

Kaw River (Lawrence to De Soto, Kansas)

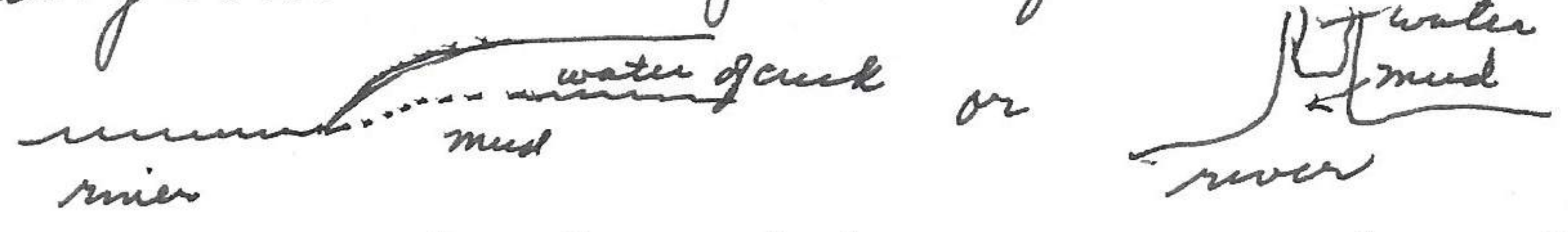
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Nov 29, 1963

Left 8:20 A.M. Temp 26°F, breeze from NW. Water temp 40°F. Son James and I made this canoe trip. Left at Bowersock Bridge. Red tail to N 8:30
8:53 beaver house N side. 9:00 beaver activity N side 9:15 utility lines across river. 9:40 3 ducks. 9:50 crows point, 10:00 channel to S, 10:10 creek from N. Crows in area. Horned lark & longspur? on sand bar in usual place back river near crows point. Considerable new beaver activity and house just W of mouth of creek (mud creek) Chickadees, juncos, 1 red bellied woodpecker, song sparrow, ^{chickadee} starling (more numerous than usual). Birds few.
10:45 opposite island. River 6 inches lower than last week, more sand bars exposed

Considerable beaver activity on N side and on island since mud Creek. There seems to be more cutting of larger tree than in previous trips. Crows calling to south. High cirrus clouds moving fast into clear sky to east. 10:50 a hawk (crows size) flew across river from S to N. 11:15 beaver house and activity. near bend of river. 11:20 bend of river. 11:30 bend of river now toward Eudora, red tail. 11:50 Considerable beaver activity & house, N side river. 11:53 first rock barrier. Pocom tracks all along river in mud exposed since last week. Bank swallow nest average about 4 feet from top of cliff, some 1 1/2 feet and 4 were within 3 inches of top. 12:07 Eudora Bridge. Kingfisher. Beaver house no log jam on S side of river. 12:15 2 red tails to N. 4 crows feeding on sand bar. 1 Killdeer.

12:34 mouth Wakarusa River. Sand bar across except 10' of the 60 foot extreme. Temp in shade 41°F. 1:15 beaver house & activity N side. 1:20 N end bend at Cabin 1:32 under utility line across river. 1:50 now to SE leaving end area. Kingfisher. 2:15 10 mallards on sand bar. flew up river. 2:35 beaver house S side river and activity all along bank. 2:38 major creek from S. These creeks are higher than river at the water level and



for about 10 inches above are holes in the clay that are made under water actual size is about so.  and are generally all horizontal and numerous, perhaps 15 per sq. foot. Good bank exposures up river and on N side (actually N W side). 2:42 arch bridge (R.R.) to S. 3:00 bend

river & now to NNE. Ice in protected places on bank of river. Several thousand bank swallow nests just N of house on bank! Best Colony observed so far. Cliffs almost pure sand & perpendicular. 3:15 2 mallards. 3:25 mouth Stranger Creek 3:29 big beaver house on N side. Considerable activity beyond. 3:45 red-breasted merganser. 4:05 P. promelas at base of sand bank. It could not get back to top of bank and had died. Redtail Hawk. 4:15 Sunflower water gates on S side river. 4:44 rock barriers in middle of river bed - Kingfisher & 1 Killdeer. The Killdeer (all recorded) are more confident than usual. Arrived De Soto 4:55 P.M. ^(8 hrs and 35 min trip) just about 10 minutes to sundown. Full moon to east. Temp at 5:00 30°F Sky clear. Wind from a breeze to moderate but did not interfere with canoeing - a very pleasant day. Temp at Lawrence & Kansas City at 5:00 am 46°F. There must be a cold basin at De Soto.