



Natural Resource Management

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Deer Management 2021 & 2022

Population reductions February/March 2021 and March 2022

- 5th and 6th reductions since 2015
- Target max was 250 deer
- 81 taken in 2021
- 134 taken in 2022



Deer Management 2022

Initial estimate was 300 – 400 with 350 used for communications.

Current population 200 – 220 deer

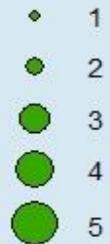
- Acceptable population is 80 – 250 deer on BNL
- Birth rate of ~60%
- We have to overcome this every year.



2022 Deer Population Reduction

Deer Population Density Winter 2022 vs. Culling Locations

Deer taken in 2022



Deer Management

Meat samples tested for Cs-137 prior to release for consumption.

- 2021 – every 5th deer sampled, 14 samples taken.
- 2022 – every 10th deer sampled, 13 samples taken.
- Administrative level of ≤ 1 pCi/g, wet weight. (NYSDOH limit is 6.9 pCi/g, wet weight)
- No sample above 0.629 pCi/g, wet weight
- 2,204 lbs. of meat was donated to Island Harvest in 2021.
- 1,428 lbs. donated so far from first weekend.
- Over 24,000 lbs. meat donated in total

Sampling of ticks and blood for Suffolk County Vector Control as part of NYSDOH tick-borne disease studies.

Sampling for EHD and COVID by USDA.

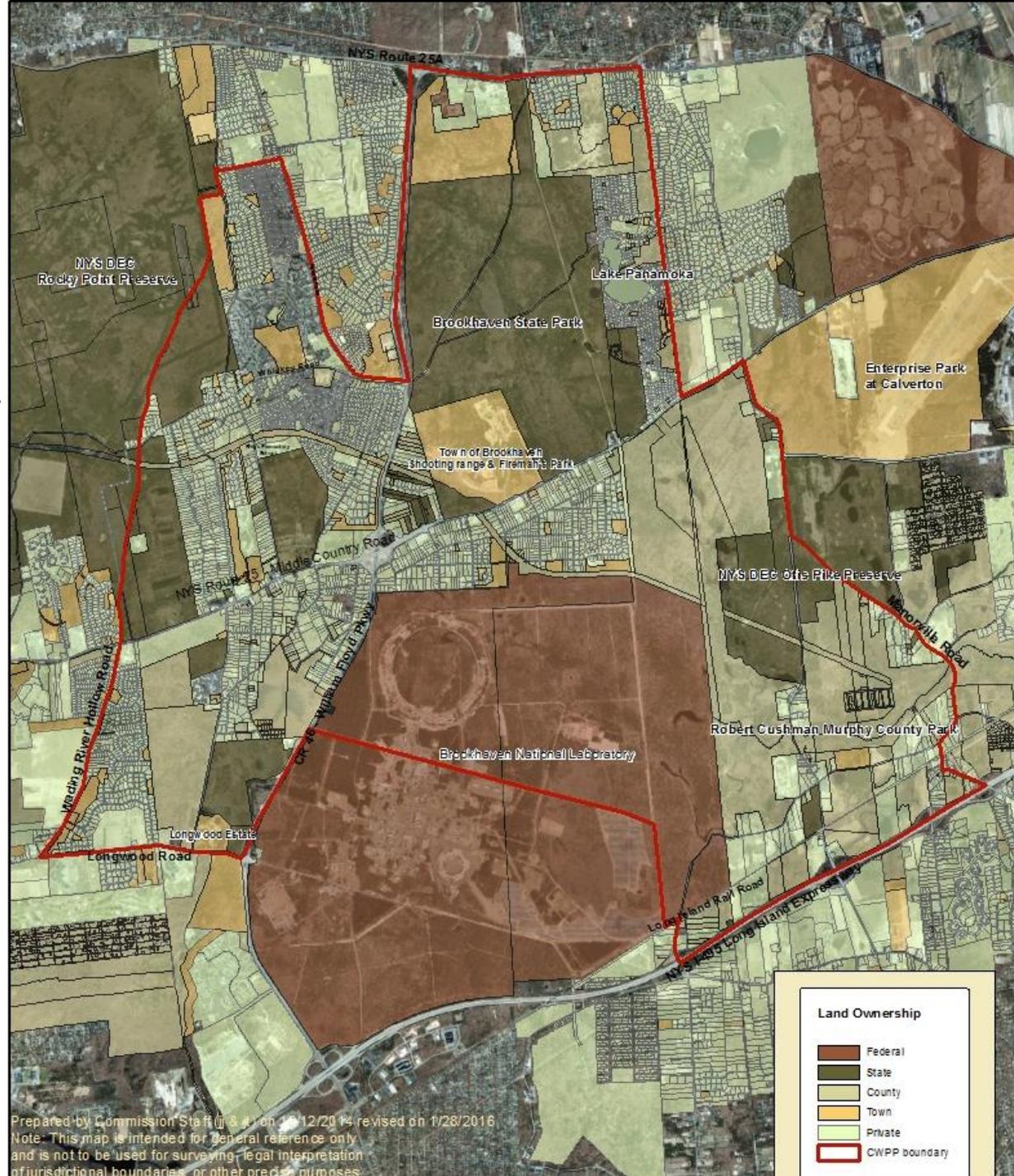


Fire Management



Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP)

Home assessments/
wildfire mitigation



Home Assessments/Wildfire Mitigation

The Central Pine Barrens Commission is offering free wildfire prevention assessments to homeowners who live in the Ridge-Manorville-Calverton Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) area that includes Ridge and portions of Manorville and Calverton.

What's Involved?

A wildfire prevention specialist will review the exterior of your home and yard to identify areas vulnerable to wildfire. It takes about 1 to 1.5 hours to complete and then a customized written report will be sent to you with recommendations to reduce your home's wildfire vulnerability.

This is a voluntary program with no obligation to implement the suggestions offered.

To schedule an appointment call 631-563-9755 or email CommunityWise@pb.state.ny.us

Don't let this happen to your home!
**FREE Wildfire Prevention
Home Assessments**



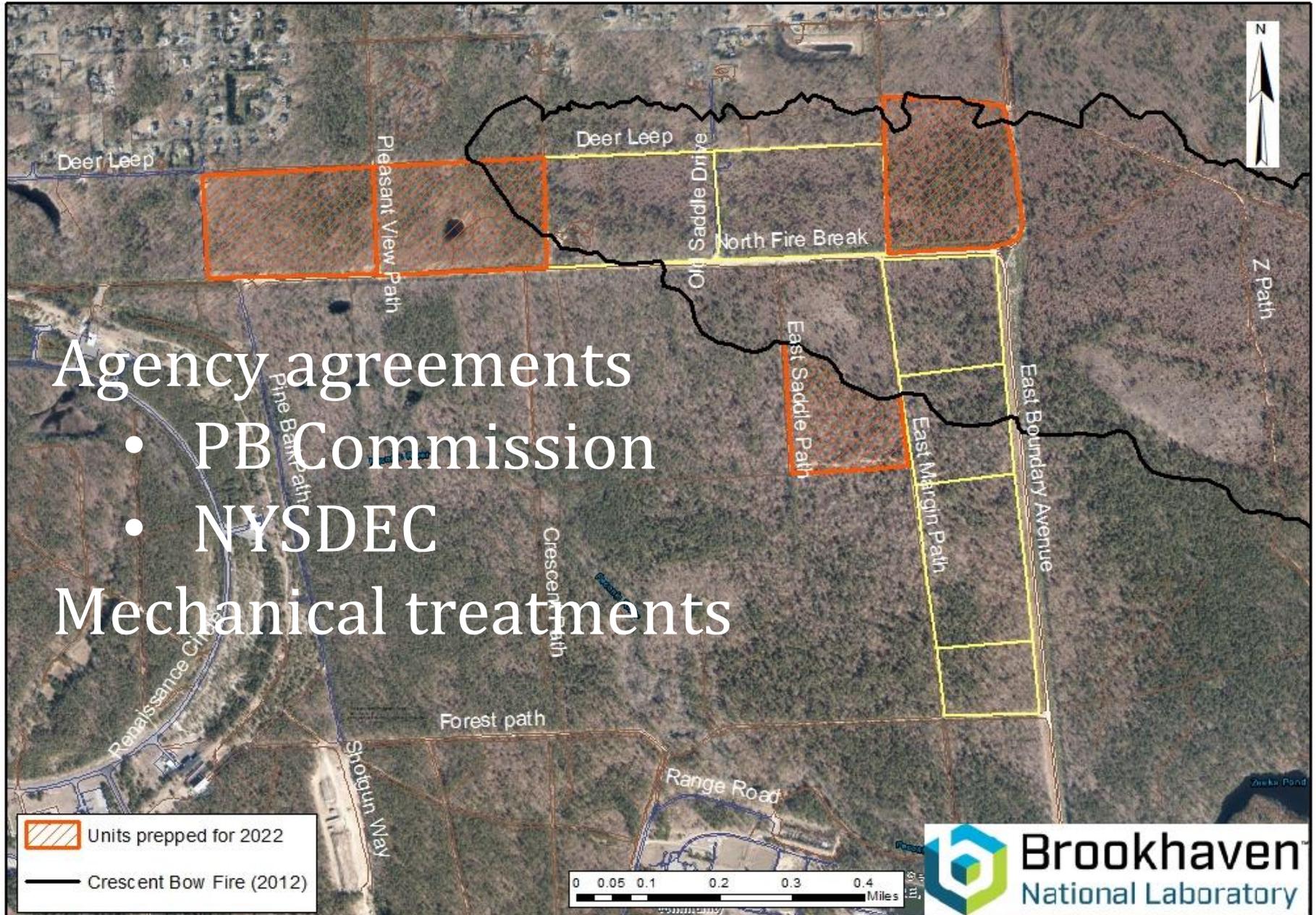
2012 Crescent Bow Fire—photo courtesy of the Center Moriches Fire Department

ACT NOW!

For a limited time only, **funding is available** to reimburse homeowners located in the Community Wildfire Protection Plan area **up to \$5,000** for eligible and approved wildfire mitigation projects.

Call 631-563-9755 or email CommunityWise@pb.state.ny.us

Burns Planned for 2022



Mechanical Treatments



Result of 2012
Crescent Bow Fire



Mechanical Treatments







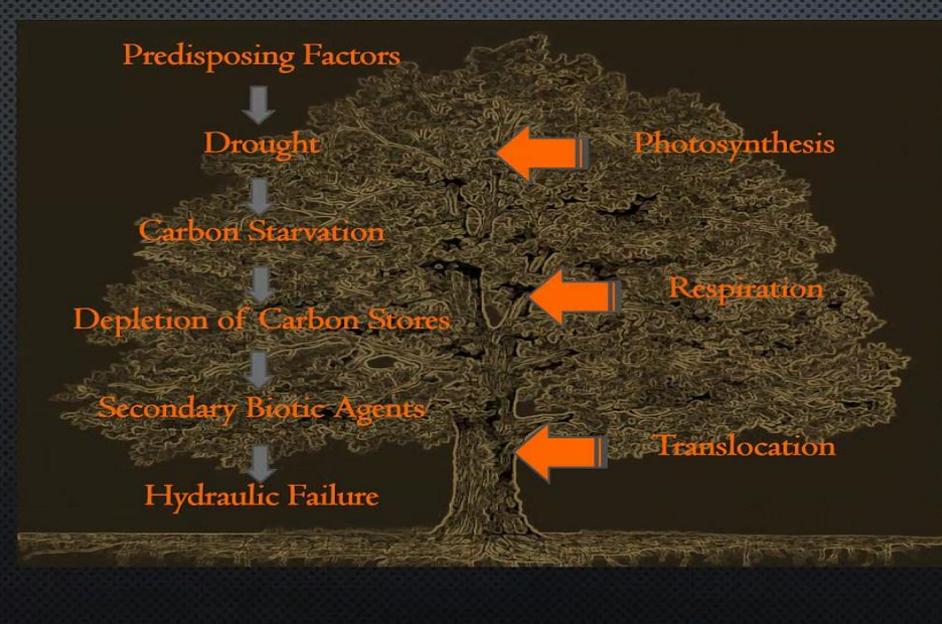




Increasing fire risk in LI Pine Barrens

- Long Island forests are NOT healthy!
 - Never been actively managed.
 - Fire has been removed from the ecosystem.
 - Forests are too dense--overstocked.
 - Greater competition for resources = stressed trees.
- What are the consequences of this?
 - Loss of fire-dependent species.
 - Reduced resistance to additional stressors.





Background & Biology – Oak decline

- Disease complex causing progressive dieback.
- Affects mature trees in black oak group.
- Characterized by dieback of outer crown.
- Exacerbated by climate change.



Background & Biology - southern pine beetle (SPB)

- Dense forests beneficial to SPB.
- Kills trees by impeding transport of nutrients and water.
- Kills trees in 2-4 months.
- Infestations can advance as far as 50 feet per day.
- Thousands of acres on LI impacted.
- >30,000 trees have been removed.
- Thousands of trees on site dead/dying.



Potential Impacts

- Fire Regime
 - Increase in surface fuels.
 - Increase in coarse woody fuels.
 - Increased insolation and a flush of growth.
 - Increased drying of fuels.
 - Increased likelihood and intensity of fires.
- Safety
 - Creation of hazard trees.
 - Access issues for firefighters.

Future Impediments to Burning

Northern long-eared bat (*Myotis septentrionalis*)

- Federally threatened
- Will be up-listed to endangered
- Limitations to forest management activities



- Formal consultation with USFWS
- Need for research



Burning Questions

