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**NOTICE OF FOREST MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES AND PRESCRIBED BURNS TO BE
IMPLEMENTED ON THE NATURE CONSERVANCY'S OSS�PEE PINE BARRENS PRESERVE
August 30, 2017**

This notice is to inform you of management activities that are planned for The Nature Conservancy's Ossipee Pine Barrens Preserve this fall. The Conservancy is planning to conduct prescribed burns on up to 86 acres of the Preserve in two separate locations in the Town of Freedom near Ossipee Lake Road (please see attached map).

Prior to burning, additional mechanical fuel reduction will be completed, including mowing areas of dense scrub oak and creating or enhancing roads/trails to serve as firebreaks. Our mechanical fuel reduction activities are an important step in establishing the conditions necessary for safe implementation of prescribed burns, have the added benefit of reducing the risks of wildfire, and help to accelerate the restoration of the unique pine-barrens ecosystem.

Mechanical fuel reduction activities have largely been completed but some additional work will be completed within the next several weeks. Prescribed burns will be conducted when weather conditions permit between now and approximately the end of October, and when qualified fire crew members and equipment are available.

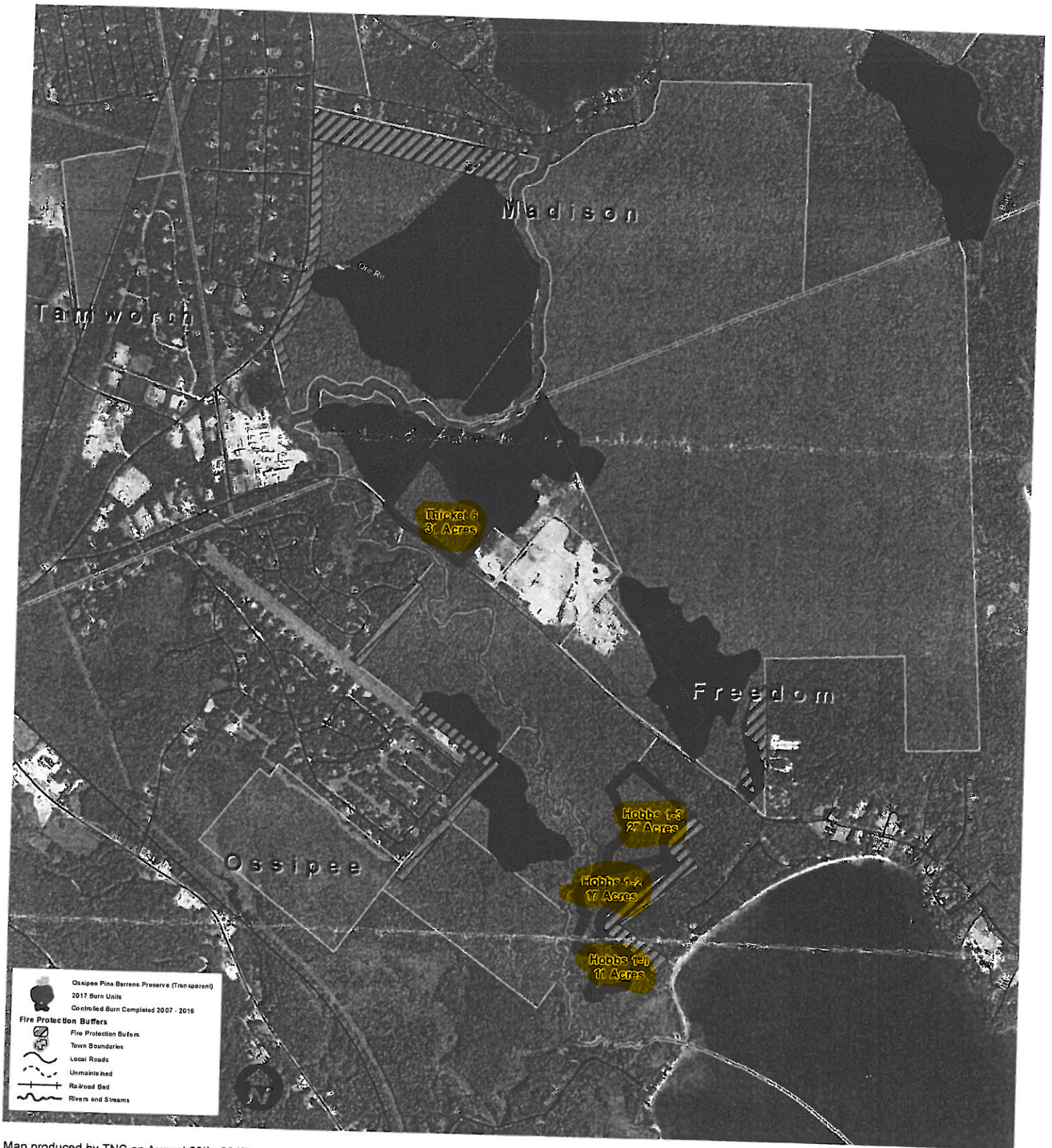
Important Information

Prescribed burns will generally be conducted between the hours of 11:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. In some cases, the areas burned will continue to smolder into the evening, and Conservancy staff will remain on site throughout this period and until the fire is fully extinguished.

While the Conservancy takes many precautions and measures to ensure that smoke from controlled burns is directed away from developed areas and neighboring homes, temporarily shifting winds, and smoldering after dark can direct smoke in unpredictable directions. **To minimize the chances of smoke entering your home, we ask that our neighbors keep their windows in their homes and vehicles closed during the burn operations, and until the burn areas are extinguished.**

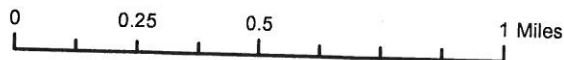
Because the actual burn dates will depend on weather conditions and the availability of crew and equipment, we are not able to provide exact dates at this time. In order for the Conservancy to provide notification to our immediate neighbors on the days we are planning to burn in the vicinity of residences, **we request that you provide us with a means of contacting you prior to prescribed burns**, such as a cell phone number or e-mail. This information should be directed to:

Jeffrey Lougee, Director of Stewardship and Ecological Management
(603) 356-8833
jlougee@tnc.org



Map produced by TNC on August 30th, 2017
 Aerial image captured for Dept. Agriculture 2016
 Scale 1:24,000

Ossipee Pine Barrens Preserve 2017 Management Areas



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