

**INTERNET
FOR ALL**

Kansas Permitting Workshop Meeting the Permitting Challenge

April 25, 2024











NTIA's Broadband Grant Programs



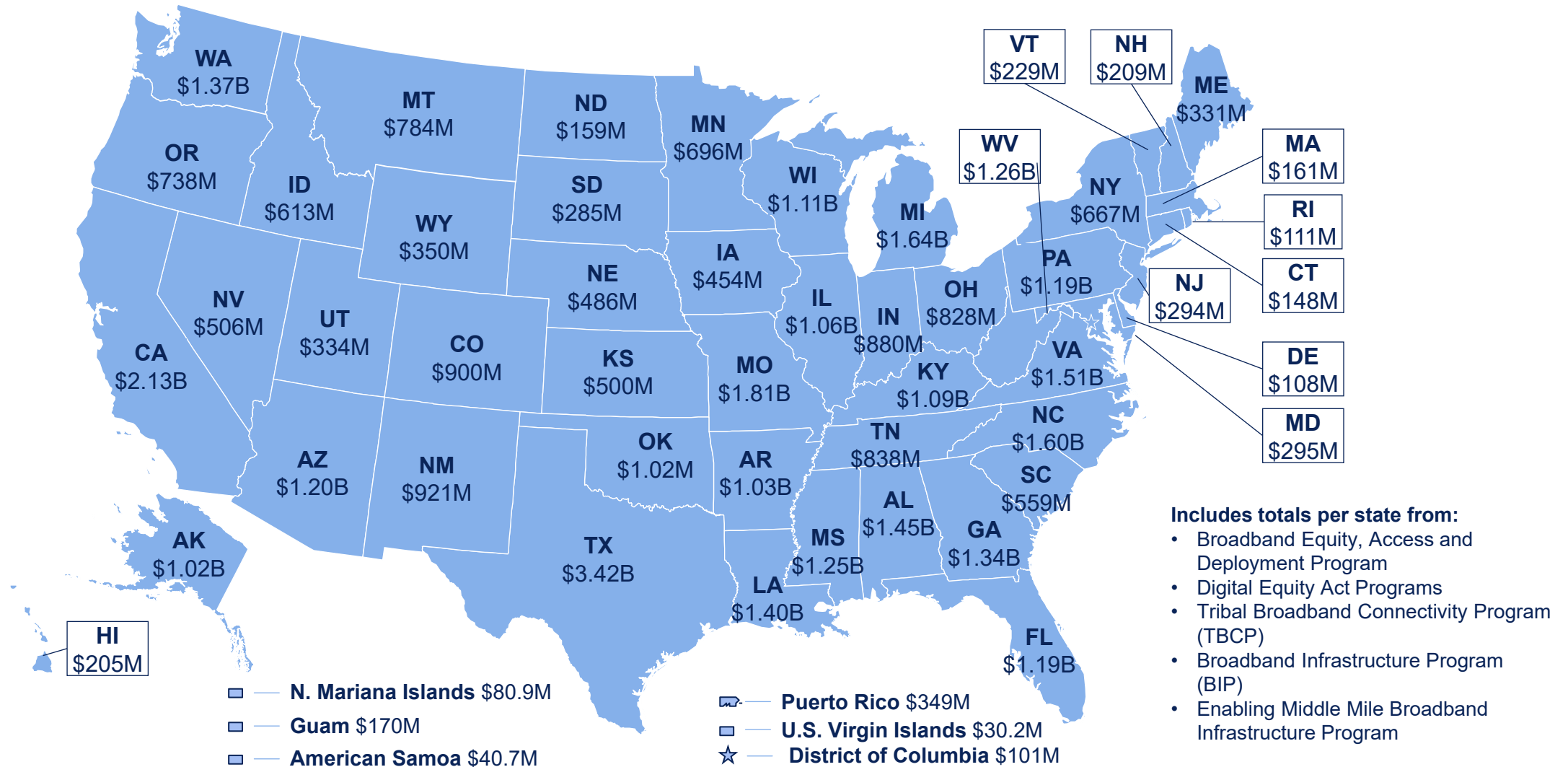
The Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2021 (CAA) and the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) authorized **\$49.5B across 7 programs** to achieve universal access to reliable, high speed, and affordable

Internet

Program	Funding Source	Purpose
Broadband Equity, Access and Deployment Program (BEAD)	 \$42.45B <i>Formula</i>	Planning and execution of competitive broadband subgrants to deploy infrastructure and promote accessibility and equity
State Digital Equity Planning and Capacity Grant Programs	 \$1.5B <i>Formula</i>	Promote achievement of digital equity, support digital inclusion activities, and broadband adoption
Digital Equity Competitive Grant Program	 \$1.25B <i>Competitive</i>	Promote achievement of digital equity, support digital inclusion activities, and broadband adoption
Middle Mile Deployment Grant Program	 \$1B <i>Competitive</i>	Encourage expansion and extension of middle mile infrastructure and promote resiliency
Tribal Broadband Connectivity Program (TBCP)	 \$1B (CAA) +  \$2B (IIJA) <i>Competitive</i>	Build broadband infrastructure deployment projects, use and adoption and equitable distributions
Connecting Minority Communities (CMC) Pilot Program	 \$268M <i>Competitive</i>	Support purchase of broadband service, equipment and devices, and hiring/training of IT personnel
Broadband Infrastructure Program (BIP)	 \$288M <i>Competitive</i>	Support broadband infrastructure deployment to areas lacking broadband, especially rural areas



Internet For All | NTIA Funding by State/Territory

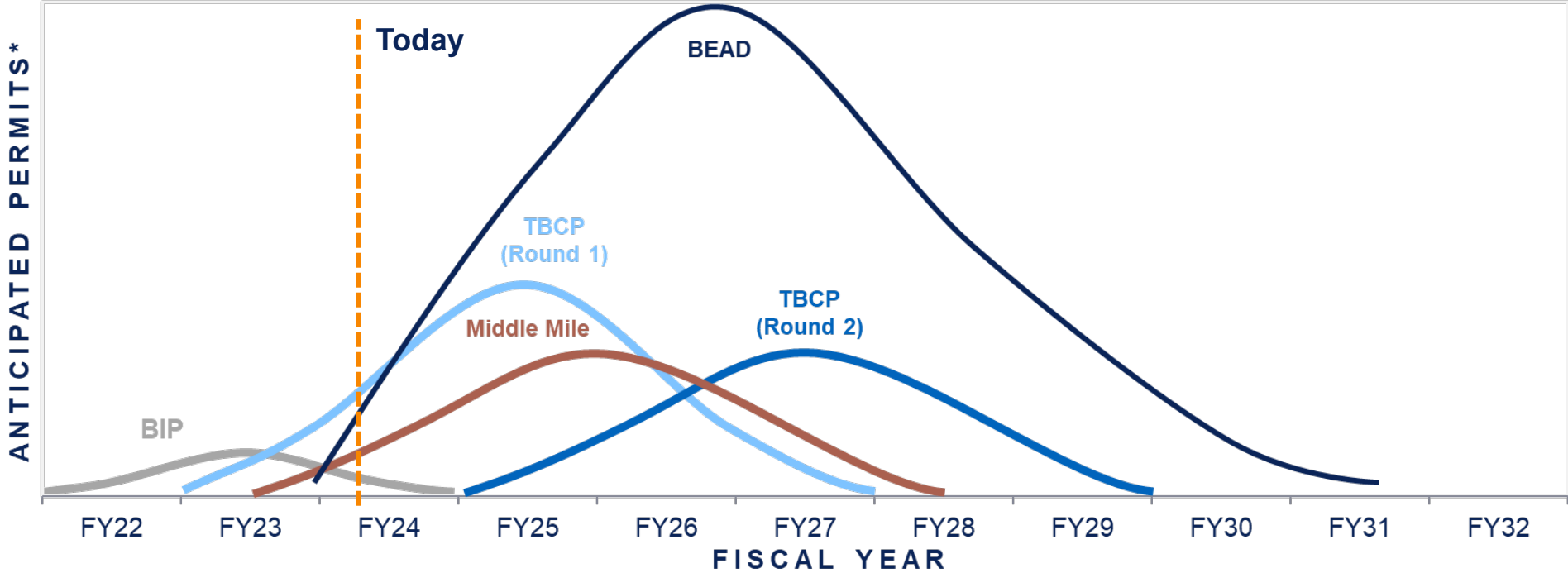




Conceptual Timeline for Permitting Influx



The highest volume of permitting activity is anticipated for projects funded by the BEAD Program. BEAD projects may initiate beginning in late 2024, with permitting activity expected to reach its peak in 2026-2027.



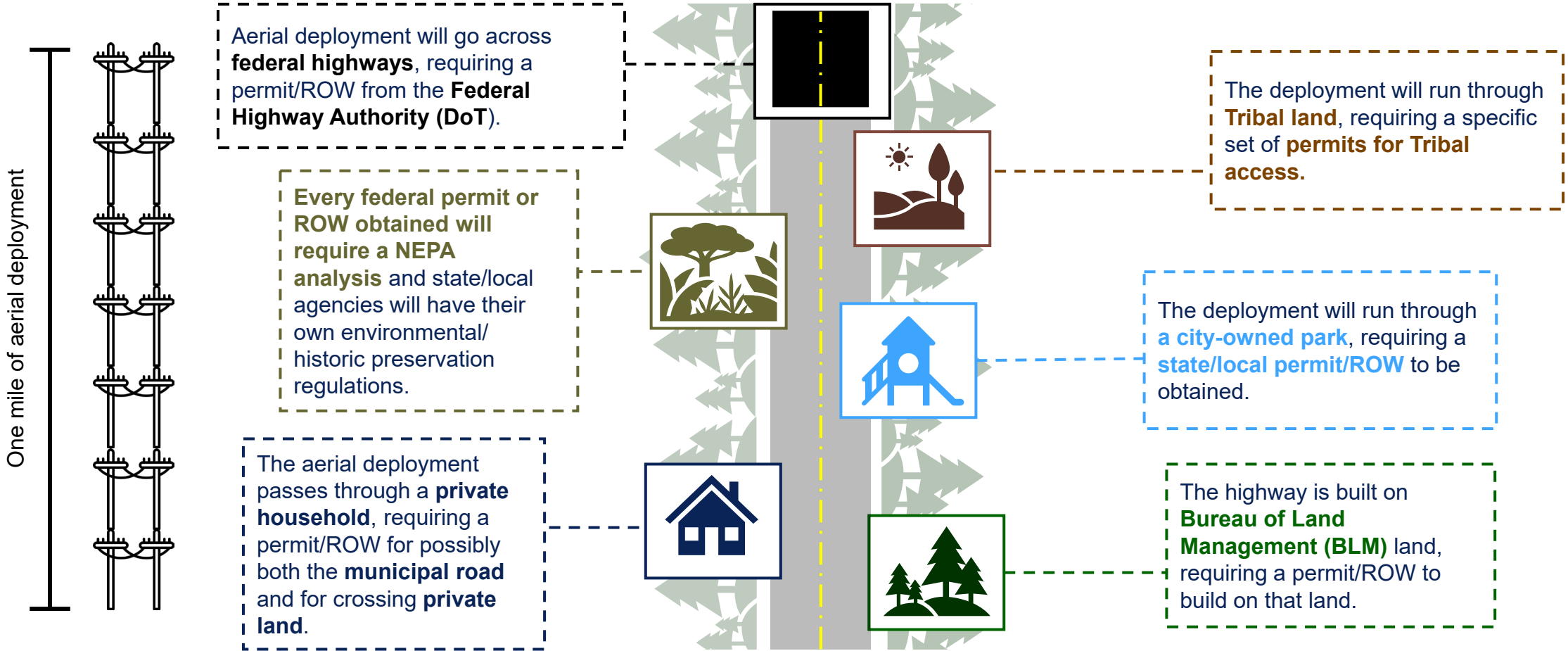
Permitting requests and processes across infrastructure programs, including broadband, will have compounding effects on federal resource management agencies, requiring greater resources to meet permitting needs.

**Note: This timeline is conceptual in nature and not intended to depict accurate permitting magnitude.*



Permitting Landscape

Construction of a simple one-mile broadband deployment can require various local, state, and/or federal permits.



Programmatic Efficiencies & Tools

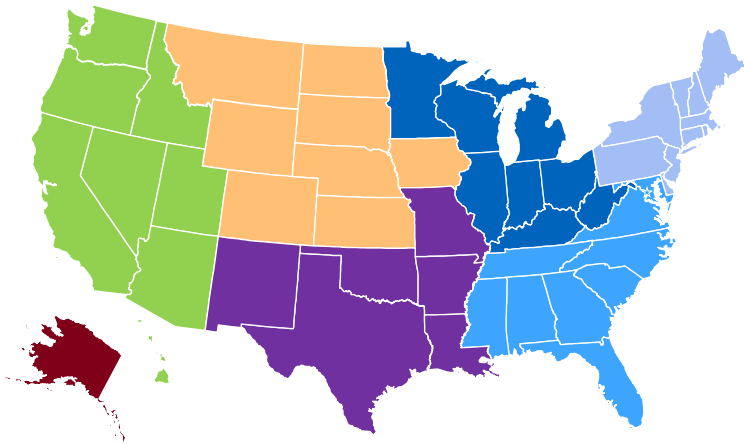


Regional Permitting Interagency Broadband Meetings



NTIA has held regional interagency broadband permitting meetings between September 2023 and March 2024 to share permitting information and establish relationships with key federal participants.

REGIONAL INTERAGENCY MEETINGS



Purpose: Share permitting information, key program deadlines, and foster a bi-lateral dialogue between NTIA and other federal agencies across the permitting landscape.

Regions:

- September 2023: **Northern Plains**
- October 2023: **Midwest**
- November 2023: **West**
- December 2023: **Northeast**
- January 2024: **Southeast**
- February 2024: **Southwest**
- March 2024: **Alaska/Territories**

8 agencies represented:

- Army Corps of Engineers
- Bureau of Indian Affairs
- Bureau of Land Management
- Forest Service
- Fish and Wildlife Service
- National Parks Service
- Federal Highway Administration
- NOAA

230+ Total Federal Participants



NHPA Section 106: Program Comment Amendment



In 2017, the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP) issued a ***Program Comment for Communications Projects on Federal Lands and Property*** to expedite review of broadband deployments by providing Federal land and property management agencies with a uniform Section 106 review standard tailored to broadband build outs.

PROGRAM COMMENT AMENDMENT

- ***NTIA requested that the ACHP make the program comment available to all agencies for all broadband projects everywhere***
- ***The ACHP*** consulted with SHPOs, Tribes, federal agencies, the National Trust for Historic Preservation and broadband stakeholders and ***issued the amendment on March 14, 2024***
- In addition to expanding the availability of the program comment, the ACHP has:
 - Expanded exclusions for pole replacements at industry's request
 - Provided the option for applying the program comments to reviews including National Historic Landmarks and Tribal lands upon agreement of the National Park Service or affected Tribe
 - Added a provision addressing compensation for consulting parties that is consistent with its past guidance (if an agency or applicant requests a consulting party to perform specific duties, a contractual agreement is appropriate)
- The program comment simplifies and clarifies historic preservation review rules for broadband infrastructure and limits or removes Section 106 review requirements if certain conditions apply
- Historic properties and threatened and endangered species are the top two environmental resource risk areas for broadband projects

NTIA did not previously have a comprehensive broadband program alternative, requiring each project review to be negotiated independently.



NTIA has added 36 Categorical Exclusions and developed a programmatic strategy to facilitate NEPA compliance.

NEPA



30 New Categorical Exclusions

The Council on Environmental Quality approved 30 new Categorical Exclusions that are available as of Federal Register Publication on April 2, 2024.



Adoption of Six Additional Categorical Exclusions from FirstNet

NTIA supplemented the new Categorical Exclusions by adopting six from FirstNet (Federal Register Notice) and clarifying that Departmental Categorical Exclusions remain available for IFA programs.



Adoption of Programmatic Environmental Impact Statements (PEIS) Applicable in Each State and Territory

NTIA is revalidating and adopting the analysis in the First Responder Network Authority's Regional Programmatic Environmental Impact Statements (PEISs). Eligible Entities that evaluate the analysis in the PEIS covering their state may streamline many project specific NEPA reviews by "tiering off" the detailed NEPA studies and incorporating Best Management Practices (BMP) or mitigation measures.



Web-based GIS Permitting and Environmental Screening Templates



Integrated BEAD Project Tracking System



Technical Assistance and Support

Mapping and Data Tools



NTIA offers mapping and data tools for permitting and environmental reviews to federal agency partners and Eligible Entities.

AGENCY HEAT MAP RESOURCES

USFS National Snapshot

Key Takeaways

- Of all Broadband Serviceable Locations (BSLs) on U.S. Forest Service (USFS) lands nationwide, 32% are unserved and 12% are underserved.
- The Eastern and Southern Regions have the highest number of unserved and underserved BSLs and can expect a higher volume of permitting traffic from Internet For All programs.
- The Southwest Region has the largest relative connectivity deficits of any USFS region and may experience a steep increase in permitting requests from the Internet For All programs.
- The following state snapshots have not been included due to lack of corresponding unserved and underserved BSL data: Connecticut, Delaware, Hawaii, Iowa, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Jersey, Rhode Island.

National Snapshot

Location Classification	BSLs on USFS Lands Nationwide
Unserved Locations	486,311
Underserved Locations	178,827

USFS Regional Snapshots

Region	USFS BSLs	Unserved	Underserved
Alaska	1,269	1,269	0
Pacific NW	16,180	11,332	4,848
Intermountain	19,785	7,525	12,260
Eastern	127,822	34,588	93,234

USFS Regions

Legend:
● Unserved
● Underserved
● USFS Land
□ State Boundary

NBAM PERMITTING LAYERS



About

The National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) received funding from Congress in 2016 to update the National Broadband Availability Map (NBAM) in coordination with the Federal Communications Commission (FCC). Congress directed NTIA to acquire and utilize data from available third party datasets, NTIA, and other eligible participants to identify data from federal, state, local and tribal governments, owners and operators of broadband networks, educational institutions, nonprofits, and cooperatives to create the map.

The NBAM is a GIS platform used to visualize and analyze federal, state, and commercial broadband data sets. This includes data from the Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC), the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA), the Economic Development Administration (EDA), the Minority Business Development Agency (MBDA), U.S. Census Bureau, Federal Communications Commission (FCC), U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), U.S. Department of the Treasury, Office of Management and Budget, White House and the state governments. Users, including administrators from all participating states, tribal entities, and state federal agencies, access the NBAM mapping platform and use these data resources to better inform broadband projects and funding decisions in their states.

NTIA's National Broadband Availability Map (NBAM) includes 49 state participants: Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, West Virginia, Wisconsin, and Wyoming; three U.S. territories: American Samoa, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI), and Puerto Rico; as well as seven federal agencies: Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC), the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA), the Economic Development Administration (EDA), the Federal Communications Commission (FCC), the Minority Business Development Agency (MBDA), U.S. Census Bureau, U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), and U.S. Department of the Treasury.



NBAM Permitting States Shown in Green



Additional Resources

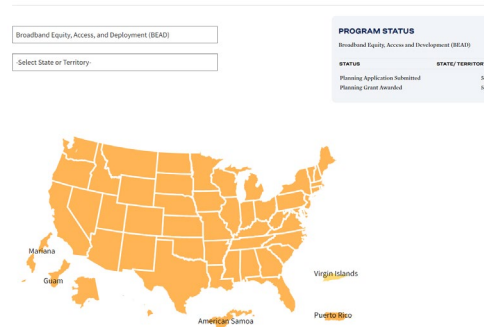


NTIA provides resources on the Internet For All program, BEAD, and permitting guidance to support successful broadband deployment.

Internet For All Website

For detailed program information about the Internet For All Grants, use [InternetForAll.gov](https://www.internetforall.gov) to search by program.

Program Progress by State & Territory



[Interactive Funding Map](#)

BEAD Program Resources

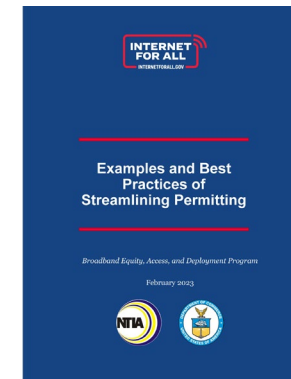
NTIA offers [BEAD Program Resources](#) including policy guidance and technical assistance.

	Vol I Draft Shared with NTIA	Vol I Released for Public Comment	Vol I Submitted for NTIA Approval	Vol I Approved by NTIA	Vol II Draft Shared with NTIA	Vol II Released for Public Comment	Vol II Submitted for NTIA Approval	Vol II Approved by NTIA
(2/0) Louisiana	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
(6/0) Virginia	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
(5/0) Delaware	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
(3/0) Kansas	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
(2/0) Vermont	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
(4/0) Colorado	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
(4/0) Idaho	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
(4/0) Illinois	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
(4/0) Montana	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
(4/0) Nevada	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
(3/0) Alaska	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
(3/0) Ohio	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
(3/0) Pennsylvania	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
(3/0) Wyoming	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
(2/0) American Samoa	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
(2/0) Arizona	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
(2/0) Arkansas	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
(2/0) Georgia	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
(2/0) Indiana	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

[BEAD Initial Proposal Progress Dashboard](#)

NTIA Permitting Guidance

NTIA has compiled a [Permitting Technical Assistance](#) page on available permitting and EHP resources.



[Permitting Best Practices: Case Studies](#)

For more information, visit the [BroadbandUSA State and Local Government](#) webpage.





Thank you!

