

ALASKA



TERRA NW (2013)

Remote Alaska

Thousands more Alaskans will have access to terrestrial broadband services as GCI's TERRA-NW project moves its way up the northwest coast, thanks in part to \$12 million in NMTC financing provided by Travois New Markets and equity from U.S. Bancorp Community Development Corporation. NMTC funds helped finance TERRA-NW Phase 2 and Phase 3. Phase 2 extends the network west to Nome, and Phase 3 moves the broadband network up the northern coast to Kotzebue.

GCI provides voice, video and data communication services to Alaska residential, commercial and government customers, and a previous phase of TERRA (Terrestrial for Every Rural Region of Alaska) has already added more than 400 miles of fiber optic cable

FINANCING

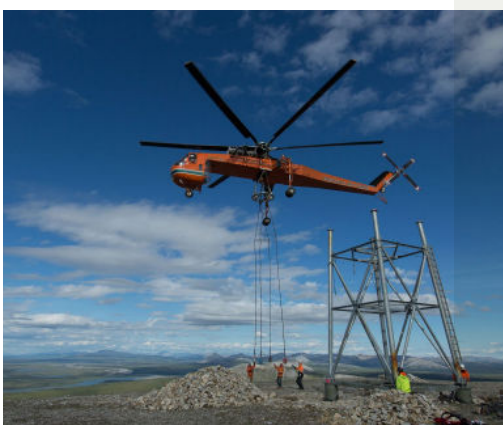
NMTC Financing: Travois New Markets:
\$12 million
Equity Investor: U.S. Bancorp Community
Development Corporation

IMPACT

- 680 construction jobs
- 95 permanent jobs
- 400 miles of fiber optic cable

COMMUNITY

- 65 remote, rural, Alaskan villages



MASSIVE BROADBAND EXPANSION BRINGS IMPROVED HEALTHCARE AND CONNECTIVITY TO REMOTE ALASKA

and 13 new microwave towers to connect 65 communities in southwest Alaska. This project extended the network hundreds of additional miles and added new microwave towers and associated facilities, some of which were remote, prime-power relay sites.

Rural Alaskan villages, where more than half of Alaska Natives live, are often not connected by roads; travel between them is possible only by air, snowmobile or riverboat, depending on the season. Kotzebue, for example, is located about 30 miles above the Arctic Circle, and 75 percent of its residents are Iñupiat Eskimos. The thousands of residents who will receive new services now rely on satellite connections that can be slow, expensive and unreliable. The improved connections will increase access to education, telemedicine and e-commerce. High definition video conferencing is widely used for medical care and class presentations, and the improved connections will improve the availability of services and reduce costs.

The project's extremely remote location and harsh weather conditions and terrain create high construction and operating costs, and NMTCs were needed to help offset this burden.