SOUTH CENTRAL REGION UPDATE

Washington State Transportation Commission

W. Brian White, P.E.
South Central Region Administrator

October 15, 2026

South Central Region

WSDOT Regions Statewide

South Central Region

Brian White, P.E., Region Administrator

- Oregon Institute of Technology graduate
- Licensed Civil Engineer with 35 years of experience
- Region Administrator for South Central Region
- Collaborate with tribal governments, port officials, and other state agencies to provide safe, reliable, and cost-effective transportation that enhances communities, supports economic vitality, and provides a sustainable and integrated multimodal network for travelers

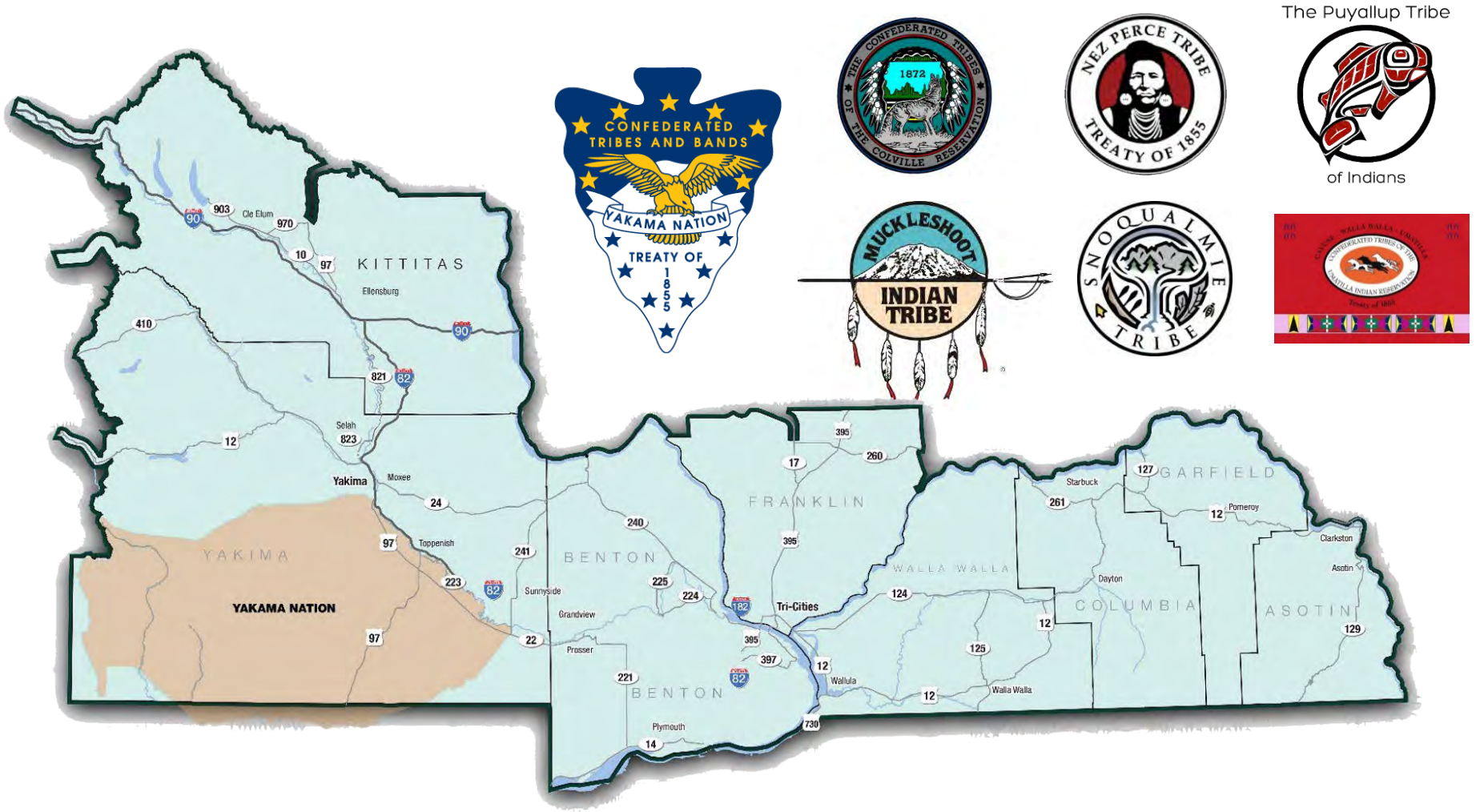
South Central Region

- 3,127 Lane Miles
- 493 Bridges
- 12 Rest Areas
- 1.7 Million Customers
- 38% of Concrete Lanes maintained in the state

- 3 Major Mountain Passes
- 6 WSDOT-Operated Airports
- 9 Transit Systems
- 7 Miles Dedicated Bike Lanes

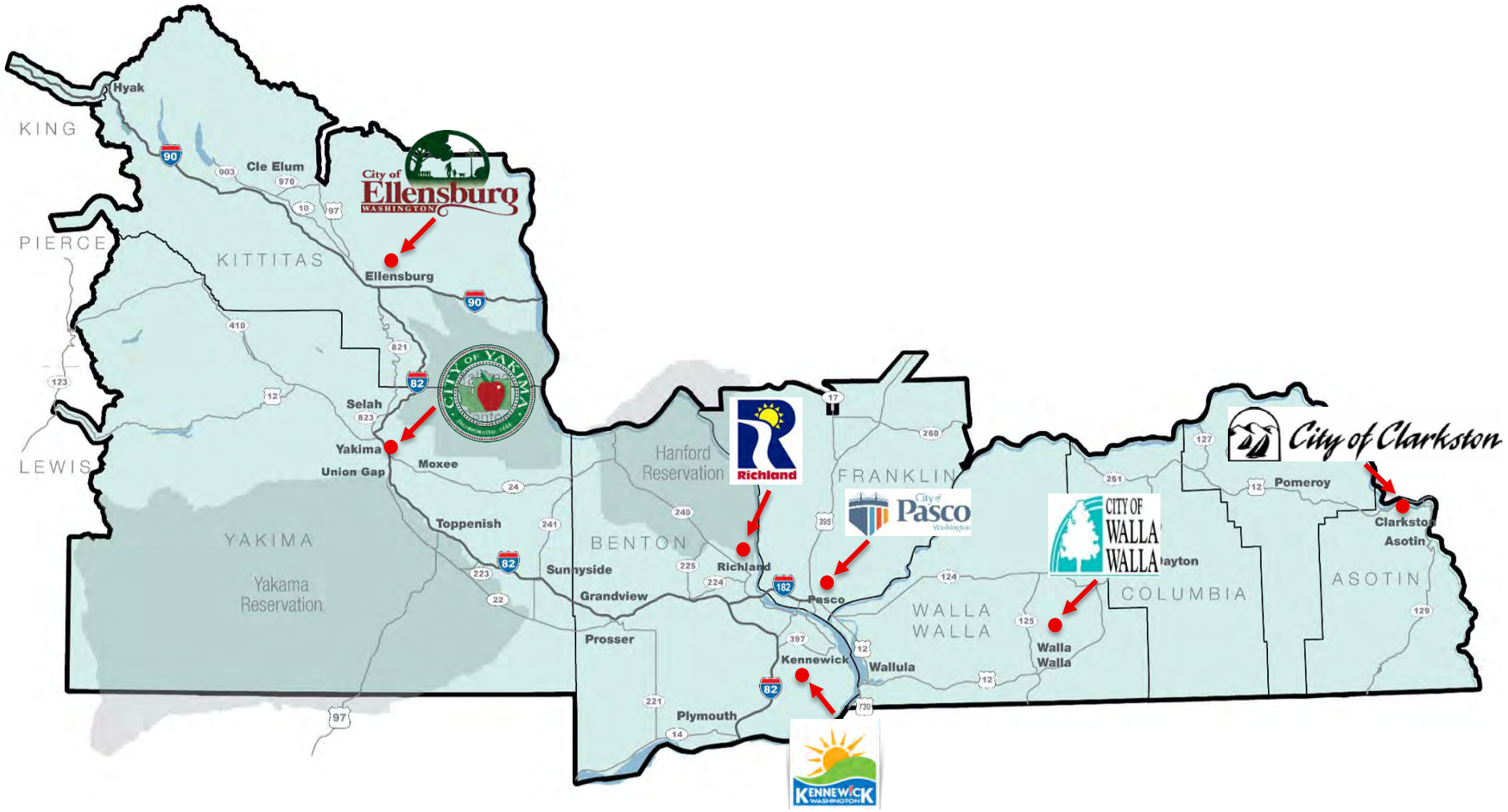
South Central Region

Yakama Nation Reservation – 1.4 Million Acres



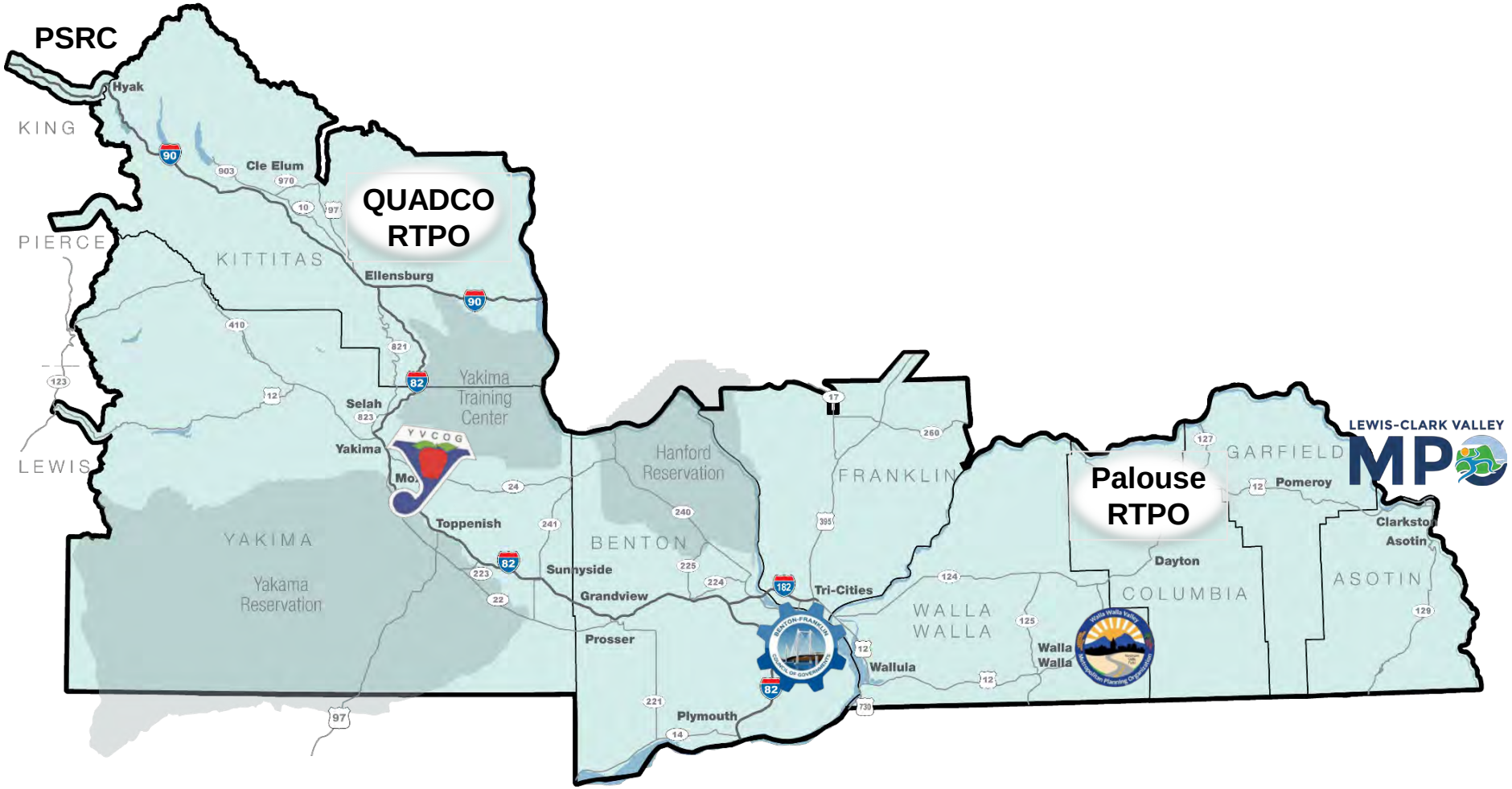
South Central Region

Key Communities



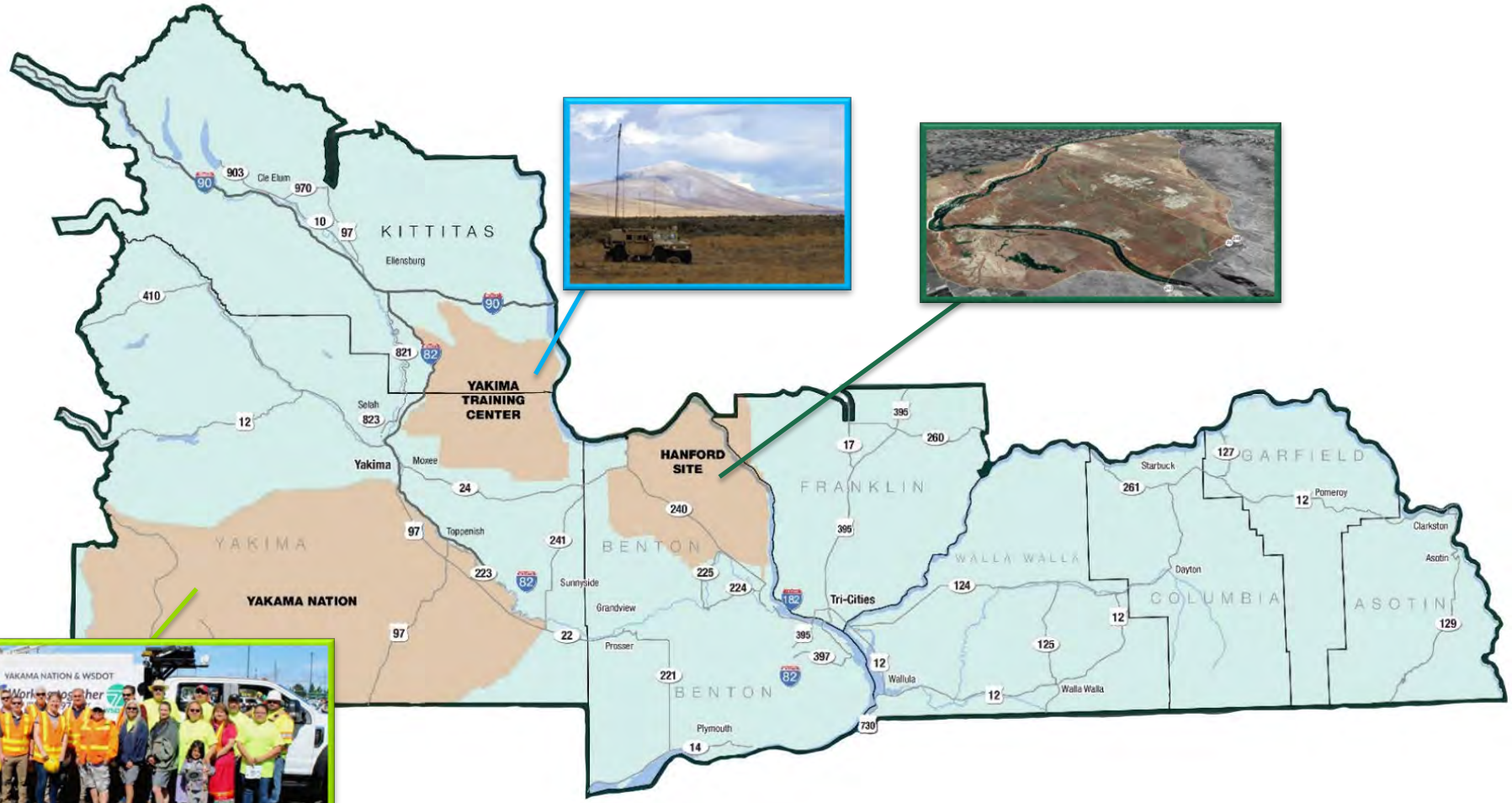
South Central Region

MPOs and RTPOs



South Central Region

Yakima Training Center, Hanford, Yakama Nation



South Central Region

Key Relationships - Coalitions

STEER I-90 COALITION

MOUNTAINS to Sound GREENWAY NATIONAL HERITAGE AREA

Four-Laning U.S. Highway 12 Burbank to Walla Walla
US 12
TURNING THE CORNER FOR SAFETY AND ECONOMIC VITALITY

DRIVING RURAL YAKIMA VALLEY'S ECONOMY
DRYVE

TRANS-ACTION
MOVING YAKIMA AREA'S TRANSPORTATION FORWARD

South Central Region

US 12 White Pass Corridor Preservation Needs

- History of closures due to washouts, debris flows, rockfalls, slope failures, and embankment settlement.
- Serves as an important freight route and supports high levels of recreational traffic.
- Serves as a critical evacuation route for Western Washington in the event of a major earthquake and acts as an alternative route when I-90 Snoqualmie Pass is closed.

South Central Region

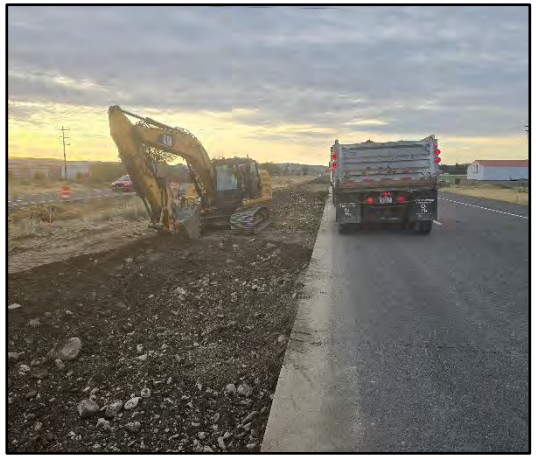
US 12 White Pass Corridor Preservation Needs

South Central Region

US 12 W Gulch Bridge to Rimrock Retreat Paving

South Central Region

US 12 Eschbach & Ackley Road Intersection Improvements



South Central Region

SR 24 Riverside Road to Bell Road Paving Project

- Paving SR 24 and I-82 to Riverside Road
- Building a pathway along SR 24 between University Parkway and Morrier Lane

South Central Region

US 97 Lateral A Roundabout

South Central Region

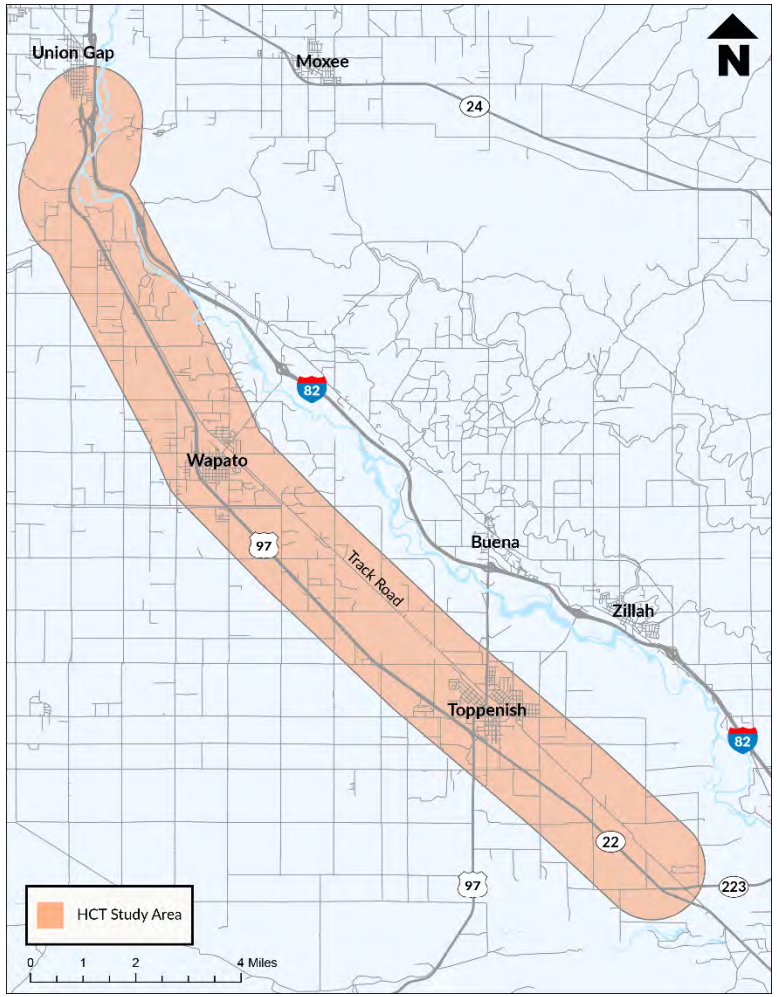
US 97 Lateral A Roundabout

South Central Region

US 97 Safety Corridor

South Central Region

Heritage Connectivity Trails Planning Study



- Approximately 23 miles along the US 97 corridor, from the Toppenish vicinity to Union Gap
- Focuses on improving connections between communities, cultural areas, schools, jobs and services
- Identifies opportunities for walking, bicycling, rolling and equestrian travel
- Builds on existing local, regional and tribal trail plans and transportation efforts
- Phase 1 is part of a larger vision for more than 150 miles of multi-use paths in the lower Yakima Valley

South Central Region

Heritage Connectivity Trails Planning Study

Section 1 - Union Gap to Lateral A

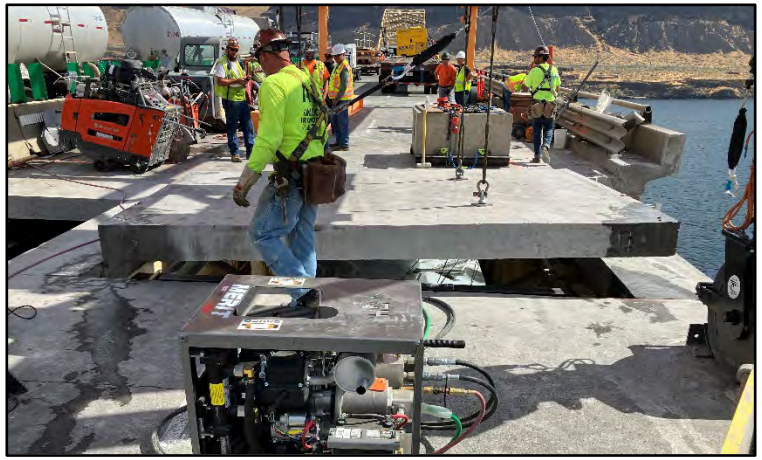
Section 2 - Lateral A to Jones Rd

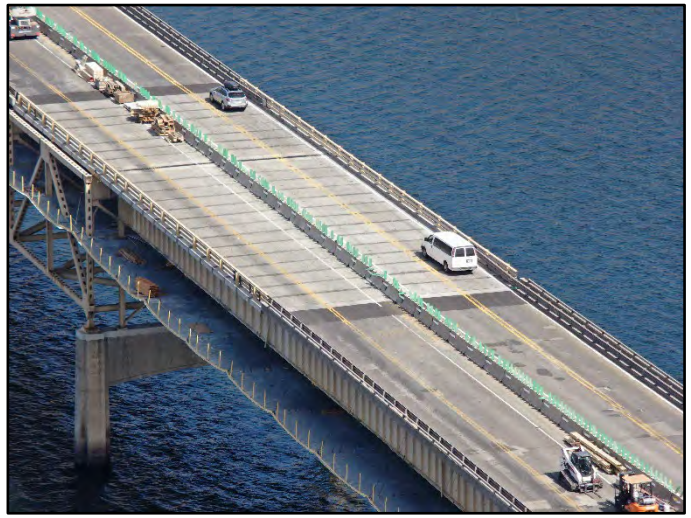
Section 3 - Jones Rd to McDonald Rd

Section 4 - McDonald Rd to SR 22/223 Jct

South Central Region

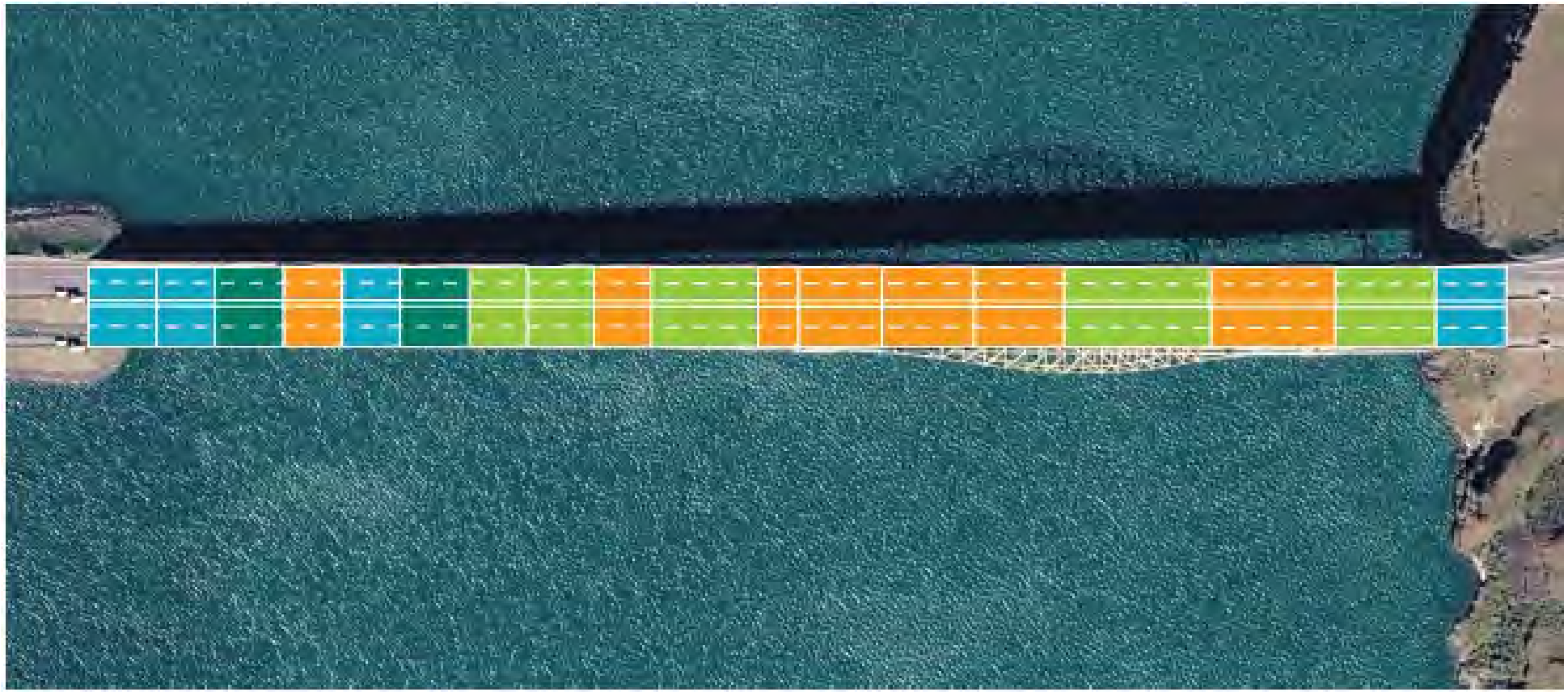
I-90 Vantage Bridge Deck Replacement





South Central Region

I-90 Vantage Bridge Deck Replacement



South Central Region

I-90 Snoqualmie Pass East

Phase 1B

Phase 1C

Phase 2A

Phase 3

South Central Region

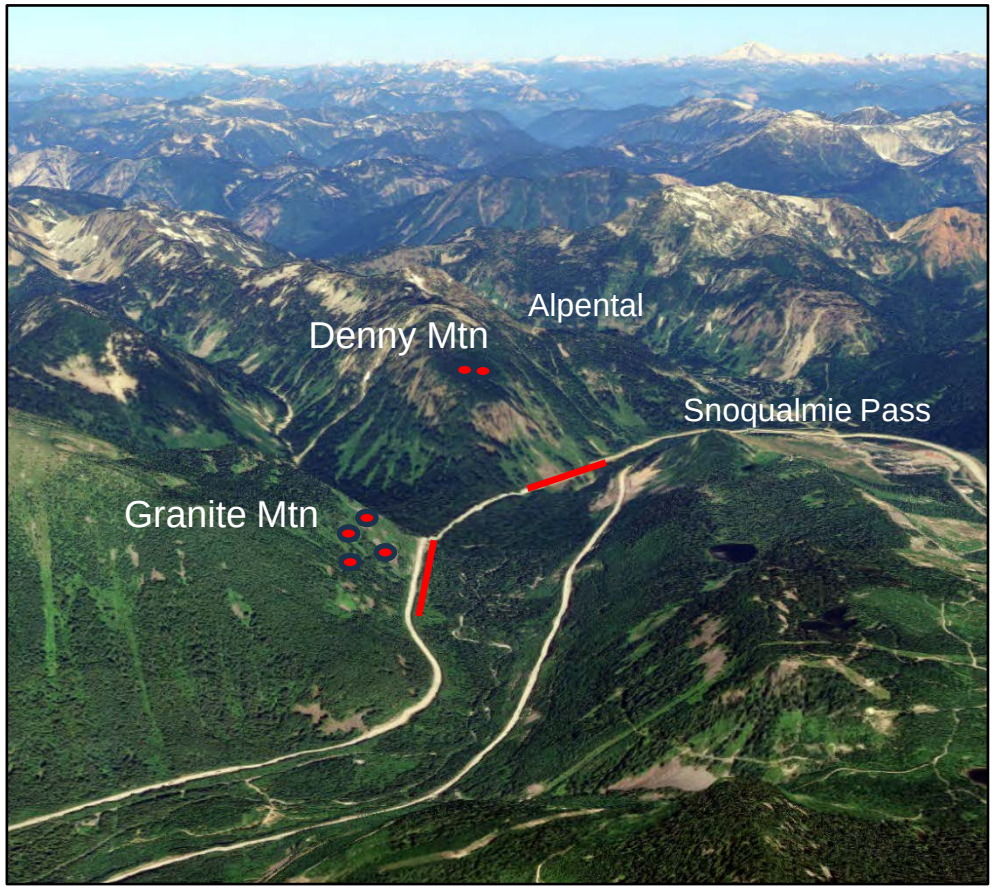
I-90 Snoqualmie Pass East

South Central Region

Winter Operations

South Central Region

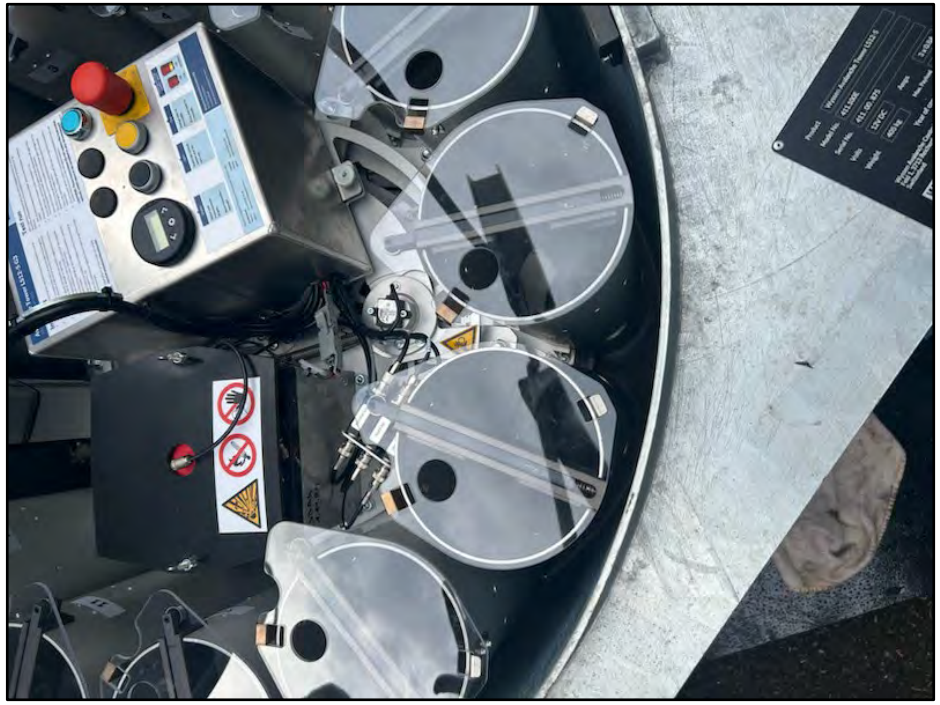
Remote Avalanche Control Systems (RACS)



6 Remote Avalanche Control Systems (RACS) Installations
Wyssen Avalanche Tower LS12-5

South Central Region

Winter Operations



South Central Region

Growing Communities – Summit at Snoqualmie

South Central Region

Irrigation Challenges

I-82 near Zillah

I-82 near Prosser

SR 410 near the US 12 junction

South Central Region

Preservation Challenges on SR 410

South Central Region

Facility Needs

South Central Region

Contact Information

W. Brian White, P.E.

Region Administrator

South Central Region

Washington State Department of Transportation

509-577-1750