



# **The Impact of Wireless on Rural South Dakota**

**Otto Doll – State of South Dakota**

**Commissioner**

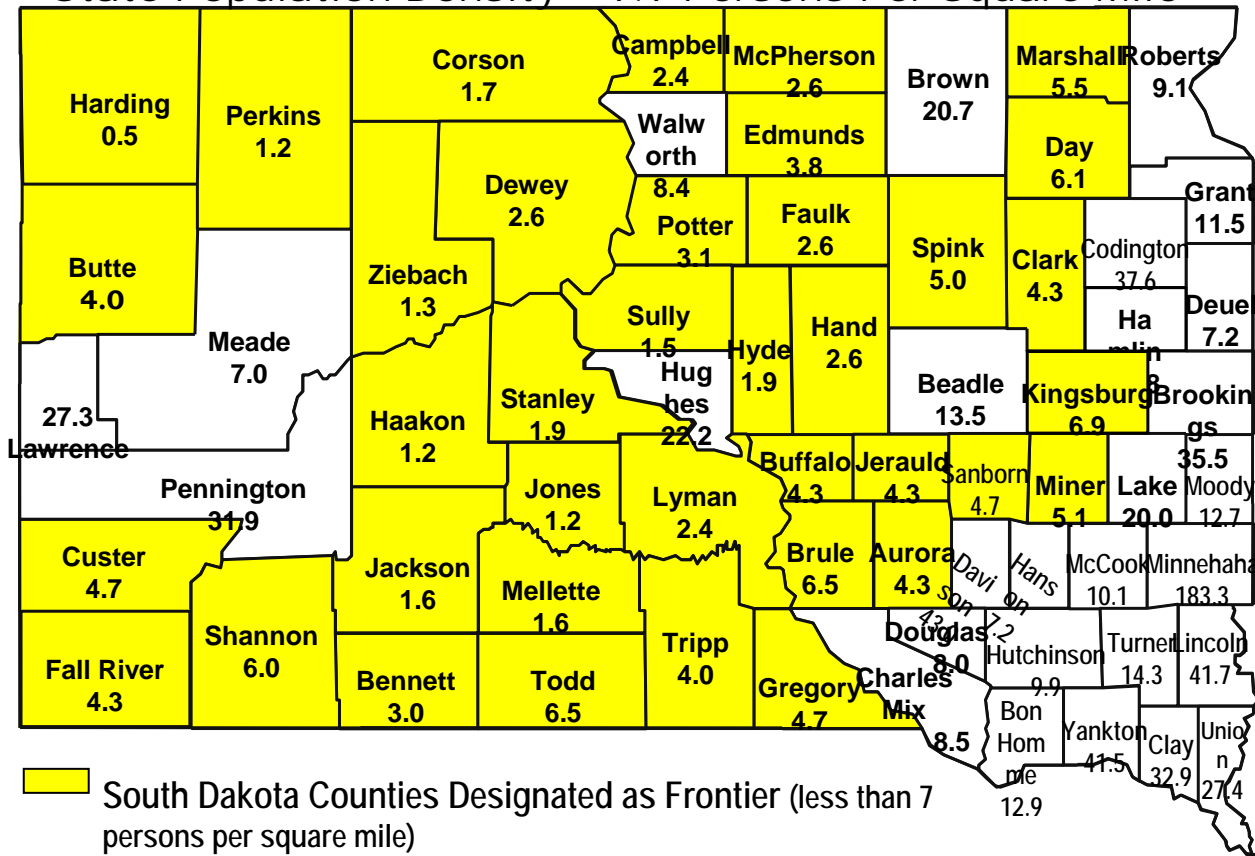
**Bureau of Information and Telecommunications**

# Challenge Review

- ❑ **People want mobility** on the *Frontier*
- ❑ **Wireless Internet** is key future technology
- ❑ Download *and* upload must be fast

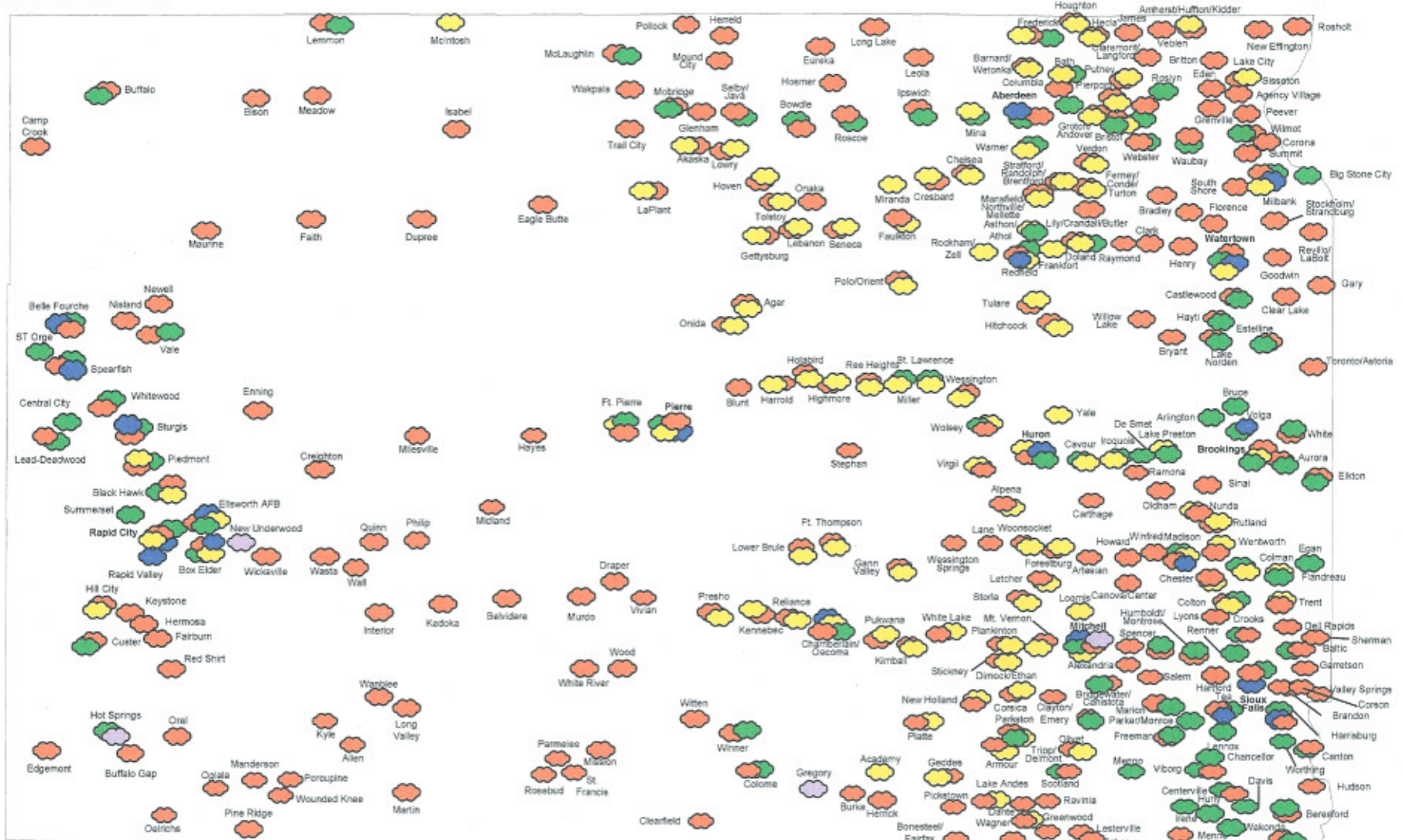
# South Dakota Wireless Challenge

2000 Population Density Per Square Mile  
 State Population Density = 9.9 Persons Per Square Mile



Source: South Dakota Data Center, Business Research Bureau, USD

As of August 2007

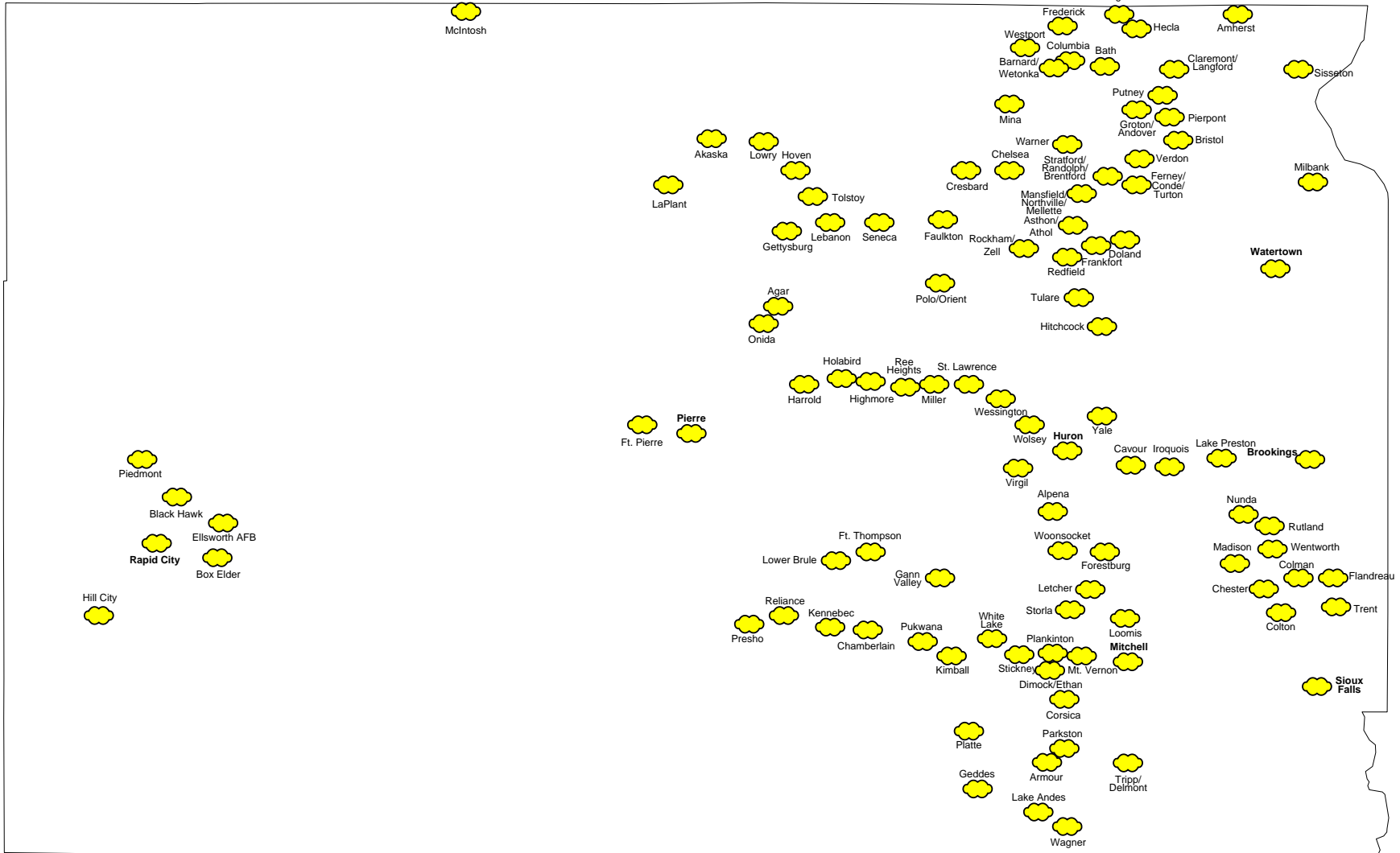


- Independent DSL (306)
- Qwest DSL (22)
- Cable Modem (129)
- Wireless Access (131)
- Fiber to the Home (4)

Population of Broadband access:

DSL:	497,718 (65.9% of state)
Cable Modem:	433,197 (57.4% of state)
Wireless:	204,011 (27.0% of state)
Fiber to Home:	20,645 (2.7% of state)

Total Statewide: 539,713 (71.5% of state)  
(Statewide total = 754,844 people. Source: U.S. Census - 2000)



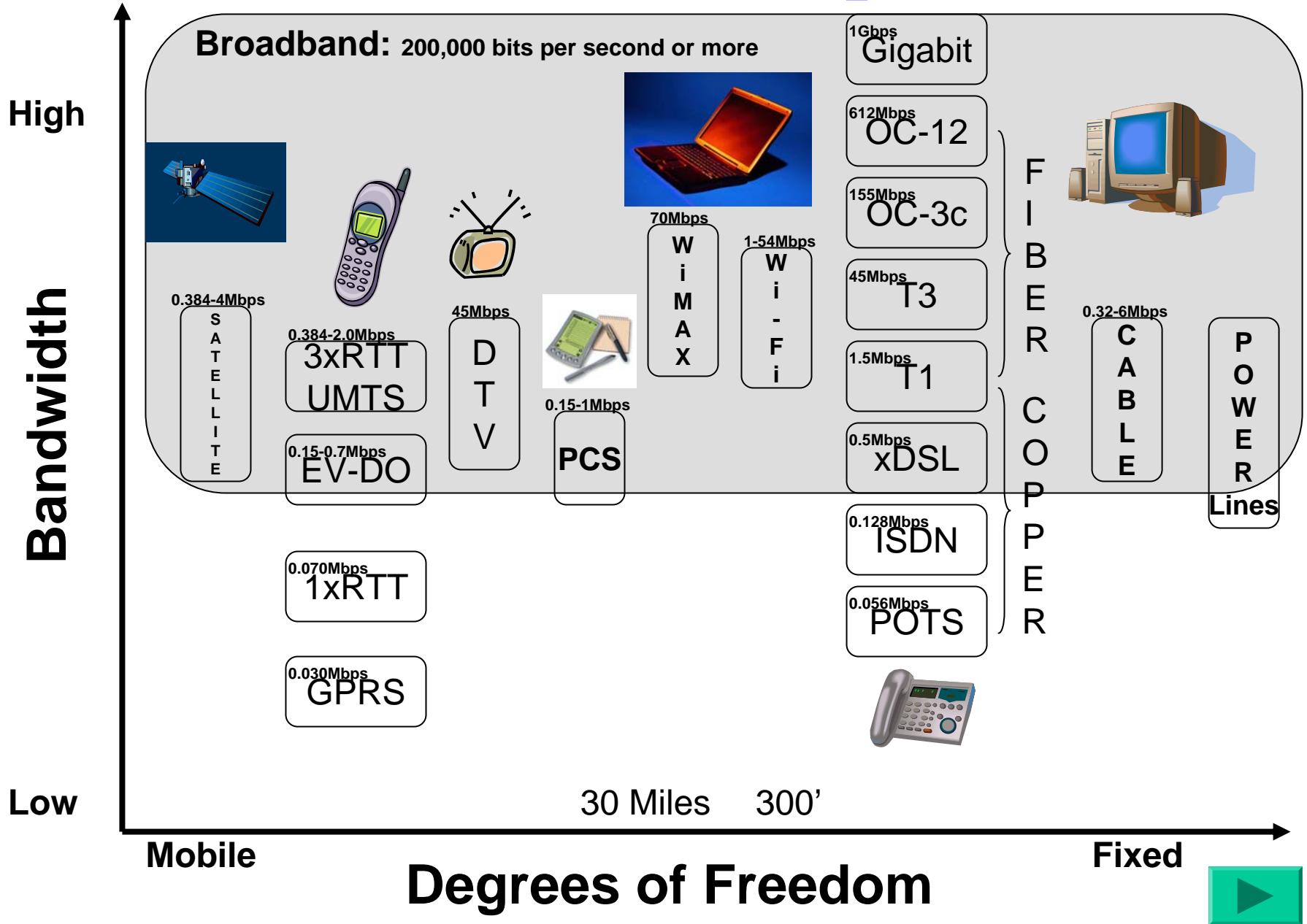
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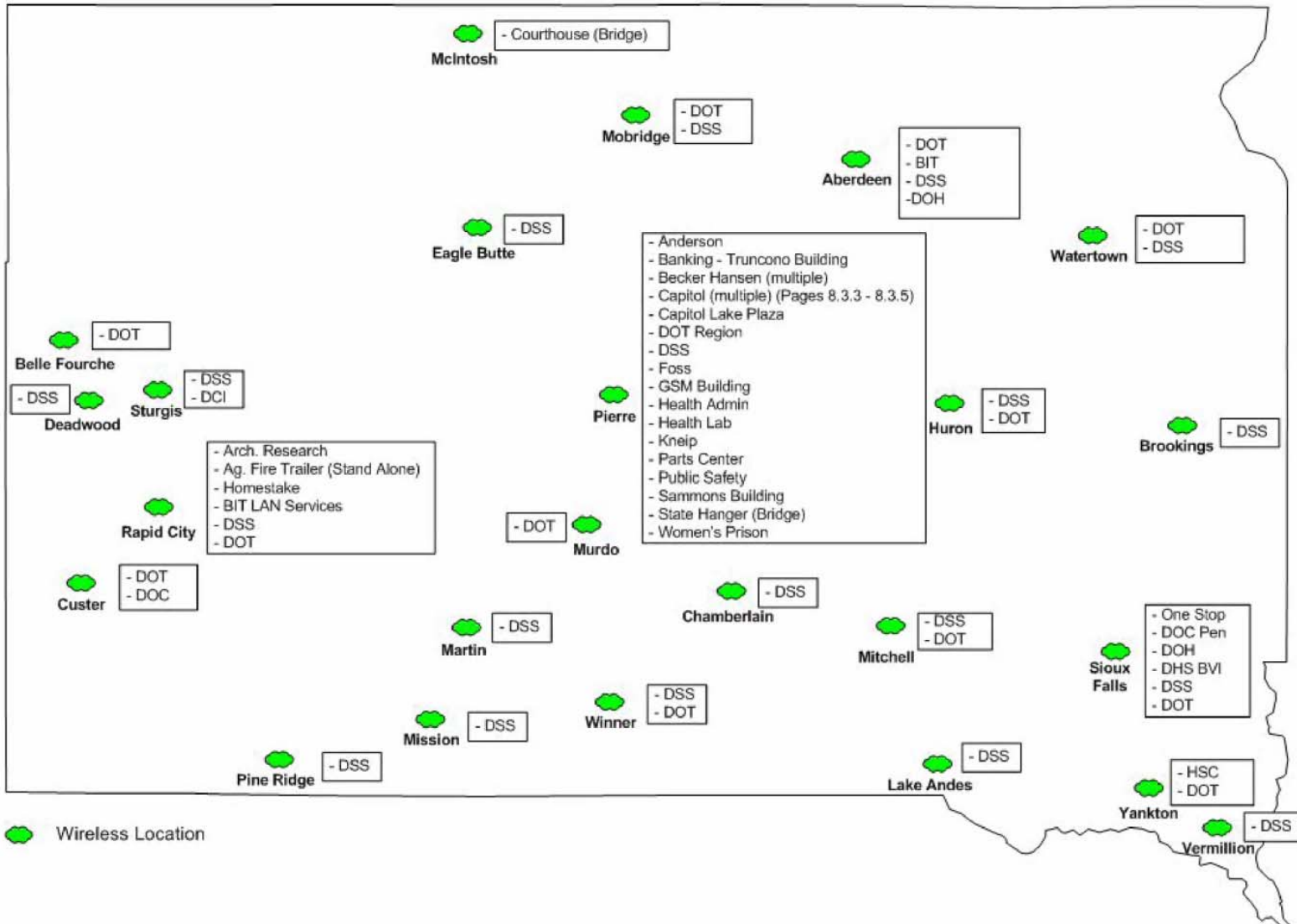
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# Broadband Options



# **State Experience to Date**

# State of South Dakota - Wireless Networks



Wireless Location



# State Gov't Wireless Initiatives

- ❑ All 1,350-plus government *forms* online
- ❑ 1,000 laptops/tablets (7% of workforce)
  - 300 BlackBerrys / PDAs
- ❑ Public outreach
- ❑ Inspections, permitting, etc.
- ❑ K-12 Classroom Connections
  - 10,000 high school students

# Citizenry Ambivalent

- ❑ Public cannot justify bandwidth / mobility
- ❑ Businesses cannot justify bandwidth / mobility
- ❑ State Agencies hesitate on more wireless transactions / services
  - Public not using our online services enough

**Where do we go from here?**

# Remove Barriers

- ❑ **Incite people to use broadband / mobility**
  - Tax credits/subsidies
  - Killer applications
- ❑ **Incite Telcos to ubiquitous deployment**
  - Tax credits/subsidies
- ❑ **Wait for “Generational Pace” adoption**
  - Kids born in 1990s onward
- ❑ **Public Sector takeover**
  - Municipal WiFi