

Newport Forest Wednesday September 17 2008

2:10 - 6:00 pm

Weather: prec. 13 mm; RH 58%; BP 99.68 kPa; clr; WSW 0-10kh; T 28° C

Purpose: trail lining, resetting trail cams

Participants: Kee, Brian, Jamie

The road in, although badly scarred by spinning truck tires, was not as bad as I had feared. There were deep ruts along several stretches, however and these will have to be leveled off. We startled a Wild Turkey hen when we arrived at the trailer. Brian made to run after it, vowing to cook it for dinner.

We took the TRT to the SB trail and, while Brian & Jamie completed that trail, I located the large polypore I had photographed last week, finding it badly deteriorated, but with several fresh specimens fruiting nearby. (Greg Thorn wanted me to collect samples in case this unusual-looking *P. squamosus* turned out to be *P. admirabilis*, a very rare species -- more to come) Beside the newly made trail I spotted a small green moth which I made notes about (forgetting to photograph it). At home later I decided that it was most likely a "Bad Wing" (*Dyspteris abortivaria*) but the wings were not held outward, but backward, it being otherwise identical. There are no other small, all-green moths of that description in the area, but the discrepancy prevented me from listing it as a new species.

Having set Brian & Jamie to work lining the main trail, I walked out, passing a beautiful garter snake of the blue-scaled variety. (P) I picked up another goldenrod specimen for Pat, along with a fallen "oak apple" on the HB. There are three genera of Cynipid wasp that make apple galls, but this one most closely resembled the ones made by *Amphibolips* wasp spp.

At the trailer I rescued the plant specimens I had left there in the confusion of our last visit. I enjoyed watching a little shoving match between a Mourning Dove and a Chipmunk at the Hickory tray feeder. The chippie would make a dash at the dove to dislodge it and the dove would bat it with its wing, driving it back.

I checked the returned Cam #1, changed the card and remounted it at its old spot in The Hole. I mounted Cam #2 at the TS and left Cam #3 on the trail to the creek. I changed batteries and cards on all three cameras. By then the crew had finished lining up to the HB, completing the trail work for the season.

Brian brought a caterpillar with him from the woods. "What's this?" I recognized

the distinctive Pandora Sphinx caterpillar (P) instantly from our A'Nowaghi survey of the 1990s. I thought we already had it on the master list for Newport Forest, but it turned out to be new, so I paid Brian the new species bonus of \$10.

Birds: (7)

American Crow (FCF); Blue Jay (GF); Mourning Dove (Tr); Red-bellied Woodpecker (BCF); Turkey Vulture (LM); Wild Turkey (Tr); White-breasted Nuthatch (GF)

New species:

Pandora Sphinx Moth	<i>Eumorpha pandorus</i>	BCF bc/KD Sp17/08
Oak Apple Gall Wasp	[<i>Amphibolips</i>] sp.	HB KD Sp17/08
Canadian Horseweed	<i>Erigeron canadensis</i>	RSF kd/PD Sp14/08

Phenology: Silver Maple saplings turning red, Sulphur butterflies now most abundant lep.