

Newport Forest

Thursday December 21 2006

1:10 - 450 pm

Weather: prec. 0mm; RH 74%; ovcast; calm; LM 8C; GF 7C

Purpose: maintenance

Participants: Kee & Steve

Fleming Creek is now flowing almost normally, with a dingy green colour of newly recruited algae. Steve arrived with some steel stakes and a hand-driver, so we went down to the creek and drove one stake just a few feet upstream from the oft-suppressed Tulip Tree to the left of the trail, leaving the one on the right to be protected by the two wooden stakes previously installed. We went on to the log bridge, to stake down both ends with shorter pieces of steel.

Following a break, we walked the TRT, clearing out one fallen tree on the BC side of the Hogsback with great difficulty (during which the head came off Steve's axe). We walked the rest of the trail, noting two more logs that had yet to be cleared, as well as a well-worn (small) game trail leading from the HB down into the RSF, where, at the base of an old basswood (with holes in it) the trail forked. Steve thought that muskrats might also be using the trail, although I only found coon tracks on it. The Thames is running the same greenish colour as Fleming Creek.

I saw/heard only five spp. of birds today: WBN; DEJ; RBW; AC; BCC

New species: (Malaise)

'Black Spider Wasp'	[<i>Anoplius</i>] sp. (not sr)	RL nz/KD J131/05
'Black Flower Wasp'	s.fam. Tiphinae	RL nz/KD J131/05
Burying Beetle	<i>Nicrophorus</i> [<i>orbicollis</i>]	RL nz/KD Au21/05
Blue-winged Rove Beetle	<i>Philonthus cyanipennis</i>	RL nz/KD Au21/05
'Dappled Rove Beetle'	[<i>Ontholestes cingulatus</i>]	RL nz/KD Au21/05
Margined Soldier Beetle	<i>Chauliognathus</i> [<i>marginatus</i>]	RL nz/KD Au21/05
'Small-headed Darkling'	Tenebrionidae sp. A	RL nz/KD Au21/05
'Grey Bruchid'	Bruchidae sp. A	RL nz/KD Au21/05
'Black False Darkling'	[<i>Melandrya striata</i>]	RL nz/KD Au21/05

Descriptions of Species

Tenebrionidae sp. A: 7-8 mm; all black, head small (0.5mm wide), rows of punctae on elytra; pronotum stipple-punctate, thorax & abdomen same width at

joint.

Bruchidae sp. A: 6-7 mm; black ventrally, brown dorsally, covered with fine, appressed hairs; antennae serrate, gradually and slightly clubbed; coxae 3 shiny & black standing out from greyish colour of hairs; two dark maculae on rear of elytra; thorax widest at the middle. (convex)