



# Partnerships, Incentives, and Wildlife Management on Kentucky's Mined Lands





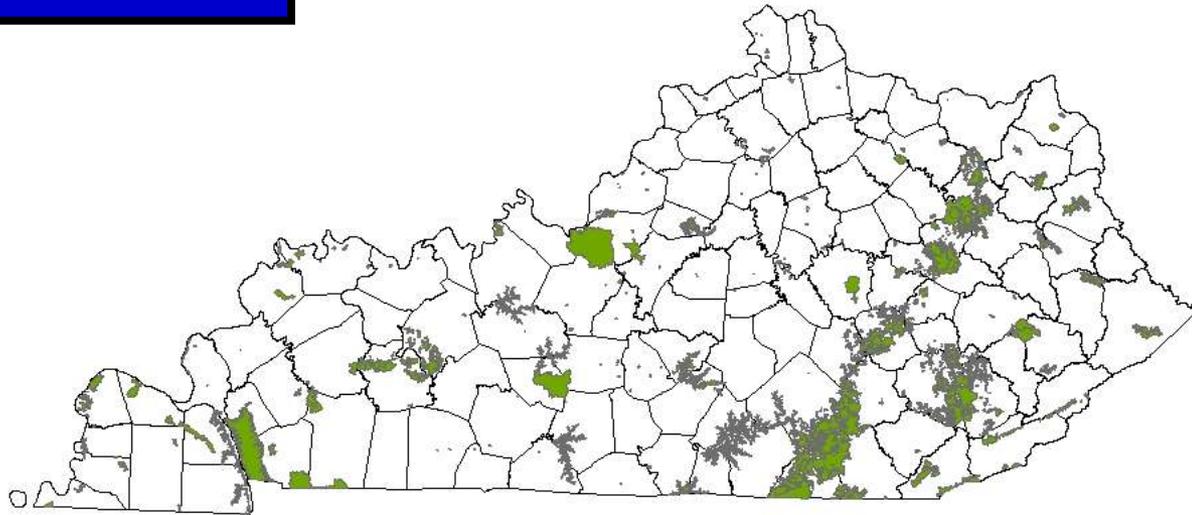
# Mission Statement

We are the stewards of Kentucky's fish & wildlife resources and their habitats. We manage for the perpetuation of these resources and their use by present and future generations.

Through partnerships, we will enhance wildlife diversity and promote sustainable use, including hunting, fishing, boating and other nature related recreation.

# Kentucky is 94% Privately Owned

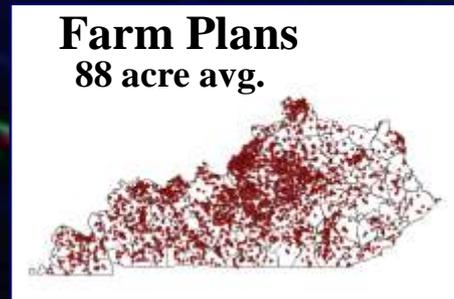
**Kentucky Contains  
26 Million Acres**



**Private Land = 24.4 Million Acres  
Public Land = 1.6 Million Acres**

# KDFWR Biologists Assist Kentucky Landowners

- Habitat Improvement Program
- Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program
- KY Business Conservation Partners
- Partners for Wetland Wildlife
- Buffers for Bobwhites
- Appalachian Wildlife Initiative



# Partnerships are Critical to Our Mission

- DU, NWTF, RMEF, QU, TU, TNC, Audubon...
- East KY Power
- American Electric Power
- Peabody Coal
- KY Business Conservation Partners
- And many others



# Wildlife Needs Green Space

## Kentucky Loses 47,000 acres/year

- Riparian corridors
- Wetlands
- Forestlands



# Wildlife Management Needs Sportsmen & Women



- 149,000 Kentucky citizens didn't fish
- 128,000 Kentucky citizens didn't hunt
- 18,300 Kentucky citizens didn't watch wildlife
- While stable now, we've lost 2%/year since 1988

**BECAUSE THEY HAD NO PLACE TO GO!**

# Coal Field Lands Offer Landscape Level Wildlife Habitat Opportunities

## Landscape Scale Habitat Improvement Opportunity



# Mined Lands Support Tremendous Wildlife Diversity

- Neotropical migrant songbirds
- Popular native wildlife
- Restored species
- Rare animals



# Peabody Wildlife Management Area

“Kentucky’s Largest WMA”

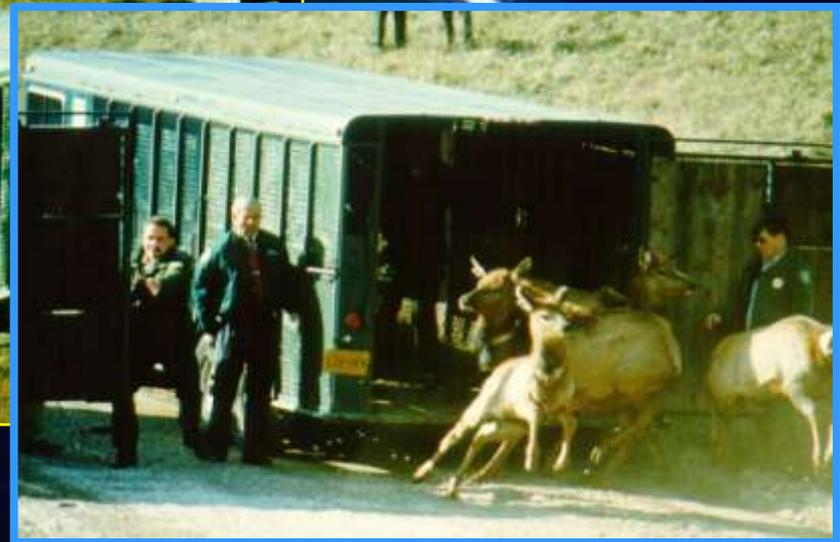
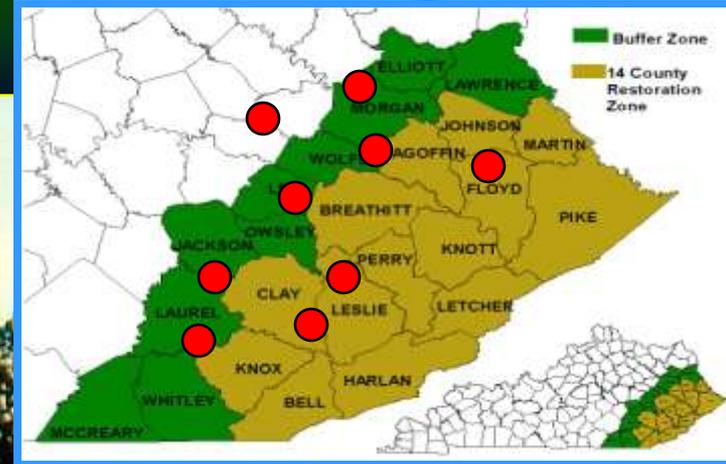


# Starfire WMA

- Fishing
- Hunting
- Wildlife Watching
- Demo Coal Mine
- Forestry Research
- Wildlife Research
- Water Quality Research



# The Beginning of KY's Elk Restoration Project: 12/17/1997



# Technical Reclamation Memorandum (TRM 21)

- Joint Product: KDFWR, DNR, SMRE, & Forestry
- Guidance for “Fish & Wildlife Option”
- Needs to be more “user-friendly”
  - wildlife grasses, shrubs, & trees
  - wildlife planning on the front end
  - cost-share incentives
  - recognition of good stewards



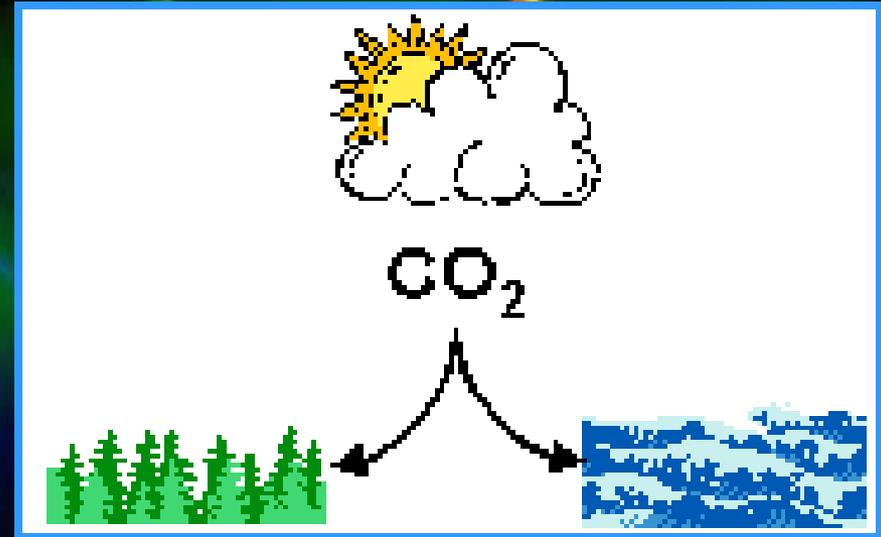
# Reclamation Advisory Memorandum (RAM 124)

- TRM group + U.S.OSM, UK Extension, Industry & NGOs
- Guidelines to establish commercial forests
- Reduces excessive compaction
  - promotes tree growth
  - reduces run-off



# Carbon Sequestration

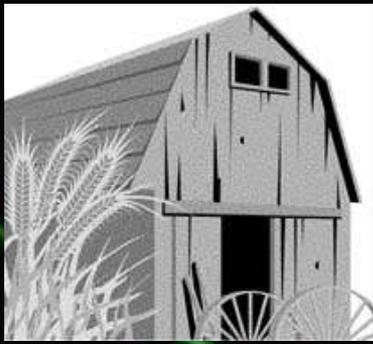
- Partnership to acquire lands & plant forests
- Carbon “credits” for public land.
- 5 WMAs involved
- 1,030 acres of new forest
- 70-year agreements



# Sustainable Use: Incentives for Good Land Stewardship

- Pillar of KDFWR Mission & North American Model for Wildlife Management
- Science says: “Can’t stockpile wildlife”
- Habitat loss = wildlife & recreation loss





# Farm Bill Strategy (*"Food Security Act"*)



- USDA's Farm Bill = billions for wildlife habitat
- Relatively stable long-term funding
- Broad support from taxpayers, farmers, sportsmen, & environmentalists
- Enhances wetlands, grasslands, forests, & crop field edges
- Dollars for farmers because affordable food is vital to citizen well-being.
- **Isn't affordable energy of similar importance?**

# Mined Lands Conservation Program? ("Energy Security Act")

- Promote proven wildlife habitat reclamation
- Provide economic incentives for stewardship
- Recognize wildlife-friendly operators
- Provide incentives to allow public use



# Final Thoughts

- **Wildlife needs ample, connected habitat at the landscape scale.**
- **Need user-friendly reclamation laws that benefit the Industry and create fish & wildlife habitat.**
- **Carbon Sequestration holds promise, but we need more tools in the tool box.**
- **Industry needs incentives (perhaps a Farm Bill approach) to make it cost-effective to do wildlife friendly reclamation.**