

Newport Forest

September 1 2001

1:40 - 6:00 pm

**Weather:** no precip, sunny, clear, brz from NW, LM 28C, FCF 19P

**purpose:** maintenance - trailP

**participants:** Kee and Nic

To-day I intended to place metre-stakes on all the trails but we succeeded in measuring only the FCT and the first 200 m of the BCT. At metre 278 of the FCT we came upon what appears to be a disturbed owl pellet, with tufts of “churned” greyish fur and characteristically chewed and broken bone fragments. We found the mandibles and maxillae of a young raccoon, about 2/3 adult size, along with teeth, some claws, a humerus, and a scapula. The cranium had been completely fragmented. (S)

Nearby, I found a Hexagonal-pored Polypore growing from the side of a log. (S)

We took up staking where we had left off several weeks ago. Metre 700 turned out to be about half way through HW, where I stopped to check some trees. One that I thought might be a Butternut turned out to be an exceptionally large Walnut in which the bark, instead of having the normally furrowed appearance of a “mature” Walnut, had broken into squarish plates matching the appearance in *Trees in Canada*.

Harvey's Woods has a great many Beeches, more than it “should” have relatively speaking. Did he cut all the maples? There are few enough left. The subdominant trees currently seem to be Bitternut Hickory and White elm, in that order. We passed the spot (Metre 720) where Pat and I had found so many fungi on our last visit. The Owl's Eyes were much larger and a fresh Netted Rhodotus (P) was growing on one of the logs.

The 800-metre stake went in just above the foot of Tower Hill and just before this, I spotted an all-green tussock moth caterpillar. Near the 900 metre stake, I found what appeared to be a huge bolete on the ground near a Red Oak. I dug it out with the hunting knife (P), only to discover that unlike most boletes, it had a root.

The 1000-metre stake was placed just the other side of the hydro tower and the 1100-metre stake went in about half way down the hill in Eva's Woods. The 1200-metre stake was beside Fleming Creek and what I thought would be the last stake had to be placed at metre 1290, just three metres short of the junction with

the beginning of the trail opposite the bridge. We had come full circle. The following distances should be noted:

trailer to junction: 92 m

Fleming Creek circuit: 1201 m

combined length: 1293 m (about 1.3 km)

We took our break in the trailer, where nic noted a mouse running about. We found it amusing and expressed gratitude that Pat wasn't there. With little time left, we headed out with two more stakes, determined to at least make a start of measuring the HB circuit. Near the 100-metre stake, Nic noticed a Walkingstick insect, our first on the property proper. We installed the 200-metre stake and then, on our way out, Nic noticed a huge mass of yellow cushiony-looking fungus on a horizontal log by the trail at about 80m. (S)

We passed a Garter Snake as we crossed the LM and noted that the Goldenrod was now peaking. Good time for a Bumblebee survey! On the way out, a large hawk swooped over the van and flew down into the NCF. We only saw it edge-on, but suspect it was one of our "resident" Red-tails.

Very few birds were in evidence to-day. We heard only Robins, Blue Jays and a Chickadee.

### **New Species:**

Hexagonal-pored Polypore      *Favolus alveolaris*      KD NCF

Rooted Polypore      *Polyporus radicans*      KD TH

Bearded Tooth      *Hericium [erinaceus]*      nm/KD BCF

**Note 1:** although it has all the proper morphological characters, this fungus was not on a "living tree" (ref. Lyncof)

**Note 2:** The mystery polypore called "Rusty Bracket" in the Au27 fungi report may in fact be the Mustard-yellow Polypore (*Phellinus gilvus*). The specimen in question *had* a yellow rim when collected and has all the other characters. Must be checked again.