

trails should replace roads on the top and E side of this ridge. Roads are most frequently placed down the center of a ridge and I will agree that this is the best engineering plan, it does not contribute to planning for the natural effect of the land bordering the dam. Extensive open grasslands should be maintained at all expense, and it is only under these circumstances that prairie wildlife can be established and maintained. Picnic and camping sites should not be so complete and close that large undisturbed areas are sacrificed for animals like the deer, coyote etc, that must have some undisturbed areas.

The route along W side of base of dam indicated use by raccoons (10 sets of tracks in thoroughfare, 2 or 3 sets of coyote tracks.



The raccoons were feeding on crayfish and were excavating them in shallow soils at the base of the dam from water edge to at least 2 feet landward. The rocky soil of dam excavations permitted only shallow penetration by the crayfish. About 1 excavation per 20' was average along the base of dam, especially on W end, where shallow ponds butted against the dam proper. Farther N addition soils + clay had been placed against the dam slope. Microtine trails (probably both *Microtus* + *Sigmodon*) occupied the weedy areas, grasses + weeds of old pond floors and onto the sparse weedy slopes of the dam for at least 5 feet, maybe higher. Only birds observed along entire route were 3 song sparrows and 8 tree sparrows. There were no birds utilizing the newly created rock slopes of the dam although I had wondered if the leucosticte might use these slopes. Rock doves and English sparrows were using the outlet gates. There was a decided increase in numbers of coyote tracks near the water gates and the only place along the route where 2 cottontails were flushed.

The water level at gate as it flowed thru gates was 828 feet, which is level of river water as it approaches the gates. A mass of logs and tree debris was stacked 10 feet high against the gates. At the point where water gates was a aggregation of coyote tracks + raccoon tracks passing N + S. The raccoon tracks also led to log jam. Continued up + over dam and followed S side of outlet channel. At about half way to bridge noted first rock outcrop in floor of channel, another one about a 3rd the way to bridge. Checked clay erosion of banks and at 1/2 way pointed collect a partial skull (rostrum + canines) and lower jaws of a muskrat type mammal. The other element was a condyle of a large bone. These could have come from any point from top to base of cut. First beaver cuttings 4/3 way to bridge. At entrance of old meander beaver had built a 10 foot dam of mud, leaves, sticks, strong enough to walk across. A severe bank erosion of E bank