

As of this writing, associations that are cultural, ruderal, planted, modified, managed, invasive, and/or semi-natural / altered, are not served on NatureServe Explorer. This modified/managed association is a synonym for a community type included in the Natural Communities of Virginia and the description is provided for user's of that classification.

“Modified/managed communities” are comprised of vegetation resulting from the management or modification of natural/near-natural vegetation, which produces a structural and floristic combination not clearly known to have a natural analogue. Modified vegetation may be easily restorable by management, time, or restoration of ecological processes.

Examples include:

jack pine barren stands that are managed for sharp-tailed grouse by annual burning (producing a bur oak-northern pin oak scrub grassland)

longleaf pine woodlands with canopies converted to slash pine but retaining ground flora characteristic of the longleaf pine woodland

pine forests silviculturally thinned to woodland structures

unimproved pastures resulting from removal of trees

strips of forest between lanes of divided highway (identifiable but all edge)

Data source NatureServe. 2014. International Ecological Classification Standard: Terrestrial Ecological Classifications. NatureServe Central Databases. Arlington, VA. U.S.A. Data current as of 16 January 2014.

M305-Southeastern North American Semi-natural Forest Macrogroup

G031-SOUTHEASTERN NATIVE SEMI-NATURAL FOREST GROUP

CEGL003620–*PINUS TAEDA* / *SCHIZACHYRIUM SCOPARIUM* WOODLAND

Loblolly Pine / Little Bluestem Woodland

Modified Loblolly Pine / Little Bluestem Woodland

Classif. Resp.: East

ELEMENT CONCEPT

Summary: This association is comprised of fire-maintained woodlands of the southeastern Coastal Plain and adjacent Piedmont, with an open to scattered canopy of *Pinus taeda* and herb layer dominated by *Schizachyrium scoparium*. The structure and composition of this community are maintained by fires set by military training; this presumably is not a naturally occurring community. It is only known from outside of the natural range of *Pinus palustris*.

ELEMENT DESCRIPTION

Environment: This fire-maintained woodland of the southeastern Coastal Plain and adjacent Piedmont is presumably not a naturally occurring community.

Vegetation: These are woodlands with semi-closed to very open canopies composed almost exclusively of *Pinus taeda*. Understory growth is typically sparse to negligible, but low colonies of *Rhus copallinum* are frequent. The herb layer is dominated by dense sods of *Schizachyrium scoparium* var. *scoparium*. *Danthonia spicata*, *Andropogon ternarius*, *Andropogon gyrans*, *Eragrostis spectabilis*, and *Gymnopogon brevifolius* are additional grasses with significant cover in two sampled plots (Fleming 2002b). The most common forbs are *Eupatorium hyssopifolium* var. *hyssopifolium*, *Solidago nemoralis*, *Lespedeza stuevei*,

Solidago pinetorum, *Symphyotrichum concolor* (= *Aster concolor*), and *Pityopsis aspera* var. *adenolepis* (= *Pityopsis adenolepis*). Many other forbs occur at very low cover.

Dynamics: This could have been a natural type in an area of infrequent but intense fire, where the older trees could have survived (G. Fleming pers. comm.).

Description Author: M. Pyne **Status:** 3 **Version:** 22-Sep-2008

ELEMENT GLOBAL RANK & REASONS

GRank: GNA

GRank Review Date: 1-Dec-

1997(modified/managed)

GReasons: Rank not applicable - Common cultural, ruderal, planted, modified, managed, invasive, and/or non-natural type that is not a suitable target for conservation activities.

Ranking Author:

Version: 1-Dec-1997

ELEMENT DISTRIBUTION

Range: This association is found in the southeastern Coastal Plain and adjacent Piedmont of Virginia.