



AUGENBLICK,  
PALAICH AND  
ASSOCIATES

# Attendance Area Size Adjustment

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# Today's Presentation

- What is an attendance area?
- Review of attendance area size adjustment
  - How was it developed?
  - How is it applied?
- Potential considerations for an attendance area definition for funding purposes
  - Initial attendance area mapping
- Next steps

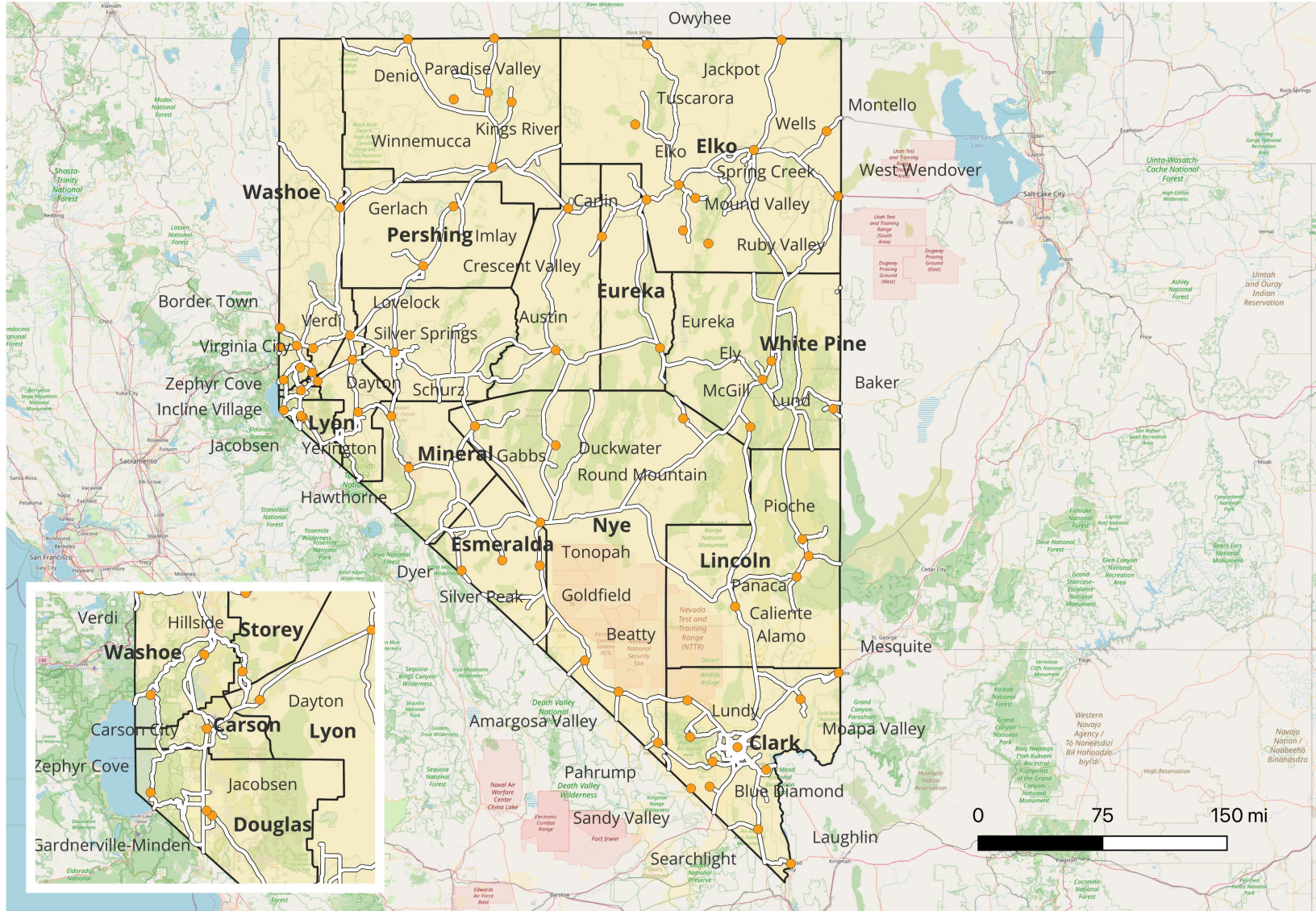
# What is an Attendance Area?

- Nevada's school districts are countywide and often cover large geographic areas
  - Attendance areas reflect “districts within districts”
- Attendance areas were identified in the prior Nevada Plan funding model
  - Were developed based on city centers, or towns that are geographically isolated
  - However, there does not appear to currently be a formal definition or criteria

# Attendance Areas by District

District	2022 Enrollment	Sq Miles	Number of Attendance Areas
Carson City	7,756	145	1
Churchill	3,267	4,931	1
Clark	316,900	7,892	11
Douglas	5,668	710	3
Elko	10,001	17,169	11
Esmeralda	71	3,582	3
Eureka	327	4,176	2
Humboldt	3,407	9,641	6
Lander	990	5,490	2
Lincoln	861	10,633	4
Lyon	8,906	2,001	5
Mineral	546	3,753	2
Nye	5,422	18,182	7
Pershing	670	6,037	2
Storey	441	264	2
Washoe	64,093	6,301	8
White Pine	1,257	8,875	4

# Nevada attendance zones



# How was the Attendance Area Size Adjustment Developed?

- Coming out of the 2018 adequacy study, there were two adjustments related to district/school size:
  - District size adjustment
    - Developed based upon professional judgment work to account for different economies of scale/increased costs in smaller settings
  - Necessarily small schools adjustment
    - Developed after reviewing similar adjustments in other states; modeled after Wyoming's approach
- At the Commission's recommendation, APA:
  - Explored how the size adjustments compared to the Nevada Plan Basic Support Ratio (BSR)/AIR study and current expenditures in a sample of districts
  - Modeled application at the attendance area as an alternative

# How was the Attendance Area Size Adjustment Developed? (continued)

- Based on this analysis, APA recommended, and the Commission adopted, the following:
  - Applying the adjustment at the attendance area level
  - Using the same curve (formula) as the district size adjustment, but adjusting the tail of less than 20 students to be more similar to the resource level generated with the Necessarily Small Schools adjustment to create a single formula
- Rationale
  - Applying at the attendance area level was closer to the Nevada Plan Model and actual district expenditures
  - Having a single formula was easier to apply and more transparent

# How is the Attendance Area Size Adjustment Applied?

Attendance Area	Enrollment	Size Factor
A	2,000 students	1.26
B	1,000 students	1.46
C	500 students	1.65
D	500 students	1.65
		<b>1.41</b>

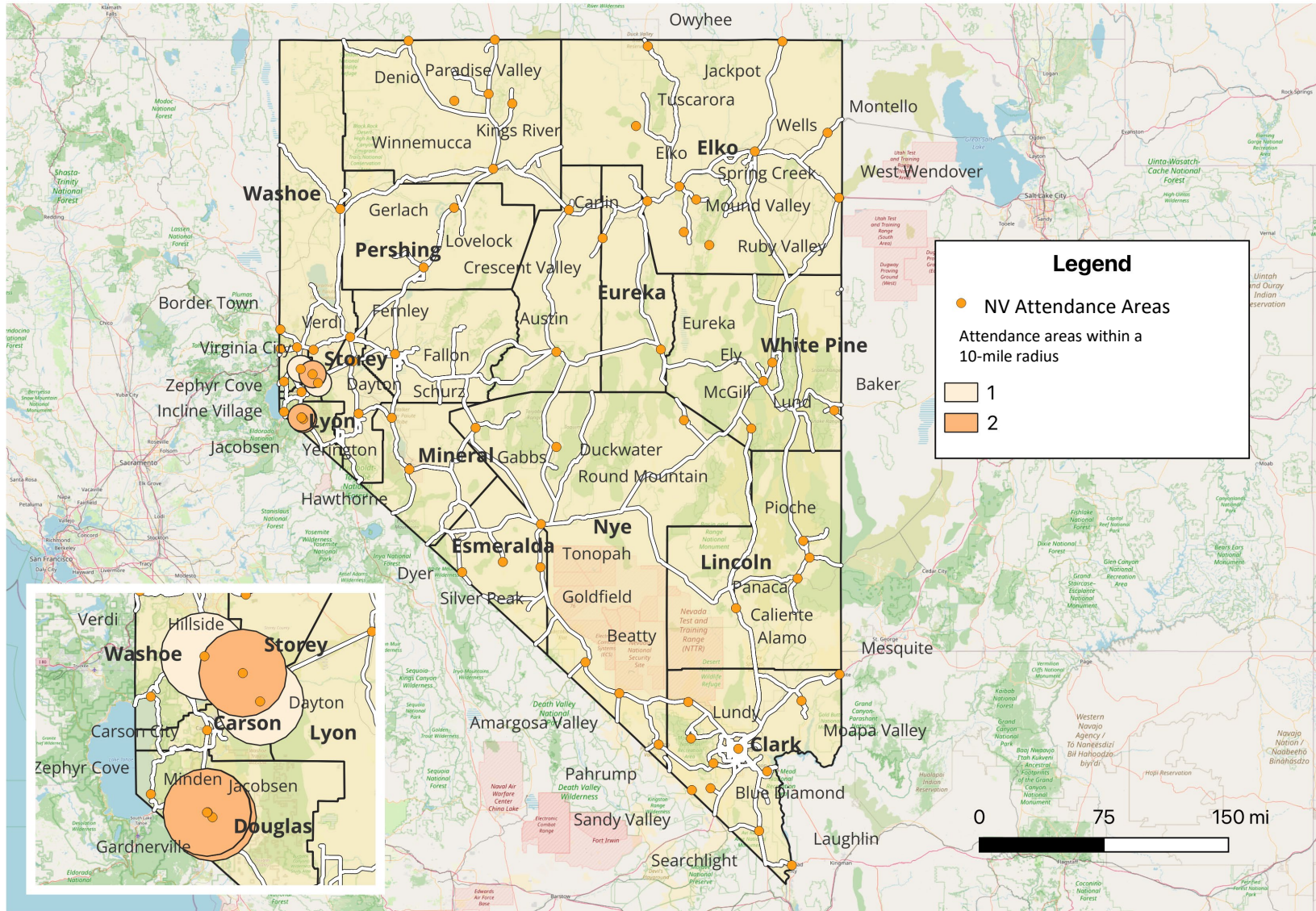
- In a hypothetical district of 4,000 students with four attendance areas:
  - Applied at the district level, the size adjustment would have produced a size factor of 1.08
  - Applied at the attendance area in that same district, the combined size adjustment would be 1.41



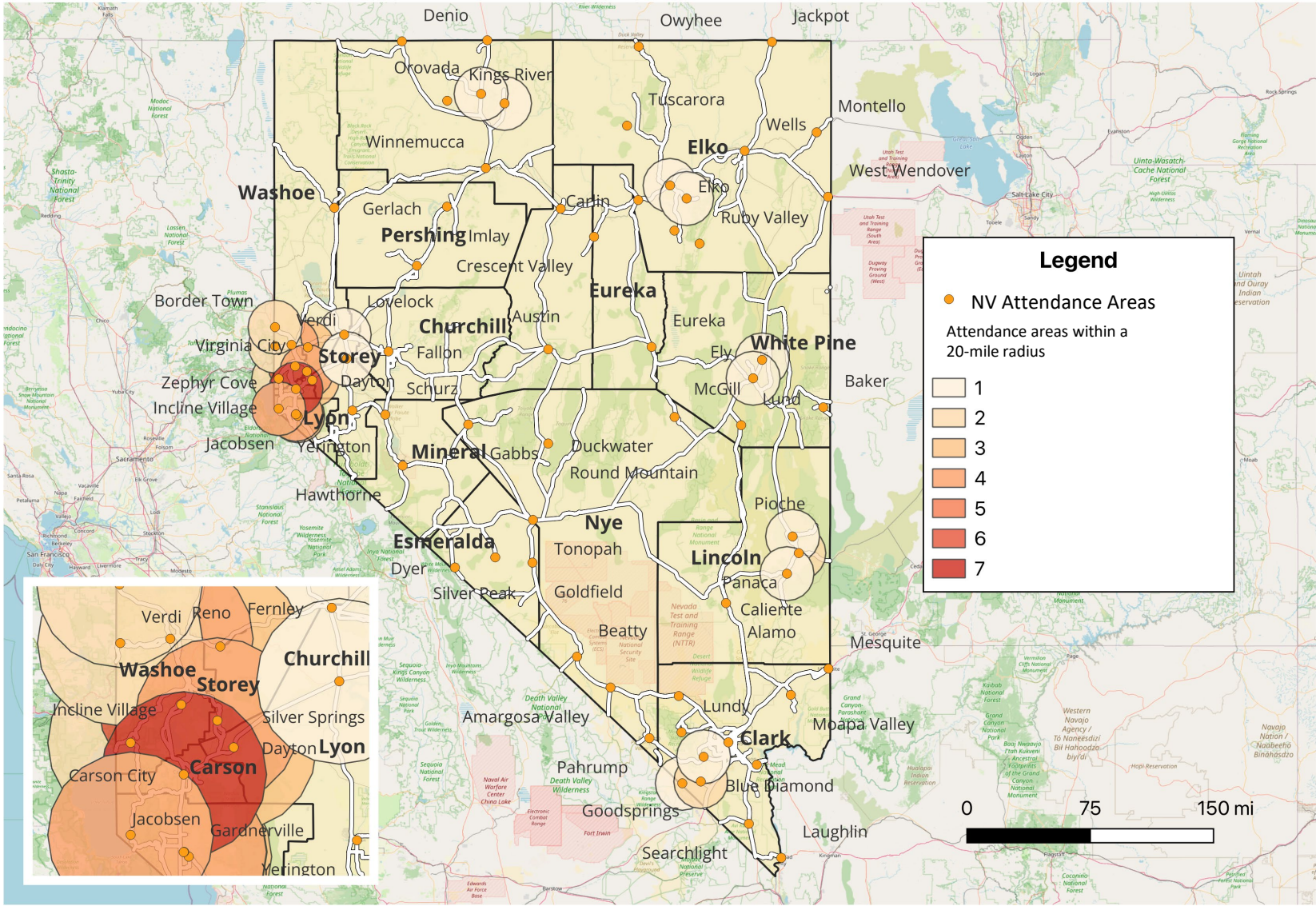
# What Should be Considered When Defining an Attendance Area for Funding Purposes?

- Criteria for being an attendance area should be well defined and consistently applied
- Potential considerations:
  - Distance from another attendance area
    - In reviewing how other states define remote for funding purposes (typically related to transportation or necessarily small schools/district funding purposes), distance requirements range from 8-30 miles away
      - Initial mapping of 10- and 20-mile radiuses (both within and across districts)
  - Geographic barriers/road conditions

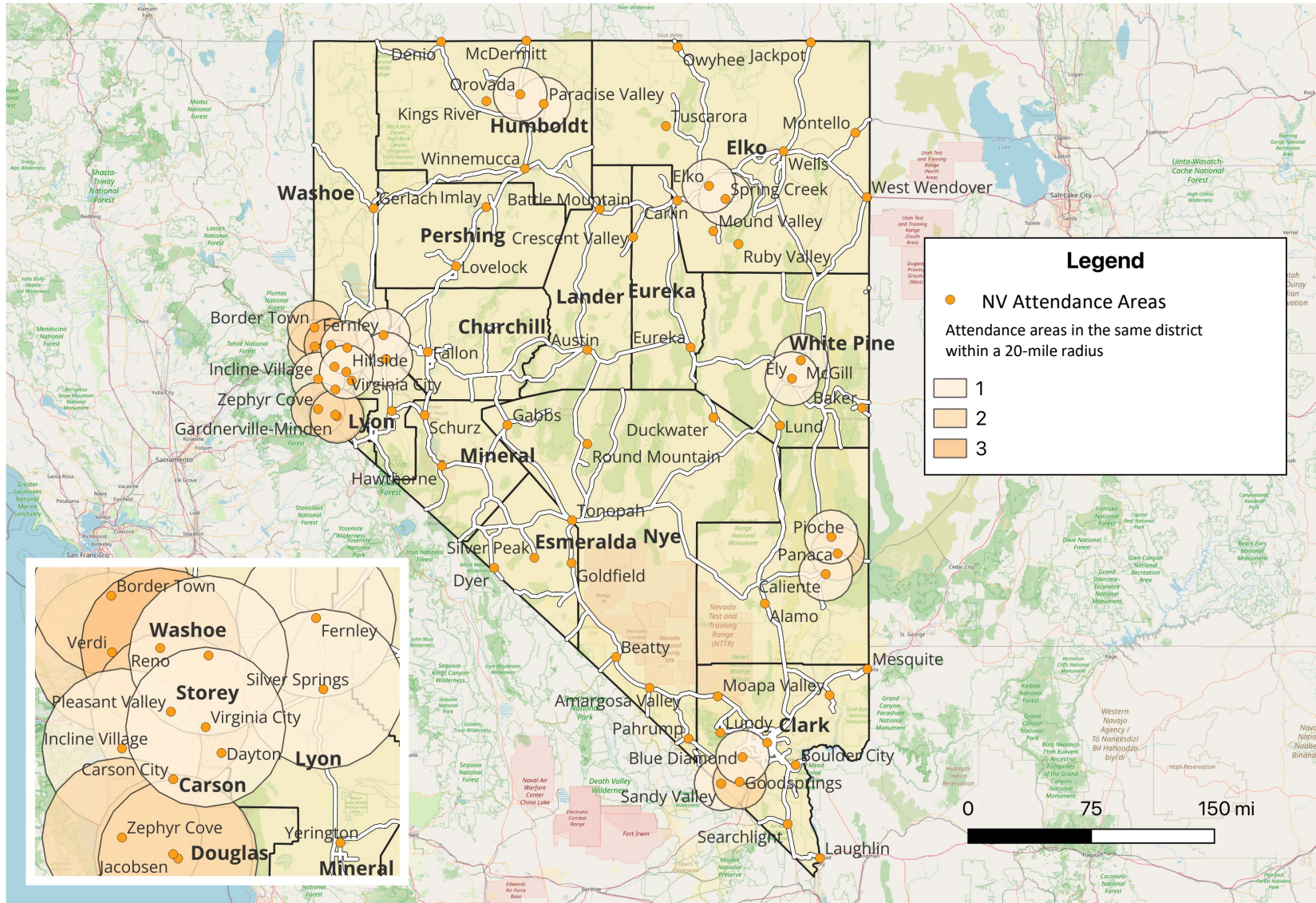
# Nevada Attendance Areas Within 10 Miles of One Another



# Nevada Attendance Areas Within 20 Miles of One Another



# Nevada Attendance Areas Within 20 Miles of One Another (in the same district)



# Next Steps

- For highlighted areas with overlapping attendance area radiuses:
  - Mapping schools within these areas
    - Are schools more spread out than the central point of an attendance area would suggest?
  - Identifying any potential geographic barriers/road condition issues
- Developing a definition for attendance areas

# Questions for the Commission

- What other information on this topic would be helpful for us to bring forward to the Commission for its next meeting?
  - Any additional data or analysis?
- Any other questions?