

Newport Forest

May 11 2001

1:45 - 4:30 pm

Weather: cloudy, 20C, no breeze (the area has recently lacked rainfall)

Purpose: to check and water planted trees

Participants: Kee, Nic

To-day seemed an endless succession of journeys to creek and river, filling water jugs and carrying them to planting sites. Mosquitos, which were only occasional during our last visit, are now more numerous, although not up to full numbers yet.

While Nic watered the trees along the creek bluffs, from the trailer up to the UM , I watered the trees along both sides of Fleming Creek. While there, I had to wade the creek, giving me an opportunity to examine the deer (P) close up. The body cavity is now basically hollow and the right rib cage almost fully exposed. I hope soon to collect a variety of beetles from the carcass. Two trees had been dug up on the east bank (1BA, 1YB) but the west bank trees had been unmolested.

Nic reported that none of the trees along the bluff had been molested, although the two Serviceberries look peaky, having yet to sprout leaves. We joined forces to water the trees in the RZ, some twice for good measure. It looks like the tiny TT is packing it in, as well as one of the OBs and nearly all the oaks, which have been nipped by deer.

We then proceeded to Edgar's Road and the BCF, where I stayed to water and Nic went ahead to work the RL. Most of the trees on either side of Edgar's Road were doing well, especially the YB and SiM.

At the RL I re-watered the four Cedars which because of the recent lack of rain and the Cedar's heavy thirst, were turning brown-ish. We failed to locate two of the trees planted near a yellow flag on the River Bluffs near the RL! Pulled up? One of the WH seems moribund but the other seems healthy, leafing out strongly.

We were about to go up to the Hogsback, when it started to rain fairly heavily. By the time we got back to the trailer, the rain had subsided only to start up again as we left the property.

Birds: (no time to watch) Rose-breasted Grosbeak, Robin (both in BCF)

