Fire Island Photo Interpretation Key

Class: Pinus rigida -Quercus coccinea / Vaccinium pallidum - (Morella pensylvanica) Forest (Pitch pine - Oak Forest)

TNC Alliance Code: I.C3.N.a.35 6381

CMI Code: 6381

Type Locator:
Restricted to the Floyd Estate

TNC Alliance Description: Matrix forest type of the central pine barrens of Long Island, New York, and possibly elsewhere. Canopy species include Pinus rigida, Quercus coccinea, Quercus velutina, Quercus alba. Quercus ilicifolia, Vaccinium pallidum, Morella pensylvanica (= Myrica pensylvanica) form a shrub layer, and the sparse herb layer is characterized by Pteridium aquilinum and Carex pensylvanica.

Photo Interpretation: This type is very similar to Quercus coccinea - Quercus velutina/Sassafras albidum/Vaccinium palladium Forest in color and texture except that the coniferous Pinus rigida is more dominant.

Aerial Photo Samples:

Field Notes: The overstory is a mix of *Pinus rigida*, *Quercus coccinea*, *Quercus velutina*, and *Quercus alba*. *Vaccinium* spp. and *Myrica pensylvanica* is prevalent in the understory.

Ground Photos:

Similar Alliances: Quercus coccinea - Quercus velutina / Sassafras albidum / Vaccinium pallidium Forest (Coastal Oak - Heath Forest): *Pinus rigida* may be present, but is not dominate.