

# Chronic Wasting Disease in North Carolina

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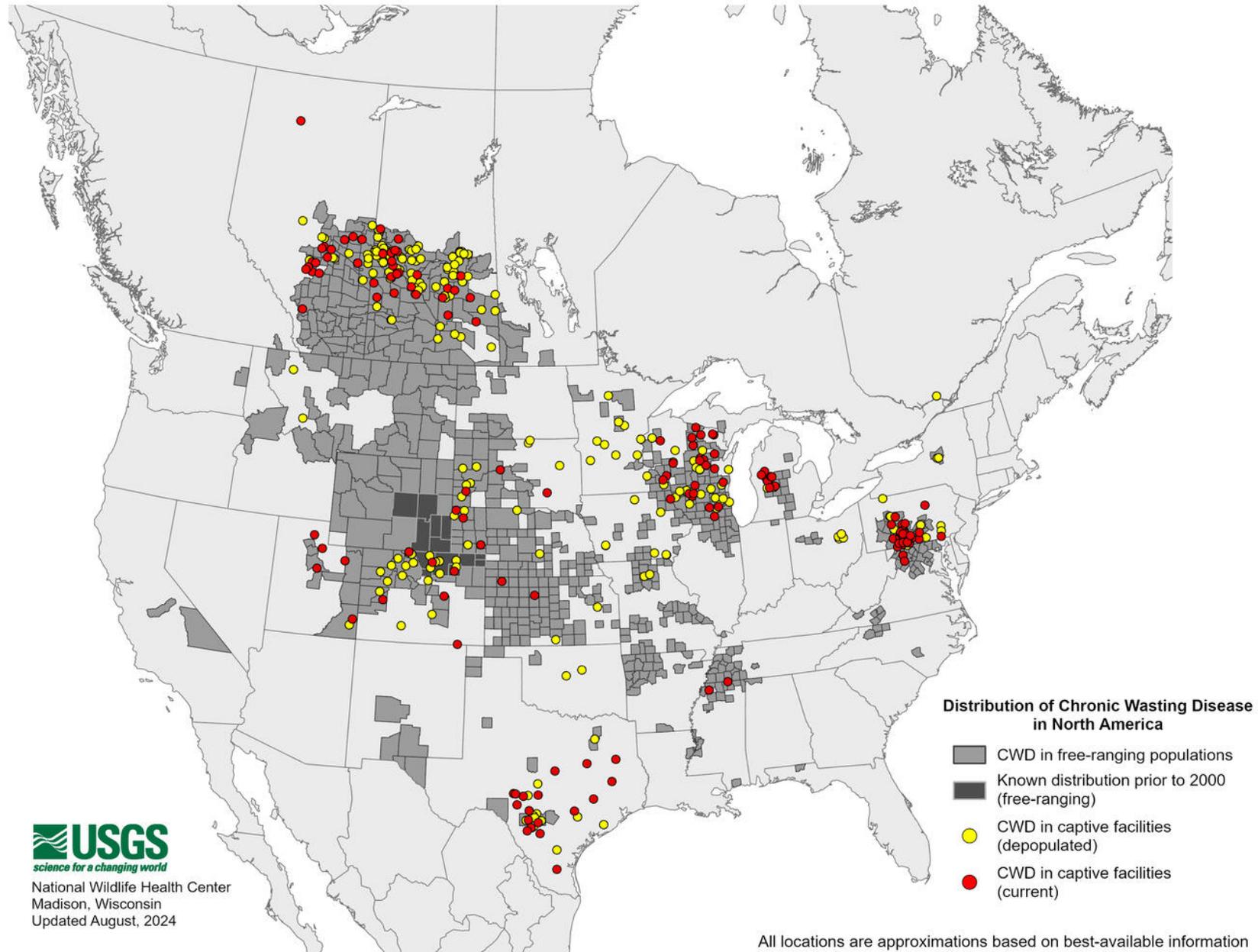


*What it means for our future*

*April Boggs, Deer Biologist*

**KNOW CWD**

# Current Known CWD Distribution



National Wildlife Health Center  
Madison, Wisconsin  
Updated August, 2024

# Hemorrhagic Disease

EHD & Blue Tongue

*VS.*

# CWD

- Virus
- Endemic to the Southeast
- Cyclical outbreaks
- Some deer survive with immunity
- Populations rebound quickly

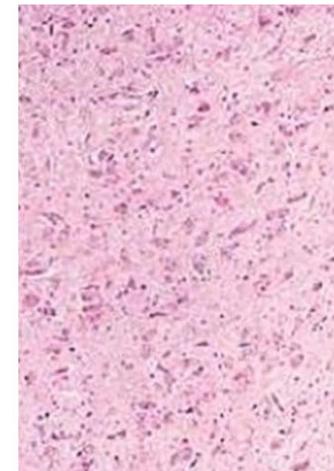
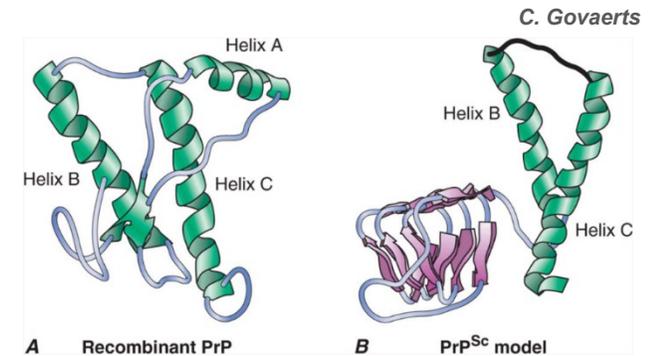


- Prion
- Spreading across country
- Constant drain on population
- 100% mortality rate
- Populations slowly decline

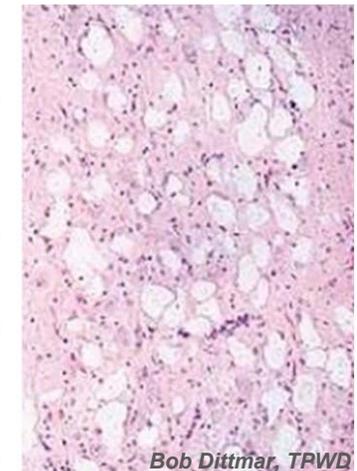


# Infectious Agent - Prion<sup>CWD</sup>

- No treatment
- Nonliving material – cannot be killed
- Persists in environment
- Accumulates over time on landscape



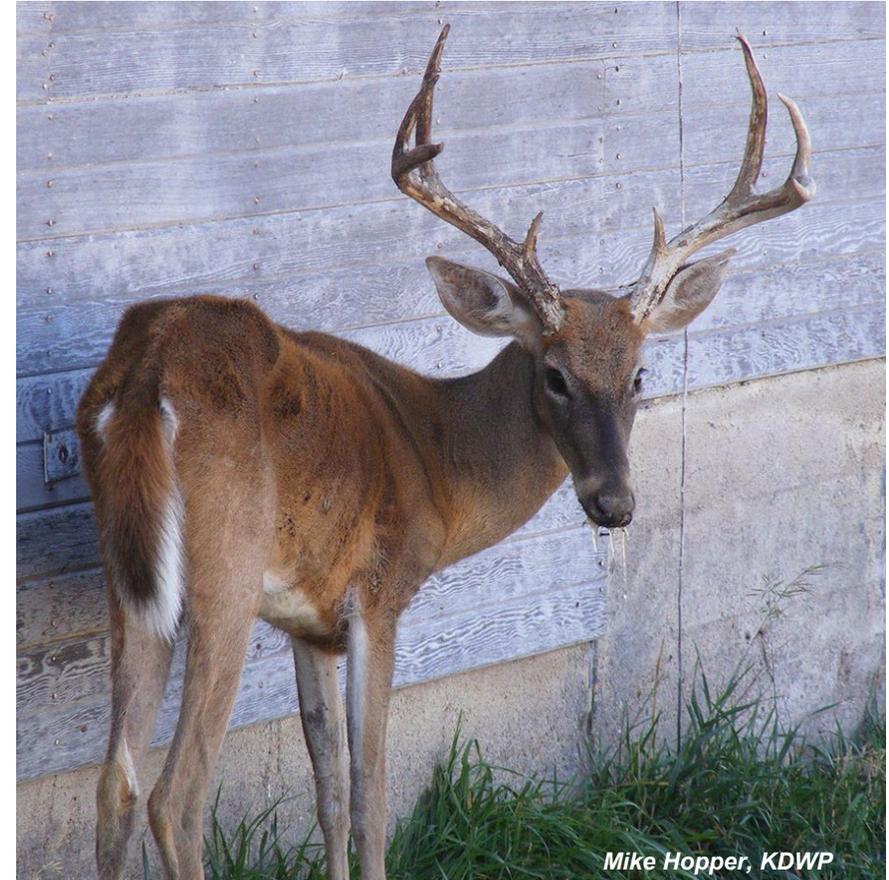
Healthy

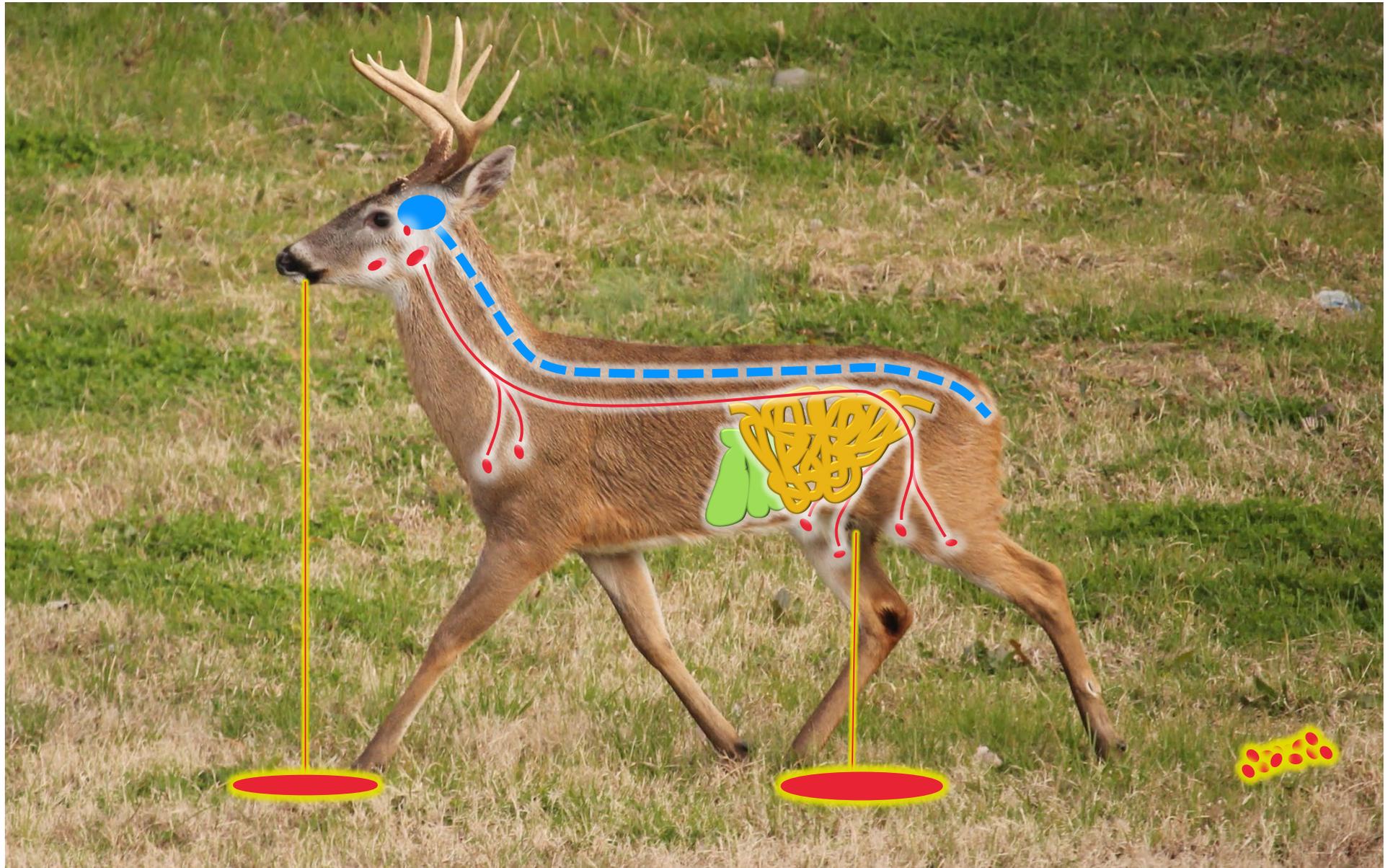


Infected

Bob Dittmar, TPWD

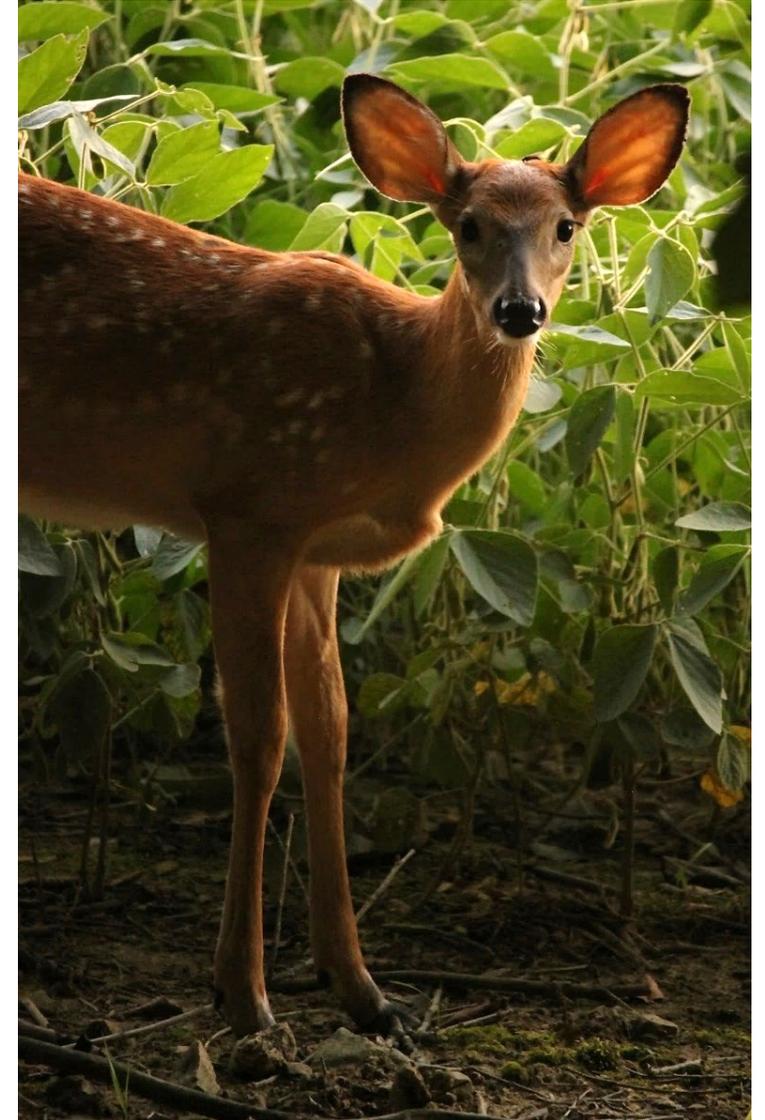
# What Does CWD Look Like?





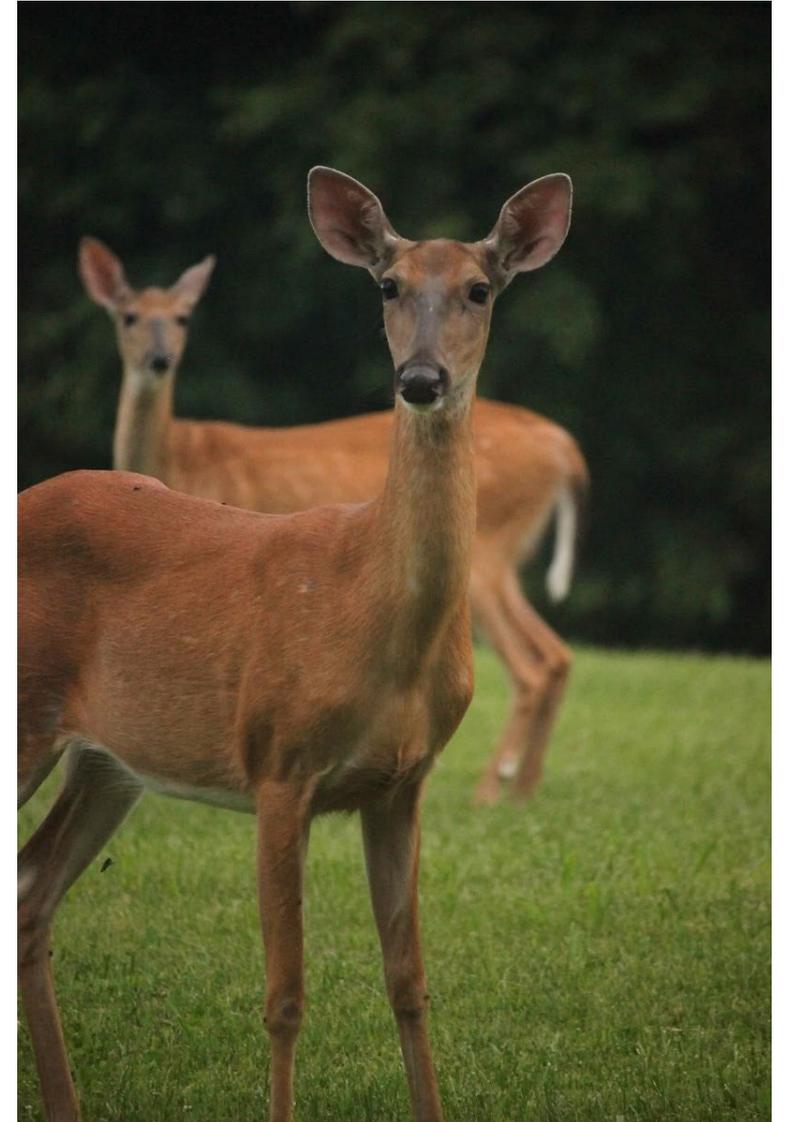
# Why Does CWD Matter?

- **CWD is a slow, permanent disease**
- **CWD prevalence will increase**
- **Deer lifespans will be shortened**
- **Future deer populations will change**



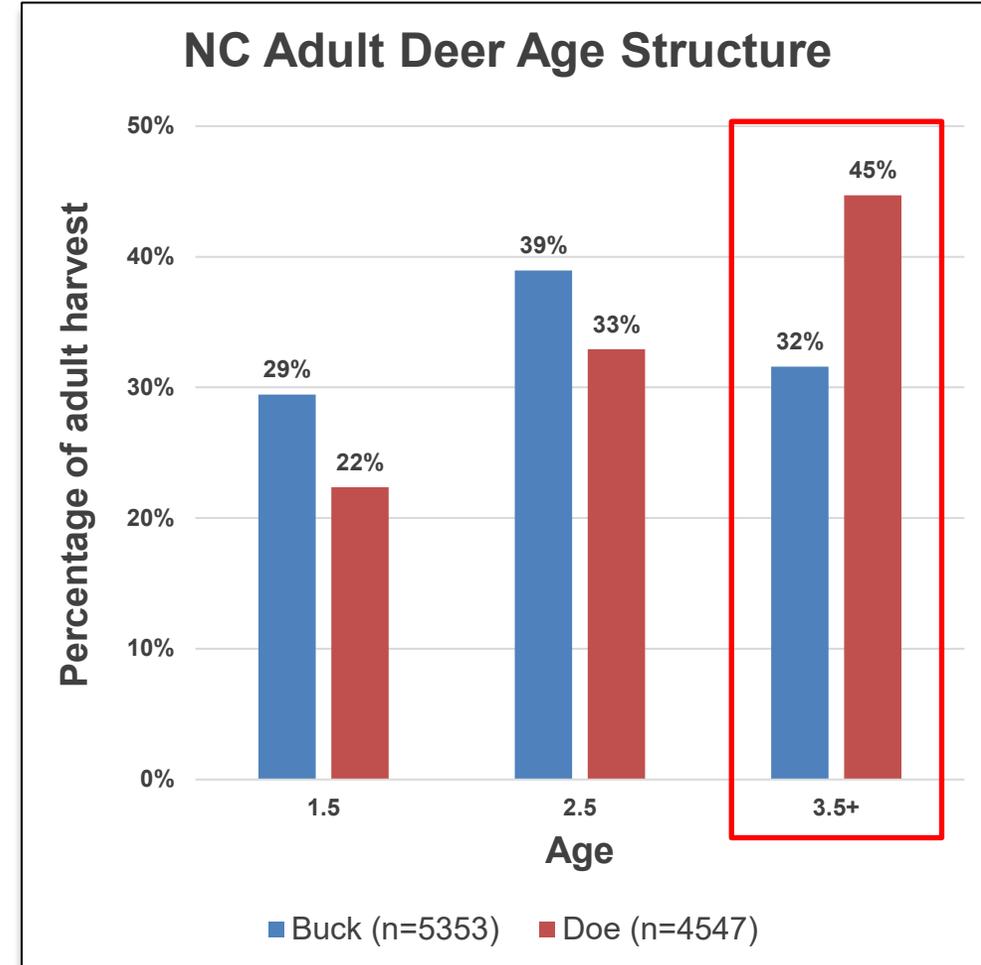
# Future Population Effects

- **Average fawn recruitment rate ~50%**
- **It takes at least 2 years for a doe to replace herself (minimum)**
- **Shorter lifespan = less reproduction**



# Future Population Effects

- Average fawn recruitment rate ~50%
- It takes at least 2 years for a doe to replace herself (minimum)
- Shorter lifespan = less reproduction



# CWD in North Carolina

- **NC has surveilled for CWD since 1999**
- **Detected in Northwestern zone in 2022**
  - **9 detections during 2022-23 season, including Cumberland County**
  - **13 detections during 2023-24 season, no additional counties**

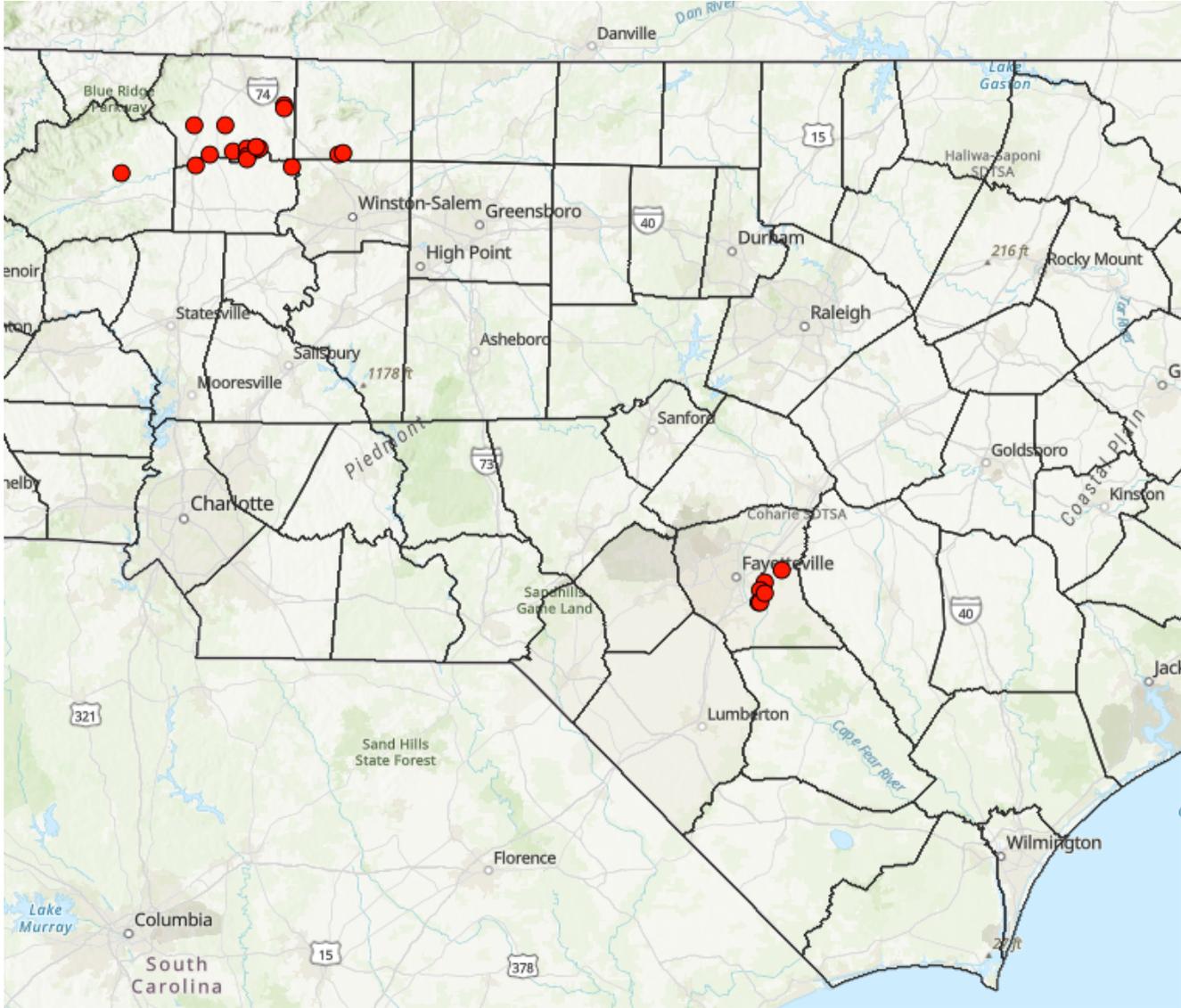


# CWD Positive Deer Detections

## Counties

- Cumberland 6
- Stokes 2
- Surry 10
- Wilkes 1
- Yadkin 4

**\*\*as of 06/30/2024\*\***



# Cumberland County CWD Detection

- Harvested during rifle season
- Tested by Cervid Health Cooperator taxidermist
- DNA confirmation matched
- First detection in coastal plain



# What Can Be Done?

- 1. Know where it is**
  - Test, test, test
- 2. Don't give it a ride!**
  - Live deer
  - Dead deer
- 3. Slow transmission rates**
  - Avoid unnecessarily congregating deer

