



**GOPHER TORTOISE DISTURBED SITE TEMPORARY EXCLUSION FOR
MAJOR LINEAR UTILITY CORRIDORS PERMIT APPLICATION
FLORIDA FISH AND WILDLIFE CONSERVATION COMMISSION
620 S. Meridian St., Mail Station 2A, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1600**

(Please Print or Type)

APPLICATION DATE: _____

APPLICANT (LANDOWNER/DEVELOPER) REQUESTING PERMIT

NAME _____ CUSTOMER ID (if known): _____

AFFILIATION _____

PHYSICAL ADDRESS _____

MAILING ADDRESS _____

PHONE NUMBER () _____ FAX () _____

ALTERNATE PHONE NUMBER () _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS _____

DRIVER'S LICENSE NUMBER (IF APPLICANT IS AN INDIVIDUAL) _____

FEIN/ FEID (IF APPLICANT IS A BUSINESS) _____

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 either e-mail or express delivery. Future agency actions will be provided henceforth by either e-mail or express delivery.

*The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) collects social security numbers (SSN) for the issuance of licenses or permits to an individual in accordance with s. 372.561 F.S. and 42 USC 666 for the purposes of administration of the Title IV-D program for child support enforcement, use by the commission, and as otherwise provided by law.

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.

Please check appropriate box for this application submittal

- New application for a Disturbed Site Temporary Exclusion permit (please include the required mitigation).
- Amend an existing Disturbed Site Temporary Exclusion permit (please include any additional mitigation if required).
- Additional information for a previously submitted Disturbed Site Temporary Exclusion permit application sent in response to an FWC Request for Additional Information (R.A.I.) – Please attach a copy of the FWC R.A.I.

Note: Mitigation contribution checks must be made payable to the [Wildlife Foundation of Florida](#). 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.

AUTHORIZED GOPHER TORTOISE AGENT

AUTHORIZED AGENT NAME _____ PERMIT # _____
COMPANY NAME _____
ADDRESS _____
CONTACT INFORMATION () () ()
Office phone number Cell phone number Fax
EMAIL ADDRESS _____

DONOR SITE LOCATION

Project Name _____ County _____
Project Location/Address _____
Driving Directions _____

Section/Township/Range _____
Latitude/Longitude Coordinates _____
County Parcel or Tax ID # _____

Date of most recent site disturbance _____
Is the project a Development of Regional Impact (DRI)? YES NO
Is there additional gopher tortoise habitat not impacted and within the project site that a separate gopher tortoise permit application is being submitted for processing concurrent with this application? YES NO

GOPHER TORTOISE SURVEY WITHIN THE DISTURBED PROJECT SITE

Total number of acres in the disturbed project site _____
Total number of acres of tortoise habitat within the disturbed project site _____
Date of last gopher tortoise survey of 100% of gopher tortoise habitat within the disturbed project site _____
Total number of potentially occupied burrows within the disturbed project site _____
A) Estimated tortoise population (= total number of potentially occupied burrows x 0.5) _____
Requested additional gopher tortoises to be relocated _____
Total number of gopher tortoises to be relocated _____

COMPARISON GOPHER TORTOISE SURVEY/OPTIONS (select one)

- Older acceptable survey of tortoise habitat within the disturbed project site conducted prior to site disturbance
 - Survey of undisturbed tortoise habitat within the project site comparable to the disturbed tortoise habitat prior to disturbance
 - Survey of undisturbed tortoise habitat adjacent to the project site comparable to the disturbed tortoise habitat prior to disturbance
 - No comparison tortoise survey available – default to 2 tortoises (4 potentially occupied burrows) per acre density
- Total number of acres within the comparison survey area _____

Total number of acres of tortoise habitat within the comparison survey area _____

Date of last gopher tortoise survey within the comparison area _____

Total number of acres of tortoise habitat surveyed within the comparison area _____

The acres of tortoise habitat surveyed within the comparison area equal what percentage of the total number of tortoise habitat acres within the disturbed project site? _____

Number of potentially occupied burrows (active and inactive) within surveyed comparison area survey _____

Density of potentially occupied burrows per acre within the comparison area _____

Extrapolated number of potentially occupied burrows within the disturbed project site (using either burrow density for the comparison area, or the no comparison default density) _____

B) Estimated tortoise population within the disturbed project site (using comparison extrapolated number of potentially occupied burrows x 0.5) _____

Enter the larger number of estimated tortoise population (from **A** in the previous section, or **B**, above) _____

(Mitigation must be submitted for this number of tortoises, plus any requested additional tortoises to be relocated.)

Total number of potentially occupied burrows within undisturbed portions of the project site _____

GOPHER TORTOISE CAPTURE METHODS (check all that will be used)

Hand shovel _____ Bucket trap _____ Live trap _____ Backhoe _____ Pulling rod _____

Description of habitat.(optional) List the soil types and land use/vegetative communities present by acreage covered. Use standard, accepted land use descriptions (e.g., DOT FLUCCS system) 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
(Example #2A	-Candler fine sand	6+	75

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

LAND USE Code -	VEGETATION FEATURES Name	# acres (%of total)	Dominant species
(Example 412	-Longleaf pine sandhill	75ac (100%)	longleaf pine/wiregrass

TIME PERIOD THAT GOPHER TORTOISES WILL BE REMOVED AND EXCLUDED FROM DONOR SITE

- up to two months
- between 2 and 4 months
- greater than 4 months but not to exceed 6 months

RECIPIENT SITE INFORMATION

Recipient site is within the utility easement or contiguous land owned by the permittee

outside of the utility easement and not owned by the permittee

Privately owned land

Publicly owned land

Total number of acres within recipient site _____

Total number of acres of gopher tortoise habitat available _____

Description of habitat (optional). 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	No
(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	No	Request Acceptance
(Example 412	-Longleaf pine sandhill	75ac (100%)	longleaf pine/wiregrass	X)

TORTOISE MARKING AND RELEASE (refer to *Gopher Tortoise Permitting Guidelines* for requirements):

What methods/materials will be used to keep gopher tortoises from re-entering the utility construction corridor?

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

How will the gopher tortoises be marked? _____

RECIPIENT SITE SURVEY AND CAPACITY

Provide the results of a baseline gopher tortoise population survey within the recipient site. 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 of gopher tortoise habitat surveyed _____

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

Number of potentially occupied gopher tortoise burrows within surveyed area _____
Percentage of gopher tortoise habitat surveyed _____
Number of potentially occupied resident burrows (extrapolated to 100% of total gopher tortoise habitat acreage):

Estimated resident gopher tortoise population (=number of potentially occupied burrows x 0.5) _____

Overall gopher tortoise carrying capacity _____
Estimated gopher tortoise resident population _____
Total available capacity _____

PROPOSED LAND USES/MANAGEMENT OF GOPHER TORTOISE HABITAT

Please describe the land uses and the habitat management activities that are proposed within the recipient site. Please explain how these uses and activities will be compatible with preserving and maintaining gopher tortoises and suitable gopher tortoise habitat

APPLICATION CHECKLIST:

Completed application

- _____ Location map
- _____ Recent aerial photo with property boundaries
- _____ 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
- _____ Proposed land uses/Habitat Management Plan
- _____ Conservation easement (if applicable)
- _____ Letters of permission from adjacent landowners for temporary displacement of tortoises onto their properties

**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) 921-1031**

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.

**Mail the required mitigation check to:
Wildlife Foundation of Florida
(Attn: Mr. Will Bradford)
Post Office Box 11010
Tallahassee, FL 32302**

For additional information, please visit our website at MyFWC.com/GopherTortoise