

2022 New York Wildfire and Incident Management Academy

The 2022 Spring New York Wildfire & Incident Management Academy will be offering the following classes during our spring Academy:

- S-130/190 5 day – Firefighting Training/Intro. To Wildland Fire Behavior
- S-130/190 Field days only – Firefighting Training/Intro. To Wildland Fire Behavior
- S-131 – Firefighter Type 1
- S-211 – Portable Pumps & Water Usage
- S-212 – Wildfire Chainsaws with Storm Debris Removal
- S-215 – Fire Operations in the Urban Interface
- S-219 – Firing Operations
- S-244 – Field Observer
- S-270/271 – Basic Air Operations/Helicopter Crew Member
- S-330 – Task Force/Strike Team Leader
- S-420 – Command and General Staff
- FI-210 – Wildland Fire Origin & Cause Determination
- L-280 – Followership to Leadership
- RX-301 – Prescribed Fire Implementation
- ASOG – Advanced Saw Operations Group
- ATV – All-terrain vehicle and driver operations
- BTT – Brush Truck Driver Training
- UTV – Off-highway Vehicle Basic Driver Course
- L-958 – All-Hazard Operations Section Chief

The Spring Academy is scheduled to run from March 22nd to April 2, 2022.

All classes other than the Brush Truck Training Course will be held at Stony Brook Southampton University. The Brush Truck Training Course will be held at the Suffolk County Fire Academy in Yaphank.

Registration remains open until March 1st for students to enroll.



*Education and Outreach Division
January 2022 Update*

Submitted by Melissa Griffiths Parrott, Education and Outreach Coordinator

1. School Outreach Programs

Most programming is taking place remotely. Programs are being recorded and shown via zoom with the classes.

- William Floyd HS
- Moriches Elementary
- Sayville HS, Sayville
- Long Island Library Resource Council

2. Barrens to Bay Summer Camp

- Our 11th year collaborating with Wertheim Wildlife Refuge/US Fish and Wildlife Service
- Last year we were able to resume an in-person camp with reduced hours of in person contact
- 2022 we expect to be in full capacity/timeline mode, running a 9am – 2pm camp program.
- Believe it or not, flyer is being finalized and will be sent to families in February.

3. Long Island Natural History Conference- Steering Committee

- Again, online webinars will take place for 2022
- March and April confirmed:

March

- *Medical Imaging: It's Not Just for Human Patients Anymore!*
Nicole P. Maher, Senior Coastal Scientist, The Nature Conservancy
- *Fiddler Crabs: Their Life is More Exciting than Yours (or Mine)*
Jeffrey Levinton, Professor of Ecology and Evolution, Stony Brook University

April

- *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

4. A Day in the Life 2022

- Curriculum/Product development for spring 2021
 - GIS Online/Survey 123 workshop being planned
 - Working with Save the Great South Bay on
- Data correlating
 - Bring ALL existing data from 2014-2020 into a single spreadsheet to be usable for teachers and students
 - Past data from our defunct website is in a difficult to extrapolate form



Science and Stewardship Division Update January 19, 2022

Administrative:

- Job descriptions have been developed and updated for Squad Boss, Fire Management Specialist and Prescribed Fire Crew Members. These positions have been advertised both through SCWA, Commission outlets as well as national job boards.
- Jade Blennau, Ecological Field Specialist, has accepted a full time position with the Peconic Estuary Partnership as Program Support Specialist and her last day with the Commission will be January 20th. Jade, with her bubbly personality and affinity for lists, has been a key teammember of the Science and Stewardship program, building the social media and online presence; leading SPB and invasive species management; assisting with equipment procurement and inventorying, mentoring new staff as well as supporting prescribed fire activities. We wish her all the best of luck in her new full time position and we thank her for her time and dedication to helping the division grow.



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
 - A full time Fire Management Specialist position has been announced and it is hoped that it can be filled in early 2022 in order to provide mentoring and program continuity through March 2023 when Mr. Panko retires.
 - Seasonal prescribed fire crew positions were established and recruitment for the vacancies has commenced. The Division is seeking hire one Firefighter Squad Boss and four Firefighter Crew Members as dedicated staff for the prescribed fire program, from March thru May.
- *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 DEC officials at Region 1 and was sent to NYSDEC Central Office for final review and approval.

- 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.



- *Equipment Storage and Purchasing:*

- Specified equipment and storage for the prescribed fire program continues to advance. The procurement of UTVs, pump systems, trailers, hoses, appliances, fittings, a water trailer, many other tools, personal protective gear, and the fire engine are all underway with orders already arriving.
- 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 week. 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 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.
- **Training and Preparedness:**
 - Staff is coordinating numerous trainings to ensure proper operation of field equipment and safety including UTVs, Stop the Bleed, Blood Borne Pathogens as well as Trailer and Winching systems.

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.
 - Over 6,000 postcards have been printed and mailed to residents who may be interested in participating in this program.
 - Social media posts continue to be posted promoting home assessments on the Ridge-Manorville-Calverton CWPP Facebook page.
 - The Ridge Fire Department, Ridge Civic Association, and BNL and Councilman Losguercio's office have been helping distribute information to their constituents by also posting this opportunity on their own social media outlets.
- **Home Assessments**
 - The home assessment reports for three additional residents have been finalized and delivered. Two additional home assessment site visits have been completed and addition two are scheduled.



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.

Invasive Species Management:

- Invasive species monitoring and management continues with management of Caper spurge (*Euphorbia lathyris*) which has been reduced through continued hand pulling through season. *Miscanthus sinensis* survey and removal was also conducted within grasslands and roadsides. Escaped plants were managed in Whiskey Road and Calverton National Cemetery grasslands.

- Please be on the lookout for Spotted Lanternfly which have increasingly been found on the island. The Division is participating in NYS sponsored program to survey for Spotted Lanternfly (SLF). Surveys of Westhampton and Hampton Bays Transfer stations, and Southaven County Park Picnic Area revealed an abundance of Tree of Heaven but no presence of SLF. Surveys of the campground at Southaven County Park also revealed no infestation as well as no Tree-of-heaven (*Ailanthus altissima*) presence. The division utilized standard monitoring protocols, as well as using iMap Invasives website/App to submit information from the field to the larger invasive species database. Spotted lanternfly is an invasive pest from Asia that feeds on a variety of wild and agricultural plants. SLF's preferred host plant, Tree-of-heaven (*Ailanthus altissima*), is already found throughout the Central Pine Barrens Region and is at the center of these monitoring efforts.
- Ms. Weigand attend the NYS Invasive Species Summit in Albany, New York which provided updates on agency leadership and progress in strategically managing invasive species in a collaborative means. The Summit also provided opportunity for a face-to-face introduction to many collaborators who we commonly have only met on line as well as opportunity to network and collaborate on future projects.

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 (CAED) 2021 Annual Highlights

Prepared by Chief CAED Officer Tim Huss

- Seventy-one complaint investigations documented to date (Unlawful ATV operation, illegal clearings, mining, dumping, SCWA property encroachments)
- Thirty-five confirmed dumping violations documented on CAED surveillance cameras to date in 2021; **\$30,500 in fines recovered by members of the LEC for unlawful dumping in 2021**
- Since Jan 2021 CAED has assisted with 45 Conservation Easement Site Visits. The CAED was instrumental in negotiating a settlement with a local church property in Ridge, bringing closure to a long outstanding Easement violation.
- With the assistance of SCWA's Strategic Initiatives with IT a GIS based data collection program has been developed to improve the accuracy of statistical data collection. These data are important for reporting CAED activities and accomplishments to the Commission and agency partners. Compliance and Enforcement staff are now beginning to utilize this new data collection program.

Yvette Aguiar
Member

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Edward P. Romaine
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Central Pine Barrens Joint Planning and Policy Commission
 Land Use Division Bi-Monthly Update for the Meeting of January 19, 2022

Action Municipality	Central Pine Barrens Location		
	Town of Brookhaven	Town of Riverhead	Town of Southampton
Applications and Requests for Determination of Jurisdiction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RD Industrial CGA Development of Regional Significance, 505,300 square feet industrial subdivision/site plan on 47 acres. Public hearing 1/19/22. Decision deadline 3/2/22. • Sunrise Wind LLC Compelling Public Need Core Hardship Waiver application. Public hearing 2/16/22. Decision deadline 3/16/22. • 59 Ryerson Ave Subdivision CGA Hardship waiver application, two lot substandard subdivision on 0.8 acres. Decision deadline 4/14/22. 	None	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PSEG-LI utility pole replacements, Speonk. • Quogue Wildlife Refuge Core Compelling Public Need Hardship Waiver to for 1,000 sq ft nature center expansion and 1,980 sf storage building. Public hearing 1/19/22. Decision deadline 4/1/22.
SEQRA Coordination, referrals, land use related inquiries and activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 7 Eleven Shirley gas station and store • Middle Island Apartments, 96 units • The Ponds at The Boulevard, 152 apartment units, Yaphank • Brookhaven Logistics Center/Silver Corporate Park amendment, 3 lot subdivision for 550,000 sf on 71 acres. 	None	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Toscano site plan, 12,000 sf industrial building, Speonk.
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"> • 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. 		



PSEG-LI Reconductoring, Speonk



Toscano Site Plan, Speonk



59 Ryerson/Darcy Avenues, Manorville

Pine Barrens Credit Program Report for January 19, 2022:

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

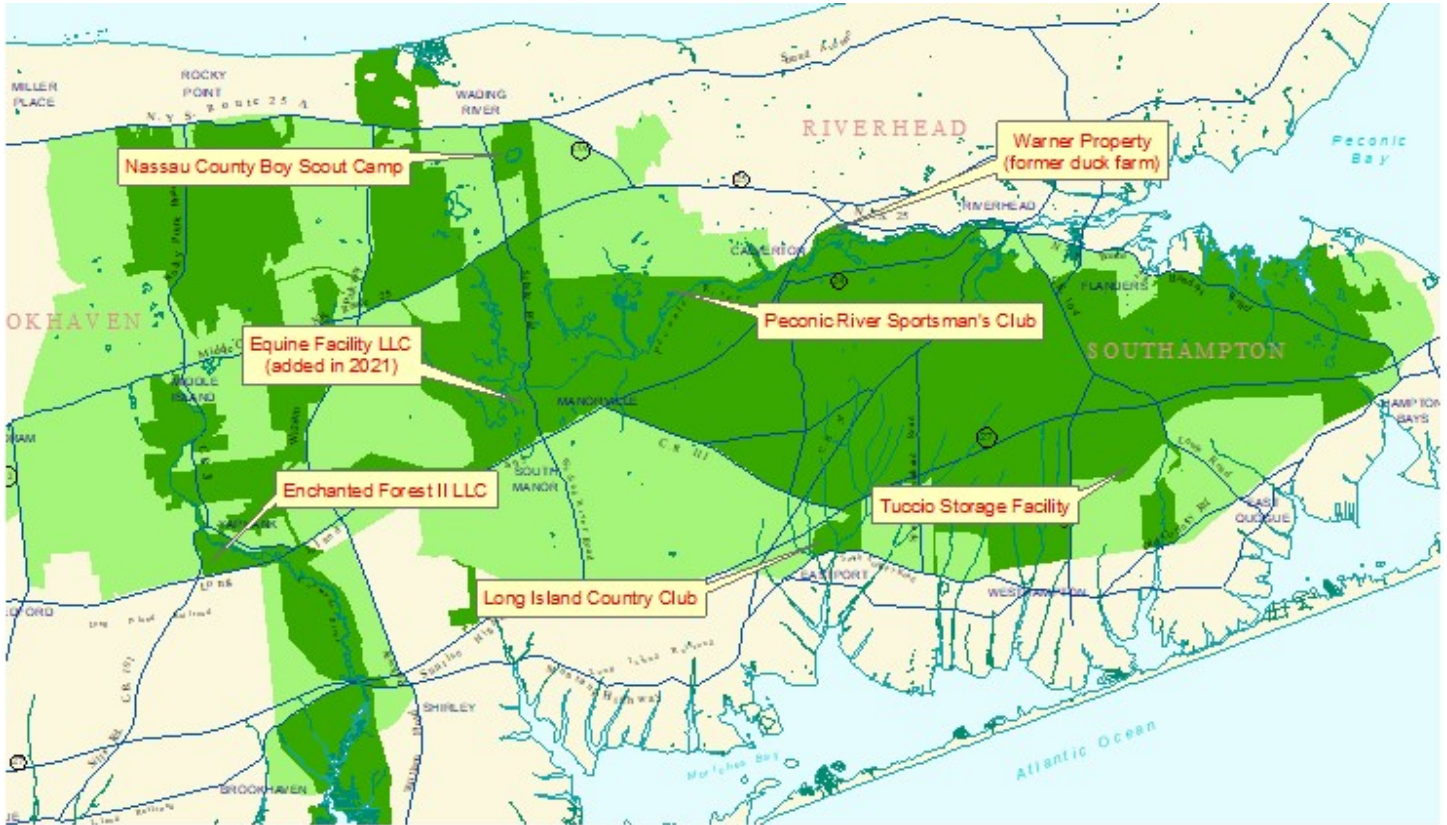
- 31 Letters of Interpretations were issued, 10 in the Town of Brookhaven, 2 in the Town of Riverhead and 19 in the Town of Southampton. Staff is following up on past LOIs for interest in the Program.
- 4 Conservation Easements are currently in process: Samuels Carting Corp., Wall 2 Management LLC, Porter-Bell and Taylor.
- Another milestone has been achieved, over 1,000 parcels have been enrolled in the Program.

Easement Protected Lands and Pine Barrens Credits As of January 1, 2022								
	Brookhaven	2021	Riverhead	2021	Southampton	2021	Total	2021
Parcels	512	3	37	1	453	5	1002	9
Acreage	814.55	32.59	516.78	0.18	849.09	2.38	2180.42	35.15
Average parcel size	1.59	10.86	13.97	0.18	1.87	0.48	2.18	11.52
Credits generated	538.49	5.58	172.39	1	331.62	0.68	1042.5	7.26
Credits redeemed	400.85	56.88	131.16	-	162.45	6.45	694.46	63.33
Credits not redeemed	137.64	-51.30	41.23	-	169.17	-5.77	348.04	-56.07
Credits sold	585.04	27.71	224.9	4.60	274.58	21.47	1084.52	53.78
Total value of PBC transactions through this date	\$32,000,169	\$2,570,350	\$8,230,747	\$269,000	\$18,530,302	\$1,615,920	\$58,761,218	\$4,455,270
Average Credits value		\$92,759		\$58,478		\$75,264		\$82,843
Credits owned by the Clearinghouse	0.54		-		-		0.54	
# of Inspected CE Parcels	-	109	-	5	-	31	-	145
# of Installed CE Signs	125	56	15	8	87	12	227	76

- At the Commission meeting of April 21, 2021, the Commission adopted a resolution on eligibility of overlap parcels to receive Pine Barrens Credits (PBC).
- Peconic River Sportsman’s Club Order on Consent status: paid \$2,500 fine, revegetation has been completed. A combination of approximately seven thousand grasses, ferns, shrubs and trees were planted. The revegetated areas will be monitored for the next few years.
- The contract to sell 9.65 Clearinghouse Credits was executed on December 10, 2021 to *Mount Sinai Meadows LLC, MS 347 Realty LLC, Soundcap2 LLC, and Mount Sinai Music LLC*. The closing occurred on January 10, 2022.
- A map of Core and CGA Hardship Permits and Disapprovals has been created. Other decisions will be added including DRS’, CRAs and Assertions of Jurisdiction.

- 145 parcels were inspected, and 76 signs were installed.

Map of major Conservation Easement sites that were monitored in 2021:



Former Warner Duck Farm



Peconic River Sportsman's Club



Gregory property by Wildwood Lake



Medford Road, Ridge Area



Nassau County Boy Scout Camp



Tuccio Storage Facility



Equine Facility LLC (Hidden Pond Stables), Manorville, added to the program in 2021



SUFFOLK COUNTY COMPTROLLER

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JOHN M. KENNEDY, JR.
COUNTY COMPTROLLER

January 3rd, 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 December 2021. 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, 2020	\$2,549,449.05
Additional Deposits	0.00
Interest (see below for details)	2,550.73
Disbursements	0.00
Balance as of December 31st, 2021	\$2,551,999.78

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

Interest Earnings

Premier MMA - Public Fund

January	202.57
February	195.60
March	230.54
April	209.60
May	195.65
June	230.60
July	209.66
August	223.65
September	209.69
October	202.72
November	223.71
December	216.74
	<u><u>\$2,550.73</u></u>

<u>Interest Period</u>	<u>APR</u>
01/01/21- 01/31/21	0.1000%
02/01/21- 02/28/21	0.1000%
03/01/21- 03/31/21	0.1000%
04/01/21- 04/30/21	0.1000%
05/01/21- 05/31/21	0.1000%
06/01/21- 06/30/21	0.1000%
07/01/21- 07/31/21	0.1000%
08/01/21- 08/31/21	0.1000%
09/01/21- 09/30/21	0.1000%
10/01/21- 10/31/21	0.1000%
11/01/21- 11/30/21	0.1000%
12/01/21- 12/31/21	0.1000%

Disbursements

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