

PST Portola Project Summary

Applicant:

Plumas-Sierra Telecommunications

U-Number: U-7218-C

Contact Person:

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Project Title:

PST Portola Mid-Mile / Last-Mile Broadband Project

Proposed Project Area Location:

Portola area, Plumas County

Project Type:

Hybrid Mid-Mile and Last-mile

CASF Funding Requested:

\$ 2,587,677 in grant funds

Description of the Project:

To leverage the current PST mid-mile fiber network for which Plumas-Sierra Telecommunications was awarded ARRA and CASF funds, PST is now applying for additional CASF funding to deploy further mid-mile and last-mile broadband networks to serve the Portola area of Plumas County.

The mid-mile network expansion is vital to reach the deployment area for the last-mile target residences. The last-mile network will use fiber optic wireline technology interconnected with PST's mid-mile fiber network to offer service to 51 households in this unserved area of Plumas County.

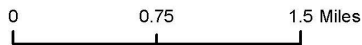
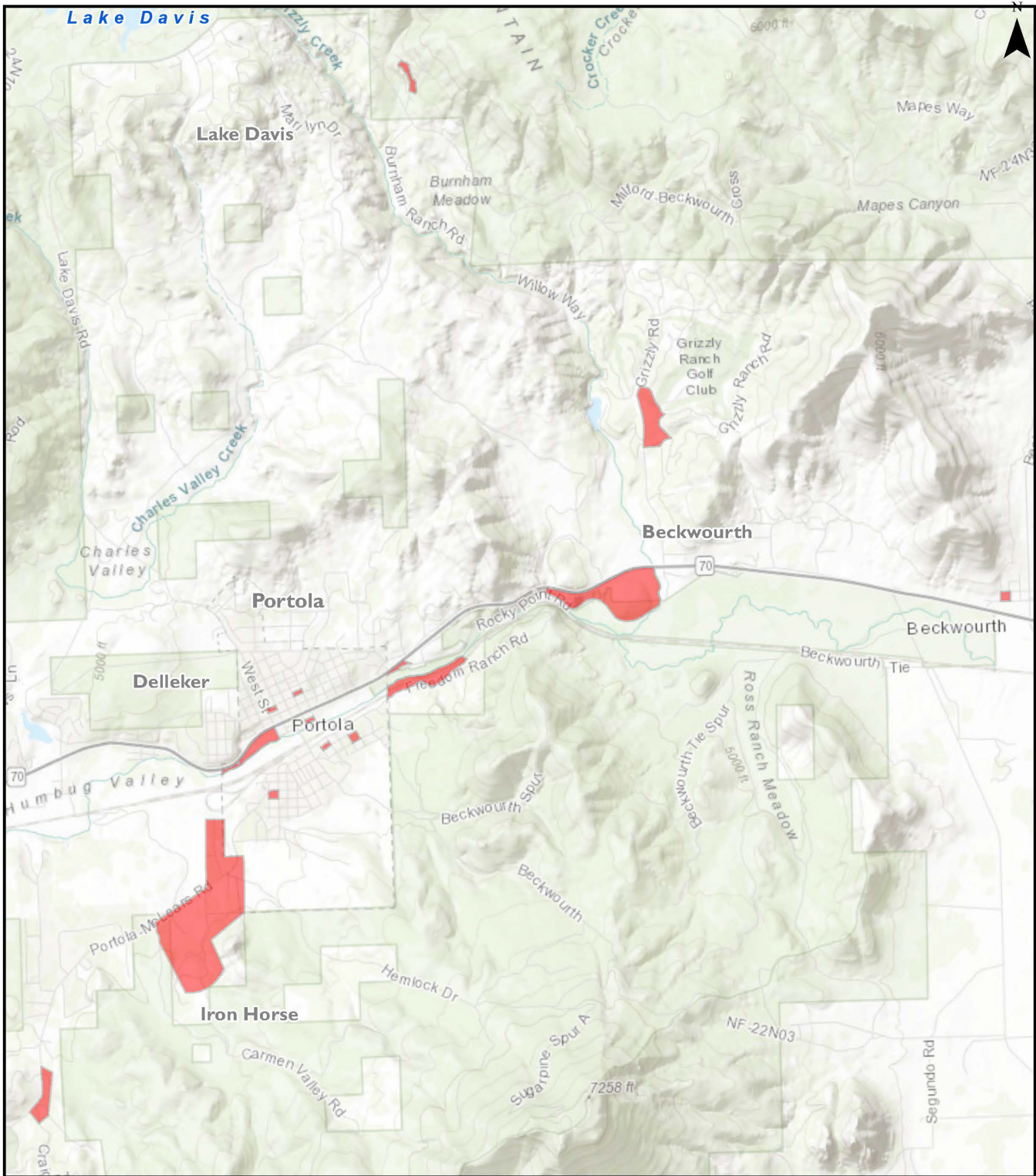
Service offerings will include minimum speeds of 10Mbps down/1Mbps up and maximum speeds of up to 1Gbps down/1Gbps up. PST's service offerings will not have data caps.

The use of fiber optics will allow PST to provide the households in this application with the most current technology, offering an improved quality of life that is not available to these residents now because of their current broadband isolation.

The COVID-19 Pandemic has highlighted the need for broadband services for working and learning from home. This project will provide much needed service in these rural areas of California.

Map of the proposed project follows on the next page.

Plumas Sierra Telecom - CASF Project: Portola



 CASF Project Boundary

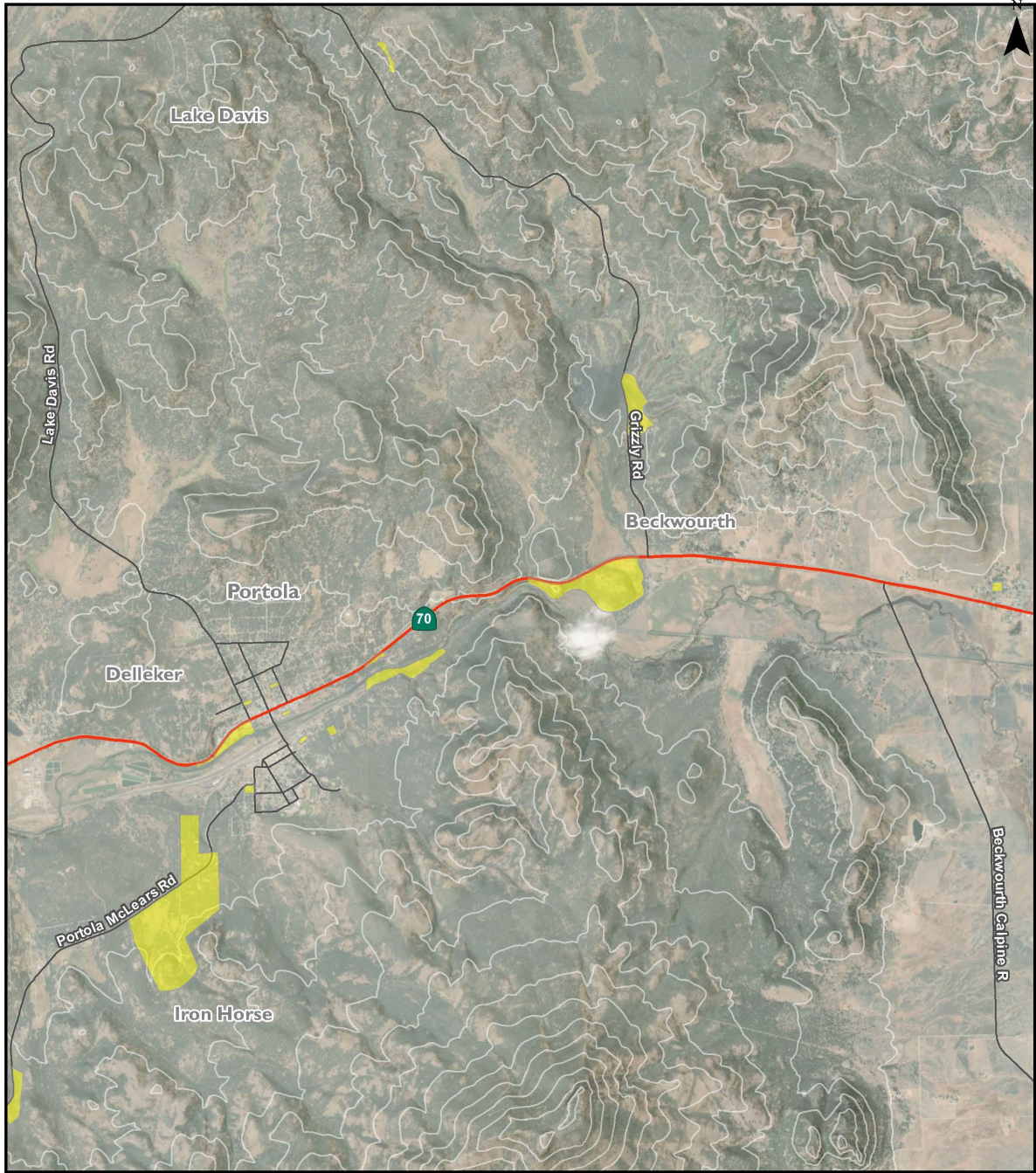
Date: March 12th, 2020



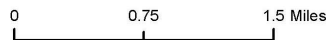
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The additional map and photo help to highlight the dense trees and topography typical of the areas proposed for service. These are two major factors contributing to the high cost of this project and why other providers have not yet brought service to these areas of Plumas County. The dense tree cover also prohibits the use of wireless services, making fiber optics the only real option to provide broadband service to these areas.

Plumas Sierra Telecom - CASF Project: Portola



	CASF Project Boundary
	Contours - 200 ft



Date: April 23rd, 2020



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This image illustrates the dense forest and rough terrain of the Portola area.

Fixed Broadband Served Status by Census Block within project area:

	Unserved		
	- Slow Service	Unserved - No Service	Unserved Total
Population	0	125	125
Households	0	51	51
Housing Units	0	85	85
Addresses (from Item 4)	0	137	137

This project will bring service to 137 address locations which are outlined in Item 4. These addresses are derived from the most current Plumas County parcel database.

Census Blocks to be served:

060630003001065
060630003002000
060630003002012
060630003002014
060630003002036
060630003002041
060630003002056
060630003002072
060630003002078
060630003002080
060630003003054
060630003003060
060630003003062
060630003003079
060630003004430
060630003004431
060630003004435
060630003004556

Funding Level:

The area applied for is 100% unserved with no service (Dial-up only) according to the CPUC's 2019 Housing Unit projections. No existing CAF II areas are within project area. Requesting 100% project funding.

The project area includes 18 census blocks in Plumas County in the community of Portola. This area encompasses 4.08 Square Miles.

Median Household Income: \$43,603

Anchor Institutions, Public Safety Locations and Businesses:

The project area does not include any Anchor Institutions or Public Safety Locations as identified by the current California Interactive Broadband Map.

There are four businesses in the proposed project area.

Major Infrastructure and Equipment to be Deployed:

- 1 Cisco DHCP Router Management
- 1 E7 Chassis

- 2 GPON cards
- 16 40K SFPs

Aerial and Underground Installation:

- 1.14 Miles of underground infrastructure
- 48.06 Miles of overhead infrastructure

Estimated Construction Timeline: 6 months

Proposed Broadband Project Plan:

The PST Portola Mid-Mile / Last-Mile Broadband Project plans to use fiber optic cable to provide download speeds of up to 1 Gbps and upload speeds of up to 1 Gbps with no data caps.

PST is leveraging its current mid-mile fiber network for which it was awarded ARRA and CASF funds, and existing infrastructure of its parent company, Plumas-Sierra Rural Electric Cooperative to deploy this additional mid-mile and last-mile broadband network to serve the Portola area of Plumas County. The mid-mile network expansion is vital to reach the deployment area for the last-mile target residences because there is no existing mid-mile infrastructure to interconnect with for this project, and without it, PST will not be able to provide service to these areas.

Plumas-Sierra Telecommunications believes that this mid-mile / last-mile broadband project is categorically exempt from CEQA requirements based on the findings of the CEQA analysis conducted for the previous ARRA grant, and because PST is using existing public utility easements considered previously disturbed. PST believes this project is exempt under CEQA Article 19, Sections 15301 b and 15303 d.

PST is not disputing the Broadband Map depiction of served status.

PST is not seeking Ministerial Review of this project.