HERNANDO COUNTY UTILITIES DEPT.
RIVER RUN FORCEMAIN: Gopher Tortoise Survey, Permitting and Relocation

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ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTANTS MGC

Project Description: **MGC** conducted a gopher tortoise burrow survey on the 7,600 linear ft (MOL) River Run force main route. **MGC** obtained an on-site relocation permit from the FFWCC, which authorized the relocation of tortoises from the construction area to other suitable habitat areas on-site. Ultimately, **MGC** relocated 2 tortoises from 2 potentially occupied gopher tortoise burrows. A total of 8 additional burrows were avoided utilizing on-site monitoring of force main installation by **MGC** personnel. These monitoring activities including temporarily probing burrows to determine direction, presence of tortoises near burrow entrance, and to establish a marker in case of incidental impact from nearby trenching. **MGC** worked on-site with construction contractors to insure impacts were minimized and that any impacted burrows were excavated entirely to recover any tortoises.

Location: Hernando County, Florida

Project Period: 2008

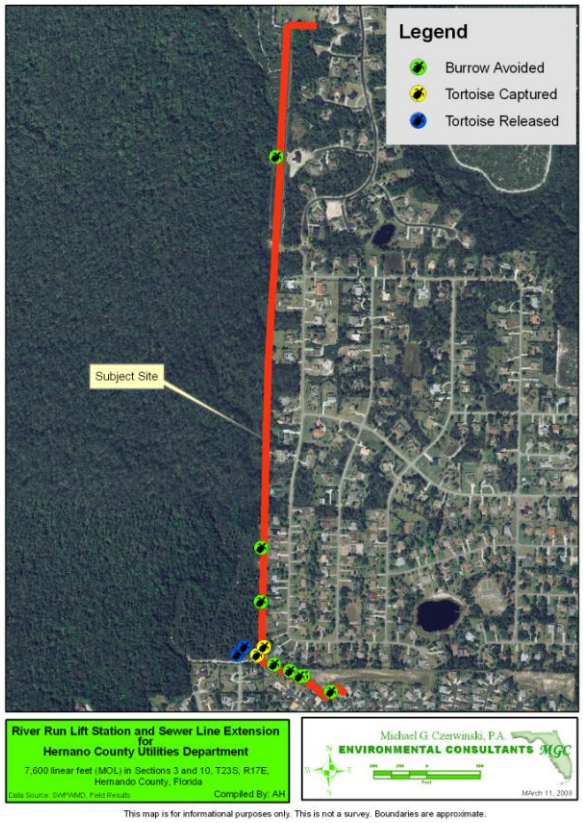
Client: Hernando County Utilities
21030 Cortez Boulevard
Brooksville, FL 34601
Mark Morgan
352-754-4485

Project Size: 7,600 ln ft. (5.2 acres)

Tortoises Relocated:
2 tortoises relocated from a total of 2 potentially occupied burrows excavated (8 burrows in vicinity of project avoided through on-site monitoring of force main installation).

Services Provided:
- Conducted gopher tortoise burrow survey of project area.
- Obtained on-site relocation permit from FFWCC.
- Conducted gopher tortoise relocation activities within proposed force main route.

Gopher Tortoise Avoidance / Relocation Results



This map is for informational purposes only. This is not a survey. Boundaries are approximate.