

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior



Yellowstone National Park
Idaho, Montana, Wyoming

PROPOSAL for NEW WIRELESS SERVICE

Section 1 - To be completed by Applicant

Date Submitted: April 17, 2012

Department: WWC Holding Company Inc., dba Verizon Wireless

Project Lead: Digital Skylines, Inc. Kevin Howell (602) 717-7600

Alternative 1: Alternative 1) Propose to install a Wireless Telecommunications Facility and 100' high tower at the fresh water tank site above the NPS Lake housing area. Average tree height in the area is approximately 70' high. Photo simulations at 100' from the Grand Loop Road and within the residential area are included with this proposal.

Alternative 2: Alternative 2) Locations at the north water treatment site and Alternative 3) the existing CenturyLink microwave tower site.

List justification for preferred alternative:

The south fresh water site is the best site to provide signals to the Lake and Fishing Bridge developed areas with minimum visual impact and minimum spillover into the backcountry. The NPS witnessed three visibility surveys in the summer of 2010 where weather balloons were flown at the north fresh water and south water treatment sites. Balloons flown at 100' at the north water treatment site near Fishing Bridge were easily visible from the Fishing Bridge. Balloons flown at 100' at the fresh water site near the housing area were slightly visible between the trees from the grand loop road at a point near the horse corrals but were not visible from the Lake Hotel, Lake Lodge, or Fishing Bridge. The CenturyLink microwave tower near the junction was not considered due to lack of structural integrity, adequate height, and excessive spillover in the backcountry. To get the best photo simulation possible at the fresh water tank site, a crane was brought in and the boom was elevated to 100' An RF propagation study of the three sites concluded that the south water tank site was the optimal site for maximum directed coverage to the designated area with minimum spillover.

Section 2 - To be completed by the Wireless Committee

Does this proposal adhere to the Wireless Communications Plan? ☒ Yes ☐ No

<u>Reviewed By:</u>	<u>Name (print):</u>	<u>Signature:</u>	<u>Date:</u>
Telecomm Rep	Dustin Sene		5.22.12
Compliance Rep	Doug Madsen		5/22/12
Resource Mgmt. Rep	Dan Reinhart		5/22/2012
Telecom Supervisor	Bret De Young		5/22/12

Recommendation to Superintendent

☒ Approve ☐ Deny ☐ Other (see remarks)

Remarks from the Committee:

The proposed tower height is estimated to be 30 feet above the canopy. The FONSI states that "applications for WCFs taller than 20 feet above the surrounding tree height would require a detailed explanation of why a shorter installation is not feasible". Current standard engineering practices support 15 feet of separation between tenants on a tower to avoid RF interference. Four tenants; two cellular companies, one NPS land mobile radio (LMR), and one NPS LAN, are expected to reside on the proposed tower. Standard practices would support a tower with 60 feet extending above the canopy to avoid interference and signal blocking. The NPS is requiring all tenants to manage with the minimum separation of 10 feet to preserve aesthetic resources and facilitate collocation.

Additional Compliance Review Required:

The proposed tower is not visible from the historic districts at Fishing Bridge, Lake Lodge, and Lake Hotel. The proposed action at the preferred site was covered in the FONSI (NEPA) and the impacts have not changed. The Wyoming State Historic Preservation Officer concurred with the NPS preferred alternative C on (December 10, 2008).

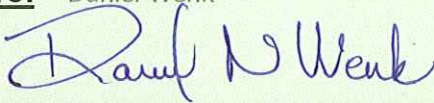
Section 3 - To be completed by the Superintendent

Superintendent approval

☒ Approve ☐ Deny

Signature: Daniel Wenk

Date: 5/29/2012



Comments:

Telecommunications Committee

This FONSI modifies Alternative C by clarifying the role of the Telecommunications Committee. To clarify, this committee will 1) receive and address requests for wireless service, 2) ensure proposals adhere to the wireless communications plan, 3) make recommendations to the superintendent regarding any action to be taken. The committee will ensure that any new proposals follow the intent of the preferred alternative (i.e. proposals will need to fall within the actions and areas discussed in the alternative and adhere to the limitations imposed under the preferred alternative). Any new proposals to install additional wireless communications services, repeater sites, or equipment will be reviewed by the park Telecommunications Committee, which is led by the telecommunications specialist and comprised of members from compliance and resource programs. This committee will review each proposal for purpose and need, resource impacts, and adherence to the guidance established by this plan, NPS DO-53, frequency coordination, and permitting by the FCC. The committee will also determine whether each proposal meets the objectives of the plan. The committee will make recommendations to the superintendent regarding the allowance of new or altered Wireless Communications Facilities (WCFs). The committee will also update the criteria established in this plan based on technology changes, make recommendations based on new technology, and document all decisions regarding wireless communications projects. Also as a point of clarification, as a part of the committee process, site specific consultation for National Register listed or eligible property (such as Mt. Washburn, Old Faithful) will take place between the NPS and the Wyoming State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) to comply with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. The NPS will write a short annual report that will be available to the public, and include a list of proposals received, proposals reviewed, what decisions were made, and what actions were taken. If proposals are received that entail actions outside of the scope of the Wireless Communications Plan EA, a separate scoping and public review process will take place under a new NEPA document.

From Page 2 of the WIRELESS COMMUNICATIONS SERVICES PLAN – FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT, April 7, 2009