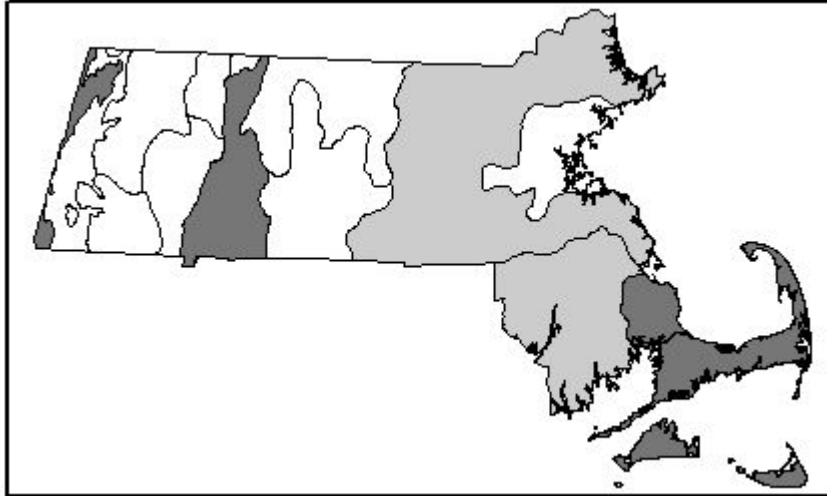


Community Name: SCRUB OAK SHRUBLAND

Community Code: CT2B1F1000

SRANK: S1



Concept: A shrubland dominated by scrub oak, with essentially no pitch pine, although within pitch pine - scrub oak areas.

Environmental Setting: Scrub oak shrublands occur within pitch pine / scrub oak communities, particularly in frost bottoms and frost pockets, and on ridge tops near ridge top pitch pine / scrub oak communities. They are part of a mosaic in space and time of grassland and heathland openings, shrublands, pitch pine / scrub oak communities, and oak / pine forest. The shrublands are to some extent maintained by late spring and early fall frosts damaging more susceptible competing tree species.

Vegetation Description: Scrub oak (*Quercus ilicifolia*) and dwarf chinquapin oak (*Q. prinoides*) dominated shrublands, with a variety of other heathland plants, including a significant component of graminoid cover and interspersed with patches of lichen. Characteristic plants besides scrub oak are huckleberry (*Gaylussacia baccata*), low bush blueberry (*Vaccinium angustifolium*), Pennsylvania sedge (*Carex pensylvanica*), little bluestem grass (*Schizachyrium scoparium*), and lichens (*Cladina* and *Cladonia* spp).

Associations:

Habitat Values for Associated Fauna: Refugia for rare, as well as more common, lepidopteran species dependent on oaks.

Associated Rare Plants:

COREMA CONRADII	BROOM CROWBERRY	SC
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Associated Rare Animals:

ABAGROTIS CRUMBI BENJAMINI	COASTAL HEATHLAND CUTWORM	SC
ACRONICTA ALBARUFA	BARRENS DAGGERMOTH	T
ANISOTA STIGMA	SPINY OAKWORM	SC
APHARETRA PURPUREA	BLUEBERRY SALLOW	SC
CATOCALA HERODIAS GERHARDI	GERHARD'S UNDERWING MOTH	T
CICINNUS MELSHEIMERI	MELSHEIMER'S SACK BEARER	T
CINGILIA CATENARIA	CHAIN DOT GEOMETER	SC
HEMILEUCA MAIA	COASTAL BARRENS BUCKMOTH	T

Natural Heritage & Endangered Species Program, Massachusetts Division of Fisheries & Wildlife

ITAME SP 1	PINE BARRENS ITAME	SC
LYCIA YPSILON	PINE BARRENS LYCIA	T
METARRANTHIS APICIARIA	BARRENS METARRANTHIS MOTH	E
PTICHODIS BISTRIGATA	SOUTHERN PTICHODIS	T
SEMIOTHISA EREMIATA	THREE-LINED ANGLE MOTH	SC
ZALE SP 1	PINE BARRENS ZALE	SC
ZANCLOGNATHA MARTHA	PINE BARRENS ZANCLOGNATHA	T

Examples with Public Access: Manuel F. Correllus SF, Martha's Vineyard; Long Point Reservation [TTOR], Martha's Vineyard; Middle Moors, Nantucket; Myles Standish SF, Plymouth; AND on ridgetops Mt Everett State Reservation, Mt. Washington.

Threats: Development and fragmentation of the entire systems.

Management Needs: Experiments are needed to ascertain the fire dependence/sensitivity of the community and its dependent species.

Synonyms

USNVC/TNC: Quercus ilicifolia Shrubland Alliance -- Quercus ilicifolia Shrubland [CEGL003883].

MA (old name): SCRUB OAK SHRUBLAND.

ME:

NH:

VT:

NY: Part of: Pitch pine - oak - heath woodland, Pitch pine/ scrub oak barrens.

CT: Quercus ilicifolia Shrubland.

RI: Within Pitch pine/ scrub oak barrens.

Weatherbee:

Author: P. Swain **Date:** 8/5/99