

Butterfly Lake, 10,300 ft., Duchesne Co., Utah

Aug 19, 1970

Collected the following mammals from trap line set last night:

700819-1	Sorex.	119-48-13-8-4 gms. ♂ testis 6 mm
700819-2	Clethrionomys	129-37-19-14-19 gms ♂ testis 9 mm
700819-3	"	133-35-19-13-20 gms ♂ testis 9 mm
700819-4	"	125-33-18-12-17 gms ♀ ut. normal.
700819-5	Reps	65 mm body length, white dorsal. In hole at edge of creek.

These mammals were the only ones taken from 100 traps set along the outlet creek from Butterfly Lake, ^{at 10,321 to approx 10,200 ft below.} This area is a small creek (2-3 feet wide) and lined with mertensia, sedges and grass. The creek is thru Engelmann spruce and other upper montane communities. One previous year the upper part of this drainage had been trapped (see previous notes) when great numbers of mammals were taken. This year while all other conditions seem comparable, the population is extremely low. Of the mammals captured today, the Sorex is really the only one specifically associated with the stream. The Clethrionomys were at base of tree or along logs bordering the stream. While the water level seems constant from year to year, the other lakes show slight effects of lack of rain this year. Another factor of low populations is the lack of chipmunks and birds in general in the Butterfly Lake area. There are more small birds, however, in the mirror Lake area, especially the W side of lake near the lodge. One factor of lack of birds may be the increase fishing pressure on all lakes in the basin.

The birds in the immediate area of Butterfly Lake are: Clark's Crow 5, pine grosbeak 6, siskin 8, gray headed juncos 10, Lincoln sparrow 1 caught in trap, white crowned sparrow 15, red shafted flicker 2, Canada jay 4, Townsend warbler 3, spotted sandpiper, bats over lake in evening, gopher diggings as usual.

A golden eagle, adult, flew and circled the full length of the Hayden Peak ridge from N to S, utilizing the updrafts whenever altitude ^{gain} was necessary. It disappeared beyond trees to S. These eagles at higher elevation seem to fly with more energy than eagles at lower elevations. The height was perhaps a 200 feet below the crest of the ridge.

On their trip to top of Baldy yesterday, Mary & Karl observed a small flock of leucosticte, pica, marmots and other birds. They also checked the floating island in a lake near Butterfly Lake and were able to move the island ^{with} by sticks.