

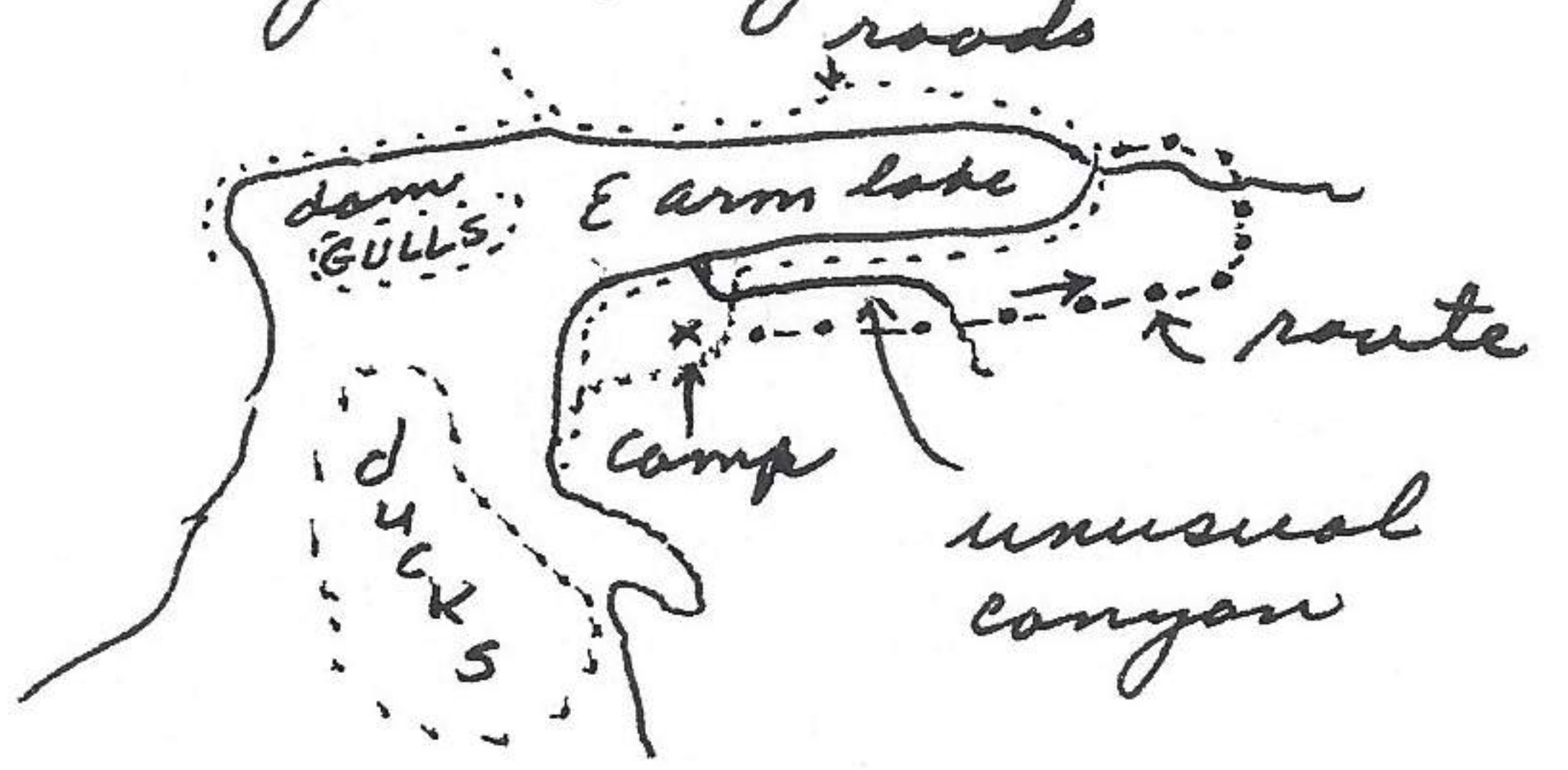
Lone Star Lake, Douglas Co., Kansas

April 11, 1970

Annette P and I camped at Lone Star Lake this afternoon and evening. Mary was to sail but wind too strong. In afternoon made trip to E from Camp site on ridge above concessions area to the drainage leading into the east arm of the lake, travelling on top of ridge. Near camp is a relatively deep gulch that parallels the S side of valley.

Several well developed animal trails on N side gulch connecting several holes and is associated with the camp dump site. Under an old boat on top of ridge were

2 ~~egg~~ Blarina. Continued to drainage to E and returned by road. Only 1 coot in E arm of lake, mainly because of human interference. Conceded to area of Carelatusk residence but no fish taking flies (artificial)



High wind last night and this A.M. (from SE). At 6:30 A.M. checked the duck population on the lake. There were no humans at or on the lake at this time. The ducks were in the center of the lake, as indicated, and some nearer shore on east side.

Lesser scaup. 106 by count of males and females. As I approached the lake, they moved south for 1/10 mile and formed a closer formation. They seemed to be resting rather than feeding.

Red-breasted merganser. Original flock of 2 ♂♂ and 7 ♀♀, later joined by 10 ♀♀ and 11 ♂♂ making a total of 30. These birds were feeding, moving about the general area of the middle of the lake (nearer the west side however, in greater wave activity) and were courting. The last action was noticeable more conspicuous and pronounced than the behaviour of the American mergansers of Perry Res of this winter. The males extend their neck and head upwards at which time the dark band on chest is clearly identifiable. The crest is more conspicuous than is the case with the Am. merganser, especially when the wind blows from their backs. These mergansers maintained their group unity although other species of ducks (notably the gadwall) joined and later left them. These mergansers at one time became a part of the raft of scaup ducks but still maintained their group identity. The gulls were not concerned with these mergansers.

Baldpate. 3 groups totalling 35 birds were in the area. The group population changed from time to time.

Shoveler. 13 birds in 2 groups in area. They mixed with other group