

Newport Forest

November 11 2001

1:40 - 5:30 pm

Weather: prec. 4 mm; LM 6 C; FCF 4 C; cloudy/clearing, var. brz.

Purpose: construction & maintenance

Participants: Kee. Nic

Coming in, we spied Snooper snooping around in the upper meadow. When she saw me coming, she ran for the house as if her life depended on it. (It did.) Stopping at the nursery, we dug 4 rows of earth, completing the first plot and starting on the second.

Passing the deer blind on our way to the trailer, we spied a black and white barn cat (or feral cat) lurking at the base of the tree, watching us pass as though we were intruders. At the trailer we filled the feeders and scattered some old biscuits that Pat wanted to get rid of. Before we knew it, several White-breasted Nuthatches had congregated around our feeders, while a Chickadee visited the suet feeder. Two Blue Jays flew over the LM at this time, as well.

Inspecting the bridge, Nic spied two schools of minnows in the water below the bridge. I suggested we deploy the trap, which we subsequently did. We loaded up on fresh signs, a board, a hammer and the staple-gun, then headed down to the RL. The river is gradually subsiding, having already dropped a few inches below the top of Nina's Rock. A GBH occupied the top of the rock, but took off when it saw us coming.

We walked along the riverbank game trail east into Eva's property, crossed the mouth of FC overran old willow that had fallen across it, the nailed a board to a tree on the other side and stapled a NO HUNTING sign to the board. We then took the RST along the bluffs and into the RSF, where we put up three new NO HUNTING signs, noting that the old ones were still fairly clear.

Back at the bridge, Nic found no fish in the trap, so he proceeded to dip a tiny minnow out of the shallows. He wanted to take it home to see if he could rear it. I put another NO HUNTING sign by the bench at Eva's 180.

After this, we drove back up to the nursery, dug two more rows each, then went out to the road, changing four of the six signs there, the driving down to Eva's gate, where we put up one last NO HUNTING sign.