

Newport Forest Tuesday June 24 2008

2:15 - 6:50 pm

weather: prec. 17 mm; RH 68%; BP 100.02 kPa; sn/cld; calm; LM 28° C

purpose: to set up cover boards for newts, etc.; starting RZ inventory

participants: Kee

After putting out bird seed and taking the weather, I took the first cover board (referred hereinafter as a 'Newt Hotel') down to the creek, setting it up in what I hope is good newt/salamander habitat -- beside the lower rapids on a gently upsloping bank about 5m from the water's edge and about 2m elevation above the creek. The mosquitoes are as thick as ever and the herbaceous vegetation continues to overgrow trails. I brush-hooked the FCT down to the creek, just to keep it walkable.

I checked the monitor cameras, noting that cam #2 (now at the TS) was behaving itself, having taken only 17 pictures, rather than 350 or so. Neither of the other cams had any images, but I changed data cards just in case the systems were lying.

I carried the other two newt hotels into the BCF, where I stowed them for placement on another visit. After a break, I then began an inventory of new trees (both planted and volunteers) along the RZ strip next to the GF. (See attached page.) Terry Keep came by shortly after 6 pm to inspect the slip gate in the WM. He thinks we can easily get two new posts and a pair of swing gates installed there.

Spotted two chipmunks, one at each tray feeder, a (black phase) Eastern Grey Squirrel in the GF and a Meadow Jumping Mouse crossing the land track twice. (They seem to be active in daylight, rather than nocturnal like other mice.) I also saw a new horse fly at The Hole, noting five field marks. I collected some twig galls infesting a young hickory tree. (BH) At the tray feeder, a father RBW fed two young fledglings.

birds (17)

American Crow (LM); American Goldfinch (LM); American Robin (GF); Blue Jay (GF); Brown-headed Cowbird (GF); Common Grackle (Rd); Common Yellowthroat (GF); Field Sparrow (LM); Gray Catbird (GF); Great Crested Flycatcher (GF); House Wren (Rd); Mourning Dove (Tr); Red-bellied Woodpecker (Tr); Rose-breasted Grosbeak (GF); Song Sparrow (HBF); Tree Swallow (Rd); Turkey Vulture (TR)

new species:

‘Three-spotted Horse Fly’ *Tabanus [trimaculatus]* BCF/LM KD Je24/08
‘Hickory Twig Gall Aphid’ *Phylloxera caryaecaulis* GF KD Je24/08

phenology: Michigan Lillies in full bloom

RZ inventory: Strip 1 (W to E along GF)

sp.	ht + grwth	volunteer (v) or planted (p)
WE	6' + 4"	v
NC	3.5' + 6"	p
AP	5.5' + 1'	v
HB	4' + 2'	v
BH	3' + 6"	v
WA	5' + 4"	v
WA	7' + 1'	v
WA	12' + 1.5'	v
(trailer here)		
WA	2.5' + 1'	v
BH	3.5 + 1'	v
BW	3' + 6"	v
BH	2' + 5"	v
HT	6.5' + 3"	p
AB	4' + 1'	v
BH	3' + 5"	v
AB	3' + 1.5'	v
RB	6" + 1'	p (resprout)
SH	1' + 8"	v
BH	1' + 3"	v
WA	1.5' + 3"	v
BH	3' + 4"	v
BH	1' + 3"	v
SF	1.5' + 1'	p (transplanted from TH)
PO	2' + 1'	p