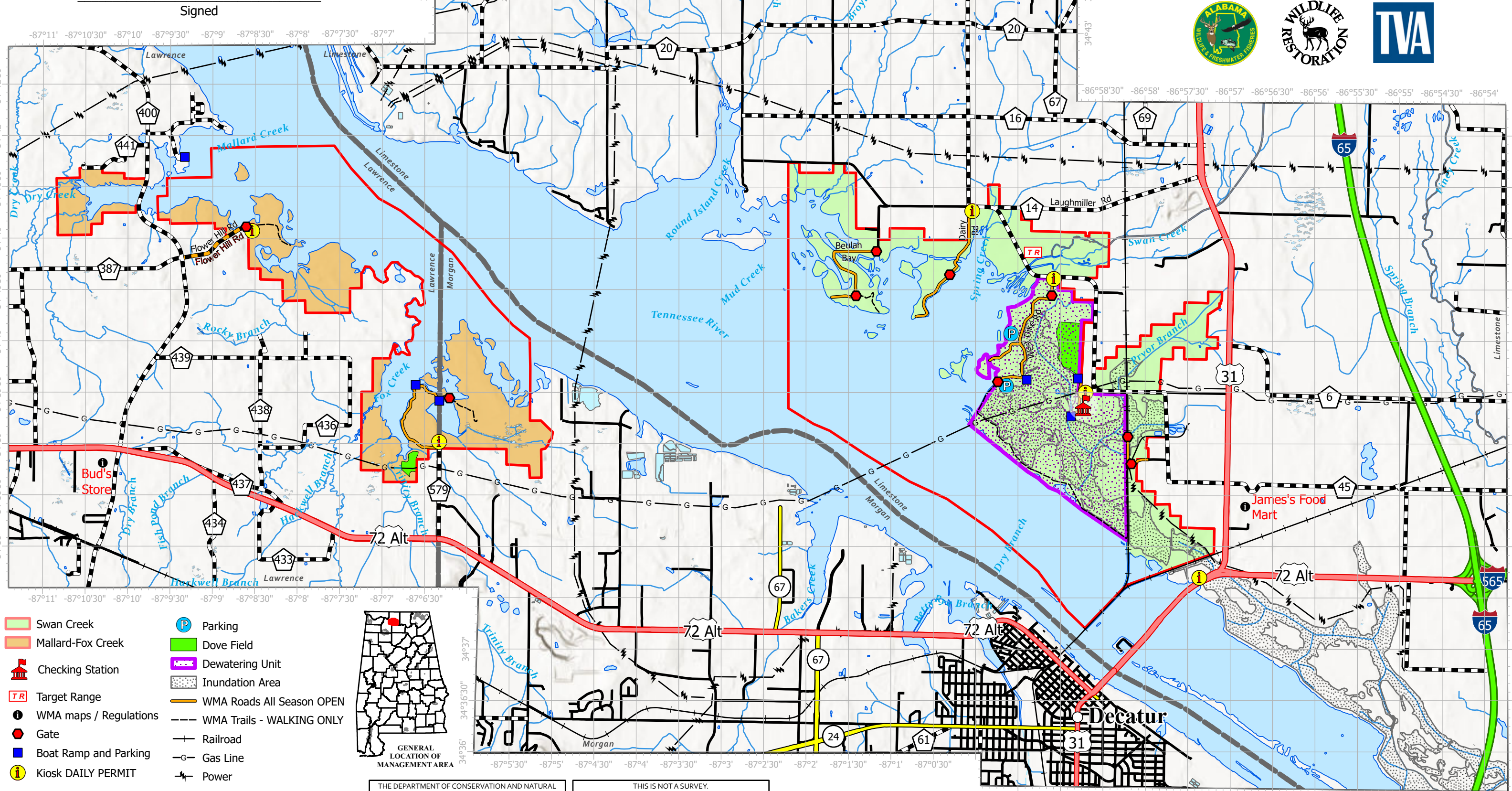


This AREA Permit is your 2022-2023 annual permit to hunt all game in accordance with the seasons, rules, and regulations listed herein (See Daily Permit requirements on back). This AREA Permit must be signed and in your possession along with the appropriate license(s) in order to be valid.

SWAN CREEK MALLARD-FOX CREEK WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA



Licensed and Unlicensed Motorized Vehicle Traffic Use is detailed in Regulation 220-2-.55 and noted as #14 and #15 on reverse side of AREA Permit.

THE DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND NATURAL RESOURCES DOES NOT DISCRIMINATE ON THE BASIS OF RACE, COLOR, RELIGION, AGE, SEX, NATIONAL ORIGIN, DISABILITY, PREGNANCY, GENETIC INFORMATION OR VETERAN STATUS IN ITS HIRING OR EMPLOYMENT PRACTICES NOR IN ADMISSION TO, ACCESS TO, OR OPERATIONS OF ITS PROGRAMS, SERVICES OR ACTIVITIES.

THIS IS NOT A SURVEY. BOUNDARIES REFLECT INFORMATION PROVIDED FOR HUNTING AT THE DATE OF REVISION. THE ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION DOES NOT ACCEPT RESPONSIBILITY FOR ANY INACCURACIES HEREIN. THIS PUBLICATION IS AVAILABLE IN ALTERNATIVE FORMATS UPON REQUEST.

DUE TO THE SCALE OF THIS MAP THE ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND ITS AFFILIATES ASSUME NO RESPONSIBILITY FOR INACCURACIES IN ROAD ALIGNMENTS, CONFIGURATION OF INTERSECTIONS, AND OTHER RELATED DATA.



SWAN CREEK & MALLARD-FOX CREEK WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA
(Limestone, Morgan, and Lawrence Counties)
ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF WILDLIFE & FRESHWATER FISHERIES
Hunting Regulations – September 2022– August 2023

LICENSE/PERMIT REQUIREMENTS:

- In compliance with 220-2-.55, a Wildlife Management Area License (required for deer, turkey and waterfowl), plus the applicable Resident or Non-Resident Hunting License [for Alabama residents 16 through 64 years of age and for non-residents 16 years of age and older], are required for hunting on AREAS; provided however that properly licensed persons under the “Wildlife Heritage License” may hunt legal small game, except waterfowl, on AREAS without the other licenses described herein. Plus, in order to hunt waterfowl on AREAS, all licensed hunters must have, in addition to the otherwise required licenses, a current HIP certification and valid State (ages 16 through 64) and Federal (ages 16 and over) Waterfowl Stamp.
- In addition to license and stamp requirements, an AREA Permit and a WMA daily permit are required unless using the Outdoor Alabama WMA Check-In application to check in and out each hunt day.

CONTACT INFORMATION:

For information and questions regarding regulations or use of the WMA, please contact Biologist – Drew Able at (256) 278-0681.

NOTES:

- Statewide antlered buck season bag limit applies to all WMAs.
- Youth hunters on youth waterfowl hunts must be less than 16 years of age. Supervisors must be 21 years old or older, or a parent, and must be properly licensed. Youth must remain within 30 feet of supervisors at all times.
- Any blind location [at Swan Creek WMA dewatering slough] that is unoccupied by the selected party 30 minutes prior to legal shooting hours may be utilized by the public.
- Hunters must contact the Swan Creek Management Area District Office for regulations governing the construction of permanent blinds on the dewatering slough.
- Administrators of the hunt shall have the right to distribute the hunters and to inspect all vehicles or other equipment while on the WMA. The Department of Conservation and Natural Resources and landowners, who are making the hunting possible, hereby put each hunter on notice that he hunts at his own risk and the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources and such landowners shall not be responsible for any accidents or injuries that may occur.

DATA COLLECTION:

The results of all hunts must be recorded using the Outdoor Alabama App or Daily Permit and submitted at kiosk at the conclusion of every hunt day.

HUNTING DATES:

DEER:	(Archery)	<u>Stalk Hunting Hunter’s Choice: Oct. 15 – Nov. 18.</u> Two deer a day, one unantlered deer and one antlered buck.
TURKEY:		CLOSED.
RACCOON, OPOSSUM, & FOX:		Sept. 1 – March 5. Nighttime hours only. Fox: Dogs only, no weapons.
CROW:		Sept. 1 – March 5. (Closed During Regular Waterfowl Season).
DOVE:		State season. (Noon until sunset EACH DAY OF SEASON).
RABBIT & SQUIRREL:		Sept. 10 – March 5. Fox Squirrel season closed during February and March.
RAIL:		State season.
SPECIAL TEAL SEASON:		State season. Dewatering unit open 7 days/week.
YOUTH, VETERANS, & ACTIVE MILITARY WATERFOWL:		State season. (25 shell limit does not apply to youth hunters on these days).
WATERFOWL:		State season. No waterfowl hunting in Swan Creek WMA dewatering unit on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays except for the last 14 days of the waterfowl season. All activity prohibited in the dewatering unit on these days.
GOOSE:		State season.
SANDHILL CRANE:		State season (Sunrise to 12:00 noon) By limited quota permit only.
WOODCOCK & SNIPE:		State season.
BOWFISHING:		March 1 – Aug. 31. Nongame fish only.
BOBCAT, BEAVER, FOX, RACCOON, OPOSSUM, & COYOTE:		Open during any other scheduled WMA Hunting Season using weapons and ammunition approved for those hunts. No dogs allowed. Daylight hours only.
QUAIL:		CLOSED.
FURBEARER TRAPPING (excluding feral swine):		Oct. 29 – Feb. 28. Trapping permits must be obtained from Area Biologist.

No waterfowl or sandhill crane hunting in Swan Creek dewatering impoundments (outlined on map/regulation form) on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays, except during special teal and early goose season and the last 14 days of regular waterfowl season. All waterfowl hunting activity prohibited in these locations on these days.

BAG LIMITS:

Deer – see above deer hunt schedule for limits; *Raccoon* - 5 per day; *Opossum* - No Limit; *Fox* - 1 per day; *Crow* - No Limit; *Dove* – 15 a day; *Rabbit* - 8 per day; *Squirrel* - 8 per day; *Rail* – 15 a day; *Special Teal Season* – State bag limit; *Waterfowl* (including geese) – State bag limit; *Goose* – State Bag Limit; *Sandhill Crane* – State bag limit; *Woodcock* – 3 a day (Possession of migratory birds is 3 times the daily bag limit); *Snipe* – 8 a day; Falconers may take migratory game birds (not more than 3 per day in aggregate combination) and resident game birds and animals following the bag limits listed above for firearms and archery.

PERMITTED FIREARMS, BOW AND ARROW, & FALCONRY:

All WMA Seasons: Weapons and ammunition defined in 220-2-.55 (excluding buckshot) and archery equipment in 220-2-.03. Falconry will be legal on all WMA scheduled hunts for legally permitted falconers; following the dates those seasons are open on each WMA.

IT SHALL BE UNLAWFUL:

*Users should refer to WMA Regulation 220-2-.55 and 220-2-.165 for the complete list of WMA regulations.

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| 1. To hunt, trap, use dogs, possess firearms, traps, or bow and arrow, except on open designated target ranges and except bow fishing equipment, without a valid Area Permit, or by using the Outdoor Alabama App. An AREA permit or Outdoor Alabama App Check-In application is valid only during scheduled AREA seasons during legal hunting hours and only with the required hunting license(s) and stamps and only with weapons and ammunition permitted for hunting the wildlife listed on permit. | 12. To possess any open alcoholic beverages outside designated camping areas. | 24. To construct and/or utilize permanent waterfowl hunting blinds (those using building materials, flooring, or floatation and/or remaining in position overnight) anywhere on the Swan Creek or Mallard-Fox Creek WMAs, except on the Swan Creek WMA dewatering unit where specified. All such blinds shall be disposed of as deemed advisable by the Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries Division of the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources. |
| 2. For any person to possess or to carry in or on a vehicle, any of the following: any firearm [including pistols/handguns] with ammunition in the magazine, breech or clip attached to firearms, or black powder weapons with primer, cap or flash powder in place, or cocked crossbow. (Nothing in this regulation prohibits or requires an AREA Permit for the possession of handguns by lawfully licensed persons for personal protection, provided the handguns are not used to hunt or take or to attempt to take wildlife except as otherwise provided by this regulation.) | 13. For any person, except authorized personnel, to operate any motor driven vehicle behind, under, or around any locked gate, barricaded road, or sign which prohibits vehicular traffic. | 25. To have more than 25 shotgun shells in the possession of each hunter (excluding youth hunters during the designated youth hunt days) while hunting waterfowl on Swan Creek WMA and Mallard-Fox Creek WMA. |
| 3. To use dogs for hunting of deer, turkey, or feral swine. (Leashed dogs may be used for the express purpose of retrieving wounded deer, limited to two dogs per tracking event). | 14. For any unauthorized person to possess and/or operate ANY UNLICENSED MOTOR DRIVEN VEHICLE on WMA, except when utilized for the express purpose of hunting, fishing, trapping, camping, or sanctioned activities; and when operated only on regularly used roads depicted on WMA Permit to be open for motorized vehicle traffic. | The following shall apply to the DEWATERING UNIT on Swam Creek WMA: |
| 4. To use dogs for hunting, training, or any other purpose outside any AREA established season. | 15. For any unauthorized person to operate ANY LICENSED MOTOR DRIVEN VEHICLE on WMA, except when utilized for the express purpose of hunting, fishing, trapping, camping, or sanctioned activities; and when operated only on regularly used roads depicted on WMA Permit to be open for motorized vehicle traffic. | 26. All boats and/or boat blinds used for hunting waterfowl shall be launched and removed daily or shall be floated to an approved launching site for overnight mooring. |
| 5. For any person under 16 years of age to hunt on the WMA unless accompanied by an adult who is either 21 years of age or older or the parent, and who is in possession of all state hunting licenses, stamps, and permits required to hunt the WMA. | 16. For any person, except authorized personnel, to block or otherwise stop traffic on any road or at any gate by parking a vehicle in such a way that passage around the vehicle, or access to the gate, is impeded. | 27. It shall be unlawful for any person to fish from October 31 st through the second Saturday in February. |
| 6. To camp in the WMA except in designated sites. Individuals or groups may camp on the WMA for a period not to exceed nine (9) days in any 30-day period. Campfires must be extinguished before departing. No warming fires shall be permitted away from camping area. | 17. For any person to hunt or trap any wildlife species (except turkey, migratory birds, and while hunting legally designated species during legal nighttime hours) without wearing a minimum of 144 square inches of hunter orange or full sized hunter orange hat, except when hunting from an elevated tree stand twelve (12) feet or more from the ground, when hunting in an enclosed blind, or when traveling in an enclosed vehicle. A small logo and/or printing is permitted on the front of the hunter orange hat. | 28. All activity is prohibited when gates are closed. There shall be no activity from 7:00 PM to 3:00 AM, during the periods when gates are open. Gates are opened the morning of the November youth/military waterfowl hunt day and closed that night. Gates are opened the opening day of regular waterfowl season. Gates are closed each Monday night and opened each Friday morning of regular waterfowl season, until the last fourteen days of regular waterfowl season during which gates remain open. Gates are closed the night of the last day of regular waterfowl season and opened the morning of the February youth/military waterfowl hunt day and remain open until June 1 st . |
| 7. To kill or willfully molest any species of wildlife except those designated game species while legally hunting. | 18. For any person to possess, deposit, distribute, or scatter grain/corn, salt, litter, or any other materials on WMA without receiving approval from the Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries Division. | 29. It shall be unlawful to use airboats. |
| 8. To transport harvested deer or turkey from the WMA before reporting harvest in the Game Check System. Hunters must also submit such harvests at the WMA check station for data collection if hunt date is indicated as a mandatory check station day on the Outdoor Alabama WMA Application or AREA Permit. All other harvested game must be recorded on the Outdoor Alabama WMA Application or WMA Daily Permit. | 19. To damage or remove any artifacts, trees, firewood, plants, dirt, gravel, or sod without legal authorization. | 30. It shall be unlawful to hunt waterfowl on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays, except during the last two weeks of waterfowl season. During the dates between the youth/military waterfowl hunting days and regular season, gates to West Dike Road and the Main Launch Road will be locked. All waterfowl hunting activity in the Swan Creek dewatering unit is prohibited on those days unless authorized by the personnel of the Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries Division of the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources. |
| 9. To discharge fireworks at any time. | 20. To erect any permanent tree stand; install any screw-in style steps, spikes, or nails; or otherwise damage any tree. | 31. It shall be unlawful to hunt waterfowl within 150 yards of an occupied or unoccupied blind. |
| 10. To discharge firearms for target practice except on designated target ranges in accordance with listed rules during posted times and dates. | 21. To hunt from an elevated stand or platform without attaching themselves to the tree or platform with a full body safety harness capable of supporting their weight. | |
| 11. To hunt or discharge firearms within 150 yards of any camping area, dwelling, dam, or timber operation; within 100 yards of any paved public road or highway; within a posted safety zone; or | 22. For any unauthorized person to ride or possess horses on WMA except as detailed in Regulation 220-2-.55 (w) & (x). | |
| | 23. For any person to leave any vehicle parked at the established launching sites. Hunters must use the designated parking areas. However, physically disabled persons with approved handicapped | |

WMA is provided by the Wildlife Section of the Division of Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries, Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, in cooperation with the Tennessee Valley Authority.