

August 3, 2024 - What Happened to Telecommunications yesterday?!

Just about Noon yesterday, Friday, near Ness' Corner in Hadlock a major Fiber optic Internet feed cable buried in the roadway was unearthed by heavy equipment which damaged the cable beyond repair.

This cable is the main Internet feed to the PUD Internet Hub at 4 Corners Road. Many telecom service providers including cable and cellular providers are connected to this hub.

As a consequence, I had just finished doing our monthly billing emails when I lost my Astound cable provided Internet service and my Consumer Cellular phone service blinding me. Not able to monitor the status of our Marrowstone Wireless network nor receive service calls or texts from clients was unnerving to say the least!



I turned on my Ham Radio rig (see photo above) and learned two things: First, the outage was affecting perhaps 80%+ of Jefferson County. It had shutdown most business financial transactions in Jefferson County. Our local 911 emergency system had to be transferred through Clallam County. Second, I learned via a radio report from folks on Marrowstone that 93% of our network was working just fine through the entire outage. It is unfortunate that I have not been able to remove 7% of our clients from the PUD fiber source to date...

I got up about 3am this morning to find the system here in Irondale was once more working. I was able to fully monitor our Marrowstone Wireless Internet system and receive cellular texts from clients! The damaged buried Fiber cable had been bypassed with a new cable run along the PUD utility poles... I thank you all for patience while I was in the dark...

Peace, David

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