

Newport Forest

July 8 2001

2:00 - 5:00 pm

Weather: sunny, 30C, breeze from N, no clouds

Purpose: to visit Clam Island again to search for new species

Participants: Kee, Pat; Peter and Gaye Jackson

Arriving on the property, we parked behind the trailer and went down to inspect the new bridge. Pretty much as before. I walked Peter and Gaye to the end of the new Fleming Creek trail, then we returned. We then repaired to the RL, carrying the canoe with us. Pat and Gaye donned life jackets and paddled to Clam Island, while Peter and I sat around shooting the breeze.

When Pat and Gaye returned, they reported the exciting news that water levels were now low enough to expose extensive beds of live mussels surrounding Clam Island, but particularly upstream of it. They brought back a great many mussels (clams) and included some gastropods. One of these was already familiar to us as the Mammoth Lymnea or Giant Pond Snail, but the other two were new. (See below.)

We then went back to the trailer for refreshments. Sitting down on the bridge, Pat saw a duck swimming downstream toward her. When it saw a person, it immediately about-faced and paddled upstream around a bend and out of view. Pat and Gaye also saw a Muskrat swimming across the river when on their trip to Clam Island. Ebony Jewelwings are still very much in evidence along all the wet places.

Butterflies: Eastern Tiger Swallowtail; Great Spangled Fritillary; Monarch; Cabbage White; European Skipper; Red Admiral.

Birds: Cat Bird (RL); Chickadee (LM); Cedar Waxwing (TR)

New Species:

Flat-sided Horn Snail	<i>Pleurocera acuta</i>	CI
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Great Lakes Horn Snail	<i>Goniobasis livescens</i>	CI
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Note: These are the only Horn Snails (Pleuroceridae) found in the Great Lakes region!