

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Installation of Telecommunications Equipment by WeavTel on NPS Managed Lands within North Cascades National Park Service Complex

The National Park Service has concluded an environmental impact analysis and determined in accordance with a U.S. District Court order that it will issue WeavTel a Special Use Permit to install telecommunications infrastructure on NPS managed lands. This Frequently Asked Questions summarizes some of main questions surrounding this decision. The complete details of this decision, including the potential impacts to the human environment, are provided a document entitled a Finding of No Significant Impact, available online at: <http://parkplanning.nps.gov/projectHome.cfm?parkId=327&projectId=18746>.

What does the Special Use Permit Authorize?

The Special Use Permit authorizes WeavTel to install infrastructure on NPS managed public land in Stehekin in order to provide an all wireless public telecommunication service. In response to public comment to the Environmental Assessment, the NPS requested WeavTel to consider an all wireless system in order to reduce environmental impact and to avoid issues of crossing private land. As a result, WeavTel submitted a revised proposal to install and maintain an all-wireless system and this Special Use Permit would allow the installation of equipment for this system.

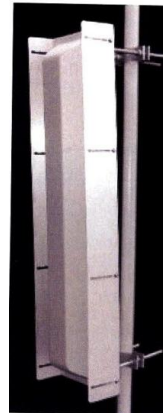
The system will be constructed in two phases by WeavTel. The first phase will provide coverage for telecommunications service from Moore Point to mile 2 of the Stehekin Valley Road. The second phase will provide coverage for telecommunications service to customers up valley of mile 2 of the Stehekin Valley Road to upper Company Creek Road and on both sides of the Stehekin River. Construction of Phase II will not commence until installation of Phase I is complete and an effective level of service is provided as determined by the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission.

What telecommunications infrastructure be will be installed and where?

WeavTel can install the following equipment in these locations:

Phase I: Wireless phone system infrastructure – Moore Point to Mile 2 of Stehekin Valley Road

1. Satellite system behind the Golden West Visitor Center
 - 2 “Yagi” antennas attached to existing NPS antenna
 - 1 “Sector” antenna attached to existing NPS antenna
 - Electronics equipment in existing NPS Electronics Hut
2. Water Quality Lab / Office (outside of building)
 - Electronics box on side of building
 - Power from building into electronics box
 - Protected power supply
 - 2 “Yagi” antennas on 6 ft pole
 - 1 “Sector” antenna on pole



Sector Antenna
Length: 48 inches
Width: 13 inches



Yagi Antenna
Length: 24 inches
Width: 6.8 inches

3. Waste Water Treatment Plant - outside the fenced area

- 4 meter antenna (satellite dish) on a 13ft² concrete pad.
- 1 building similar to NPS Testing Hut to house electronics.
- 2 “Yagi” antennas on side of electronic building

Phase II. Wireless phone system infrastructure – remainder of lower valley

No specific description of infrastructure proposed at this time. The following sites have been identified to accommodate infrastructure. Final site selection is dependent on Phase I results.

4. NPS Tract #04-170 (Pickens A-frame)
5. NPS Tract #05-122 (NPS housing – the Castle)
6. NPS Tract # 06-110 (NPS Maintenance Shop)
7. NPS Tract # 07-178 (Company Creek Road antenna site identified in 2007 environmental assessment)

What if an all wireless system doesn’t work? Should the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (WUTC) determine the wireless system ineffective, the NPS agrees to issue a Special Use Permit to allow the burying of fiber optic cable on NPS managed land as necessary to establish reliable telecommunications where wireless telecommunications are not feasible.

Does the Special Use Permit authorize WeavTel to cross private property? The Special Use Permit does not authorize nor endorse any actions on private land. Any issues relating to actions on private land are to be handled between WeavTel, the private land owners, Chelan County and the State of Washington. As proposed, the wireless system does not require actions on private land not owned by WeavTel.

Will the public pay phone at the Stehekin Landing be operated by WeavTel? No, the public pay phone will continue to be operated as part of the NPS telecommunication system.

What kind of service and options will be offered by WeavTel? Service related questions and comments should be directed to WeavTel or the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission.

How much is WeavTel being compensated to installing this service?

Questions about costs, rate structure and subsidies should be directed to WeavTel and the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission. WeavTel has paid for the cost of the NPS producing an Environmental Assessment and administrative costs associated with issuing the Special Use Permit.