

## Three River Communications Ainsworth Rural Fiber Upgrade

### Project Description Statement:

Three River Communications (TRC) proposes to build fiber past every location within the Proposed Service Area. The Ainsworth Rural Fiber Upgrade project will consist of mainline and drop fiber cable. In the rural areas the fiber cable along the county roads and highways will be direct buried. The fiber drops will also be direct buried (not placed in duct)

The provided design map identifies the potential corridors for the proposed construction of the fiber optic facilities. Fiber optic cable construction shall primarily occur on previously disturbed public right-of-way. The fiber optic cable will be knifed into the soil at an approximate depth of 42 inches or with a directional boring machine. All streams and wetland areas will be directional bored to avoid impacting those types of environments. Maintenance will be performed by the TRC staff.

The proposed Ainsworth Rural Fiber Upgrade Project consists of 27.3 miles of direct buried fiber cable, of which, if all 102 locations take service will include approximately 6.8 miles of fiber drop cable. TRC will be making use of existing rural fiber cable, which is shown in cyan color.

The proposed project will make of an existing Adtran TA5000 OLT that is currently providing XGS-10G PON services to the town Ainsworth. For the project, TRC will be adding an additional XGS-10G PON line card that be used to provide Giga-bit capable broadband service to each location that takes service. TRC will also be using eight (8) GPON SFPs. The project will also deploy three (3) PON cabinets to extend the reach the OLT without unnecessarily upsizing the fiber strand count, thereby keeping costs down. At each location that takes service, TRC will deploy an outdoor Optical Node Terminal (ONT) with an indoor battery backup UPS unit.

Given the number of construction miles, TRC does not foresee the mainline construction taking more than 47 calendar days (14 weather shutdown days included) to complete. Depending upon the number of locations that take service, the deployment of customer ONTs will be completed soon after the mainline construction is completed. Given the relative short construction period, TRC has budgeted almost a full year of delay into the schedule waiting for material delivery. Even with the 1-year delay, TRC expects the project will be completed in the 18-month time period allotted. TRC believes the 1-year delay is more than sufficient and is what we are currently seeing in fiber cable lead times. See the provided construction schedule M\_3.