



NOTICE TO INDUSTRY

Burrowing Owl Nesting Season

EFFECTIVE Thursday, February 15, 2024

February 15th – July 10th is Burrowing Owl nesting season. All owl burrows adjacent to an active construction site shall have a 33-foot radius buffer installed around them (Ord. 20-19). During the nesting season the required buffer shall increase from a 10-foot radius to a 33-foot radius unless otherwise exempted by state permit.

Buffers shall be installed prior to commencement of any site work and shall remain in good condition for the duration of the project. Suitable buffer materials may include the following: stakes (pvc, wood, or rebar) with a rope around perimeter; silt fence (should enclose no more than 3 sides); and plastic construction/safety fence.

If construction has commenced prior to nesting season, any remaining exterior work within the 33-foot buffer shall stop. If the exterior of the building is complete, you may be permitted to continue working on the inside. No further exterior work, parking, or storage of materials shall occur within the 33-foot buffer during nesting season.

If the 33-foot buffer cannot be met, construction should cease until non-nesting season, or you may apply for a take permit from Florida Fish and Wildlife.

Questions about the burrowing owl buffer requirements, please contact Justin Heller at jheller@capecoral.gov or Candise Forde at Cforde@capecoral.gov.