Shallow Foundation Mast Overview

Shallow Foundation Mast

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The shallow foundation mast consists of a 1.25”-diameter threaded stainless steel mast cemented or epoxied into bedrock or cement. The height may vary; shown here is an ~5” long mast cemented about 20” deep into bedrock. This style of mast has been used throughout the EarthScope Rio Grande network in Colorado and New Mexico, and for GGN sites FALK (Falkland Islands) and ABPO (Madagascar).

Site RG23 of the Rio Grande network, Colorado and New Mexico.

Pros

- Inexpensive (approximately $150 for basic materials)
- Materials are readily available
- Small footprint, low-profile

Cons

- Can only be installed in solid material
- Requires heavy-duty hammer drill

Design and Construction

A heavy-duty hammer drill is required for installation.

Documents

None.
Nicole Feldl of UNAVCO drills the post hole with a gas-powered drill.

Approximate Cost

$150

This cost is for the monumentation only; the antenna mount (e.g. SCIGN mount) is not included.

Materials

- 1.25" stainless steel schedule 40 pipe (cut to preferred length)
- cement or concrete or epoxy

Tools

- heavy-duty hammer drill and drill bit(s)
- measuring tape or measuring stick
- tube to blow rock flour out of the hole
- bucket for mixing cement or concrete
- level
- compass

Mount Commonly Used

A SCIGN mount is required if using a SCIGN radome. If not using a SCIGN radome, a mount such as the SECO 2072-series stainless steel antenna mount is a more economical solution.