

WASHINGTON STATE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

Outdoor Recreation and Economic Development

Community and Economic Development Committee

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Policy and Governmental Affairs Director

December 2, 2022

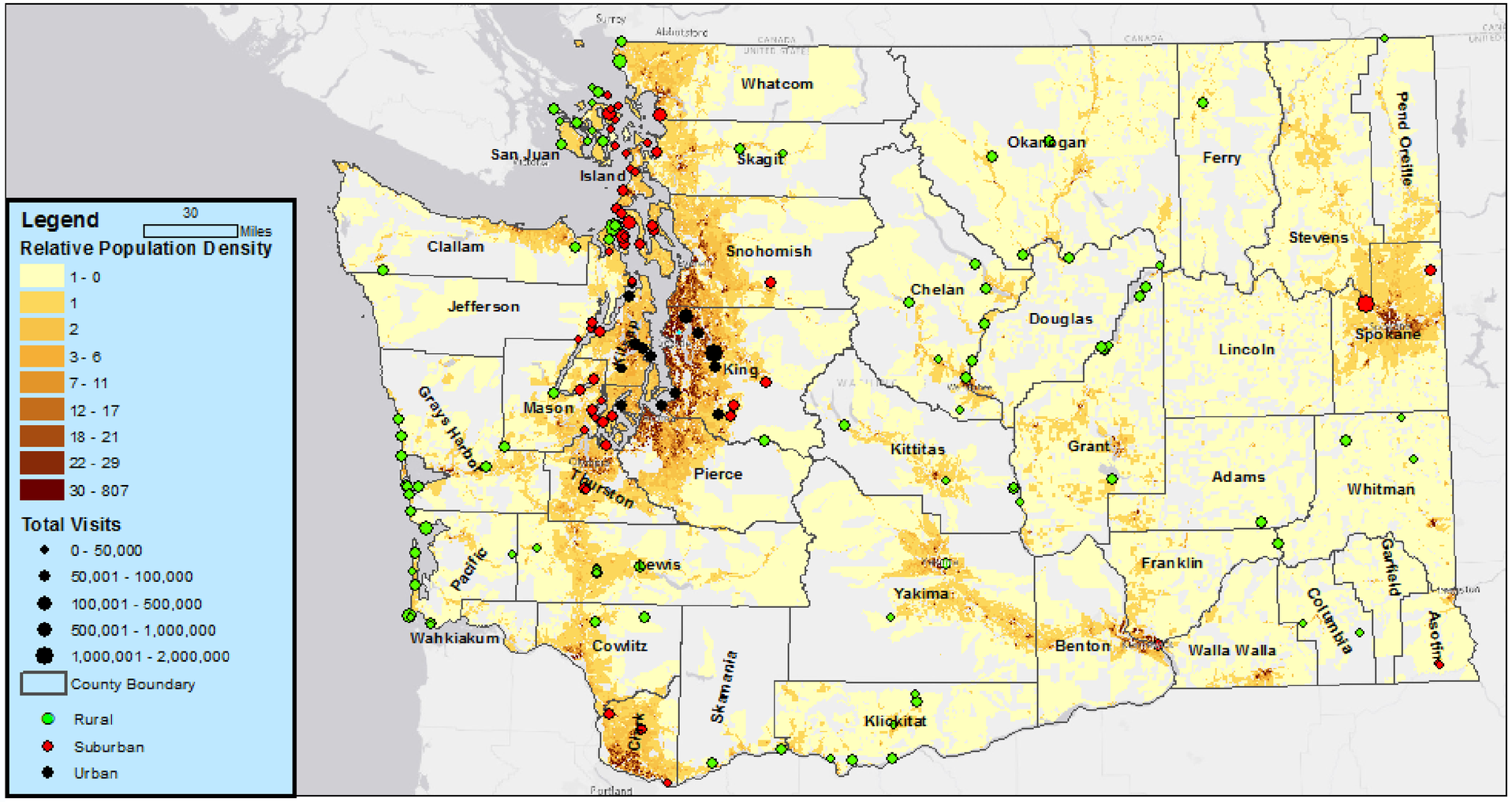


State Parks and Economic Development

State Parks attracts people and helps facilitate travel throughout the state

Rural Economic Development

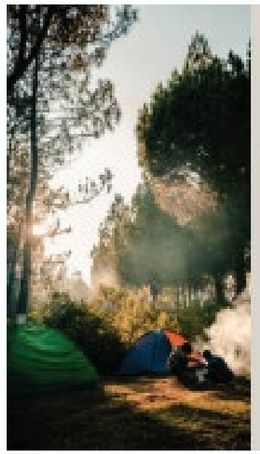
Out of state visitors represent 10% of total visits but contribute 20.5% of consumer expenditures



Economic Analysis - Washington

- **Outdoor Recreation Economy supports $26.5 billion in annual expenditures**
- **Supports 264,000 jobs in Washington (6% of all jobs in WA)**
- **For every $1 spent on outdoor recreation $1.52 in economic activity is supported**
- **Economic services of public lands valued at over $200 billion**





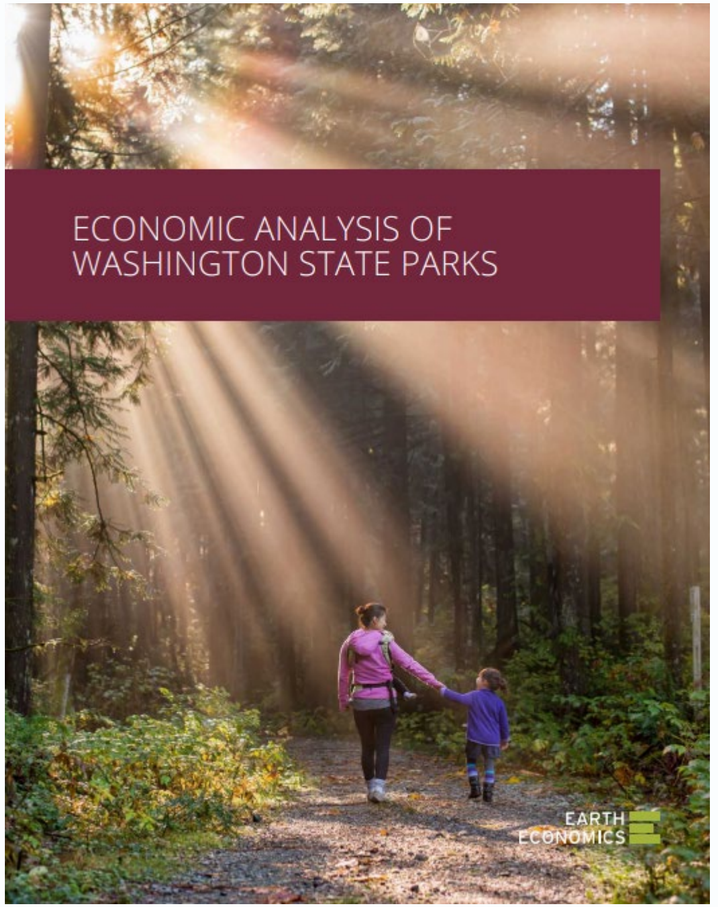
OUTDOOR RECREATION
SPENDING

TOTALS
$26.5 BILLION

AND SUPPORTS **$40.3 BILLION**
IN ECONOMIC CONTRIBUTIONS

Washington State Parks Analysis

- **2019 Data- State Parks supports $1.6 billion in direct and indirect spending and $786 million to state's GDP**
- **Supports over 10,000 full-time and seasonal jobs in Washington**
- **For every $1 spent on visits to State Parks $1.74 in economic activity is supported**
- **State General Fund support of the agency generates nearly 6 times that amount in state and local taxes.**

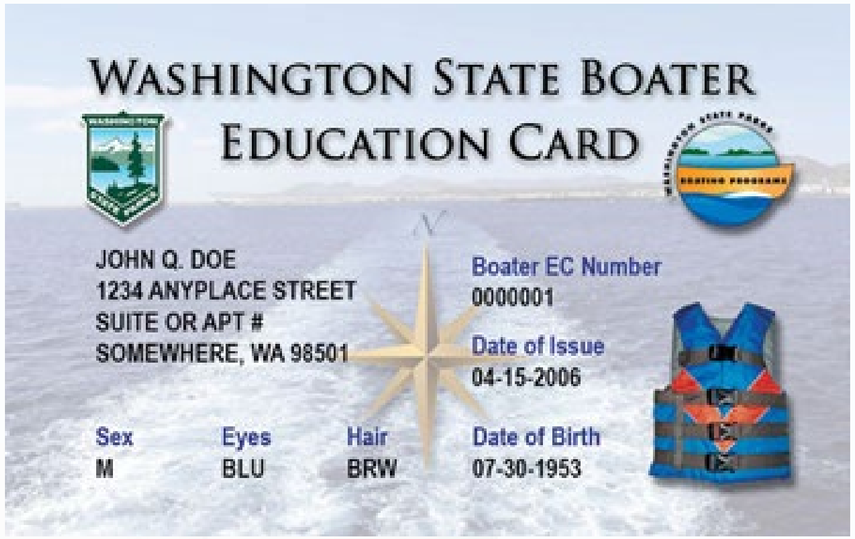




Recreational Boating Program



WEAR IT
In partnership with the National Safe Boating Council
Washington



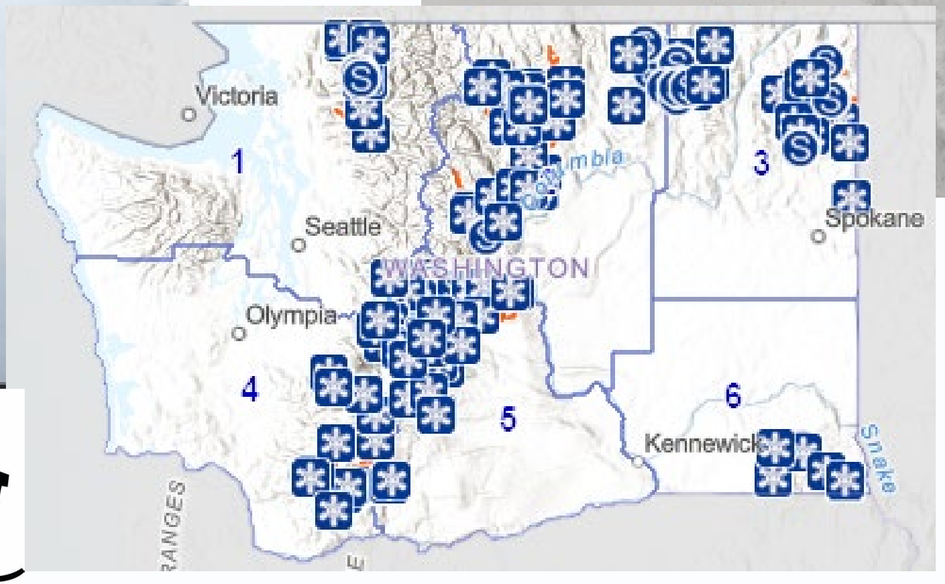


PADDLE Responsibly

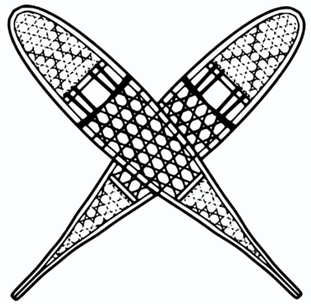
Winter Recreation Program









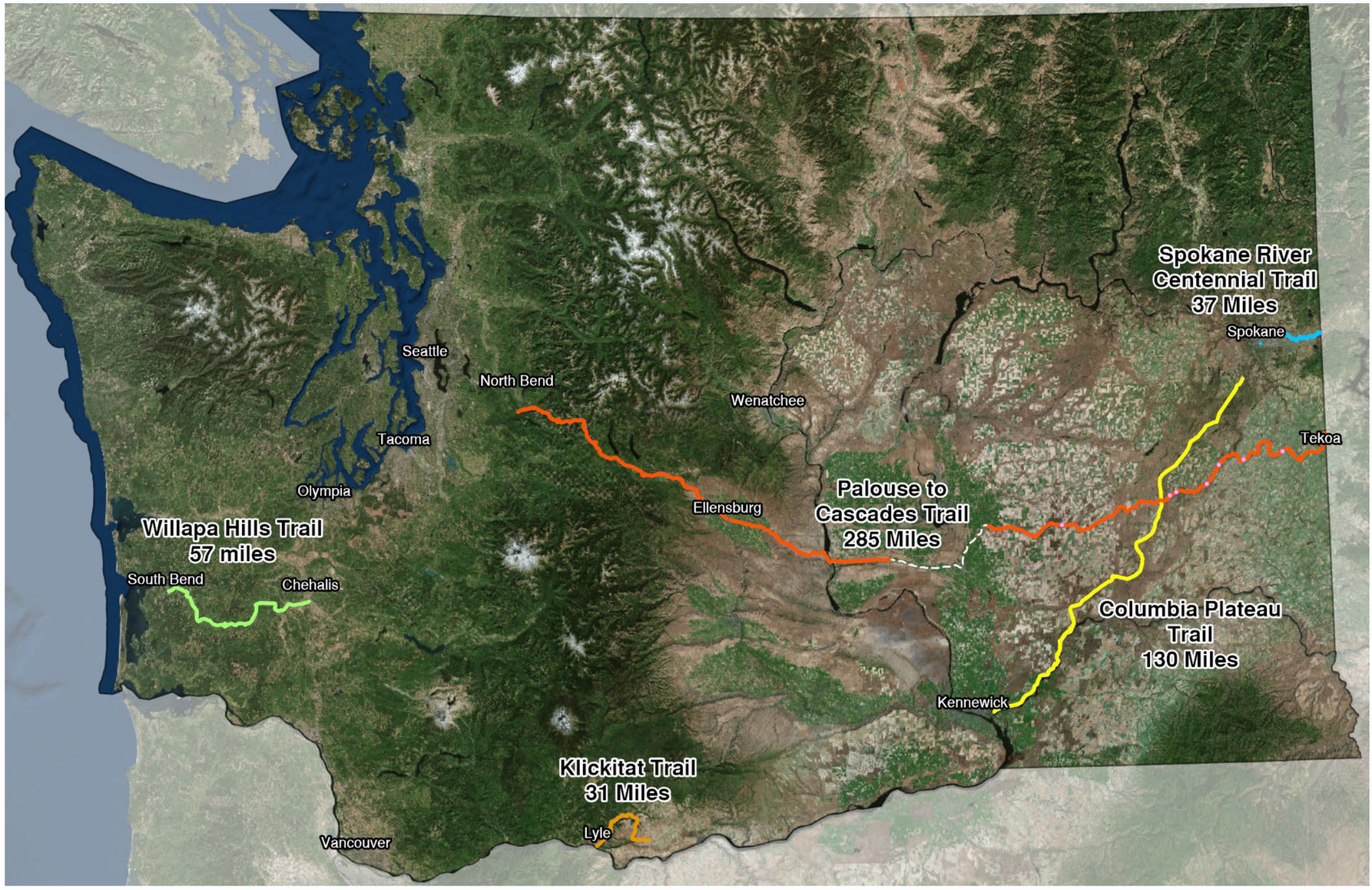


Long Distance Trails

State Parks manages over 540 miles of long-distance trails

Most people use smaller segments, but some travel the entire length

Community connections and rural economic development



Palouse to Cascades State Park Trail





GREAT AMERICAN RAIL-TRAIL®





Public/Private Partnership at St. Edward State Park

Mount Spokane Ski and Snowboard Park



Goldendale Observatory State Park Heritage Site



Increasing visitation challenges

Managing large crowds

Impacts on local communities and park resources

Opportunities to work with partners to address challenges and grow economic benefits across the state



Lake Chelan State Park

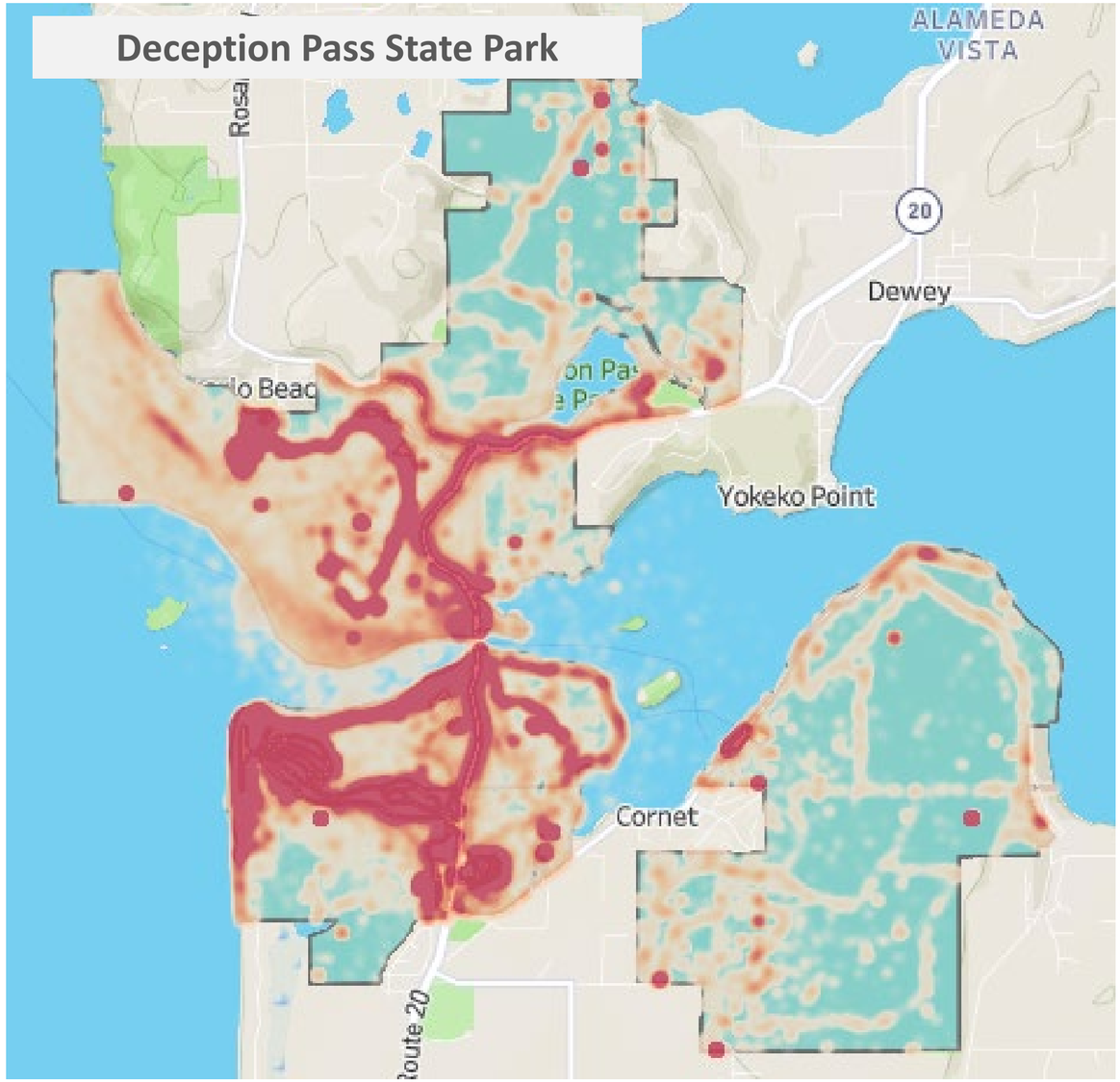
Technology and recreation management

Anonymized cell phone data is a tool used by Parks, DNR, and WDFW

Data tied to zip codes of cell phones

Where are people traveling from?

Where can we encourage use through marketing and park information?



State Parks' Legislative Priorities



Increase Customer Service ($10.3 million)

Supporting Equity and Inclusion ($3.0 million)

Inclusive Trail System ($1.3 million)

Capital Program Support ($4.8 million)

Cultural Resource Management ($1.0 million)

Climate Resilient Parks ($1.4 million)

Capital Budget Priorities ($140 million in new projects)