



Polk County, Florida

# I-4 Wildlife Crossing Design Project

Financial Project ID: 201214-8-52-01

## Virtual Public Workshop (May 25, 2021 through June 15, 2021)

The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT), District One, is hosting a **Virtual Public Workshop** to review design plans for the I-4 wildlife crossing located in northeast Lakeland. The purpose of the workshop is to present project information and to receive public input regarding the proposed design plans.

The workshop is being held completely online with **no live component**. Workshop materials will be posted to the project website ([www.swflroads.com/i4/wildlifecrossing](http://www.swflroads.com/i4/wildlifecrossing)) beginning on Tuesday, May 25, 2021 and may be viewed through Tuesday, June 15, 2021. Hard copies of the workshop materials are available for pick up at the Lakeland Public Library – Larry R. Jackson Branch, located at 1700 N. Florida Avenue, Lakeland, FL 33805 during regular business hours between May 25, 2021 and June 15, 2021. The library's main phone number is (863) 834-4288.

## Ways to Share Your Comments

After reviewing the workshop materials online, comments may be submitted in three different ways:

- Through the project website ([www.swflroads.com/i4/wildlifecrossing](http://www.swflroads.com/i4/wildlifecrossing)); or
- Emailing Doug Burkhart, P.E., the FDOT Project Manager at [Doug.Burkhart@dot.state.fl.us](mailto:Doug.Burkhart@dot.state.fl.us); or
- Mailing comments to Doug Burkhart, P.E. at FDOT District One, P.O. Box 1249, Bartow, FL 33831.

Please note that comments must be received or postmarked by June 15, 2021 in order to be included in the workshop summary, which will be posted to the project website ([www.swflroads.com/i4/wildlifecrossing](http://www.swflroads.com/i4/wildlifecrossing)) by mid-July 2021 (about 30 days after the comment period ends).

*FDOT solicits public participation without regard to race, color, national origin, age, sex, religion, disability or family status. People who require special accommodations under the Americans with Disabilities Act or who require translation services (free of charge) should contact Cynthia Sykes, District One Title VI Coordinator, by phone at (863) 519-2287 or by email at [Cynthia.Sykes@dot.state.fl.us](mailto:Cynthia.Sykes@dot.state.fl.us) at least seven days prior to the Virtual Public Workshop.*

## Project Contact Information

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Email: [Doug.Burkhart@dot.state.fl.us](mailto:Doug.Burkhart@dot.state.fl.us)

**Project Website: [www.swflroads.com/i4/wildlifecrossing](http://www.swflroads.com/i4/wildlifecrossing)**



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## Wildlife Crossings Overview

As part of the 1998 Environmental Assessment (EA) for I-4 from the Hillsborough County Line to the Osceola County Line, the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) committed to the construction of a wildlife crossing near Saddle Creek and the Tenoroc Management Area. Coordination with the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) was conducted to determine the appropriate wildlife crossing location alternatives. The preferred location for the Saddle Creek/Tenoroc Management Area wildlife crossing is located approximately 1.6 miles east of the I-4/SR 33 interchange. The wildlife crossing consists of a 44-foot wide bridge crossing over I-4. The project is approximately 1,700 feet in length.

## Next Steps After Workshop

- Design completion: December 2023
- ROW acquisition: Fall 2021
- Construction: Not funded

## Project Location Map



## Project Concept



Project Website: [www.swflroads.com/i4/wildlifecrossing](http://www.swflroads.com/i4/wildlifecrossing)