

Newport Forest

May 16 2004

2:00 - 5:35 pm

Weather: prec. 8 mm; clear, WSW < 10 kmh; LM 19 C; FCF 20 C

Purpose: maintenance

Participants: Kee, Dylan

Arriving at the trailer, we went down to FC to check the bridge. It was in good shape. We then went up to the TS, where Dylan and I replaced the sunscreen that had fallen down last autumn. We did some cultivating of the heavy soil in Bed A of the TS, then I planted the remaining Buckeyes (not sure what type).

Back at the trailer, I checked the trees in the LM, then we headed over to the FCF core. The young beeches that I bought from Mathis are now leafing out very nicely. Checking out a Cottonwood that I had planted on slightly higher ground near the core area, we started up a Wild Turkey from our very feet. She had been sitting on a clutch of a dozen or so eggs inside a little copse of Blackcap stems that either grew together in that manner (like a little hut) or which she had arranged. I went to photograph the eggs, only to find that my camera was out of film!

Dylan then took the canoe down the creek (which was easily high enough to paddle right to the mouth) to look for the remaining bridge elements. He found one deck section and the ramp, both hung up in a pile of woody debris near the mouth of the creek. At this point Steve and Karen arrived conveniently to help us carry the two pieces back to the bridge and to install them. We then left the property to visit the Turkey Vulture nest that Steve had told us about behind his place at the rez.

Birds:

American Crow (BCF); American Robin (LM); Baltimore Oriole* (GF); Black-capped Chickadee (Tr); Blue Jay (Tr); Eastern Towhee (UM); Mourning Dove (FCF); Red-bellied Woodpecker (Tr); Rose-breasted Grosbeak (LM); Song Sparrow (LM); Wild Turkey (FCF/NC)

*carrying food or nesting material