



2019 NSF Campus Cyberinfrastructure and Cybersecurity Innovation for Cyberinfrastructure PI Workshop

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NSF Program (either CC or CICI): CC

Program Area: Regional

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Project Title: Integrating the Colorado Western Slope Research and Education (R&E) Community into the National R&E Infrastructure (BiSON-West)



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Quad Chart for: *Integrating the Colorado Western Slope Research and Education (R&E) Community into the National R&E Infrastructure*

Challenge Project Seeks to Address:

- Western Colorado's mountains and geography exacerbate the digital divide for research and education in rural areas
- Students & faculty have inadequate network access to R&E tools and resources
- Commercial providers lack a business case to justify fiber builds to these communities
- Available fiber is cost-prohibitive

Deliverables:

- Design the BiSON-West network to expand FRGP network and expertise to the western slope
- Collaborate with colleges, communities, state and regional entities to establish redundant, high-speed network connectivity
- Create a sustainable model to perpetuate equitable access to these underserved communities
- Partner and collaborate with CDOT, CenturyLink, WAPA, Region10

Continental Divide Independence Pass - Colorado



Broader Impact:

- Enable research and discovery for underserved communities
- Deliver a network poised to support leading edge, interactive STEM education modalities to students in remote, rural, underserved areas
- Engage diverse, underserved, and non-traditional students
- Facilitate rural colleges and universities to accelerate and expand their educational mission
- Enhance economic and workforce development and job opportunities
- Build inter-regional partnerships and collaboration
- Expand state, federal, commercial relationships

Metadata tag:

<https://sites.google.com/ucar.edu/bison-west-nets/nets-projects/bison-west-planning-grant>

