

Newport Forest

June 6 2002

1:45 - 6:35 pm

**Weather:** prec. 17mm; overcast/clrng; wnds lt/var NE; LM 22 (18); FCF 18

**Purpose:** Birdwatching and fishing

**Participants:** Pat, Kee, Michelle Carnery; Darren Jacobs; Steve Logan

As soon as we entered the property, Pat and michelle split off. I drove down to the LM, where I met Darren and Steve. We went down to the River Landing and from there followed the game trail to the mouth of Fleming Creek. The banks were steep and slippery and we had to negotiate a 60-degree grade aroups fallen branches to get to some level ground right at the mouth. Steve fished downstream about 20 m from Darren, who was right at the mouth. We could see a plume of relatively clear water mixing into the sediment-laden waters of the Thames.

The first interesting fish was nearly caught, but got away: A Gar Pike. Folowing this, Darren and Steve caught several Channel Cats (P), as well as one Mud Cat (P). Darren then caught a "Silver Bass" (P). He kept the latter fish, as well as three catfish for his pond back home. After I left to check up on Pat and Michelle, Darren caught a Sheepshead, a species we had already recorded.

Pat and Michelle had a pretty good afternoon, recording 41 species of birds (See Pat's report). Her best bird of the day was a Common Yellowthroat. Pat also found a Catbird Nest on the W side of FC in EW. She could see, by use of her clever bicycle-mirror cane, that it had three blue eggs in it. The parents complained nearby until Pat and michelle left.

After the fishing, Darren and Steve joined us for lunch, then left. I checked the trees one more time, then went down to FC to get a sample rock with one of those long algal "tresses" from the rapids. A fish trap ^had put in FC earlier caught nothing.

**New Species:**

(birding)

Common Yellowthroat (new?)

(fishing)

Longnose Gar                      *Lepisosteus osseus*                      TR/FC

White Bass                        *Morone chrysops*                      TR/FC

Pumpkinseed                      *Lepomis gibbosus*                      TR/FC

"Mud Cat" (This may be a young Yellow Bullhead or a Stonecat: I will wait until

the photos I took get developed.)

(creek sample)

Cladophora

*Cladophora [glomerata]*

FC/rapids

Diatom

*Diatoma vulgare*

FC/rapids

Diatom

*Rhoicosphenia curvata*

FC/rapids