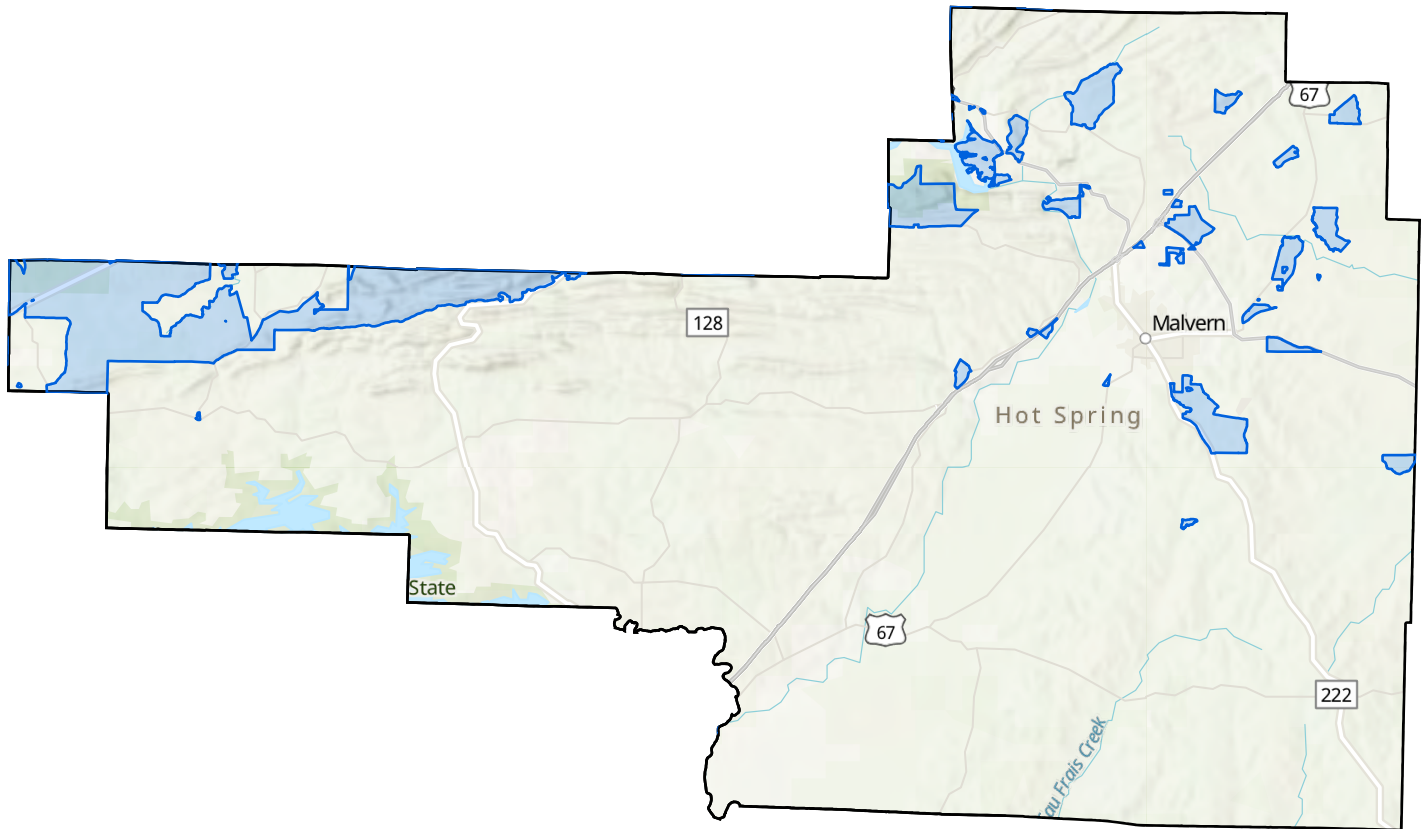
Total Cost of Project: **\$3,547,509.40**

Number of Households: **870**

Grant Request Amount: **\$2,660,632.10**

Grant Cost per Household: **\$3,058.20**

Grant Request Percent of Total Project Cost: **75%**



Project Areas

0 3 5 8 10 Miles





# Project ID: Jackson

Top Applicant ISP: **Farmers Rural Connect, Inc**

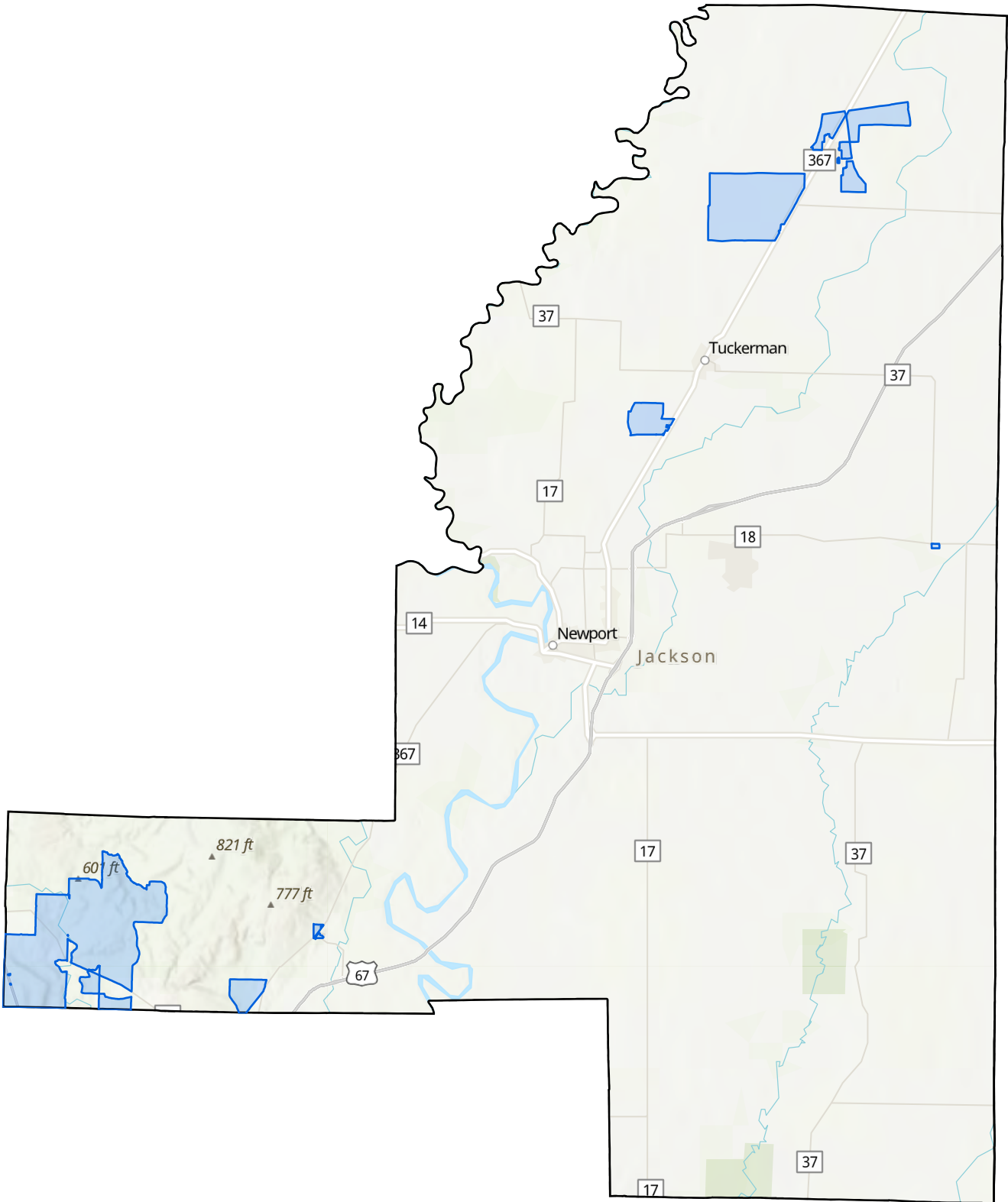
Total Cost of Project: **\$3,588,823.50**

Number of Households: **249**

Grant Request Amount: **\$2,691,617.60**

Grant Cost per Household: **\$10,809.71**

Grant Request Percent of Total Project Cost: **75%**



 Project Areas

0 2 4 6 8 Miles

# Project ID: Logan-A

Top Applicant ISP: **Wave Rural Connect, LLC**

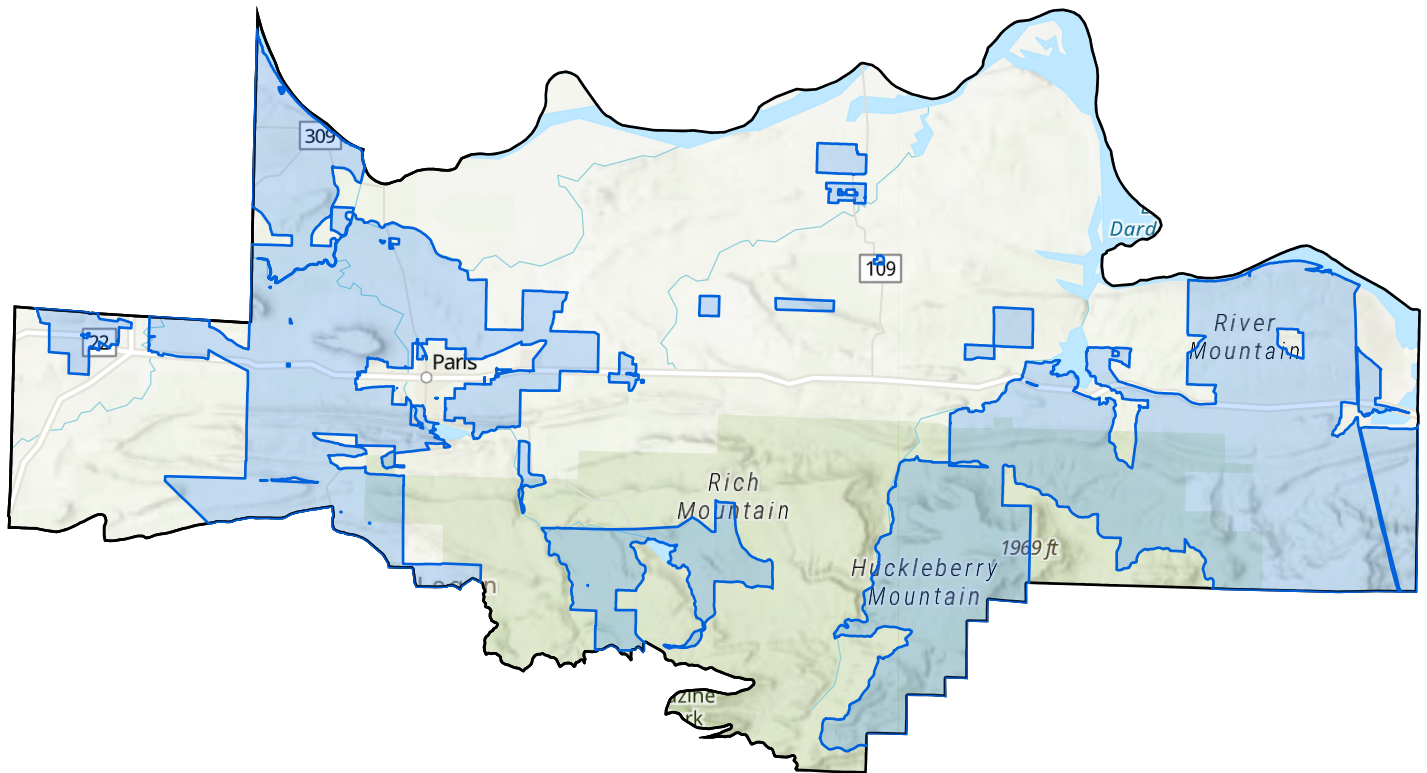
Total Cost of Project: **\$8,307,233.20**

Number of Households: **1,714**

Grant Request Amount: **\$5,750,000.00**

Grant Cost per Household: **\$3,354.73**

Grant Request Percent of Total Project Cost: **69%**



Project Areas

0 2 4 6 8 Miles





# Project ID: Logan-B

Top Applicant ISP: **Wave Rural Connect, LLC**

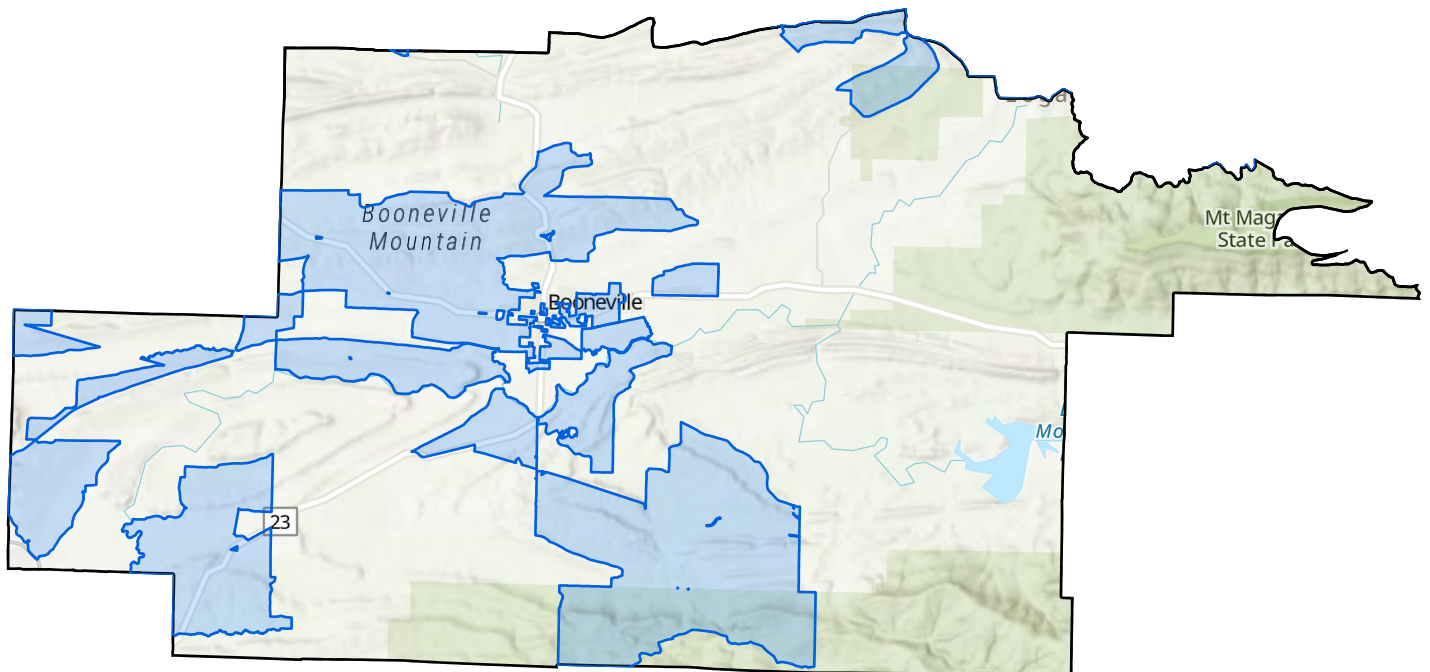
Total Cost of Project: **\$13,957,257.20**

Number of Households: **1,702**

Grant Request Amount: **\$9,000,000.00**

Grant Cost per Household: **\$5,287.90**

Grant Request Percent of Total Project Cost: **64%**



Project Areas

0 2 4 6 8 Miles



# Project ID: Lonoke

Top Applicant ISP: **Connect2First Internet**

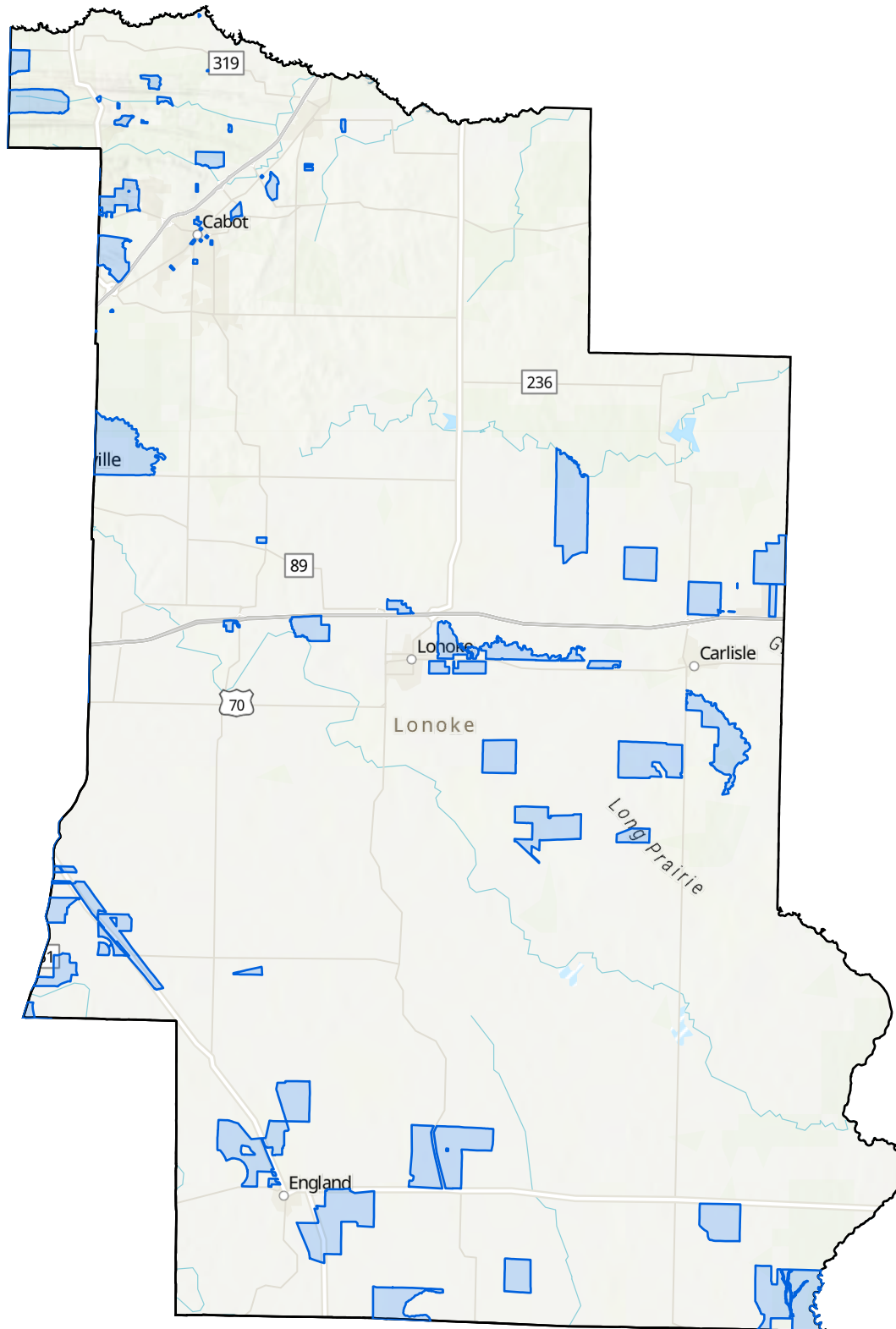
Total Cost of Project: **\$14,793,646.10**

Number of Households: **876**

Grant Request Amount: **\$10,947,298.10**

Grant Cost per Household: **\$12,496.92**

Grant Request Percent of Total Project Cost: **74%**



Project Areas

0 2 4 6 8 Miles



# Project ID: Montgomery-A

Top Applicant ISP: **Four States Fiber**

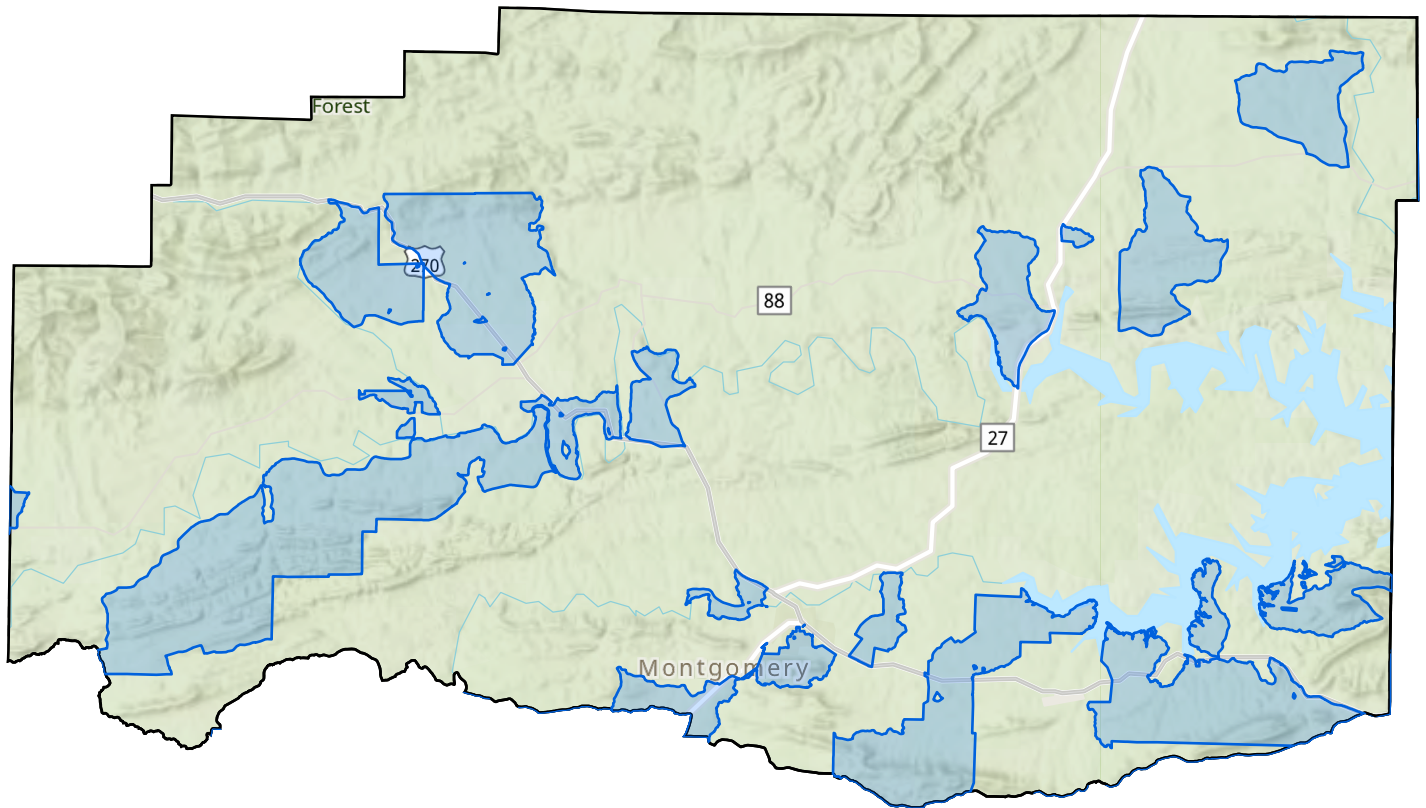
Total Cost of Project: **\$14,678,882.09**

Number of Households: **1,082**

Grant Request Amount: **\$11,009,162.57**

Grant Cost per Household: **\$10,174.83**

Grant Request Percent of Total Project Cost: **75%**



Project Areas

0 2 4 6 8 Miles



# Project ID: Montgomery-B

Top Applicant ISP: **South Central Connect, LLC**

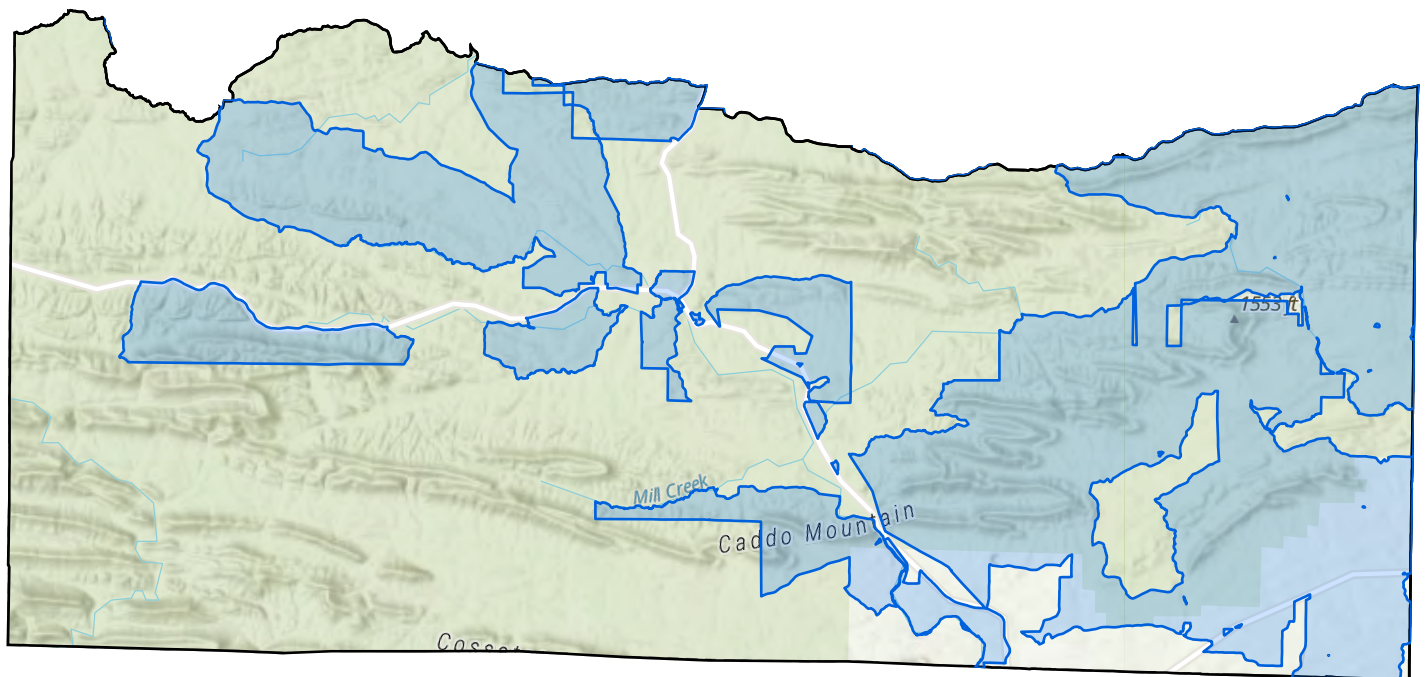
Total Cost of Project: **\$11,621,606.40**

Number of Households: **839**

Grant Request Amount: **\$8,716,204.80**

Grant Cost per Household: **\$10,388.80**

Grant Request Percent of Total Project Cost: **75%**



Project Areas

0 2 4 6 8 Miles



# Project ID: Pulaski-A

Top Applicant ISP: **Comcast Cable Communications, LLC**

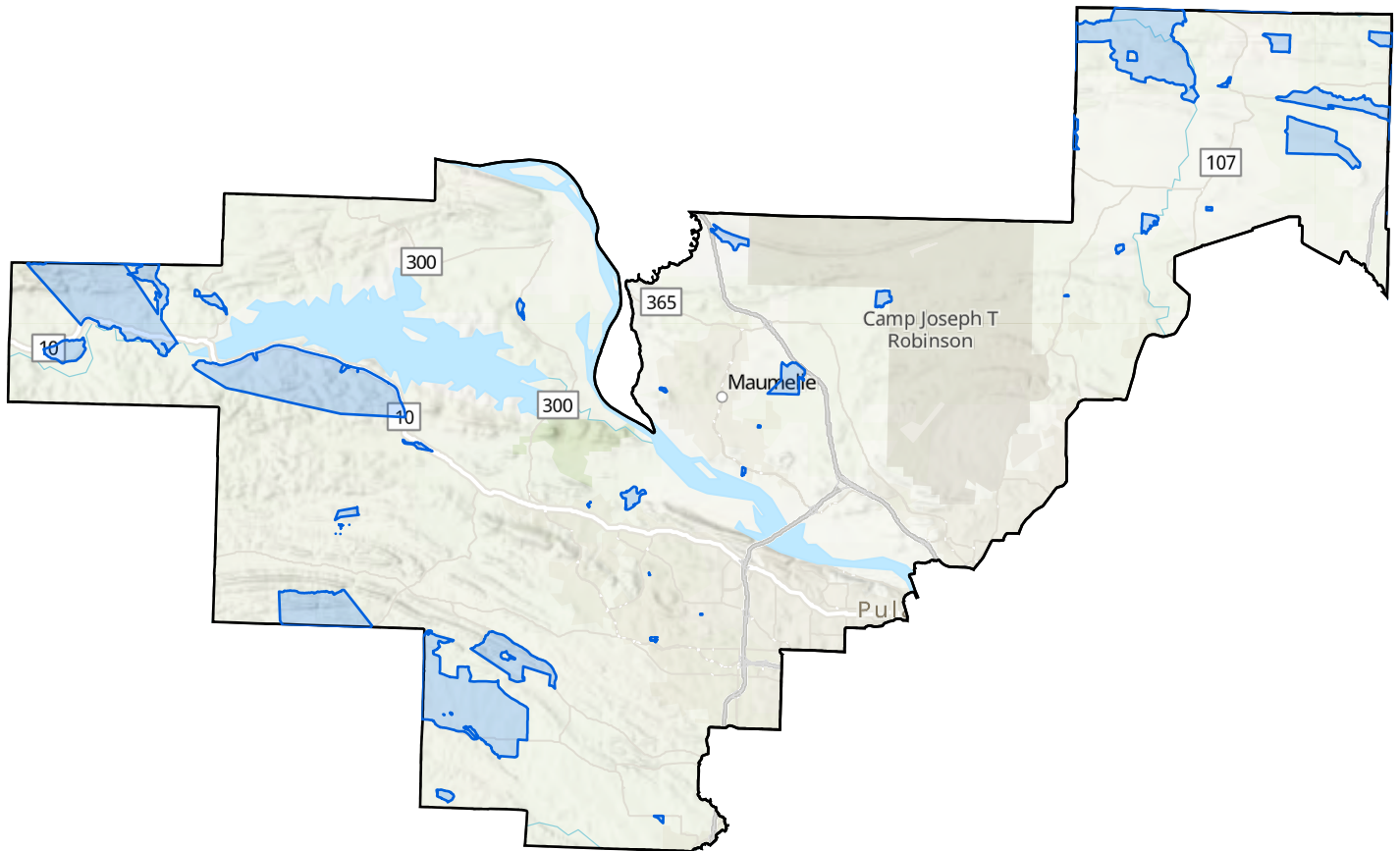
Total Cost of Project: **\$7,573,326.99**

Number of Households: **891**

Grant Request Amount: **\$3,884,359.41**

Grant Cost per Household: **\$4,359.55**

Grant Request Percent of Total Project Cost: **51%**



Project Areas

0 3 5 8 10 Miles





# Project ID: Pulaski-B

Top Applicant ISP: **Comcast Cable Communications, LLC**

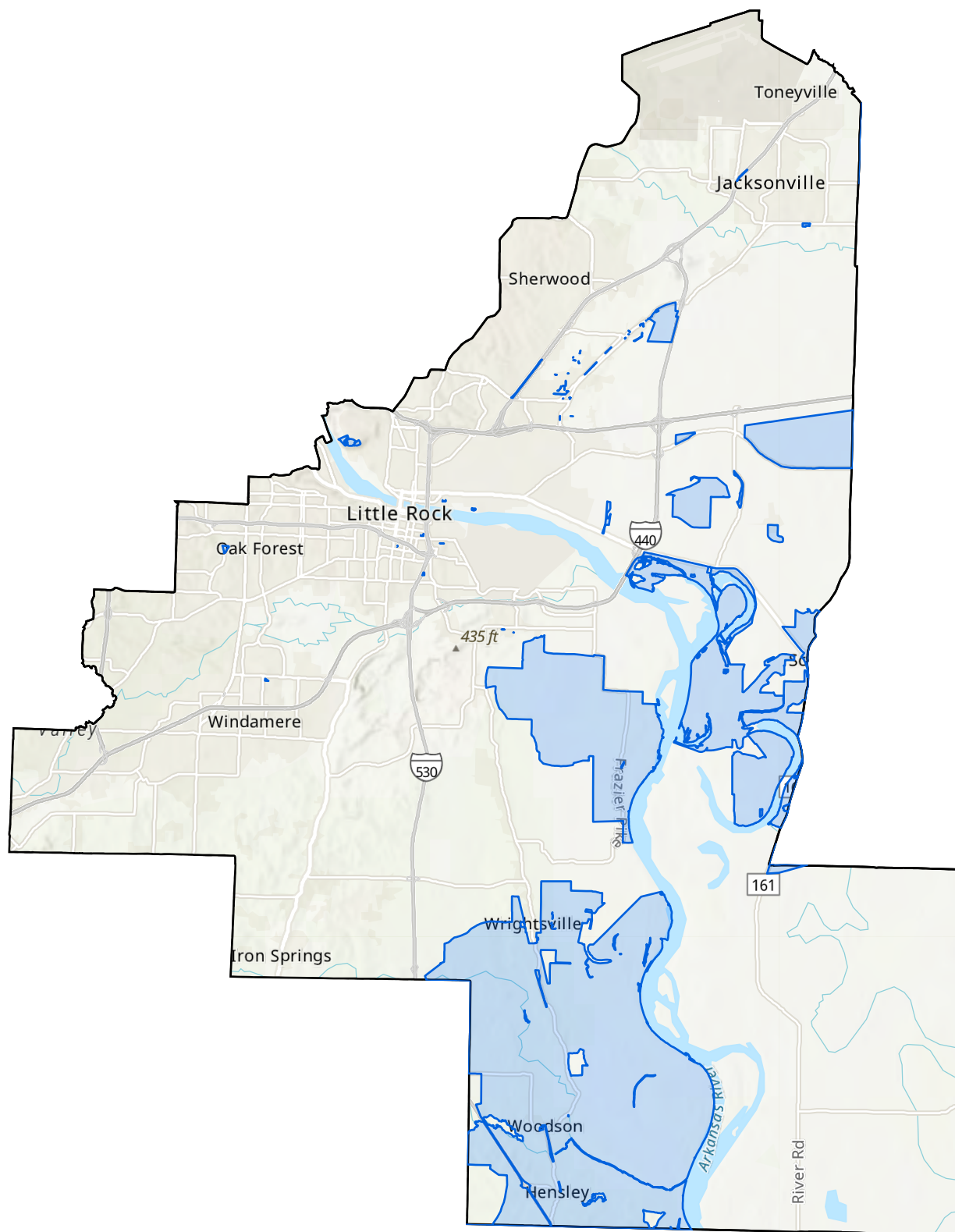
Total Cost of Project: **\$5,766,702.78**

Number of Households: **1,333**

Grant Request Amount: **\$1,574,886.53**

Grant Cost per Household: **\$1,181.46**

Grant Request Percent of Total Project Cost: **27%**



Project Areas

0 2 3 5 6 Miles



# Project ID: Searcy-B

Top Applicant ISP: **Petit Jean Electric Cooperative Corp**

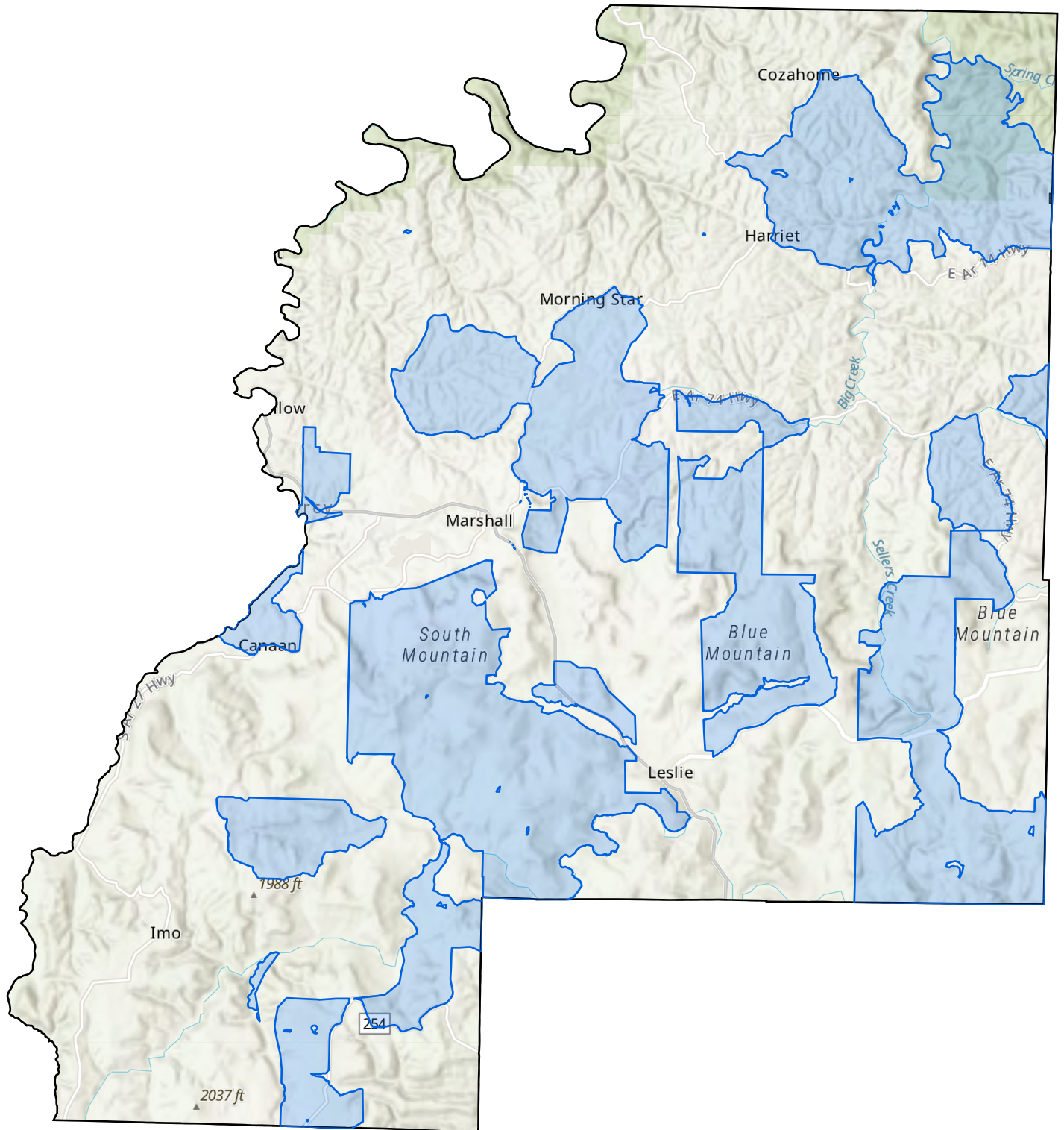
Number of Households: **755**

Grant Cost per Household: **\$8,128.71**

Total Cost of Project: **\$8,182,903.16**

Grant Request Amount: **\$6,137,177.37**

Grant Request Percent of Total Project Cost: **75%**





# Project ID: StFrancis

Top Applicant ISP: **Woodruff Electric Cooperative Corporation dba Enlightened**

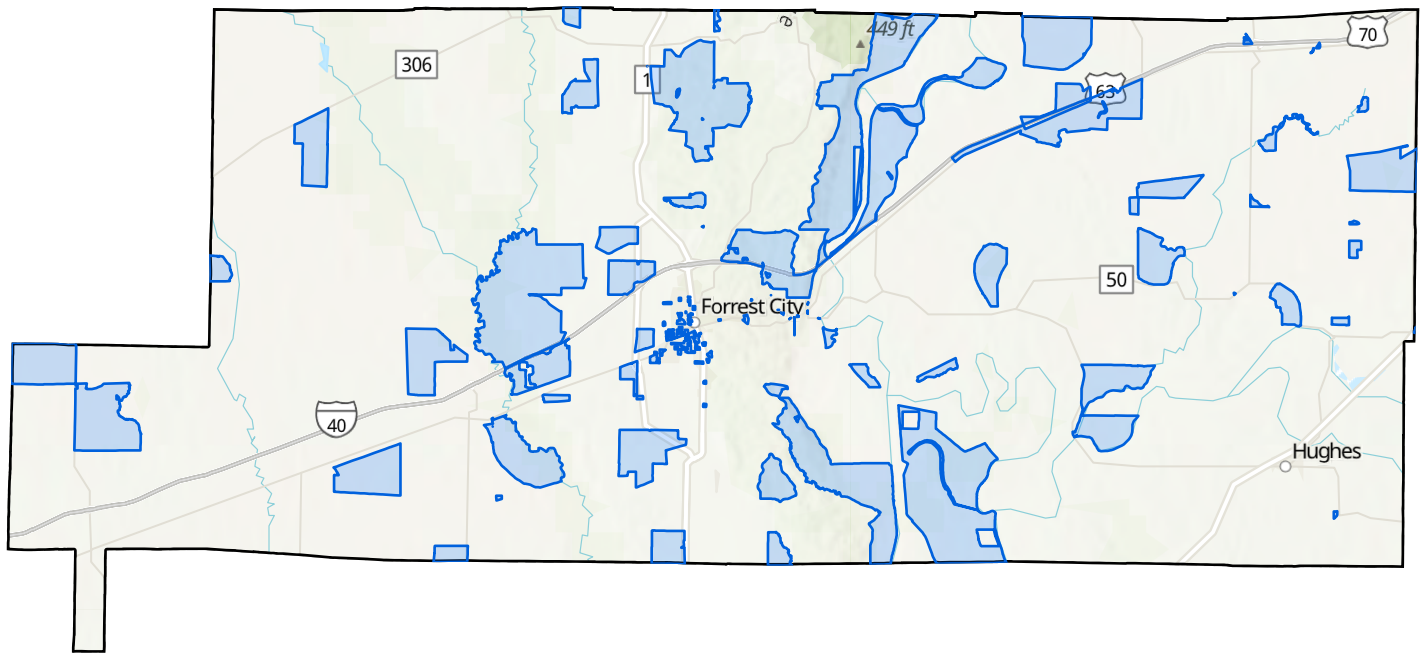
Number of Households: **951**

Grant Cost per Household: **\$10,173.82**

Total Cost of Project: **\$13,074,737.66**

Grant Request Amount: **\$9,675,305.90**

Grant Request Percent of Total Project Cost: **74%**



Project Areas

0 3 5 8 10 Miles



AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT OF 2021 PROGRAM APPROPRIATION
AND PERSONNEL AUTHORIZATION REQUEST
SECTION 37 OF ACT 199 OF 2022

Agency: Arkansas Economic Development Commission Business Area Code: 0790
Program Title: ARPA - Capital Projects Fund - Broadband
Granting Organization: U.S. Treasury, America Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) CFDA #: 21.029
Effective Date of Authorization: Beginning: 12/15/22 Ending: 06/30/23

Purpose of Grant / Reason for addition or change (include attachments as necessary to provide thorough information):
The U.S. Treasury has awarded the State of Arkansas \$158,086,576 from the Capital Projects Fund (CPF) authorized under the America Rescue Plan Act (ARPA). Funding from the CPF is separate from the \$1.6B in funding awarded under the ARPA State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (SLFRF) program. Unlike the SLFRF program, which may be spent in a variety of authorized categories, the CPF award from Treasury specifies that it may only be used for broadband projects and related administrative expenses (regular salaries and personal services matching for staff; fees for management consultants and strategic program design advisory services and program management support; costs related to project engineering design review; legal expenses related to project management support; media and communications expenses; educational related expenses to educate and teach citizens how to use and utilize broadband services; payroll for extra help staff or contract labor). Treasury has allocated \$150,236,576 of the award to be used for broadband projects with the balance of \$7,850,000 to be used for broadband administrative expenses through 2026. Attached is a list of grant awardees, respective project areas, and award amounts. The availability and use of funds is subject to all applicable State and Federal laws including guidance from Treasury regarding the Coronavirus Capital Projects Fund (CPF) established by Section 604 of the Social Security Act, as added by Section 9901 of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA). OPB is facilitating the distribution of the State's CPF through the CPF Grant Program which has been designed in accordance with Treasury's Capital Projects Fund Guidance for States, Territories, and Freely Associated States and their FAQs issued 04/2822. Supplementary guidance may be published at any time by Treasury and/or the State. Capital Projects must invest in capital assets designed to directly enable work, education, and health monitoring. The CPF Grant Program has been designed to address the critical need for high-speed, reliable connectivity that was highlighted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

American Rescue Plan Act Program Funding

Func. Area: COMM Fund Code: New Direct Funding: X
Funds Cen.: New Internal Order/WBS Element: New Steering Comm. Approved:
Continuation:

Table with 2 columns: Category, Program Funding Amount. Rows include Regular Salaries, Extra Help, Personal Services Matching, Operating Expenses, Conference & Travel Expenses, Professional Fees, Capital Outlay, Data Processing, Grants and Aid (CI: 04), Other: 590:00:46, Other:, and Total (\$158,086,576).

Anticipated Duration of Federal Funds: 12/15/22 - 06/30/26

DFA IGS State Technology Planning Date
Items requested for information technology must be in compliance with Technology Plans as submitted to DFA IGS State Technology Planning.

Positions to be established: (list each position separately) \* unclassified positions only

Table with 10 columns: Org Unit, Pers Area, Pers SubArea, Cost Center, Position Number, Cmmt Item, Position Title, Class Code, Grade, Line Item Maximum. The table is currently empty.

State funds will not be used to replace federal funds when such funds expire, unless appropriated by the General Assembly and authorized by the Governor.

Approved by: [Signature] 11/30/22
Cabinet Secretary/Agency Director Date [Signature] Office of Budget Date Office of Personnel Management Date
Michael Preston, Arkansas Department of Commerce