

Sw point. Raccoon tracks in mud. These tracks are not as common as along establish rivers or creeks. In open water to W are heavy white-cops. Yellow-shafted flicker calling. Mallards are arriving from S at approx 50 per minute and alighting in open water at N edge of open water. These mallards are from S beyond dam and are not stopping at open water at dam. NW point at 1:05. 2 song sparrows. From this point can see approx 28,000 mallards and 550 american merganser. The mallards are in 12 groups on N edge of ice and equally separated spatially. The mergansers are in 2 groups on ice and others in the water. A bald eagle (not adult and probably the same bird that has been in the area all winter) was on the ice some 200' N of the N edge of ice and beyond the congregation of ducks. It left and flew to ridge to N where it leveled about 300' above ridge and finally flying above Rock Creek at bridge area, generally 100' above ground. Left Gap Point (proper) at 1:15. A new feature of ^{open} water is an extension of the water into about the center of Gap Point Bay to N. This is the first time there has been open water in this bay of solid ice. Moss on ground on N exposure near W end of Gap Point. Trail on N side still damp & muddy, whereas on south side is dry. This point is an important position for observing ducks as they fly near shore at this point. 1:18 25 juncos, 160 tree sparrows, 2 chickadees, 1 downy. Although there is a high wind on the exposure, the small birds are here today, probably because of sun. Ordinarily they are on lee side of Point on N windy days. 1:19 3 song sparrows, 5 goldfinch. 1:25 road at E end Gap Point. Water open about 6' at contact of bay ice with S shoreline. 1:30 orchard. There are no nests in these trees nor usual groups of juncos & tree sparrow. They have moved to Gap Point area. Near head of drainage, along road, the wind is almost negligible and reflection from dry slope creates additional warmth. 1:38 top of hill at edge of forests. Sky all blue except some clouds to S. Wind strong on ridge but not as strong as at edge of lake. 1:42 left main road and now to E along edge of field. Redtail (2) in normal plumage and circling in same area. 1:50 main road at drainage at base of hill. Winter wren in cattail just above culvert. 1:55 pond at head of drainage. 2:00 big weed patch of unusual character. Yellow-shafted flicker. 2 chickadees. 2:02 road. 2:12 old barn ^{with} tin roof and incomplete kinder block building. Birdlife across country rare. 2:20 major drainage (deep). Followed up this erosional gulch.