

December 2, 2020 - The Fix is in...

The wind storm days before Thanksgiving produced fear that damage would occur to our Fiber optic cable somewhere on the Island. As the sun set on that Tuesday evening, PUD got power restored. It was at that time we could observe we had a major interruption in our Island network.

As we analyzed the monitoring data it appeared that our main line Fiber cable must be down somewhere between Reinier and the backside of Nordland along E. Marrowstone Road. We took flashlights and drove the section looking for any obvious breaks or downed tree limbs. To no avail.



At dawn we started again to seek the break in the Fiber cable but, all looked good. So, we focused on the Nordland Fiber HeadEnd located on a PUD pole on E. Marrowstone Road. We tested the Fiber Feed coming into the control and it was alive and strong! Then we noticed that not all electronic elements in the control box had power...

Testing of the main +12VDC internal power supply found that it had failed during or after the PUD power outage. This was strange because the power supply is protected from any power surges by our uninterruptible power source (UPS) with full battery backup. We tested that unit and it was fully functioning.

We discovered we did not have a spare replacement for the failed supply! What to do? I found a spare Ham Radio +12VDC power supply weighing in at about 25 pounds that was made for indoor use so it was not weather proof. I found a new big blue tote too. Grabbing appropriate power cabling and driving back to the pole we created what is in the photo to run the Fiber HeadEnd until the new better interior power supply arrives...

Happy Holidays and Shalom, David

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