

*WHAT ARE THE STANDARD PROTECTION MEASURES THAT ARE REQUIRED?*

The Seminole Tribe of Florida is required by the Federal Endangered Species Act to abide by standard measures adopted to protect this endangered snake:

1. An Eastern indigo snake protection/ education plan has been developed which requires training for all construction crews.
2. A qualified observer/biologist will be on-site for notification by construction personnel if a potential indigo snake is sighted.
3. If an indigo snake is found on the construction site, all activity must cease immediately, the qualified observer must be notified, and the snake allowed to move away from any dangerous area on its own.



**WHO DO YOU CONTACT IF YOU SEE AN INDIGO SNAKE ON THE RESERVATION?**

Contact your direct supervisor

You may also contact::

Seminole Tribe of Florida's  
Wildlife Biologist  
Phone: 863-902-3249 x13411  
Cell: 954-410-7073

*Seminole Tribe of Florida  
Environmental Resource  
Management Department*

## *Eastern Indigo Snake*



**Protecting Tribal Resources**

## WHAT IS AN INDIGO SNAKE?



The eastern indigo snake (above) is the longest non-poisonous snake in North America, reaching a maximum length of 8.6 feet. More typically adult indigo snakes are about six feet in length.

*This snake is classified as a threatened species by both the U. S Fish & Wildlife Service and the Fl. Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission*

**BE AWARE THAT ANY DARK SNAKE, EITHER LARGE OR SMALL MAY BE AN INDIGO AND SHOULD NOT BE HARASSED IN ANY WAY**

## HOW CAN YOU IDENTIFY AN INDIGO SNAKE?

- Adult indigo snakes are large and slow-moving
- Juveniles have a reticulated pattern of light brown markings on a brownish background
- Shiny, iridescent, bluish-black body
- Chin is either reddish or cream colored and the scales are large and smooth



## HOW ARE BLACK RACERS DIFFERENT?



- Black racers (above) are slender, fast-moving snakes
- Dull black or gray color with a typically white chin
- Vibrate their tail when threatened simulating a rattlesnake

## WHERE DO INDIGO SNAKES OCCUR?

Indigo snakes are found in virtually any habitat type, from dry hardwood hammocks, to pine flatwoods, to the vicinity of wetlands. They have been observed all across the Big Cypress Reservation and may be encountered anywhere. They are not limited to the vicinity of gopher tortoise burrows as is sometimes thought.

## WHAT SHOULD YOU DO IF YOU SEE AN INDIGO SNAKE?

If you encounter a snake that resembles an indigo snake, avoid all contact with it. If you are driving a vehicle or heavy equipment, stop, cease operation and allow the snake to pass before resuming construction. Do not touch the snake or harass it in any way. Please contact your supervisor or the number at the back of this pamphlet and report the location and circumstances.

