

Newport Forest

October 14 2002

1:45 - 7:15 pm

Weather: prec. 1 mm, clear; calm; LM 17C ; FCF 12C

Purpose: to continue RSF survey

Participants: Pat, Kee and Nic (in rental car)

We stopped at the tree station to give extra water to the trees, now either dying or going dormant (it's hard to tell which). The drought-buster is now nearly empty, ready for complete draining in November.

The trees in the island (nucleus), like the ones in the station, are also turning brown/yellow. Only one Sycamore and one Honey Locust are still green. We noted that even the trees (some White Ash, some Black Walnut) that have seeded in naturally in the LM are also turning that same indeterminate brown as the planted trees.

Pat went bird-watching across the UM and hydro lines, while Nic walked the FCT, partly to keep it walked, partly to look for Junior. He found a very nice Bear's Tooth fungus growing on a log. He reported hearing lots of birds, including a Red-tail Hawk, seeing many deer tracks as well as an American Toad on the trail.

Nic and I went into the RSF to continue the tree survey, moving our venue from Plot #5 to Plot #1, as it was more open and accessible, given my weakened condition. (Details not included here, as they eat up too much space - see Survey database). On the HB, we found "Lotor" back in the old Black Maple. Pat, meanwhile, had gone to the river to collect plants and to look for birds. (See list below.)

We waited until sundown, hoping that Junior would show up. No such luck. Nic left some crackers and chee-tos in his box.

Birds: (10)

American Robin (LM); Black-capped Chickadee (RL); Blue Jay (trailer); Downy Woodpecker (ET); Great Blue Heron (TR); Red-bellied Woodpecker (trailer); Red-tailed Hawk (HW); Tufted Titmouse (LM/GF); Yellow-rumped Warbler (LM/GF); White-breasted Nuthatch (Tr);