

## VIRGINIA K. SOUMAR, B.S.

### Areas of Specialization:

Environmental permitting, mitigation design, data compilation and analysis, ecological constraints reviews, wetland delineation, wetland functions and values analyses, habitat assessment and mapping, vegetative and hydrologic monitoring and reporting, state and federally listed wildlife species surveys, and gopher tortoise census and relocations.

### Experience:

Associate Scientist IV, Breedlove, Dennis & Associates, Inc., Winter Park, Florida. 2007-Present.

- Prepared state, federal, and local environmental permit applications including Environmental Resource Permits; Individual and Nationwide Permits; Approved Jurisdictional Determinations; Mitigation Banking Instruments; Conservation Area Determinations and Impact Permits; Incidental Take Permits; and Gopher Tortoise Relocation Permits.
- Developed on-site and off-site mitigation plans for impact permits and mitigation banks.
- Provided project management duties for timely and cost-efficient completion of tasks.
- Participated in state and federal rule making through review and comment of proposed policies including Uniform Mitigation Assessment Method (UMAM), Waters of the United States jurisdictional guidance, federal Assessment of Indirect and Secondary Effects, and Gopher Tortoise Permitting Guidelines.
- Performed ecological constraints reviews for listed species, wetlands, vegetative community classifications, and habitat quality.
- Performed wetland delineation and aerial photointerpretation for land use mapping and permitting.
- Conducted habitat assessments for quality and functions, including UMAM, Wetland Rapid Assessment Procedure (WRAP), Modified Wetland Rapid Assessment Procedure (M-WRAP), and Lake Vegetation Index (LVI).
- Established and conducted vegetative, biological, and hydrological monitoring and assessments of wetland and upland mitigation areas for permit compliance.
- Interpreted monitoring data to determine achievement of permit-conditioned success criteria and drafted monitoring reports for agency submittal.
- Conducted wildlife monitoring, habitat assessments, and presence/absence surveys for state and federally listed wildlife species including sand skink (*Neoseps [=Plestiodon] reynoldsi*), gopher tortoise (*Gopherus polyphemus*), eastern indigo snake (*Drymarchon corais couperi*), bald eagle (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*), Florida scrub-jay (*Aphelocoma coerulescens*), southeastern American kestrel (*Falco sparverius paulus*), crested caracara (*Caracara cheriway*), burrowing owl (*Athene cunicularia*), Florida sandhill crane (*Grus canadensis pratensis*), and Sherman's fox squirrel (*Sciurus niger shermani*).

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- Provided annual monitoring for Florida scrub-jay mitigation site, to include documentation of nesting success, assistance with identification banding procedures, and coordination of habitat management activities.
- Performed gopher tortoise census, relocations (including backhoe, hand shovel, and bucket-trap capture techniques), marking/measuring, burrow scoping, and soft-release monitoring of recipient sites.
- Established and conducted coverboard surveys for sand skinks in accordance with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) guidelines.
- Performed bald eagle nest monitoring in accordance with USFWS guidelines.
- Utilized custom Geographic Information System databases containing ecological occurrence records and regulatory ranges for listed species to provide preliminary assessments of potential for occurrence and guide species-specific survey efforts.
- Conducted National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System inspections.
- Maintained the Permit Tracking System for a large central Florida airport using ArcView.
- Utilized Global Positioning System units and data to map wetland limits, transect and sampling locations, property boundaries, listed species occurrences, etc.

Chemical Analyst, Accutest Laboratories Southeast, Orlando, Florida. 2006-2007.

- Prepared standards and soil and water samples to be analyzed.
- Used FID and ECD gas chromatography instruments and ChemStation software to analyze client samples.
- Interpreted and recorded data according to specific method requirements.
- Performed instrument maintenance when necessary.

**Education:**

B.S. University of Central Florida, Orlando, Florida, 2005. Biology.

**Certifications:**

Qualified Stormwater Management Inspector No. 16788. 2007-Present.

Lake Vegetation Index certified analyst. 2015-Present.

Occupational Safety and Health Administration 24-hour HAZWOPER Certification. 2015-Present.

Authorized Gopher Tortoise Agent No. GTA-20-00002. 2020-Present.

Burrowing Owl Registered Agent No. RAG-20-00054. 2020-Present.