



**Sustaining Sandplain Grasslands as  
Regional Biodiversity Hotspots:  
The Sandplain Grassland Network  
Conference and Workshop  
November 15, 2021 - 9:45 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.  
PROGRAM AGENDA**

- 9:45 a.m.**     **Log on to Zoom**  
<https://woodwellclimate-org.zoom.us/j/87201478512?tk=RGlhNixIfYkBohNfqc5TcHXCVHyBk17ReYpwRrU9fM.DQMAAAAUTZz3cBZ2TVBBUTJiR1Q2YUg2dG9VMkU0U3FnAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAA&pwd=THdFVnJnb1AzZ0s3dVhtNXdWN1RRUT09>
- Meeting ID:** 872 0147 8512 - **Passcode:** 402933 - **Dial In:** +1 646 558 8656/ +1 301 715 8592
- 9:50 a.m.**     **Welcome and Introductions**  
*Bob Wernerehl, State Botanist, Natural Heritage & Endangered Species Program,  
Massachusetts Division of Fisheries & Wildlife*
- 10:00 a.m.**     **State of the Network**
- **An Update on Current SGN Activities:** *Chris Neill, Senior Scientist, Woodwell Climate Research Center*
  - **Successes and Future Challenges of Management of Northeast U.S. Coastal Sandplain Grasslands as Regional Biodiversity Hotspots:** *Sarah Bois, Director of Research and Education, Linda Loring Nature Foundation*
  - **Cumulative Plant Species List and Map of Coastal Sandplain Grassland and Heathland:** *Mike Whittimore, Stewardship Manager, MA - TNC*
  - **Sandplain Grassland Network Website Update:** *Karen Lombard, Director of Stewardship & Restoration, MA - TNC*
- 10:20 a.m.**     **State of the Network - Projects Inspired by Network Ideas/Guidance**
- **Disk Harrow Management at Nantucket Conservation Foundation's Head of the Plains Property:** *Jen Karberg, Research Program Supervisor, Nantucket Conservation Foundation*
  - **Seeding Strategy at Bamford:** *Mike Whittimore, Stewardship Manager, MA-TNC*
  - **Grassland Promotion Adjacent to Wetland Restoration at Former Cranberry Bogs in Massachusetts:** *Sara N. da Silva Quintal, Restoration Ecologist, Buzzards Bay Coalition*
  - **Range Shifts and Fire in a Future Climate:** *Chris Neill, Senior Scientist, Woodwell Climate Research Center*
- 11:10 a.m.**     **Sandplain Grassland Management Successes and Challenges Lightning Talks**  
*Polly Weigand, Science and Stewardship Manager - Central Pine Barrens Commission*
- **Updates to NatureServe Classification of Sandplain Grasslands and Systems:** *Julie Lundgren, State Parks Ecologist, New York Natural Heritage Program*
  - **Hiding in Plain Site - Mapping Soils that can Support Pine Barrens and Sand Plains:** *Jeff Corbin, Professor of Biology, Union College*
  - **Two Unique and Exemplary Sandplain Grassland sites with Northeast Endemic and Federally listed species - Maine and Massachusetts:** *Bob Wernerehl, State Botanist, Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program, Massachusetts Division of Fisheries and Wildlife*
  - **Wanted: Technical Specifications for Grassland Restoration Around Cranberry Bog Wetland Restoration Projects:** *Alex Hackman, Ecological Restoration Specialist, Mass Division of Ecological Restoration*

- **Mechanical and Fire Management at the Wells Barrens Preserve in Maine:** *Jon Bailey, Southern Maine Preserves Manager, The Nature Conservancy - Maine*
- **Concentration of Grassland Management Techniques and Biodiversity Response at Joint Base Cape Cod:** *Jacob McCumber, Natural Resources and Training Lands Management Program Manager, Massachusetts National Guard*
- **Sandplain Grassland Restoration Utilizing Goat Grazing:** *Julie Russell, Ecologist, Martha's Vineyard Land Bank Commission*
- **Recovered and Restored: Karner Blue Butterfly and Inland Pitch Pine-Scrub Oak Barrens:** *Neil Gifford, Conservation Director, Albany Pine Bush Preserve Commission*
- **Challenges of an Ecotypic Seed Network in New England:** *Uli Lorimer, Director of Horticulture, Native Plant Trust*
- **Mass Wildlife Grassland Management-** *Alex Entrup – Prescribed Fire and Restoration Ecologist*

**12:00 p.m. Lunch**

**1:00 p.m. A Facilitated Discussion on Network Driven/Supported Strategies to Improve Emerging Management Challenges Getting Enough Disturbance into Management**

*Moderator: Karen Beattie, Director of Science and Stewardship, Nantucket Conservation Foundation*

- **Climate Effects on Future Management:** *Moderator: Chris Neill, Senior Scientist, Woodwell Climate Research Center*
- **Seed Sourcing and Strategies for Seed Collecting and Growing to Scale**  
*Moderators: Polly Weigand, Science and Stewardship Manager - Central Pine Barrens Commission and Executive Director - Long Island Native Plant Initiative*  
*Mike Whittemore, Stewardship Manager, MA TNC*  
*Kelly Omand, Ecologist, Nantucket Conservation Foundation*  
*Uli Lorimer, Director of Horticulture, Native Plant Trust*

**2:30 p.m. Action Items and Next Steps for the Network**

*Co-moderators: Chris Neill, Senior Scientist, Woodwell Climate Research Center*  
*Karen Lombard, Director of Stewardship & Restoration, MA – TNC*

**3:00 p.m. End of Conference Program**

