1. Barrens to Bay Summer Camp

- o 9th year coordinated by Central Pine Barrens staff
- This year we adapted a virtual camp experience due to COVID
- Approximately 25 campers joined us virtually via Zoom each Wednesday and Friday

• We traveled across Long Island introducing the campers to several Pine Barrens ecosystems and other natural areas, including parks, refuges, and water ecosystems.

• Thank you to Wertheim Wildlife Refuge, Long Island Aquarium, Suffolk County Parks, Sweetbriar Nature Center, Center for Environmental Education and Discovery, Quogue Wildlife Refuge, Fire Island National Seashore, NYS DEC and the many volunteers that assisted each week.

Week 1

•	Friday, July 3 rd	Camper Check in's/Owl pellet dissection! /RRR/ show and tell @ CEED
	in Brookhaven Hamlet	

Week2

Week 3

•	Friday, July 17 th	Fire Island- It's alive! @ Fire Island National Sea Shore- Smith Point
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Week 4

•	Wednesday, July 29 th	Seine the Great South Bay @Smiths Point Marina
•	Friday, July 31 st	Let's Seine the Carmans river with NYS DEC staff! @ Ponquogue Bridge
	(a) Hampton Bays	

Week 5

•	Wednesday, August 5 th	Piping Plover conservation with Suffolk County Parks @ Smiths Point
•	Friday, August 7 th	Reptiles, Birds and More! @ Sweetbriar Nature Center in Smithtown

Week 6

•	Wednesday, August 12 th	Experience cool a	animals @ Long Island Aquarium	
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• Friday, August 14th Let's meet some birds! @ Morton Wildlife Refuge in Sag Harbor!

Week 7

- Wednesday, August 19th Let's explore the Dwarf Pine Plains @ Westhampton
- Friday, August 21st Our favorite "do it yourself" Scavenger Hunt! @ White Oak Trail @ Wertheim Wildlife Refuge in Shirley

Week 8

•	Wednesday, August 26 th	Piping Plover conservation with Suffolk County Parks @ Cedar
	Beach in Southold	
•	Friday August 28 th	Requested final program: Seining the Ponquogue Bridge (again)!

Barrens to Bay 2020: A sample of our experiences



Seining the Ponquogue Bridge, Hampton Bays



Working with Suffolk County Parks, Plover stewards at Smith Point outer beach



Self guided Scavenger hunt, Wertheim Wildlife Refuge



Long Island Aquarium, behind the scenes tour

2. Pine Barrens Discovery Day – Saturday, September 12, 2020

- Adapted programing due to COVID and a no large gathering mandate
- Two walks and a self-guided scavenger hunt took place within the Pine Barrens
- Quogue Wildlife Refuge led by Tom Casey
- Cranberry Bog County Park led by John Turner
- Interactive family scavenger hunt at Wertheim Wildlife Refuge
- Maximum group number was 10, masks required



3. A Day in the Life 2020

- We met with participating teachers created an adapted plan for 2020
- There will be several different ways schools can participate this year
- Most schools cannot participate in any field trips or have access to bussing this year.
- To encourage and help teachers we will create a virtual platform at each site. This will also allow us to gather all the data and identify all the species so we can continue to have data sets for this year. We will work in conjunction with partners at each site
- Some schools are still able to participate as normal

Dates and Sites-

• September 25 Carmans' River Wertheim Wildlife Refuge Wertheim staff

• October 2 Fire Island Fire Island Lighthouse location FINS staff

• October 9 Nissequogue R Caleb Smith State Park State Parks Staff

• October 16 Forge River Osprey Park Peconic Bay Keeper, Town of Brookhaven

• October 23 Peconic Estuary Squires Pond Peconic Estuary Program, Peconic Baykeeper

• October 30 Connetquot River Bayard Cutting Arboretum State Parks Staff

Partnerships:

4. Tick Safe on Long Island Presentation with the Peconic Land Trust

- I will be moderating this zoom presentation on September 17th at 6pm
- <u>https://peconiclandtrust.org/get-involved/events/tick-safe-on-long-island</u>
- Panelists will include the following experts in the field:
 - Moses Cucura, Entomologist, Suffolk County Vector Control
 - Daniel Gilrein, Extension Entomologist, Cornell Cooperative Extension of Suffolk County
 - Tamson Yeh, Pest Management and Turf Specialist with Cornell Cooperative Extension of Suffolk County

Science and Stewardship Division Update September 16, 2020



Administrative:

Alana Falzon completed her Forest Health Monitoring internship at the end of August. Her ambition, determination and dedication was intregrel to completing data collection from over 35 of the field plots. As an aspiring earth science teacher, Alana found the internship rewarding and anticipates applying her field experience and new knowledge of Pine Barrens ecology to her teaching career. We wish her the best of luck and success as she moves forward through her teaching program at Molloy College.

Commission Prescribed Fire Program:

• Administration:



- Voucher development and annual workplan revisions are ongoing in order to receive reimbursement of costs incurred from April – June 2020 for general expenses and for salary.
- Planning:
 - <u>Meetings:</u> Standing bimonthly meeting with NYSDEC Region 1 and Forest Health was held on September 1, 2020 to coordinate the Prescribed Fire Program and operations on State lands. Among general updates and progress reports, the idea of hiring or contracting a shortterm seasonal staff during peak burning seasons was discussed and well received by the State.
 - <u>Prescribed Fire Management Plan</u>: A draft CPB prescribed fire management plan has been developed and is undergoing final internal CPBC review and editing. This plan identifies eleven high priority areas for CPB forest area prescribed burning in the next ten years and will enable SEQRA compliance. CPBC will begin work on the State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA) process this month for the Comprehensive Prescribed Fire Program.
 - o <u>MOU/MOA</u>:
 - Suffolk County Department of Parks, Recreation and Conservation MOA to allow for Commission-led on-the-ground stewardship activities especially prescribed fire site preparation and operations on County lands has been delivered to SC Parks Commissioner Jason Smagin. A meeting to discuss the agreement was held on August 28, 2020 with Commissioner Smagin and Nick Gibbons from SC Parks and John Pavicic, Polly Weigand, and Shaun Ziegler representing CPBC.
 - Commission is continuing discussions with NYS OPRHP and Brookhaven National Laboratory and will begin discussions with Town of Brookhaven for development of MOU/MOA. Final drafts will be presented to the Commission for review and approval.
 - o <u>Burn and Pre-Treatment Plans</u>:
 - One prescribed burn plan has been completed and has been sent to NYSDEC for review and approval. This plan designates a 9-acre forested zone in the Otis Pike Preserve that will be used to conduct live wildfire suppression drills for training and practical exercise purposes for all CPB wildland fire management departments.
 - A prescribed burn plan has been written for 121 forested acres in Rocky Point Pine Barrens State Forest consisting of 60 NYSDEC mechanically treated and 61 non-treated acres designated for firing to improve protection to nearby subdivisions and forest health improvement. This plan is currently undergoing internal review to be followed by outside technical review, and then the approval process through NYSDEC will be initiated.

- Initial planning and map development are under way for the next burn plan targeted for the David A. Sarnoff Preserve.
- The Division continues working with NYSDEC Forest Health and Forest Protection to coordinate activities and collaborative efforts on mechanical reductions and fire control line installation for prescribed fire preparation, forest health and public health.
- A Site Priorities Tracking Worksheet continues to be updated and utilized to track and coordinate ecosystem management activities between agencies and best ensure prescribed fire operations are coordinated to strategically meet ecological goals with available resources.
- Additional site visits have been conducted for prioritization and development of burn plans.

• Training and Preparedness:

- NYSDEC UAS training program currently on hold due to pandemic and will be resumed when feasible in order to become Commission and NYSDEC certified pilots.
- Ecological Field Specialists -Jade Blennau and Broderick DeAngelis will be participating in 130-190 field day to finalize their qualifications to participate in prescribed fire operations. Division will also be assisting with teaching responsibilities of the Academy as needed and feasible.

• Education and Outreach:

- Fire effects photo monitoring continues at recent wildfire sites, including Manorville Hills and Otis Pike West to document the impacts of and the regeneration occurring after fire.
- Products documenting the fire history of Long Island that have been developed to serve fire program planning are continuing to be collected and compiled. This information will also serve as valuable education and outreach materials communicating how integral fire is and has been over time in the Pine Barrens landscape and how important fire management is to reduce wildfire risk and improve ecological health.

• Equipment Storage and Purchasing:

- Division continues to explore options for equipment and vehicle storage for the prescribed fire program. Storage containers for the program have been specified for purchase and quotes for the containers and their modification are currently being received. Potential siting for containers at the SCWA Gus Guerrera is being explored and discussed with SCWA.
- Resolution drafting has been initiated for procuring the larger specialized tools, equipment, and vehicles necessary for the safe and effective implementation of prescribed fire. Forwarding resolutions to the Commission for consideration and approval is awaiting guidance on funding from the State.

Forest Health:

• Southern Pine Beetle (SPB):

- Statewide SPB Incident Command System continues to be coordinated by NYSDEC's Forest Health Unit. Operations include aerial and ground surveys, suppression, restoration, research, and forest management.
- Aerial surveys conducted in August of the Central Pine Barrens and south fork revealed potential hotspots in Southaven and Manorville Hills as well as North Sea and East Hampton.
- A Rapid Detection and Suppression response is being coordinated by the NYSDEC and Commission this fall to strategically address SPB reflective of COVID and available sawyers. Commission is currently heading up the Surveying branch of Incident Command operations while Nate Hudson is deployed to western wildfires.
- Ground truthing surveys for SPB are being conducted by the Division and NYSDEC staff within the Central Pine Barrens especially within Southaven and Manorville Hills County

Parks followed by Hubbard and Sears Bellows as these County Parks have been identified as potential SPB hotspots. Surveys will also be conducted within Otis Pike and Rocky Point Pine Barrens State Forest thereafter.

 Spot suppression via rapid response cut and leave suppression activities will advance by NYSDEC's Forest Health Sawyers who will are being detailed to the island for fall SPB suppression. Commission and other agency sawyers will aid in this rapid response as well.

ESF Cooperative Research Program:

- The second phase of a 15-year, Long-Term Forest Health Monitoring Study (FHM) commenced in 2019 in partnership with SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry (ESF), Brookhaven National Laboratory (BNL) and their Science Undergraduate Laboratory Internship (SULI) program and the Commission. This is a critically important study and undertaking as the findings will identify the trajectory of Central Pine Barrens Forest health and will be used to inform the need for future management actions.
- The Commission's three intern field crew (hired in place of the SULI program) led by field team leader Joanna Lumbsden Pinto, Doctoral Candidate for SUNY ESF, have been extremely successful in this very intensive field sampling season. Thanks to a team effort by the Commission, BNL and ESF, the field team has been able to sample all of 51 of the slated plots which includes establishing and sampling 10 new plots. Thereafter, the data will be uploaded, and quality checked allowing Ms.



Lumbsden to commence with her analysis and drafting of her dissertation.

Empire State Pollinator Survey and Manufactured Soil and Pollinator Study

- CPBC participation in the final year of the NY Empire State Pollinator Survey project has sampled 12 sites focused on areas slated for future management as well as sites with high biodiversity. Pollinators are captured via hand netting and bee bowl trapping to survey the biodiversity of pollinators throughout New York State. Surveying will be done within several sites on Long Island in order to understand the diversity of pollinators in meadows, forests, wetlands, and roadsides as well as their response to management activities.
- CPBC is assisting with a NYSDOT funded project conducted by Cornell University Waste Management Institute which is examining the relationship between surveyed soils, vegetation, and pollinators to develop best practices for remediating and restoring disturbances caused through road and right of way maintenance and construction activities. Four sites were chosen as representative sites for this project and each of those sites has been sampled 3 times and will be sampled an additional time before the end of the growing season.
- Focus this fall will be finalizing sampling of the final sites, pinning the trap catch and uploading photos to iNaturalist for purposes of species identification.







Invasive Species Management:

• Surveying and suppression of Caper spurge (*Euphorbia lathyris*), Chinese silvergrass (*Miscanthus sinensis*) and Japanese stiltgrass (*Microstegium vimineum*) continues to be conducted in Hampton Bays, East Quogue, and Rocky Point Pine Barrens State Forest.

Encroachment Restoration:

- 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.
- *Middle Island:* Site visits were conducted to examine the extent of erosion, pull invasive Japanese stiltgrass (*Microstegium vimineum*) and Mile-a-minute vine (*Persicaria perfoliata*) as well as remove deer guards from outgrown planted vegetation. An RFP is in the process of development to facilitate the restoration of both sites in Middle Island.
- *Eastport:* Division staff continues to provide restoration recommendations to the New York State Attorney General's office regarding a violation.

Other:

The Division investigated a report received by the • NY Natural Heritage Program of vegetation die off in Forest Pond, a coastal plain pond in Otis Pike Pine Barrens State Forest. The mass die off of vegetation was found to be caused by high water levels, which is not surprising as these ponds are ground water fed and regularly experience variable flooding cycles. It is hypothesized that the vegetation grew on exposed soil following a sustained period of drought but with increased precipitation ground water levels rose, flooding the ponds. The ecology of the ponds is dependent on fluctuating water levels and recovery was evident during the site visit. However, phragmites is invading the pond and eradication is advised to prevent decline in habitat and species.





Carrie Meek Gallagher Chairwoman

Steven Bellone Member

Yvette Aguiar Member

Edward P. Romaine Member

Jay H. Schneiderman Member

624 Old Riverhead Road Westhampton Beach, NY 11978

Phone (631) 288-1079 Fax (631) 288-1367 https://pb.state.ny.us/

CAED Highlights 1/1/20 – 09/09/20

- Fifty-six incident reports to date
- Thirteen conservation easement inspections to date
- Continue work with state, county and towns on unpermitted activity
- Enforcement meetings held with SC Parks; LEC
- Camera surveillance of dump sites continues, 25 dumping investigations including six apprehensions by surveillance cams
- Drone training curtailed by Covid-19 condition; plans to resume this fall



DEV	DEVELOPMENT PROJECT COMPLIANCE SITE VISITS Reporting Period: 01/01/20 – 09/07/20					
Central Pine Barrens	Brookhaven (District 200)	Riverhead (District 600)	Southampton (District 900)			
Core Preservation Area	1	1	0			
Compatible Growth Area	0	0	0			

C		ORING SITE VISIT 06/06/19	ſS	
Core Preservation Area	n Brookhaven Riverhead (District 200) (District 600)		Southampton (District 900)	Totals
Total	5	6	2	13

COMPLIANCE AND ENFORCEMENT INCIDENT REPORTS Reporting Period: All from 1/1/20 - 09/19/20 and Open (i.e., Pending from prior years)									
	Brookhaven (District 200)		Riverhead (District 600)		Southampton (District 900)		Totals		
Year	2020 All	12-19 Open	2020 All	17-19 Open	2020 All	13-19 Open	2020 All	03-19 Open	
Core	22	24	2	4	10	14	22	42	
CGA	10	15	0	1	1	5	10	21	
Totals	32	39	2	5	11	19	* 50	65	

*Outside the Pine Barrens in 2020 to date, 6 incident reports, encroachments, criminal mis, dumping for total of 56 incidents to date

4

Year	2018	2019	2020
Intake			
Sent by Agency to Commission	23	10	21
Discovered by Commission Staff	23	25	26
Called in by Individual to Commission	6	14	9
Total Incidents Reported	52	49	56
	-	-	
Location of Incident			
Brookhaven	39	32	38
Southampton	11	12	11
Riverhead	2	5	2
Occurring on Public Land	30	20	24
Occurring on Private Land	21	28	18
Occurring on Public & Private Land	1	1	2
Core	32	33	38
CGA	18	16	8
Core & CGA	1	0	1
Outside CPBA	1	0	9
		v	0
Nature of Incident*			
Clearing/Encroachment	18	19	21
Structures	2	1	2
Dumping	22	17	25
Mining	0	0	0
Hunting	1	0	0
ATV	1	5	4
Other	8	7	4 4
*note some incidents involve more than	0	1	4
ne land use issue			
Defermele*		T	
Referrals*	10		-
Sent to Town	13	20	7
Sent to County	5	6	5
Sent to State	23	9	15
Commission	9	14	17
Sent to AG	0	0	0
Other	2	0	12
*note some incidents are sent to multiple			
gencies			
Status			
Founded	52	53	55
Unfounded	1	0	`1
Open	15	28	50
Closed	34	25	6
	-	-	-

Central Pine Barrens Joint Planning and Policy Commission

Land Use Division Bi-Monthly Update for the Meeting of September 16, 2020

Action	Ce	entral Pine Barrens Location				
Municipality	Town of Brookhaven	Town of Riverhead	Town of Southampton			
Applications and Requests for Determination of Jurisdiction	 Joseph F. Gazza Core Hardship Application, Manorville, 12-lot residential cluster subdivision or one single-family residence, 58.9 acres, 200-355-4-5, 200-412-3-6 (Core). Decision deadline 11/10/20. Kogel Brothers Core Hardship Application, Middle Island, single-family residence, 5.3 acres, 200-499-3-4 (Core). Decision deadline 11/30/20. 	• None	 Lewis Road PRD Subdivision Assertion of Jurisdiction Application, East Quogue, seasonal resort residences and golf course development, 608 acres, 178 parcels. (CGA, Core, CRA). Assertion of Jurisdiction (5/15/19). Decision deadline 9/16/20. 			
SEQRA Coordination, Referrals, Inquiries, and Other Information on Projects in the Central Pine Barrens	 Inquiry: 20 MW solar at Spring Lake Golf Course, 185 acres, 200- 454-2-1, 200-454-1-8.5 (CGA) Inquiry: 2-3 MW solar, 12 of 46 acres of farmland, Yaphank Middle Island Road, Middle Island, 200-500-1-1.3 (CGA) Referral: Bolla at Ridge (CGA) Referral: Stonco Materials (CGA) Town of Riverhead SEQRA Lead Agency Coordination: Island Water Park Site Plan Amendment, Calverton, 42 acres, 600-135-1-7.34 (CGA) (2011 CGA Hardship) Nassau County Boy Scouts Schiff Scout Reservation, 1,000 sf cabin addition, Wading River, 404 acres, 600- 		 Bide-a-wee three-lot subdivision, 145 acres, Westhampton, (Core/ CE (83 acres), CGA-CRA) 			
Other Regional Project Participation	 75-3-10.3 (Core) Empire State Trail/Suffolk County Hike Bike Master Plan: County presentation date TBD Peconic Estuary Partnership Technical Advisory Committee USGS-Commission Water Resources Monitoring Program 					
Other Activity, Review, and Participation	 Hardship applications, SEQRA Coordination, referrals, inquiries, and other information requests: review, analyze, and respond to submissions, referrals of site plans, subdivisions, and mixed-use projects, Developments of Regional Significance, and other materials. Development project site inspections in pre- and post-development phases. Requests for Determination of Jurisdiction: Research and prepare materials for the Commission. Draft Generic EIS for the Central Pine Barrens Comprehensive Land Use Plan Amendments. FOIL Requests: Research and assist with FOIL requests and litigation involving development projects. Support other Commission divisions as needed including matters of clearing and encroachments related to land use development, incidents, and conservation easements. Website updates: calendar, agenda, epacket, division materials, and remote meetings 					



Lewis Road Planned Residential Development Subdivision, East Quogue (CGA, Core, CRA)



J. F. Gazza Core Hardship, Manorville Eastern Pondhawk Dragonfly (Core)



Island Water Park, Calverton (CGA)

Pine Barrens Credit Program Report for September 16, 2020:

Activities in the Credit Program since January 1, 2020 included review of applications for Letters of Interpretation, Conservation Easement parcel monitoring and CE signs installation, Credit Program and FOIL requests management. Some specific work items include:

- 40 Letters of Interpretations were issued, 17 in the Town of Brookhaven 2 in the Town of Riverhead and 21 in the Town of Southampton.
- Seven Conservation Easements are currently in process: Long Island Country Club, Liguori (two parcels), Broidy, Porter-Bell, Eagan (four parcels).
- Letters with updated list of Conservation Easement parcels were sent to the Town of Brookhaven, Riverhead and Southampton Assessor and Planning Departments.
- Letters to the private Conservation Easement parcel owners were sent reminding them of their obligations under the easement, parcels inspections and installing of the CE signs.
- Letter with updated list of Conservation Easement parcels was sent to the Suffolk County Real Property Tax Service Agency.
- Letters to solicit participation in the Credit Program were sent to owners of undeveloped land located in Core Preservation Area of the Towns of Southampton (21 LOI applications received), Riverhead (2 LOI applications received) and Brookhaven.
- Armand Gustave LLC v CPB Commission litigation currently in process.
- 71 Conservation Easement Signs were installed (45 in the Town of Brookhaven, 6 in the Town of Riverhead and 20 in the Town of Southampton).
- New Pine Barrens Credits Brochure has been completed and posted on the website.



Easement Protected Lands and Pine Barrens Credits As of September 9, 2020								
	Brookhaven	2020	Riverhead	2020	Southampton	2020	Total	2020
Parcels	506	2	36	0	448	0	990	2
Acreage	780.42	0	516.60	0	846.71	0	2143.73	0
Average parcel size	1.54	0	14.35	0	1.89	0	2.17	0
Credits generated	532.57	2	172.39	0	330.94	0	1035.9	2
Credits redeemed	340.51	6	130.44	1.15	148.46	1.13	619.41	8.28
Credits not redeemed	192.06	-4	41.95	-1.15	182.48	-1.13	416.49	-6.28
Credits sold	557.42	6.8	218.3	0	253.11	6.09	1028.83	12.89
Total value of PBC transactions through this date	\$29,376,119	\$632,775	\$7,961,747	0	\$16,914,582	\$465,500	\$54,252,448	\$1,098,275
Average Credits value		\$93,055				\$76,437		\$85,204
Credits owned by the Clearinghouse	10.19		_		-		10.19	
# of Inspected CE Parcels	_	68	_	5	_	38	_	111
# of Installed CE Signs	65	45	7	6	76	20	148	71



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

September 2, 2020

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 August 2020. Thank you.

Respectfully submitted,

Christing 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, 2019	\$2,544,578.33
Additional Deposits	0.00
Interest (see below for details)	3,994.28
Disbursements	0.00
Balance as of August 31st, 2020	\$2,548,572.61

Interest Earnings & Disbursements For the Months of January - December 2020

Interest Earnings

Municipal Insured Public Funds NOW Account

January	1,080.80	
February	976.60	
March	334.92	
April	314.03	
May	303.60	
June	335.05	
July	324.62	
August	324.66	
September	0.00	
October	0.00	
November	0.00	
December	0.00	
		\$3,994.28
<u>APR</u>		

01/01/20- 01/31/20	0.500%
02/01/20- 02/29/20	0.500%
03/01/20- 03/31/20	0.150%
04/01/20- 04/30/20	0.150%
05/01/20- 05/31/20	0.150%
06/01/20-06/30/20	0 150%

07/01/20- 07/31/20 07/01/20- 07/31/20 08/01/20- 08/31/20 09/01/20- 09/30/20 10/01/20- 10/31/20 11/01/20- 11/30/20 12/01/20- 12/31/20

Interest Period

0.150% 0.150% 0.000% 0.000% 0.000% 0.000%

Disbursements

None



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