

PST Sierra Valley Project Summary

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Applicant:

Plumas-Sierra Telecommunications
U-Number: U-7218-C

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Project Title:

PST Sierra Valley Mid-Mile / Last-Mile Broadband Project

Proposed Project Area Location:

Sierra Valley area, Plumas and Sierra Counties

Project Type:

Hybrid Mid-Mile and Last-mile

CASF Funding Requested:

\$ 4,887,905 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 Sierra Valley area of Plumas and Sierra counties.

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 and fixed wireless technology interconnected with PST's mid-mile fiber network to offer service to 140 households in these unserved areas of Plumas and Sierra counties.

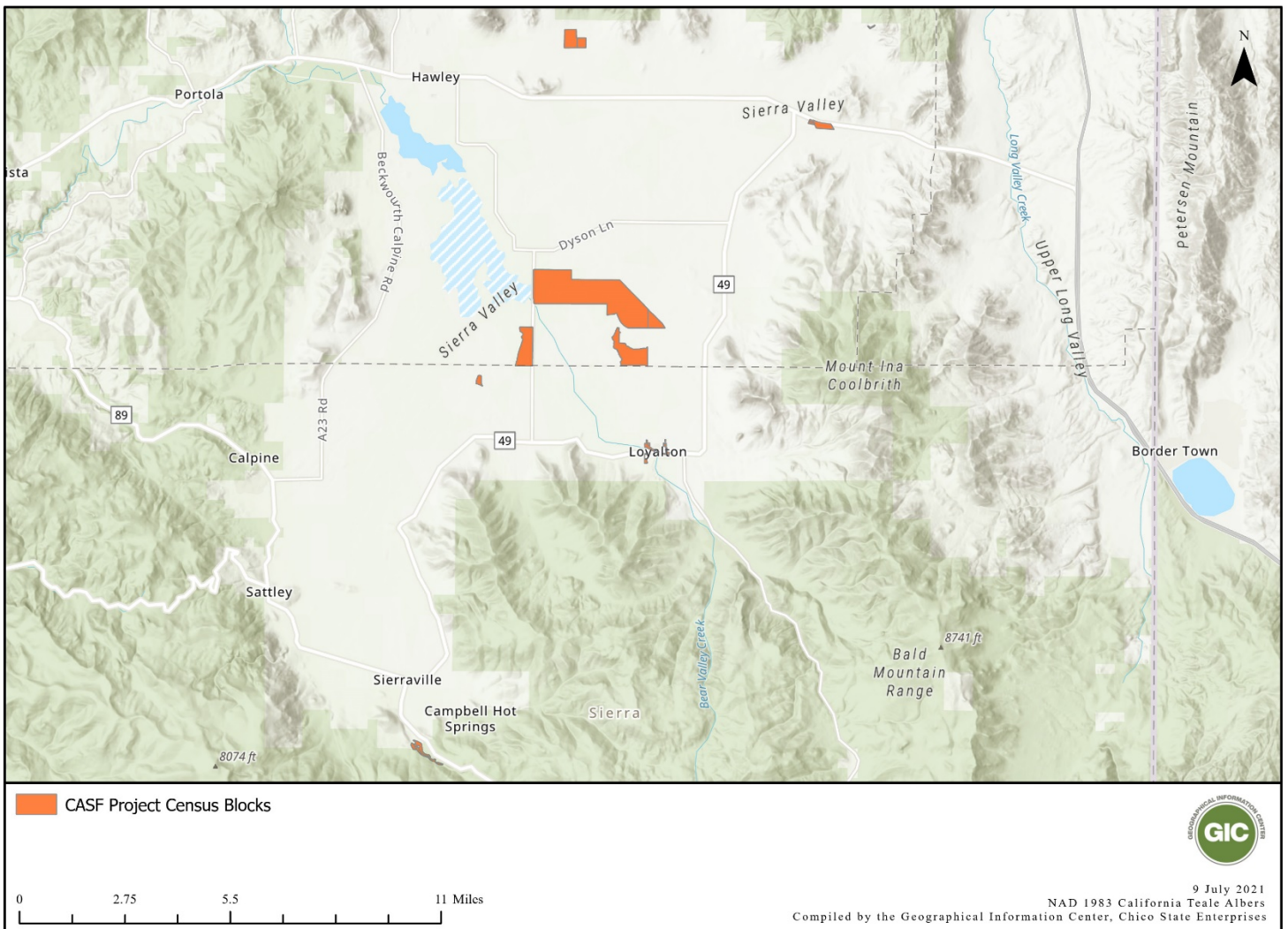
Service offerings will include minimum speeds of 10Mbps down/1Mbps up and maximum speeds of up to 1Gbps down/1Gbps up on PST's fiber network and maximum speeds of up to 50Mbps down/3Mbps up on PST's fixed wireless network. PST's service offerings will not have data caps.

The use of multiple technologies will allow PST to provide broadband service to as many households as possible in the most cost-effective way. PST's broadband offerings will provide 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:

Sierra Valley Project Area



Fixed Broadband Served Status by Census Block within project area:

	Unserved		
	- Slow Service	Unserved - No Service	Unserved Total
Population	0	258	258
Households	0	140	140
Housing Units	0	175	175

This project will bring service to 140 households in the following 33 census blocks.

Census Blocks to be served:

- 060630003004626
- 060630003004685
- 060630003004676
- 060630003004606
- 060630003004679
- 060630003004303
- 060630003004630
- 060630003004694
- 060630003004629
- 060630003004304
- 060630003004761
- 060910100002010
- 060910100002043
- 060910100001134
- 060910100004004
- 060910100002018
- 060910100001124
- 060910100001123
- 060910100001116
- 060910100001122
- 060910100002025
- 060910100002091
- 060910100002042
- 060910100002099
- 060910100002039
- 060910100005164

060910100005170
060910100005169
060910100005174
060910100005175
060910100005134
060910100005133
060910100005168

Funding Level:

The area applied for is 100% unserved with no service (Dial-up only) according the CPUC's 2020 Housing Unit projections. No existing CAF II areas are within project area. Requesting 100% project funding.

The project area includes 33 census blocks in Plumas and Sierra counties in the community of Sierra Valley. This area encompasses 4.63 Square Miles.

Median Household Income: \$49,963

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 no businesses in the proposed project area.

Major Infrastructure and Equipment to be Deployed:

- 1 E7 Chasis
- 1 UPS
- 2 GPON cards
- 8 40K SFPs
- 1 Rectifier
- 1 Fuse Panel
- 1 Wireless Tower
- 1 5.8 Wireless Antennas
- 1 Outdoor Enclosure

Aerial and Underground Installation:

- 5.97 Miles of underground infrastructure
- 68.28 Miles of overhead infrastructure

Estimated Construction Timeline: 9 months

Proposed Broadband Project Plan:

The PST Sierra Valley Mid-Mile / Last-Mile Broadband Project plans to use fiber optic cable and fixed wireless technologies to provide maximum speeds of up to 1Gbps down/1Gbps up on PST's fiber network and maximum speeds of up to 50Mbps down/3Mbps up on PST's fixed wireless network 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 Sierra Valley area of Plumas and Sierra counties. 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.