

Florida city tries to save rare tortoises

December 29 2005

The city of Minneola wants developers to try to save rare tortoises before buying permits to kill them.

The Orland Sentinel says the Central Florida city may become the first in the area to make developers try harder to save threatened gopher tortoises from bulldozers.

Since 1991 the state has issued so-called "take" permits for tens of thousands of tortoises, allowing developers to kill the creatures, which are considered a species of special concern, the newspaper said.

The city is considering a plan that could require developers to pursue all options to protect or move tortoises from construction sites before buying a permit to kill them.

City officials say state regulations make it too easy to destroy the tortoises and their habitats, the newspaper said.

Copyright 2005 by United Press International

Citation: Florida city tries to save rare tortoises (2005, December 29) retrieved 26 April 2024 from <https://phys.org/news/2005-12-florida-city-rare-tortoises.html>

<p>This document is subject to copyright. Apart from any fair dealing for the purpose of private study or research, no part may be reproduced without the written permission. The content is provided for information purposes only.</p>
--