

position has several holes in solid rock - that were created by stones and circulating water although they could have been partially formed by Indians for grinding food. I had noticed some of these depressions on benches above present high water level of the river. The wind was blowing out of canyon with such force that the water was blowing into waves against the current of the river. Sands were blowing across sandbars and carrying sand into the vegetation beyond the river. Trails were 2 feet deep thru the sandy soils among cane and traveling at such a speed as to burn one's face. It was impossible to remain in these wind blown channels. Some sands had formed continuous carpets to 300' up the N side of the mouth of the canyon. Sand dunes in the valley are formed from westerly winds. Fragmites communis and giant cane filled the sides of the river and in some places was impenetrable. These dense stands of cane would offer excellent protection for small and large mammals. Peccary tracks were noted not far from here. Returned to car and on way back to trailer noted 4 scaled partridges. The regular river ford crossing was apparently not being used but crossing of the shallow river was farther up stream. Crossing ~~in the~~ on this river with these winds would have been extremely difficult, especially with the driving sands. Arrived Rio Grande Village at twilight.

Rio Grande Village, Big Bend National Park, Texas
Dec. 29, 1975

min temp 38°F, 41°F at 8:00 A.M. Bird at trailer: white-wing dove feeding on ground and about 10 in area; pyrrhuloxia common and at least 25 in area, the bill is most characteristic; black-throated sparrow, observed only four on sidehill; song sparrow, 3 in cane; rufous sparrow, 4 on sidehill; loggerhead shrike, 2 in area; 4 meadowlark feeding in field. Peccary tracks ^{among brush} at mouth of canyon east of trailer. Made circuit of Big Bend National Park leaving at 10:00 A.M. at mileage 10428.2. Snow 1/2 way down mountains to E. at 434.2 towards panther junction park headquarters noted a coyote along side of road approx 40' away. It was on bare soils among desert cacti and low shrubs and was very conspicuous. It remain for a few moments then crossed road back of car where it remained in area. The coyote was not afraid but curious of us. at 440.5 photo 751229-1 of Chisos mountains to W showing low line of new snow. Prickly pear in foreground. It was in such an area as the foreground that we observed the coyote and the mule deer the previous day. This condition of snow in