

Redwood Coast Connect

*Boldly Going Where
No Fiber Has Gone Before*

Steve Karp, Project Manager Redwood Coast Connect

Connie Stewart, Executive Director, California Center for Rural Policy

May 14, 2010

Redwood Coast Connect

People in Attendance

- Steve Karp
- Connie Stewart
- Chairman Leonard Bowman, Bear River Tribe
- Supervisor Mark Lovelace, Humboldt County
- Supervisor Judy Morris, Trinity County
- Supervisor Dave Finigan, Del Norte County
- Dero Forslund, CAO Trinity County
- Paul Romero, Yurok Tribe
- Mike Ireton, Rural Broadband Now
- Mary-Lou Smulders, IP Networks
- Harold Horne, United Indian Health Service & Access Humboldt
- Jim Carlson, Carlson Wireless and Access Humboldt

When last met...

- **RCC's Two year study was completed in our four rural counties: Del Norte, Humboldt, Mendocino & Trinity**
- **Conclusion of study was:**
 - Business model for broadband was not feasible without government subsidy
 - Recommended a subsidy needed for installing backhaul infrastructure for 6 different middle miles
 - Private industry could then make money providing last mile service

We Had Some Success!

USDA Community Connect

- 2 of 3 projects funded in CA went to RCC region
 - Round Valley Indian Tribes of the Round Valley Indian Reservation -- Grant Amount: \$474,886
 - Yurok Tribe -- Grant Amount: \$564,000

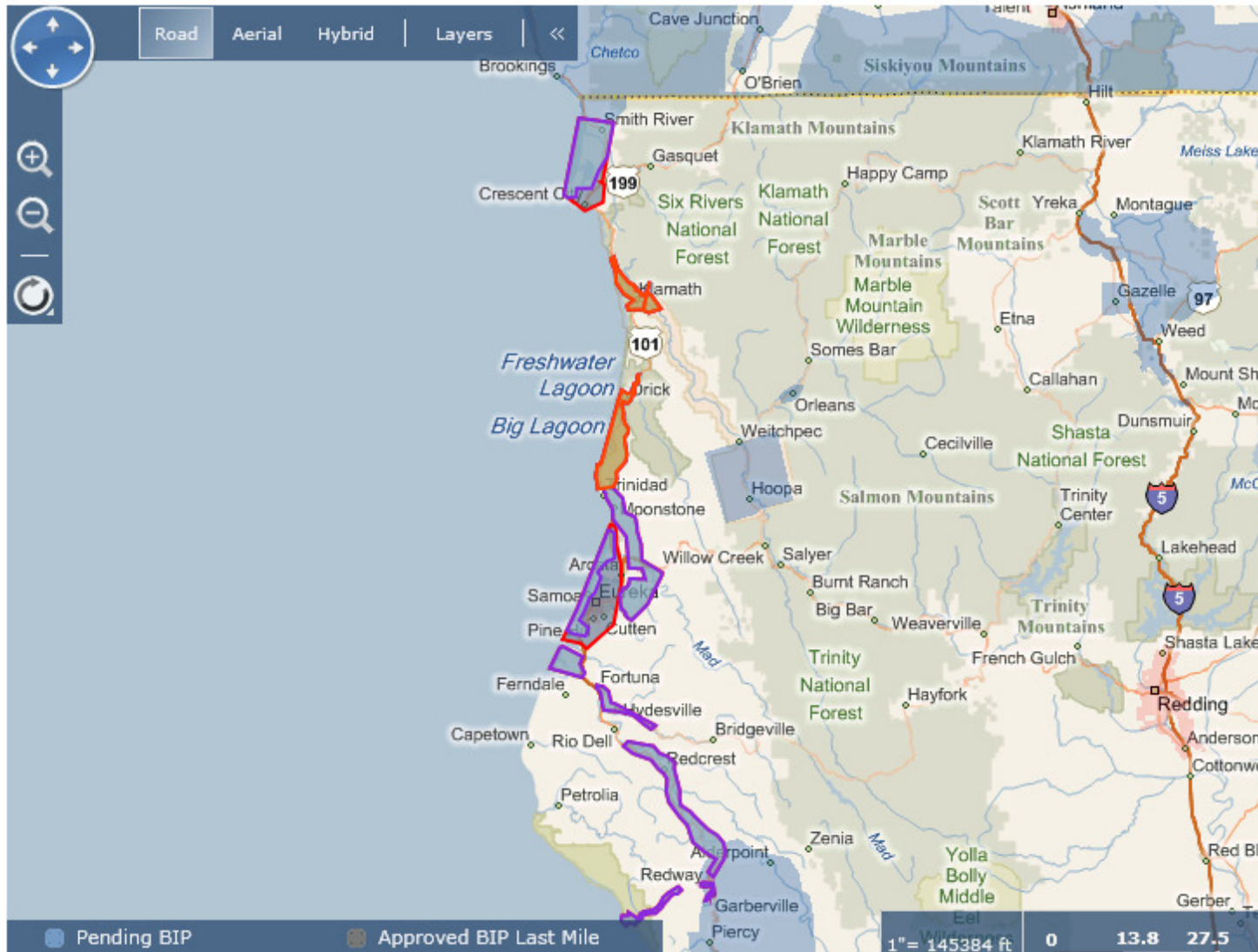
ARRA Round 1... Sucked

- In round 1, our region submitted five applications
 - None of which were funded
 - California did not fare well
 - In our opinion, better education and lobbying needs to happen with federal friends
- In round 2, we have four applications
 - Redwood Telephone 2 apps--Del Norte & Humboldt fiber
 - Access Humboldt –Humboldt microwave
 - Rural Broadband Now – Mendocino fiber

Service Area Map

Home | Community Search Tool | Map | Public Notice | Applicants & Respondents | Help | Logout

Map > [View Map By Reference Number](#) > Service Area Map



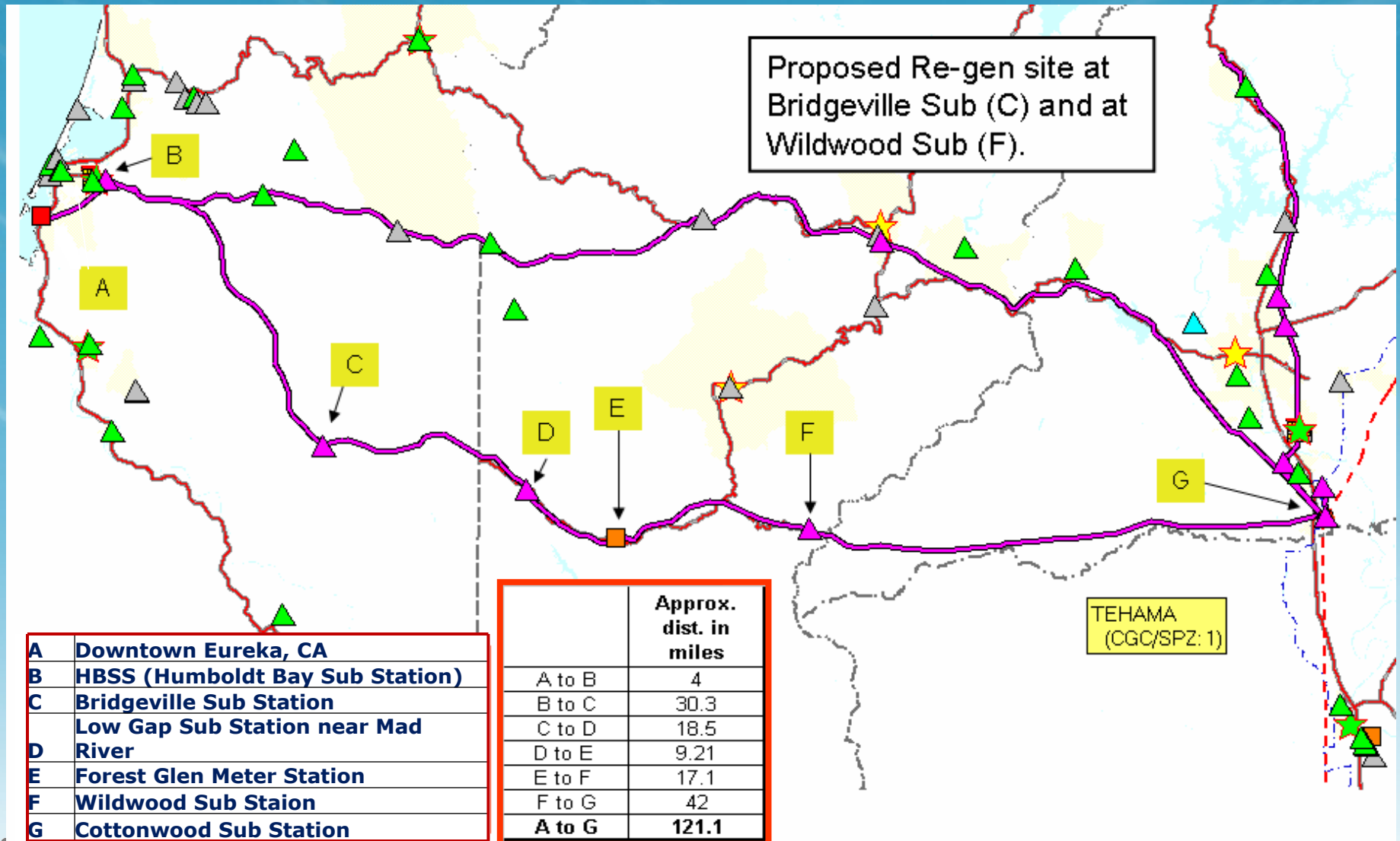
Map for the USDA RUS application. It is filed under Redwood IPTV, LLC

We had Better Luck Working with CPUC

➤ CASF Funding

- Willits online Covelo project –Completed!
- Hwy 36 project (IPN fiber in PG&E right of way)
 - Serves four of most remote communities in Trinity
 - Provides redundancy to Humboldt County bay area

Highway 36 Project Route



IPN Timeline –CASF Funded Project

- Scope project Completed
- Viability Engineering Completed
- Secure anchor tenants Ongoing (2 completed)
- CASF Funding Completed
- Secure add'l clients Funded Project (fibers still avail for sale)
- Permitting Ongoing (CEQA contingency removed)
- Detailed Engineering Initiated
- Initiate construction: Late summer, 2010 (nesting season)
- Project completion: Q1/2 2011

While chasing the money some other things we have been working on...

- Local policy pushes –Humboldt County GP
- NPR came to town
 - --new nickname is “Sherpa of the Redwoods”



What we need to start working on...

- Adoption education
- Economic impact studies
- Lots more communication needed between local, state and federal regulatory agencies to ease installation.
- Continue commenting on federal Broadband Policy
- Lobby for SB 1040

2010 Rural Broadband Song

- **The Ballad of Rural Broadband**

Reworked by Connie Stewart, Janet Topolsky & Jason Gray

➤ Based on "The Ballad of Jed Clampett"
by Paul Henning

**Come'n listen to a story about a rural town
With lots of great mountains, but no fiber in the ground
And then one day, came a policy so sound
That before you knew it, there was broadband all around!
Fiber, you know---High Speed!**

**Well, the first thing you know, health care got better there
And economic folks said, "we can grow jobs here!"
Rural California is the place you oughta be
So city folk came to visit and could use their 4G!
Climbing hills, that is, sippin' wine & shopping in towns**

**Well, now it's time to say goodbye to that digital divide
And kids in small rural schools are all doing mighty fine
Those urban folks keep comin' back to visit all those trees
To have a heapin' helpin' of rural hospitality
Hillbilly, high-tech, that is, take your shoes off and write some code
Y'all rural kids, come on back home now, ya hear?"**