



Gopher Tortoise Habitat Management Assistance Funding Requirements

The Gopher Tortoise Management Plan places great importance on the ability of protected lands to support gopher tortoise populations at levels that will ensure the long-term security of the species. Currently, protected habitat in public ownership represents 40% of the estimated gopher tortoise habitat remaining in the state. Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission manages only 10% of the publicly owned gopher tortoise habitat statewide and has therefore identified the need to partner with other public agencies. To help facilitate habitat management, FWC is requesting projects from counties and municipalities which will optimize gopher tortoise carrying capacity on protected lands through appropriate habitat management. Requests must be for active management of potential gopher tortoise habitat. Management activities consist of prescribed burning, and/or a combination of multiple activities to assist with prescribed burn such as fire line installation, mechanical treatment, fuel reduction, and exotic removal. Requests for assistance must manage at least 25 acres of gopher tortoise habitat, cannot include permitted gopher tortoise recipient sites or sites with a submitted recipient site application, and cannot exceed \$15,000 per project (but larger projects with additional funding sources may apply). Requests must include an aerial map, soils map, FLUCCS map, and a burrow survey. For sites less than 50 acres, surveys should consist of an assessment of at least 15% of the potential habitat. For sites larger than 50 acres, surveys should consist of an assessment of at least 5% of the potential habitat. The burrow survey should be conducted according to the survey protocol included in Appendix 4 of the Gopher Tortoise Permitting Guidelines (June 2011). Burrow surveys do not have to be completed by an Authorized Gopher Tortoise Agent but must have been conducted within the last two years. **Project proposals must be received by FWC no later than Wednesday, 16 August 2011.** Recipients of funding assistance will be notified by Wednesday, 7 September 2011. Projects must begin after Monday, 10 October 2011 and must be completed with a final invoice and project completion report submitted to FWC by Friday, 25 May 2012. Assistance will be prioritized based on cost per acre managed and plans for ongoing habitat management on the property. Submission of a request does not guarantee assistance from FWC. Assistance will be provided as cost reimbursement which must be invoiced as total cost. Projects shall be submitted to the attention of Allie Perryman by either e-mail, Alexandra.Perryman@MyFWC.com or ground mail, 620 S. Meridian, MS-2A, Tallahassee, FL 32399. Please use additional pages as needed. For additional information, contact Allie Perryman at (850) 921-1145.

Contact Information (all entities must be registered in MyFloridaMarketPlace and contact info below must match My Florida Market Place registration information):

Name/Department/Program: Environmental Lands/Environmental Lands Acquisition and Management Program

Affiliation: Pasco County BOCC

FEID Number: 59-6000793 Phone Number: 727-847-8140 ext 7377

E-mail Address: cesposito@pascocountyfl.net Street Address: 8731 Citizen Drive, Suite 320

City: New Port Richey State: FL Postal Code: 34654

Project Site Information:

Owner/Manager: Pasco County BOCC/Environmental Lands City: Spring Hill County: Pasco

Parcel ID (please list all): 16-24-18-0000-00600-0010, 16-24-18-0000-00600-0000, 21-24-18-0000-00100-0011, 21-24-18-0000-0010-0000

Latitude: 28.3904N Longitude: 82.504799W

Section: 16/21 Township: 24 Range: 18

Is the project site under conservation easement designated as public conservation lands? If yes, please describe.
No, but it is designated as conservation land under Pasco County's Environmental Lands Program.

Date of most recent gopher tortoise burrow survey (must be within the last two years): 07/26/11

Are gopher tortoise burrows located within the proposed project area?

a. Yes (_____ Estimated Number of Burrows) b. No

Have gopher tortoises been relocated to the property in the past (i.e., those associated with incidental take permits or standard relocation permits)? No

For each proposed management activity, list the number of acres that will be managed and total funds requested (e.g., 50-acre prescribed burn completed by third party contractor for \$3,000)? Phase I will consist of site prep for 40 acres of pasture to be converted to scrubby flatwoods and sandhill. Site prep will include herbiciding and light till to get ready for direct seeding. Estimated cost is between \$16,000-\$24,000 for site prep. Seed collection and direct seeding estimated to cost between \$40,000-\$48,000.

Estimated project start date: Summer FY2012 Estimated project completion date: Fall FY2012

Acres of potential/occupied gopher tortoise habitat benefiting from the proposed activity(s): 40 acres

Total cost per acre of gopher tortoise habitat managed: \$1,600/acre including seed collection and direct seeding

What is the direct benefit to gopher tortoises from the proposed management activities? As reflected in old aerials and soil surveys, this site was historically suitable habitat for tortoises. In time, we would hope to continue enhancing the habitat onsite and expand the existing population through either restocking or natural recruitment of the remnant population residing in a dry lake bank adjacent to the property.

Will other wildlife species benefit from the project? If so please explain. Yes, grassland obligate species would most definitely benefit from this restoration effort.

Is there a management plan for this property? Yes

Briefly describe any plans for continued future management. The main premise of the plan is to continue to restore the ranch in manageable units. For those pastures not actively being restored a cattle lease or hay production lease shall remain in effect to assist in maintaining the current site conditions.

How did you learn of this habitat management assistance opportunity? FWC contact

Additional items to include: Aerial Map* FLUCCS Map* Soils Map* Burrow Survey*

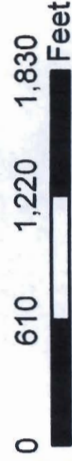
* Maps must include the overall property boundary and the location of all proposed habitat management activities

Jumping Gully Preserve

Aerial Map

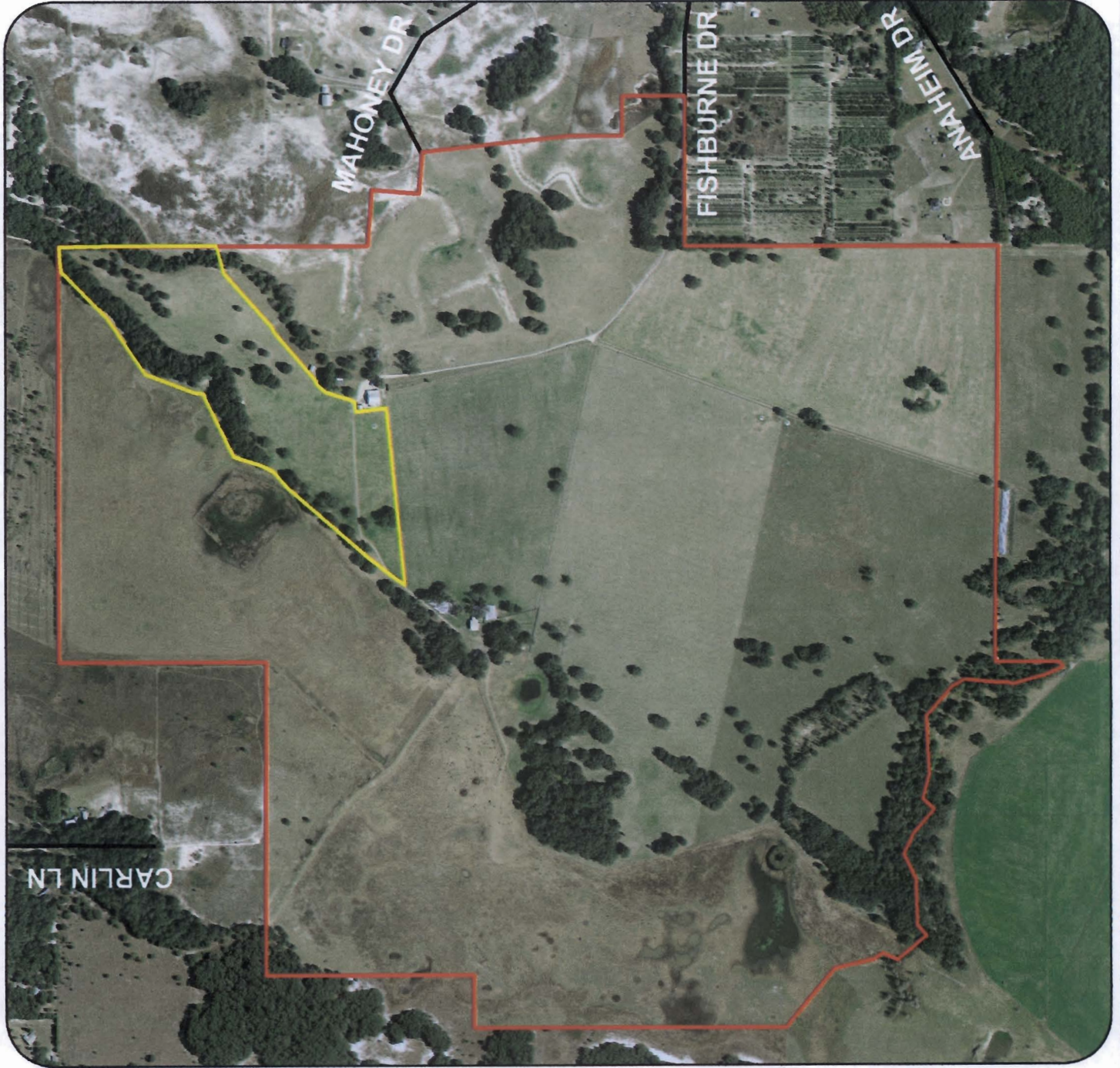
-  Property Boundary
-  Gopher Tortoise Potential Habitat Area
-  Major Roads

39.37 acres of potential Gopher Tortoise habitat















August 2011

This map is intended for informational purposes only. The data contained herein is not reflected under the supervision of, or approved by a licensed surveyor. It is not intended for legal purposes.



Jumping Gully Preserve

Land Use Land Cover

-  Property Boundary
-  Gopher Tortoise Potential Habitat Area
-  Nurseries & Vineyards
-  Other Open Lands
-  Cropland & Pastureland
-  Lakes
-  Wet Prairies
-  Freshwater Marshes
-  Upland Coniferous Forest
-  Hardwood Conifer Mixed
-  Emergent Aquatic Vegetation
-  Residential Low Density



Site Location



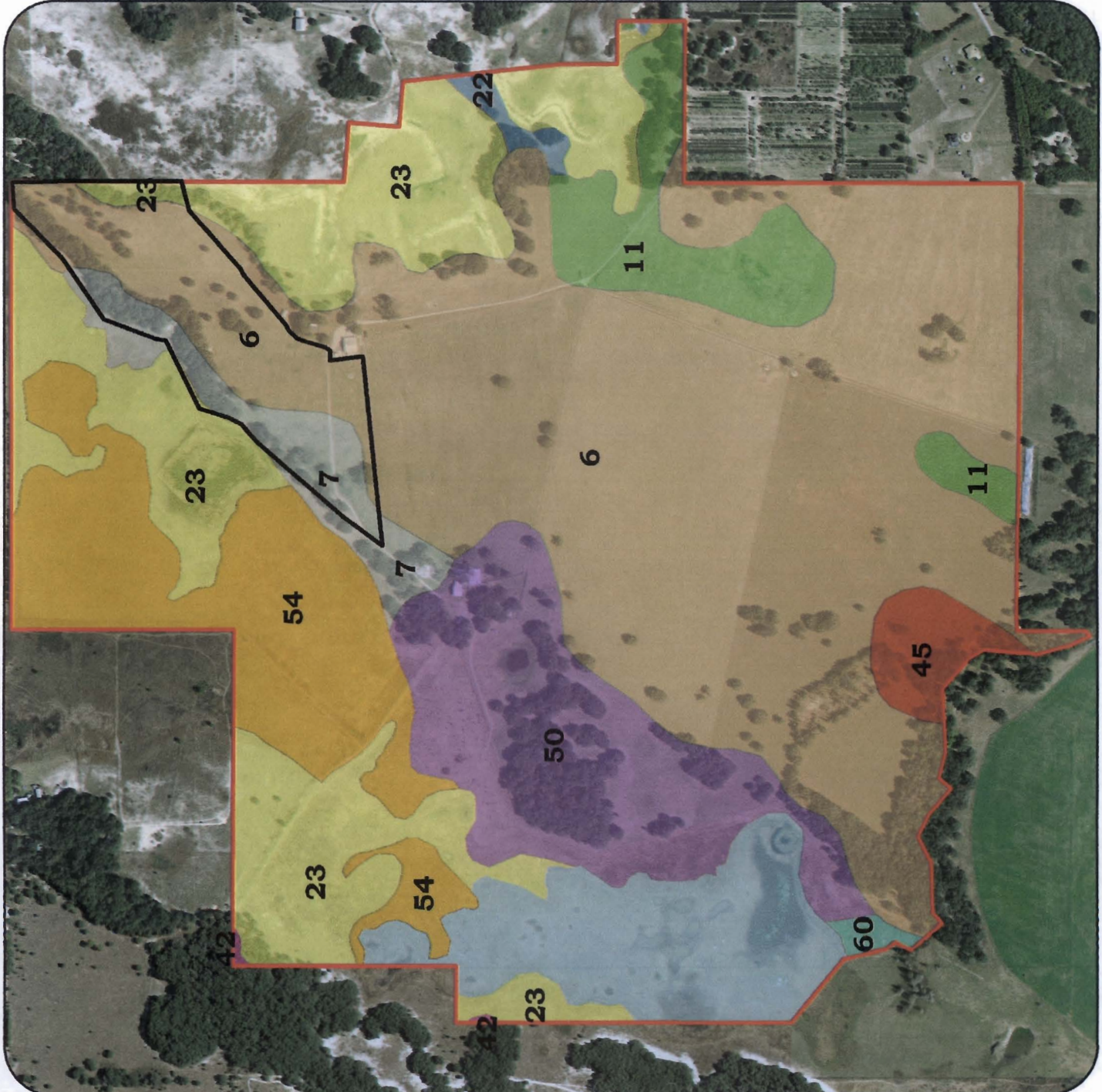
This map is intended for informational purposes only. The data contained herein is not reflected under the supervision of, or approved by a licensed surveyor. It is not intended for legal purposes.



August 2011

Jumping Gully Preserve Soils Map

- Property Boundary
- Gopher Tortoise Potential Habitat Area
- 11 Adamsville Fine Sand
- 22 Basinger Find Sand
- 50 Blichton Fine Sand
- 45 Kendrick Fine Sand
- 42 Pomello Fine Sand
- 7 Sparr Fine Sand
- 6 Tavares Sand
- 23 Basinger Find Sand; Depression
- 54 Flemington Variant Fine Sand
- 60 Palmetto-Zephyr Seller Complex
- Water



Site Location



This map is intended for informational purposes only. The data contained herein is not reflected under the supervision of, or approved by a licensed surveyor. It is not intended for legal purposes.

August 2011

Jumping Gully Preserve

Gopher Tortoise Survey

- Property Boundary
- Gopher Tortoise Potential Habitat Area
- Major Roads

39.37 acres of potential Gopher Tortoise habitat



Site Location

