

Valid from September 01, 2026
until September 30, 2031

Prescribed Burn Plan

Coastal Habitat Restoration Burn Units

Henry L. Ferguson Museum Land Trust
Fishers Island, Town of Southold
Suffolk County, New York



Prepared by: Bob Panko
RISKY BUSINESS INCIDENT MANAGEMENT LLC.
259 BROWN ROAD, VOLUNTOWN CT 06384
JUNE 2026



Scan for Burn Plan file

A SUMMARY OF WHAT IS IN THE “COASTAL HABITAT RESTORATION BURN UNITS” PRESCRIBED BURN PLAN (DRAFT JUNE 2026)

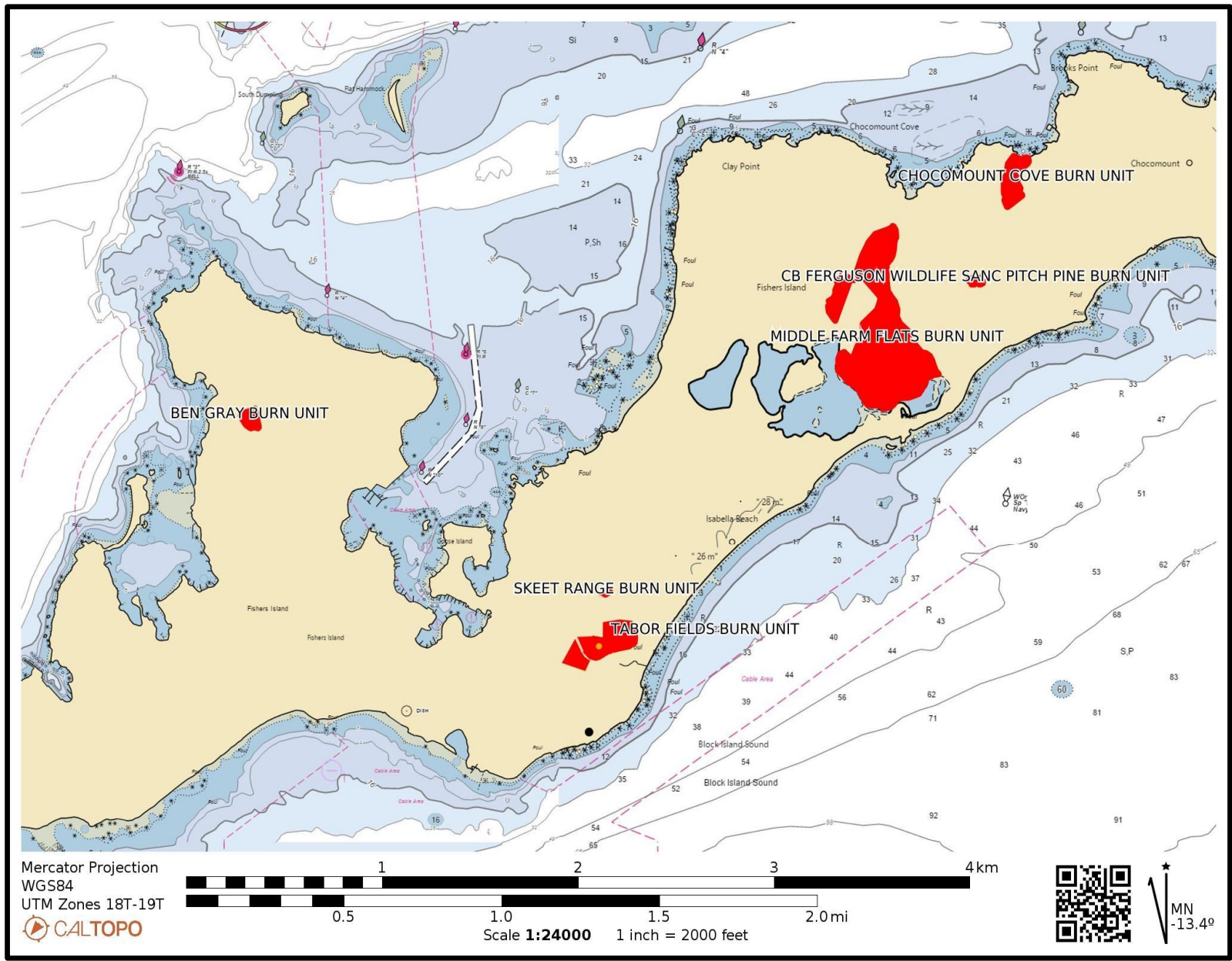
- Plan is valid from Sept 01 2026
until Sept 30 2031 (5 year plan)
- Plan expands areas to be burned
at Middle Farms Flats and replaces
existing MFF Burn Plan

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Executive Summary

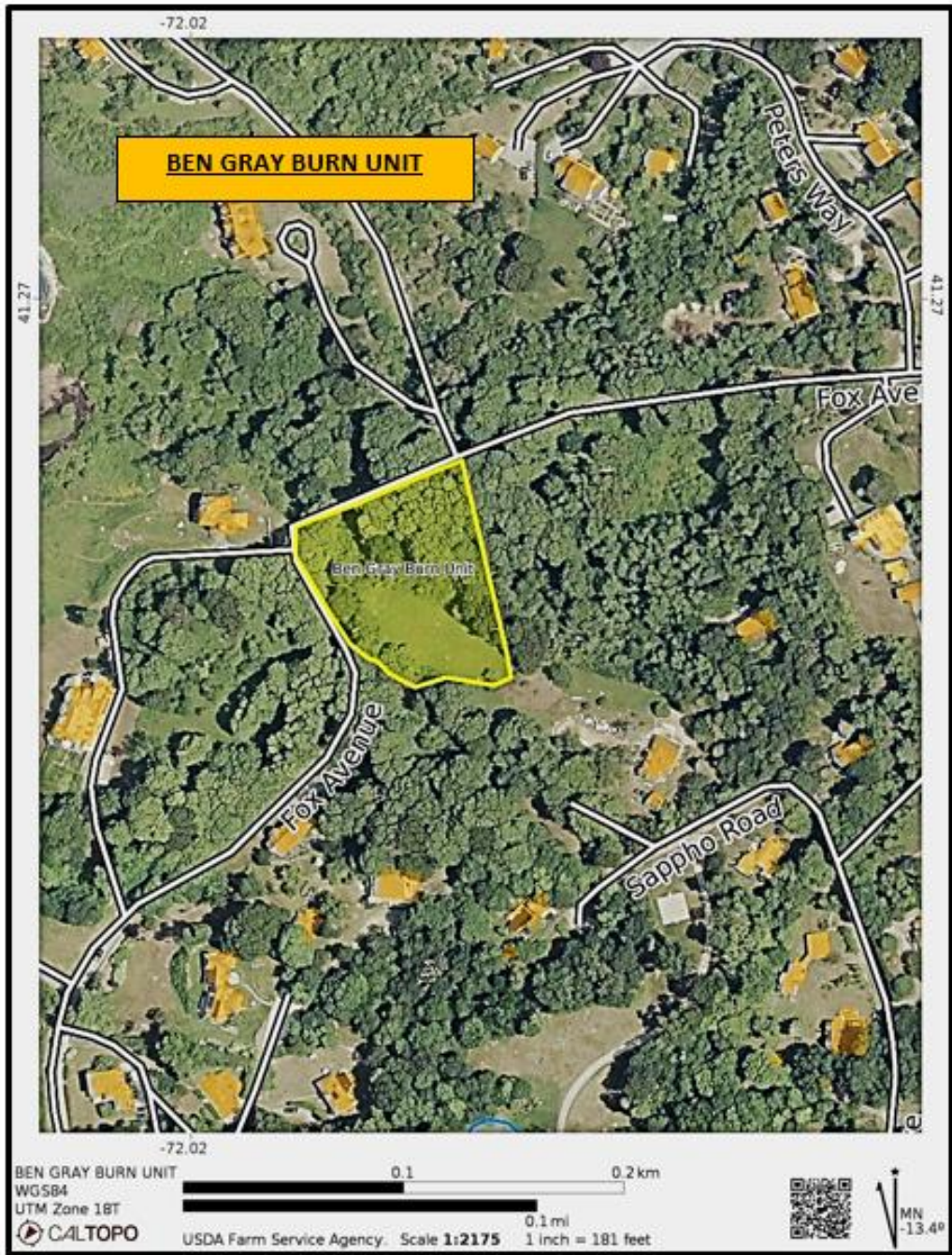
- This is a prescribed burn plan for lands owned or managed by the Henry L. Ferguson Museum and an adjacent property owned by Mark and Mary Eileen Anderson.
- Burn plan is written under the provisions of New York State Regulations, Title 6, Lands and Forests, Part 194 Forestry Practices.
- This plan is funded by a grant from the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation and was established for the purpose of piloting small scale burns as a restoration method for important coastal habitats on Fishers Island, NY.
- Important coastal habitats; coastal grasslands and coastal forests; are included in the Burn Units within this plan.



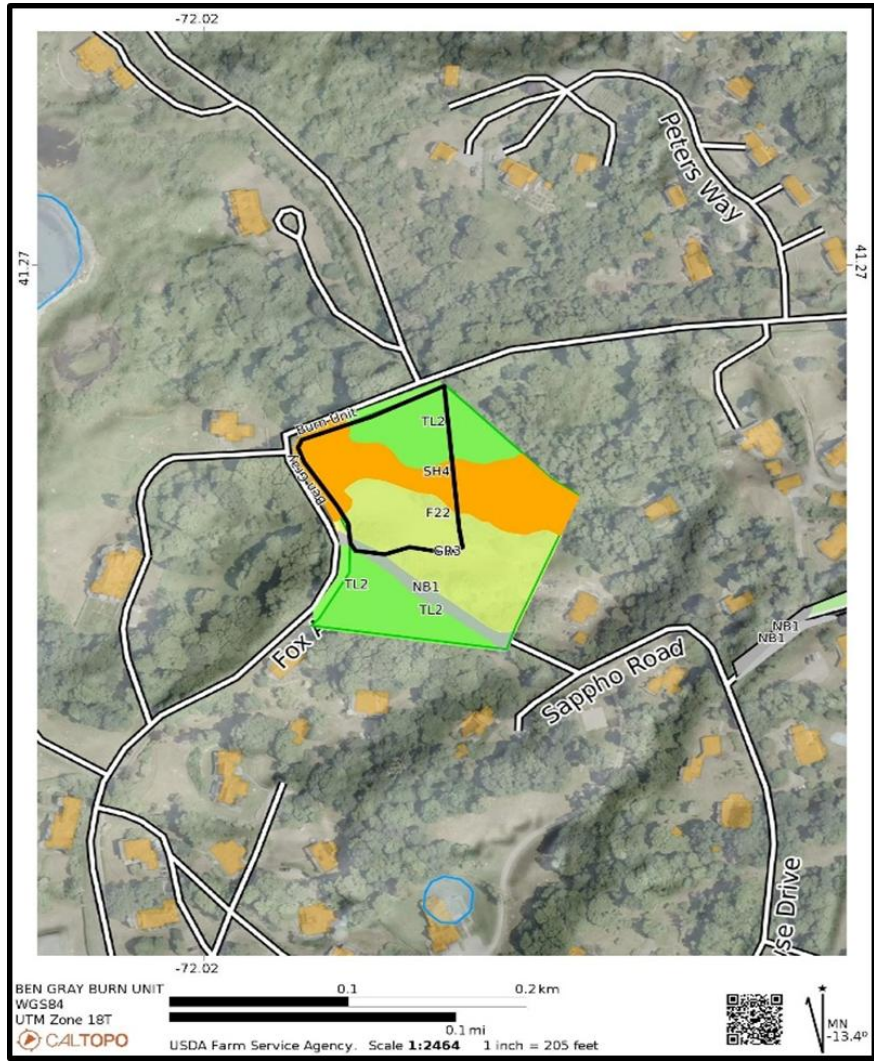
TOTAL ACRES TO BE BURNED PER BURN UNIT

Fuels Note: The fuel models described in this plan are all from the published “Standard Fire Behavior Fuel Models: A Comprehensive Set for Use with Rothermel’s Surface Fire Spread Model”, US Forest Service General Technical Report RMRS-GTR-153. June 2005 authored by Joe H. Scott and Robert E. Burgan. This document is the national fuels model standard in the United States.

<u>BURN UNIT NAME</u>	<u>PARCEL ID - PARCEL TOTAL ACREAGE</u>	<u>ACRES TO BE BURNED</u>	<u>BURN UNIT FUELS</u>
Ben Gray	F22 – 4.3 acres (TOTAL 4.3 acres)	1.6 acres (35% of land within the parcel to be burned)	Grass (GR3), Shrub (SH4), Timber Litter (TL2)
Tabor Fields	F54 – 2.7 acres F53 A/B/C – 3.8 acres Anderson Field – 4.5 acres (TOTAL 11.6 acres)	11 acres (94% of land within the parcels to be burned)	Grass (GR6 / GR3), Grass-Shrub (GS4), Timber-Shrub (TU2), Shrub (SH3)
Skeet Range	F33 – 17.2 acres (TOTAL 17.2 acres)	0.5 acres (3% of land within the parcel to be burned)	Grass (GR3)
Middle Farms Flats	F19 – 5 acres F20 – 22.9 acres E03 – 1.7 acres E01 – 5.4 acres F11 – 3.7 acres F35B – 16.2 acres F32 – 9.9 acres (TOTAL 64.8 acres)	44.4 acres (74% of land within the parcels to be burned)	Grass (GR3 / GR6 / GR8) Grass-Shrub (GS3) Shrub (SH4) Timber – Shrub (TU2)
Chocomount Cove	F58A – 2.8 acres F58B – 2.2 acres (TOTAL 5 acres)	3.7 acres (74% of land within the parcels to be burned)	Grass (GR3) Shrub (SH6) Timber – Shrub (TU2)
CB Ferguson Wildlife Sanctuary Pitch Pines	F23 – 20 acres (TOTAL 20 acres)	0.4 acres (2% of lands within the parcel to be burned)	Timber – Shrub (TU2)
		61.6 Acres to be Burned	

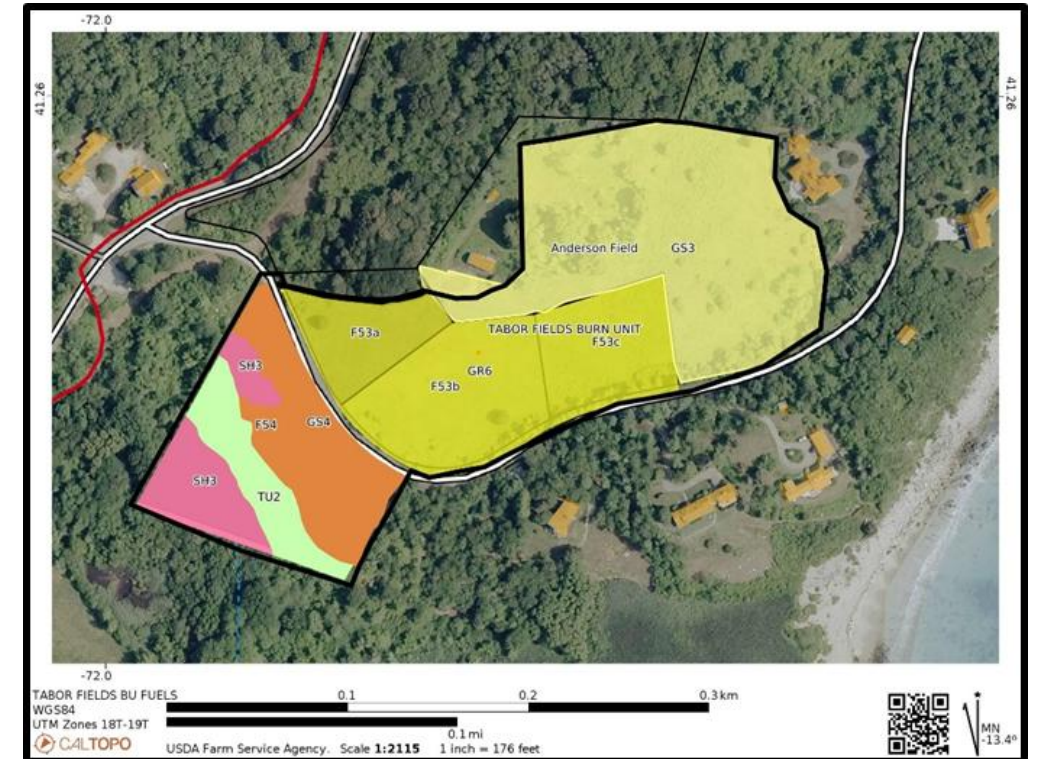


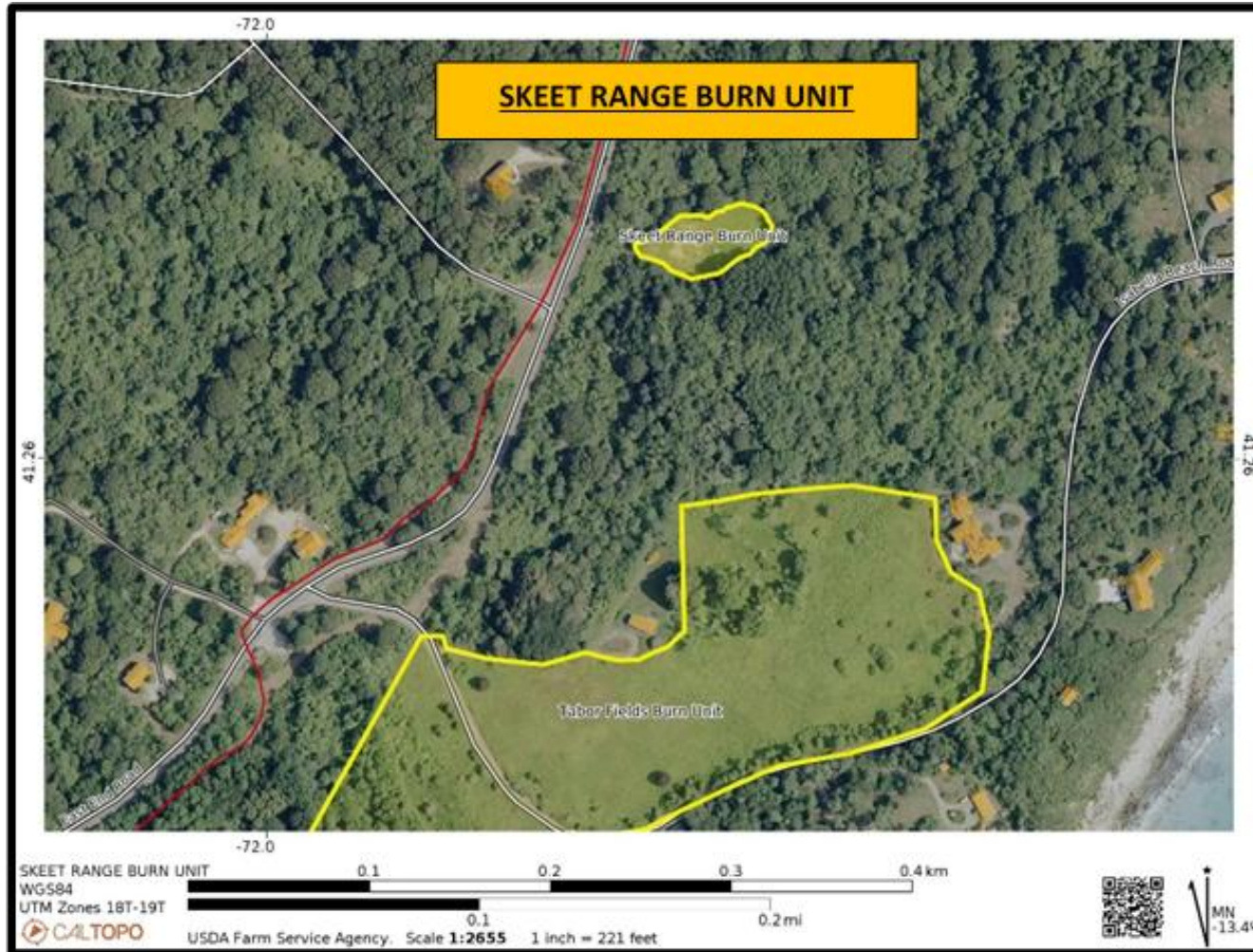
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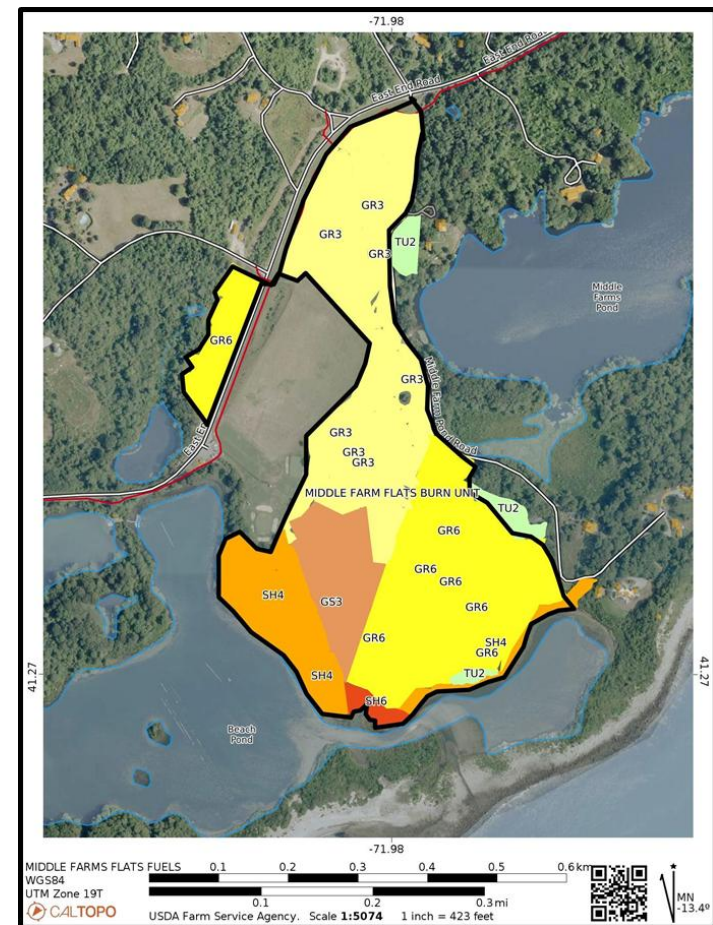


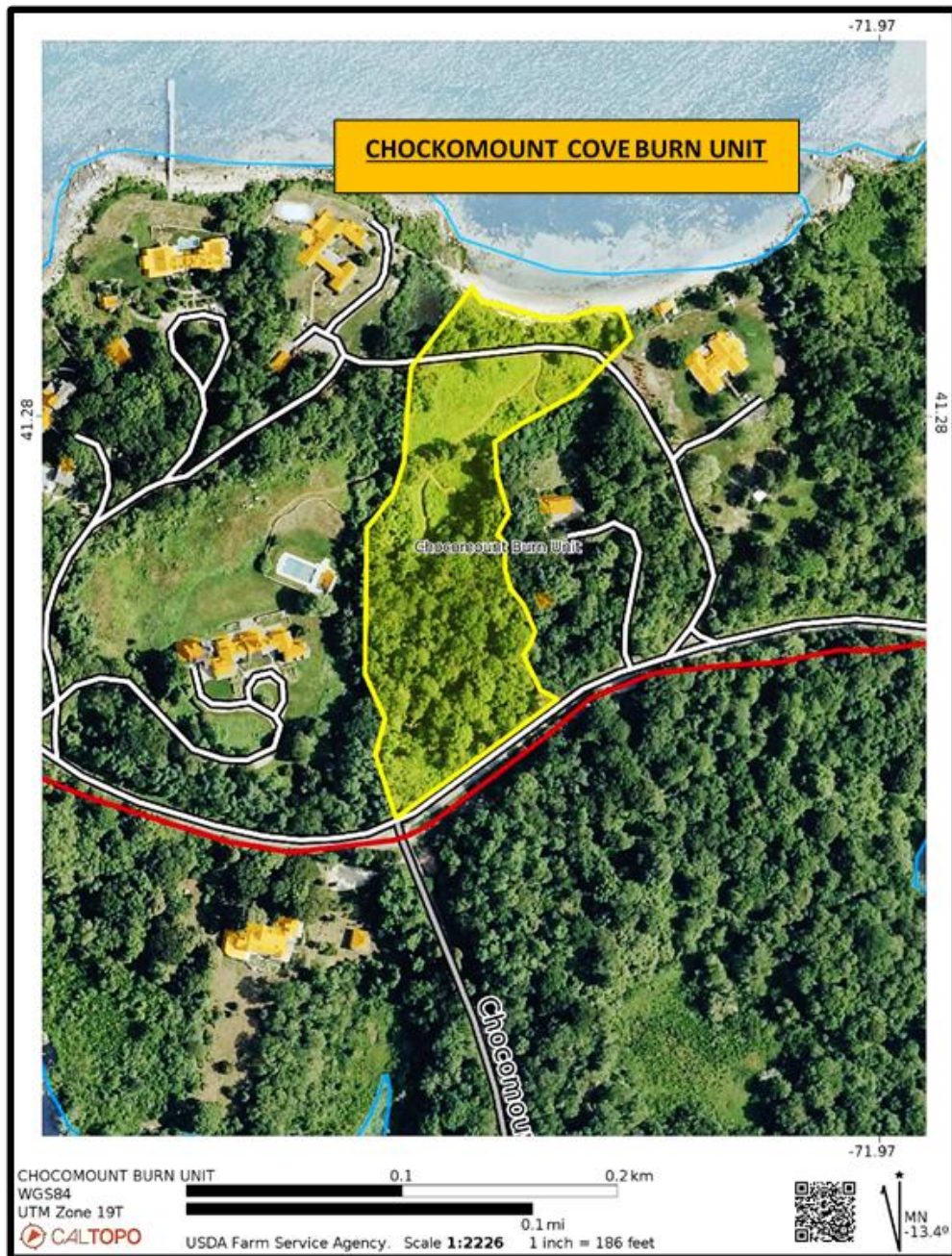
BURN UNIT NAME	PARCEL ID - PARCEL TOTAL ACREAGE	ACRES TO BE BURNED	BURN UNIT FUELS
Skeet Range	F33 – 17.2 acres (TOTAL 17.2 acres)	0.5 acres (3% of land within the parcel to be burned)	Grass (GR3)



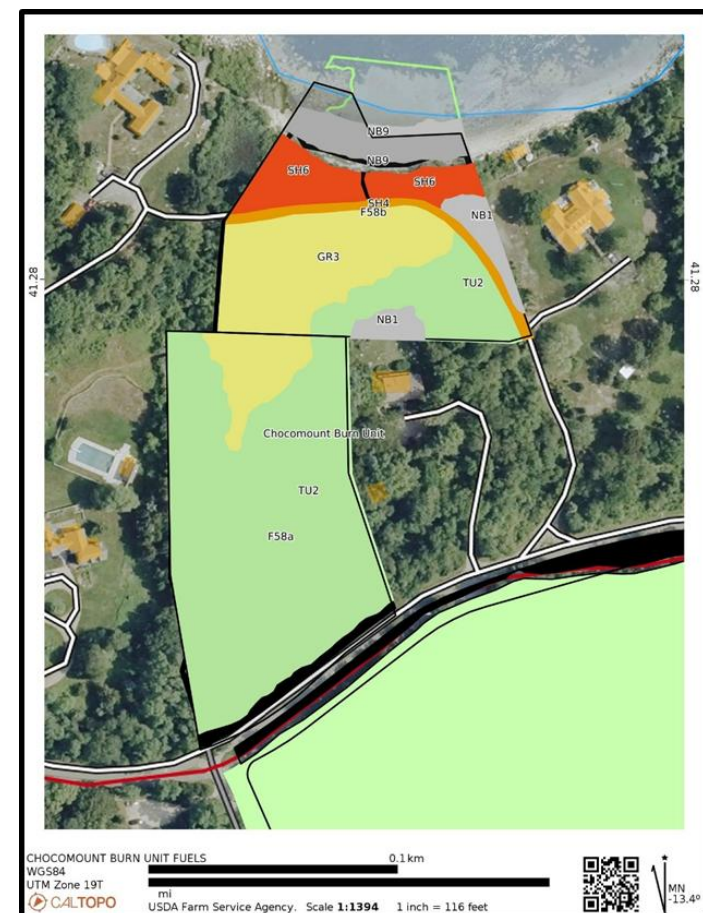


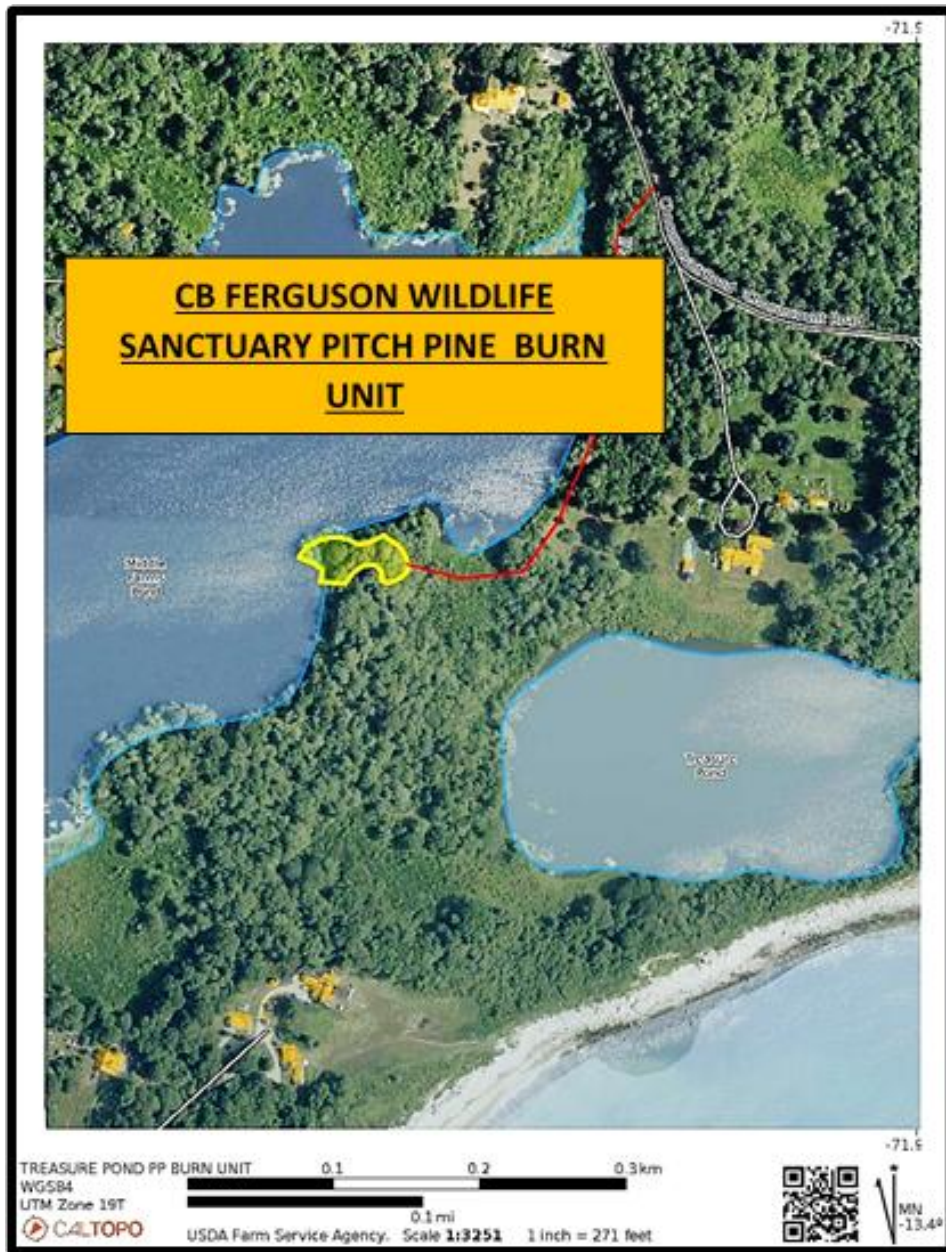
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Middle Farms Flats	F19 – 5 acres F20 – 22.9 acres E03 – 1.7 acres E01 – 5.4 acres F11 – 3.7 acres F35B – 16.2 acres F32 – 9.9 acres (TOTAL 64.8 acres)	44.4 acres <i>(74% of land within the parcels to be burned)</i>	Grass (GR3 / GR6 / GR8) Grass-Shrub (GS3) Shrub (SH4) Timber – Shrub (TU2)





<u>BURN UNIT NAME</u>	<u>PARCEL ID - PARCEL TOTAL ACREAGE</u>	<u>ACRES TO BE BURNED</u>	<u>BURN UNIT FUELS</u>
Chocomount Cove	F58A – 2.8 acres F58B – 2.2 acres <i>(TOTAL 5 acres)</i>	3.7 acres <i>(74% of land within the parcels to be burned)</i>	Grass (GR3) Shrub (SH6) Timber – Shrub (TU2)





<u>BURN UNIT NAME</u>	<u>PARCEL ID - PARCEL TOTAL ACREAGE</u>	<u>ACRES TO BE BURNED</u>	<u>BURN UNIT FUELS</u>
CB Ferguson Wildlife Sanctuary Pitch Pines	F23 – 20 acres (TOTAL 20 acres)	0.4 acres (2% of lands within the parcel to be burned)	Timber – Shrub (TU2)



2-Landowner or prescribed burn manager qualifications:

“A description of the landowner's or prescribed burn manager's training and expertise in conducting prescribed burn activities.” (Part 194.5)

OPTION DESCRIPTION	RESOURCES	BURN MANAGER
HIRED CONTRACTOR	CONTRACTOR & FISHERS ISLAND FD	CONTRACTOR BURN MANAGER
FISHERS ISLAND FD	FISHERS ISLAND FD & HENRY FERGUSON MUSEUM STAFF / VOLUNTEERS	FISHERS ISLAND FD CHIEF OR DESIGNEE
HENRY FERGUSON MUSEUM	FISHERS ISLAND FD & HENRY FERGUSON MUSEUM STAFF / VOLUNTEERS	HENRY FERGUSON MUSEUM STAFF OR DESIGNEE

3-Goals and objectives:

“A description of the ecological purposes and objectives of the prescribed burn, including an identification of the specific species or natural communities that are intended to be affected by the burn.” (Part 194.5)

Burn unit management goals:

1. Restore special coastal native plant habitats.
2. Reduce the volume of invasive species in the burn units.
3. Reduce understory growth in the burn units.
4. To reduce fuel for wildfires that may be ignited under extreme weather conditions.
5. To reduce the tick populations by direct mortality during burns, thereby reducing transmission of tick borne diseases to humans and wildlife.

Specific burn objectives

- 1-Top-kill invasive plants such as honeysuckle, greenbrier and bittersweet by 25% as determined by monitoring six months post burn.
- 2-Reduce understory growth and shrub layer to promote forbs and herbaceous surface plants and increase site native flora diversity.
- 3-Reduce 1 and 10 hour fuels in burned areas by 25% six months post burn.
- 4-Keep the fires within the burn units thereby protecting adjacent public and private property and infrastructure.

5-Timing and weather conditions:

“A description of physical conditions, such as time of year, wind speed and direction, and air temperature and humidity, which must be met before a prescribed burn is initiated.” (Part 194.5)

Seasons for burning: This plan is written for year-round use and burning may occur at any time of the year as determined by management.

In the forested burn units, the first entry burns will ideally be conducted at the “hot end” of the prescription for wind, humidity and fuel moistures; succinctly, conditions need to be windy, relative humidity's low and fuels dry. The reason for this; these forested areas are significantly “choked” with shrubs and vines and it will take steady winds and dry conditions for fire to carry continuously. Subsequent burns may be conducted under more mild conditions.

Seasonal Timing

Spring season (April-May) is ideal for these burns.

Shrubs and invasive hardwoods would have at least started to leaf out, maximizing the chance to top kill them by heat girdling stems while roots are nutrient depleted, having transferred their stored energy into stems and growing leaves.

During the fall (Sept-Nov) the days are shorter than spring and nights have high and long moisture recovery levels. Fall burning would focus on consumption of dead 1 and 10 hour fuels, and, if the summer droughts persist into fall, can possibly consume higher levels of organic surface fuels and duff than is achievable in spring when Keech Byrum Drought Indices are 200 or less.

Winter burning is possible utilizing cold front passages to use higher winds and lower RH conditions to drive fires into 10 hour and 100 hour fuel jackpots. It is also possible that during summer or fall vines and shrubs can be cut into piles that can be burned during the winter.

Fire Prescription

<u>FACTOR</u>	<u>Minimum</u>	<u>Maximum</u>	<u>Comments</u>
Temperature (F)	30	95	Obtain from local forecast, fire weather forecast, or observation.
Relative Humidity (%)	25	80	Obtain from local forecast, fire weather forecast, or observation.
Wind Speed, 20' forecasted (MPH) (20' wind is part of daily fire weather forecast and therefore easily viewed in advance allowing burn manager to evaluate the GO/NO-GO for a burn day. (This value is superseded by actual observed eye level wind speed on burn day).)	1mph	25 mph In grasslands 40 mph In Timber	<u>In Grasslands</u> the eye level forecast winds can be computed by multiply the predicted 20' wind speed X 0.4 (e.g. 20' @ 10 mph X 0.4 = predicted eye level winds at 4 mph) to determine if winds are predicted within prescription Min/Max. <u>In Timber</u> the eye level forecast winds can be computed by multiply the predicted 20' wind speed X 0.2 (e.g. 20' @ 10 mph X 0.2 = predicted eye level winds at 2 mph) to determine if winds are predicted within prescription Min/Max.
Wind Speed, eye level (MPH)	1	10	Measured on site with handheld wind gauge to ensure prescription is met
Wind Direction	Any Direction Acceptable		Overall, avoid winds out of the East to Southeast on burn units with adjacent roadways and homes to the west. Obtain from local forecast, fire weather forecast, or observation.
1 Hour Fuel Moisture %	5	13	As needed compute using the tables in Appendix C to determine if fuels are within prescription or at this link: https://kestrelinstruments.com/mwdownloads/download/link/id/251
10 Hour Fuel Moisture %	6	20	Generally about 2-5% higher than 1 hr. fuels
Mixing Height (Feet)	1500'	No Max.	This is the height smoke will rise to in the atmosphere. 1500 feet is minimum forecasted value to meet prescription minimum. The higher this number is the better as smoke will lift and disperse more readily. The mixing height is part of the Fire Weather Forecast and is also in the SPOT when requested.
Days Since Rain	1	5	Recommended guideline as indicator of dead fuel moisture levels. This is only a recommendation, not prescribed requirement.
Season	Year-Round		Generally March-April-early May are the spring burning season and September-October are the fall season. There is no restriction on burning at other times of the year however.

RECOMMENDED WIND VECTORS FOR SPECIFIC BURN UNITS

<u>BURN UNIT</u>	<u>RECOMMENDED WIND VECTORS</u>	<u>COMMENTS</u>
BEN GRAY	SE-S-SW-W-NW-N-NE	No East wind due to homes to West
TABOR FIELDS	E-SE-S-SW-W-NNW if burning the entire burn unit Parcels F54 / F53A & F53B ANY Wind Vector Allowable	No North wind when burning Parcel 53C and the Anderson Field due to homes immediately to South. Avoid West wind if possible when burning the Anderson Field (due to Anderson home being adjacent to the East) or use narrow strip heads burning from East to West through the Anderson Field to mitigate smoke impacts to the East.
SKEET RANGE	ANY	Too small to make a difference
MIDDLE FARMS FLATS	SE-S-SW-W-NW-N-NE	Avoid East winds due to smoke on East Main Road
CHOCOMOUNT COVE	SE-S-SW or NW-N-NE	No wind due East or due West due to homes directly East and West of the Burn Unit
CB FERGUSON WILDLIFE SANCTUARY PITCH PINES	ANY	Too small to make a difference

7-Logistics:

“A description of the logistics of the prescribed burn operation, number of personnel and description of duties, and fire management equipment that will be deployed to assure that the burn is restricted to the area or areas identified for prescribed burn management. This will include but not be limited to a description of the method of ignition, ignition pattern, containment, mop-up and patrol procedures.” (Part 194.5)

Preburn preparations:

Operational Period Briefing:

Equipment Assigned on Burn Day:

Personnel and Duties:

How Fire Behaves on the Ground:

Ignition sequence:

Test Burn:

Ignition Method:

Ignition Pattern:

Containment / Contingencies:

Mop Up and Patrol:

Safety plan:



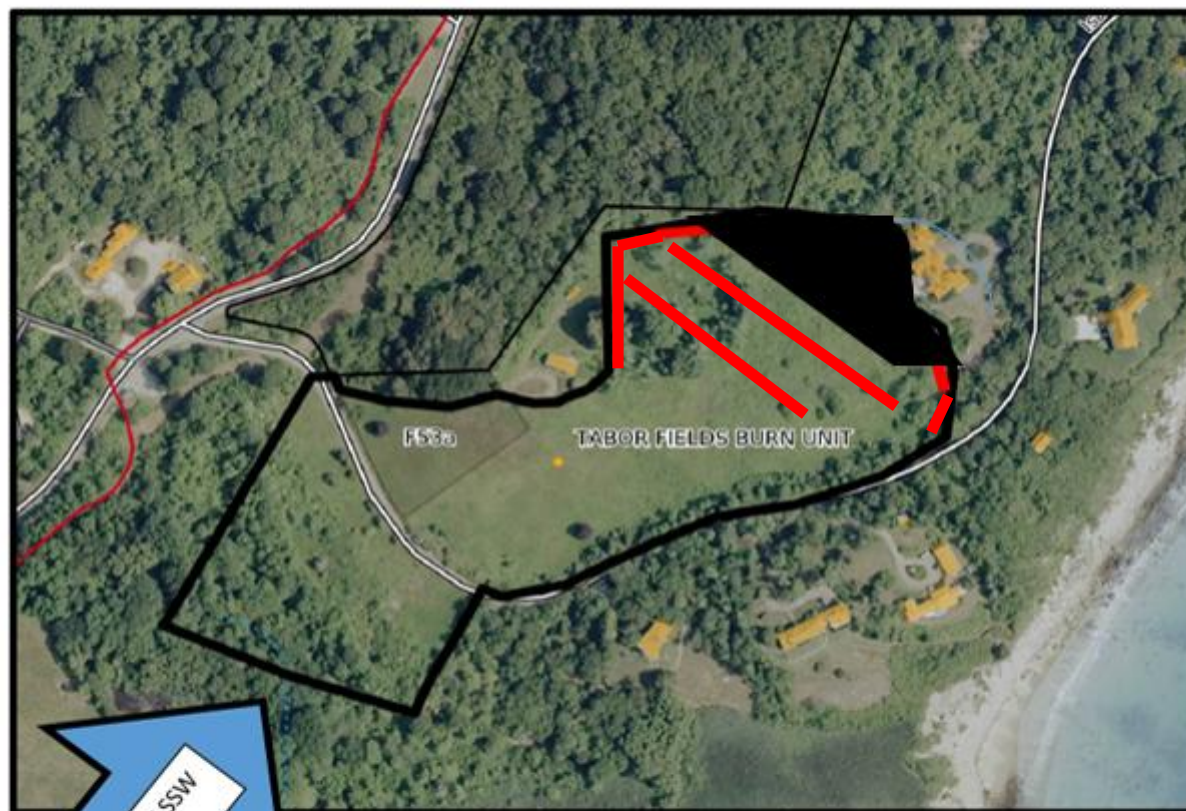
BEGIN WITH TEST FIRE, BACKING FIRE IN NE CORNER



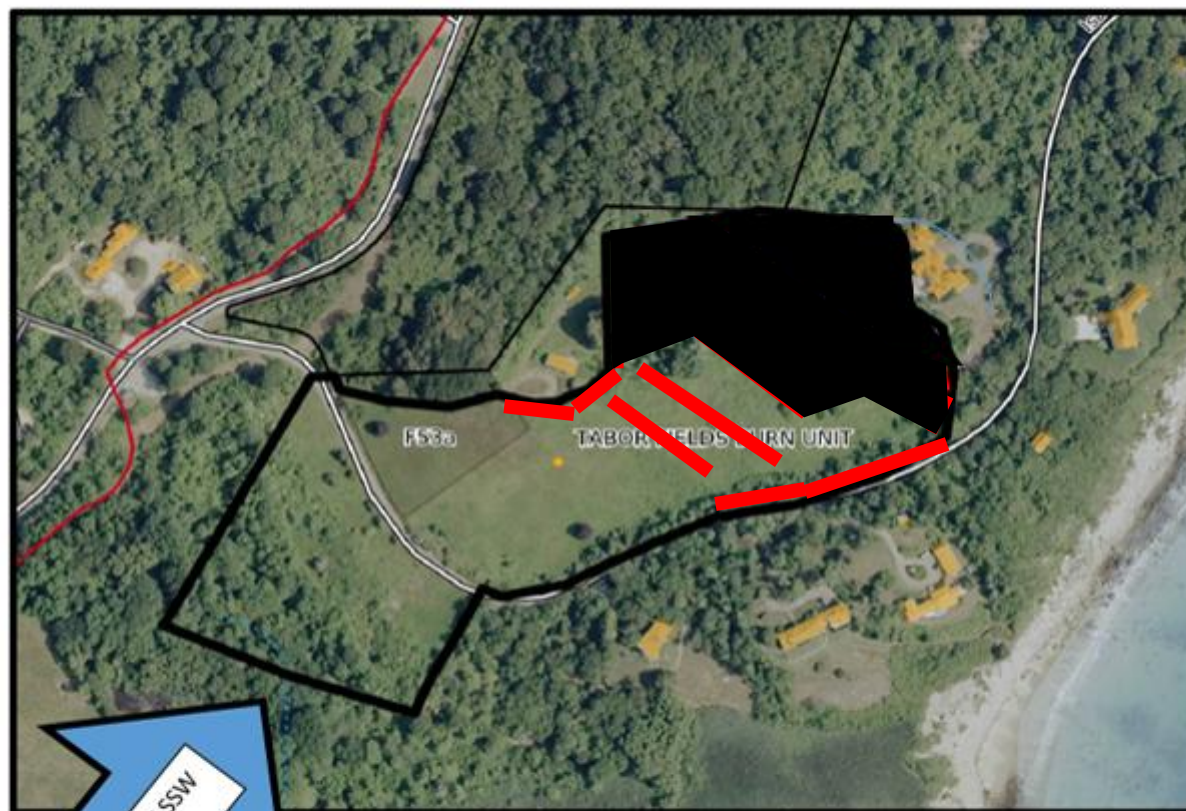
ONCE BACKING ANCHOR POINT ESTABLISHED AND TEST FIRE IS DEEMED SUCCESSFUL, CONTINUE BACKING IGNITIONS ON FLANKS AND BURN NARROW STRIP HEADS INTO THE ANCHOR POINT.



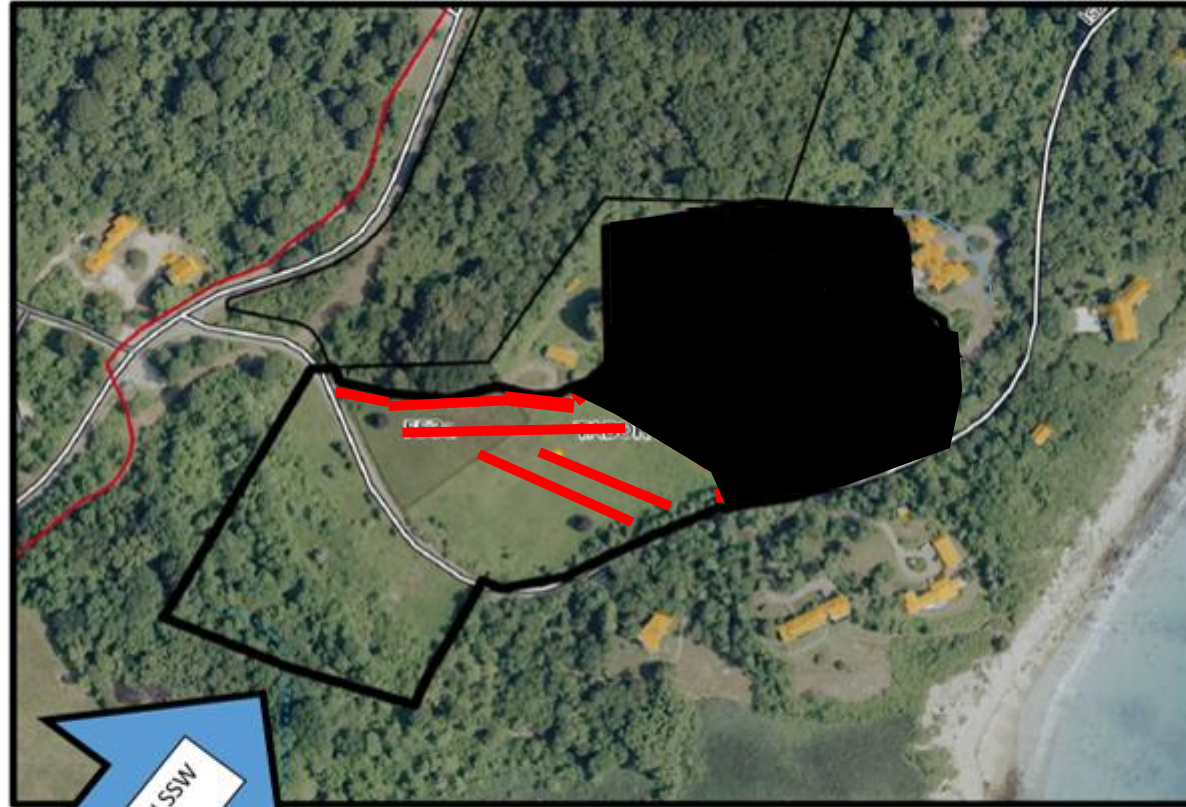
STRIP HEAD IGNITIONS BURN INTO BLACK ANCHOR POINT



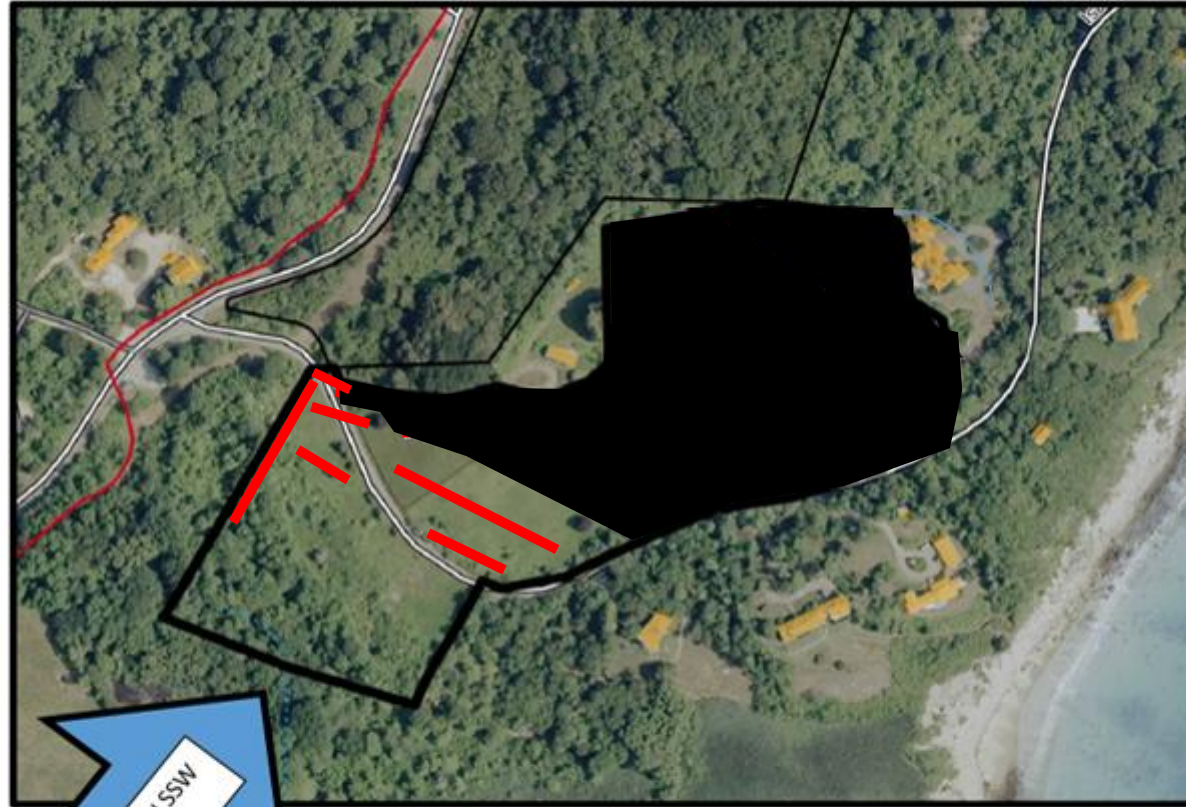
***CONTINUE BACKING IGNITIONS ON FLANKS AND ADD
ADDITIONAL NARROW STRIP HEADS INTO THE ANCHOR
POINT***



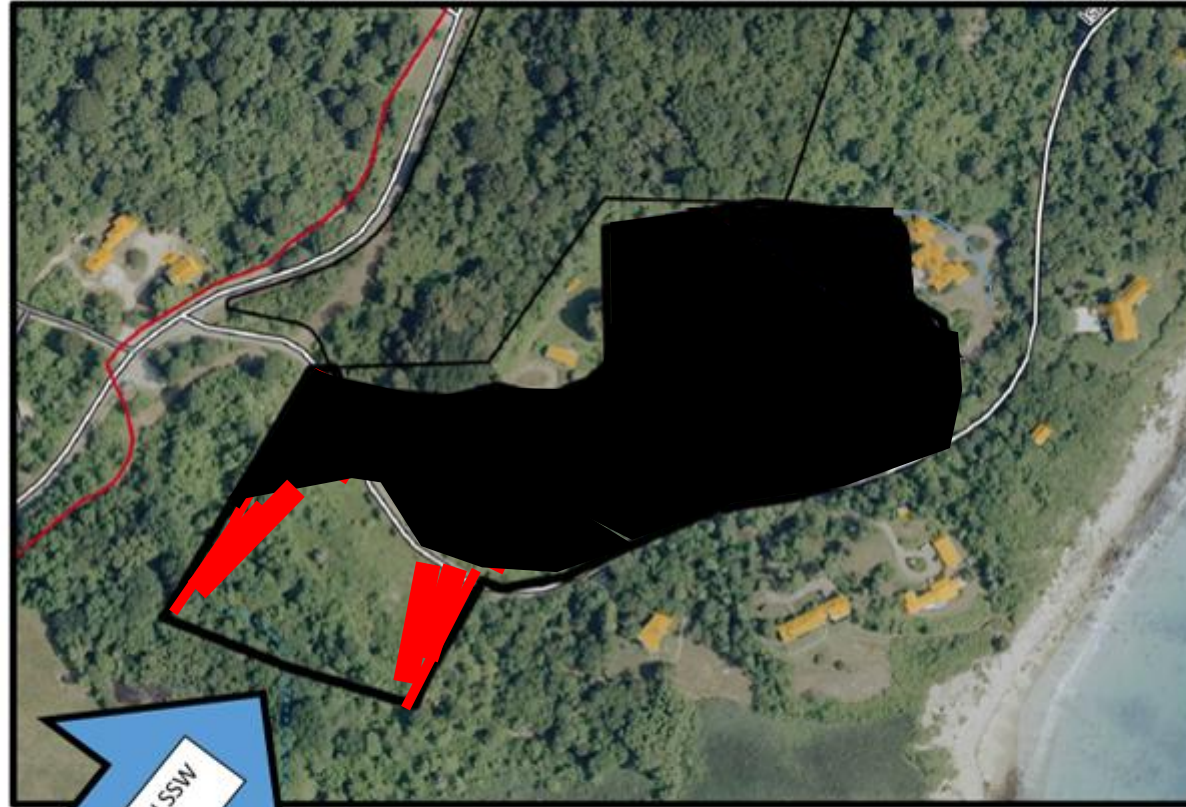
**CONTINUE BACKING IGNITIONS ON NORTH FLANK AND
ADD ADDITIONAL NARROW STRIP HEADS INTO THE
BLACK. ON SOUTH FLANK STRIP HEADS NOW LIT OFF THE
HOLDING LINE**



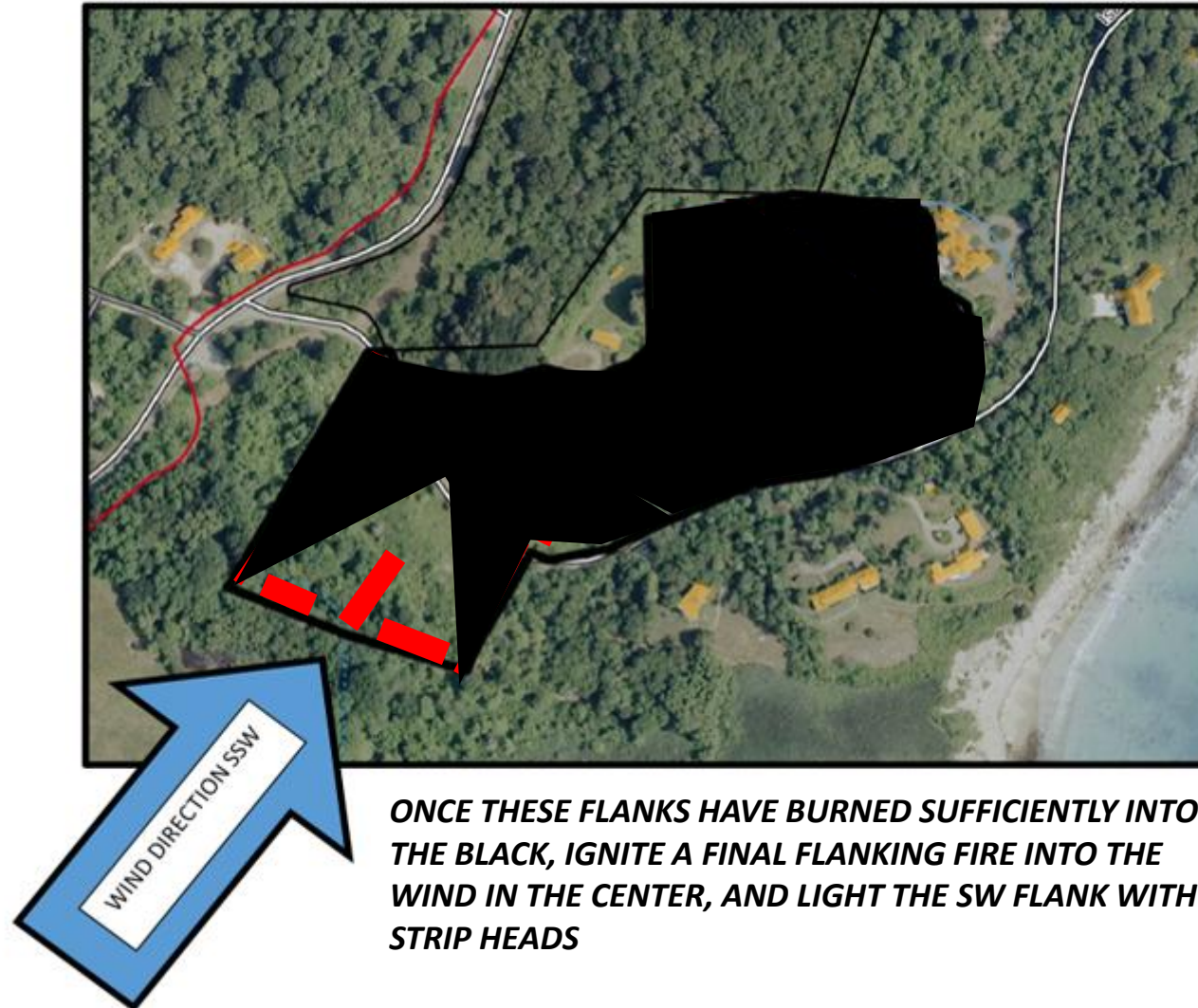
**YOU NOW HAVE 1/3 OF THE ENTIRE BURN UNIT SECURED.
CONTINUE BACKING FIRE ON NORTH FLANK TO THE WEST
AND ADD INTERIOR STRIP HEADS FROM NORTH TO
SOUTH**



CARRY NORTH FLANK BACKING FIRE ACROSS ISABELLA BEACH ROAD AND THEN CONTINUE BACKING DOWN WEST FLANK. LIGHT VERY NARROW STRIP HEAD ACROSS ROAD, THEN WHEN BLACK ENLARGES PUT MORE STRIP HEADS IN INTERIOR



***LIGHT FIRES ALONG REMAINING FLANKS INTO THE WIND.
FIRES WILL FLANK INTO THE INTERIOR. ALLOW FIRES TO
CONTINUE FLANKING INTO THE INTERIOR***



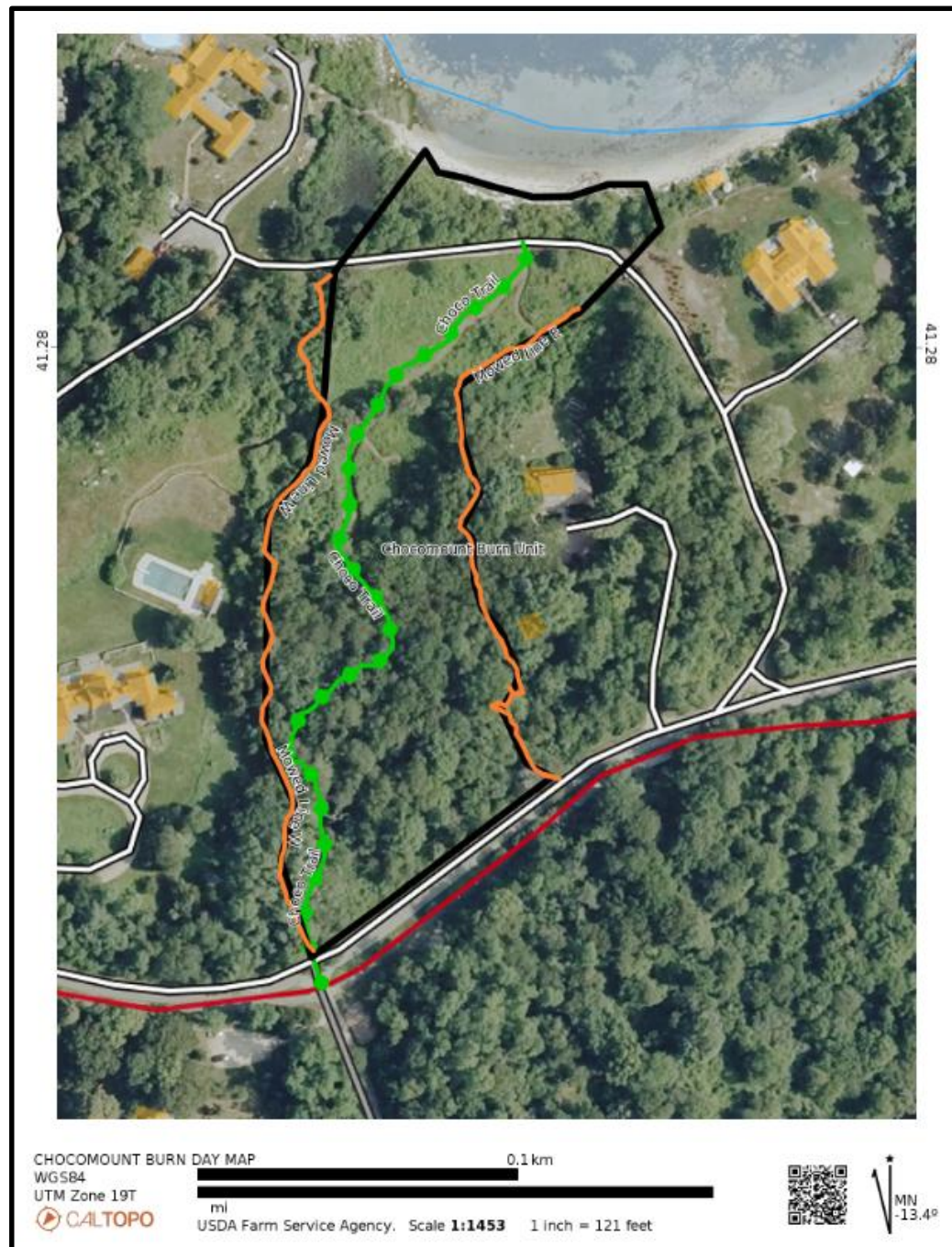
ONCE THESE FLANKS HAVE BURNED SUFFICIENTLY INTO THE BLACK, IGNITE A FINAL FLANKING FIRE INTO THE WIND IN THE CENTER, AND LIGHT THE SW FLANK WITH STRIP HEADS

BURN DAY MAPS FOR EACH BURN UNIT ARE INCLUDED IN APPENDIX A

These maps can be printed for handouts on burn day.

These maps are also Geo-Referenced PDF maps that can be used on phone mapping apps and other navigation devices.

The map files can be downloaded in the field by scanning the QR code. One scan takes you to the directory where all these burn day map files are stored.



12-Required signatures and approvals:

"The names and signature lines of the preparers of the prescribed fire plan, and for those who have the authority to review and approve the plan and modifications of the plan." (Part 194.5)

Prepared By: Robert A. Panko (Signature) Date 06/??/2026

Robert A. Panko

NWCG Prescribed Burn Boss Type 2, Risky Business Incident Management LLC

Reviewed By: _____ (Signature) Date: _____

Chris Aiello

Chief, Fishers Island Fire Department

Approved By: _____ (Signature) Date: _____

Kate Stevens

Executive Director Henry L. Ferguson Museum

Approved By: _____ (Signature) Date: _____

John Wernet

NYS Dept. of Environmental Conservation

Region One Forester