

# Site Visit Report

Newport Forest Wednesday July 28 2009 2:00 - 8:00 pm

weather: prec. 19 mm; RH 68%; BP 98.7 kPa; ovcast; calm; T 24 ° C  
purpose: maintenance  
participants: Kee, Steve Logan

We began our maintenance work at the Tree Station (TS), where Steve stripped off all the old shutters and removed the shade panels from the roof, while I pulled out all the boards and shade cloth from the tree beds inside. We found one tree remaining, a healthy young Pignut Hickory which I decided to leave until fall dormancy before moving it to the RZ. Steve then cut everything inside (except the hickory) to base level with the weed eater. While passing the water tank at one point, I spied an exceptionally large Brown Leopard\* hunting in the grass.

After a break, Steve then walked the whole TRT to cut the trail clean, in preparation for Steve Marshall's visit on the morrow. Meanwhile, I puttered around the camp, cleaning the trailer, changing the trail cam card, and inspecting the trees in the RZ. I noticed a young "peep toad" hunting in the Hole as I changed the cam card. Steve came back exhausted. It was not excessively hot but humid enough for the mosquitoes to wear water-wings.

The Chipmunks were around the camp, as usual, and later the young Red Squirrel put in appearance at one of the tray feeders, (See pic below.)

Tomorrow I must be on site again to make sure that Marshall & his grad students have everything they need. After the last few insect reports I sent Marshall (which he confirmed), he has become intrigued by the place and has decided to check it out for himself. One of the species he'll be looking for is a crepuscular horsefly (!)

new species:

'Red-bellied Stiletto Fly' *Cyclotelus rufiventris* RL nz/KD 16/06/05

non-appearances: we have yet to see a Wood Frog, Eastern Garter or Brown Snake so far this year. This is a bit odd.

\**Rana pipiens* in brown (camouflage) phase

## IMAGES:

*(click on image to enlarge)*



*I swear I didn't drink a drop -- but there's this pink fawn ! (trail cam #1) Note startling resemblance to the European Fallow Deer (Dama dama) doe; we had one on the property about 4 years ago (escaped from a local keeper, as it turned out). That was a full-sized adult deer with a dark, brownish-red coat dappled with prominent white spots. This is NOT a small fawn, in any case. Note cam is recording browns accurately by examining base of measuring post.*