

Central Pine Barrens  
Joint Planning and Policy Commission



January 1, 2014 through December 31, 2014 Report



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**Central Pine Barrens Joint Planning and Policy Commission**

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and Regional Director, NYS Department of Environmental Conservation

**Edward P. Romaine**, Member and Brookhaven Town Supervisor  
*Designated Representatives: Brenda Prusinowski, Tullio Bertoli and  
William Faulk*

**Sean M. Walter**, Member and Riverhead Town Supervisor  
*Designated Representatives: Jill Lewis, Daniel McCormick  
and Richard Hanley*

**Anna E. Throne-Holst**, Member and Southampton Town Supervisor  
*Designated Representatives: Kyle Collins and Martin Shea*

**Steven Bellone**, Member and Suffolk County Executive  
*Designated Representatives: Sarah Lansdale, Andrew Freleng,  
and Janet Longo*

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**Staff**

(from the Suffolk County Water Authority)

John W. Pavacic, Executive Director  
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This report is dedicated to the memory of

**John M. Urevich**

who served as the Chair to the Commission's Wildfire Task Force  
and the New York Wildfire and Incident Management Academy  
(served from December 2005 to April 2014)





## REPORT CONTENT

*This document contains activity reports on the following Central Pine Barrens matters which includes the following committees, councils and divisions for 2014.*

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## Central Pine Barrens Advisory Committee

Chair: Jeffrey Szabo, Chief Executive Officer, Suffolk County Water Authority  
Vice Chair: Richard L. Amper, Executive Director, Long Island Pine Barrens Society

The Pine Barrens Advisory Committee (AC) was established in New York State Environmental Conservation Law Article 57 (“Pine Barrens Law”) which specifically named the 24 member organizations and allowed up to 28 members. The committee membership is represented by a balance of environmental, civic and builder groups whose purpose is to actively assist and advise the Central Pine Barrens Joint Planning and Policy Commission (“the Commission”) in the implementation and revision of the Central Pine Barrens Comprehensive Land Use Plan.

During 2014, the Advisory Committee did not meet nor engage in any other activities but individual member organizations did continue to provide input to the Commission on a variety of matters, including the Comprehensive Land Use Plan.



*Smithers Estate, Flanders*



## Protected Lands Council

Chair: Tom Casey, Long Island Greenbelt Trail Conference  
Vice Chair: Heather Amster, NYS Department Of Environmental Conservation

The Protected Lands Council (PLC) is an association of agencies, organizations, and individuals, who share a common interest in advancing the protection, preservation, and restoration of natural, cultural, and scenic resources in the Central Pine Barrens region, while promoting compatible public use and enjoyment of protected lands in a manner that is consistent with ensuring that the resource's essential values and integrity are preserved for the public trust, present and future.

Under the direction of the Commission, the PLC's stewardship work is focused on well over 60,000 acres of public lands in the Central Pine Barrens, and covers a broad array of topics, including, but certainly not limited to habitat protection, ecology, restoration of historic structures, trails, recreational uses such as hiking, bird watching, hunting, signage, invasive species, park planning, damage caused by illegal ATV use, and dumping.

Over the years since its establishment by the Central Pine Barrens Comprehensive Land Use Plan, the PLC's focus, meeting frequency, and structure have evolved. Currently the PLC holds four meetings per year at various locations across the Central Pine Barrens, with additional field work sessions scheduled, as needed. The PLC's Chair and Vice Chair are appointed by the Commission and PLC work is supported by the Commission's Science and Stewardship Division. Meeting agendas include a roundtable session that serves as a forum where land managers, public lands user groups, environmental groups, and others provide updates and exchange ideas on topics of mutual interest.

The 2014 PLC activities are summarized in the following annual report.



*Peconic River in Riverhead*





# Protected Lands Council 2014 End-of-Year Report

## Meetings

The Protected Lands Council conducted three formal meetings in 2014:

March 4: Suffolk County Water Authority, Coram

June 3: Southaven County Park

(A September 2 session at Wertheim Wildlife Refuge was cancelled.)

December 4: Southaven County Park

## Ray Corwin Trail

Maps of the proposed hiking and equestrian routes have been completed, and little remains to be done to open the trails in the first phase for regular use. It is anticipated that the trails in this phase will be ready by the second quarter of 2015.

New York State has allocated \$600,000 for a multi-use parking area at the former Lustgarten property on Route 25. This will be a wonderful enhancement for the trail system.



*Turtle Rock on the Ray Corwin Trail*

## ATV Mitigation

The PLC continues to check the perimeter of the Flanders Pine Barrens as part of the ongoing ATV mitigation project in conjunction with the Law Enforcement Council.

In addition, Commission staff has identified and mapped illegal access points in the Warbler Woods-Fox Lair area, a severely abused property.

The PLC has also examined the Paumanok Path entrance on the south side of the Long Island Expressway at Halsey Manor Road to explore methods of blocking illegal access into Manorville Hills County Park. A thin understory will make this spot difficult to secure completely.



*A vandalized guard rail on Pleasure Drive allows motor-bike access into the Flanders Pine Barrens.*

The number of inter-agency ATV sweeps and stings declined in 2014, partly as a result of the elimination of the Suffolk County Park Police. It remains to be seen what the long-term effects of this reorganization will have on the attempts to suppress illegal off-road traffic. Meanwhile, the PLC greatly appreciates and thanks the law

enforcement personnel who continue the difficult and dangerous work of apprehending illegal riders.

The PLC will continue working with the Law Enforcement Council on strategies for controlling ATVs. They are working on ways of publicizing the problem in communities adjacent to public lands. Also, Chapter 7 of the Pine Barrens Plan calls for actions to “develop Assistant District Attorneys who specialize in environmental violations,” and “emphasize the seriousness of environmental violations with Assistant District Attorneys and the courts.” The PLC will continue its efforts to do so. This problem involves more than “joy riding”; it involves destruction of public property, degradation of habitat, danger to law enforcement personnel and the riders themselves, and the fostering of a culture of lawlessness.

### Southern Pine Beetle

The past year saw the arrival of another major threat to the Pine Barrens, the Southern Pine Beetle. This scourge is expected to be the subject of much discussion at the PLC in the coming year. Controlling the beetle will involve extensive tree-cutting, raising concerns about fuel load and possibly increased access for ATVs, among other things.

Outreach to various user groups has been made to enlist their assistance to look for signs of beetle damage and to report them. Significant changes to the Pine Barrens landscape is expected, particularly in areas already altered by the 2012 wildfires and recent years of oak die-off. Balancing recreational uses with the need to treat the beetle infestation will be an issue for the coming years.

Websites providing information on the beetle include [southernpinebeetle.nj.gov](http://southernpinebeetle.nj.gov) and [bugwood.org](http://bugwood.org).



*Southern Pine Beetle impacts to Pitch Pines (Pinus rigida)*



### New York State DEC Forester

In 2014, John Wernet, a NYS DEC Forester, was posted to Long Island which has not had a Forester for many years. Mr. Wernet hopes that NYS DEC will be able to work on surveying and marking the boundaries of its lands on Long Island, something long overdue. This may need to take a back seat for a while as NYS DEC deals with the Southern Pine Beetle.

### Volunteer Maintenance

The Long Island Greenbelt Trail Conference (LIGTC) continues regular maintenance of the Paumanok Path and its other hiking trails in the Pine Barrens. In early November it hosted its first trail race in Manorville County Park, a 15K event which drew 105 runners. At the finish line, many runners praised the course and the Pine Barrens, with many vowing to return next year. LIGTC thanks the many volunteers who made the event a success and helped more Long Islanders discover and appreciate the Pine Barrens.



*Left: Regrowth from the 2012 Crescent Bow fire, seen in September 2013  
Right: The same general area on the Paumanok Path in Ridge, October 2014.*

The Nassau-Suffolk Horsemen's Association worked with the NYS DEC to devise a safer crossing of Whiskey Road for equestrians and continues to work and plan the equestrian portion of the Ray Corwin Trail.

Concerned Long Island Mountain Bicyclists continues its maintenance of 64 miles of trails in the Pine Barrens.

### Goals for 2015

Most of the Protected Lands Council goals are related to ongoing projects. They include but are not limited to:

- Officially open the Ray Corwin Trail
- Explore a future expansion of the trail southward through Southaven County Park
- Continue the ATV Mitigation work and work closely with the Law Enforcement Council on ATV mitigation and other issues
- Devise a plan for securing the Carmans River Headwaters Preserve and improving access for the public
- Discuss ways of enhancing the experience of visitors to the Pine Barrens Trails Center

- Revisit ideas for advancing the late Larry Paul's fire tower project
- Explore funding mechanisms for ATV barriers and other work

### Summary

The PLC will continue in its mission to foster a cooperative exchange of knowledge and problem-solving ideas among public land management agencies and user groups.

In December 2014, the Commission reappointed Tom Casey as the Protected Lands Council Chair and appointed John Wernet of the NYS DEC as the Vice Chair who will serve in 2015.

The PLC Chair and Vice Chair express their many thanks to all who have participated in the PLC's work.

### 2015 Meeting Schedule

March 3, June 2, September 1, December 1 - locations to be announced. Field activities will take place as needed.

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Submitted by Tom Casey, PLC Chair

## Land Use and Planning Division

The purpose of the Land Use Division is to ensure the use of land within the Central Pine Barrens area conforms to New York State Environmental Conservation Law (ECL) Article 57 and the Central Pine Barrens Commission's Comprehensive Land Use Plan (the "CLUP") and to guide its development. The Division provides both long range and current planning on a regional basis for the Central Pine Barrens area. Other services the Division provides are:

- Review and processing of Commission permit applications.
- Review of Town and other agency land use management plans for conformance to ECL Article 57 and the Plan.
- Prepare State Environmental Review Act (SEQRA) documents and perform SEQRA coordination with other agencies.
- Research and draft land use policy to guide the Commission.
- Provide recommendations to Commission Councils, Advisory Committee, and Towns on land use matters and policy under the Commission's purview.
- Support the Compliance and Enforcement Division with the investigation of land use incidents and violations, and the monitoring and review of Commission permit conditions, and conservation easements for conformance.
- Serve as the liaison to the public and government agencies on inquiries related to land use and development in the Central Pine Barrens and jurisdictional inquiries.
- Prepare Comprehensive Land Use Plan amendments.
- Communicate and meet with applicants.
- Prepare materials including Staff Reports and Exhibits for public hearings on hardship waiver applications.
- Follow-up on compliance with the conditions of approval for permits granted by the Commission, filing requirements, and restoration activities.
- Perform field inspections of project sites and post-construction site inspections.
- Track pending projects, referrals, and litigation.
- Update the Commission website with land use development information, status of applications, and project statistics.



*Restoration project at Bartlett Pond*

### In 2014, Commission Land Use Division Staff:

Monitored and reviewed development projects in the Central Pine Barrens Area for compliance with ECL Article 57 and the Commission's Comprehensive Land Use Plan by:

- Providing comments on SEQRA coordination referrals from the three Towns in the Central Pine Barrens (Brookhaven, Riverhead, and Southampton), Suffolk County, and State agencies. In 2014, approximately 33 referrals were received.
- Responding to daily inquiries and requests for information related to land use, planning, and development matters in the Central Pine Barrens.
- Continued to work on the extensive Comprehensive Land Use Plan amendments, reviewing and updating existing development provisions.
- Participated in worksessions for Commission review of Plan amendments.
- Updated the Commission website with development application information, decisions, and statistics.
- Reviewed applications for hardship waivers, prepared staff reports, SEQRA documentation, and drafted decisions for the following projects that were under review by the Commission:

#### Compatible Growth Area Applications

- Riverhead Central School District
- Rock of Salvation Church  
(pending)
- The Oaks at Miller Place  
(pending)

#### Core Preservation Area Applications

- Armand Gustive c/o Peter Baron
- Armand Gustive LLC and Eagan Environmental Solutions LLC
- Celi Electric
- Kent Animal Shelter (pending)
- Sunderland
- Trocchio



Camp Wauwepex – Rebuilding dining hall that burned down

The table on the next page depicts the number of decisions made by the Commission on development projects in the Core Preservation Area and Compatible Growth Area from 1993 through 2014. Projects that are reviewed by the Commission must be considered development as defined in NYS Environmental Conservation Law Article 57 (NYS ECL Article 57). In addition, for projects in the Compatible Growth Area, projects must also involve either a hardship waiver request from development standards contained in the Comprehensive Land Use Plan or require a decision by the Commission because the project was a development of regional significance, in a critical resource area or the Commission asserted its jurisdiction over the project. Development projects in the Core Preservation Area require a hardship waiver from the Commission based on extraordinary hardship or compelling public need as identified in NYS ECL Article 57.



<b>Pine Barrens Commission Development Project Decisions 1993 through 2014</b>									
Year	Core Preservation Area			Compatible Growth Area			Central Pine Barrens		
	Approvals	Disapprovals	Decisions	Approvals	Disapprovals	Decisions	Approvals	Disapprovals	Decisions
1993	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1994	6	2	8	6	1	7	12	3	15
1995	7	4	11	12	2	14	19	6	25
1996	7	2	9	9	0	9	16	2	18
1997	8	1	9	0	0	0	8	1	9
1998	3	1	4	3	0	3	6	1	7
1999	3	2	5	3	0	3	6	2	8
2000	1	1	2	0	0	0	1	1	2
2001	7	1	8	1	0	1	8	1	9
2002	4	2	6	0	1	1	4	3	7
2003	2	1	3	2	0	2	4	1	5
2004	1	0	1	4	0	4	5	0	5
2005	3	0	3	6	2	8	9	2	11
2006	1	0	1	4	0	4	5	0	5
2007	0	0	0	3	1	4	3	1	4
2008	1	0	1	0	1	1	1	1	2
2009	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2010	2	1	3	1	0	1	3	1	4
2011	1	1	2	3	1	4	4	2	6
2012	1	0	1	2	0	2	3	0	3
2013	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	1
2014	0	2	2	1	0	1	1	2	3
Total	58	21	79	61	9	70	119	30	149





## Science and Stewardship Division

The Science and Stewardship Division supports the Commission's mission to protect and restore natural, historic, cultural, water, and scenic resources, and enhance public access and enjoyment, while promoting scientific research across the Pine Barrens region, as envisioned in New York State Environmental Conservation Law (ECL) Article 57 and the Central Pine Barrens Comprehensive Land Use Plan.

The Division works closely with public landowners within the multi-jurisdictional Central Pine Barrens area on stewardship initiatives involving:

- Cultural, historic, and scenic resource protection and restoration
- Ecological research, monitoring and restoration
- Land use management and protection
- Fire management planning
- Natural resource protection and management
- Open space management
- Public use and recreational resource planning and management

In addition the Division:

- provides overall support to the Protected Lands Council and its stewardship initiatives (the Protected Lands Council is discussed further in a separate section in this report).
- contributes support to the Law Enforcement Council, and other Commission committees.
- provides cartographic and data information and analysis services for the Commission.
- provides support to the other Commission Divisions on stewardship matters related to development projects, agency land management plans and land use incident investigations and enforcement actions.
- manages the purchase and maintenance of field tools and equipment.



*Damage and erosion caused by illegal ATVs*

### Division Activities and Programs for 2014

#### ATV Damage & Dumping Mitigation Program

The Division works with public land managers, the Protected Lands Council and the Law Enforcement Council to mitigate widespread ATV damage and dumping in the Central Pine Barrens area. Erosion of fragile soils, habitat destruction, trail damage, and other negative impacts caused by illegal off-road vehicle use continue to compromise the protection of natural

areas across the Pine Barrens region. This program primarily involves damage assessments, mitigation planning, installation and ongoing repairs of barriers and signage, monitoring, and other related work. Work has been focused in a number of areas:

- Rocky Point to Yaphank Trail Corridor - Conducted extensive field evaluations of damage caused by off-road vehicle use, dumping, clearing, vandalism, and other illegal activity. Followed up with reports to law enforcement officials. Mitigation of these illegal activities is an essential component in current regional recreational trail planning efforts, as well as for the protection of sensitive ecological resources in this area.
- **Manorville Hills Trailhead Area** - Working with landowners and the Protected Lands Council to develop strategies to address illegal off-road access and associated damage on the westerly side of this ecologically sensitive and recreationally important area.
- **Flanders/Hampton Bays Area** - Efforts are underway to integrate the Division's ongoing ATV/dumping mitigation program with ecological restoration plans currently under development by public landowners.

### Forest Health Protection

The Commission works collaboratively with scientists and other professionals to monitor and keep abreast of potential threats to forest health across the pine barrens region, including forest pests and pathogens. This year Division staff:

- Actively participated in the discovery of the Southern pine beetle ("SPB") on Long Island, the first known occurrence in New York of this very destructive bark beetle that is from the southeast United States.
- Located SPB affected pitch pine stands and assisted in the collection of insect and bark specimens for analysis by forest entomologists from Cornell University, Dartmouth College, USDA Forest Service, NYS Department of Environmental Conservation, and other scientists.
- Worked with SPB scientists and land managers to develop response plans. Partners include the above-mentioned agencies, along with the US Fish & Wildlife Service, NYS Office of Parks, Recreation, and Historic Preservation, Suffolk County Department of Parks, municipalities, and others.
- Attended training in SPB biology and management.



Southern Pine Beetle Infestation in Hampton Bays



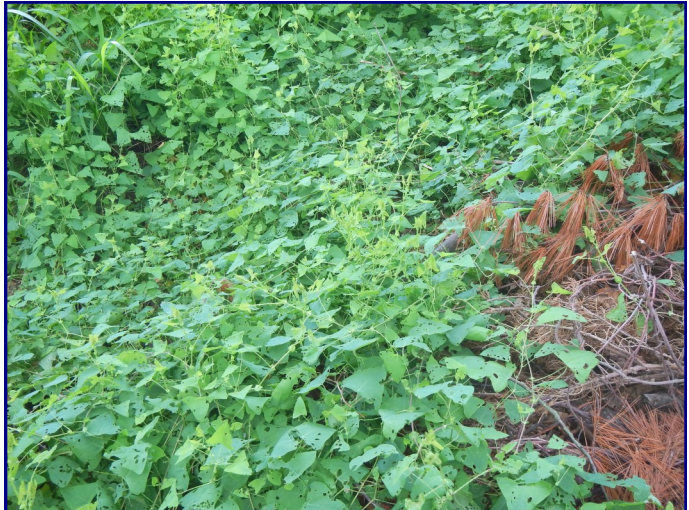
- Collaborated with land managers and scientists to conduct assessments of SPB in the pine barrens region, through aerial surveys and ground evaluations.

### **Invasive Species Management**

The Division represents the Commission on New York State’s Partnership for Regional Invasive Species Management, who generally meets monthly (web meeting), and its local group, the Long Island Invasive Species Management Area (LIISMA) which meets quarterly. LIISMA is a voluntary partnership

of over 50 organizations from Richmond, Brooklyn, Kings, Queens, Nassau and Suffolk Counties that includes government agencies, non-profits and private businesses. This group works together to share information and the latest strategies for invasive species management. In 2014, staff:

- Responded to reports of mile-a-minute vine infestations in the Crescent Bow Fire area in Manorville and in Yaphank, and followed up with land managers.
- Attended training in the use of the State’s centralized invasive species database and mapping tool called “iMapinvasives”.
- Participated in invasive species prevention planning.
- Conducted field evaluations of mile-a-minute vine infestations with staff from Cornell Research Laboratory and NYS DEC in Middle Island, Yaphank, and Manorville. Populations of mile-a-minute weevil have spread naturally into all of the sites and were feeding heavily on this aggressive invader.
- Reported invasive plant infestations to the State’s centralized database.
- Attended invasive plant identification training.
- Hosted a LIISMA quarterly meeting.



*Beneficial weevil eating invasive Mile-a-Minute weed*



*Cranberry Bog Preserve*

### **Ecological Assessment and Restoration**

The Commission has retained an ecological services consultant that will, through a five year contract, perform extensive stewardship work in the Central Pine Barrens area consisting of prescribed fire ecological restorations, ecological inventories, assessments, monitoring, management and restoration, invasive species restoration and grassland restorations. The work

performed will benefit the public landowners in the Central Pine Barrens area who due to limited staff resources and budget constraints are not able to perform this type of stewardship work on the land that they own.

In 2014, Commission staff continued to work closely with public land managers and the contractor to develop restoration plans for parts of the David Sarnoff State Forest Preserve and adjacent Suffolk County Nature Preserve lands located within the Town of Southampton. Ecological assessments by the consultant are underway.

### **Pine Barrens 19<sup>th</sup> Annual Research Forum**

The Pine Barrens Annual Research Forum is sponsored by the Brookhaven National Laboratory, the Commission, the Long Island Groundwater Research Institute at Stony Brook University and the Foundation for Ecological Research in the Northeast and is held at the Brookhaven National Laboratory in Upton, New York, typically on the first Thursday and Friday in October. The Stewardship Division works closely with the sponsors to plan and produce this popular event. This year, the Forum was held on October 2 and 3. The Research Forum is discussed further under the Research section of this report.

### **Aerial Monitoring and Ground Support Program**

The Commission has a Memorandum of Understanding with the New York Wing of the Civil Air Patrol (CAP) which is a volunteer civilian auxiliary of the United States Air Force and also a member of the Commission's Law Enforcement Council (LEC). The MOU enables CAP to assist the Commission and the LEC by performing aerial missions such as reconnaissance to search for victims, damage assessments, or environmental surveys utilizing visual



*Civil Air Patrol aerial flyover of Pine Barrens area*

photographic, digital and video techniques; airborne communications support; and airlifts (subject to certain restrictions identified in the MOU). In addition CAP can provide manual labor (e.g. filling sandbags for flood control); radio communications; and ground teams (typically used in search and rescue missions). The Commission's digital cameras enable the Division to take key aerial photographs during these missions to document existing land conditions, perform smoke spotting, inventory agricultural land use, identify the location of dump sites, abandoned vehicles and ATV damage and perform forest health monitoring.

This year Division staff:

- Organized and participated in a winter aerial reconnaissance mission of ground conditions over parts of eastern Suffolk County with the Civil Air Patrol (CAP) and NY State Department of Environmental Conservation. During the flight, Commission staff documented through aerial photography forest health conditions, and other environmental conditions in the Central Pine Barrens region.

- Presented an award to CAP in appreciation for its contributions to Commission's stewardship programs.

### **Ray Corwin Rocky Point to Yaphank Trail**

The Commission is coordinating the development of a regional trail that will travel from Route 25A in Rocky Point to Main Street in Yaphank. The proposed approximately eight mile trail will be named in memory of the first Executive Director of the Central Pine Barrens Commission, Ray Corwin who passed away in 2010. The conceptual trail route follows existing open paths and woods roads, and includes several spurs and potential future connections to points south for use by hikers and equestrians. Some of the partners involved in the planning process include NY State Department of Environmental Conservation, Suffolk County Department of Parks, Town of Brookhaven, NY State Department of Transportation, Suffolk County Soil and Water Conservation District, the Protected Lands Council, and user groups. Some of this year's work to advance this project included:

- Conducted extensive research of land ownership records.
- Assessed damage caused by the illegal use of off-road vehicles, dumping, and encroachments in the trail corridor.
- Illegal off-road vehicle and dumping mitigation planning.
- Trail condition evaluation.
- Coordination with adjacent land use and development plans.
- Trail mapping.
- Trailhead improvements on Middle Country Road by NYS DEC.
- Coordination with Suffolk County Soil and Water Conservation District, who prepared a detailed report with an evaluation of soil conditions and recommendations for stabilizing a section of the trail that has eroded due to illegal off-road vehicle use.

### **Dwarf Pine Plains Trail**

Continued to cooperatively maintain and improve the trail and trailhead area as per the Commission's cooperative agreement with the landowners: Suffolk County Department of Parks, NYS Department of Environmental Conservation, and Suffolk County Water Authority. Regular maintenance activities include the removal of litter and dumped materials, registration station upkeep, fence repairs, weed control, maintenance of signage, and trail pruning.

### **Cartographic Services**

Provided extensive cartographic services related to the expansion of the Central Pine Barrens boundary in the Carmans River region, as well as cartographic support for compliance work, stewardship projects, and management planning.





# Compliance and Enforcement Division

## Compliance and Enforcement Division Duties and Responsibilities

The four Major Areas of duties and responsibilities for the Compliance and Enforcement (CAE) Division through the CAE Coordinator are:

- Land use and natural resource incident investigation and permit compliance inspections
- Conservation easement monitoring
- Commission Council (LEC, WFTF, PLC) support
- Health and safety training & driver safety training

### Land Use and Natural Resource Incident Investigation and Permit Compliance Inspections

The CAE Coordinator conducts compliance inspections of Commission-approved permits for land use activities and development projects under the Commission's jurisdiction to ensure that the development project does not exceed the scope of the permit conditions. This is performed in a timely fashion as projects are implemented. Compliance inspections are performed both before and after Commission permits are issued in order to assure full compliance with permit conditions.



*Enforcement against illegal ATV use in the Pine Barrens*

A monthly report is prepared by the CAE Coordinator which compiles and analyzes incoming calls to the Pine Barrens Commission office on potential violations that occur in the Central Pine Barrens. For each call an incident report is completed that is given a Central Complaint number. A tracking system has been established for following up with the agency that has been assigned to investigate the incident. Every report now has a tracking status assigned to it that indicates whether it is "open or closed."

Training is given to all Commission personnel, with particular emphasis upon administrative and land use personnel, on how to complete an incident report to capture consistent and reliable information since these staff members are typically the first points of contact for incoming callers concerning incidents.

Land use incident investigation is a cooperative effort in conjunction with other agencies having jurisdiction and includes the reporting of any findings and appropriate follow up work. In the case of verified violations of land use and natural resource laws, notices of violation may be issued as directed by the Commission and additional action undertaken until the violation is resolved .

### **Conservation Easement Monitoring**

It is also the responsibility of the CAE Coordinator to conduct regular compliance inspections and prepare field reports for conservation easement parcels held by the Commission, in conjunction with the individual landowners, recognizing the individual conditions of each easement.

### **Summary of 2014 CAE Work**

At the end of this section is a summary report in tabular form that relates to the four areas of CAE responsibilities. The report provides information on the number of field inspections that were performed by the CAE Coordinator on parcels which have received permits from the Commission and on parcels with conservation easements which are held by the Commission from the beginning of 2007 through the end of 2014. Information on incident reporting, compliance site visits and land use incident statistics are also provided.

### **Land Use and Natural Resource Incident Investigation and Reporting**

The review of incidents reported to the Pine Barrens Commission in 2014 indicated various impacts to the natural environment were occurring due to dirt bikes, ATVs, off road 4x4 trucks, hunting and trespass violators. There was also an increase in reported dumping complaints. The CAE Coordinator continues to work closely with the Towns of Brookhaven, Riverhead and Southampton to investigate these dumping incidents to ensure their timely clean up. The Law Enforcement Council has put together a task force to step up patrols of these areas and has been successful in numerous enforcement actions as discussed in the Law Enforcement Council section of this report.



*Law Enforcement Council ATV Task Force  
investigating illegal ATV activities*

During 2014, the CAE Coordinator worked closely with the Town of Brookhaven, Town of Southampton and County of Suffolk to identify, investigate, coordinate and help resolve a number of alleged violation cases. These included extensive encroachment and disturbance at two Suffolk County Nature Preserve locations, the operation of an alleged illegal commercial ATV riding facility and alleged clearing violations at several other locations.

### **Conservation Easement Monitoring**

There are currently 806 parcels protected by the Central Pine Barrens Credit Program. In 2014, the CAE Coordinator plans on completing the remaining 22 parcels in the Credit Program plus any additional parcels that are new to the Program. By the end of 2014, 828 site visits were completed and a filing system with pertinent information on each parcel was established. The individual tax map parcel is inspected in the field for compliance with the conditions of its easement, any encroachments or other issues such as dumping or ATV use. For large undeveloped areas that contain many undersized parcels where the specific boundaries are not readily discernible, the general area containing the parcels is inspected for its overall environmental



integrity, which includes whether the area is relatively intact with no clearing, has access issues or if illegal activity is apparent. These inspections are conducted by using tax map sections instead of visiting specific tax map parcels.

### **Interagency Communication and Support**

In the past seven and a half years, since the establishment of the CAE Division, there have been several accomplishments. The CAE staff continues to meet with State, County and Town representatives who have jurisdiction in the Central Pine Barrens. These meetings serve to publicize and answer questions regarding the Compliance and Enforcement Division of the Commission and foster open communication and cooperation among all land use and natural resource enforcement offices.

In 2014, the Commission staff continued these informational meetings with the Town of Brookhaven, Southampton and Riverhead. This included a meeting with the Chief Environmental Analyst of the Town of Brookhaven Division of Environmental Protection and the Town Code Enforcement Director to discuss the role the Town could play in increased enforcement efforts against ATVs on open space properties, especially in the Upper Carmans River Watershed area, and mitigating the many ATV access points in this area. These discussions also prompted the Town's Division of Environmental Protection to post many of the affected Town-owned open space properties and some of those that are jointly owned with the County of Suffolk.

The CAE staff also continued to work with and support the Law Enforcement Council, the Protected Lands Council and the Wildfire Task Force. In April and early May of 2014, in conjunction with the New York Army National Guard Aviation Air Support Unit 3<sup>rd</sup> Battalion/142<sup>nd</sup> Aviation Regiment based at Islip MacArthur Airport in Ronkonkoma, the Commission's Wildfire Task Force and New York State Department of Environmental Conservation Forest Rangers, a joint wildfire firefighting demonstration/training exercise was conducted at the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation's David A. Sarnoff Pine Barrens Preserve and Wildwood Lake in the Town of Southampton. In this training exercise, the Army National Guard UH-60 Blackhawk helicopters were used to conduct water bucket suppression activities in which the helicopters dipped and filled suspended, collapsible water buckets at Wildwood Lake and then carried the filled water buckets to Sarnoff Preserve where they were released onto simulated fire locations.

### **Enforcement Regulations**

In 2014, the CAE Coordinator conducted extensive research and review of existing enforcement regulations and then worked closely with New York State Department of Environmental Conservation law enforcement personnel to develop and draft new enforcement regulations for the Commission.

### **Health and Safety Training**

In 2014, the CAE Coordinator continued to take courses to maintain certifications and remain current with health and safety advancements, and attended the Long Island-New York City Emergency Management Conference as a representative of the Commission. In 2014, through the coordination of the CAE, the Commission staff received training in the following health and

safety areas:

1. Emergency Situation Management
2. First Aid
3. Cardio-Pulmonary Resuscitation
4. Automated External Defibrillation
5. Trailer Towing and Handling

### **Incident Command System**

In 2014, the CAE Coordinator continued the Commission's policy and procedure that involves the preparation and use of an Incident Action Plan and the Incident Command System for Commission sponsored events. This Plan is used by the New York State Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services, County and Town for emergency response situations. An Incident Action Plan is a written document that organizes all of the event's details, equipment and personnel necessary to carry out an event and assigns responsibility for specific event-related tasks in a very structured, organized manner. It includes a reporting hierarchy that is represented by a chain of command reporting system for staff and personnel to follow based on their assigned area of responsibility for the event. This system was successfully used in 2014 and prior years to organize and carry out the Annual Research Forum, Discovery Day, Law Enforcement and Wildfire Task Force events and other Commission sponsored events.



*New York Air National Guard Water Bucket Training for Fighting Wildfires*

*May 2014*

**DEVELOPMENT PROJECT COMPLIANCE SITE VISITS**

**Reporting Period: 8/21/07 - 12/17/14**

Central Pine Barrens	Brookhaven (District 200)	Riverhead (District 600)	Southampton (District 900)
Core Preservation Area	49	14	14
Compatible Growth Area	61	4	6

**CONSERVATION EASEMENT MONITORING SITE VISITS**

**Reporting Period: 8/21/07 - 12/17/14**

Core Preservation Area	Brookhaven (District 200)	Riverhead (District 600)	Southampton (District 900)	Totals
<b>Tax Map Sections</b>				
Total	46	9	55	110
Done	44	7	52	103
Pending	2	2	3	7
<b>Tax Map Parcels</b>				
Total	353	35	418	806
Done	349	35	411	795
Pending	4	0	7	11

**COMPLIANCE AND ENFORCEMENT INCIDENT REPORTS**

**Reporting Period: All from 1/1/13 - 12/17/14 and Open (i.e., Pending) from 2013**

Year	Brookhaven (District 200)		Riverhead (District 600)		Southampton (District 900)		Other		Totals	
	2014 All	2013 Open	2014 All	2013 Open	2014 All	2013 Open	2014 All	2013 Open	2014 All	2013 Open
Core	5	2	0	0	2	0			7	2
CGA	6	2	0	0	0	1			6	3
Non-PB	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0
<b>Totals</b>	11	4	0	0	2	1	1	0	14	5

Incident Statistics - Reporting Period 1/1/07 - 12/17/14								
Year	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
<b>Intake</b>								
to Commission	4	7	8	0	1	0	0	0
Sent by Agency to Commission	6	13	5	5	4	5	4	2
Discovered by Commission Staff	3	15	18	7	4	8	8	6
Commission	16	36	28	30	18	6	8	6
Total Incidents Reported	29	71	59	42	27	19	20	14
<b>Location of Incident</b>								
Brookhaven	19	49	45	27	22	11	14	12
Southampton	6	17	13	8	4	4	4	2
Riverhead	4	3	1	5	1	3	2	0
Occurring on Public Land	13	44	42	18	17	8	9	6
Occurring on Private Land	15	27	17	22	11	12	11	9
Occurring on Public & Private Land	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
Core	11	41	41	29	15	8	12	7
CGA	16	26	15	10	12	10	8	6
Core & CGA	1	2	0	1	0	0	0	0
Outside CPBA	1	2	3	1	0	1	0	1
<b>Nature of Incident*</b>								
Clearing	20	29	16	16	13	12	10	8
Structures	4	2	2	0	0	0	1	0
Dumping	3	11	20	13	7	3	2	4
Mining	2	0	0	1	1	0	0	0
Hunting	1	0	2	2	1	0	1	0
ATV	3	6	6	3	2	0	6	1
Other	2	27	15	11	3	5	0	2
*note some incidents involve more than one land use issue								
<b>Referrals*</b>								
Sent to Town	12	30	20	18	12	16	9	8
Sent to County	2	27	21	12	5	3	9	4
Sent to State	12	7	18	7	9	6	3	3
Commission	8	31	4	9	5	0	0	0
Sent to AG	5	5	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other	5	4	0	1	0	1	2	0
*note some incidents are sent to multiple agencies								
<b>Status</b>								
Founded	22	68	58	41	26	18	19	14
Unfounded	7	3	1	1	1	1	1	0
Open	0	0	0	1	2	3	5	13
Closed	29	71	59	41	25	15	15	1
<b>Disposition*</b>								
Fine	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Revegetation	0	4	2	0	0	0	0	0
Land Purchase	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Land Swap	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Pending		0	0	1	2	3	5	13
* Indicates disposition for founded cases closed.								



## Pine Barrens Law Enforcement Council

*Sgt. Arthur Pendzick, Suffolk County Park Police, Chair*

*Lt. Dallas Bengel, NYS EnCon Police, Vice Chair*



There are twenty-six different law enforcement, public safety, and environmental agencies that have jurisdiction or responsibilities within the Central Pine Barrens. In 1995, the Pine Barrens Law Enforcement Council was created (PBLEC), which brought all these agencies together and has since been the primary means for them to communicate, exchange ideas and work together to better protect and safeguard the Central Pine Barrens. Through various means of law enforcement and inter-agency cooperation, illegal ATV and off road use, dumping, encroachment, illegal land clearing, hunting violations, homeless encampments and many other problems are managed every year.

As needed creative ideas are utilized to address unique issues. For example, a multi-agency task force was created to combat illegal ATV and off road activity as well as other problems which plague the environmentally-sensitive lands of the Central Pine Barrens. Monthly meetings are held to discuss, critique and plan on how to effectively continue to combat environmental crimes in the Central Pine Barrens.

The Law Enforcement Council Report for 2014 that was prepared by Sgt. Arthur Pendzick, PBLEC Chair, is provided on the pages that follow.



**Central Pine Barrens  
Law Enforcement Council**



**2014 Annual Report**

By Art Pendzick  
(Chairman PBLEC Dec. 2005 - Oct. 2014)

## **The Central Pine Barrens Law Enforcement Council**

The Pine Barrens Law Enforcement Council (PBLEC) hit a milestone in 2014, celebrating its 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. Way back in May 1994 a small group of representatives from different Law Enforcement Agencies within the Pine Barrens met to discuss conditions and problems within their jurisdictions.

The effects of this meeting were so positive, that a Law Enforcement Council was created, growing to 26 member Agencies and various civilian groups over the years. Discussing problems, exchanging ideas and working together the PBLEC is a major force in helping to protect and safeguard the Central Pine Barrens today just as it has for the past 20 years.

The PBLEC's main objective has always been Law Enforcement and has been able to do that job more effectively by working with the Pine Barrens Protected Lands Council, Wildfire Task Force the Commission itself and numerous other civilian groups.

In 2014 one of the PBLEC's original, main member agencies, the Suffolk County Park Police, was abolished in October when it was merged with the Suffolk County Police. The Park Police were one of the lead enforcement agencies responsible for the major part of public lands within the Pine Barrens. In its place, a newly established Park Ranger division was resurrected as the Park Police replacement. A new County Parks Director and Deputy Director of Security have been appointed to oversee, manage and build up this division.

Also, as a result of the above merger, Sergeant Arthur Pendzick, who has represented the County Park Police on the PBLEC for the past 12 years and served as its Chairman for the past nine years, retired (after 43+ years) and relinquished the Chairmanship to Lt. Dallas Bengel of the New York State Environmental Conservation Police. Lt. Michael Smith of the County Sheriff's Department is currently the new acting Vice Chair.

As fate would have it, and not being able to keep an old horse down, Arthur Pendzick was recently appointed to the new Deputy Director position and is now back on the PBLEC as the official representative for the County Park Ranger unit. Together, he and new Director of Security Dodd Amrhein are working to organize, build up and strengthen the County Park Rangers to be as effective as possible not only in the County's Parks, but in the Pine Barrens as well.

### **The Environmental Benefit Fund**

In 2014, the PBLEC started the year with \$46,266.27.

In May, due to a legal settlement another \$6,000.00 was added to the account bringing the total to \$52,266.27 and an administrative credit returned \$6,584.45 to the account, bringing the total to \$58,850.72.

Only two purchases were made for the year, involving two Polaris 500 All Terrain Vehicle (ATV)



Quads, each costing \$5,817.35 for a total of \$11,634.70. One was given to the New York State Police, the other to the Suffolk County Deputy Sheriff's to use for Law Enforcement purposes in the Pine Barrens.

A total of \$47,216.02 is left in the fund for future use. With a spending cap of \$15,000 annually, EBF Monies will last through 2017. Years earlier, these funds were projected to last only until 2014, so the PBLEC has been very vigilant and frugal in their appropriations.

### Training, Mitigation, Aviation

The Suffolk County Sheriff's Department and its Deputies, who are certified as ATV Instructors, once again have been providing training at their Gabreski Airport facility to Law Enforcement, Fire Department and Ambulance personnel.

The PBLEC has continued its involvement with the Commission's Protected Land Council (PLC), attending and participating at all their meetings and other activities. Working together various Pine Barrens programs and ideas have and are being implemented.

On April 21<sup>st</sup> and again on May 3<sup>rd</sup>, the PBLEC participated in water bucket training exercises conducted by the New York Army National Guard 3<sup>rd</sup> Battalion-142<sup>nd</sup> Aviation Regiment, based at MacArthur Airport, and the Wildfire Task Force at the Sarnoff Preserve in Southampton Town.



*Helicopter water bucket training for wildfire fighting with the New York Army National Guard*

The PBLEC has been working with the New York Army National Guard in planning airlifts in 2015 of old abandoned vehicles in the Pine Barrens, which are inaccessible by conventional means.

Talks were resumed regarding recommendations for upgrading penalties in Suffolk County Code 822 (law involving ATV's and 4x4's). This has been an ongoing project that the PBLEC has been developing for the past several years, trying to come up with a workable solution for increased penalties on illegal operation of ATV's that can be submitted for a possible legislative amendment.

As usual there were eight regularly-scheduled PBLEC meetings plus one special meeting in November, all held at the Suffolk County Parks Lodge in Southaven Park. Two of these meetings had executive sessions which are for Law Enforcement personnel only.

At the April meeting, a cake was enjoyed by all, celebrating the PBLEC's 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary (the actual date of the first PBLEC meeting was on May 26, 1994).

At the September meeting, EnCon Officers Mark Simmons and Kaitlin Grady gave an interesting presentation regarding the upcoming hunting season.

At the October meeting, Sgt. Pendzick current chairman, turned over the Chair to Lt. Bengel (who was officially elected at the December meeting) and Lt. Smith was selected as acting Vice Chair.

At the December meeting, members were treated to a Holiday Lunch.

#### **2014 PBLEC Multi-Agency ATV/4x4 Task Force Details**

Illegal ATV's have been the scourge of the Pine Barrens since day one and in recent years the off road 4x4's have become almost as big a problem. The PBLEC, in an effort to combat these issues, created what it refers to as the "Pine Barrens Law Enforcement Council's Multi-Agency ATV Task Force" in which member agencies have joined together to conduct sting operations using their own ATV's and 4x4's.

In 2002, Sgt. Pendzick of the Suffolk County Park Police was assigned the task of organizing and heading up these operations. He has done some 200 of these details over the years, resulting in 1,018 illegal ATV impounds and 2,461 ATV-related summonses. In the past few years, 41 illegal off road vehicles were also apprehended and issued 69 summonses.

In 2014 there were only three Multi-Agency ATV details performed as most of the agencies were experiencing manpower and funding shortages.

The following are the results of those details:

- 7 - Illegal ATV's were impounded (3 Quads & 4 Dirt Bikes)
- 25 - ATV related summonses were issued as follows:
  - 3 - SC Code 822.3a (operate ATV on public lands)
    - 4 - SC Code 822.3b (operate ATV on private lands w/o written landowners consent)
  - 6 - V&T 2282.1 (operate unregistered ATV)
  - 7 - V&T 2407.4 (operate uninsured ATV)
  - 1 - V&T 2283.1 (failure to display plate on ATV)
  - 4 - ECL 11.2113.1 (ATV trespass on State lands)

2 illegal 4x4's were also apprehended and issued 2 summonses as follows:

1 - SC Code 822.1a (operate 4x4 on public lands)

1 - SC Code 822.1b (operate 4x4 on private lands w/o landowners consent)

The following officers participating on the Task Force Details:

Sgt. Pendzick- SC Park Police

Matt Krug- EnCon

Gregory Link- SC Park Police

Tim Fay- EnCon

Michael Malone- SC Park Police

Landon Simmons- EnCon

Kevin Klokel- SC Park Police

Joe Pries- NYS Ranger

Sgt. Michael Smith- Deputy Sheriff

Dave Nally- NYS Ranger

Will Cullen- Deputy Sheriff

Chester Lunt- NYS Ranger

Joe Sikora- Deputy Sheriff

Greg Negra- Deputy Sheriff

Impounds were conducted by Superintendent Tony Trotta of the County Parks Department.

Despite having so few of these details, which produced the above results, all the individual Law Enforcement agencies also worked separately doing their regularly assigned duties and did a phenomenal amount of enforcement on an individual agency basis in the Pine Barrens during the year.

#### **2014 Enforcement against Dumping and other Illegal Activities**

During 2014, law enforcement personnel also conducted operations to combat a multitude of other unlawful activities including illegal dumping, fish and wildlife violations, illegal fire-arms and weapons violations, illegal encroachments onto public lands, vandalism and related activities including illegal cutting of trees and vegetation and trespass. Enforcement action was also undertaken in regard to other violations of the New York State Environmental Conservation Law and in regard to drugs. Detailed statistics are provided below.

## PBLEC ENFORCEMENT STATISTICS FOR 2014

Total for all reporting agencies:

89	Total # ATV complaints received
111	Total # ATV related summonses
22	Total # ATVs impounded
1	Total # ATV related injuries
1	Stolen ATVs recovered
0	Stolen vehicles recovered
31	Illegal off road/4x4summonses/incidents
18	Arson/fire incidents
88	Illegal dumping summonses/arrests/incidents
54	Fish and Wildlife summonses/arrests
6	Firearms & other weapons incidents
30	All other ECL summonses/arrests
33	Trespass summonses/arrests
3	Encroachments/ other property incidents
3	Illegal wood cutting summonses/arrests/incidents
2	Homeless summonses/arrests/incidents
26	Illegal drug summonses/arrests/incidents
4	Penal law misdemeanors
1	Penal law felonies

Incidents/events of special interest:

SCSD/DEC-DLE/DOT conducted commercial motor vehicle inspections resulting in 519 trucks inspected, 578 related summonses issued, 112 trucks placed out of service, 3 drug arrests and 5 warrant arrests.

**2014 Ninth Annual Pine Barrens Law Enforcement Council  
Environmental Enforcement Officer of the Year Awards**

The following Officers have been nominated by their respective Agencies, for their outstanding work and achievement in Law Enforcement helping to protect and safeguard the environment and especially the Central Pine Barrens, as such, the PBLEC would like to recognize the following Officers:

For Continuous Significant Environmental Enforcement Activity  
**New York State Environmental Conservation Police Officer Landon Simmons**

For Continuous Significant Environmental Enforcement Activity  
**Suffolk County Deputy Sheriff John Noonan**

For Demonstration of Sustained Commitment to Crime Prevention through  
the Central Pine Barrens Collaborative Process  
**New York State Police Officer Fabio Daino**

Each Year the membership of the PBLEC gets to select an individual who they feel needs to be recognized for his/her work within the Central Pine Barrens. In 2014:

For Significant Contribution to Environmental Enforcement Efforts within the  
Central Pine Barrens  
**New York State Police Sergeant Mark Lynch**

**In Closing**

The PBLEC is a very special and unique organization dedicated to keeping the Pine Barrens a pristine and natural place so that future generations can use and enjoy it. Special thanks goes out to all the member agencies and their representatives for all their good work and efforts.

Thanks to the Commission Chairman Peter Scully and all the Pine Barrens Commissioners and designated representatives for their continued support.

A very special hats off to the entire Commission Staff, especially John Pavacic, Larry Hynes, Kathy Delligatti and Carol Ostrowski who are the heart of the PBLEC and instrumental in keeping it a working reality.

Lastly, I would like to express my deepest appreciation to everyone that I have been associated with working as chair on the PBLEC, both past and present. This has been the highlight of my professional career and a truly rewarding experience. Now it is time to turn the page but I am not saying goodbye.

Sincerely,

*Artie Pendzick (PBLEC Chairman December 2005 - October 2014)*



## Wildfire Task Force

John Urevich, Chair, 2006 - April 2014 (*in memoriam*)  
Captain Timothy Byrnes and Edward Schneyer, Co Vice Chairs

The Wildfire Task Force is one of the Commission's larger Councils with 43 members comprised of public and private agencies and local fire departments. The breakdown of the organizations represented on the Task Force is presented in Table WF-1. The WTF was created after the 1995 wildfires to bring all fire service-related entities together to provide for pre-wildfire suppression planning and response in the Central Pine Barrens and to address wildfire prevention planning provisions called for by the Long Island Pine Barrens Protection Act. The Task Force accomplished this goal through the preparation of a Central Pine Barrens Fire Management Plan which was completed in 1999, which led to the creation of several subcommittees to carry out this Plan. A copy of the Fire Management Plan is available on the Commission website at:

[http://pb.state.ny.us/chart\\_stewardship\\_main\\_page.htm#WTF](http://pb.state.ny.us/chart_stewardship_main_page.htm#WTF)

The Wildfire Task Force meets approximately four times per year on a weekday evening, with the locations varying among fire houses and agency offices. Specialized committees also exist, which meet on schedules that are established separately from the Task Force. The current meeting schedule and copies of meeting minutes are available online at [http://www.pb.state.ny.us/chart\\_stewardship\\_main\\_page.htm#wtf](http://www.pb.state.ny.us/chart_stewardship_main_page.htm#wtf). The Task Force has the following standing subcommittees:

- Firewise and Wildfire Prevention Subcommittee
- Fire Weather Subcommittee
- Prescribed Fire Subcommittee
- Training Subcommittee
- Water Supply Subcommittee (temporary)
- New York Wildfire and Incident Management Academy

Wildfire is a natural process in the fire-adapted Pine Barrens. However, due to a community's close proximity to this fire-prone ecosystem, wildfires can pose a risk to area residents and property. The abundance of fire-dependent vegetation, extensive wildland urban interface and significant wildfire history, have led the New York State Firewise Council to declare the eastern portion of Long Island, which is dominated by the Central Pine Barrens Area, to be the number one community in the state at risk for damage to and loss of property due to wildfire. Over 800 brush fires typically occur every year during the spring and summer in Suffolk County. In 1995, the Rocky Point and Sunrise Fires burned over 5,000 acres and continued to burn for several days. These wildfires resulted in extensive evacuations, property loss and damage, the closure of major transportation routes in the area and significant economic impacts to local businesses, tourism and residents. In April, 2012, the Crescent Bow wildfires in the Ridge and Manorville areas burned over 1,200 acres which again resulted in evacuations of homes and significant damage to property and natural resources.

<b>Table WF-1</b> Central Pine Barrens Wildfire Task Force <u>Copies of the Commission resolution that established the Wildfire Task Force and its mission statement are available online at <a href="http://www.pb.state.ny.us/wtf/wtf_resn.htm">http://www.pb.state.ny.us/wtf/wtf_resn.htm</a></u>			
<b>Federal Organizations (6)</b>	Brookhaven National Laboratory Fire Rescue Group ( <i>p/o of Emergency Services Division</i> ) National Weather Service New York Air National Guard 106th Rescue Wing New York Army National Guard Aviation Support Facility #1 United States Fish and Wildlife Service ( <i>Long Island Refuge Complex</i> ) United States Forest Service		
<b>State Organizations (5)</b>	New York State Department of Environmental Conservation New York State Emergency Management Office New York State Office of Fire Prevention and Control New York State Office of Parks, Recreation, and Historic Preservation Suffolk County Water Authority		
<b>County Organizations (5)</b>	Suffolk County Department of Fire, Rescue and Emergency Services Suffolk County Fire Academy Suffolk County Department of Parks, Recreation and Conservation Suffolk County Police Department Arson Squad Suffolk County Arson Task Force		
<b>Town Organizations (3)</b>	Brookhaven Town Fire Marshal ( <i>Dept. of Public Safety, Div. of Fire Prevention</i> ) Riverhead Town Fire Marshal ( <i>part of Building Department</i> ) Southampton Town Fire Marshal ( <i>part of Public Safety Department</i> )		
<b>Fire Departments (15)</b>	<table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;">               Brookhaven Fire Department                East Quogue Fire Department                Eastport Fire Department                Flanders Fire Department                Gordon Heights Fire Department                Hampton Bays Fire Department                Manorville Fire Department                Middle Island Fire Department             </td> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;">               Quogue Fire Department                Ridge Fire Department                Riverhead Fire Department                Rocky Point Fire Department                Wading River Fire Department                Westhampton Beach Fire Department                Yaphank Fire Department             </td> </tr> </table>	Brookhaven Fire Department East Quogue Fire Department Eastport Fire Department Flanders Fire Department Gordon Heights Fire Department Hampton Bays Fire Department Manorville Fire Department Middle Island Fire Department	Quogue Fire Department Ridge Fire Department Riverhead Fire Department Rocky Point Fire Department Wading River Fire Department Westhampton Beach Fire Department Yaphank Fire Department
Brookhaven Fire Department East Quogue Fire Department Eastport Fire Department Flanders Fire Department Gordon Heights Fire Department Hampton Bays Fire Department Manorville Fire Department Middle Island Fire Department	Quogue Fire Department Ridge Fire Department Riverhead Fire Department Rocky Point Fire Department Wading River Fire Department Westhampton Beach Fire Department Yaphank Fire Department		
<b>Fire Councils (5)</b>	Brookhaven Town Fire Chiefs Council Fire Chiefs Council of Suffolk County NY Riverhead Town Fire Chiefs Council Southampton Town Fire Chiefs Council Suffolk County Fire District Officers' Association		
<b>Commission Councils (3)</b>	Law Enforcement Council Protected Lands Council New York Wildfire and Incident Management Academy		
<b>Private Organization (1)</b>	The Nature Conservancy (Long Island Chapter)		
<b>Executive Board</b>	Chair & two Co Vice Chairs		



In the wake of the April 2012 Crescent Bow Fire, the Commission developed a multi-pronged strategy to deal with the ongoing wildfire threat which the Commission continued to strive to carry out in 2014. The strategy includes:

- Providing increased and enhanced training for volunteer firefighters and first responders via the Commission's Wildfire and Incident Management Academy;
- Expanding the use of prescribed fire to reduce wildfire fuel loads;
- Reinvigorating the Central Pine Barrens Fire Management Plan and its implementation;
- Expanding the establishment of Firewise Communities programs; and
- Supporting enhancing water supply resources for wildfire fighting efforts.



In April of 2014, sadly, the long-time Chair of the Wildfire Task Force, John Urevich, passed away suddenly. John Urevich was a visionary, highly capable, hard-working, intelligent, dedicated and passionate leader in the fire service and in his tenure as the Chairman of both the Central Pine Barrens Wildfire Task Force and NY Wildfire and Incident Management Academy. As a long-time volunteer firefighter himself, who served in several departments and in different positions, he helped bridge the gap between structural firefighting and wildfire suppression and prevention.

John Urevich had a vast amount of experience and knowledge and was an expert in many aspects of the fire service. He was one of the first to recognize the importance of weather and its effect on wildfire behavior and wildfire suppression strategies and tactics and helped to ensure that information was conveyed to local fire departments. Due to his strong advocacy and efforts, the Central Pine Barrens Commission purchased and installed a fire weather station in the Central Pine Barrens and the data from that station is now used to create a daily fire weather forecast that is transmitted to fire departments throughout Suffolk County.

John Urevich was a passionate advocate for wildfire training for the local fire service and did much to make it as accessible as possible by ensuring many courses were tuition-free and by ensuring that many courses were offered on weekends. He was instrumental in developing and implementing an inaugural course in the capabilities and operation of brush trucks, the primary apparatus used by Long Island Fire Departments in fighting brush fires and wildfires.

Early on, John Urevich also saw the benefits and promises of the Firewise program which aids homeowners in making their properties more resistant to the hazards of wildfires. He participated in a number of public forums and outreach efforts to help disseminate information on this program. John Urevich was a friend to many and a man who was admired and respected. He is greatly missed and his passing left a great void in both the fire service and within the Central Pine Barrens Commission organizations.

## Firewise and Wildfire Prevention

Firewise and the Firewise Communities program offers residents in the fire-prone Central Pine Barrens a unique opportunity to implement practices which will help prepare a home for a wildfire *before* it occurs. Homeowners can significantly increase the ability of their homes to survive a wildfire by implementing Firewise measures on their property. These can include measures such as removing dead leaves and dead brush, cleaning out gutters, moving wood piles away from the house and other similar, basic, good property maintenance measures. Homes and communities which have adopted the Firewise approach allow firefighters to concentrate on fighting the wildfire, which ultimately saves more residences and lives. The Firewise program draws on a community's spirit and its willingness to take some of the responsibility for reducing wildfire risks and can be tailored to a community's specific needs. Information on the Firewise and Firewise Communities USA program is available on the Firewise website at <http://firewise.org>. The Commission has included outreach to local communities located in wildland urban interface areas in the Central Pine Barrens on Firewise and Firewise Communities program as part of its multi-prong strategy to deal with the on-going wildfire threat.



*First meeting held by the Community Wildfire Protection Team on December 3, 2014*

In response to impacts caused by the devastating the Crescent Bow Wildfire of April of 2012 (which burned more than 1,000 acres, caused considerable property damage and forced the evacuations of some local residents) and with support from the New York Firewise Council and Federal, State and local agencies, the Commission commenced a process to develop a Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) in the hamlets of Ridge and Manorville in the Town of Brookhaven to assist public land managers and local residents in determining and implementing ways to reduce the area's wildfire risk from nearby woodlands. This area would be the first on Long Island for which a CWPP would be prepared.

The CWPP will provide information to the Ridge and Manorville communities on how to reduce risks to public safety and property and will contain an area-specific strategy that includes an assessment of the wildfire risk, structure flammability, hazardous fuels (vegetation) and non fuels mitigation, community preparedness and emergency procedures. The CWPP will also provide public outreach strategies to educate Ridge and Manorville residents as to how to create a "survivable or defensible" space around their homes to reduce damage and loss from wildfire. The CWPP will also contain wildfire mitigation measures to be implemented on large wooded or natural public lands that are within the wildland urban interface area (locations where de-

velopment abuts the Pine Barrens) to provide protection for residents and businesses that are adjacent to these areas. Once the CWPP is completed and implemented it will make the study area community eligible for federal funding to help implement mitigation measures identified in the plan.

On a parallel track, during 2014 Commission staff continued working on and refining the draft Wildfire Hazard Mitigation Standard that would ultimately be proposed as formal amendment to be incorporated into the Commission's Comprehensive Land Use Plan. The Hazard Mitigation Standard is based on the International Code Council's Wildland-Urban Interface code which has been adopted widely by a number of states and communities across the United States but has never been adopted at either the State, county or local level in New York State. The proposed standards, when implemented, would apply only to certain types of new development in specified areas, namely those areas identified jointly by the Commission and the Towns of Brookhaven, Riverhead and Southampton, as being within the Wildland-Urban Interface and would help to incorporate building design, layout and landscape criteria that into such development that would reduce and mitigate the effects caused by wildfires.

In the development of this standard, Commission staff conducted meetings and worksessions, at various times during the year, with Commission members and staff from Town agencies including Planning Departments, Building Departments and Fire Marshal Offices to discuss the proposed draft standards. Discussions touched on how the proposed standard would be implemented by the Towns, potential conflicts and obstacles, concerns with defensible space requirements, compatibility with Town and Commission clearing standards and staffing. Geographic Information System maps were created of possible areas in which the standard would be implemented in regard to certain new development activities in the Compatible Growth Area. Staff also conducted meetings and discussions with the International Code Council and New York State Department of State. As a result of these meetings, staff continued to revise and refine the draft standard. A final draft version is expected by the latter part of 2015.

### Fire Weather

The Commission continues to operate a fire weather station located in Eastport at a Suffolk County Water Authority wellfield that is located on County Route 51 in Eastport. Data from this weather station is used to determine the daily fire danger rating for the Central Pine Barrens. The fire danger rating translates weather and vegetation conditions (fuels) into how difficult a wildfire would be to control should a fire start occur. This data is sent daily from the Commission staff to Suffolk County Fire Rescue and Emergency Services (SCFRES) which in turn dispatches this information to the local fire service community. In addition, Commission staff sends this report by email and fax to over 50 recipients comprised of local fire departments, public land managers and other interested individuals. The local fire service community uses this information for pre-planning fire suppres-



*October 2014 Academy S-236 Heavy Equipment Boss*



sion resources during dry weather and vegetation conditions when vegetation can more readily ignite and spread into a large wildfire. This information is also placed on three Smokey Bear fire danger signs located near the Sears Bellows County Park entrance, Southaven County Park, and CR 46 near Brookhaven National Laboratory, to inform the public.

The fire danger rating reports are based largely on the statistical evaluation of historic fire weather data and its relationship to historic fire occurrence data that is compared to the daily fire weather data readings, the current National Weather Service fire weather forecast, the number of days since the last significant rain event and the current live fuel (vegetation) conditions, along with other factors. Grass conditions are monitored in the Spring since this is typically when a significant number of fire starts occur. In May, the potential for brush fires diminish as the trees, brush and other vegetation green up or leaf out. During the summer, brush conditions are monitored and fire danger reports are issued based on this fuel type.

The local fire service and public land managers may, based on this fire danger information, decide to increase patrols in certain areas, pre-stage equipment or even close or limit access to public land.



*March 2014 Brush Truck Driver Training*

In 2014, the Commission continued to successfully operate the fire weather system and continued to provide fire weather forecasts to the Long Island fire service and other interested agencies. (The fire danger ratings for 2014 are provided in Table WF-2.) Brush fires occurrences had a somewhat unusual and early start in 2014 with a number these fires occurring in March, not long after the end of a very snowy and cold winter which it was thought would dampen the ground and hinder brush fire ignitions. The spring started off with dry, windy conditions with minimal precipitation which lead to Moderate fire danger levels and culminated with a period of several High fire danger days towards the end of April. As leaf out of the trees and brush occurred in May, the fire danger remained Low for most of June, as expected. The remainder of the summer remained at Low fire danger. The fall was unusually dry and windy which lead to Moderate fire danger conditions occurring in September that tapered off in October to mainly Low fire danger conditions through November.

### **Prescribed Fire Subcommittee**

The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation is currently the sole agency that performs prescribed fires on Long Island. These prescribed fires help maintain the ecological health of natural areas, are used for ecological restoration, and assist with reducing the amount of vegetative fuel build up in an area which in turn will reduce the potential fire intensity in an area should a wildfire occur. There were a limited number of prescribed fires performed in 2014 due to the lack of available crew members. The prescribe fires performed in 2014 were for maintaining grasslands and totaled 4 acres.

**Table WF-2 Daily Fire Danger Ratings for 2014**

Week	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
11/9 - 11/15		Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	
11/2 - 11/8		Moderate	Low	Moderate	Low	Low	Low
10/26 - 11/1		Moderate	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low
10/19 - 10/25		Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low
10/12 - 10/18			Low	Low	Low	Low	Low
10/5 - 10/11		Low	Low	Moderate	Moderate	Low	Low
9/28 - 10/4		Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low
9/21 - 9/27		Moderate	Moderate	Moderate	Low	Low	Low
9/14 - 9/20		Moderate	Low	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate
9/7 - 9/13		Moderate	Moderate	Low	Low	Moderate	Low
8/31 - 9/6			Low	Low	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate
8/24 - 8/30		Low	Low	Low	Moderate	Low	Low
8/17 - 8/23		Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low
8/10 - 8/16		Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low
8/3 - 8/9		Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low
7/27 - 8/2		Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low
7/20 - 7/26		Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low
7/13 - 7/19		Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low
7/6 - 7/12		Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low
6/29 - 7/5		Moderate	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low
6/22 - 6/28		Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low
6/15 - 6/21		Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low
6/8 - 6/14		Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low
6/1 - 6/7		Moderate	Low	Low	Low	Low	
5/25 - 5/31			Low	Low	Low	Low	Low
5/18 - 5/24		Moderate	Moderate	Moderate	Low	Low	Low
5/11 - 5/17		Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low
5/4 - 5/10		Moderate	Moderate	Moderate	Low	Low	Low
4/27 - 5/3		Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low
4/20 - 4/26			Low	Moderate	High	Moderate	Low
4/13 - 4/19		Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	
4/6 - 4/12		Low	Low	Moderate	Moderate	Low	Moderate
3/30 - 4/5		Low	Low	Low	Moderate	Low	Moderate
3/23 - 3/29					High	Low	Low



### Training Subcommittee

The primary focus of this subcommittee is to provide wildfire firefighting training with the New York Army National Guard and the New York Air National Guard using helicopters equipped with water buckets. The training includes the local fire departments and agencies which are members of the Wildfire Task Force and the Law Enforcement Council which learn about the protocols that must be followed in order to get a helicopter with a water bucket on scene during a wildfire. This training is provided at least annually depending on the availability of the National Guard. The training helps the Guard obtain specific qualification training they need. One jointly-sponsored qualification training exercise with the Army National Guard was held in April of 2014 in which Wildwood Lake in the Town of Southampton was utilized as the water source for filling the water buckets and a specified area in the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation's Sarnoff Pine Barrens Preserve was used as a simulated wildfire target.

### Water Supply Subcommittee (temporary)

Review of the 2012 Crescent Bow Wildfire determined there was a need for additional water supplies to support wildfire fighting in those portions of the Manorville area that did not have public water supply available. Suffolk County worked closely with Manorville Fire Department to select the locations for fire wells and install them. These installations were completed in 2014.

### New York Wildfire and Incident Management Academy

The Academy was established in 1998 with the following goal:



*“The Academy's goal is to provide for a safe learning environment for Wildland Firefighters and Incident Managers and to foster greater networking opportunities and partnerships between participants from federal, state, and local agencies.”*

To aid in achieving this objective, the NYWIMA is managed to mirror an actual incident utilizing the Incident Command System (ICS) under the direction of an Incident Management Team (IMT). The IMT reflects the interagency and cooperative nature of today's incident management philosophy with team members coming from federal, state, and local agencies.

### Academy Objectives

- Train students to National Wildfire Coordinating Group Standards (NWCG).
- Develop qualified trainers and instructors for Wildfire and Incident Management Courses.
- Develop awareness of fire management and fire fighting safety among fire fighting organizations and public officials.
- Encourage interagency cooperation, coordination, exchange of experience, education and technology transfer from all levels of government.
- Develop a group of interagency leaders to build upon the first four objectives in the metropolitan New York and Northeast Region.

The Central Pine Barrens Commission's Wildfire Task Force conducts the Academy with a consortium of federal, state and county agencies including: (Federal) Brookhaven National Lab, Bureau of Land Management, National Park Service, United States Coast Guard, United States Forest Service, United States Fish and Wildlife Service; (State) Massachusetts Department of Environmental Management, New Jersey Forest Fire Service, New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC), New York State Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services (DHSES), New York State Office of Fire Prevention and Control, Stony Brook Southampton College and (City, County and Other Organizations) Dowling College, Fire Department of New York (FDNY), Suffolk County Department of Fire, Rescue, and Emergency Services, and the Colorado Wildfire Academy.

For course and registration information for the current year, visit the Academy web site at <http://www.nywima.com>, or contact the Academy Coordinator by phone at 631-769-1556 or by e-mail at [nywima@pb.state.ny.us](mailto:nywima@pb.state.ny.us)

In 2014, the Academy offered the following training opportunities

- March - Brush Truck Training and S130/190 Basic Firefighting and Wildfire Behavior
- October – Annual 10 day training period

The statistics for these training events includes the number of instructors and students and is provided on the next page along with a listing of the courses that were held during the annual October 2014 Academy.

### **March 2014 Classes**

Brush Truck Driver Training - 50 students

Participants in the course included volunteer firefighters from Deer Park, East Hampton, Flanders, Mastic, Nesconset, Patchogue, and West Babylon who brought their brush trucks for the driving section of the course conducted on forested New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) managed lands and on a sandy course chosen to simulate some of the looser soil conditions volunteer firefighters might encounter during a wildland firefighting response.

In addition to the Brush Truck training course the Academy also offered free training for volunteer firefighters in Basic Firefighting and Wildfire Behavior and Fire Operations in the Wildland Urban Interface. To further aid volunteer firefighting training the Academy also offered the online version of the Basic Firefighting and Wildfire Behavior course which only requires a one-day field day commitment. Volunteers from a number of volunteer fire departments, including Albertson, Coram, East Moriches, East Rockaway, Farmingville and Northport participated in the Basic Firefighting sessions.

### **Brush Truck Training Facility**

After several years of planning, meetings and discussions, the County of Suffolk and the Commission agreed to co-sponsor a permanent, dedicated Brush Truck Training facility located adjacent to the County's Fire, Rescue and Emergency Services Department and the Suffolk

## 2014 NYWIMA Training Performed

2014 October Fall Academy  
October 24, 2014 - November 2, 2014

97 - Instructors & staff  
425 - Students  
39 - Trainees  
555 - Total in attendance

### Classes held:

I-200	Basic Incident Command System (ICS)
I-300	Intermediate ICS with NIMS
I-400	Advanced ICS with NIMS
S-130/190	Basic Firefighting & Wildfire Behavior
S-130/190	Basic Firefighting and Wildfire Behavior - Field Day Only - Session A Online
S-130/190	Basic Firefighting and Wildfire Behavior - Field Day Only - Session B Online
S-131	Firefighter Type 1
S-211	Portable Pumps & Water Usage
S-212	Wildfire Powersaws with Storm Debris Removal
S-215	Fire Operations in the Urban Interface
S-230	Single Resource Boss (Crew Boss)
S-231	Engine Boss (Single Resource)
S-234	Ignition Operations
S-236	Heavy Equipment Boss (Single Resource)
S-244	Field Observer
S-290	Intermediate Wildland Fire Behavior
S-300	Extended Attack Incident Commander
S-330	Strike Team / Task Force Leader
S-390	Intro. To Fire Behavior Calculations
L-960 /S-339	All-Hazards & NWCG Division Supervisor
L-280	Followership to Leadership
BTT	Brush Truck Training/Intro to LI Wildfire Behavior for the Volunteer Fire Service
BWSS	Basic Wildland Search Skills
NGWAO	2 Sessions: US National Grid for Wide Area Operations - Mapping
SocMed	2 Sessions: Social Media for Disaster Response & Recovery
L-965/S-349	Resource/Demobilization Unit Leader
L-969	Communication Leader
L-970/S-356	Supply Unit Leader

**Training Positions:**

Incident Commander (ICT)

Safety Officer (SOFRT)

Public Information Officer (PIOFt)

Operations Section Chief (OSC2t)

Division/Group Supervisor (DIVS)

Plans Section Chief (PSC2t)

Resource Unit Leader (RESLt)/ Demo Unit Leader (DMOB)

Situation Unit Leader (SITLt)

Logistics Section Chief (LSC2t)

Supply Unit Leader (SUPLt)

Receiving/Distribution Manager (RCDMt)

Ordering Manager (ORDMt)

Ground Support Unit Leader (GSULt)

Equipment Manager (EQPMt)

Base Camp Manager (BCMGt)

Facilities Unit Leader (FACLt)

Medical Unit Leader (MEDLt)

Communication Unit Leader (COMLt)

County Fire Academy in Yaphank. Specific details remain to be developed but the Commission, through its New York Wildfire and Incident Management Academy, would operate the facility on land owned by the County. This facility would be the first of its kind on Long Island and would greatly enhance training and experience for local volunteer fire department members who either drive or serve as crews on brush trucks, the primary apparatus used on Long Island for attacking wildfires and brush fires.

#### **Wildfire Task Force Goals for 2015**

- Conduct a review to determine whether or not there is a need for additional fire danger signs at appropriate sites in the Central Pine Barrens, and identify possible new locations, such as near Cathedral Pines County Park, in addition to existing sign locations.
- Working with its new Chair, identify new goals and objectives for the Wildfire Task Force, including developing additional means of increasing the participation of local fire departments.
- Continue to work with the New York Army National Guard and New York Air National Guard in providing wildfire training sessions, particularly water bucket suppression activities, on an annual basis based on the availability of these National Guard units.
- Re-examine the Central Pine Barrens Fire Management Plan and determine with the Wildfire Task Force executive board if the entire plan or specific portions should be updated and if different means of delivering its content to local firefighters should be explored, particularly social media and other more current technology.
- Continue to provide enhanced training and expanded instruction for volunteer firefighters and other first responders via the Commission's New York Wildfire and Incident Management Academy;
- Continue to explore ways in which the application of prescribed fire can be expanded across the Central Pine Barrens to reduce wildfire fuel loads;
- Continue and complete the Community Wildfire Protection Plan process for the Ridge and Manorville hamlets and implement the plan.
- Continue to advance the Wildfire Hazard Mitigation Standard toward final form and consideration for adoption by the Commission.



## Pine Barrens Credit Clearinghouse

James T.B. Tripp, Chair, Andrew Freleng, Vice Chair

The Long Island Pine Barrens Protection Act specified the need for land use protection mechanisms to protect the Core Preservation Area that included the purchase of development rights that later came to fruition when the 1995 *Central Pine Barrens Comprehensive Land Use Plan* (the “*Plan*”) was completed and the Pine Barrens Credit Program, a transfer of development rights program, was created. Chapter 6 of the *Plan* outlines the overall Credit Program that defines sending and receiving areas, specifies operating procedures and tracking requirements, and includes Credit allocation formulas. The *Plan* specified a five member Clearinghouse Board of Advisors to oversee the operation and implementation of the Credit Program and is comprised of representatives for the State of New York, the County of Suffolk, and the Towns of Brookhaven, Riverhead and Southampton who are appointed by these entities and serve without compensation.

Owners and purchasers of Pine Barrens Credits (Credits) transact business in an open market, with all Credits and transactions tracked by the Clearinghouse from “cradle to grave”. The Clearinghouse can choose to actively assist the market by offering to purchase Credits as it has done in prior years. Information on prior Clearinghouse initiatives to purchase Credits is available on the Commission’s website at:

[http://www.pb.state.ny.us/chart\\_pbc\\_main\\_page.htm#Current\\_and\\_prior\\_initiatives](http://www.pb.state.ny.us/chart_pbc_main_page.htm#Current_and_prior_initiatives))

The Clearinghouse also publishes a monthly *Registry* which lists potential buyers and sellers of Credits that is available on the Commission’s website at: [http://www.pb.state.ny.us/chart\\_pbc\\_main\\_page.htm#Registry](http://www.pb.state.ny.us/chart_pbc_main_page.htm#Registry).

Except where noted, all statistics in the report that follows represents the totals from the three participating Towns, Brookhaven, Riverhead and Southampton. Overall program statistics that include Town level breakdowns and information for 2014 is presented in the Program Summary table at the end of this section.



## 2014 Pine Barrens Credit Clearinghouse Year End Report

This report provides a statistical compilation of the Credit Clearinghouse Program's (the Program's) transactions and Core parcels that have been preserved since the inception of the Program in 1995 and highlights the Program's activity specific to 2014. Except where noted, all of the statistics reflect the Program's activity across the three participating towns, Brookhaven, Riverhead and Southampton. Individual Town level breakdowns referenced in this report are available on the Pine Barrens Credit Program main web page at: [http://www.pb.state.ny.us/chart\\_pbc\\_main\\_page.htm](http://www.pb.state.ny.us/chart_pbc_main_page.htm).

### Acreage Enrolled

As of December 31, 2014, there were 809 parcels enrolled in the Program, which are now protected from future development or for partially developed parcels, from further development since they have conservation easements placed on them. The development potential has been removed from these parcels and translated into Pine Barrens Credits in a certificate form. The owner may either use them directly to develop outside of the Pine Barrens Core Area or can sell to a developer who may need Credits to satisfy town zoning code requirements for extra development density or Suffolk



*Credit Program – conservation easement property*

County Department of Health Services sanitary requirements. The total acreage that has been encumbered by conservation easements is approximately 1,937 acres, with an average parcel size of 2.4 acres. From the larger Pine Barrens preservation perspective, these easement protected lands comprise approximately 3.52% of the statutorily defined 55,000 acre Core Preservation Area.

### Credits Issued, Redeemed and In Circulation

Since the start of the Program in 1995 (the first Credits were actually issued in 1996), 935.93 Credits have been issued. Of these, 470.3 have been redeemed (49% of the issued Credits), while the remaining 465.63 Credits remain "outstanding" (i.e., issued but still in private hands and unredeemed). The Pine Barrens Credit Clearinghouse owns 10.19 Credits at this time that were purchased in 2011 through an offer made by the Clearinghouse to spend up to \$1 million to purchase Credits from Credit owners located in the Town of Brookhaven.

During 2014, 41.9 Credits were redeemed. Since no new Credits were generated in 2014, the net inventory level of the outstanding Credits went down by 41.9 Credits, which improved the ratio of redeemed to unredeemed credits.

### **Credit Sales and Prices Recorded**

There were 50.28 Credits sold during 2014, which represents an increase of 32.1 Credits when compared to the prior year, 2013. The average "per Credit" sales price was \$65K (with the range from \$55,000 up to \$100,000 "per Credit"), which practically was the same as the overall 2013 average unit Credit price.

To place this in a historical perspective, this 2014 average unit price is close to the 2004 year level. Finally, from the program's inception to 1/1/15, the PBC Program has recorded a grand total of almost \$39 million in private sales.

The complete history of Credit sale prices by year and by Town is available on the Clearinghouse web page [http://www.pb.state.ny.us/pbc/pbc\\_credit\\_sales\\_1996\\_to\\_present.pdf](http://www.pb.state.ny.us/pbc/pbc_credit_sales_1996_to_present.pdf).

### **Program Summary Chart**

The attached one page summary chart provides an overview of the PBC Program's activity and highlights the Program's information as discussed above.

### **Intermunicipal and Intertown Flows of Credits**

As of 1/1/15, a total of 75 Credits have crossed a municipal boundary (town or village) from their sending parcel to their receiving parcel, representing approximately 16% of all redeemed Credits, or approximately 1 in every 6 redeemed Credits.

From a strictly intertown perspective, 51 of these 75 credits crossed a Town boundary in 2014, representing 11% of all redeemed Credits, or approximately 1 in every 9 redeemed Credits.

All of the intermunicipal Credit transfers in 2014 were processed through the Suffolk County Department of Health Services for sewage flow intensity increases.

### **Clearinghouse Funds**

The Clearinghouse currently has approximately \$2.5 million in available funds which are administered by the Suffolk County Treasurer's Office. There were no new deposits or disbursements during 2014. An end of year accounting of those funds is available at: [http://www.pb.state.ny.us/pbc/sc\\_treasurers\\_report.pdf](http://www.pb.state.ny.us/pbc/sc_treasurers_report.pdf).

### **Easement Compliance and Enforcement (CAE) Activity**

The Commission's CAE Coordinator, working with our Land Use Division, has completed onsite inspections and baseline documentation reports for 795 of the 809 parcels enrolled in the Program, or approximately 98% of the parcels. In 2014 numerous field conditions either unrelated to the easement provisions or affecting nearby parcels or road right of ways have been documented and addressed through the CAE Division's Incident Reporting (IR) System.

These formal Incident Reports are then tracked until the field condition is resolved, usually in close coordination with public lands managers, highway departments, parks departments, environmental conservation police, or other agencies. Typical conditions include clearing, dumping, off road vehicle violations, vandalism or public property damage, etc.

Pine Barrens Credit Sales 1996 through 2014												
Year	Brookhaven Town			Riverhead Town			Southampton Town			Totals		
	# PBCs	Sales Value	Avg PBC Value	# PBCs	Sales Value	Avg PBC Value	# PBCs	Sales Value	Avg PBC Value	# PBCs	Sales Value	Avg PBC Value
1996	1.00	7,500.00	7,500.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.00	7,500.00	7,500.00
1997	31.18	383,140.00	12,288.01	56.17	561,700.00	10,000.00	4.52	48,814.00	10,799.56	91.87	993,654.00	10,815.87
1998	67.88	1,016,760.00	14,978.79	0.10	500.00	5,000.00	5.84	57,500.00	9,845.89	73.82	1,074,760.00	14,559.20
1999	54.95	1,445,902.00	26,313.05	18.19	245,600.00	13,501.92	0.72	8,050.00	11,180.56	73.86	1,699,552.00	23,010.45
2000	36.29	1,280,211.00	35,277.24	6.00	102,000.00	17,000.00	9.71	194,200.00	20,000.00	52.00	1,576,411.00	30,315.60
2001	29.04	1,142,000.00	39,325.07	7.00	118,000.00	16,857.14	0.89	19,900.00	22,359.55	36.93	1,279,900.00	34,657.46
2002	49.56	1,973,400.00	39,818.40	26.98	485,640.00	18,000.00	1.77	53,800.00	30,395.48	78.31	2,512,840.00	32,088.37
2003	60.02	2,920,350.00	48,656.28	0.00	0.00	0.00	2.84	173,450.00	61,073.94	62.86	3,093,800.00	49,217.31
2004	16.85	1,209,550.00	71,783.38	6.00	288,000.00	48,000.00	10.59	912,700.00	86,185.08	33.44	2,410,250.00	72,076.85
2005	2.00	232,500.00	116,250.00	2.15	146,000.00	67,906.98	38.89	2,877,900.00	74,001.03	43.04	3,256,400.00	75,659.85
2006	7.50	830,000.00	110,666.67	1.00	70,000.00	70,000.00	53.80	3,779,750.00	70,255.58	62.30	4,679,750.00	75,116.37
2007	13.68	1,353,000.00	98,903.51	2.10	208,000.00	99,047.62	16.55	1,488,350.00	89,930.51	32.33	3,049,350.00	94,319.52
2008	5.50	456,000.00	82,909.09	0.00	0.00	0.00	9.85	795,450.00	80,756.35	15.35	1,251,450.00	81,527.69
2009	13.24	1,060,650.00	80,109.52	1.64	123,000.00	75,000.00	3.84	299,786.00	78,069.27	18.72	1,483,436.00	79,243.38
2010	3.11	251,622.49	80,907.55	0.40	26,000.00	65,000.00	47.57	2,607,030.00	54,804.08	51.08	2,884,652.49	56,473.23
2011	26.32	2,316,926.41	88,029.12	0.00	0.00	0.00	3.02	195,000.27	64,569.63	29.34	2,511,926.68	85,614.41
2012	6.55	486,000.00	74,198.47	0.00	0.00	0.00	8.20	602,000.00	73,414.63	14.75	1,088,000.00	73,762.71
2013	5.99	439,620.00	73,392.32	9.24	541,450.00	58,598.48	3.15	210,500.00	66,825.40	18.38	1,191,570.00	64,829.71
2014	5.59	488,562.50	87,399.37	43.91	2,729,570.00	62,162.83	0.78	55,400.00	71,025.64	50.28	3,273,532.50	65,106.06
<b>Totals</b>	<b>436.25</b>	<b>19,293,694.40</b>	<b>44,226.23</b>	<b>180.88</b>	<b>5,645,460.00</b>	<b>31,211.08</b>	<b>222.53</b>	<b>14,379,580.27</b>	<b>64,618.61</b>	<b>839.66</b>	<b>39,318,734.67</b>	<b>46,826.97</b>



The complete list of parcels enrolled in the Program can be viewed at:  
[http://www.pb.state.ny.us/pbc/pbc\\_parcel.pdf](http://www.pb.state.ny.us/pbc/pbc_parcel.pdf)

Easement Protected Lands and Pine Barrens Credits As of January 1, 2015					
	Brookhaven	Riverhead	Southampton	Total	2014
Parcels	354	35	420	809	0
Acreage	725.565	516.508	695.326	1937.399	0
Average parcel size	2.05 ac	14.76 ac	1.65 ac	2.4 ac	0
Credits generated	468.57	172.29	295.07	935.93	0
Credits redeemed	263.42	86.76	120.12	470.3	41.9
Credits not redeemed	205.15	85.53	174.95	465.63	-41.9
Credits sold	436.25	180.88	222.53	839.66	50.28

Intermunicipal Flows of Pine Barrens Credits as of 1/1/2015				
Destinations	Originating from			Totals
	Brookhaven	Riverhead	Southampton	
Babylon (District 100)		2.71		2.71
Brookhaven Unincorporated (District 200)		0.35	13.64	13.99
South Country Village (202)	0.54			0.54
Patchogue Village (204)	0.2			0.2
East Hampton Village (302)			2.75	2.75
Huntington Unincorporated (400)		1		1
Islip Unincorporated (500)	8.45	11.49	6.97	26.91
Riverhead Unincorporated (District 600)	3.05		0.16	3.21
Smithtown Unincorporated (800)			0.1	0.1
Southampton Unincorporated (District 900)	0.46			0.46
Quogue Village (902)			0.37	0.37
Southampton Village (904)			15.15	15.15
Westhampton Beach Village (905)			7.55	7.55
Totals	12.7	15.55	46.69	74.94

Intertown Flows of Pine Barrens Credits as of 1/1/2015				
Destinations	Originating from			Totals
	Brookhaven	Riverhead	Southampton	
Babylon (District 100)		2.71		2.71
Brookhaven (District 200)		0.35	13.64	13.99
East Hampton Village (302)			2.75	2.75
Huntington (District 400)		1		1
Islip (District 500)	8.45	11.49	6.97	26.91
Riverhead (District 600)	3.05		0.16	3.21
Smithtown (District 800)			0.1	0.1
Southampton (District 900)	0.46			0.46
Totals	11.96	15.55	23.62	51.13

### Policy Initiatives

In 2013, the Town of Brookhaven adopted the Carmans River Conservation and Management Plan (“the Plan”) to promote the protection of the Carmans River and its surrounding watershed area. State legislation was passed in 2013 that amended the Long Island Pine Barrens Protection Act to expand the Core Preservation Area and the Compatible Growth Area within the Carmans River watershed. This resulted in new Core Area parcels that could now take part in the Credit Program. During 2014, notifications were mailed to all property owners within the new Core Preservation Area advising them of the Pine Barrens Credit Program.

In 2014, about two hundred parcels from the recently expanded Carmans River watershed area have applied for Pine Barrens Credits. They are currently in the process of obtaining conservation easements and have the potential to generate 45 new Credits.

The Pine Barrens Credit Clearinghouse Board of Advisors did not meet during 2014. The terms for selling Credits held by the Clearinghouse are still under discussion between the Commission and Clearinghouse board members.



## Environmental Education and Outreach Division

The Education and Outreach mission statement:

*“To promote stewardship through awareness, appreciation and understanding to Long Island residents of all ages on the critical role the Central Pine Barrens serves in maintaining their quality of life. This includes its species, landscapes, natural communities, groundwater protection, cultural and historical resources”.*

The purpose of the Education and Outreach Division is to promote stewardship through awareness, appreciation and understanding to Long Island residents of all ages on the critical role the Central Pine Barrens ecosystem plays in maintaining their quality of life. This includes its species, landscapes, natural communities, ground water protection, cultural and historical resources. The Division develops, coordinates and maintains programming on a regional basis. Services the Division provides includes:

- Provides public outreach as a participant in local festivals, conferences and other events
- Works with the Pine Barrens staff on special Commission projects
- Provides Pine Barrens /Long Island Biodiversity teacher training opportunities for K-12 teachers
- Develops an annual Environmental Education and Outreach Plan
- Provides opportunities for engagement in Citizen Science
- Creates, organizes and presents Pine Barrens Ecology oriented K-12 educational programs
- Writes and distributes regular press releases and press advisories about newsworthy events
- Responds to media, telephone, and mail inquires pertaining to environmental education and outreach
- Develops and sustains important partnerships to advance the mission of the Central Pine Barrens Commission
- Continues to develop new programming to promote educational opportunities.
- Represents the Central Pine Barrens Commission at national and international educational, scientific and advocacy events.



*Learning about the Pine Barrens through walks and talks*



*2014 Barrens to Bay Summer Camp*

### In 2014, Commission Education and Outreach Staff:

- Each year environmental education program are developed, implemented and performed for grades k-12, research programs, higher education classes and various outreach events, such as festivals and conferences. In 2014 the Division focused primarily on direct interaction with students, teachers and environmental professionals through hands on programming, rather than outreach events. The Division reached 6,000 Long Island citizens- 4,500 through classroom programs and 2,000 through indirect programs, such as festivals and speaking engagements.

- Developed four interpretive signs and coordinated the installation of these signs along the 8/10 of a mile Dwarf Pine Trail in the Dwarf Pine Plains in Westhampton Beach. The sign topics are: Pine Barrens Biodiversity, Lichens, Wild Fire Adaptations and the Creation of the Dwarf Pine Plains. These signs will assist hikers in learning more about this globally rare ecosystem and provide them with interactive suggestions at each stop for hands-on learning.



*2014 Pine Barrens Discovery Day*

- Developed, coordinated and implemented three one-day synoptic educational events, titled, “A Day in the Life of the Carmans River”, “A Day in the Life of the Peconic Estuary” and representing, Suffolk County Water Authority, “A Day in the Life of the Nisseguogue River”. These one day student science field research and citizen science efforts are in partnership with numerous agencies, organizations, scientists, educators and students.

We worked with over 1,700 students, 35 schools, 69 teachers and 82 natural history experts collecting water quality data and biodiversity inventories from over 50 sites along the Carmans and Nisseguogue river ecosystems from the head to the mouth of the estuary and along the perimeter of the Peconic Bay estuary.



*2014 Pine Barrens Discovery Day— getting a close look.*

- In addition to coordinating the events, the Division successfully wrote grants for and secured approximately \$10,000 in funding for supplies and equipment to directly benefit the “A Day in the Life” programs. Some equipment and supplies purchased include; seine nets, Go Pro cameras, water quality test kits, dip nets, photographic tanks, anemometers, sling psy-



- Partnered with Cold Spring Harbor Lab's DNA Learning Center and their Barcode Long Island project. *Barcode Long Island (BLI)* gives students an understanding of the interaction between humans and the natural environment. Student teams use DNA bar-coding to explore, document, and track the biodiversity on and around Long Island. *BLI* provides students with real and relevant research experience while they contribute to their knowledge of their environment. The Division is in the process of submitting proposals designed around Pine Barrens species of plants and animals and will also be adding a BLI component to all three of the "A Day in the Life" programs and events.



*"A Day in the Life of the Carmans River"  
Students seining.*

- Created, organize and directed the annual Barrens to Bay Summer camp. This camp is in partnership with Wertheim National Wildlife Refuge in Shirley in the Core of the Central Pine Barrens. In 2014 approximately 120 campers enjoyed hands on learning about the Pine barrens, interpretive hikes, seining, dock scraping, scientific explorations, various activities and other learning opportunities over a 6 week period.

- Created, organized and carried out the annual Pine Barrens Discovery Day event. This event is designed to educate families, students and other Long Island residents on the natural and cultural history of the Central Pine Barrens. The event is held at Wertheim National Wildlife Refuge in Shirley in partnership with Wertheim's International Migratory Bird Day and the Tri Hamlet Day celebration. In 2014, Pine Barrens Discovery Day had 24 workshops, 6 hikes, 30 exhibitors and over 1,000 visitors.



*"A Day in the Life of the Carmans River"  
Students collecting soil borings.*

- Coordinated and planned the 3<sup>rd</sup> annual Long Island Natural History Conference. The Education and Outreach Division remains on the Steering Committee for this very successful regional conference. The Division assisted with securing the venues, speakers, poster session, food, registration and press releases and provided general organization for the three day event.



- Improved education, research and historical programming with our International Twin ecosystem and Twinning's partner the Parco Regionale Migliarino San Rossore Massaciucoli (MSRM) in Pisa, Italy. Thanks to Brookhaven Science Associate funding, each year a Pine Barrens Commission representative is able to meet with our International partners to improve learning and research opportunities. This year a SUNY Stony Brook School of Marine and Atmospheric Sciences student was able to travel to MSRM and meet with its biologists and planners to develop a comparison research project - *Comparison of strategies for the management of deer (and boar) populations in the US Pine Barrens and the Migliarino-San Rossore-Massaciucoli Regional Park (MSRM), Pisa, Italy.*
- Continued to generate successful partnerships with federal, state, town and local agencies and organizations to benefit education and outreach programs and the Central Pine Barrens Commission.



## Research Programs

### Annual Pine Barrens Research Forum

The Annual Pine Barrens Research Forum is sponsored by the Brookhaven National Laboratory, the Central Pine Barrens Joint Planning and Policy Commission, the Long Island Groundwater Research Institute at Stony Brook University and the Foundation for Ecological Research in the Northeast and is held at Brookhaven National Laboratory in Upton, New York, typically on the first Thursday and Friday in October. The Research Forum features speakers involved in significant research from various key scientific areas from all over the Country and Europe. Each year the Forum provides on its first day intriguing, in depth presentations on the latest scientific research being conducted by noteworthy scientists, informative displays and exhibits from local agencies and not-for-profit environmental research and protection organizations, and a poster session that provides a diverse array of research activities undertaken by students and others involved in the field of scientific research. The second day of the Forum provides a dynamic realtime student science educational research exchange through a web conference that is broadcast to schools both locally and abroad. A field trip is also held on the second day of the Forum that include trips to local ecological and research areas of interest on Long Island. Copies of the Research Forum proceedings, which include speaker abstracts, poster session, exhibits and display information, are available on request from the Commission's office.

In 2014, there were approximately 150 participants who attended the presentations and poster sessions during the first day of the Research Forum. The diversity of topics are listed on the Research Forum brochure that follows this page. The field trip on day two of the Forum, lead by scientists at The Nature Conservancy's Mashomack Preserve on Shelter Island, enabled participants to observe the impacts of deer overpopulation on ecosystems and forest sustainability. The group learned about current research, monitoring programs, deer management strategies, and other efforts employed to address this serious threat to the forests of Long Island, and beyond.



*Field Trip to Mashomack Preserve on Shelter Island*





# Nineteenth Annual Pine Barrens Research Forum



*Southern Pine Beetle Infestation  
Ronald F. Billings, Texas Forest Service, Bugwood.org*

**October 2 & 3, 2014**  
**Brookhaven National Laboratory**  
**Berkner Hall**  
**Upton, New York**

Sponsored by:

*Brookhaven National Laboratory,  
Central Pine Barrens Commission,  
LI Groundwater Research Institute  
at Stony Brook, and the Foundation for  
Ecological Research in the Northeast*

## ***Pine Barrens Research Forum 2014***

### **Thursday, October 2**

8:30 am Registration & Coffee

9:00 am Welcome

**John W. Pavacic**, Executive Director,  
Central Pine Barrens Commission

**Doon Gibbs**, Director,  
Brookhaven National Laboratory

**Robert P. Gordon**, Deputy Manager,  
Brookhaven Area Office, US  
Department of Energy

**Peter A. Scully**, Chair, Central Pine  
Barrens Commission and Regional  
Director, NYS Department of  
Environmental Conservation

9:30 am **Keynote - Climate risks on Long  
Island: NY State Resiliency Institute  
for Storms and Emergencies.**

**Minghua Zhang**, Dean, School of  
Marine and Atmospheric Sciences,  
Stony Brook University

10:00 am **Mercury exposure in birds of Long  
Island, New York.**

**Oksana Lane**, Wetlands Program  
Director, Biodiversity Research  
Institute

10:30 am **Break and Poster Session**

11:00 am **Southern pine beetle range  
expansion: A threat to northern  
forests?**

**Carissa F. Aoki**, Ph.D Candidate,  
Ecology and Evolutionary Biology,  
Dartmouth College

11:30 am **A research agenda to study the socio-  
ecological impacts of coyote range  
expansion on Long Island pre-and  
post-arrival.**

**Mark Weckel**, Postdoctoral  
Conservation Research and Teaching  
Fellow, Center for Biodiversity and  
Conservation, American Museum of  
Natural History

12:00 pm **Effects of atmospheric deposition and  
human development on pond water qual-  
ity in the Pine Barrens.**

**Gregory B. Lawrence**, Research Scientist,  
NY Water Science Center, US Geological  
Survey

12:30 pm **Lunch**

1:15 pm **Screening tool to evaluate the  
vulnerability of down-gradient receptors  
to groundwater contaminants from  
uncapped landfills.**

**Edward W. Wengrowski**, Environmental  
Technologies Coordinator, Land Use and  
Technology Programs, New Jersey Pinelands  
Commission

1:45 pm **Deer management paradigms.**

**Scott C. Williams**, Associate Scientist,  
Department of Forestry and Horticulture,  
The Connecticut Agricultural Experiment  
Station

2:15 pm **Deer impacts to forest vegetation of the  
Northeast.**

**Thomas J. Rawinski**, Botanist, Northeastern  
Area State and Private Forestry, USDA  
Forest Service

2:45 pm **Afternoon break**

3:00 pm **An evaluation of six naturally occurring  
contaminants collected under New  
Jersey's Private Well Testing Act.**

**Nicholas A. Procopio III**, Research Scientist,  
Office of Science, NJ Department of  
Environmental Protection

3:30 pm **Hydrogeologic conditions of the Northern  
Atlantic Coastal Plain aquifer system from  
Long Island to North Carolina.**

**John P. Masterson**, Hydrologist, New  
England Water Science Center, US  
Geological Survey

4:00 pm **Groundwater cleanup progress at  
Brookhaven National Laboratory.**

**Bill Dorsch**, Environmental Protection  
Division, Brookhaven National Laboratory

### **Friday, October 3, 2014**

#### **FIELD TRIP**

Deer Management and  
Concerns at Mashomack Preserve

The Nature Conservancy's Mashomack Preserve on Shelter Island will host a 1.5 hour guided truck tour to share their work with deer management and concerns. This 2,039 acre, primarily oak-hickory forest preserve is heavily influenced by white-tailed deer. Come view their forest health research blocks which help quantify the influence of deer on forest regeneration, learn about the ongoing deer removal efforts with its successes and challenges, and observe the proactive role Mashomack is playing in the 4-poster tick abatement program.

Meet at Brookhaven National Laboratory, Berkner Hall lobby at 8:30 am, where a car pool will be organized. Bring a bagged lunch, drink, sun and tick protection. Heavy rain cancels. Limited to the first 25 registrants.



*White Oak Fruits*  
Paul Wray, Iowa State University, Bugwood.org

## Litigation Involving the Commission

Through the years the Central Pine Barrens Commission has been involved in various litigation matters that either challenged the Long Island Pine Barrens Protection Act, a decision made by the Commission on a development project, or the Pine Barrens Credit allocation received by a private landowner from the Credit Clearinghouse. At times the Commission has also been included in other litigation matters involving other parties. The table that follows this page tracks the litigation since 1996 that has involved the Commission in some manner. This table is located on the Commission website at [http://pb.state.ny.us/legal/chart\\_litigation.htm](http://pb.state.ny.us/legal/chart_litigation.htm) where access to the decision information is available.





## Litigation Involving the Pine Barrens Commission

*Through March 17, 2015; listed by filing date.*

Sequence Number	Subject	Plaintiff(s)	Defendant(s)	Court and Index Number	Date Filed	Date Decided
1	Nondevelopment decision of 2/9/94 re Longwood Youth Sports Association proposal at Firemen's Park, Ridge, Brookhaven	LI Pine Barrens Society, Richard Amper, North Fork Environmental Council, Long Island Group of the Sierra Club, Open Space Council, Act Now!, Desiree Passantino, Joseph Colao	Commission	Supreme Court, Suffolk County 94-5363	3/11/94	4/28/98 <i>(decision)</i>
2	Parcel inventory and property owner notification	W.J.F. Realty Corp., Reed Rubin	Commission	Supreme Court, Suffolk County 94-8132	4/8/94	11/17/94 <i>(decision)</i>
3	Statutory challenge to Pine Barrens Protection Act	W.J.F. Realty Corp., Reed Rubin	Commission, State of New York, Langdon Marsh, NYS DEC, Suffolk County	Supreme Court, Suffolk County 94-22784	9/19/94	4/22/98 <i>(decision)</i>
4	Economic analysis	LI Builders Institute	Commission	Supreme Court, Suffolk County 95-11218	5/12/95	5/22/95 <i>(decision)</i>
5	Parcel inventory	Siegel Fenchel & Peddy	Commission, Raymond Corwin	Supreme Court, Suffolk County 95-29078	12/6/95	4/18/97 <i>(decision)</i>
6	Statutory challenge to Pine Barrens Protection Act	Henry Dittmer, et al.	Commission, Suffolk County, Brookhaven Town, Riverhead Town	US District Court for Eastern District of NY 96-2206	5/3/96	2/21/02 <i>(decision)</i> <i>(Also see 2/28/03 2nd Circuit Summary Order)</i>
7	Commission approval of 8/26/96 re Marando (Manorville) Nurseries project, Brookhaven	LI Pine Barrens Society, Richard Amper, Peter Maniscalco, John Scully, Leslie Hannelin	Commission	Supreme Court, Suffolk County 96-24091	9/18/96	2/10/98 <i>(decision)</i>
8	6/24/98 Pine Barrens Credit allocation to parcels in Manorville and Middle Island, Brookhaven	Robert I. Toussie	Commission	Supreme Court, Suffolk County 98-17135	7/22/98	5/26/1999 <i>(decision)</i>
9	Nondevelopment decision of 5/10/00 re horse arena in Core, Manorville, Brookhaven	LI Pine Barrens Society, Richard Amper, Katherine Forster Screven, Frank P. Foster, John Trocchio, Richard and Pamela Gatz, Anna Marie Forster Czarnecki, Pamela Todaro	Commission, Carolyn Jolly d/b/a Hidden Pond Stables	Supreme Court, Suffolk County 00-14222	8/8/00	3/19/01 <i>(decision)</i> Entered 11/20/01
10	Nondevelopment decision of 7/12/00 re horse arena in Core, Manorville, Brookhaven	LI Pine Barrens Society, Richard Amper, Kenneth and Irene Kneski, Stanley and Genevieve Horton	Commission, Sloane Marcus, Maria Hickey	Supreme Court, Suffolk County 00-19896	8/9/00	3/20/01 <i>(decision)</i> Entered 6/11/01

11	Statutory challenge to Pine Barrens Protection Act	Walter Olsen, et al.	NYS DEC, et al.	Supreme Court, Albany County 01-3600	6/22/01	5/7/02 <i>(decision)</i> <i>(Also see 7/24/03 3rd Department Decision)</i>
12	Statutory challenge to Pine Barrens Protection Act	Gladys Gherardi et al.	State of NY, et al.	US District Court for Northern District of NY; 01-1066	6/28/01	12/11/03 <i>(decision)</i> <i>(Also see 12/22/05 2nd Circuit Summary Order)</i>
13	7/10/02 Firemen's Park Core hardship permit, Ridge, Brookhaven	LI Pine Barrens Society, Richard Amper, Carole Jones, Paul J. Decker, Eric Burke, Yolanda Susi, Joseph P. Walsh, Kim Darrow	Commission, Brookhaven Town Parks Department, Joseph Callari, Frank Vigliarolo	Supreme Court, Suffolk County 02-20643	8/7/02	2/26/03 <i>(amended decision)</i> <i>(decision)</i>
14	Assertion of jurisdiction of 3/20/02 re Spring Meadow Subdivision, Wading River, Brookhaven	Spring Meadow Enterprises	Commission	Supreme Court, Suffolk County 02-20765	8/9/02	2/11/03 <i>(decision)</i>
15	Field Day Music Concert Calverton, Riverhead	LI Pine Barrens Society, Richard Amper, Neighborhood Network Research Center, Neil Lewis, North Fork Audubon Society, Mary Mulcahy, North Fork Environmental Council, Howard Meinke, North Shore Audubon Society, Jennifer Wilson Pines, Open Space Now, Alex Wipf, Wayne Rambo, Scott Neary, Margaret Caputo, Robert and Joyce Moss, Louis Fastore	Riverhead Town, Riverhead Town Community Development Agency, Suffolk County Health Department, Commission, New York Music Festival, Andrew Dreskin, Andrew Dreskin Investments	Supreme Court, Suffolk County 03-13625	5/27/03	5/30/03 <i>(decision)</i>
16	Development decision of 6/21/06 re clearing for agriculture in Core for Manorville Estates Winery, Brookhaven	Gladys Gherardi	Commission	Supreme Court, Suffolk County 06-17693	7/19/06	8/1/07 <i>(decision)</i>
17	Southaven County Park trap and skeet range, Yaphank, Brookhaven	LI Pine Barrens Society, Richard Amper, South Yaphank Civic Association, Johan McConnell, John Del Buono, Howard Carpluk, Sue Davis, Douglas Steigerwald	Commission, Suffolk County, Hunter Sports Shooting Grounds	Supreme Court, Suffolk County 06-22354	8/11/06	5/2/07 <i>(decision)</i> <i>(Also see 10/7/08 2nd Department decision)</i>
18	Assertion of jurisdiction of 7/19/06 re Island Water Park, Calverton, Riverhead	Island Water Park Corp., Eric Scott	Commission, Town of Riverhead	Supreme Court, Suffolk County 06-21016	8/17/06	4/3/07 <i>(decision)</i>
19	Assertion of jurisdiction of 4/18/07 re Riverhead Town Recreational Facility, Calverton, Riverhead	Riverhead Town, Riverhead Community Development Agency	Commission	Supreme Court, Suffolk County 07-14186	5/3/07	1/30/08 <i>(decision and 3/31/08 judgment)</i> <i>(Also see 3/2/10 2nd Department decision)</i>

20	Pine Barrens Credit allocation to parcel in Southampton	Edwin Tuccio, Patricia Tuccio	Commission, Clearinghouse	Supreme Court, Suffolk County 07-21497	7/19/07	1/16/08 <i>(decision)</i> <i>(Also see 11/4/09 2nd Department decision)</i>
21	Pine Barrens Credit allocations to parcels in Manorville (Brookhaven)	Ringhoff Family LLC #1	Commission	Supreme Court, Suffolk County 08-26991	7/17/08	4/8/09 <i>(decision)</i>
23	Commission jurisdiction re development proposal	Robert Liere, John Liere, and Lorraine Liere	Commission	Supreme Court, Suffolk County 09-910	3/12/09	10/13/10 <i>(decision)</i>
24	American Physical Society hardship permit, Ridge, Brookhaven	LI Pine Barrens Society, Richard Amper	Commission	Supreme Court, Suffolk County 29130/2010	7/21/10	9/26/11 <i>(decision)</i>
25	Article 78	Edwin Fishel Tuccio, Patricia Tuccio	Commission	Supreme Court, Suffolk County 28576/2010	9/20/10	1/12/12 <i>(decision)</i> <i>(Also see 1/15/14 2nd Department decision)</i>
26	Failure to process plaintiff's as of right subdivision application	Brush Development LLC	Town of Brookhaven, Commission	US District Court for Eastern District of NY CV-113297	7/8/11	Pending
27	JCJC Holding Company hardship permit, Hampton Bays, Southampton	LI Pine Barrens Society, Richard Amper	Commission	Supreme Court, Suffolk County 22619/2011	2/16/12	3/22/12 <i>(decision)</i> <i>(Also see 1/29/14 2nd Department decision)</i>
28	Article 78	Wainscott Properties Inc.	New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, Commission	Supreme Court, Suffolk County 12-27600	9/6/12	11/13/13 <i>(decision)</i>
29	Westhampton Property Associates hardship permit, Speonk, Southampton	LI Pine Barrens Society, Richard Amper, Robert McGrath, Thomas Casey as members of the Board of Directors	Commission	Supreme Court, Suffolk County 12-34735	12/31/12	2/27/14 <i>(decision)</i>
30	Pine Barrens Credit Program	Pluralis, LLC	Commission, Town of Brookhaven	Supreme Court, Suffolk County 13-15979	6/19/13	11/4/14 <i>(decision)</i>



## *Staff and Contact Information*

### Division & Principal Staff Contacts

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Ray Corwin Pine Barrens Reference Library

(open to public, non-lending)

[www.pb.state.ny.us](http://www.pb.state.ny.us)    [info@pb.state.ny.us](mailto:info@pb.state.ny.us)

**Office & Library access hours: Monday–Friday 8:30 am to 5:00 pm**