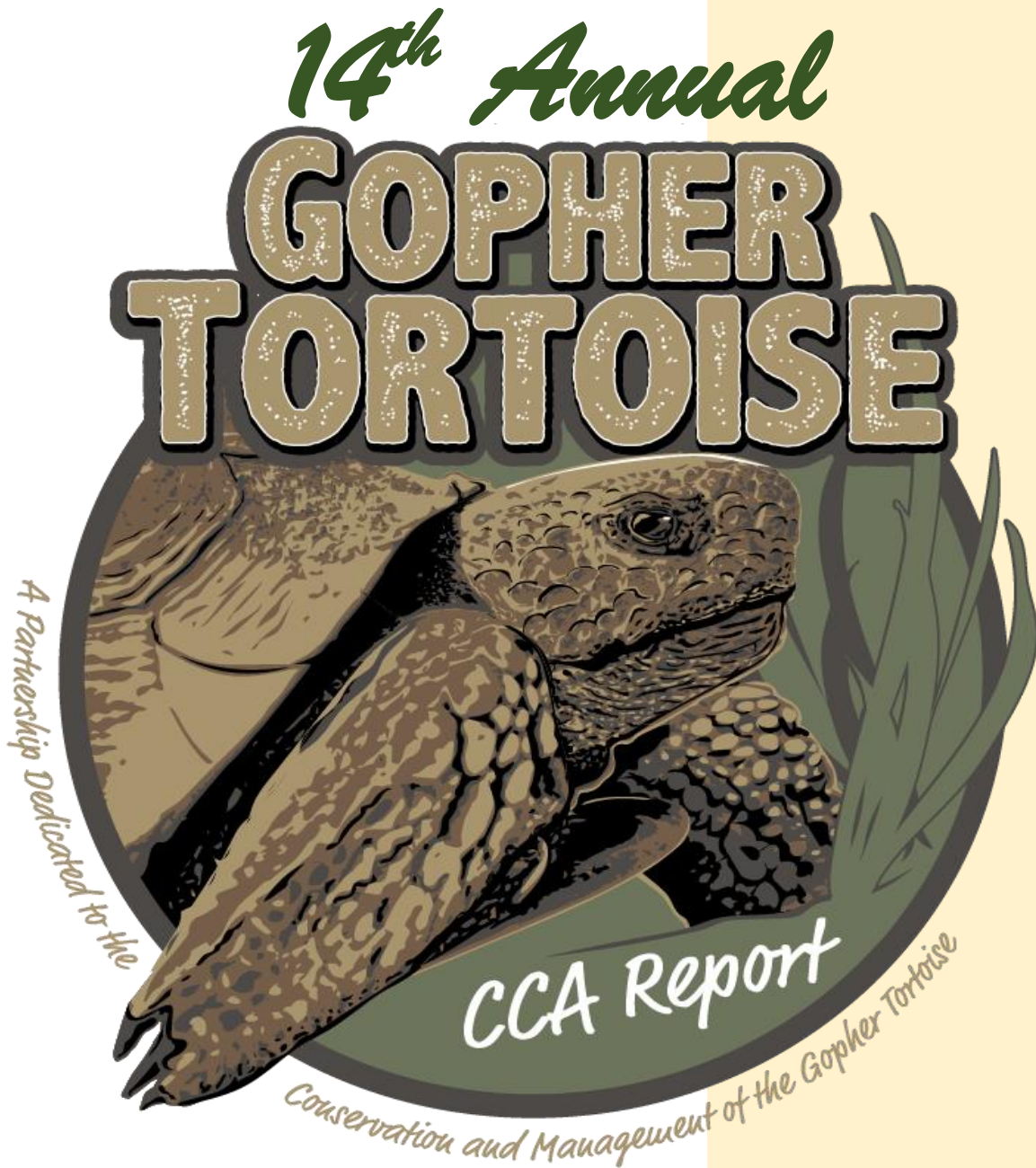


**Candidate Conservation Agreement
For the Gopher Tortoise
October 1, 2021- September 30, 2022**



Submitted to:

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

March 2023

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LIST OF ACRONYMS

ADCNR	Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources
AFB	Air Force Base
AFC	Alabama Forestry Commission
AFF	American Forest Foundation
AFR	Air Force Range
AGTHP	Aiken Gopher Tortoise Heritage Preserve
APAFR	Avon Park Air Force Range
BMP	Best Management Practices
CCA	Candidate Conservation Agreement
CCAA	Candidate Conservation Agreement with Assurances
CCAFS	Cape Canaveral Air Force Station
DWFF	Division of Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries
ESA	Endangered Species Act
FFS	Florida Forest Service
FNAI	Florida Natural Areas Inventory
FWC	Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission
FWRI	Fish and Wildlife Research Institute
FY	Fiscal year
GDNR	Georgia Department of Natural Resources
GDOT	Georgia Department of Transportation
GIS	Geographic Information System
GSF	Geneva State Forest
GT	Gopher Tortoise
GTHAP	Gopher Tortoise Habitat Assistance Program
GTMP	Gopher Tortoise Management Plan
GTT	Gopher Tortoise Team
HMU	Habitat Management Unit
INRMP	Integrated Natural Resources Management Plan
ITP	Incidental Take Permit
JDMTA	Jonathan Dickinson Missile Tracking Annex
LAP	Landowner Assistance Program
LEEF	League of Environmental Educators in Florida
LIP	Landowner Incentive Program
LLP	Longleaf Pine
LRSF	Little River State Forest
LTDS	Line Transect Distance Sampling
MGGTAI	Management Guidelines for Gopher Tortoises on Army Installations
MOA	Memorandum of Agreement
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
MTA	Malabar Transmitter Annex
MVP	Minimum Viable Population
NAS	Naval Air Station
NEPA	National Environmental Policy Act
NF	National Forest
NPS	National Park Service

NS	Naval Station
NSA	Naval Support Activity
NSB	Naval Submarine Base
NWR	National Wildlife Refuge
PSA	Public Service Announcement
OBVM	Objective-based Vegetation Management
OLF	Outlying Landing Field
PAFB	Patrick Air Force Base
PFW	Partners for Fish and Wildlife
POC	Point of Contact
REPI	Readiness and Environmental Protection Integration
ROW	Right of Way
SCDNR	South Carolina Department of Natural Resources
SLD	State Lands Division
SMR	State Management Recommendations
SP	State Park
SREL	Savannah River Ecology Laboratory
STEM	Science, Technology, Engineering and Math
SW	Space Wing
SWG	State Wildlife Grant
TES	Threatened and Endangered Species
TPA	Trees Per Acre
TSRHP	Tillman Sand Ridge Heritage Preserve
TYCC	Tribal Youth Conservation Corps
URTD	Upper Respiratory Tract Disease
U.S.	United States
USAF	United States Air Force
USDA	United States Department of Agriculture
USFS	United States Forest Service
USFWS	United States Fish and Wildlife Service
WEA	Wildlife and Environmental Area
WMA	Wildlife Management Area
WRD	Wildlife Resources Division

INTRODUCTION

This is the 14th annual report for the Gopher Tortoise Candidate Conservation Agreement (GTCCA) that includes data and information from the signatory agencies and organizations to the agreement. The gopher tortoise (*Gopherus polyphemus*) is endemic to the southeastern United States and has been in population decline in recent years. The gopher tortoise has been a “threatened” species in its western range since 1987 and was petitioned for protection under the Endangered Species Act (ESA) in the remainder of its range in 2006. The petition resulted in a 12-month finding published by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) in July 2011 that supported “candidate” species status. As a response to the listing petition, stakeholders representing the fish and wildlife agencies of Florida, Georgia, Alabama, and South Carolina, branches of the Department of Defense, and related non-profit organizations drafted and executed a Candidate Conservation Agreement (CCA).

The goal of the CCA is to organize a cooperative range-wide approach to gopher tortoise management and conservation in its eastern range. The CCA allows the signing parties to leverage knowledge and funding within a common conservation approach and framework. The CCA is voluntary and flexible in nature so that various conservation and management actions can be agreed to and implemented at different levels by the signing parties.

Established under the CCA, the Gopher Tortoise Team (GTT) is charged with implementation of the Agreement. The Chair position has rotated among the states throughout the years, giving everyone an opportunity to learn about the implementation and administration of the agreement. The Chair’s responsibilities include organizing the annual meeting of the parties (or assisting another representative with organizing) and compiling the annual report required under the CCA. The Alabama Forestry Commission agreed to compile the 2022 report and the South Carolina Department of Natural Resources hosted a meeting of signatories on August 25-26, 2022 in Garnett, S.C. The signatories continue to work together to organize meetings as needed to assess conservation efforts.

A standardized report format helps support an organized conservation approach and encourages uniform actions and reporting, integration of monitoring and research efforts with management, and support partnership formation. In 2014, the GTT did a minor clean-up to improve consistency in data reported by the signatories. The format is organized to specifically address the 5-factor analysis used by the USFWS when evaluating a species for federal listing under the Endangered Species Act. The addition of tables was included to help streamline the data reported and ensure consistency among parties. It is also intended to help compile and build upon data each year, preventing the USFWS from losing or having to shuffle through older reports to assess the species status. The goal of the reorganized reporting structure is to ensure the information compiled by the CCA parties will be useful to the USFWS when re-evaluating the species as a candidate each year.

The parties contributing to this report collectively own and/or manage more than 1.34 million acres of gopher tortoise habitat in the eastern portion of the species’ range. Of those acres, more than 540,054 acres of gopher tortoise habitat was managed using a variety of tools, most commonly with prescribed fire with a large percentage occurring during the growing season. Some habitat was lost due to conversion to non-compatible uses such as development activities and coastal erosion. Gopher tortoises are commonly relocated when at risk or as a result of impending habitat alteration. In Florida, where the FWC manages a comprehensive regulatory program for tortoises, 11,969 (2,299 to Eglin AFB) tortoises were relocated to protected lands and released into temporary enclosures for a minimum of 6

months. Many of the other parties also relocated tortoises (total of 272) onto protected lands, however, soft release using temporary enclosures is not yet a standardized practice among all parties.

Improvements to avoid/minimize the use of hard release is an important conservation practice to implement that, based on scientific studies, results in a greater conservation benefit for the tortoises. Implementation of the standard population survey methodology, Line Transect Distance Sampling (LTDS), is occurring across the species' range. Significant population data is included in this report and shows many viable populations in both Georgia and Florida occurring mainly on public conservation lands. Some data provided still represents presence/absence as a means to avoid impacts from projects rather than for monitoring populations, however, most if not all parties have implemented LTDS on some level or have plans to do so in the near future.

Comprehensive reports were submitted by each CCA party in January-February 2023 with the last report received on February 15 for the period covering *October 1, 2021 – September 30, 2022*. A compiled report was not received from the United States Army but Ft. Rucker in Alabama submitted an installation report. Reports were not received from the Poarch Band of Creek Indians and the National Park Service. A draft of this report was emailed for review to the points of contacts for each party, and all corrections have been incorporated into this final draft.

It is important to note that not every section of the report is applicable to every party. Parties with no information appropriate to a particular section have indicated this with "not provided," "not applicable," "none," or "none provided this reporting period." Reports were submitted by each party's point of contact and compiled by the Chair with minimal edits.

Thank you to all the parties for compiling this information on behalf of their agency and on behalf of gopher tortoise conservation. This annual report continues to be vital for range-wide conservation of this keystone species.

Introduction Addendum

The USFWS published a "Notification of Findings" in the Federal Register on October 12, 2022. The document formally established a western (west of the Mobile and Tombigbee Rivers) and eastern (east of the Mobile and Tombigbee Rivers) distinct population segments of the gopher tortoise. Listing of the gopher tortoise rangewide was not found to be warranted but the western distinct population segment continued to receive protection as a threatened species. The eastern distinct population segment was found to not warrant listing and was removed from the list of "candidate" species.

The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission will host a "virtual" meeting of signatory agencies during fiscal year 2023 to discuss the future of the CCA and plot a path forward.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

UNITED STATES ARMY

A compiled report from all installations was not received. Ft. Rucker in SE Alabama submitted an installation report which is stated herein. There are 49,066 acres of gopher tortoise habitat within Ft. Rucker.

UNITED STATES NAVY

NS Mayport, FL, POC: Heather Hahn, heather.m.hahn5.civ@us.navy.mil; (904)-270-3188

Surveying for Gopher Tortoises was accomplished on 127 acres resulting in discovery of 75 burrows (53 adult, 22 juvenile). Data was collected prior to two major storm events. Hurricane Ian in September and Hurricane Nicole in November of 2022. Both storms damaged large portions of the dune. 2023 surveys are expected to show high mortality from these storm events. At least a third of the population was mapped in areas heavily impacted by storm surge. In previous years, invasive asparagus fern was mechanically removed from approximately 15 acres of the dune line to foster the growth of native species and improve gopher tortoise habitat. Education is routinely provided during base indoctrination briefings to new personnel that included endangered species topics. Environmental works with the base and regional Public Affairs Office to post educational information on social media including gopher tortoise awareness flyers.

NAS Whiting Field, FL, POC: Christina Malitz, christina.malitz@navy.mil; (850) 623-7602

NAS Whiting Field has a wide-ranging and significant gopher tortoise population with a total of 4,264 acres of GT habitat maintained. Gopher tortoises occur at 8 of 13 installation properties in five counties in Florida and Alabama. To supplement Navy staff, interns from the Student Conservation Association were employed to aid with the survey. Work continues on an 18 acre area to create an improved wildlife relocation area for gopher tortoises. The installation conducted a prescribed burn on 377 acres to promote gopher tortoise habitat. The Natural Resource Manager will implement the annual work plan to chemically treat invasive species on the NAS Whiting Field complex to improve gopher tortoise habitat.

NSB Kings Bay, GA, POC: Kurt Moseley, kurt.r.moseley.civ@us.navy.mil; (912) 573-4678

NSB Kings Bay continued to manage approximately 5000 acres of potential gopher tortoise habitat. A 12 month game camera survey of burrow use by vertebrates was completed. The survey documented 74 total species, including 40 avian species, 17 mammalian species, and 17 reptilian species. Navy agreed to a GA DNR request to relocate 50 gopher tortoises to Ceylon WMA.

NAS Pensacola, FL, POC: Michael Hardy, michael.j.hardy24.civ@us.navy.mil; (850) 452-2070

NAS Pensacola has gopher tortoise populations at the main installation, Bronson Field, and Saufley Field. A comprehensive Gopher Tortoise survey report by the University of Georgia's Savannah River lab was submitted in the summer of 2018. Student Conservation Association (SCA) interns continue to survey priority areas on an annual basis. This year, many new juvenile burrows were discovered and documented. Invasive Species were treated on 125 acres of gopher tortoise habitat, and six coyotes were removed. Mechanical mulching was accomplished on 110 acres to promote and establish new gopher tortoise habitat. A contract for prescribed burning of 100 acres of Gopher tortoise habitat was awarded in FY22 and will occur in FY 23. Two tortoises were translocated in FY 22. In addition, NAS

Pensacola worked with the Public Affairs office to produce an educational article on the importance of the Gopher tortoise and the protection and enhancement of its habitat.

NAS Jacksonville, FL, POC: Sarah Hill, Sarah.E.Hill71.civ@us.navy.mil; (904) 859-8044

Gopher tortoises are present on all four properties of the NAS Jacksonville Complex, which includes NAS Jacksonville main station, Outlying Landing Field Whitehouse, Rodman Range, and Yellow Water. In addition to the NAS Jacksonville Complex, gopher tortoise populations are found at the Navy's Pinecastle Range which sits on land that is leased from the U.S. Forest Service. In 2022, a prescribed burn was conducted on 955 acres of gopher tortoise habitat at Rodman Range. Invasive cogon grass removal project that covers approximately 30 acres of potential gopher tortoise habitat was started in 2022 and will continue during 2023's growing season. Native plant species that gopher tortoises are known to forage on were planted within NAS Jacksonville's 16 acre watchable wildlife area and butterfly gardens, prior to planting, mechanical removal of several invasive plant species occurred. In 2022 composite plastic meshing was placed over earthen covered bunkers to prevent burrowing into the sides and blast walls. With project completion in 2023 this will open approximately 230 acres of relocation area if gopher tortoise need to be relocated from mission-sensitive areas. Outreach that focuses on awareness and conservation of several subjects, including gopher tortoises and their burrows is provided during briefings throughout the installation, to classes that visit NAS Jacksonville's Nature Center and visits to the child care center on base. Gopher tortoise surveys and monitoring through the use of game cameras are ongoing actions across the NAS Jacksonville Complex. These efforts are completed by the Student Conservation Association intern.

UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

The US Air Force (USAF) continued its commitment to excellent gopher tortoise management in fiscal year 2022 (FY22) on more than 481,689 acres. The US Air Force has six installations within the eastern range of the Gopher Tortoise (GT). There was a reduction of 65 in the aggressive feral hog removal programs, that resulted in 1,047 feral hogs removed from AF properties in FY22 as compared to 1,112 in FY21. Additionally, 169 raccoons, 99 coyotes, 9 opossums, 3 armadillos, and 3 gray foxes were removed. Prescribed fire was applied to 99,978 acres, which is a substantial decrease from 116,699 acres reported in 2021, and lower than the AF average of 114,160 acres. Significant numbers of gopher tortoise acres were targeted the last couple of years, and it's on a 3-to-5-year burn rotation, so reduced numbers are to be expected outside of subsequent years.

AVON PARK AFR: Management at APAFR consisted of prescribed fire, invasive species treatments, mechanical scrub restoration and intensive feral hog removal. GT population monitoring is conducted every 5 years. A survey of scrub habitats within APAFR was completed in FY16, in addition to an intensive survey of four key habitat sites (two in scrub and two in native flatwoods) to determine demographic parameters of the gopher tortoise population, sex ratio, juvenile and adult survival. One paper was published from prior year work in FY18 with another manuscript currently under review. The first half of the next GT population monitoring effort has been completed for FY22 and will continue in FY23.

SPACE LAUNCH DELTA (SLD) 45/U.S. SPACE FORCE: Completed surveys for presence/absence in support of various construction, utility, and other miscellaneous projects. Completed excavation/bucket

trapping and relocation of gopher tortoises in support of projects where gopher tortoise burrows could not be avoided. Completed restoration/management of gopher tortoise habitat through mechanical cutting of overgrown scrub, treatment of invasive flora through mechanical cutting and/or herbicide application, and application of prescribed fire. Additionally, monitoring of previously treated invasive vegetation continued to prevent re-growth. Removed nonnative and/or nuisance wildlife (raccoons, feral hogs and coyotes) to support protection of threatened and endangered species. Conducted educational outreach through presentations for school children and provided natural resources training to security forces and other Space Force (SF) personnel that conduct off road activities – gopher tortoises were included in the training.

EGLIN AFB: Eglin AFB continued to manage almost 400,000 acres of potential gopher tortoise habitat. Management tools include prescribed fire, chemical treatment of hardwood midstory, chemical treatment of invasive plants, control measures for invasive exotic animal species and sand pine removal. 21 tortoises were permanently relocated from Eglin Main Base due to mission related activity from construction. 9 tortoises were relocated from isolated, non-viable populations of less than 250 adults in unmanaged habitats. 9 tortoises were relocated from Eglin Main Base and Duke Field where burrows were impacting flight safety and normal operation.

847 Incidental Take Permit (ITP) tortoises were translocated from privately owned properties in Florida to Eglin AFB. 1,452 conservation permit tortoises were translocated from privately owned properties in Florida to Eglin AFB. All tortoises were relocated to sites with soft release enclosures and have been or will be held at least 6 months. Population monitoring documented one MVP in an ITP translocation enclosure after pen removal, two MVPs in two ITP translocation sites three years after pen removal, and one non-viable population in an internal Eglin relocation enclosure. All burrows located were mapped and data collected for each included status and size. Camera trapping efforts continued to document breeding attempts by ITP tortoises, adult predation by coyotes and various commensal activity associated with tortoise burrows. A tri-party MOA between Eglin AFB, FWC, and Fish and Wildlife Foundation of Florida was signed in FY20, designating Eglin as an approved recipient site for tortoises displaced by alternative energy development. The MOA was further amended in FY21 to include Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) ROW expansion projects as well as emergency development projects (as determined by FWC) when suitable recipient sites cannot be identified in a timely manner. The amended MOA is expected to provide an additional 3,000 tortoises to Eglin annually.

MACDILL AFB: No significant changes have occurred at MacDill AFB over the past 12 months in FY22. Treatment for non-native invasive plant species occurred on approximately 71 acres of potential gopher tortoise habitat. Gopher tortoises continue to utilize the airfield for foraging and burrow construction. This area is regularly maintained through mowing and other airport-specific ground maintenance operations. The airfield acreage is not included in the potential gopher tortoise habitat acreage due to the inability of natural resource and land management activities to occur within the airfield boundaries. No Upper Respiratory Tract Disease (URTD) incidents were identified or reported on installation. There were three (3) confirmed deceased gopher tortoise identified on the installation; one skeleton was found by the base transfer station, though no cause of death could be discerned, one sub-adult was hit

by a vehicle. USDA-WS documented one (1) adult carcass during routine BASH patrols on the airfield; no injuries were apparent.

MOODY AFB: Moody AFB is located 10 miles northeast of the City of Valdosta in Lowndes and Lanier counties in south-central Georgia. Comprising approximately 11,000 acres of federally owned land, the installation includes the main base (5,039 acres), the adjacent Grand Bay Range (5,874 acres), and the Grassy Pond Recreational Annex (489 acres), located 25 miles southwest of the main base. There are approximately 946 acres of gopher tortoise habitat located on the installation. Gopher tortoise management is accomplished through projects identified in the Moody AFB Integrated Natural Resources Management Plan with concurrence by the Georgia Department of Natural Resources and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Current projects include: seasonal monitoring and surveys of known gopher tortoise populations and habitat improvement/restoration through burning, chemical release, and mechanical means.

TYNDALL AFB: In FY22 Tyndall Air Force Base (AFB) monitored approximately 4,800 acres of potential gopher tortoise habitat. Annual gopher tortoise surveys include a total burrow count to monitor burrow usage and provide an estimate of population size on Tyndall AFB. All burrows encountered are mapped and scoped for population estimate reporting and then physically marked by PVC poles to make visible for forestry operations and land use management. Additional data collected during surveys include burrow occupancy by gopher tortoises and commensal species, as well as measurements, condition, and orientation of the burrow. Spring and fall surveys were conducted in FY22 resulting in 155 total burrows marked; 88 of which were actively maintained, and 69 burrows were occupied by gopher tortoises at the time of surveys. No incidents of upper respiratory tract disease (URTD) were identified or reported. Baseline vegetation surveys were conducted in Fall of 2020 at 28 burrows across the installation as part of a long-term monitoring effort to assess gopher tortoise habitat quality as it relates to change in understory and midstory community composition and structure over time. Post-treatment vegetation surveys were conducted in FY22 at those burrows that received chemical and/or mechanical treatments such as prescribed fire, roller chopping, mowing, harrowing, herbicide application, or a combination of aforementioned treatments.

Forest management activities for FY22 included prescribed fire, chemical treatment of invasive species, mechanical and chemical (herbicide application to control woody species competition) site preparation for longleaf pine reforestation and native ground cover restoration. Due to the catastrophic damage to most of the forested areas across the installation from Hurricane Michael (October 2018) 9,000 acres have been scheduled to be site prepped and planted with longleaf pine between FY20 and FY24. In FY22 1,490 acres were mechanically site prepped using single drum roller chopping, 364 acres were harrowed, and 590 acres were treated with herbicide to control hardwoods in preparation for planting 2,000,000 longleaf pine seedlings on 2,705 acres and seeding native groundcover on 364 acres. Reforested areas will continue to be managed with fire on a 2–3-year fire return interval or managed with chemical or mechanical timber stand improvement techniques where fire is not meeting management goals. Prescribed fire was applied to 6,846 acres in FY22 during the dormant season and approximately 475 acres were in potential gopher tortoise habitat.

UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS

A 100% survey of suitable habitat was conducted by FWC Authorized Gopher Tortoise Agents and their assistants to effectively locate all potentially occupied burrows within MCSF-BI. A supplemental burrow survey and scoping effort was conducted on 20 June 2022. Through coordination with FWC and Eglin AFB, permitting fees and associated recipient site fees were waived for the permit and relocation efforts. A total of three occupied gopher tortoise burrows were located and removed on 31 August 2022 and 1 September 2022 aboard MCSF-BI.

Biologists from NAVFAC Atlantic performed presence/absence gopher tortoise surveys at Townsend Range. Forty-seven burrows (47) on the north side of the Range were scoped and had 18 positive results. Eleven (11) burrows on the south side of the Range were scoped and had 3 positive results. No activities at MCAS-B were necessary or conducted.

During the report year Marine Corps Logistics Base Albany continued efforts to plant longleaf pine and improve early successional habitats through prescribed burning and mechanical/chemical treatment of invasive plant species. During the reporting year, controlled burns were conducted around the only known active gopher tortoise burrow and two additional active burrows were located.

UNITED STATES FOREST SERVICE

Conecuh National Forest - In FY22, the Conecuh NF contributed to the continued conservation of gopher tortoise through the active restoration and maintenance of native fire ecosystems—some of which was achieved through partnerships with the LLA and TNC. The Conecuh NF accomplished prescribed burning on 37% of the forest in FY22 and looks forward to trying to improve upon those numbers in FY23, with the ultimate goal of keeping the forest on a 2-3 year burn rotation. Additionally, support was provided to the Auburn University's/Eckerd College's long-term gopher tortoise population monitoring efforts on the Conecuh. Our typical outreach efforts were cancelled this year due to ongoing pandemic-related impacts but are scheduled to resume in FY23.

Apalachicola National Forest - The ANF's management activities for the maintenance/restoration of gopher tortoise habitat for FY22 included: Timber thinning, prescribed burning, and midstory and understory restoration using mechanical and herbicide treatments.

Ocala National Forest - The Ocala National Forest's management activities were focused on maintaining or improving sandhill habitat quality. FWC is conducting mid-story reduction on 185.5 acres in sandhills habitat on the Ocala NF under a Good Neighbor Authority agreement. A similar project is currently underway in first quarter FY23. Non-native invasive species was conducted on 38 total acres, and 1,335 acres of sandhills habitat were prescribed burned in FY22.

Osceola National Forest - Our goal on the Osceola National Forest is to update the current distribution and population of gopher tortoises across the forest. We do this by conducting surveys on an annual basis to update our database. This helps us make informed management decisions when related to the gopher tortoise. Around 3,110 acres were surveyed during FY22 with 119 active burrows being observed across six compartments.

UNITED STATES FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

For FY22, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) data is being submitted for the National Wildlife Refuges (NWR), National Fish Hatchery System (NFHS), and Partners for Fish and Wildlife (PFW) program. Those refuges and fish hatcheries contributing to the annual report include:

Florida: Archie Carr NWR (AC); Chassahowitzka NWR (CH); Egmont Key NWR (EK); Everglades Headwaters NWR (EH); Hobe Sound NWR (HS); J.N. "Ding" Darling NWR (DD); Lake Wales Ridge NWR (LWR); Lake Woodruff NWR (LW); Lower Suwannee/Cedar Key NWR (LS); Merritt Island NWR (MI); Pelican Island NWR (PI); St. Marks NWR (SM); St. Vincent NWR (SV); Florida Panther NWR (FP); and Ten Thousand Islands NWR (TTI)

Georgia: Okefenokee NWR (OK), Harris Neck (HN), Warm Springs NFH (WSNFH)

Alabama: Eufaula (EU)

Archie Carr NWR: Approximately 8 acres were chemically treated for woody invasive plants. No burns or gopher tortoise surveys conducted in 2022. There is, however, a known/previously surveyed population of gopher tortoise. This year's report reflects updated information for the refuge. Report only reflects federally owned or managed lands and does not include county owned protected properties within the Archie Carr NWR acquisition boundary.

On Chassahowitzka NWR, a total of 30 acres of uplands (longleaf pine) is gopher tortoise habitat. This area surrounds the Chassahowitzka maintenance shop and is owned fee title and managed.

Egmont Key NWR totals 328 acres (fee title), but due to erosion, the island is estimated to be about 262 acres currently. The entire island is gopher tortoise habitat. A 6.54-acre inholding within Egmont Key NWR is owned by Hillsborough County and leased by the Tampa Bay Pilots Association. This area is marked as private property with no public access. It is not under a gopher tortoise management plan, but the gopher tortoises are protected.

Everglades Headwaters NWR: The refuge currently consists of about 12,181 acres (5,150 ac easements and 7,031 ac fee). Approximately 1,304 acres were treated with prescribed fire in 2022. No invasive plants were treated in 2022.

Hobe Sound NWR: The Nathaniel P. Reed Hobe Sound NWR encompasses 1,091 acres of coastal dune, mangrove forest, coastal hammock, and sand pine scrub habitat. Gopher tortoises occur on about 290 acres of sand pine scrub and 25 acres of coastal dune habitat. During the period of performance, approximately 60 acres were treated for non-native, invasive plants and 86 acres of mechanical treatment was used to improve sand pine in occupied gopher tortoise habitat. We also provided educational opportunities to school groups and the general public.

Ding Darling NWR: No management specifically for gopher tortoise in 2022.

Lake Wales Ridge NWR: Approximately 486 acres were treated with prescribed fire in 2022. No acres were chemically treated for invasive plants.

Lake Woodruff NWR: Refuge continued to manage habitat on 55 acres specifically for gopher tortoises by controlling exotics on 5 acres and mechanical treatment on 56 acres.

Lower Suwannee NWR: In 2020, Refuge staff surveyed for gopher tortoises only as a protective measure in areas slated for manipulation – i.e., areas to be logged or cleared for trails, new facilities, etc. The LTDS pilot study that was completed in 2013 still provides the best data for population on the Refuge as resources are currently lacking to complete the full LTDS survey here. During 2022, Zone fire staff prescribed burned 1715 tortoise habitat acres during the growing season. One hundred seventy-eight acres of suitable tortoise habitat were chemically and mechanically treated.

Merritt Island NWR: Refuge continued to manage 8,528 acres of habitat for gopher tortoises by controlling exotics on 120 acres, prescribed burning on 7,950 acres, and mechanical treatment on 458 acres.

Pelican Island NWR: No burns were conducted in 2022. Approximately 20 acres were mechanically treated for woody invasive plants.

St. Marks NWR: Of the 5,683 acres of habitat available, Refuge staff prescribe burned 2,195 acres. We surveyed 30 acres of habitat for presence/absence of gopher and burrows in preparation for restoration and establishment of a wiregrass nursery. Burrows were mapped to be avoided.

St. Vincent NWR: This fiscal year gopher tortoise stewardship consisted of dormant season prescribed fire, invasive exotic plant removal, and overabundant mesopredator control. Occupied gopher tortoise habitat (approximately 373 acres) includes beach dunes and scrub. Potential gopher tortoise habitat (approximately 5,744 acres) includes beach dunes, coastal grasslands, scrub, and pine flatwoods. Florida Panther NWR: Only occasional gopher tortoises found. All of these considered likely releases from the public.

Ten Thousand Islands NWR: Scattered burrows among keys with no population estimates and no management.

Okefenokee NWR: Habitat for gopher tortoises on Okefenokee NWR is limited to the area of 470 acres around the refuge's east entrance that is on Trail Ridge and slopes to the Okefenokee Swamp's edge. North of the refuge entrance, the higher sand ridge feature known as Trail Ridge is owned by the USFWS but managed for timber by Forest Investment Associates until 2081. Gopher tortoise burrows continue to be protected on these lands through the timber production activities. Widening of the refuge entrance road was completed in May 2020. A few gopher tortoises have created burrows in the area and one was relocated away from the road to remove any risk of mortality from construction activities.

Harris Neck NWR: Harris Neck has a very small (<10 individuals), disjunct population of gopher tortoises whose origin is unknown. Gopher tortoises are not being considered in management activities other than a beneficiary of early successional management for other species.

Eufaula NWR: Activities, accomplishments, and acreages--whether Alabama or Georgia--are reported under Alabama. While providing habitats selected by gopher tortoise is priority management direction, no gopher tortoises occur on the refuge proper. However, gopher tortoises are known to occur on conservation easements and fee title tracts (scattered throughout southwest GA and southeast AL)

managed by the refuge. The refuge manages gopher tortoise habitat by prescribed burning, mowing, and disking.

Warm Springs NFH: Staff started off the FY22 grow out season with 47 head-start and wild caught juvenile tortoises most of which were obtained in September 2020 from the UGA Brunswick Marine Extension Lab. We received 4 eggs in November 2021 from Bear Hollow Zoo in Athens, Georgia. The zoo discovered that one of their captive tortoises had laid eggs. Whether or not they were fertilized is unknown. The eggs were transferred to the hatchery and placed in incubators, but these were not fertile and did not hatch. Staff and volunteers pampered juvenile tortoises with weekly baths and a daily replenishment of spring water and rations. The food consists of prepared fresh greens mixed with enriched commercial pellet rations. We also supplemented their diet with planted rye grass in each container, so they can graze freely. Techniques documented in part by DeSha J., Paden L., Andrews K. in their PowerPoint presentation Head Starting Gopher Tortoises from a Heavy Mineral Mine Site in Southeast Georgia, Odum School of Ecology, University of Georgia Marine Extension, Brunswick, Georgia are widely used in the program. Volunteer Deb Varga joined our crew in February 2022. She has a certification in master herpetology from the Amphibian Foundation and came to the hatchery to assist with the Gopher Tortoise Head-Start Program and assisted staff during the FY22 grow out season. WSNFH staff prepared a PowerPoint presentation highlighting the work the Service does for recovering this keystone species and the importance of our work as an agency with our partners at GADNR and the UGA. In celebration of National Gopher Tortoise Day (April 10, 2022), biologist Ian Paige, traveled to Oxbow Environmental Learning Center run by Columbus State University, Georgia and gave a presentation on WSNFH Gopher Tortoise Head Start Program. The presentation detailed the Service's role in conserving Gopher Tortoises. There were about 80 people in attendance, from children and families to college students to retired veterans, who all came out to celebrate their love and curiosity of this important species.

WSNFH received 19 eggs from Oxbow Meadows Environmental Learning Center on June 3, 2022, that were laid by resident tortoises at the facility. An additional 5 eggs were given to us by a property owner in Mauk, Georgia who observed a tortoise laying eggs in the dirt road on his property. All eggs received were placed in 85-degree (F) incubators to develop until they were ready to hatch after around 90 days. WSNFH staff began working with Public Affairs Specialist, Denise Rowell, to provide background information on the stations Gopher Tortoise Program, and partners ahead of an August spotlight event. The event was held on August 18, 2022, at WSNFH highlighting aspects of the Service's Gopher Tortoise conservation initiatives along with highlighting the great partners that make this program a huge success.

Partners for Fish and Wildlife: Habitat improvement was completed for 2,013 acres on private lands within the range of gopher tortoise in Florida, Georgia, and southeastern Alabama. Actions included growing season prescribed fire on 773 acres and dormant season burns on 372 acres

ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND NATURAL RESOURCES

In Alabama, the gopher tortoise is federally listed under the Endangered Species Act (ESA) in the western portion of its range (Mobile, Washington and Choctaw counties) and a candidate species (for this reporting period) for listing in the eastern portion, which includes twenty-three southern Alabama counties. The State of Alabama permanently protects and manages approximately 28,000 acres of tortoise habitat on public lands including Charles D. Kelly-Autauga, Barbour, Geneva State Forest (only the DWFF owned lands are being reported; AFC reports on acres they own that are in the Geneva State

Forest Wildlife Management Area), and Perdido River Wildlife Management Areas (WMAs); Blackwater River, Uchee Creek, Fred T. Stimpson and Upper State Special Opportunity Areas (SOAs), and Elhew Research Station (Wehle tract). The Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, Division of Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries (DWFF) and the State Lands Division (SLD) continue to work together to restore and maintain gopher tortoise habitat on DWFF, Forever Wild Land Trust (FWLT), and SLD lands. Land management conducted by DWFF staff included 9876 acres (53% gopher tortoise habitat on listed WMAs, SOAs, FWLT, and SLD properties) of prescribed burning (combined dormant and growing season burns), 1716 acres of thinned pine plantation, 4543 acres of clearcut, 1604 acres of site prep, 519 acres of reforested longleaf pine, 60 acres of reforested loblolly pine, and 144 acres of invasive plant removal. Additionally, over 760 feral hogs, 14 coyotes, 28 raccoons, 3 bobcat, 4 feral animals, and 18 opossums were removed from DWFF lands. Land management conducted by the SLD, Elhew Research Station included 79 acres of dormant season burn and 206 acres of growing season burning.

DWFF continues work towards determining a more accurate gopher tortoise population estimate and distribution in Alabama. Gopher tortoise surveys on public lands using Line Transect Distance Sampling (LTDS) methodology were completed in Oct 2017. (AL Gopher Tortoise Surveys on Public Lands SWG Final Report, 2017). Since non-industrial private landowners own the majority of the gopher tortoise habitat in Alabama, significant efforts were made to gain access to private lands to conduct gopher tortoise surveys. Alabama gopher tortoise population counts are as follows (including public and non-industrial private lands):

- 5 viable populations
- 5 Primary support populations
- 35 Secondary support populations

Calls from the public about possessing waif tortoises were low this fiscal year as only one tortoise from an unknown location was received. However, targeted relocation efforts are on the rise due to development. To date, twenty-three gopher tortoises were soft released at Geneva State Forest. All tortoises will remain in the enclosure for a minimum of six months (to twelve months) after which the enclosure will be removed so the animals can freely disperse.

There has been little activity this fiscal year from the Alabama Tortoise Alliance (ALTA) to date other than gopher tortoise biologist emailing members with updates and information. ALTA is a partnership that includes private industrial and non-industrial landowners, state, tribal and federal agencies, local governments, organizations, and businesses. The purpose of ALTA is to foster an increased level of communication, collaboration, and conservation among the stakeholders to actively manage and conserve gopher tortoise populations and habitat in Alabama so that the species no longer warrants state or federal protection. Conservation and recovery of the gopher tortoise through implementation of this alliance will require the cooperation of non-industrial private landowners; local governments; state, tribal and federal agencies; non-governmental organizations; and business interests.

Gopher Tortoise Candidate Conservation Agreement partners, including DWFF biologist, gathered in South Carolina in July 2022 for the biannual meeting to discuss signatory issues, concerns, and range wide conservation updates. The 2021 Annual Gopher Tortoise Candidate Conservation Agreement Report was compiled and submitted.

Education and outreach continued throughout the year through social media, press releases, school programs, landowner tours, and many other outreach opportunities. Topics discussed included gopher tortoise biology, conservation, threats, and habitat management.

FLORIDA FISH AND WILDLIFE CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Progress on the implementation and completion of conservation actions outlined in the Gopher Tortoise Management Plan (GTMP, September 2012) continue to be achieved. The GTMP guides the continued recovery of the gopher tortoise in Florida through 2022. For this 10-year plan, the overarching objective of no net loss of gopher tortoises will be accomplished by meeting four conservation objectives: minimize loss, increase and improve habitat, enhance and restore populations, and maintain the gopher tortoise's function as a keystone species. The plan presents a suite of conservation strategies and actions that serve to achieve these objectives. The actions are captured under the following broad categories: regulation, permitting, local government coordination, law enforcement, habitat protection, habitat management, population management, disease management, incentives, monitoring, education and outreach, and research. In FY22, the FWC determined it was most practical to pause the revision process for the GTMP until a federal listing decision was published for the gopher tortoise distinct population segments (DPS) occurring in Florida. The FWC expects to continue the revision process in FY 23, following the federal listing decision for the species. The FWC has identified opportunities to streamline the GTMP and is promoting coherence with the Imperiled Species Management Plan (ISMP 2016) and State Wildlife Action Plan (SWAP 2019) to reduce redundancy, where applicable. The FWC expects to update the GTMP to address new and existing priority threats and has developed a conservation action tracking system to assist with revisions to conservation strategies and actions. The Gopher tortoise Permitting Guidelines (GTPG 2008, revised July 2020) were developed to provide a comprehensive overview of the FWC's permitting system and are used as one tool in accomplishing the goals and objectives set forth in the FWC's Gopher Tortoise Management Plan (September 2012). In FY22, the FWC initiated the revision process for the Guidelines with the expectation of bringing this item to Commissioners for approval before the end of the 2022 calendar year. The goal of the FY22 Guidelines revision is to better protect gopher tortoises by incentivizing relocations to protected recipient sites, clearly defining roles and responsibilities in the relocation process, and by clarifying other provisions in the guidelines.

Additional progress has been made on completing gopher tortoise surveys using Line Transect Distance Sampling under a contract with the Florida Natural Areas Inventory (FNAI). In FY22, six surveys on state-owned public conservation lands were completed and included 4,630 acres (1,873.7 hectares) of suitable gopher tortoise habitat. All six surveys were conducted by the Florida Natural Areas Inventory. Of the six sites surveyed this FY, four populations were considered viable, and two were considered primary support populations. Two of the surveys conducted were to determine the baseline populations, which were shown to be viable. The remaining four re-surveys showed a stable population trend for two primary support and two viable populations. Surveys completed under this contract, in addition to FWC staff-led surveys, will continue into the next few years. As development in Florida continues to increase, so does the number of gopher tortoises that are relocated. In FY22, 11,969 gopher tortoises were relocated from development sites, with most of those tortoises relocated to lands under permanent conservation easements. With the demand for recipient sites being high, 18,005 new acres were brought in under 14 newly permitted, privately-owned recipient sites. The FWC is actively promoting actionable science to help address knowledge gaps and inform the policies and practices outlined in the Guidelines. The FWC documented four additional research priorities for FY22, which include assessing the impact of captivity on survivorship and behavior of released tortoises, determining the impacts of gopher tortoise relocation practices on other species, analyzing the influence of capture method on survivorship and fitness of translocated tortoises, and conducting shell disarticulation studies to predict time since death. The FWC is funding research annually using gopher tortoise mitigation contributions. In FY22, four proposals were funded to research the effects of origin location on

translocated gopher tortoise overwintering behavior, reproduction, and survival, mitigation-driven redistribution of gopher tortoise populations throughout Florida, a gopher tortoise disease study in the Red Hills of Florida, and a burrow survey method comparison of pedestrian, ATV, and drone survey techniques. The FWC also funded the development of a spatially explicit model and analytical framework for LTDS data collected on gopher tortoise recipient sites. The finalized recipient site-specific LTDS methodology and framework will be implemented in FY23.

The FWC continues to work with stakeholders to discuss any new challenges and work together toward possible solutions throughout the implementation of the Gopher Tortoise Management Plan. The continued participation of stakeholders is important to the long-term conservation of the species. The implementation and completion of many management plan actions to protect the gopher tortoise and its habitat has made an impact on the status of the keystone species and continues to show progress toward achieving conservation.

GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

The Gopher Tortoise Initiative (GTI) is a Georgia-based effort that aims to protect at least 65 tortoise populations that meet or exceed the current USFWS standard for a minimum viable population (MVP; >250 adult tortoises). As of September 30, 2022, the state reached 62 protected populations. Progress has been made over the past year to secure more populations, with two Conservation Easements in progress that if finalized would achieve our goal of 65 in 2023.

Georgia added 3,595 ac. of protected gopher tortoise habitat through the acquisition of 3 tracts and addition of 4 conservation easements, including the Rosemont Plantation and Canoochee Glover conservation easements.

During the reporting year, the GADNR Wildlife Conservation Section's tortoise survey crew completed LTDS surveys on three sites covering 4,991 acres of tortoise habitat and is currently re-surveying a fourth site. One of the completed surveys was a re-survey on a state-owned Wildlife Management Area and has shown an increase in tortoise abundance. This increase can be attributed to an increase in habitat management, including more growing season prescribed fire and timber thinning.

The Gopher Tortoise Burn Crew had its second season and conducted prescribed fire on 5,064 acres of high priority gopher tortoise habitat across South Georgia. The crew participated in 40 burn days, up 7 days from last year, between Jan 4 – May 25, 2022. In total, 51,944 acres were burned across the gopher tortoise range. Of those, 16,944 acres burned were during the growing season. For the second consecutive year, this is a notable increase in growing season burn acreage over the last reporting period. In addition, 1,113 acres were planted in Longleaf, and 918 acres of pine were thinned on state lands.

New soft release pens for waif tortoises were constructed at Alligator Creek WMA and Silver Lake WMA to help bolster the population of tortoises on those sites. A variety of situations including smaller development sites and waifs resulted in the relocation of 30 adults and subadults to Alligator Creek WMA and Silver Lake WMA. The development of a large electric car mega site also spurred the translocation of 93 tortoises to Fort Stewart. In total, 26 hatchlings and 24 eggs were collected and transported to Warm Springs National Fish Hatchery where they will be headstarted and released back onto state protected lands and 20 headstarted gopher tortoises were translocated to Lanahassee WMA.

SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

During the 2021-2022 reporting period SCDNR has continued to actively participate in gopher tortoise conservation and management. Both Tillman Sand Ridge Heritage Preserve and Aiken Gopher Tortoise Heritage Preserve have continued management activities for the benefit of the gopher tortoise, including prescribed fire. Additionally, SCDNR and Savannah River Ecology Lab (SREL) continue efforts to establish an MVP at AGTHP, which would be the third in South Carolina.

SCDNR and Savannah River Ecology Lab (SREL) staff continue efforts to restock the AGTHP utilizing waif tortoises. This year we have released 45 waifs from South Carolina, Florida, Massachusetts, Wisconsin and Kansas from outside of the state. Additionally, we have released 32 headstarted gopher tortoises to the property.

Continued restoration has occurred on the 180 acres of restored habitat on Tillman Sand Ridge Heritage Preserve. During the report period, the majority of the suitable upland gopher tortoise habitat was scheduled for hand clearing and herbicide of recruiting hardwoods and loblolly pine trees. This overall restoration effort will provide significant additional acreage for tortoises on the preserve and increase the carrying capacity of the site.

This year the Open Space Institute and The Nature Conservancy purchased ~7200 acres of property in Jasper and Hampton counties which included the largest known gopher tortoise population and 1 of 2 MVPs in South Carolina. These properties are adjacent to the ~4000 acres purchased by the Open Space Institute and Knobloch Foundation last year and together, preserve ~12000 acres of habitat, which includes the largest and 3rd largest gopher tortoise populations in SC.

SCDNR continues to be active in the gopher tortoise conservation community. Andrew Grosse serves as the Gopher Tortoise Council SC state representative and attended the 2021 virtual annual meeting with the Assistant Chief of Wildlife, Will Dillman and regional Heritage Preserve Biologist Hunter Young.

GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Management activities on GADOT owned properties were performed by GADNR and are included in their reporting.

POARCH BAND OF CREEK INDIANS

No report submitted.

AMERICAN FOREST FOUNDATION (AFF)

The American Forest Foundation (AFF) empowers family forest owners to make a meaningful conservation impact. This is accomplished through regional partnerships with local, state, and federal entities and through various programs including the American Tree Farm System (ATFS), a National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) partnership, a cooperative agreement with the US Fish and Wildlife

Service (USFWS), and contribution agreements with Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS). A major focal species of these various AFF projects across the southeast is the gopher tortoise.

Across the gopher tortoise range, AFF sponsors six (6) ATFS programs at the state level. In addition to providing landowner outreach and education, the state programs ensure that the private forests enrolled in ATFS are certified to the AFF Standards of Sustainability, which verifies that threatened and endangered species are protected. As of September 30, 2022, there are 7,628 certified Tree Farms representing 4,617,653 acres of forests in the counties identified within the range of the gopher tortoise.

During this reporting period, AFF continued the support of five (5) fully equipped prescribed burn trailers to be housed by Resource Conservation & Development Councils across the coastal plain of Georgia. These trailers are being made available to landowners for use in prescribed burning. Through the reporting period, the trailers have been utilized by Georgia landowners to prescribe burn 3,002 acres within the gopher tortoise range.

The American Forest Foundation's cooperative agreement with the USFWS Partners for Fish & Wildlife Program provides cost share for habitat improvement activities on private property to enhance the habitat for federally threatened and at-risk species. The gopher tortoise is a primary focal species of our partnerships in Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, and South Carolina. Landowners must have gopher tortoise present or adjacent to their property and agree to a ten-year management commitment to participate in the initiative. During this reporting period, 6,343 acres of gopher tortoise habitat were enrolled for habitat improvements such as establishment of longleaf pine, native groundcover establishment, and prescribed burning.

With funding provided by the NRCS, AFF contracted gopher tortoise surveys on eight (8) private land properties encompassing 7,455 acres. Two (2) of these properties were surveyed using line distance transect surveys (LTDS) while the remaining six (6) properties were 100% surveyed. Through this effort, two (2) additional Primary Support and six (6) Support populations were added to the private lands survey data for Alabama as kept by Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources.

LONGLEAF ALLIANCE

The Longleaf Alliance (TLA) continues work with dozens of partners across the historic range of gopher tortoises to restore and maintain gopher tortoise habitat. We consider the gopher tortoise an essential wZpart of longleaf ecosystem restoration. TLA staff provide technical expertise, physical assistance, and financial assistance primarily through cost-share funding programs to assist in various restoration efforts. TLA staff provide hundreds of technical assists to landowners with additional specific management assistance in all the states of the gopher tortoise range that leads to applied habitat improvement and raised awareness and appreciation.

TLA staff incorporate gopher tortoise conservation messaging in our Longleaf Academy course offerings and in many other outreach events like field days, workshops, and festivals. Events have included the Southeastern Wildlife Expo, Coastal Wildscapes Symposium, Wayne County Georgia Wildlife Expo, Georgia Conservancy Field Day for Landowners, Savannah River Fire Festival, and Coastal Georgia

Conservation Camp (Boy Scouts of America). On social media, gopher tortoise-focused posts have reached over 50,000 people.

The Longleaf Alliance's on-the-ground management staff, including both the Ecosystem Support Team (EST) and the Wetland Ecosystem Support Team (WEST), assist partners with management in Northwest Florida and South Alabama. In FY22, the Teams supported prescribed fire and treated cogongrass in gopher tortoise habitat.

The Ft. Stewart Altamaha Partnership is working in a 5-million acre landscape focal area in southeastern Georgia for the conservation of the longleaf pine ecosystem with the gopher tortoise as a keystone species. With Ft. Stewart as the anchor point for this effort, additional public and private lands are being protected and restored. Land activities have occurred on state-owned and managed wildlife management areas, state parks, Nature Conservancy-owned and managed lands, and private property including The Orianne Society Preserve and private non-industrial lands. Supported by The Longleaf Alliance's administered grants, during the reporting period, the following metrics were accomplished: 4,340.50 acres (prescribed fire-private), 7,708 acres (prescribed fire-public), 5 acres (wiregrass planting (private)), 5 acres wiregrass planting (public), 102 acres of midstory hardwood control (private), and 3,878 acres of midstory hardwood control (public). Also, within the broader Georgia Sentinel Landcape, TLA provided cost-share funding for 3,425 acres of highly or moderately suitable GT soils according to the NRCS Web Soil Survey.

Since 2017, LLA has been partnering with Drs. Kurt Buhlman and Tracey Tuberville at the UGA Savannah River Ecology Lab, the South Carolina Department of Natural Resources, and the USFWS to support gopher tortoise head-starting for release onto habitat approved by SCDNR. Thirty-three tortoises were released at Aiken Gopher Tortoise Heritage Preserve and another forty-two eggs have been collected for released in 2023. In total since 2016, 300 juveniles have been released. Funding for this project is provided by the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation. TLA also continues to work with private landowners within the gopher tortoise range in SC to provide both technical and financial assistance.

JONES CENTER AT ICHUAWAY

We managed 11,284.2 ac of upland habitat with prescribed fire. We continued long term research on the effects of mesopredators on tortoise populations and collaborated with researchers from Virginia Tech and the University of Georgia on tortoise nesting and burrow site selection to inform habitat management and restoration.

ALABAMA FORESTRY COMMISSION

The Alabama Forestry Commission (AFC) manages eight state forests within the gopher tortoise's (GTs) range. Geneva State Forest (GSF) and Little River State Forest (LRSF) are the largest two and provide permanent protection for GTs. These two state forests now total 11,536 acres, GSF is 7,200 acres and LRSF is 4,336 acres. Alabama's Forever Wild Program also purchased 712 acres directly adjacent to the AFC purchase for Little River State Forest. GSF has AFC personnel permanently stationed there, while LRSF utilizes surrounding county personnel to conduct operations. It is one of AFC's objectives to continue improving GT habitat on GSF and LRSF lands through prescribed burning, timely timber stand

thinning and removal of hardwood mid-story where applicable, creating and maintaining useful forest openings, planting longleaf pine on applicable sites and conducting final harvests as needed. Geneva State Forest is managed for natural regeneration of longleaf pine by using shelterwood harvest. The forest is managed on a 72-year rotation. Additional information is listed in the following sections.

The majority of work AFC personnel conduct is for private landowners. There are 9,021,520 acres of timberland within the GT's native range in Alabama. Of these timberland acres 96.5%, or 8,711,638 acres, are privately owned. AFC has foresters and rangers available to assist landowners in all 27 counties within the GT candidate range. AFC provides GT habitat management recommendations to landowners during site visits, stand management recommendations, and in Stewardship Forest Management Plans. Other forms of landowner assistance provided that benefit GTs include invasive species control recommendations and prescribed burning.

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

No report submitted.

ALABAMA POWER COMPANY

Electric power delivery rights-of-way must be accessed with heavy machinery periodically for construction and maintenance, and in emergency situations to restore power. The following practices were observed this year by Alabama Power Company (APC) in order to minimize impacts to gopher tortoises during these activities: Surveying segments of ROWs prior to construction/maintenance was conducted to detect and mark burrows (i.e., sign, cone, flagging, etc.); A GIS database of gopher tortoise burrow locations is maintained; BMPs are implemented specifying buffer zones, matting criteria, etc. to help reduce risk to tortoises and burrows and educate transmission crews. Alabama Power continues to mark burrows with GT signs this year; each sign is labeled with "Sensitive Area" and "No Equipment or Excavation Within 25 Feet;" the signs also have a contact number to call if someone has questions; the signs are highly visible and can be seen at distances far greater than 25 feet; signs are placed relatively close to the burrow near the apron but APC avoids sign placement on GT trails.

In addition to the above BMPs, GT informational flyers (written in English and Spanish) were created for Power Delivery crews. The flyers provide information about GT, a picture of a GT burrow, GT signage, and steps to avoid GT Burrows.

APC has also participated in the Alabama Tortoise Alliance (ALTA) meetings and the Gopher Tortoise Candidate Conservation Agreement (GTCCA) meetings to stay current on listing decisions and discuss best management and conservation practices with state and federal agencies.

GEORGIA POWER COMPANY

Habitat management consisted primarily of prescribed burning 1665 acres of occupied and potential habitat on generation plant buffer lands, with 61% occurring during the growing season. Burrows within construction areas on power line rights-of-way were protected; one isolated tortoise was relocated to Silver Lake WMA from a substation construction site. Potential impacts to habitat for tortoises and

other protected species was considered during evaluation of solar generation development bids placed in response to our request for proposals.

RELEVANT ACTIVITIES TO LISTING FACTOR A (THE PRESENT OR THREATENED DESTRUCTION, MODIFICATION, OR CURTAILMENT OF THE SPECIES' HABITAT OR RANGE)

ARMY

Report year		*Total acres restored or maintained as GT habitat	Acres burned - growing season	Acres burned - dormant season	Acres of invasive species treated	Acres managed (e.g., mechanical, longleaf planting)
2019	Owned or managed lands	8786	5824	1666	370	626
	**Other lands	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
2020	Owned or managed lands	4900		4543	102	255
	**Other lands					
2021	Owned or managed lands	7590	2000	5590	185	80
	**Other lands					
2022	Owned or managed lands	6708	3956	2546	206	0
	**Other lands					

NAVY

- a) How much potential gopher tortoise habitat does the signatory agency directly own or manage?
- i. Total estimated acreage of protected gopher tortoise habitat (either by public ownership, by easement, or covered under a management plan that provides for the conservation of the gopher tortoise)

Table 1. Acres of potential gopher tortoise habitat owned or managed by the signatory agency (put n/a if not applicable)

Report year	Protected lands (Public)	Protected lands (Private)	Other lands owned or managed by the agency
2009	12,140	N/A	N/A
2010	12,140	N/A	N/A
2011	12,140	N/A	N/A
2012	12,140	N/A	N/A

2013	12,140	N/A	N/A
2014	12,140	N/A	N/A
2015	12,357	N/A	N/A
2016	12,182	N/A	N/A
2017	12,522	N/A	N/A
2018	12,522	N/A	N/A
2019	12,522	N/A	N/A
2020	12,522	N/A	N/A
2021	7,863	127	N/A
2022	13,357	127	N/A

- b) Provide a short narrative regarding the type of management activities that were completed on the signatory’s lands or other lands during the year, including any challenges or successes.
 - i. Total estimated gopher tortoise habitat acres managed on “owned or managed lands” or “other lands” for reporting agency/organization.

In 2022, 955 acres were prescribe burned at Rodman Range, several moderate to high forage value native plants were planted within 16 acres of NAS Jacksonville’s watchable wildlife area, and several invasive plant species were mechanically removed prior to the native species being planted. On NAS Whiting Field 377 acres were burned to improve GT habitat and other areas were treated to remove invasive plants. NSB Kings Bay performed a 12 month game camera survey of burrow use by invertebrates. On NAS Pensacola invasive species were treated as well on 125 acres and a contract to burn was awarded which will allow burning to take place in 2023. NS Mayport accomplished 127 acres of surveying and discovered 75 burrows. Some major challenges this year were due to Hurricane Ian and Nicole which damaged a large portion of dunes. The 2023 surveys are expected to show high mortality due to the events.

Table 2. Land Management (numbers reflect acres of potential gopher tortoise habitat)

Report year		*Total acres restored or maintained as GT habitat	Acres burned - growing season	Acres burned - dormant season	Acres of invasive species treated	Acres managed (e.g., mechanical, longleaf planting)
2009	Owned or managed lands	1819	194	1,295	68	262
	**Other lands	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
2010	Owned or managed lands	1501	180	1,108	63	150

	**Other lands	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
2011	Owned or managed lands	517	64	191	155	107
	**Other lands	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
2012	Owned or managed lands	463	7	65	262	129
	**Other lands	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
2013	Owned or managed lands	956	187	663	57	49
	**Other lands	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
2014	Owned or managed lands	2837	42	2,621	117	57
	**Other lands	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
2015	Owned or managed lands	1439	60	110	409	860
	**Other lands	N/A	50+	200+	N/A	N/A
2016	Owned or managed lands	2809	175	268	75	135
	**Other lands	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
2017	Owned or managed lands	1035	0	877	50	108
	**Other lands	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
2018	Owned or managed lands	338	0	268	25	45
	**Other lands	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
2019	Owned or managed lands	2263 (Pensacola, Bronson, Saufley)	0	244	30	128
	**Other lands	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
2020	Owned or managed lands	828	0	328	242	204
	**Other lands	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
2021	Owned or managed lands	2,080	100	683	270	235
	**Other lands	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
2022	Owned or managed lands	13,357	0	1,332	366	16

	**Other lands	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
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* The *Total acres restored or maintained as GT habitat* should be the sum of the succeeding 4 columns.

**Other gopher tortoise habitat/lands can include ANY lands regardless of ownership, protection level, or agreement.

AIR FORCE

- a) How much potential gopher tortoise habitat does the signatory agency directly own or manage?
- i. Total estimated acreage of protected gopher tortoise habitat (either by public ownership, by easement, or covered under a management plan that provides for the conservation of the gopher tortoise): USAF total is 481,689 acres

Table 1. Acres of potential gopher tortoise habitat owned or managed by the signatory agency (put n/a if not applicable)

Report year	Protected lands (Public)*	Protected lands (Private)	Other lands owned or managed by the agency
2009	101		470,840
2010	101		457,965
2011	151		457,292
2012	190		456,733
2013	190	21,100	456,674
2014	190	22,806	456,630
2015	190	22,806	464,368*
2016	190	22,806	464,368*
2017	190	23,306	464,261*
2018	190	23,306	464,187
2019	190	23,306	464,187
2020	190	29,773	453,622
2021	190	26,480	453,596
2022	190	27,923	453,576

* Corrected; previous acreage report was incorrect.

- b) Provide a short narrative regarding the type of management activities that were completed on the signatory's lands or other lands during the year, including any challenges or successes.

Avon Park AFR: Potential habitat protected under new conservation easements on private lands surrounding APAFR (1,443 acres). On installation we completed: Prescribed fire (17,683 acres), Invasive plant treatments (2,307 acres), scrub restoration (247 acres), and feral hog removal (400 individuals removed).

SLD 45: Mechanical cutting of overgrown scrub, treatment of invasive flora through mechanical cutting and/or herbicide application, and application of prescribed fire. Additionally, monitoring of previously treated invasive vegetation continued to prevent re-growth.

Eglin AFB: Eglin AFB continued to manage almost 400,000 acres of potential gopher tortoise habitat. Management tools include prescribed fire, chemical treatment of hardwood midstory, chemical treatment of invasive plants, control measures for invasive exotic animal species and sand pine removal.

MacDill AFB: Treatment for non-native invasive plant species occurred on approximately 71 acres of potential gopher tortoise habitat. Two (2) acres of mechanical vegetation treatments were conducted in potential gopher tortoise habitat to reduce woody invasive species midstory, vegetation heights and provide required vegetation setback limits along installation fence lines. Zero (0) acres of prescribed fire were conducted within known or potential gopher tortoise habitat, although three burns were attempted. Prescribed fire is a constant challenge at MacDill AFB due to its location in a highly urbanized setting, difficult weather conditions due to its location on a peninsula within Tampa Bay, and other mission-related factors.

Moody AFB: In 2022, gopher tortoise management activities included prescribed burning (1027 acres), invasive species control (33 acres), and longleaf planting (17 acres). No chemical treatments were carried out.

Tyndall AFB: Forest management activities for FY22 included prescribed fire, chemical treatment of invasive species, mechanical and chemical (herbicide application to control woody species competition) site preparation for longleaf pine reforestation and native ground cover restoration. Due to the catastrophic damage to most of the forested areas across the installation from Hurricane Michael (October 2018) 9,000 acres have been scheduled to be site prepped and planted with longleaf pine between FY20 and FY24. In FY22 1,490 acres were mechanically site prepped using single drum roller chopping, 364 acres were harrowed, and 590 acres were treated with herbicide to control hardwoods in preparation for planting 2,000,000 longleaf pine seedlings on 2,705 acres and seeding native groundcover on 364 acres. Reforested areas will continue to be managed with fire on a 2–3-year fire return interval or managed with chemical or mechanical timber stand improvement techniques where fire is not meeting management goals. Prescribed fire was applied to 6,846 acres in FY22 during the dormant season and approximately 475 acres were in potential gopher tortoise habitat.

- i. Total estimated gopher tortoise habitat acres managed on “owned or managed lands” or “other lands” for reporting agency/organization.

Table 2. Land Management (numbers reflect acres of potential gopher tortoise habitat)

Report year		*Total acres restored or maintained as GT habitat	Acres burned - growing season (%)	Acres burned - dormant season (%)	Acres of invasive species treated	Acres managed (e.g., mechanical, longleaf planting)
2009	Owned or managed lands	21,945	4,000 (45%)	4,946 (55%)	7,430	Unk.
	**Other lands					
2010	Owned or managed lands	147,466	34,946 (26%)	100,346 (74%)	2,506	9,668
	**Other lands					
2011	Owned or managed lands	113,654	31,151 (31%)	68,124 (69%)	2,056	14,423
	**Other lands	10			10	
2012	Owned or managed lands	124,219	35,669 (32%)	76,703 (67%)	3,470	11,551
	**Other lands					
2013	Owned or managed lands	128,738	53,234 (46%)	63,368 (54%)	3,578	11,179
	**Other lands					
2014	Owned or managed lands	129,294	39,186 (34%)	75,564 (66%)	3,076	11,468
	**Other lands					
2015	Owned or managed lands	128,529	59,664 (50%)	58,583 (50%)	5,378	8,269
	**Other lands					
2016	Owned or managed lands	106,746	46,406 (45%)	56,176 (55%)	2,542	3,256
	**Other lands					
2017	Owned or managed lands	96,297	53,498 (62%)	33,276 (38%)	3,029	6,491
	**Other lands					
2018	Owned or managed lands	113,081	45,338(44%)	58,694(56%)	3,285	5,764
	**Other lands					
2019	Owned or managed lands	130,181	49,771 (38%)	64,557 (50%)	4,364	11,489
	**Other lands					
2020	Owned or managed lands	82,319	20,081	50,030	5,199	7,009
	**Other lands					
2021	Owned or managed lands	130,805.5	33,442	83,257	7,513.5	6,593

	**Other lands					
2022	Owned or managed lands	109,793	41,099.5	58,878.5	4,245	5,570
	**Other lands	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

*The *Total acres restored or maintained as GT habitat* should be the sum of the succeeding 4 columns.

**Other gopher tortoise habitat/lands can include ANY lands regardless of ownership, protection level, or agreement.

MARINES

- a) How much potential gopher tortoise habitat does the signatory agency directly own or manage?
- i. Total estimated acreage of protected gopher tortoise habitat (either by public ownership, by easement, or covered under a management plan that provides for the conservation of the gopher tortoise)

Table 1. Acres of potential gopher tortoise habitat owned or managed by the signatory agency (put n/a if not applicable)

Report year	Protected lands (Public)	Protected lands (Private)	Other lands owned or managed by the agency
2009	1200		2
2010	1200		2
2011	1200		2
2012	1200		2
2013	1200		2
2014	1200		2
2015	1200		2
2016	1200		2
2017	1,200	NA	2

2018			2
2019	1,500		2 (MCSF BI) 3,190 ((MCAS TBR)
2020	1,500		2 (MCSF BI) 3,190 ((MCAS TBR)
2021	1,500		3,192
2022	1,500	0	3,192

- b) Provide a short narrative regarding the type of management activities that were completed on the signatory’s lands or other lands during the year, including any challenges or successes.

MCSF-BI INRMP requires annual surveys and ensures the contractor mows its habitat two times a year. MCSF-BI uses contracted vendors to conduct surveys and provide written reports. The ground maintenance operators are aware of the gopher tortoise locations and continue to watch for tortoises foraging within their habitat.

Biologists from NAVFAC Atlantic selected survey areas on the north and south ranges of TBR using aerial photography, soil layers, and elevation data within a Geographical Information System (GIS) to identify specific locations that contained higher elevation, and well-drained soils with open canopy cover. They conducted Visual Encounter Surveys and utilized a burrow scope within these selected areas to determine the presence or absence of gopher tortoises. The survey concluded with 3 occupied burrows on the South side (there were none on the South side in previous years) of TBR and 18 occupied burrows on the North side of TBR.

Prescribed burning was conducted on some areas known to provide habitat to GT’s although most of those lands are not considered typical habitat for them (loblolly pine overstory, marginally wet soils).

- i. Total estimated gopher tortoise habitat acres managed on “owned or managed lands” or “other lands” for reporting agency/organization. 7 acres

Table 2. Land Management (numbers reflect acres of potential gopher tortoise habitat)

Report year		*Total acres restored or maintained as GT habitat	Acres burned - growing season (%)	Acres burned - dormant season (%)	Acres of invasive species treated	Acres managed (e.g., mechanical, longleaf planting)
2016	Owned or managed lands	1,200	264	267	200	0

	**Other lands					
2017	Owned or managed lands	1,200	0	138	50	0
	**Other lands					
2018	Owned or Managed Lands					
	**Other lands					
2019	Owned or Managed Lands	1,500	382 56%	300 44%	60	50
	**Other lands					
2020	Owned or Managed Lands	1,500	170 32%	353 68%	214	411
	**Other lands					
2021	Owned or Managed Lands	1,500	382 56%	300 44%	60	50
	**Other lands					
2022	Owned or Managed Lands	1,501	475	75	30	188
	**Other lands					

*The *Total acres restored or maintained as GT habitat* should be the sum of the preceding 4 columns.

**Other gopher tortoise habitat/lands can include ANY lands regardless of ownership, protection level, or agreement

USFS

- a) How much potential gopher tortoise habitat does the signatory agency directly own or manage?
 - i. Total estimated acreage of protected gopher tortoise habitat (either by public ownership, by easement, or covered under a management plan that provides for the conservation of the gopher tortoise)

Table 1. Acres of potential gopher tortoise habitat owned or managed by the signatory agency (put n/a if not applicable)

Report year	Protected lands (Public)	Protected lands (Private)	Other lands owned or managed by the agency
2009	60,000		
2010	60,000		
2011	60,000		

2012	221,448		
2013	221,448		
2014	221,448		
2015	221,448		
2016	221,531		
2017	221,625		
2018	221,708		
2019	222,151		
2020	301,926*		
2021	301,926	0	0
2022	301,926	0	0

*No additional acreage was obtained. The acres were calculated using different methods and reflected is a higher number.

- b) Provide a short narrative regarding the type of management activities that were completed on the signatory's lands or other lands during the year, including any challenges or successes.

Conecuh National Forest - During FY22, management activities on the Conecuh NF for the restoration and maintenance of native fire ecosystems that support gopher tortoise included: prescribed burning, longleaf planting, mid-story removal and understory restoration using mechanical and herbicide treatments, and non-native invasive species treatment.

Apalachicola National Forest - In FY22, the Apalachicola NF contributed to the restoration and maintenance of native fire ecosystems that support gopher tortoise by: timber thinning in mature longleaf stands, timber harvest to restore native over-story species (longleaf), prescribed burning, mid-story and understory restoration using

mechanical and herbicide treatments, site prep for seeding mechanical (roller chopping), and site prep for planting mechanical (mowing).

This past year the ANF did not receive any translocated tortoises. We are currently working on getting back online as a recipient site by working with the Florida Wildlife and Conservation Commission. Gopher tortoise surveys will be conducted in FY23.

Growing season burning was limited and below normal averages due to a USFS-wide moratorium on prescribed burning during portions of the reporting year.

Ocala National Forest –

- 1) Compartment 19 mid-story reduction – FWC and USFS entered into a Supplemental Project Agreement under the Good Neighbor Authority. FWC implemented mid-story reduction on 185.5 in sandhills habitat in the Ocala NF. A similar project is scheduled to occur in FY23.
- 2) FY22 NNIS treatment – The Ocala NF treated 38 acres of invasive species, primarily via contract.
- 3) FY22 prescribed burning – The Ocala NF burned a total of 1,335 acres of sandhill habitat, with all of the burning occurring between October 15, 2021 and March 18, 2022.

Osceola National Forest - Prescribed burning is the main practice used to manage gopher tortoise habitat on the Osceola. However, other practices are used such as thinning, mowing, and roller chopping. Out of the potential gopher tortoise habitat on the ONF (23,138 acres), 4,548 acres were managed during FY22. This entailed 411 acres of prescribed burning during the growing season and 4,137 acres during the dormant season.

- i. Total estimated gopher tortoise habitat acres managed on “owned or managed lands” or “other lands” for reporting agency/organization.

Table 2. Land Management (numbers reflect acres of potential gopher tortoise habitat)

Report year		*Total acres restored or maintained as GT habitat	Acres burned - growing season (%)	Acres burned - dormant season (%)	Acres of invasive species treated	Acres managed (e.g., mechanical, longleaf planting)
2012	Owned or managed lands	35,721	30,354 (85%)	5,357 (15%)	60	?
	**Other lands					
2013	Owned or managed lands	76,776	48,851 (64%)	27,817 (36%)	173	?
	**Other lands					
2014	Owned or managed lands	103,809	38,370 (46%)	45,433 (54%)	126	15,171
	**Other lands					
2015	Owned or managed lands	79,761	29,178 (46%)	34,893 (54%)	201	9,091

	**Other lands					
2016	Owned or managed lands	88,010	33,778 (42%)	45,939 (58%)	397	7,896
	**Other lands					
2017	Owned or managed lands	85,430	17,176 (54%)	14,785 (46%)	1120	52,349
	**Other lands					
2018	Owned or managed lands	175,960	67,913 (44%)	86,362 (56%)	1,152	20,533
	**Other lands					
2019	Owned or managed lands	124,369	55,560 (52%)	50,579 (48%)	2,753	15,477
	**Other lands					
2020	Owned or managed lands	52,154	14,372 (30%)	34,176 (70%)	834	2,772
	**Other lands					
2021	Owned or managed lands	58,205	20,954 (37%)	35,994 (63%)	161	1,096
	**Other lands					
2022	Owned or managed lands	61,399.5	14,873 (25%)	45,159 (75%)	203	1164.5
	**Other lands					

*The Total acres restored or maintained as GT habitat should be the sum of the succeeding 4 columns.

**Other gopher tortoise habitat/lands can include ANY lands regardless of ownership, protection level, or agreement.

USFWS

- a) How much potential gopher tortoise habitat does the signatory agency directly own or manage?
 - i. Total estimated acreage of protected gopher tortoise habitat (either by public ownership, by easement, or covered under a management plan that provides for the conservation of the gopher tortoise)

Table 1. Acres of potential gopher tortoise habitat owned or managed by the signatory agency (put n/a if not applicable)

Report year	Protected lands (Public)	Protected lands (Private)	Other lands owned or managed by the agency
2016	SV: 6,117 PI: 363 MI: 88,751 LS: 4,855 LW: 2,400 EK: 260 CH: 35 EH: 1,500	EK: 6.5 EH: 3,500	n/a

	HS: 315 AC: 2,000 LWR: 1,900 DD: 37 Total: 108,533 acres		
		Total: 3,506.5 acres	
2017	AC – 200 CH – 30 EK – 250 EH – 1,855 HS – 315 DD – 37 LWR – 1,900 LW – 2,400 LS – 4,855 MI – 88,751 PI – 250 SM – 10,928 SV – 6,117 OK – 470 TOTAL = 118,358	EK – 6.5 EH – 4,440 TOTAL = 4,446.5	OK – 982
2018	AC – 200 CH - 30 EK – 260 EH – 1,855 LWR – 1,900 LW – 2,400 LS – 4,855 MI – 88,751 PI – 250 SV – 6,117 OK – 470 TOTAL = 107,088		
2019	AC – 200 EK – 250 CH – 30 EH - 4,000 HS – 315 DD – 37 LWR - 1,900 LW - 2,400 LS - 4,855 MI - 88,751 PI – 350	EK - 6.5 EH - 5,000 Total = 5,006.5	OK – 982 Total = 982

	SM - 10,928 SV - 6,117 OK - 470 TOTAL = 120,603		
2020	AC – 200 EK – 240 CH – 30 EH - 1,500 HS – 315 DD – 37 LWR - 1,900 LW - 2,400 LS - 4,855 MI - 88,751 PI – 200 SM - 10,928 SV - 6,117 OK - 470 Total = 117,943 acres	EK - 6.5 EH - 3,595 Total = 3,601.5 acres	OK – 982 Total = 982 acres
2021	AC – 200 EK – 230 CH – 30 EH – 3,659 HS – 315 DD – 65 LWR - 1,900 LW - 2,400 LS – 3,396 MI - 88,751 PI – 200 SM - 10,928 SV - 6,147 OK – 470 HN – 150 EU – 11,600 Total = 130,441	EK - 6.5 EH – 3,595 EU – 1,000 Total = 4,601.5	
2022	AC(200) EK(262) CH(30) EH(3,659) HS(315)	EK(6.5); EU(1,000)	0

DD(65) LWR(1,900) LW(2,400) LS(3,396) MI(88,751) PI(200) SM(10,928) SV(6,117) OK(470) HN(150) EU(11,600) Total = 130,443 acres	Total = 1,006.5 acres	
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- b) Provide a short narrative regarding the type of management activities that were completed on the signatory’s lands or other lands during the year, including any challenges or successes.
 - i. Total estimated gopher tortoise habitat acres managed on “owned or managed lands” or “other lands” for reporting agency/organization.

AC: Invasive species treatment was the only gopher tortoise management conducted in 2022

EK: Twelve acres of coin vine were re-treated by refuge staff and interns following the contractor treatment in 2020.

CH: No exotics were treated.

EH: About 1,304 acres were burned during the growing season.

HS: Mechanical fuel reduction was conducted on 86 acres of sand pine scrub habitat.

LWR: Approximately 486 acres were burned.

OK: Invasives species control was conducted on 0.1 acres.

PI: Approximately 20 acres were mowed for habitat maintenance. .

SV: Dormant season prescribed fire was utilized to maintain approximately 3,382 acres of occupied and unoccupied gopher tortoise habitat in February 2022. Invasive exotic plant removal enhanced over 19 acres of occupied and unoccupied gopher tortoise habitat. Public hunting and a conservation partnership with USDA Wildlife Services provided overabundant mesopredator control that resulted in a reduction of gopher tortoise predators.

LS: Zone fire staff prescribed burned 1,715 tortoise habitat acres, all in the growing season. Fourteen acres of suitable tortoise habitat were chemically treated, and the same 178 acres were mechanically treated.

DD: No acres managed specifically for gopher tortoise.

EU: Prescribed fire was applied to 688 acres.

PFW: Projects completed a total of 2,013 acres of habitat improvements for gopher tortoise.

Table 2. Land Management (numbers reflect acres of potential gopher tortoise habitat)

Report year		*Total acres restored or maintained as GT habitat	Acres burned - growing season (%)	Acres burned - dormant season (%)	Acres of invasive species treated	Acres managed (e.g., mechanical, longleaf planting)
2016	Owned or managed lands	AC: 350 EK: 6 CH: 35 EH: 1,200 HS: 315 LWR: 841 LW: 1,391 LS: 4,855 MI: 10,645 SV: 5,476 DD: 37 Total: 25,151	LWR: 350 LS: 4,030 MI: 60% (no acreage) SV: 1000 Total: 5,380 (not incl. MI)	LW: 100 LS: 825 MI: 40% (no acreage) SV: 4,466 Total: 5,391 (not incl. MI)	AC: 114 EK: 6 EH: 1,200 HS: 154 LWR: 491 LW: 2 MI: 26 PI: 363 SV: 10 DD: 37 Total: 2,403	CH: 35
	**Other lands	EH 3,500 EK 6.5 Total: 3,506.5			EK 6.5	
2017	Owned or managed lands	AC – 200 CH – 30 EK – 16.2 EH – 62 HS – 5 DD – 37 LWR – 350 LW – 108 LS – 1,889 MI – 5,424 PI – 250 SM – 852 SV – 857 OK – 378 TOTAL = 10,458.2	LS – 1,620 MI – 11 SV – 10 TOTAL = 1,641 (43.6%)	LW – 100 LS – 127 MI – 89 SM – 582 SV – 847 OK – 378 TOTAL = 2,123 (56.4%)	EK – 15 EH – 62 HS – 5 DD – 37 LWR – 350 LW – 2 LS – 30 MI – 39 PI – 230 TOTAL = 770	AC – 200 CH – 30 EK – 1.2 LW – 6 LS – 112 MI – 5,285 PI – 20 SM – 270 TOTAL = 5,924.2
	**Other lands	EK – 6.5			EK – 6.5	

2018	Owned or managed lands	AC – 45 EK – 5 LW – 1,000 LS – 4,855 MI – 1,007 PI – 56.5 SV – 2,844 OK – 470 Total = 10,282.5	LW-60(60%) LS-441(16%) Total 501ac (8% of total)	LW-40(40%) LS-2,333(86%) SV-2,834 OK-375(100%) Total =5,582ac (92% of total)	AC – 45 EK – 5 LW – 2 LS – 25 MI – 459 PI – 34.5 SV – 10 OK – 1 Total=581.5	LW – 36 LS – 253 PI – 22 Total=311
	**Other lands	OK - 982				
2019	Owned or managed lands	AC - 200 EK - 4 CH – 30 EH - 100 HS – 3 DD – 37 LWR - 500 LS – 2,540 MI – 8,427 PI – 20 SM – 2,922 SV – 5,639 PFW – 12,641 Total = 33,063	LWR - 500 LS (1,323:61%) MI(1,509:19%) SV (5,609) Total = 8,941	LS (833:39%) MI(6,433:81%) SM(2,904, 100%) Total = 10,170	AC – 200 EK – 4 EH – 100 HS - 3) DD – 37 LS – 18 MI – 485 SV – 20 Total = 867	CH – 30 LS – 366 PI – 20 SM – 18 Total = 434
	**Other lands	EK - 6.5 Total = 6.5			EK - 6.5 Total = 6.5	
2020	Owned or managed lands	AC - 30 EK - 378.5 CH - 30 EH – 620 HS – 237 DD – 37 LWR – 340 LS - 1,418 LW – 670 MI - 8,427 PI – 40 SM - 5,683 SV - 2,879 PFW – 811 OK – 401 Total = 22,001.5	AC - 30:100% EH - 300:48% LWR - 340:100% LS - 750:53% LW - 660:99% MI - 1,509:18% SM - 3,825:67% SV - 2,868:99% OK - 284:70% Total = 10,566	EH - 320:52% HS - 32:14% LS - 415:29% MI - 6,433:76% SM - 1,858:17% PFW - 621:77% OK - 117:30% Total = 9,796	EK - 378.5 HS – 205 DD – 37 LS – 21 LW – 10 MI – 485 PI – 20 SV – 11 Total = 1167.5	CH – 30 LS – 232 PI – 20 PFW – 190 Total = 472

	**Other lands	EK – 6.5 Total = 6.5			EK – 6.5 Total = 6.5	
2021	Owned or managed lands	AC – 200 EK - 230 CH – 30 EH - 3659 HS – 315 DD - 37 LWR - 1900 LS - 3396 LW - 55 MI – 7329 PI – 200 SM – 5683 SV – 373 OK – 470 EU – 1800 Total = 25,677 acres	LS - 2532 MI – 2963 SM - 818 Total = 6,313 acres (24.6%)	EH – 2619 LWR - 90 LS – 761 MI - 3893 SM – 1346 EU – 723 Total = 9,432 acres (36.7%)	EK - 13.08) HS – 105 DD 37 LS - 21 LW – 10 MI – 433 PI – 30 SV – 7 OK - 0.1 Total = 656.18 acres	EK – 89 CH - 30 HS – 55 LS - 103 LW – 45 MI - 30 PI – 20 EU – 50 Total = 422 acres
	**Other lands	PFW – 4,584	PFW – 1,597	PFW – 1,308	PFW - 24	PFW - 831
2022	Owned or managed lands	AC - 8 EK - 262 CH – 30 EH - 1,304 HS – 315 LWR – 486 LS - 3,396 LW - 1,586 MI - 8,528 PI – 20 SM - 2,195 SV – 373 OK – 470 EU - 1,700 Total = 20,673 acres	EH - 1,304 LS - 1,715 LW - 725 MI - 2,678 Total = 6,442 acres (31.1%)	LWR – 486 LW – 800 MI - 5,272 SM - 2,195 SV - 3,382 OK – 114 EU – 688 Total = 12,937 acres (62.6%)	AC - 8 EK – 12 HS – 60 LS – 14 LW – 5 MI – 120 SV – 19 OK - 0.1 Total = 238.1 acres	HS – 86 LS - 178 chemical and mechanical) LW – 56 MI – 458 PI – 20 Total = 798 acres
	**Other lands	PFW - 2,013 Total = 2,013 acres	PFW – 773 Total = 773 acres (38.4%)	PFW – 372 Total = 372 acres (18.5%)		

*The *Total acres restored or maintained as GT habitat* should be the sum of the succeeding 4 columns.

**Other gopher tortoise habitat/lands can include ANY lands regardless of ownership, protection level, or agreement.

ALABAMA DCNR

- a) How much potential gopher tortoise habitat does the signatory agency directly own or manage?
- i. Total estimated acreage of protected gopher tortoise habitat (either by public ownership, by easement, or covered under a management plan that provides for the conservation of the gopher tortoise)

Table 1. Acres of potential gopher tortoise habitat owned or managed by the signatory agency (put n/a if not applicable)

Report year	Protected lands (Public)	Protected lands (Private)	Other lands owned or managed by the agency
2014	8263	0	0
2015	19603	0	5050
2016	19103	0	0
2017	20354	0	0
2018	21168	0	0
2019	22895	0	0
2020	27,198	0	0
2021	28,261*	NA	NA
2022	28,478	NA	NA

*WMAs, SOAs, and Wehle Center total 80,020 acres and of those total acres 28,261 acres are considered suitable soils.

- b) Provide a short narrative regarding the type of management activities that were completed on the signatory's lands or other lands during the year, including any challenges or successes.

The State of Alabama permanently protects and manages approximately 28,000 acres of tortoise habitat on public lands including Charles D. Kelley-Autauga, Barbour, Geneva State Forest, and Perdido River Wildlife Management Areas (WMAs), Blackwater River, Uchee Creek, Fred T. Stimpson and Upper State Special Opportunity Areas (SOAs), and Elhew Research Station

(Wehle tract). DWFF and SLD continue to work together to restore and maintain gopher tortoise habitat on DWFF, Forever Wild Land Trust, and SLD lands. Public land management breakdown:

1. Charles D. Kelley-Autauga WMA – Dormant season burn 725 acres, growing season burn 180 acres, site prep 134 acres, planted 134 acres of longleaf pine, and thinned 453 acres.
 2. Barbour WMA – Dormant season burn 2800 acres, growing season burn 180 acres, site prep 180 acres, planted 120 acres of longleaf pine, planted 60 acres of loblolly pine, clearcut 220 acres, treated 20 acres of invasive plant species, and thinned 180 acres.
 3. Geneva State Forest WMA (only DWFF ownership acres reported) – Dormant season burn 1050 acres, growing season burn 325 acres, site prep 290 acres, planted 265 acres of longleaf pine, clearcut 290 acres, mechanically treated 248 acres, treated 25 acres of invasive plant species, and thinned 385 acres.
 4. Perdido River WMA - Dormant season burn 1300 acres, site prep 1000 acres, clearcut 4000 acres, treated 50 acres of invasive plant species, and thinned 160 acres.
 5. Blackwater River SOA – Dormant season burn 1100 acres and treated 30 acres of invasive species.
 6. Fred T. Stimpson SOA – Dormant season burn 1171 acres and treated 30 acres of invasive plant species.
 7. Upper State SOA – Dormant season burn 119 acres and treated 4 acres of invasive plant species.
 8. Uchee Creek SOA - Dormant season burn 541 acres, clearcut 33 acres, treated 10 acres of invasive plant species, and thinned 538 acres
 9. Elhew Research Station (Wehle Center) (SLD) - Dormant season burn 79 acres and growing season burn 206 acres.
- i. Total estimated gopher tortoise habitat acres managed on “owned or managed lands” or “other lands” for reporting agency/organization.

Table 2. Land Management (numbers reflect acres of potential gopher tortoise habitat)

Report year		*Total acres restored or maintained as GT habitat	Acres burned - growing season (%)	Acres burned - dormant season (%)	Acres of invasive species treated	Acres managed (e.g., mechanical, longleaf planting)
2016	Owned or managed lands	4667	2168(46%)	1200(26%)	84(1%)	1215(27%)
	**Other lands					
2017	Owned or managed lands	4892	1420(29%)	3041 (62%)	78(1%)	353(8%)
	**Other lands	724	424(59%)	NA	20(1%)	280(40%)
2018	Owned or managed lands	9617	1081(11%)	7684 (80%)	74 (1%)	778 (8%)
	**Other lands	724	281 (39%)	NA	NA	443 (61%)
2019	Owned or managed lands	7842	272(3%)	5645 (72%)	98 (1%)	1827 (24%)
	**Other lands	724	458(63%)	186(26%)	NA	80(11%)

2020	Owned or managed lands	13259***	2063 (15%)	3967 (30%)	134 (1%)	7095 (54%)
	**Other lands	0	0	0	0	0
2021	Owned or managed lands	15,851	1744 (11%)	7759 (48%)	48 (1%)	6300 (40%)
	**Other lands					
2022	Owned or managed lands (DWFF Lands)	18,711	991 (5%)	8886 (47%)	144 (1%)	8690 (47%)
	**Other lands (SLD lands)	285	206 (72%)	79 (28%)	0	0

*The *Total acres restored or maintained as GT habitat* should be the sum of the succeeding 4 columns.

**Other gopher tortoise habitat/lands can include ANY lands regardless of ownership, protection level, or agreement.

***ADCNR owned lands includes Wehle Center, WMAs and SOAs mentioned in executive summary.

FLORIDA FWCC

- a) How much potential gopher tortoise habitat does the signatory agency directly own or manage?

A potential gopher tortoise habitat model, created by FWC's Fish and Wildlife Research Institute (FWRI), was used to gather data on where potential gopher tortoise habitat occurs on FWC-managed lands. The model was updated in 2016 by the Gopher Tortoise Conservation Program to include improved pasturelands as potential habitat. For the current reporting year (FY22), acres reported in the following table represent the current cumulative total acreage of potential gopher tortoise habitat in each category.

- i. Total estimated acreage of protected gopher tortoise habitat (either by public ownership, by easement, or covered under a management plan that provides for the conservation of the gopher tortoise)

Table 1. Acres of potential gopher tortoise habitat owned or managed by the signatory agency (put n/a if not applicable)

Report year	Protected lands (Public)	Protected lands (Private)	Other lands owned or managed by the agency
2009	n/a	n/a	n/a
2010	n/a	n/a	n/a
2011	104,485	n/a	n/a

2012	150,872	n/a	n/a
2013	143,784	8,740	257
2014	145,931	n/a	n/a
2015	177,533	9,944	219
2016	180,960	14,021	n/a
2017	180,958	14,021	n/a
2018	180,948	14,021	n/a
2019	181,257	13,682	n/a
2020	181,076	13,682	n/a
2021	185,087	19,005	n/a
2022	185,001	19,240	n/a

- b) Provide a short narrative regarding the type of management activities that were completed on the signatory's lands or other lands during the year, including any challenges or successes.

The FWC and other state agencies have completed prescribed burns and exotic species removal across the state. The FWC's Objective-based Vegetation Management (OBVM) system was queried to gather data on lands by management activity, i.e., prescribed burns, mechanical treatments, planting, and invasive species removal/treatments. For FY22, the acres of gopher tortoise habitat reported include acres managed via the FWC's Gopher Tortoise Habitat Management Assistance Funding Program on local government's conservation lands (GTHMAF; 220 acres), Landowner Assistance Program (LAP) acres managed for the purposes of Conservation, Wildlife, and Forestry on private lands (24,855 acres), and 225,862 acres managed on FWC managed lands. Data in Table 2 report estimates of acres burned during the dormant season (October-March) and growing season (April-September).

- i. Total estimated gopher tortoise habitat acres managed on “owned or managed lands” or “other lands” for reporting agency/organization.

Table 2. Land Management (numbers reflect acres of potential gopher tortoise habitat)

Report year		*Total acres restored or maintained as GT habitat	Acres burned - growing season (%)	Acres burned - dormant season (%)	Acres of invasive species treated	Acres managed (e.g., mechanical, longleaf planting)
2009	Owned or managed lands	6,104	1,461	4,643		
	**Other lands	52	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
2010	Owned or managed lands	25,389	15,162	12,426	1,847	
	**Other lands	72,318	n/a	41,221	31,097	
2011	Owned or managed lands	62,327	11,479	10,042	382	
	**Other lands	60,031	41,421	18,610	n/a	n/a
2012	Owned or managed lands	60,322	27,264	15,682	6,880	
	**Other lands	63,580	36,241	27,339	n/a	n/a
2013	Owned or managed lands	304,423	138,345	166,078		
	**Other lands	83,918	35,377	47,793	513	
2014	Owned or managed lands	67,485	15,356	16,809	23,452	11,868
	**Other lands	32,929	169		136	722
2015	Owned or managed lands	210,877	48,985 (45%)	59,862 (55%)	64,137	37,893
	**Other lands	53,251	29,149 (58%)	21,123 (42%)	495	2,484
2016	Owned or managed lands	229,680	55,708 (50%)	55,394 (50%)	57,072	61,506
	**Other lands	22,386	10,317 (51%)	10,005 (49%)	481	1,583
2017	Owned or managed lands	217,696	32,594 (36%)	57,065 (64%)	86,341	42,696
	**Other lands	6,130	1,470 (26%)	4,090 (74%)	281	289
2018	Owned or managed lands	238,650	29,743 (43%)	68,320 (57%)	107,617	32,970
	**Other lands	5,768	1,912 (33%)	2,848 (67%)	250	758

2019	Owned or managed lands	258,423	56,830 (55%)	47,181 (45%)	124,996	29,416
	**Other lands	21,830	9,265 (63%)	5,511 (37%)	336	6,718
2020	Owned or managed lands	244,330	41,594 (39%)	66,003 (61%)	109,366	27,367
	**Other lands	13,791	2,643 (62%)	1,651 (38%)	1,431	8,066
2021	Owned or managed lands	202,961	44,216 (41%)	63,127 (59%)	67,434	28,184
	**Other lands	45,113	9,260 (45%)	11,409 (55%)	1,001	23,443
2022	Owned or managed lands	225,852	47,613 (47%)	52,744 (53%)	96,840	28,655
	**Other lands	25,075	5,041 (44%)	6,436 (56%)	106	13,492

*The Total acres restored or maintained as GT habitat should be the sum of the succeeding 4 columns.

**Other gopher tortoise habitat/lands can include ANY lands regardless of ownership, protection level, or agreement.

GEORGIA DNR

Data submitted through separate documents at same time as this document.

- a) How much potential gopher tortoise habitat does the signatory agency directly own or manage?
- i. Total estimated acreage of protected gopher tortoise habitat (either by public ownership, by easement, or covered under a management plan that provides for the conservation of the gopher tortoise)

Table 1. Acres of potential gopher tortoise habitat owned or managed by the signatory agency (put n/a if not applicable)

Report year	Protected lands (Public)	Protected lands (Private)	Other lands owned or managed by the agency
2009	30,889	n/a	n/a
2010	31,692	n/a	n/a
2011	31,716	n/a	n/a
2012	31,716	n/a	n/a

2013	32,840	n/a	n/a
2014	39,641	n/a	n/a
2015	40,525	n/a	n/a
2016	46,192	n/a	n/a
2017	51,451	n/a	n/a
2018	60,104	n/a	n/a
2019			
2020	73,746.7	N/A	N/A
2021	77,221	N/A	N/A
2022	80,816	N/A	N/A

b) Provide a short narrative regarding the type of management activities that were completed on the signatory’s lands or other lands during the year, including any challenges or successes.

Prescribed fire continued to be the primary management activity, achieving more acres burned by WRD staff and partners on wildlife management areas than ever before. Other activities included timber thinning, invasive species control, planting longleaf, and groundcover restoration.

i. Total estimated gopher tortoise habitat acres managed on “owned or managed lands” or “other lands” for reporting agency/organization.

Table 2. Land Management (numbers reflect acres of potential gopher tortoise habitat)

Report year	*Total acres restored or maintained as GT habitat	Acres burned - growing season (%)	Acres burned - dormant season (%)	Acres of invasive species treated	Acres managed (e.g., mechanical, longleaf planting)
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2009	Owned or managed lands	22,899	305 (2%)	17,865 (98%)	758	3,971
	**Other lands	0	0	0	0	0
2010	Owned or managed lands	19,622	1,360 (9%)	14,326 (91%)	10	3,926
	**Other lands	10,690	?	10,210 (seasons not reported)	0	480
2011	Owned or managed lands	19,644	1,830 (11%)	15,487 (89%)	417	1,910
	**Other lands	3,862	?	3,333 (seasons not reported)	379	150
2012	Owned or managed lands	18,005	3,543 (24%)	11,315 (76%)	300	2,847
	**Other lands	6,291	?	5,776 (seasons not reported)	30	485
2013	Owned or managed lands	21,781	3,189 (17%)	15,601 (83%)	2,211	780
	**Other lands	7,427	4,026 (55%)	3,314 (45%)	0	87
2014	Owned or managed lands	32,714	8,343 (34%)	16,048 (66%)	1,003	7,320
	**Other lands	2,127	829 (39%)	1,298 (61%)	0	0
2015	Owned or managed lands	26,162	5,725 (30%)	13,459 (70%)	815	6,163
	**Other lands	3,752	2,502 (67%)	1,250 (33%)	0	0
2016	Owned or managed lands	26,285	7,882 (36%)	14,158 (64%)	91	4,154
	**Other lands	4,380	1,487 (37%)	2,513 (63%)	0	380
2017	Owned or managed lands	24,145	9,062 (47%)	10,359 (53%)	44	4,680
	**Other lands	640	335 (52%)	305 (48%)	0	0
2018	Owned or managed lands	29,631	14,104 (55%)	11,338 (45%)	6	4,183
	**Other lands	276	87	189	0	0
2019	Owned or managed lands					
	**Other lands					

2020	Owned or managed lands	36,458	6,780 (20.4%)	26,429 (79.6%)	105 acres of sand pine removed	2,425 acres thinned; 719 acres planted in longleaf
	**Other lands					
2021	Owned or managed lands	42,146	10,899	29,459	39 acres of invasive plant treatment	681 acres of longleaf planted; 1,068 acres of pine thinned
	**Other lands	1,017	339	678		
2022	Owned or managed lands	54,051	16,320 (31%)	35,624 (69%)	13	1,113 acres LL planted, 981 acre pine thinned
	**Other lands	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA

*The *Total acres restored or maintained as GT habitat* should be the sum of the succeeding 4 columns.

**Other gopher tortoise habitat/lands can include ANY lands regardless of ownership, protection level, or agreement.

NOTE: Our burn data do not break down acreages by habitat. As a result, the burn acreages given here unfortunately over-estimate tortoise habitat burned by including all habitats within burn units. However, all burn units used in these calculations contain tortoise habitat.

SOUTH CAROLINA DNR

- a) How much potential gopher tortoise habitat does the signatory agency directly own or manage?
- i. Total estimated acreage of protected gopher tortoise habitat (either by public ownership, by easement, or covered under a management plan that provides for the conservation of the gopher tortoise)

Table 1. Acres of potential gopher tortoise habitat owned or managed by the signatory agency (put n/a if not applicable)

Report year	Protected lands (Public)	Protected lands (Private)	Other lands owned or managed by the agency
2012	3059		
2013	3124		
2014	3124		

2015	3124		
2016	3124	~450 (deed restriction)	
2017	3124	~450 (deed restriction)	
2018	3124	450	
2019	3124	450	
2020	3124	450	
2021	3124	450	
2022	3124	450	

- b) Provide a short narrative regarding the type of management activities that were completed on the signatory’s lands or other lands during the year, including any challenges or successes.
 - i. Total estimated gopher tortoise habitat acres managed on “owned or managed lands” or “other lands” for reporting agency/organization.

TSRHP -1437 acres
AGTHP -1687 acres
 Total= 3124 acres

Table 2. Land Management (numbers reflect acres of potential gopher tortoise habitat)

Report year		*Total acres restored or maintained as GT habitat	Acres burned - growing season (%)	Acres burned - dormant season (%)	Acres of invasive species treated	Acres managed (e.g., mechanical, longleaf planting)
2012	Owned or managed lands	3059	337	476		245
	**Other lands					
2013	Owned or managed lands	3124	93	487		

	**Other lands				
2014	Owned or managed lands	3124	0	395	
	**Other lands				
2015	Owned or managed lands	3124	350	613	300
	**Other lands				
2016	Owned or managed lands	3124	0	550	
	**Other lands				
2017	Owned or managed lands	3124	544	175	43.5
	**Other lands				
2018	Owned or managed lands	3124	31	254	180
	**Other lands	450			
2019	Owned or managed lands	3124	460	105	106
	**Other lands	450			
2020	Owned or managed lands	3124	131	150	100
	**Other lands	450	150		
2021	Owned or managed lands	3124	404	57	
	**Other lands	450			
2022	Owned or managed lands	3124	226 (7.2%)	307 (9.8%)	
	**Other lands	450			

*The *Total acres restored or maintained as GT habitat* should be the sum of the succeeding 4 columns.

**Other gopher tortoise habitat/lands can include ANY lands regardless of ownership, protection level, or agreement.

GEORGIA DOT

- a) How much potential gopher tortoise habitat does the signatory agency directly own or manage?
 - i. Total estimated acreage of protected gopher tortoise habitat (either by public ownership, by easement, or covered under a management plan that provides for the conservation of the gopher tortoise)

Table 1. Acres of potential gopher tortoise habitat owned or managed by the signatory agency (put n/a if not applicable)

Report year	Protected lands (Public)	Protected lands (Private)	Other lands owned or managed by the agency
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2013	1492 acres	0 acres	55* acres
2014	1492 acres	0 acres	55 acres
2015	1492 acres	0 acres	55 acres
2016	1492 acres	0 acres	55 acres
2017	1492 acres	0 acres	55 acres
2018	1,492 acres	0 acres	0 acres
2019	1,492 acres	0 acres	0 acres
2020			
2021			
2022			

b) Provide a short narrative regarding the type of management activities that were completed on the signatory’s lands or other lands during the year, including any challenges or successes.

Management activities on GADOT owned properties were performed by GADNR and is included in their report.

i. Total estimated gopher tortoise habitat acres managed on “owned or managed lands” or “other lands” for reporting agency/organization.

Table 2. Land Management (numbers reflect acres of potential gopher tortoise habitat)

Report year		*Total acres restored or maintained as GT habitat	Acres burned - growing season (%)	Acres burned - dormant season (%)	Acres of invasive species treated	Acres managed (e.g., mechanical, longleaf planting)
2013	Owned or managed lands	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	None

	**Other lands	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	None
2014	Owned or managed lands	750 acres	200 acres (27%)	550 acres (73%)	700 acres	None
	**Other lands	None	None	None	None	None
2015	Owned or managed lands	700 acres	500 acres (71%)	200 acres (29%)	Unknown	180 acres [^]
	**Other lands	None	None	None	None	None
2016	Owned or managed lands	1050 acres	None	1050 acres (100%)	Unknown	280 acres [^]
	**Other lands	None	None	None	None	None
2017	Owned or managed lands	280 acres	None	280 acres (27%)	Unknown	None
	**Other lands	None	None	None	None	None
2018	Owned or managed land					
	**Other lands					
2019	Owned or managed land					
	**Other lands					
2020	Owned or managed land					
	**Other lands					
2021	Owned or managed land					
	**Other lands					
2022	Owned or managed land					
	**Other lands					

* The *Total acres restored or maintained as GT habitat* should be the sum of the preceding 4 columns.

**Other gopher tortoise habitat/lands can include ANY lands regardless of ownership, protection level, or agreement.

[^] Acres managed were also burned, so figures from this column are not included in the sum of the left-most column: "Total acres restored or maintained as GT habitat."

NOTE: All burns on GDOT properties were carried out by GADNR. These acreages are included within the data provided by GADNR data.

POARCH BAND OF CREEK INDIANS

- a) How much potential gopher tortoise habitat does the signatory agency directly own or manage?
 - i. Total estimated acreage of protected gopher tortoise habitat (either by public ownership, by easement, or covered under a management plan that provides for the conservation of the gopher tortoise)

Table 1. Acres of potential gopher tortoise habitat owned or managed by the signatory agency (put n/a if not applicable)

Report year	Protected lands (Public)	Protected lands (Private)	Other lands owned or managed by the agency
2016	0	11,895	0
2017	0	12,845	0
2018	0	14,645	0
2019	0	15,545	0
2020	0	15,885	0
2021	0	16,215	0
2022			

- b) Provide a short narrative regarding the type of management activities that were completed on the signatory's lands or other lands during the year, including any challenges or successes.
- i. Total estimated gopher tortoise habitat acres managed on "owned or managed lands" or "other lands" for reporting agency/organization.

*The *Total acres restored or maintained as GT habitat* should be the sum of the preceding 4 columns.

**Other gopher tortoise habitat/lands can include ANY lands regardless of ownership, protection level, or agreement.

Table 2. Land Management (numbers reflect acres of potential gopher tortoise habitat)

Report year		*Total acres restored or maintained as GT habitat	Acres burned - growing season (%)	Acres burned - dormant season (%)	Acres of invasive species treated	Acres managed (e.g., mechanical, longleaf planting)
2016	Owned or managed lands	3900	0	3550 (91%)	100-150 (4%)	200 (5%)
	**Other lands					
2017	Owned or managed lands	3250	0	3000 (92%)	100-150 (5%)	100 (3%)
	**Other lands					
2018	Owned or managed lands	3450	0	3300 (96%)	100-150 (4%)	0
	**Other lands					
2019	Owned or managed lands	3090	0	2720 (88%)	100-150 (5%)	220 (7%)
	**Other lands					
2020	Owned or managed lands	2800	0	2600(94%)	140(5%)	60(1%)
	**Other lands					
2021	Owned or managed lands	3,795	0	3500 (93%)	75 (1%)	220 (6%)
	**Other lands					
2022	Owned or managed lands					
	**Other lands					

AMERICAN FOREST FOUNDATION

AFF does not own any land.

LONGLEAF ALLIANCE

- a) How much potential gopher tortoise habitat does the signatory agency directly own or manage?
- i. Total estimated acreage of protected gopher tortoise habitat (either by public ownership, by easement, or covered under a management plan that provides for the conservation of the gopher tortoise)

Longleaf Alliance does not own land.

- b) Provide a short narrative regarding the type of management activities that were completed on the signatory's lands or other lands during the year, including any challenges or successes.

- i. Total estimated gopher tortoise habitat acres managed on “owned or managed lands” or “other lands” for reporting agency/organization.

Table 2. Land Management (numbers reflect acres of potential gopher tortoise habitat)

Report year		*Total acres restored or maintained as GT habitat	Acres burned - growing season (%)	Acres burned - dormant season (%)	Acres of invasive species treated	Acres managed (e.g., mechanical, longleaf planting)
2017	Owned or Managed Lands					
	** Other Lands	40,485	12,187	27,379	363	556
2018	Owned or Managed Lands					
	** Other Lands	45,378.3	24,851.4	19768	58.3	700.6
2019	Owned or Managed Lands					
	** Other Lands	68,151.8			151	628.5
2020	Owned or Managed Lands					
	** Other Lands		43,334	24,202	1,659	1063.3
2021*	Owned or Managed Lands					
	** Other Lands					
2022*	Owned or Managed Lands					
	** Other Lands					

* Beginning in 2021, The Longleaf Alliance began reporting only numbers that were done for partners not enrolled in the gopher tortoise CCA. Partners enrolled in the GT CCA have and will continue to provide those numbers as part of their own report. The Longleaf Alliance’s on the ground management staff, including both the Ecosystem Support Team (EST) and the Wetland Ecosystem Support Team (WEST), assist partners with management in Northwest Florida and South Alabama.

JONES CENTER

- a) How much potential gopher tortoise habitat does the signatory agency directly own or manage?
- i. Total estimated acreage of protected gopher tortoise habitat (either by public ownership, by easement, or covered under a management plan that provides for the conservation of the gopher tortoise) 16,976 ac (6,870ha)

Table 1. Acres of potential gopher tortoise habitat owned or managed by the signatory agency (put n/a if not applicable)

Report year	Protected lands (Public)	Protected lands (Private)	Other lands owned or managed by the agency
2009	N/A	16,976 ac (6870 ha)	N/A
2010	N/A	16,976 ac (6870 ha)	N/A
2011	N/A	16,976 ac (6870 ha)	N/A
2012	N/A	16,976 ac (6870 ha)	N/A
2013	N/A	16,976 ac (6870 ha)	N/A
2014	N/A	16,976 ac (6870 ha)	N/A
2015	N/A	16,976 ac (6870 ha)	N/A
2016	N/A	16,976 ac (6870 ha)	N/A
2017	N/A	16,976 ac (6870 ha)	N/A
2018	N/A	16,976 ac (6870 ha)	N/A
2019	N/A	16,976 ac (6,870 ha)	N/A
2020	N/A	16,976 ac (6,870 ha)	N/A

2021	N/A	16,976 ac (6,870 ha)	N/A
2022	N/A	16,976 ac (6,870 ha)	N/A

- b) Provide a short narrative regarding the type of management activities that were completed on the signatory's lands or other lands during the year, including any challenges or successes.

Total estimated gopher tortoise habitat acres managed on "owned or managed lands" or "other lands" for reporting agency/organization.

Table 2. Land Management (numbers reflect acres of potential gopher tortoise habitat)

Report year		*Total acres restored or maintained as GT habitat	Acres burned - growing season (%)	Acres burned - dormant season (%)	Acres of invasive species treated	Acres managed (e.g., mechanical, longleaf planting)
2012	Owned or managed lands	11,991 ac	3964.1 ac (33.2%)	7976.2 ac (66.8%)	N/A	51 ac
	**Other lands	N/A	N/A	N/A	NA	N/A
2013	Owned or managed lands	13,125 ac	3441.9 ac (26.3%)	9645.1 ac (73.7%)	N/A	38 ac
	**Other lands	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
2014	Owned or managed lands	12,425 ac	786 ac (6%)	11,579 ac (94%)	N/A	60 ac
	**Other lands	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
2015	Owned or managed lands	12,974.4 ac	2528.7 ac (19.6%)	10382.0 ac (80.4%)	N/A	63.6
	**Other lands	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
2016	Owned or managed lands	13,091.2 ac	†2920.4 ac (22.3%)	10170.8 ac (77.7%)	N/A	N/A
	**Other lands	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
2017	Owned or managed lands	12,962.6 ac	2797.3 ac (22%)	10127.3 ac (78%)	N/A	N/A
	**Other lands	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
2018	Owned or managed lands	12,076.8 ac.	1141.1 (9.4%)	10935.8 (90.6%)	N/A	N/A
	**Other lands	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
2019	Owned or managed lands	12,930.5 ac	†2,735.6 ac (21.2%)	10,194.8 ac (78.8%)	N/A	0
	**Other lands	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

2020	Owned or managed lands	11,856.2 ac	†1794.5 (15.1%)	10,061.6 ac (84.9%)	N/A	N/A
	**Other lands	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
2021	Owned or managed lands	16,354 ac.	3809 (23.3%)	12,545 (76.7%)	N/A	N/A
	**Other lands	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
2022	Owned or managed lands	16,976 ac	9136.4 (80.9%)	2147.8 (19.0%)	NA	NA
	**Other lands	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

*The *Total acres restored or maintained as GT habitat* should be the sum of the succeeding 4 columns.

**Other gopher tortoise habitat/lands can include ANY lands regardless of ownership, protection level, or agreement.

†Note: Growing season burns occurred from May-September; dormant season burns occurred from January-April.

ALABAMA FORESTRY COMMISSION

- a) How much potential gopher tortoise habitat does the signatory agency directly own or manage?
- i. Total estimated acreage of protected gopher tortoise habitat (either by public ownership, by easement, or covered under a management plan that provides for the conservation of the gopher tortoise)

AFC actively manages a total of 11,536 acres of state land. Geneva State Forest and Little River State Forest are 7,200 and 4,336 acres, respectively. There are 741 acres of state forest land that are managed less intensively.

Table 1. Acres of potential gopher tortoise habitat owned or managed by the signatory agency (put n/a if not applicable)

Report year	Protected lands (Public)	Protected lands (Private)	Other lands owned or managed by the agency
2014	9,363	N/A	741
2015	9,363	N/A	741
2016	9,363	N/A	741
2017	9,363	N/A	741
2018	9,363	N/A	741

2019	9,363	N/A	741
2020	9,363	N/A	741
2021	11,536	N/A	741
2022	11,536	N/A	741

- b) Provide a short narrative regarding the type of management activities that were completed on the signatory's lands or other lands during the year, including any challenges or successes.

Geneva State Forest: AFC personnel prescribe burned approximately 1,972 acres on Geneva State Forest during the dormant season. Twenty-seven miles of fire lanes were installed or refreshed. Approximately 5.0 acres of cogongrass were treated. Covid-19 pandemic restrictions kept the agency from conducting a landowner tour and Classroom in the Forest events during the spring of 2022.

Little River State Forest: AFC personnel prescribe burned 610 acres and installed or refreshed 8.0 miles of firelanes. Efforts began to informally survey the forest as time allows. Surveys (100%) are being conducted as units are burned. Fifty tortoises have been documented within the boundary. Surveys over the past two years have led AFC personnel to increase the population estimate to 75-100 tortoises on LRSF. Approximately 15 acres of cogongrass were treated within the boundary.

Private Landowner Report: It is important to capture and convey the accomplishments that are being achieved on private lands. Not all the accomplishments completed on private lands were aimed directly at GT habitat management, however indirectly they could improve the habitat for tortoises. During the reporting period, AFC personnel conducted 202 prescribed burns for a total of 29,427 acres. This acreage includes dormant and growing season understory and site preparation burns. AFC personnel wrote a variety of stand management recommendations (SMRs) for landowners; these included recommendations on thinning, harvesting, planting pines, prescribed burning, and timber stand improvement. AFC also performs compliance/practice checks for cost share and financial assistance programs such as the Conservation Reserve Program and Environmental Quality Incentives Program.

- i. Total estimated gopher tortoise habitat acres managed on "owned or managed lands" or "other lands" for reporting agency/organization

Table 2. Land Management (numbers reflect acres of potential gopher tortoise habitat)

Report year		*Total acres restored or maintained as GT habitat	Acres burned - growing season (%)	Acres burned - dormant season (%)	Acres of invasive species treated	Acres managed (e.g., mechanical, longleaf planting)
2014	Owned or managed lands					
	**Other lands					
2015	Owned or managed lands	781.5	600 110 – site prep	60	Cogongrass 11.5 ac.	110
	**Other lands	15,651.51	N/A	14,353.61	372.2	925.7
2016	Owned or managed lands	2,362.1	1580 240 – site prep	540	Cogongrass 12.1 ac.	200 – LLP 30 - Slash
	Other lands	14,972.94	14,350.17*		395.46	227.31
2017	Owned or managed lands	1,395	600	790	5	0
	Other lands	15,545	13,741		1,072*	732
2018	Owned or managed lands	2,526	852	1617	5	52
	**Other lands	12,872	12,620		252	
2019	Owned or managed lands	2,622	1,317	1,297	8.0	0
	**Other lands	18,447	18,327		120	0
2020	Owned or managed lands	2,370	1,218	1,117	35	0
	**Other lands	7,392	7,237		155 cogongrass	0
2021	Owned or managed lands	1,574	486	1,068	20	0
	**Other lands	14,580	14,580		0	0
2022	Owned or managed lands	2,592	2,092 (80%)	500 (20%)	40	0
	**Other lands	29,427	21,997 (75%)	7,430 (25%)		

*The *Total acres restored or maintained as GT habitat* should be the sum of the succeeding 4 columns.

**Other gopher tortoise habitat/lands can include ANY lands regardless of ownership, protection level, or agreement.

*** 275 acres of cogongrass, 23 acres of kudzu, 774 acres of invasive control verified through CRP

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

- a) How much potential gopher tortoise habitat does the signatory agency directly own or manage?
- i. Total estimated acreage of protected gopher tortoise habitat (either by public ownership, by easement, or covered under a management plan that provides for the conservation of the gopher tortoise)

Table 1. Acres of potential gopher tortoise habitat owned or managed by the signatory agency (put n/a if not applicable)

Report year	Protected lands (Public)	Protected lands (Private)	Other lands owned or managed by the agency
2009	75 (ANHS)	0	N/A
2010	75 (ANHS)	0	N/A
2011	75 (ANHS)	0	N/A
2012	75 (ANHS)	0	N/A
2013	75 (ANHS)	0	N/A
2014	75 (ANHS)	0	N/A
2015	75 (ANHS)	0	N/A
2016	75 (ANHS)	0	N/A
2017	75 (ANHS)	0	N/A
2018	75 (ANHS)	0	N/A
2019	75 (ANHS) 9,900 (TIMU & FOCA) 10,000 (CNS) 69 (FMNM)	0	N/A
2020	173 (EVER) 10,000 (CANA) 679 (CUIS)	0	N/A

	15 (DESO) 69 (FOMA) 75 (ANDE) 9,900 (TIMU/FOCA)		
2021	ANDE (75) CANA (10,000) CUIS (679) DESO (15) EVER (173) FOMA (69) TIMU (9900)	0	N/A
2022			

- b) Provide a short narrative regarding the type of management activities that were completed on the signatory’s lands or other lands during the year, including any challenges or successes.
 - i. Total estimated gopher tortoise habitat acres managed on “owned or managed lands” or “other lands” for reporting agency/organization.

Table 2. Land Management (numbers reflect acres of potential gopher tortoise habitat)

Report year		*Total acres restored or maintained as GT habitat	Acres burned - growing season (%)	Acres burned - dormant season (%)	Acres of invasive species treated	Acres managed (e.g., mechanical, longleaf planting)
2012	Owned or managed lands					
	**Other lands					
2013	Owned or managed lands					
	**Other lands					
2014	Owned or managed lands					
	**Other lands					
2015	Owned or managed lands					
	**Other lands					
2016	Owned or managed lands					
	**Other lands					
2017	Owned or managed lands					
	**Other lands					

2018	Owned or managed lands					
	**Other lands					
2019	Owned or managed lands	10,000 (CNS) 9,900 (TIMU & FOCA) 69 (FMNM) Total=19,969	0	0	2 (ANHS) 1,000(CNS) 1 (FMNM) Total=1,003	0
	**Other lands					
2020	Owned or managed lands	173 (EVER) 10,000 (CANA) 490 (CUIS) 15 (DESO) 69 (FOMA) 9,900 (TIMU/FOCA) 75 (ANDE) Total = 20,722	0 (EVER) 5,5 (CANA) 0 (CUIS) 0 (DESO) 0 (FOMA) 0 (TIMU/FOCA) 0 (ANDE)	0 (EVER) 0 (CANA) 474 (CUIS) 0 (DESO) 0 (FOMA) 0 (TIMU/FOCA) 0 (ANDE)	0 (EVER) 20 (CANA) 0 (CUIS) 0 (DESO) 1 (FOMA) 0 (TIMU/FOCA) 0 (ANDE)	0 (EVER) 0 (CANA) 15 (CUIS) 0 (DESO) 0 (FOMA) 0 (TIMU/FOCA) 0 (ANDE)
	**Other lands					
2021	Owned or managed lands	ANDE (75) CANA (10,000) CUIS (325) DESO (15) EVER (173) FOMA (69) TIMU (9,900)	0 10.6 0 0 0 0 0	0 0 310 (100%) 0 0 0 0	0 8 0 0 0 1 5	0 0 15 0 0 0 0
	**Other lands	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
2022	Owned or managed lands					
	**Other lands					

*The *Total acres restored or maintained as GT habitat* should be the sum of the succeeding 4 columns.

**Other gopher tortoise habitat/lands can include ANY lands regardless of ownership, protection level, or agreement.

ALABAMA POWER COMPANY

- a) How much potential gopher tortoise habitat does the signatory agency directly own or manage?
 - i. Total estimated acreage of protected gopher tortoise habitat (either by public ownership, by easement, or covered under a management plan that provides for the conservation of the gopher tortoise)

Table 1. Acres of potential gopher tortoise habitat owned or managed by the signatory agency (put n/a if not applicable)

Report year	Protected lands (Public)	Protected lands (Private)	Other lands owned or managed by the agency
2018	n/a	n/a	30,000
2019	n/a	n/a	30,000
2020	N/A	N/A	30,000
2021	N/A	N/A	30,000
2022	N/A	N/A	30,000

- b) Provide a short narrative regarding the type of management activities that were completed on the signatory's lands or other lands during the year, including any challenges or successes.

Power Delivery Crews from Mobile and Eastern Divisions were trained on how to identify gopher tortoise burrows and perform best management practices around burrows during construction, operation and maintenance activities.

- i. Total estimated gopher tortoise habitat acres managed on "owned or managed lands" or "other lands" for reporting agency/organization.

Table 2. Land Management (numbers reflect acres of potential gopher tortoise habitat)

Report year		*Total acres restored or maintained as GT habitat	Acres burned - growing season (%)	Acres burned - dormant season (%)	Acres of invasive species treated	Acres managed (e.g., mechanical, longleaf planting)
2018	Owned or managed lands					
	**Other lands					
2019	Owned or managed lands					
	**Other lands					
2020	Owned or managed lands					
	**Other lands					
2021	Owned or managed lands					

	**Other lands					
2022	Owned or managed lands					
	**Other lands					

*The *Total acres restored or maintained as GT habitat* should be the sum of the preceding 4 columns.

**Other gopher tortoise habitat/lands can include ANY lands regardless of ownership, protection level, or agreement.

GEORGIA POWER COMPANY

- a) How much potential gopher tortoise habitat does the signatory agency directly own or manage?
 - i. Total estimated acreage of protected gopher tortoise habitat (either by public ownership, by easement, or covered under a management plan that provides for the conservation of the gopher tortoise)

Table 1. Acres of potential gopher tortoise habitat owned or managed by the signatory agency (put n/a if not applicable)

Report year	Protected lands (Public)	Protected lands (Private)	Other lands owned or managed by the agency
2018	n/a	n/a	Approximately 4,200
2019	n/a	n/a	Approximately 4,200
2020	n/a	n/a	Approximately 4,200
2021	n/a	n/a	Approximately 4,200
2022	n/a	n/a	Approximately 4,200

- b) Provide a short narrative regarding the type of management activities that were completed on the signatory’s lands or other lands during the year, including any challenges or successes.

Management activities that enhanced gopher tortoise habitat included prescribed burning, timber harvest, longleaf pine planting, and wiregrass planting within suitable habitat.

- i. Total estimated gopher tortoise habitat acres managed on “owned or managed lands” or “other lands” for reporting agency/organization.

Table 2. Land Management (numbers reflect acres of potential gopher tortoise habitat)

Report year		*Total acres restored or maintained as GT habitat	Acres burned - growing season (%)	Acres burned - dormant season (%)	Acres of invasive species treated	Acres managed (e.g., mechanical, longleaf planting)
2018	Owned or managed lands	1,380		1,175		205
	**Other lands					
2019	Owned or managed lands	1,110	60 (6%)	900 (94%)		150
	**Other lands					
2020	Owned or managed lands	1,060		975		85
	**Other lands					
2021	Owned or managed lands	1,180	0 (0%)	820 (70%)	0	0
	**Other lands					
2022	Owned or managed lands	1,665	1,022 (61%)	643 (39%)	0	0
	**Other lands					

*The *Total acres restored or maintained as GT habitat* should be the sum of the preceding 4 columns.

**Other gopher tortoise habitat/lands can include ANY lands regardless of ownership, protection level, or agreement.

LAND CONSERVATIONARMY

Ft. Rucker had no new protected gopher tortoise habitat. No reports submitted for the remainder of the Army facilities within the CCA agreement.

UNITED STATES NAVY

- i) Describe the type of acquisitions, easements and other conservation protection of gopher tortoise habitat.

Table 3. New acres of potential gopher tortoise habitat protected

Report year	Public conservation lands	Private lands under permanent conservation easement	Military installation lands (buffer areas)	Other lands protected by short-term easement, MOU, or similar
2009			N/A	
2010			N/A	
2011			N/A	
2012			N/A	
2013			N/A	
2014			N/A	
2015			N/A	
2016			N/A	
2017			N/A	
2018			N/A	
2019			N/A	

2020	4,419			100
2021	27,176	0	0	4,123
2022	0	0	0	Unchanged 4,023 acres REPI Program

- ii) Total acres of land/habitat loss due to development activities or habitat degradation (identify cause of loss and if permanent/temporary). If data is not available, enter "unknown".

Table 4. Acres of land/ gopher tortoise habitat lost that is under the direct ownership of the signatory agency.

Report year	Acres lost	Cause	Permanent or Temporary
2009	N/A	N/A	N/A
2010	N/A	N/A	N/A
2011	N/A	N/A	N/A
2012	N/A	N/A	N/A
2013	N/A	N/A	N/A
2014	N/A	N/A	N/A
2015	435	Solar panel projects at NSB King's Bay	Permanent
2016	300	Solar panel project at NAS Pensacola and NAS Whitling Field (Saufley Field and NOLF Holley)	Permanent
2017	Unknown Acres (NAS Jacksonville and NS Mayport)	Hurricane Matthew and Hurricane Irma	Temporary

2018	Unknown acres at Panhandle and NAS JAX	Hurricane Michael and Dorian damage of forest resources and longleaf understory	Temporary
2019	450	Solar Panel project at NAS Pensacola	Permanent
2020	1	Development, Parking Lot and Office Space	Temporary
2021	34	Glide Slope Project for military mission at NAS Whiting Field converted forested habitat to maintained mowed grass	Permanent
2022 Mayport	8 acres	Storm damage to dune coastal areas during Hurricane Ian and Hurricane Nicole	Temporary
Whiting Field	25 acres	Glide slope project for military mission turned to maintained clear zone mowed grass OLF Santa Rosa	Permanent

AIR FORCE

- i) Describe the type of acquisitions, easements and other conservation protection of gopher tortoise habitat.

Avon Park AFR: Avon Park gained 1,443 acres of additional easements of gopher tortoise habitat.

Table 3. New acres of potential gopher tortoise habitat protected

Report year	Public conservation lands	Private lands under permanent conservation easement	Military installation lands (buffer areas)	Other lands protected by short-term easement, MOU, or similar
2009	101	0	0	0
2010	0	0	0	0
2011	50	0	0	0
2012	39	0	0	0
2013	0	21,000	0	0

2014	0	1,706	0	0
2015	0	0	0	0
2016	0	0	0	0
2017	0	500	0	0
2018	0	0	0	0
2019	0	5,580	Avon Park AFR	0
2020	0	887 (Avon Park)	0	0
2021	0	1292 (Avon Park)	0	0
2022	0	1,443 (Avon Park)	0	0

- ii) Total acres of land/habitat loss due to development activities or habitat degradation (identify cause of loss and if permanent/temporary). If data is not available, enter “unknown”.

Table 4. Acres of land/ gopher tortoise habitat lost that is under the direct ownership of the signatory agency.

Report year	Acres lost	Cause	Permanent or Temporary
2009	610	Construction	Permanent
2010	448	Construction	334 Permanent, 114 Temporary
2011	673	Construction	Permanent

2012	634	Construction	559 Permanent, 75 Temporary
2013	110	Construction	59 Permanent, 51 Temporary
2014	59	Construction, Mowing	54 Permanent, 5 Temporary
2015	37	Construction	22 Permanent, 15 Temporary
2016	336	Construction, Site Restoration	Temporary
2017	90	Construction	Permanent
2018	74	Construction	Permanent
2019	8	Moody AFB – Conversion for a military field training/exercise area	Permanent
2020	5	Relativity Construction at Space Launch Complex 16 (45 th Space Wing)	Permanent
2021	SLD 45 = 34 EGLIN = 148 TOTAL: 182	Dredge Material Management Area – Clearing/grubbing of vegetation for future spoil – SLD 45 Range expansion - EGLIN	SLD 45 - Permanent EGLIN - Temporary
2022	20	SLD 45 – Clearing of land to support development for Rapid Capabilities/ICO Office Beddown	Permanent

MARINES

- i. Describe the type of acquisitions, easements and other conservation protection of gopher tortoise habitat.

No changes have been recommended to the current management approach, which is to continue to monitor the presence of gopher tortoises at MCSF-BI. The potentially twelve active burrows are set back from the mowed field at the edge of forested area along the facility's north shoreline. None of the burrows appear to be a hindrance to current USMC use of the specific area where the burrows are located.

Table 3. New acres of potential gopher tortoise habitat protected

Report year	Public conservation lands	Private lands under permanent conservation easement	Military installation lands (buffer areas)	Other lands protected by short-term easement, MOU, or similar
2016	0	0	0	0
2017	0	0	0	0
2018	0	0	0	0
2019	0	0	0	3,190
2020	0	0	0	0
2021	0	0	0	0
2022	0	0	0	0

- ii) Total acres of land/habitat loss due to development activities or habitat degradation (identify cause of loss and if permanent/temporary). If data is not available, enter "unknown".

Table 4. Acres of land/ gopher tortoise habitat lost that is under the direct ownership of the signatory agency.

Report year	Acres lost	Cause	Permanent or Temporary
2016	NA	NA	NA
2017	NA	NA	NA
2018	0	N/A	N/A
2019	0	N/A	N/A

2020	0	N/A	N/A
2021	0	N/A	N/A
2022	0	N/A	N/A

USFS

- i) Describe the type of acquisitions, easements and other conservation protection of gopher tortoise habitat. None

Table 3. New acres of potential gopher tortoise habitat protected

Report year	Public conservation lands	Private lands under permanent conservation easement	Military installation lands (buffer areas)	Other lands protected by short-term easement, MOU, or similar
2013	0	0	0	0
2014	0	0	0	0
2015	0	0	0	0
2016	83*	0	0	0
2017	94*	0	0	0
2018	83*	0	0	0
2019	0	0	0	0
2020	0	0	0	0
2021	0	0	0	0

2022	0	0	0	0
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*Conecuh National Forest purchased 2 tracts in FY16 totaling 83 acres, 2 tracts in FY17 totaling 94 acres, and 2 tracts in FY18 totaling 83 acres.

ii) Total acres of land/habitat loss due to development activities or habitat degradation (identify cause of loss and if permanent/temporary). If data is not available, enter “unknown”.

Table 4. Acres of land/ gopher tortoise habitat lost that is under the direct ownership of the signatory agency.

Report year	Acres lost	Cause	Permanent or Temporary
2016	0		
2017	0	N/A	N/A
2018	0	N/A	N/A
2019	0	N/A	N/A
2020	0	N/A	N/A
2021	0	N/A	N/A
2022	0	NA	NA

USFWS

i) Describe the type of acquisitions, easements and other conservation protection of gopher tortoise habitat.

Table 3. New acres of potential gopher tortoise habitat protected

Report year	Public conservation lands	Private lands under permanent conservation easement	Military installation lands (buffer areas)	Other lands protected by short-term easement, MOU, or similar

2016	HS – 40 ac			
2017	EH – 351	EH – 223		
2018		EH - 712		
2019	EH – 2,000			
2020				
2021	28 acres at DD 1,864 acres at EH*			
2022	0	0	0	

* Have not determined suitable gopher tortoise habitat yet from additional acreage acquired in 2021 at EH. Total gopher tortoise habitat acreage subject to change

- ii) Total acres of land/habitat loss due to development activities or habitat degradation (identify cause of loss and if permanent/temporary). If data is not available, enter “unknown”.

Table 4. Acres of land/ gopher tortoise habitat lost that is under the direct ownership of the signatory agency.

Report year	Acres lost	Cause	Permanent or Temporary
2016	EK – Dozens; actual unknown	EK – Erosion due to storm tides and sea level rise	Unknown
2017	EK: Dozens; actual unknown PI: 113	EK: erosion due to storm tides, high waves from wind, and sea level rise. PI: Acres not “lost”; habitat was re-assessed and fewer acres determined to be suitable	EK: Hopefully temporary, but historic loss permanent. Hurricane Irma hit the west coast of Florida September 11, 2017. PI: Permanent
2018	EK – Dozens (actual unknown)	EK – erosion due to storm tides, high waves from wind, and sea level rise	
2019	Dozens on Egmont Key NWR	Erosion due to storm tides, high waves from wind, and sea level rise.	Unknown

2020	Dozens on Egmont Key NWR	Erosion due to storm tides, high waves from wind, and sea level rise.	Unknown
2021	At least 10 acres lost on EK (actual unknown); Acreage was lost, for many refuges, but amount is unknown.	Erosion due to storm tides, high waves from wind, and sea level rise at EK; Lack of management capacity for many refuges	For present lack of management capacity: An unknown quantity of habitat is lost each year due to the loss of management capacity. Areas are succumbing to succession and exposure to invasive plants and animals, unclear whether this is permanent but projecting long-term at least
2022	EK (at least 10 acres lost, actual unknown) EU (100 acres)	Erosion due to storm tides, high waves from wind, and sea level rise Lack of management capacity	Unknown Temporary

Egmont Key has suffered severe erosion along the north, west, and southwest beaches due to hurricanes, high winds, shipping traffic, and sea level rise in 2022. The island was 328 acres (fee title) in 1974, but now is approximately 262 acres. Four King tides and two tropical systems impacted Egmont Key in 2022: A King high tide impacted the west beach on 9/3 & 4, 9/9, and 9/26. Hurricane Ian made landfall on the west coast of Florida at Cayo Costa as a Category 4. Egmont Key suffered some erosion along the west beach, but no major flooding. Hurricane Nicole made landfall on the east coast of Florida and did not significantly impact Egmont Key.

Eufaula: Habitat lost due to lack of management capacity can be “recovered”. With >75% reduction in staffing in the previous 10 years, the refuge’s ability to maintain priority habitats has declined. Each year, an unknown quantity of gopher tortoise habitat is lost to succession and invasive plants and animals. Also, the quality of remaining habitat is reduced.

ALABAMA DCNR

- i) Describe the type of acquisitions, easements and other conservation protection of gopher tortoise habitat.

Table 3. New acres of potential gopher tortoise habitat protected

Report year	Public conservation lands	Private lands under permanent conservation easement	Military installation lands (buffer areas)	Other lands protected by short-term easement, MOU, or similar
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2009				1257
2010				852
2011				382
2012				1001
2013				1746
2014	3629*			1818
2015	5725*			653
2016				2893
2017				
2018	23**			
2019	1341****			
2020	0	0	0	0
2021	25** 3434**** Total = 3459	0	0	0
2022	0	0	0	0

* Acres were added to Geneva SF WMA, ** Acres added to Perdido WMA, *** Acres added to Barbour WMA, **** New Blackwater River SOA

- ii) Total acres of land/habitat loss due to development activities or habitat degradation (identify cause of loss and if permanent/temporary). If data is not available, enter "unknown".

Table 4. Acres of land/ gopher tortoise habitat lost that is under the direct ownership of the signatory agency.

Report year	Acres lost	Cause	Permanent or Temporary
2014	No acres lost this FY		
2015	No acres lost this FY		
2016	No acres lost this FY		
2017	No acres lost this FY		
2018	No acres lost this FY		
2019	No acres lost this FY		
2020	Unknown		
2021	None known		
2022	3	Food plot establishment at GWMA	Permanent

FLORIDA FWCC

- i) Describe the type of acquisitions, easements and other conservation protection of gopher tortoise habitat.

Of public conservation lands newly protected in FY22, 4,490 acres comprise potentially suitable gopher tortoise habitat; these lands were primarily acquired via Florida Forever. Fourteen newly permitted privately-owned recipient sites were placed under perpetual conservation easement and comprise 18,005 acres of gopher tortoise habitat. Four short-term recipient sites added an additional 4,725 acres of gopher tortoise habitat during FY22.

Table 3. New acres of potential gopher tortoise habitat protected

Report year	Public conservation lands	Private lands under permanent conservation easement	Military installation lands (buffer areas)	Other lands protected by short-term easement, MOU, or similar

2009	n/a	719	n/a	n/a
2010	n/a	1,214	n/a	n/a
2011	n/a	1,115	n/a	n/a
2012	n/a	1,789	n/a	n/a
2013	n/a	5,595	20,800	1,631
2014	n/a	3,370	n/a	n/a
2015	52	2,745	n/a	n/a
2016	n/a	417.43	n/a	2,443
2017	2,619	2,237	n/a	59
2018	906	1,709	n/a	404
2019	2,066	1,880	n/a	965
2020	6,910	3,440	n/a	849
2021	14,717	5,430	n/a	240
2022	4,490	18,005	n/a	4,725

ii) Total acres of land/habitat loss due to development activities or habitat degradation (identify cause of loss and if permanent/temporary). If data is not available, enter "unknown".

Table 4. Acres of land/ gopher tortoise habitat lost that is under the direct ownership of the signatory agency.

Report year	Acres lost	Cause	Permanent or Temporary
2009	Unknown	n/a	n/a
2010	Unknown	n/a	n/a
2011	Unknown	n/a	n/a
2012	Unknown	n/a	n/a
2013	Unknown	n/a	n/a
2014	Unknown	n/a	n/a
2015	82.7	FWC is developing a public shooting park and hunter education center at Triple N Ranch Wildlife Management Area, resulting in a loss of gopher tortoise habitat	Permanent
2016	n/a	n/a	n/a
2017	11.53	Tenoroc Wildlife Management Area Shooting Range Clubhouse facilities	Permanent
2018	n/a	n/a	n/a
2019	n/a	n/a	n/a
2020	n/a	n/a	n/a
2021	n/a	n/a	n/a
2022	n/a	n/a	n/a

GEORGIA DNR

- i) Describe the type of acquisitions, easements and other conservation protection of gopher tortoise habitat.

The Black Creek Tract (701 ac.) in Taylor County was acquired and included in the Fall Line Sandhills WMA and the Indigo (267 ac.) and Hammersmith (368 ac.) Tracts were added to Altama Plantation WMA. A large addition to Canoochee Sandhills WMA was also made via a conservation easement on the Canoochee Glover Tract (3,900 ac.). Although technically privately owned, the addition is, in practice, more akin to a fee simple acquisition. Two Warnell easements (total 881 ac.) were also established along the Canoochee River in Bryan and Bulloch Counties and the Rosemont Plantation easement (3,028 ac.) was completed in Trutlen County.

Table 3. New acres of potential gopher tortoise habitat protected

Report year	Public conservation lands	Private lands under permanent conservation easement	Military installation lands (buffer areas)	Other lands protected by short-term easement, MOU, or similar
2009	600	3,172	n/a	0
2010	803	4,756	n/a	0
2011	24	1,662	n/a	0
2012	0	2,507	n/a	0
2013	865	5,944	n/a	0
2014	4,152	1,480	n/a	0
2015	884	841	n/a	0
2016	5,563	0	n/a	0
2017	5,931	0	0	0

2018	8,653	2,170	n/a	0
2019				
2020	2,366.69	10,243.19	N/A	N/A
2021	3,474	N/A	N/A	N/A
2022	1,953	1,642	N/A	N/A

- ii) Total acres of land/habitat loss due to development activities or habitat degradation (identify cause of loss and if permanent/temporary). If data is not available, enter "unknown".

Table 4. Acres of land/ gopher tortoise habitat lost that is under the direct ownership of the signatory agency.

Report year	Acres lost	Cause	Permanent or Temporary
2009	None		
2010	None		
2011	None		
2012	None		
2013	None		
2014	None		
2015	None		
2016	None		

2017	None		
2018	None		
2019			
2020	None		
2021	None	N/A	N/A
2022	None	N/A	N/A

SOUTH CAROLINA DNR

- i) Describe the type of acquisitions, easements and other conservation protection of gopher tortoise habitat.

The Open Space Institute and Knobloch Foundation purchased ~7200 acres of property in Jasper and Hampton counties which included the largest known gopher tortoise population and 1 of 2 MVPs in South Carolina. These properties are adjacent to the ~4000 acres purchased by the Open Space Institute and Knobloch Foundation last year and together, preserve ~12000 acres of habitat, which includes the largest and 3rd largest gopher tortoise population in SC.

Table 3. New acres of potential gopher tortoise habitat protected

Report year	Public conservation lands	Private lands under permanent conservation easement	Military installation lands (buffer areas)	Other lands protected by short-term easement, MOU, or similar
2016		450 acres – “Slater”		Unknown – one easement on old MWV property “Whitener Tract” 140 acres may still be under easement
2017	0	0	0	Unknown
2018	0	0	0	Unknown

2019	0	0	0	
2020	0	0	0	
2021	0	0	0	
2022	0	0	0	

Total acres of land/habitat loss due to development activities or habitat degradation (identify cause of loss and if permanent/temporary). If data is not available, enter "unknown".

Table 4. Acres of land/ gopher tortoise habitat lost that is under the direct ownership of the signatory agency.

Report year	Acres lost	Cause	Permanent or Temporary
2016	None	None	None
2017	None	None	None
2018	None	None	None
2019	None	None	None
2020	None	None	None
2021	None	None	None
2022	None	None	None

GA DOT

- i) Describe the type of acquisitions, easements and other conservation protection of gopher tortoise habitat.

Table 3. New acres of potential gopher tortoise habitat protected

Report year	Public conservation lands	Private lands under permanent conservation easement	Military installation lands (buffer areas)	Other lands protected by short-term easement, MOU, or similar
2013	None	None	None	None
2014	None	None	None	None
2015	None	None	None	None
2016	None	None	None	None
2017	None	None	None	None
2018	None	None	None	None
2019	None	None	None	None
2020	None	None	None	None
2021	None	None	None	None
2022	None	None	None	None

- ii) Total acres of land/habitat loss due to development activities or habitat degradation (identify cause of loss and if permanent/temporary). If data is not available, enter “unknown”.

Table 4. Acres of land/ gopher tortoise habitat lost that is under the direct ownership of the signatory agency.

Report year	Acres lost	Cause	Permanent or Temporary
2013	None	None	None

2014	None	None	None
2015	None	None	None
2016	None	None	None
2017	None	None	None
2018	None	None	None
2019	None	None	None
2020	None	None	None
2021	None	None	None
2022	None	None	None

POARCH BAND OF CREEK INDIANS

- i) Describe the type of acquisitions, easements and other conservation protection of gopher tortoise habitat.

Table 3. New acres of potential gopher tortoise habitat protected

Report year	Public conservation lands	Private lands under permanent conservation easement	Military installation lands (buffer areas)	Other lands protected by short-term easement, MOU, or similar
2016	None	None	None	None
2017	None	None	None	None
2018	None	None	None	None

2019	None	None	None	None
2020	None	None	None	None
2021	None	None	None	None
2022				

- ii) Total acres of land/habitat loss due to development activities or habitat degradation (identify cause of loss and if permanent/temporary). If data is not available, enter “unknown”.

Table 4. Acres of land/ gopher tortoise habitat lost that is under the direct ownership of the signatory agency.

Report year	Acres lost	Cause	Permanent or Temporary
2016	None	None	None
2017	None	None	None
2018	None	None	None
2019	290	Converted to other use	Permanent
2020	None	None	None
2021	None	None	None
2022			

AMERICAN FOREST FOUNDATION

None reported.

LONGLEAF ALLIANCE

- a) Describe the type of acquisitions, easements and other conservation protection of gopher tortoise habitat.

None reported.

- ii) Total acres of land/habitat loss due to development activities or habitat degradation (identify cause of loss and if permanent/temporary). If data is not available, enter "unknown".

None reported.

JONES CENTER

- i) Describe the type of acquisitions, easements and other conservation protection of gopher tortoise habitat. N/A

Table 3. New acres of potential gopher tortoise habitat protected

Report year	Public conservation lands	Private lands under permanent conservation easement	Military installation lands (buffer areas)	Other lands protected by short-term easement, MOU, or similar
2009	None	None	None	None
2010	None	None	None	None
2011	None	None	None	None
2012	None	None	None	None
2013	None	None	None	None
2014	None	None	None	None
2015	None	None	None	None
2016	None	None	None	None
2017	None	None	None	None

2018	None	None	None	None
2019	None	None	None	None
2020	None	None	None	None
2021	None	None	None	None
2022	None	None	None	None

- ii) Total acres of land/habitat loss due to development activities or habitat degradation (identify cause of loss and if permanent/temporary). If data is not available, enter "unknown".

N/A

Table 4. Acres of land/ gopher tortoise habitat lost that is under the direct ownership of the signatory agency.

Report year	Acres lost	Cause	Permanent or Temporary
2009	0	N/A	N/A
2010	0	N/A	N/A
2011	0	N/A	N/A
2012	0	N/A	N/A
2013	0	N/A	N/A
2014	0	N/A	N/A
2015	0	N/A	N/A

2016	0	N/A	N/A
2017	0	N/A	N/A
2018	0	N/A	N/A
2019	0	N/A	N/A
2020	0	N/A	N/A
2021	0	N/A	N/A
2022	0	N/A	N/A

ALABAMA FORESTRY COMMISSION

- i) Describe the type of acquisitions, easements and other conservation protection of gopher tortoise habitat.

Table 3. New acres of potential gopher tortoise habitat protected

Report year	Public conservation lands	Private lands under permanent conservation easement	Military installation lands (buffer areas)	Other lands protected by short-term easement, MOU, or similar
2014	None	None	None	None
2015	None	None	None	None
2016	None	None	None	None
2017	None	None	None	None
2018	None	None	None	None

2019	None	None	None	None
2020	None	None	None	None
2021	Little River State Forest Addition 2,173 acres	None	None	None
2022	None	None	None	None

ii) Total acres of land/habitat loss due to development activities or habitat degradation (identify cause of loss and if permanent/temporary). If data is not available, enter "unknown".

Table 4. Acres of land/ gopher tortoise habitat lost that is under the direct ownership of the signatory agency.

Report year	Acres lost	Cause	Permanent or Temporary
2014	None	None	None
2015	None	None	None
2016	None	None	None
2017	None	None	None
2018	None	None	None
2019	None	None	None
2020	None	None	None
2021	None	None	None
2022	None	None	None

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

- i) Describe the type of acquisitions, easements and other conservation protection of gopher tortoise habitat.

Table 3. New acres of potential gopher tortoise habitat protected

Report year	Public conservation lands	Private lands under permanent conservation easement	Military installation lands (buffer areas)	Other lands protected by short-term easement, MOU, or similar
2013				
2014				
2015				
2016				
2017				
2018				
2019	None	None	None	None
2020	None	None	None	None
2021	None	None	None	None
2022				

- ii) Total acres of land/habitat loss due to development activities or habitat degradation (identify cause of loss and if permanent/temporary). If data is not available, enter "unknown".

Table 4. Acres of land/ gopher tortoise habitat lost that is under the direct ownership of the signatory agency.

Report year	Acres lost	Cause	Permanent or Temporary
2013	None	None	None
2014	None	N/A	N/A
2015	None	N/A	N/A
2016	None	N/A	N/A
2017	None	N/A	N/A
2018	None	N/A	N/A
2019	None	N/A	N/A
2020	None	N/A	N/A
2021	None	N/A	N/A
2022			

ALABAMA POWER COMPANY

- i) Describe the type of acquisitions, easements and other conservation protection of gopher tortoise habitat.

As stated in the summary, APC performed the following activities:

- Survey segments of ROWs prior to construction/maintenance to detect and mark burrows (i.e., sign, cone, flagging, etc.)
- Maintain GIS database of gopher tortoise burrow locations
- Implement BMPs specifying buffer zones, matting criteria, etc. to help reduce risk to tortoises and burrows
- APC continues to mark gopher tortoise burrows whenever encountered; each sign is labeled with “Sensitive Area” and “No Equipment or Excavation Within 25 Feet;” the signs also have a contact number to call if someone has questions; the signs are highly

visible and can be seen at distances far greater than 25 feet; signs are placed relatively close to the burrow near the apron but APC avoids sign placement on GT trails.

- GT informational flyers (written in English and Spanish) were created for Power Delivery crews. The flyers provide information about GT, a picture of a GT burrow, GT signage, and steps to avoid GT burrows.

Table 3. New acres of potential gopher tortoise habitat protected

Report year	Public conservation lands	Private lands under permanent conservation easement	Military installation lands (buffer areas)	Other lands protected by short-term easement, MOU, or similar
2018	0	0	0	0
2019	0	0	0	0
2020	0	0	0	0
2021	0	0	0	0
2022	0	0	0	0

ii) Total acres of land/habitat loss due to development activities or habitat degradation (identify cause of loss and if permanent/temporary). If data is not available, enter "unknown".

Unknown

Table 4. Acres of land/ gopher tortoise habitat lost that is under the direct ownership of the signatory agency.

Report year	Acres lost	Cause	Permanent or Temporary
2018	0		
2019	0		
2020	0		

2021	0		
2022	0		

GEORGIA POWER COMPANY

- i) Describe the type of acquisitions, easements and other conservation protection of gopher tortoise habitat.

Table 3. New acres of potential gopher tortoise habitat protected

Report year	Public conservation lands	Private lands under permanent conservation easement	Military installation lands (buffer areas)	Other lands protected by short-term easement, MOU, or similar
2018	0	0	0	0
2019	0	0	0	0
2020	0	0	0	0
2021	0	0	0	0
2022	0	0	0	0

- ii) Total acres of land/habitat loss due to development activities or habitat degradation (identify cause of loss and if permanent/temporary). If data is not available, enter "unknown".

Less than 1 acre of isolated marginal roadside easement habitat was impacted by necessary substation development on industrial authority land. One tortoise was relocated to Silver Lake WMA.

Table 4. Acres of land/ gopher tortoise habitat lost that is under the direct ownership of the signatory agency.

Report year	Acres lost	Cause	Permanent or Temporary
2018	0		
2019	0		
2020	0		
2021	0		
2022	0		

GOPHER TORTOISE POPULATION MONITORING

ARMY

Fort Rucker didn't conduct any formal surveys but informal observations indicate gopher tortoise populations remain stable. No reports submitted for the remainder of Army facilities within the gopher tortoise CCA agreement.

NAVY

Table 5. Population survey data (if survey methodology was *not* Line Transect Distance Sampling, indicate what methodology was used)

Report year	Survey date	Property surveyed (name)	Acres surveyed	Population estimate	Trend (increase, decrease, juveniles, etc.)	Methodology (if not LTDS)	Viable, primary or secondary support population?
2009	All Year (ongoing at any or all of the five installations)	All Navy installations either in whole or part	5500	428 (estimate from subsample)	Found 31 new burrows	100%	
2010	All Year (ongoing at any or all of the five installations)	All Navy installations either in whole or part	8400	512 (based on survey results)	Found 77 new burrows, unable to scope subadult and juvenile burrows	100% survey method, subsample burrow scoping	
2011	All Year (ongoing at any or all of the five installations)	All Navy installations either in whole or part	8400	512 (no new info this year)	Burrow cameras purchased	Based on 2010 survey	
2012	All Year (ongoing at any or all of the	All Navy installations either in	8400	480	Monitoring and marking	100% survey method, subsample	

	five installatons)	whole or part			of GT burrows	e burrow scoping	
2013	All Year (ongoing at any or all of the five installatons)	All Navy installations either in whole or part	17,963 (included non-habitat areas; urban areas)	500 (estimate slight increase from 2012)	Slight increase, camera scoping is beginning to validate prior year estimate	100% survey of all Gt habitats discovered	
2014	All Year (ongoing at any or all of the five installatons)	All Navy installations either in whole or part	5,532	500	Steady	100% survey of all Gt habitats discovered	
2015	All Year (ongoing at any or all of the six installatons)	All Navy installations either in whole or part	2,398	590	Steady; Survey at NOLF Holley was in preparation for a solar farm project	100% monitoring of all GT habitats discovered	
2016	All Year (ongoing at any or all of the six installatons)	All Navy installations either in whole or part	3,500	500	Steady; slight increase at Mayport; decrease at NAS Pensacola likely due to survey intensity reduction in 2016	100% monitoring of all GT habitats discovered, camera logs.	
2017	All Year (ongoing at any or all of the six	All Navy installations either in whole or part	6,654	721	Juvenile burrows on the increase. Increase of	100% monitoring of all GT habitats discovered; 100%	

	installations)				burrows at NAS Whiting Field. Decrease in adult burrows due to hurricane at NAS Jacksonville and NS Mayport. Steady at other sites.	of burrows scoped at NAS Whiting Field.	
2018	All Year (ongoing at any or all of the six installations)	All Navy installations either in whole or part	2,485	750	Active burrows increased at NAS Jacksonville, NAS Mayport, and NAS Whiting Field, steady at other sites.	Meandering transects, road survey, 100% monitoring of all GT habitat discovered.	
2019	All Year	All Navy installations either in whole or part	Acreages NASP (1713) Bronson (350) Saufley (200) Total (2,263)	Completed survey for NASP, Saufley, Bronson	2018 survey completed by UGA for NAS Pensacola; increase in juvenile burrows from 2016 survey.	100% monitoring of all GT habitats discovered.	
2020	All Year	All Navy installations either in whole or part	Acreages Kings Bay (489) Mayport (127)	UNK		Transect Burrow Survey	Secondary

2021	Jan. 2021	NAVSTA Mayport	127	74	Stable		
	Sept. 2021	NAS Pensacola	20	25	Increase	100%	Secondary
	Sept. 2021	NAS Whiting Field	1,000	150	Stable	Blanked area survey	
2022 Whiting Field	1 month survey	OLF Holley	290 acres	45	Stable	Area survey and repeat survey of burrows	0
2022	July 2022	NAS Pensacola	65 acres	26	Increase	100%	Secondary support

AIRFORCE

Table 5. Population survey data (if survey methodology was *not* Line Transect Distance Sampling, indicate what methodology was used)

Report year	Survey date	Property surveyed (name)	Acres surveyed	Population estimate	Trend (increase, decrease, juveniles, etc.)	Methodology (if not LTDS)	Viable, primary or secondary support population ?
2016	Survey conducted 2/11/2015 – 5/6/2015. Final data analyses completed in May 2016.	APAFR – scrub habitat	6,368 ac	1,525 adult tortoises (CV 15.92%); 1,847 subadult and adult tortoises (CV 13.22%)	N/A. Monitoring has not been going on long enough to detect trends. Juvenile tortoises (≤ 14 cm CL) comprised only 2% of tortoises found in the survey. However, this is likely an underestimate because small juvenile-sized burrows have much lower detection probability.	LTDS	The population at APAFR is likely a viable population, especially when considering the large numbers of tortoises inhabiting adjacent non-scrub habitats (e.g., flatwoods, plantations).

2016	Monitoring conducted 6/24/2015 – 9/1/2016	APAFR – 6 subpopulations inhabiting a representative mix of scrub, flatwoods, and sandhill habitats	Total 670 ac (range 62-143 ac across the 6 sites)	Mean of 0.96 non-collapsed burrows per ac (range 0.67-1.34 burrows per ac); Mean proportion of non-collapsed burrows that were juvenile-sized (mean 0.08, range 0.01-0.20), subadult-sized (mean 0.15, range 0.06-0.38), and adult-sized (mean 0.77, range 0.48-0.90)	Two of the six sites were surveyed previously in 2011. At the Kissimmee 7 South scrub site, the abundance of non-collapsed burrows did not change between 2011 and 2015, but there were relatively more subadult-sized and relatively fewer juvenile-sized burrows in 2015. At the Smith 4 flatwoods site, the density of non-collapsed burrows declined by 33% and the burrow size distribution was even more skewed toward adult sizes.	Burrow surveys (width, activity status) along 5-m-spaced transects. Most non-collapsed burrows were also scoped, but in many cases occupancy could not be determined due to flooding (high water table).	The population at APAFR is likely a viable population, especially when considering the large numbers of tortoises inhabiting adjacent non-scrub habitats (e.g., flatwoods, plantations).
2016	October 2015	Eglin AFB (Duck Pond Lt)	41	5.60	Decrease	Area-constrained Total Transect	secondary
2016	October 2015	Eglin AFB (Duck Pond Paired #2)	41	0.00	Decrease	Area-constrained Total Transect	secondary
2016	May/June	Eglin AFB (Rogue Creek LT)	35	6.72	Decrease	Area-constrained Total Transect	secondary
2016	May/June	Eglin AFB (McQuage Branch LT)	15	6.16	Decrease	Area-constrained Total Transect	secondary

2016	November	Eglin AFB (East Bay LT)	26	23.52	n/a	Area-constrained Total Transect	secondary
2016	May/June	Eglin AFB B70C1 – Legacy Study	12	3.92	n/a	Area-constrained Total Transect	secondary
2016	May/June	Eglin AFB B70C2 – Legacy Study	12.1	5.60	n/a	Area-constrained Total Transect	secondary
2016	May/June	Eglin AFB B70E – Legacy Study	13.9	8.40	n/a	Area-constrained Total Transect	secondary
2016	May/June	Eglin AFB C64 – Legacy Study	16.5	3.36	n/a	Area-constrained Total Transect	secondary
2016	May/June	Eglin AFB C61A – Legacy Study	10.4	25.2	n/a	Area-constrained Total Transect	Primary
2016	May/June	Eglin AFB C72 – Legacy Study	10.6	8.40	n/a	Area-constrained Total Transect	secondary
2016	May/June	Eglin AFB C62N – Legacy Study	10.0	5.60	n/a	Area-constrained Total Transect	secondary
2016	May/June	Eglin AFB C62S – Legacy Study	10.4	9.52	n/a	Area-constrained Total Transect	secondary
2016	May/June	Eglin AFB Pine Log – Legacy Study	10.5	7.28	n/a	Area-constrained Total Transect	Primary
2016	May/June	Eglin AFB 201E – Legacy Study	9.9	9.52	n/a	Area-constrained Total Transect	Primary
2016	Mar – Oct	Moody AFB- Main Base Gopher Tortoise Colonies	50	30	Stable	Pedestrian survey. No scoping of burrows	Primary

2016	Summer 2016	Tyndall AFB, Florida	530	229 Active burrows	Increasing, juveniles	100% of known burrows were inspected	
2017	October 2016	Eglin AFB (Duck Pond Lt)	40.8	5.60	Decrease	Area-constrained Total Transect	secondary
2017	October 2016	Eglin AFB (Duck Pond Paired #2)	40.8	0.00	Decrease	Area-constrained Total Transect	secondary
2017	September 2017	Eglin AFB (Turtle Creek Reintroduction Site)	48.7	8.40	Decrease	Area-constrained Total Transect	secondary
2017	September 2017	Eglin AFB (Turtle Creek Reintroduction Site Paired #1)	48.7	0.00	n/a	Area-constrained Total Transect	secondary
2017	September 2017	Eglin AFB B75 – Legacy Study	25.7	12.9	n/a	Area-constrained Total Transect	secondary
2017	September 2017	Eglin AFB Bull Creek – Legacy Study	24.7	12.9	n/a	Area-constrained Total Transect	secondary
2017	September 2017	Eglin AFB Middle Creek – Legacy Study	34.6	5.6	n/a	Area-constrained Total Transect	secondary
2017	Mar – Sep 2017	Moody AFB Main Base Gopher Tortoise Colonies	50	30 tortoises	Stable to slight decrease	Pedestrian Survey. No scoping of burrows.	Primary
2017	Spring 2017	Tyndall AFB	3,648	202	Slightly Increasing, juveniles	Total Count and LTDS	
2018	October 2017	Eglin C-74	25	20	decrease	Area-constrained Total Transect	Secondary
2018	October 2017	Eglin C-52N	28	4	decrease	Area-constrained Total Transect	Secondary

2018	October 2017	Eglin B-71C	26	30	decrease	Area-constrained Total Transect	Secondary
2018	March 2018	Eglin Garnier Creek	25	1	decrease	Area-constrained Total Transect	Secondary
2018	September 2018	Eglin C-61A	153	88	increase	Area-constrained Total Transect	Secondary
2018	Year-round	MacDill AFB	157	11 tortoise; 40 burrows	N/A	Incidental; Grid	N/A
2018	Spring	Moody AFB	946	220	Stable	100% Pedestrian Survey	Primary
2018	Year-round	Tyndall AFB	3,750	214	Slight increase, juveniles in multiple areas	Total Count	N/A
2019	July	Cape Canaveral AFS	4,458	2,017*	Unknown (first survey)		Viable/Primary
2019	March	Eglin AFB H26 Pen	107	250	Initial Survey	Area-constrained Total Transect	Primary
2019	September	Eglin AFB East Bay	25.9	50	Increase	Area-constrained Total Transect	Primary
2019	March	MacDill AFB	1783	149	Stable w/juveniles observed	LTDS: Incidental	Primary
2019	Winter	Moody AFB	946	228	Stable	100% Pedestrian Survey	
2019	Year-Round	Tyndall AFB	3,771	60	Stable-slight increase	100% Survey Total Count	Primary
2020	Spring/Fall	Tyndall AFB	4,021	70-80	Stable, some juveniles	Total Count	Primary
2020	Winter	Moody AFB	946	184	Stable/slight decrease	100% pedestrian survey	Primary
2020	Year-round	MacDill AFB	N/A	149 (based on 2019 survey)	N/A	Incidental	N/A

2020	August	Eglin AFB I-26 (Red Empire Drop Zone)	649	2	Initial Survey	Area-constrained Total Transect	Secondary
2020	N/A	45th Space Wing	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
2020	N/A	Avon Park AFR	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
2021	Started FY22	Avon Park	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
2021	N/A	SLD-45	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
2021	Year-round	MacDill AFB	N/A	15 tortoises, 49 burrows	1 juvenile observed	Incidental	N/A
2021	Summer	MOODY AFB	946	184 tortoises	Stable	100% pedestrian survey. Scoped 20% of burrows.	
2021	Spring/Fall	Tyndall Air Force Base	~4,000	70-80	Stable; juveniles present	Total Count	Primary
2021	July	H-26 EGLIN AFB	232	250	Secondary Survey	Area-constrained Total Transect	Primary
2022	Summer	MAFB	946	184	Stable	100% Survey	
2022	Spring/Fall	Tyndall AFB	4,800	70-80	Stable	Total Count	Primary
2022	Year-round	MacDill AFB	N/A	3 tortoises 50 burrows	2 juveniles observed	Incidental	
2022	June	Eglin AFB	162	300	Increase in juveniles and hatchlings	Area-constrained total transect	Primary
2022		USAF Combined		617			

*Cape Canaveral AFS believe this number is underestimated based on capture/recapture data.

MARINESTable 5. Population survey data (if survey methodology was *not* Line Transect Distance Sampling, indicate what methodology was used).

Report year	Survey date	Property surveyed (name)	Acres surveyed	Population estimate	Trend (increase, decrease, juveniles, etc.)	Methodology (if not LTDS)	Viable, primary or secondary support population?
2009	4/2009	MCSF-BI	911	67		Survey	
2010	7/2010	MCSF-BI	911	100	Increase	Survey	
2011	4/2011	MCSF-BI	911	120	Increase	Bucket traps, hand and mechanical excavation	
2012	4/2012	MCSF-BI	911	49	Decrease	Mechanical excavation	
2013	4/2013	MCSF-BI	911	10	Decrease	Survey	
2014	8/2014	MCSF-BI	911	11		Mechanical excavation	
2015	3/2015	MCSF-BI	911	3	Decrease	Survey	
2016	4/2016	MCSF-BI	911	1	Decrease	Survey	
2016	Year-round	MCLB Albany	1,200	3	Decrease	Direct Encounter	No
2017	Year-round	MCLB Albany	1,200	1	Decrease	Direct Encounter	No
2017	4/2017	MCSF-BI	911	1	No change	Survey	
2018	10/2018	MCSF-BI	911	2	Increase	Survey	

2019		MCLB Albany		2		Personal Observation	
2020		MCLB Albany		1	Decrease	Personal Observation	
2020	10/2019	MCSF-BI	911	3	Increase (found a hatchling)	Survey	
2020	9/2020	MCAS-TBR EOD Area	100	0		LTDS	
2021	11/2020	MCSF-BI	911	2	Decrease	Survey	
2021	2/2021	MCSF-BI	911	14	Increase	Survey	
2021	2/2021	MCLB Albany	25	3	Increase – juvenile sized burrow located	100%	
2021	3/2021	TBR	Unknown	N/A	N/A		
2022	5/2022	MCSF-BI	911	22	Increase	Survey	Not Viable
2022	9/2022	TBR	Unk	21	N/A; 1 st year burrows were scoped to determine actual #	VES and scoping	
2022	1/2022	MCLB Albany	20	3	Increase by 2 of the number of active burrows	Personal observations – complete area survey	

USFSTable 5. Population survey data (if survey methodology was *not* Line Transect Distance Sampling, indicate what methodology was used)

Report year	Survey date	Property surveyed (name)	Acres surveyed	Population estimate	Trend (increase, decrease, juveniles, etc.)	Methodology (if not LTDS)	Viable, primary or secondary support population?
2014	9/2014	Munson East	1,457ha/ 3,600acres	1.81 per ha or 2,638	First Year		
	9/2014	Munson West	6,688ha/ 16,527 acres	.24 per ha or 1,613	First Year		
2015							
2016							
2017							
2018	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
2019	8/15/2019	Osceola NF	45 acres	28 Active Burrows	Baseline data, all ages present	Total Area Survey	Viable Population
2020	01/03/20-03/19/20	Osceola NF	549 acres	758 active burrows			Viable Population
2021	3/5/21-6/20/21	Osceola NF	322	107 active burrows found			Viable population
2022	10/1/21-9/30/22	Osceola NF	3110	119 burrows	NA		

USFWSTable 5. Population survey data (if survey methodology was *not* Line Transect Distance Sampling, in methodology was used)

Report year	Survey date	Property surveyed (name)	Acres surveyed	Population estimate	Trend (increase, decrease, juveniles, etc.)	Methodology (if not LTDS)	Viable, primary or secondary support population?
2016	Several	CH	30	~55	Stable	100%	2 nd support
2016	Apr-Jun	DD	37	38	Increase	100%	2 nd support
2017	EK – Oct 2016	NWR	80	84 burrows	Stable	LTDS pilot	Support
2018			None				
2019	Fall	Ding Darling	37	15	Minor decrease	100%	Secondary support
2020	Fall	Ding Darling	37	17	Minor increase	100%	Secondary support
2020	SUMMER	Archie Carr	30	33	Unknown	Active Burrow Count	Viable/primary
2020	summer/winter	St. Marks	5,438	448-859 individuals	slight decrease	LTDS	Primary
2020	Spring	St. Vincent	99	63 burrows		Burrow Count – known occupied areas	
2020	Summer	PFW	732	160			
2021	Fall/winter	Ding Darling	33	11	Minor decrease	100%	Secondary support

2021	4 Jan-10 Mar Conducted by USGS	St. Vincent	787	52	Increase	LTDS	Primary support
2022	Summer	SM*	30	N/A	N/A	Visual	N/A
	Fall	PI – part of mowing area and bathroom parking area	5	8-10	N/A	N/A	N/A

SM* – Area was visually surveyed and potential burrows were mapped in preparation for habitat restoration

ALABAMA DCNR

Table 5. Population survey data (if survey methodology was not Line Transect Distance Sampling, indicate what methodology was used)

Report year	Survey date	Property surveyed (name)	Acres surveyed	Population estimate	Trend (increase, decrease, juveniles, etc.)	Methodology (if not LTDS)	Viable, primary or secondary support population?
2012	Aug-Oct	Wehle Center	724	.02 Gt/ha	Evidence of juveniles and eggs at burrow	Field Reconnaissance	Secondary Support Popn
2013	Aug-Oct	Wehle Center	724	.02 GT/ha	Juvenile Confirmed	Field Reconnaissance	Secondary Support Popn
2013	10/14	Geneva State Forest (AFC)	2172.8	589	Initial survey	LTDS	Secondary Support Popn
2014	Aug-Oct	Wehle Center (State Lands Division)	724	20	Evidence of juveniles and eggs at burrow.	Field Reconnaissance	Secondary Support popn
2014	7/14	Conecuh NF (Snake Release Pens)	985.9	205	Initial survey	LTDS	Secondary Support Popn
2014	9/14	Lakepoint State Park	74.7	--	Initial Survey	Pilot Survey Only	NA
2014	10/14	Solon Dixon Forestry Education Center (AU)	1479.0	201	Initial survey	LTDS	Secondary Support Popn
2015	4/15	Conecuh NF (Jim's Site)	1213.8	163	Initial survey	LTDS	Support Popn

2015	9/13	Conecuh NF (Nellie Pond)	826.7	337	Initial survey	LTDS	MVP
2015	6/15	Perdido WMA (Forever Wild Land Trust)	3299.9	434	Initial survey	LTDS	Secondary Support Popn
2015	8/15	Gulf State Park	173	<20	Initial survey	Pilot Survey Only	Secondary Support Popn
2016	3/16	Barbour WMA	369	<20	Initial survey	Pilot Survey Only	Secondary Support Popn
2016	7/16	Geneva WMA	2441.6	140	Initial survey	LTDS	Secondary Support popn
2016	11/17	Upper State SOA	268.5	<20	Initial survey	Pilot Survey Only	Secondary Support Popn
2017	11/17	Fred T Stimpson SOA	1213.8	214	Initial survey	LTDS	Secondary Support Popn
2017	July – October 2017	Wehle Tract	~700 ac	20	Juveniles observed	Complete trapping effort	Secondary support population
2018	July – October 2018	Wehle Tract	~700 ac	20	Juveniles observed/nest discovered	Targeted trapping effort	Secondary support population
2019	7/19	Wehle Tract	50	23	Nest with eggs discovered during trapping	Targeted trapping effort	Secondary Support Popn
2019	July, 2019	CNF Work Station Site	293.5 ha	N=143 .489 GT/ha	Initial, Hermann	LTDS	Primary Support Population
2019	July, 2019	CNF Site 4	139.8 ha	N=50 .356 GT/ha	Initial, Hermann	LTDS	Primary Support Population
2019	August, 2019	CNF Nellie Pond Site	101 ha	N=158	Initial, Hermann	LTDS	Primary Support Population
2019	Sept., 2019	CNF Site 2	413 ha	--	Pilot Survey, not enough GT encounters to continue with survey, Hermann	LTDS	--
2019	Sept., 2019	Private landowner 5,	402.6 ha	--	Pilot Survey Only	LTDS	--

		Baldwin County					
2019	Sept., 2019	Private landowner 6, Houston County	88.87 ha	N=117 .86 GT/ha	Initial Survey	LTDS	Primary Support Popn
2020	Oct., 2019	Private landowner 4, Covington County	147.53	N=34 .23 GT/ha	Initial	LTDS	Secondary Support Popn
2020	Nov., 2019	Private landowner 2, Geneva County	92.91 ha	N=119	Initial	LTDS	Primary Support Popn
2020	Nov., 2019	Private landowner 3, Coffee County	76.66	N=34 .43 GT/ha	Initial	LTDS	Secondary Support Popn
2020	Jan., 2020	Private landowner 7, Escambia County	172.05	N=26 .15 GT/ha	Initial	LTDS	Secondary Support Popn
2020	Jan., 2020	Private landowner 8, Henry County	117.8 ha	N=27 .28 GT/ha	Initial	LTDS	Secondary Support Popn
2020	May, 2018	Private landowner 9, Conecuh County	1144.3 ha	N= <25 GT	Initial	LTDS Pilot only	Secondary support population
2020	Feb., 2019	Private landowner 12, Geneva County	7.0 ha	N=5 .71 GT/ha	Initial	100%	Secondary support population
2020	March, 2019	Private landowner 13, Geneva County	19.7 ha	N=2 .10 GT/ha	Initial	100%	Secondary support population
2020	April, 2019	Private landowner 14, Dale County	34.22 ha	N=43 1.25 GT/ha	Initial	100%	Secondary support population
2020	Dec., 2019	Private landowner 15, Barbour County	5.54	N=7 1.16GT/ha	Initial	100%	Secondary support population
2020	March, 2019	Private landowner 16, Houston County	15.4	N=1 .06 GT/ha	Initial	100%	Secondary support population

2020	Dec., 2019	Private landowner 17, Russell County	39.51 ha	N=9 .22 GT/ha	Initial	100%	Secondary support population
2020	Sept., 2020	CNF Prickly Pear Site	101 ha	N=27 1.09 GT/ha	Initial, Hermann	Pseudocircuit Design	Secondary Support Population
2020	Sept., 2020	CNF Hogfoot Road Site	413 ha	--	LTDS Pilot Survey, not enough GT encounters to continue with survey, Hermann	LTDS	--
2021	2/2021	Private landowner 18 Henry Co.	192 ac	N=13 .06 GT/ac	Initial	100%	Secondary Support Population
2021	1/2021	Private landowner 19 Geneva Co.	176 ac	N=36 .07 GT/ac	Initial	100%	Secondary Support Population
2021	3/2021	Private landowner 20 Pike Co.	100 ac	N=16 .08 GT/ac	Initial	100%	Secondary Support Population
2021	4/2021	Private landowner 21 Geneva Co	45 ac	N=49 .91 GT/ac	Initial	100%	Primary Support Population
2021	4/2021	Private Landowner 22 Henry Co	124 ac	N=12 .08 GT/ac	Initial	100%	Secondary Support Population
2022	2/2022	Private Landowner (OC) Henry County	37	7	Initial	100%	Secondary Support Population

FLORIDA FWC

Beginning in 2014, Florida adopted and has implemented the range-wide population survey protocol as outlined in the GT CCA, Line Transect Distance Sampling (LTDS). Six gopher tortoise surveys were completed between October 1, 2021 and September 30, 2022 and included 4,630 acres of suitable gopher tortoise habitat. All of the surveys were conducted by the Florida Natural Areas Inventory. Of the six sites surveyed this FY, four were considered viable populations, and two were primary support populations. Of the four sites where LTDS surveys had been repeated, all maintained status as either viable or primary support populations. Density estimates are provided for sites surveyed prior to LTDS implementation in 2014.

Table 5. Population survey data (if survey methodology was *not* Line Transect Distance Sampling, indicate what methodology was used).

Report year	Survey date	Property surveyed (name)	Acres surveyed	Population estimate	Trend (increase, decrease, juveniles, etc.)	Methodology	Viable, primary or secondary support population?
2009		n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a		
2010	FY 2009 - 2010	Apalachee Wildlife Management Area	400	1.16	n/a	Belt transect (burrow survey)	
	FY 2009 - 2010	Big Bend WMA (Spring Creek Unit)	350	0.31	n/a	Belt transect (burrow survey)	
	FY 2009 - 2010	Jennings State Forest WMA		400 (Total)	Increase from 2005	Belt transect (burrow survey)	
	January-10	Northwest Hackletrap (RS)	150	0.07	n/a	Belt transect (burrow survey)	
	January-10	The Woods (RS)	75.25	0.03	n/a	Belt transect (burrow survey)	
	June-10	Lake Louisa State Park (RS)	6.4	0.54	n/a	Belt transect (burrow survey)	
	August-10	Allen Brossard Conservancy (RS)	40	0.2	n/a	Belt transect (burrow survey)	
	July-10	Withlacoochee Bay Trail (Felburn Trailhead)	53	0.2	n/a	Belt transect (burrow survey)	
	December-09	PSC Gopher Ranch Eight Mile Still Road (RS)	55.7	0.2	n/a	Belt transect (burrow survey)	
	January-10	Chinquapin Farm (RS)	31.9	1.88	n/a	Belt transect (burrow survey)	
	February-10	Hatchineha Ranch Cons Bank (RS)	17.6	0.9	n/a	Belt transect (burrow survey)	

2011	May-11	Chassahowitzka WMA	1,636	0.24	n/a	Belt transect (burrow survey)	
	April-11	Guana River WMA	402	0.18	n/a	Belt transect (burrow survey)	
	July-11	Caravelle Ranch WMA	47	0.88	n/a	Belt transect (burrow survey)	
	June-11	Aucilla WMA	280	0.023	n/a	Belt transect (burrow survey)	
	December-10	Hickey Creek	80	1	n/a	Belt transect (burrow survey)	
	June-11	North Buck Lake Sanctuary	49.06	1.72	n/a	Belt transect (burrow survey)	
	January-11	Allen Broussard Conservancy (RS)	316.4	0.22	n/a	Belt transect (burrow survey)	
	February-11	Nokuse Plantation (Black Creek Unit) (RS)	494	0.12	n/a	Belt transect (burrow survey)	
	February-11	Heritage Ranch (Unit 1) (RS)	8.95	1.34	n/a	Belt transect (burrow survey)	
	February-11	Heritage Ranch (Unit 2) (RS)	42.28	0.85	n/a	Belt transect (burrow survey)	
	February-11	Heritage Ranch (Unit 3) (RS)	29.26	0.34	n/a	Belt transect (burrow survey)	
	May-11	Charlotte County (Tippecanoe Unit 4) (RS)	28.4	1.28	n/a	Belt transect (burrow survey)	
	September-11	Adams Ranch (RS)	273.1	0.57	n/a	Belt transect (burrow survey)	
	May-11	Russakis Ranch (Phase 1) (RS)	221.56	0.15	n/a	Belt transect (burrow survey)	
	June-11	Tiger Lake Wildlife Ranch (RS)	270.1	0.16	n/a	Belt transect (burrow survey)	

	August-11	Nokuse Plantation (Magnolia Creek Sandhill) (RS)	250	0	n/a	Belt transect (burrow survey)	
	October-10	Allapattah Flats Wildlife Management Area (RS)	16.36	0.24	n/a	Belt transect (burrow survey)	
2012	June-12	Aucilla WMA	346.56	0.01	n/a	Belt transect (burrow survey)	
	May-12	Blackwater WMA	3,000	0.04	n/a	Belt transect (burrow survey)	
	May-12	Econfina Creek WMA	203	0.08	n/a	Belt transect (burrow survey)	
	April-12	Jennings Stat Forest	5,820.3	0.36	n/a	Belt transect (burrow survey)	
	July-12	Point Washington WMA	387.9	0.01	n/a	Belt transect (burrow survey)	
	June-12	Pine Log WMA	410.97	0.03	n/a	Belt transect (burrow survey)	
	August-12	Beville Ranch Phase 2 (RS)	125.3	0.18	n/a	Belt transect (burrow survey)	
	January-12	Gator Hole preserve (RS)	20.85	0	n/a	Belt transect (burrow survey)	
	November-11	Isle of Pine Preserve (RS)	7.05	1.49	n/a	Belt transect (burrow survey)	
	April-12	Viera Wilderness Park Stage 1 (RS)	41.18	0.08	n/a	Belt transect (burrow survey)	
	June-12	Camp La-No-Che Wildlife Cons Area (RS)	92	0.01	n/a	Belt transect (burrow survey)	
	November-11	Bowman's Beach (RS)	62.89	0.52	n/a	Belt transect (burrow survey)	

	January-12	Venus Ranch (RS)	200	0.08	n/a	Belt transect (burrow survey)	
2013	FY 2012 - 2013	Ongoing Blackwater, Econfina, Pine Log and Point Washington WMAs				Belt transect (burrow survey)	
	November-12	Allen Broussard Conservancy Long-Term Protected Site	294.83	0.083	n/a	Belt transect (burrow survey)	
	November-12	Allen Broussard Conservancy Phase II	344.28	0.101	n/a	Belt transect (burrow survey)	
	November-12	Russakis Ranch Phase II	221.33	0.164	n/a	Belt transect (burrow survey)	
	November-12	West Grasshopper Tract Unit 1	212.9	0.436	n/a	Belt transect (burrow survey)	
	January-13	Russakis Investments Phase I	181.64	0.102	n/a	Belt transect (burrow survey)	
	September-13	Dunns Creek State Park Recipient Site	52	0.545	n/a	Belt transect (burrow survey)	
	September-13	Triple S Land Company Phase I	135.6	0.876	n/a	Belt transect (burrow survey)	
	September-13	Triple S Land Company Phase II	413.15	0.066	n/a	Belt transect (burrow survey)	
2014	August – October 2014	Bell Ridge WEA	721.94	1,197	Baseline	LTDS	Viable
	August – October 2014	Ft. White WEA	808.04	974	Baseline	LTDS	Viable
	August – October 2014	Goldhead Branch SP	1,880.96	843	Baseline	LTDS	Viable
	August – October 2014	Ichetucknee Springs SP	790.18	1,269	Baseline	LTDS	Viable

2015	April-15	Cayo Costa State Park	404.02	343	Baseline	LTDS	Viable
	January-15	Edward Ball Wakulla Springs State Park	1,111.73	73	Baseline	LTDS	Primary Support
	December-14	Goethe SF Levy County- Main tract	4,724.65	2,039	Baseline	LTDS	Viable
	March-15	Guana River WMA	941.96	219	Baseline	LTDS	Primary Support
	February-15	Hilochee WMA (non-Osprey unit)	1,291.12	176	Baseline	LTDS	Primary Support
	October-14	Joe Budd WMA	638.03	66	Baseline	LTDS	Primary Support
	March-15	Jonathan Dickinson State Park	2,794.02	870	Baseline	LTDS	Viable
	August-15	Lake Louisa State Park	1,853.53	1,626	Baseline	LTDS	Viable
	May-15	Lake Wales Ridge WEA Carter Creek	1766.80	243	Baseline	LTDS	Primary Support
	March-15	Lake Wales Ridge WEA Silver Lake	454.67	296	Baseline	LTDS	Viable
	October-14	Little Talbot Island State Park	402.29	754	Baseline	LTDS	Viable
	March-15	Moody Branch WEA	448.50	478	Baseline	LTDS	Viable
	November-14	O'Leno/River Rise State Park	1,147.06	1,011	Baseline	LTDS	Viable
	February-15	Perry Oldenburg WEA	333.10	213	Baseline	LTDS	Primary Support
	June-15	St. Sebastian River SP NE	2,817.00	977	Baseline	LTDS	Viable
October-14	Watermelon Pond WEA	329.64	184	Baseline	LTDS	Primary Support	

	July-15	Wingate Creek State Park	376.09	303	Baseline	LTDS	Viable
	February-15	Withlacoochee SF Citrus	44,229.32	7,179	Baseline	LTDS	Viable
	Sept 2014-Feb 2015	Apalachicola NF-Munson East	3,600.32	2,638	Baseline	LTDS	Viable
	Sept 2014-Feb 2015	Apalachicola NF-Munson West	14,030.62	1,207	Baseline	LTDS	Primary Support
	April-15	Ocala NF-Riverside Island	8,974.85	1,126	Baseline	LTDS	Primary Support
	April	Tall Timbers Research Station	558.46	42	Baseline	LTDS	Secondary Support
	April	Woodfield Springs Plantation	2,132.52	231	Baseline	LTDS	Primary Support
	May	Dixie Plantation	1,989.2	166	Baseline	LTDS	Primary Support
	June	Merrily Plantation Conservation Easement	574.00	34	Baseline	LTDS	Secondary Support
	July	Cherokee Plantation	647.00	19	Baseline	LTDS	Secondary Support
	July	El Destino Plantation	1,524.64	373	Baseline	LTDS	Primary Support
	August	Foshalee Plantation Conservation Easement	1,907.65	45	Baseline	LTDS	Secondary Support
	October	Horseshoe Plantation	3,422.41	469	Baseline	LTDS	Primary Support
2016	January-12	Bullfrog Creek WEA	457.49	378	Baseline	LTDS	Viable
	February-12	Blackwater River SF West Boundary Unit	6,989.91	284	Baseline	LTDS	Primary Support
	April-7	Withlacoochee SF Croom	12,761.51	8,221	Baseline	LTDS	Viable

	May	Half Moon WMA	2,396.60	820	Baseline	LTDS	Viable
	May	Big Bend WMA Spring Creek	721.55	208	Baseline	LTDS	Primary Support
	May	Big Bend WMA Tide Swamp	341.50	238	Baseline	LTDS	Primary Support
	June	Eglin AFB	6,543.00	36	Baseline	LTDS	Secondary Support
	September	Lafayette Forest WEA	760.59	388	Baseline	LTDS	Viable
	September	Suwannee Ridge WEA	1,135.94	831	Baseline	LTDS	Viable
	October	Crooked Lake WEA	281	181	Baseline	LTDS	Secondary Support
	November	Hickey Creek WEA	410	165	Baseline	LTDS	Secondary Support
2017	March- 14	Platt Branch WEA	762	967	Baseline	LTDS	Viable
	March-20	Julington-Durbin Preserve	542	273	Baseline	LTDS	Viable
	April	Twin Rivers SF-Ellaville Tract	2,570	1189	Baseline	LTDS	Viable
	April	Branan Field WEA	92	132	Baseline	LTDS	Secondary Support
	April	Honeymoon Island SP	154	217	Baseline	LTDS	Secondary Support
	April	Kissimmee Prairie Preserve SP	18,506	4778	Baseline	LTDS	Viable
	April	Highlands Hammock SP	2,988	1,658	Baseline	LTDS	Viable
	May	Tate's Hell SF	223	Unable to determine	Baseline	LTDS	Secondary Support
	May	Econfina Creek WMA- Carter Tract	948	96	Baseline	LTDS	Primary Support

	May	Jennings SF	7,075	3,828	Baseline	LTDS	Viable
	September	Apalachee WMA	2,147	434	Baseline	LTDS	Viable
2018	October	Ralph E. Simmons SF	939	1,408	Baseline	LTDS	Viable
	October	Torreya SP	2,032	216	Baseline	LTDS	Primary Support
	November	Twin Rivers SF-Blue Springs	2,036	2,498	Baseline	LTDS	Viable
	November	Chassahowitzka WMA	6,420	1,491	Baseline	LTDS	Viable
	April	Little Manatee River SP	1,141	272	Baseline	LTDS	Viable
	April	Rainbow Springs SP	591	479	Baseline	LTDS	Viable
	May	Withlacoochee West CA- Quail Farms	611	154	Baseline	LTDS	Primary Support
	May	Green Swamp West Unit WMA	8,080	2,204	Baseline	LTDS	Viable
2019	March	Oscar Scherer State Park	986	564	Baseline	LTDS	Viable
	May	Halpata Tasthanaki & Cross FL Greenway Pruitt Tract	4,441	1,966	Baseline	LTDS	Viable
	May	Seabranh Preserve State Park	570	228	Baseline	LTDS	Primary Support
	September	Bullfrog Creek WEA	404	430	Stable	LTDS	Viable
2020	February	Lake Wales Ridge State SF Walk in Water	2,403	672	Baseline	LTDS	Viable
	March	Starkey WP	2,698	1,156	Baseline	LTDS	Viable

	April	Wekiwa Springs SP & Rock Springs Run SR	3,249	3,436	Baseline	LTDS	Viable
	August	Bell Ridge Longleaf WEA	688	732	Decrease	LTDS	Viable
	August	Fort White WEA	969	932	Stable	LTDS	Viable
	August	Perry Oldenburg WEA	316	424	Increase	LTDS	Viable
2021	October	Lake Louisa SP	1,458	1,072	Baseline	LTDS	Viable
	November	Ross Prairie SF & the SR 200 to CR 484 Sect. of Marjorie Harris Carr Cross Greenway	3,934	1,831	Baseline	LTDS	Viable
	November	Half Moon WMA	1,951	473	Decrease	LTDS	Viable
	February	Conner Preserve	1,179	1,286	Baseline	LTDS	Viable
	September	Apalachicola Bluffs & Ravines Preserve	2,935	726	Stable	LTDS	Viable
	November	Lafayette Forest WEA	740	683	Stable	LTDS	Viable
	November	Hickey Creek WEA	345	232	Stable	LTDS	Primary Support
	December	Crooked Lake WEA	251	162	Stable	LTDS	Primary Support
2022	January	Suwanee Ridge WEA	1,168	805	Stable	LTDS	Viable
	May	Lake Monroe CA	457	832	Baseline	LTDS	Viable
	August	Edward Chance Reserve	1,669	966	Baseline	LTDS	Viable

GEORGIA DNRTable 5. Population survey data (if survey methodology was *not* Line Transect Distance Sampling, indicate what methodology was used)

Report year	Survey date	Property surveyed name)	Acres surveyed	Population estimate	Trend (increase, decrease, juveniles, etc.)	Methodology (if not LTDS)	Viable, primary or secondary support population? *
2009		Various (12 sites)	7,925	1,933	n/a		3/7/2
2010	No surveys						
2011	No completed surveys						
2012		Various (19 sites)	20,930	7,405	n/a		5/13/1
2013		Various (16 sites)	15,424	3,468	n/a		1/14/1
2014		Various (14 sites)	11,335	3,808	Increase at FLWSMA; n/a others		7/7/0
2015		Various (12 sites)	16,157	4,275	Increase at Barrington; n/a others		7/13/4
2016	1/2016	Lower Satilla WMA	692	471	n/a		Viable
2016	1/2016-3/2016	Fort Perry/Flournoy /McLaurin	2,377	137	n/a		Primary support
2016	3/2016-5/2016	Altama WMA	764	182	n/a		Primary support
2016	5/2016-6/2016	Altamaha WMA (Cox Tract)	161	68	n/a		Primary support
2016	6/2016-7/2016	Alapaha River Ranch	1,068	513	n/a		Viable

2016	7/2016-8/2016	Flint River WMA	210	63	n/a		Primary support
2016	8/2016-9/2016	Bullard Creek WMA TCF additions	692	315	n/a		Viable
2017	9-10/2016	Ohoopsee Dunes	1,890	195	Increase		Primary support
2017	10-11/2016	Alligator Creek WMA	2,016	201	n/a		Primary support
2017	11/2016	General Coffee State Park	136	97	Increase		Primary support
2017	12/2016	TNC R.G. Daniels	141	74	Increase		Primary support
2017	12/2016	George L. Smith State Park	509	157	Increase		Primary support
2017	1-2/2017	Ohoopsee Dune WMA addition	2209	395	n/a		Viable
2017	2-3/2017	TCF Bulloch/Bryan	736	389	n/a		Viable
2017	3-4/2017	Southern Power Wayne	529	320	n/a		Viable
2017	5-7/2017	Alapaha River WMA	2946	2385	Increase		Viable
2017	7-8/2017	Hilliard Tract	1473	183	n/a		Primary support
2017	8-9/2017	Sandhills WMA addition	1764	270	n/a		Viable
2018	10/2017	Moody Forest WMA	850	168	Increase		Primary support
2018	10/2017	Plant Hatch	311	51	n/a		Primary support
2018	11-12/2017	Ohoopsee Dunes WMA additions	618	126	Increase		Primary support
2018	12/2017-1/2018	Georgia Power Rouse Tract	353	21	n/a		Secondary support

2018	1-3/2018	Westervelt's Tiger Creek Tract	1882	340	n/a		Viable
2018	3-4/2018	Plant Vogtle	301	27	n/a		Secondary support
2018	4-6/2018	Yuchi WMA	4297	104	Increase		Primary support
2018	6-8/2018	Doerun WMA	346	258	Increase		Viable
2018	8-9/2018	Thomas Farms	1001	257	n/a		Viable
2019	10/2019	Flat Tub WMA	1,732	341	Increase		Viable
2019	10/2019	River Creek WMA	791	311	N/A		Viable
2019	11/2019-12/2019	Seminole State Park	405	247	N/A		Viable
2019/ 2020	12/2019-9/2020	Ceylon WMA	3,136	2,990	N/A		Viable
2020	9/2020	Dykes Emanuel Co.	133	94	N/A		Primary
2020	7/2020-9/2020	Greenwood Plantation	791	217	N/A		Primary
2021	10/2020-1/2021	Langdale, Marion Co. Private Property	699	71	N/A		Primary
	11/2020	Sansavilla/Wire Road	141	77	N/A		Primary
	11/2020-12/2020	Benning ACUB Juniper	452	58	N/A		Primary
	12/2020-1/2021	Chattahoochee Fall Line WMA – Almo Tract	1609	184	Increase		Primary
	2/2021-3/2021	Brumby/Steve ns, Tift Co. Private Properties	405	224	N/A		Primary

	2/2021-3/2021	Crumley, Tift Co. Private Property	381	192	N/A		Primary
	3/2021-6/2021	Dill, Irwin Co. Private Property	86	119	N/A		Primary
	6/2021-7/2021	ABAC School Forest	363	175	N/A		Primary
	7/2021-8/2021	Penholoway Swamp WMA	677	339	Increase		Viable
	8/2021-9/2021	Sansavilla WMA	882	890	Increase		Viable
2022	9/2021-10/2021	McKinney Tract	586	224	N/A		Primary
	4/2022-5/2022	Beards Creek	521	127	N/A		Primary
	1/2022-8/2022	Silver Lake WMA	3,884	703	Increase		Viable

SOUTH CAROLINA DNR

Table 5. Population survey data (if survey methodology was *not* Line Transect Distance Sampling, indicate what methodology was used)

Report year	Survey date	Property surveyed (name)	Acres surveyed	Population estimate	Trend (increase, decrease, juveniles, etc.)	Methodology (if not LTDS)	Viable, primary or secondary support population?
2015	11/2015	TSRHP	~400	232 (169-320)	Baseline survey all age classes present	LTDS	Viable
2016	Winter/spring	Buckfield	~1700	381 (263-553)	Baseline surveys all age classes present	LTDS	Viable PSP
		Slater	~474	141 (92-218)		LTDS	
2017	Winter/spring 2017	Green Swamp	~470	104 (79-138)	Baseline – all sizes present Baseline – only adults	LTDS	PSP PSP
		SCPSA	~739	88(64-120)		LTDS	
2018	Summer 2018	Aiken GTHP	~1600	107	All sizes present	Live Trapping	PSP

2019							
2020							
2021							
2022							

GA DOT

Table 5. Population survey data (if survey methodology was *not* Line Transect Distance Sampling, indicate what methodology was used)

Report year	Survey date	Property surveyed (name)	Acres surveyed	Population estimate	Trend (increase, decrease, juveniles, etc.)	Methodology (if not LTDS)
2013	*	GDOT Proposed Rights-of-Way	*	*	*	Presence/Absence
2014	*	GDOT Proposed Rights-of-Way	*	*	*	Presence/Absence
2015	*	GDOT Proposed Rights-of-Way	*	*	*	Presence/Absence
2016	*	GDOT Proposed Rights-of-Way	*	*	*	Presence/Absence
2017	*	GDOT Proposed Rights-of-Way	*	*	*	Presence/Absence
2018	*	GDOT Proposed Rights-of-Way	*	*	*	Presence/Absence
2019	*	GDOT Proposed Rights-of-Way	*	*	*	Presence/Absence
2020	*	GDOT Proposed Rights-of-Way	*	*	*	Presence/Absence

2021						
2022						

* *GDOT conducts numerous habitat and presence/absence surveys for gopher tortoise within proposed transportation project rights-of-way annually.*

POARCH BAND OF CREEK INDIANS

Table 5. Population survey data (if survey methodology was *not* Line Transect Distance Sampling, indicate what methodology was used)

Report year	Survey date	Property surveyed (name)	Acres surveyed	Population estimate	Trend (increase, decrease, juveniles, etc.)	Methodology (if not LTDS)	Viable, primary or secondary support population?
2016							
2017							
2018							
2019	August 2019	PBCI Area 1	348.5 ha	106 .30 GT/ha	Initial Survey	LTDS	SSP
	August 2019	PBCI Area 2	613.3 ha	336 .55 GT/ha	Initial Survey	LTDS	MVP
2020							
2021							
2022							

AMERICAN FOREST FOUNDATION (AFF)

None reported.

LONGLEAF ALLIANCETable 5. Population survey data (if survey methodology was *not* Line Transect Distance Sampling, indicate what methodology was used)

Report year	Survey date	Property surveyed (name)	Acres surveyed	Population estimate	Trend (increase, decrease, juveniles, etc.)	Methodology (if not LTDS)	Viable, primary or secondary support population?
2018	Fall	Conecuh NF	600+	63		100% cruise	
2019							
2020							
2021							
2022							

JONES CENTERTable 5. Population survey data (if survey methodology was *not* Line Transect Distance Sampling, indicate what methodology was used)

Report year	Survey date	Property surveyed (name)	Acres surveyed	Population estimate	Trend (increase, decrease, juveniles, etc.)	Methodology (if not LTDS)	Viable, primary or secondary support population?
2011	Fall	lchauway	16,976 ac (6870 ha)	4880 (\pm 708; 14.5% CV)			Viable
2012	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
2013	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

2014	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
2015	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
2016	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
2015	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
2016	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
2017	Fall	Ichauway	16,976 ac (6870 ha)	5319±722; 13.6% CV	Stable or increasing	LTDS	Viable
2018	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
2019	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
2020	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
2021	Fall	Ichauway	16,976 ac (6870 ha)	5683±772;	Stable or increasing	LTDS	Viable
2022	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

ALABAMA FORESTRY COMMISSION

Table 5. Population survey data (if survey methodology was *not* Line Transect Distance Sampling, indicate what methodology was used)

Report year	Survey date	Property surveyed (name)	Acres surveyed	Population estimate	Trend (increase, decrease, juveniles, etc.)	Methodology (if not LTDS)	Viable, primary or secondary support population?
2014	April-October	Geneva State Forest	5,430	589 (0.27/ha)		LTDS	
2015	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA

2016	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
2017	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
2018	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
2019	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
2020	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
2021	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
2022	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Table 5. Population survey data (if survey methodology was *not* Line Transect Distance Sampling, indicate what methodology was used)

Report year	Survey date	Property surveyed (name)	Acres surveyed	Population estimate	Trend (increase, decrease, juveniles, etc.)	Methodology (if not LTDS)	Viable, primary or secondary support population?
2014	June, 2014- Dec., 2014	TRA & AB		TRA = 15 AB = 19		Burrow Count & Occupancy Scope	
2015							
2016							
2017	June, 2017 - August, 2017	TRA FC KP AB	TRA=3 FC=3 KP=7 AB=3	TRA=4 FC=2 KP=5 AB=19		Burrow Count Active/Inactive	
2018	June, 2018-	TRA FC KP	TRA=10 FC = 10 KP = 7	TRA = 8 FC = 5 KP = 9	TRA = stable FC = increase KP = stable	Burrow County and	

	August, 2018	CP AB	CP = 12 AB = 10	CP = 22 AB = 55	AB = substantial increase, especially juveniles and subadults	Occupancy Scope	
2019	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
2020	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
2021	May-July	CUIS	175 acres	225	Increase	LTDS	Primary
2022							

ALABAMA POWER COMPANY

Table 5. Population survey data (if survey methodology was *not* Line Transect Distance Sampling, indicate what methodology was used)

Report year	Survey date	Property surveyed (name)	Acres surveyed	Population estimate	Trend (increase, decrease, juveniles, etc.)	Methodology (if not LTDS)	Viable, primary or secondary support population?
2018	March/April	RMS	238	20	NA/first survey		
2019	March, May, 2019	Farley Nuclear Plant	580.7	47	Initial Survey		Secondary Support Population
2020							
2021							
2022							

GEORGIA POWER COMPANYTable 5. Population survey data (if survey methodology was *not* Line Transect Distance Sampling, indicate what methodology was used)

Report year	Survey date	Property surveyed (name)	Acres surveyed	Population estimate	Trend (increase, decrease, juveniles, etc.)	Methodology (if not LTDS)	Viable, primary or secondary support population?
2018	Oct. 2017	Plant Hatch	311	51	Juveniles seen		Secondary
	May 2018	Plant Vogtle	654	49	Juveniles seen		Secondary
2019							
2020	NA						
2021							
2022	NA						

RELEVANT ACTIVITIES TO LISTING FACTOR B (OVERUTILIZATION FOR COMMERCIAL, RECREATIONAL, SCIENTIFIC, OR EDUCATIONAL PURPOSES)ARMY

- a) Education and outreach specifically targeting any collection activities that may incidentally or intentionally have negative impacts on either tortoises or their burrows.
 - i) Publications [signage, brochures];
 - ii) Workshops and events [date, location, audience, organizer];
 - iii) Public service broadcasts/announcements; N/A
 - iv) Electronic media [website, Listserv, other internet-based outreach];

NAVY

- a) Education and outreach specifically targeting any collection activities that may incidentally or intentionally have negative impacts on either tortoises or their burrows.
 - i) Publications [signage, brochures];
 - ii) Workshops and events [date, location, audience, organizer];
 - iii) Public service broadcasts/announcements; N/A
 - iv) Electronic media [website, Listserv, other internet-based outreach];

AIR FORCE

- a) Education and outreach specifically targeting any collection activities that may incidentally or intentionally have negative impacts on either tortoises or their burrows.
 - i) Publications [signage, brochures];
 - Avon Park AFR:** The outdoor recreation department provides information on state and federally-listed species occurring at APAFR for recreationist awareness through information kiosks, brochures, and briefings.
 - Tyndall AFB:** New gopher tortoise crossing signage has been posted along forestry roads where larger populations of gopher tortoise are present. Brochures were handed out at outreach events on Base and available at Natural Resources office.
 - ii) Workshops and events [date, location, audience, organizer];
 - Tyndall AFB:** Earth Day Celebration on Tyndall AFB, outreach event held by Tyndall CE Environmental Flight and USFWS. Gopher tortoise booth set up using Gopher Tortoise Council outreach gear and brochures.
 - iii) Public service broadcasts/announcements; or
 - iv) Electronic media [website, Listserv, other internet-based outreach]

MARINES

- a) Education and outreach specifically targeting any collection activities that may incidentally or intentionally have negative impacts on either tortoises or their burrows.
 - i) Publications [signage, brochures];

- ii) Workshops and events [date, location, audience, organizer];
- iii) Public service broadcasts/announcements; or
- iv) Electronic media [website, Listserv, other internet-based outreach]

MCSF-BI conduct annual refresher training through our internal Training management system (TMS) on protected species with our tenants, and their subcontractors. Our actions are also discussed with stakeholders during the annual INRMP meeting.

MCLB Albany's education and outreach is through a monthly Welcome Aboard brief given to incoming active duty military members and their families. Natural Resources hosted a wildlife program at MCLB Albany's military housing which included information about rare species aboard the installation.

USFS

- a) Education and outreach specifically targeting any collection activities that may incidentally or intentionally have negative impacts on either tortoises or their burrows. None reported
 - i) Publications [signage, brochures]; None
 - ii) Workshops and events [date, location, audience, organizer]; None
 - iii) Public service broadcasts/announcements; or None
 - iv) Electronic media [website, Listserv, other internet-based outreach] None

USFWS

- a) Education and outreach specifically targeting any collection activities that may incidentally or intentionally have negative impacts on either tortoises or their burrows.
 - i) Publications [signage, brochures];
 - EK: The Tampa Bay tearsheet provides information that gopher tortoises may be found on Egmont Key and are protected. There is a gopher tortoise informational sign at the north end of the island and the Florida Park Service provides a gopher tortoise brochure.
 - CH: The Crystal River NWR Visitor Center in Crystal River opened July 2022 and has interpretive material including the USFWS fact sheet on gopher tortoises.
 - LS: Outreach efforts on Refuge include kiosks, signage, along with information on Gopher tortoises in the Refuge brochure and on the website.
 - ii) Workshops and events [date, location, audience, organizer];
 - EK and CH: George L. Heinrich, Field Biologist for Heinrich Ecological Services presented a talk in January 2022 for the Friends of Crystal River NWRC lecture series, Remnants of a Forest: Gopher Tortoise Conservation on Small Public Lands.
 - iii) Public service broadcasts/announcements; or
 - iv) Electronic media [website, Listserv, other internet-based outreach]

ALABAMA DCNR

- a) Education and outreach specifically targeting any collection activities that may incidentally or intentionally have negative impacts on either tortoises or their burrows.
 - i) publications [signage, brochures]; NA

- ii) Workshops and events [date, location, audience, organizer]; NA
- iii) Public service broadcasts/announcements; or NA
- iv) Electronic media [website, Listserv, other internet-based outreach] NA

FLORIDA FWCC

- a) Education and outreach specifically targeting any collection activities that may incidentally or intentionally have negative impacts on either tortoises or their burrows.
 - i) Publications [signage, brochures];
Over 18,000 (18,917) outreach materials were distributed during this reporting period. Approximately 4,455 copies of the pamphlet A Guide to Living with Gopher Tortoises were distributed to local governments, schools, nature centers, and Florida residents. The Safe Roads for People and Gopher Tortoises placard was distributed 1,427 times during the reporting period, and are still available at Florida Visitor Centers, and state and local parks. FWC also created signage for a new initiative recognizing the critical role private landowners play in Florida. The Gopher Tortoise Friendly Yards Recognition Program recognizes and encourages private landowners to enhance habitat quality and take steps to protect the gopher tortoise and its burrow. All FWC gopher tortoise publications are available at each of FWC's Regional Offices or for free download at <http://MyFWC.com/GopherTortoise>.
 - ii) Workshops and events [date, location, audience, organizer];
Utilizing staff and student interns, the Gopher Tortoise Conservation Program hosted and/or participated in 19 outreach events in FY22, including: 6 law enforcement training events, and multiple diverse presentations.

Due to COVID-19, many events and workshops were canceled in 2022, including in-person Gopher Tortoise Day events and resolution adoptions. The FWC was able to continue outreach efforts by moving to a virtual format for some events. FWC gopher tortoise presentations and/or education booths were present at a variety of events, including:

- Gopher Tortoise Council Annual Meeting
- FAMB Mitigation Banking Workshop
- Wild Amelia Presentation
- Clermont Local Government Workshop
- FDLE Bring Your Child To Work Day
- FSU Environmental Service Program Presentation
- Ponce Inlet Gopher Tortoise Day
- Gopher Tortoise Disease workshop
- Madison County 4-H Summer Camp

- iii) Public service broadcasts/announcements;
N/A
- iv) Electronic media [website, Listserv, other internet-based outreach]

The FWC created 5 social media (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Snapchat) posts relating to gopher tortoise conservation, including topics such as: Reporting gopher tortoise sightings using the FWC Gopher Tortoise Sightings webpage, and Commission meeting announcements.

The FWC published press releases and a weekly agency report to announce a regional workshop for local governments to help conserve gopher tortoises in Florida..

The FWC continues to use the GovDelivery Listserv to send digital communications to subscribers who wish to receive gopher tortoise information relating to local governments, volunteer programs, stakeholders, and news/general information

GEORGIA DNR

- a) Education and outreach specifically targeting any collection activities that may incidentally or intentionally have negative impacts on either tortoises or their burrows.
GA DNR reports submitted separately at the same time as this document.
 - i) publications [signage, brochures];
 - ii) Workshops and events [date, location, audience, organizer];
 - iii) Public service broadcasts/announcements; or
 - iv) Electronic media [website, Listserv, other internet-based outreach]

SOUTH CAROLINA DNR

- a) Education and outreach specifically targeting any collection activities that may incidentally or intentionally have negative impacts on either tortoises or their burrows.
 - i) Publications [signage, brochures]; None to report.
 - ii) Workshops and events [date, location, audience, organizer];
 - iii) Public service broadcasts/announcements; None to report.
 - iv) Electronic media [website, Listserv, other internet-based outreach]

GEORGIA DOT

- a) Education and outreach specifically targeting any collection activities that may incidentally or intentionally have negative impacts on either tortoises or their burrows.
 - i) publications [signage, brochures]; NA
 - ii) Workshops and events [date, location, audience, organizer]; NA
 - iii) Public service broadcasts/announcements; or NA
 - iv) Electronic media [website, Listserv, other internet-based outreach] NA

POARCH BAND OF CREEK INDIANS

- a) Education and outreach specifically targeting any collection activities that may incidentally or intentionally have negative impacts on either tortoises or their burrows.
 - i) publications [signage, brochures]; NA
 - ii) Workshops and events [date, location, audience, organizer]; NA
 - iii) Public service broadcasts/announcements; or NA
 - iv) Electronic media [website, Listserv, other internet-based outreach] NA

AMERICAN FOREST FOUNDATION

- a) Education and outreach specifically targeting any collection activities that may incidentally or intentionally have negative impacts on either tortoises or their burrows.
 - i) publications [signage, brochures]; NA
 - ii) Workshops and events [date, location, audience, organizer]; NA
 - iii) Public service broadcasts/announcements; or NA
 - iv) Electronic media [website, Listserv, other internet-based outreach] NA

LONGLEAF ALLIANCE

- a) Education and outreach specifically targeting any collection activities that may incidentally or intentionally have negative impacts on either tortoises or their burrows.
 - i) Publications [signage, brochures];
 - ii) Workshops and events [date, location, audience, organizer];
 - iii) Public service broadcasts/announcements; or
 - iv) Electronic media [website, Listserv, other internet-based outreach]

JONES CENTER

- a) Education and outreach specifically targeting any collection activities that may incidentally or intentionally have negative impacts on either tortoises or their burrows. N/A
 - i) Publications [signage, brochures]; None
 - ii) Workshops and events [date, location, audience, organizer]; None
 - iii) Public service broadcasts/announcements; None; or
 - iv) Electronic media [website, Listserv, other internet-based outreach] None

ALABAMA FORESTRY COMMISSION

- a) Education and outreach specifically targeting any collection activities that may incidentally or intentionally have negative impacts on either tortoises or their burrows. N/A
 - i) Publications [signage, brochures];
 - ii) Workshops and events [date, location, audience, organizer];
 - iii) Public service broadcasts/announcements; or
 - iv) Electronic media [website, Listserv, other internet-based outreach]

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

- a) Education and outreach specifically targeting any collection activities that may incidentally or intentionally have negative impacts on either tortoises or their burrows.
 - i) Publications [signage, brochures];
 - ii) Workshops and events [date, location, audience, organizer];
 - iii) Public service broadcasts/announcements; or
 - iv) Electronic media [website, Listserv, other internet-based outreach]

ALABAMA POWER COMPANY

- a) Education and outreach specifically targeting any collection activities that may incidentally or intentionally have negative impacts on either tortoises or their burrows.
 - i) publications [signage, brochures];
APC continues to mark gopher tortoise burrows whenever encountered; each sign is labeled with "Sensitive Area" and "No Equipment or Excavation Within 25 Feet;" the signs

also have a contact number to call if someone has questions; the signs are highly visible and can be seen at distances far greater than 25 feet; signs are placed relatively close to the burrow near the apron but APC avoids sign placement on GT trails. During the fall of 2022, APC created GT informational flyers for Power Delivery crews that provide information about GT, a picture of a GT burrow, GT signage, and steps to avoid GT burrows.

- ii) Workshops and events [date, location, audience, organizer];
None provided during this reporting period.
- iii) Public service broadcasts/announcements; or
None provided during this reporting period.
- iv) Electronic media [website, Listserv, other internet-based outreach]
None provided during this reporting period.

GEORGIA POWER COMPANY

- a) Education and outreach specifically targeting any collection activities that may incidentally or intentionally have negative impacts on either tortoises or their burrows.
 - i. Publications [signage, brochures];
 - ii. Workshops and events [date, location, audience, organizer];
 - iii. Public service broadcasts/announcements; or
 - iv. Electronic media [website, Listserv, other internet-based outreach]

RELEVANT ACTIVITIES TO LISTING FACTOR C (DISEASE OR PREDATION)ARMY

- a) Disease and die-offs (date, property/location, cause if known, number of deaths);
- b) Disease screening efforts;
- c) Predator Control;
Ft. Rucker: 608 feral hogs removed, 52 coyotes trapped/removed

NAVY

- a) Disease and die-offs (date, property/location, cause if known, number of deaths): No mortalities found. The NS Mayport gopher tortoise population is located within the dune line adjacent to approximately one mile of beach. Increase in storms and high tides threatens habitat due to coastal erosion and potential storm surge at this installation.
- b) Disease screening efforts; N/A
- c) Predator control: Lethal removal of 4 coyotes, 7 hogs and 2 raccoons at NAS Jacksonville.

AIR FORCE

- a) Disease and die-offs (date, property/location, cause if known, number of deaths)
Eglin AFB: In 2022, 11 adult gopher tortoise mortalities at N-23B (2.7% of 409 released), and 13 adults plus 1 subadult at N-23C (5.4% of 257 released) were documented. Of the N-23B mortalities, 5 males and 6 females were identified from permanent markings. Of the N-23C mortalities, 3 males and 2 females were identified from permanent markings. Cause of death for these tortoises was unknown. These numbers are lower than those documented from first surveys of other pens post-burn.

After the growing season burn, 39 adult and 3 unknown age class gopher tortoise mortalities were documented at H-21, and 27 adult and 1 unknown age class mortalities at F-26. One male gopher tortoise died in the prescribed fire at F-26, otherwise cause of death for these tortoises was unknown. Six males and 5 females were identified at H-21 and 13 males and 7 females at F-26. There were also 3 adult mortalities recorded on N-23A, 1 adult female mortality recorded on N-23D, and 1 adult and 2 subadult mortalities recorded on J-19B in 2022. These mortalities ranged from full carcasses to pieces of the carapace or plastron, which made assessing tortoise identification and time of death difficult.

- b) Disease screening efforts
Eglin AFB: All relocated tortoises were given cursory health screening for URTD. One ITP tortoise was found showing signs of lethargy outside of its burrow and was brought to the Emerald Coast Wildlife Refuge for treatment. The tortoise was successfully treated for Mycoplasmas and was released back into its enclosure.
- c) Predator control
Tyndall AFB: A full time USDA Predator Control Biologist is employed at Tyndall AFB. Total predators trapped in FY22 are 60 raccoons, 13 coyote, 9 opossum, 3 armadillo, and 3 gray foxes.

SLD 45: Removed 109 raccoons, 54 hogs, and 19 coyotes.

Eglin AFB: Predator control in areas adjacent to GT populations resulted in the removal of 593 feral hogs and 67 coyotes.

Avon Park: USDA harvested 400 hogs FY22

MARINES

- a) Disease and die-offs (date, property/location, cause if known, number of deaths) None
- b) Disease screening efforts None
- c) Predator control None.

USFS

- a) Disease and die-offs (date, property/location, cause if known, number of deaths): None
- b) Disease screening efforts: None
- c) Predator control: MCLB Albany did not detect any die-offs of gopher tortoises and did not conduct predator control during the reporting period.

USFWS

- a) Disease and die-offs (date, property/location, cause if known, number of deaths)
- b) Disease screening efforts – Gopher tortoises removed from Egmont Key due to injuries sustained are tested for upper respiratory disease and are not brought back to Egmont for fear of introducing disease.
- c) Predator Control:

EK: Twelve acres of Egmont Key were treated for fire ants. One raccoon was removed in January 2022.

SV: Overabundant mesopredator control provided by three annual public hunts and a conservation partnership with USDA Wildlife Services resulted in a reduction of gopher tortoise predators.

ALABAMA DCNR

- a) Disease and die-offs (date, property/location, cause if known, number of deaths) NA
- b) Disease screening efforts - NA
- c) Predator control –
 - Barbour WMA – Removed 382 feral hogs.
 - Geneva WMA – Removed 78 feral hogs and 7 raccoons .
 - Perdido River WMA – Removed 8 coyotes, 3 bobcat, 7 raccoons, and 5 gray fox.
 - Blackwater River SOA – Remove 6 coyote, 6 opossum, 12 raccoons and 4 feral animals.
 - Fred T. Stimpson Special Opportunity Area – Removed 32 feral hogs
 - Upper State Special Opportunity Area – Removed 231 feral hogs.
 - Uchee SOA – Removed 40 feral hogs, 2 raccoons and 1 opossum.

FLORIDA FWCC

- a) Disease and die-offs (date, property/location, cause if known, number of deaths)

Since December 2014, the Gopher Tortoise Conservation Program has been collecting gopher tortoise mortality data submitted to the FWC via an online web form (<https://public.myfwc.com/HSC/GopherTortoise>). From the web form’s inception to the end of the reporting period (September 30, 2022), 1,287 gopher tortoises were reported as sick, injured, or dead. Vehicles were the most commonly reported cause of injury and/or mortality with 613 tortoises reported hit on roads. For the reporting period of this fiscal year (October 1, 2021 through September 30, 2022), 238 gopher tortoises were reported as sick, injured, or

dead. Vehicles were the most commonly documented cause of injury or mortality with 136 gopher tortoises reported hit on roads.

b) Disease screening efforts

In collaboration with Tall Timbers and FWRI, sixty-one blood samples, and cloacal swabs were collected from two natural gopher tortoise populations within the Red Hills region of Florida. Of the 61 tortoises sampled, seven individuals showed signs of upper respiratory disease (nasal discharge, wheezing, conjunctivitis or swollen eyes). All samples are currently being processed at the Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory at the University of Illinois, and results are expected in FY 2023.

Forty-six samples were collected from the permitted LTPRS, Ft. Basinger, of the SFWMD in Highlands County. While the sampled population showed a high prevalence of respiratory disease clinical signs, relatively few pathogens were detected.

c) Predator control

GEORGIA DNR

a) Disease and die-offs (date, property/location, cause if known, number of deaths)

i) No diseased animals or deaths reported this year.

b) Disease screening efforts

i) Any gopher tortoises being moved to a new area first received a thorough health screening. Any tortoise suspected of carrying disease, either from a population known to have Mycoplasma or showing signs of disease, were tested for Mycoplasma.

c) Predator control

i) No predator control specifically for gopher tortoises. However, efforts to reduce feral hog populations continue and Argentine black and white tegu monitoring and trapping efforts have increased through public outreach.

SOUTH CAROLINA DNR

a) Disease and die-offs (date, property/location, cause if known, number of deaths)

b) Disease screening efforts

i) All waif tortoises received for release at AGTHP are given a physical assessment before release. Blood samples are banked.

c) Predator control

i) AGTHP continues to experience occasional domestic dog activity including the excavation of some burrows. An effort was made to allow SCDNR law enforcement to enforce the county dogs at large ordinance. Additionally, this year, two dogs were captured on trail cameras repeatedly visiting the preserve and damaging gopher tortoise burrows. SCDNR and County Animal Control were able to successfully live trap and remove those individuals from the preserve. As a result, we have not experienced any further known canine damage to burrows since their removal.

GEORGIA DOT

a) Disease and die-offs (date, property/location, cause if known, number of deaths) N/A

b) Disease screening efforts N/A

c) Predator control NA

POARCH BAND OF CREEK INDIANS

- a) Disease and die-offs (date, property/location, cause if known, number of deaths) N/A
- b) Disease screening efforts N/A
- c) Predator control NA

LONGLEAF ALLIANCE

- a) Disease and die-offs (date, property/location, cause if known, number of deaths) N/A
- b) Disease screening efforts N/A
- c) Predator control NA

JONES CENTER

- a) Disease and die-offs (date, property/location, cause if known, number of deaths) - None
- b) Disease screening efforts - None
- c) Predator control: Mesomammalian predators (raccoon, opossum, skunk, fox, bobcat, and coyote) are excluded from 4 large-scale (90 ac) study plots to monitor effects on recruitment of gopher tortoises.

ALABAMA FORESTRY COMMISSION

- a) Disease and die-offs (date, property/location, cause if known, number of deaths) N/A
- b) Disease screening efforts N/A
- c) Predator control N/A

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

- a) Disease and die-offs (date, property/location, cause if known, number of deaths) N/A
- b) Disease screening efforts N/A
- c) Predator control N/A

ALABAMA POWER COMPANY

- a) Disease and die-offs (date, property/location, cause if known, number of deaths) N/A
- b) Disease screening efforts N/A
- c) Predator control NA

GEORGIA POWER COMPANY

- a) Disease and die-offs (date, property/location, cause if known, number of deaths) N/A
- b) Disease screening efforts The one tortoise relocated to Silver Lake WMA was screened for potential health issues; none were detected
- c) Predator control N/A

RELEVANT ACTIVITIES TO LISTING FACTOR D (INADEQUACY OF EXISTING REGULATORY MECHANISMS)

ARMY

- a) Legal protection measures (new, revised or expired legal protections that impact tortoises and/or their habitat)
 - i) State laws, rules and regulations
 - ii) Agency policies/directives/compliance documents:
 - iii) Permitted takes (property/location, number of takes permitted)

NAVY

- a) Legal protection measures (new, revised or expired legal protections that impact tortoises and/or their habitat)
 - i) State laws, rules and regulations
 - ii) Agency policies/directives/compliance documents:
 - iii) Permitted takes (property/location, number of takes permitted)

AIR FORCE

- a) Legal protection measures (new, revised or expired legal protections that impact tortoises and/or their habitat)
 - i) State laws, rules and regulations
 - ii) Agency policies/directives/compliance documents

MacDill AFB: Listing of the eastern distinct population segment under the ESA was found to be not warranted by USFWS, which may have future impacts on protections for the species. The current CCA is still in place and protections will continue.

- iii) Permitted takes (property/location, number of takes permitted)

MARINES

- a) Legal protection measures (new, revised or expired legal protections that impact tortoises and/or their habitat).
 - i) State laws, rules and regulations N/A
 - ii) Agency policies/directives/compliance documents N/A
 - iii) Permitted takes (property/location, number of takes permitted)
 - Permit GTT-22-01485 allowed for the take of up to 10 gopher tortoises on MCSF-BI.
 - NA for MCLB Albany, Townsend, and MCAS Beaufort.

USFS

- a) Legal protection measures (new, revised or expired legal protections that impact tortoises and/or their habitat). None reported
 - i) State laws, rules and regulations
 - ii) Agency policies/directives/compliance documents
 - iii) Permitted takes (property/location, number of takes permitted)

USFWS

- a) Legal protection measures (new, revised or expired legal protections that impact tortoises and/or their habitat). None reported
 - i) State laws, rules and regulations
 - ii) Agency policies/directives/compliance documents
 - iii) Permitted takes (property/location, number of takes permitted)

ALABAMA DCNR

- a) Legal protection measures (new, revised or expired legal protections that impact tortoises and/or their habitat)
 - i) State laws, rules and regulations - None
 - ii) Agency policies/directives/compliance documents - None
 - iii) Permitted takes (property/location, number of takes permitted) - None

FLORIDA FWCC

- a) Legal protection measures (new, revised or expired legal protections that impact tortoises and/or their habitat)
 - i) State laws, rules and regulations - Senate Bill 494, *Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission*, passed both the House and Senate, was signed by the Governor on 5/26/2022 and took effect July 2022. The bill revises laws administered by the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) and other law enforcement entities. The bill amends the Florida Forever Act (s. 259.105, F.S. to require each lead land managing agency, in consultation with FWC, to consider the feasibility of using a portion of state lands as a gopher tortoise recipient site for all state lands under the management of the agency that are greater than 40 contiguous acres. The bill directs FWC to improve the public and private gopher tortoise recipient site application review process by December 31, 2022. It directs FWC to encourage the establishment of new recipient sites and update its permitting systems by October 31, 2023. The bill requires FWC to submit a report to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives regarding gopher tortoise recipient sites by February 1, 2023.
 - ii) Agency policies/directives/compliance documents - Executive orders 21-27 and 22-06 The Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) of the State of Florida, acting under the authority of Article IV, Section 9, of the Florida Constitution, and acting through its Executive Director under Paragraph 22 of the Delegations of Authority, 68-1.009, F.A.C., and due to a shortage of recipient site reservations for accepting relocated gopher tortoises, authorized deviations from the Gopher Tortoise Permitting Guidelines from November 18, 2021 through July 14, 2022. These authorized deviations included:
 1. FWC mitigation contributions for tortoises relocated to short-term protected recipient sites shall be reduced to \$223 for the first group of 10 burrows (up to 5 tortoises) and \$334 for each additional tortoise. If a previous relocation permit has been issued for a project, then the mitigation shall be \$334 per tortoise. *Expired July 14, 2022.
 2. The provision that a gopher tortoise recipient site must be no more than 100 miles north or south of the donor site is waived. *Expired April 15, 2022.
 3. Permittees and/or their Agents conducting offsite relocations under 10 or Fewer Burrows, Conservation, and Disturbed Site permits are required to immediately notify the designated recipient site where the reservation(s) is secured when the

gopher tortoise relocation is complete for the project. Recipient site agents are required to get the gopher tortoise relocation data to the donor site agents within 15 days of the date the tortoises were released. The donor site agent must forward any after action report emails generated by the permit system to designated recipient site agent. This will expedite releasing unused capacity at recipient sites. *Expired April 15, 2022.

4. FWC staff are authorized to deviate from the Gopher Tortoise Permitting Guidelines to consider alternatives for donor sites on a case-by case basis. To be considered for a deviation, donor site Permittees or their agents must demonstrate the following situations: 1.) they are unable to obtain a permit for gopher tortoise relocation under any option currently authorized by the guidelines; and 2.) they are unable to secure a reservation letter at any permitted recipient site 30 days before initiating vegetation or ground disturbance activities that require a permit. Staff are not authorized to waive requirements related to the need for donor site Permittees or their Agents to secure local government approval before commencement of relocation. All approved alternatives will be temporarily authorized by FWC as a permit condition. These alternatives may include:
 - a. Temporary deviation from the maximum 72 hour holding time for tortoises. *Expired April 15, 2022.
 - b. Temporary deviation from the donor site survey timeframe outlined in the guidelines. Gopher tortoise relocation permit conditions state that a gopher tortoise burrow survey conducted using the approved survey method(s) for a project site, covering 100% of the gopher tortoise habitat, must be done by the Authorized Agent and a burrow location map depicting the survey results shall be submitted to the FWC (via the FWC online permit system or via email to GTPermits@MyFWC.com) no more than 90 days and no fewer than 72 hours (excluding weekends and holidays) prior to commencing any gopher tortoise capture and relocation activities. The deviation would consider extending the timeframe to greater than 90 days for application submittal; all other aspects of the survey requirement remain the same: surveys must be conducted by the approved survey method(s) for the project site covering 100% of the gopher tortoise habitat and must be done by the Authorized Agent no fewer than 72 hours (excluding weekends and holidays) prior to commencing any gopher tortoise capture and relocation activities. *Expired April 15, 2022.
 - c. Temporary exclusion permits may be issued for projects in addition to major linear utility corridors. The habitats within the project site must provide suitable habitat for tortoises following completion of the project.*Expired April 15, 2022.
 - d. Temporary on-site relocation. Soft release pens on site must still meet the specifications on page 34 and 35 of the Guidelines as it relates to number of tortoises per pen, materials, cover and shade, and regular monitoring. *Expired February 16, 2022.
 - e. When all other options have been exhausted, temporary offsite relocation to an FWC authorized location on public lands may be

authorized. Permittees and their authorized agents will be responsible for transporting, marking, and releasing tortoises. Such placement is temporary while the applicant procures the first available permanent recipient site reservation(s) and mitigation contributions relating to the permanent placement shall be consistent with the guidelines.*Expired February 16, 2022.

- iii) Permitted takes (property/location, number of takes permitted) - None

GEORGIA DNR

- a) Legal protection measures (new, revised or expired legal protections that impact tortoises and/or their habitat)
 - i) State laws, rules and regulation
 - (1) Georgia's list of wild animals regulated by state law [GA code 27-5-5] was updated to include species such as Burmese pythons, Nile monitors, and Argentine black and white tegus. This rule change increased permitting requirements to keep these animals as pets and restricts buying and selling these animals which can pose a risk to native wildlife such as the gopher tortoise.
 - ii) Agency policies/directives/compliance documents No changes
 - iii) Permitted takes (property/location, number of takes permitted) None

SOUTH CAROLINA DNR

- a) Legal protection measures (new, revised or expired legal protections that impact tortoises and/or their habitat)
 - i) State laws, rules and regulations
 - Listed under SCDNR state endangered list (not new)
 - ii) Agency policies/directives/compliance documents
 - iii) Permitted takes (property/location, number of takes permitted)

GEORGIA DOT

- a) Legal protection measures (new, revised or expired legal protections that impact tortoises and/or their habitat)
 - i) State laws, rules and regulation - NA
 - ii) Agency policies/directives/compliance documents - NA
 - iii) Permitted takes (property/location, number of takes permitted) - NA

POARCH BAND OF CREEK INDIANS

- a) Legal protection measures (new, revised or expired legal protections that impact tortoises and/or their habitat)
 - i) State laws, rules and regulation - NA
 - ii) Agency policies/directives/compliance documents - NA
 - iii) Permitted takes (property/location, number of takes permitted) - NA

AMERICAN FOREST FOUNDATION

- a) Legal protection measures (new, revised or expired legal protections that impact tortoises and/or their habitat)
 - i) State laws, rules and regulation None
 - ii) Agency policies/directives/compliance documents None
 - iii) Permitted takes (property/location, number of takes permitted) None

LONGLEAF ALLIANCE

- a) Legal protection measures (new, revised or expired legal protections that impact tortoises and/or their habitat)
 - i) State laws, rules and regulation NA
 - ii) Agency policies/directives/compliance documents NA
 - iii) Permitted takes (property/location, number of takes permitted) NA

JONES CENTER

- a) Legal protection measures (new, revised or expired legal protections that impact tortoises and/or their habitat)
 - i) State laws, rules and regulation None
 - ii) Agency policies/directives/compliance documents None
 - iii) Permitted takes (property/location, number of takes permitted) None

ALABAMA FORESTRY COMMISSION

- a) Legal protection measures (new, revised or expired legal protections that impact tortoises and/or their habitat)
 - i) State laws, rules and regulations
NA
 - ii) Agency policies/directives/compliance documents –
Existing Policy – The AFC will take appropriate measures to protect the interest of TES whenever they are known to occur within a project area. AFC personnel will be aware of the TES known to occur within their work unit and will consult the AFC Threatened and Endangered Species Manual regarding the potential effect of cultural treatments on TES. If a TES is encountered during the course of an AFC activity, personnel should contact their Regional Coordinator and the AFC Forest Health Coordinator for consultation concerning appropriate action. Management recommendations made in areas where TES are known to occur will be made in a manner that provides either benefits or no negative effects on the TES in question.

AFC inserts a clause in logging contracts that requires heavy logging equipment to stay at least 15 feet away from all known burrow entrances at Geneva State Forest. We “flag” burrows prior to the onset of any new logging activity so crews would be aware of the known burrows. Burrow locations are marked and entered into a database for future reference.

- iii) Permitted takes (property/location, number of takes permitted)
N/A

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

- a) Legal protection measures (new, revised or expired legal protections that impact tortoises and/or their habitat)
 - i) State laws, rules and regulation
All wildlife including gopher tortoises are protected on National Park Service owned lands.
 - ii) Agency policies/directives/compliance documents
None
 - iii) Permitted takes (property/location, number of takes permitted)

ALABAMA POWER COMPANY

- a) Legal protection measures (new, revised or expired legal protections that impact tortoises and/or their habitat)
 - i) State laws, rules and regulation
 - ii) Agency policies/directives/compliance documents
 - iii) Permitted takes (property/location, number of takes permitted)

GEORGIA POWER COMPANY

- a) Legal protection measures (new, revised or expired legal protections that impact tortoises and/or their habitat)
 - i) State laws, rules and regulation
 - ii) Agency policies/directives/compliance documents
 - iii) Permitted takes (property/location, number of takes permitted)

RELEVANT ACTIVITIES TO LISTING FACTOR E (OTHER NATURAL OR MANMADE FACTORS AFFECTING THE SPECIES CONTINUED EXISTENCE)

ARMY

Ft. Rucker reported there were no translocations this fiscal year. No report submitted for the remainder of the Army facilities within the Gopher Tortoise CCA.

NAVY

- a) Describe type(s) of projects or actions that prompted the permanent translocation or temporary relocation of gopher tortoises (in narrative form).

Table 6. Translocation

Report year	Total number of tortoises permanently translocated	Number of GTs to protected lands	Number of GTs to unprotected lands	Number of tortoises temporarily relocated	Were GTs released into soft enclosures and held for at least 6 months?
2009	0	0	0	0	0
2010	1	1	0	0	No
2011	3	3	0	0	No
2012	0	0	0	0	0
2013	0	0	0	0	0
2014	2	2	0	0	No
2015	47	47	0	0	Yes (ongoing at NOLF Holley)
2016	72	72	0	0	No, except for NAS Whiting Field (NOLF Holley).
2017	3	3	0	0	No
2018	1	1	0	0	Yes (Soft Enclosure NASP)

2019	1 (NASP) 1 (NS Mayport)	1 (NASP)	0	0	Yes, Soft Enclosure NASP. GT to rehab center for NS Mayport
2020	2	2	0	0	NA
2021	2	2	0	0	No
2022	6	0	0	0	No

AIR FORCE

- a) Describe type(s) of projects or actions that prompted the permanent translocation or temporary relocation of gopher tortoises (in narrative form)

Eglin AFB: Within Eglin: 21 tortoises were permanently relocated from Eglin Main Base due to mission related activity from construction. 9 tortoises were relocated from isolated, non-viable populations of less than 250 adults in unmanaged habitats. 9 tortoises were relocated from Eglin Main Base and Duke Field where burrows were impacting flight safety and normal operation. All tortoises were relocated to sites with enclosures and have been or will be held at least 6 months. One site containing a 22-acre enclosure began receiving tortoises in July 2020 and reached full capacity in October 2022.

Off-site relocation to Eglin: 847 Incidental Take Permit (ITP) tortoises were translocated from privately owned properties in Florida to Eglin AFB. All tortoises were relocated to sites with enclosures and have been or will be held at least 6 months. ITP tortoises are permitted for take by FWC under an older permitting system, but still honored by the state. ITP tortoises have been translocated to 3 sites on Eglin. The first site containing a 72-acre enclosure began receiving tortoises in March 2022 and reached full occupancy in February 2022. A second 102-acre enclosure began receiving tortoises in March 2022 and reached full occupancy in September 2022. A third 220-acre enclosure began receiving tortoises in August 2022 and has not yet reached full capacity.

1,452 Conservation Permit tortoises were translocated from privately owned properties in Florida to Eglin AFB. All tortoises were relocated to sites with enclosures and have been or will be held at least 6 months. Conservation Permit tortoises have been translocated to one recipient site on Eglin, in which 9 enclosures were constructed and received tortoises. The first 122-acre enclosure began receiving tortoises in October 2021 and reached full occupancy in July 2022. The second 146-acre enclosure began receiving tortoises in April 2022 and reached full occupancy in October 2022. The third 256-acre enclosure began receiving tortoises in May 2022 and has not yet reached full capacity.

Moody AFB: A lone male gopher tortoise located across a fence on neighboring private property was discovered in July 2022. After obtaining permission from the property owners, we surveyed the area and discovered no other nearby tortoises or burrows. After obtaining further permissions we trapped the tortoise on August 9, 2022 and fitted him with a PIT tag and a radio transmitter. The tortoise was then released into our main colony, and we have been radiotracking him three times a week. As of September 27, 2022, he has settled into a burrow and has not moved for three weeks.

SLD 45: One tortoise was permanently relocated for the installation of a utility line in a right of way. Three tortoises permanently relocated from active launch pad and five tortoises were permanently relocated from a construction site of a new RCO bed down area.

One tortoise was permanently relocated in preparation for activation of a new launch complex..

Table 6. Translocation

Report year	Total number of tortoises permanently translocated	Number of GTs to protected lands	Number of GTs to unprotected lands	Number of tortoises temporarily relocated	Were GTs released into soft enclosures and held for at least 6 months?
2010	52	0	52	0	NO
2011	53	0	53	0	NO
2012	16	0	16	0	NO
2013	97	0	97	0	NO
2014	18	0	18	0	NO
2015	60	0	60	0	24 NO, 36 YES
2016	36	0	105	69	36 YES, 69 NO
2017	666	0	666	0	40 NO, 626 YES
2018	818	0	827	9	17 NO, 810 YES
2019	575 Eglin AFB (471 ITP, 104 Eglin)	0	575	0	Yes
	7 Cape Canaveral AFS	0	7	0	No
2020	Eglin:285 (243 ITP, 42 Eglin)	0	285	6	NO
	45 th Space Wing 87	0	87	0	Yes

2021	SLD 45 – 4	0	4	0	No
	Eglin – 1326	0	1326	0	Yes
2022	Eglin: 2,338 847 ITP, 1,452 CP, 39 Eglin	0	2,338	0	Yes
	Moody AFB: 1	1	0	0	No
	SLD 45: 10	0	10	0	No

MARINES

Report year	Total number of tortoises permanently translocated	Number of GTs to protected lands	Number of GTs to unprotected lands	Number of tortoises temporarily relocated	Were GTs released into soft enclosures and held for at least 6 months?
2010	0	0	0	0	No
2011	49	49	0	0	No
2012	0	0	0	0	No
2013	0	0	0	0	No
2014	7	7	0	0	No
2015	0	2	0	0	No
2016	0	2	0	0	No
2017	0	2	0	0	No
2018	0	2	0	0	No
2019	0	3	0	0	No

2020	0	2	0	0	No
2021	0	14	0	0	No
2022	3	3	0	0	No

USFS

- a) Describe type(s) of projects or actions that prompted the permanent translocation or temporary relocation of gopher tortoises (in narrative form)

None

Table 6. Translocation

Report year	Total number of tortoises permanently translocated	Number of GTs to protected lands	Number of GTs to unprotected lands	Number of tortoises temporarily relocated	Were GTs released into soft enclosures and held for at least 6 months?
2016	20*	20*			Yes
2017	905*	905*			Yes
2018	539*	539*			
2019	608*	608*	0	ANF – 0 Ocala NF_ 19	ANF – Yes Ocala NF - No
2020	191*	191*	0	0	Yes
2021	0	0	0	0	N/A
2022	0	0	0	0	N/A

*Apalachicola NF was the recipient site

USFWS

- a) Describe type(s) of projects or actions that prompted the permanent translocation or temporary relocation of gopher tortoises (in narrative form)

Table 6. Translocation

Report year	Total number of tortoises permanently translocated	Number of GTs to protected lands	Number of GTs to unprotected lands	Number of tortoises temporarily relocated	Were GTs released into soft enclosures and held for at least 6 months?
2017	SM – 1	1	N/a	N/a OK – 4	No, per FL FWCC
2018	OK - 2	OK - 2			
2019	None				
2020	None				
2021	None	None	None	6 (EK)	No
2022	DD – 1*	1	0	0	No

* A gopher tortoise was translocated to appropriate habitat from City of Sanibel property where a Hurricane Ian debris management site was established.

ALABAMA DCNR

- a) Describe type(s) of projects or actions that prompted the permanent translocation or temporary relocation of gopher tortoises (in narrative form)

In Alabama, the gopher tortoise burrow is not state protected only the animal is state protected meaning you can not kill, possess, harasses. Relocation efforts only occur when ADCNR is contacted by consultants and landowners that want to actively participate in conserving the species. The need of relocating tortoises this fiscal year is mainly due to loss of gopher tortoise habitat from development (construction). Twenty-six tortoises were relocated to Geneva WMA this fiscal year. Tortoises were soft released on protected public lands and will remain in the enclosure for a minimum of six months (to twelve months) after which the enclosure will be removed so that animals can freely disperse. Development in the gopher tortoise range along with solar development is on the rise throughout the gopher tortoise range in Alabama, especially in

Baldwin, Escambia and Covington counties, as seen from increased calls to the office, inquires, and development project proposals.

Table 6. Translocation

Report year	Total number of tortoises permanently translocated	Number of GTs to protected lands	Number of GTs to unprotected lands	Number of tortoises temporarily relocated	Were GTs released into soft enclosures and held for at least 6 months?
2006	17	17*	0	0	Yes
2007	3	3*	0	0	Yes
2008	11	11*	0	0	Yes
2009	24	24*	0	0	Yes
2010	0	0	0	0	
2011	1	1*	0	0	No
2012					
2013					
2014	1	1*	0	0	No
2015					
2016	7	7**	0	0	Yes
2017	21	21**	0	0	yes
2018	7	7**	0	1	Yes

2019	8	8**	0	0	Yes
2020	4	4	0	0	Yes
2021	12	12	0	0	Yes
2022	23	23	0	0	Yes

*Wehle Nature Center

** Division of Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries

FLORIDA FWCC

- a) Describe type(s) of projects or actions that prompted the permanent translocation or temporary relocation of gopher tortoises (in narrative form)

All development projects that will impact gopher tortoises are required to obtain a relocation permit from the FWC and relocate tortoises prior to any land clearing or vegetation disturbance. Tortoises must be moved to a permitted recipient site or relocated on-site if sufficient habitat will remain post-development.

Under the FWC's gopher tortoise permit system, a total of 11,969 gopher tortoises were relocated from development sites during FY22. This includes adult, sub-adult, juvenile, and hatchling tortoises. All off-site relocation requires tortoises to be released into temporary enclosures for 6-12 months at the recipient site. Of the total number of tortoises relocated, 10,994 were relocated to long-term protected, short-term protected, or public conservation land recipient sites, 975 were relocated on-site, and 354 were temporarily relocated for utility right-of-way projects. As a result of ongoing efforts by the FWC and its partners to encourage the humane relocation of gopher tortoises from sites with previously permitted Incidental Take Permits (ITP), 720 adult, juvenile, and hatchling gopher tortoises were relocated to two protected sites in the Florida Panhandle. These two sites are Nokuse Plantation in Walton County, and Eglin Air Force Base in Okaloosa County. Although these ITP recipient sites are not permitted under the current standard, they do follow the current practices and guidelines and are considered protected sites because of a perpetual conservation easement that prevents future development on Nokuse Plantation and an Integrated Natural Resource Management Plan that Eglin Air Force Base follows.

In addition to the permitted relocations, the FWC has continued efforts to identify solutions for waif tortoises. Waif tortoises are gopher tortoises that have been removed from the wild (either unauthorized or due to injury) and are not associated with a permitted relocation. One solution includes establishing "waif tortoise recipient sites" on lands owned by local governments and conservation organizations. For this reporting period, no publicly managed waif recipient sites were established.

Several existing waif recipient sites received gopher tortoises during the reporting period: Nixon Smiley Pinelands Preserve received 3 adult tortoises and Circle B Bar Reserve received 15

adult tortoises. No tortoises were released at the Bay Pines STEM Center, Marie Acres, Perico Preserve, Kingman Preserve, Panama City Beach, Winding Waters, Clewiston, or Holt waif sites.

One non-releasable gopher tortoise was transferred from a wildlife rehabilitator to an FWC-approved educational facility. Gopher tortoises are deemed non-releasable when they have an ailment that otherwise would prevent them from surviving in the wild.

Under a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with the South Carolina Department of Natural Resources (SCDNR), there is an ongoing effort to restock gopher tortoises on public lands where they are currently depleted in South Carolina through the waif program. During FY22, thirty-five (35) tortoises were transferred from Florida to SCDNR.

Table 6. Translocation

Report year	Total number of tortoises permanently translocated	Number of GTs to protected lands	Number of GTs to unprotected lands	Number of tortoises temporarily relocated	Were GTs released into soft enclosures and held for at least 6 months?
2009	3,091	199	2,892*	6	Yes
2010	2,724	2,393	331	1,165	Yes
2011	2,623	2,267	356	291	Yes
2012	2,023	1,921	102	169	Yes
2013	2,128	1,979	149	165	Yes
2014	2,822	2,561	122	374*	Yes
2015	5,692	5,248	195	453*	Yes
2016	7,889	7,515	262	347*	Yes
2017	6,582	6,334	248	558*	Yes
2018	8,584	8,277	307	322	Yes
2019	8,488*	8,129*	359*	405*	Yes
2020	10,355*	9,930*	425*	507*	Yes
2021	10,666	10,061	605	452	Yes
2022	11,969	10,994	975	354	Yes

*Number adjusted since FY 2018-19 report due to late receipt of after-action reports showing translocation during reporting period

GEORGIA DNR

- a) Describe type(s) of projects or actions that prompted the permanent translocation or temporary relocation of gopher tortoises (in narrative form)

Gopher tortoises directly impacted by development such as local construction projects, mining sites, road infrastructure projects, and utility-scale solar array construction were relocated. Additionally, gopher tortoises found to be waifs or those which needed veterinary care from vehicle collisions and could not be returned to their site of origin were also relocated.

Table 6. Translocation

Report year	Total number of tortoises permanently translocated	Number of GTs to protected lands	Number of GTs to unprotected lands	Number of tortoises temporarily relocated	Were GTs released into soft enclosures and held for at least 6 months?
2009	2	2	0	0	Yes
2010	3	3	0	0	Yes
2011	18	18	0	0	Yes
2012	19	19	0	0	Yes
2013	0	0	0	0	n/a
2014	20	12	8	0	8 GTs = yes 12 head-started GTs = no
2015	350	350	0	0	207 GTs = yes 143 headstarted GTs = no
2016	198	198	0	53	170 GTs = yes 28 headstarted GTs = no
2017	157	157	0	0	yes
2018	148	148	0	0	yes

2019					
2020	160	125 (36 were headstarts)	35 (mine on-site relocation)	77 headstarts in captivity	Yes, except for the headstarts
2021	122 total (76 adults and 46 headstarts)	122	0	14 hatchlings and 32 eggs	Yes except for 4 juveniles
2022	143 (123 adult/subadults and 20 juveniles)	143	0	24 eggs and 26 hatchlings	Yes, except for headstarts

SOUTH CAROLINA DNR

- a) Describe type(s) of projects or actions that prompted the permanent translocation or temporary relocation of gopher tortoises (in narrative form)

SCDNR and SREL have collaborated since 2006 to utilize waif tortoise from the entire species range as a conservation tool to establish a viable population at AGTHP. Waif tortoises from within South Carolina were received from Lugoff with additional Waif tortoises also received from Florida, Massachusetts, Wisconsin and Kansas.

Table 6. Translocation

Report year	Total number of tortoises permanently translocated	Number of GTs to protected lands	Number of GTs to unprotected lands	Number of tortoises temporarily relocated	Were GTs released into soft enclosures and held for at least 6 months?
2012					
2013	18	all	0	0	yes
2014	11	all	0	0	yes
2015	8	all	0	0	yes
2016	44	all	0	0	yes
2017	10 – Slater 3 waif – AGTHP	All	0	0	yes

2018	8 waif AGTHP	All	0	0	yes
2019	14 waif to AGTHP	All	0	0	yes
2020	22 waif to AGTHP	All	0	0	Yes
2021	22 waif to AGTHP	All	0	0	Yes
2022	45 waifs to AGTHP*	All	0	0	Yes

*An additional 32 headstarted tortoises were released initially collected as eggs at AGTHP during the report period.

GEORGIA DOT

- a) Describe type(s) of projects or actions that prompted the permanent translocation or temporary relocation of gopher tortoises (in narrative form)

None reported

Table 6. Translocation

Report year	Total number of tortoises permanently translocated	Number of GTs to protected lands	Number of GTs to unprotected lands	Number of tortoises temporarily relocated	Were GTs released into soft enclosures and held for at least 6 months?
2013	0	0	0	0	N/A
2014	0	0	0	0	N/A
2015	32	32	0	0	Unknown
2016	32	32	0	0	Unknown
2017	0	0	0	0	N/A

2018	0	0	0	0	N/A
2019	0	0	0	0	N/A
2020	0	0	0	0	N/A
2021	0	0	0	0	N/A
2022	0	0	0	0	N/A

POARCH BAND OF CREEK INDIANS

None reported.

AMERICAN FOREST FOUNDATION

None reported.

LONGLEAF ALLIANCE

None reported.

JONES CENTER

- a) Describe type(s) of projects or actions that prompted the permanent translocation or temporary relocation of gopher tortoises (in narrative form) N/A

N/A – No translocations reported.

Table 6. Translocation

Report year	Total number of tortoises permanently translocated	Number of GTs to protected lands	Number of GTs to unprotected lands	Number of tortoises temporarily relocated	Were GTs released into soft enclosures and held for at least 6 months?
2009	0	0	0	0	N/A
2010	0	0	0	0	N/A
2011	0	0	0	0	N/A
2012	0	0	0	0	N/A
2013	0	0	0	0	N/A
2014	0	0	0	0	N/A
2015	0	0	0	0	N/A
2016	0	0	0	0	N/A
2017	0	0	0	0	N/A
2018	0	0	0	0	N/A
2019	0	0	0	0	N/A
2020	0	0	0	0	N/A
2021	0	0	0	0	N/A
2022	0	0	0	0	N/A

ALABAMA FORESTRY COMMISSION

- a) Describe type(s) of projects or actions that prompted the permanent translocation or temporary relocation of gopher tortoises (in narrative form)

A 2.1-acre enclosure was constructed at GSF with the assistance of the Gulf Coast Plain Ecosystem Partnership (Longleaf Alliance) and other partners. Gopher tortoises were permanently translocated to the site through a coordinated effort with Ericha Nix with ADCNR - she will report in the ADCNR CCA report. The enclosure will be “opened up” by prescribed burning in Spring, 2023. A 3.4-acre enclosure was constructed with the assistance of Thompson Engineering in August, 2022. This enclosure will be “opened up” in January-February, 2024.

Table 6. Translocation

Report year	Total number of tortoises permanently translocated	Number of GTs to protected lands	Number of GTs to unprotected lands	Number of tortoises temporarily relocated	Were GTs released into soft enclosures and held for at least 6 months?
2015	8 GTs were translocated to GSF.	N/A	N/A	N/A	Yes – GTs held prior to being released on GSF.
2016	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
2017	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
2018	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
2019	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
2020	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
2021	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
2022	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

No activities reported

ALABAMA POWER COMPANY

None reported.

GEORGIA POWER COMPANY

- a) Describe type(s) of projects or actions that prompted the permanent translocation or temporary relocation of gopher tortoises (in narrative form)

Table 6. Translocation

Report year	Total number of tortoises permanently translocated	Number of GTs to protected lands	Number of GTs to unprotected lands	Number of tortoises temporarily relocated	Were GTs released into soft enclosures and held for at least 6 months?
2018	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
2019	NA	NA	NA	2	NA
2020	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
2021	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
2022	1	1	0	0	Yes

ALL OTHER EDUCATION AND OUTREACH NOT MENTIONED IN ABOVE SECTIONS

ARMY

A compiled report of all installations was not received but Ft. Rucker in Enterprise, AL provided an installation report. Ft. Rucker Natural Resources staff utilize Facebook and the Environmental and Natural Resources website to disseminate information.

NAVY

- a) Publications [signage, brochures]; Signs are placed and maintained near burrows in areas that are frequented by people and burrows close to the road, these signs include information on the burrows, species status and protections. Each sign is large enough for mowers to see that there is a gopher tortoise burrow nearby reminding them to avoid mowing over the burrows apron and large enough for motorists to be aware a gopher tortoise may cross the road.
- b) Workshops and events [date, location, audience, organizer];
- c) Public service broadcasts/announcements;
- d) Electronic media [website, Listserv, other internet-based outreach]; On Gopher Tortoise Day, April 10, PAO posted a flyer to NAS Jacksonville's Facebook page that was created by the Student Conservation Association intern, raising awareness about the Gopher Tortoise and its burrow.

AIR FORCE

- a) Publications [signage, brochures];
- b) Workshops and events [date, location, audience, organizer];

SLD 45: The SLD 45 provided natural resources training to contractor, security, Navy and explosive ordinance disposal personnel that have a need to occasionally travel off road. The training presentation included a discussion on gopher tortoise use of roads and road shoulders and using caution when driving in areas where tortoises may burrow or forage.

The SLD 45 gave two presentations to approximately 100 PSFB-home schooled kids (ages 6-12) on SLD 45 natural resource programs, which include gopher tortoise conservation.

MacDill AFB: MacDill AFB project briefings and input during design review on avoidance measures and awareness. These occur year-round.

Eglin AFB: Poster Presentation: National Military Fish and Wildlife Association. Date: 17 March 2022. Title: Large-Scale Collaborative Effort to Increase Populations of a Candidate Species for Federal Listing Through Translocation and Eglin Air Force Base. Audience: Academic and DoD natural resource professionals. Authors: Vivian Porter, William Moore, Jeremy Preston, and Wade Ryberg. Texas A&M Natural Resources Institute presented on the tortoise translocation efforts and successes at Eglin AFB.

Oral Presentation: Gopher tortoise CCA meeting. Date: 25 August 2022. Title: Gopher Tortoise Conservation at Eglin AFB. Audience: Academic, DoD, and state agency natural

resource professionals. Authors: Vivian Porter and Jeremy Preston. Texas A&M Natural Resource Institute presented on the gopher tortoise recovery efforts and research conducted on Eglin Air Force Base from 2010-2022.

- c) Public service broadcasts/announcements; or
- d) Electronic media [website, Listserv, other internet-based outreach]

MARINES

None reported.

- a) Publications [signage, brochures];
- b) Workshops and events [date, location, audience, organizer];
- c) Public service broadcasts/announcements; or
- d) Electronic media [website, Listserv, other internet-based outreach]

USFS

- a) Publications [signage, brochures];
- b) Workshops and events [date, location, audience, organizer];
 - i) **Conecuh NF – Covington County Fair, 10/18/2021 - 10/24/2021, Local communities, Organized by Kiwanis**
- c) Public service broadcasts/announcements
- d) Electronic media [website, Listserv, other internet-based outreach]

USFWS

- a) Publications [signage, brochures]; N/A
- b) Workshops and events [date, location, audience, organizer];
 - PI: Weekly meet and greets with gopher tortoise model and signage on Centennial Trail, audience is all visitors, organized by volunteers

- c) Public service broadcasts/announcements; or N/A
- d) Electronic media [website, Listserv, other internet-based outreach]

PI: 48 individuals reached through Facebook posts

On March 1, the Friends of Tampa Bay NWRs posted a link to ABC news about a gopher tortoise with a painted hand print on it, telling how the tortoises are a protected species and that is illegal to harm them. The Friends of Tampa Bay NWRs posted a link on April 10 on their Facebook page to gophertortoisecouncil.org to celebrate Gopher Tortoise Day.

ALABAMA DCNR

a) Publications [signage, brochures]; NA

b) Workshops and events [date, location, audience, organizer];

DWFF staff provided multiple gopher tortoise related presentations at various workshops including Natural Resource Council County landowner tours, logger trainings, AFC Academy, ACES sponsored events, and others. Gopher Tortoise Day was also celebrated throughout the state with events being held at Birmingham Zoo, University of South Alabama and Turtle Point Education Center.

c) Public service broadcasts/announcements; or

ADCNR press releases about gopher tortoise conservation efforts and USFWS listing decision were dispersed to the public.

d) Electronic media [website, Listserv, other internet-based outreach]

Several facebook posts and ADCNR DWFF newsletter articles were released to the public throughout the year regarding gopher tortoise conservation and management.

FLORIDA FWCC

a) Publications [signage, brochures]; NA

b) Workshops and events [date, location, audience, organizer]; NA

c) Public service broadcasts/announcements; or NA

d) Electronic media [website, Listserv, other internet-based outreach] NA

GEORGIA DNR

a) Publications [signage, brochures]; N/A

b) Workshops and events [date, location, audience, organizer];

Keeping Georgia Wild Day – Georgia State Capitol, Atlanta: outreach for legislators with a live gopher tortoise; reached 70 people; Jan 13, 2022.

Whigam Rattlesnake Roundup – Whigam, GA: outreach at public event – first time in 60 years this festival did not collect wild snakes, 7,000 people; Whigam Community Club, March 5, 2022.

Claxton Rattlesnake & Wildlife Festival – Claxton, GA: outreach at public event – gradually moving toward no wild collected rattlesnakes, 6,000 people; Evans County Wildlife Club, March 12-13, 2022.

Reptile Day – Fernbank Museum of Natural History, Atlanta, GA: public outreach event, 2,170 people; Fernbank Museum, July 16, 2022.

c) Public service broadcasts/announcements; or NA

- d) Electronic media [website, Listserv, other internet-based outreach] NA

SOUTH CAROLINA DNR

- a. Publications [signage, brochures];

McKee, R.K., K.A. Buhlmann, C.T. Moore, J. Hepinstall-Cymerman and T.D. Tuberville. 2021. Waif Gopher Tortoise Survival and Site Fidelity Following Translocation. The Journal of Wildlife Management 85(4):640-653.

McKee, R.K., K.A. Buhlmann, C.T. Moore, M.C. Allender, N.L. Stacy and T.D. Tuberville. 2022. Island of Misfit Tortoises: Waif Gopher Tortoise Health Assessment Following Translocation. Conservation Physiology 10:1-18.

- b. Workshops and events [date, location, audience, organizer];

Attended and provided update on gopher tortoise related activities in South Carolina at the Gopher Tortoise Council Meeting – November 2021

Coordinated/Attended the in-person 2022 GT CCA meeting at the Webb Wildlife Center in South Carolina and provided a state update – August 2022

Numerous presentations on native reptile/amphibian laws and turtles/tortoises of SC

- c. Public service broadcasts/announcements; or

- d. Electronic media [website, Listserv, other internet-based outreach]

Press Release explaining the USFWS listing decision for gopher tortoises did not change anything in SC and they are still state endangered and thus protected from take in the state.

Numerous follow up media inquiries regarding the gopher tortoise status in SC

GEORGIA DOT

- a) Publications [signage, brochures]; NA

- b) Workshops and events [date, location, audience, organizer]; NA

- c) Public service broadcasts/announcements; or NA

- d) Electronic media [website, Listserv, other internet-based outreach] NA

POARCH BAND OF CREEK INDIANS

- a) Publications [signage, brochures]; NA

- b) Workshops and events [date, location, audience, organizer]; NA

- c) Public service broadcasts/announcements; or NA

- d) Electronic media [website, Listserv, other internet-based outreach] NA

AMERICAN FOREST FOUNDATION

- a) Publications [signage, brochures]; NA
- b) Workshops and events [date, location, audience, organizer]; NA
- c) Public service broadcasts/announcements; or NA
- d) Electronic media [website, Listserv, other internet-based outreach] NA

LONGLEAF ALLIANCE

- a) Publications [signage, brochures]; NA
- b) Workshops and events (date, location, audience, organizer); NA
- c) Public service broadcasts/announcements; or NA
- d) Electronic media [website, Listserv, other internet-based outreach] NA

JONES CENTER

- a) Publications [signage, brochures]; None
- b) Workshops and events (date, location, audience, organizer); None
- c) Public service broadcasts/announcements; or None
- d) Electronic media [website, Listserv, other internet-based outreach] None

ALABAMA FORESTRY COMMISSION

- a) Publications [signage, brochures];
- b) Workshops and events [date, location, audience, organizer];
- c) Public service broadcasts/announcements; or
- d) Electronic media [website, Listserv, other internet-based outreach]

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

- a) Publications [signage, brochures];
- b) Workshops and events [date, location, audience, organizer];
- c) Public service broadcasts/announcements; or
- d) Electronic media [website, Listserv, other internet-based outreach]

ALABAMA POWER COMPANY

- a) Publications [signage, brochures];
- b) Workshops and events [date, location, audience, organizer];
- c) Public service broadcasts/announcements; or
- d) Electronic media [website, Listserv, other internet-based outreach]

GEORGIA POWER COMPANY

- a) Publications [signage, brochures];
- b) Workshops and events [date, location, audience, organizer];
- c) Public service broadcasts/announcements; or
- d) Electronic media [website, Listserv, other internet-based outreach]

RESEARCH STUDIES – CONDUCTED BY OR SUPPORTED BY AGENCY/ORGANIZATION (IF PUBLISHED, INCLUDE CITATION)ARMYNAVY

None reported.

AIR FORCE

Eglin AFB: Continue partnership with Texas A&M to conduct survey and monitoring of translocated tortoise populations to include camera trapping potential predator impacts to translocated animals, commensal use of burrows, and movement/general activity of tortoises in novel habitats. Effort includes the deployment of multiple camera arrays at all ITP tortoise enclosures and telemetry monitoring using GPS and VHF radio transmitters. 20 transmitters were deployed in FY22 on adult ITP translocated tortoises to monitor post-translocation movements, survivorship, and potential nest locations. Efforts thus far have documented breeding attempts and recruitment post-translocation, various commensal species utilizing burrows and adult tortoise predation by coyotes.

Moody AFB: Rare, Threatened, and Endangered Species (Gopher Tortoise, Eastern Indigo Snake, Spotted Turtle, Dusky Salamander) Surveys at Moody AFB. Dial-Cordy and Associates. USACE Contract Number W912EP-16-D-0008, DOD No. W912HN-18-F-1009

MARINES

None reported.

USFS

Conecuh NF - Long-term population monitoring conducted by Auburn University and Eckerd College

USFWS

None reported.

ALABAMA DCNR

Folt, B., Krohn, A.R., Apodaca, J.J., Guyer, C., and Goessling, J.M. 2022. Using Genomic Data to Estimate Population Structure of Gopher Tortoise (*Gopherus polyphemus*) Populations. ADCNR Section 6 Final Report.

Goessling, J.M. 2022. Population Management of Gopher Tortoises at key Alabama Property. ADCNR Section 6 Final Report.

FLORIDA FWCC

In FY22, the FWC funded the development of a spatially explicit model and analytical framework for LTDS data collected on Gopher Tortoise Recipient Sites. The finalized recipient site-specific LTDS methodology and framework will be finalized and implemented in FY23.

To promote actionable science, FWC is funding research annually using gopher tortoise mitigation contributions. In the second year (FY22), four research proposals were funded, including:

- *Effects of origin location on translocated gopher tortoise overwintering behavior, probability of reproduction, and adult survival*, submitted by Dr. Elizabeth Hunter with Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University (2nd year of study)
- *Mitigation-Driven Redistribution of Gopher Tortoise Populations Throughout Florida*, submitted by Dr. Neal Halstead with Wildlands Conservation
- *Gopher Tortoise Disease Study in the Red Hills of Florida*, submitted by Kim Sash with Tall Timbers Research Station and Land Conservancy
- *Burrow Survey Method Comparison: Pedestrian, ATV, Drone*, submitted by Dr. Traci Castellon with FWRI

FWC identified new [research priorities](#) in the 2022 fiscal year, including:

- Factors that enhance recipient site fidelity and overall relocation success
- Impacts of relocated gopher tortoises on natural and adjacent gopher tortoise populations
- Updated Florida-wide gopher tortoise population estimate
- Compatibility of solar sites with gopher tortoises
- Gopher tortoise disease outbreak
- Agricultural/Silvicultural best management practices efficacy
- Identifying mass mortality indicators
- Site fidelity of tortoises inhabiting burrows proximal to development and/or on preserves of developed property
- Methods to reduce road mortalities
- Efficacy of burrow survey methodology
- Impact of captivity on survivorship and behavior of released tortoises
- Impacts of gopher tortoise relocation practices on other species, especially commensals/SGCN
- Influence of capture method on survivorship and fitness of translocated tortoises
- Shell disarticulation studies to predict time since death

GEORGIA DNR

Georgia DNR supported a disease prevalence study of the Red Hills region of Georgia conducted by Tall Timbers Research Station as well as research on the effects of wildlife fencing on gopher tortoises, Eastern indigo snakes, and Eastern diamondback rattlesnakes with partners from USFWS and the UGA Marine Extension.

SOUTH CAROLINA DNR

Restocking with Waifs – evaluating using waif tortoises as a conservation tool – efforts in collaboration with Drs. Tuberville and Buhlmann (SREL) to continually assess using waifs to create an MVP at AGTHP.

McKee, R.K., K.A. Buhlmann, C.T. Moore, J. Hepinstall-Cymerman and T.D. Tuberville. 2021. Waif Gopher Tortoise Survival and Site Fidelity Following Translocation. *The Journal of Wildlife Management* 85(4):640-653.

McKee, R.K., K.A. Buhlmann, C.T. Moore, M.C. Allender, N.L. Stacy and T.D. Tuberville. 2022. Island of Misfit Tortoises: Waif Gopher Tortoise Health Assessment Following Translocation. *Conservation Physiology* 10:1-18.

GEORGIA DOT

None reported

POARCH BAND OF CREEK INDIANS

None reported.

AMERICAN FOREST FOUNDATION

None reported.

LONGLEAF ALLIANCE

None reported.

JONES CENTER

Graduate student project titled: The relationship between habitat structure and the gopher tortoise (*Gopherus polyphemus*) in southwest Georgia. UGA, McKayla Susen.

Graduate student project titled: Gopher tortoise nest-site selection and the effect of nest environment on hatching success. VT, Garrett Lawson.

Manuscript in preparation: Long Term Gopher Tortoise Monitoring at Ichauway: Implications for management, Daniel A. Crawford, L. Mike Conner, Jennifer M. Howze, Jonathan M. Stober, Lora L. Smith.

Gaya, H.E., L.L. Smith, and C.T. Moore. 2022. Accounting for spatial heterogeneity in visual obstruction in line-transect distance sampling of gopher tortoises. *Journal of Wildlife Management*. DOI: 10.1002/jwmg.22338.

ALABAMA FORESTRY COMMISSION

N/A.

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

No report received.

ALABAMA POWER COMPANY

None reported.

GEORGIA POWER COMPANY

None reported.

CCA AGENCY/ORGANIZATION CONSERVATION STRATEGY

(see CCA Section 10.2)

ARMY

No report submitted.

NAVY

- a) Deviations from CCA Agency Conservation Strategy
- b) New goals and strategies not included under the CCA Agency Conservation Strategy

AIR FORCE

- a) Deviations from CCA Agency Conservation Strategy
- b) New goals and strategies not included under the CCA Agency Conservation Strategy

MARINES

- a) Deviations from CCA Agency Conservation Strategy N/A
- b) New goals and strategies not included under the CCA Agency Conservation Strategy N/A

USFS

- a) Deviations from CCA Agency Conservation Strategy N/A
- b) New goals and strategies not included under the CCA Agency Conservation Strategy N/A

USFWS

- a) Deviations from CCA Agency Conservation Strategy None
- b) New goals and strategies not included under the CCA Agency Conservation Strategy None

ALABAMA DCNR

- a) Deviations from CCA Agency Conservation Strategy None
- b) New goals and strategies not included under the CCA Agency Conservation Strategy None

FLORIDA FWCC

- a) Deviations from CCA Agency Conservation Strategy N/A
- b) New goals and strategies not included under the CCA Agency Conservation Strategy N/A

GEORGIA DNR

- a) Deviations from CCA Agency Conservation Strategy None
- b) New goals and strategies not included under the CCA Agency Conservation Strategy None

SOUTH CAROLINA DNR

- a) Deviations from CCA Agency Conservation Strategy None to report.
- b) New goals and strategies not included under the CCA Agency Conservation Strategy None

GEORGIA DOT

- a) Deviations from CCA Agency Conservation Strategy None
- b) New goals and strategies not included under the CCA Agency Conservation Strategy None

POARCH BAND OF CREEK INDIANS

- a) Deviations from CCA Agency Conservation Strategy None
- b) New goals and strategies not included under the CCA Agency Conservation Strategy None

AMERICAN FOREST FOUNDATION

- a) Deviations from CCA Agency Conservation Strategy None
- b) New goals and strategies not included under the CCA Agency Conservation Strategy None

LONGLEAF ALLIANCE

- a) Deviations from CCA Agency Conservation Strategy None
- b) New goals and strategies not included under the CCA Agency Conservation Strategy None

JONES CENTER

- a) Deviations from CCA Agency Conservation Strategy N/A
- b) New goals and strategies not included under the CCA Agency Conservation Strategy N/A

ALABAMA FORESTRY COMMISSION

- a) Deviations from CCA Agency Conservation Strategy - None
- b) New goals and strategies not included under the CCA Agency Conservation Strategy - None

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

- a) Deviations from CCA Agency Conservation Strategy - None
- b) New goals and strategies not included under the CCA Agency Conservation Strategy - None

ALABAMA POWER COMPANY

- a) Deviations from CCA Agency Conservation Strategy - None
- b) New goals and strategies not included under the CCA Agency Conservation Strategy - None

GEORGIA POWER COMPANY

- a) Deviations from CCA Agency Conservation Strategy - None
- b) New goals and strategies not included under the CCA Agency Conservation Strategy - None

APPENDIX I

Gopher Tortoise Candidate Conservation Agreement (GTCCA)

Reporting Period: October 1, 2019 – September 30, 2020

Report due to the CCA Gopher Tortoise Team (GTT) Chair: February 15, 2021

Annual Assessment Report for: _____

Organization/Agency name

Submitted by: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

Organization/Agency contact name

The Candidate Conservation Agreement for the Gopher Tortoise (GTCCA) was signed and implemented in December 2008. The Agreement requires an annual assessment report from each party to the agreement to document conservation activities occurring within the gopher tortoise' non-federally listed range. To facilitate the compilation of information, this report format should be followed by all CCA partners. The assessment report should include activities completed on an annual basis for the period covering October 1 – September 30. Not all sections included below will be applicable to each organization. If sections of this report are not applicable to your organization's gopher tortoise conservation activities or are not applicable for the current reporting period, please indicate so. Please do not report the same data/information more than 1 time in the submitted report. Tables are provided below to help data on acres, management of gopher tortoise habitat, habitat protected, population monitoring, and translocations be consistent and easy to track and compile. Please add a new row for each reporting year.

The annual assessment report will be submitted to the Gopher Tortoise Team Chair by February 15, 2021. The final CCA Annual report will be compiled and submitted by the Gopher Tortoise Team Chair to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and the Southeast Regional Partnership for Planning and Sustainability (SERPPAS) Principals by March 15, 2020. The final report will also be posted to the GTCCA website.

I. Executive Summary

Provide a brief summary of activities completed during the current reporting year.

II. Relevant Activities to Listing Factor A (The present or threatened destruction, modification, or curtailment of the species habitat or range).

Complete the table below to provide information on acres and management of gopher tortoise habitat under your agency's authority or management. Please combine totals if reporting on multiple properties.

c) How much potential gopher tortoise habitat does the signatory agency directly own or manage?

- i. Total estimated acreage of protected gopher tortoise habitat (either by public ownership, by easement, or covered under a management plan that provides for the conservation of the gopher tortoise)

Table 1. Acres of potential gopher tortoise habitat owned or managed by the signatory agency (put n/a if not applicable)

Report year	Protected lands (Public)	Protected lands (Private)	Other lands owned or managed by the agency
2009			
2010			
2011			
2012			
2013			
2014			
2015			
2016			
2017			
2018			
2019			
2020			

- d) Provide a short narrative regarding the type of management activities that were completed on the signatory's lands or other lands during the year, including any challenges or successes.**

- i. Total estimated gopher tortoise habitat acres managed on “owned or managed lands” or “other lands” for reporting agency/organization.

Table 2. Land Management (numbers reflect acres of potential gopher tortoise habitat)

Report year		*Total acres restored or maintained as GT habitat	Acres burned - growing season (%)	Acres burned - dormant season (%)	Acres of invasive species treated	Acres managed (e.g., mechanical, longleaf planting)
2009	Owned or managed lands					
	**Other lands					
2010	Owned or managed lands					
	**Other lands					
2011	Owned or managed lands					
	**Other lands					
2012	Owned or managed lands					
	**Other lands					
2013	Owned or managed lands					
	**Other lands					
2014	Owned or managed lands					
	**Other lands					
2015	Owned or managed lands					
	**Other lands					
2016	Owned or managed lands					
	**Other lands					
2017	Owned or managed lands					
	**Other lands					
2018	Owned or managed lands					
	**Other lands					
2019	Owned or managed lands					

	**Other lands					
2020	Owned or managed lands					
	**Other lands					

*The *Total acres restored or maintained as GT habitat* should be the sum of the preceding 4 columns.

**Other gopher tortoise habitat/lands can include ANY lands regardless of ownership, protection level, or agreement.

e) Land Conservation

- i) Describe the type of acquisitions, easements and other conservation protection of gopher tortoise habitat.

Table 3. New acres of potential gopher tortoise habitat protected

Report year	Public conservation lands	Private lands under permanent conservation easement	Military installation lands (buffer areas)	Other lands protected by short-term easement, MOU, or similar
2009				
2010				
2011				
2012				
2013				
2014				
2015				
2016				
2017				
2018				

2019				
2020				

ii) Total acres of land/habitat loss due to development activities or habitat degradation (identify cause of loss and if permanent/temporary). If data is not available, enter “unknown”.

Table 4. Acres of land/ gopher tortoise habitat lost that is under the direct ownership of the signatory agency.

Report year	Acres lost	Cause	Permanent or Temporary
2009			
2010			
2011			
2012			
2013			
2014			
2015			
2016			
2017			
2018			
2019			

2020			
------	--	--	--

d) Gopher tortoise population monitoring

Table 5. Population survey data (if survey methodology was *not* Line Transect Distance Sampling, indicate what methodology was used)

Report year	Survey date	Property surveyed (name)	Acres surveyed	Population estimate	Trend (increase, decrease, juveniles, etc.)	Methodology (if not LTDS)	Viable, primary or secondary support population?
2009							
2010							
2011							
2012							
2013							
2014							
2015							
2016							
2017							
2018							
2019							
2020							

- e) **Relevant Activities to Listing Factor B (Overutilization for commercial, recreational, scientific, or educational purposes)**
- a. **Education and outreach specifically targeting any collection activities that may incidentally or intentionally have negative impacts on either tortoises or their burrows.**
 - i. publications [signage, brochures];
 - ii. Workshops and events [date, location, audience, organizer];
 - iii. Public service broadcasts/announcements; or
 - iv. Electronic media [website, Listserv, other internet-based outreach]
- f) **Relevant Activities to Listing Factor C (Disease or predation)**
- a. **Disease and die-offs (date, property/location, cause if known, number of deaths)**
 - b. **Disease screening efforts**
 - c. **Predator control**
- g) **Relevant Activities to Listing Factor D (Inadequacy of existing regulatory mechanisms)**
- a. **Legal protection measures (new, revised or expired legal protections that impact tortoises and/or their habitat)**
 - i. State laws, rules and regulations
 - ii. Agency policies/directives/compliance documents
 - iii. Permitted takes (property/location, number of takes permitted)
- h) **Relevant Activities to Listing Factor E (Other natural or manmade factors affecting the species continued existence)**
- a. **Describe type(s) of projects or actions that prompted the permanent translocation or temporary relocation of gopher tortoises (in narrative form)**

Table 6. Translocation

Report year	Total number of tortoises permanently translocated	Number of GTs to protected lands	Number of GTs to unprotected lands	Number of tortoises temporarily relocated	Were GTs released into soft enclosures and held for at least 6 months?
2009					
2010					
2011					
2012					
2013					
2014					
2015					
2016					
2017					
2018					
2019					
2020					

i) All other education and outreach not mentioned in Section III., above.

- a. Publications [signage, brochures];
- b. Workshops and events [date, location, audience, organizer];

- c. Public service broadcasts/announcements; or
 - d. Electronic media [website, Listserv, other internet-based outreach]
- j) Research studies – Conducted by or supported by agency (if published, include citation)**
- k) CCA Agency Conservation Strategy (see CCA Section 10.2)**
- a. Deviations from CCA Agency Conservation Strategy
 - b. New goals and strategies not included under the CCA Agency Conservation Strategy

APPENDIX II

DEFINITIONS (please see the GTCCA for a full list of definitions):

Habitat without a designated special protection status – applies to lands that are included in a management plan: this could consist of state public lands under a state management plan; Department of Defense installations (with a signed/approved Integrated Natural Resources Management Plan - INRMP).

Integrated Natural Resources Management Plan (INRMP) - a document that supports the military mission by combining a series of component plans into an ecosystem management approach and is the primary tool for managing species and their habitat on military installations.

Long-term protection (habitat) – applies to either privately owned lands placed under a perpetual (i.e., endless duration) conservation easement, or publicly owned lands purchased for conservation purposes where either restrictions on the acquisition funding source or government commitment (through ordinances or other regulations) would prevent or prohibit the eventual sale or development of the property.

Protected (habitat) – applies to any land that is protected from any future development (i.e. take of habitat).

Short-term protection (habitat) – applies to either privately or publicly owned lands that have some enforceable protection commitment, but those commitments do not meet the definition of "long-term protection."

Unprotected Site (habitat) – applies to lands that do not have any enforceable protection commitments or use restrictions that would prevent them from being modified and made unsuitable for tortoises.