

SOUTHERN PINE BEETLE QUARTERLY UPDATE APRIL–JUNE 2019



Department of
Environmental
Conservation

Crews from New York State's Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) Division of Lands and Forests (DLF) and partner agencies continue to monitor for and battle the southern pine beetle (SPB) to help save the pine barrens on Long Island. For background information on SPB, please visit: <http://www.dec.ny.gov/animals/99331.html>.

Aerial Surveys and Mapping

- DLF staff Brent Kinal, Nathan Hudson, and James Rittenhouse completed aerial surveys on June 5th over the central core of the Long Island Pine Barrens.
 - They surveyed more than 800,000 acres, and
 - Mapped 3,973 acres of damaged pitch pine.
- The next aerial survey will be in August.



Top photo: Aerial photo of thinned stand in Sarnoff State Forest
Bottom photo: On-the-ground photo of same thinned stand

Ground Surveys and Suppression

- Ground surveys and suppression were conducted in Hubbard, Sears Bellows, Robert Cushman Murphy, and Northwest Harbor County Road County Parks, as well as Barcelona Neck State Forest.
 - DLF staff, along with Central Pine Barrens Joint Planning Commission staff, marked 64 SPB-infested trees and 43 buffer trees.
 - DLF staff cut 93 infested and buffer trees for SPB suppression. DLF did not cut 14 trees because SPB were no longer present in those trees and cutting would not positively affect suppression.



Forest Management

- A contractor for DLF marked nearly 500 acres for SPB preventative thinning in Rocky Point Pine Barrens State Forest.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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