

BNL Prescribed Fire Program

Kathy Schwager

Community Advisory Council Meeting

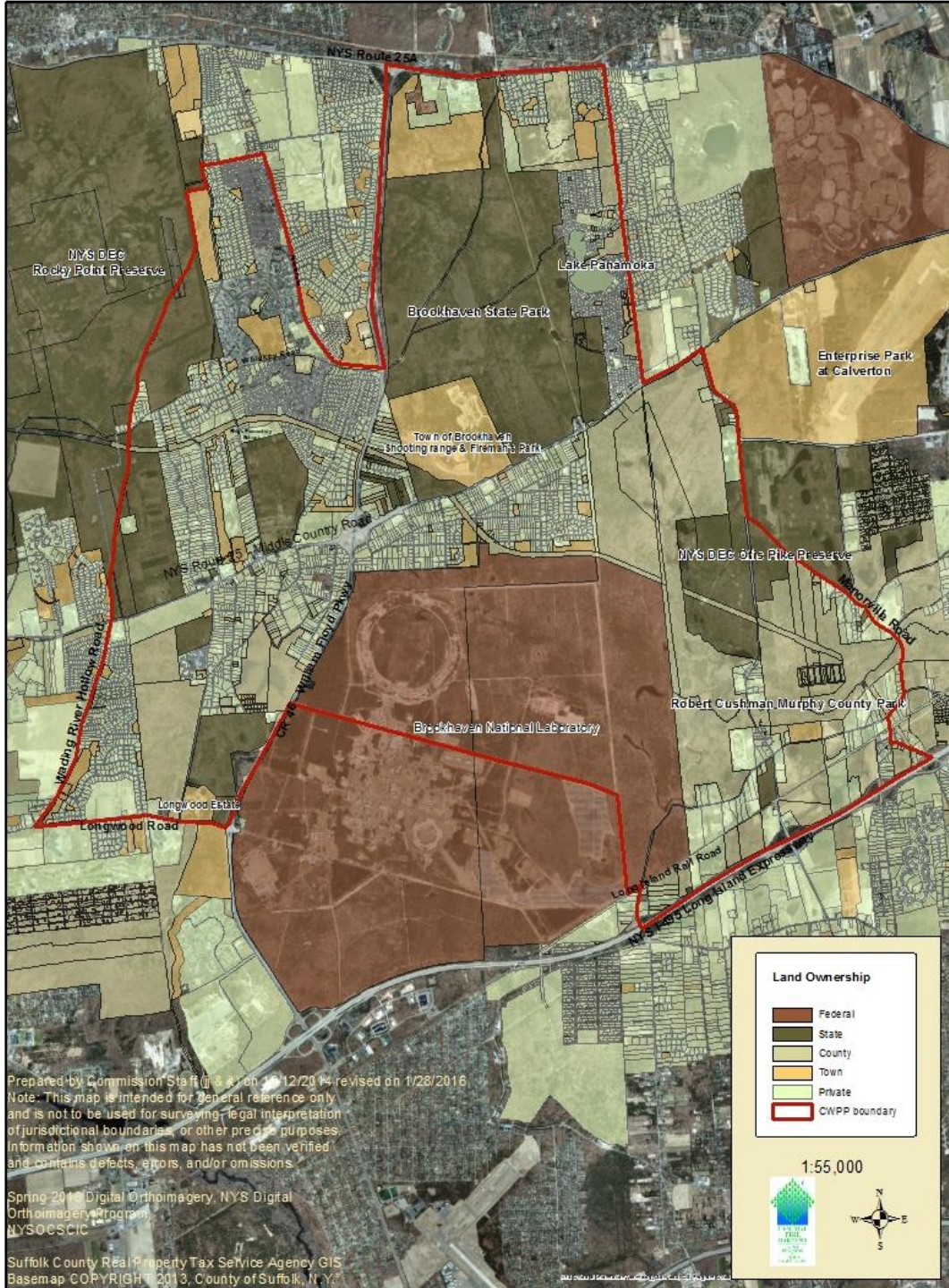
June 14, 2018



BROOKHAVEN
NATIONAL LABORATORY



Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP)

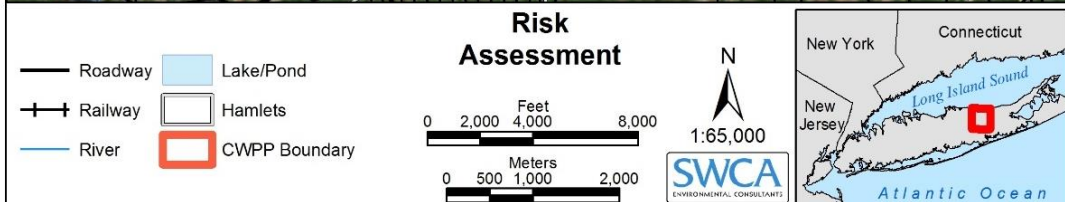
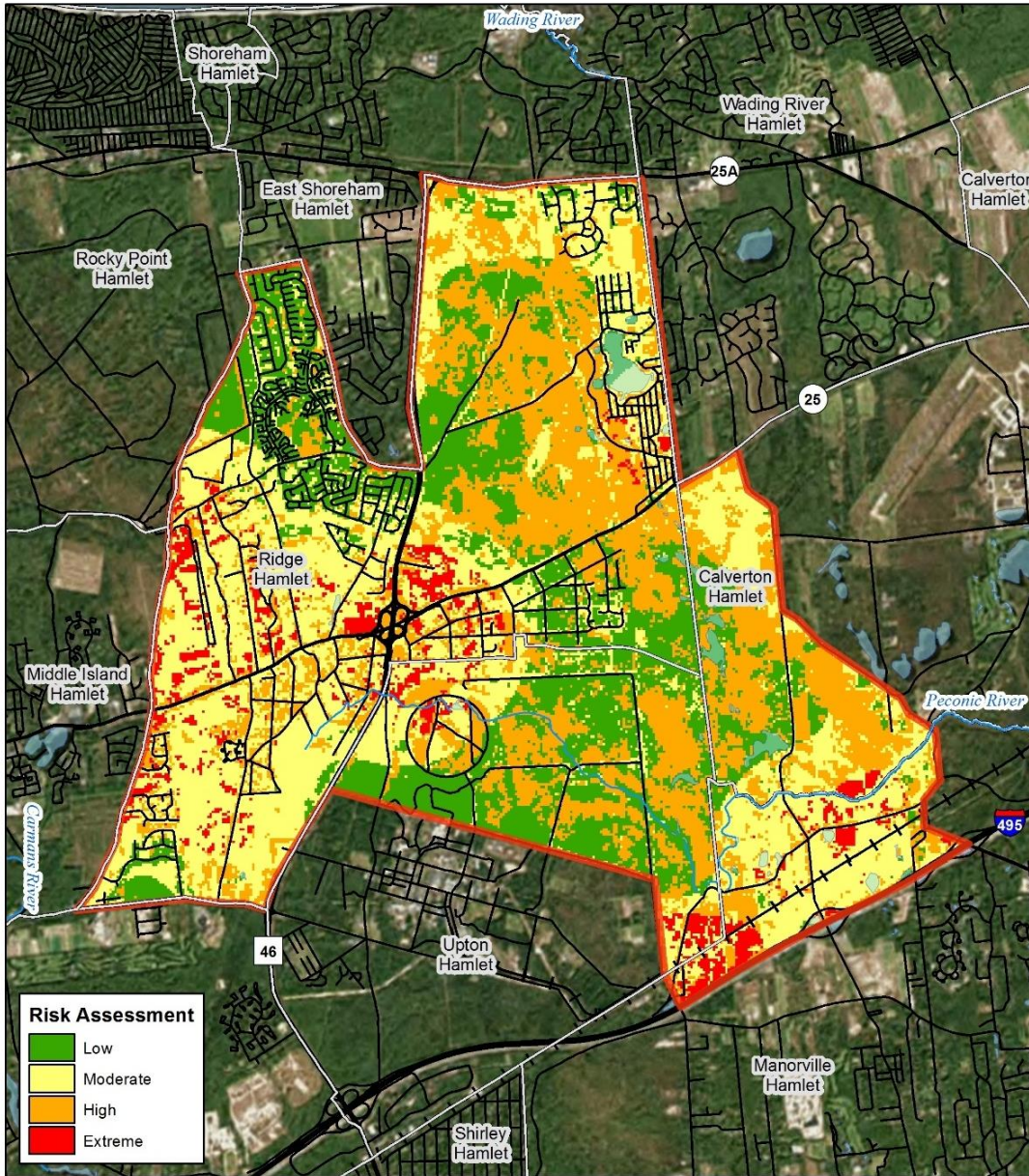


Wildfire Risk Assessment

CWPP Recommendations

Fuel Reduction Projects:

- Create new or maintain existing fuel breaks.
- Fuel treatments.
- Restoration of fire-adapted ecosystems.



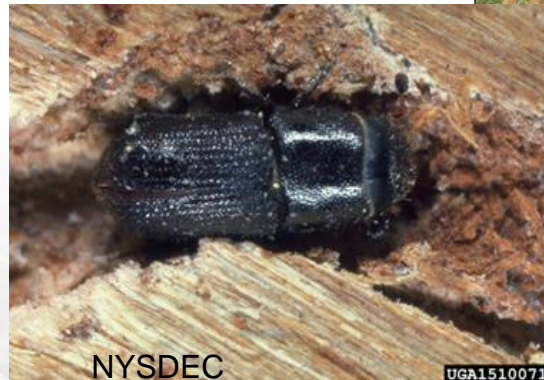
What is prescribed fire?

- Controlled application of fire.
- Conducted under specific weather conditions.
- Performed by trained fire management professionals.



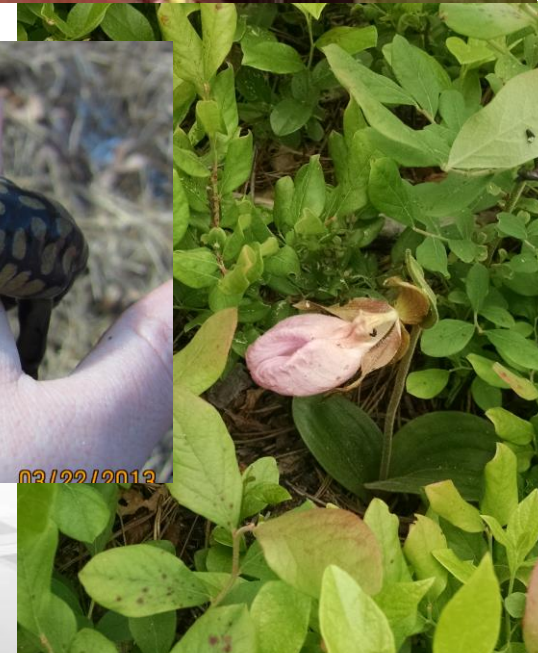
Why do we conduct prescribed burns?

- Pine barrens are a fire-dependent ecosystem.
- Prolonged widespread fire suppression
 - Disappearance of fire-adapted species
 - Unhealthy forests
 - Buildup of hazardous fuels
 - Increases risk of intense fires
 - Threat to lives and property
- Fuel Reduction



Why do we conduct prescribed burns?

- Economics
 - High cost of fire suppression
- Ecosystem benefits
 - Improves habitat
 - Promotes species diversity
 - Recycles nutrients



How do we conduct a prescribed burn?

- Prescribed Burn Plan
 - Area description
 - Goals & objectives
 - Prescription
 - Required resources
 - Communication
 - Hazards
 - Contingency plan
 - Post-burn activities
 - Maps
 - Fire behavior models



How do we conduct a prescribed burn?

- Safety
 - Training – NWCG
 - Incident Command System
 - PPE



How do we conduct a prescribed burn?

- Pre-burn activities
 - Secure firelines
 - Check for hazards
 - Pre-burn monitoring
 - Availability of resources
 - Incident Action Plan
- Burn day
 - Spot weather forecast
 - Notifications
 - GO/NO GO checklist
 - Test fire



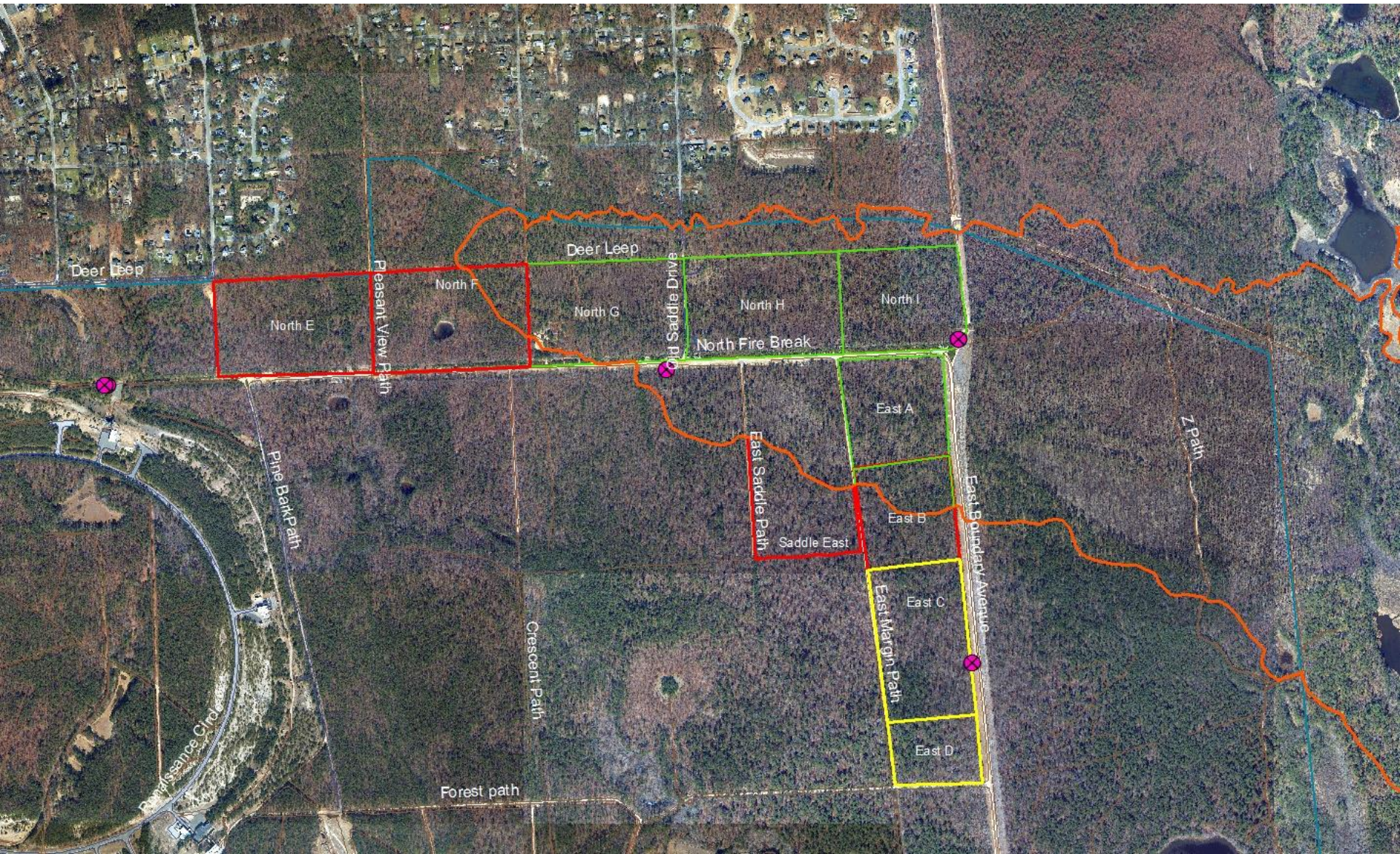
Who conducts prescribed burns?

- BNL Environmental Protection Division
- BNL Fire Rescue
- NYSDEC
- Long Island Central Pine Barrens Commission
- US Fish & Wildlife Service
- National Park Service
- Albany Pine Bush
- Volunteers
- US Forest Service
- NJ Forest Fire Service



Where & When?

Rx burns scheduled for 2018



Prescribed Burn conducted June 12, 2017



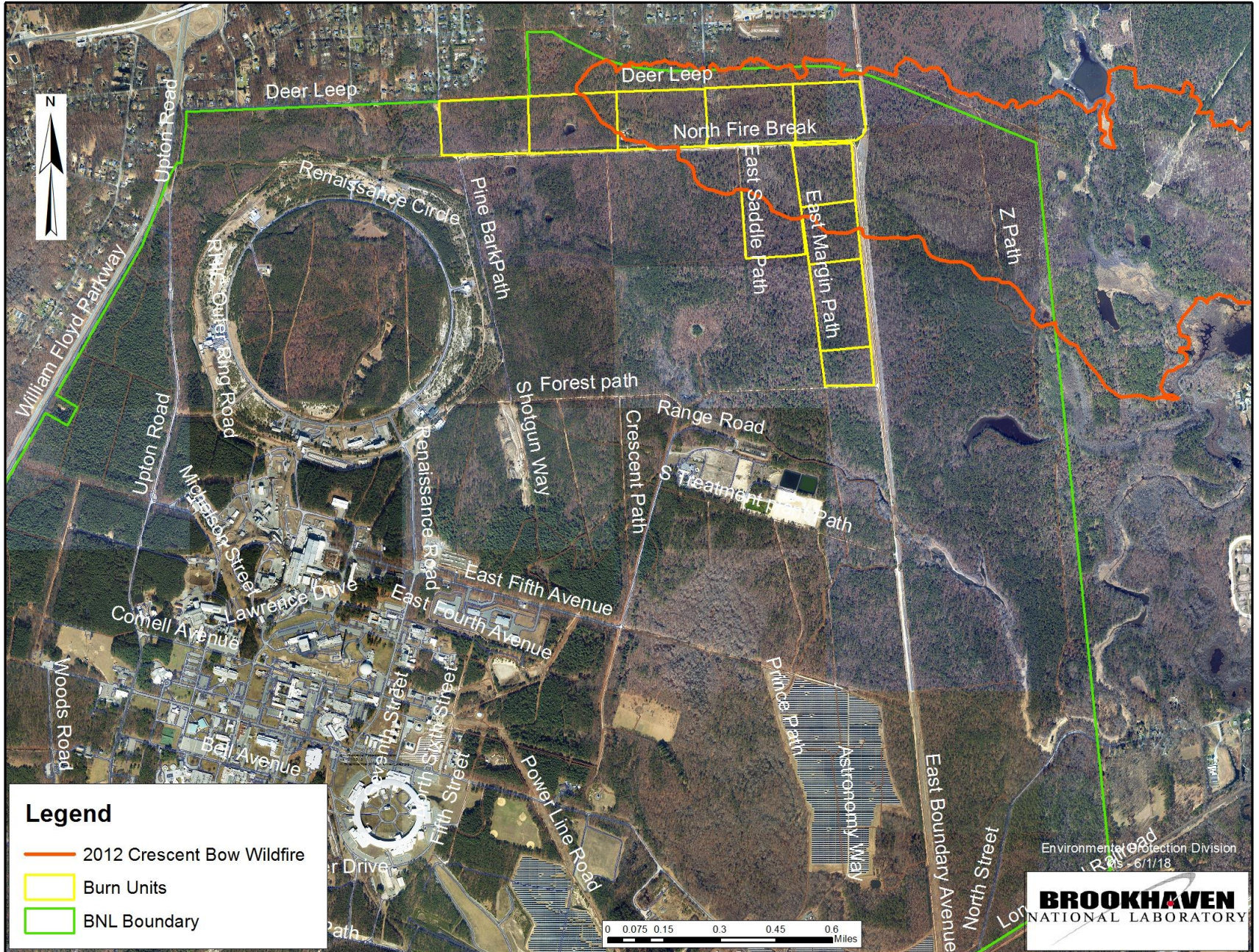
Prescribed Burn conducted June 12, 2017



Prescribed Burn conducted June 12, 2017



Future Management



QUESTIONS?

