

**From:** "Kelli Flournoy" <kflournoy@TNC.ORG>  
**To:** "Joanna Booth" <webmaster@saltertreetandherbfarm.com>  
**Subject:** RE: rejection of permit request  
**Date:** Fri, 29 Dec 2006 11:56:58 -0500

Joanna,

I delivered your telephone message to David and he requested that I reply to you with the written response to your inquiry. Since speaking with David, I received your message below asking for me to intercede on your behalf. The Nature Conservancy (TNC) decided to deny your collection permit for *Phlox nivalis* for the following reason as stated in the TNC's Florida Chapter Collection Guidelines that was attached to the permit application form you received:

1. All collecting of plants, animals, rocks, minerals, or parts thereof (living or dead) must be authorized in writing by TNC's preserve steward or state ecologist, using the collection permit form (see next page). The collections shall be used for scientific or educational purposes only, and shall not be used for commercial profit.

Your permit application was thoroughly reviewed within TNC and after receiving your message below the decision to deny your permit application still stands. Specifically the reason your permit is denied is due to the fact as stated in the Wildflower Research and Development Proposal document attached to your permit application under "Study Objective" that plants or plant parts collected on TNC site could potentially be used for commercial profit.

Best Regards,

**Kelli Flournoy**  
Office Manager

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**The Nature Conservancy**  
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[nature.org](http://nature.org)

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Joanna Booth [mailto:webmaster@saltertreetandherbfarm.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, December 29, 2006 7:27 AM  
**To:** Kelli Flournoy  
**Subject:** rejection of permit request

Kelli, thank you for taking the message yesterday, that I need to have a written response from David Prentiss, refusing to allow me to take cuttings of *Phlox nivalis* on the specified boundary of the intersection stipulated. While thinking on that, I have decided to ask you to intercede for me for several reasons.

1. This is a request limited in terms of time and territory.
2. Plant material will not be "sold" but used to create a propagation colony which will allow for future commercialization to allow the public access to *Phlox nivalis*.
3. When US DOF rejected my request to collect, after being refused by the county commission, Louise Kearns called you in my presence to confirm that TNC does permit collection. She reiterated to me that my initial impression that TNC would not likely approve my request was in error. With that insistence I took time and expense to process a TNC permit request.
4. By denying support for the grant application needs, TNC is refraining from supporting the Florida Wildflower Advisory Council and the Florida Wildflower Foundation as well as the efforts of the Salter Tree and Herb Farm.
5. *Phlox nivalis* is not on any watch lists in Florida.
6. While this plant is not being tracked, over 90% of its habitat is gone to development.

And finally, when rules or policy interfere with attempts to develop the public's access to scarce Florida native wildflowers, it would seem appropriate to bend, stretch or conditionally approve projects that show the good would outweigh the harm. If you will please put forward this appeal of the verbal rejection I received, I would like to stress that this project merits support from The Nature Conservancy. Conditional approval would seem appropriate in this case. Thank you for your time and attention to this effort.

~Joanna Booth 850-754-8367