

Newport Forest

Sept 6 2000

2:15 - 5:15 pm

Weather: sunny, cool, NW wind

Purpose: to complete RSF portion of the trail

Participants: Kee, Nic

Coming in along Edgar's Road, we spotted a Leopard frog crossing in front of us, a young adult. Then, at the Landing, we saw a (probable) Brown Snake quickly hide itself in the shore debris.

With 6 bags of chips, we were able to complete another 100 m of trail, approximately, with just 50 m to go. At this point, the RSF trail had slowly ascended the Hogsback shoulder and passes through the most mature part of the RSF Forest, with several Beeches about 20 cm dbh and one old "wolf Beech" about 80 cm dbh, the probable ancestor of most of the beeches we see in this part of the forest. Moreover, many young saplings are everywhere in evidence, indicating that a Beech-maple forest is in the offing. (another 50 years?)

On the way home, we stopped at Eva Newport's to show her the sign design as faxed to me by Ideal Monument Ltd. She approved the design, so I have instructed that firm to rush the casting, if possible. Bill Anderson, the manager, told me that the sign might not be ready until November. This raises the question of whether we should nevertheless go ahead with our plans for a celebration or wait until the previous owner has been properly recognized, laid to rest, so to speak.