

Back Bay... Saturday April 3, 2010

What a weekend. More snakes than I could count. Rather than show them all, with paragraphs of boring details, I'll try to limit it to the highlights. Whose highlights? Well, my highlights of course. Which could still be hours of boring photos and commentary.



Brown Water Snake curled up on a rock. But you probably already knew that. At least the "rock" part.



Two turtles sharing the sun in Snake Lake. The Yellow Belly Slider is on the left. The orange-hued Painted Turtle is on the right. Hmm... Yellow Belly Slider. Sounds like something you might slurp out of a shell at a raw bar. Or one of those fancy mixed-drinks that's served with a little umbrella. Perhaps our turtle should be sporting a frilly parasol.



Lichens in a cypress tree.



Moccasin curled up by Turtle Pond. Yes, this belongs in the highlight reel.



To some people this looks like an ordinary tangle of brush and vines. OK, to most people this looks like an ordinary tangle of brush and vines. But then, who's to say what is ordinary? I wouldn't go poking around in there though. Do you see the snake in the midst of all the clutter?



Moving in a little closer on the clutter.



And a little closer. It's a Moccasin. What interested me is that it is about 5 feet up in the brush. I've never seen a Moccasin that high up in the vegetation. They are typically on the ground, close to the ground, or in the water. Which is not to say that snakes can't climb trees and such. Many are excellent climbers. It's just a bit unusual for the Moccasin. I guess this one was trying to get out of the dense undergrowth and up high enough to bask in the warmth of the afternoon sun.



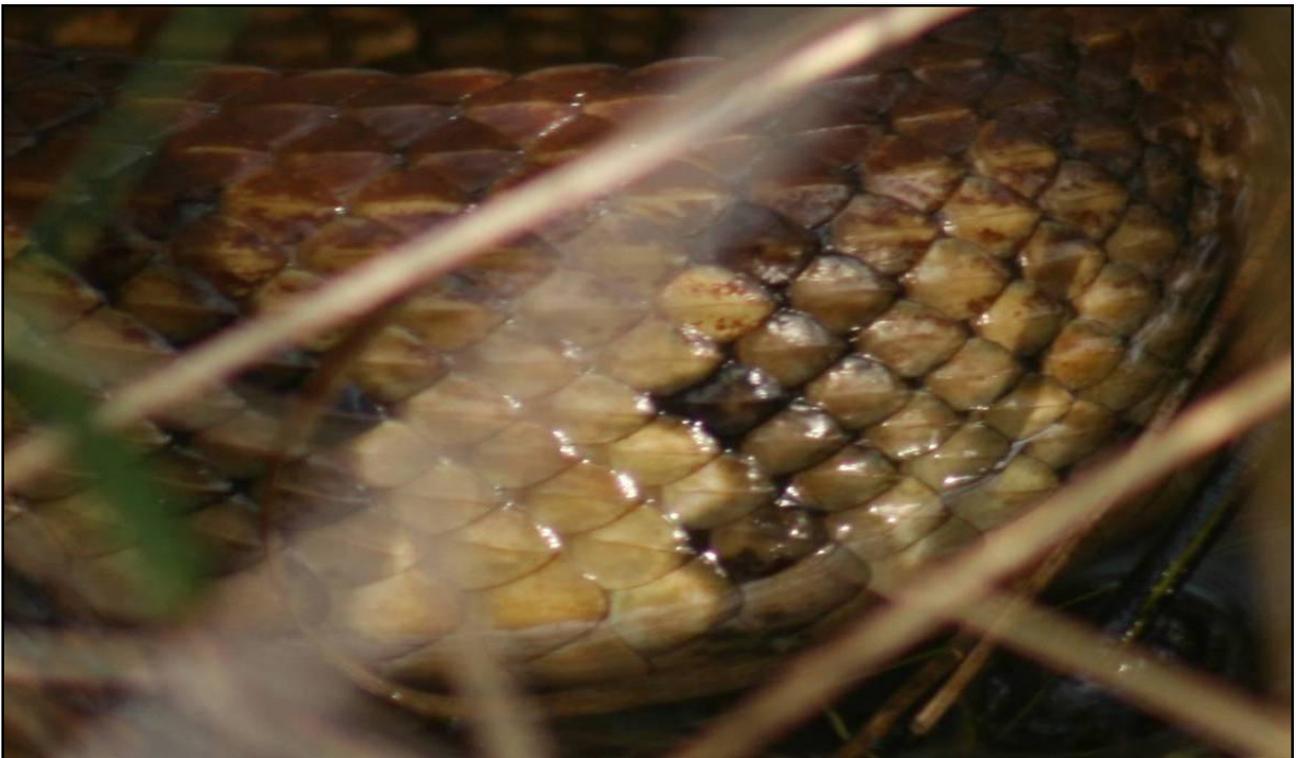
As an old Moccasin once told me: "If we were meant to climb trees we would have been given ladders."



This Moccasin was on a tree branch overhanging Snake Lake.

When it eventually slid into the water, I took the picture below.

I like the way the water enhances the color in its scales. But I don't know if this digital image will do it justice.





Above: Moccasin in the reeds at Snake Lake.

Below: An enlargement of it's face with that stern, determined look.

