

Newport Forest

June 30 2001

2:00 - 5:00 pm

Weather: sunny, hot 31C, humid, no breeze

Purpose: maintenance - trails

Participants: Kee, Nic

We checked the bridge -- still fine -- and made a salt lick tray, which we placed up on the creek bluff at the end of the gallery forest. We watered the trees up to the bluff, as well.

The LM was full of Skippers, plus a Ringlet.

We filled 7 bags with chips, setting 6 aside and taking the remaining bag down to FC, where we added a mere 10 m to the trail, using the one bag to chip this portion plus a previously stripped portion which had not yet been chipped. We carved new steps at the end of the bridge and set boards across the, staking in three of them.

Note: We found what is likely a Brown Snake in the wood chip pile. It did not resemble the Brown Snakes illustrated in the Peterson Guide, resembling a Smooth Earth Snake more closely -- but these are unknown in Canada. I took two photographs, but both came back out of focus. I got just a little too tight on it. It was an olive-grey, about 10" long and had two rows of small black spots along the sides of its dorsum. It is a dead match for a variety of Brown Snake found in Wisconsin. (See below.)

New species:

Brown Snake

Storeria dekayi [var *texana*]

LM/BCF