

Email notification text sent on 23 December 2016 to all Authorized Gopher Tortoise Agents registered in the FWC Online Permit System

Over the past year, Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) gopher tortoise team staff members have worked with the Gopher Tortoise Technical Assistance Group (GTTAG) and other stakeholders to make a few minor changes to the Gopher Tortoise Permitting Guidelines.

On December 15, 2016, Nick Wiley, Executive Director of the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, approved revisions to the Gopher Tortoise Permitting Guidelines. The revised guidelines can be accessed on our website (<http://www.myfwc.com/license/wildlife/gopher-tortoise-permits/>). A one-page summary of the revisions can also be accessed from that link.

Applications for FWC gopher tortoise relocation, recipient site, or Authorized Gopher Tortoise Agents permits and permit amendments that

- a) were submitted on the FWC online permit system by the end of the December 31, 2016 calendar day, or received in paper form by the FWC, 620 S. Meridian Street, M.S. 2A, Tallahassee, FL 32399-1600 by 5 P.M. on December 30, 2016; and,
 - b) contain all the required information to be determined by the FWC to be complete applications not requiring the submittal of additional application information,
- will be reviewed and evaluated in accordance with the requirements of the Gopher Tortoise Permitting Guidelines (April 2008 – revised February 2015).

Conversely, applications for FWC gopher tortoise relocation, recipient site, or Authorized Gopher Tortoise Agents permits and permit amendments that were

- a) initially submitted on the FWC online permit system before the end of the December 31, 2016 calendar day or received in paper form by the FWC at the aforementioned Tallahassee address on or before 5 P.M. on December 30, 2016; but those applications remain incomplete after that specified date and times; or,
 - b) submitted on the online permit system or received by the FWC in paper form after that specified date and time,
- will be reviewed and processed by the FWC in accordance with the requirements of the revised Gopher Tortoise Permitting Guidelines approved by the Commission's Executive Director on December 15, 2016.