



**GOPHER TORTOISE RECIPIENT SITE
(FOR LONG-TERM PROTECTED SITES)
PERMIT APPLICATION
FLORIDA FISH AND WILDLIFE CONSERVATION COMMISSION
620 S. Meridian St., Mail Station 2A, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1600**

(Please Print or Type)

APPLICANT REQUESTING PERMIT:

NAME: _____ CUSTOMER ID (if known): _____

AFFILIATION: _____

MAILING ADDRESS: _____

PHONE NUMBER: () _____ FAX: () _____

ALTERNATE PHONE NUMBER: () _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS: _____

To provide more timely exchange of information please check this box:

I authorize FWC to send me requests for additional information and final agency permitting actions by e-mail. Future agency actions will be provided henceforth by email.

Have you ever been convicted or found guilty, regardless of adjudication, of a wildlife violation or crime involving cruelty to animals? YES NO

If yes, please explain and list the type of violation cited and the county/state where the violation occurred: _____

Have you ever had a wildlife-related permit suspended or revoked? YES NO

If yes, please explain: _____

Applicant Signature: _____

Certification: I hereby swear and affirm by signature that the information submitted in this application and supporting documents is complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge and belief. I understand that any false statement herein may subject me to criminal penalties. I further state that I will abide by all applicable state, federal, and local laws.

PROPERTY INFORMATION:

Landowner Name _____ Date of Application _____

Affiliation _____

Mailing Address _____

Contact Information () () ()
Home/Office phone number Cell phone number Fax

Email address _____

Please check appropriate box for this application submittal:

- New application for a proposed recipient site (please include \$500 mitigation contribution).
- Amend an existing long-term protected recipient site permit for additional phases (no additional mitigation contribution required).
- Additional information for a previously submitted long-term protected recipient site application sent in response to an FWC request for additional information (R.A.I.) – Please attach a copy of the FWC R.A.I. (no additional mitigation contribution required).

Note: Mitigation contribution checks must be made payable to the FWC-Land Acquisition Trust Fund. All mitigation contributions support gopher tortoise conservation actions specified in the Gopher Tortoise Management Plan. An application will be considered incomplete if a stipulated mitigation contribution is not submitted.

CONSULTANT/AUTHORIZED AGENT:

The use of Authorized Gopher Tortoise Agents will not be required until Spring 2009.

Authorized Agent Name _____ Permit # _____

Company name _____

Address _____

Contact Information () () ()
Office phone number Cell phone number Fax

Email address _____

RECIPIENT SITE CRITERIA:

- Recipient site is: Publicly owned conservation land
- Privately owned land under a perpetual conservation easement*

*Easements should conform to the standard format available from the FWC. Please provide a clean copy of the existing (or proposed draft) easement and a copy in track-changes version that compares the proposed easement provisions/conditions with those within the standard FWC format.

Note: Sites must meet the minimum gopher tortoise site suitability criteria for size, soil, and habitat as stipulated in the gopher tortoise permitting guidelines.

Property Name _____ County _____

Location or Address _____ Latitude/Longitude Coordinates _____

County Parcel I.D. and Township/Range/Section _____

Total number of acres on recipient site _____

Total number of acres of gopher tortoise habitat available _____

Criterion: Acceptable Desirable

Describe the existing habitat. List the soil types and vegetative communities present by acreage and percentage of area covered. Use standard, accepted vegetation type descriptions (e.g., DOT FLUCCS or FNAI systems) and standard soil type classification used by the National Resource Conservation Service (NRCS).

Soils (provide an NRCS soils map)

SOIL Code	Name	depth to water table (ft)	# acres	Acceptable	Desirable	Neither
(Example #2A)	Candler fine sand	6+	75		X	

Vegetative Communities/Vegetative Features (provide a vegetative /land use communities map)

LAND USE Code - Name	VEGETATION FEATURES # acres (%of total)	Dominant species	Acceptable	Desirable	Neither
(Example 412)	Longleaf pine sandhill 75ac (100%)	longleaf pine/wiregrass	X		

Does the proposed recipient site property meet any of the following supplemental stocking criteria?

- Adjacent to existing publicly or privately owned conservation lands that, in combination, provide over 200 acres of contiguous upland habitat.
- Property boundaries are 100% within an FWC designated Strategic Habitat Conservation Area.
- At least 75% of the proposed recipient site is vegetated with sandhill, scrub, scrubby flatwoods, and/or dry prairies.

GOPHER TORTOISE MANAGEMENT (refer to *Gopher Tortoise Permitting Guidelines* for requirements):

What temporary enclosure (soft release) methods (i.e., type of materials, size of enclosures, etc.) will be used to adapt gopher tortoises to the recipient site (attach additional pages as needed)? _____

How will the gopher tortoises be marked? _____

PREVIOUSLY APPROVED RECIPIENT SITES:

Has the proposed recipient site been previously used as a recipient site for the relocation of gopher tortoises? If yes, please provide the gopher tortoise relocation permit history. Provide the baseline gopher tortoise population (_____) established when the site was first approved as a recipient site and a list of permit numbers for all issued permits authorized to use this recipient site, with the project name and the number of gopher tortoises: a) permitted for relocation, and; b) actually relocated. _____

Total number of gopher tortoises previously allocated to the site (original baseline + tortoises relocated) = _____

NEW RECIPIENT SITES:

If the proposed recipient site has not been previously used as a recipient site for the relocation of gopher tortoises, provide the results of a baseline gopher tortoise population survey. The survey must be conducted within 90 days of application submittal.

Gopher Tortoise Survey information

Date of last gopher tortoise survey: _____

Total number of acres and percentage of gopher tortoise habitat surveyed _____

Attach a map to delineate survey transects and the location and status of burrows.

Number of Active and Inactive resident burrows (extrapolated to 100% of total gopher tortoise habitat acreage) ACTIVE BURROWS: _____ INACTIVE BURROWS: _____

Estimated resident gopher tortoise population (=number of A + I burrows (item d) x .614) _____

Overall gopher tortoise carrying capacity: _____

**Desirable habitat attributes
(Each potentially qualifies for an added 0.5
gopher tortoise/acre stocking bonus)**

NRCS Soil Types*	Soil Code	Total Acreage	Baseline Population	Site >200 acre	Soils >130 cm DTW	Habitat >50% Herb <40% Canopy	Supplemental Criteria	Restocking Density	Final Stocking Rate
Totals									

*Only soil types providing suitable gopher tortoise habitat; maximum allowed gopher tortoise density when meeting only acceptable criteria is 2.0 gopher tortoises per acre (i.e., do not qualify for stocking bonuses).

MANAGEMENT PLAN

A management plan is required for all Gopher Tortoise Recipient Sites permitted under the Gopher Tortoise Permitting Guidelines. The management plan lays out the short- and long-range management objectives, resource protection activities and long-term monitoring of the project site. **A gopher tortoise management plan must be included with this application and will be incorporated into the conservation easement. The management plan must address:**

- Written description of baseline habitat conditions (vegetative communities present and their acreages, dominant vegetation species, and the habitat quality provided for gopher tortoises);
- Recent aerial photograph with property boundaries, soils and vegetative communities maps;
- Goals of the habitat management, restoration and enhancement actions (same categories as for #1); specifically address tree canopy and groundcover management goals and the control of exotic species;
- Habitat management activities proposed to achieve the habitat goals (e.g., mowing, burning, etc.);
- Schedule and timelines for management actions (including time intervals between management events);
- Remedial actions to be employed if proposed management activities do not meet the habitat quality goals;
- Estimated annual expense budget for implementing the management plan;
- Identification of the financial assurance mechanism(s) to guarantee that adequate funds will be provided by the grantor for on-going gopher tortoise habitat management;
- Description of proposed land uses and how they would be conducted to be compatible with or enhance gopher tortoise habitat, and;
- Gopher tortoise population, population density, and habitat monitoring to be provided on a triennial basis to the FWC.

APPLICATION CHECKLIST:

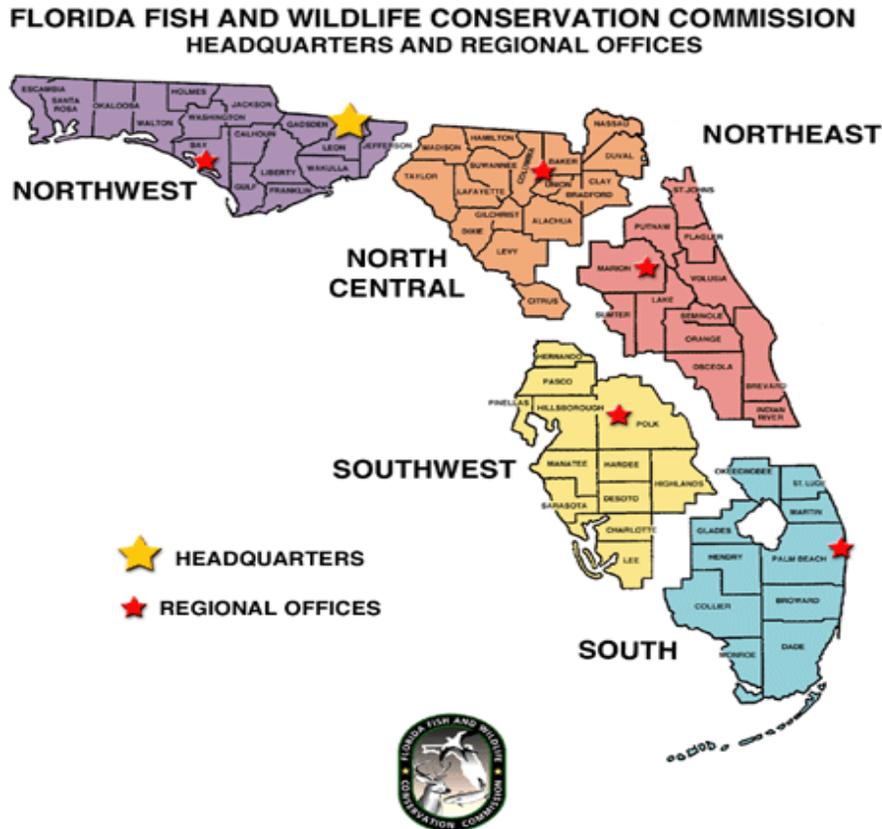
Completed application

- _____ Location map
- _____ Recent aerial photo with property boundaries
- _____ Copy of the applicant's driver's license
- _____ Applicant's signature
- _____ Copy of the FWC R.A.I. (if applicable)
- _____ Vegetation/Florida Land-use *and* cover equivalence map (using DOT FLUCCS or FNAI classification)
- _____ Soil type classification map (using National Resource Conservation Service type)
- _____ Map to delineate survey transects and the location and status of burrows
- _____ Draft Conservation Easement
- _____ Habitat Management Plan

**Mail completed application and all supporting documentation to:
Gopher Tortoise Permit Coordinator
Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission
620 S. Meridian St., Mail Station 2A, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1600
(850) 410-0656, ext. 17327**

Mail a second complete copy of the application and supporting documentation to the regional gopher tortoise permit biologist noted on the gopher tortoise contact list for the county where the recipient site occurs.

Gopher Tortoise Permit Contacts



Mail a complete application and all supporting documentation to:

Gopher Tortoise Permit Coordinator
FL Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission
620 South Meridian Street, Mail Station 2A
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1600
(850)410-0656, ext. 17327/Fax (850)488-5297

Mail a second copy of the complete application and all supporting documentation to the appropriate regional permit biologist

Northwest Region

North Central Region

Ms. Daphne McCann
Species Conservation Planning Section
FL Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission
620 South Meridian Street, Mail Station 2A
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1600
(850)410-0656, ext. 17328/Fax (850)488-5297

Northeast Region

Brevard, Indian River, Orange and Osceola counties

Ms. Chance Cowan
Species Conservation Planning Section
FL Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission
255 154th Avenue
Vero Beach, FL 32968-9041
(352)732-1225/Fax (772)778-7227

Flagler, Lake, Putnam, Seminole, St. Johns, Sumter, Volusia counties

Species Conservation Planning Section
FL Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission
1515 E. Silver Springs Blvd, Suite 106
Ocala, FL 34470
(352)732-1225/Fax (352)732-1366

Southwest Region

All counties (except Polk County)

Ms. Heather Rigney
Species Conservation Planning Section
FL Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission
DEP Terra Ceia Aquatic Preserve Office
Post Office Box 309
Terra Ceia, FL 34250
(941)721-2068, ext. 210/Fax (941)721-2070

Polk County

Ms. Chance Cowan
(see address noted to the left)

South Region

All counties (except Collier County)

Ms. Chance Cowan
(see address noted to the left)

Collier County

Ms. Heather Rigney
(see address noted above)