Monitoring Nature

Date and time: Tuesday July 16 2013 2:00 - 5:45 pm

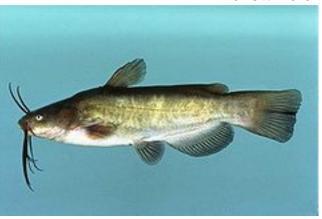
Weather: Pr 19 mm; RH 98%; BP 102.5 kPa; calm; sun/cloud; T 36° C

Activity: Darren gets some new fish and Uncle Glen drops in

Amid ovenlike heat and steambath humidity, Darren and I took refuge in the cooling shade of the Nook to view recent fishing successes on his laptop. I was particularly pleased with his catch of a Yellow Perch and Brown Bullhead at the mouth of Fleming Creek on the previous day. Any fisher of Darren's experience can be trusted to know a Yellow Perch when he catches one. Uncertain about the identity



Yellow Perch



Brown Bullhead

of smaller species of catfish in the river, Darren sent his image of the Brown Bullhead to the DFO (Dept of Fisheries & Oceans). Confirmed. We went kick-fishing in the creek below, but turned up only a Johnny Darter, several tiny (and virtually unidentifiable) minnows, and two young Northern Clearwater Crayfish. Towering cumulus pop-ups could be seen over the surrounding treetops and occasional rum-

blings told of localized showers in the distance.

We had barely returned to the top of the bluffs when Darren's Uncle Glen rolled into camp. Glen Jacobs is one of the few remaining people who can speak any of the Lenape (Delware) dialects. He served as language coach for the movie, *Last of the Mohicans*, noting with humour how Russell Means (playing Khing-akhgok in the title role) couldn't seem to get the language right, while Daniel Day-Lewis (playing Hawkeye) picked it up quickly! I have been slow---ly learning the Munsee version of the language myself and got some tips from Glen on where the stress falls in multisyllabic words.

Meanwhile, time was passing at the rate of one minute per minute and I had done no arthropod searching yet. Darren and I left the shade of the Nook armed with the butterfly net, while Glen went out to gather a few Monarda plants with which to make herbal medicine. The whole plant is boiled to a tea and then taken as a digestive aid, among other things. (Strictly speaking, it is forbidden to pick plants at Newport Forest for any but Botanical purposes, but this was for a good cause.)

By 5:30 pm we had taken about as much heat as we could handle. We decided to celebrate Darren's latest contribution to the fish list by taking the short drive south to Rodney, a small town near Lake Erie for -- what else -- fish and chips!

Birds: (no report -- too hot!)

Phenology: hottest afternoon temperature to date in 2013, mosquitoes sparse.

New Species:

Pale-faced Habronattus	Habronattus coecatus	LM KD Jl16/13
"Eight-lined Tortoise Beetle"	Zatrephina [lineata]	LM KD Jl16/13
Yellow Perch	Perca flavescens	FC DJ J115/13
Brown Bullhead	Ameiurus nebulosus	FC DJ Jl15/13

The Pale-faced Habronattus was identified from a nearly identical image in Tom Murray's Arthropod Galleries, a major web resource for anyone interested in arthropod identification. Additional information can be found in the Canadian Journal of Arthropod Identification. (both available through Google searches.)

The Zatrephina tortoise beetle was a colour variant in which whitish lines had replaced yellowish ones of the named species, the patterns being otherwise

identical on pronotium and elytra.

Fish Report: Even with the recent additions, our fish list of some 23 species is barely half the size of our wish list, so to speak.

LepisosteiformesLepisosteidaeLongnose GarLepisosteus osseusSalmoniformesSalmonidae

Rainbow Trout Oncorhynchus mykiss

EsociformesNorthern Pike

Esocidae

Esox lucius

Pickerel Stizistedion vitreum

Cypriniformes Cyprinidae

Brassy Minnow Hybognathus hankinsoni

Hornyhead Chub

Emerald Shiner

Bluntnose Minnow

Nocomis biguttatus

Notropis atherinoides

Pimephales notatus

Catostomidae

White Sucker Catostomus commersoni
Northern Hogsucker Hypentelium nigricans
Golden Redhorse Moxostoma erythrurum

Siluriformes Ictaluridae

Brown Bullhead Ameiurus nebulosus Channel Catfish Ictalurus punctatus

Perciformes Moronidae

White Bass *Morone chrysops*

Centrarchidae

Rock Bass Ambloplites rupestris
Smallmouth Bass Micropterus dolomieu
Pumpkinseed Lepomis gibbosus

Percidae

Greenside Darter
Rainbow Darter
Johnny Darter
Yellow Perch
Logperch

Etheostoma blennioides
Etheostoma caeruleum
Etheostoma nigrum
Perca flavescens
Percina caprodes

Sciaenidae

Freshwater Drum *Aplodinotus grunniens*

IMAGES:



If we've seen one image on the web of copulating Red Milkweed Beetles, we've seen a hundred. So why should we be any different? Here, a pair of *Tetraopes tetropthalmus* starts a family. The name refers to the way the antennae interrupt the eyes, splitting each into two. Being Cerambycid beetles the antennae are inserted adjacent to the eyes, distorting them into a bean shape in some species and dividing them completely in others, as here.



Glen Jacobs leans on his van for extra support after a heavy dinner of fish and chips. On the morrow he would leave for Wisconsin for some major powwows and language seminars. Behind Glen are the two-story buildings typical of main street southern Ontario. Rodney is a mere 5 miles north of Lake Erie.