

and up the otherside rather than deviate across the level bench above the drainage, in other words the route was strictly NW. As it approached the den site it stopped three times at the edge of the creek to look for crossing but finally went to within 3 feet of bank dense and then across field site and thence NE up a drainage at the head of which it sat down ^{in snow} then moved 30' where the den area could be seen and then at a rapid run travelled thru the forest to the point where the creek flows under the turnpike. The coyote crossed the turnpike about 30' this side of the creek underpass. There is considerable more trail evidence in area NW of den site than elsewhere and although it is nearer the turnpike there is no ^{direct} disturbance by man from that direction. The coyote that I followed this morning and early afternoon (for 2 1/2 hours) was a relatively heavy set, shaggy + long furred coyote and could have been a female. Another coyote presumably the same time as the one I followed came into the den site, came from W side of creek, to den site and then follow down stream on N side among trees. It dropped down to edge of creek twice for possible crossing but returned each time to forest level above bank. It finally crossed the creek. I am not sure these two coyotes communicated at the den site with one following down stream to divert my attention. Trails of freshly made have brilliant white reflection from sides of deep snow imprints whereas imprints made earlier or duller and with smoother exposed edges. Only birds in the Deerfield drainage were, 2 yellow-bellied sapsuckers, 1 downy, 3 juncos which is depauperate.

at the base of each of the grassy swales there is unusual concentration of coyote tracks, diggings etc. at the base of the grass swale and within the forest were coyote tracks in the greatest concentration so far observed. One

2 1/2 deep hole, narrow was dug into the ground, some soil removed by 10'. 18 orange orange fruits had been consumed by squirrels in an area of 30x50 feet, one under bank from a pat hole from swale drainage had been excavated. I would assume that a lot of the feeding is by excavation of trapped animals. The tracks in areas of concentration cross creek to W as if travel was E-W. There are very few tracks between these areas of concentrations. Two tracks followed along the route (no 1) marked on map. Between den site and home did not see a single bird arriving ^{home} at 3:20 P.M. Summary. no evidence of microtine activity either on exposed ground or in snow. Birds localized and absent between groups. no raptors or meadowlarks. no evidence of winter kill except on redwing eaten by coyote.

