

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

CASF APPLICATION

Buckeye Road Community &
Banner Mountain South Community
Located in Nevada County, California

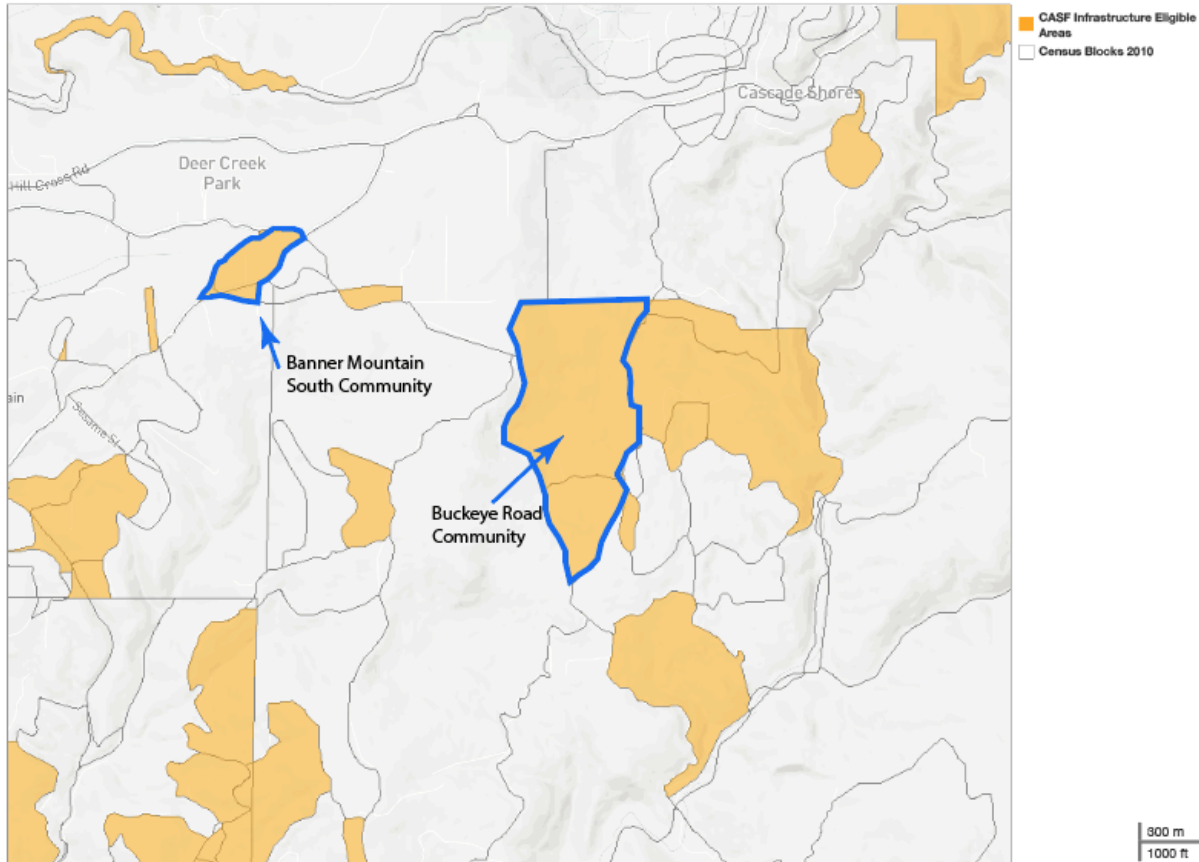
1. PROJECT SUMMARY (Distributed Publicly)

Applicants Name:	Nevada County Fiber Inc
Contact Person	Andrew Wilkinson Chief Executive Officer 17347 Dusty Drive Nevada City, CA, 95959 (530) 263 5014 Andrew@NevCoFiber.com
Project Name	Buckeye Rd & Banner Mountain South Community Broadband
Location	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Buckeye Rd, Nevada City, CA 95959• Banner Quaker Hill Rd, Nevada City, CA 95955
Project Type	Last-Mile underground fiber to the home
Funding Request	\$559,152
CPCN	U-7375-C

2. PROJECT Area Map



California Interactive Broadband Map



3. DESCRIPTION OF THE PROJECT

Nevada County Fiber, Inc, or “Applicant” is applying for a grant of \$559,152 from the California Advanced Service Fund (CASF) Broadband Infrastructure Grant Account. With this funding, the Applicant will deploy 8,874 feet of main distribution underground fiber-optic plant that will enable High-Speed Internet Services to 50 CASF Eligible households. The project costs are \$621,280 and a 90% matching grant of \$559,152 is requested for the project cost of delivering service to those CASF eligible households.

Currently, the residents of the Buckeye Rd Community and Banner Mountain South Community have no service or are obtaining a very slow DSL service. The typical maximum download is 3.1Mbps and 0.4Mbps upstream. The Median Income for Census Block Group in which the project is located is \$60,391 (Ref California Interactive Broadband Map)

With the Applicants proposed project, 28 CASF-Eligible households will be able to choose service plans that range from 10Mbps downstream and 10Mbps upstream to 1Gbps downstream and 1Gbps upstream. Qualifying low-income customers will be eligible for the Community Assist reduced cost service plan of 10Mbps Download and 1Mbps upload. The proposed project will serve residential as well as a home-based business.

There are no established anchor institutions that this project will serve, however it will allow the expansion of the Nevada County Public Safety Pod program that has been proposed to Nevada County. This would allow the local Office of Emergency Services to use the high speed fiber optic network for the remote video monitoring of traffic and fire conditions which will improve public safety.

The Applicants project is entirely underground, which is the most robust solution for delivering future proof high-speed internet in the heavily forested location that contains many uphill and downhill grades. The project areas are determined to be at high risk of uncontrolled wildfire. The underground solution will ensure economic resiliency and help ensure reliable communications during periods of wildland fire, or extreme snow conditions. Whilst underground construction is costly, it will have a very long lifespan and provide the most robust and reliable solutions for the community in the foreseeable future.

Service will be provided from the existing central office with a 8,874' underground extension with distribution to each of the properties located in the Banner Mountain South & Buckeye Rd communities

The project is addressing low density rural areas with unserved and underserved wireline broadband. The distance from the main fiber optic distribution line to reach subscriber's homes will vary from 250'-600'+. The average parcel size for Buckeye Rd Community of 8.5 acres and an average of 3.0 acres per parcel for the Banner Mountain South Community

There will be a dedicated fiber provided to each home which will be configured as an active ethernet solution, with future capability as an open access solution.

The estimated project timeline is 24 months, risk factors to the timeline are weather and wildfire events.

The public interest factors that justify the 90% funding match for Buckeye Community, and 90% match for Banner Mountain South Community are:

- The proposed project is within an area that has already been designated as CASF Eligible and is not served with any wireline or wireless facilities with speeds above 6Mbps download and 1Mbps upstream
- The project is a cost-effective expansion of an existing fiber-optic service to an inaccessible rural community that is in desperate need of improved access to high-speed broadband.
- The project will connect to existing Nevada County infrastructure thus avoiding additional costs for infrastructure outside of the project area

- Applicant serves low-income customers for no more than \$15/month
- No other provider has submitted a CASF application for this project area

Census Blocks Covered

60570007012154
60570007011006
60570007012132
60570007012130
60570007012133

ZIP codes Intersected

95959