Note: Form instructions and definitions will be created to support the report. Instructional guidance and training will be developed. Numbering to be updated based on final approved form.

RECIPIENT NAME	BLACKFOOT TELEPHONE COOPERATIVE, INC.	**OMB Control No.**	OMB Control No. 0660-0052
		Expiration Date	Exp. Date: 2/28/2027

Middle Mile Grant Program Bi-Annual Performance Report									
A. GENERAL INFORMATION									
1a. Recipient Organization:	BLACKFOOT TELEPHONE COOPERATIVE, INC.	**1h. Award Identification Number:**	30-40-MM480						
1b. Recipient Street Address:	1221 N RUSSELL ST	**1i. Report Date (MM/DD/YYYY):**	06/10/2026						
1c. City, State, and Zip Code:	MISSOULA, Montana 59808-1805	**1j. Final Report:**	**Yes**		**No**	X			
1d. Unique Entity Identification (UEI) Number:	KU6LTS39K9N4	**1k. Report Period Start Date (MM/DD/YYYY):**	10/01/2025						
1e. Award Start Date (MM/DD/YYYY):	07/01/2023	**1l. Report Period End Date (MM/DD/YYYY):**	03/31/2026						
1f. Award End Date (MM/DD/YYYY):	01/31/2027								
1g. Name of Person Completing Report:	Stacey Mueller								
B. PROJECT NARRATIVE									
Please use the section below to provide a project narrative of the project(s). This section aims to help reviewers better understand what project is being proposed and steps taken to achieve this goal.									
2a. A brief description of the recipient's organization and scope of work/project priorities.	Blackfoot Telephone Cooperative, Inc ("Recipient") and Southern Montana Telephone ("Subrecipient"), are both Montana-based rural telephone companies that provide voice and broadband services to rural Western Montana. The Sapphire Ring Project introduces new fiber middle mile facilities to complete a regional fiber ring.								

2b. An overview of the significant outputs and outcomes to be accomplished in the project.	This project was estimated to add roughly 137 miles of new middle mile fiber in remote western Montana. Spread across six counties, covering more than 13,000 square miles, and impacting 42 communities, the Project will enable affordable broadband to thousands of unserved and underserved locations and new connection options to 67 anchor institutions. In addition, the Project will create a fiber-ring totaling roughly 365 miles, delivering network reliability, resiliency, and positively impacting the broadband experience of thousands of Montanans, including other ISPs.
2c. How would the project meet the recipient's business and/or administrative need(s)?	Project will meet Recipient's network resiliency/redundancy needs and provide the ability to serve unserved locations, as well as provide network access to wholesale providers in the area. Recipient and Subrecipient have concurrent projects underway that will immediately make use of the middle mile and achieve program goals of service unserved or underserved areas.
2d. Provide an overview of key accomplishments achieved for this reporting period on the MM infrastructure project.	The final CATEX document was submitted and approved on April 30, 2025. Construction began immediately upon approval. As of 3/31/2026 130.11 miles of fiber and 126.49 of duct had been placed. There have been 21 draws for a total of $10,225,968.54 in expended grant funds.
2e. Provide any roadblock experienced during this reporting period impacting the expansion of the MM infrastructure project (i.e., supply chain, availability of labor).	There is a segment of the route that has a Montana Department of Transportation ("MDOT") highway move project impacting the construction on Highway 93 between Florence to the North of Stevensville. Blackfoot worked closely with the MDOT to achieve the needed permits. The original permit was issued on 4/4/2025. The state has given the go ahead to clear the utility easement and begin construction.
2f. Provide any barriers to improving job quality experienced during this reporting period.	No barriers to improving job quality experienced during this reporting period.

C. INFRASTRUCTURE MILESTONE CATEGORIES AND PROJECT TIMELINE

Please use the chart below to provide the start date and end date of your project.

	PROJECT DURATION	3a. PROJECT START DATE	3b. PROJECT END DATE
OVERALL PROJECT	1310	07/01/2023	01/31/2027

Please provide the start and end dates for each milestone category of your project. The duration is be based on the start and end dates of each category.

Please use the table provided to indicate your EXPECTED percentage of completion on a bi-annual basis for each year of your project. Year 1 begins with your award start date.

The percentage of completion should be based primarily on the expenditure of your project budget and should be reported cumulatively from award inception through the end of each semi-annual reporting period. For example, if you expect to complete a particular milestone within the first three periods of your project, the third period and all subsequent periods should state 100%.

*** Period 1 ends September 30 and Period 2 ends March 31.

Please write “0” in the duration field if your project does not include an activity. If necessary, please insert additional milestones at the end.

ANTICIPATED PROJECT MILESTONES***				Year 1 Baseline		Year 2 Baseline		Year 3 Baseline		Year 4 Baseline		Year 5 Baseline	
3c. MILESTONE CATEGORIES	3d. DURATION (Days)	3e. START DATE	3f. END DATE	Period 1	Period 2	Period 1	Period 2	Period 1	Period 2	Period 1	Period 2	Period 1	Period 2
Overall Project	1310	2023-07-01	2027-01-31	0%	1%	10%	25%	75%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Environmental Assessment	365	2023-07-01	2024-06-30	25%	66%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Network Design	107	2023-06-15	2023-09-30	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Rights Of Way	655	2023-06-15	2025-03-31	5%	66%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Construction Permits And Other Approvals	655	2023-06-15	2025-03-31	5%	66%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Site Preparation	487	2024-08-31	2025-12-31	0%	0%	25%	50%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Equipment Procurement	548	2024-07-01	2025-12-31	0%	0%	0%	50%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

Network Build (all components - owned, leased, Indefeasible Rights of Use, etc.)	548	2024-07-01	2025-12-31	0%	0%	25%	50%	75%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Equipment Deployment	486	2024-09-01	2025-12-31	0%	0%	0%	50%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Network Testing	667	2024-09-01	2026-06-30	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	50%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Status of Procurement	746	2023-06-15	2025-06-30	5%	10%	25%	50%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

ANTICIPATED PROJECT MILESTONES***				Year 6 Baseline		Year 7 Baseline		Year 8 Baseline		Year 9 Baseline		Year 10 Baseline	
3c. MILESTONE CATEGORIES	**3d. DURATION (Days)**	**3e. START DATE**	**3f. END DATE**	**Period 1**	**Period 2**	**Period 1**	**Period 2**	**Period 1**	**Period 2**	**Period 1**	**Period 2**	**Period 1**	**Period 2**
Overall Project	1310	2023-07-01	2027-01-31	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Environmental Assessment	365	2023-07-01	2024-06-30	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Network Design	107	2023-06-15	2023-09-30	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%

Rights Of Way	655	2023-06-15	2025-03-31	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Construction Permits And Other Approvals	655	2023-06-15	2025-03-31	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Site Preparation	487	2024-08-31	2025-12-31	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Equipment Procurement	548	2024-07-01	2025-12-31	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Network Build (all components - owned, leased, Indefeasible Rights of Use, etc.)	548	2024-07-01	2025-12-31	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Equipment Deployment	486	2024-09-01	2025-12-31	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Network Testing	667	2024-09-01	2026-06-30	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Status of Procurement	746	2023-06-15	2025-06-30	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%

Please use the table provided to indicate your ACTUAL percentage of completion on a bi-annual basis for each year of your project. Year 1 begins with your award start date.

The percentage of completion should be based primarily on the expenditure of your project budget and should be reported cumulatively from award inception through the end of each semi-annual reporting period. For example, if you expect to complete a particular milestone within the first three periods of your project, the third period and all subsequent periods should state 100%.

Please provide a brief description of the primary activities involved in meeting each milestone (a single description should be provided for each milestone, covering all periods in years one through N).

*** Period 1 ends September 30 and Period 2 ends March 31.

Please write the number “0” if your project does not include an activity. If necessary, please insert additional milestones at the bottom of the chart. Please add additional milestones as applicable.

ACTUAL PROJECT MILESTONES***		Year 1		Year 2		Year 3		Year 4		Year 5	
		Period 1	Period 2	Period 1	Period 2	Period 1	Period 2	Period 1	Period 2	Period 1	Period 2
4a. MILESTONE	**4b. DESCRIPTION**	**Actual Milestone Completion (Cumulative)**									
Overall Project	Overall actual project percentage of completion on bi-annual basis.	0%	1%	4%	5%	45%	87%				%
Environmental Assessment	Actual percentage completion of environmental assessment associated with this project.	25%	25%	15%	21%	100%	100%				%
Network Design	Project engineering, mapping, staking.	100%	100%	15%	21%	100%	100%				%
Rights Of Way	Obtain right-of-way and easements	5%	35%	15%	21%	90%	95%				%
Construction Permits And Other Approvals	Obtain permits and approvals.	5%	35%	15%	21%	85%	100%				%
Site Preparation	Readying site area for construction.	0%	0%	0%	0%	80%	100%				%

Equipment Procurement	Equipment was procured (leased) to complete a portion of the construction.	0%	0%	1%	1%	4%	83%				%
Network Build (all components - owned, leased, Indefeasible Rights of Use, etc.)	Actively constructing facilities.	0%	0%	0%	0%	65%	94%				%
Equipment Deployment	Equipment installation has started.	0%	0%	0%	0%	10%	33%				%
Network Testing	Network Testing will begin after equipment deployment.	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%				%
Status of Procurement	Obtain fiber and handholes.	5%	65%	3%	3%	100%	100%				%

ACTUAL PROJECT MILESTONES* **		**Year 6**		**Year 7**		**Year 8**		**Year 9**		**Year 10**	
		Period 1	**Period 2**	**Period 1**	**Period 2**	**Period 1**	**Period 2**	**Period 1**	**Period 2**	**Period 1**	**Period 2**
4a. MILESTONE	**4b. DESCRIPTION**	**Actual Milestone Completion (Cumulative)**									
Overall Project	Overall actual project percentage of completion on bi-annual basis.										%
Environmental Assessment	Actual percentage completion of environmental assessment associated with this project.										%
Network Design	Project engineering, mapping, staking.										%

Rights Of Way	Obtain right-of-way and easements										%
Construction Permits And Other Approvals	Obtain permits and approvals.										%
Site Preparation	Readying site area for construction.										%
Equipment Procurement	Equipment was procured (leased) to complete a portion of the construction.										%
Network Build (all components - owned, leased, Indefeasible Rights of Use, etc.)	Actively constructing facilities.										%
Equipment Deployment	Equipment installation has started.										%
Network Testing	Network Testing will begin after equipment deployment.										%
Status of Procurement	Obtain fiber and handholes.										%

Subrecipient and Subawards

List of Subrecipient(s) that received a subaward or subcontract from the eligible entity and a description of the specific project for which grant funds were provided.

Associate projects names to any subrecipient or subaward associated with grant, approved grant funds, and expenditures to date.

5a. Project Name	Status	5b. Project Description	5c. Subrecipient	5d. Minority Business Enterprise (MBE)	5e. Women's Business Enterprise (WBE)	5f. Labor Surplus Area Firm	5g. Awarded Funds	5h. Expenditures to Date	5i. Remaining Grant Balance	5j. % of work complete
Sapphire Ring - SMT	Active	Southern Montana Telephone will construct 22 miles of new fiber optical cable for this project. Project will connect to 99 miles of existing subrecipient owned fiber and result in a completed ring which is comprised of existing fiber and planned construction.	Southern Montana Telephone	**false**	**false**	**false**	$1594519.5	$1324932.44	$269587.06	83 %

D. INFRASTRUCTURE BUDGET EXECUTION DETAILS

Please provide details below on your total budget and total fund expended to date for each budget element, including detailed disbursements of both matching funds approved and federal funds obligated from project inception through end of this reporting period. Figures should be reported cumulatively from award inception to the end of the applicable reporting period.

6a. Projected Budget Element	6b. Federal Funds	6c. Non-Federal Funds	6d. Total Project Budget	6e. Total Federal Funds Expended to Date	6f. Total Non-Federal Funds Expended to Date	6g. Total Funds Expended	6h. Percent of Federal Funding Expended to Date (Cumulative)
6a. Administrative and legal expenses	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	N/A
6a. Land, structures, rights-of way, appraisals, etc.	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	N/A

6a. Relocation expenses and payments	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	N/A
6a. Architectural and engineering fees	$1,724,950.50	$739,264.50	$2,464,215.00	$1,204,897.47	$516,384.87	$1,721,282.34	70%
6a. Other architectural and engineering fees	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	N/A
6a. Project inspection fees	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	N/A
6a. Site work	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	N/A
6a. Demolition and removal	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	N/A
6a. Construction	$9,507,949.50	$4,074,835.50	$13,582,785.00	$8,941,804.00	$3,832,201.71	$12,774,005.71	94%
6a. Equipment	$523,600.00	$224,400.00	$748,000.00	$79,267.07	$33,971.37	$113,238.44	15%
6a. Miscellaneous	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	N/A
6a. Subtotal	$11,756,500.00	$5,038,500.00	$16,795,000.00	$10,225,968.54	$4,382,557.95	$14,608,526.49	87%
6a. Contingencies	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	N/A

6a. Totals	$11,756,500.00	$5,038,500.00	$16,795,000.00	$10,225,968.54	$4,382,557.95	$14,608,526.49	87%

E. COMMUNITY BENEFIT AGREEMENT	
As stated in the MM Grant Program NOFO a Community Benefit Agreement (CBA) is an agreement signed by community benefit groups and a developer, identifying the community benefits a developer agrees to deliver, in return for community support of the project. Please use the fields below to state the Community Benefit Group and Developer Name and describe the activities in how this partnership has supported with the Middle Mile Infrastructure project (i.e. wage agreements, targeting hiring of apprentices and disadvantaged groups in labor marker, education and training opportunities, sub-contracting to local small business for construction, services, and supply chain needs).	
Description of Community Agreement	
7a. Community Benefit Group Name: Please provide the name of the Community Benefit Group	These questions were answered via file upload. **Number of Community Agreements:** 0 **File(s) Uploaded with Responses:**
7b. Developer Name: Please provide the name of the Developer.	
7c. Community Benefit Group and Developer Partnership: Please describe in the space below the nature of the partnership and how the MM grant funds being used are assisting to provide community support for the infrastructure project.	

F. CLIMATE RESILIENCE
Recipients must demonstrate that they have sufficiently accounted for current and future weather and climate related risks to new MM infrastructure projects. At present, weather and climate related risks to broadband networks include wildfires, extreme heat and cold, inland and coastal flooding, and the extreme winds produced by weather events such as tornadoes, hurricanes, and other weather events. Because retrofitted and new infrastructure for broadband might be expected to have a lifetime of 20 years or more, recipients must account not only for current risks but also for how the frequency, severity, and nature of these extreme events may plausibly evolve as our climate continues to change over the coming decades.
Climate Resiliency Risk Mitigation

This purpose of this section is for the recipient to demonstrate that they have sufficiently accounted for current and future weather and climate-related risks to new MM infrastructure projects. In particular, each recipient should demonstrate how they've addressed the known and identifiable risks of current and future projected weather and climate conditions through measures such as (but not limited to) choice of a technology platform suitable to the climate risk of the region, reliance on alternatives siting of facilities (i.e., underground construction where appropriate), retrofitting, or hardening of existing assets, and use of network redundancy to safeguard against threats to infrastructure.

8a. Were any geographic areas identified for this reporting period subject to an initial and/or updated hazard screening for future weather and climate related risk? If so, please provide the date of the screening and provide related documentation as an attachment to this report.

No

8b. Climate Resilience Category	8c. Date of Most Recent Hazard Screening	8d. Name and Title of Representative Completing Most Recent Hazard Screening	8e. Date of Report Completion

No files uploaded for Hazard Screening.

8f. Identified Risk: For your MM project, what are the potential weather and climate hazards that may be most important to be addressed that could impact the resiliency of the middle mile infrastructure deployed (i.e. wildfires, extreme heat and cold, inland and coastal flooding, extreme winds: tornadoes, hurricanes and other weather events)?

Low Risk. Based on the FEMA National Risk Index weather and climate hazards that are most important to account for in the project area are extreme temperatures, wildfires, extreme snowfall, and earthquakes.

8g. Weather and Climate Hazards: Were any significant climate or weather hazards experienced during this reporting period (i.e., floods, tornados) impacting infrastructure buildout or service? Briefly describe how you monitored for weather and climate caused issues for the reliability of the system. If so, please provide the date of the disaster, location and backup documentation related (i.e., news articles).

No

Weather and climate caused issues were monitored using state and federal resources as well as local partner utilities.

8h. Risks to Deployment of New Infrastructure: Has the team identified any risks impacting the deployment of new or repaired infrastructure due to current and future weather and climate-related threats during this reporting period?

No

8i. Risk Mitigation: How will the project avoid and/or mitigate the risk identified? If not applicable, please explain why.

To avoid or mitigate the risks associated with weather and climate hazards the Recipient is deploying infrastructure that is rated to withstand extreme temperatures and earthquakes. Recipient is also deploying infrastructure in maintained easements along roadways minimizing the risk associated with wildfires and in conduit to mitigate the risk associated with potential flooding caused by unseasonal melting of extreme snowfall.

8j. Additional Information: Is there any additional information you would like to share during this reporting period that the grant team should be aware of regarding the management of sustainable climate resiliency for your MM project?

Recipient continues to monitor evolving climate related risks, annual climate resiliency review is planned for June of 2026.

8k. Additional Resources
Has the team utilized the available resources to assist with mitigation and long-term planning efforts for this reporting period? If so, which resources?
2018 National Climate Assessment
NOAA's 2022 State Climate Summaries
NOAA Disaster and Risk Mapping Tool
NOAA's Storms Event Database
NOAA Climate Explorer and Digital Coast
FEMA National Risk Index
Consulted FEMA-approved Hazard Mitigation Plans prepared by states in which they propose to build middle mile infrastructure to help identify key risk and hazards

No

G. Workforce

For projects receiving over $5,000,000 (based on expected total cost), as determined by the U.S. Secretary of Labor by subchapter IV of chapter 31 of title 40, United States Code (commonly known as the "Davis-Bacon Act"), all laborers and mechanics employed by contractors and subcontractors in the performance of such project are paid wages at rates not less than those prevailing.

Davis-Bacon Certification

9a. Does the recipient have access to the information requested (all laborers and mechanics employed by contractors and subcontractors in the performance of such project are paid wages at rates not less than those prevailing?)	Yes

Local Hire Prioritization and Impact

Local hiring is a goal or requirement to hire people who live close to the place of work. This aim is often more specifically structured as a requirement for contractors awarded certain types of publicly funded projects to recruit a certain proportion of the people working on the project from a particular area. Please **provide all direct hires and contractors supporting** the MM Infrastructure project.

Please use the table below to describe how the project prioritizes local hiring.

Hires by Race, Ethnicity and Sex	Number of Hires																			
	Race/Ethnicity																			
	9b. Hispanic or Latino			9c. Non-Hispanic/Non-Latino																Totals
				9c-1. Men						9c-2. Women										
	9b-1. Men	9b-2. Women		White	Black or African American	Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	Asian	Native American or Alaska Native	Two or More Races	White	Black or African American	Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	Asian	Native American or Alaska Native	Two or More Races						
Number of Local Direct Hires	0	0		20	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0						22

Number of Non-Local Direct Hires	0	0		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0						0
Percentage of Local Direct Hires on Award	0%	0%		100%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	100%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%						
Number of Local Subcontractors	0	0		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0						0
Number of Non-Local Subcontractors	0	0		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0						0
Percentage of Local Subcontractors on Award	0%	0%		0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%						

Davis-Bacon Act Wages	
Please confirm if wages are at least prevailing*	
*As stated in the MM NOFO as determined by the U.S. Secretary Labor in accordance with subchapter IV of chapter 31 of title 40, United States Code (commonly known as the "Davis-Bacon Act"), for the corresponding classes of laborers and mechanics employed on projects of a character similar to the contract work in the civil subdivision of the State (or the District of Columbia) in which the work is to be performed.	
10a. Are wage rates at least the Davis-Bacon prevailing wage for all laborers?	Yes

10b. Please cite your source of how this information was gathered (for 10a).	Recipient ensures prevailing wages are paid through use of labor and contractor contracts. Recipient validates its negotiated labor agreement and contractor contracts against the prevailing wage to ensure that contracts are in alignment. When evaluating contactor invoicing it ensures that the invoice amount matches the contacted amount.
10c. Are wage rates at least the prevailing wage for all mechanics?	Yes
10d. Please cite your source of how this information was gathered (for 10c).	Recipient ensures prevailing wages are paid through use of labor and contractor contracts. Recipient validates its negotiated labor agreement and contractor contracts against the prevailing wage to ensure that contracts are in alignment. When evaluating contactor invoicing it ensures that the invoice amount matches the contacted amount.
10e. If you answered "No" to either 10a. or 10c., please provide an attachment reporting the wages and benefits of workers on the project by job classification, and whether those wages are less than the prevailing wage.	

Workforce Demographic Data					
Jobs by Race, Ethnicity and Sex	Number of Jobs				
	Race/Ethnicity				
	11-a. Hispanic or Latino	11b. Non-Hispanic/Non-Latino			Totals
		11b-1. Men	11b-2. Women		

Workforce Demographic Data																				
	11a-1. Men	11a-2. Women		White	Black or African American	Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	Asian	Native American or Alaska Native	Two or More Races	White	Black or African American	Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	Asian	Native American or Alaska Native	Two or More Races						
Jobs Created	0	0		0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0						1
Jobs Retained	0	0		6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0						6

Unionized Workforce	
12-a. Does this project include some workforce elements that are unionized?	Yes
12-b. Are workers provided access to union educators/organizers on employer property or during the work day?	Yes
12-c. Does your MM project utilize a project labor agreement?	Yes
12-d. Did workers receive additional information or training about their workplace rights in addition to already required notice postings?	Yes

H. Workforce Continuity Plan
National Labor Relations Act (29 U.S.C. 158 (f)

As stated in the MM NOFO, if a recipient has not provided a certification that a project either will use a unionized project workforce or included a project labor agreement, meaning a pre-hire collective bargaining agreement consistent with section 8(f) of the National Labor Relations Act (29 U.S.C. 158 (f)), then the recipient must provide a project workforce continuity plan.

Workforce Continuity Plan
13a. Please describe the steps taken to ensure the project has ready access to a sufficient supply of appropriately skilled and unskilled labor to ensure construction is completed skillfully throughout the project's life (as required in Section III.B of the MM NOFO). As stated in the MM NOFO, the middle mile grant recipient is capable of carrying out the proposed project in a competent manner, including a plan to attract or retain an appropriate skilled and credentialed workforce.
Recipient ensures the use of an appropriately skilled workforce through apprenticeships/internships and/or training programs that serve all workers and require contactors to provide evidence that their work force is appropriately skilled at the time of the bidding process. Recipient ensures that directly employed workforce is appropriately skilled by making sure that all members working on a project have appropriate credentials, licenses, and occupational training prior to work. Workforce assigned to the NTIA Middle Mile Grant (“MMG”) project is made up of a combination of direct employed unionized, and contracted, workforce.
For your MM project, please provide a brief description of efforts made to attract, train or retain a skilled and credentialed workforce.
Recipient ensures the use of an appropriately skilled workforce through apprenticeships/internships and/or training programs that serve all workers and require contactors to provide evidence that their work force is appropriately skilled at the time of the bidding process. Recipient ensures that directly employed workforce is appropriately skilled by making sure that all members working on a project have appropriate credentials, licenses, and occupational training prior to work. Workforce assigned to the NTIA Middle Mile Grant (“MMG”) project is made up of a combination of direct employed unionized, and contracted, workforce.
Has the team offered any of the following resources to assist with maintaining a sufficient supply of appropriately skilled labor force for this reporting period? If so, which resources (please provide a brief description of any of the following that apply): Professional Certifications In-House Training Registered Apprenticeships Labor-Management Partnerships Partnerships with entities like unions, community colleges, or community-based groups
Professional certifications, in-house training, partnerships with community colleges and trade associations.
13b. Please describe below, the steps taken to minimize risks of labor disputes and disruptions that would jeopardize the timeliness and cost-effectiveness of completing the MM project.
Recipient partners well with its labor union, the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW), Local 768. Grantee and the IBEW’s Business Agent have a long history of an effective relationship and dialog. If issues arise, which are very rare, both the Recipient and the IBEW work hard to communicate effectively and solve problems. Both parties share many mutual interests including but not limited to the importance of employees, customers and the overall success of Recipient. Recipient and the IBEW were successful in reaching a 3 year Collective Bargaining Agreement that covers 1/1/26 to 12/31/28. Finally, Recipient has had one grievance in the last 10 years. This is a testament to the respect Recipient shows to the Collective Bargaining Agreement and addressing concerns long before a grievance is necessary. Where labor comes from sources other than Recipient's own workforce the Recipient has negotiated contracts. The contracts, in part, aim to minimize risks of labor disputes and disruptions. The contracts also address obligations that the contractor must meet which will include labor standard requirements the Recipient has agreed to. Further, Recipient has a good relationship with a number of contractors it has utilized for other broadband deployment projects. Recipient has never experienced a contractor related labor disruption. This is a testament to the quality of the contractors recipient works with.
13c. Please describe below the steps to ensure a safe and healthy workplace that avoids delays and costs associated with workplace illnesses, injuries, and fatalities.
Recipient has an active safety committee focused on ensuring a safe and healthy workplace. In addition to that the Recipient has a health program which sets a health focused culture that provides incentives for employees to participate in wellness fairs, wellness program, exercise and healthy activities.

13d. For your MM project, please provide a brief description below of efforts made to ensure a safe and healthy workplace.
Recipient has an active safety committee focused on ensuring a safe and healthy workplace. In addition to that the Recipient has a health program which sets a health focused culture that provides incentives for employees to participate in wellness fairs, wellness program, exercise and healthy activities.
Has the team offered any of the following resources to assist with maintaining a safe and healthy workplace for this reporting period? If so, which resources (please provide a brief description of any of the following that apply): Safety Training Certifications and/or Licensure Requirements for all relevant works (e.g., OSHA 10, OSHA 30, confined space, traffic control, or other training required of workers employed by contractors) Issues raised by workplace safety committees and their resolutions
Safety training, certifications (i.e. climbing), and Safety Committee.

Subcontracted Entities Information
As stated in the MM NOFO, if a recipient has not provided a certification that a project either will use a unionized project workforce or included a project labor agreement, meaning a pre-hire collective bargaining agreement consistent with section 8(f) of the National Labor Relations Act (29 U.S.C. 158 (f)), then the recipient must provide a project workforce continuity plan.
13e. Please provide the name(s) below of any subcontracted entities performing work on the project, and the total number of workers employed by each entity.

13e-1. Name of Subcontracted Entity Performing Work	Status	13e-2. Total Number of Workers within this Subcontract	13e-3. Job Categories of Workers Supporting Project within this Subcontract
JSI	Active	3	Professional Engineer
EthnoTech	Active	1	Archaeologist
Heberly & Associates	Active	2	Professional Engineer
RMC	Active	12	Professional Construction Company
Grid Point Solutions	Active	2	Professional Construction Company
DSI	Active	4	Professional Construction Company
SCI	Active	10	Professional Construction Company

Grizzly Broadband	Active	4	Broadband provider offering professional construction services.
Grizzly	Active	3	Professional Construction Company

13f. Please describe below the steps taken to ensure that workers on the project receive wages and benefits sufficient to secure an appropriately skilled workforce in the context of the local and regional labor market.

Recipient ensures the use of an appropriately skilled workforce through apprenticeships/internships and/or training programs that serve all workers and require contactors to provide evidence that their work force is appropriately skilled at the time of the bidding process. Recipient ensures that directly employed workforce is appropriately skilled by making sure that all members working on a project have appropriate credentials, licenses, and occupational training prior to work. Workforce assigned to the NTIA Middle Mile Grant ("MMG") project is made up of a combination of direct employed unionized, and contracted, workforce. Recipient's workforce wages are set by a collective bargaining agreement. Where labor comes from sources other than Recipient's own workforce the Recipient has negotiated contracts. The contracts, in part, aim to minimize risks of labor disputes and disruptions. The contracts also address obligations that the contractor must meet which will include labor standard requirements the Recipient has agreed to. Further, Recipient has a good relationship with a number of contractors it has utilized for other broadband deployment projects. Recipient has never experienced a contractor related labor disruption. This is a testament to the quality of the contractors recipient works with.

I. ANCHOR INSTITUTIONS

Please provide Anchor Institution (AI) data for the current period only (not cumulative). Please add rows as needed.

14a. Anchor Institution Name	These questions were answered via file upload. **File Uploaded with Responses:** 2.5.2.1 Community Anchor Institution 2023.03.24.xlsx
14b. Street Address	
14c. City	
14d. State	
14e. Type of Anchor Institution	
14f. Interconnection with 1,000 Feet of AI Enabling Gig Symmetrical Service	
14g. Narrative Description of how the Anchor Institution may benefit from the Grant Funded Infrastructure	

J. BROADBAND ACCESS KEY INDICATOR: SUBSCRIBERS AND SPEED

Please use the following table to provide anticipated key indicators with the projected totals for each beneficiary category, access type and speed category for your infrastructure service or project. Except as indicated, information should be reported cumulatively from award inception through the end of the bi-annual period for Bi-Annual Indicators. Please write the number “0” if your project does not include this indicator.

*** Period 1 ends September 30 and Period 2 ends March 31.

PROJECTED NUMBER OF SUBSCRIBERS AND SPEED	Year 1		Year 2		Year 3		Year 4		Year 5	
ACCESS TYPE	Period 1	Period 2	Period 1	Period 2	Period 1	Period 2	Period 1	Period 2	Period 1	Period 2
15a. Anchor Institutions (AIs)* **										
15a-1. Total Number of AIs passed	0	0	0	0	0	67				
15a-2 Number of AIs within 1,000 feet of the middle mile infrastructure	0	0	0	0	0	67				
15a-3. Total number of AIs served	0	0	0	0	0	0				
15a-4. AIs with new access	0	0	0	0	0	0				
15a-5. AIs with improved access	0	0	0	0	0	0				
15a-6. Total number of AIs served with speeds of at least 1/1Gbps	0	0	0	0	0	0				
15b. Broadband Wholesalers or Last Mile Providers* **										
15b-1. Total number of broadband wholesalers or last mile providers served	0	0	0	0	0	0				%
15b-2 Broadband wholesalers or last mile providers with new access	0	0	0	0	0	0				%
15b-3. Broadband wholesalers or last mile providers with improved access	0	0	0	0	0	0				%
15b-4. Total number of broadband wholesalers or last mile providers offering speeds of at least 25/3 Mbps	0	0	0	0	0	0				%

15b-5. Total number of broadband wholesalers or last mile providers offering speeds of at least 100/20 Mbps	0	0	0	0	0	0				%
15b-6. Total number of broadband wholesalers or last mile providers offering speeds of at least 1/1 Gbps	0	0	0	0	0	0				%

PROJECTED NUMBER OF SUBSCRIBERS AND SPEED	**Year 6**		**Year 7**		**Year 8**		**Year 9**		**Year 10**	
ACCESS TYPE	**Period 1**	**Period 2**	**Period 1**	**Period 2**	**Period 1**	**Period 2**	**Period 1**	**Period 2**	**Period 1**	**Period 2**
15a. Anchor Institutions (AIs)* **										
15a-1. Total Number of AIs passed										
15a-2 Number of AIs within 1,000 feet of the middle mile infrastructure										
15a-3. Total number of AIs served										
15a-4. AIs with new access										
15a-5. AIs with improved access										
15a-6. Total number of AIs served with speeds of at least 1/1Gbps										
15b. Broadband Wholesalers or Last Mile Providers* **										
15b-1. Total number of broadband wholesalers or last mile providers served										
15b-2 Broadband wholesalers or last mile providers with new access										
15b-3. Broadband wholesalers or last mile providers with improved access										

15b-4. Total number of broadband wholesalers or last mile providers offering speeds of at least 25/3 Mbps										
15b-5. Total number of broadband wholesalers or last mile providers offering speeds of at least 100/20 Mbps										
15b-6. Total number of broadband wholesalers or last mile providers offering speeds of at least 1/1 Gbps										

K. BROADBAND ACCESS KEY INDICATOR: NETWORK BUILD PROGRESS

Please use the following table to provide anticipated key indicators and progress of your Infrastructure project. Except as indicated, information should be reported cumulatively from award inception through the end of the bi-annual period. Please write the number “0” if your project does not include this indicator.

*** Period 1 ends September 30 and Period 2 ends March 31.

NETWORK BUILD PROGRESS***	Year 1		Year 2		Year 3		Year 4		Year 5	
KEY INDICATOR	**Period 1**	**Period 2**	**Period 1**	**Period 2**	**Period 1**	**Period 2**	**Period 1**	**Period 2**	**Period 1**	**Period 2**
16a. Total of new fiber miles (aerial or buried)	0	0	0	0	58	130				
16b. Total of fiber miles leased	0	0	0	0	0	0				
16c. Total of existing fiber miles upgraded	0	0	0	0	0	0				
16d. Total number of new microwave links	0	0	0	0	0	0				
16e. Total number of new towers	0	0	0	0	0	0				

16f. Total number of new interconnection points	0	0	0	0	0	5				
16g. Total number of signed agreements with broadband wholesalers or last mile providers	0	0	0	0	0	0				
16h. Total of potential agreements (i.e., agreements currently being negotiated) with broadband wholesalers or last mile providers (This Total should NOT be reported cumulatively)	0	0	0	0	0	11				

NETWORK BUILD PROGRESS***	Year 6		Year 7		Year 8		Year 9		Year 10	
KEY INDICATOR	**Period 1**	**Period 2**	**Period 1**	**Period 2**	**Period 1**	**Period 2**	**Period 1**	**Period 2**	**Period 1**	**Period 2**
16a. Total of new fiber miles (aerial or buried)										
16b. Total of fiber miles leased										
16c. Total of existing fiber miles upgraded										
16d. Total number of new microwave links										
16e. Total number of new towers										
16f. Total number of new interconnection points										
16g. Total number of signed agreements with broadband wholesalers or last mile providers										

16h. Total of potential agreements (i.e., agreements currently being negotiated) with broadband wholesalers or last mile providers (This Total should NOT be reported cumulatively)										

L. QUANTIFIABLE METRICS

Quantifiable Metrics - Section designed to assist with **reporting** and **audit** purpose to quantify how much progress was made and track the location of where the progress was made.

*** Period 1 ends September 30 and Period 2 ends March 31.

17a. Fiber Optic Based ***	Year 1		Year 2		Year 3		Year 4		Year 5	
	Period 1	Period 2	Period 1	Period 2	Period 1	Period 2	Period 1	Period 2	Period 1	Period 2
17a-1. Is the fiber a buried/aerial or undersea application?	Buried/aerial	Buried/aerial	Buried/Aerial	buried/aerial	Buried/Aerial	Buried/Aerial				
17a-2. Number of strands deployed	0	0	0	0	432	432				
17a-3. Number of miles of buried fiber deployed	0	0	0	0	58.64	130.11				
17a-4. Number of miles of aerial fiber deployed	0	0	0	0	0	0				
17a-5. Estimated capacity of fiber (i.e. throughput)	0	0	0	0	400000	400000				
17a-6. Deployment cost per mile of buried fiber optics	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$96,765.00	$112,278.00				
17a-7. Deployment cost per mile of aerial fiber optics	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00				
17a-8. Total Spent on Buried Fiber Deployment this reporting period	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$5,674,350.98	$8,934,175.51				
17a-9. Total Spent on Aerial Fiber Deployment this reporting period	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00				

17a-10. Total spent on Fiber Deployment this reporting period	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$5,674,350.98	$8,934,175.51				

17a. Fiber Optic Based ***	**Year 6**		**Year 7**		**Year 8**		**Year 9**		**Year 10**	
	Period 1	**Period 2**	**Period 1**	**Period 2**	**Period 1**	**Period 2**	**Period 1**	**Period 2**	**Period 1**	**Period 2**
17a-1. Is the fiber a buried/aerial or undersea application?										
17a-2. Number of strands deployed										
17a-3. Number of miles of buried fiber deployed										
17a-4. Number of miles of aerial fiber deployed										
17a-5. Estimated capacity of fiber (i.e. throughput)										
17a-6. Deployment cost per mile of buried fiber optics										
17a-7. Deployment cost per mile of aerial fiber optics										
17a-8. Total Spent on Buried Fiber Deployment this reporting period										
17a-9. Total Spent on Aerial Fiber Deployment this reporting period										
17a-10. Total spent on Fiber Deployment this reporting period										

17a. Fiber Optic Based *, Long Text Responses and File Uploads**
Current Period (Year 3, Period 2)

17a-11. Please provide any additional information about the Fiber Optic deployment (200 words or less)	Deployment is substantially complete with only a small portion of the ring remaining to be finished. A strand count of 432 is populated in 17a-2 but there are other strand counts being used in this project. Strand counts vary based on projected long-term needs in any given area project features 432, 288, 144 and 72 strand counts. It is also worth noting that this project features a small amount of aerial fiber - Hamilton Crossing 540 ft which is completed and Lolo crossing of 400 ft that is pending spring high waters to recede to complete. As clarification to 17a-5, Recipient will offer dark fiber as well as lit services on the ring.
17a-12. Please provide the digital mappings (e.g., CAD, Revit, KMZ, KML) for the new aerial fiber and buried fiber equipment installed during this reporting period.	**File(s) uploaded for digital mappings:** NTIA route completion.kmz

17b. Microwave Based ***	Year 1		Year 2		Year 3		Year 4		Year 5	
	Period 1	Period 2	Period 1	Period 2	Period 1	Period 2	Period 1	Period 2	Period 1	Period 2
17b-1. How many microwave nodes have been deployed?	0	0	0	0	0	0				
17b-2. How many microwave nodes are operating for reporting period?	0	0	0	0	0	0				
17b-3. Installation cost per microwavable node	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00				
17b-4. Number of new towers built to support microwave structure	0	0	0	0	0	0				
17b-5. If applicable, what type of tower was constructed (a) Monopole (b) Self-Support, (c) Guyed, or (d) Other during this reporting period?	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A				
17b-6. Average cost per tower installed	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00				
17b-7. Total spend on Tower deployment this reporting period	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00				
17b-8. Total spend on microwave deployment this reporting period	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00				

17b. Microwave Based ***	Year 6	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10

	Period 1	Period 2	Period 1	Period 2	Period 1	Period 2	Period 1	Period 2	Period 1	Period 2
17b-1. How many microwave nodes have been deployed?										
17b-2. How many microwave nodes are operating for reporting period?										
17b-3. Installation cost per microwavable node										
17b-4. Number of new towers built to support microwave structure										
17b-5. If applicable, what type of tower was constructed (a) Monopole (b) Self-Support, (c) Guyed, or (d) Other during this reporting period?										
17b-6. Average cost per tower installed										
17b-7. Total spend on Tower deployment this reporting period										
17b-8. Total spend on microwave deployment this reporting period										

17b. Microwave *, Long Text Responses and File Uploads**	
Current Period (Year 3, Period 2)	
17b-9. If you answered "Other" to question 17b-5 or if it is a combination of multiple types, please provide a detailed narrative description detailing what type of tower or what combination of towers is used for the project and the associated costs. (200 words or less).	0
17b-10. Please provide the digital mappings (e.g., CAD, Revit, KMZ, KML) for the microwave nodes created during this reporting period.	

17c. Satellite ***	**Year 1**	**Year 2**	**Year 3**	**Year 4**	**Year 5**

	Period 1	Period 2	Period 1	Period 2	Period 1	Period 2	Period 1	Period 2	Period 1	Period 2
17c-1. What satellite provider is being used?	N/A	N/A	N/A	0	0	0				
17c-2. What is the estimated capacity of the satellite link (i.e. throughput)?	0	0	0	0	0	0				
17c-3. What is the associated cost to use this satellite service?	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00				

17c. Satellite ***	Year 6		Year 7		Year 8		Year 9		Year 10	
	Period 1	Period 2	Period 1	Period 2	Period 1	Period 2	Period 1	Period 2	Period 1	Period 2
17c-1. What satellite provider is being used?										
17c-2. What is the estimated capacity of the satellite link (i.e. throughput)?										
17c-3. What is the associated cost to use this satellite service?										

17c. Satellite *, Long Text Responses and File Uploads**	
Current Period (Year 3, Period 2)	
17c-4. Please provide any additional information about the Satellite deployment (200 words or less)	0
17c-5. Please provide the digital mappings (e.g., CAD, Revit, KMZ, KML) for the satellite network accessed during this reporting period.	

Certifications

18. Please provide certification evidencing compliance with Federal labor and employment laws along with the requirements of Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act and Middle Mile Grant Program, for the bi-annual period for which this report is being filed.
I certify that Blackfoot Telephone Cooperative, Inc. is in compliance with Federal labor and employment laws along with the requirements of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act and Middle Mile Grant Program, for the biannual period for which this report is being filed.
19. Please provide certification evidencing compliance with the Build America, Buy America Act. The Build America, Buy America Act requires that all of the iron, steel, manufactured products (including but not limited to fiber-optic communications facilities), and construction materials used in the project or other eligible activities are produced in the United States unless a waiver is granted.
I certify that Blackfoot Telephone Cooperative, Inc. is in compliance with the Build America, Buy America Act. **File Uploaded:** 30-40-MM480-CD-450 MMG Inventory Report 2025.03.31_REVISED 4.xlsx, NTIA Performance Reporting SF425_3_0-V3.0_for signature - signed.pdf, 30-40-MM480-CD-450 MMG Inventory Report 2025.12.15.xlsx

20. I certify to the best of my knowledge and belief that this report is correct and complete for performance of activities for the purposes set forth in the award documents.	
20a. Typed or Printed Name and Title of Authorized Certifying Official:	Stacey Mueller
20b. Signature of Certifying Official:	Stacey Mueller
20c. Telephone (area code, number and extension):	4065415000
20d. Email Address:	smueller@blackfoot.com
20e. Date:	06/10/2026