

Cutting from Trees and a Bit More

Newport Forest Saturday November 7 2009 2:00 - 6:30 pm

weather: prec. 3 mm; RH 57%; BP 98.4 kPa; Sw ≤ 40 kmh; clr; T 17° C

purpose: to cut thorn trees

participants: Pat, Kee, Jane Bowles; Andre Lachance; Donald Craig

There is not much to this report. We all arrived at the main gate around 2 pm. Andre & Don got right at cutting in the Upper Meadow (UM), while Pat consulted with Jane about sedges down at the trailer. After that we joined the massacre with loopers & spades. Don pointed out that if you cut just below the root crown with a shovel -- or axe -- the tree will likely not survive. But lopped trees are likely to be back to the same size within a few years. In all, we cut approximately 300 trees, concentrating mainly on the area between the water tank and the road.

At about 4 pm we took a break for cake and a group photo, after which Jane & Andre had to leave. Don Craig also had to go, so Pat & I went down to the trailer. I changed the cam card and she browsed the area for new plants, pleased to find one she thought was new, Ditch Stonecrop, only to discover when we got home that it was already on the list. We had supper in the trailer and spent about half an hour watching for animals. The only mammal I saw all day was an Eastern Cottontail in the UM fleeing my loppers. Throughout our stay in the LM, we heard occasional gunshots from the south, presumably across the road. Don Craig had informed us earlier that it was already the "black powder" hunting season.

birds:(10)

American Crow (UM); American Goldfinch (GF); Black-capped Chickadee (Tr); Blue Jay (UM); Canada Goose (LM); Dark-eyed Junco (GF); European Starling (UM); Mourning Dove (LM); Red-bellied Woodpecker (GF); White-breasted Nuthatch (Tr)

new species:

‘Lemon Crust’ *Hypocrea citrina* BCF kd/GT Oc20/09

‘Browning White Polypore’ *Oligoporus tephroleucus* RSF kd/GT Oco7/09

Star Rosette Lichen *Physcia stellaris* NF BP Nv/09 (loc & date TK)

Note: We are very pleased that Greg Thorn has been able to take an active role in assisting us with fungal IDs. Note the code "kd/GT" which is part of the "Hypocrea" entry; lower case initials belong to the finder, upper case to the one who makes the ID. Greg seemed happy with the *Oligoporus* specimen and will place it in the Herbarium.

IMAGES:

(click on image to enlarge)



Star Rosette Lichen -- a magnificent (but slow) growth! photo courtesy Bruce Parker

(click on image to enlarge)



Hardy crew of Four -- photographed by Fifth left to right: Jane Bowles, Andre Lachance, Donald Craig, Kee Dewdney

(click on image to enlarge)



trail cam catches feral cat (It's a start, anyway)