

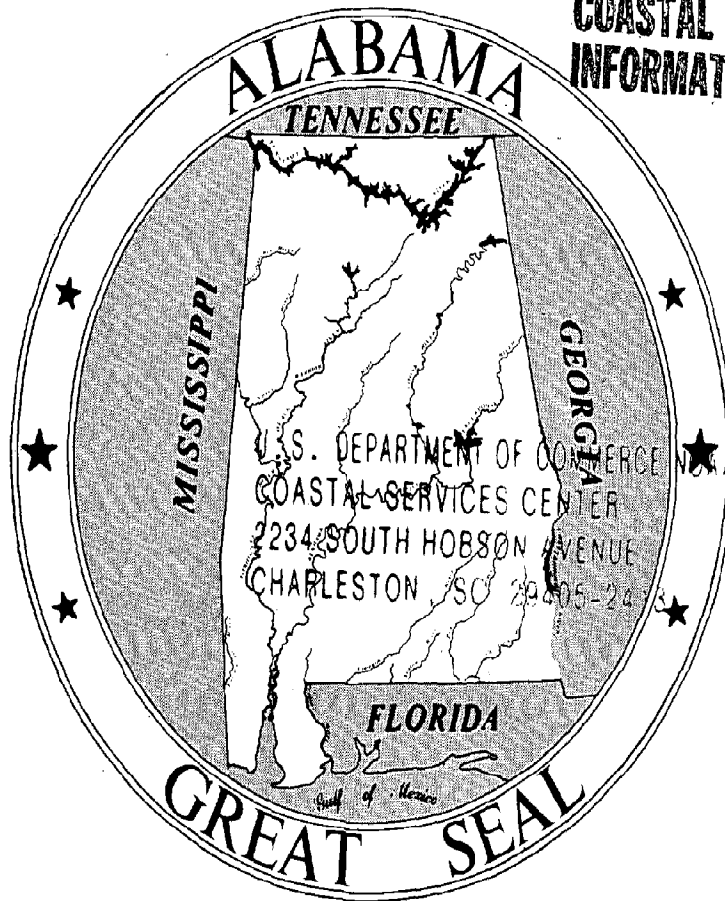
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ALABAMA'S

WATER AND RELATED LAND RESOURCES PLANNING

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*Conservation and Development of Alabama's Natural
Resources through River Basin Planning*

*Alabama Development Office
Montgomery, Alabama*

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September 1972

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ALABAMA'S
WATER AND RELATED LAND RESOURCES PLANNING

PREPARED
by the
ALABAMA DEVELOPMENT OFFICE

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September 1972

Alabama has the opportunity, obligation, and objective to achieve for its citizens a full measure of success in the planning and development of its water and related land resources as a segment of a total resources planning and development effort. The State is blessed with an abundance of these resources and if the supply is wisely managed it is capable of supporting Alabama's increasing population and industrialization necessary to economic growth.



Alabama's Natural Resources

To carry out this objective, a plan for effective development of the State's water and related land resources must be achieved. The Governor of Alabama in 1967 designated the State Planning and Industrial Development Board (currently the Alabama Development Office) as the State agency responsible for administering and coordinating a State Comprehensive Water and Related Land Resources Planning Program. Such a program is to guide Alabama's future use of her natural resources.

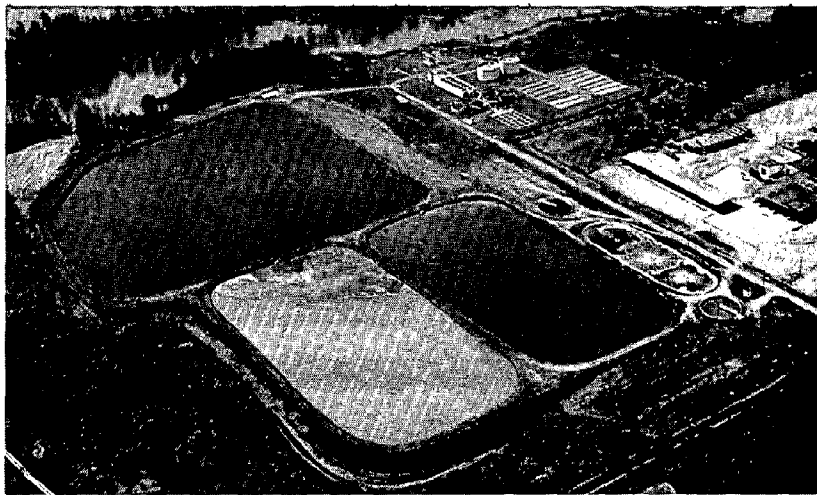


Planning

To carry out this program, the Alabama Development Office (ADO) through the utilization of Title III funds from the U. S. Water Resources Council and State matching funds, has been contracting with several agencies in working toward the development of a State plan. A Water Resources Advisory Committee composed of members from the Geological Survey of Alabama, the Natural Resources Center of The University of Alabama, the Water Resources Research Institute of Auburn University, Alabama Water Improvement Commission, Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, Department of Public Health, and the Center for Environmental Studies at the University of Alabama at Huntsville advises ADO in this effort which continues on a Fiscal Year basis with the plan completion anticipated by 1975.

In early 1971, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Guidelines were issued which established a deadline of July 1, 1973 to have EPA approved Water Quality Management Plans in order to receive further water and sewage treatment facilities construction grants. These plans will become an integral part of the overall State Water and Related Land Resources Plan.

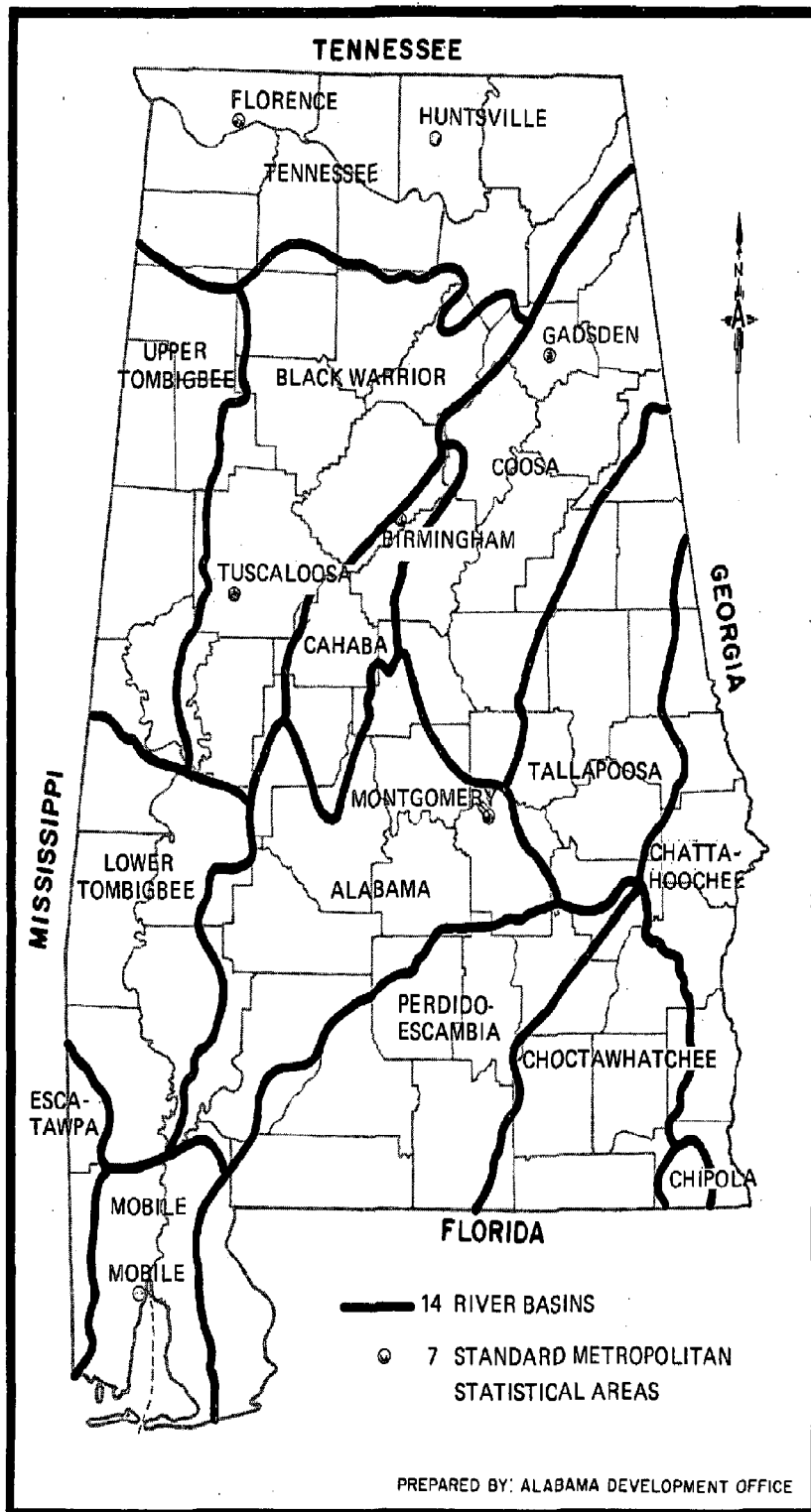
Pollution Control



Waste Treatment Facilities

The State planning effort has shifted to one of emphasis on Water Quality Management Plans in view of the deadline date. Many local, State, and Federal agencies are providing inputs of data to support development of the required plans for fourteen (14) river basins and seven (7) Standard Metropolitan Statistical Areas (SMSA) in Alabama. The Regional Planning and Development Commissions containing the seven (7) SMSA's are responsible for developing the SMSA plans. The Alabama Water Improvement Commission (AWIC), assisted by the ADO Office of State Planning, is responsible for developing the fourteen (14) river basin plans.

STATE OF ALABAMA

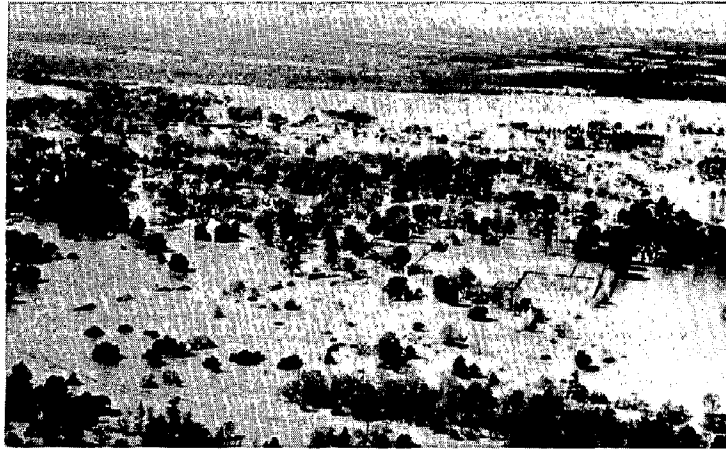


In attempting to meet the planning requirements, the ADO is taking advantage of several ongoing projects by other agencies.

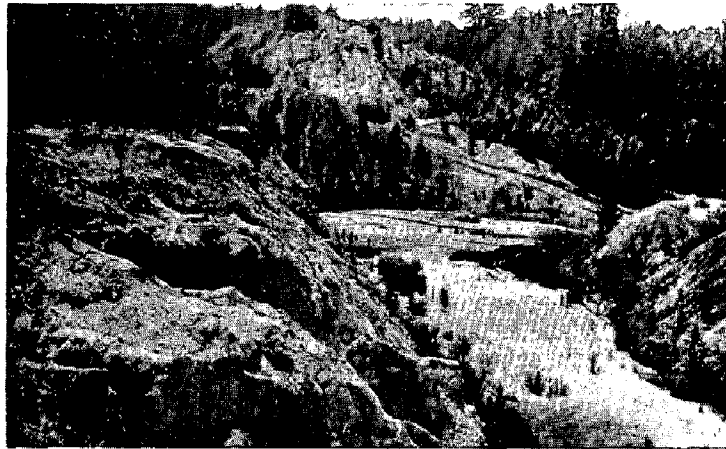
Cooperative river basin investigations are underway in most of Alabama's river basins. This is a joint effort of the Alabama Development Office as the State sponsor and the U. S. Department of Agriculture. Agencies within the USDA actively participating in these studies are the Soil Conservation Service, Forest Service, and Economic Research Service. Information developed will become an integral part of the Comprehensive State Water and Related Land Resources Plan.

These cooperative studies are presently being carried out in the Alabama, Coosa, Tallapoosa, and Cahaba River Basins with scheduled completion in 1975. A study is also underway in the Upper and Lower Tombigbee River Basins to update a 1964 study with scheduled completion in 1974. Investigations will begin in the Perdido-Escambia, Chattahoochee, Choctawhatchee and Chipola River Basins during the Fall of 1972. Studies in the Black Warrior Basin will begin in 1974.

In the Alabama, Coosa, Tallapoosa, and Cahaba River Basins, the inventory of resources and identification of problems and needs are essentially complete. Some problems and needs are:



Flooding Problems



Erosion and Sediment Problems



Need For More Recreation

The Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) is conducting a study of the Tennessee River Basin and will prepare a partial plan for that portion of the river basin in Alabama. Completion of the plan and implementation will be the responsibility of the State of Alabama.

The Mobile River Basin study and planning is awaiting Federal funding. The request for Federal assistance was finalized in January 1972 by the South Alabama Regional Planning Commission.

The Escatawpa River Basin was included as part of the Pascagoula River Basin study completed in 1968 in Mississippi and Alabama by a Basin Coordinating Committee under the chairmanship of the Mobile District Engineer, U. S. Corps of Engineers.

The actions outlined above provide on-going study and/or planning effort in all of the designated fourteen (14) river basins and seven (7) SMSA's in Alabama. These efforts are furnishing needed information for Water Quality Management Planning and the State Water and Related Land Resources Planning.

Full participation and coordination of affected Federal, State, and local agencies and the citizens of Alabama are of utmost importance if required plans are to be developed and implemented. Citizen participation is essential. You are encouraged to contact your Regional Planning and Development Commission and/or your Soil

and Water Conservation District representative to express your views. We can all unite in a common effort to identify needs, problems, and solutions, and enhance the development of the State's physical, economic, and human resources.



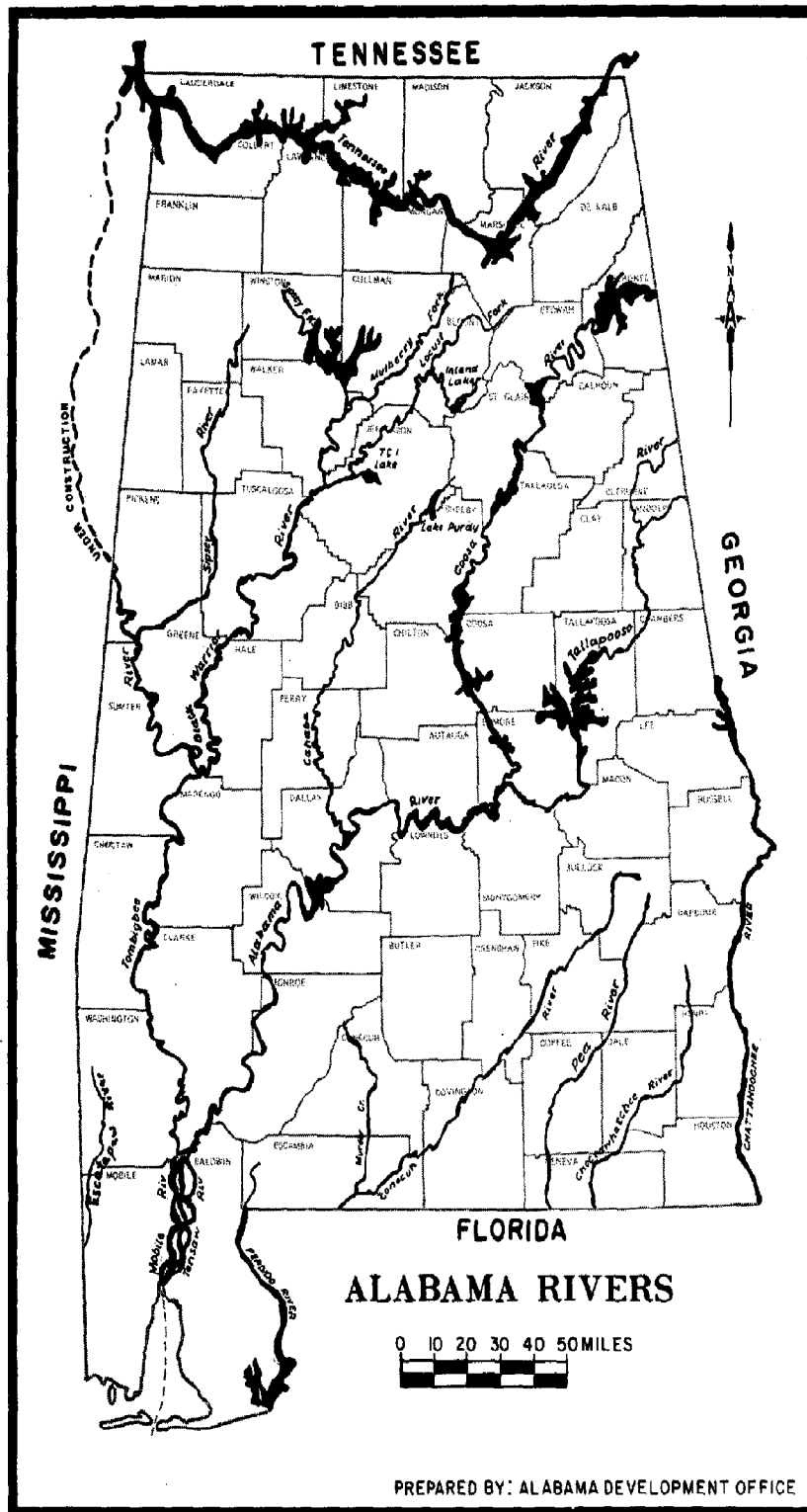
Public Participation

Some of the participating local, State, and Federal agencies are the Regional Planning and Development Commissions, Soil and Water Conservation Districts, Alabama Development Office, Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, Geological Survey of Alabama, State Highway Department, Alabama Water Improvement Commission, Department of Public Health, The University of Alabama, Auburn University, University of South Alabama, Alabama Power Company, U. S. Department of Agriculture, U. S. Corps of Engineers, and U. S. Geological Survey.

For additional information contact:

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