



DOG HUNTING

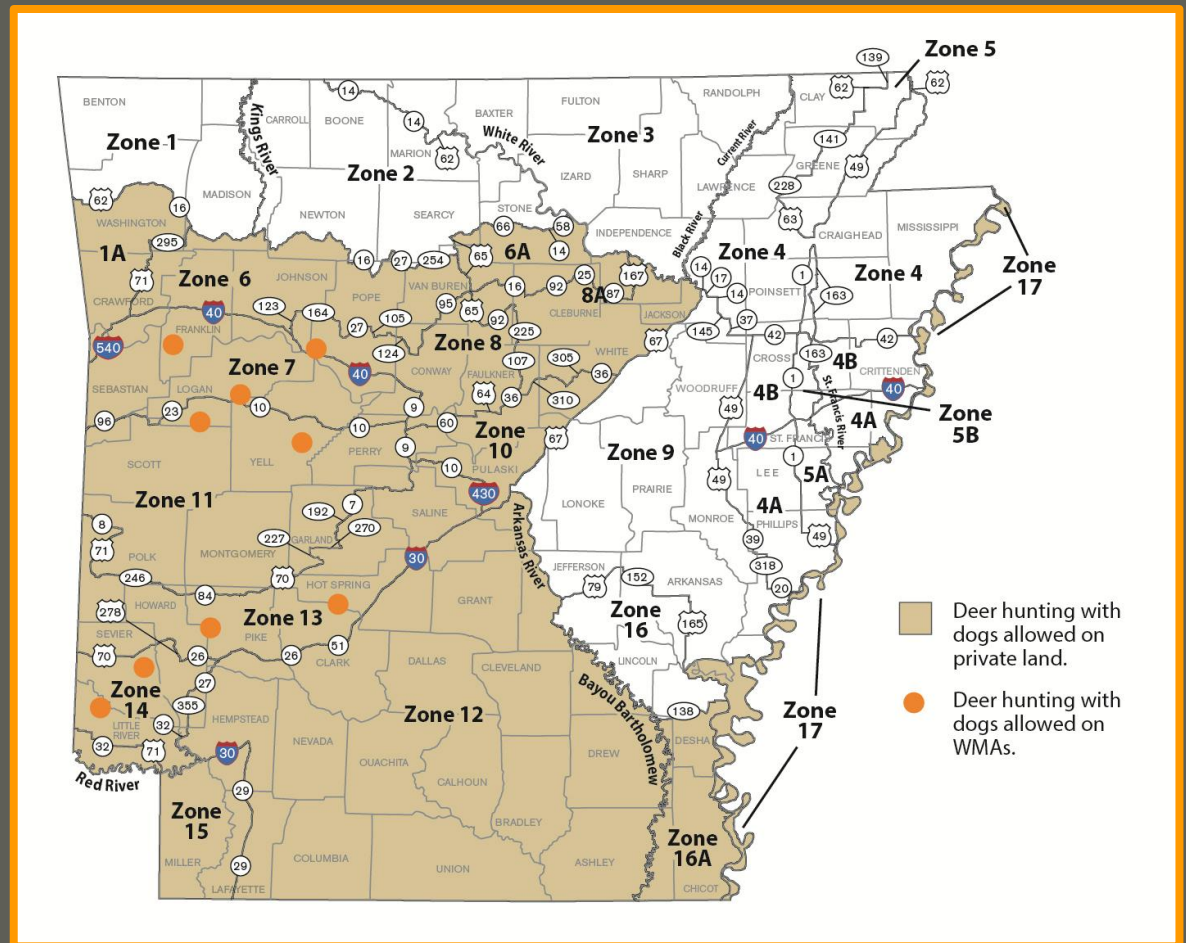
OVERVIEW

Dog Hunting Opportunity

- AGFC recognizes the tradition and benefit of hunting with dogs.
- Dogs are allowed on AGFC-controlled WMAs for the pursuit of:
 - squirrel, rabbit, quail, raccoons, woodcock, rail, sora, doves, gallinules and waterfowl.
- On private lands (90% of Arkansas), all those species plus feral hogs may be pursued with dogs.

Deer Hunting with Dogs

- Private lands deer hunting with dogs is allowed in the following zones:
 - 1A, 6, 6A, 7, 8, 8A, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16A and 17.
- Deer hunting with dogs is allowed on the following WMAs:
 - Blue Mountain, Dardenelle, DeGray Lake, Gum Flats, Lake Greeson, Mt. Magazine, Nimrod, Ozark Lake and Provo WMAs.





FERAL HOG

OVERVIEW

Overview

- Hogs are exotic animals that are not native to North America.
- Escapes of hogs kept as livestock in Arkansas common since the 1970s.
- In 1977, feral hogs were found in 4% of the state and were considered to be declining.
- Feral hogs are responsible for **\$1.5 billion** in damages annually (2013).
- \$300 million to agriculture alone.
- In Arkansas, it is estimated that \$19 million in damages to row crops alone (USDA NASS Survey 2014).
- Detrimental to wildlife habitat and populations.
 - Feral hogs cannot be adequately managed as a game species.
- Current management strategies represent a paradigm shift in methods, message and education.

Provisions for control based on property ownership:

- Private Property:
 - With permission of the landowner
 - Any legal method (use of dogs and night shooting allowed)
 - Allowed year-round
 - No hunting license required
 - * Not allowed during a period of revocation
- Public Property:
 - Applicable license required
 - Methods of take differ by ownership
 - AGFC, USFW, USFS, USACE, leased land, etc.

AGFC and Public Property Regulations

Prior to July 1, 2014: take allowed during any open season with legal methods (\approx 300 days annually)

After July 1, 2014: restricted to firearms bear, deer and elk seasons

Differed by ownership type and population size

USACE allowed take during any season with any method until July 1, 2016

Effective July 1, 2016:

WMAs and NWRs

1. No opportunistic take allowed on state owned WMAs or NWRs
2. USFS, USACE Co-op and leased land WMAs
Opportunistic harvest allowed during a firearms (including muzzleloader) bear, deer or elk season)
*not-state owned in entirety
3. Other non-WMA designated public properties allow opportunistic take based on zone; or any daylight season with legal methods

AGFC and Public Property Regulations

Regulations were intended to accomplish:

1. Remove incentives for additional transport and release.
2. Increase trapping efficiency by reduced disturbance.
3. Remove all incentives for the persistence of feral hogs on the landscape.



CHRONIC WASTING DISEASE

OVERVIEW

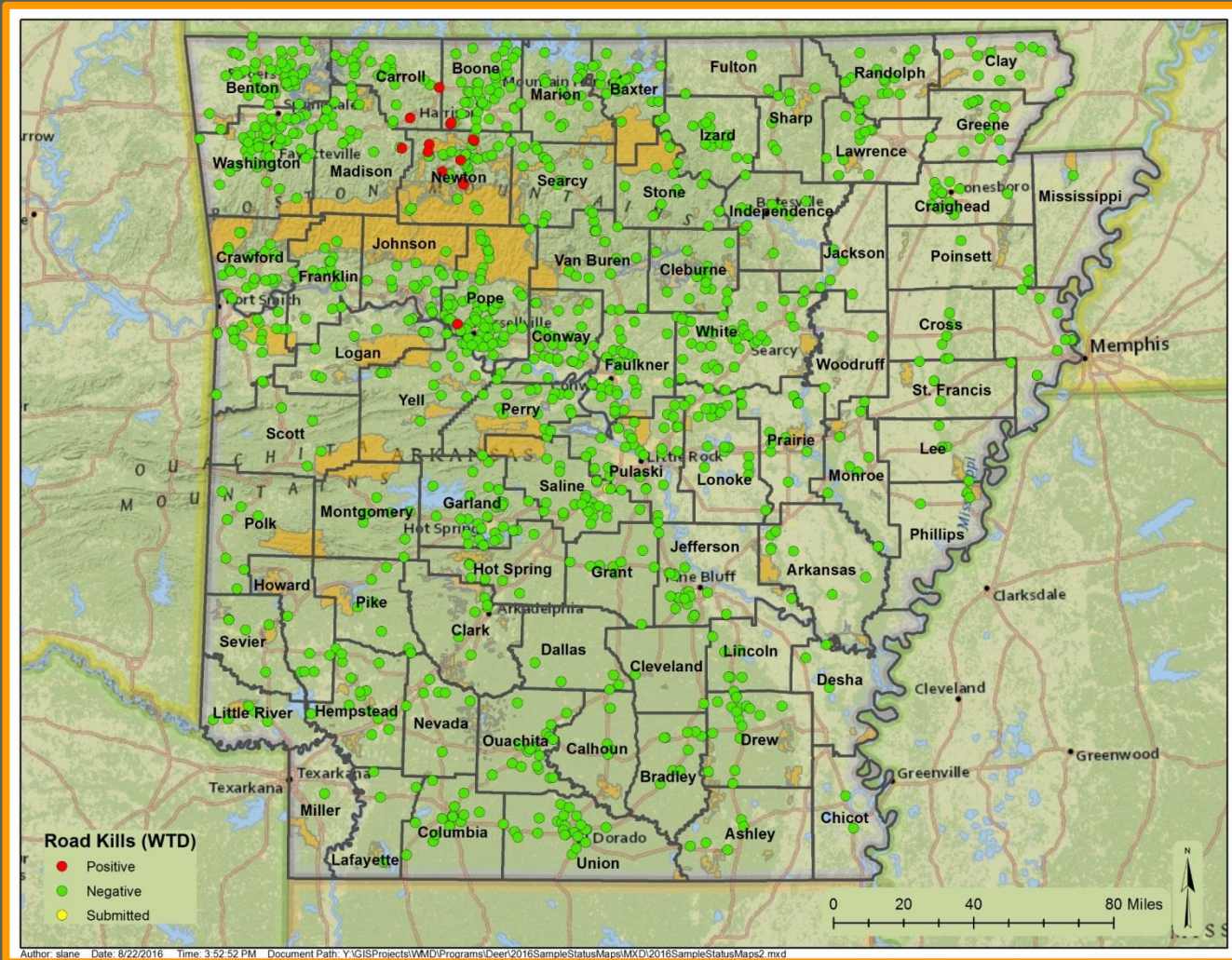
CWD Response Timeline

- **February 17**
2½-year-old cow elk tested positive for chronic wasting disease.
- **February 23**
Emergency Commission meeting for emergency approval of CWD Response Plan.
- **March 9**
2½-year-old female white-tailed deer near the Ponca Elk Education Center was confirmed CWD positive
- **March 14-24**
Phase I – Newton County Focal Area surveillance to determine disease prevalence
- **March 25 – present**
Phase II - Statewide surveillance to examine spatial distribution of disease
- **June 24**
AGFC Commission adopted CWD regulations for the 2016-2017 hunting season
- **August 1-4**
Sample collections in the Pope County Focal Area

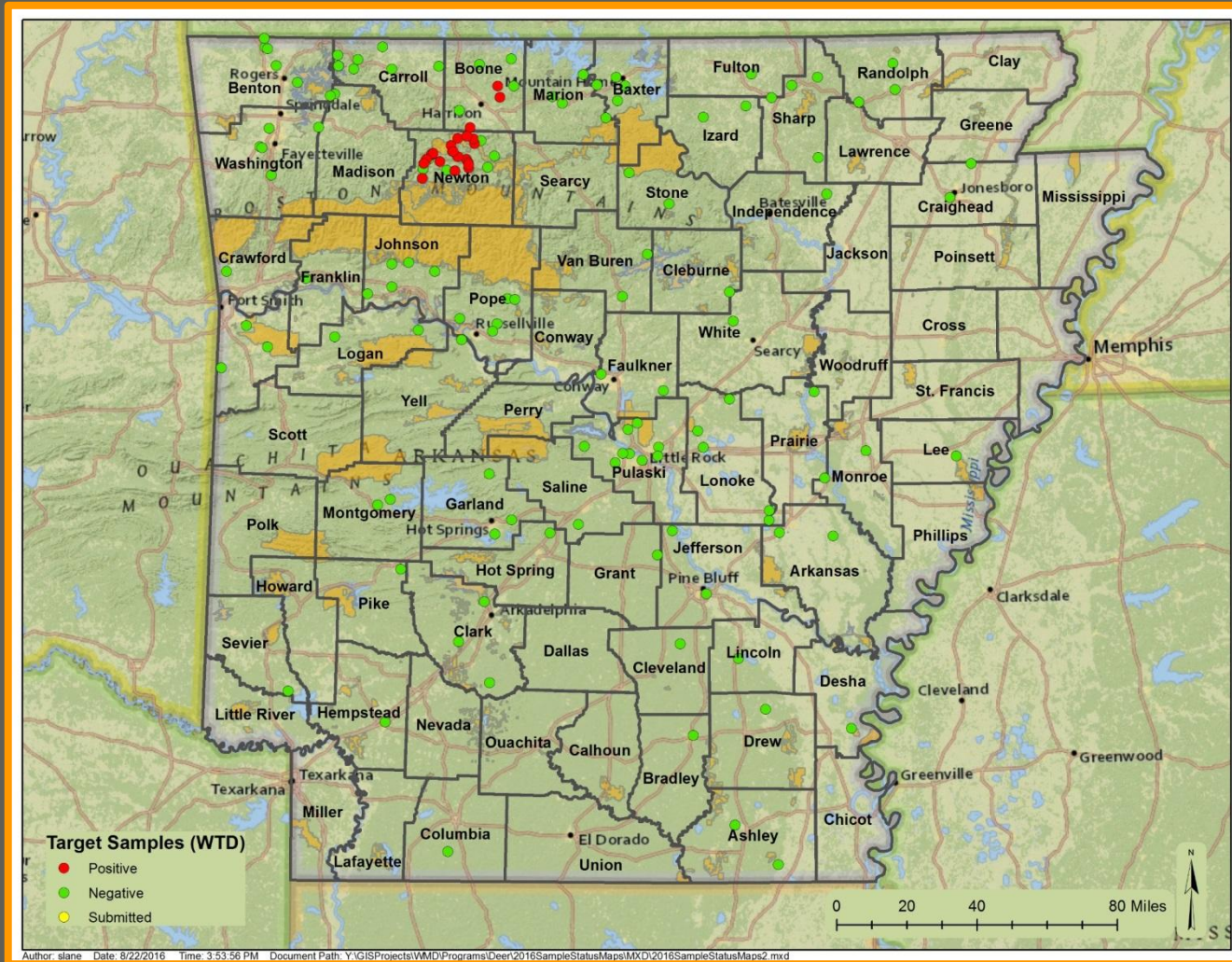
Surveillance Results Since February 2016

Type	# Samples	# Positive	# Not Detected
Road Kill	1,231	14	1170
Targeted Kill	200	27	148
CWD Focal Area Random Sample	318	62	256
Grand Totals	1,749	103	1,574

Road Kill - Phase II

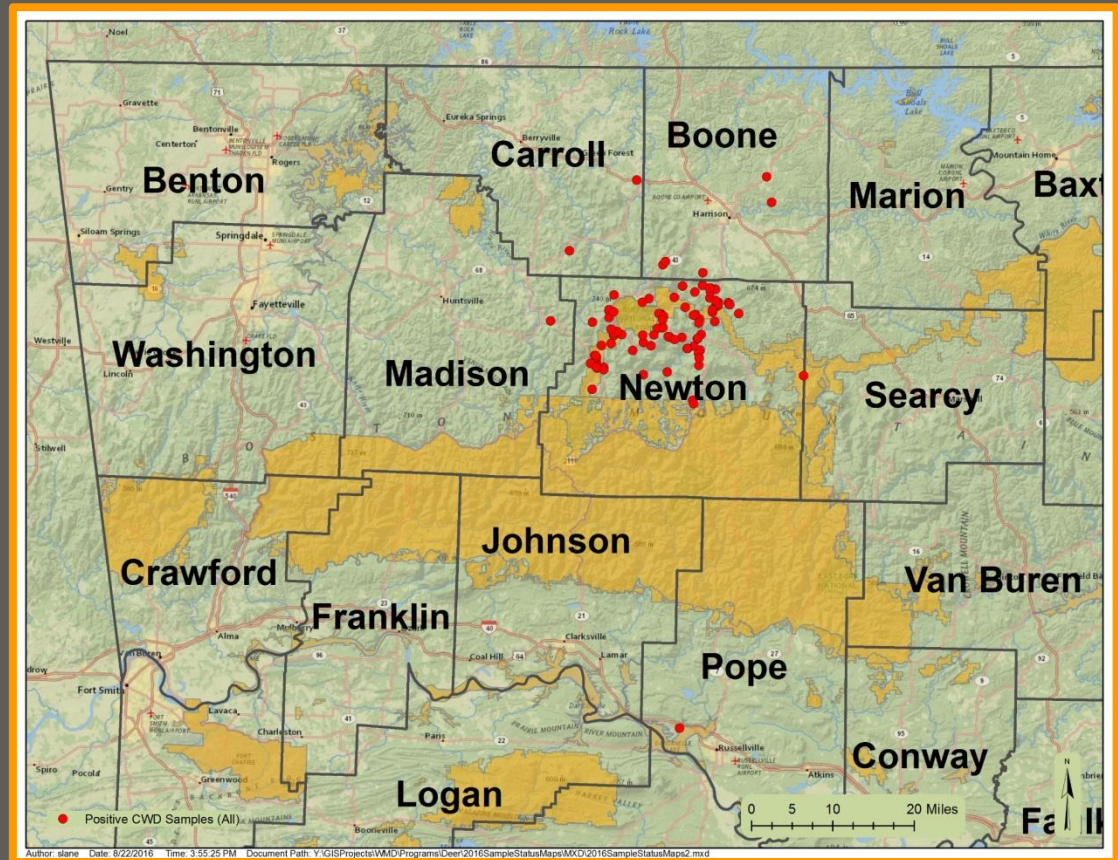


Target - Phase II



104 Total Positive

- 5 Elk
- 99 WTD



Phase III Surveillance

1. Spatial Distribution of Disease/Gap Surveillance:

- Purpose: Define areas of disease concentration
- Hunter harvest samples taken within areas known to have CWD
- 25 CWD stations
 - DNA for microsatellite analysis
- At least opening weekend of modern gun season
- 3-6 workers per station
- DMAP clubs

2. Focal Area Monitoring:

- Purpose: Monitor prevalence over time
- Newton/Pope counties
- Collect samples for 95% confidence at 1% prevalence inside the CWD focal areas
- Hunter harvest samples

3. Disease Detection Surveillance - Statewide:

- Purpose: Collect higher-probability samples for disease detection
- Road killed deer
- Target animals
- Mature bucks – taxidermist
- Veterinarians