



Gopher Tortoise Temporary Exclusion Permit Application

Application Summary

Name: Florid Power & Light Company / Gulf Power ES Application Status: Permit Issued Permit Number: GTU-20-00047
Permit Type: Gopher Tortoise Temporary Exclusion For Major Linear Utility Corridors Permit Date Submitted: 10/08/2020 Predecessor:
Application #: 62650 Date/Time Application Printed: 4/22/2021 Successor:
Filer type : Agent or Consultant

Have you ever been convicted or found guilty, of any criminal or non-criminal violation, regardless of adjudication, or plea entered, of any wildlife violation (including a violation of Chapters 379, 370, 372, F.S.; Section 828.12, F.S.; Rules of the commission: Similar laws or rules in another jurisdiction)?
Yes No

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

Have you ever had a fish or wildlife-related permit suspended or revoked?
Yes No
Explain, if yes:

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.
Yes No

Contact Information

Table with 2 columns: Applicant and Agent. Fields include Personal, Country of Residence, Mailing Address, and Contact Information.

Project Information

Project Name: North Florida Resiliency Connection Project - Temp Exclusion
Description: Construction of a new overhead transmission line
Address1, Address2, County: LEON, City: TALLAHASSEE
Driving Direction: The project spans multiple Counties in north Florida. This application includes burrows located in Twin Rivers State Forest, Plank Road State Forest, and Apalachicola National Forest. A location map is attached.
Estimated Start Date: 10/19/2020
Was a relocation permit previously issued for this or a prior phase of the project? Yes No

Project Counties

Table with 1 column: County. Rows: JEFFERSON, LEON, SUWANNEE, MADISON

Project Locations

Table with 5 columns: Section, Township, Township Directional, Range, Range Directional. Rows: 35, 27, 34, 30

25	1	S	2	E
31	1	S	1	E
36	1	S	1	W
35	1	S	1	W
34	1	S	1	W
30	1	S	1	W
19	1	S	1	W
24	1	S	2	W
13	1	S	2	W
32	1	S	1	E
33	1	S	1	W
26	1	S	2	E
31	1	S	3	E
32	1	S	3	E
28	1	S	11	E
33	1	S	11	E
36	1	S	11	E
5	2	S	1	E
6	2	S	1	E
1	2	S	1	W

Project Latitude and Longitude

Latitude Degrees	Latitude Minutes	Latitude Seconds	Longitude Degree	Longitude Minutes	Longitude Seconds		
30	21	23	N	83	10	56	W
30	21	43	N	83	12	53	W
30	21	43	N	84	3	43	W
30	22	12	N	84	5	14	W
30	20	51	N	84	15	29	W
30	23	43	N	84	22	52	W

Gopher Tortoise Survey

Total number of acres of project site :	94.09
Total number of acres of gopher tortoise habitat :	86.46
Date of gopher tortoise survey :	08/19/2020
Total number of acres of gopher tortoise habitat surveyed :	86.46
Percentage of acres of gopher tortoise habitat surveyed :	100
Number of potentially occupied burrows (active and inactive) from survey :	71.00
Estimated total number of potentially occupied burrows :	71.00
Estimated gopher tortoise population :	36
Requested additional gopher tortoises to be excluded :	1
Total number of gopher tortoises to be excluded :	37

Soils

Vegetative Communities

Time period gopher tortoise will be excluded from donor site

- Up to two months
- Between two and four months
- Greater than four months but not to exceed six months

Unit

Recipient Site Information
Unit
Unit name : Unit 1
This Recipient Site is : <input type="radio"/> within the utility easement or contiguous land owned by the permittee <input checked="" type="radio"/> outside the utility easement and not owned by the permittee <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input checked="" type="radio"/> Publically owned land <input type="radio"/> Privately owned land <input type="radio"/> Both publically and privately owned land
Total acres on recipient site unit : 2.74 Total acres of gopher tortoise habitat available : 2.74
Soil
Vegetative Communities
Gopher tortoise management
What methods / materials will keep the gopher tortoises from re-entering the construction corridor? Tortoises will be excluded from the workspace by silt fencing embedded a minimum 8 inches into the ground. The applicant will employ a full-time bio-monitor to maintain the fences and watch for tortoise activity in the workspace. If temporary enclosure (soft release) methods are used, indicate the types of materials and enclosure sizes that will be utilized.

How will the gopher tortoises be marked?
Drilled marginal scutes

Carrying Capacity

Gopher Tortoise Survey

Date of last gopher tortoise survey	09/06/2020
Total number of acres of gopher tortoise habitat surveyed	2.74
Number of potentially occupied burrows (Includes active and inactive burrows)	15
Percentage of gopher tortoise habitat surveyed	100
Estimated resident gopher tortoise population	7.5
Total acres on recipient site unit	2.74
Total acres of gopher tortoise habitat available	2.74
Number of tortoises temporarily excluded to this unit	2
Total estimated tortoise population during exclusion	9.50
Estimated tortoise density during exclusion	3.5

Comments

Attachments

Recipient Site Information

Unit

Unit name : Unit 2

This Recipient Site is :

- within the utility easement or contiguous land owned by the permittee
- outside the utility easement and not owned by the permittee
 - Publically owned land
 - Privately owned land
 - Both publically and privately owned land

Total acres on recipient site unit : 3.34

Total acres of gopher tortoise habitat available : 3.34

Soil

Vegetative Communities

Gopher tortoise management

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

Tortoises will be excluded from the workspace by silt fencing embedded a minimum 8 inches into the ground. The applicant will employ a full-time bio-monitor to maintain the fences and watch for tortoise activity in the workspace.

If temporary enclosure (soft release) methods are used, indicate the types of materials and enclosure sizes that will be utilized.

How will the gopher tortoises be marked?
Drilled marginal scutes

Carrying Capacity

Gopher Tortoise Survey

Date of last gopher tortoise survey	09/06/2020
Total number of acres of gopher tortoise habitat surveyed	3.34
Number of potentially occupied burrows (Includes active and inactive burrows)	6
Percentage of gopher tortoise habitat surveyed	100
Estimated resident gopher tortoise population	3
Total acres on recipient site unit	3.34
Total acres of gopher tortoise habitat available	3.34
Number of tortoises temporarily excluded to this unit	4
Total estimated tortoise population during exclusion	7.00
Estimated tortoise density during exclusion	2.1

Comments

Attachments

Recipient Site Information

Unit

Unit name : Unit 3

This Recipient Site is :

- within the utility easement or contiguous land owned by the permittee
- outside the utility easement and not owned by the permittee
 - Publically owned land
 - Privately owned land
 - Both publically and privately owned land

Total acres on recipient site unit : 3.75

Total acres of gopher tortoise habitat available : 3.75

Soil

Vegetative Communities

Gopher tortoise management

What methods / materials will keep the gopher tortoises from re-entering the construction corridor?
Tortoises will be excluded from the workspace by silt fencing embedded a minimum 8 inches into the ground. The applicant will employ a full-time bio-monitor to maintain the fences and watch for tortoise activity in the workspace.

If temporary enclosure (soft release) methods are used, indicate the types of materials and enclosure sizes that will be utilized.

How will the gopher tortoises be marked?
Drilled marginal scutes

Carrying Capacity

Gopher Tortoise Survey

Date of last gopher tortoise survey	09/06/2020
Total number of acres of gopher tortoise habitat surveyed	3.75
Number of potentially occupied burrows (Includes active and inactive burrows)	4
Percentage of gopher tortoise habitat surveyed	100
Estimated resident gopher tortoise population	2
Total acres on recipient site unit	3.75
Total acres of gopher tortoise habitat available	3.75
Number of tortoises temporarily excluded to this unit	4
Total estimated tortoise population during exclusion	6.00
Estimated tortoise density during exclusion	1.6

Comments

Attachments

Recipient Site Information

Unit

Unit name : Unit 4

This Recipient Site is :

- within the utility easement or contiguous land owned by the permittee
- outside the utility easement and not owned by the permittee
 - Publically owned land
 - Privately owned land
 - Both publically and privately owned land

Total acres on recipient site unit : 1.40
Total acres of gopher tortoise habitat available : 1.40

Soil

Vegetative Communities

Gopher tortoise management

What methods / materials will keep the gopher tortoises from re-entering the construction corridor?
Tortoises will be excluded from the workspace by silt fencing embedded a minimum 8 inches into the ground. The applicant will employ a full-time bio-monitor to maintain the fences and watch for tortoise activity in the workspace.

If temporary enclosure (soft release) methods are used, indicate the types of materials and enclosure sizes that will be utilized.

How will the gopher tortoises be marked?
Drilled marginal scutes

Carrying Capacity

Gopher Tortoise Survey

Date of last gopher tortoise survey	09/06/2020
Total number of acres of gopher tortoise habitat surveyed	1.40
Number of potentially occupied burrows (Includes active and inactive burrows)	0
Percentage of gopher tortoise habitat surveyed	100
Estimated resident gopher tortoise population	0
Total acres on recipient site unit	1.40
Total acres of gopher tortoise habitat available	1.40
Number of tortoises temporarily excluded to this unit	2
Total estimated tortoise population during exclusion	2.00
Estimated tortoise density during exclusion	1.4

Comments

Attachments

Recipient Site Information

Unit

Unit name : Unit 5

This Recipient Site is :

- within the utility easement or contiguous land owned by the permittee
- outside the utility easement and not owned by the permittee
 - Publically owned land
 - Privately owned land
 - Both publically and privately owned land

Total acres on recipient site unit : 20.79
Total acres of gopher tortoise habitat available : 20.79

Soil

Vegetative Communities

Gopher tortoise management

What methods / materials will keep the gopher tortoises from re-entering the construction corridor?
Tortoises will be excluded from the workspace by silt fencing embedded a minimum 8 inches into the ground. The applicant will employ a full-time bio-monitor to maintain the fences and watch for tortoise activity in the workspace.

If temporary enclosure (soft release) methods are used, indicate the types of materials and enclosure sizes that will be utilized.

How will the gopher tortoises be marked?
Drilled marginal scutes

Carrying Capacity

Gopher Tortoise Survey

Date of last gopher tortoise survey	09/04/2020
Total number of acres of gopher tortoise habitat surveyed	20.79
Number of potentially occupied burrows (Includes active and inactive burrows)	8
Percentage of gopher tortoise habitat surveyed	100
Estimated resident gopher tortoise population	4
Total acres on recipient site unit	20.79
Total acres of gopher tortoise habitat available	20.79
Number of tortoises temporarily excluded to this unit	15
Total estimated tortoise population during exclusion	19.00
Estimated tortoise density during exclusion	0.9

Comments

Attachments

Recipient Site Information

Unit

Unit name : Unit 6

This Recipient Site is :

- within the utility easement or contiguous land owned by the permittee
- outside the utility easement and not owned by the permittee
 - Publically owned land
 - Privately owned land
 - Both publically and privately owned land

Total acres on recipient site unit : 11.08
Total acres of gopher tortoise habitat available : 11.08

Soil

Vegetative Communities

Gopher tortoise management

What methods / materials will keep the gopher tortoises from re-entering the construction corridor?
Tortoises will be excluded from the workspace by silt fencing embedded a minimum 8 inches into the ground. The applicant will employ a full-time bio-monitor to maintain the fences and watch for tortoise activity in the workspace.

If temporary enclosure (soft release) methods are used, indicate the types of materials and enclosure sizes that will be utilized.

How will the gopher tortoises be marked?
Drilled marginal scutes

Carrying Capacity

Gopher Tortoise Survey

Date of last gopher tortoise survey	09/04/2020
Total number of acres of gopher tortoise habitat surveyed	11.08
Number of potentially occupied burrows (Includes active and inactive burrows)	3
Percentage of gopher tortoise habitat surveyed	100
Estimated resident gopher tortoise population	1.5
Total acres on recipient site unit	11.08
Total acres of gopher tortoise habitat available	11.08

Number of tortoises temporarily excluded to this unit	2
Total estimated tortoise population during exclusion	3.50
Estimated tortoise density during exclusion	0.3

Comments

Attachments

Recipient Site Information

Unit

Unit name : Unit 7

This Recipient Site is :

- within the utility easement or contiguous land owned by the permittee
- outside the utility easement and not owned by the permittee
 - Publically owned land
 - Privately owned land
 - Both publically and privately owned land

Total acres on recipient site unit : 5.17

Total acres of gopher tortoise habitat available : 5.17

Soil

Vegetative Communities

Gopher tortoise management

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

Tortoises will be excluded from the workspace by silt fencing embedded a minimum 8 inches into the ground. The applicant will employ a full-time bio-monitor to maintain the fences and watch for tortoise activity in the workspace.

If temporary enclosure (soft release) methods are used, indicate the types of materials and enclosure sizes that will be utilized.

How will the gopher tortoises be marked?

Drilled marginal scutes

Carrying Capacity

Gopher Tortoise Survey

Date of last gopher tortoise survey	09/04/2020
Total number of acres of gopher tortoise habitat surveyed	5.17
Number of potentially occupied burrows (Includes active and inactive burrows)	0
Percentage of gopher tortoise habitat surveyed	100
Estimated resident gopher tortoise population	0
Total acres on recipient site unit	5.17
Total acres of gopher tortoise habitat available	5.17
Number of tortoises temporarily excluded to this unit	1
Total estimated tortoise population during exclusion	1.00
Estimated tortoise density during exclusion	0.2

Comments

Attachments

Recipient Site Information

Unit

Unit name : Unit 8

This Recipient Site is :

- within the utility easement or contiguous land owned by the permittee
- outside the utility easement and not owned by the permittee
 - Publically owned land
 - Privately owned land
 - Both publically and privately owned land

Total acres on recipient site unit : 5.69

Total acres of gopher tortoise habitat available : 5.69

Soil

Vegetative Communities

Gopher tortoise management

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

Tortoises will be excluded from the workspace by silt fencing embedded a minimum 8 inches into the ground. The applicant will employ a full-time bio-monitor to maintain the fences and watch for tortoise activity in the workspace.

If temporary enclosure (soft release) methods are used, indicate the types of materials and enclosure sizes that will be utilized.

How will the gopher tortoises be marked?

Drilled marginal scutes

Carrying Capacity

Gopher Tortoise Survey

Date of last gopher tortoise survey	09/04/2020
Total number of acres of gopher tortoise habitat surveyed	5.69
Number of potentially occupied burrows (Includes active and inactive burrows)	0
Percentage of gopher tortoise habitat surveyed	100
Estimated resident gopher tortoise population	0
Total acres on recipient site unit	5.69
Total acres of gopher tortoise habitat available	5.69
Number of tortoises temporarily excluded to this unit	5
Total estimated tortoise population during exclusion	5.00
Estimated tortoise density during exclusion	0.9

Comments

Attachments

Recipient Site Information

Unit

Unit name : Unit 9

This Recipient Site is :

- within the utility easement or contiguous land owned by the permittee
- outside the utility easement and not owned by the permittee
- Publically owned land
 - Privately owned land
 - Both publically and privately owned land

Total acres on recipient site unit : 1.37

Total acres of gopher tortoise habitat available : 1.37

Soil

Vegetative Communities

Gopher tortoise management

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

Tortoises will be excluded from the workspace by silt fencing embedded a minimum 8 inches into the ground. The applicant will employ a full-time bio-monitor to maintain the fences and watch for tortoise activity in the workspace.

If temporary enclosure (soft release) methods are used, indicate the types of materials and enclosure sizes that will be utilized.

How will the gopher tortoises be marked?

Drilled marginal scutes

Carrying Capacity

Gopher Tortoise Survey

Date of last gopher tortoise survey	09/04/2020
Total number of acres of gopher tortoise habitat surveyed	1.37
Number of potentially occupied burrows (Includes active and inactive burrows)	0
Percentage of gopher tortoise habitat surveyed	100
Estimated resident gopher tortoise population	0
Total acres on recipient site unit	1.37
Total acres of gopher tortoise habitat available	1.37
Number of tortoises temporarily excluded to this unit	2
Total estimated tortoise population during exclusion	2.00
Estimated tortoise density during exclusion	1.5

Comments

Attachments

Total Gopher Tortoises to be Excluded : 37
Total Reserved Capacity : 37

Method of capture

- Capture gopher tortoises using bucket traps
- Capture gopher tortoises using live traps
- Capture gopher tortoises using hand shovel excavation of gopher tortoise burrows
- Transport, marking and release of gopher tortoises
- Supervise backhoe excavation of gopher tortoise burrows to capture gopher tortoises
- Use a pulling rod to remove and capture gopher tortoises from their burrows

Comments

Comments	Date
State Lands that intersect the workspace include Twin Rivers State Forest and Plank Road State Forest. Federal lands include the Apalachicola National Forest.	9/9/2020 12:56:56 PM

This application includes gopher tortoise burrows on State and federal lands only. The remainder of the burrows located within the project limits will be permitted separately for offsite relocation under a conservation permit.

9/1/2020 8:27:06 AM

Attachments

Document Name	Document Type	Document Description	Date
NFRC_EX_Location.pdf	General Location Map		9/9/2020 12:51:55 PM
NFRC_GT_EX20200731.pdf	Gopher Tortoise Survey and Burrow Location Map		9/9/2020 12:55:08 PM
Burrow list and coordinates.xlsx	Other	Burrow list and coordinates	9/9/2020 1:01:17 PM
Twin Rivers Letter of Permission.pdf	Other	Authorization from Twin Rivers State Forest	9/22/2020 12:54:50 PM
GT_Letter_to_FWC_for_ECT_NFRC_signed_09242020.pdf	Other	Authorization from Plank Road State Forest	9/27/2020 1:02:23 PM
ANF tortoise permit authorization (eSign).pdf	Other	Permission letter from Apalachicola National Forest	10/8/2020 9:15:57 AM
NFRC_Soils_EX20200731.pdf	Soils Map		9/9/2020 9:54:56 AM
NFRC_LULC_EX20200731.pdf	Vegetative Communities/Land Use Map		9/9/2020 9:56:06 AM