



DATE 1/19/2011 #39
HB

"I'm a supporter of Montana public television because it provides a different culture, Montana perspective, and better quality programs." R.S. Kalispell

Sustain Public Television Service for Rural Montana

MontanaPBS Satellite Interconnect Funding

Request

Maintain MontanaPBS interconnection funding in 2012-13 by converting OTO funding to on-going, base funding. The MontanaPBS interconnection system provides public broadcasting service to more than 150 communities around the state via satellite and terrestrial circuits.

Key Points

- This funding supports the continuing distribution of public television to rural Montana.
- The 2009 legislature appropriated \$400,000 for the current biennium in HB645.
- This request converts that funding as base funding to cover on-going need.

Budget Impact

FY 2012 \$200,000 / FY 2013 \$200,000

Background

The MontanaPBS Interconnection system delivers MontanaPBS programming, including **acclaimed PBS children's educational programs**, and local productions that tell stories of Montana: **Backroads of Montana, Class C, Butte America, Glacier Park's Night of the Grizzlies**; and **Montana Ag Live** which provides direct counsel and advice to Montana's agricultural community. Maintaining this funding would assure delivery of these popular local programs to rural Montana. Maps on reverse side show loss of service to dozens of small town cable systems and translators if satellite distribution is discontinued.

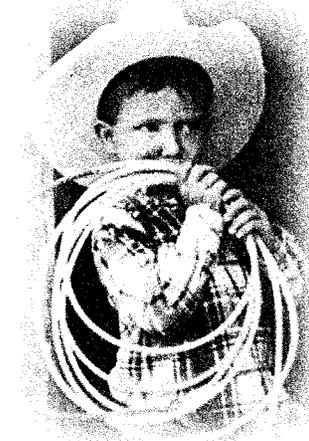
Montana PBS leverages state funding into increased contributions from a broad statewide membership base of more than 10,000 households.

Rural viewers respond to MontanaPBS cultural and educational programs:

"I appreciate having an intelligent alternative to commercial television." G.M. Wolf Point

"I got involved with MontanaPBS because of 'Class C'— after that I started watching it more." P.K. Scobey

MontanaPBS shares diverse stories; connects our citizens; discovers common ground; and celebrates the independent spirit and beauty of Montana.

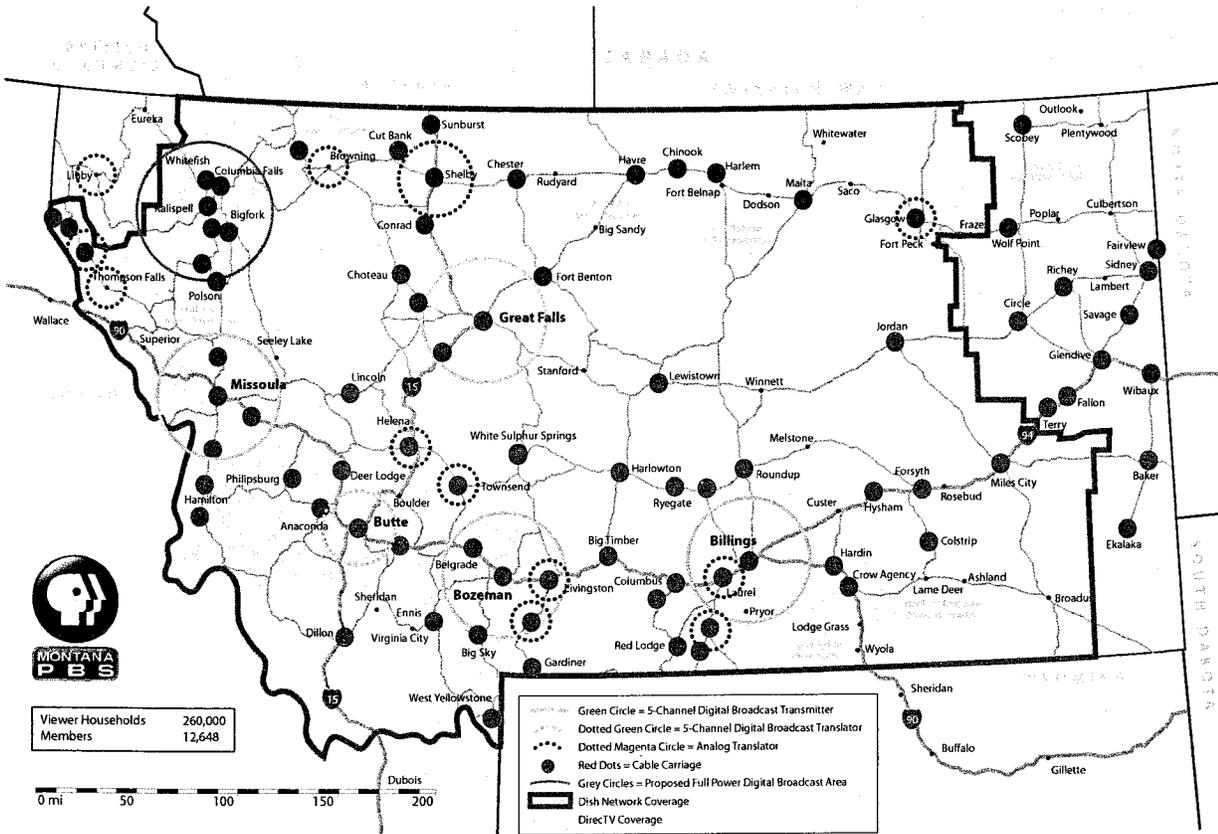


For more information contact:

Eric Hyypa, KUSM/MontanaPBS Bozeman 994-6252
William Marcus, KUFM/MontanaPBS Missoula 243-4154

MontanaPBS—From the Mountains to the Prairies

Current Delivery System



Without Satellite Delivery System

