

Northern Bobwhite Quail in Kentucky

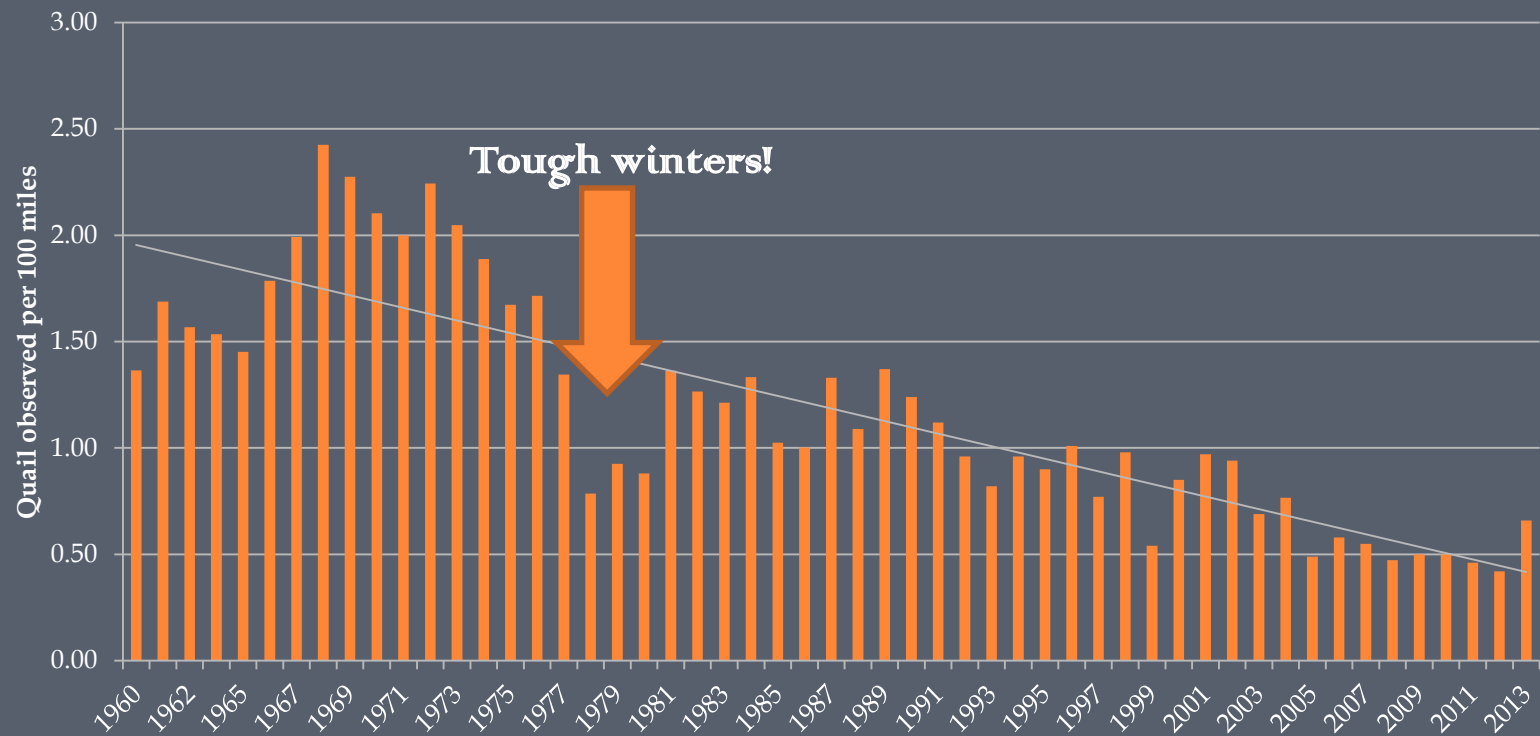


Overview

- ▣ Overview of Bobwhite in Kentucky
- ▣ Brief History of Quail & Habitat Restoration Efforts
- ▣ 5 Year Benchmark Report & Quail Focus Area Success Stories
- ▣ Public Input

Quail Declines in KY

Quail Trend from Kentucky Mail Carrier Survey; 1960-2013



Why the Declines?

- Loss of small family farms
- Changes in farming practices
- Fescue dominance in fields across KY
- Recreational Mowing

Habitat Loss

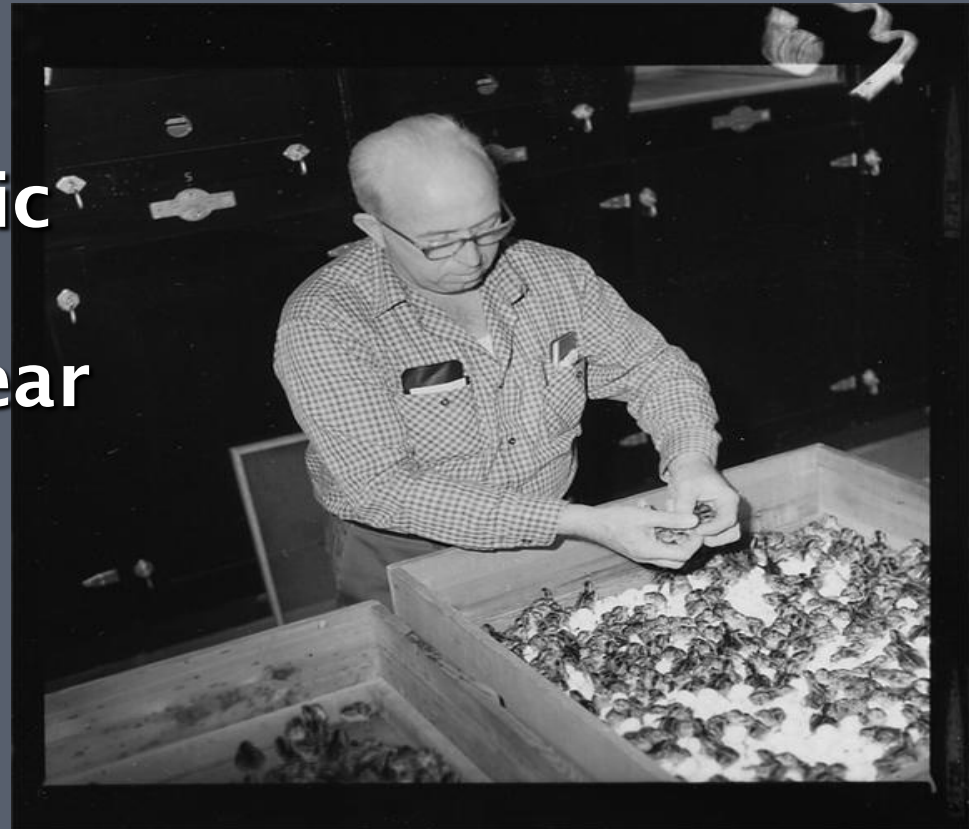


Past Restoration Efforts

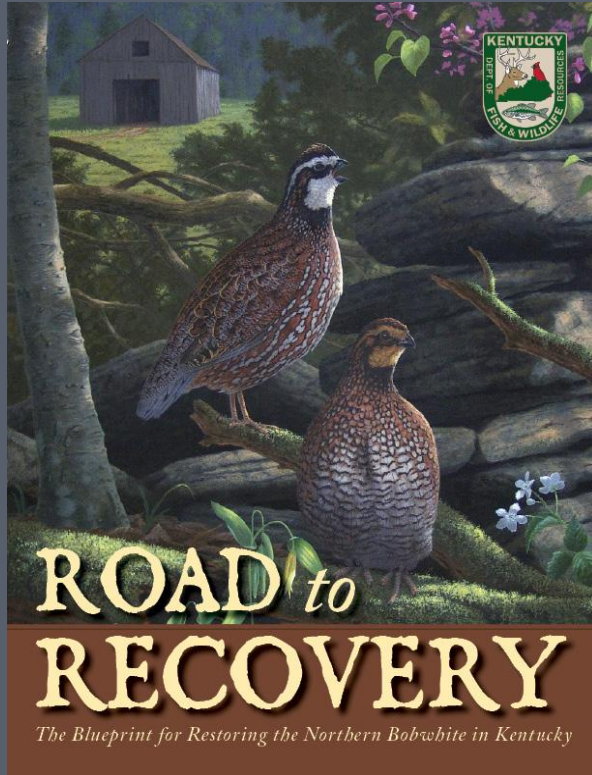
- “Game Farm” approach:

3.5 million pen-raised quail provided to public & released by Department over 50-year period

Did not focus on habitat!

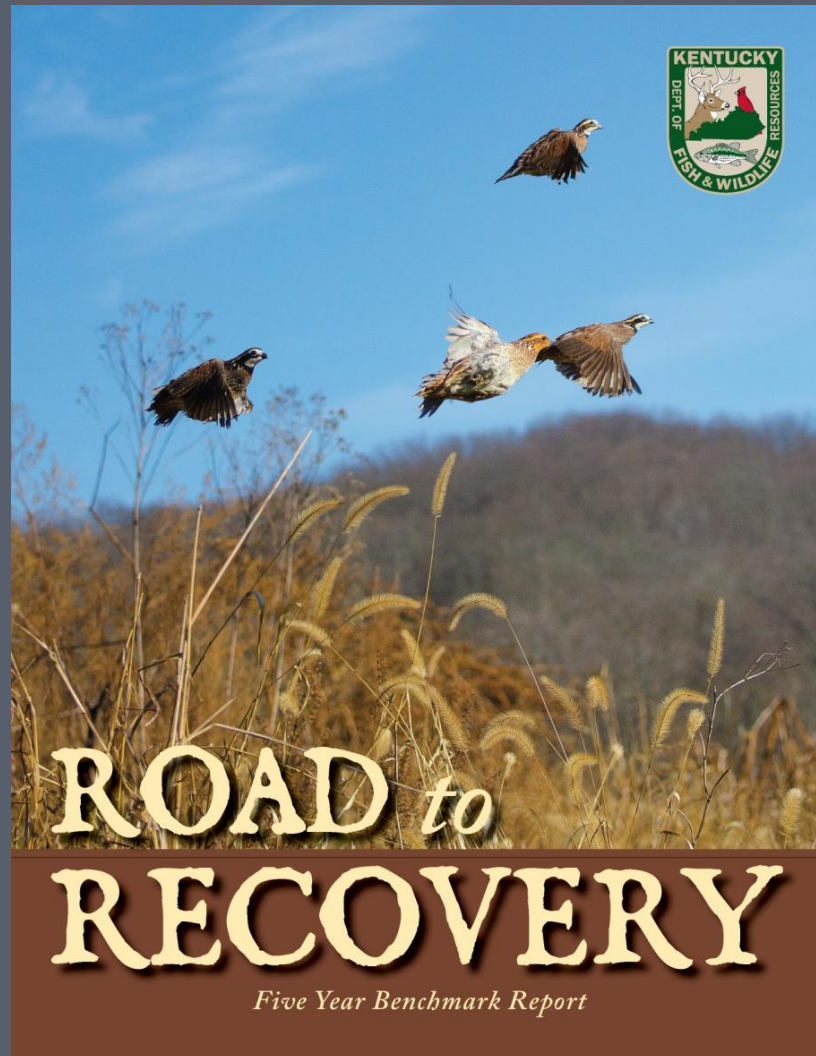
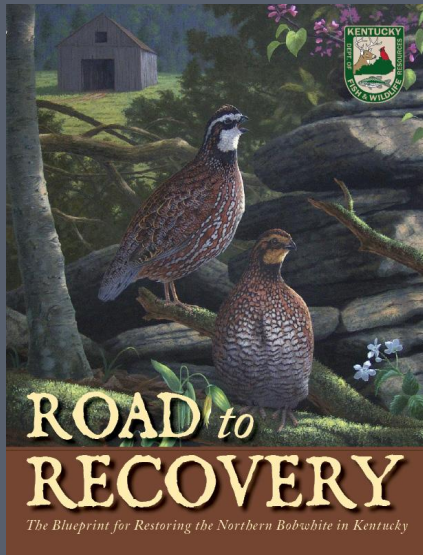


Kentucky's Restoration Plan



Habitat based. Focused Approach.
All wild quail.

Quail Plan 5-Year Benchmark Report



Quail Plan Goals

Technical Quail Plan Goals (from 2008)



GOAL 1:

Stabilize bobwhite populations statewide

GOAL 2:

Increase bobwhite populations in focus areas

GOAL 3:

Increase bobwhite populations on focal wildlife management areas

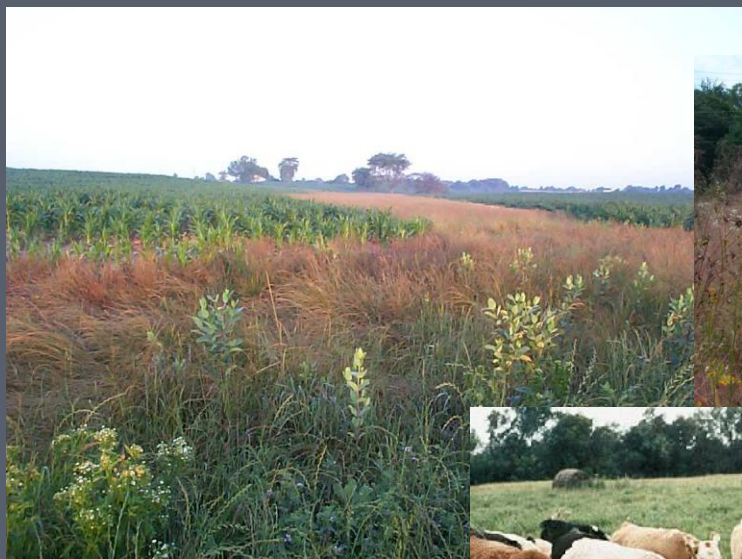
GOAL 4:

Increase statewide recreation related to bobwhite

GOAL 5:

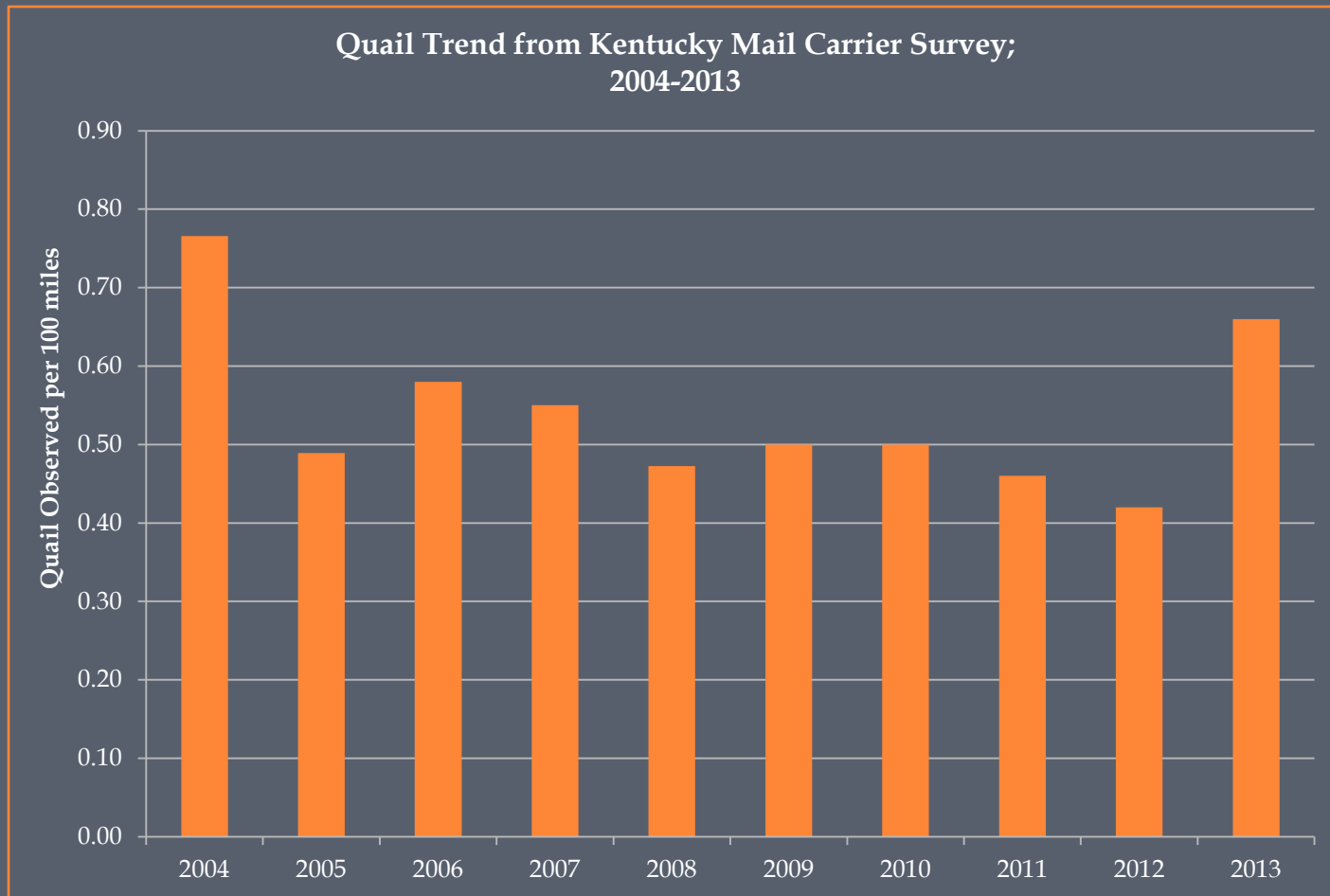
Generate funding mechanisms to support bobwhite restoration

GOAL I
Stabilize bobwhite populations
statewide



GOAL I

Stabilize bobwhite populations statewide



GOAL 2

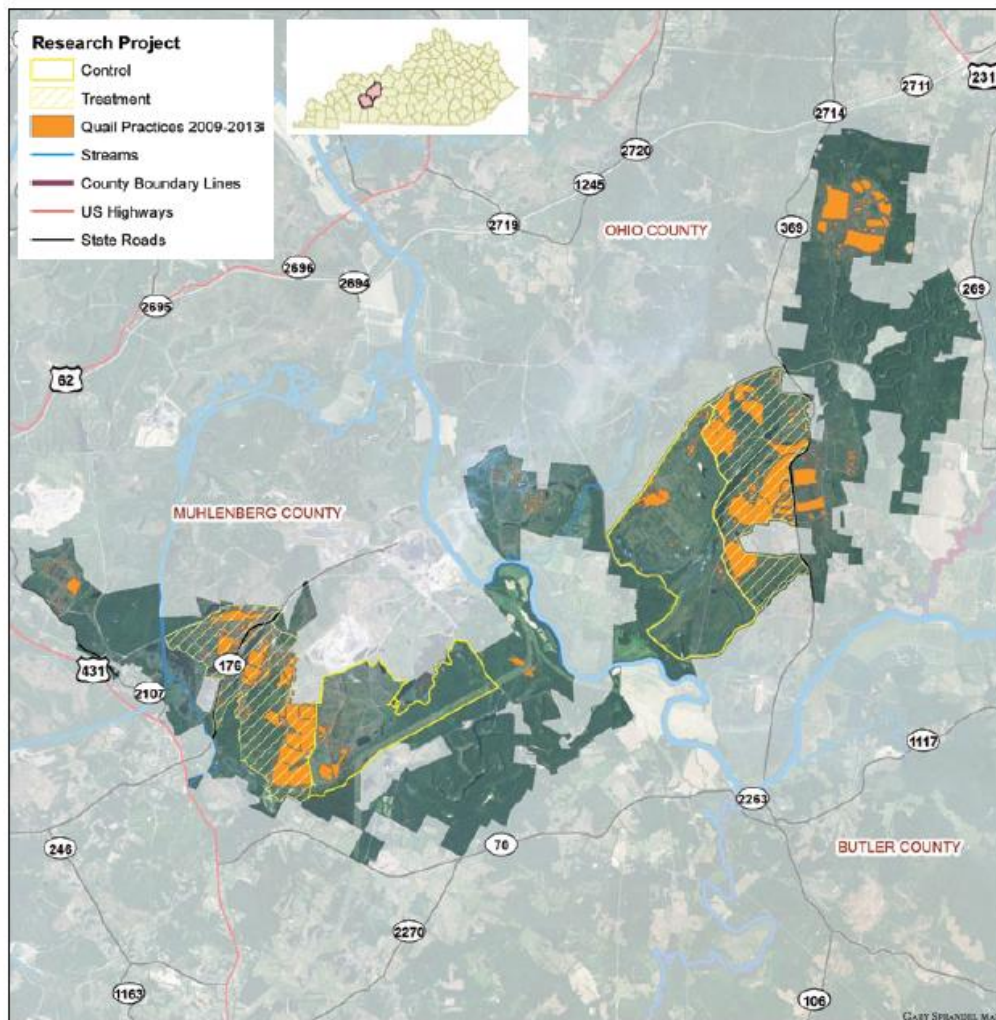
Increase bobwhite populations
in focus areas

GOAL 3

Increase bobwhite populations on
focal wildlife management areas

QUAIL FOCUS AREAS OVERVIEW





Peabody WMA Focus Area:

56% increase in quail numbers in 5 years



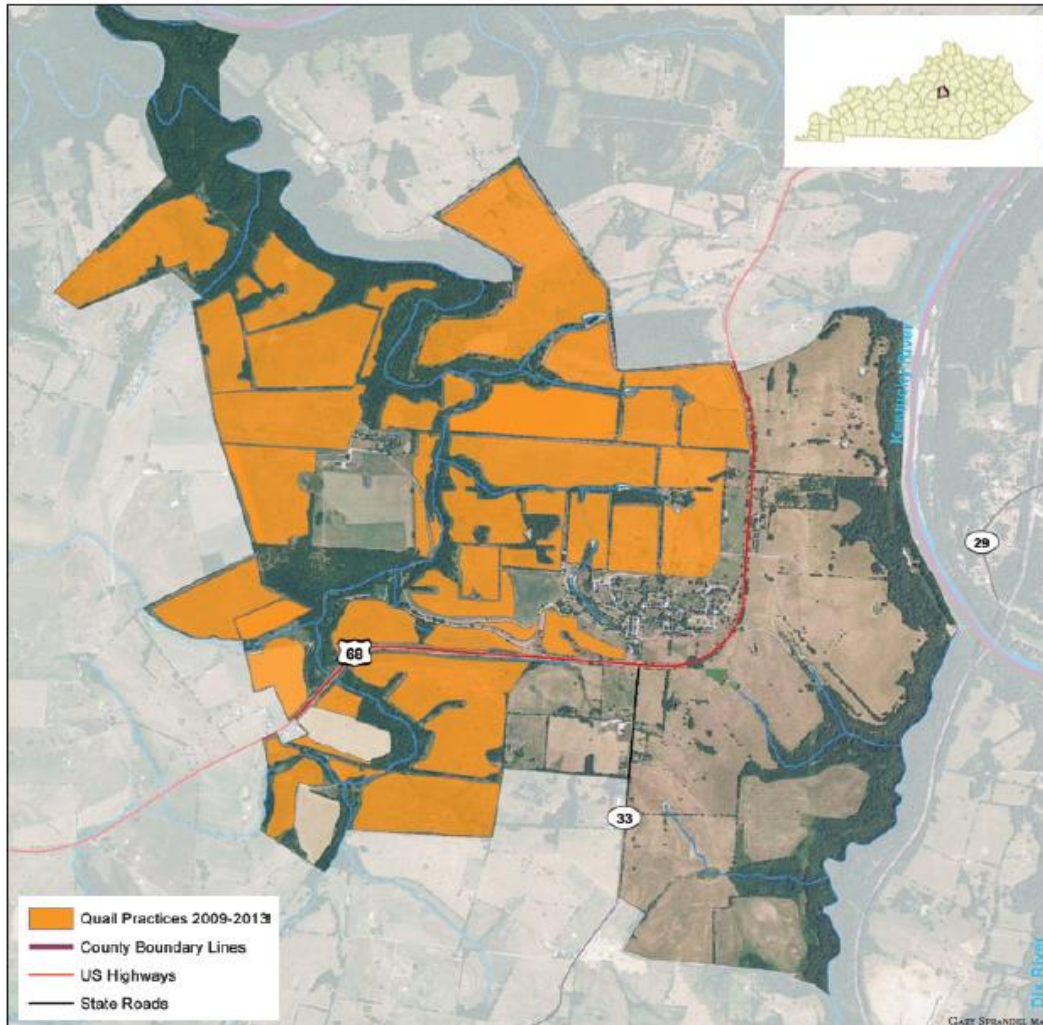
21,860 Acres
2,087 Acres practices
56% Increase in
Northern Bobwhite



1:120,000




SHAKER VILLAGE QUAIL FOCUS AREA

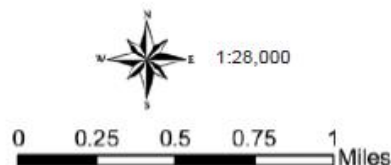


Shaker Village
Focus Area:

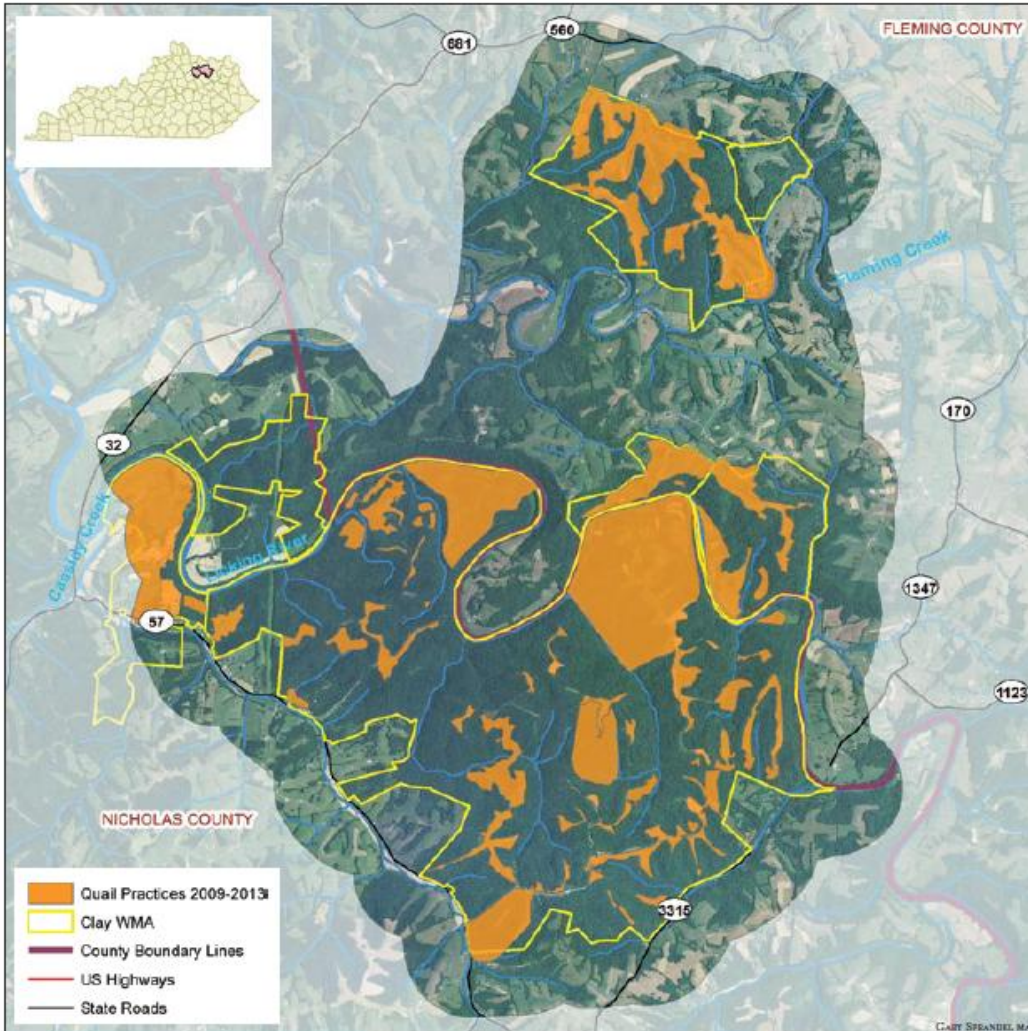
150% increase
in quail
numbers in 5
years



2,855 Acres
1,027 Acres practices
150% Increase in
Northern Bobwhite



CLAY WMA QUAIL FOCUS AREA



Clay WMA
Focus Area:

Over 2,000
acres of habitat
improvement in
5 years

Quail numbers
stabilized in 5
years

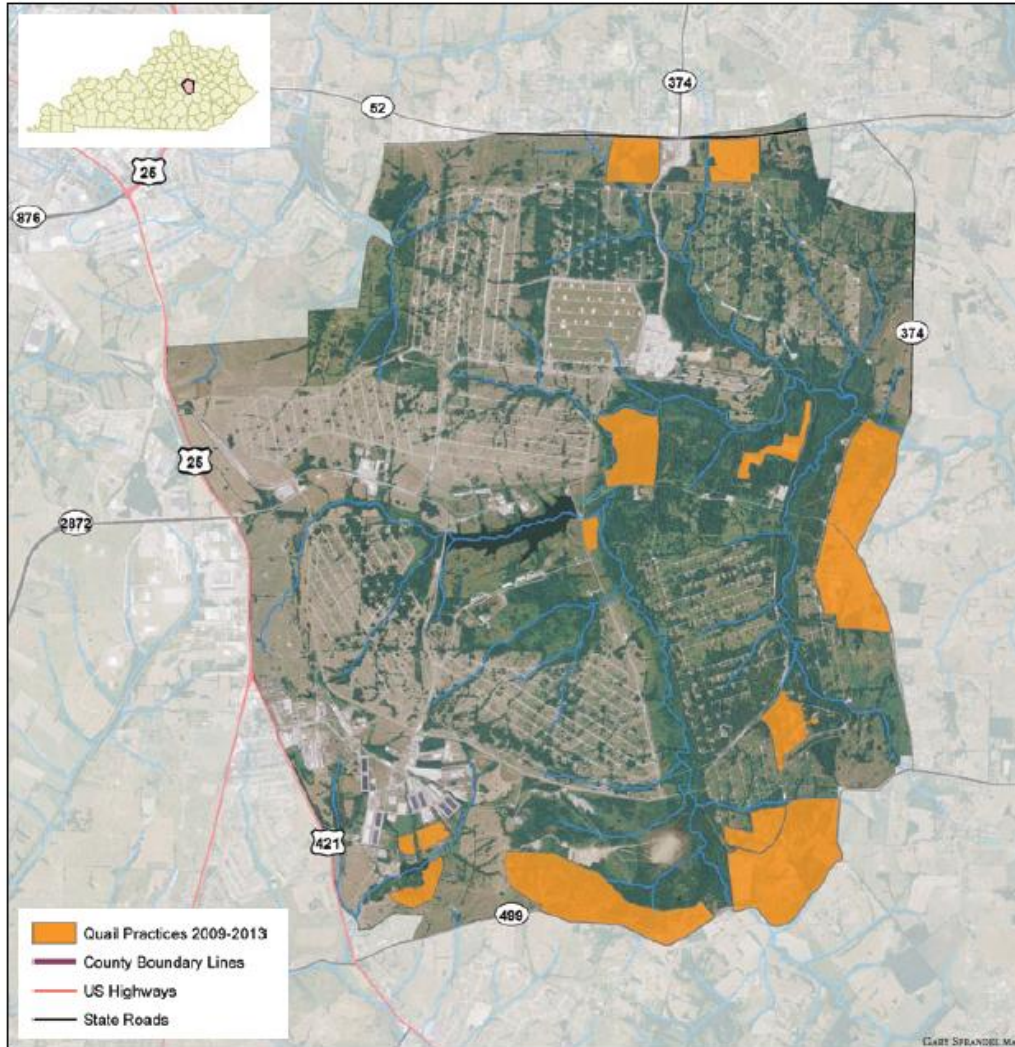


1:60,000

0 0.5 1 1.5 2 Miles




BLUEGRASS ARMY DEPOT QUAIL FOCUS AREA

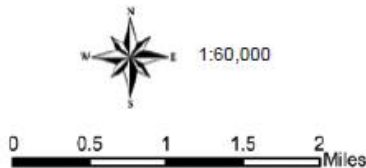


**Bluegrass Army
Depot
Focus Area:**

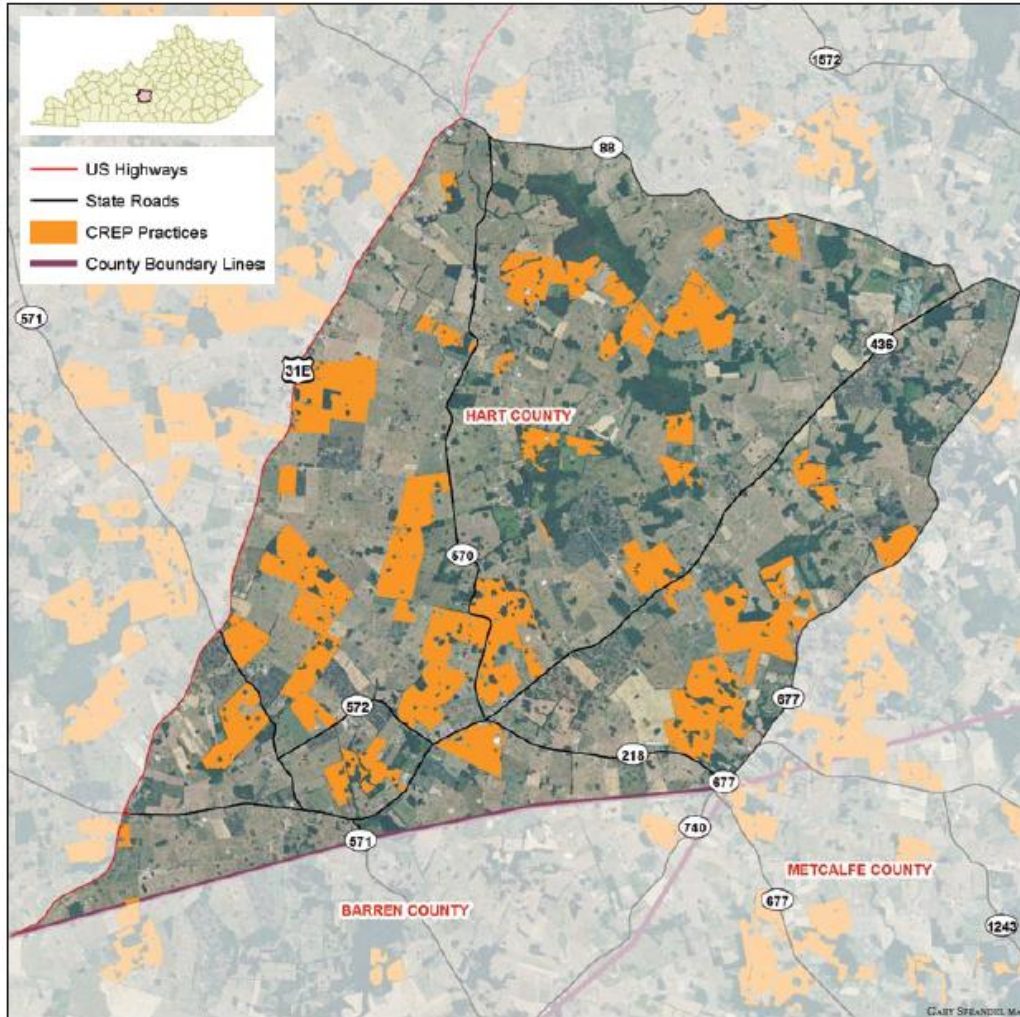
**52% increase in
quail numbers
in 5 years**



14,517 Acres
1,313 Acres practices
52% Increase in
Northern Bobwhite



HART COUNTY CREP QUAIL FOCUS AREA



Hart Co. CREP Focus Area:

779% increase in quail numbers in 5 years



19,827 Acres
2,961 Acres practices
779% Increase in Northern Bobwhite
20% Increase in Northern Bobwhite in areas without practices
44% Increase in areas with most practices



1:72,000

0 0.5 1 1.5 2 Miles

Kentucky





Livingston County National Focal Area



Livingston County Focus Area:

14% increase in quail numbers in 5 years



40,813 Acres
 4,103 Acres practices
 14% Increase in Northern Bobwhite



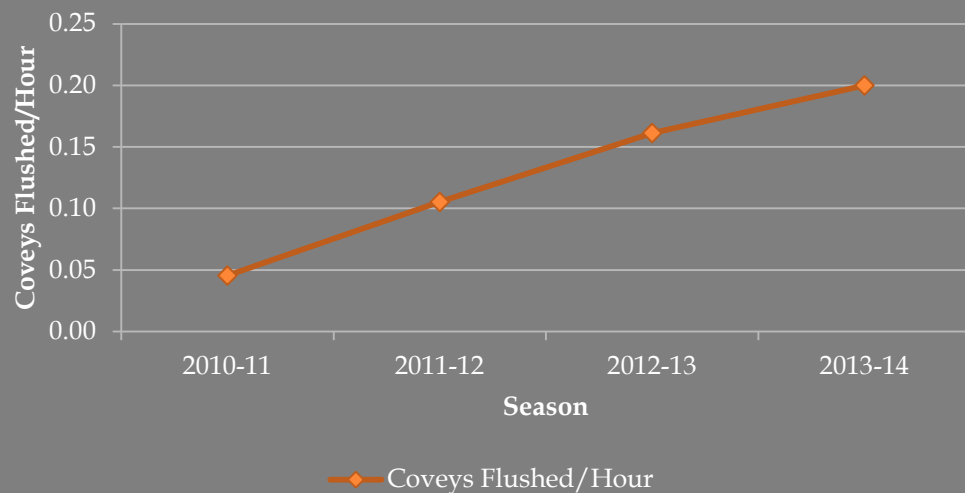
1:120,000



GOAL 4

Increase statewide recreation
related to bobwhite

Clay WMA Covey Flush Rates; 2010-2013
Quota Hunts



Peabody WMA Quota Hunts



GOAL 5

Generate funding mechanisms to support bobwhite restoration

Quail Specialty License Plate



University research on quail using grant funding



Multiple partners involved to generate more funds & action



Keys to Success:



Expert Staff & Vital Partners

Questions to Consider

- ▣ Should we increase the size of existing Quail Focus Areas? Should we create new Quail Focus Areas?
- ▣ What are some strategies to increase funding of Quail Focus Areas moving forward?
- ▣ How do we engage or incentivize private landowners to participate in quail restoration?
- ▣ How do we capitalize on our current successes moving forward?