

The adult bald eagle chased the gull in circles both up and down and laterally coming into near contact with the gull at the end of each circle. On 2 occasions the eagle anticipated the movement of the gull and made a predicted shortcut and on these maneuvers made the nearest contacts with the gull. There was a feeling of persistent pursuit of the eagle. All activity about 200' above the water. The gull took on different proportions of body becoming longer necked, longer tail, more slender body and width of wings. The eagle finally gave up and flew to perch on S side bay where it remained for 20 minutes then flew N to perch in dead tree in water. The 4 eagles circled in same general area (from near treetops to 600') for the entire time we were there. Twelve American mergansers, 25 mallards arrived from Big Slough to N and alighted in bay. SE of us. a redheaded woodpecker and a red bellied woodpecker in area. Returned to car and thence to Lake View ^{11:30} where 240 ring-billed gulls and 4 herring gulls were noted feeding on perch in remnant of water in NE end of Otshaw. ^{Another group of 100 in feed to E, 7/10 mi away.} Area of water approx 200 x 120' and not more than 1 foot deep. 90% in ice, water muddy. Gulls getting fish from 10% of opening. 24 green sunfish on ice but not eaten because of too large for birds, some still alive. Gulls taking dead decayed smaller fish covered with mud in preference. Some large carp with backs out of water and many others with fins showing only. Two days should dry this pond of water.

On return noted 4 immature eagles, one with considerable white in underparts and wings (some primaries and some secondaries missing), circling about 1000' feet just East of this area. We followed them SE to a point above 402 Yorkshire Dr in Lawrence where they moved S to about 6th and Iowa and thence W again back toward Lake View. At one time a smaller hawk joined them for a few circles and then left to W.

Lake View, Douglas Co., Kansas

Feb. 22, 1976

Returned to ring-bill gulls in NE arm of Otshaw. 120 gulls in area and although ice gone from water, there was less feeding than in A.M. Gulls were wading in 1/3 of area. An immature eagle perched on top branches of cottonwood tree W of gulls (1/10 mi) at edge of lake. A helicopter displaced the eagle which left and flew to Kaw River to NW.