

APPENDIX C

USACE Correspondence and Nationwide Permit Application

From: [Shane McCoy](#)
To: [Emily Creely](#)
Cc: [Nathan Mennen](#); [Amy Mayfield](#); [Josh Grabel](#); [Cameron Miller](#)
Subject: FW: [EXT] POA-2023-00454- Pacific Ocean- AU Aleutian Fiber Optics Project -Phase II
Date: Friday, December 22, 2023 11:50:48 AM

FYI

Shane McCoy
Senior Environmental Ecologist

DOWL

(907) 562-2000 | office

(907) 865-1232 | direct

dowl.com

From: Baggett, Nicholas S CIV USARMY CEPOA (USA) <Nicholas.S.Baggett@usace.army.mil>

Sent: Friday, December 22, 2023 11:47 AM

To: Shane McCoy <smccoy@DOWL.COM>

Cc: jhaddox@gci.com; Vigil, Randal P CIV USARMY CEPOA (USA) <Randal.P.Vigil@usace.army.mil>

Subject: [EXT] POA-2023-00454- Pacific Ocean- AU Aleutian Fiber Optics Project -Phase II

You don't often get email from nicholas.s.baggett@usace.army.mil. [Learn why this is important](#)

External Sender - use caution when clicking links and opening attachments.

Mr. McCoy-

Please note that your project has been assigned Project Number POA-2023-00454 – Pacific Ocean- AU Aleutian Fiber Optics Project - Phase II.

Please include this project number with all correspondence.

Thanks-

Nick

Nicholas S. Baggett
Project Manager
Regulatory Division
US Army Corps of Engineers
Alaska District
Office Telephone: 907-753-2689
Email: nicholas.s.baggett@usace.army.mil

Regulatory Program Information: <https://www.poa.usace.army.mil/Missions/Regulatory>



December 21, 2023

Mr. Nicholas Baggett
Alaska District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
44669 Sterling Highway, Suite B
Soldotna, Alaska 99669-7915
Email: Nicholas.S.Baggett@usace.army.mil

Subject: Proposed Project (AU Aleutian Fiber Optics Project, Phase II) Nationwide Permit 57

Dear Mr. Baggett:

DOWL is submitting this Pre-Construction Notification on behalf of Unicom, Inc a wholly owned subsidiary of GCI Communications Corp. (GCI), for a proposed project to lay approximately 100 miles of fiber optic cable to provide high-speed internet (broadband) to seven (7) communities in southwest Alaska (Attachments).

Project Description and Background

In 2021, with support from the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Rural Development (RD), Unicom, Inc. (Unicom), a wholly owned subsidiary of GCI Communications Corp. (GCI), installed a nearly 800-mile subsea fiber optic cable (FOC) to extend broadband service to seven remote communities for the AU-Aleutians (AU-A I) fiber project.

The Native Village of Port Lions (NVPL), with support from the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) Tribal Broadband Connectivity Program (TBCP), proposes to extend the AU-A project through Phase II and bring high-speed internet service to approximately 800 people in six remote Alaska Native villages for the first time. The AU-A II Fiber Project (AU-A II) builds on the AU-A I project by connecting communities to its existing subsea fiber backbone.

NVPL, grant recipient partnered with GCI, subrecipient who will design, construct and maintain AU-A II, with Unicom responsible for permitting, oversight of regulatory commitments and management of subcontractors. The AU-A I project is currently in the process of connecting Larsen Bay, Chignik Bay, Sand Point, King Cove, Akutan, and Unalaska. AU-A II proposes to connect the communities of Port Lions, Ouzinkie, Chignik Lagoon, Chignik Lake, Cold Bay, False Pass, and Perryville.

Site Specific Operations and Conditions: Site specific information is shown on maps and summarized in Attachment 3: Sheets 1-18. The proposed project does not extend beyond the continental shelf but does extend more than three miles offshore.

Regulatory Setting: The project will involve work in, and impacts to Waters of the U.S. (WOTUS) under U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) jurisdiction per Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act and Section 404 of the Clean Water Act. Impacts to WOTUS are unavoidable and a complete avoidance of work is not feasible or practical. Impacts have been minimized by siting project features in developed/disturbed areas to the greatest extent practicable., including laying the cable on the subsea floor instead of trenching or fill.

Determining Jurisdictional Areas: Without field verification, wetlands are assumed to be present in all undisturbed areas above Mean High Water (MHW) and are presumed to be jurisdictional under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act..

Anticipated Effects: Permanent impacts to affected wetlands in all seven communities would total approximately **0.77 acres**, with temporary fills/disturbance comprising **28.9 acres** in WOTUS.

Permitting Each Community: Each community link meets the definition of a “single and complete linear project” per 33 CFR 330.2(i) as each branching unit and community network has independent utility. We therefore request each community be evaluated as single and complete

but permitted under one file number for the Corps. A summary of each community's permanent impacts are in Attachment 2 and range from **.09 acres** to **.12 acres**.

Project Schedule and Construction: GCI anticipates initiating terrestrial and subsea construction activities May 1, 2024, and completing the project by 2025.

Anticipated Studies and Reports

NTIA is the lead federal agency for purposes of compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). NTIA and DOWL (as the designated non-federal representative) are in the process of completing all interagency consultations (expected to all be completed by March 2023), including:

- National Marine Fisheries Service, per Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act (ESA), and compliance with the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation Management Act
 - Essential Fish Habitat Assessment (anticipated submission December 15, 2023)
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), per Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act
 - Biological Assessments for NMFS/USFWS Species and Critical Habitat Listed under Section 7 of the ESA (anticipated submission December 15, 2023)
- State Historic Preservation Office and National Park Service, per Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act.
 - AU Aleutians Cultural Resources Programmatic Agreement (being updated)

The following will also be obtained:

- Land use approvals/easements/Rights-of-Way (Alaska Department of Natural Resources, expected date: April 2024)
- Private landowners, and local governments land permissions (expected date: April 2024)
- Title 16 Fish Habitat Permit (Alaska Department of Fish and Game, expected date: February 15, 2024)

Please review the provided information at your earliest convenience and deem whether the application is complete. If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact me by email at smccoy@dowl.com or by telephone at (907) 865-1232.

Sincerely,

Shane McCoy
Environmental Specialist
DOWL



Attachment(s):

1. *Pre-Construction Notification*
2. *Supplemental Information*
3. *Figures (including Typical Section)*

ATTACHMENT 1
Pre-Construction Notification

25. Is Any Portion of the Nationwide Permit Activity Already Complete? Yes No If Yes, describe the completed work:

26. List the name(s) of any species listed as endangered or threatened under the Endangered Species Act that might be affected by the proposed NWP activity or utilize the designated critical habitat that might be affected by the proposed NWP activity. (see instructions)
Blue whale, Fin whale, North Pacific right whale, Western North Pacific gray whale, Humpback whale, Sperm whale, Steller sea lion, Norther sea otter, Steller's eider, Short-tailed albatross

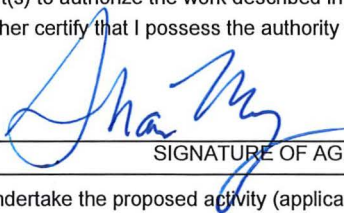
27. List any historic properties that have the potential to be affected by the proposed NWP activity or include a vicinity map indicating the location of the historic property or properties. (see instructions)
The Programmatic Agreement from Phase I of the project will be amended to address potential impacts to historic properties.

28. For a proposed NWP activity that will occur in a component of the National Wild and Scenic River System, or in a river officially designated by Congress as a "study river" for possible inclusion in the system while the river is in an official study status, identify the Wild and Scenic River or the "study river":
NA

29. If the proposed NWP activity also requires permission from the Corps pursuant to 33 U.S.C. 408 because it will alter or temporarily or permanently occupy or use a U.S. Army Corps of Engineers federally authorized civil works project, have you submitted a written request for section 408 permission from the Corps district having jurisdiction over that project? Yes No
If "yes", please provide the date your request was submitted to the Corps District:

30. If the terms of the NWP(s) you want to use require additional information to be included in the PCN, please include that information in this space or provide it on an additional sheet of paper marked Block 30. (see instructions)

31. Pre-construction notification is hereby made for one or more nationwide permit(s) to authorize the work described in this notification. I certify that this information in this pre-construction notification is complete and accurate. I further certify that I possess the authority to undertake the work described herein or am acting as the duly authorized agent of the applicant.

| | | | | |
|------------------------|---|------------|--|----------|
| Chris Haddox | Digitally signed by Chris Haddox Date: 2023.12.20 16:59:23 -09'00' | 2023-12-20 |  | 12/21/23 |
| SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT | | DATE | SIGNATURE OF AGENT | DATE |

The Pre-Construction Notification must be signed by the person who desires to undertake the proposed activity (applicant) and, if the statement in block 11 has been filled out and signed, the authorized agent.

18 U.S.C. Section 1001 provides that: Whoever, in any manner within the jurisdiction of any department or agency of the United States knowingly and willfully falsifies, conceals, or covers up any trick, scheme, or disguises a material fact or makes any false, fictitious or fraudulent statements or representations or makes or uses any false writing or document knowing same to contain any false, fictitious or fraudulent statements or entry, shall be fined not more than \$10,000 or imprisoned not more than five years or both.

ATTACHMENT 2
Supplemental Information

15.LOCATION OF THE PROPOSED PROJECT SITES

Township, Range, Section, Meridian (Seward)

| Township | Range | Section(s) | Township | Range | Section(s) |
|----------|-------|-------------------------------|----------|-------|-------------------------|
| 26S | 20W | 14,15,22,23 | 59S | 86W | 22,27,33,34 |
| 26S | 21W | 30 | 60S | 86W | 4,5,7,8 |
| 26S | 22W | 25,32,33,34,35,36 | 59S | 87W | 18,19,30,31,32 |
| 27S | 22W | 4,5,8,9,10 | 60S | 87W | 2,3,4,5,11 |
| 44S | 58W | 21, 26,27,28,29,30,34, 35 | 57S | 88W | 31,32,33,34 |
| 45S | 58W | 5,6,7,8 | 58S | 88W | 2,3,6,11,12,13,24,25,36 |
| 44S | 59W | 7,25,36 | 59S | 88W | 1,12,13 |
| 45S | 59W | 5,7,8,18 | 57S | 89W | 23,25,26,36 |
| 45S | 60W | 13,15,16,20,21,22,23,24,29,30 | 58S | 89W | 1 |
| 45S | 61W | 25,26 | 62S | 91W | 19,29,30,32,33 |
| 49S | 63W | 31 | 63S | 91W | 4,9,10,14,15,23,25,26 |
| 50S | 63W | 4,5,6,9,10,15,22,23,31,35 | 62S | 92W | 19,20,21,22,23,24 |
| 49S | 64W | 26,27,35,36 | 62S | 93W | 22,23,24,27,28,29,30 |
| 59S | 86W | 22,27,33,34 | 61S | 94W | 27,28,33,34 |
| 60S | 86W | 4,5,7,8 | 62S | 94W | 2,3,11,14,23,24,25 |

16.OTHER LOCATION DESCRIPTIONS

Nearest City Latitude and Longitude (Decimal Degrees, WGS-84)

| Community | Lat | Long |
|----------------|------------|--------------|
| Ouzinkie | 57.9233° N | -152.5019° W |
| Port Lions | 57.8674° N | -152.8832° W |
| Chignik Lagoon | 56.3099° N | -158.5346° W |
| Chignik Lake | 53.2549° N | -158.7660° W |
| Perryville | 55.9122° N | -159.1453° W |
| Cold Bay | 55.2063° N | -162.7174° W |
| False Pass | 54.8548° N | -163.4142° W |

Borough: Project lies within the boundaries the Kodiak Island Borough, Lake & Peninsula Borough, and Aleutians East Borough.

19. DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED NATIONWIDE PERMIT ACTIVITY

In 2021, with support from the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Rural Development (RD), Unicom, Inc. (Unicom), a wholly owned subsidiary of GCI Communications Corp. (GCI), installed a nearly 800-mile subsea fiber optic cable (FOC) to extend broadband service to seven remote communities for the AU-Aleutians (AU-A I) fiber project.

Attachment 2: Supplemental Information

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The Native Village of Port Lions (NVPL), with support from the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) Tribal Broadband Connectivity Program (TBCP), proposes to extend the AU-A project through Phase II and bring high-speed internet service to approximately 800 people in six remote Alaska Native villages for the first time. The AU-A II Fiber Project (AU-A II) builds on the AU-A I project by connecting communities to its existing subsea fiber backbone.

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The purpose of the proposed project is to bring fast 2,500 megabits per second (Mbps) (approximately 2.4 gigs) internet speeds and affordable, unlimited data plans to seven rural Alaska Native villages for the first time, closing the digital divide and bringing digital equity to the region. The project will support economic development and expansion of social services. The proposed project's seven isolated communities are neither connected by road nor an intertidal electrical grid. The lack of broadband access limits economic development and efficiency of services delivered by health care providers, schools, and tribal entities.

Project elements that would occur above the HTL are defined herein as *terrestrial* and project elements that would occur between MLW and HTL are defined as *intertidal*. Work below MLW is considered *subsea*. Work in the Chignik River is *riverine*.

Basic Project activities include the following (see Section below for a more detailed description):

- Terrestrial FOC (trenched)
 - o Trenches would be no deeper than 3 feet in depth and 3 feet wide. Sidecast width would not exceed 8 feet. Placement would generally occur within existing road rights-of-way (ROW) and/or existing disturbance when feasible.
- Intertidal FOC (trenched)
 - o Trenches would be no deeper than 3 feet in depth and 3 feet wide. Sidecast width would not exceed 8 feet.
- Subsea FOC (lay)
 - o Installation by laying cable directly on seabed
- Subsea FOC (burial)
 - o Limited areas of burial could occur in all locations within no more than 980 feet from mean low water (MLW) in the surf zone. Burial would be no deeper than 3 with no resulting sidecast.
- Beach manhole (terrestrial/intertidal)

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- At each community, the landing of the subsea FOC would be connected to beach manholes (BMH) just above the high tide line (HTL) at a depth of no more than 5 feet
- Vaults (terrestrial)
 - On average, vaults will be installed every 800 feet of FOC, placed at a depth of no more than 5 feet
- Prefabricated communications shelter on small gravel pads
 - Placement of six prefabricated shelters (approximately 25 feet long, 10 feet wide) housed on 2,500-square foot (ft²) gravel pads; gravel pads may include piling which may reduce fill quantities.

Project Elements

The shore route consists of a buried conduit system and FOC from the BMH to a communications shelter. The conduit system would contain up to 3 conduits (each 2 inches in diameter) buried 3-feet below ground surface. The BMH would measure 4x5 feet with 5-foot by 6-foot (30 ft²) excavation

In all communities except Chignik Lake, the FOC would be routed from the BMH to new Cable Landing Stations (CLS), wherein new prefabricated communications shelters (approximately 25 feet long, 10 feet wide, and 10 feet high) would be placed on new gravel pads or pile foundation to be co-located with existing facilities. Gravel pads would measure approximately 2,500 ft² and 2-feet deep. Each shelter would have a self-contained, outdoor rated, and diesel fuel powered generators installed adjacent to it on the gravel pad and be fenced.

From the CLS, FOC will then be used to create a main line, from which end users would be connected. FOC between the BMH and CLS would be terrestrial cable placed in a trench, approximately 3 feet wide and 3 feet deep. Trench width would be less if a cable plow or chain trencher is available. The fiber extension to end users will be a standard terrestrial cable placed in a 3-foot-deep trench. If existing suitable utility poles are available, the FOC local distribution may use overhead construction as well.

Vaults would be similar to BMHs, but 3x4 feet, except are only 3 feet in depth, and would require no more than a 5-foot by 5-foot (25 ft²) excavation and would be used to provide slack loops and splicing points along the main line route and at the CLS.

All terrestrial FOC would be trenched adjacent to existing roads and remain within existing utility ROW and easements to the extent possible; this may include trenching in areas near the toe of slope. FOC trenching would generally follow the utility distribution system in each community.

Installation crews would use backhoes and standard trenching techniques to set BMHs and vaults flush with the original ground grade.

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All areas would be returned to pre-construction elevations; all trenched areas would be re-graded to original conditions.

Unicom does not intend to re-enter BMHs for 25 years, unless required to address a service or maintenance issue.

Excavated material would be sidecast next to trenches during excavation and the spoils would be used as backfill to bury the cable and BMH.

FOC would be installed into a BMH, setback from the adjacent waterbody with a conduit stub. The BMH would measure 4 feet by 5 feet (20 ft²) and 4 feet deep with excavation not exceeding 5 feet by 6 feet (30 ft²) and 5 feet deep; each BMH excavation would vary based on shoreline/bank contours and substrate. The conduit stub would be placed above MLW.

In intertidal areas trenching would have a maximum 3-foot width and 4-foot depth.

For each landfall location, the following construction methods would apply:

- Any work below MHW would occur during low tide.
- Heavy equipment needing to operate in intertidal areas and wetlands would be placed on mats, with the exception of beaches with firm sediments, such as large cobbles or boulders (e.g., Ouzinkie, False Pass).
- No excess material requiring disposal is anticipated to be produced.
- Alterations to shorelines would be temporary and trenches would be constructed and backfilled to prevent them from acting as a drain (i.e., not backfilled).
- In general, equipment used at each landfall location (with the exception of work in the Chignik River) may include:
 - Rubber wheel backhoe
 - Tracked excavator or backhoe
 - Utility truck and trailer to deliver materials
 - Chain trencher or cable plow (optional)
 - Hand tools (e.g., shovels, rakes, pry bars, wrenches)
 - Survey equipment
 - Winch or turning sheave
 - Splicing equipment, small genset, and splicing tent
 - Riverine and Subsea Project Elements

The following describes project elements that would occur in the marine environment, outside of intertidal areas. Over 99% of the FOC would be surface laid directly on the sea floor. In waters within approximately 980 feet from MLW, the FOC would be buried via diver held water jet (maximum 3-foot depth).

- For work in the Chignik River, installation would not occur when water is not present in the channel and instead would occur in high-water to the extent possible.
- No post-lay inspection and burial would be conducted. In general, equipment in the nearshore marine and riverine environment may include:
- Small utility boats (both an 80 and 40-foot landing craft) to run pull line to beach (each less than 3,000 horsepower engine)
- Dive boat with hand jetting tools
- Hand jetting would take 1 day (12 hours) per landing

22. QUANTITY OF WETLANDS, STREAMS, OR OTHER TYPES OF WATERS DIRECTLY IMPACTED BY PROPOSED NATIONWIDE PERMIT ACTIVITY

Impacts

Permanent impacts include installation of BMHs, vaults, and fill to create shelter pads. The estimated area of affected wetlands constituting permanent project impacts from the proposed project footprint is **33,800 ft² (0.77 acres)**, as described in Table 6. As each community will be permitted separately, permanent impacts per community range from .09 acres to .14 acres. FOC laid directly on the seafloor does not constitute an impact, as it is not regulated by the USACE. The following table summarizes all impacts by community, with details on each below.

Impacts to Terrestrial Wetlands, by Community

| Location | Total Permanent Impacts | | Total Temporary Impacts | |
|-----------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|
| | Area (Square feet) | Volume (Cubic feet) | Area (Square feet) | Volume (Cubic feet) |
| Ouzinkie | 4,930 | 12,830 | 147,215 | 410,187.80 |
| Port Lions | 5,355 | 14,190 | 262,998 | 679,558.49 |
| Chignik Lagoon | 4,310 | 10,900 | 132,807 | 695,839.92 |
| Chignik Lake | 4,430 | 4,550 | 220,584 | 459,791.81 |
| Cold Bay | 4,580 | 11,710 | 227,988 | 447,650.47 |
| Perryville | 6,290 | 8,910 | 116,565 | 355,597.31 |
| False Pass | 3,905 | 9,550 | 151,037 | 794,907.37 |

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All Communities: Permanent Impacts to Terrestrial Wetlands (Area)

| Location | Impact by Project Element (square feet) | | | Total (square feet) |
|----------------|---|---------------|------------------|---------------------|
| | Beach Manholes | Vaults | CLS Shelter Pads | |
| Ouzinkie | 30 | 2,400 | 2,500 | 4,930 |
| Port Lions | 30 | 2,825 | 2,500 | 5,355 |
| Chignik Lagoon | 60 | 1,750 | 2,500 | 4,310 |
| Chignik Lake | 30 | 4,400 | - | 4,430 |
| Cold Bay | 30 | 2,050 | 2,500 | 4,580 |
| Perryville | 30 | 3,760 | 2,500 | 6,290 |
| False Pass | 30 | 1,375 | 2,500 | 3,905 |
| Total | 240 | 18,560 | 15,000 | 33,800 |

Note: N/A (not applicable).

All Communities: Permanent Impacts to Terrestrial Wetlands (Volume)

| Location | Impact by Project Element (cubic feet) | | | Total (cubic feet) |
|----------------|--|---------------|------------------|--------------------|
| | Beach Manholes | Vaults | CLS Shelter Pads | |
| Ouzinkie | 150 | 7,680 | 5,000 | 12,830 |
| Port Lions | 150 | 9,040 | 5,000 | 14,190 |
| Chignik Lagoon | 300 | 5,600 | 5,000 | 10,900 |
| Chignik Lake | 150 | 4,400 | - | 4,550 |
| Cold Bay | 150 | 6,560 | 5,000 | 11,710 |
| Perryville | 150 | 3,760 | 5,000 | 8,910 |
| False Pass | 150 | 4,400 | 5,000 | 9,550 |
| Total | 1,200 | 41,400 | 30,000 | 7,2600 |

Note: N/A (not applicable).

All Communities: Temporary Impacts to Terrestrial Wetlands and Marine and Intertidal (Area)

| Location | Terrestrial FOC | | Marine and Intertidal FOC | | Total (Square feet) |
|----------------|-----------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------|
| | Linear feet | Square-feet ² | Linear Feet | Square-feet ² | |
| Ouzinkie | 18,276 | 146,215 | 1,000 | 1,000 | 147,215 |
| Port Lions | 32,751 | 262,014 | 984 | 984 | 262,998 |
| Chignik Lagoon | 16,354 | 130,832 | 1,975 | 1,975 | 132,807 |
| Chignik Lake | 27,202 | 217,617 | 2,967 | 2,967 | 220,584 |
| Cold Bay | 28,252 | 226,022 | 1,966 | 1,966 | 227,988 |
| Perryville | 14,447 | 115,583 | 982 | 982 | 116,565 |
| False Pass | 18,740 | 149,925 | 1,112 | 1,112 | 151,037 |
| Total | 156,022 | 1,248,208 | 10,986 | 10,986 | 1,259,194 |

Note: N/A (not applicable)

² Trenches would be 8 feet wide (3-foot-wide trench with 5-foot sidecast)

All Communities: Temporary Impacts to Terrestrial Wetlands and Marine and Intertidal (Volume)

| Location | Terrestrial FOC | Marine and Intertidal FOC | Total (Cubic Feet) |
|-----------------|------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Ouzinkie | 392,496.80 | 17,691.0 | 410,187.80 |
| Port Lions | 652,853.79 | 26,704.7 | 679,558.49 |
| Chignik Lagoon | 678,067.92 | 17,772.0 | 695,839.92 |
| Chignik Lake | 449,777.41 | 10,014.4 | 459,791.81 |
| Cold Bay | 438,647.87 | 9,002.6 | 447,650.47 |
| Perryville | 346,751.71 | 8,845.6 | 355,597.31 |
| False Pass | 786,042.87 | 8,864.5 | 794,907.37 |
| Total | 3,744,638.38 | 98,894.9 | 3,843,533.28 |

Nationwide Permit General Conditions

The project will meet all applicable general conditions:

- Conditions 1-4, and Conditions 10, and 17 through 23, and 25 will be met through consultation and authorizations from appropriate agencies.
- Conditions 11 through 13 will be met using Best Management Practices
- Condition 32 is met through this Pre-Construction Notification

Alaska District Regional Conditions

Additional Information Required for NWP 57 Permits

Regional Condition B: Applies

Regional Condition C: Project will comply with these conditions

Regional Condition D: Project will comply with these conditions

Regional Condition E: Project will comply with these conditions

Regional Condition F: Project will comply with these conditions

Regional Condition G: Does Not Apply (Project does not relocate stream beds)

Regional Condition H: Does Not Apply

Regional Condition I: Does Not Apply

Regional Condition J: Does Not Apply

Summary of OTHER Agency Pre-Consultation Efforts to Date

Essential Fish Habitat

Attachment 2: Supplemental Information

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An EFH Assessment is currently being drafted to describe the proposed action, existing conditions in the project area, designated EFH in the project corridor, potential effects to EFH, and potential mitigation or conservation measures. The document is expected to be complete by December 2023.

Biological Assessments (NMFS/USFWS Species and Critical Habitat Listed under Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act)

Two Biological Assessments are currently being drafted as part of required consultation to ensure that the proposed project will not jeopardize the existence of any species listed under the ESA or result in the destruction or adverse modification of its critical habitat.

The draft BA documents are expected to be available by December 15, 2023.

Description of Land Ownership

DOWL has submitted a DNR Land Use/Tidelands application (Entry Authorization Application) and is verifying other necessary rights-of-way and easement authorizations. Land ownership will likely be finalized by April 2024.

Cultural Resources

To meet compliance requirements of Section 106, a Programmatic Agreement (PA) was developed by RUS to allow for a phased process to identify, evaluate, assess, and avoid, minimize, and/or mitigate project effects on historic properties. The PA was executed for AU-A I between RUS, USACE and SHPO meet compliance with Section 106 for the project that included stipulations to amend the agreement and use it as a vehicle for compliance for additions to the existing subsea fiber backbone to additional communities by different agencies and using separate funding sources. The applicant and the NTIA are working to amend the PA to include the AU-Aleutian II FOC to the six communities. Per the PA, cultural resource monitoring must occur in all areas of ground disturbance associated with the undertaking. Although not required, the PA does include a provision that fieldwork may be conducted in advance of any ground disturbing activities to reduce the amount of monitoring required during construction.

The PA contains the following key agreements which must be completed by the project applicant:

- Subsea data will be reviewed by a marine archaeologist to identify potential anthropogenic or cultural remains within the marine APE. This review will include interpretation of remote-sensing geophysical and geotechnical data acquired in support of the proposed project, as well as historic and archival database inventory records. The review will be submitted with any recommended alignment changes based on the archaeological review.
- For the terrestrial APE, the base requirement of the PA is for the applicant to provide an archaeological monitor in all areas of ground disturbing activity in all

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communities for the proposed project. However, if the applicant elects, the PA allows for the applicant to conduct cultural resources surveys within the communities to further refine the known locations and/or distribution of cultural resources within the communities. In these cases, the applicant must submit a proposed plan and research design to RUS and SHPO for approval prior to conducting the fieldwork, and a report describing the results and recommendations for monitoring revisions based on the fieldwork to RUS and SHPO. RUS and SHPO must approve the report prior to the applicant commencing any modified construction in any communities.

Other Permits

For work in freshwater (Chignik River), a single Title 16 fish habitat permit package is being drafted for ADF&G.

ATTACHMENT 3

Site Specific Operations and Conditions, Sheets, Maps and Typical Section

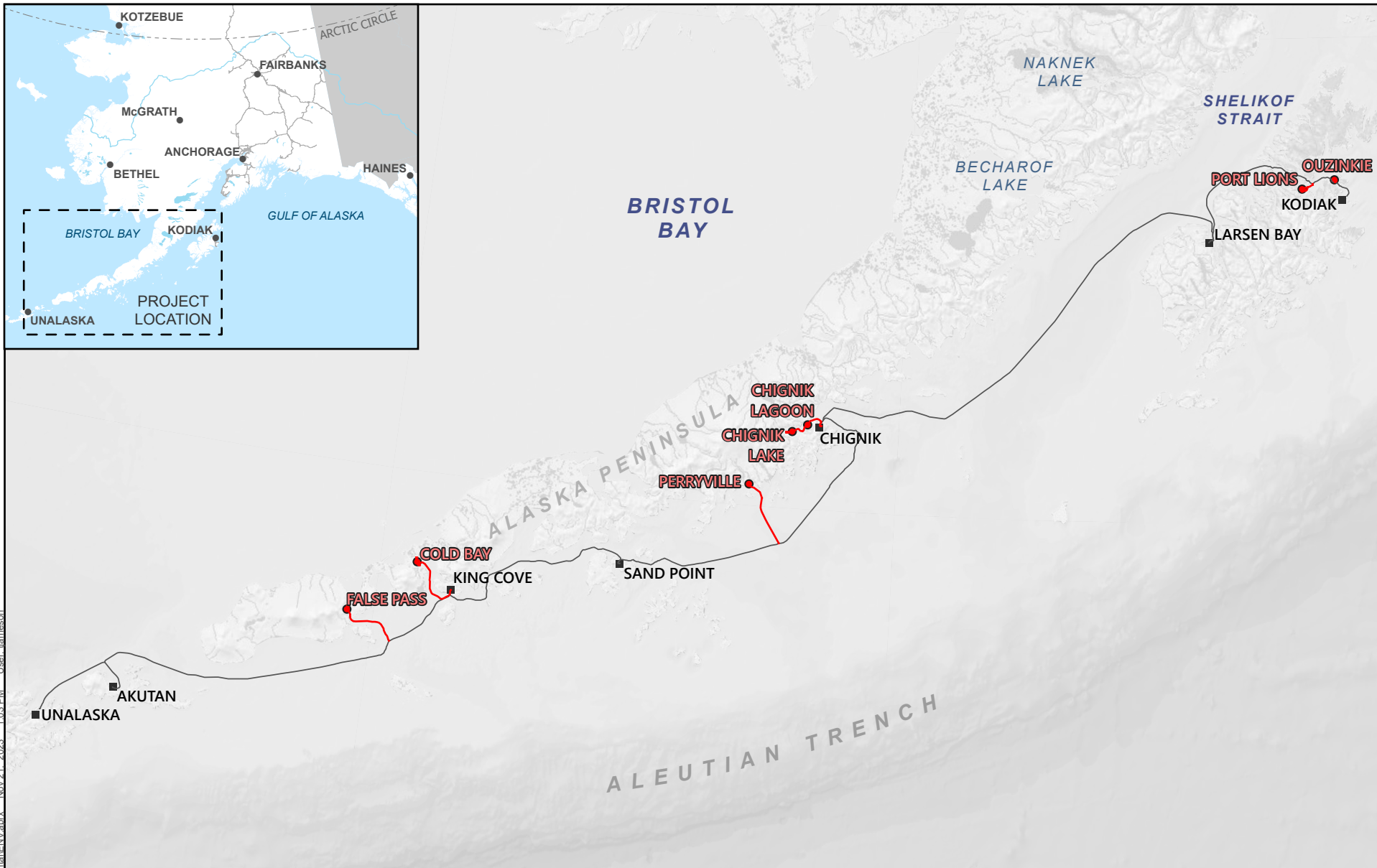


FIGURE 1: Location & Vicinity
 POA #####, Pacific Ocean
 APPLICANT: Unicom Inc
 PROPOSED ACTIVITY: Fiber Optic Cable Expansion

| Landfall Community | | Fiber Optic Alignment | |
|--------------------|----------|-----------------------|----------|
| ■ | Existing | — | Existing |
| ● | Proposed | — | Proposed |

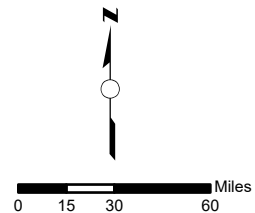




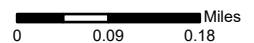
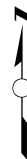
FIGURE 2: Subsea Route (OUZINKIE)

POA #####, Pacific Ocean

APPLICANT: Unicom Inc

PROPOSED ACTIVITY: Fiber Optic Cable Expansion

- Proposed Beach Manhole
- Existing Fiber Optic Alignment
- Proposed Fiber Optic Alignment**
- Subsea Method**
- Trench
- Lay



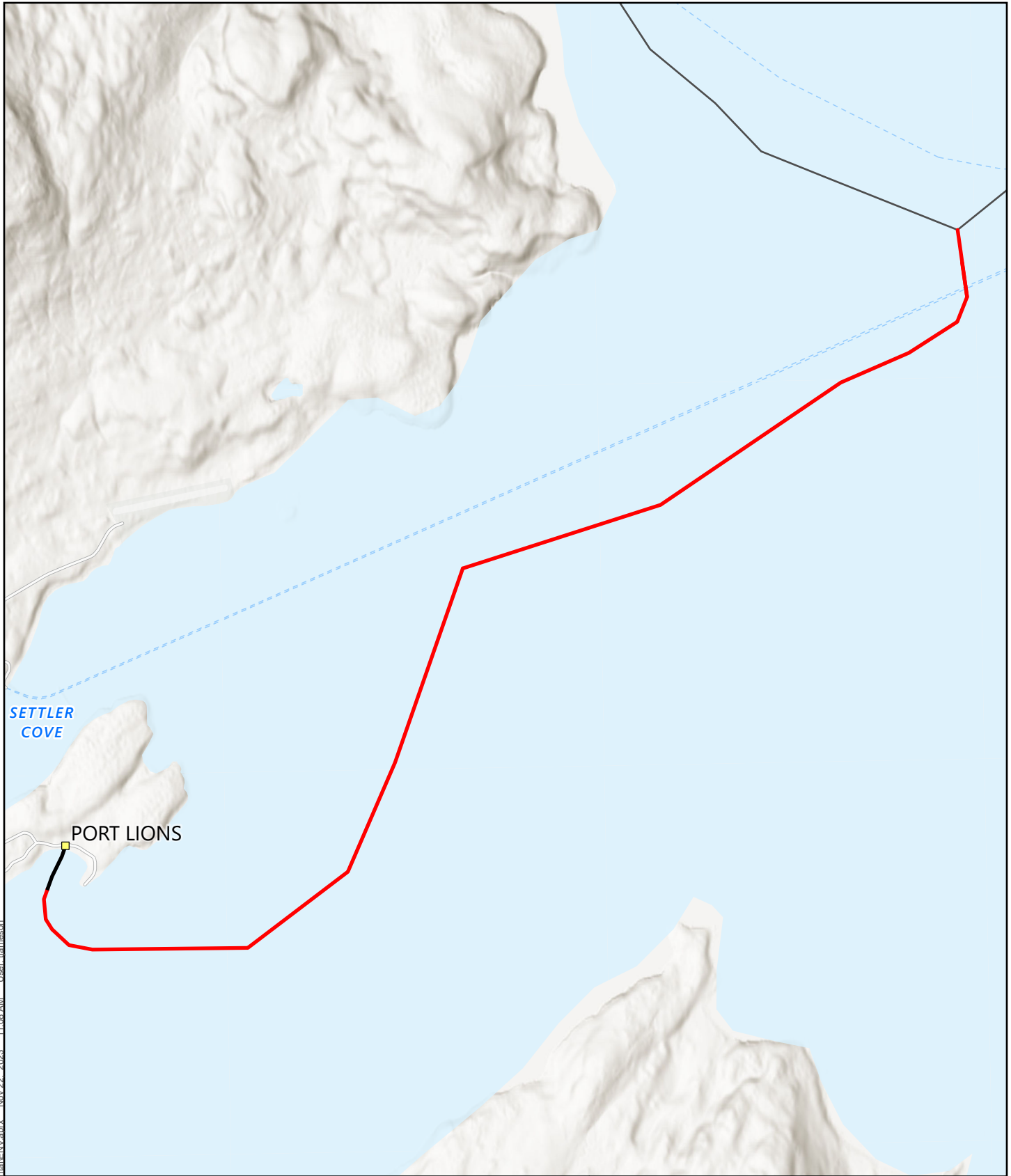


FIGURE 2: Subsea Route (PORT LIONS)

POA #####, Pacific Ocean

APPLICANT: Unicom Inc

PROPOSED ACTIVITY: Fiber Optic Cable Expansion

- Proposed Beach Manhole
- Existing Fiber Optic Alignment
- Proposed Fiber Optic Alignment**
- Subsea Method**
- Trench
- Lay

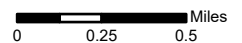
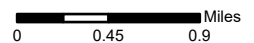




FIGURE 2: Subsea Route (CHIGNIK LAGOON)

POA #####, Pacific Ocean
 APPLICANT: Unicom Inc
 PROPOSED ACTIVITY: Fiber Optic Cable Expansion

- Proposed Beach Manhole
- Existing Fiber Optic Alignment
- Proposed Fiber Optic Alignment Subsea Method**
- Trench
- Lay



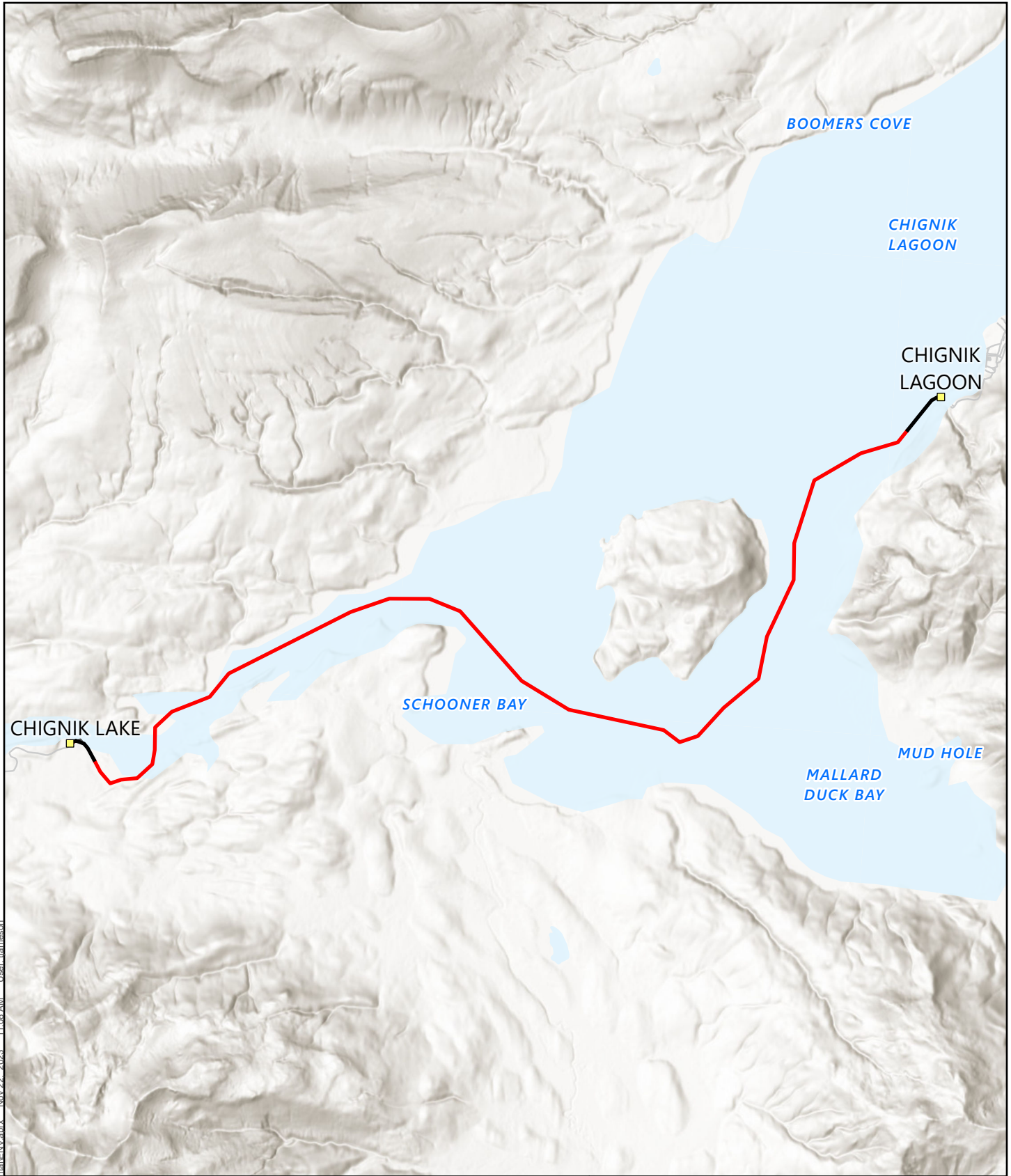
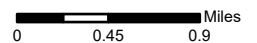


FIGURE 2: Subsea Route (CHIGNIK LAKE)

POA #####, Pacific Ocean
 APPLICANT: Unicom Inc
 PROPOSED ACTIVITY: Fiber Optic Cable Expansion

- Proposed Beach Manhole
- Existing Fiber Optic Alignment
- Proposed Fiber Optic Alignment Subsea Method**
- Trench
- Lay



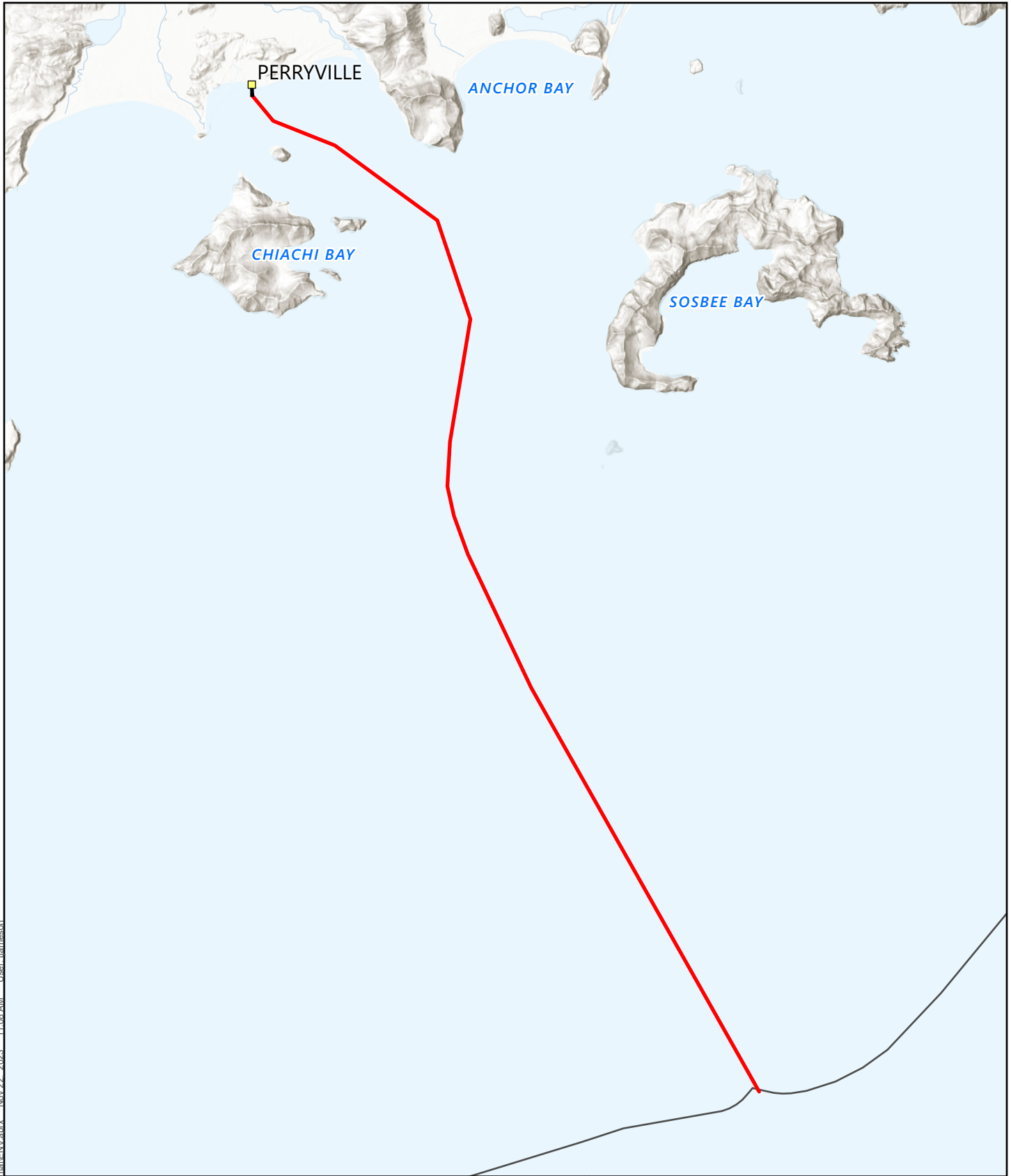


FIGURE 2: Subsea Route (PERRYVILLE)

POA-####-#####, Pacific Ocean
 APPLICANT: Unicom Inc
 PROPOSED ACTIVITY: Fiber Optic Cable Expansion

- Proposed Beach Manhole
- Existing Fiber Optic Alignment
- Proposed Fiber Optic Alignment**
- Subsea Method**
- Trench
- Lay

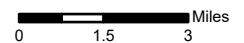
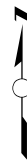
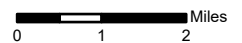




FIGURE 2: Subsea Route (COLD BAY)

POA #####, Pacific Ocean
 APPLICANT: Unicom Inc
 PROPOSED ACTIVITY: Fiber Optic Cable Expansion

- Proposed Beach Manhole
- Existing Fiber Optic Alignment
- Proposed Fiber Optic Alignment Subsea Method**
- Trench
- Lay



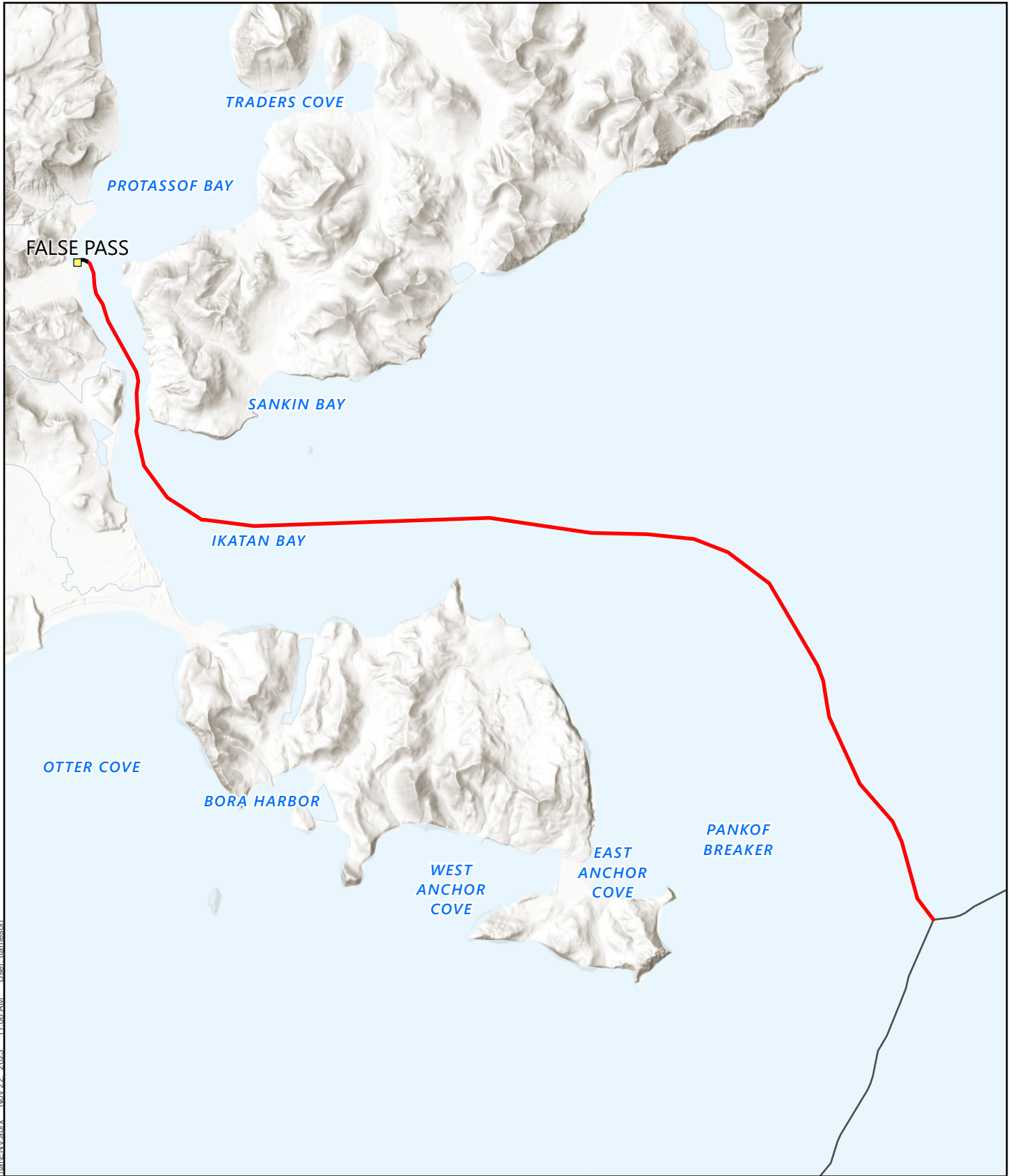
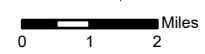


FIGURE 2: Subsea Route (FALSE PASS)

POA #####, Pacific Ocean
 APPLICANT: Unicom Inc
 PROPOSED ACTIVITY: Fiber Optic Cable Expansion

- Proposed Beach Manhole
- Existing Fiber Optic Alignment
- Proposed Fiber Optic Alignment Subsea Method**
- Trench
- Lay



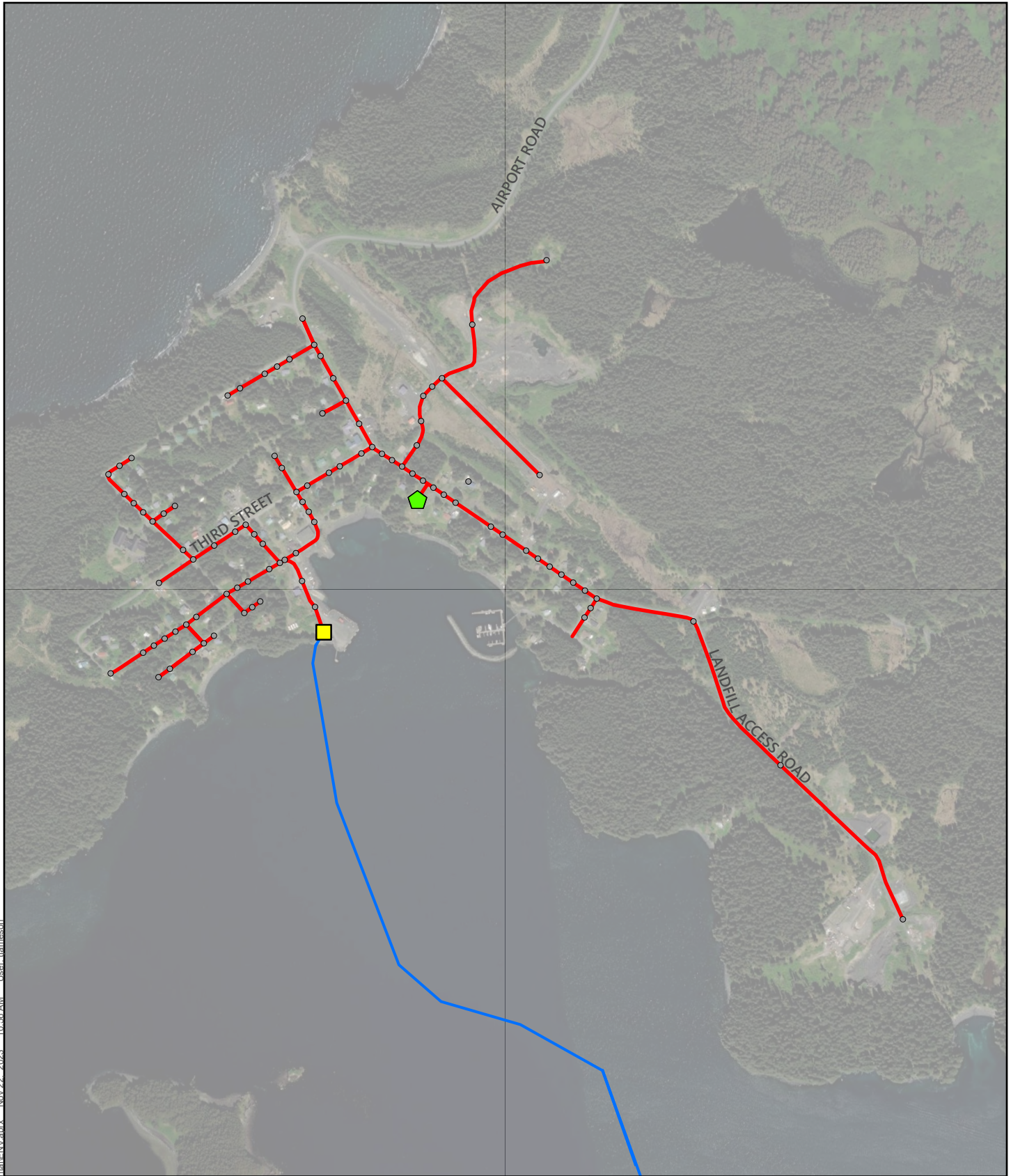
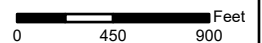


FIGURE 3: Landfall Route (OUZINKIE)

POA #####, Pacific Ocean
 APPLICANT: Unicom Inc
 PROPOSED ACTIVITY: Fiber Optic Cable Expansion

- Beach Manhole*
- ▮ Shelter Pad Location*
- Vault* (96)
- Subsea Fiber Optic Alignment
- Terrestrial Fiber Optic Alignment*

* All components are installed in assumed wetlands.



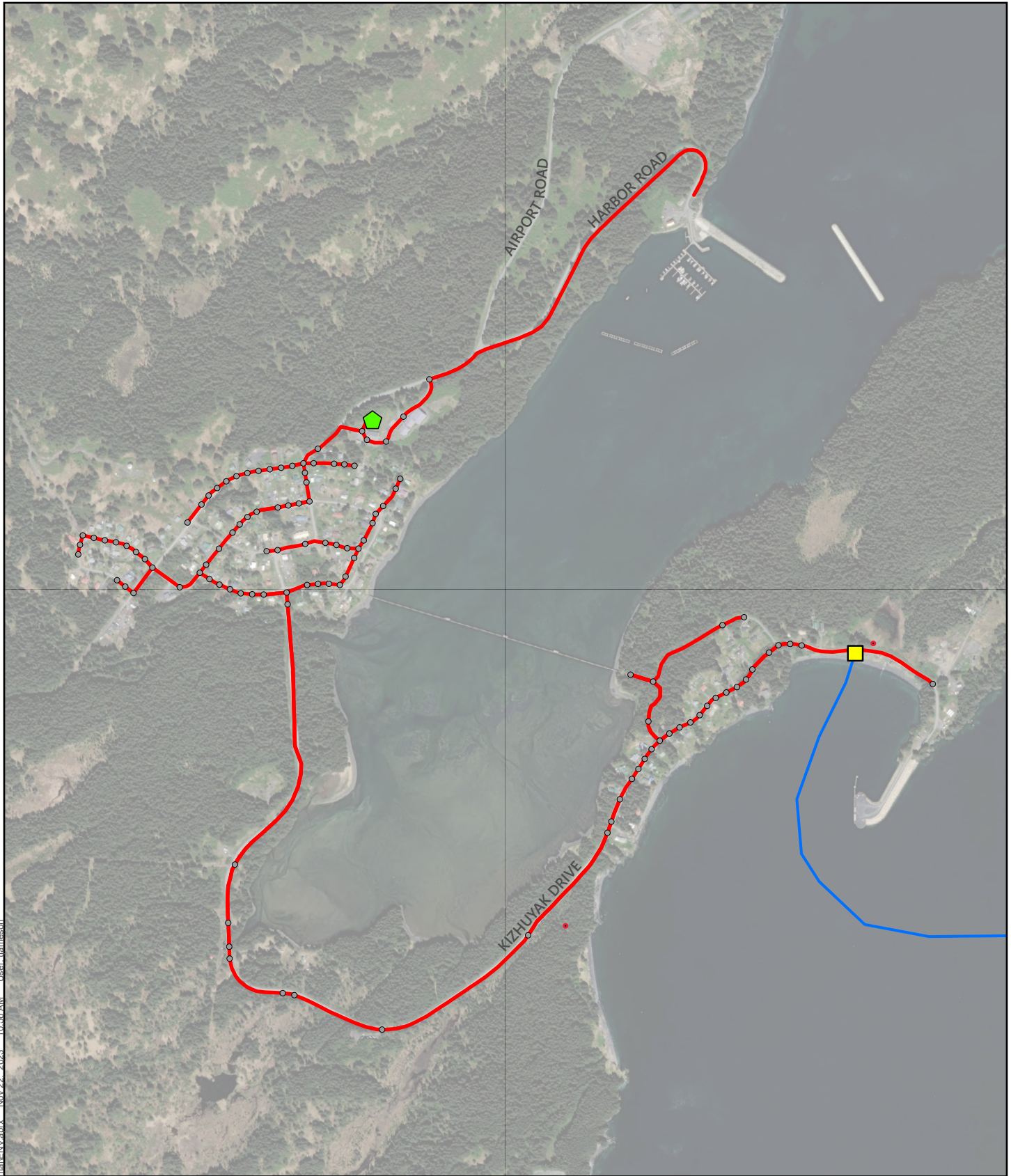
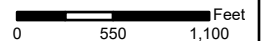


FIGURE 3: Landfall Route (PORT LIONS)

POA #####, Pacific Ocean
 APPLICANT: Unicom Inc
 PROPOSED ACTIVITY: Fiber Optic Cable Expansion

- Beach Manhole*
- ⬠ Shelter Pad Location*
- Vault* (113)
- Subsea Fiber Optic Alignment
- Terrestrial Fiber Optic Alignment*

* All components are installed in assumed wetlands.





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FIGURE 3: Landfall Route (CHIGNIK LAGOON)

POA-####-#####, Pacific Ocean
 APPLICANT: Unicom Inc
 PROPOSED ACTIVITY: Fiber Optic Cable Expansion

- Beach Manhole*
- ⬠ Shelter Pad Location*
- Vault* (70)
- Subsea Fiber Optic Alignment
- Terrestrial Fiber Optic Alignment*

*All components are installed in assumed wetlands.

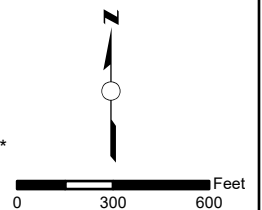




FIGURE 3: Landfall Route (CHIGNIK LAKE)

POA-####-#####, Pacific Ocean
 APPLICANT: Unicom Inc
 PROPOSED ACTIVITY: Fiber Optic Cable Expansion

- Beach Manhole*
- Vault* (55)
- Subsea Fiber Optic Alignment
- Terrestrial Fiber Optic Alignment*

* All components are installed
 in assumed wetlands.

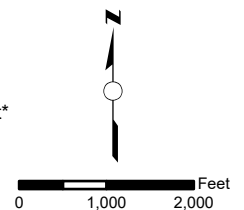




FIGURE 3: Landfall Route (PERRYVILLE)

POA #####, Pacific Ocean
 APPLICANT: Unicom Inc
 PROPOSED ACTIVITY: Fiber Optic Cable Expansion

- Beach Manhole*
- ▮ Shelter Pad Location*
- Vault* (47)
- Subsea Fiber Optic Alignment
- Terrestrial Fiber Optic Alignment*

* All components are installed in assumed wetlands.

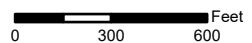
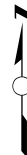




FIGURE 3: Landfall Route (COLD BAY)

POA #####, Pacific Ocean
 APPLICANT: Unicom Inc
 PROPOSED ACTIVITY: Fiber Optic Cable Expansion

- Beach Manhole*
- ⬠ Shelter Pad Location*
- Vault* (82)
- Subsea Fiber Optic Alignment
- Terrestrial Fiber Optic Alignment*

* All components are installed in assumed wetlands.

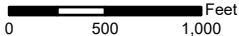


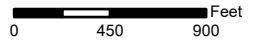


FIGURE 3: Landfall Route (FALSE PASS)

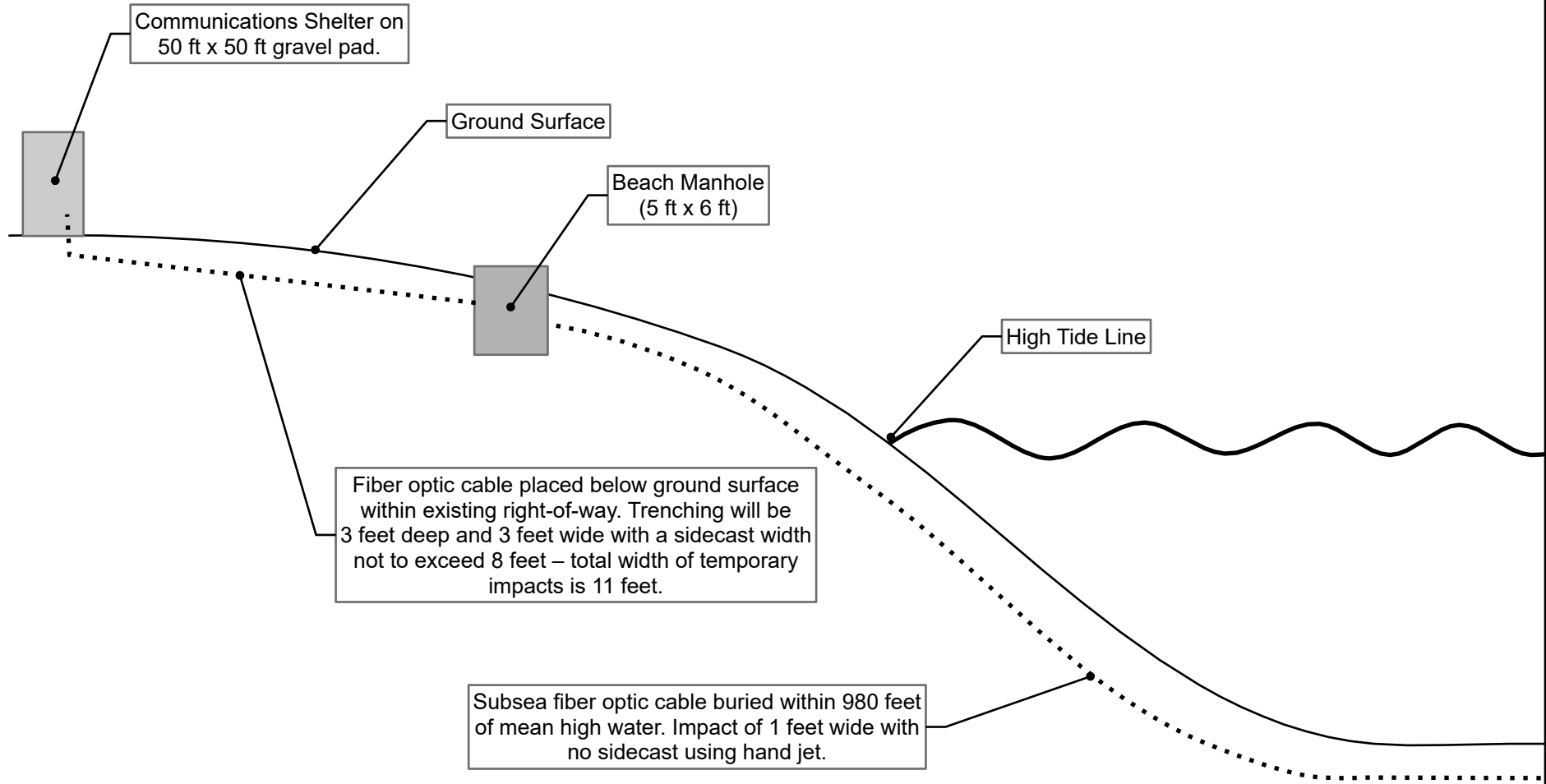
POA #####, Pacific Ocean
 APPLICANT: Unicom Inc
 PROPOSED ACTIVITY: Fiber Optic Cable Expansion

- Beach Manhole*
- ⬠ Shelter Pad Location*
- Vault* (55)
- Subsea Fiber Optic Alignment
- Terrestrial Fiber Optic Alignment*

* All components are installed in assumed wetlands.



TYPICAL FIBER OPTIC LANDFALL



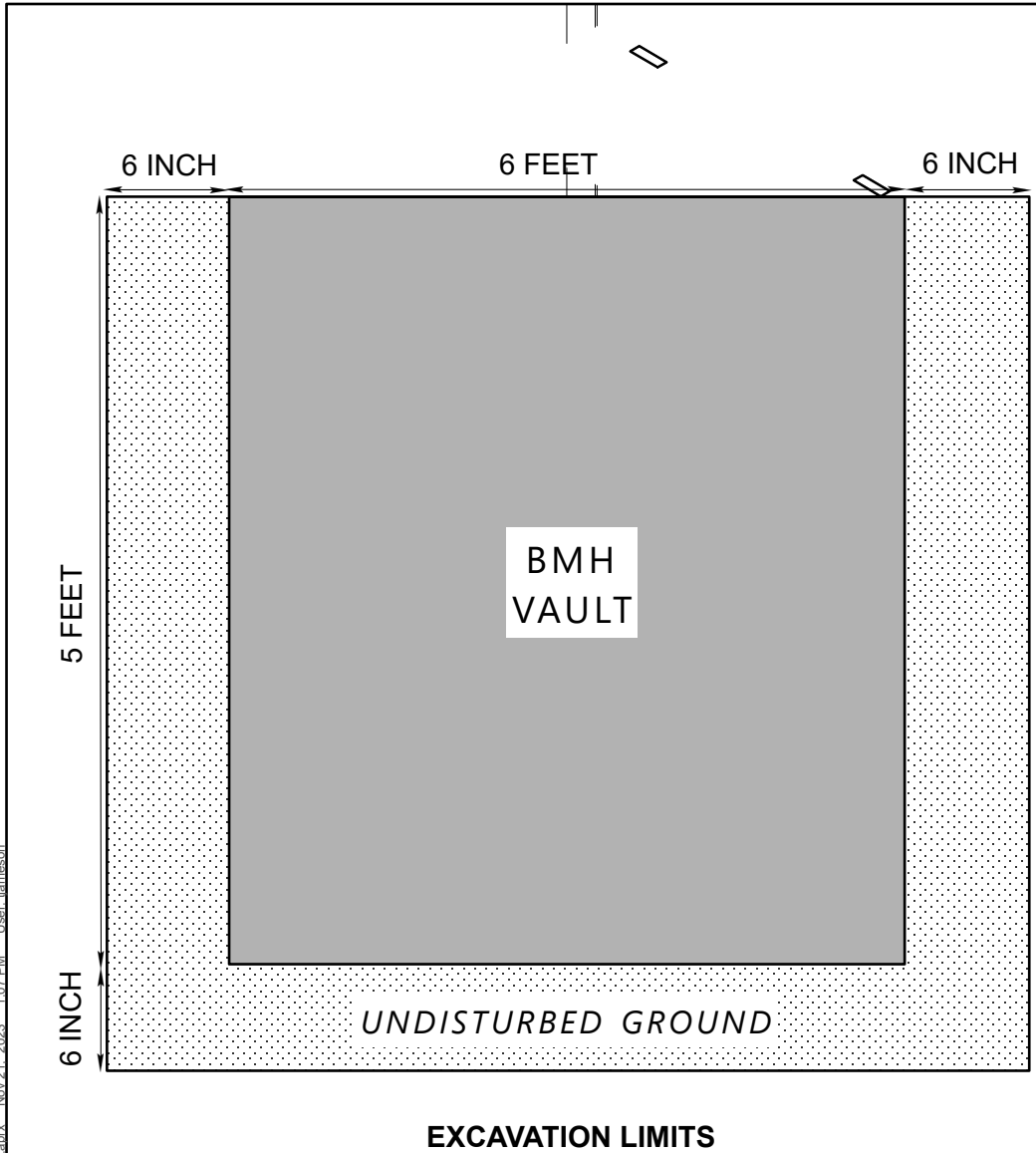
Fiber optic cable placed below ground surface within existing right-of-way. Trenching will be 3 feet deep and 3 feet wide with a sidecast width not to exceed 8 feet – total width of temporary impacts is 11 feet.

Subsea fiber optic cable buried within 980 feet of mean high water. Impact of 1 feet wide with no sidecast using hand jet.

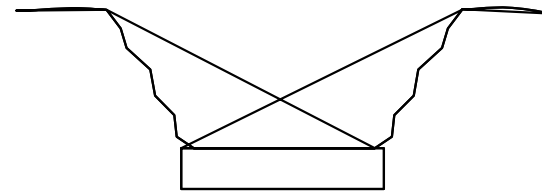
FIGURE 4: Landfall Typical

POA-####-#####, Pacific Ocean
 APPLICANT: Unicom Inc
 PROPOSED ACTIVITY: Fiber Optic Cable Expansion

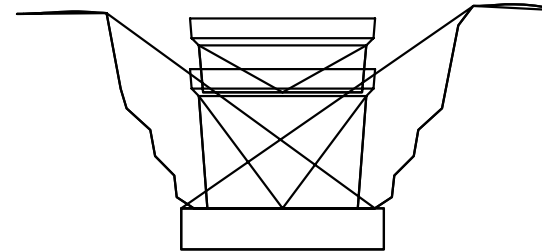
NOT TO SCALE



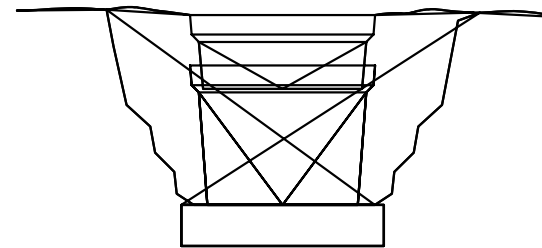
BMH TYPICAL



Step 1 Prepare the excavation approximately 6" deeper than the depth of the vault. Then add 6" of gravel or crushed rock for drainage.



Step 2 Place vault in hole with top at finish grade level.



Step 3 Backfill and compact around box with select material to finish grade level.

FIGURE 5: BMH Typical

POA #####, Pacific Ocean
 APPLICANT: Unicom Inc
 PROPOSED ACTIVITY: Fiber Optic Cable Expansion

NOT TO SCALE

TYPICAL SHELTER PAD SECTION

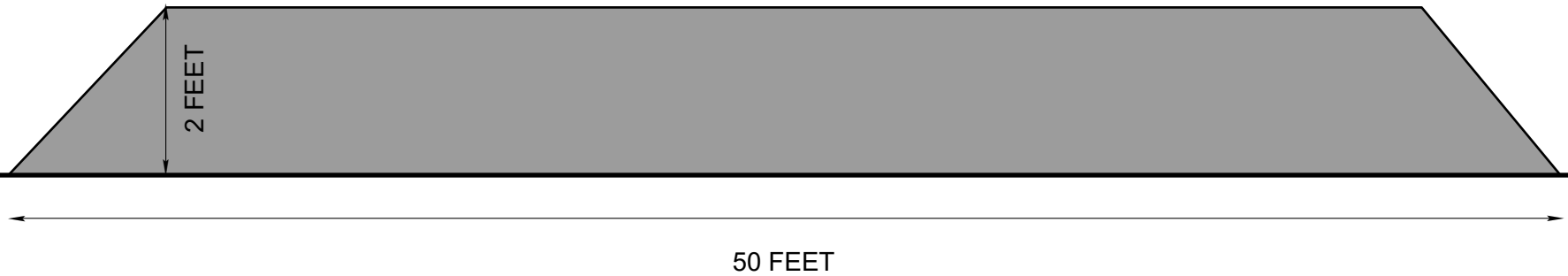


FIGURE 6: Shelter Pad Typical

POA-####-#####, Pacific Ocean
APPLICANT: Unicom Inc
PROPOSED ACTIVITY: Fiber Optic Cable Expansion

NOT TO SCALE