

# Wenatchee Shoreline Public Access Plan

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This Wenatchee Shoreline Public Access Plan documents how the City has planned for parks and recreation in the community, and particularly along the Columbia and Wenatchee Rivers, pursuant to WAC 173-26-221 (4)(c), including identifying specific public needs and opportunities to provide public access through an open public process. This plan is based on the *Wenatchee Urban Area Comprehensive Plan*, *City of Wenatchee Parks, Recreation & Open Space Plan*, and the *Wenatchee Waterfront Sub-area Plan*. The City's efforts address a variety of shoreline access opportunities and circulation for pedestrians, bicycles, and vehicles between shoreline access points, and include recommended projects and actions.

## Shoreline Public Access Laws and Rules

Public access refers to the ability of the general public "to reach, touch, and enjoy the water's edge, to travel on the waters of the state, and to view the water and the shoreline from adjacent locations" (WAC 173-26-221(4)(a)). Public access can be physical access such as via a trail or park and/or visual such as a view corridor from a road.

Public access is a preferred use per the Shoreline Management Act (RCW 90.58.020). The Shoreline Master Program (SMP) Guidelines require that public access be provided with most new development, except that more flexibility is allowed where there is a coordinated public access planning process (WAC 173-26-221(4)(c)). When public access is addressed in a SMP, it implements the "public trust doctrine" which is a common law principle holding that "the waters of the state are a public resource owned by and available to all citizens equally for the purposes of navigation, conducting commerce, fishing, recreation and similar uses." While the doctrine "protect(s) public use of navigable water bodies below the ordinary high water mark," the doctrine "does not allow the public to trespass over privately owned uplands to access the tidelands."<sup>1</sup> Generally, public or private landowners are limited in terms of liability when there are unintentional injuries to any public access users based on state law at RCW 4.24.210.

## Shoreline Recreation Goals and Plans

The *Wenatchee Urban Area Comprehensive Plan*, *City of Wenatchee Parks, Recreation & Open Space Plan*, and the *Wenatchee Waterfront Sub-area Plan* contain several goals and policies promoting shoreline public access, including:

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<sup>1</sup> See the State of Washington's Department of Ecology's website at:

[http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/sea/sma/laws\\_rules/public\\_trust.html](http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/sea/sma/laws_rules/public_trust.html). Accessed March 24, 2010.

- The City of Wenatchee should acquire shoreline property whenever it meets the current and future needs for public recreation access. (Comprehensive Plan Shoreline Use and Access Policy 1)
- The City of Wenatchee should recognize that the Wenatchee waterfront is a unique regional recreational resource. (Comprehensive Plan Shoreline Use and Access Policy 2)
- The City of Wenatchee should provide visual access to the water whenever possible. Develop viewpoints where the topography prevents direct access. (Comprehensive Plan Shoreline Use and Access Policy 3)
- The City of Wenatchee should develop and use waterfront parks for activities and interests specifically related to the shoreline environment. (Comprehensive Plan Shoreline Use and Access Policy 4)
- The City of Wenatchee should provide opportunities for walking and visits where terrain and shore conditions permit public access. (Comprehensive Plan Shoreline Use and Access Policy 5)
- The City of Wenatchee should implement the adopted Waterfront Sub Area Plan policies and projects for parks, trails, and public access. (Comprehensive Plan Shoreline Use and Access Policy 4)
- The City of Wenatchee should encourage environmental education, learning opportunities and partnerships for shoreline and habitat opportunities. (Parks Plan 2006)
- The City of Wenatchee should protect the environmental integrity of the waterfront trail and park. Specifically:
  - Minimize the loss of open space and landscaped areas within the park.
  - Expand and improve the waterfront trail, where necessary, to support usage and minimize conflicts between different types of users.
  - Design park improvements to complement and enhance surrounding park features. (Wenatchee Waterfront Subarea Plan)

## **Parks and Recreation Plans and Public Review Process**

The City's Parks and Recreation goals and plans have been created with extensive public review. Public participation opportunities included public open houses, meetings, hearings, and other activities. Notice was provided to a variety of agencies and citizens.

Parks Documentation and Process	Description
Plans	<p>Wenatchee Urban Area Comprehensive Plan Adopted 2007. Periodically amended through a docket process.</p> <p>City of Wenatchee Parks, Recreation &amp; Open Space Plan. Adopted 2006. Plan includes existing system, goals and standards, and implementation action plan.</p> <p>Wenatchee Waterfront Sub-area Plan, 2003. Includes goals and policies, concept plans, and implementation activities.</p>
Public Involvement Process	<p>Comprehensive Plan: Planning Commission meetings and legislative hearings.</p> <p>Parks and Recreation Plan: Community meetings, survey, news ads, Parks and Recreation Board and Parks, Recreation &amp; Open Space Comprehensive Plan Update Advisory Committee meetings, and legislative hearings.</p>

## Current and Future Facilities in Shoreline Jurisdiction

Open space and park acres within the shoreline jurisdiction include about 120 acres total on the Wenatchee and Columbia Rivers, with more than two-thirds of the acres on the Columbia River and one third on the Wenatchee River. Several park areas offer water access via boat launches, piers, or trails. Waterfront parks and trails in the City and UGA of Wenatchee include the following based on the “Shoreline Inventory and Analysis Report for Shorelines in Chelan County and the Cities of Cashmere, Chelan, Entiat, Leavenworth , and Wenatchee” dated March 2009 as well as corrections made in April 2010. Acres below show total property within and outside of the 200-foot shoreline jurisdictional area.

- **Washington Confluence State Park** at the “confluence” of the Columbia, and Wenatchee Rivers: The facility was built and is owned by the Chelan County PUD, but is operated and maintained by Washington State Parks and includes overnight RV and tent campsites, a boat launch, swimming beach, restrooms, showers, picnic shelter, volleyball, tennis courts, playground, pedestrian bridge across the river, 4.5 miles of trail, wildlife habitat, and interpretive graphics.
- **Riverfront Park:** This 31-acre park is owned and managed by the Chelan County PUD, and contains restrooms, an ice rink, a boat launch, short-term moorage and boat trailer parking, 1.1 miles of shoreline trail, and a “special event” mini-railroad.
- **Walla Walla Park:** This 70-acre park adjoins the Riverfront Park, and contains restrooms, picnic shelters, ballfields, swimming area, 1.2 miles of trail, tennis and volley ball courts, horseshoe pits, a playground, and fishing pier platform.

- **Apple Capital Loop Trail:** This trail fronts the Columbia River along Wenatchee in Chelan County and “loops” through East Wenatchee in Douglas County. The portion in Wenatchee is a multi-use trail approximately 5 miles long. It was established in 1990.

## Community Parks and Recreation Standards

The City’s *Parks and Recreation Comprehensive Plan* includes level of service standards for different facilities community wide. These standards were considered in the development of specific parks and recreation improvements for the current and future population in Wenatchee.

Facility Type	Level of Service Standard
<b>Parks and Open Space</b>	<b>acres/1000 population, unless noted</b>
Neighborhood	0.92
Community	1.45
Regional	2.88
Open Space Areas	5
Special Use Areas	1.6
Gateways and Beautification	0.67
Tot Lot	0.33 playground/ 1,000 pop
<b>Trails</b>	<b>miles/1000 population</b>
Trails and Pathways	0.27
<b>Sporting Facilities</b>	
Baseball	1 field/1,360 population
Softball	1 field/3,300 population
Soccer Fields	1 field/1,660
Outdoor Swimming Pools	96 square feet/1000 pop
Ice Rink	0.80 sf/1000 pop
Recreation Center	1.15 sf/1000
Tennis Courts	1 court/2000 pop

## Public Access Analysis & Objectives by Shoreline Reach

Much of the Wenatchee waterfront is in public ownership by the Chelan County Public Utility District, State of Washington, or City. Most of the publicly owned land has been put to recreational use. Planned parks and recreation improvements through 2012 in or near the shoreline include waterfront moorage and parking, waterfront trail upland access and boathouse, and open space acquisition in the City of Wenatchee and its UGA at +/- 200 acres.

Public access conditions are presented in order of numbered reaches as mapped in the “Shoreline Inventory and Analysis Report for Shorelines in Chelan County and the Cities of Cashmere, Chelan, Entiat, Leavenworth, and Wenatchee” dated March 2009. Planned facilities

are included based on the shoreline inventory and analysis report, the *Wenatchee Parks and Recreation Comprehensive Plan*, the *Wenatchee Waterfront Sub-area Plan*, and the State of Washington's *Wenatchee Confluence Area State Parks Management Plan (2007)*.

Inventory maps and City waterfront, parks, and recreation maps are found at the conclusion of this document.

Waterbody and Reach	Current Shoreline Facilities	Planned Shoreline Facilities	Discussion
<b>Columbia River</b>			
<b>CWN 01, 02</b>	None	None	Access is difficult due to rail lines. Future planned use is industrial.
<b>CWN 03, 04, 05</b>	None. Land in PUD ownership.	None	Access is difficult due to rail lines. Future planned use is industrial.
<b>CWN 06</b>	Locomotive Gateway Park (aka Mission Street Park) Potential right of way access	Re-landscape Locomotive Gateway Park	
<b>CWN 07</b>	Riverfront Park, Linden Tree Area Park, Walla Walla Park	Waterfront Sub-Area Plan includes improvements for three nodes in this reach.	<p><b>Southern node:</b> develop day-use moorage dock; new pedestrian plaza; park and trail enhancements; new waterfront park south of the cross-river bridge; enhance the south end shoreline environment.</p> <p><b>Central node:</b> construct non-motorized boat facility; east of Riverside Drive expand and improve Waterfront Park with amphitheater or multipurpose shelters; develop a public viewpoint and sternwheeler moorage and dock at 5th Street; and aquatic environmental enhancements vicinity of 9th Street.</p> <p><b>Northern node, waterfront plan area:</b> access, parking, trail, and ball field improvements to Walla Walla Park; environmental education center/urban agricultural center north of Hawley</p>

<b>Waterbody and Reach</b>	<b>Current Shoreline Facilities</b>	<b>Planned Shoreline Facilities</b>	<b>Discussion</b>
			Street; and shoreline environmental enhancements.
<b>CWN 08</b>	Confluence Park	Park improvements are addressed in the 2007 <i>Wenatchee Confluence Area State Parks Management Plan</i>	State plan addresses: Expansion/improvement of visitor services and facilities Recreation design-grounds improvements Expansion of trail network
<b>CWN 09</b>	Confluence Park	See above	See above
<b>CWN 10</b>	None. Land in PUD ownership.	Trail extension	Per City parks plan, the Port is currently working on the feasibility to identify trail development and connections through the Olds Station UGA areas to Confluence State Park. The goal is to provide additional pedestrian and bicycle use, trail alignments with the Apple Loop Trail.
<b>CWN 11</b>	None	None	City has committed to finding additional shoreline area for recreation. See below.
<b>CWN 12</b>	None	None	Same as above.
<b>CWN 13</b>	None. Land in PUD ownership.	None	Same as above.
<b>Wenatchee River</b>			
<b>CWN 01</b>	Confluence Park	Park improvements are addressed in the 2007 <i>Wenatchee Confluence Area State Parks Management Plan</i>	State plan addresses: Expansion/improvement of visitor services and facilities Recreation design-grounds improvements Expansion of trail network
<b>CWN 02</b>	None. Land in PUD ownership.	None	
<b>CWN 03</b>	None.	None	City has committed to finding additional shoreline area for recreation. See below.

<b>Waterbody and Reach</b>	<b>Current Shoreline Facilities</b>	<b>Planned Shoreline Facilities</b>	<b>Discussion</b>
<b>CWN 04</b>	WDFW ownership and fishing easement	None	WDFW is reviewing each of their fishing easements to determine exact location and potential feasibility for use.
<b>CWN 05</b>	None	None	City has committed to finding additional shoreline area for recreation. See below.

Various parks and recreation maps are provided following the text of the shoreline public access plan. While specific locations are not cited in the City's *Parks and Recreation Plan*, open space acquisition is proposed in the City of Wenatchee and its UGA at +/- 200 acres (City of Wenatchee 2006).

## **Implementation**

The City will implement its shoreline public access plan through implementation of its *Wenatchee Urban Area Comprehensive Plan*, *City of Wenatchee Parks, Recreation & Open Space Plan*, and the *Wenatchee Waterfront Sub-area Plan*. The City's *Parks, Recreation & Open Space Plan*, and the *Wenatchee Waterfront Sub-area Plan* include sections on implementation including costs and funding sources. The City's budget also contains a capital improvement program. The Shoreline Master Program update also contains public access and recreation standards designed to be compatible with and support the shoreline public access plan.<sup>2</sup> The City may also revisit its shoreline public access plan during periodic reviews of the SMP, anticipated every seven years. (RCW 90.58.080)

## **Supporting Maps**

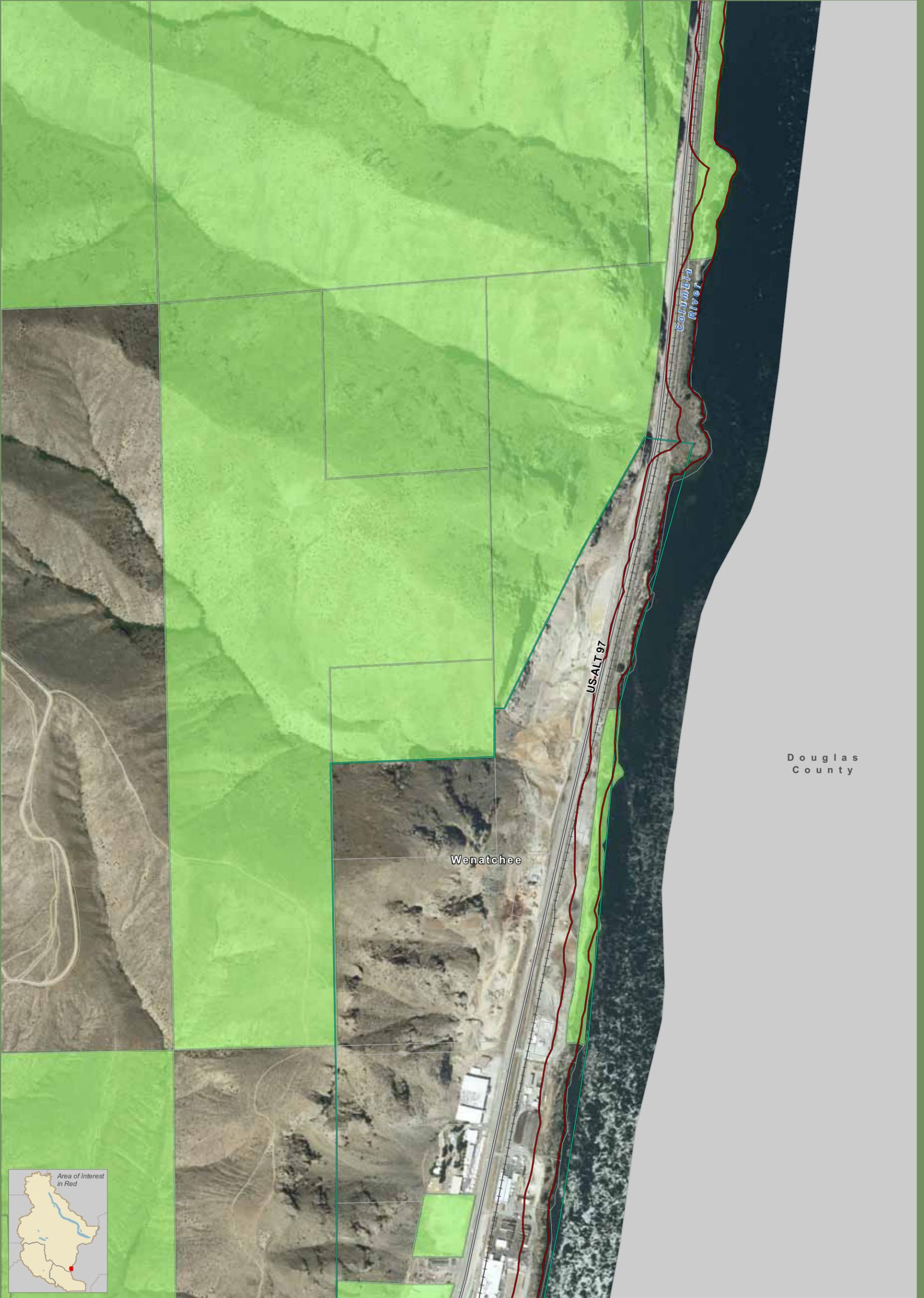
The following attached maps are provided for reference and in support of the shoreline public access plan:

- Public Access maps prepared for the Shoreline Master Program update, April 14, 2010
- Wenatchee Parks, Recreation & Open Space Plan, 2006: Existing Facilities, Proposed Neighborhood Parks, and Proposed Community Parks
- Wenatchee Waterfront Sub-area Plan Concept Map, 2003

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<sup>2</sup> The Shoreline Master Program Update is underway. Policies and standards will be prepared and included in the next draft shoreline master program.





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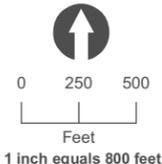
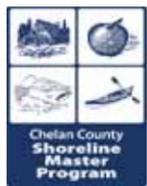
Wenatchee

US ALT 97

Columbia  
River



# Public Access Wenatchee 01



April 14, 2010  
Data: WA DOE,  
WA OFM, TPL,  
TNC, Chelan County,  
WA State Parks, WNF

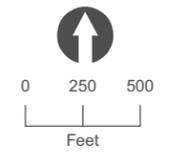
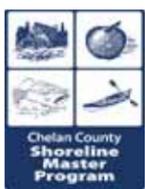
## Public Access, Parks, and Other Public Lands

- |                        |                      |                                  |                 |
|------------------------|----------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------|
| Boat Launch            | Picnic Area          | Fishing Easement                 | Proposed Trails |
| Campground             | RV Camp              | Fishing Easement with Boatlaunch | Highways        |
| Comm. Dock/Marina      | Ski Area             | Parks                            | Railroads       |
| Fishing Access         | SnoPark              | Other Public and Protected Lands | Parcels         |
| Horse Camp             | Trailhead            | Potential ROW Access             | Jurisdiction    |
| Marina                 | Visitor Info Site    | View Corridors                   | City Boundaries |
| Other Boating Facility | Winter Rec. Facility | Hiking Trails                    | UGA Boundaries  |

Shoreline jurisdiction boundaries depicted on this map are approximate. They have not been formally delineated or surveyed and are intended for planning purposes only. Additional site-specific evaluation may be needed to confirm/verify information shown on this map.



# Public Access Wenatchee 02



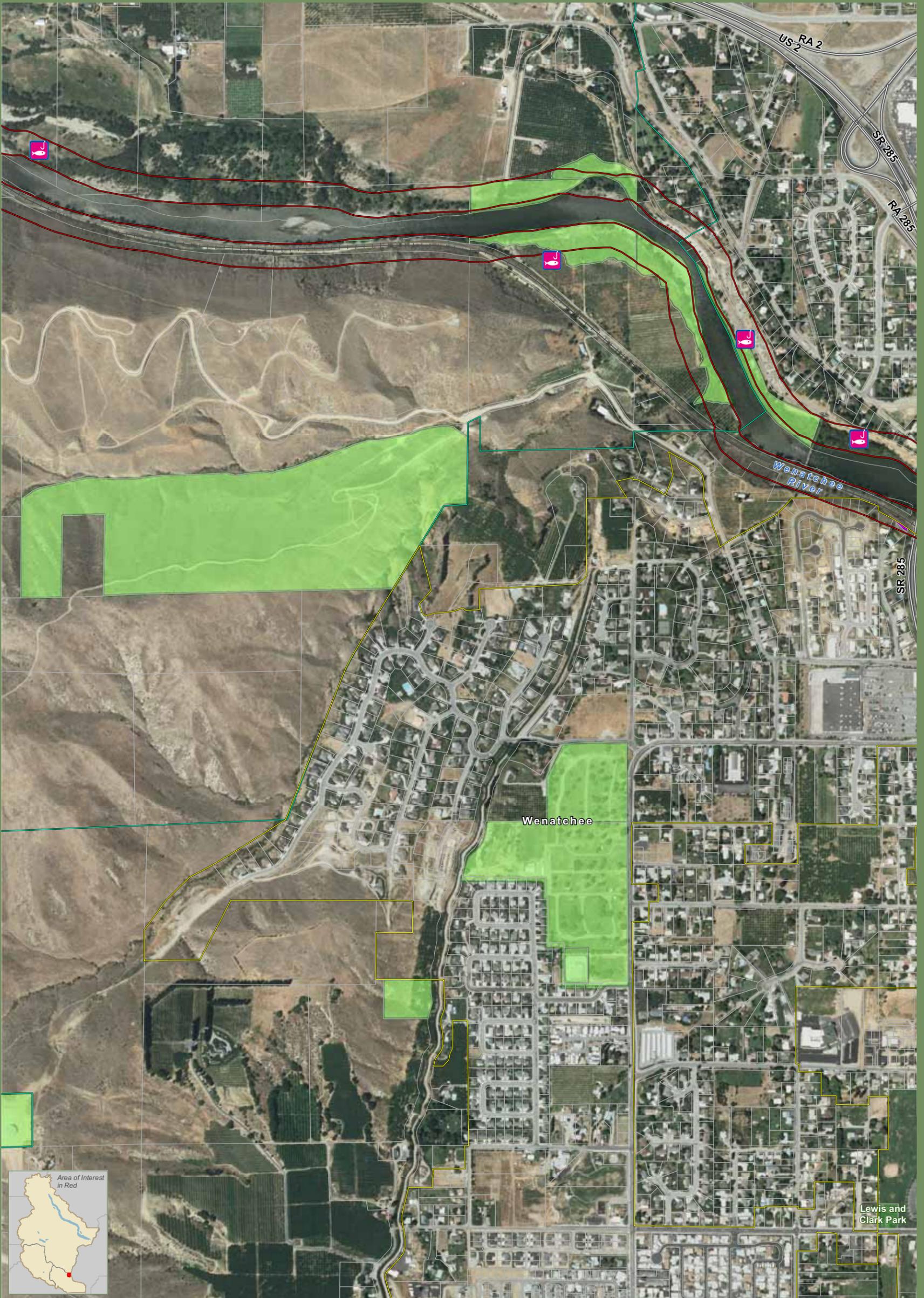
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TNC, Chelan County,  
WA State Parks, WNF



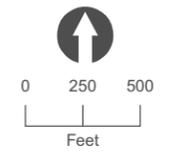
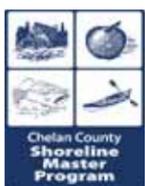
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|------------------------|----------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------|
| Boat Launch            | Picnic Area          | Fishing Easement                 | Proposed Trails |
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| Comm. Dock/Marina      | Ski Area             | Parks                            | Railroads       |
| Fishing Access         | SnoPark              | Other Public and Protected Lands | Parcels         |
| Horse Camp             | Trailhead            | Potential ROW Access             | Jurisdiction    |
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# Public Access Wenatchee 03

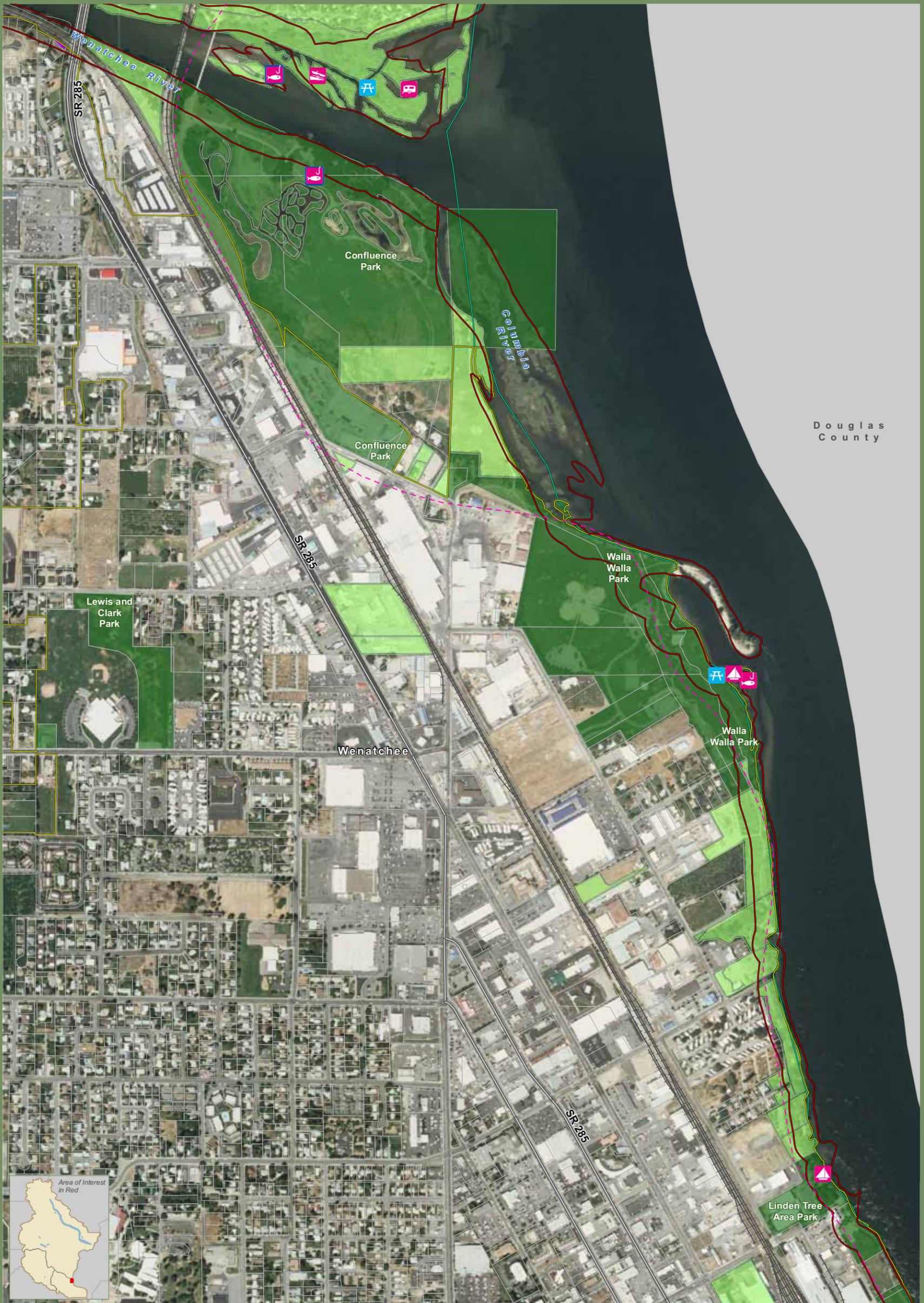


1 inch equals 800 feet  
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 WA OFM, TPL,  
 TNC, Chelan County,  
 WA State Parks, WNF

## Public Access, Parks, and Other Public Lands

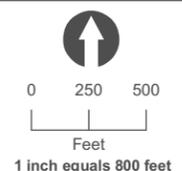
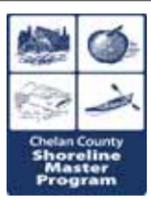
- |                        |                      |                                  |                 |
|------------------------|----------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------|
| Boat Launch            | Picnic Area          | Fishing Easement                 | Proposed Trails |
| Campground             | RV Camp              | Fishing Easement with Boatlaunch | Highways        |
| Comm. Dock/Marina      | Ski Area             | Parks                            | Railroads       |
| Fishing Access         | SnoPark              | Other Public and Protected Lands | Parcels         |
| Horse Camp             | Trailhead            | Potential ROW Access             | Jurisdiction    |
| Marina                 | Visitor Info Site    | View Corridors                   | City Boundaries |
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Douglas County

# Public Access Wenatchee 04



April 15, 2010  
Data: WA DOE,  
WA OFM, TPL,  
TNC, Chelan County,  
WA State Parks, WNF



## Public Access, Parks, and Other Public Lands

- |                        |                      |                                  |                 |
|------------------------|----------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------|
| Boat Launch            | Picnic Area          | Fishing Easement                 | Proposed Trails |
| Campground             | RV Camp              | Fishing Easement with Boatlaunch | Highways        |
| Comm. Dock/Marina      | Ski Area             | Parks                            | Railroads       |
| Fishing Access         | SnoPark              | Other Public and Protected Lands | Parcels         |
| Horse Camp             | Trailhead            | Potential ROW Access             | Jurisdiction    |
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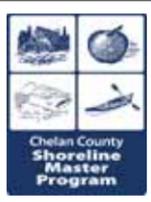
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# Public Access Wenatchee 05



  
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 1 inch equals 800 feet  
 April 14, 2010  
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 WA OFM, TPL,  
 TNC, Chelan County,  
 WA State Parks, WNF

## Public Access, Parks, and Other Public Lands

- |  |  |  |   |
|--|--|--|---|
|  Boat Launch            |  Picnic Area          |  Fishing Easement                 |  Proposed Trails |
|  Campground             |  RV Camp              |  Fishing Easement with Boatlaunch |  Highways        |
|  Comm. Dock/Marina      |  Ski Area             |  Parks                            |  Railroads       |
|  Fishing Access         |  SnoPark              |  Other Public and Protected Lands |  Parcels         |
|  Horse Camp             |  Trailhead            |  Potential ROW Access             |  Jurisdiction    |
|  Marina                 |  Visitor Info Site    |  View Corridors                   |  City Boundaries |
|  Other Boating Facility |  Winter Rec. Facility |  Hiking Trails                    |  UGA Boundaries  |

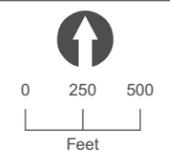
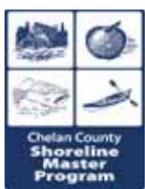
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## Public Access Wenatchee 06

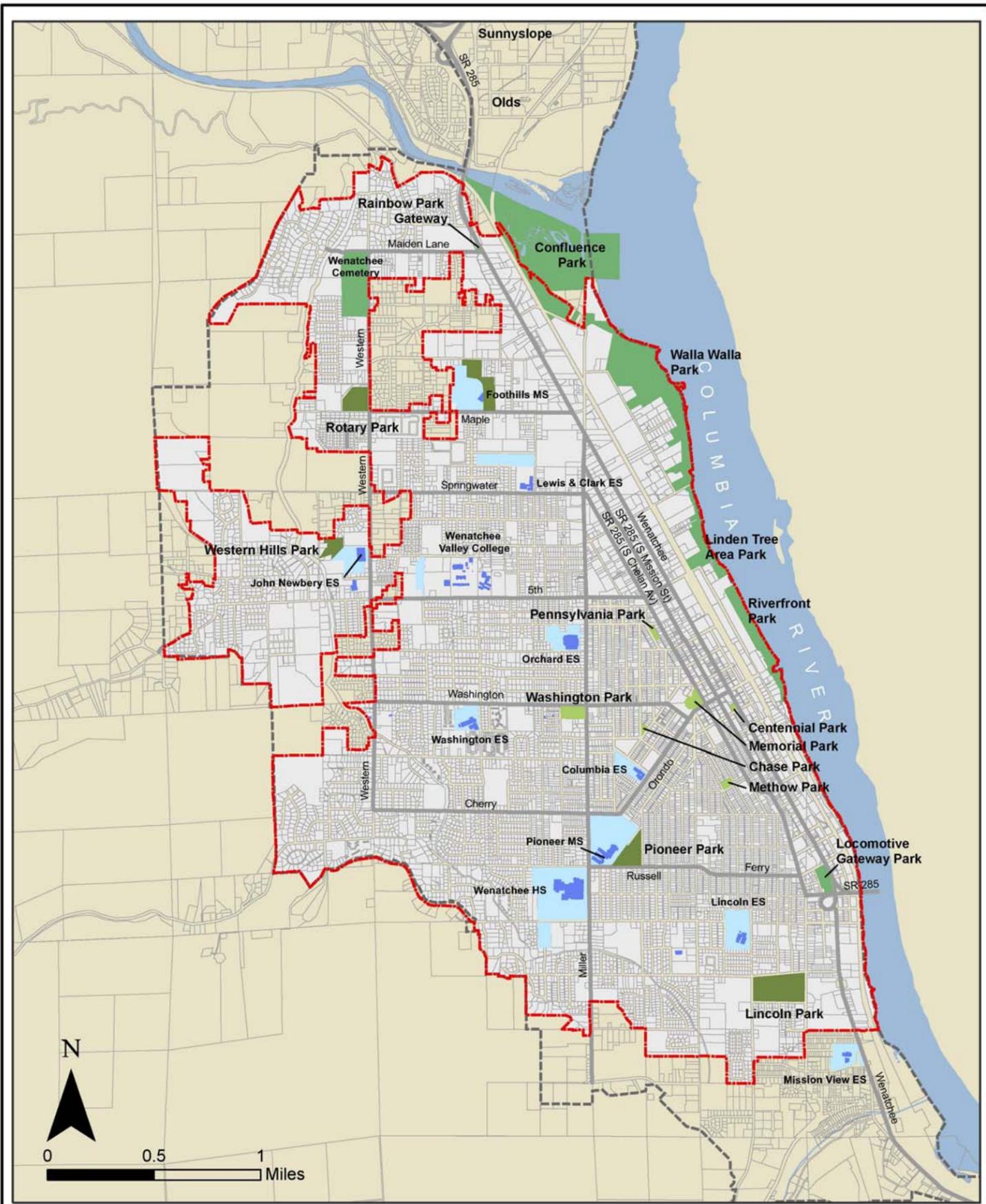


April 14, 2010  
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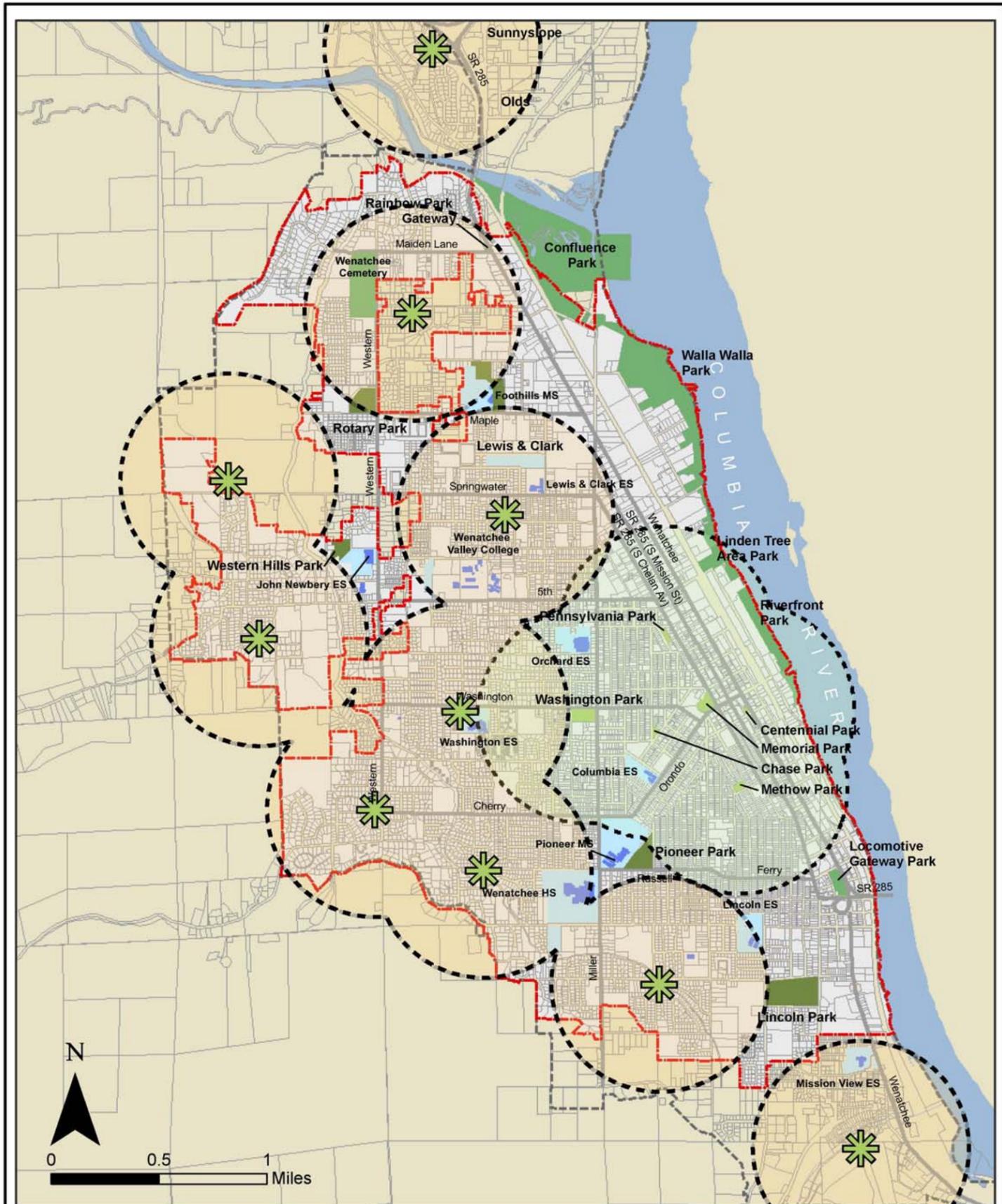
### Public Access, Parks, and Other Public Lands

- |                        |                      |                                  |                 |
|------------------------|----------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------|
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<p><b>Legend</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 10px; background-color: #4F7942; border: 1px solid black; margin-right: 5px;"></span> Community Parks, Existing</li> <li><span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 10px; background-color: #92D050; border: 1px solid black; margin-right: 5px;"></span> Neighborhood Parks, Existing</li> <li><span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 10px; background-color: #70AD47; border: 1px solid black; margin-right: 5px;"></span> Other Parks, Existing</li> <li><span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 10px; background-color: #4169E1; border: 1px solid black; margin-right: 5px;"></span> School Buildings</li> <li><span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 10px; background-color: #ADD8E6; border: 1px solid black; margin-right: 5px;"></span> School Property</li> <li><span style="display: inline-block; border: 1px dashed red; width: 15px; height: 10px; margin-right: 5px;"></span> City Limits</li> <li><span style="display: inline-block; border: 1px dashed gray; width: 15px; height: 10px; margin-right: 5px;"></span> UGA Boundary</li> <li><span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 10px; background-color: #ADD8E6; border: 1px solid black; margin-right: 5px;"></span> Rivers</li> </ul>		<p><b>Parks and Recreation Comprehensive Plan</b></p> <p><b>Existing Facilities</b></p> <p style="text-align: right;">AJO</p>
 <p>Wenatchee, Washington      June 2006</p>		



<p><b>Legend</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 10px; background-color: #6aa84f; border: 1px solid black; margin-right: 5px;"></span> Community Parks, Existing</li> <li><span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 10px; background-color: #90c17e; border: 1px solid black; margin-right: 5px;"></span> Neighborhood Parks, Existing</li> <li><span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 10px; background-color: #4f81bd; border: 1px solid black; margin-right: 5px;"></span> Other Parks, Existing</li> <li><span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 10px; background-color: #4f81bd; border: 1px solid black; margin-right: 5px;"></span> School Buildings</li> <li><span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 10px; background-color: #add8e6; border: 1px solid black; margin-right: 5px;"></span> School Property</li> <li><span style="display: inline-block; border: 2px dashed red; width: 15px; height: 10px; margin-right: 5px;"></span> City Limits</li> <li><span style="display: inline-block; border: 2px dashed black; width: 15px; height: 10px; margin-right: 5px;"></span> UGA Boundary</li> <li><span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 10px; background-color: #add8e6; margin-right: 5px;"></span> Rivers</li> <li><span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 10px; background-color: #90c17e; border: 1px solid black; margin-right: 5px;"></span> Proposed Neighborhood Parks</li> <li><span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 10px; background-color: #add8e6; border: 2px dashed black; margin-right: 5px;"></span> Proposed NPSA</li> <li><span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 10px; background-color: #90c17e; border: 2px dashed black; margin-right: 5px;"></span> Existing NPSA</li> </ul>			<p><b>Parks and Recreation Comprehensive Plan Proposed Neighborhood Parks</b></p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>AJO</i></p>	
<p>Wenatchee, Washington      June 2006</p>				



**Legend**

Community Parks, Existing	City Limits	Proposed Community Parks
Neighborhood Parks, Existing	UGA Boundary	CPSA
Other Parks, Existing	Rivers	Proposed CPSA
School Buildings		
School Property		

**Parks and Recreation  
Comprehensive Plan**

**Proposed Community  
Parks** *AJO*

Wenatchee, Washington June 2006



# Plan Concept

The consultant team first identified the desired types of development through a public process. Citizens wanted to create a variety of development opportunities, so the following plan concept was developed to provide a focused vision for future development.

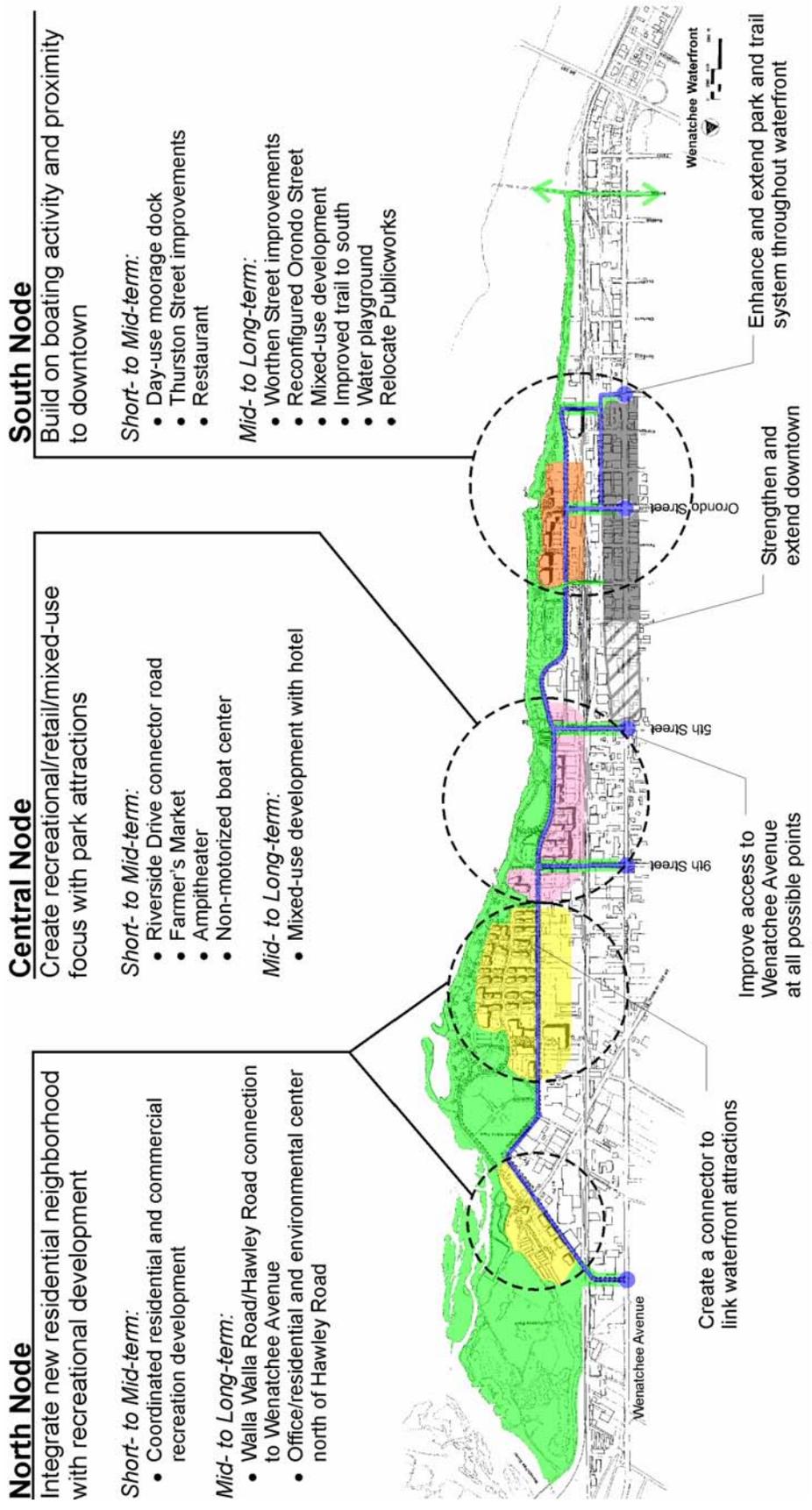


Figure 2. Concept Illustration

