



Broadband Communications Design Strategies and Considerations

For ITS Applications in District 2

**The Evolution of Communications System Architecture and
Supporting Emerging Technologies**

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Abstract

The availability of robust high-speed communication options continue to be limited in remote rural areas of Northern California. Caltrans District 2 has made improvements by installing State-owned point-to-point microwave communications infrastructure to expand the availability of high-speed communications through the Interstate 5 corridor. In addition, the State of California has invested \$3.25 billion into an ambitious plan to provide broadband capabilities to rural areas of California through the Middle Mile Broadband Network (MMBN). As the MMBN projects are designed and constructed a broader communications strategy has been developed to fit within the architectural framework of District 2's existing point-to-point microwave and fiber-optic communications systems.

This presentation will outline the strategy, design, and implementation of Caltrans District 2's Field Element Network (FEN) communications systems and highlight two private point-to-point microwave projects that support the strategic direction of District 2's communications plan.

List of Acronyms



POTS – Plain Old Telephone Service

ISDN – Integrated Services Digital Network

ISM – Industrial, Scientific, and Medical (License free spectrum)

TMC – Transportation Management Center

TMS – Transportation Management System

IP – Internet Protocol

ITS – Intelligent Transportation System

CWWP2 – Caltrans Commercial Wholesale Web Portal 2

List of Acronyms



RSL – Received Signal Level

MMBN – Middle Mile Broadband Network

CAV – Connected and Autonomous Vehicles

CCTV – Closed Circuit Television

CMS – Changeable Message System

RWIS – Road Weather Information System

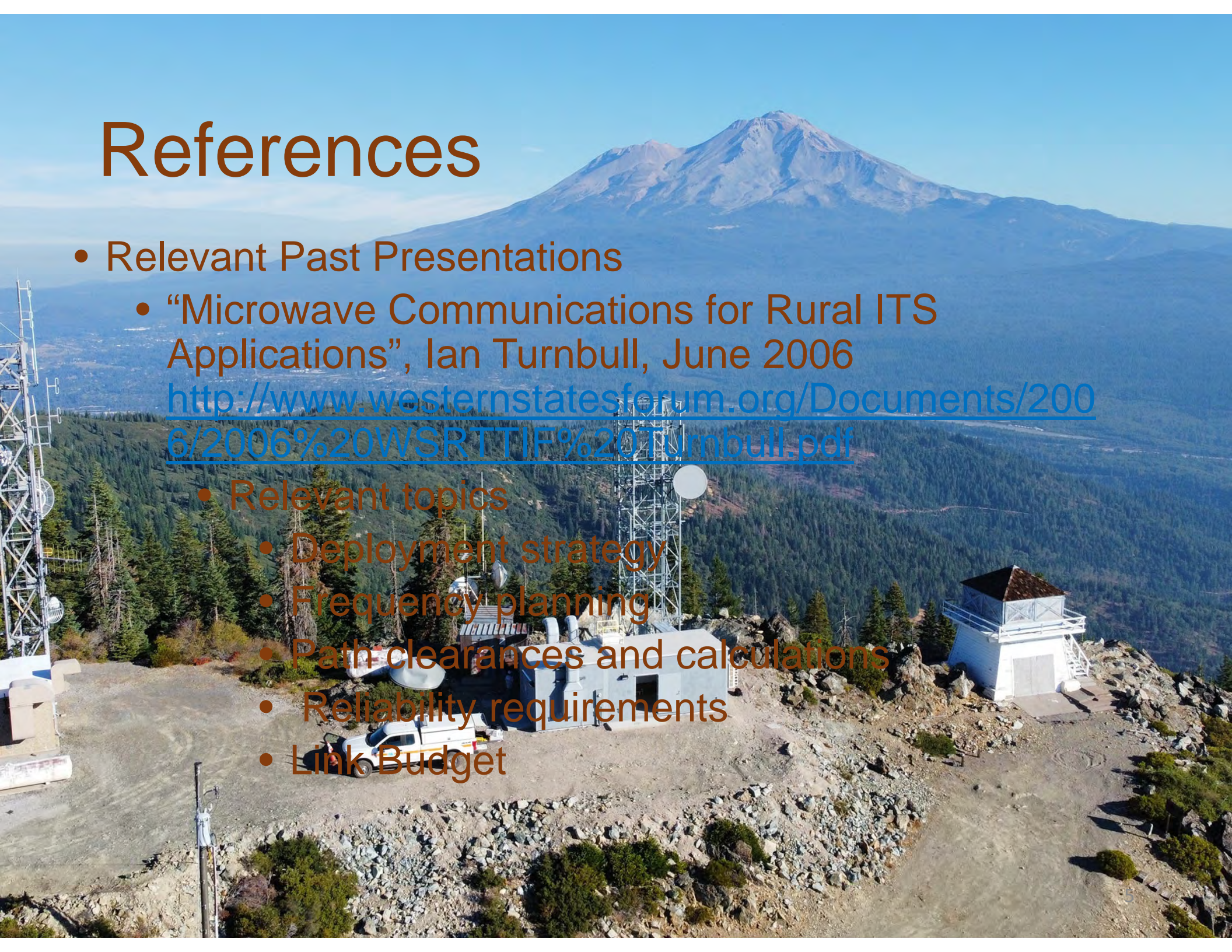
HAR – Highway Advisory Radio

CDT – California Department of Technology

POP – Point-of-presence

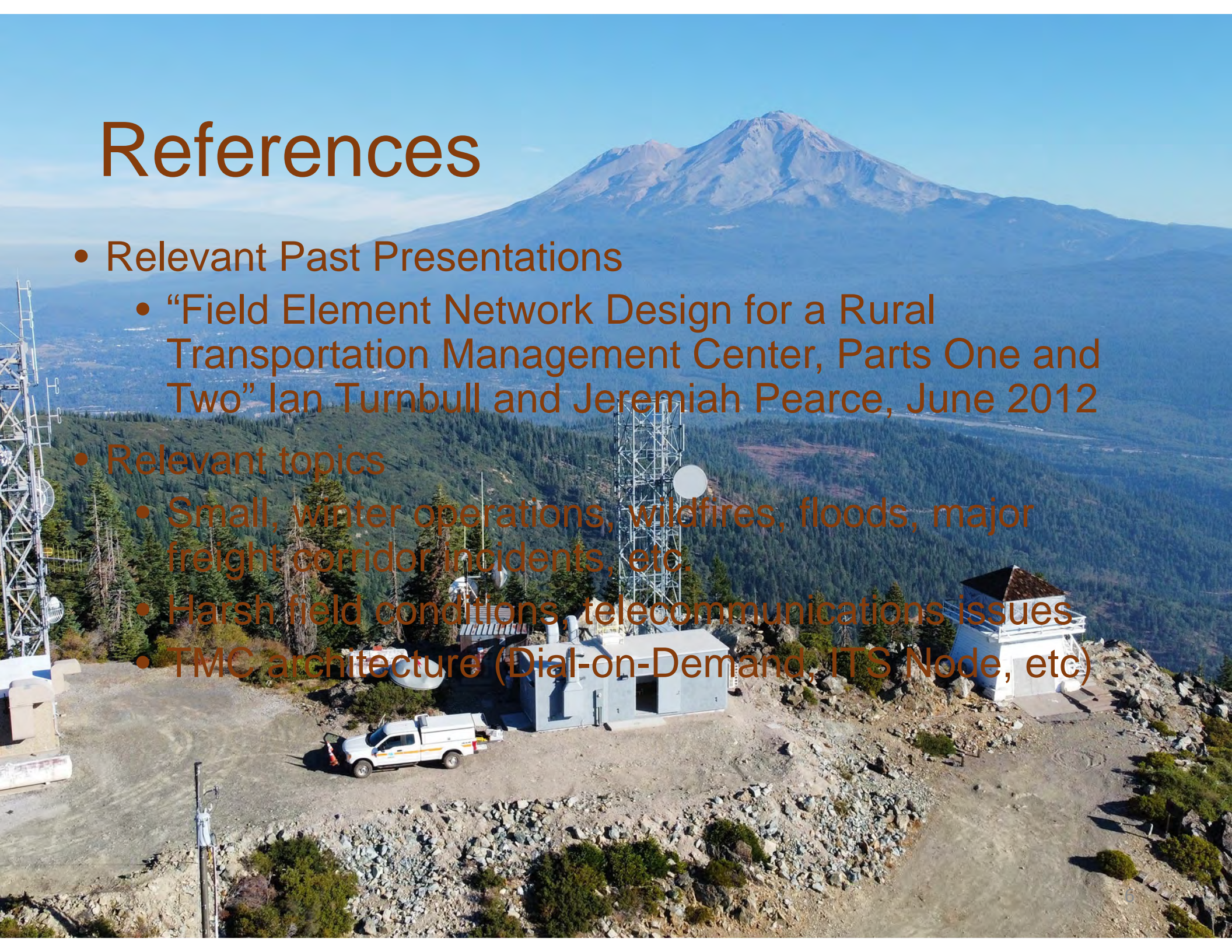
References

- Relevant Past Presentations
 - “Microwave Communications for Rural ITS Applications”, Ian Turnbull, June 2006
<http://www.westernstatesforum.org/Documents/2006/2006%20WSRTTIF%20Turnbull.pdf>
 - Relevant topics
 - Deployment strategy
 - Frequency planning
 - Path clearances and calculations
 - Reliability requirements
 - Link Budget



References

- Relevant Past Presentations
 - “Field Element Network Design for a Rural Transportation Management Center, Parts One and Two” Ian Turnbull and Jeremiah Pearce, June 2012
- Relevant topics
 - Small, winter operations, wildfires, floods, major freight corridor incidents, etc.
 - Harsh field conditions, telecommunications issues
 - TMC architecture (Dial-on-Demand, ITS Node, etc)



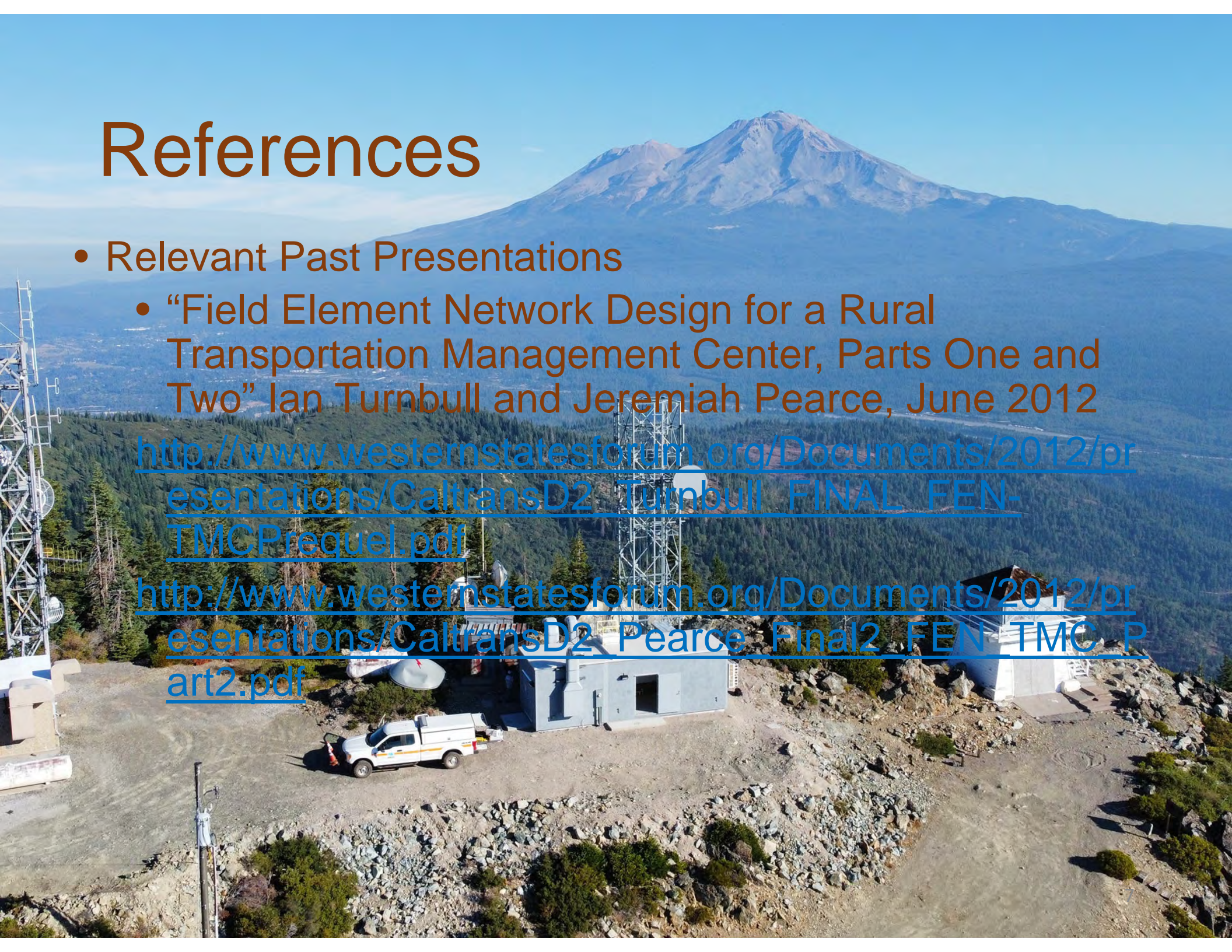
References

- Relevant Past Presentations

- “Field Element Network Design for a Rural Transportation Management Center, Parts One and Two” Ian Turnbull and Jeremiah Pearce, June 2012

http://www.westernstatesforum.org/Documents/2012/presentations/CaltransD2_Turnbull_FINAL_FEN-TMCPreguel.pdf

http://www.westernstatesforum.org/Documents/2012/presentations/CaltransD2_Pearce_Final2_FEN_TMC_Part2.pdf

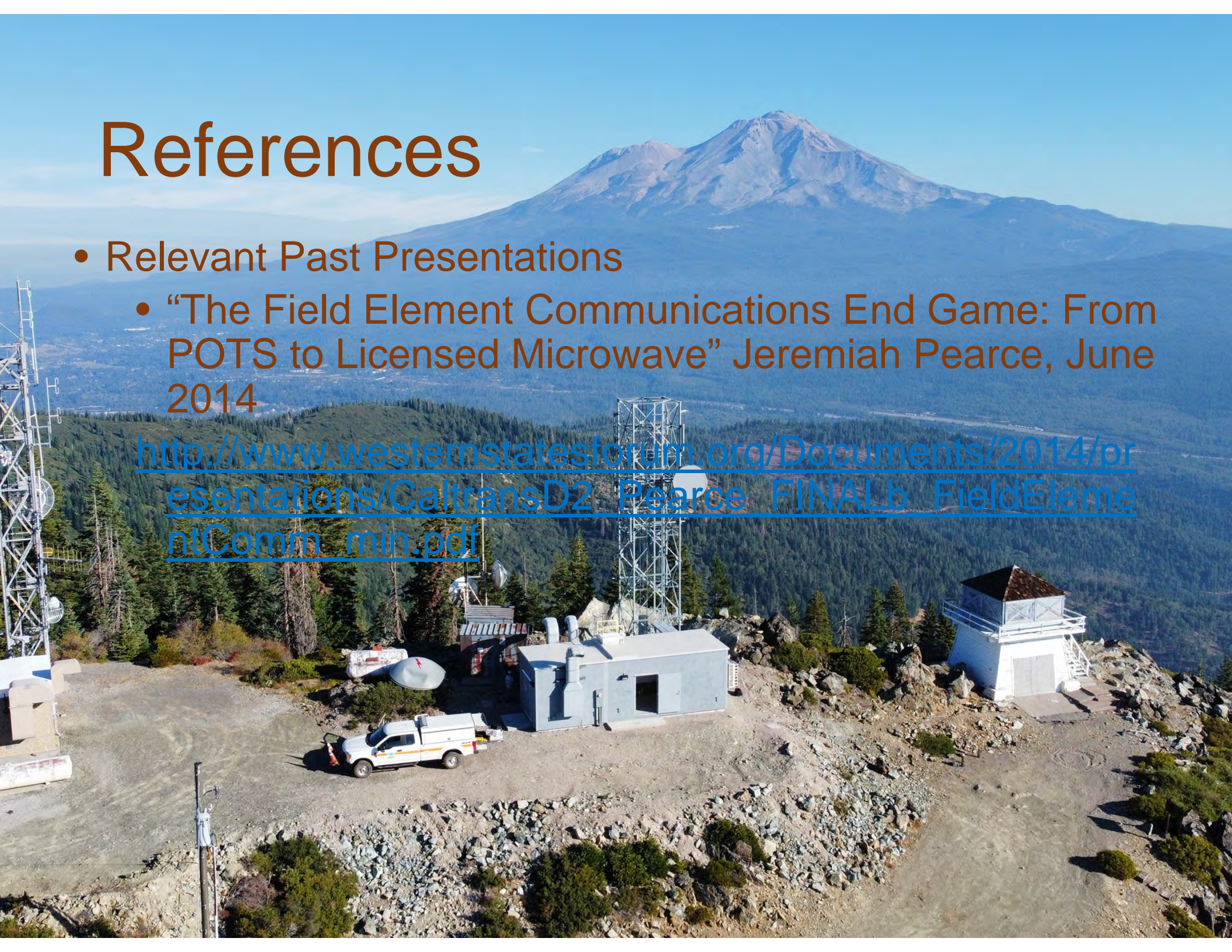


References

- Relevant Past Presentations

- “The Field Element Communications End Game: From POTS to Licensed Microwave” Jeremiah Pearce, June 2014

http://www.westernstatesforum.org/Documents/2014/presentations/CaltransD2_Pearce_FINALb_FieldElementComm_min.pdf



References

- Relevant Past Presentations

- “Cellular Communications in Rural Applications” Keith Koeppen, June 2018

http://westernstatesforum.org/Documents/2018/Presentations/CaltransD2_Koeppen_FINAL_WEB_CellularCommInRuralApplications.pdf



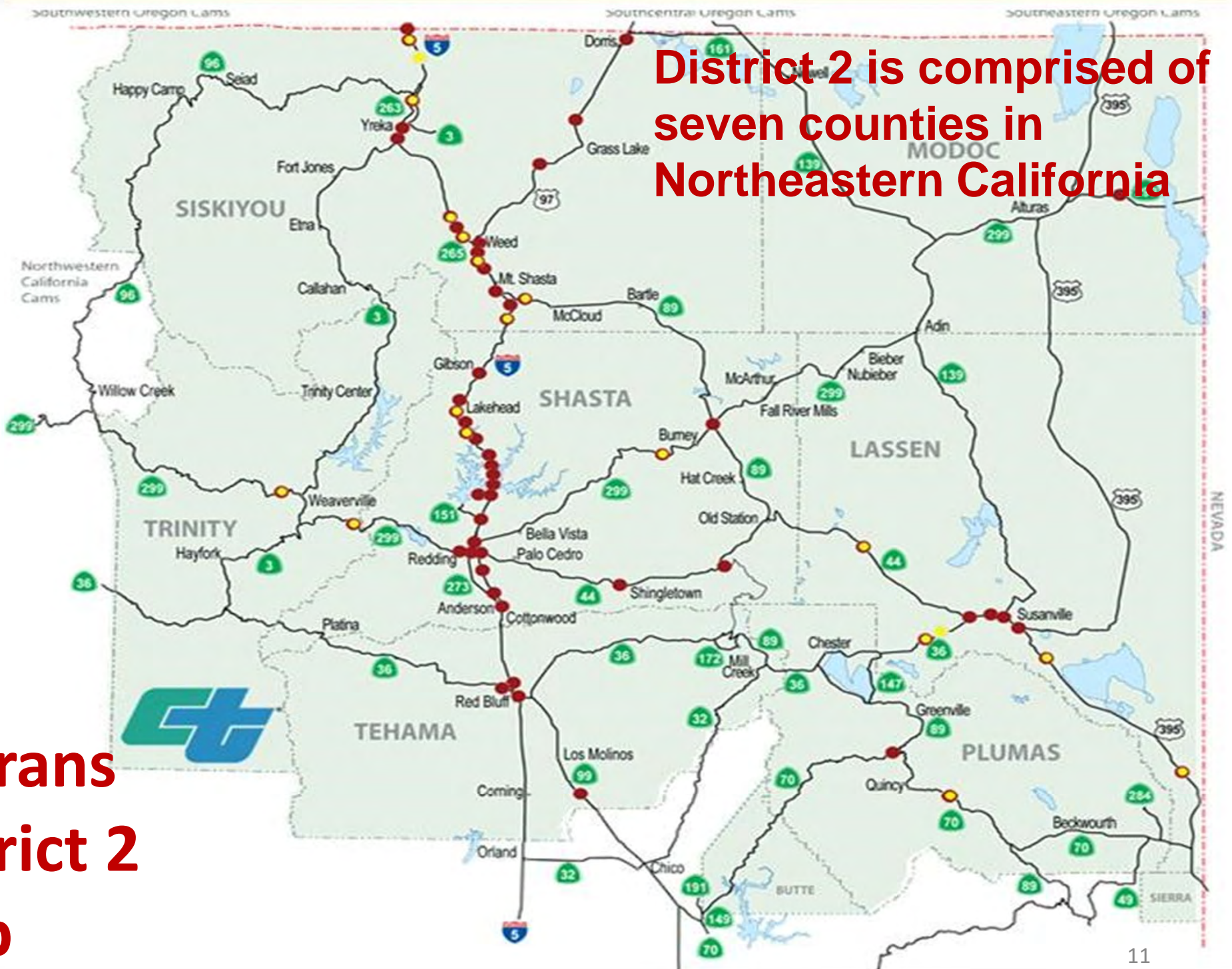
References

- “Engineering Considerations for Microwave Communications Systems” GTE Lenkurt, 1970
- “Standards and Guidelines for Communication Sites – R56” Motorola, 2000

• Photos Courtesy Of,

- Ian Turnbull
- Keith Koeppen
- Lonnie Hobbs
- Jeff Worthington

• Google Images

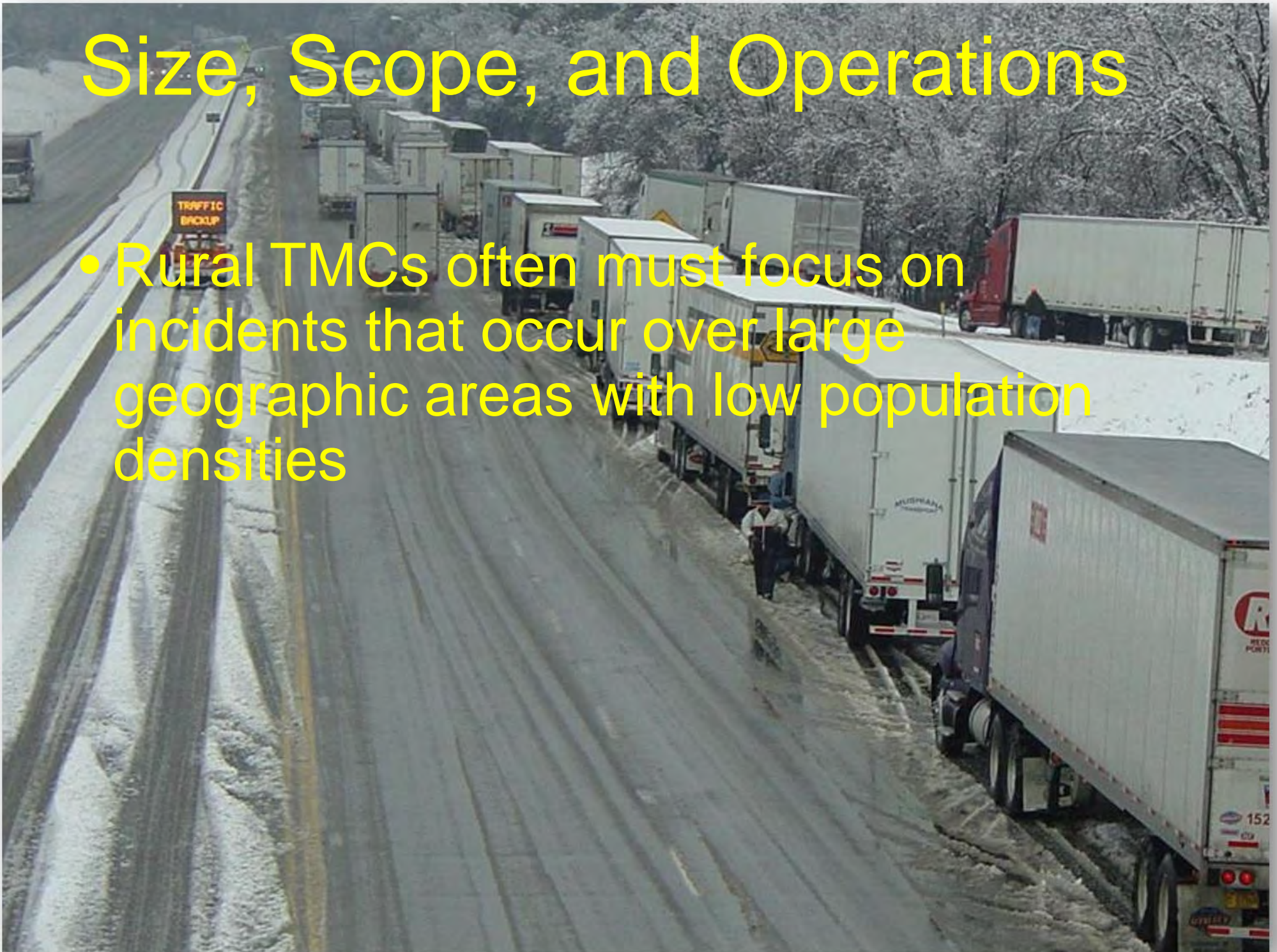


District 2 is comprised of seven counties in Northeastern California

**Caltrans
District 2
Map**

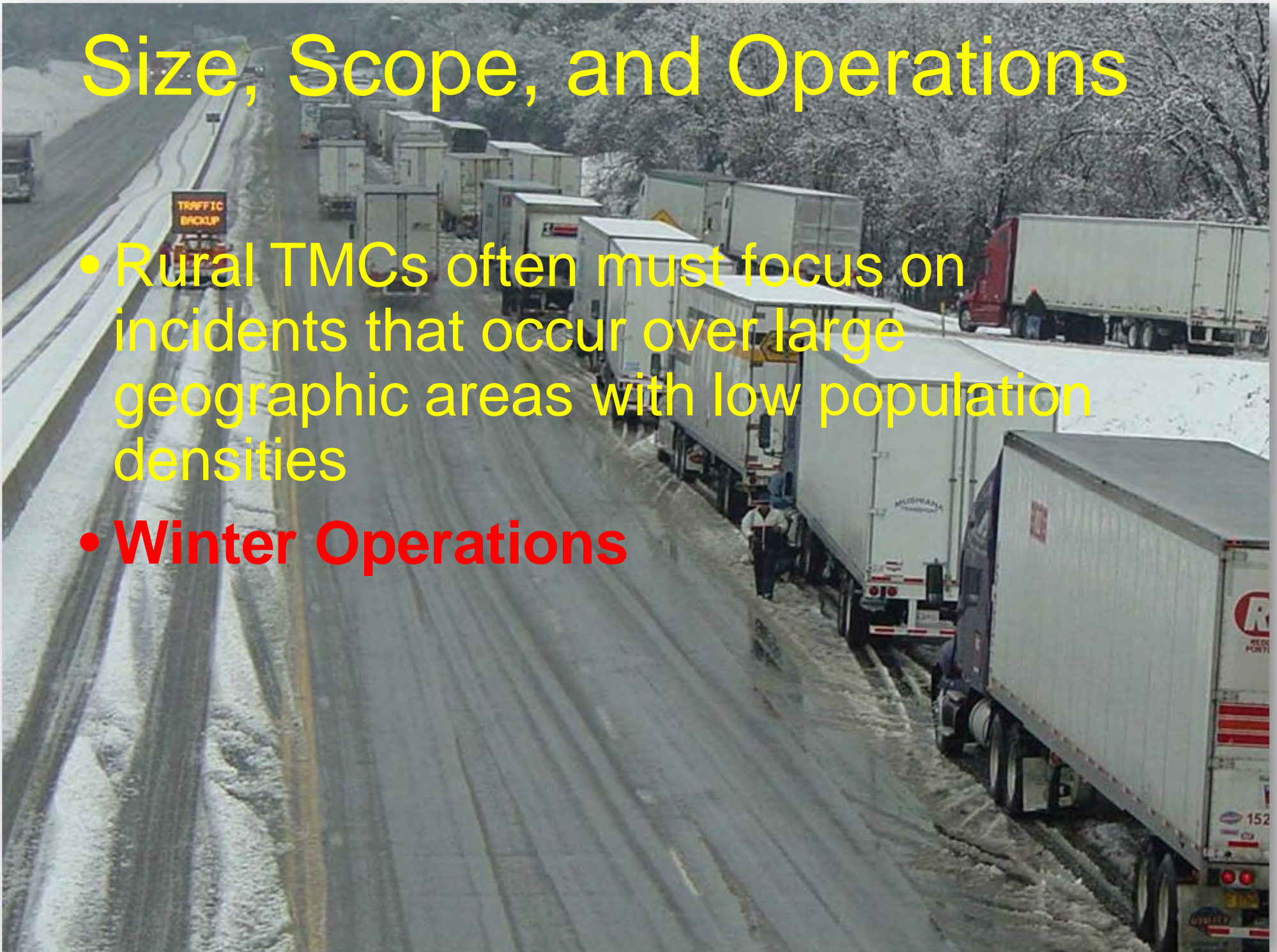
Size, Scope, and Operations

- Rural TMCs often must focus on incidents that occur over large geographic areas with low population densities



Size, Scope, and Operations

- Rural TMCs often must focus on incidents that occur over large geographic areas with low population densities
- **Winter Operations**



Size, Scope, and Operations

- Rural TMCs often must focus on incidents that occur over large geographic areas with low population densities
- Winter Operations
- **Wildfire**

Size, Scope, and Operations

An aerial photograph showing a multi-lane highway completely inundated with muddy brown floodwater. Several vehicles, including cars and large semi-trucks, are driving through the water. The surrounding landscape is flat and appears to be a rural or agricultural area. The sky is overcast.

- Rural TMCs often must focus on incidents that occur over large geographic areas with low population densities
- Winter Operations
- Wildfire
- **Floods**

Size, Scope, and Operations

- Rural TMCs often must focus on incidents that occur over large geographic areas with low population densities
- Winter Operations
- Wildfire
- Floods
- **Major Freight Corridor Incidents**

Size, Scope, and Operations



Size, Scope, and Operations

- Rural TMCs are physically smaller than urban TMCs and often located at the main District Office



Size, Scope, and Operations

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- They are generally not staffed 24/7 unless there is an event or during winter operations



Size, Scope, and Operations

- Rural TMCs are physically smaller than urban TMCs and often located at the main District Office
- They are generally not staffed 24/7 unless there is an event or during winter operations
- This may be changing soon



Size, Scope, and Operations

- The Rural TMC collects data from the following sources:



Size, Scope, and Operations

- The Rural TMC collects data from the following sources:

- Internal Data Feeds: Closed Circuit Television (CCTV), Roadway Weather Information Systems (RWIS), and Maintenance Radio Dispatch



Current Conditions: Spring Garden
 Timestamp: 01/16/2020 02:53 PM

[Historical Data](#) [Detailed Graphs](#) [Station List](#)

Nearest CCTV (0.0 mi N)

Thursday, January 16, 2020 14:52:22 PST

Location

Near	Quincy
Longitude	-120.81840°
Latitude	39.91438°
Elevation	3813 ft
Direction	West
County	Plumas
Route	SR-70
Milepost	131.35

Temperature

Air	32.00 °F
Wet Bulb	32.00 °F
Dewpoint	31.64 °F
24-hr Max	37.76 °F
24-hr Min	19.22 °F
Avg	0 mph from N
Spot	0 mph from SE
Max	0 mph

Precipitation

Y/N	Yes
Situation	Rain Moderate
Rate	0.227 in/hr
1 hr	0.161 in
3 hr	0.441 in
6 hr	0.500 in
12 hr	0.500 in
24 hr	0.500 in
Start	01/16/2020 06:03 AM
End	

Visibility

Visibility	Not Reported
Visibility Situation	Not Reported

Other

Relative Humidity	98%
Atmospheric Pressure	Not Reported

Graphical Summary for 01/16/2020 12:00 AM through 02:53 PM

Surface Temperature 1
 Surface Temperature 2
 Surface Status 1
 Surface Status 2

Surface Sensors

Sensor #	1	2
Surface Status	Snow Watch	Snow Watch
Surface Temperature	30.20 °F	30.56 °F
Pavement Temperature		
Surface Water Depth		
Surface Salinity	x	x
Surface Freeze Point	x	x
Surface Black Ice Signal	Other	Other

Size, Scope, and Operations

- The Rural TMC collects data from the following sources:
 - Internal Data Feeds: Closed Circuit Television (CCTV), Roadway Weather Information Systems (RWIS), and Maintenance Radio Dispatch
 - External Data and Partners: California Highway Patrol, National Weather Service, CalFire, etc.



Size, Scope, and Operations



Size, Scope, and Operations

- The Rural TMC then controls various ITS elements to communicate en-route traveler information through the following:



Size, Scope, and Operations

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- Changeable Message Sign (CMS, VMS, DMS)



Size, Scope, and Operations

- The Rural TMC then controls various ITS elements to communicate en-route traveler information through the following:
- Highway Advisory Radio (HAR) System



Size, Scope, and Operations

- The Rural TMC then controls various ITS elements to communicate en-route traveler information through the following:
- The Caltrans Commercial Wholesale Web Portal 2 (CWWP2)

Caltrans :: Commercial Wholesale Web Portal :: Version 2

Description

California has 12 unique districts that have Intelligent Transportation System (ITS) data available in a uniform manner. ITS field data Chain Controls has been reviewed and given precise location information. Wholesale Web Portal 2 (CWWP2).

The ITS datasets in the CWWP2 are provided in four different documented Text - TXT so that third party application developers can integrate Caltrans

Conditions of Use

Please read the [Conditions Of Use](#) before using these data sets.

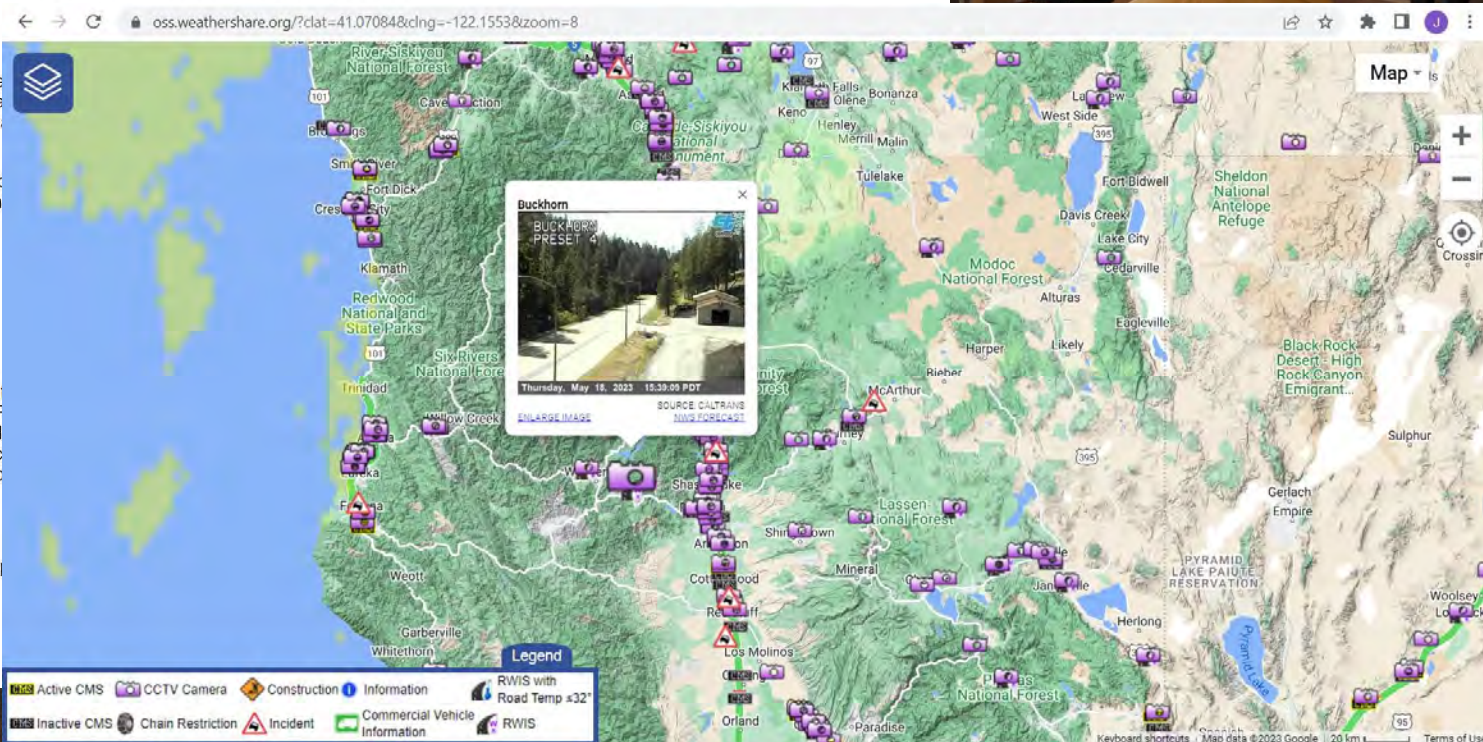
Announcements

- October 20, 2020 : On November 9, 2020 Caltrans will be migrating to be available until November 9th, 2020 and will be redirected to HTTP and applications that utilize the CWWP2 as necessary to accommodate
- July 23, 2019 : On October 1, 2019 traveler information data files located in your application. Please start using this website as soon as possible

Data Format and File Layout

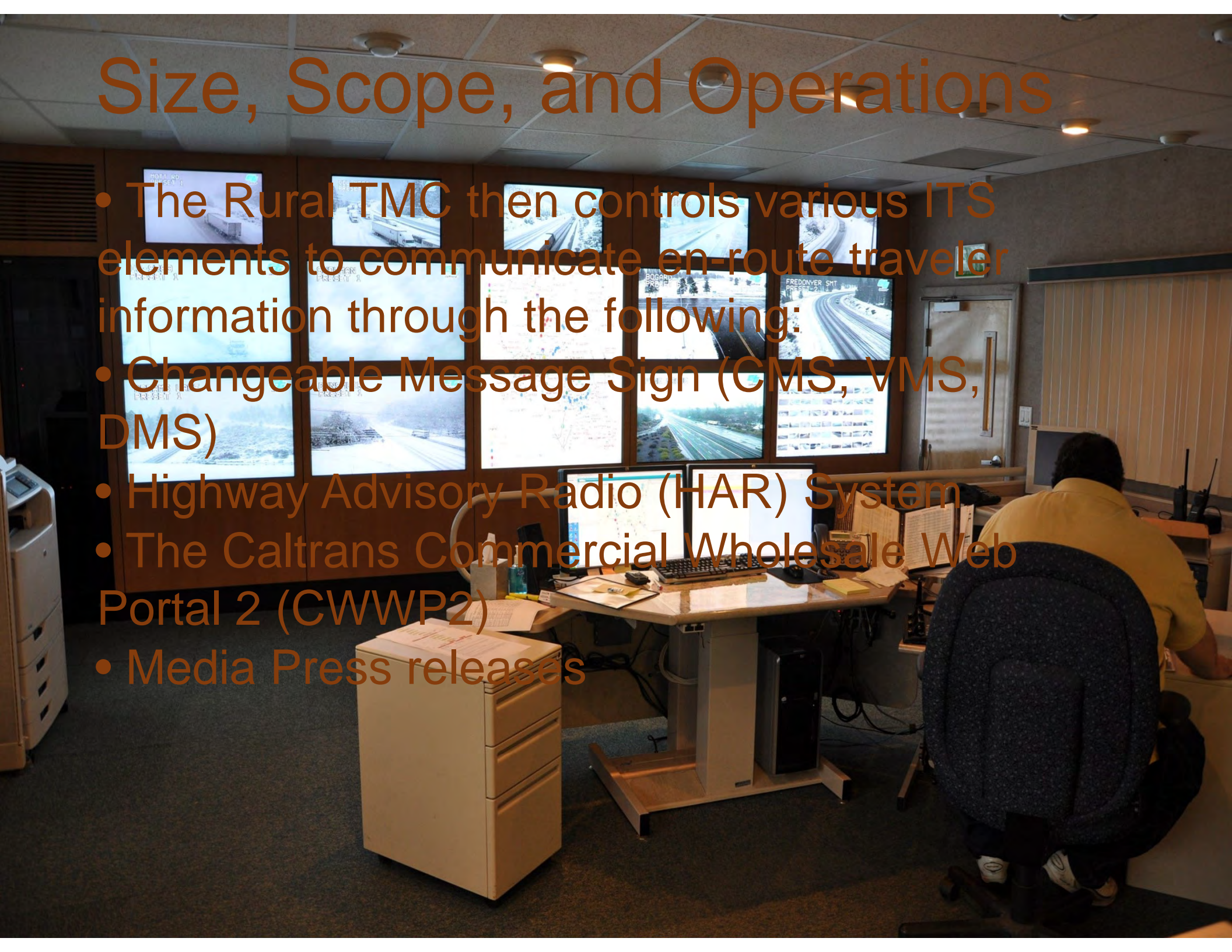
Data is available in four file formats that contain the same information to all

- CSV - Comma Separated Values
- JSON - JavaScript Object Notation
- TXT - Text file with delimiter value of "y" or 0xFF
- XML - Extensible Markup Language



Size, Scope, and Operations

- The Rural TMC then controls various ITS elements to communicate en-route traveler information through the following:
 - Changeable Message Sign (CMS, VMS, DMS)
 - Highway Advisory Radio (HAR) System
 - The Caltrans Commercial Wholesale Web Portal 2 (CWWP2)
 - Media Press releases



Characteristics of a Rural TMC



Characteristics of a Rural TMC

- Harsh Field Conditions



Characteristics of a Rural TMC

- Harsh Field Conditions
- Telecommunications Availability



Harsh Field Conditions



In addition to the typical conditions we see with sensitive electronic equipment on the roadside (dust, humidity, vibration, etc.):

- Winter temperatures of -30° F in some locations and summer temperatures of $+120^{\circ}$ F in the Sacramento Valley
- Heavy Mountain Snow
- Extreme wildfire risks and behavior
- Valley Floods
- The field conditions can be as challenging as anywhere in the US

Telecommunications



Telecommunications

- Telco services available in cities are often not available in rural areas



Telecommunications

- Telco services available in cities are often not available in rural areas
- District 2 is served by a total of eight different telcos of varying size and capability



OREGON

OREGON LATA 1

NEVADA

NV LATA

PACIFIC

LATA 1

LATA 2

LATA 3

SISKIYOU TELEPHONE

AT&T

CAL-ORE

CAL-ORE

NEW PINE CREEK

NO TELCO

FRONTIER

NO TELCO

NO TELCO

FRONTIER

VERIZON

AT&T

FRONTIER

NO TELCO

HAPPY VALLEY TELEPHONE

707

AT&T

NO TELCO

530

NO TELCO

DUCOR

FRONTIER

LAVERGNE

COVILCO

YARD BRUSH

WILLIAMS

UPPER LAKE

WILLIAM

ARECKLE

ORANGE

ROSSINI

ROCKY

ROCKY

ROCKY

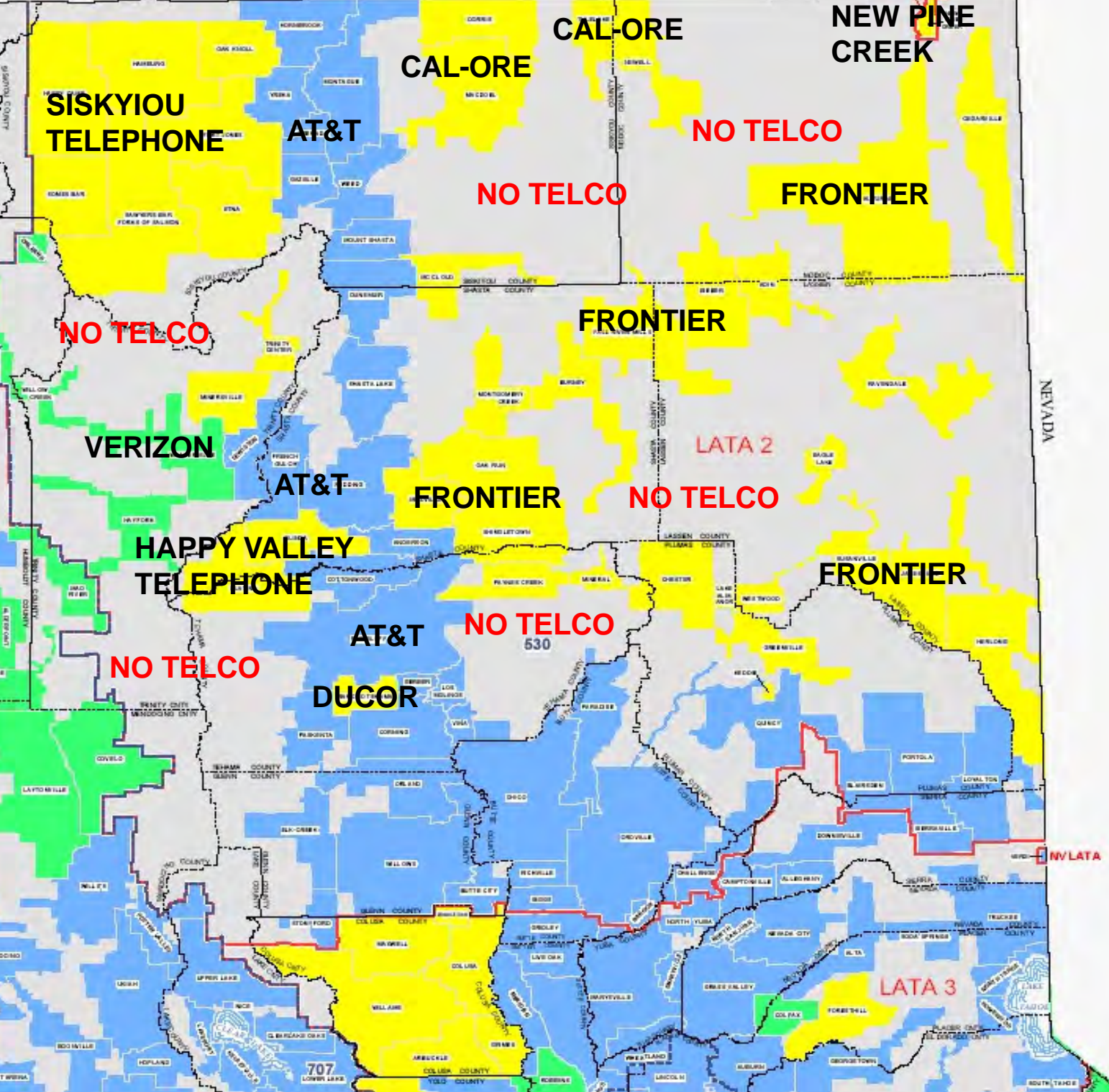
ROCKY

ROCKY

ROCKY

ROCKY

ROCKY



707

LOWER LAKE

Telecommunications

- Telco services available in cities are often not available in rural areas
- District 2 is served by a total of eight different telcos of varying size and capability
- Many areas of the District have no designated telephone company



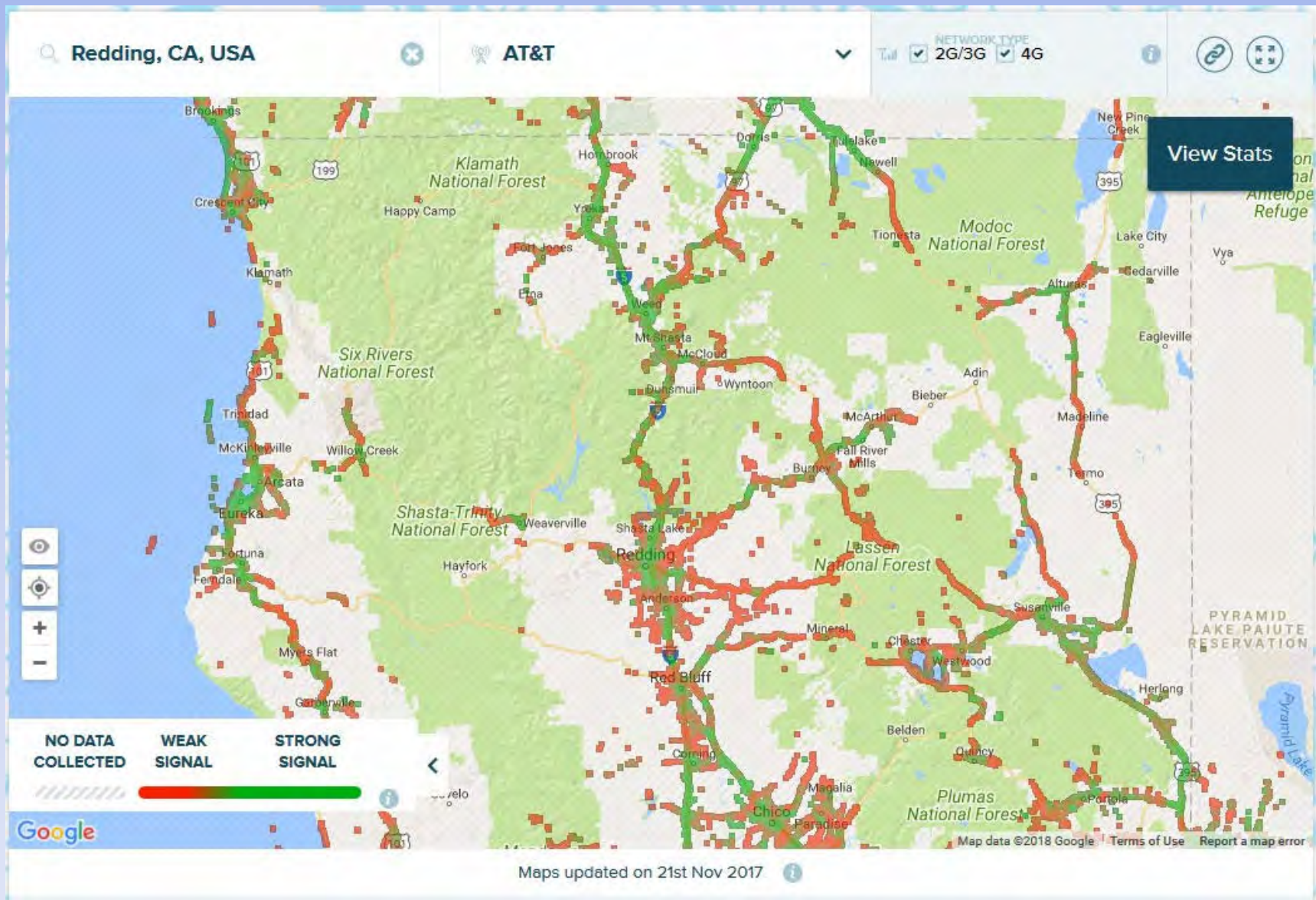
Telecommunications

District 2 Telco Services generally limited to:

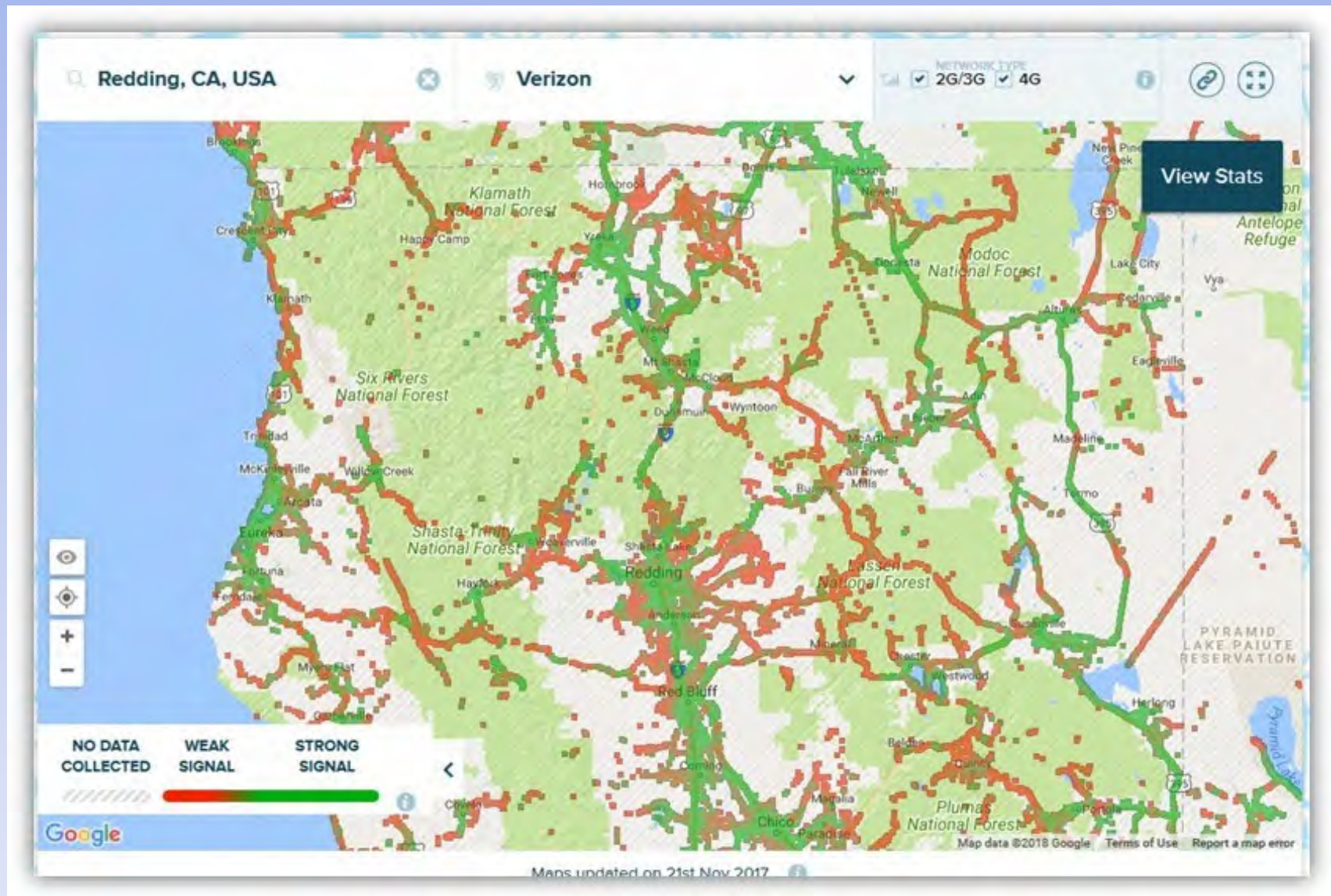
- POTS
- ISDN (AT&T area only)
- Land-line telco broadband/Leased-line (limited)
- Cellular (limited)
- Satellite
- Public/Private Fixed Wireless (limited)
- Not all services are available in all areas



Cell Coverage Map – AT&T



Cell Coverage Map – Verizon



Telecommunications

District 2 Utilizes the following Services for TMS:

- **POTS**
- **ISDN (AT&T area only)**
- ~~Land-line telco broadband/Leased-line (limited)~~
- **Cellular (limited and only with a POTS backup)**
- ~~Satellite~~
- ~~Public/Private Fixed Wireless (limited)~~
- Not all services are available in all areas



Telecommunications

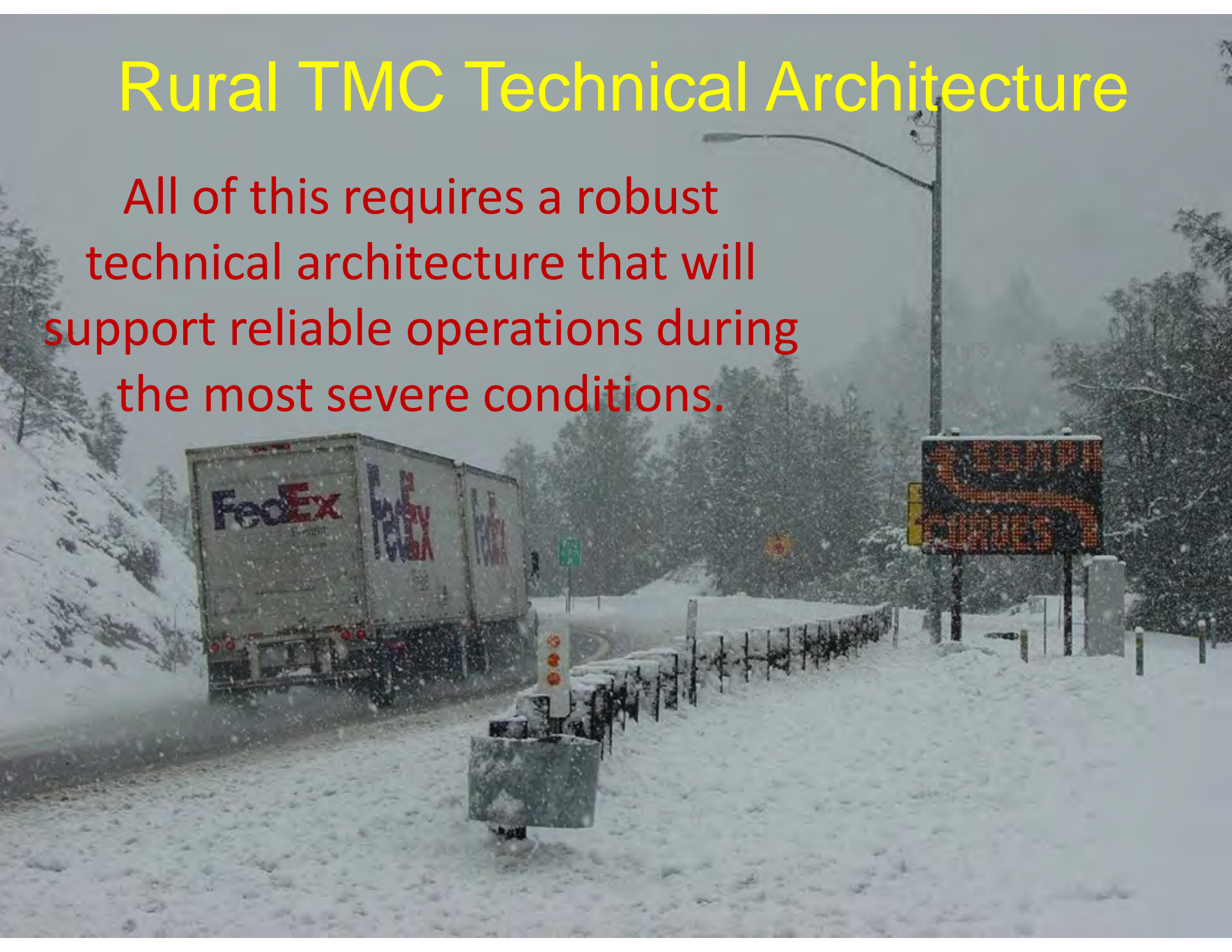
In addition, District 2 utilizes the following Department-owned communications infrastructure for TMS:

- **Fiber**
- **Point-to-Point Microwave**



Rural TMC Technical Architecture

All of this requires a robust technical architecture that will support reliable operations during the most severe conditions.



Rural TMC Technical Architecture

Given the various constraints of operating in a rural environment, the D2 Rural TMC was designed with the following tenets:



Rural TMC Technical Architecture

Given the various constraints of operating in a rural environment, the D2 Rural TMC was designed with the following tenets:

- Field elements will communicate over an IP based Wide Area Network



Rural TMC Technical Architecture

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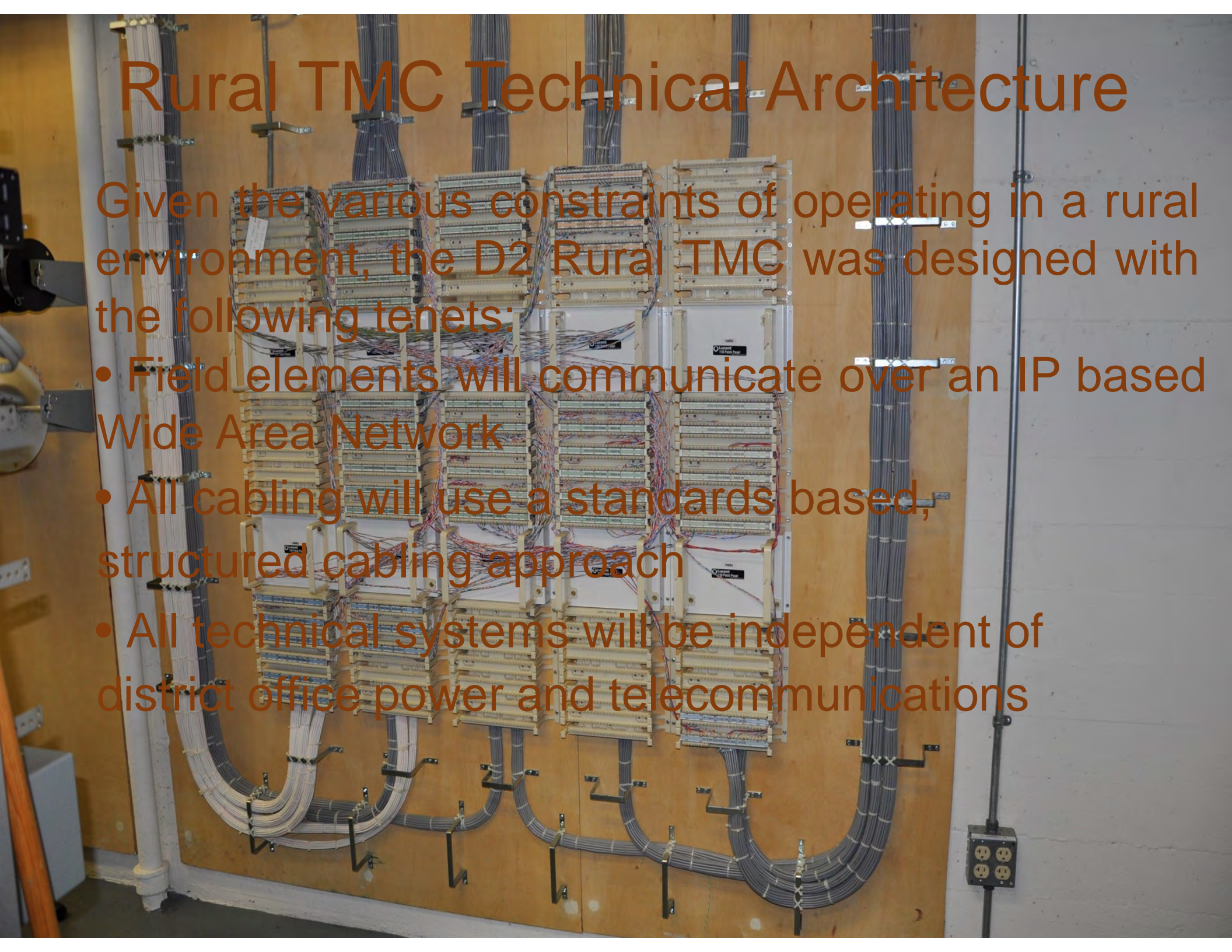
- Field elements will communicate over an IP based Wide Area Network
- All cabling will use a standards based, structured cabling approach



Rural TMC Technical Architecture

Given the various constraints of operating in a rural environment, the D2 Rural TMC was designed with the following tenets:

- Field elements will communicate over an IP based Wide Area Network
- All cabling will use a standards based, structured cabling approach
- All technical systems will be independent of district office power and telecommunications



Rural TMC Technical Architecture

Given the various constraints of operating in a rural environment, the D2 Rural TMC was designed with the following tenets: (continued)

- All technical system will be independent of Enterprise IT and HQ services



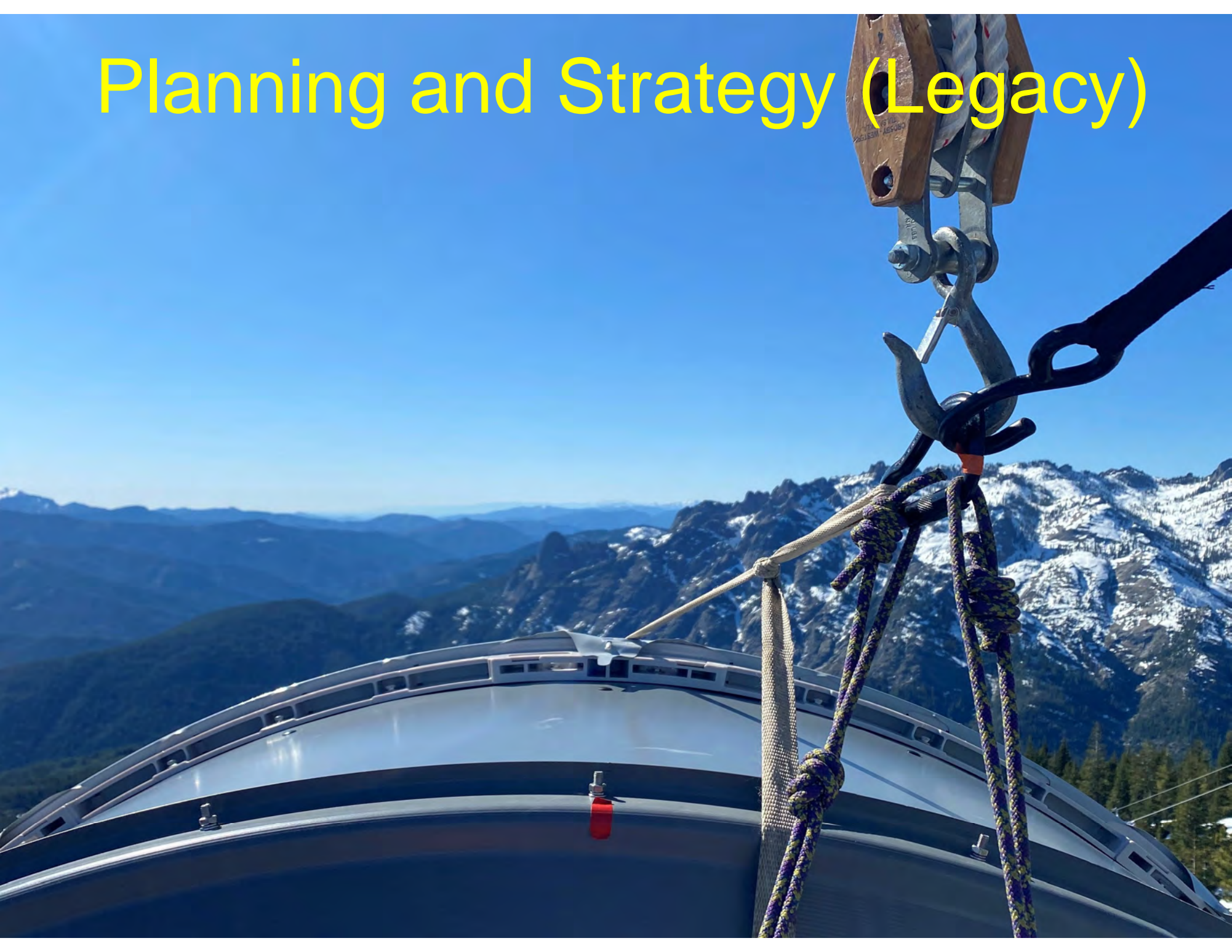
Rural TMC Technical Architecture

Given the various constraints of operating in a rural environment, the D2 Rural TMC was designed with the following tenets: (continued)

- All technical system will be independent of Enterprise IT and HQ services
- All Department owned communication links designed to 5-9's reliability



Planning and Strategy (Legacy)



Planning and Strategy (Legacy)

- Communications Planning



Planning and Strategy (Legacy)

A photograph showing a close-up of a climbing rope system. A wooden pulley is attached to a metal hook, which is connected to a rope. The rope is secured with several knots and is attached to a metal structure. The background features a vast mountain range with snow-capped peaks under a clear blue sky. The foreground shows the curved metal structure of what appears to be a climbing rig or a piece of equipment.

- Communications Planning
 - District 2 has a general plan to expand coverage of the District's Point-to-Point Microwave System to Mt Top communications sites with strategic vantage points of the State Highway System

Planning and Strategy (Legacy)



- Communications Planning
 - District 2 has a general plan to expand coverage of the District's Point-to-Point Microwave System to Mt Top communications sites with strategic vantage points of the State Highway System
 - District 2 has a general plan for fiber in the Redding area (Shasta Lake to Anderson and East to Palo Cedro)

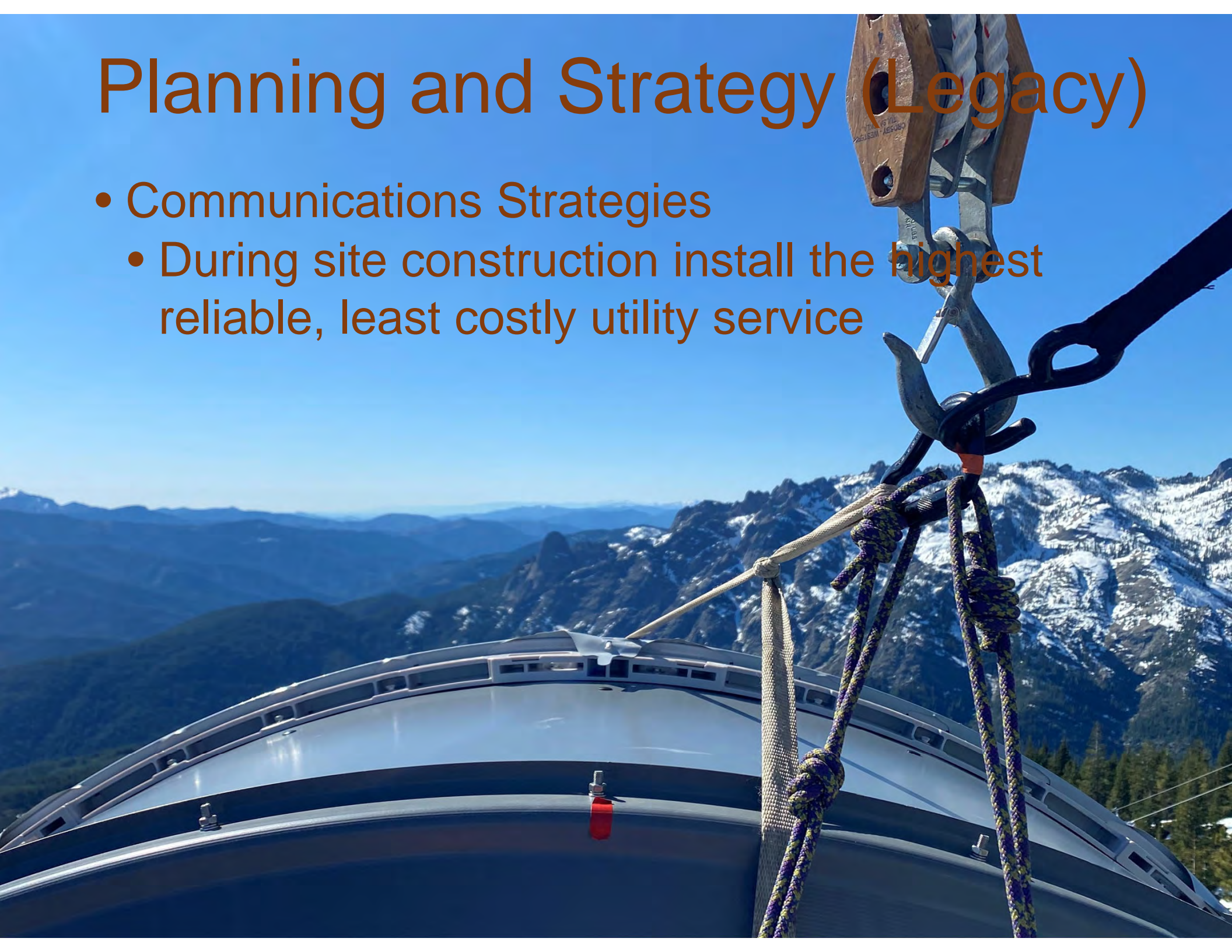
Planning and Strategy (Legacy)

- Communications Strategies



Planning and Strategy (Legacy)

- Communications Strategies
 - During site construction install the highest reliable, least costly utility service



Planning and Strategy (Legacy)



- Communications Strategies
 - During site construction install the highest reliable, least costly utility service
 - Upgrade to ISM band microwave as a separate project if line-of-site is available

Planning and Strategy (Legacy)

- Communications Strategies
 - During site construction install the highest reliable, least costly utility service
 - Upgrade to ISM band microwave as a separate project if line-of-site is available
 - Upgrade to licensed microwave



Planning and Strategy (Legacy)



- Communications Strategies
 - During site construction install the highest reliable, least costly utility service
 - Upgrade to ISM band microwave as a separate project if line-of-site is available
 - Upgrade to licensed microwave
 - Opportunistic upgrades (as funding allows)

Recent Changes



Recent Changes

- Advancing Technology



Recent Changes

- Advancing Technology
- Caltrans Traffic Operations Statewide Communications Plan – June 2020



Recent Changes



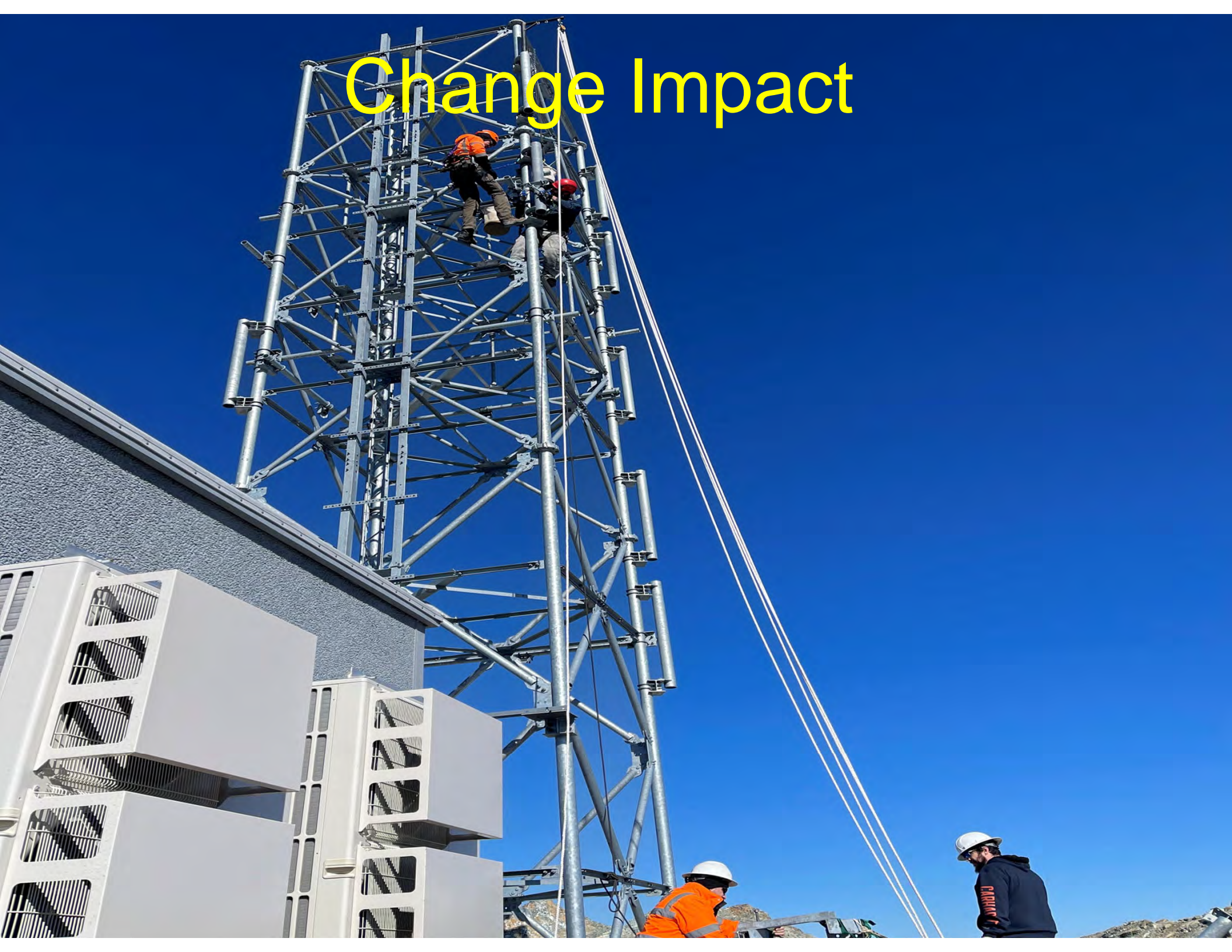
- Advancing Technology
- Caltrans Traffic Operations Statewide Communications Plan – June 2020
- Traffic Operations Division Policy
 - TOPD 21-10 “TMS Telecommunication Cost Management”
 - TOPD 22-03 “Statewide TMS Broadband Plan and Communication Management”

Recent Changes

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 - TOPD 22-03 “Statewide TMS Broadband Plan and Communication Management”
- Middle Mile Broadband Network (MMBN)



Change Impact



Change Impact

Advancing Technology

- How does this impact our deployment strategy and link planning efforts?



Change Impact



Advancing Technology

- How does this impact our deployment strategy and link planning efforts?
- Industry drives the availability of parts and equipment, we are forced to mitigate obsolescence
 - POTS and ISDN
 - Analog Video
 - Network Equipment
 - Security
 - Etc.

Change Impact

A tall, silver metal lattice tower is the central focus, extending from the bottom center towards the top of the frame. Several workers in orange safety gear and white hard hats are visible on the tower's structure. At the base of the tower, two more workers are visible, one in an orange jacket and another in a dark jacket with 'CARRUTER' on the back. The tower is surrounded by various pieces of equipment, including large white cabinets with multiple fans. The background is a clear, bright blue sky.

Advancing Technology

- How does this impact our deployment strategy and link planning efforts?
- Industry drives the availability of parts and equipment, we are forced to mitigate obsolescence
- New applications and solutions often require new technology
 - CAV
 - Data Analytics
 - Etc.

Change Impact



Advancing Technology

- How does this impact our deployment strategy and link planning efforts?
- Industry drives the availability of parts and equipment, we are forced to mitigate obsolescence
- New applications and solutions often require new technology
- TMS technology evolution has been and will continue to be an ongoing issue

Change Impact

Caltrans Traffic Operations Statewide
Communications Plan – June 2020

- How does this impact our deployment strategy and link planning efforts?



Change Impact

Caltrans Traffic Operations Statewide Communications Plan – June 2020

- How does this impact our deployment strategy and link planning efforts?
- Provides a tool to the District's to enhance communications planning efforts



Change Impact



Traffic Operations Division Policy

- How does this impact our deployment strategy and link planning efforts?
- TOPD 21-10 “TMS Telecommunication Cost Management”
 - “Districts shall consolidate communications lines and services to the extent possible”
 - “Districts should initiate projects to connect field elements to nearby available fiber”

Change Impact



Traffic Operations Division Policy

- How does this impact our deployment strategy and link planning efforts?
- TOPD 21-10 “TMS Telecommunication Cost Management”
- TOPD 22-03 “Statewide TMS Broadband Plan and Communication Management”
 - “Districts should identify their financially unconstrained plan and maximize the opportunity to build out their broadband infrastructure by including broadband communications in Transportation Management System (TMS) and other projects to the extent possible”

Change Impact

A tall, silver metal lattice tower is the central focus, extending from the bottom center towards the top of the frame. Several workers in orange safety gear and white hard hats are positioned on different levels of the tower's structure. At the base of the tower, two more workers are visible; one in an orange jacket and white hard hat is looking towards the tower, while another in a dark jacket and white hard hat is looking away. To the left of the tower, there are several large, white, rectangular equipment enclosures with black grilles. The background is a clear, bright blue sky. The overall scene is one of active construction or maintenance work.

Traffic Operations Division Policy

- How does this impact our deployment strategy and link planning efforts?
- TOPD 21-10 "TMS Telecommunication Cost Management"
- TOPD 22-03 "Statewide TMS Broadband Plan and Communication Management"
- Requires significant investment by the Districts with no allocated funds for the work

Change Impact

Middle Mile Broadband Network (MMBN)

- How does this impact our deployment strategy and link planning efforts?



Change Impact

Middle Mile Broadband Network (MMBN)

- How does this impact our deployment strategy and link planning efforts? First the background



Change Impact

Middle Mile Broadband Network (MMBN)

- How does this impact our deployment strategy and link planning efforts? First the background
- What is it (SB 156)?



Change Impact



Middle Mile Broadband Network (MMBN)

- How does this impact our deployment strategy and link planning efforts? First the background
- What is it (SB 156)?
- \$3.25B plan to deploy 10,000 miles of fiber optic communication within the State Highway R/W to underserved rural communities of CA

Change Impact



Middle Mile Broadband Network (MMBN)

- How does this impact our deployment strategy and link planning efforts? First the background
- What is it (SB 156)?
- \$3.25B plan to deploy 10,000 miles of fiber optic communication within the State Highway R/W to underserved rural communities of CA
- CA Department of Technology is the facility owner

Change Impact

A tall, silver metal lattice tower is the central focus, extending from the bottom center towards the top of the frame. Several workers in orange safety gear and white hard hats are visible on the tower's structure. At the base of the tower, there are several large, white, rectangular equipment enclosures with ventilation grilles. Two more workers are on the ground near the base of the tower. The background is a clear, bright blue sky. The overall scene is one of active construction or maintenance of a telecommunications or utility tower.

Middle Mile Broadband Network (MMBN)

- How does this impact our deployment strategy and link planning efforts? First the background
- What is it (SB 156)?
- \$3.25B plan to deploy 10,000 miles of fiber optic communication within the State Highway R/W to underserved rural communities of CA
- CA Department of Technology is the facility owner
- Caltrans partnering to provide design and construction support

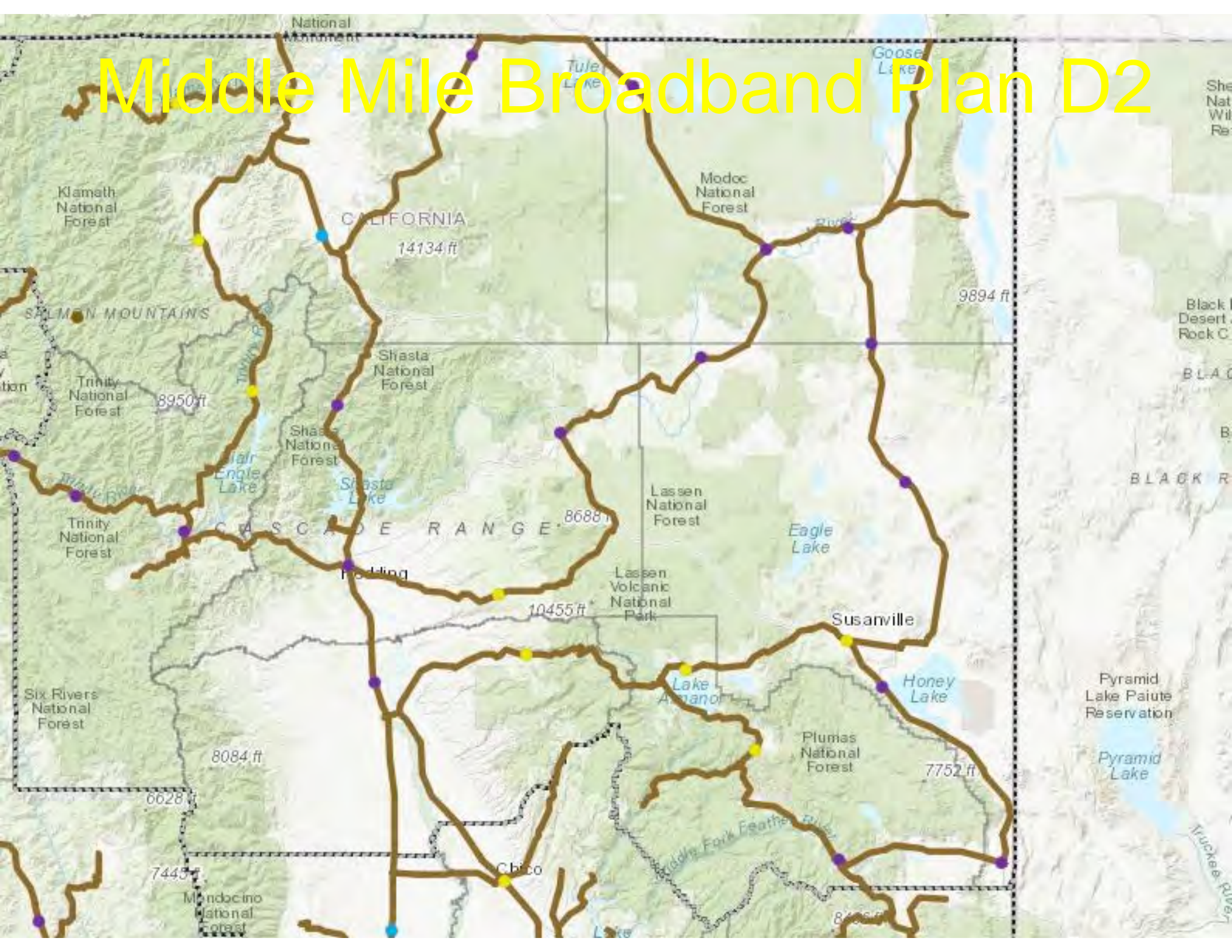
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Middle Mile Broadband Network (MMBN)

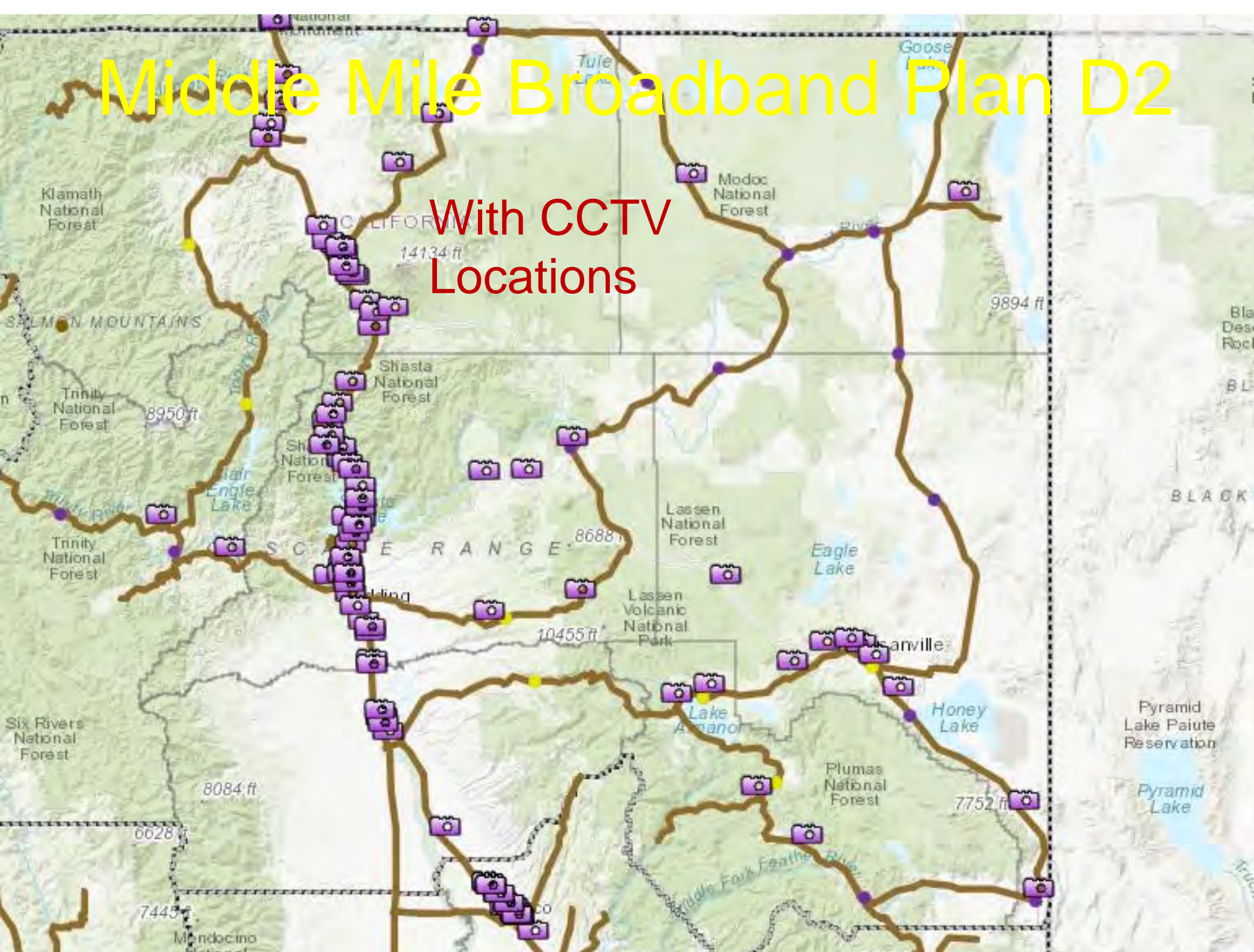
- How does this impact our deployment strategy and link planning efforts? First the background
- What is it (SB 156)?
- \$3.25B plan to deploy 10,000 miles of fiber optic communication within the State Highway R/W to underserved rural communities of CA
- CA Department of Technology is the facility owner
- Caltrans partnering to provide design and construction support
- All projects will be completed by December 2026

Middle Mile Broadband Plan D2

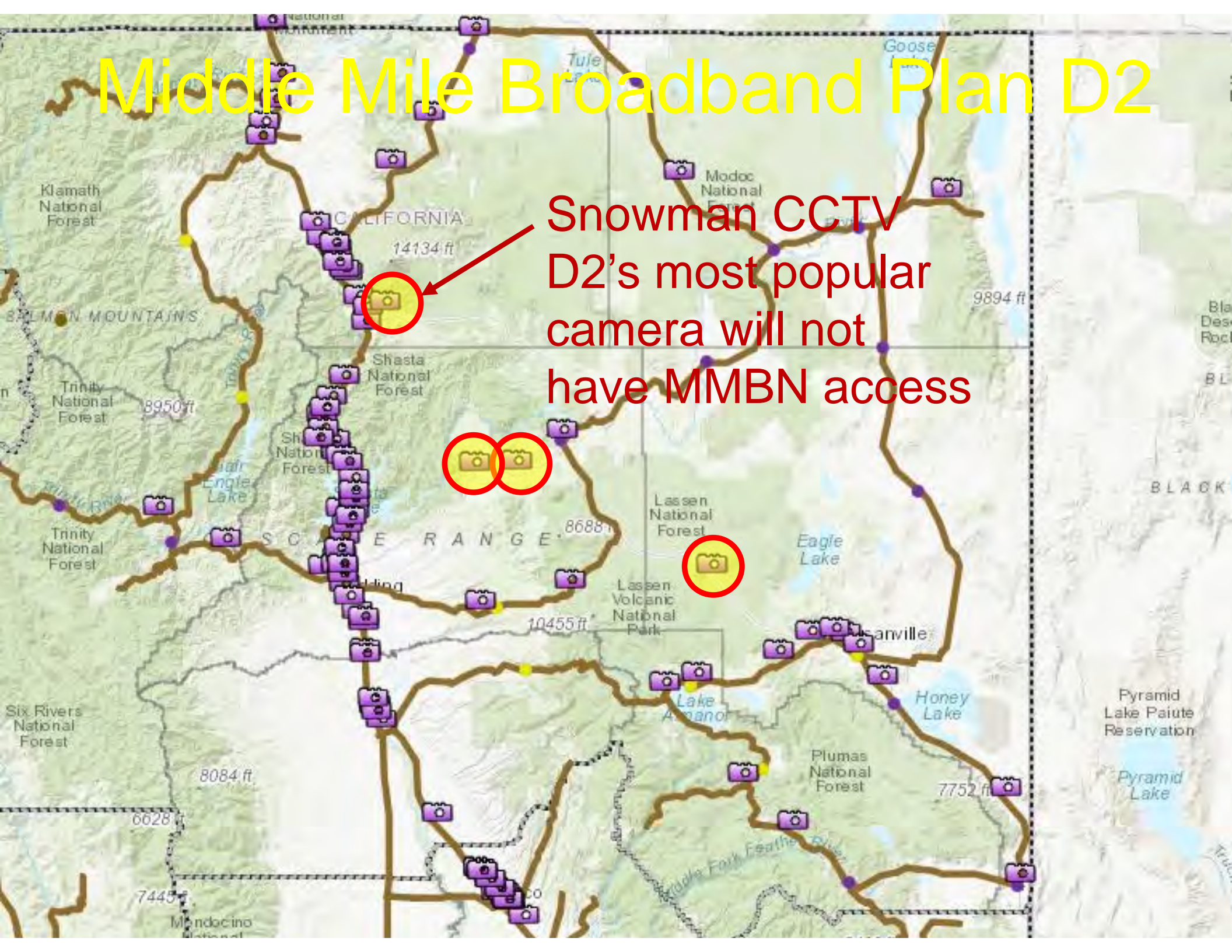


Middle Mile Broadband Plan D2

With CCTV Locations



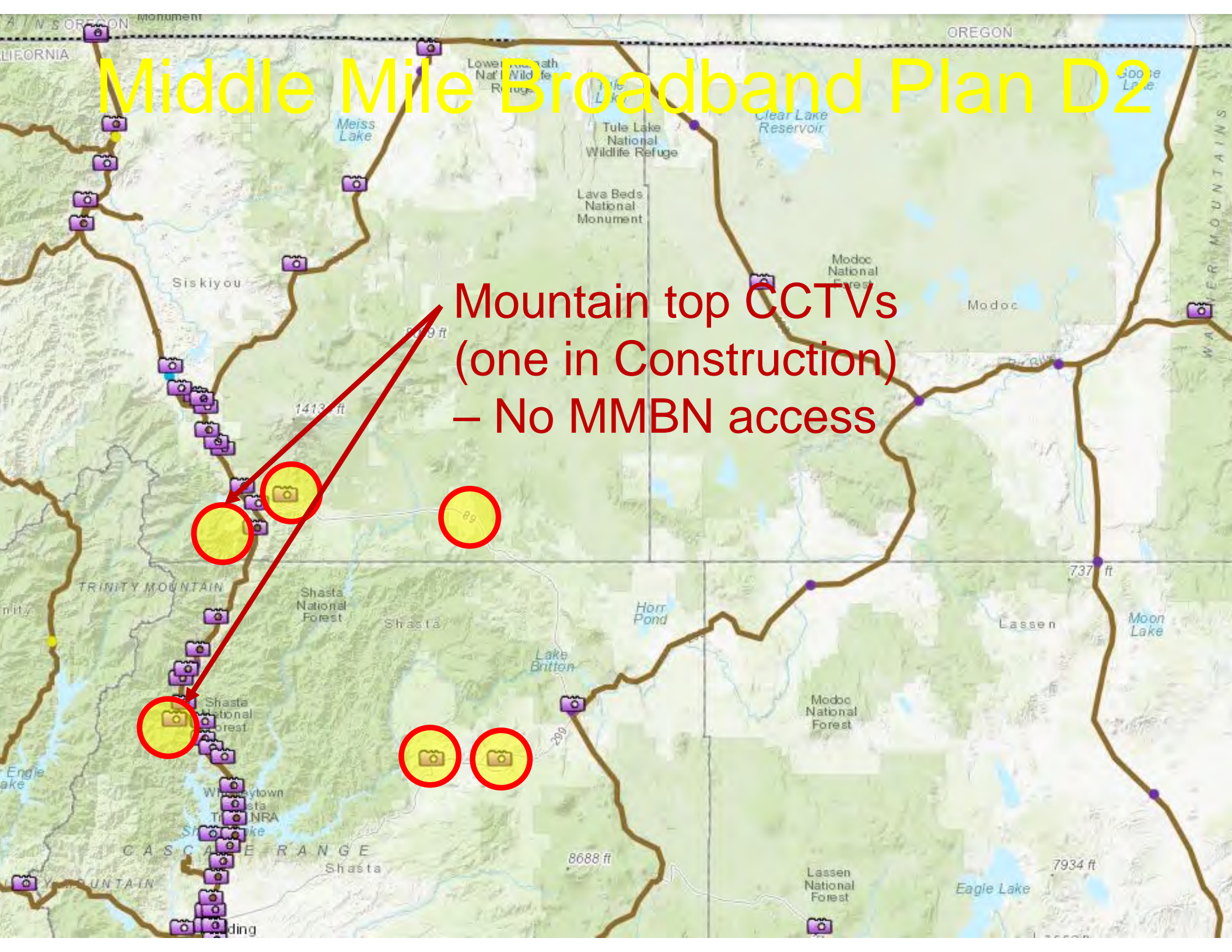
Middle Mile Broadband Plan D2



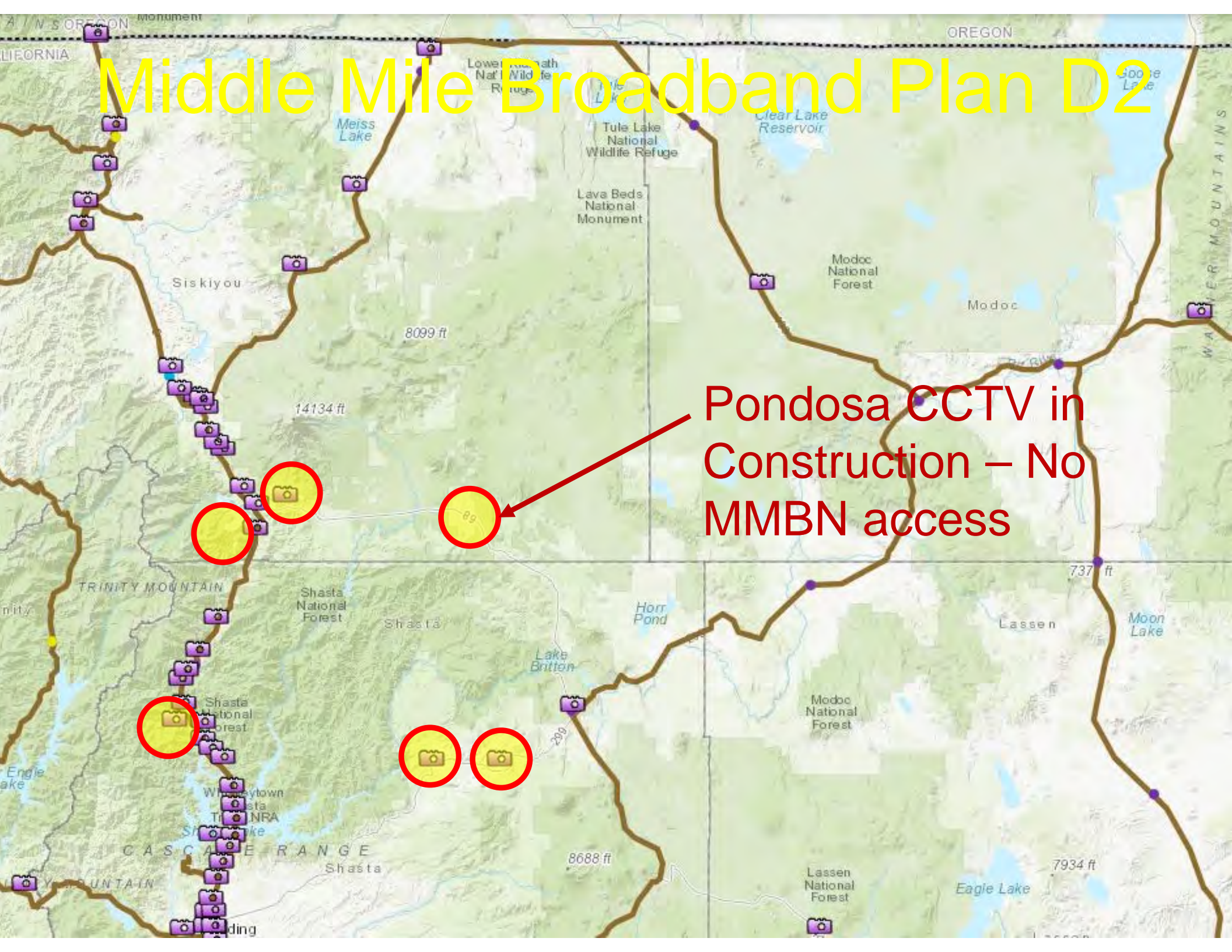
Snowman CCTV
D2's most popular
camera will not
have MMBN access

Middle Mile Broadband Plan D2

Mountain top CCTVs
(one in Construction)
– No MMBN access



Middle Mile Broadband Plan D2



Pondosa CCTV in Construction – No MMBN access

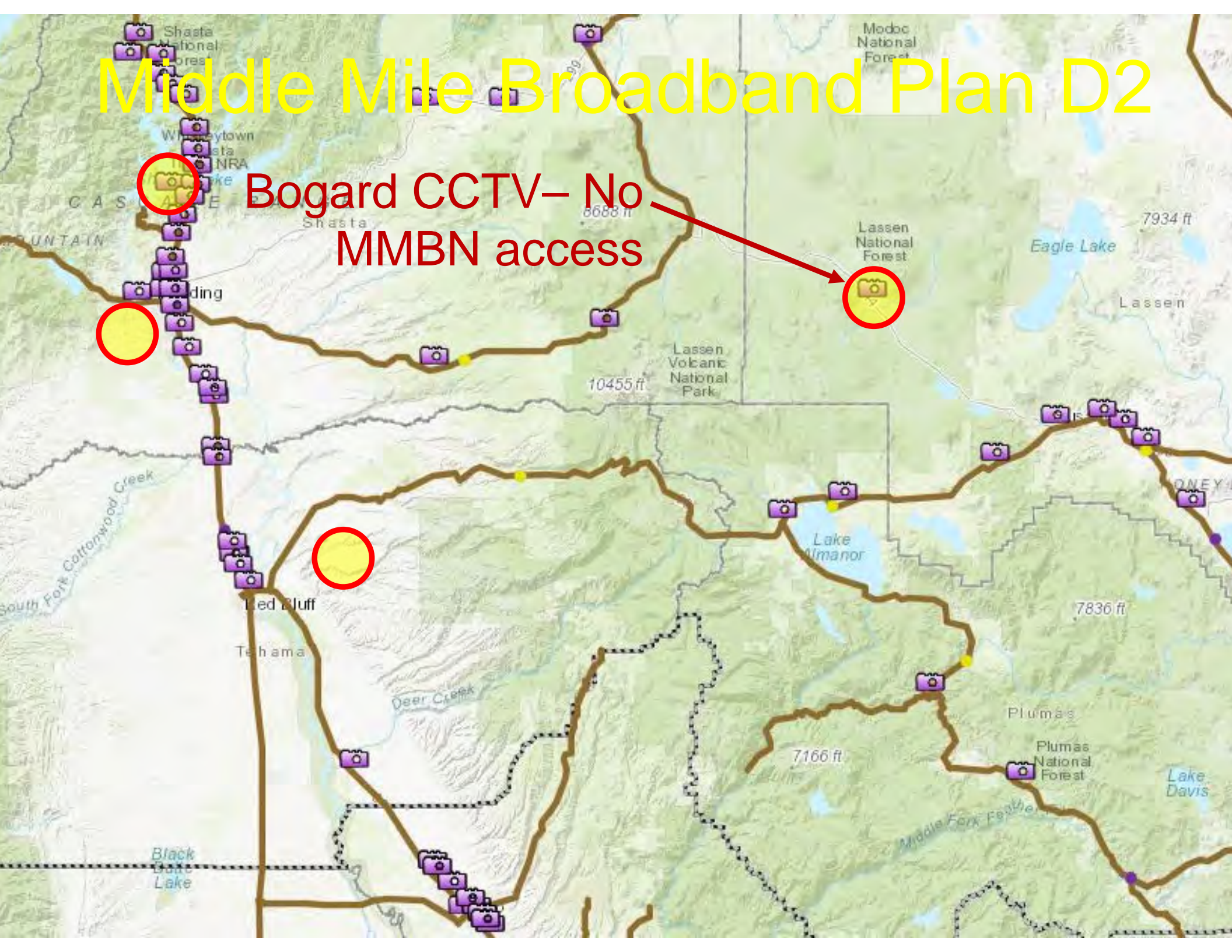
Middle Mile Broadband Plan D2



SR299 Corridor – No MMBN access

Middle Mile Broadband Plan D2

**Bogard CCTV— No
MMBN access**

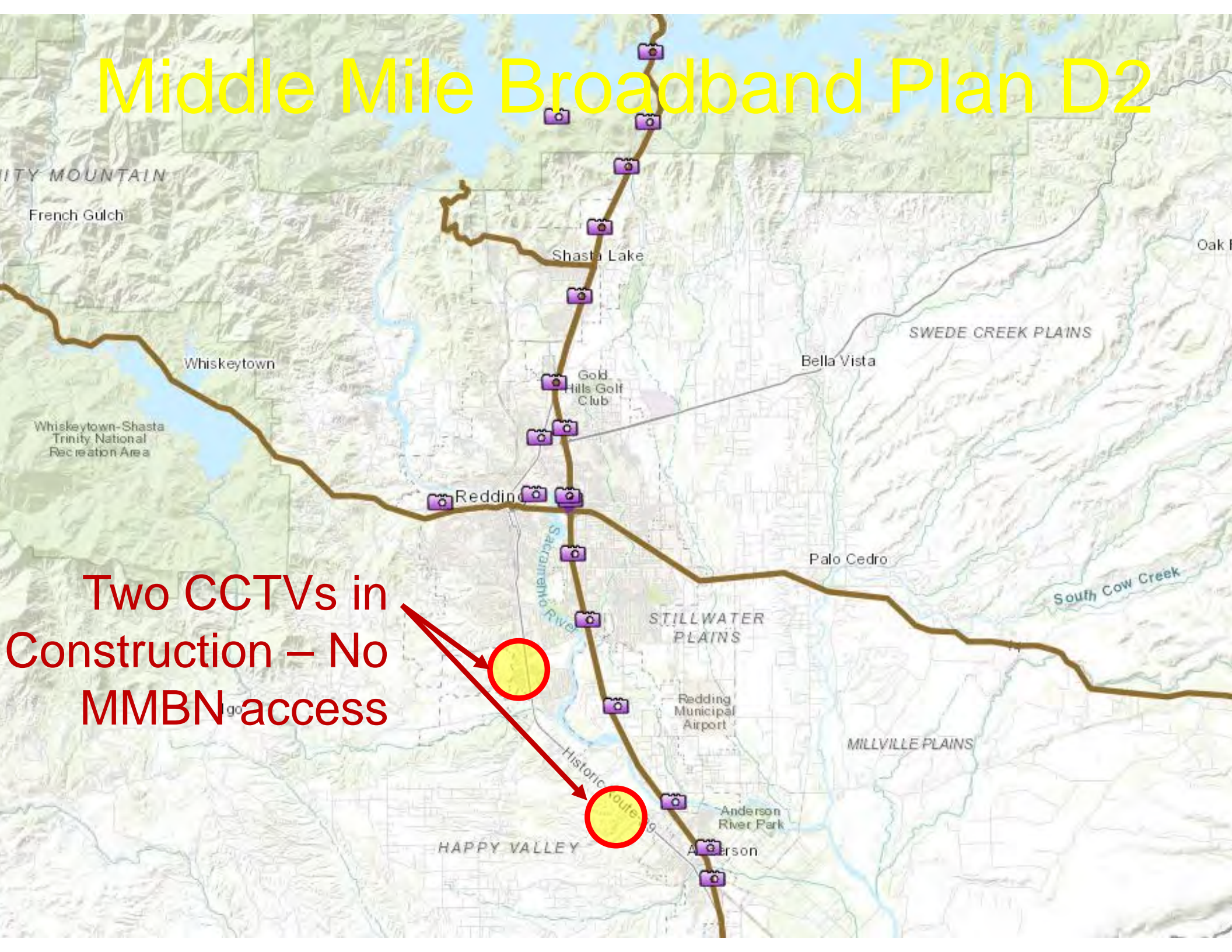


Middle Mile Broadband Plan D2

Mountain top CCTVs
(two in Construction)
– No MMBN access



Middle Mile Broadband Plan D2



Two CCTVs in Construction – No MMBN access

Change Impact

Middle Mile Broadband Network (MMBN)

- Concerns



Change Impact

Middle Mile Broadband Network (MMBN)

- Concerns
- Architectural and design unknowns



Change Impact

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- Concerns
 - Architectural and design unknowns
 - Sharing potential unclear and has changed several times



Change Impact

Middle Mile Broadband Network (MMBN)

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 - Design/construction resources and expertise needed to deliver a reliable communications system



Change Impact



Middle Mile Broadband Network (MMBN)

- Concerns
 - Architectural and design unknowns
 - Sharing potential unclear and has changed several times
 - Design/construction resources and expertise needed to deliver a reliable communications system
 - Deployment method in constant flux

Change Impact



Middle Mile Broadband Network (MMBN)

- Concerns
 - Architectural and design unknowns
 - Sharing potential unclear and has changed several times
 - Design/construction resources and expertise needed to deliver a reliable communications system
 - Deployment method in constant flux
 - Skyrocketing costs may further reduce deployment footprint

Change Impact

Middle Mile Broadband Network (MMBN)

- Concerns (continued)
- CDT ownership, maintained by a 3rd party utility



Change Impact



Middle Mile Broadband Network (MMBN)

- Concerns (continued)
- CDT ownership, maintained by a 3rd party utility
- Currently no fiber path directly to the D2 TMC, all network traffic routed to Goldcamp Data Center in District 3

Change Impact



Middle Mile Broadband Network (MMBN)

- Concerns (continued)
- CDT ownership, maintained by a 3rd party utility
- Currently no fiber path directly to the D2 TMC, all network traffic routed to Goldcamp Data Center in District 3
- Will require a dedicated POP in Redding TMC

Change Impact



Middle Mile Broadband Network (MMBN)

- Concerns (continued)
- CDT ownership, maintained by a 3rd party utility
- Currently no fiber path directly to the D2 TMC, all network traffic routed to Goldcamp Data Center in District 3
- Will require a dedicated POP in Redding TMC
- All MMBN connections will be treated as a public/private utility in the communications planning process

Department-Owned Infrastructure



Department-Owned Infrastructure

Advantages:



Department-Owned Infrastructure

Advantages:

- Not dependent on a 3rd party to provide a critical service



Department-Owned Infrastructure

A tall, silver metal lattice tower stands on a hillside, surrounded by pine trees. The tower is equipped with various antennas and dishes, including a large white parabolic dish and several smaller antennas. A chain-link fence runs across the foreground, and a small building is visible on the left. The sky is clear and blue.

Advantages:

- Not dependent on a 3rd party to provide a critical service
- Ability to monitor and troubleshoot every step of the path (RSL Relay)

Link Status

Hill900->Hub_CentralRedding

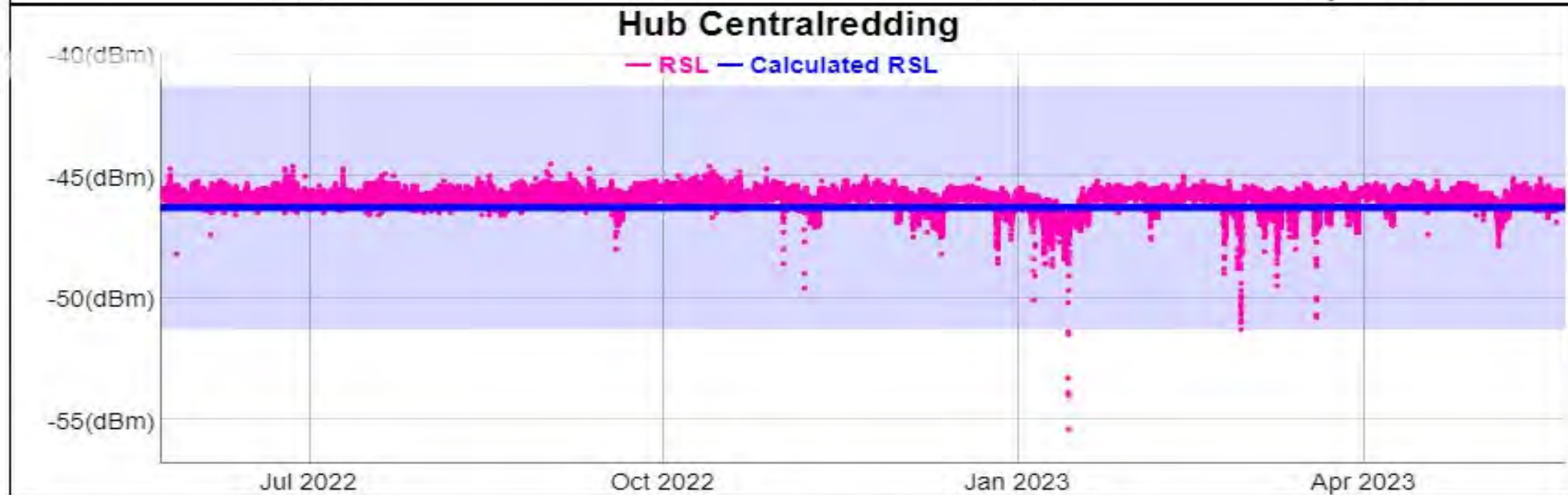
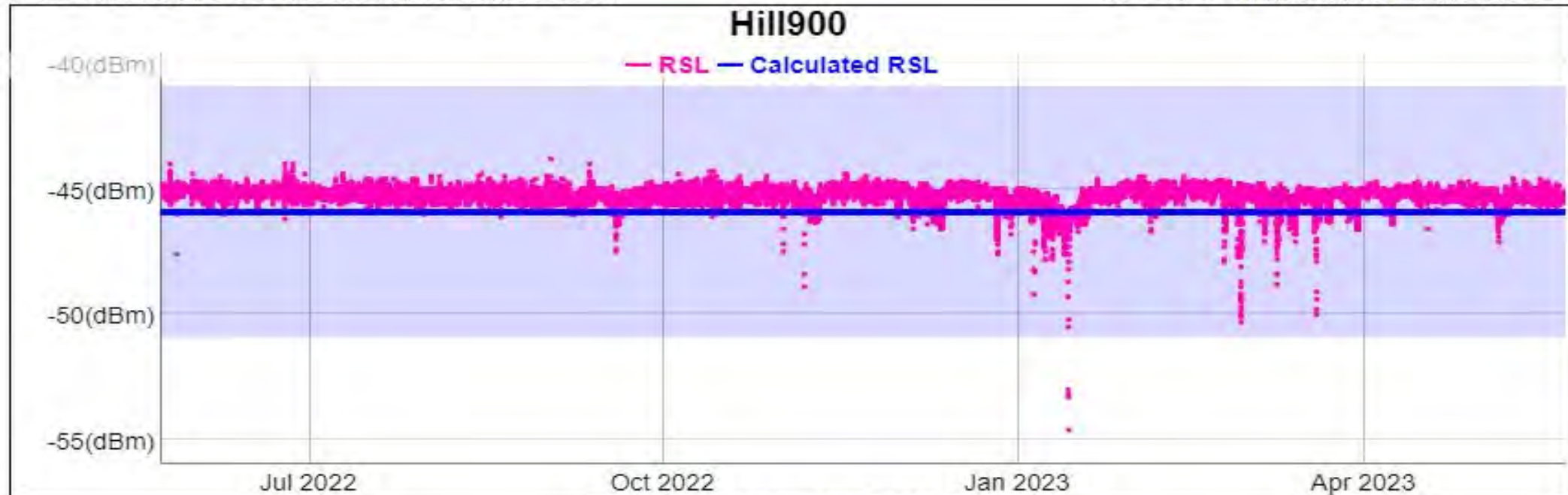
Last 1 Year(s)

[Last Hour](#) | [Last Day](#) | [Last Week](#) | [Last Month](#) | [Last Year](#) | [Date Selector](#)

Note:

Shift+Drag to move Graph.
Double click to return to normal.
Click and drag on graph to zoom. (Horizontal or Vertical)

[Edit Link](#) | [Alt Graph: 1, 2, 3, 4](#) | [Summary](#) | [Toggle Table](#)



Department-Owned Infrastructure

A tall, silver metal lattice tower stands on a hillside, surrounded by pine trees. The tower is equipped with various antennas and dishes, including a large white parabolic dish and several smaller antennas. A chain-link fence runs across the foreground, and a small building is visible on the left. The sky is clear and blue.

Advantages:

- Not dependent on a 3rd party to provide a critical service
- Ability to monitor and troubleshoot every step of the path (RSL Relay)
- In District 2, more reliable than public and private service providers

Department-Owned Infrastructure



Advantages:

- Not dependent on a 3rd party to provide a critical service
- Ability to monitor and troubleshoot every step of the path (RSL Relay)
- In District 2, more reliable than public and private service providers
- Zero monthly re-occurring telecommunications costs

Department-Owned Infrastructure

Disadvantages:



Department-Owned Infrastructure

Disadvantages:

- Capital investment costs can be higher (but not always!)



Department-Owned Infrastructure

A tall, silver metal lattice tower stands on a hillside. The tower is equipped with various antennas, including several large white parabolic dishes and smaller vertical antennas. The tower is surrounded by a chain-link fence. In the background, there are several large, green pine trees under a clear blue sky. The foreground shows some dry, brownish vegetation and a concrete structure on the left.

Disadvantages:

- Capital investment costs can be higher (but not always!)
- As communications system grows, resource needs increase, but not necessarily resource \$

Department-Owned Infrastructure

As described earlier, District 2 utilizes the following Department-Owned communications infrastructure:



Department-Owned Infrastructure



As described earlier, District 2 utilizes the following Department-Owned communications infrastructure:

- Fiber
 - Constructed in 2012
 - Commissioned in 2016
 - 18-mile backbone path in the Redding area and several short stubs in remote areas to consolidate communications
 - Currently no cable path to the TMC, fiber network traffic utilizes the point-to-point microwave system to backhaul data to the TMC

Department-Owned Infrastructure



As described earlier, District 2 utilizes the following Department-Owned communications infrastructure:

- Fiber
- Point-to-Point Microwave
 - First link deployed 2006
 - System has expanded to provide coverage over 100-miles along I-5 from Corning to Weed connecting dozens of TMS elements to the TMC via a high throughput network connection

Department-Owned Infrastructure

Why does District 2 use Microwave?



Department-Owned Infrastructure



Why does District 2 use Microwave?

Advantages

- High throughput possible
- Low latency
- More reliable than rural telcos
- More reliable during a crisis than the PSTN and the cellular system
- In general, less costly / mile to install compared to fiber – **1/10 the cost!**

Limitations

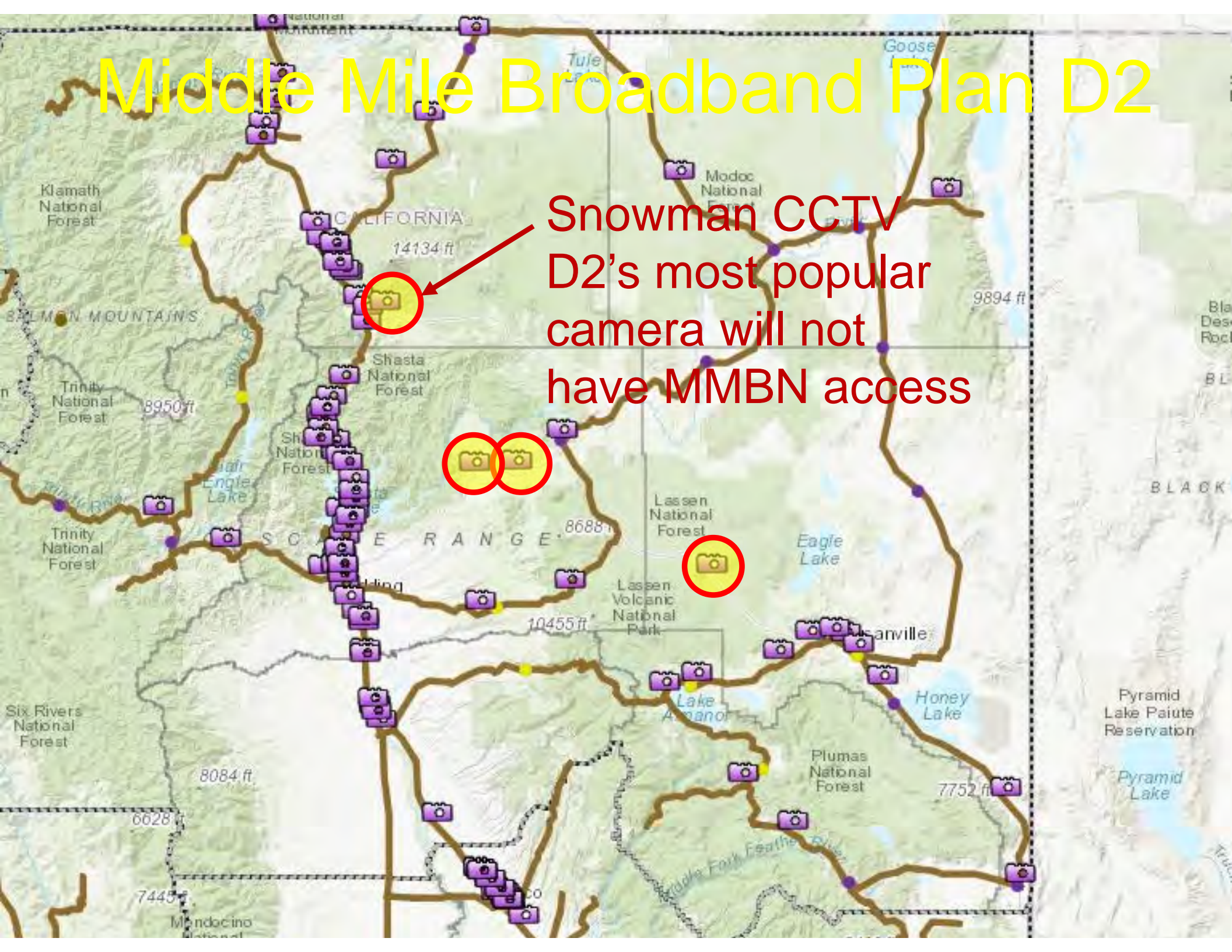
- Line-of-site requirements
- Physical limitation of antennas on a tower (for point-to-point star topologies)
- Internal bureaucratic processes take time to get a project through
- Lack of institutional knowledge (construction standards)

Department-Owned Infrastructure

Why will District 2 continue to use Microwave after the MMBN deployment?



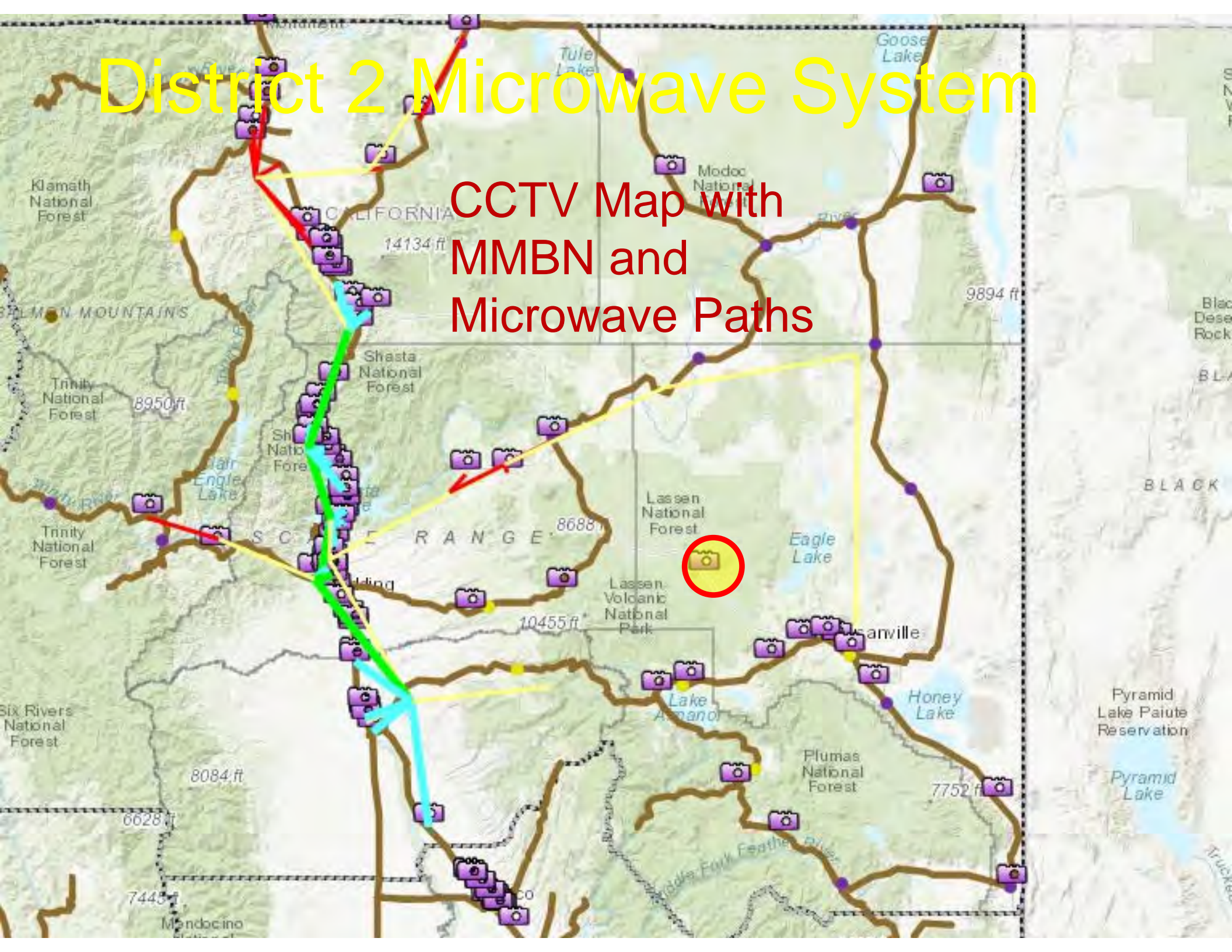
Middle Mile Broadband Plan D2



Snowman CCTV
D2's most popular
camera will not
have MMBN access

District 2 Microwave System

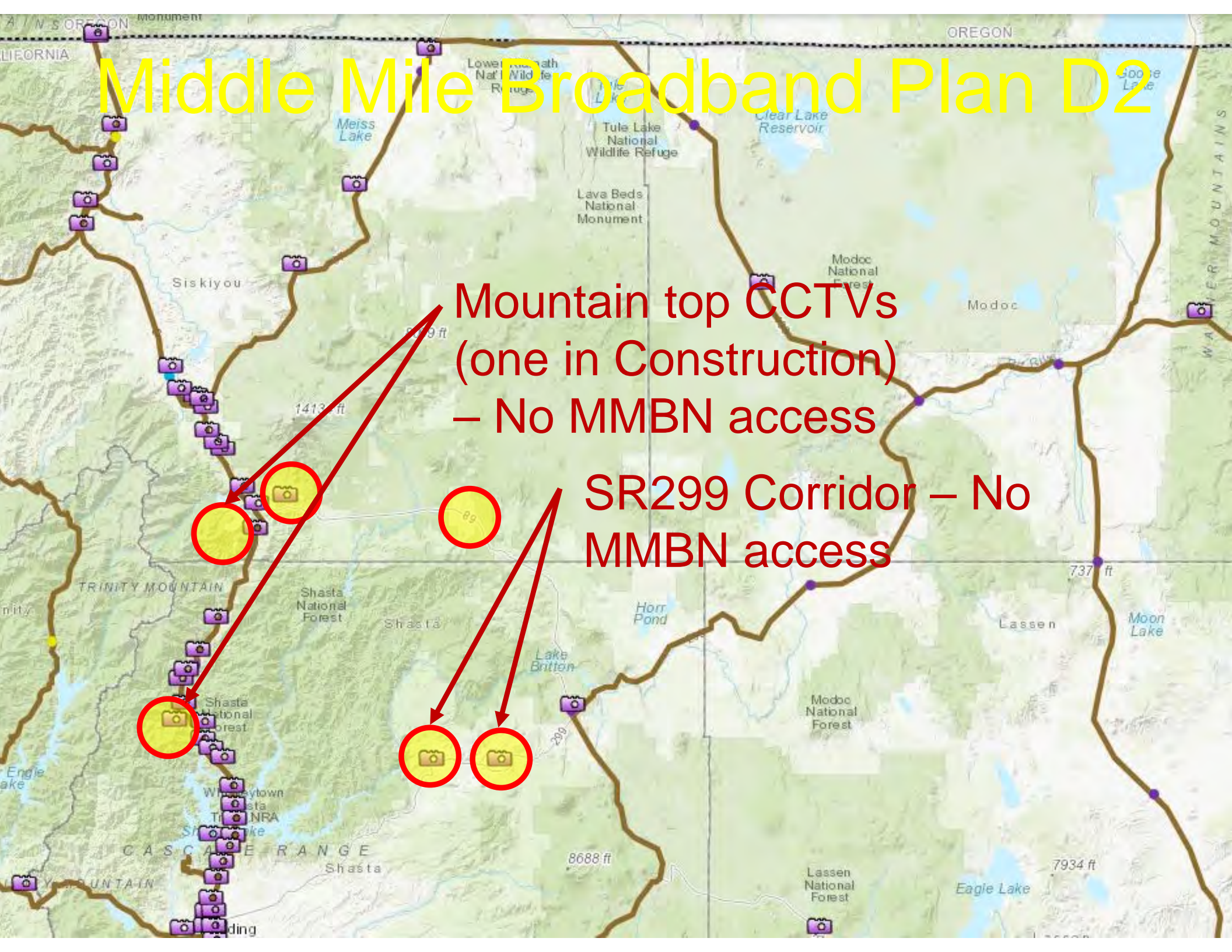
CCTV Map with
MMBN and
Microwave Paths



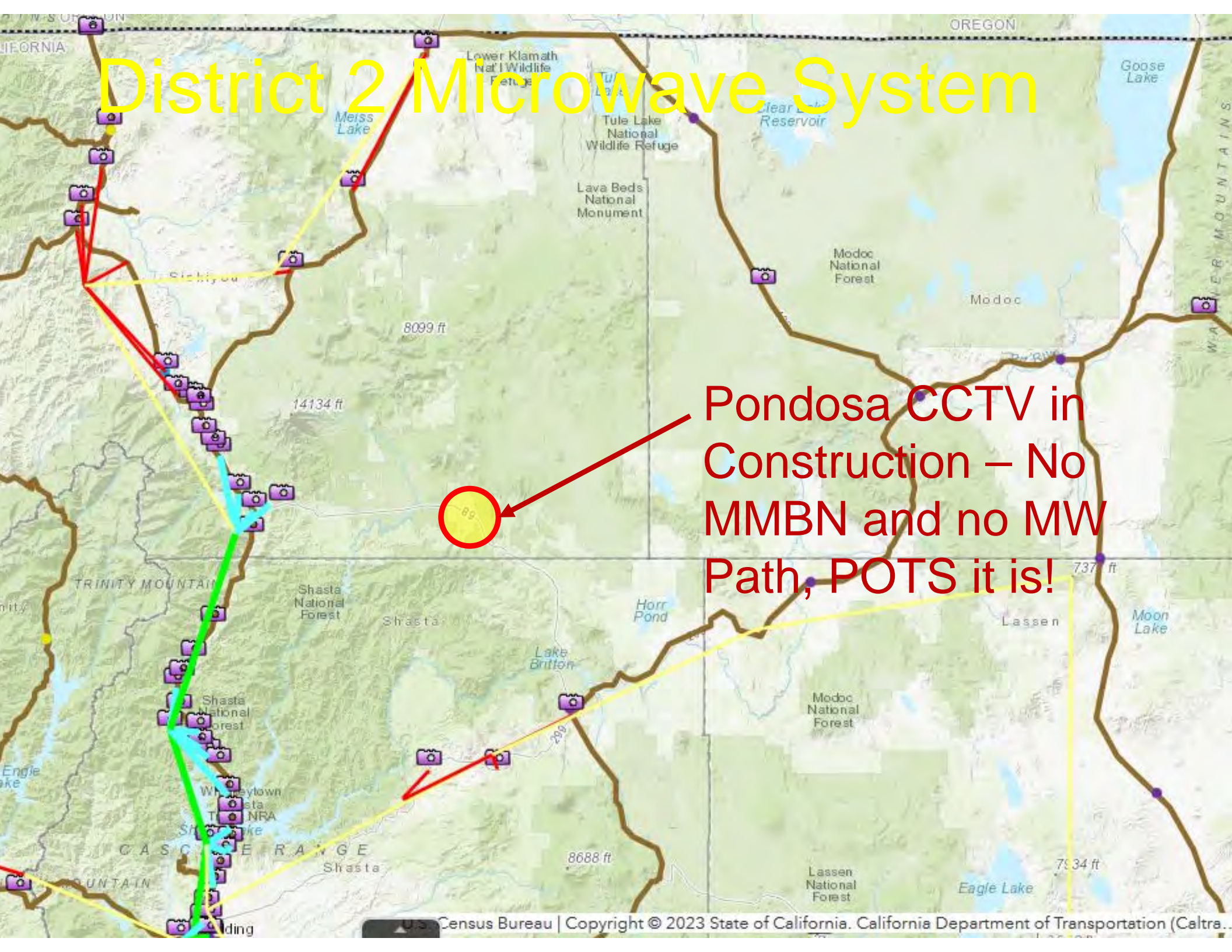
Middle Mile Broadband Plan D2

Mountain top CCTVs
(one in Construction)
– No MMBN access

SR299 Corridor – No
MMBN access

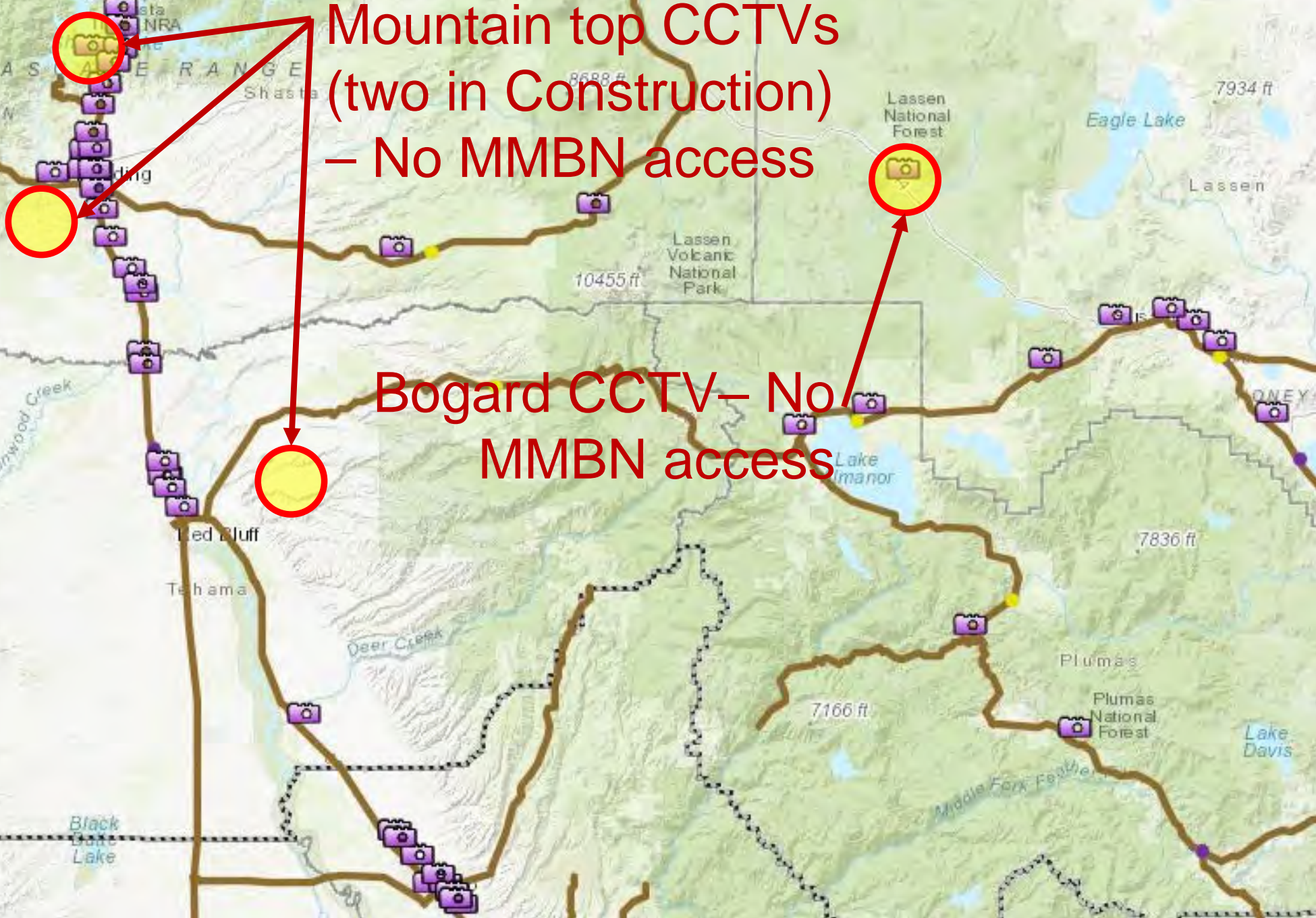


District 2 Microwave System

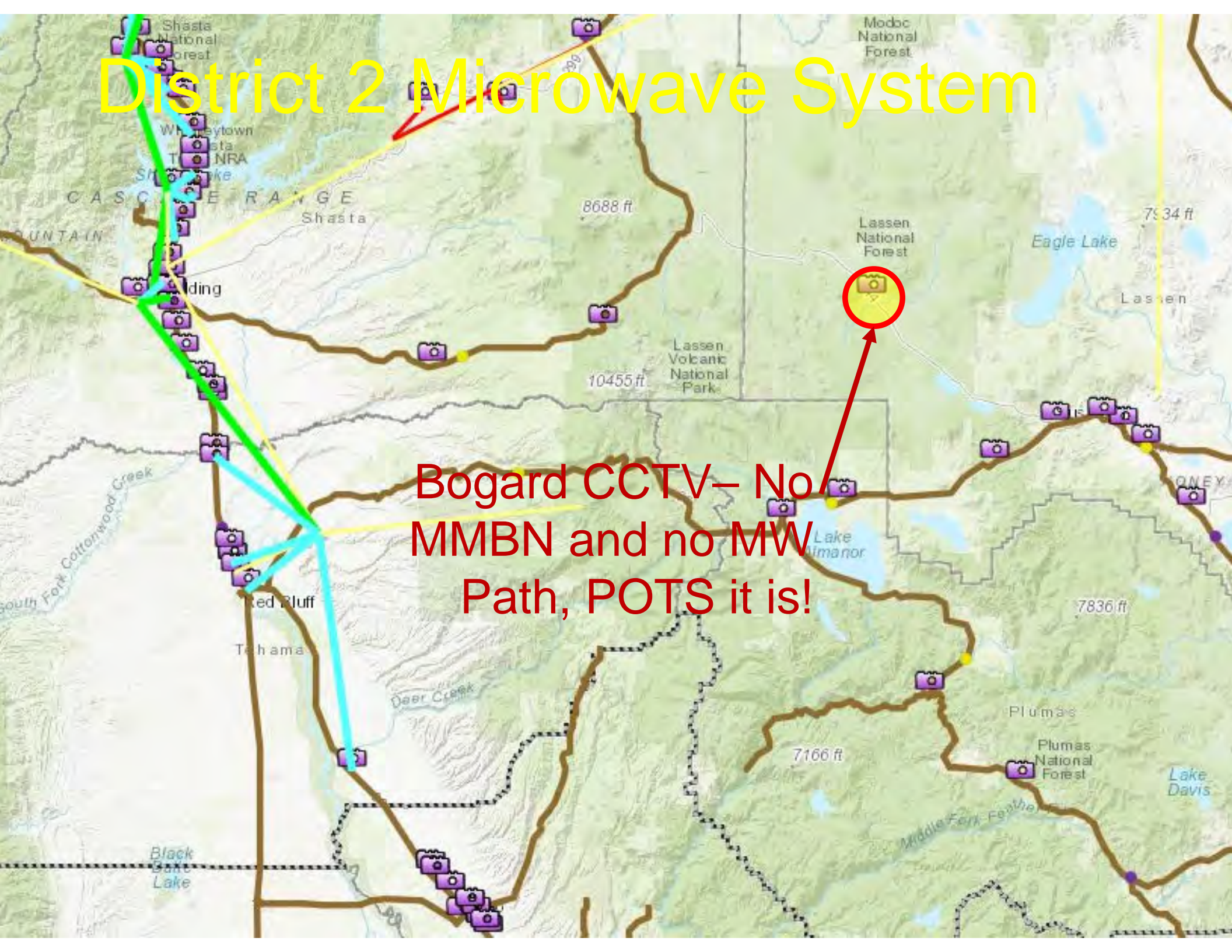


Pondosa CCTV in Construction – No MMBN and no MW Path, POTS it is!

Middle Mile Broadband Plan D2

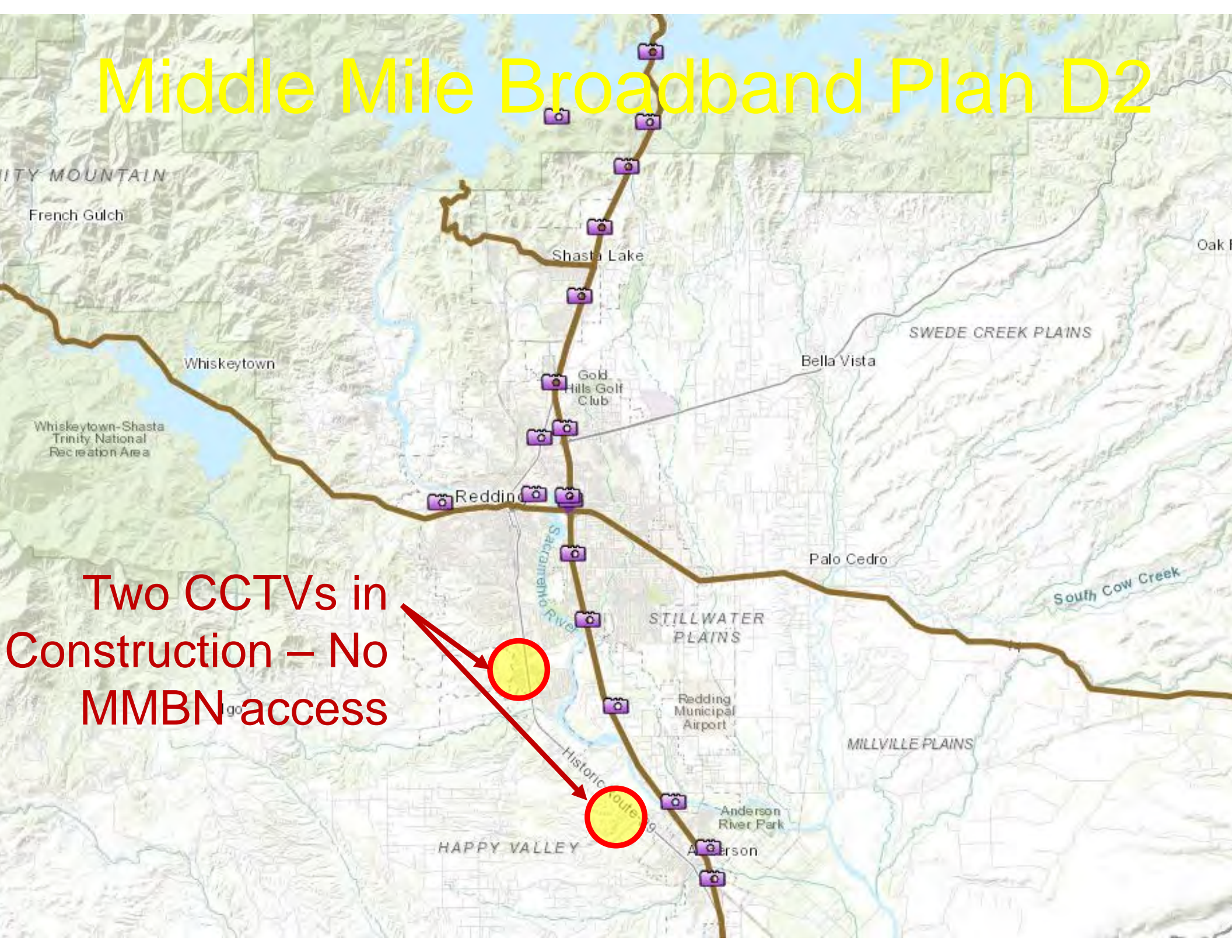


District 2 Microwave System



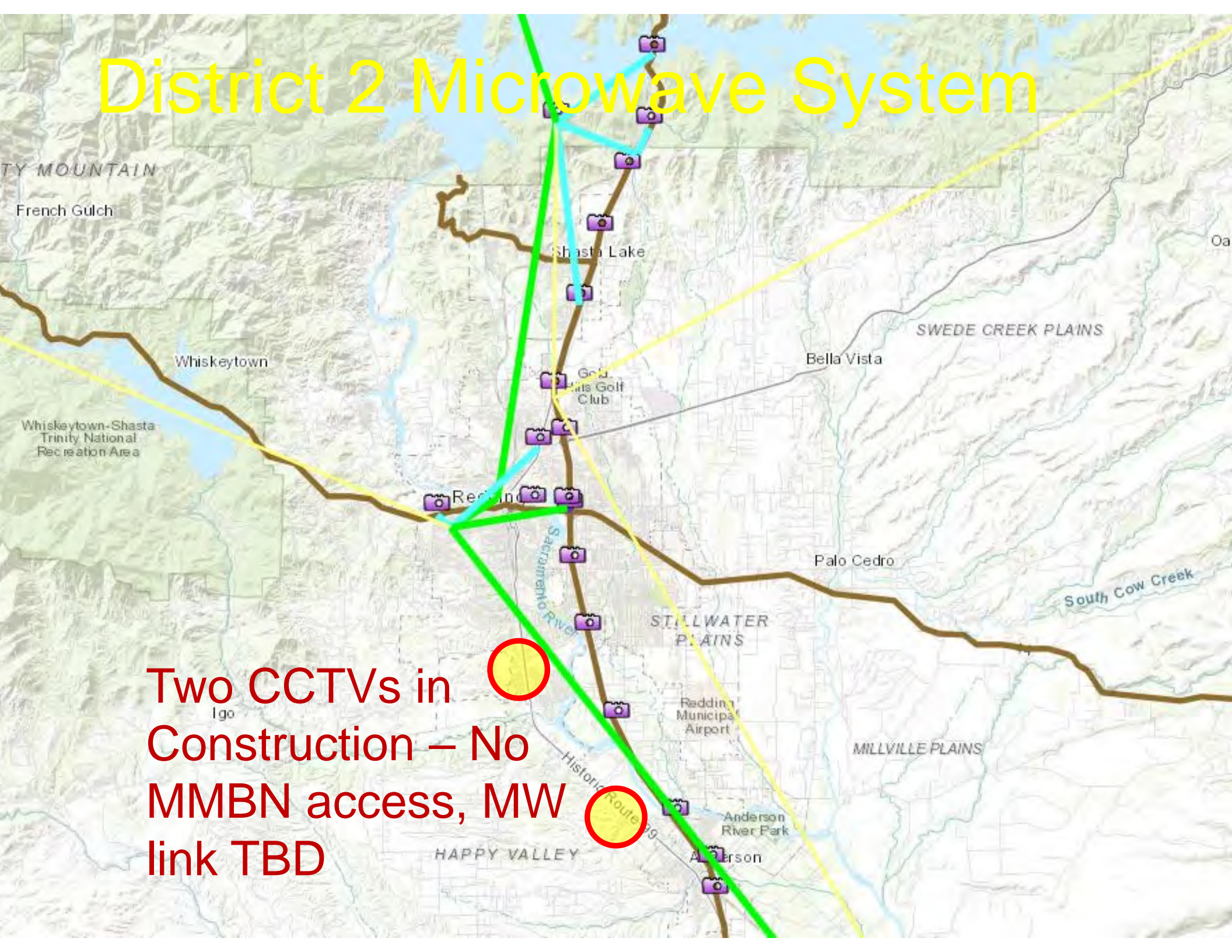
Bogard CCTV - No MMBN and no MW Path, POTS it is!

Middle Mile Broadband Plan D2



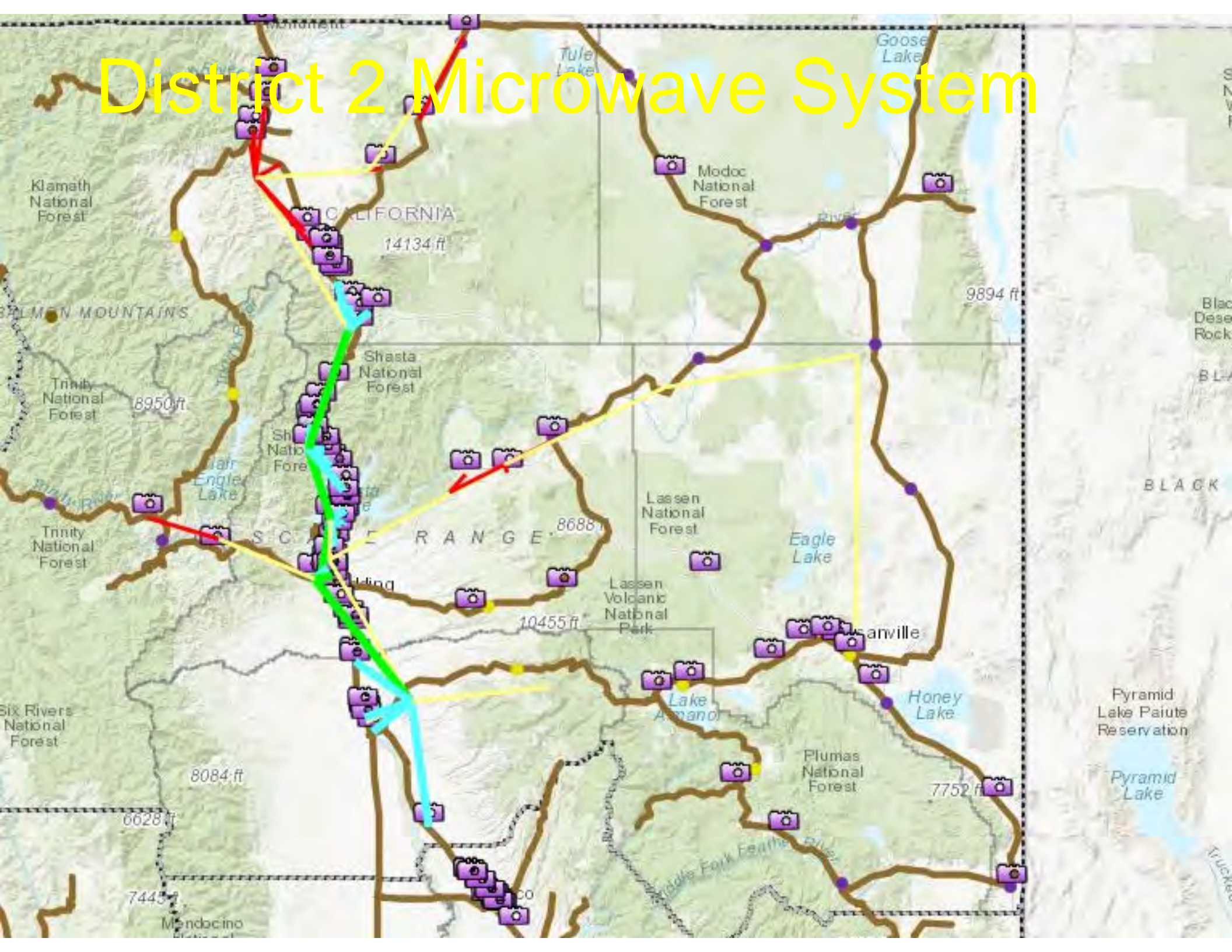
Two CCTVs in Construction – No MMBN access

District 2 Microwave System



Two CCTVs in 
Construction – No
MMBN access, MW
link TBD 

District 2 Microwave System



Planning and Strategy (Legacy)



- Communications Planning
 - District 2 has a general plan to expand coverage of the District's Point-to-Point Microwave System to Mt Top communications sites with strategic vantage points of the State Highway System
 - District 2 has a general plan for fiber in the Redding area (Shasta Lake to Anderson and East to Palo Cedro)

Planning and Strategy (Updated)



- Communications Planning
 - Reduce the District's overall monthly TMS telecommunications costs
 - Continue expanding coverage of the District's Point-to-Point Microwave System
 - Expand fiber in the Redding area to the TMC and SR273 redundant paths
 - Maintain a District wide TMS communication plan
 - If MMBN meets our reliability needs, we will use the microwave system as a low-cost highly reliable redundant

Planning and Strategy (Legacy)



- Communications Strategies
 - During site construction install the highest reliable, least costly utility service
 - Upgrade to ISM band microwave as a separate project if line-of-site is available
 - Upgrade to licensed microwave
 - Opportunistic upgrades (as funding allows)

Planning and Strategy (Updated)



- Communications Strategies
 - During site construction, install last mile connection to MMBN or install the highest reliable, least costly utility service
 - Upgrade to ISM band microwave as a separate project if line-of-site is available
 - Upgrade to licensed microwave
 - Scope communications consolidation efforts into Capital projects as funding allows
 - Continue to utilize hybrid communications backhaul opportunities
 - Opportunistic upgrades (as funding allows)

Projects

Let's highlight two recent microwave projects

- Tuscan Buttes
- Mt Bradley



Questions?

