

ETC ANNUAL REPORT PER WAC 480-123-070 AND WAC 480-123-080  
Contains Certifications Required by WAC 480-123-060 and 070  
June 26, 2017

Inland Cellular LLC Study Area Code 529004 (the "Company") hereby submits the following reports in accordance with WAC 480-123-070 and WAC 480-123-080.

Report 1: Report on use of funds: WAC 480-123-070(1)(a):

The Company used support from the federal high-cost fund in 2016 as follows:

We are continuing the process of upgrading our network with next-generation LTE 4G technology. Those investments began in late 2014 with staff training, vendor identification and core switch investments. In 2015 we began a roll out of 4G throughout our network. In 2016, we invested \$210,949.99 in broadcast equipment in SAC 529004 during the year. The Company expects to use all Universal Service Fund support received in order to fund the expenses related to the provisioning, maintenance and services provided over these upgraded facilities as well as existing facilities and to service the debt created in order to make these improvements; improving service quality, coverage and capacity. The Company expects that the continued receipt of Universal Service Fund support will aid the Company's efforts to continue to upgrade its network and to provide the supported services to all customers and potential customers

For 2016 the Company's gross capital expenditures were \$210,949.99. The Company's 2016 operating expenses were \$2,933,325.31.

Report 2: WAC 480-123-070(1)(b): The Company reports that the investments and expenses report under Report 1, above, benefited the customers as follows:

The customers served by the Company benefited from the use of high-cost fund support by continuing to receive high quality telecommunications services. The Company's investments in next generation mobile technology described above will bring the capability for increased network speeds and enable us to provide mobile broadband services in our service territory.

Through the expenditure of these funds, the Company was able to continue to provide services at a level that the Company believes meets the intent set forth in 47 U.S.C § 254 of providing quality telecommunications services to customers in the service area for which the Company is designated as an ETC.<sup>1</sup> The Company has made substantial investments over the past several years which allow it to provide quality telecommunications services to its customers in its designated ETC service area. Those expenditures and investments, including those reflected in Report 1 above, generally benefit all customers receiving the federal high-cost fund supported services from the

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<sup>1</sup> The term "ETC" is used in the same sense as the term is used in Chapter 480-123 WAC.

Company within its designated ETC service area. The Company has expanded its network over the past several years so that it is capable of providing access to broadband services throughout most of the Company's designated ETC service area. The Company offers services that are comparable to services offered in urban areas at rates that are comparable to rates for such services in urban areas.

Report 3: Local Services Outage Report: WAC 480-123-070(2):

None

Report 4: Report on Failure to Provide Service: WAC 480-123-070(3):

None

Report 5: Report on Complaints per 1000 Connections: WAC 480-123-070(4):

None

Report 6: Certification of Compliance with Service Quality Standards and Consumer Protection Rules: WAC 480-123-070(5):

See "529004\_WA\_Certifications\_500&600" filed with Form 481

Report 7: Certification of Ability to Function in Emergency Situations: WAC 480-123-070(6):

See "529004\_WA\_Certifications\_500&600" filed with Form 481

Report 8: Advertising Certification, including Advertisement on Indian Reservations: WAC 480-123-070(7):

Company advertised Lifeline in a variety of ways, including: Company website; local newspapers; in-store displays; and, flyers distributed to local public assistance institutions and other public areas. See Appendix 1 for a sample newspaper ad, and Appendix 2 for flyer sample.

There are no Indian reservations within the area of this SAC.

Report 9: Annual Plan: WAC 480-123-080(1):

As they are known to the Company at the date of this Report, the planned investment and expenses related to this SAC in Washington State for the period January 1, 2017 through December 31, 2017 are projected to be \$210,949.99 for gross capital expenditures and \$2,933,325.31 for operating expenses. Planned major projects include: upgrading microwave links and upgrading service to 4G LTE in: Hartline, Wilson Creek, Coulee City, and Seven Bays. The Company expects that levels of expenses will remain

relatively the same as those it experienced in calendar year 2016, subject to the effects of inflation, other commonly experienced changes in cost of labor and materials, and increased depreciation on new investment placed in service. The Company does not anticipate major adjustments in staffing levels for the relevant period.

Report 10: Plan of Investments and Expenditures: WAC 480-123-080(2):

As they are known to the Company at the date of this Report, the planned investment and expenses related to Washington state for the period January 1, 2017 through December 31, 2017 will remain relatively the same as those it experienced in calendar year 2016, subject to the effects of inflation, other commonly experienced changes in cost of labor and materials, and increased depreciation on new investment placed in service. The Company does not anticipate major adjustments in staffing levels for the relevant period. Major projects are referenced in Report 9, above. The Company has not completed its budgeting process and does not have final numbers prepared for investment and expense levels for 2017. The Company expects that the continued receipt of federal high-cost support will allow the Company to continue to provide the supported services at rates that are comparable to the rates for such services in urban areas. All customers will benefit from increased broadband speeds in the upgraded areas, and will have services available to them that are comparable to the telecommunications services offered in urban areas at rates that are comparable to the rates for such services in urban areas.

Report 11: Updated Map: WAC 480-123-080(3):

Updated maps are required once every three years, and updated maps were submitted in 2016; therefore, maps are not required this year and were not supplied for this report.

# Outdoors lifestyles

## Fresh News from MarDon



Kip Burns of Silverlake, Wash. brought his family over for a hunt this week. They planned on a Guided Goose Hunt but had a very active Duck Hunt instead. There is nothing better than getting kids on a great hunt to give them lots of shooting opportunities.

Every year waterfowl hunters cannot wait until the Northern Birds arrive. Well the Northern Birds are here now and many hunters with access to land are having some great hunts.

Unfortunately the sand dunes on Potholes Reservoir are completely iced up. You can still access open water on some of the wasteways on the reservoir.

So give Frenchman's or Winchester Wasteway a try but other than that the only open water on Potholes is the main reservoir. Field hunting is really great right now for ducks or geese.

The Duck Taxi has been having really great field hunts for ducks and geese. If you are interested in a guided duck or goose hunt please give us a call 509-346-2651.

Ice fishing continues to be questionable on Potholes Reservoir with our warm daytime temperatures. Please call the MarDon Store for current ice fishing information. It looks like with our longterm forecast the ice fishing will only improve.

The MarDon Store has Ice Anger's, Swedish Pimples, Night Crawlers and Maggots for sale.

The Royal Hunt Club is a great option to get access to private land for Pheasant, Goose or even Duck Hunting this Season. A season pass will run \$300 per hunter or you can but a three-day consecutive pass for \$125 per hunter.

This land is in the greater Royal City Area and is roughly 20,000 acres. For more information please call 509-346-2651 or email info@marndonresort.com

Duck & Goose Plucking now available. Bring in you day's hunt and drop it off at the MarDon Store. Don't forget you will need you hunting license number to correctly fill our the form. The price is \$7 for a duck and \$20 for a goose.

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# License system up, but not completely workable

By GARNET WILSON AND DENNIS L. CLAY  
Herald Columnists

The new Fish and Wildlife hunting and fishing license system is up and we've logged on to test it. Problems were apparent immediately.

The Fish and Wildlife licensing division was contacted and a couple of problems were pinpointed. The representative said they were still working on a couple of areas to make the system complete and entirely workable.

The online system in the past was well received by this user. We're thinking the new system will eventually be even better (We hope). Fish and Wildlife published a press release about the system.

The state's new recreational license sales system became operational recently. The new system began selling hunting and fishing

licenses and the Discover Pass on the evening of Dec. 18, several hours earlier than expected.

The secure, next-generation system will improve service to the public and to the approximately 600 retailers across the state.

The public will notice one significant change when they buy licenses or manage their accounts. The new system has a single log-in that provides customers access to their data and allows them to buy licenses and report harvest activity. The old system required customers to log-in multiple times to access separate features, such as harvest reporting.

License fees did not change with the release of the new system. Most license items for the 2017-18 license year, which begins April 1, 2017, will be available for sale in the new system in mid-January 2017. Until then, all

products for the 2016-17 license year will remain available.

Deans note: Hang in there, readers.

**Bird feeders**  
Garnet and I have put out bird feeders for the first time in years. Great fun watching the critters come and go. We are using a simple pie plate now, but will purchase regular feeders soon.

Remember to bring in the pie plates at night, so they don't get wet with rain or snow. More about feeding birds soon.

**Hunting seasons**

**Quail**

The quail season will continue through Jan. 18. The limit is 10 per day and 30 in possession.

Upland game birds: Hunting for pheasants, quail, partridge and forest grouse continues throughout the region. Forest grouse season closes tomorrow. Pheasant, quail and partridge seasons continue through Jan. 18.

Want to see your meeting or event listed here?

# Dave Graybill: The Fishin' Magician

Friday, December 30th

Thanks to Austin Moser, of Austin's Northwest Adventures guide service, I was able to fish Lake Roosevelt on Wednesday.

We were joined by Jim Moser and Kurt Middleton and decided to launch at Keller. There were close to a dozen rigs in the parking area when we arrived and when we ran down lake to the Camel Rock we spotted a

couple boats trolling here.

We immediately started catching rainbow, on Kokabow blades in bright colors and the new Squids. Pinks and oranges were the best colors.

We lost one small kokanee here and then left to try further up lake. We ran up past the mouth of the San Poil Arm, where we saw a few boats trolling and then on up to near Hanson Harbor.

The action on trout was amazing. We had a

couple of doubles and a

triple on rainbow that were from 15 to 17 inches. We did lose one more kokanee.

Moser figures Lake Roosevelt needs to drop some more to draw both the feed and the kokanee down to it bottom end. It is much higher now than it was at this time last year.

We did see an angler with a 24-inch kokanee. So they are there but not in very good numbers yet.

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# DO YOU QUALIFY FOR LIFELINE?

Low income customers residing within the Inland Cellular Home Service Area may qualify for discounted Lifeline cell phone service. This is a government assistance program that consumers may apply for (non-transferable and only one discount per household).

Discounts of \$9.25 for Washington residents and up to \$11.75 for Idaho residents, if eligible. Idaho residents must qualify through the Community Action Partnership Association of Idaho. Contact us for more information or visit our website at: [inlandcellular.com/shop/services/lifeline](http://inlandcellular.com/shop/services/lifeline)

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