

Washington's Scenic and Recreational Highways Plan

Public Hearings
January 2010

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**Washington State
Department of Transportation**

State Scenic and Recreational Highways



DRAFT

- Scenic Byways (Tourism Marketing Routes)
- Scenic and Recreational Highways (Per State Law)
- City Limits

What is the purpose of the plan?

- Provide guidance to WSDOT programs
- Inform other planning efforts like Washington's Transportation Plan
- Provide heightened awareness of the value of the Scenic and Recreational Highways
- Establish goals and performance measures
- Meet planning requirements

State Law: RCW 47.06.050

Statewide Multi-modal Transportation Plan



Multi-Agency Steering Committee

- Association of Washington Cities
- Association of Washington Counties
- Cascade Bicycle Club
- Federal Highway Administration
- Local Byway Groups
- Regional Transportation Planning Organizations
- National Park Service
- National Forest Service
- State Dept. of Archeology and Historic Preservation
- State Dept. of Natural Resources
- State Dept. of Commerce
- State Parks
- State Recreation and Conservation Office
- Tribal Transportation Planning Organization
- Washington State Transportation Commission

Questions to be addressed by the Plan

- What is the goal(s) of the State Scenic and Recreational Highway System?
- What should state level priorities be?
- How do we discuss needs on the system?
- How should performance be measured?

Legislative Finding --1990

“The legislature finds that scenic and recreational highways are designated because of a need to develop management plans that will protect and preserve the scenic and recreational resources from loss through inappropriate development..”

State Law: RCW 47.39.020

Scenic and Recreational Highway Act of 1967

Funding Priorities - Signage

“The department of transportation shall place high priority on obtaining funds from those sources [National Scenic Byways and Transportation Enhancement] for further development of a scenic and recreational highways program, including enhancement projects on the designated scenic and recreational highway system. The department shall consider the use of the designated system by bicyclists and pedestrians in connection with non-motorized routes in the trails plan and the state bicycle plan...”

State Law: RCW 47.39.080

Scenic and Recreational Highway Act of 1967

Washington's Transportation Policy Goals

These policy goals are intended to be the basis for establishing detailed and measurable objectives and related performance measures...

Preservation: To maintain, preserve, and extend the life and utility of prior investments in transportation systems and services;

Safety: To provide for and improve the safety and security of transportation customers and the transportation system;

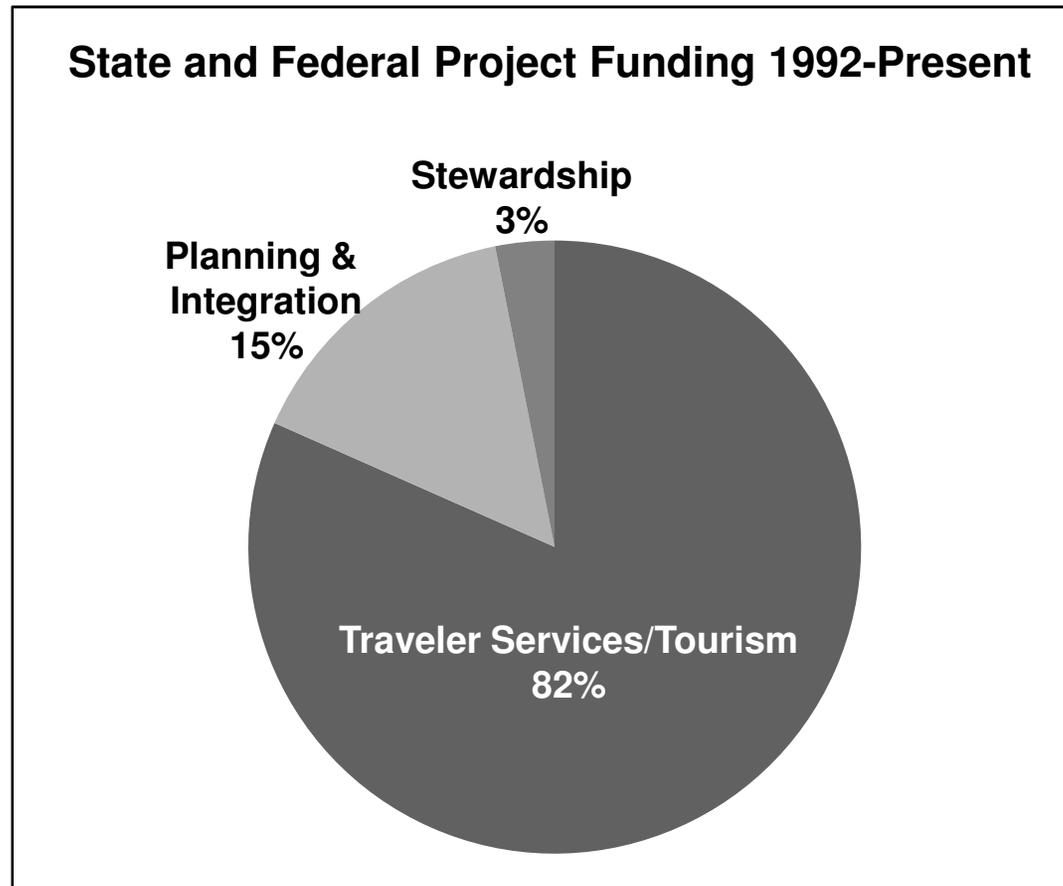
Mobility: To improve the predictable movement of goods and people throughout Washington state;

Environment: To enhance Washington's quality of life through transportation investments that promote energy conservation, enhance healthy communities, and protect the environment; and

Stewardship: To continuously improve the quality, effectiveness, and efficiency of the transportation system.

3 Key Elements

- Planning & Integration
- Traveler Services/Tourism
- Stewardship



How do the 3 elements relate to the Transportation Policy Goals?

Safety Policy Goal:

- Traveler Services/Tourism – ensuring safety of the traveling public

Environmental Policy Goal:

- Stewardship – protecting, preserving, enhancing resources
- Planning/Integration – developing and implementing management plans

Mobility Policy Goal:

- Traveler Services/Tourism – increasing and enhancing access

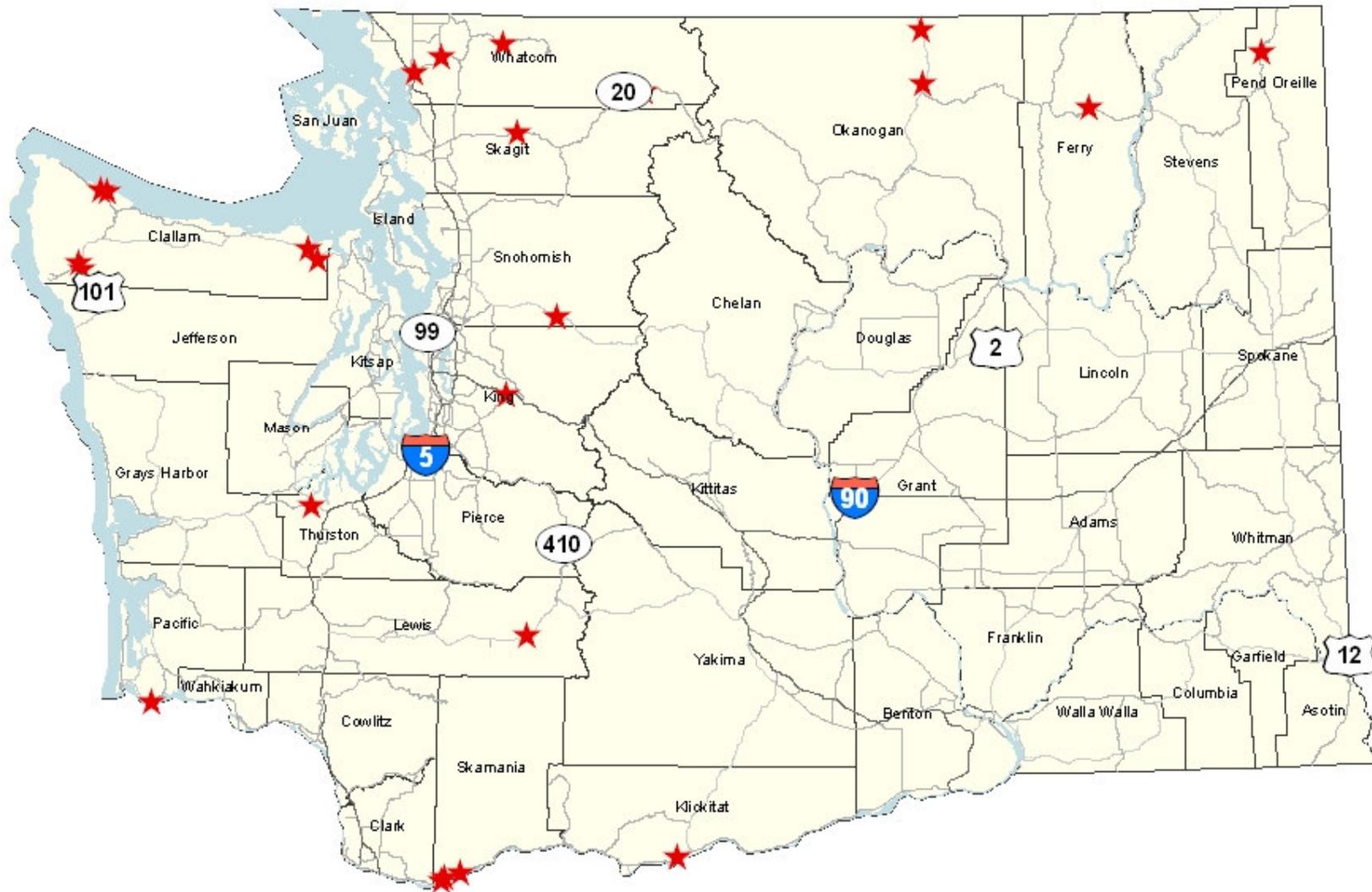
Safety Goal

Increase traveler safety and traveler services on Washington's Scenic and Recreational Highways.

- *Safety Rest Areas*
- *Traveler Information and Signs*



Safety Related Improvements on Scenic and Recreational Highways 1992-Present



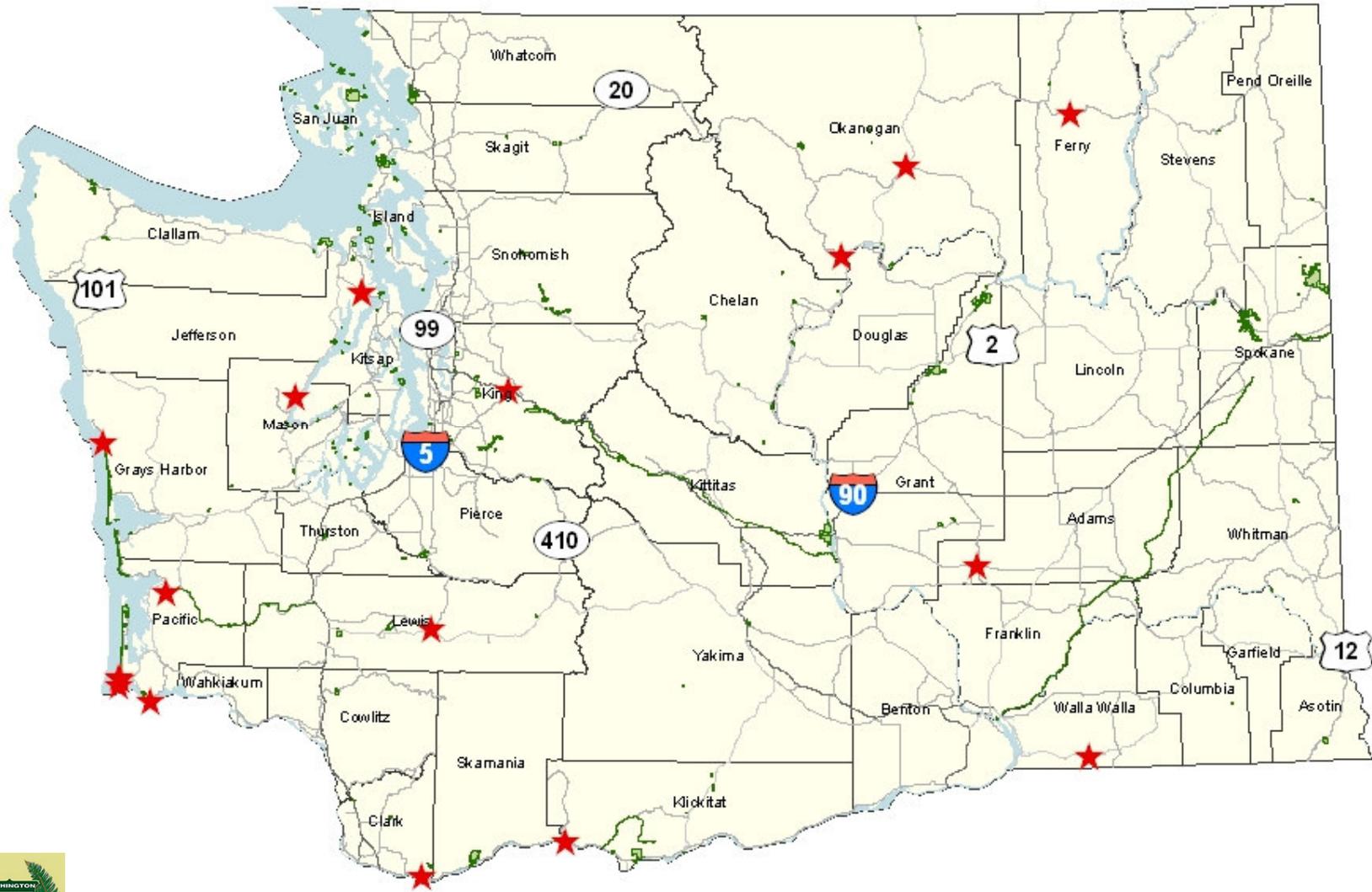
Mobility Goal

Increase public access to scenic and recreational resources associated with Washington's Scenic and Recreational Highways.

- partnerships for enhancing access to recreational areas associated with scenic and recreational highways



Mobility and Traveler Services Projects on Scenic and Recreational Highways 1992-Present



Environmental Goal

Plan for, protect, preserve, and enhance resources associated with the State's Scenic and Recreational Highways.

- Coordination with other levels of government in planning and protection of resources*
- Number of agreements in place for protection*



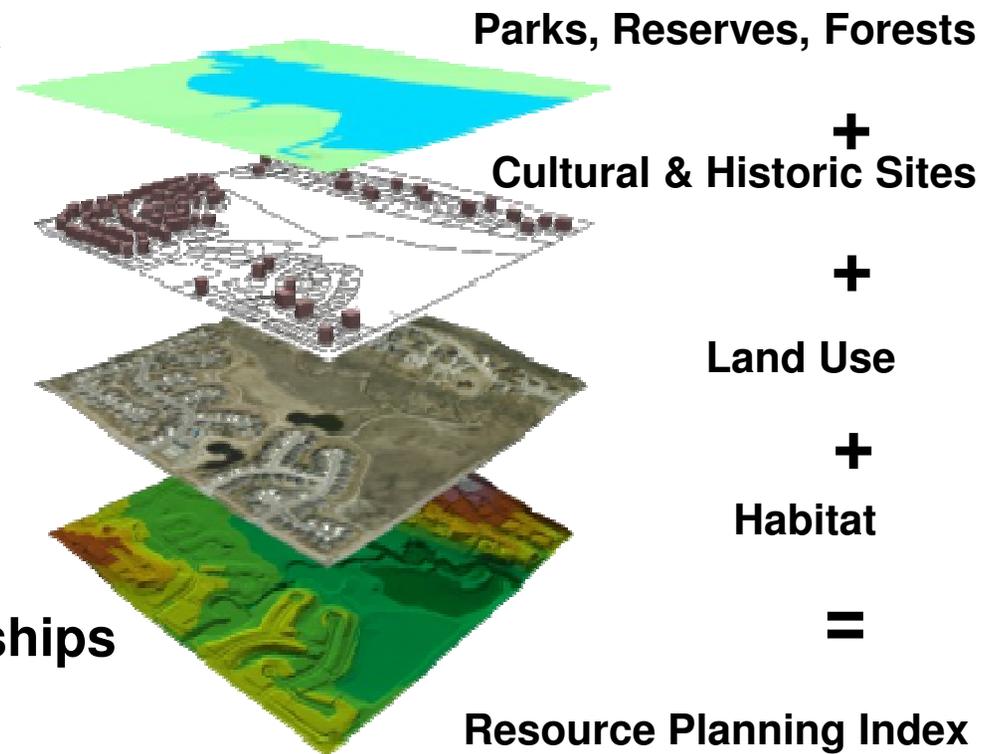
Resource Planning “Index”

- **Make use of existing GIS data**

- Natural Area Preserves
- Natural Resource Areas
- Parks, Reserves, Forests
- Historic locations
- Cultural locations
- Habitat
- Water bodies
- Natural Heritage Areas
- Current and future land use

- **Help identify needs & partnerships**

- **Measure performance**



Index Value



Data sources and analysis methodology described in the 2010 report "Development of a Resource Planning Index for Washington's Scenic and Recreational Highways"

Map Design by Kevin Ramsey, 2010.

Washington Scenic and Recreational Highway Resource Planning Index

January 2010

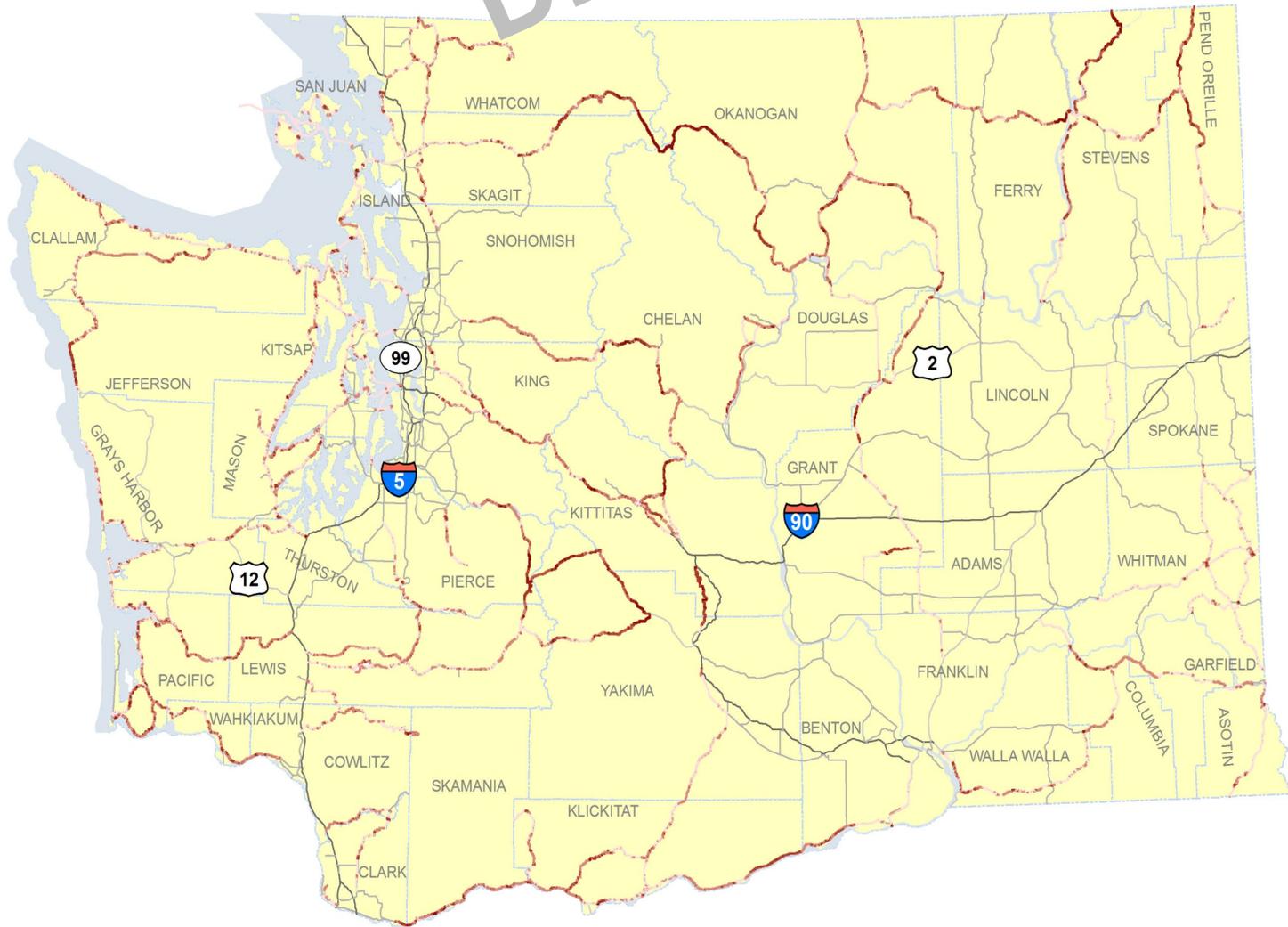


Figure 1: Resource Planning Index Values for Scenic and Recreational Highways

Resources and Contacts...

WSDOT's Scenic and Recreational Highways and Byways websites

<http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/LocalPrograms/ScenicByways>

<http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/LocalPrograms/ScenicByways/BywaysPlan.htm>

<http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/LocalPrograms/ScenicByways/CorridorManagementPlans.htm>

FHWA's National Scenic Byway websites

<http://www.bywaysonline.org/>

<http://www.bywaysonline.org/grants/>

Contact WSDOT Community Design Assistance:

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