



	Loon River Crossing
Location	Northwest Territory, Canada
Date Completed	March 2017
Project Type	Telecommunications
Equipment	Mears' 330,000 lb. Drilling Rig
Owner/Client	Ledcor Technical Services
Length, Pipe Diameter, Pipe Material	5-inch drill stem, inserted 2-inch HDPE, 2198-ft (670-m)
Type of Crossing	River
Project Summary	<p>The \$84 million project was a government of the Northwest Territories initiative to bring fibre-optic communications to communities of the MacKenzie Valley and Beaufort Delta regions; the project will also support the expansion of the Inuvik Satellite Station facility, which tracks and receives real time data from polar-orbiting satellites. The entire length of the project — known as the MacKenzie Valley Fibre Link — was 1,154 km.</p> <p>Mears Canada Corp. took on the portion of the project that crossed the Loon River — a crossing that another contractor tried and fail to cross. The line here will service roughly 600 residents of Fort Good Hope, about 35 km south of the river. Using horizontal directional drilling (HDD), Mears drilled the pilot hole, and then pulled back a 5-in. steel drill stem in order for a run of 2-in. HDPE conduit to be installed. The fibre-optic line would be housed in that conduit.</p>

