

Newport Forest

November 6 2003

1:55 - 5:35 pm

Weather: prec. 23 mm; overcast; calm; LM 8 C; FCF 8 C

Purpose: tree planting

Participants: Kee, Nic

According to Nina, Steve had been in this morning to check on the property.

The Thames has backed up into Fleming Creek, bringing the water level to within 50 cm of the bridge decking. In spite of the high water, the bridge performed very well. We took 15 of the BM I had tagged last summer along the FC bluffs below the trailer, moving five of them into the FC north core and five into the FC south core (behind the GM monitoring plot).

After a break in the nook, we planted the remaining five in the Blind Creek core.

In each case, we took the usual steps: plant the sapling in its own soil, roots intact except where-shover-pruned; tamp earth down slightly prior to watering; attach tree-guard; water the sapling, tamp earth down fully, pile branches and deadfall around sapling to protect it from digging-out.

I tried a new technique for bud-protection, placing a section of large-calibre soda-straw over some five buds in the LM S core. I must now get many more soda-straws for the remaining buds (hundreds).

Near the end of our stay, I suggested that Nic walk the TR trail while I cleaned butternuts. It was slow work and I had barely completed cleaning half the bag (about 50) when Nic returned.

Phenology: We saw a TV over FCF this afternoon.