

Gopher Tortoise Conservation Initiative

A Project of Ashton Biodiversity Research & Preservation Institute, Inc., a Non-Profit 501 C3 Foundation

GOPHER TORTOISE CONSERVATION INITIATIVE

GOPHER TORTOISE RESERVE PROGRAM SITE DESCRIPTION AND APPLICATION

Please fill out this form and return it (email, fax or mail) to the GTCI office. The form will be used to document the number of acres and types of property that are being signed into the Tortoise Reserve Program. The GTCI program is part of a worldwide effort to encourage landowners and managers to take into conservation, the protection and conservation of turtles and tortoises on their properties. GTCI will provide the landowner and/or manager with information and guidance on how to manage resident tortoise(s). This is done through simple conversations over the phone or email. GTCI staff may, upon request, visit the site(s) and provide more detailed information, even management plans and monitoring programs. We have many data sheets for landowners and we are adding to the list as demand becomes evident. We must in some cases ask for donations to cover travel costs, and in large and complicated programs (which may include other protected species as well, ask for some payment to cover staff time involved). Below is a checklist of those that we send out to those who have signed on to the program.

Name of Owner or Manager _____

Mailing Address: _____

_____ Zip _____

Email: _____ Fax _____ Phone _____

ADDRESS OF SITE(S) if different than above:

County _____ Zoning (if known) _____

_____ Zip _____

No. of Acres _____ Primary use of the property _____

Habitat: Please describe:

Estimated No. of Tortoises: _____

Please mark the following types of assistance you would like:

___ 1. Phone or email advice.

___ 2. Site Visit To:

___ Simply review conditions and make recommendations

___ Discuss Management Plans for the site.

___ I would like guidance under the states Forest Stewardship Program.

___ I am planning changes in the land use and would like to discuss impacts.

___ I would like to develop a management plan for all wildlife on my property.

___ I would like a management plan developed

___ I manage mitigation properties (county, state, on site mitigation) and need assistance in planning and management.

___ I am preparing to accept relocated tortoises and wish assistance in doing

this correctly.

___ I will contact GTCI to establish a time and needs.

___ I would like GTCI to contact me.

Please send me the following fact sheets:

___ "Gopher Tortoise Management In Yards, Small Ranches and Farms"

___ List of Tortoise Foraging Plants

___ "Gopher Tortoise Private Reserve-Pre-to Post Relocation Management Recommendations"

___ Notify me in advance about classes and courses on gopher tortoise management and natural history.

AGREEMENT

I, _____ as owner or authorized manager of the previously described property agree to protect and to manage the land in a way that is not harmful to resident gopher tortoises and hope to sustain habitat that will maintain them on the property. I understand that this is in no way a legally binding agreement but simply a pledge to attempt to seek advice and information about gopher tortoise conservation and management and to hopefully carry out management of the property using this advice.

Signature

Date

Questions you may have? Please write out below.