

*Education and Outreach Division
March 2022 Update*

Submitted by Melissa Griffiths Parrott, Education and Outreach Coordinator

1. Outreach Programs– 174 students reached

Schools:

Bayshore HS – 21

Connetquot HS – 18

Immaculate Heart HS – 15

Moriches Elementary -120

2. Barrens to Bay Summer Camp- *BOOKING, several sessions full.*

- Our 11th year partnering with Wertheim National Wildlife Refuge and Friends of Wertheim (FOW)
- 6-week camp: June 27th – August 12th
- Registration started in mid-February.
- Re-vising our MOU with FWS and Hold harmless agreements with FOW
- Continuously working on new Pine Barrens/Natural History activities and visiting speakers- keep it fresh.

3. Long Island Natural History Conference- Steering Committee

- Virtual “*Community science series*”. *Monthly, March through July.*
- ***Fiddler Crabs: Their Life is More Exciting than Yours (or Mine)***
 - Jeffrey Levinton, Professor of Ecology and Evolution, Stony Brook University
- ***Oyster Reefs: Then, Now and In the Future***
 - Bradley Peterson, School of Marine & Atmospheric Sciences, Stony Brook University
 - Christopher Clapp, Marine Scientist, The Nature Conservancy
- ***Long Island Bay Scallops: The Success of Restoration Efforts and Threats of Climate Change***
 - Stephen Tettelbach, Cornell Cooperative Extension
- ***Medical Imaging: It’s Not Just for Human Patients Anymore!***
 - Nicole P. Maher, Senior Coastal Scientist, The Nature Conservancy

4. A Day in the Life 2022

- 2022 dates are confirmed below. Invitation extended to all to visit any event date.
- 1st spring meeting is scheduled for April 25th
- New partnership with Nassau County Soil and Water/Town of Hempstead

Carmans River~ September 23

Carlls River~ October 14

Greens Creek~ September 23

Forge River~ October 14

Gardiner County Park~ September 23

Peconic Estuary~ October 21

Massapequa Preserve~ September 30

Connetquot River~ October 28

Fire Island~ September 30

Mill River~ November 4

Nissequogue River~ October 7

5. Events:

- I will be a national speaker: Citizens Climate Lobby: Identifying local leaders and fostering transformational networks
- I will present: Southampton Library- Climate Change on LI and a case for optimism.

6. 2022 Cooperators Meeting Video and Coordination

- Creating video of “A Day in the Life” of the Central Pine Barrens Commission with Tim Motz
- This 5–10-minute video will encapsulate what “we” do on a day-to-day basis and highlight the work that is done behind the scenes.
- We are filming all Division heads and staff in the field, many of you will also be asked to participate.
- This will be shown at this year’s Cooperators meeting on June 3rd.



Science and Stewardship Division Update March 16, 2022

Administrative:

- The Prescribed Fire Squad positions have all have been filled for the spring (March – May) and we are excited to welcome Erich Horn serving in the position as Squad Boss and Ron Bagan, Taylor Kern, Patrick Bouman and Emily Puleo serving as fire crew members. This squad will be dedicated to prescribed fire operations and help ensure prescribed fire implementation goals are recognized with support of other prescribed fire qualified Commission staff. The staff is well equipped to serve in this role, collectively having vast experience serving on western wildfire crews, and/or locally as emergency responders and as NYSDEC's Volunteer Prescribed Fire crew members. This crew is also well prepared for emergency response with many members having higher level medical training, three of which are qualified paramedics.
- We also welcome Sam Acampora, as our newly hired part-time Ecological Field Specialist. Sam is well qualified and experienced for this position, having worked with our staff on southern pine beetle monitoring and suppression as a summer intern with NYSDEC. She graduated from SUNY ESF Ranger School this past fall with a B.S. in Forest Resource Management and an A.S. in Forestry Technology. Her knowledge and experience in natural resource management especially forestry will be of great value to the Division's focus on ecosystem restoration and prescribed fire.
- The Fire Management Specialist is still open and has continued to be advertised both through SCWA, Commission outlets as well as national job boards. It is hoped that the position can be filled in spring 2022 in order to provide mentoring and program continuity through March 2023 when Mr. Panko retires.

Commission Prescribed Fire Program:

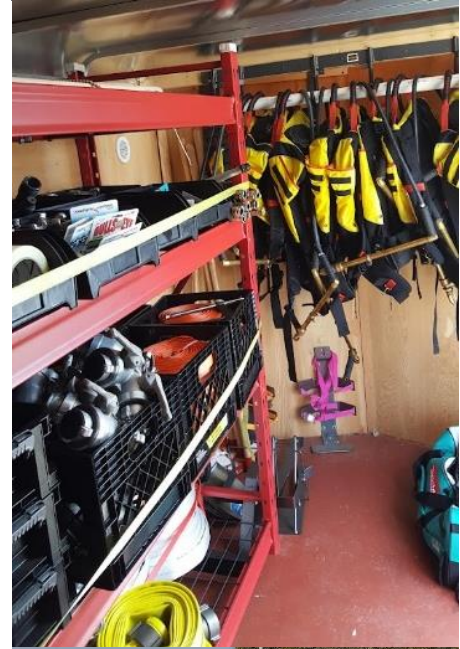
- *Administration:*
 - Quarterly vouchers continue to be processed in order to receive reimbursement of expenses incurred and to ensure access to the balance of funds to be used for prescribed fire planning and implementation such as equipment purchasing.
 - Annual budget and workplan for the last year of the prescribed fire contract is being finalized.
- *Planning:*
 - A meeting with Suffolk County Department of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation was held last week to discuss the Commission/SC Memorandum of Understanding to advance stewardship on County lands especially prescribed fire.
 - Burn and Pre-Treatment Plans:
 - The Sarnoff West prescribed burn plan was successfully reviewed by all required NYSDEC officials at Region 1 and received final approval approved on February 1st from NYSDEC Central Office.
 - The Dwarf Pine Prescribed Fire Enhancement Zone burn plan for the Westhampton Pine Barrens State Forest is in internal review within the Central Pine Barrens Commission. This plan covers 633 acres with 11 burn units.
 - Otis Pike State Forest/Upton Reserve Burn Unit is currently in development and will encompass the largest area of treatment with a total of 4252 acres. This

landscape focused plan is also the first that covers both NYSDEC (3492 acres) and the remaining acreage encompassing federal lands at Brookhaven National Lab. This cooperative plan was made possible by the establishment of an MOU with BNL and Commission and the Commission's Prescribed Fire Contract with NYSDEC. This land area is unique as it has one of the highest diversity of ecosystems as well as the highest level of wildfire activity of the Central Pine Barrens, allowing for the majority prescribed fire operations to advance in areas with limited need for mechanical treatment/fuels management prior to applying prescribed fire.

- Environmental Review: The Commission has initiated SEQRA for Sarnoff West proposed prescribed fire and forest health management activities. Staff is currently awaiting responses from involved and interested agencies and in the meantime is developing Part 2 and Part 3 of Environmental Assessment forms.

- *Equipment Storage and Purchasing:*

- The larger portion of equipment for the prescribed fire program has been procured and inventoried including the UTVs, water trailer, trailers, hoses, appliances, fittings, fold a tanks, hand tools, PPE and other supplies and equipment.
- Two rental units in Ridge have been secured to store and serve as a fire equipment cache until a future fire cache location is designated and established. The second storage unit provides sheltered storage of UTV's and additional equipment.
- The two new UTV Type 7 fire engines complete with upfitted pump units were finished and delivered to the Commission last month. These units will aid in program versatility in managing prescribed fire, being smaller equipped units that are able to access and maneuver within interior forest units, which are otherwise inaccessible to truck engines.
- The Cargo trailer has been retrofitted as the portable prescribed fire cache which allows for the transport of hoses, fold a tanks, accessories and other equipment to facilitate operations.
- Water trailer continues to be upfitted with water tank secured and pumps and hoses being ordered.
- Two VHF radio frequencies have been licensed for the Central Pine Barrens Commission by the FCC and Division staff also coordinated a Cooperative Agreement with NYS-DEC to permit use of the four statewide NYSDEC tactical radio frequencies that are used for wildland fire and other emergencies. The CPBC cache



of 14 radios has now been programmed to use those frequencies to use on prescribed fire operations.

- The long-term storage facility continues to be examined for the Ridge Check Station property and we are working with Peter Sproul at NYSDEC Operations to identify needs for siting at this location.
- Education and Outreach:
 - On March 9, the CPBC and NYSDEC staff met with the Flanders Fire Commission at the Flanders Fire Department headquarters and jointly gave a presentation to the Commission about the Sarnoff West Prescribed burn plan. This burn unit is entirely within the Flanders Fire District.
 - Plans are underway for meetings or presentations for the Flanders, Riverside and Northampton Community Association as well as for the residents of Riverwoods Mobile Home Community regarding the Sarnoff West prescribed burn unit.
 - Postcards to members of the public adjacent South Currans Woodlands; Demonstration Forest I and Sarnoff West have been mailed as part of required notifications to the public on upcoming operations.
- *Training and Preparedness:*
 - Staff is coordinating numerous trainings to ensure proper operation of field equipment and safety including ATV/UTVs, stop the bleed, blood Borne pathogens, ticks and tick-borne diseases as well as trailer and winching systems to ensure staff safety and appropriate operations.
 - Division staff remotely attended the annual Northeast Fire Protection Compact meeting in the end of January. The NE Fire Compact is made up of all the northeastern states and eastern Canadian provinces. This meeting provided an opportunity for networking and updates on policy, planning and operations related to wildfire and prescribed fire operations.
 - Division staff will be participating in the NYWIMA Fire Academy at the end of March by taking various classes depending on their experience levels to prepare them for participating as in firing operations throughout April and May. Mr. Panko will be teaching S330 - Task Force Leader, an advanced level fire management course. He and other staff will assist NYWIMA with live fire practical exercises for several of the classes.
 - The staff attended the annual required firefighter safety training (RT 130) and took the required work capacity fitness testing, both in mid-March.

Community WISE Program:

- *Planning:*
 - Ecological Field Specialist, Sabrina Cohn is helping coordinate this US Forest Service funded program which Judy Jakobsen initiated in November 2016. The program's goal is the promotion of wildfire ignition safety and mitigation measures that can help reduce the risk of wildfire associated losses for homes and businesses within the Ridge-Calverton-Manorville Community Wildfire Protection Plan.



- *Outreach*

- Using contacts from the National Night Out Event and Manorville and Calverton Fire Management Units, an email blast was sent to people who may qualify for Wildfire Prevention Home Assessment.

- Judy, Sabrina, and Polly presented for members of the Long Island Chapter of the American Society of Safety Professionals.

The presentation covered an overview of the Commission's work and Wildfire Task Force, Firewise awareness and education as it related to home assessments, and promotion of the Commission's Prescribed Fire Program.



- *Home Assessments*

- The home assessment reports for a total of seven homes have been finalized and delivered to the residents. Two additional home assessment site visits have been completed and two additional site visits are scheduled in April.

- One of the homeowners living on Oakwood Drive in Manorville, a community heavily affected by the Crescent Bow fires in 2012, have decided to implement a mitigation project to replace their worn asphalt shingle roof with aluminum. They are in the process of procuring three price quotes from contractors so Ms. Cohn may assist them with the reimbursement process.

Forest Health:

- *Southern Pine Beetle (SPB)*

- Surveying and Suppression: Statewide SPB Incident Command System continues to be coordinated by NYSDEC's Forest Health Unit. Surveying and suppression cutting have been paused for the winter season but will continue in spring, but the division continues to help with thinning activities to proactively increase SPB resilience.

- Ms. Weigand will be presenting in April on southern pine beetle management at a Northeast Fire Science Exchange/ US Forest Service sponsored program for land managers in the northeast.

Invasive Species Management:

- Reporting to the Long Island Invasive Species Management Area on invasive species activities and future invasive species planning has been provided for their annual reporting and to help facilitate collaborations on emerging species.
- The Division is assisting the Town of Southampton Solid Waste Management staff in addressing invasive species contamination concerns of the composting and mulching facility.

Encroachment Restoration:

- Division staff continues to provide restoration recommendations and provide technical assistance to the New York State Attorney General's office regarding a violation in Eastport.
- A draft Request for Proposal (RFP) is being developed to solicit, vet and secure contractors for performing restoration work at existing and future encroachment and violation sites.



Compliance and Enforcement Division Highlights January and February 2022 Prepared by Chief CAED Officer Tim Huss

- Seven complaint investigations documented to date (Clearing, dumping, and criminal mischief)
- Three confirmed dumping violations documented on CAED surveillance cameras.
- One apprehension by SC Sherriff for criminal mischief; paintball gun used to vandalize surveillance camera; subject caught on camera!
- Compliance and Enforcement staff are now utilizing new GIS based data collection program to track locations, status of, and types of violations
- Enforcement staff monitoring easements and important development projects in Brookhaven and Southampton to assure compliance with Commission requirements
- Drone operations training being conducted with NYSP and NYSDEC
- Meetings held with LEC, County Parks, and other enforcement partners

Yvette Aguiar
Member

Steven Bellone
Member

Edward P. Romaine
Member

Jay H. Schneiderman
Member



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Incident Statistics - Reporting Period 01/01/20 – 3/09/22			
Year	2020	2021	2022
Intake			
Sent by Agency to Commission	26	11	2
Discovered by Commission Staff	37	48	5
Called in by Individual to Commission	14	12	0
Total Incidents Reported	78	71	7
Location of Incident			
Brookhaven	55	54	4
Southampton	15	10	1
Riverhead	4	6	2
Occurring on Public Land	27	26	3
Occurring on Private Land	25	35	3
Occurring on Public & Private Land	2	10	1
Core	46	35	3
CGA	16	18	3
Core & CGA	1	0	1
Outside CPBA	15	18	
Nature of Incident*			
Clearing/Encroachment	29	24	3
Structures	2	0	0
Dumping	36	35	3
Mining	0	1	0
Hunting	1	1	0
ATV	6	2	0
Other	4	8	1
*note some incidents involve more than one land use issue			
Referrals*			
Sent to Town	9	17	2
Sent to County	8	17	2
Sent to State	22	16	1
Commission	26	21	0
Sent to AG	0	0	0
Other	12	0	1
*note some incidents are sent to multiple agencies			
Status			
Founded	77	60	7
Unfounded	1	11	0
Open	35	39	7
Closed	43	32	0
Conservation Easement Inspections			
Development project inspections			1
			2

Central Pine Barrens Joint Planning and Policy Commission
 Land Use Division Bi-Monthly Update for the Meeting of Wednesday, March 16, 2022

Action	Central Pine Barrens Location			
	Municipality	Town of Brookhaven	Town of Riverhead	Town of Southampton
Applications and Requests for Determination of Jurisdiction		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sunrise Wind LLC Compelling Public Need Core Hardship application. Public hearing 2/16/22. Decision deadline 5/18/22. • 59 Ryerson Ave Subdivision CGA Hardship waiver application, two lot substandard subdivision on 0.8 acres. Decision deadline 5/18/22. 	None	None
SEQRA Coordination, referrals, land use inquiries and activities		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Brookhaven Logistics Center/Silver Corporate Park amendment, 3-lot subdivision for 550,000 sf on 71 acres. Waiting for DRS application. • Property inquiries 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Grid gas main replacement • Property inquiries 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Referral: 7-Eleven, Riverside • Referral: JSC Resources Subdivision, Westhampton • ENB Notice: Peconic Paddler, Riverside
Regional Projects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Peconic Estuary Partnership - participation in technical committees. • USGS-Commission Water Resources Monitoring Program, 2018 through 2022. 			
Division Activity and Participation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation on environmental planning in the Central Pine Barrens at the New Jersey Pinelands Short Course (Saturday, March 12, 2022) • Research, review and analyze new Core and CGA hardship waiver applications, SEQRA Coordination, interagency referrals, information requests and inquiries. • Prepare material and responses for Commission review of development project activities and land use related items. Types of projects include commercial/industrial site plans, commercial and residential subdivisions, mixed-use projects, Developments of Regional Significance, Assertions of Jurisdiction, code amendments, zone changes and other actions. • Site inspections pre- and post-construction, consent order compliance and monitoring of land use related activities and restoration on project sites and incidents/violations. • Requests for Determination of Jurisdiction. Research and prepare materials for the Commission. • FOIL Requests. Research and assist with FOIL requests and litigation on development projects. • Technical support to the Compliance and Enforcement Division on land use matters including property information research on unauthorized development, clearing activities, encroachments on credit program conservation easements and other incidents. • Supervise Credit Program staff. • Collaborate and coordinate with other Commission divisions. • Prepare the Draft Supplemental GEIS for the Comprehensive Land Use Plan Amendments. 			



Peconic Paddler, Riverside



7 Eleven, Riverside

Pine Barrens Credit Program Report for March 16, 2022:

Activities in the Credit Program (since January 1, 2022) included review of applications for Letters of Interpretation, Conservation Easements, Credit Program and FOIL requests management. Some specific work items include:

- Letters of Interpretation: Two Letters of Interpretations were issued and two parcels were inspected in the Town of Brookhaven. Staff is following up on past LOIs for interest in the Program.
- Conservation Easements: Two Conservation Easements have been recorded, two requests to review easements and two easements are currently in progress: Porter-Bell and Taylor.
- Pine Barrens Credits
 - Redeemed: 24.25 Credits have been redeemed, 9.65 in the Town of Brookhaven, 2.5 in the Town of Riverhead and 12.1 in the Town of Southampton.
 - Conveyed: 17.46 Credits have been conveyed, 13.48 in the Town of Brookhaven, 3.5 in the Town of Riverhead and 0.48 in the Town of Southampton.
 - The average price is \$92,935 per credit.
- Order on Consent: The Ridge Church Order on Consent was executed on January 5, 2022.
- Auction: The contract was executed on December 10, 2021 to sell 9.65 Clearinghouse Credits to *Mount Sinai Meadows LLC, MS 347 Realty LLC, Soundcap2 LLC, and Mount Sinai Music LLC*. The Closing occurred on January 10, 2022. The credits were redeemed on January 19, 2022.
- Maps: The maps of DRS', CRAs and Assertions of Jurisdiction parcels, CGA overcleared and Industrial properties have been created.

Easement Protected Lands and Pine Barrens Credits As of March 7, 2022

	Brookhaven	2022	Riverhead	2022	Southampton	2022	Total	2022
Parcels	513	1	37	-	454	1	1004	2
Acreage	819.57	5.02	516.78	-	850.05	0.96	2186.4	5.98
Average parcel size	1.60	5.02	13.97	-	1.87	0.96	2.18	2.99
Credits generated	540.5	2.01	172.39	-	331.82	0.20	1044.71	2.21
Credits redeemed	410.5	9.65	133.66	2.50	174.55	12.10	718.71	24.25
Credits not redeemed	130	-7.64	38.73	-	157.27	-11.9	326	-22.04
Credits sold	588.87	13.48	228.4	3.50	275.06	0.48	1092.33	17.46
Total value of PBC transactions through this date	\$32,405,169	\$1,321,750	\$8,493,247	\$262,500	\$18,568,702	\$38,400	\$59,467,118	\$1,622,650
Average Credits value		\$98,053		\$75,000		\$80,000		\$92,935
Credits owned by the Clearinghouse	0.54		-		-		0.54	
# of Inspected CE Parcels	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
# of Installed CESigns	125	-	15	-	87	-	227	0



SUFFOLK COUNTY COMPTROLLER

330 CENTER DRIVE RIVERHEAD, N.Y. 11901-3311

Telephone: (631) 852-1501 FAX (631) 852-1507

JOHN M. KENNEDY, JR.
COUNTY COMPTROLLER

March 1st, 2022

**Central Pine Barrens Joint Planning and
Policy Commission
P.O. Box 587
Great River, N.Y. 11739-0587**

**Dear Pine Barrens Credit Clearinghouse
Board of Advisors:**

**Attached please find our financial report on the Pine Barrens Credit Program for the
month of February 2022. Thank you.**

Respectfully submitted,

Christina M. Withers

**Christina M. Withers, CIA, CPFO
Executive Director of Finance & Taxation**

**Suffolk County Comptroller's Office
The Pine Barrens Credit Program**

Balance as of December 31st, 2021	\$2,551,999.78
Additional Deposits	0.00
Interest (see below for details)	412.54
Disbursements	0.00
Balance as of February 28th, 2022	\$2,552,412.32

**Interest Earnings & Disbursements
For the Months of January - December 2021**

Interest Earnings

Premier MMA - Public Fund

January	216.75
February	195.79
March	0.00
April	0.00
May	0.00
June	0.00
July	0.00
August	0.00
September	0.00
October	0.00
November	0.00
December	0.00
	<u><u>\$412.54</u></u>

<u>Interest Period</u>	<u>APR</u>
01/01/22- 01/31/22	0.1000%
02/01/22- 02/28/22	0.1000%
03/01/22- 03/31/22	0.0000%
04/01/22- 04/30/22	0.0000%
05/01/22- 05/31/22	0.0000%
06/01/22- 06/30/22	0.0000%
07/01/22- 07/31/22	0.0000%
08/01/22- 08/31/22	0.0000%
09/01/22- 09/30/22	0.0000%
10/01/22- 10/31/22	0.0000%
11/01/22- 11/30/22	0.0000%
12/01/22- 12/31/22	0.0000%

Disbursements

None	<u>\$ -</u>
	<u><u>\$ -</u></u>