



# ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND NATURAL RESOURCES

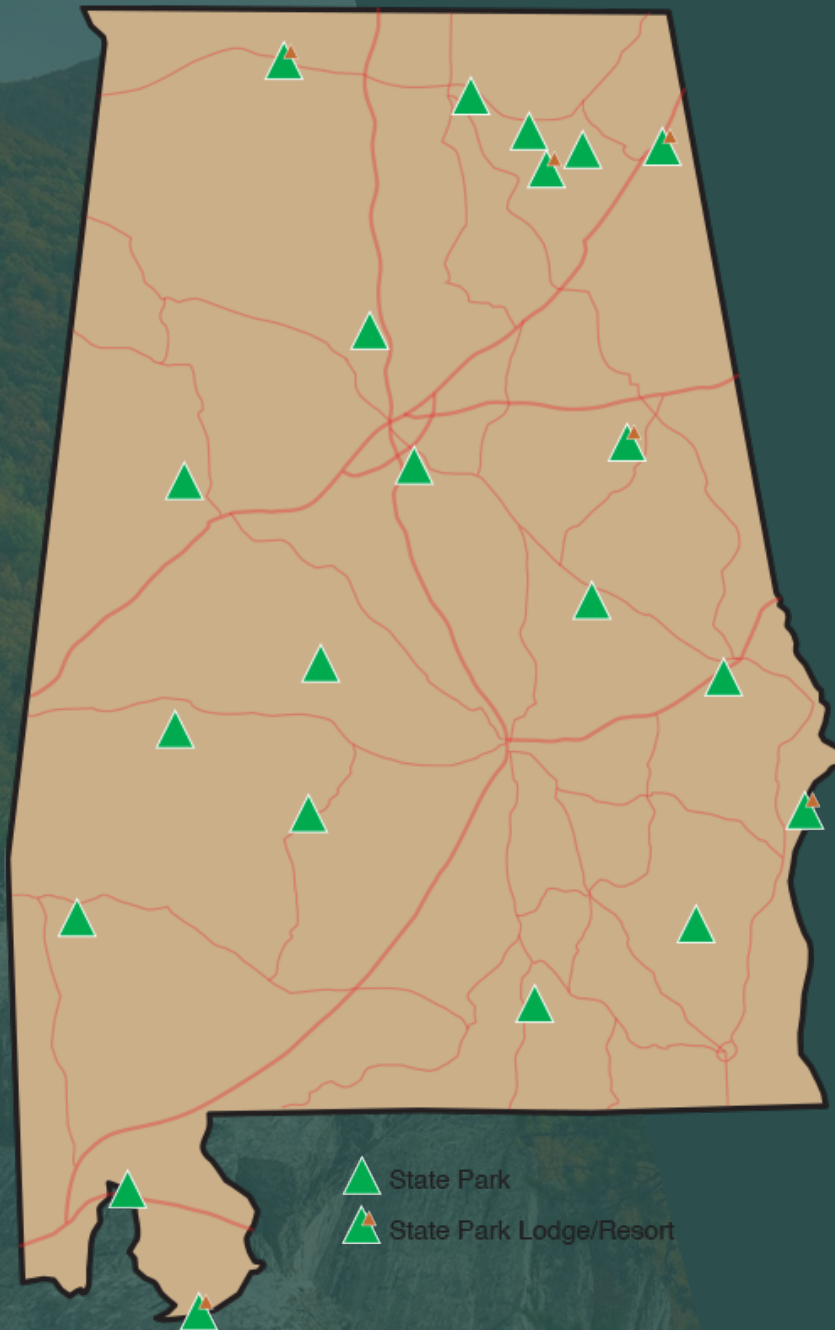
Edward Poolos, DEPUTY COMMISSIONER

# OVERVIEW OF THE DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND NATURAL RESOURCES

- STATE PARKS DIVISION
- WILDLIFE AND FRESHWATER FISHERIES DIVISION
- MARINE RESOURCES DIVISION
- STATE LANDS DIVISION
- DEEPWATER HORIZON OIL SPILL RESTORATION SECTION

**21 ALABAMA  
STATE PARKS  
ENCOMPASSING  
48,000 ACRES  
THROUGHOUT  
THE STATE**

# 21 ALABAMA STATE PARKS




- BLADON SPRINGS STATE PARK
- BLUE SPRINGS STATE PARK
- BUCK'S POCKET STATE PARK
- CATHEDRAL CAVERNS STATE PARK
- CHEAHA STATE PARK
- CHEWACLA STATE PARK
- CHICKASAW STATE PARK
- DESOTO STATE PARK
- FRANK JACKSON STATE PARK
- GULF STATE PARK
- JOE WHEELER STATE PARK
- LAKE GUNTERSVILLE STATE PARK
- LAKE LURLEEN STATE PARK
- LAKEPOINT STATE PARK
- MEAHER STATE PARK
- MONTE SANO STATE PARK
- OAK MOUNTAIN STATE PARK
- PAUL GRIST STATE PARK
- RICKWOOD CAVERNS STATE PARK
- ROLAND COOPER STATE PARK
- WIND CREEK STATE PARK

# HOSTING 6 MILLION VISITORS ANNUALLY

- 6 RESORT LODGES WITH 700 ROOMS
- 3 GOLF COURSES
- 200+ MILES OF TRAILS
- 2,200+ CAMPSITES
- 220 CABINS AND CHALETs
- 2 CAVES
- **\$80 MILLION BOND APPROVED IN MAY 2022 FOR STATE PARK IMPROVEMENTS — THANK YOU!**

# STATE PARKS BOND PROJECTS

- Campground Renovations and New/Expanded Campground Areas
- New Rental Cabins/Cottages
- Day use area renovation, new accessible playgrounds, dog parks, pool rehabilitation and cave entrance enhancements and expansions
- Wi-Fi Buildout and Upgrades
- Bathhouse Renovation and Expansions
- New Camper Cabins
- Lodge and Hotel Renovations and Enhancements
- Golf Course Update and Cart Path Renovations

A large owl with yellow eyes and brown feathers is in the foreground on the left. In the background on the right, a cyclist wearing a helmet and a jersey with 'REACTION' on it is riding a mountain bike. The background is a dark teal color with a subtle pattern.

**OUTDOOR  
RECREATION  
IN ALABAMA HAS  
A \$14 BILLION  
ECONOMIC  
IMPACT DIRECTLY  
SUPPORTING  
135,000 JOBS**

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- Golf Course Updates and Cart Path Renovations
- Water, Sewer, and Utility Upgrades and Renovations





# 40 WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREAS

**775,055** ACRES MANAGED FOR ALABAMA HUNTERS AND FUNDED THROUGH HUNTING LICENSE SALES AND FEDERAL EXCISE TAX ON FIREARMS AND AMMUNITION IMPOSED BY THE INDUSTRY IN THE 1930s.

# 12 SHOOTING RANGES

ADCNR RANGES ARE LOCATED THROUGHOUT THE STATE. MOST RANGES HAVE MULTIPLE SHOOTING LANES AT VARIOUS YARDAGES FOR HANDGUN, RIFLE, AND SHOTGUN. RANGES ARE FUNDED THROUGH HUNTING AND FISHING LICENSE SALES.



# 20 COMMUNITY ARCHERY PARKS

ADCNR, IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE, THE ARCHERY TRADE ASSOCIATION, AND LOCAL COMMUNITIES, HAS DEVELOPED COMMUNITY ARCHERY PARKS ACROSS THE STATE.



# 23 PUBLIC FISHING LAKES

LOCATED IN **20 COUNTIES**  
THROUGHOUT THE STATE

**1,912 SURFACE ACRES** OF PUBLIC FISHING AREA ARE INTENSIVELY MANAGED TO PROVIDE QUALITY FISHING FOR ALABAMA CITIZENS.

ADDITIONAL RECREATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES SUCH AS HIKING TRAILS AND ARCHERY PARKS ARE BEING ADDED TO THESE AREAS.

# MORE THAN 150 BOAT RAMPS

ADCNR MAINTAINS MORE THAN 150 BOAT RAMPS AROUND THE STATE. THE RAMPS ALLOW ACCESS TO A WIDE VARIETY OF LAKES, RIVERS, STREAMS, AND COASTAL WATERS FOR FISHING AND BOATING.



# 3 FRESHWATER FISH HATCHERIES

THE HATCHERIES RAISE SEVERAL SPECIES OF FISH FOR STOCKING IN PUBLIC LAKES AND WATERS. THE HATCHERIES PRODUCE **3 MILLION FISH ANNUALLY.**

**FACT:** ALABAMA HAS THE LARGEST NUMBER OF AQUATIC SPECIES IN THE UNITED STATES.



# ALABAMA AQUATIC BIODIVERSITY CENTER (AABC)

THE AABC PROPAGATES  
ENDANGERED AND  
BENEFICIAL SNAILS AND  
MUSSELS FOR RELEASE IN  
ALABAMA PUBLIC LAKES  
AND RIVERS.

# CLAUDE PETEET MARICULTURE CENTER

CLAUDE PETEET MARICULTURE CENTER IN GULF SHORES PROPAGATES SEVERAL SPECIES OF SALTWATER FISH, SHRIMP, AND OYSTERS.

- 23,000 SQUARE FOOT HATCHERY
- 35 PONDS AND TWO SALTWATER PIPELINES
- FACILITY ALSO USED TO SUPPORT AQUACULTURE RESEARCH WITH MULTIPLE UNIVERSITIES





# ARTIFICIAL REEF PROGRAM

ALABAMA HAS THE LARGEST ARTIFICIAL REEF SYSTEM IN THE COUNTRY. VARIOUS STRUCTURES ARE USED TO CREATE ARTIFICIAL REEFS, FROM CONCRETE PYRAMIDS, MILITARY TANKS, AND LARGE SHIPS TO OIL RIGS. ALABAMA ALSO HAS MORE THAN 30 INSHORE REEF AREAS AND NINE NEW NEARSHORE REEF AREAS.



# ENVIRONMENTAL ACTIVITIES





# FOREVER WILD LAND TRUST

FOREVER WILD LAND TRUST HAS SECURED MORE THAN 285,000 ACRES OF LAND ON MORE THAN 200 TRACTS IN 31 COUNTIES FOR PUBLIC USE, 99% OF WHICH ARE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC.



# FOREVER WILD LAND TRUST

## QUALIFYING LAND PURCHASE CATEGORIES

- NATURE PRESERVES
- RECREATION AREAS
- STATE PARKS
- PUBLIC HUNTING OPPORTUNITIES (WMAS/SOAS)

## TRACT ACQUISITION & PROGRAM MANAGEMENT

- 15-MEMBER BOARD OF TRUSTEES VOTES ON TRACTS DURING QUARTERLY PUBLIC MEETINGS
- ADCNR ADMINISTERS ACQUISITION PROCESS & MANAGES PROGRAM TRACTS



# TRACT ACQUISITION PROCESS

- Public nominates a tract
- Willing seller letter issued by staff to landowner for signature
- Tracts scored in each of the four qualifying categories to determine “short list” nominations
  - Must rank in top three of at least one program category
  - Tracts compete against other nominations in three geographic districts
- Board can only motion/vote for 1<sup>st</sup> appraisal from short list nominations
- Following 1<sup>st</sup> appraisal, board can motion/vote for 2<sup>nd</sup> appraisal and direct staff to proceed with acquisition process
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> appraisal serves as confirming appraisal (*must be within 10%*)
  - If 2<sup>nd</sup> appraisal value not within 10% differential, obtain reconciliation appraisal
- Review due diligence items such as phase i/ii environmental site assessments and title commitment information
- Close tract acquisition and transfer amount equal to 15% of appraised value to stewardship account (*established for long-term land management*)



# FOREVER WILD LAND TRUST

FW CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT APPROVED BY NEARLY  
80% OF VOTERS IN 1992 AND 2012

ACQUISITIONS HAVE CREATED:

- MORE THAN 350 MILES OF RECREATIONAL TRAILS WITHIN  
22 RECREATION AREAS AND NATURE PRESERVES
- ADDITIONS TO 10 STATE PARKS
- ADDITIONS TO 16 WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT  
AREAS AND FOUR SOAs

15% OF APPRAISED VALUE OF EACH PURCHASE/TRANSFER  
GOES INTO STEWARDSHIP FUND FOR PERPETUAL  
MANAGEMENT AND TRACT IMPROVEMENTS

# **FWLT PROPERTIES SUPPORT CANOE TRAILS COVERING 173 MILES OF WATER**

**LOCATED IN BALDWIN AND  
MOBILE COUNTIES**

- **PERDIDO RIVER**
- **BARTRAM – MOBILE-TENSAW DELTA**
- **SOON TO BE EXPANDED TO OTHER  
AREAS**



# ADCNR OUTDOOR RECREATION EXPANSION GOALS



# WATER AND WASTEWATER INFRASTRUCTURE PROEECTS AT STATE PARKS

30 Total Projects

16 Wastewater

14 Drinking Water

**\$54,000,000** Total Funding Amount

\$28,000,000 Wastewater

\$26,000,000 Drinking Water

# ADDITIONAL ADCNR DUTIES

- Alabama Seafood Marketing Commission
- Offshore Oil and Gas Leasing
- Pipeline ROW and Permits to Cross
- BOEM Wind and Renewable Energy Task Force Designee
- State Water Bottom Easements and Leasing
- Commercial and Recreational Seafood Seasons and Management
- Partnerships with Multiple Universities for Research and Management Priorities — AU, USA, UA, JSU, UAB, UWA, ALA & M, UGA, DISL
- Environmental Assessments and Consultations — ESA
- Member of Alabama Trails Commission, Alabama Historical Commission, Alabama GIS Commission, Alabama Drought Monitoring Group, Alabama Natural Resources Council And Much More!
- GoMESA Program Management
- Deepwater Horizon Program Administration and NRDA Trustee — HUGE



# SUMMARY OF DWH RESTORATION PROCESSES IN ALABAMA

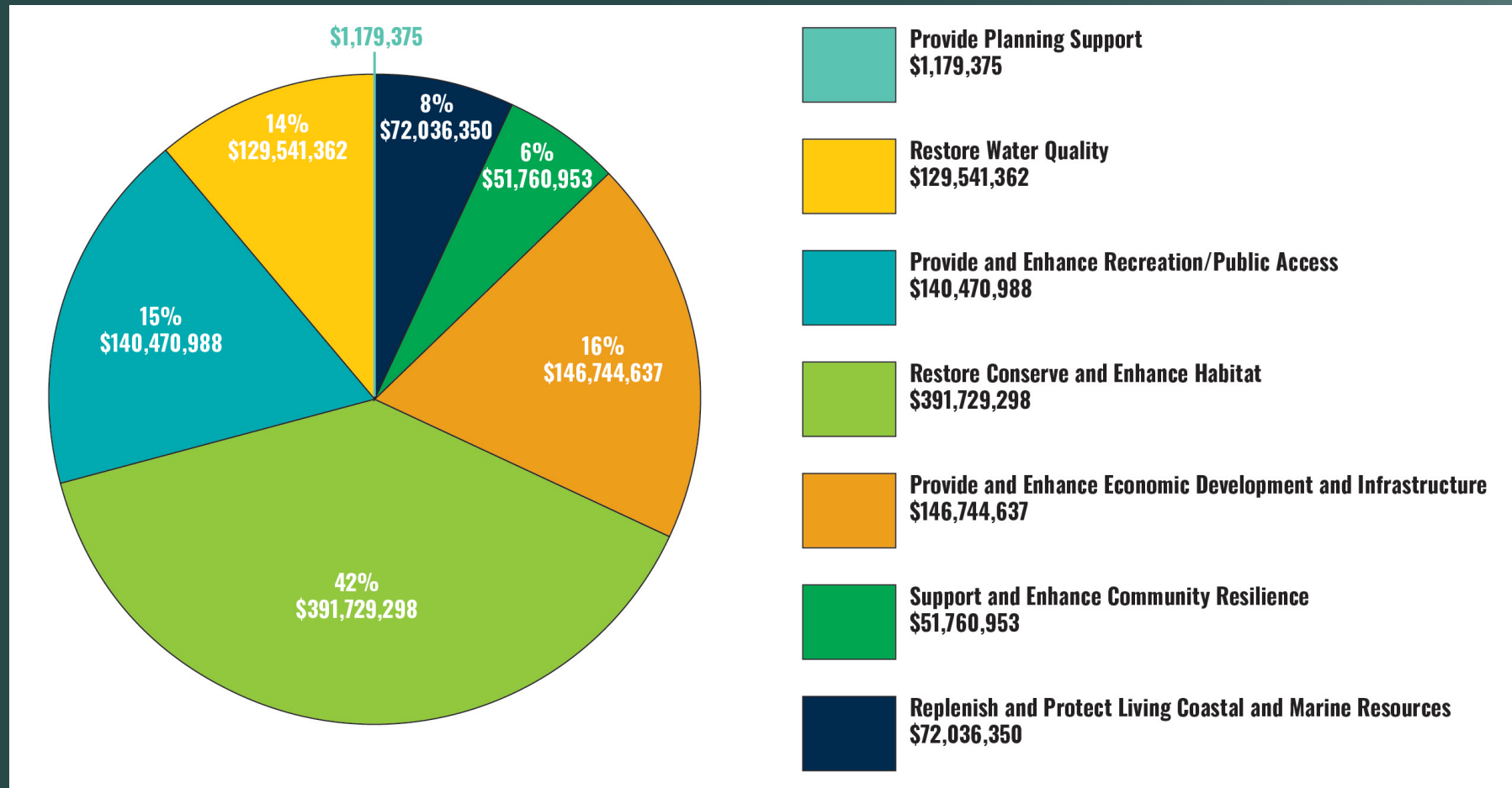
Restoration Process	Alabama Coordinating Entity	Total Funding for Alabama	Funding Approved as of April 15, 2022
<b>Direct Component “RESTORE Bucket 1”</b>	Alabama Gulf Coast Recovery Council	\$373 million	\$192 million
<b>Council-Selected Restoration Component “RESTORE Bucket 2”</b>	Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources	\$1.6 billion across five Gulf States*	\$101 million
<b>Spill Impact Component “RESTORE Bucket 3”</b>	Alabama Gulf Coast Recovery Council	\$326 million	\$132 million
<b>RESTORE Centers of Excellence</b>	Marine Environmental Sciences Consortium & Alabama Gulf Coast Recovery Council	\$26 million	\$7.9 million
<b>Natural Resource Damage Assessment (NRDA)</b>	Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources	\$296 million	\$195 million
<b>National Fish &amp; Wildlife Foundation Gulf Environmental Benefit Fund (NFWF GEBF)</b>	Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources	\$356 million	\$306 million

Table 1: Summary of DWH Restoration Processes in Alabama

*\*The total funding available for projects across the five gulf states is \$1.6 billion, supplemented by interest generated by the Trust Fund.*

# DWH OVERVIEW OF PROJECT INVESTMENTS BY RESTORATION GOAL

## TOTAL: 160 PROJECTS, \$936 MILLION



# What is CWD?

- CWD is one of a family of diseases known as Transmissible Spongiform Encephalopathies (TSE).
- Results from an infectious agent termed a prion. Prions are made of protein material that becomes misfolded in such a way that it becomes infectious, negatively affecting other proteins.
- Affects members of the Family Cervidae (deer), including reindeer, moose, elk, mule deer, white-tailed deer etc. Is contagious and always fatal.
- Infection can occur through animal-to-animal contact, through saliva, blood, semen, feces, infected carcass parts, and through environments contaminated by those infected materials.
- There is no known vaccine to prevent it or avenue to cure it at this time.

# Sources of Exposure

Two primary sources:

## 1. CWD-Infected Deer

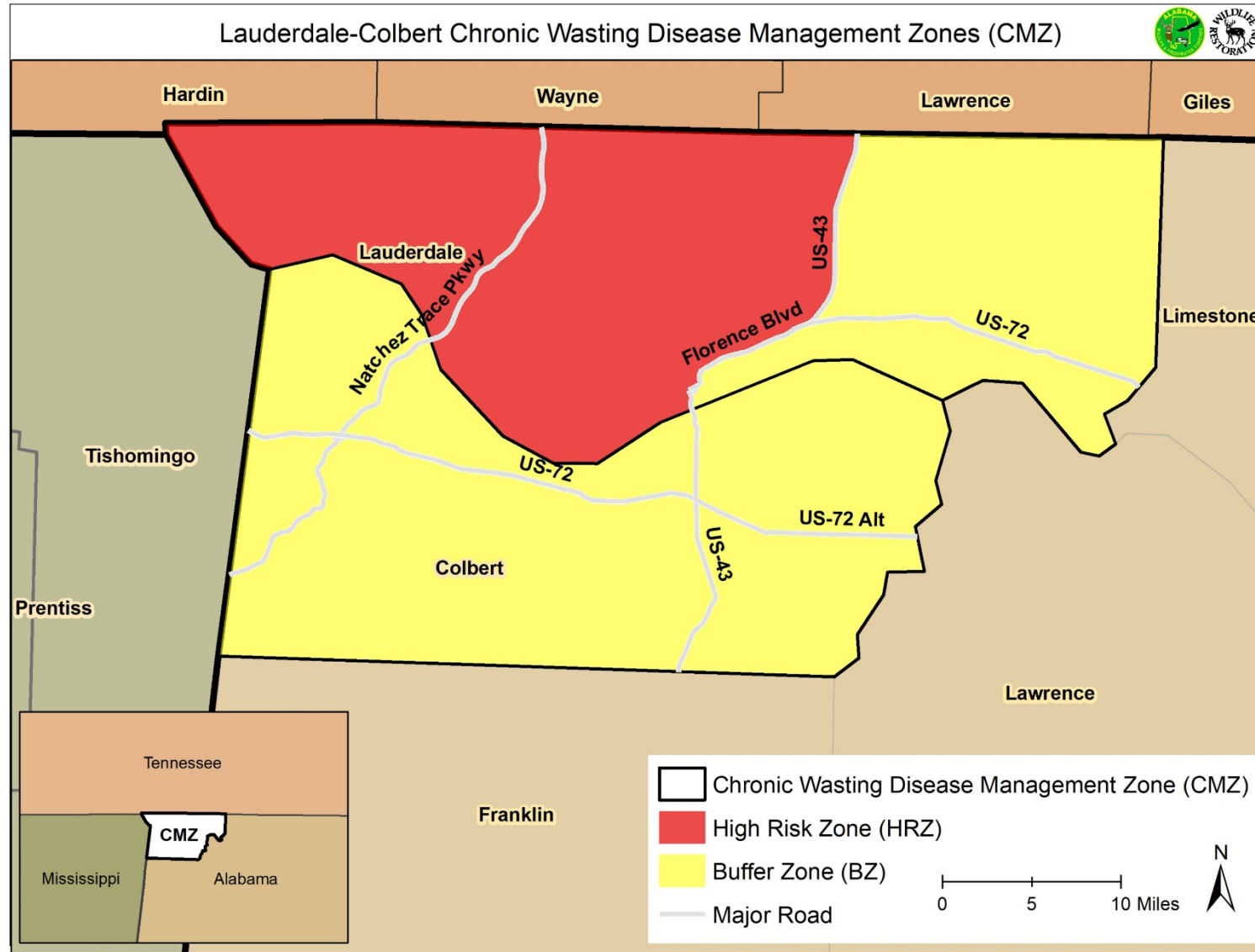
- Direct animal contact with an infected deer (alive or carcass) will likely be the initial source of contamination.

## 2. CWD-Infected Environment

- As CWD becomes established in an area, the contaminated environment may become the primary route to exposure.
- No known methods of mitigating this risk once an area has been contaminated



# CWD Management Zone (CMZ)



# Paving Success Story

- ~ 8.5 mile project
- Partnership with ADEM/Scrap Tire Commission/DCNR
- 52,800 pounds of recycled tire material
- Added about \$80,000 to project (10%)
- NCAT – Auburn University - \$50,000
  - Contract to create specifications for North Alabama
  - Monitor project for durability
- Specifications also created in Coffee County for South AL



# Paving Success Story



# Paving Success Story



# Benefits of RMA

- Up to 50% longer life
- Smoother Ride
- Noise Reduction
- Safer Ride – Greater Traction and higher visibility
- Environmental Benefits

# ADCNR OUTDOOR RECREATION EXPANSION GOALS

- We are blessed in Alabama with trees, water and biodiversity, and unlimited outdoor rec possibilities
- Alabama innovation commission report validated the need for outdoor recreation improvements to attract and retain workers
- Innovation corporation created the outdoor recreation council, and ADCNR is leading that group
- \$50 million outdoor recreation plan is comprehensive and includes
  - Improved boating access with tournament-size facilities
  - Creation of the Alabama shooting sports trail
  - Trail building and trailhead amenity improvement — includes blue way trails, hiking, biking, horseback, and regional and statewide trail systems
  - Pinhoti trail recreational trail improvements and national recreation trail designation
  - Upgrades and retrofits to existing outdoor recreation infrastructure
  - An inventory and one-stop-shop website for trail and outdoor recreational opportunities
  - Creation of an outdoor recreation special projects coordinator

# QUESTIONS?