

1970-25

outlet gate can see hundreds of ducks arriving from the S, generally at a high elevation as if source from beyond the immediate field bordering the reservoir to the S and SW. At this time I would estimate there are 50,000 mallards in pond at dam and 30,000 at pond to N which is a total of 80,000 mallards which is just short of the 90,000 to 100,000 mallards estimate at the highest concentration of mallards in this area (Jan 3). At 5:40 P.M. from a position 1/2 mi S of Thompsonville did not see ducks in area or in skyline to the W so presume that the incoming mallards had reached an impasse.

University of Kansas, Lawrence, Douglas Co., Kansas
Jan 8, 1970

A white-breasted nuthatch sunned itself on lee side of junipers with temp 4° F below 0. (9:30 A.M). It was on its side and exposed to direct sunshine. I approached to within 2 feet before it left.

Lawrence, Douglas Co., Kansas
Jan. 15, 1970

19 cardinals at feeder at 7:30 A.M. Temp 4° F. 4 slate-colored junco associated. These are the first two kinds of birds to arrive at the feeder in the early morning, shortly after daybreak.

University of Kansas, Douglas Co., Kansas
Jan 16, 1970

In Fowler grave, N of Bailey Hall, there were robins feeding on the ground and generally distributed at approx. 20' intervals regardless of whether the ground was clear of snow or with snow. These robins were in contrast to 15 starling that fed in a close formation and moved about as a group.

Lawrence, Douglas Co., Kansas
Jan. 17, 1970

18 cardinals (9 ♂ + 9 ♀) fed at feeder at 7:20 A.M. with temp. at 18° F. The ground was covered with a layer of ice and there was snow in the air. The backs, tail and head of some of these birds (both ♂ + ♀) were covered with ice and snow. The head was free of ice & snow from about center of top to bill. The entire neck and back and tail were also covered. The upper parts of the wings were free of this covering, probably because the movement of the wings dislodged the ice & snow. There has been a greater population of cardinals than in previous years.

