



Independence County
Broadband Committee

Independence County

Broadband Deployment Update
Q3 2026

Broadband Deployment Update

Independence County – Q3 2026



Independence County
Broadband Committee

- Post-Challenge and BEAD Provisional Awards Status
- Prior Grants & Awards
- BEAD Provisional Awardees
- Update on Prior Awards & Grants
- Current Deployment Status
- Future Deployment Prospects

Independence County Broadband Profile

Post BEAD Challenge/Provisional Awards – September 2025

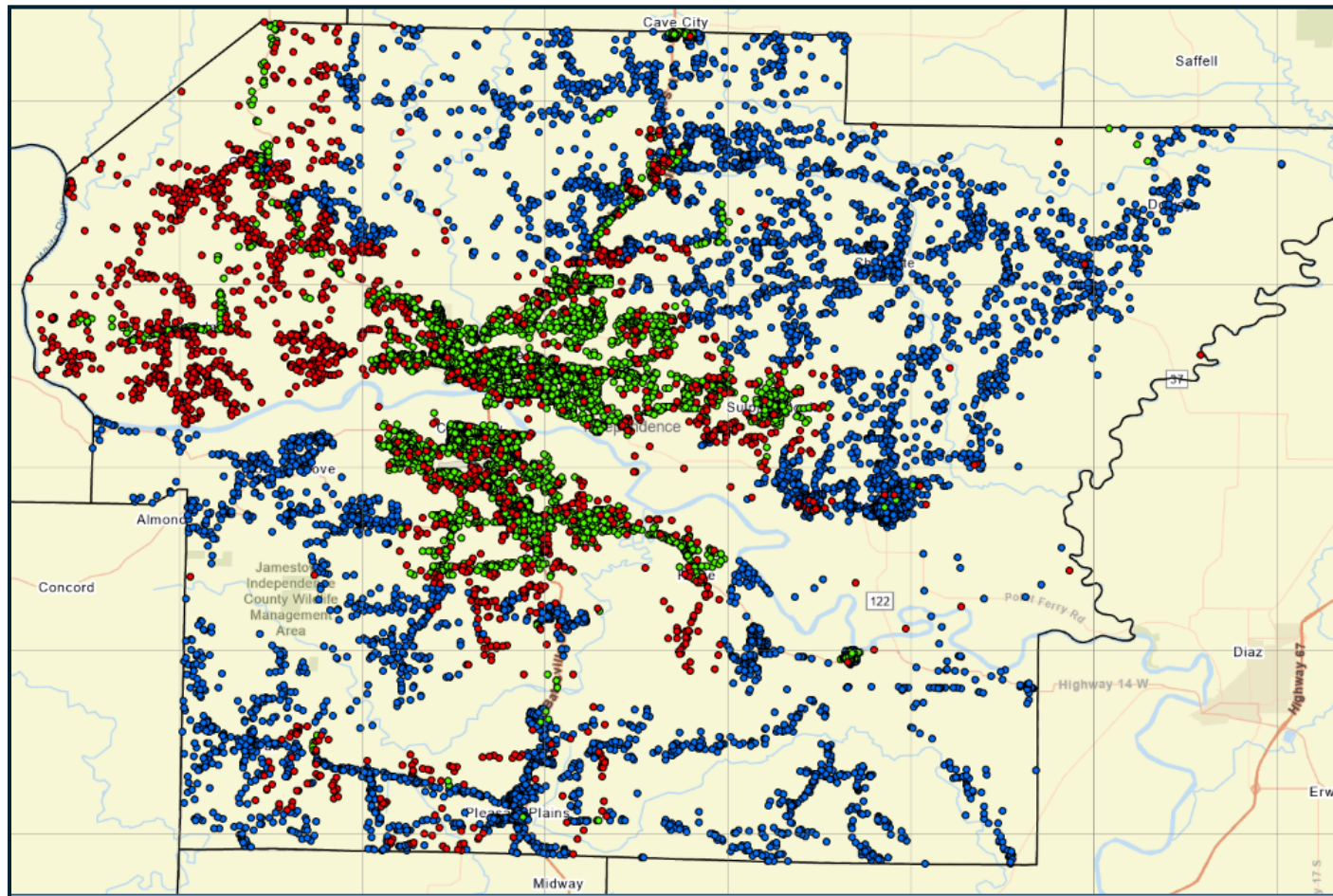
- Broadband Serviceable Locations: 17,798
 - 9,386 52.7% Served; post BEAD Challenge
 - 6,259 35.2% Previously funded; not fully deployed
 - 1,941 10.9% Preliminary BEAD Awards
 - 212 1.2% Not Eligible for BEAD (Per Benefit of the Bargain)
- Status 09/2025: 47.3% Broadband Deficient
- Opportunity by 2030: 89.6% Connected Improvement

Broadband Serviceable Locations

Independence County – September 2025



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- Served
- Funded
- BEAD



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Prior Grants/Awards

Independence County

- **Arkansas Rural Connect (ARC)**
 - Bethesda Wireless (Round 1 2021)
 - Hillbilly Wireless (Round 2B 2022)
 - Ind-Co Cable TV (Round 2C 2022)
 - Ritter Communications (Round 2B 2022)
- **Rural Digital Opportunity Fund (RDOF)**
 - Windstream
 - Brightspeed (CenturyTel prior)
 - Resound Networks
 - Farmers Rural Connect

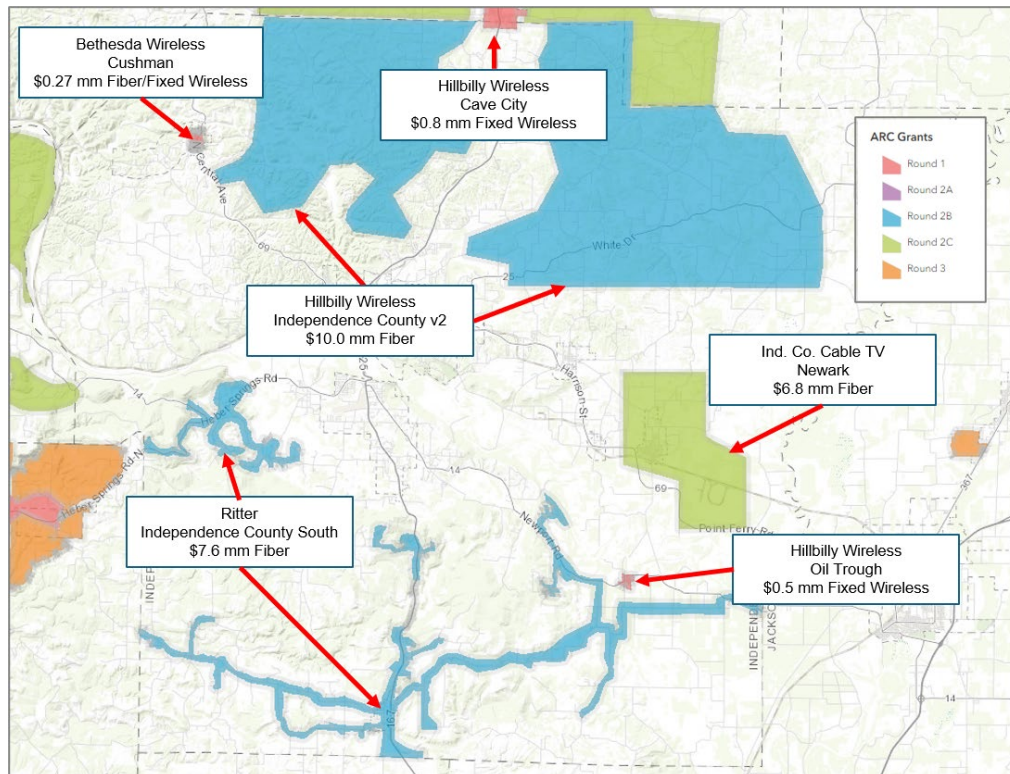
Prior Grants/Awards

Independence County

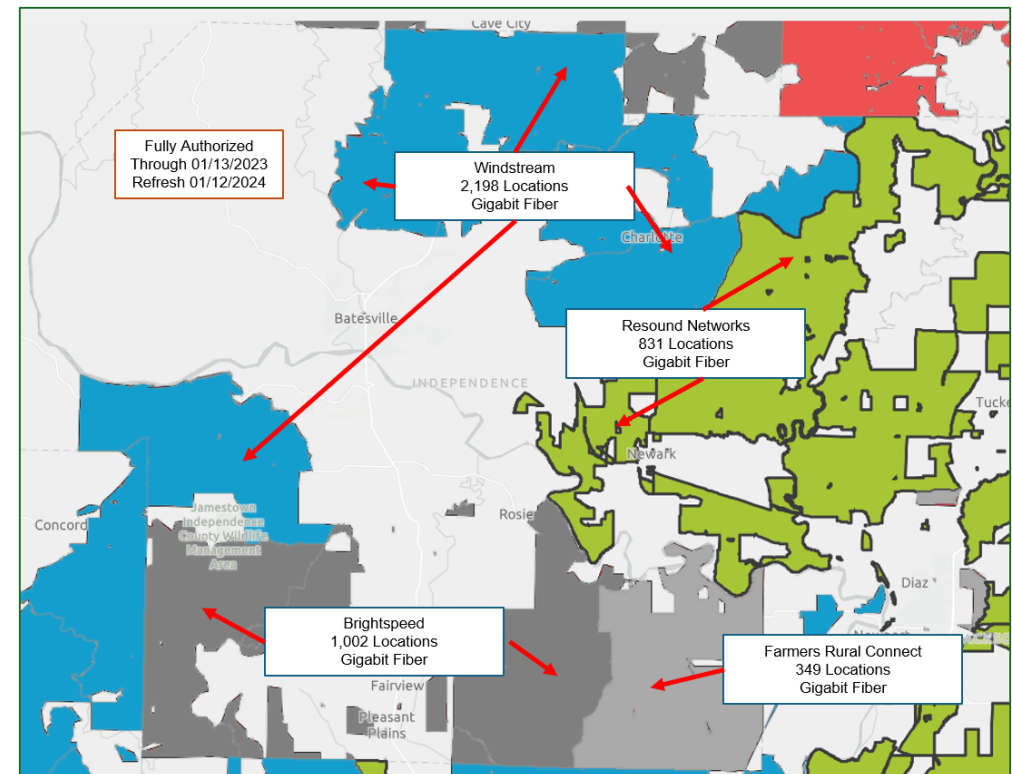


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Arkansas Rural Connect



Rural Development Opportunity Fund

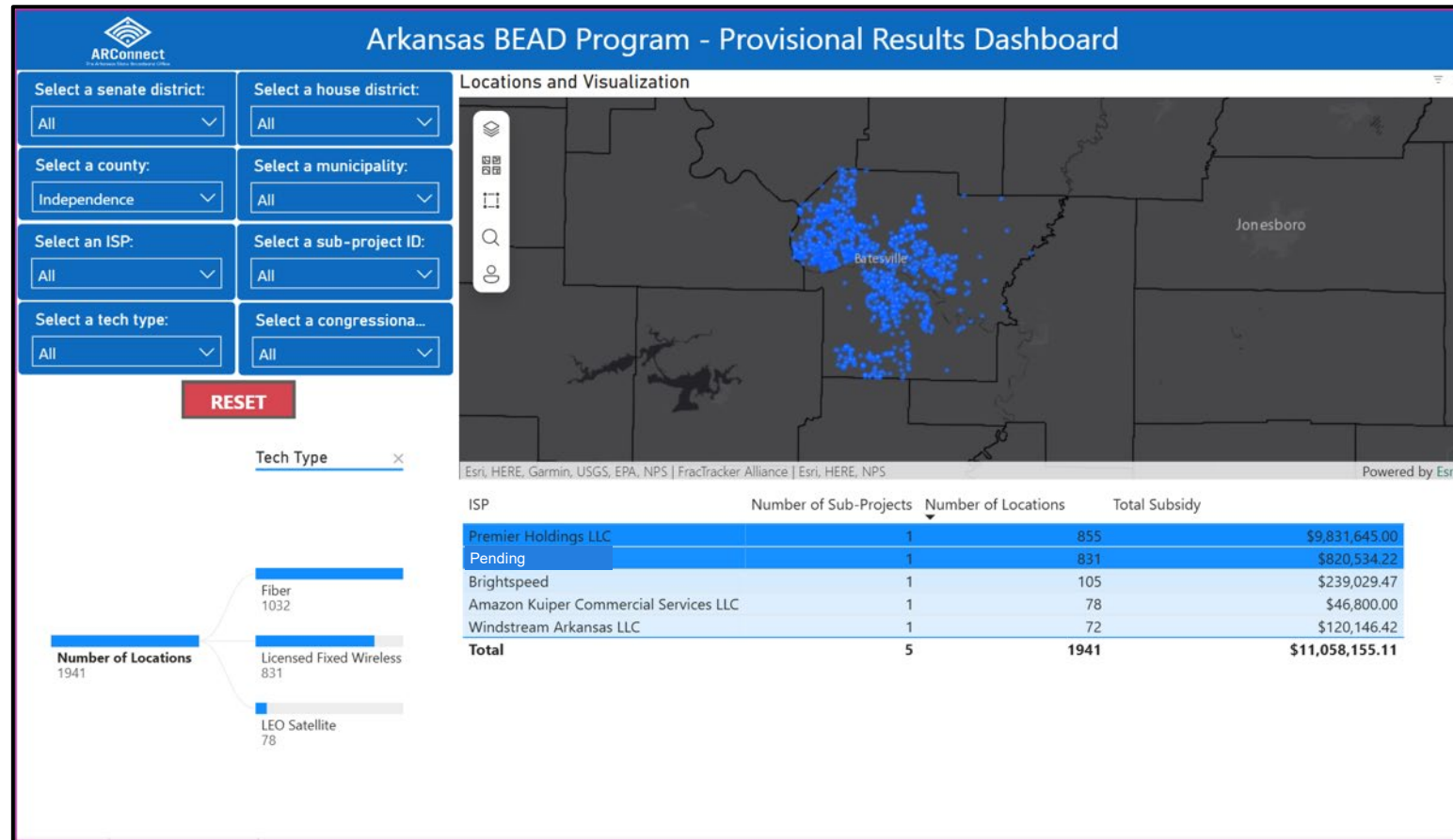


Arkansas BEAD Provisional Results

Independence County Awards



Independence County
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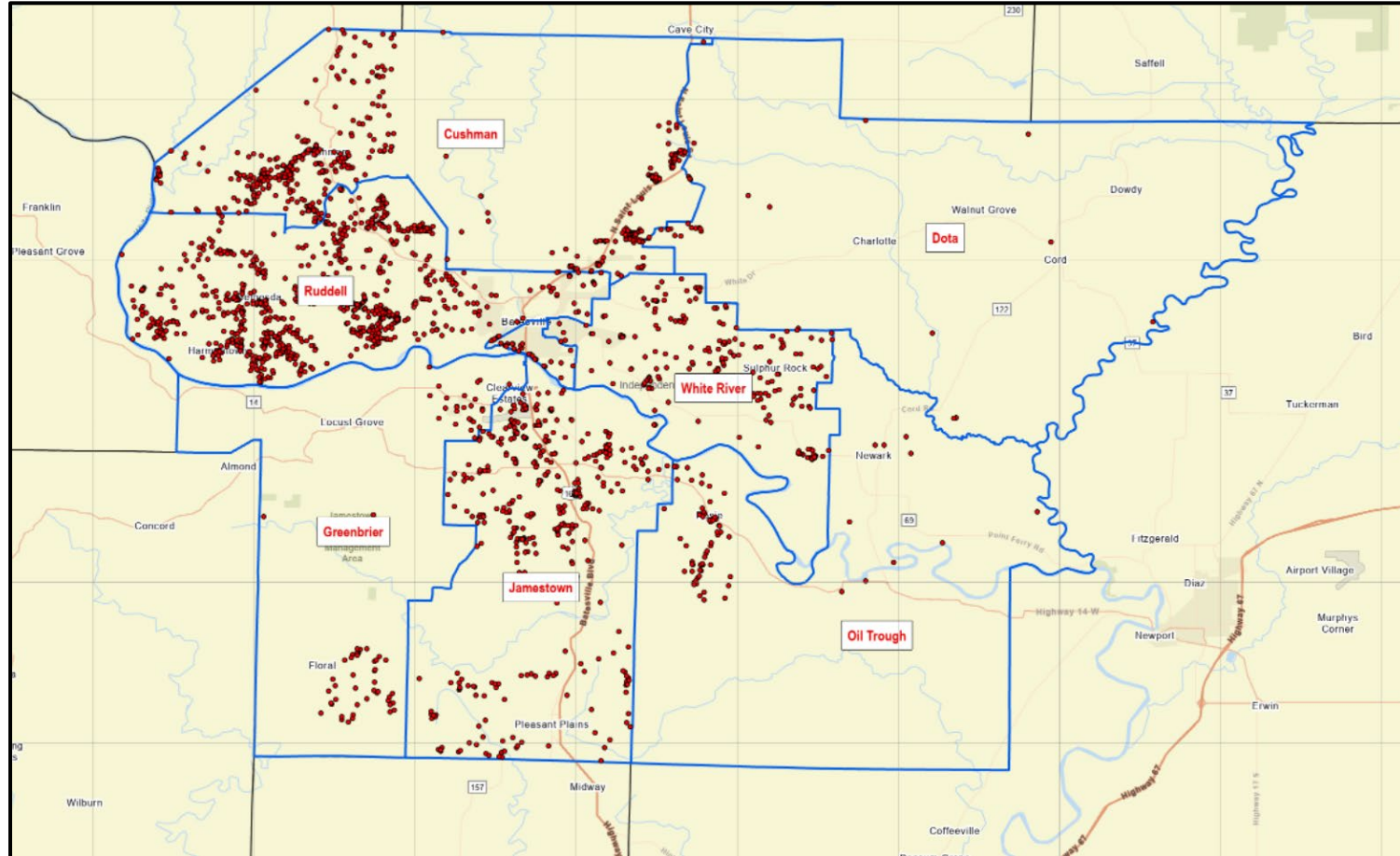


Arkansas BEAD Provisional Results

Independence County Awards by Township



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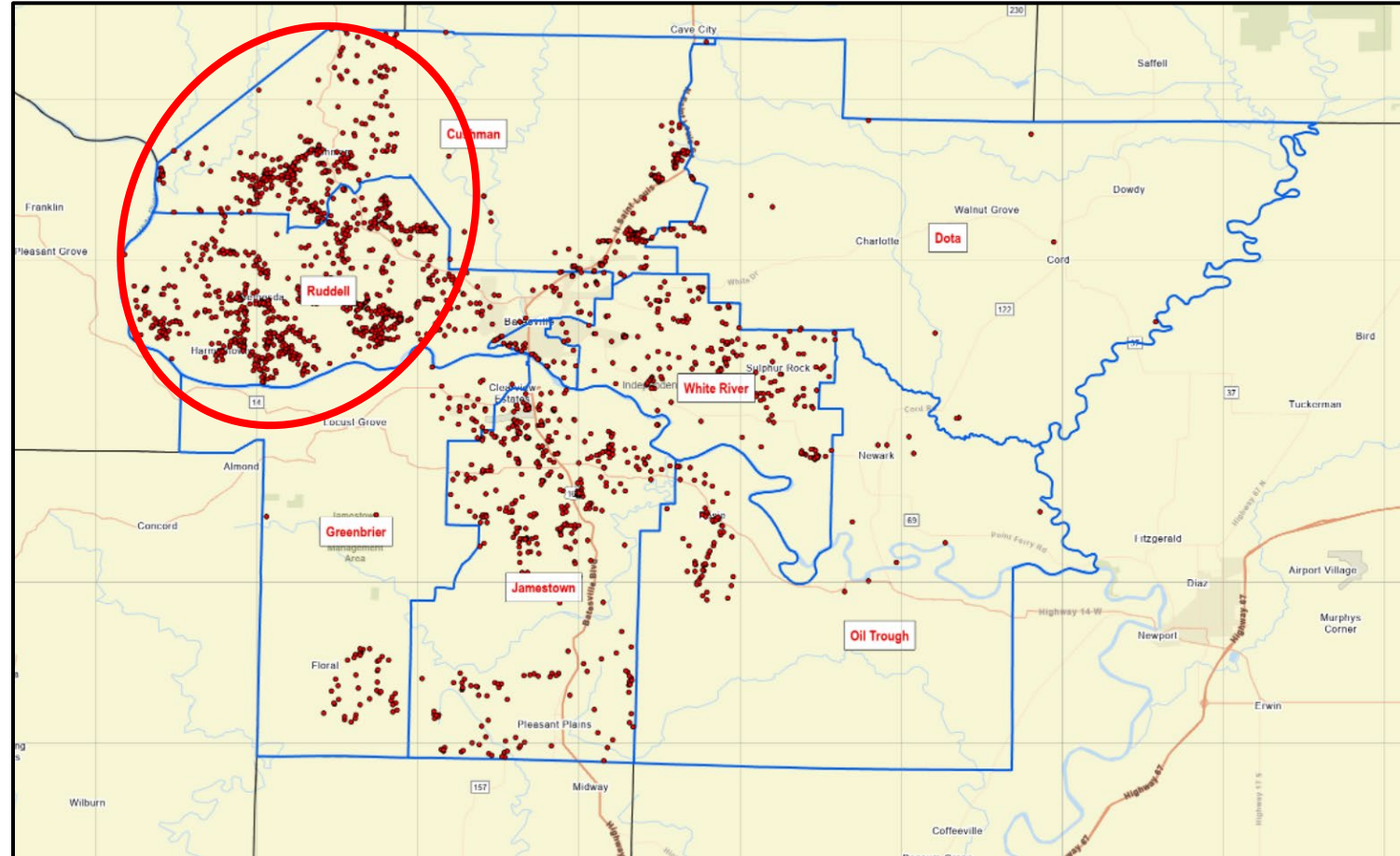


Independence County Awards

Premier Holdings – 855 Locations



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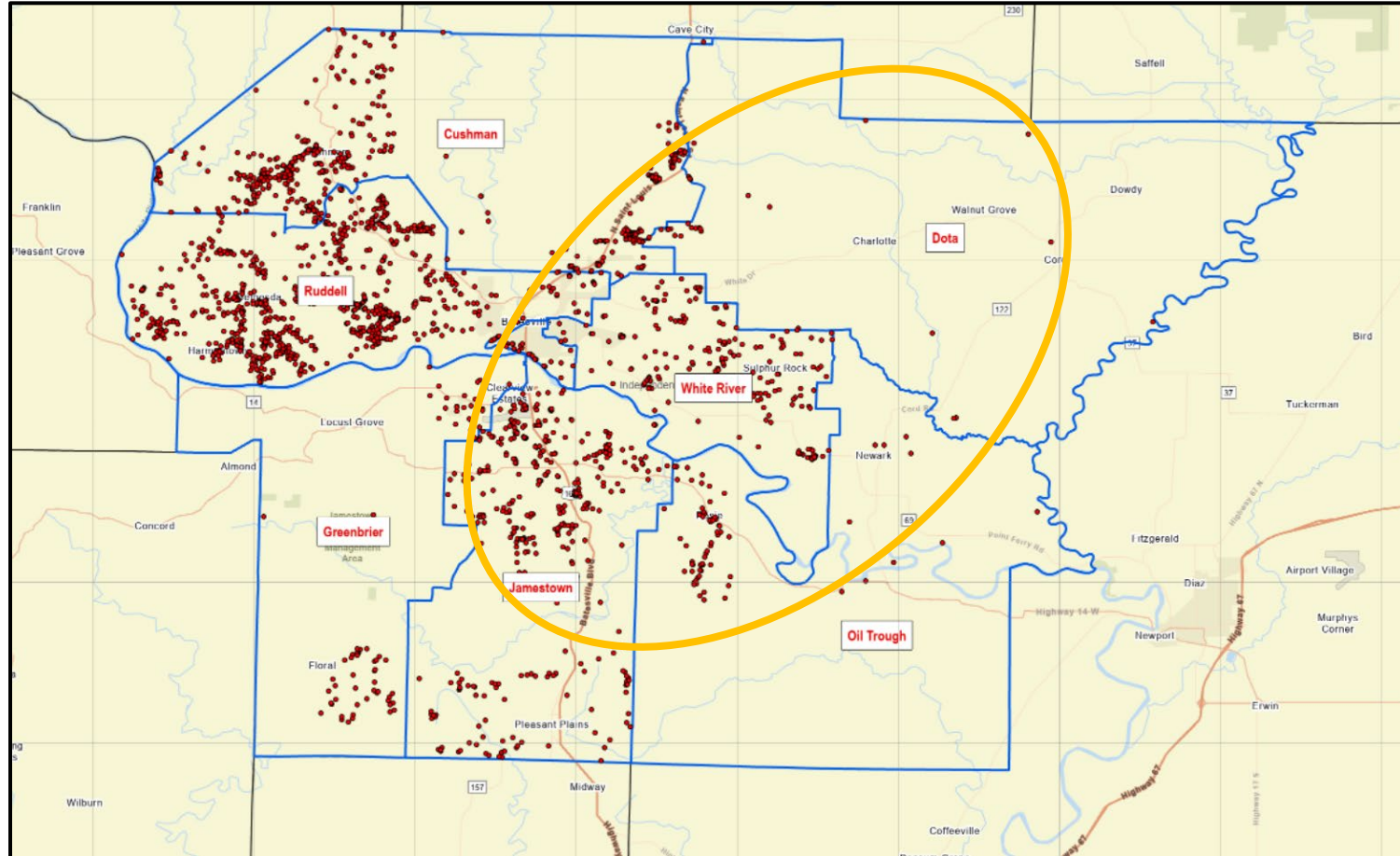


Independence County Awards

Announcement Pending – 831 Locations



Independence County
Broadband Committee

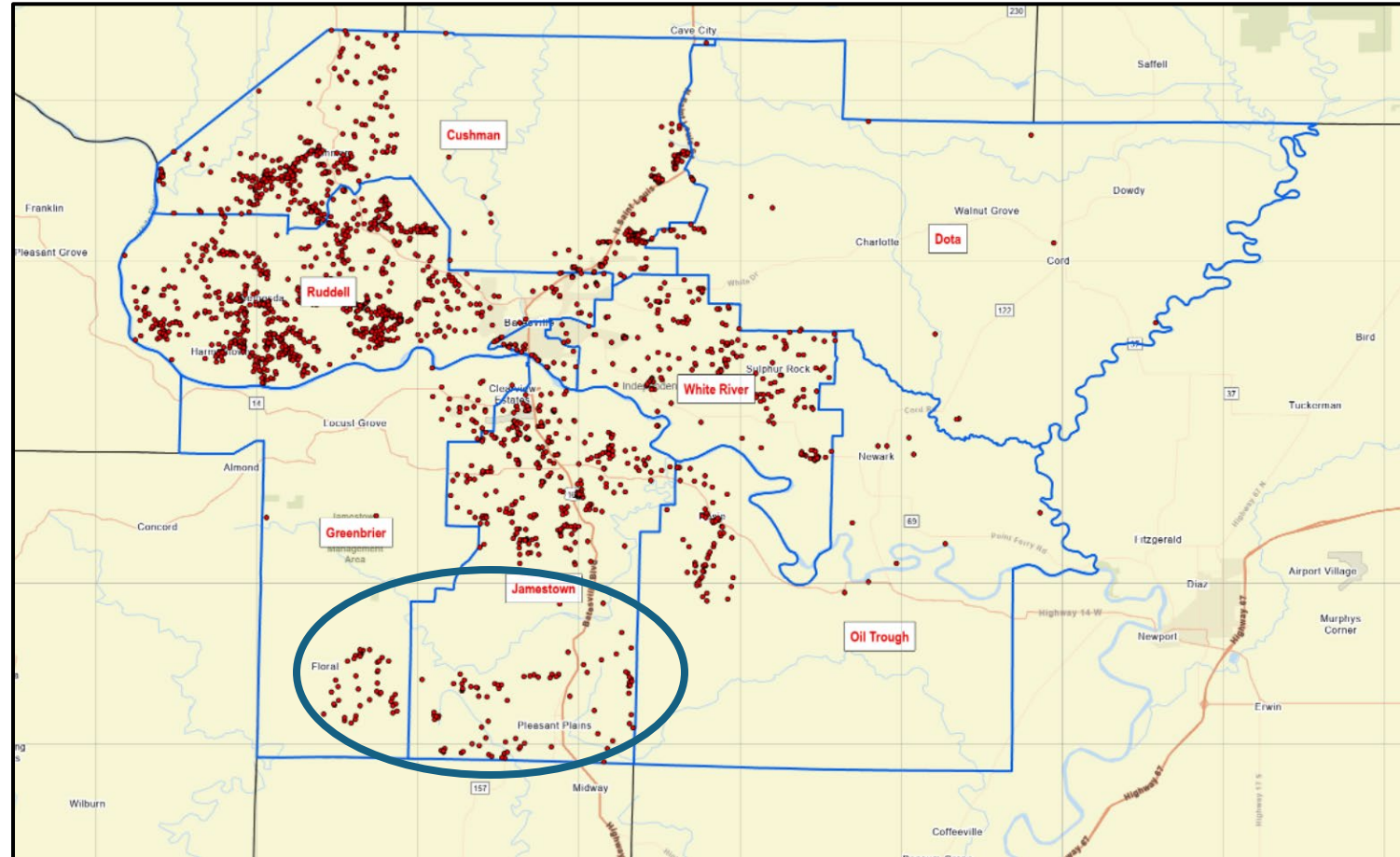


Independence County Awards

Brightspeed – 105 Locations



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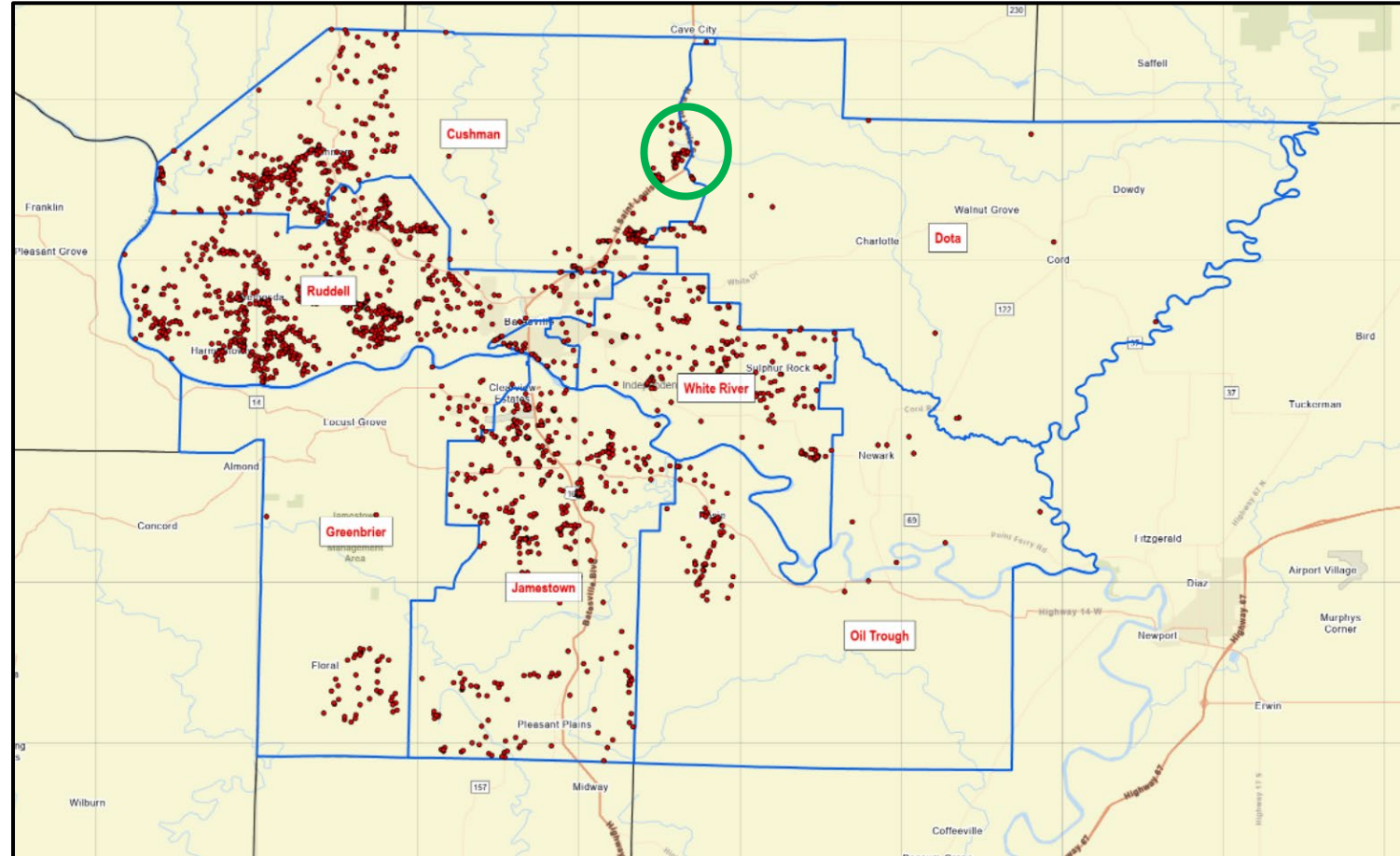


Independence County Awards

Windstream/Kinetic – 72 Locations



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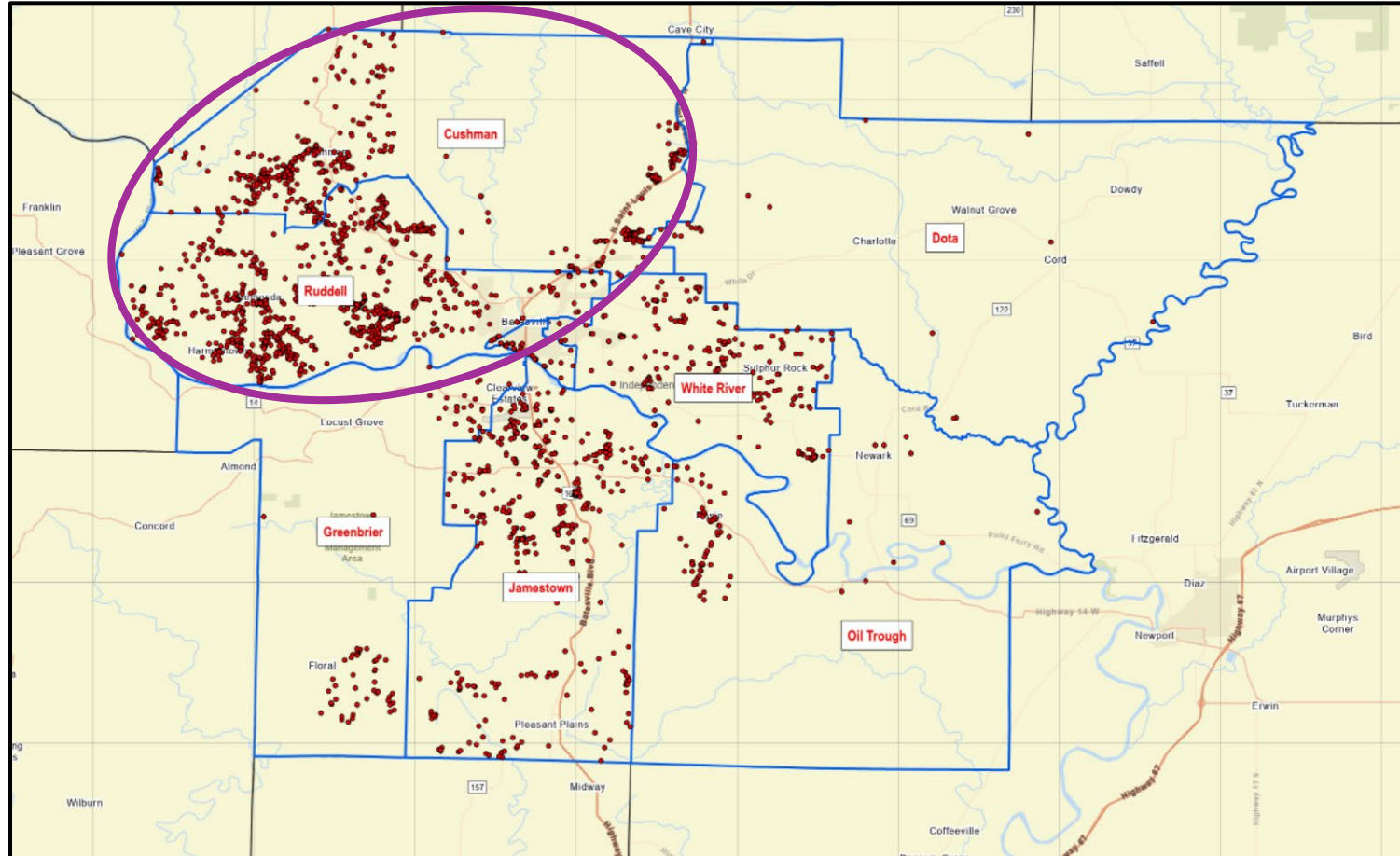


Independence County Awards

Amazon Kuiper – 78 Locations



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Prior Grants/Awards

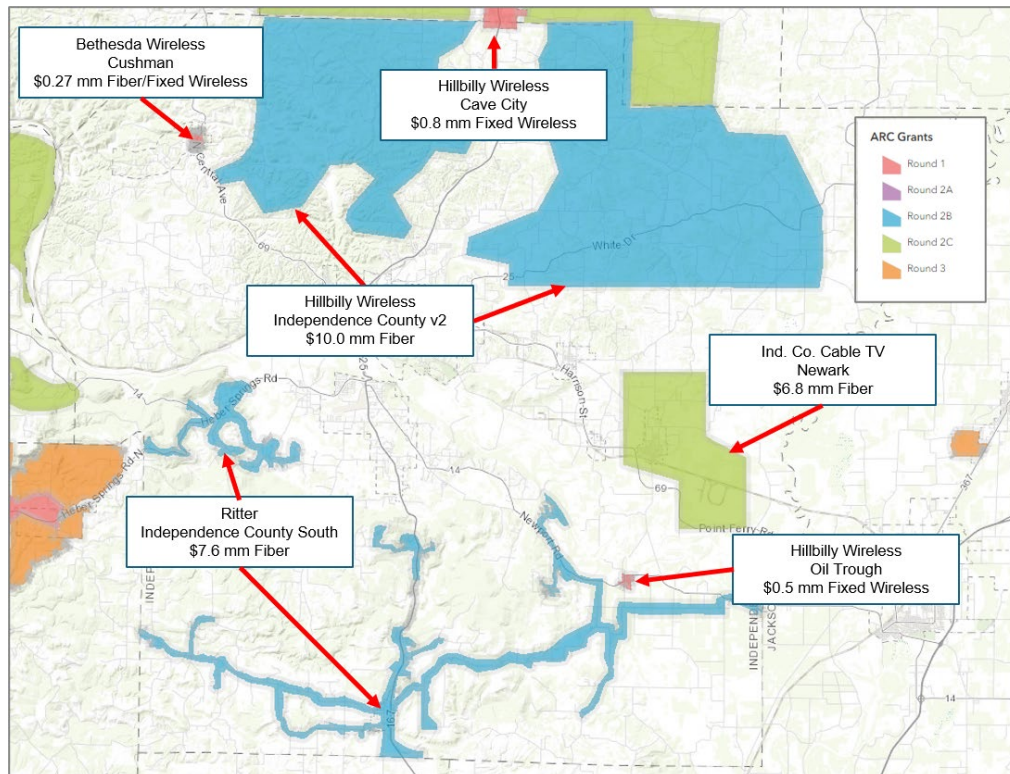
Independence County



Independence County
Broadband Committee

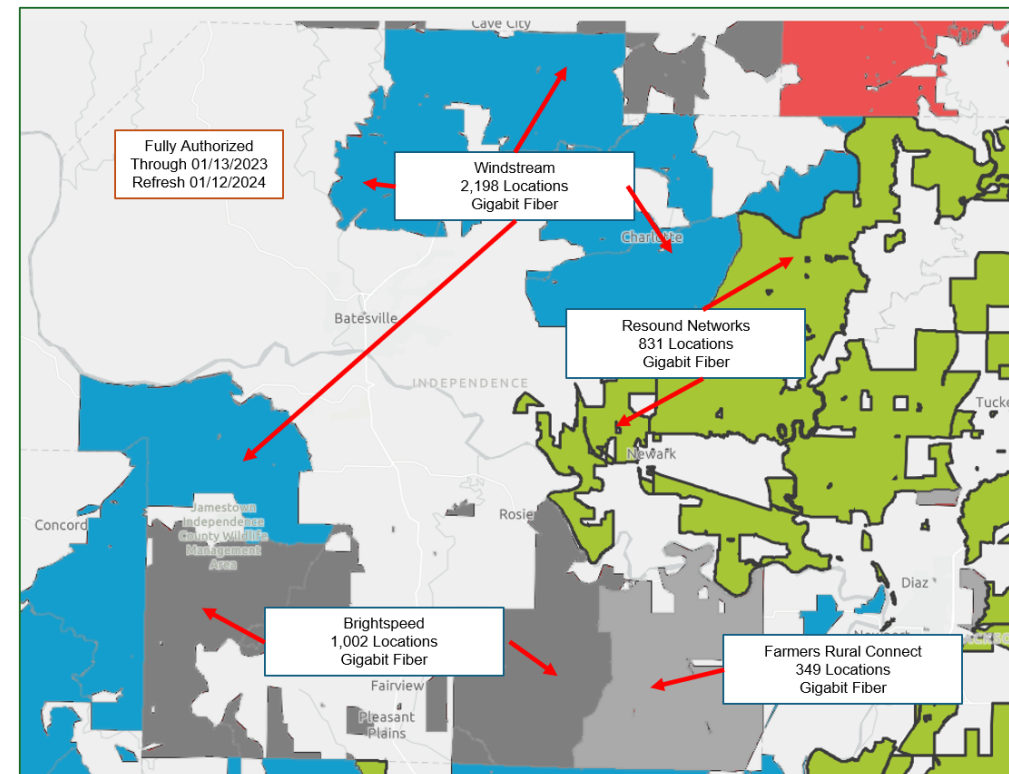
Fully Deployed

Arkansas Rural Connect



Partially Deployed

Rural Development Opportunity Fund



Prior Grants/Awards

Independence County – June 2023 to September 2026

- Arkansas Rural Connect

- Bethesda Wireless (Round 1 2021)
- Hillbilly Wireless (Round 2B 2022)
- Ind-Co Cable TV (Round 2C 2022)
- Ritter Communications (Round 2B 2022)

+ 2,454 Locations

Deployed

Deployed

Deployed

Deployed

- Rural Digital Opportunity Fund (RDOF) + 399 Locations

- Windstream
- Brightspeed (CenturyTel prior)
- Resound Networks
- Farmers Rural Connect

Open

Partially Deployed

Open

Deployed

Independence County Broadband Profile

Post BEAD Challenge/Provisional Awards – September 2026

- Broadband Serviceable Locations: 17,798
 - 12,239 68.8% Served; post BEAD Challenge
 - 3,406 19.1% Previously funded; not fully deployed
 - 1,941 10.9% Provisional BEAD Awards
 - 212 1.2% Not Eligible for BEAD (Currently)
- Status June 2023: 47.3% Broadband Deficient
- Current Status: 31.2% Broadband Deficient
- Since June 2023: 30.4% Connected Improvement
- Opportunity by 2030: 89.6% Total Connected Improvement

Thank You!



Independence County
Broadband Committee

For more information regarding Arkansas Broadband ...

Arkansas State Broadband Office:

<https://broadband.arkansas.gov/>

Independence County Broadband Committee:

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