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# American Broadband Initiative: The Administration's Strategy for Promoting Broadband Connectivity

## NTIA Webinar Series

*Dial in to listen to the webinar*

*Conference Line: 800-593-7190 Passcode: 984-4951#*

March 20, 2019

# Participants

## Presenters

- Kelsey Guyselman, Senior Policy Counsel, White House Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP)
- Doug Kinkoph, Associate Administrator, NTIA, Department of Commerce
- Jannine Miller, Senior Advisor for Rural Infrastructure, USDA
- Kate MacGregor, Deputy Chief of Staff, DOI
- Jennie Campbell, Project Manager, Office of Government-wide Policy, GSA

## Moderator

- Karen Hanson, Manager, Partnerships/Interagency Affairs, NTIA, Department of Commerce

# Helpful Information

## Questions

- Please type questions and comments in the question box on the right hand side of the screen. Questions will be taken after the final presenter.

## Presentation

- The presentation along with a transcript and an audio recording will be available on the BroadbandUSA website within 7 days of this webinar under Events/past events.
- <https://broadbandusa.ntia.doc.gov/past-event>

## Technical Assistance

- Guides, products, publications, and other tools are available to assist you with the planning, funding and implementation of your broadband project.
- <https://broadbandusa.ntia.doc.gov>

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# The Administration's Support for Broadband



Kelsey Guyselman

Senior Policy Counsel

White House Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP)

March 20, 2019



# Executive Actions Related to Broadband

- April 2017: Promoting Agriculture and Rural Prosperity in America
- January 2018: Supporting Broadband Tower Facilities in Rural America on Federal Properties Managed by the Department of the Interior
- January 2018: Streamlining and Expediting Requests to Locate Broadband Facilities in Rural America
- October 2018: Developing a Sustainable Spectrum Strategy for America's Future
- [Additional OSTP highlights: https://www.whitehouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/2019/02/Administration-2018-ST-Highlights.pdf](https://www.whitehouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/2019/02/Administration-2018-ST-Highlights.pdf)

# American Broadband Initiative Launched Feb 2019



# American Broadband Initiative: Mission and Principles

The American Broadband Initiative is the Administration's signature strategy to stimulate increased private investment in broadband infrastructure and services to fill broadband connectivity gaps in America.

- Government processes should be clear, transparent, and responsive to stakeholders.
- Federal assets should provide the greatest possible benefit to stakeholders and the public.
- The Federal Government should be a good steward of taxpayer funds.

# American Broadband Initiative: Structure

## Executive Leadership Team:



## Workstreams:

**Federal Funding of Broadband**



**Streamlining Federal Permitting**



**Leveraging Federal Assets**





# Milestones Report Release and Next Steps



[https://www.ntia.doc.gov/files/ntia/publications/american\\_broadband\\_initiative\\_milestones\\_report.pdf](https://www.ntia.doc.gov/files/ntia/publications/american_broadband_initiative_milestones_report.pdf)

# Federal Funding Workstream

## NTIA Commitments



Doug Kinkoph

Associate Administrator

NTIA Office of Telecommunications and Information Applications

March 20, 2019

# Federal Funding Workstream

- *Objective: Federal funding for broadband should target areas of need, be simple for broadband project sponsors to identify funding opportunities, and leverage State/local policies and programs to make better and more efficient use of Federal dollars.*

Federal Funding Workstream Members				
<b>Chairs:</b>  <b>Department of Agriculture</b>  <b>Department of Commerce (NTIA)</b>	Appalachian Regional Commission	Federal Communications Commission	Institute of Museum & Library Services	Office of Management and Budget
	Delta Regional Authority	Department of Health & Human Services	Department of the Interior	Department of Treasury
	Department of Education	Department of Homeland Security	Department of Labor	Department of Veterans Affairs
	Environmental Protection Agency	Department of Housing & Urban Development	National Science Foundation	

# Federal Funding Workstream – Key Actions

- Provide One-Stop for Broadband Funding Information
- Improve Broadband Availability Data
- Improve Efficacy and Reach of Federal Broadband Funds
- Strengthen Program Consistency and Collaboration
- Modernize Accountability Measures to better track the impact and value of investments
- Engage Private Sector, State, Local, and Tribal Partners to identify successful models to leverage Federal funding, incentivize private investment, and create stronger public-private partnerships

## NTIA Commitments

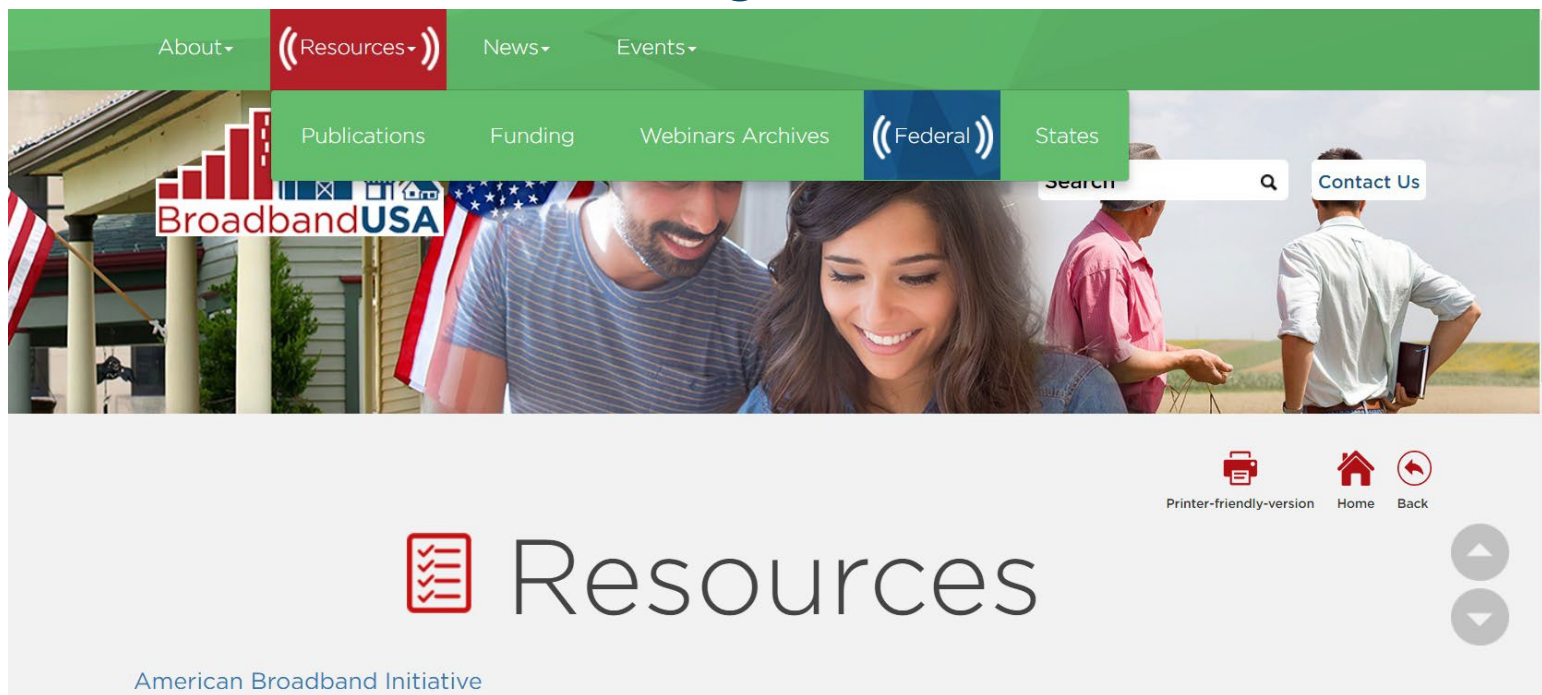
- Create a One-Stop site for the latest federal information on broadband funding and permitting: BroadbandUSA Website --  
<https://broadbandusa.ntia.doc.gov>
- Pilot Broadband Mapping Tool to Better Target Funding
- Improve Coordination Between Federal and State Programs
- Support Streamlining Federal Permitting Workstream

# BroadbandUSA – One-Stop for Federal Funding Information



- NTIA will provide updated information about federal broadband programs that support broadband planning, deployment, training, equipment and other activities.
- <https://broadbandusa.ntia.doc.gov>

# BroadbandUSA – One-Stop for Federal Broadband Permitting Information



- NTIA will consolidate permitting information and create a one-stop location for information about Federal permitting of broadband infrastructure on NTIA's BroadbandUSA website, updating that site as improvements are made across all Agencies and processes
- <https://broadbandusa.ntia.doc.gov>

## BroadbandUSA – Data Collection and Mapping

- NTIA continues to hold discussions with other Federal agencies, States, and Industry to inform program implementation.
- NTIA is developing requirements for tools and procedures for the geographic visualization and comparison of federal and non-federal data sets via Esri's Managed Cloud Services. Key objectives include:
  - Help identify regions with insufficient service, especially in rural areas.
  - Compare multiple data-sets to identify discrepancies in broadband availability (e.g. served vs. underserved or unserved)
  - Produce reports and analyses that could be used for investment and decision-making purposes.
- NTIA will collaborate with eight states for the phase one implementation: CA, MA, ME, MN, NC, TN, UT, and WV.





United States  
Department of  
Agriculture

## Rural Development



March 20, 2019

# ReConnect and USDA Equities

*Jannine Miller, USDA Senior Advisor*

# U.S. Department of Agriculture's Motto:

***“Do right and feed everyone.”***

**-Agriculture Secretary Sonny Perdue**



# Agriculture & Rural Prosperity Task Force



## RURAL PROSPERITY

Rural America can make  
our country great again.

“The Task Force shall identify legislative, regulatory, and policy changes to promote in rural America agriculture, economic development, job growth, infrastructure improvements, technological innovation, energy security, and quality of life...”

- President Trump, April 25, 2017



Broadband e-Connectivity is the modern day equivalent of rural electrification (1936), connecting rural telephone systems (1934), the Interstate Highway System (1956)...it is a "must have" for America's competitiveness today and in the coming decades



### ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

- Access to Capital
- Tax Reform
- Natural Resources
- Regulatory Reform
- Global Market
- Infrastructure



### INNOVATION & TECHNOLOGY

- Biotechnology
- Sound Science
- Productivity
- Research
- Development



### WORKFORCE

- Available
- Skilled
- Trained
- Educated
- Reliable



### QUALITY OF LIFE

- Educational Opportunities
- Health Services
- Rural Housing
- Community Resiliency
- Infrastructure



# USDA's Commitments

## Federal Assets/Permitting Improvements

- Streamlining Environmental Reviews
- Completing Permit Reviews in 270 days
- Streamlining MOBILE NOW Permitting
- Cross-Agency Assessment of Potential Assets for Telecommunications
- Harmonizing Policies That Govern Access to Assets

## Maximizing the Impact of Federal Funds

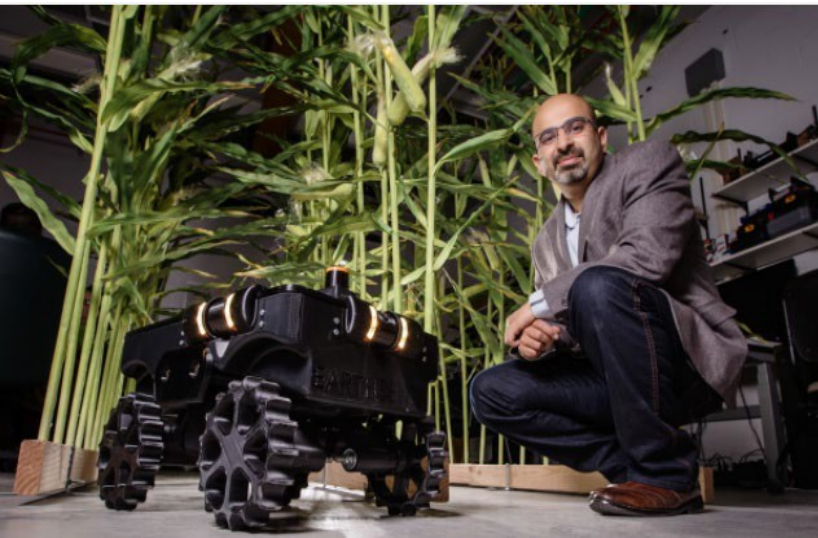
- Establishing goals and performance measures for Rural Utilities Service Broadband programs
- Improving coordination among Federal Broadband programs
- Publishing a report on the importance of Broadband for Modern Agriculture
- Publishing E-Connectivity Resource Handbook
- Launching and effectively executing ReConnect Program

# Precision Agriculture: Connected Technologies for Crops

## Robotic Strawberry Harvester

*“Facing an uncertain labor market,  
a Florida farmer finds a future solution”*

[www.GrowingProduce.com](http://www.GrowingProduce.com)



## Crop-monitoring robot

*“In a game of margins, precision agriculture  
comes in all sizes”*

[www.DigitalTrends.com](http://www.DigitalTrends.com)

# Precision Agriculture: Connected Technologies for Livestock



## Cow Facial Recognition

*“the artificial intelligence-based technology could soon help ensure that milk in your fridge came from a well-fed cow”*

# Precision Ag & Broadband Research | What We've Heard

## Site Visits to California, Indiana, Illinois, Pennsylvania

"How many years ago did we land people on the moon with pinpoint accuracy? Years ago! You're telling me we can't feed cows? It's not about the tech; it's about the cost of it." PA

"Less time, less manpower, and... more sustainable... That's the only way you can stay farming." TX

"Internet service in rural America sucks... You get left behind because of it." TX

"Before, we milked cows. Now, we manage them." PA

"I'm calling anyone and everyone I can [to get fiber extended]. I try to set aside an hour a week to do that." IL

"I've spent the last five years of my life fighting with (my carrier). I don't know how to incentivize them. I have no pull." CA

"What I want is to just not waste my entire life sitting here waiting for things to upload." TX

"Americans try to farm with brute force... but you go to Australia and people are thinking ahead." TX

"If we have a dinner reservation at 5 o'clock, I can be there at 5 o'clock. Flexibility is huge. That never would have happened with the old barn." PA

"People like to see where their food is coming from. I didn't know how valuable that was." IN

"Relying on old methods? That's not going to feed 10 billion people." CA

"For my [10 year] plan, I need 100 Mbps, but there's no way to get it." CA

"Before, I spent a day and a half on paperwork; now it only takes a few clicks." IN

"The competitive edge used to be hard work; now it's technology." CA

"Precision ag is all about doing the right thing in exactly the right spot." IN

"As soon as they see that [technology] gives them an advantage, they're ready to learn." IN

"Farmers don't have to go to Vegas, because we gamble with real money [every day]." CA



Ag | Farmers

Telecomm | Broadband Providers

Urban





United States Department of Agriculture

[www.USDA.gov/  
Broadband](http://www.USDA.gov/Broadband)

# e-Connectivity @ USDA

*Broadband Resources for Rural America*



2018  
Consolidated  
Appropriations  
Act

# Introducing... **ReConnect**

## **ReConnect Program**








Pilot program that  
provides loans and  
grants to extend  
broadband service  
to rural areas.

\$600 million  
in funding

Assist rural areas that do  
not have sufficient access  
(10/1) to broadband.

Minimum requirements:  
25Mbps down/3Mbps up

# ReConnect: Program Design

	 <b>LOAN</b>	 <b>COMBO</b>	 <b>GRANT</b>
 <b>Buildout Speed</b>	25/3 mbps minimum	25/3 mbps minimum, incentive for higher speeds	25/3 mbps minimum, incentive for higher speeds
 <b>Terms</b>	Max award: \$50 million 2% Interest Rate	Max award: \$50 million 50/50 Loan/Grant Fed. Fund Interest = ~3%	Max award: \$25 million 25% match
 <b>Application Review</b>	Open (non-competitive)	Competitive Scoring	Competitive Scoring
 <b>Round 1 Federal Funds</b>	\$200 million	\$100 million grant + \$100 million loan	\$200 million
<b>Applications Due:</b>	<b>July 12, 2019</b>	<b>June 21, 2019</b>	<b>May 31, 2019</b>

# ReConnect: Scoring Criteria

(for Grants & Loan/Grant Combos only)



**Farms served**



**Performance of the offered service**



**Business**



**Healthcare centers**



**Educational facilities**



**Critical community facilities**



**Tribal lands**



**Rurality**



**State broadband activity**

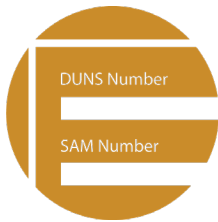
# ReConnect: Who Can Apply?

- States, local governments, or any agency, subdivision, instrumentality, or political subdivision thereof
- A territory or possession of the United States
- An Indian tribe (as defined in section 4 of the Indian Self Determination and Education Assistance Act)
- Non-profit entities
- For-profit corporations
- Limited liability companies
- Cooperative or mutual organizations

# ReConnect: Application Factors

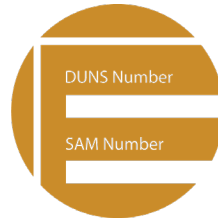
- Unqualified Audited Financial Statement
- Fully Complete Application
- Timely Buildout Completion
- Financial Feasibility and Sustainability
- Technical Feasibility
- Service Areas
- Fully Funded

# ReConnect: Starting your Application



## Online Applications

All applications must be submitted through the online system at <https://reconnect.usda.gov>.



## System Registration Requirements

- Taxpayer ID Number
- DUNS number
- SAM.gov registration
- USDA Level II eAuthentication

# ReConnect: Available Resources

- Workshops
  - Multiple Workshops to be held across the country
    - Schedule is on the ReConnect website under “Events”
  - RD Experts and Detailed Application Information
- Webinars
  - Multiple Webinars to be held
    - Schedule is on the ReConnect website under “Events”
  - RD Experts and Detailed Application Information
- Resources
  - ReConnect Website <https://reconnect.usda.gov>
  - Electronic Application Intake System
  - Program FAQs
- OneRD Coordination
  - Resources Across RD
  - Help Desk
  - Technical Assistance and Support to Applicants



*For help or questions contact us at*

**ReConnect Support Desk**

<https://reconnect.usda.gov>



# U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR



American Broadband Initiative  
March 20, 2019



## Broadband in Rural America

### Leveraging Public Lands to Increase Connectivity

Presented by Kate MacGregor, Deputy Chief of Staff

<https://www.doi.gov/broadband>

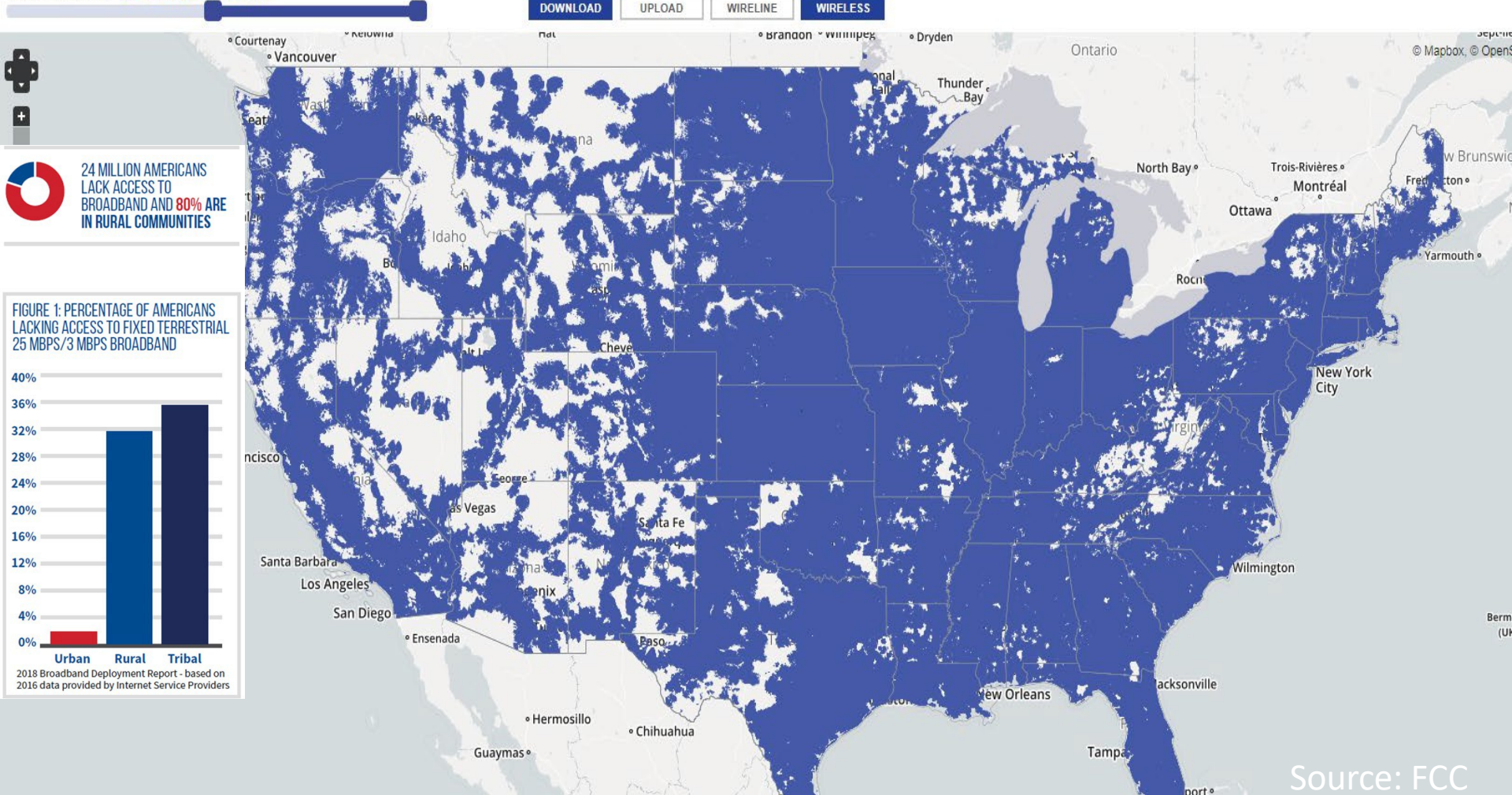


# WIRELESS – 10-25Mbps – 1 Gbps+



## Maximum Advertised Speed Available Data as of: 06/30/14

Download Speed: 10 - 25 Mbps ... 1 Gbps+



Source: FCC

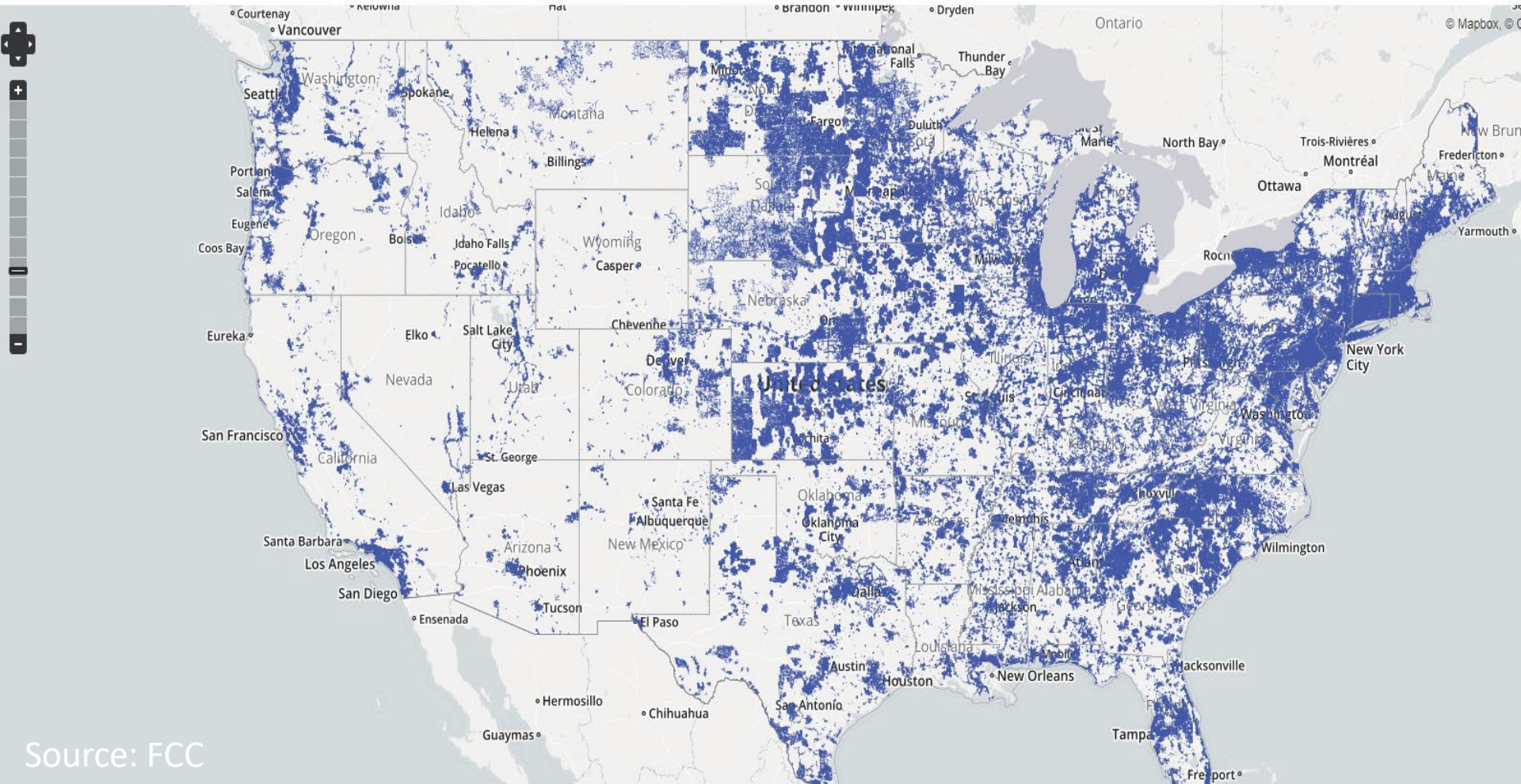


# WIRELINER - 10-25Mbps - 1 Gbps+

Maximum Advertised Speed Available Data as of: 06/30/14

Download Speed: 10 - 25 Mbps ... 1 Gbps+

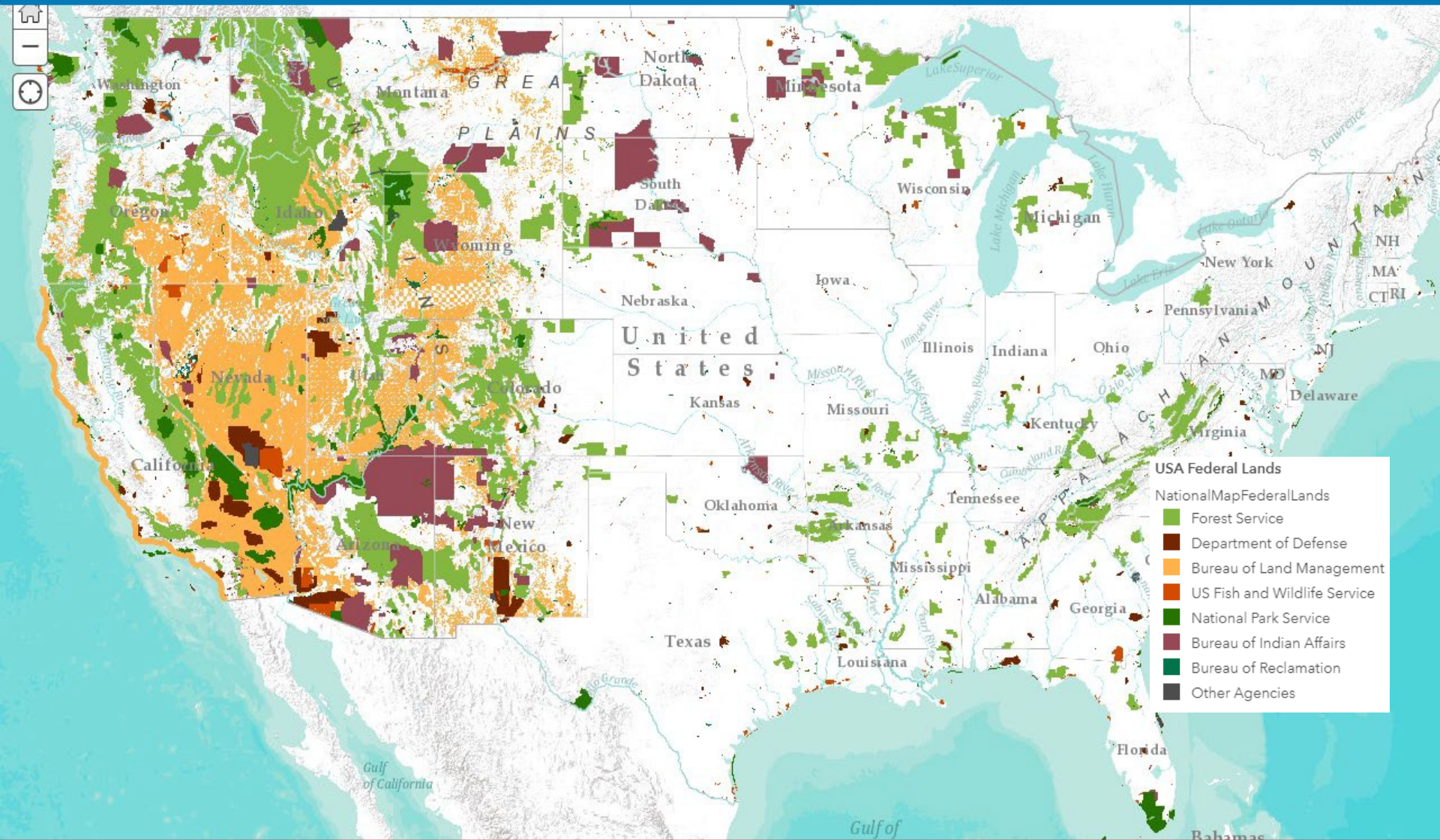
DOWNLOAD UPLOAD **WIRELINER** WIRELESS



Source: FCC

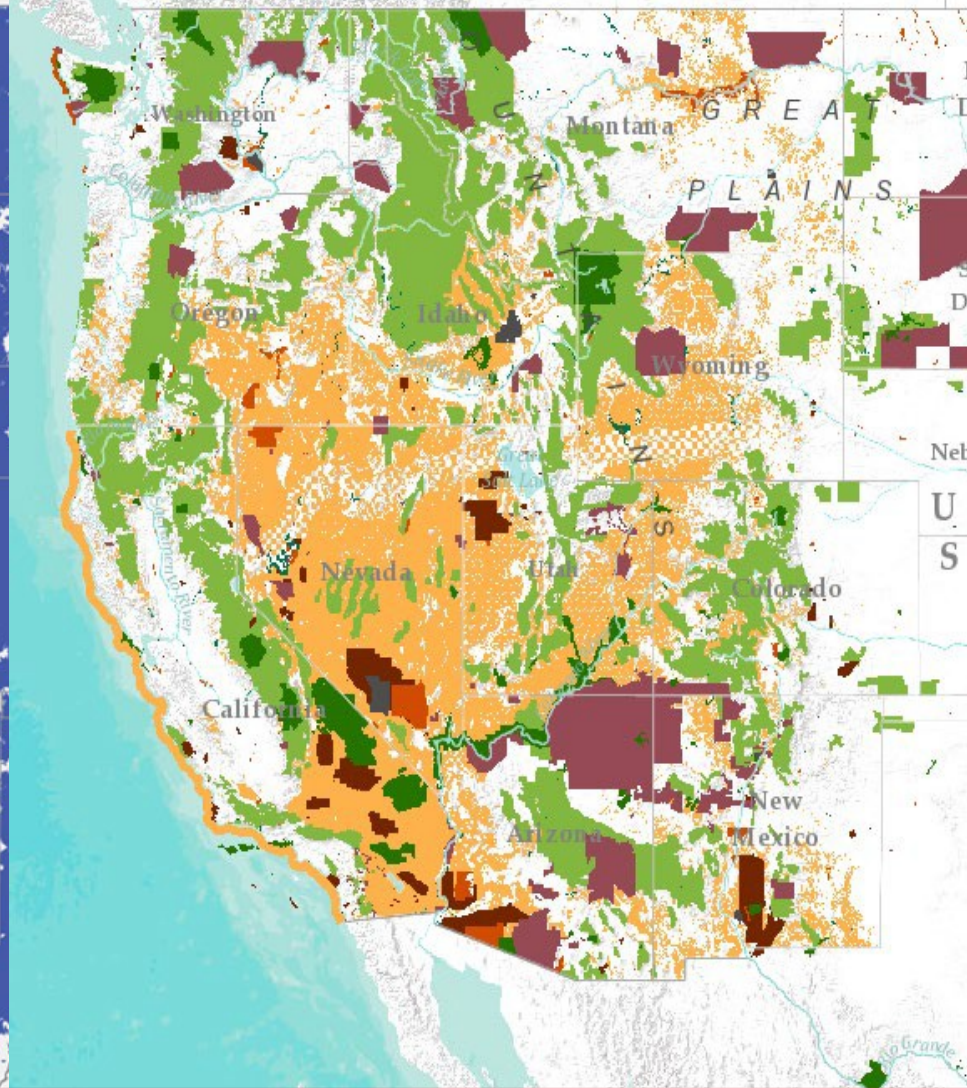
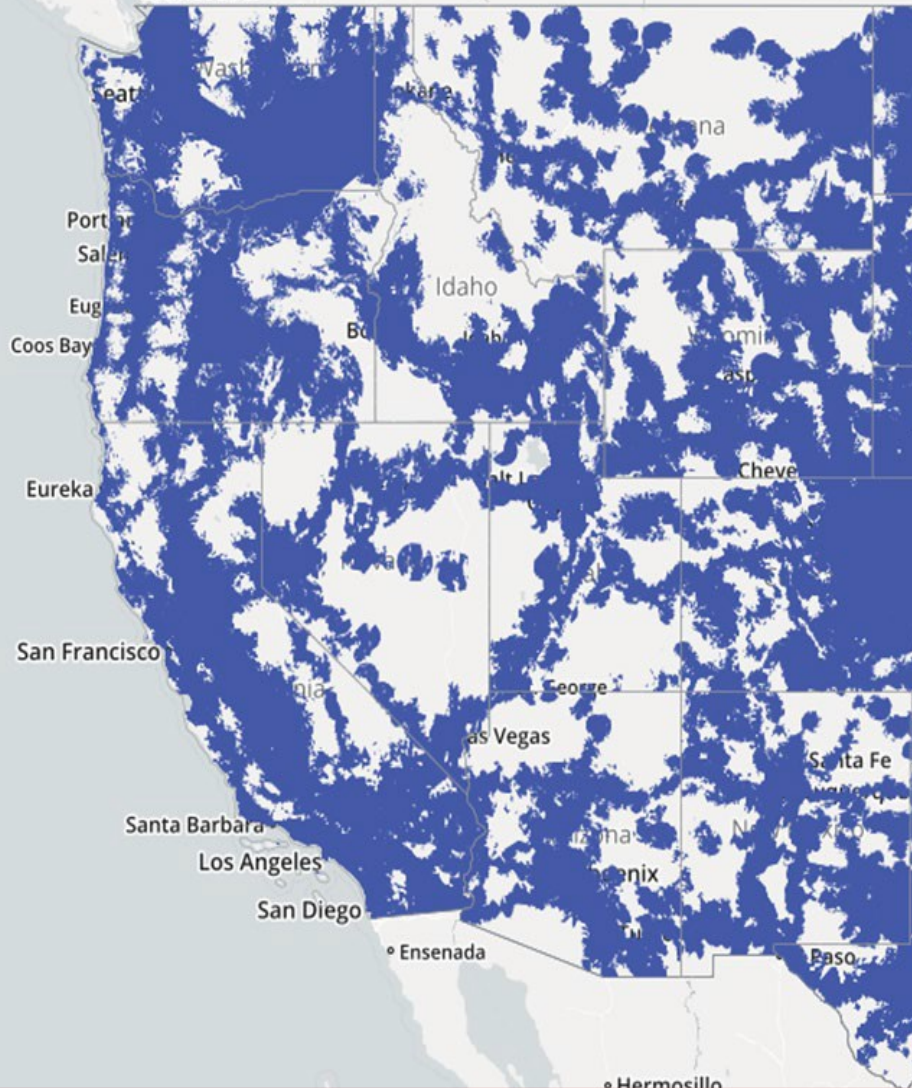


# FEDERAL LANDS



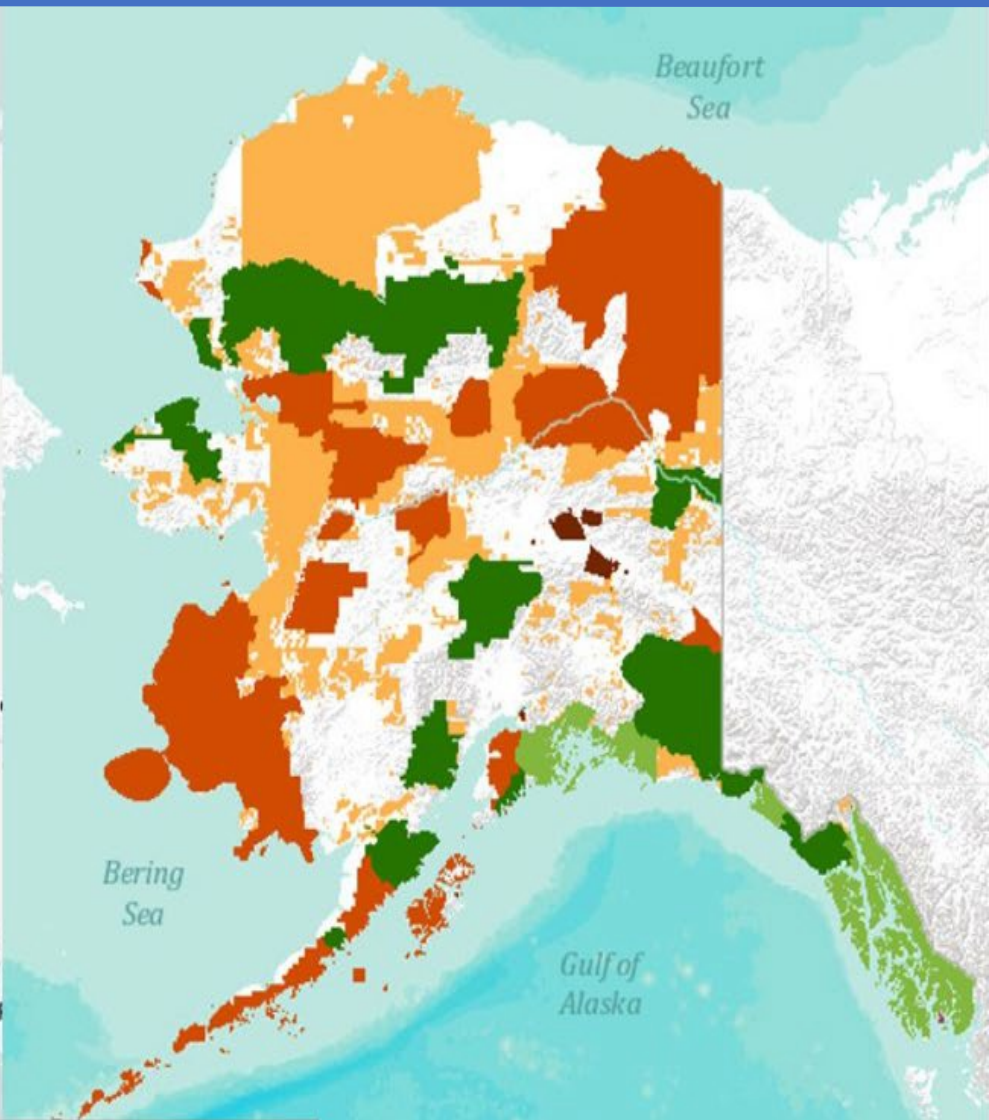


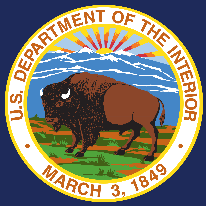
# RURAL BROADBAND – ACCESS TO PUBLIC LANDS





# RURAL BROADBAND – ACCESS TO PUBLIC LANDS





# JOINT OVERVIEW-ESTABLISHED LOCATIONS (JOEL) MAP



## Telecommunication Infrastructure Sites and Cases

Washington DC Office of Energy, Minerals, and Realty

Filter for Telecommunication Sites

Telecommunication Sites

State is  
- empty -

Comm Site Type is  
- empty -

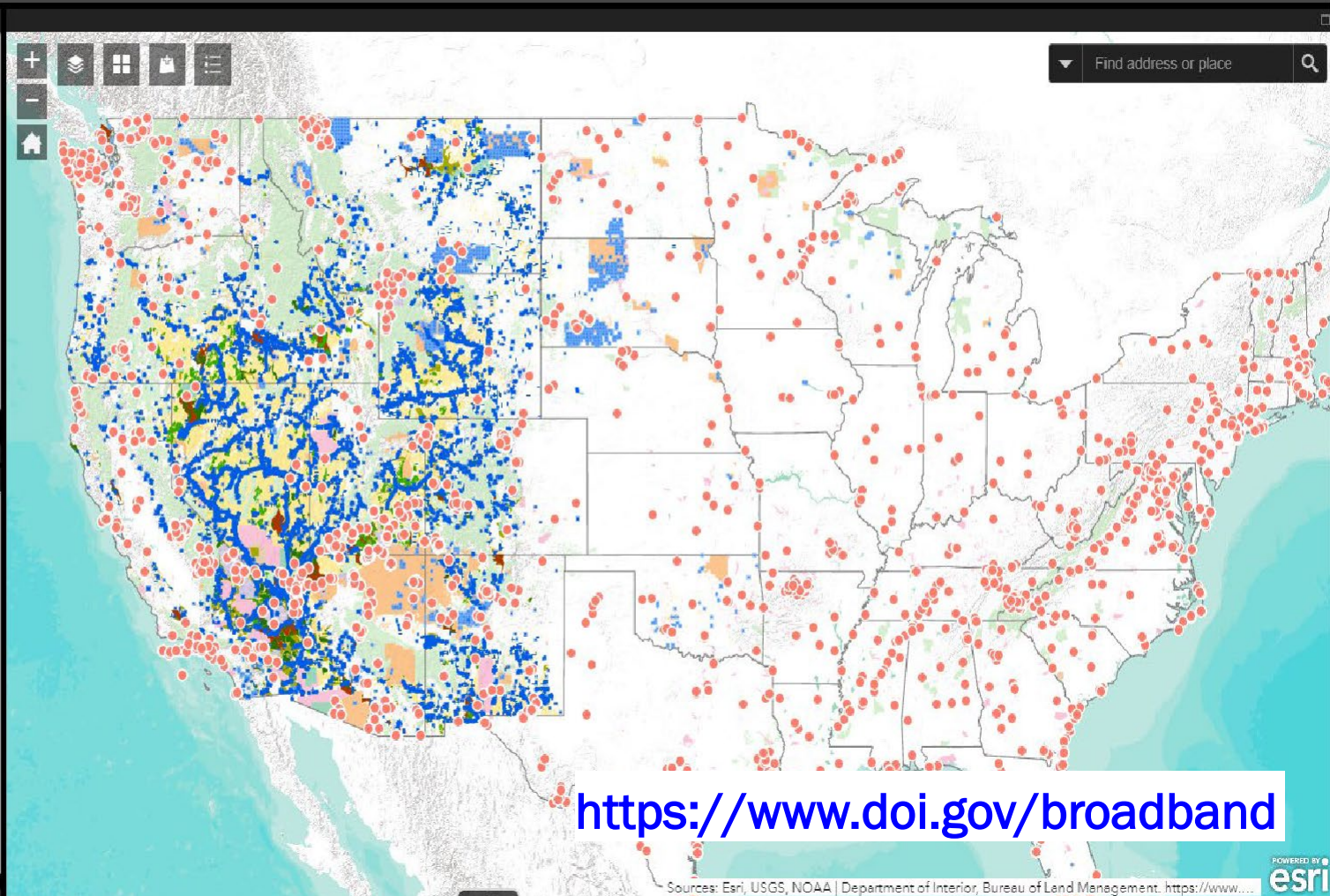
Telecommunication Areas (Bureau of Land Management)

State is  
- empty -

Comm Site Type is

Info Summary

Telecommunication Sites	5,413
Telecommunication Areas (Bureau of Land Management)	10,245
Wilderness and Wilderness Study Areas	1,522
National Monument Areas	51
Areas Of Critical Environmental Concern	1,208



<https://www.doi.gov/broadband>

Sources: Esri, USGS, NOAA | Department of Interior, Bureau of Land Management. <https://www...>

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**esri**

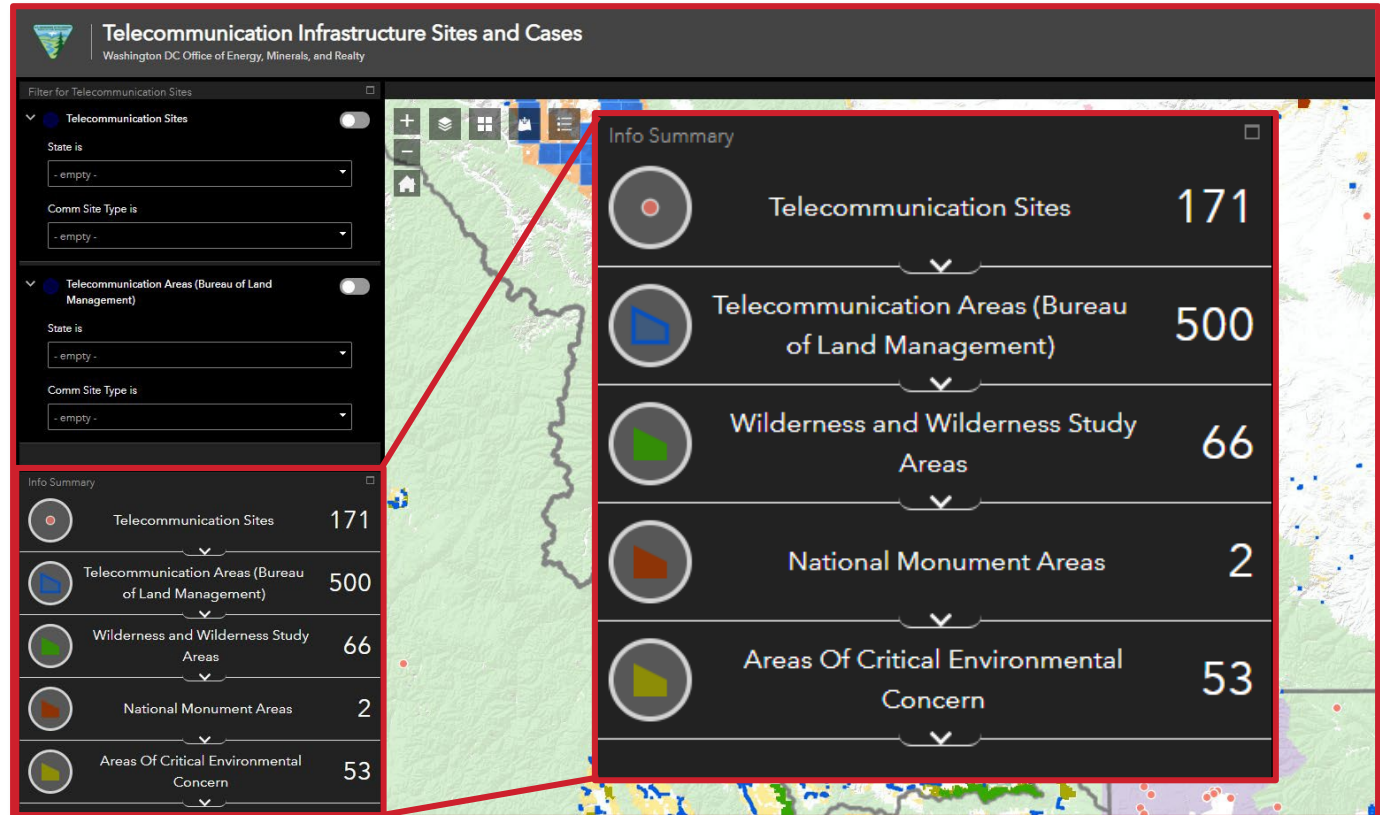




# JOINT OVERVIEW-ESTABLISHED LOCATIONS (JOEL) MAP



- Land use designations can be displayed on the map.
- Designations may affect areas available for permitting.
- This issue was raised by many stakeholders during our engagement process.

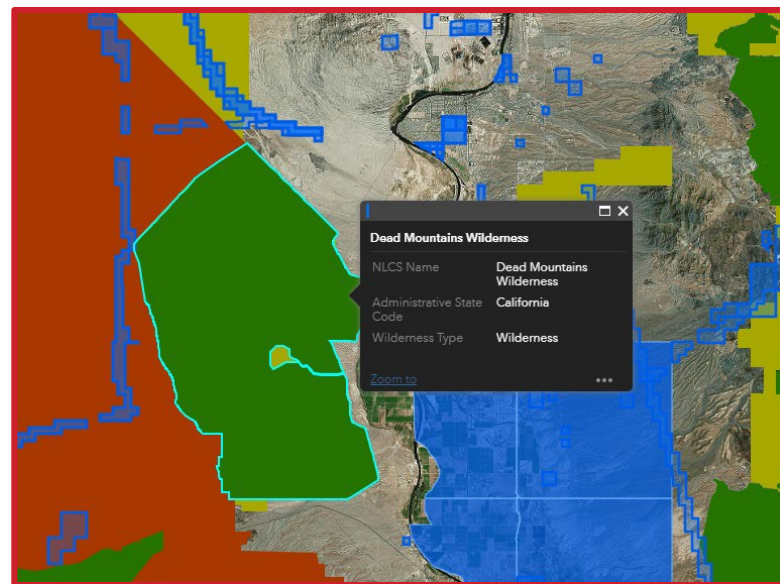




# JOEL OVERVIEW-ESTABLISHED LOCATIONS (JOEL) MAP



**JOEL Map provides details on the location or site, including managing agency information.**



**Allows users to quickly identify Agency points of contact or areas where permitting may be easier.**



# STREAMLINING FEDERAL PERMITTING

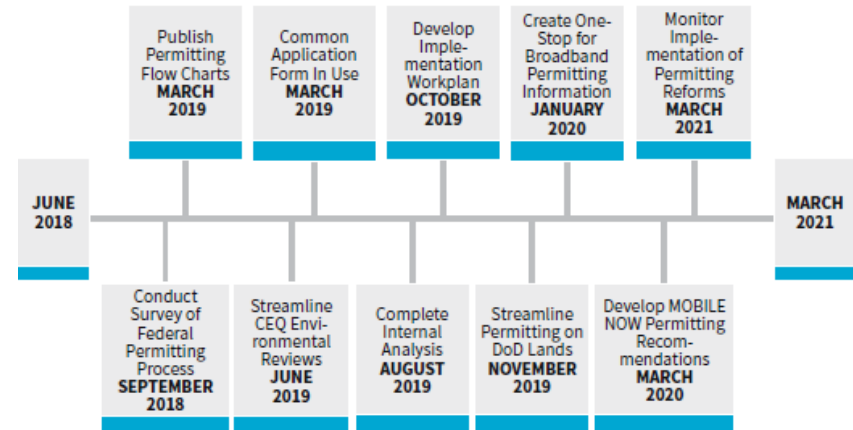


## Objective

*“A streamlined Federal permitting process will make it easier for network builders and service providers to access Federal assets and rights-of-way, reducing the regulatory burden and simplifying the deployment of broadband networks.”*

### STREAMLINE FEDERAL PERMITTING | MILESTONES

Streamlining Federal Permitting Workstream Members			
CHAIRS:	Department of Agriculture	General Services Administration	Office of Management and Budget
	Department of Commerce (NTIA)	Council on Environmental Quality	Department of Veterans Affairs
	Department of Defense	Advisory Council on Historic Preservation	
Department of Homeland Security	Department of Transportation	Federal Communications Commission	
Department of the Interior			





# STREAMLINING FEDERAL PERMITTING



## Working Group Action Plan

### 1. Develop a Common Application Form

Provide support to GSA as it revises the common application form that the Federal Agencies use to evaluate requests to site communications facilities on Federal property as outlined in Executive Order 13821, “Streamlining and Expediting Requests to Locate Broadband Facilities in Rural America.”

### 2. Create One-Stop for Broadband Permitting Information

Consolidate permitting information and create a one-stop location for information about Federal permitting of broadband infrastructure on NTIA’s [BroadbandUSA](#) website, updating that site as improvements are made across all Agencies and processes.

### 3. Harmonize and Streamline Regulations and Policies

Harmonize and Streamline Regulations and Policies, Identify opportunities to modify laws, regulations, and policies governing the permitting process for the siting of telecommunications facilities on Federal lands that reduce the regulatory burden on applicants, speed deployment, decrease costs, and provide incentives for broadband investment.

### 4. Implement Provisions in MOBILE NOW Act

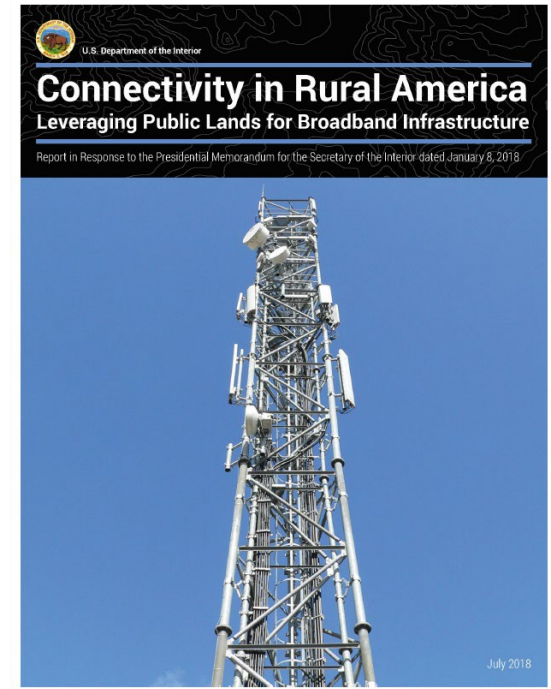
Facilitate Agency support and implementation of Federal permitting requirements in the MOBILE NOW Act including: collaborating with GSA to create uniform forms across Agencies; amplifying best practices for Agency implementation of the 270-day application response; and supporting provisions to streamline broadband facility applications.



# CONNECTIVITY IN RURAL AMERICA, LEVERAGING PUBLIC LANDS FOR BROADBAND INFRASTRUCTURE



- Comprehensive review of Department-wide permitting procedures.
- Identifies challenges within permitting process and opportunities to streamline broadband deployment of public lands.
- Provides framework for common-sense improvements to facilitate broadband infrastructure.



Learn More About How Interior is Facilitating Broadband in Rural America:

[www.doi.gov/broadband](http://www.doi.gov/broadband)

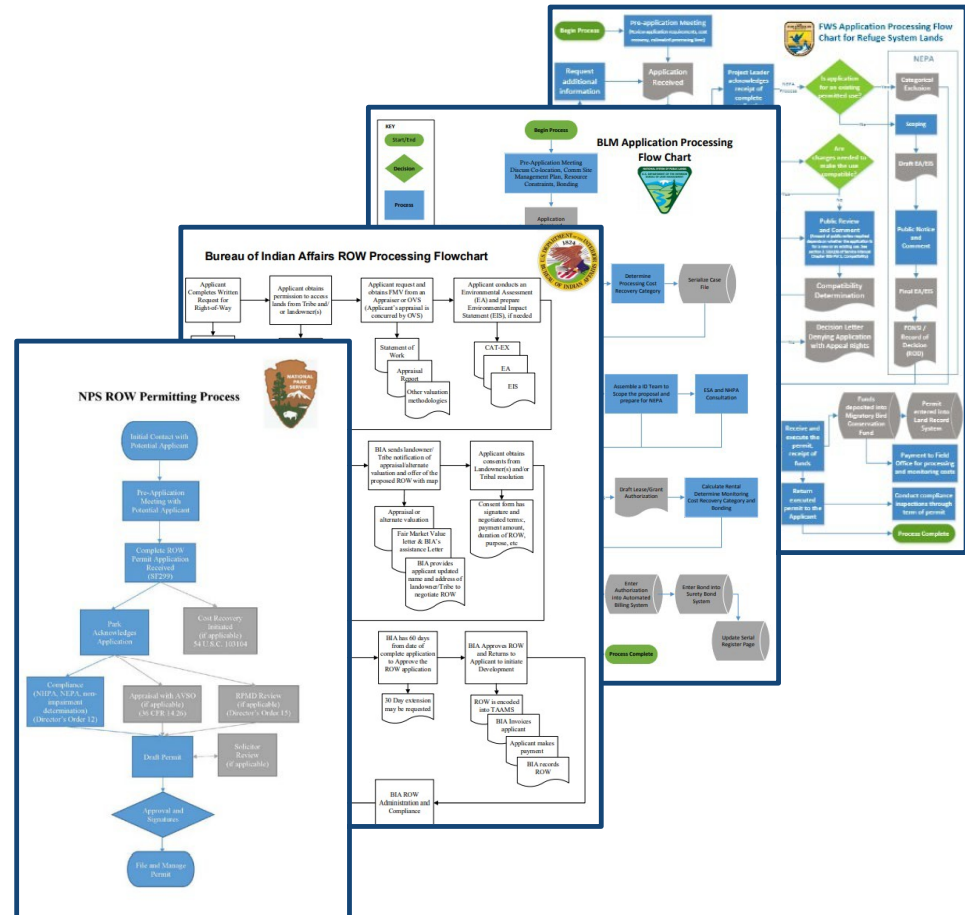


# CONNECTIVITY IN RURAL AMERICA, LEVERAGING PUBLIC LANDS FOR BROADBAND INFRASTRUCTURE



## Improving Efficiency in Permitting

- 1) Regulations, Policy, and Guidelines
- 2) Environmental Review
- 3) Leasing and Permitting
- 4) Fair Market Value Rental
- 5) Program Administration



# U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR



American Broadband Initiative  
March 20, 2019



[www.doi.gov/broadband](http://www.doi.gov/broadband)



# Leveraging Federal Assets Workstream and GSA Commitments



Jennie Campbell  
Project Manager, Office of Government-wide Policy  
General Services Administration (GSA)

March 20, 2019



# Leveraging Federal Assets Workstream

- Objective: Federal assets such as tower facilities, buildings, and land should be made available for use in deploying broadband infrastructure as much as possible to lower the cost of broadband buildouts and encourage private-sector companies to expand telecommunications infrastructure, especially in rural America.*

Leverage Federal Assets Workstream Members			
<b>CHAIRS:</b>  <b>Department of the Interior</b>  <b>General Services Administration</b>	Department of Agriculture	Department of Energy	Environmental Protection Agency
	Department of Commerce (NTIA)	Department of Homeland Security	Department of Veterans Affairs
	Department of Defense	Department of Housing and Urban Development	National Aeronautics and Space Administration
	Department of Transportation	Office of Management & Budget	



## LFA - MOBILE NOW Act – 608(b & c)

- In October 2018, GSA issued guidance for the Federal Real Property Profile (FRPP) Reporting, including:
  - New Data Elements,
  - Data Elements Identified Using Geographic Information System (GIS) Analysis,
  - Additional Information Required for Industry Screening
  - Unified point of contact
- In November 2018, GSA provided published public data set from the FRPP management system for integration into JOEL.
- In April/May, GSA will publish new data elements reported by Agencies to the FRPP.

- In September 2018, we completed the cross-Agency survey of assets managed by DOI, DoD, GSA, USDA, NASA, VA, and DOE and identified additional asset classes that could be leveraged to further support telecommunications networks.
- Develop recommendations for creating a standardized process to make information about Federal assets accessible for public and/or commercial use; and publish final recommendations.

- The LFA established a Tiger Team to review the laws, regulations and policies identified by the survey.
- By August 2019, the LFA, in coordination with the Permitting workstream, will make recommendations for changes that facilitate increased private use of Federal assets for telecommunications, including those assets managed by DOI, DoD, GSA, USDA, NASA, DOE, and VA.



# Executive Order 13821

## **Streamlining Federal Permitting**

- Revise the current SF299 Application for Transportation and Utility Systems and Facilities on Federal Lands to expand its use to include wired and wireless antenna installations and to be more responsive to stakeholder needs.

## **Leveraging Federal Assets**

- All property managing Agencies will provide GSA with quarterly reports on permitting applications, including the number of applications received, the number approved, the number rejected, the basis for any rejection, and the number of working days each application was pending before being approved or rejected.



## Other GSA Broadband Related Activities

- In July 2018, GSA published the FRPP map, a geospatial display of Federal inventory
- Partnership with Streamlining Federal Permitting Workstream
- MOBILE NOW Act – Section 608(d)
- Conducting an analysis of the information provided through EO 13821 to identify trends and challenges related to the approval and denial of permits

# American Broadband Initiative: The Administration's Strategy for Promoting Broadband Connectivity

## Questions and Comments

- Please type your questions in the question box.
- The slides, transcript, and an audio recording will be posted on the BroadbandUSA website within 7 days of the webinar.

<https://broadbandusa.ntia.doc.gov/past-event>

# BroadbandUSA

Thank you for attending.

Tune in for the next Practical Conversations Webinar

## Model Programs and Practices for Building a Competitive Cybersecurity Workforce: The HBCU Story

**April 17, 2019**

**2:00 pm EST**

Registration is required for each webinar:

<https://broadbandusa.ntia.doc.gov/event>



# BroadbandUSA is available to help communities with their broadband access and digital inclusion efforts

## For General Information:



202-482-2048



[broadbandusa@ntia.gov](mailto:broadbandusa@ntia.gov)



<https://broadbandusa.ntia.doc.gov/resources>

## To Request Technical Assistance (TA):



Broadband TA Request Form -  
<https://broadbandusa.ntia.doc.gov/ntia-common-content/how-we-can-help>

### **BBUSA Resources**

- [Implementing a Broadband Network Vision: A Toolkit for Local and Tribal Governments](#)
- [Community Broadband Roadmap Toolkit](#)
- [Guide to Federal Funding of Broadband Projects](#)
- [Using Partnerships to Power Smart Cities](#)