weather:  prec. 26mm; RH n/a; sn; calm; LM 6C; GF 4C
purpose:  videography and food drop
participants:  Kee

Steve Logan’s truck was down at the trailer when I arrived on site. He emerged from the BCF a few minutes later. We went up to the West Meadow, opened the slip gate and checked Steve’s work of last Sunday. He’ll be back Sunday morning, the rest of us in the afternoon to finish cutting thorn trees. We did a quick burn test. In spite of the puddles of water about, the flames spread rapidly to three hummocks, threatening still others. Steve and I stamped the fires out. “A good burn will do wonders for this meadow,” said Steve.

I returned to the trailer alone, set up, and headed to the TRT for a video/food drop walk. The full field pack, the walking staff and tripod amounted to one more item than I liked to lug, so I hung the tripod off the field pack and this worked well enough. I took two pans of the Thames from the RL, two more from the bluffs bench. Inside the RSF, I took a slow pan across sunlit snow carpeting the woods. The drops were smaller stall than last time, as I taper this operation off to zero.

On the way to the RSF, I noted many tracks, including what looked like those of a weasel crossing the bluffs trail. After returning to the trailer, I decided to go back to make some notes on the tracks. Later, at home, there could be little doubt: a White-footed Mouse. It’s interesting to compare the life-styles of a WFM living in the trailer and one enduring the harder (?) regime of the river bluffs, a mad dash from shrub to thicket then up the tree it calls home. Superb climbers!

mammals:
Eastern Gray Squirrel (BCF/ET; Virginia Deer (RSF); Eastern Cottontail (ET); Raccoon (BCF); Striped Skunk (RSF); White-footed Mouse (BT)

birds:
American Crow (HB); Black-capped Chickadee (GF); Canada Goose (TR); Dark-eyed Junco (Tr); Downy Woodpecker (GF); Northern Cardinal (HB); Red-bellied Woodpecker (Tr); Rough-legged Hawk (FL/NF); White-breasted Nuthatch (GF); Wild Turkey (Tr)