

Reptile Regulations Training



**Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation
Commission**

September 29, 2012

Division of Law Enforcement



Objective

To provide an overview of the regulations relative to the commercialization and possession of reptiles including:

- Licensing/Permitting
- Importation
- Identification
- Record Keeping
- Labeling
- Transporting



Reptile Regulations - Overview

Florida has extensive regulations regarding possession of wildlife.

- Ch. 379, Florida Statute (F.S.)
- Rule 68-5, 68A-6, 68A-9 and 68A-12, Florida Administrative Code (F.A.C.)



Reptile Regulations – Licensing Background

Why is it important to understand licensing requirements?

- Rule 68A-6.0023, F.A.C.
 - Unlawful to buy, sell or transfer
 - To or from any unpermitted entity



Reptile Regulations – Licensing Background

Types of licenses or permits:

- Exhibition and/or Sale
- Venomous Reptile or Reptile of Concern (ROC)
- Conditional Species Permit
- Importation Permit



Reptile Regulations – Licensing Background

How do I determine what license applies?

- Activity
 - possession, exhibition, sale and/or importation
- Category of wildlife



Reptile Regulations – Licensing

Background

Regulated categories of wildlife:

- Class I – very high risk of human death or injury
- Class II – moderate/high risk of human injury
- Class III – minimal risk of human injury
- ROC/VR – moderate/high risk of injury
- Conditional – high risk of ecological impact/injury
- Prohibited – very high risk of ecological impact/injury



Reptile Regulations – Licensing Background

- Class I
 - Crocodiles
 - Gavials
 - Black caiman
 - Komodo dragons
- Class II
 - Alligators (American and Chinese)
 - Caiman
 - Dwarf crocodiles



Reptile Regulations - Licensing

Ch. 379.3761, F.S.

- License required to sell
 - includes lesser acts (offer for sale, barter)
- Birds, mammals, amphibians and **reptiles**
- Native or non-native



Reptile Regulations - Licensing

Ch. 379.3761, F.S.

- Includes sale, with delivery made in state, regardless of origin of sale for:
 - Conditional or prohibited species
 - Class I or II wildlife
 - Reptile of Concern or
 - Venomous reptile



License to Sell or Exhibit Wildlife (ESA, ESB, ESC)



LICENSE TO SELL OR EXHIBIT CLASS I
&/OR CLASS II WILDLIFE (26 + ANIMALS)
Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission
PO Box 6150, Tallahassee, FL 32314-6150
(850) 488-3641

ESB 518 Cost: \$250.00 Issued: 07/07/2011
Applicant ID: 9791 License ID: 402-75868 Expires: 06/20/2012

MONKEY JUNGLE DUMOND, SHARON M
P.O. BOX 700246 14805 S.W. 216TH. STREET
MIAMI, FL 33170-0246 MIAMI, FL 33170-0000

LICENSEE AUTHORIZATIONS

CLASS 1 - This licensee IS authorized to exhibit Class I wildlife.
CERCOPITHECIDAE
PONGIDAE
HYLOBATIDAE
Meets Financial Responsibility- Insurance Policy

CLASS 2
CERCOPITHECIDAE
CEBIDAE

**ESA licenses - 446 issued in 2011,
of which:**

- 255 authorized for Class I and/or II reptiles

**ESB licenses - 99 issued in 2011,
of which:**

- 72 authorized for Class I and/or II reptiles



LICENSE TO SELL OR EXHIBIT
CLASS III WILDLIFE
Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission
PO Box 6150, Tallahassee, FL 32314-6150
(850) 488-3641

ESC 17675 Cost: \$50.00 Issued: 07/07/2011
Applicant ID: 9791 License ID: 403-75869 Expires: 06/20/2012

MONKEY JUNGLE DUMOND, SHARON M
P.O. BOX 700246 14805 S.W. 216TH. STREET
MIAMI, FL 33170-0246 MIAMI, FL 33170-0000

LICENSEE AUTHORIZATIONS

CLASS 3
ALL CLASS III MAMMALS INCLUDING CAPUCHIN, SPIDER AND WOOLLY MONKEYS
BIRDS
AMPHIBIANS & CLASS III REPTILES EXCEPT VENOMOUS REPTILES & ROC

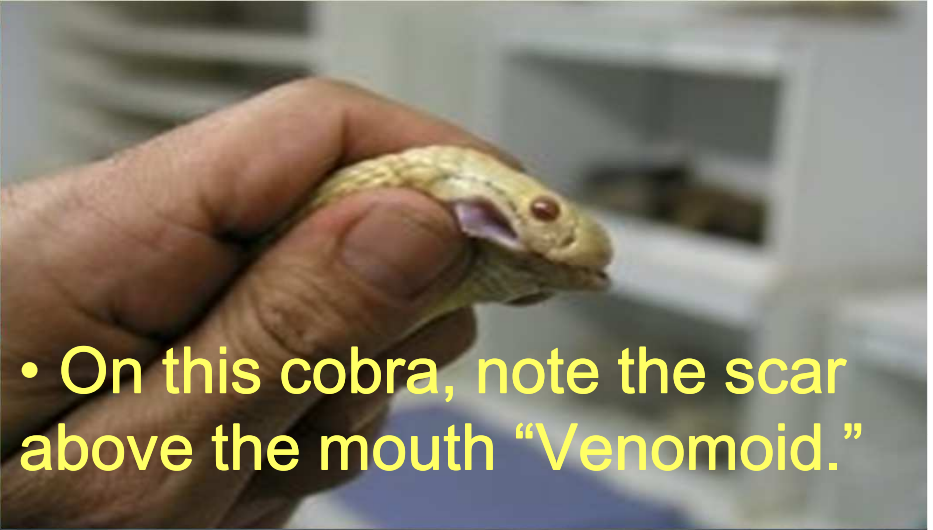
**ESC licenses – 2,752 issued in
2011, of which:**

- 1,633 authorized for reptiles
- 155 authorized for venomous

122799



Reptile Regulations – Licensing Venomous Reptiles



- On this cobra, note the scar above the mouth "Venomoid."



Reptile Regulations - Licensing

Ch. 379.372, F.S.

- License required to capture, keep, possess, or exhibit
 - Poisonous/venomous reptile or
 - Reptile of concern



Reptile Regulations - Licensing

Ch. 379.372, F.S.

- Prohibits keeping, possessing, importing into the state, sell, barter, trade, or breed **for personal use or for sale for personal use.**
 - Conditional or Prohibited species



Reptiles Of Concern (ROC) or Conditional Species (CSP)



Reptile Regulations - Licensing

ROC vs. Conditional species
for permitting purposes

Remember

ROC = Licensed for personal possession
prior to July 1, 2010



Reptile Regulations - Licensing

Conditional species (turtles)

– Red-eared sliders

- Does not include distinctive aberrant color patterns, including albino or amelanistic specimens



Reptile Regulations - Licensing

Conditional species (snakes)

- *Burmese or Indian python (Python molurus)*
- *Reticulated python (Python reticulatus)*



Reptile Regulations - Licensing

Conditional species (snakes)

- *Northern African python (Python sebae)*
- *Southern African python (Python natalensis)*



Reptile Regulations - Licensing

- Conditional species (snakes)
 - *Amethystine or scrub python (Morelia amethystinus)*
 - *Green Anaconda (Eunectes murinus)*



Reptile Regulations - Licensing

Conditional species (lizards)

– *Nile monitor (Varanus niloticus)*



Conditional Species Permit (CSP)



Conditional/Prohibited/Nonnative Species Special Permit FLORIDA FISH AND WILDLIFE CONSERVATION COMMISSION EXOTIC SPECIES COORDINATION SECTION 620 S. MERIDIAN ST. TALLAHASSEE, FL 32399

Permittee Name Michael Van Nostrand
Permittee Address Strictly Reptiles, Inc.
6450 Stirling Road
City, State, Zip Hollywood, FL 33024

Permit: EXOT-11-71
Effective Date: 01/01/11
Expiration Date: 12/31/11

IS AUTHORIZED TO: Import and possess conditional species; import African tortoises (see permit conditions for species list and quantity)

AUTHORIZED LOCATIONS: 6450 Stirling Road, Hollywood, FL 33024

Permittee Signature _____ Date _____

Not valid unless signed. By signature, confirms that all information provided to issue the permit is accurate and complete, and indicates acceptance and understanding of the provisions and conditions listed below. **Any false statements or misrepresentations when applying for this permit may result in felony charges and will result in revocation of this permit.**

Authorized by: Scott Hardin

Authorizing Signature  Date: January 18, 2011

PERMIT CONDITIONS AND PROVISIONS:

Strictly Reptiles, Inc., is hereby authorized to import and possess for commercial use the number and species listed below, as provided by Chapter 379, Florida Statutes, and Sections 68-5.001 and 68-5.002, Florida Administrative Code:

Quantity	Common and Scientific Name of Each Species	Method of Transport
100,000	Red-eared slider (<i>Trachemys scripta elegans</i>)	Commercial carrier
5000	African spurred tortoise (<i>Geochelone sulcata</i>)	Commercial carrier
1000	Leopard tortoise (<i>Geochelone pardalis</i>)	Commercial carrier
500	Bell's hingeback tortoise (<i>Kinixys belliana</i>)	Commercial carrier
500	Burmese python (<i>Python molurus</i>)	Commercial carrier
100	Reticulated python (<i>Python reticulatus</i>)	Commercial carrier
100	Northern African python (<i>Python sebae</i>)	Commercial carrier
100	Southern African python (<i>Python natalensis</i>)	Commercial carrier
100	Amethystine python (<i>Morelia amethystinus</i>)	Commercial carrier
100	Scrub python (<i>Morelia kinghorni</i>)	Commercial carrier
100	Green anaconda (<i>Eunectes murinus</i>)	Commercial carrier

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Permit EXOT-11-71



Conditional/Prohibited/Nonnative Species Special Permit FLORIDA FISH AND WILDLIFE CONSERVATION COMMISSION EXOTIC SPECIES COORDINATION SECTION 620 S. MERIDIAN ST. TALLAHASSEE, FL 32399

400	Nile monitor (<i>Varanus niloticus</i>)	Commercial carrier
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- The above-named permittee will furnish to the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, Exotic Species Coordination Section, 620 South Meridian Street, Tallahassee, FL 32399-1600, a complete and accurate report of the status and disposal of each species imported under this permit, pursuant to 68A-5.004(3), F.A.C.
- No live red-eared sliders may be sold, loaned, given away or otherwise transferred to persons within the State of Florida not specifically permitted to receive them.
- All species imported under this permit shall be safely maintained as provided in 68-5.001 and 68-5.002, F.A.C., as appropriate.
- All shipments of African spurred, leopard and Bell's hingeback tortoises will be inspected by a veterinarian and certified as being free of external parasites prior to being imported. Written notice of each shipment, a copy of the tortoise import permit and certified veterinary health certificates for each tortoise that is to be imported will be submitted to the Commission no less than 10 days before arrival of any tortoise.
- Containers used to transport shipments of tortoises will be disinfected prior to importation and will be incinerated or exported out of state within 72 hours.
- A record of the sale/transfer of all specimens will be kept for a period of one year following the receipt of each shipment. This information will include the name(s) and address(es) of recipients and numbers of unsold tortoises including mortalities during the tracking period.
- Conditional snakes and lizards shall be permanently identified with a unique passive integrated transponder (PIT tag). Identification shall consist of the implantation of a unique PIT tag under the specimen's skin in a manner to maintain the PIT tag permanently in place. Records of identification including PIT tag number where applicable, along with information about the specimen being identified (species, specimen name or number, gender, and age) must be provided to the Commission within 72 hours of acquisition and maintained in the possessor's records for as long as the specimen is possessed. PIT tag numbers can be reported by mail to FWC Exotic Species Coordination Section, 620 S. Meridian St., Tallahassee, FL 32399, or by email to Janey.Timble@myfwc.com. Exemptions: Conditional snakes and lizards being held for export by any person who possesses such animals in accordance with Section 379.304 and 379.372, F.S., are exempt from the permanent identification requirement of this section for a period not to exceed 180 days provided such animals or their enclosures are permanently marked so as to be traceable to written records indicating the date such conditional snakes and lizards were acquired.
- Conditional snake and lizard species shall be transported only after placement in a closely woven, double-seam sewn, cloth sack. This cloth sack shall be placed in a second cloth sack of similar construction, which shall be placed in a secure container. Said containers shall be prominently labeled "Dangerous Reptiles."
- A plan to secure conditional snakes or lizards in the event of disasters or critical incidents shall be documented on the Captive Wildlife Critical Incident Disaster Plan form FWCDLE 619. Forms may be obtained by submitting a request to Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, Division of Law Enforcement, 620 South Meridian Street, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1600, or at www.myfwc.com/permits. This form shall consist of two parts. Part A of form FWCDLE 619 shall be submitted at the time of initial application to possess conditional snake and lizard species; and Part B shall be retained on file at the facility and be made available for inspection upon request of Commission personnel. No later than 24 hours prior to the National Weather Center's projected onset of hurricane-force winds of Category 3 or greater, all conditional snakes and lizards shall be placed in a closely woven, double-seam sewn, cloth sack. This cloth sack shall be placed in a second cloth sack of similar construction, which shall be placed in a secure container. Any conditional snakes and lizards in an outdoor enclosure shall be moved to a secure indoor facility of strong construction with concrete or other suitable flooring and securely anchored to the ground. Persons authorized to possess

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Permit EXOT-11-71



Conditional/Prohibited/Nonnative Species Special Permit FLORIDA FISH AND WILDLIFE CONSERVATION COMMISSION EXOTIC SPECIES COORDINATION SECTION 620 S. MERIDIAN ST. TALLAHASSEE, FL 32399

conditional snakes and lizards shall report their critical incident preparation status to their county emergency management agency prior to the onset of critical conditions.

- Persons authorized to possess conditional snake and lizard species shall maintain an accurate record of all changes in inventory including births, deaths, acquisitions, sales and transfers of all conditional snakes or lizards. Such records shall be kept on the permitted premises on a Captive Wildlife Inventory-Reptile form, FWCDLE 620V-R. Forms may be obtained by submitting a request to Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, Division of Law Enforcement, 620 South Meridian Street, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1600, or at www.myfwc.com/permits. Such records shall be open to inspection upon request by Commission personnel.
- Persons exhibiting or selling live conditional snakes and lizards in accordance with Section 379.304, F.S., shall complete a Captive Wildlife Inventory-Reptile form, FWCDLE 620V-R, and submit same to Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, Division of Law Enforcement, 620 South Meridian Street, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1600, upon annual renewal of permit and six months thereafter.
- Any person authorized to possess conditional snakes and lizards must report any escapes to the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, Division of Law Enforcement immediately upon discovery of escape.

STATE LAW AND THE REGULATIONS OF THE FLORIDA FISH AND WILDLIFE CONSERVATION COMMISSION SPECIFICALLY PROHIBIT RELEASE OR LIBERATION OF ANY SPECIES NOT NATIVE TO THE STATE OF FLORIDA INTO THE WATERS OR TERRESTRIAL HABITATS OF THE STATE.

Conditional Species - 257 permits issued in 2011

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Permit EXOT-11-71



Reptile Regulations - Importing

Rule 68-5.001, F.A.C.

- Permit required to import nonnative specimens
 - freshwater fish
 - aquatic invertebrate
 - marine plant
 - marine animal
 - wild animal life



Reptile Regulations – Importing (Tortoises)

- Tortoises (special requirements)
 - Leopard tortoises (*Geochelone pardalis*)
 - African spurred tortoises (*Geochelone sulcata*)
 - Bell's hingeback tortoises (*Kinixys belliana*)



Reptile Regulations – Importing (Tortoises)

- Tortoises (special requirements)
 - Permit required from Division of Habitat and Species Conservation (HSC)
- To ensure no tortoise infested with ticks capable of transmitting the Heartwater disease is imported into Florida



Reptile Regulations – Importing (Tortoises)

- Permit conditions:
 - Inspected by veterinarian and certified as free of external parasites
 - Submit written notice to FWC no less than 10 days prior to arrival
 - Containers disinfected prior to importation
 - Containers incinerated within 24 hours of arrival — or exported out of Florida within 72 hours



Reptile Regulations – Identification Venomous or ROC

Rule 68A-6.0072, F.A.C.

- Non-Native Venomous Reptiles
 - Photo I.D., or
 - Passive Integrated Transponder (PIT) tag
- ROC
 - Passive Integrated Transponder (PIT) tag



Reptile Regulations – Identification Conditional

Rule 68-5.001, F.A.C.

- Passive Integrated Transponder (PIT)
tag



Reptile Regulations – Identification Placement

Rule 68-5.001 and 68A-6.0072, F.A.C

- Snakes (One inch or greater in diameter)
 - rear one-third of the snake, forward of the anal plate
- Lizards
 - in the body cavity in close proximity to and forward of a rear leg — or
 - in a rear leg



Reptile Regulations – Identification Placement

- Does not apply to:
 - Specimens implanted prior to acquisition of the animal — or
 - Prior to effective date of the rule



Reptile Regulations – Record Keeping General

Rule 68A-6.0023, F.A.C.

- Required when wildlife is possessed for:
 - Personal use (permit required)
 - Sale or exhibition
- Types of records:
 - Births and deaths (Class I or II)
 - Source of acquisition
 - Sales or transfers



Reptile Regulations – Record Keeping – General

Rule 68A-6.0023, F.A.C.

- Required records for personal possessors:
 - Source of acquisition
- Maintained for life of animal
- Available for inspection
- Not required for non-venomous, non-protected reptiles and amphibians



Reptile Regulations – Record Keeping – General

Rule 68A-6.0023, F.A.C.

- Required records for exhibitors/dealers:
 - Source of acquisition
 - Sales or transfers
- Maintained for three years
- Available for inspection



Reptile Regulations – Record Keeping – General

Rule 68A-6.0023, F.A.C.

- Records of acquisition include:
 - Name and complete address of supplier
 - Permit number of supplier (where applicable)
 - Date of acquisition
 - Quantity and species of wildlife acquired



Reptile Regulations – Record Keeping – General

Rule 68A-6.0023, F.A.C.

- Records of sales or transfers include:
 - Name and complete address of recipient
 - Permit number of recipient (where applicable)
 - Date of sale or transfer
 - Quantity and species of wildlife sold or transferred



Reptile Regulations – Record Keeping – Venomous Reptiles or ROC

Rule 68A-6.0071, F.A.C.

- Types of records
 - Births and deaths
 - Source of acquisition
 - Sales or transfers
- Available for inspection



Reptile Regulations – Record Keeping – Venomous Reptiles or ROC

Rule 68A-6.0071, F.A.C.

- Reporting Requirements
 - Personal possessor – any change in inventory
 - Exhibitor or dealer - every six months



Reptile Regulations – Record Keeping – Conditional

Rule 68-5,001, F.A.C.

- Types of records
 - Births and deaths
 - Source of acquisition
 - Including method of identification and PIT tag number
 - Sales or transfers (to CSP permittees only)
 - Accompanied by Captive Wildlife Inventory Reptile form, FWCDLE_620IV-R (06-10)



Reptile Regulations – Record Keeping – Conditional

Rule 68-5.001, F.A.C.

- Reporting requirements
 - Every six months



Reptile Regulations - Labeling

Rule 68A-6.005, F.A.C.

- Shipments containing live wildlife
- Moved in inter-or intrastate commerce
- Container must be conspicuously labeled
 - Name and address of shipper and consignee
 - Common and scientific name
 - Number of each species



Reptile Regulations – Transporting Venomous

- Container within a container
- Locked or otherwise secured
- Screened air holes
- Labeled – “Danger – Venomous Reptiles”



Reptile Regulations – Transporting Conditional Snakes and Lizards

Rule 68-5.001, F.A.C.

- Double bagged
- Secure container
- Labeled – “Dangerous Reptiles”



To obtain information

- Chapter 379, Florida Statutes

<http://www.leg.state.fl.us/statutes/>

- Rules 68-5 and 68A-6, Florida Administrative Code

<http://www.flrules.org>



**Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation
Commission**

**Division of Law Enforcement
Investigations Section
620 S. Meridian Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1600
(850) 488-6253**

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Jason Marlow

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Questions?



The following slide is intended for
information only



License to Possess Class II Wildlife - Personal Pet Licenses (PPL)



PERSONAL PET LICENSE
Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission
PO Box 6150, Tallahassee, FL 32314-6150
(850) 488-3641

PPL 932 Cost: \$140.00 Issued: 07/07/2011
Applicant ID: 22431 License ID: 405-76417 Location Address: Expires: 07/06/2012

HALL, JAN HALL, JAN
7451 COLONIAL COURT 7451 COLONIAL COURT
SANFORD, FL 32771 SANFORD, FL 32771

LICENSEE AUTHORIZATIONS
CLASS 1
COUGARS

122800

**PPL licenses - 104 issued in 2011,
of which:**

- 15 (Class II reptiles)

