

spillover coverage. If a wireless communications facility were to be installed at Lake, it would be located well away from any normal visitor use area, thus mitigating much of the impact to visitors from cooling units associated with WCFs. Noise levels decrease 6 A-weighted decibels (dBA) with a doubling of distance from the source of the noise.

The additional use of cell phones in the Lake developed area, and the continued use of cell phones at other developed areas would result in long-term, minor adverse impacts to natural soundscapes. The use of cell phones in backcountry areas would not be expected to increase over current conditions; however, the impact to natural soundscapes because of cell phone "spillover" coverage would be long-term, minor, and adverse

Courtesy signing and protocols would be developed and added to help guide visitors in the courteous use of cell phones and other portable communications technologies.

Protect the Park's viewsheds

Attention should be given to ensure towers are not visible from unroaded or wilderness areas.

Comment Text: Special attention should be given to avoiding (prohibiting) proposed tower locations that might be visible from unroaded and Wilderness areas.

Remove the Old Faithful Cell Tower.

Comment Text: immediately move forward with removal of the Old Faithful cell tower

Comment Text: I find the tower at Old Faithful to be an obscene eyesore, so the relocation looks like a good thing.

Comment Text: I am one of those in favor of moving the Old Faithful tower

Comment Text: would prefer YNP seek a way to immediately move forward with relocation of the Old Faithful cell tower.

Comment Text: it would be good to move Old Faithful's cell tower to some setting that would be less visible to visitors

Comment Text: The park should commit to moving the Old Faithful cell tower immediately

Comment Text: I am amazed that a cell tower was placed so near Old Faithful. This tower should be moved to a more less-intrusive sight.

Comment Text: The cell tower at Old Faithful needs to be moved to the water plant where it won't be such a pervasive visual intrusion. If the elevation of the new cell tower site is higher than its present location, then the tower should be shortened accordingly. The cell tower should be disguised, if feasible.

The proposed antenna platform on Mt. Washburn is unacceptable.

Comment Text: A multi-storied antenna platform on Mt. Washburn will do nothing but detract from the reason MOST visitors come to Yellowstone: wide open spaces, beautiful vistas and the opportunity to "get away" from it all.

Comment Text: the proposed "antenna platform" on Mt. Washburn is unacceptable. As designed, the proposed multi-story platform makes the area look worse, and Yellowstone must do better to reduce the visual impacts

Comment Text: am told that the antenna platform proposed for Mt. Washburn would be another blight on our scenic landscape. Surely there is an alternative.

Comment Text: there must be a better, less obtrusive alternative to the very large and obtrusive 'antenna platform' depicted in the photo simulation on p. 28 of the dEA

Comment Text: the visual impact of the Mount Washburn tower must be minimized

Comment Text: Photo simulation of Mt. Washburn with new cell tower: A tower that looks like this photo simulation should not be allowed anywhere in the world's grandest national park, especially not on top of a famous peak.

Yellowstone has an obligation to preserve viewsheds and reduce visual impacts through NHPA and NPS policies.

Comment Text: towers will mean a disturbance to some of the most scenic vistas

Do not try to disguise cell towers as fake trees, they're worse than the cell tower itself.

Comment Text: Oh, yeah, and PLEASE, no "Frankenpines!" I'd rather see a bare cell tower than one of those mutants.

Reduce or consolidate unneeded and/or visually obtrusive wireless infrastructure.

Comment Text: reduce and consolidate unneeded and/or visually obtrusive wireless infrastructure at Old Faithful and Bunsen Peak

(Response) The siting criteria listed in the Wireless Plan/EA address the need to maintain the unobstructed views within the park. As such, the Old Faithful cell tower would be moved to a less visible site, and much of the equipment atop Bunsen Peak would be removed or relocated to clean up the site.

To respond to comments, further site design must be completed for Mount Washburn. While the preferred alternative included construction of a new structure to relocate the existing antennas already located on the Mount Washburn fire lookout building, the Park will consider other possibilities to minimize or reduce visual intrusions for visitors and to address safety concerns regarding the electro-magnetic waves.

The Park would consult with the Wyoming State Historic Preservation Office and other professionals to reach an acceptable design for the Mt. Washburn wireless communications facility. This facility would be designed to minimize visual impact on visitors and the historic structure, while at the same time addressing the safety and security aspects of the site's proximity to a highly-used visitor destination.

Mt. Washburn will continue to serve as the primary communications hub for the park, with multiple antenna, dishes, and electronics equipment at the site.
