

Wireless Telecommunications Committee
Meeting Agenda for Thursday, November 21, 2013
Location: Telecommunications Conference Room
Time 8:30 AM

Members in attendance:

Bret DeYoung (Chair/ Telecommunications Branch Chief)
Dan Reinhardt (Resource Management)
Dave Kelsner (Telecommunications Assistant)
Tobin Roon (Cultural Resources)
David Restivo (REYP)
Doug Madsen (Compliance)

Proposals:

- NPS Land Mobile Radio collocation at Lake Verizon WTF and tower: (Bret) The Superintendent approved the proposal for the NPS to install and co-locate on the Verizon Tower at Lake. Verizon waives fees for all public safety co-locations. NPS will begin installing an omni antenna on the west sector and will move the South base station from the old Lake ranger station to the co-location side of Verizon's equipment room. System reliability will improve with better ROIP connection to the DOI LAN, reliable secondary power, and greater RF footprint.
- Verizon Wireless Mount Washburn Sector Panel proposal and ROW renewal: Still waiting for WY SHPO response, Tobin will follow up as we are approaching 30 days. Yellowstone received an SF299 for a new right-of-way on Washburn as the park and Verizon unintentionally let the previous permit expire in February 2013. Yellowstone drafted a new right-of-way for Verizon to review.
- 2013 Annual Report: The annual report covers the calendar year from January 1 through December 31, 2013. Scheduled for release (to public) on PEPC in the first quarter of 2014. We do not expect that the Public Affairs Office will want to do a press release.

Project updates:

- Northwestern Energy (NWE) 5-Year Upgrade Wi-Max proposal and EA: (Madsen) Public comment closes on Dec. 6th. Only three comments received so far; most likely more to come.

Initial Discussions:

- Wi-Fi at HRC: (Tobin) The Heritage Resource Center would like to provide wireless, non-DOI, WPA-2 protected internet access to public researchers at the library. Colleen Curry will submit a Wireless Proposal form.
- Mt Washburn microwave survey for Verizon engineering group, Dunne Communications: Radio engineers are evaluating the feasibility of feeding Yellowstone's interior cell sites with a new microwave path from the Super 8 motel (at 1545 Targhee Pass Hwy, 7.5 Miles West of the city of West Yellowstone, MT) to Washburn. Verizon's goal is increased bandwidth and deployment of 4G LTE at their sites. If and when Verizon submits an SF299, final design, and a Wireless Proposal, Yellowstone will consult with SHPO, and complete NEPA.

Informational:

- Cell phone courtesy signs and new digital media: (David Restivo) David commented on the post string related to communication in the park from #diginterp. (see Roundtable notes in September 26, 2013 minutes). David's (Restivo) group sees the need for more real-time status updates and development of a system to implement park information such as road changes/LE/geyser activity/campground closures/ etc. Feels that the existing sign, a cell phone with a slash and text "Enjoy Yellowstone's natural sounds, please turn off your cell phone", inhibits the overall ability to provide information to public. David would like us to consider language like 'silence' your mobile device instead of "turn off" your phone. David will draft some new signs for the Committee to