

Highpoint Center 106 E. College Avenue, Suite 700 Tallahassee, FL 32301 (850) 580-7200 stearnsweaver.com

## Easy to Use Tool Shows Which Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission's Imperiled Species Have Permitting Guidelines, Ranges of Those That Don't

--February 22, 2023--

This new tool provides an interactive list of species included in the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission's (FWC) Imperiled Species Management Plan (ISMP), organized according to permitting guideline availability. The tool allows readers to easily access available conservation measures and permitting guidelines, as well as action plans for species for which guidelines are still to be developed. The tool can be accessed <a href="here">here</a>.

Most species for which guidelines are still to be developed occur in coastal regions of the state. This tool provides range maps for these species. It also provides quick facts, a range map, and linked resources for the Gopher Tortoise, including permitting guidelines with revisions that go into effect this April.

The FWC's Species Conservation Measures and Permitting Guidelines provide requirements and recommendations on how to avoid and minimize incidental "take" (death or injury) of included species resulting from project activities. Where these measures are not employed but a listed species is present, an FWC incidental take permit may be needed.

The current ISMP aims to protect included species and extends over a ten year implementation horizon, from 2016 to 2026. The FWC anticipates completion of guidelines for all species included in the ISMP in 2024.