

Eng. sparrow entire route. Starling associated with feed lots.

North Platte, Nebraska

March 11, 1979

Stayed last night in motel. Left 9:05 A.M. at 00064.2. The North Platte River has several channels besides the main channel. It is characterized by islands of grasses in both the channel types. This condition could occur in eagle natural area at Lawrence - LeCompton if the water is ever reduced. Sky blue and no clouds this A.M. Temp. <sup>above</sup> ~~below~~ freezing. 3 crows in field in City area. at 67.7 pheasant road kill. Countryside, except occasional drift, is free of snow. Water along roadside. 071.2 2 redwings on turturaries. 071.7 redwing. River valley wide and flat mostly grass and riparian forests of cottonwoods + isolated patches of black willow. Temp. 46° F. <sup>and west</sup> Borrow pits frozen except lead on south <sup>and west</sup> exposures. 4 redwings. 75.0 2 redwings. 78.8 3 redwings. All redwings isolated and associated with favorable nesting areas. 81.3 10 American or common mergansers in borrow pit in open water or lead at west end. 82.5 2 redwings. Small canals and small ponds are open as are shallow <sup>ponds on</sup> inundated fields. Seems to be a predominance of black willow in this valley. 84.7 Sutherland overpass, striped skunk road kill. Some fields in corn but most of country in grasslands. Cottonwood trees not as large as those along the Kaw at Lawrence. 90.9 2 American roughlegs. 92.3 redtail. 93.1 marsh hawk. 93.5 entering mountain zone and watch turned back one hour. Approx. 250 mallards. One area of cottonwoods burned. 95.6 striped skunk road kill. 97.4 American roughleg. 101.9 15 ducks. 105.8 striped skunk road kill. 112.7 first horned lark since Lawrence. 116.3 South Platte River on highway 61 north. River only occupying 1/10 its channel. 119.9 3 horned larks, horned lark. 122.8 horned lark, horned lark. Kingsley dam (Lake McCondughy) 125.6 outlet gates, see above and water partly open below. 127.6 3 gulls, partly open water on N end of dam, water clear + blue, many yucca plants on hillside. 130.6 now on route 92 on N side of lake. wind from N. In looking across lake would say that ridge is 1/10 per cent in snow. 134.8 3 heldeer, 12 horned lark. 138.8 14 horned larks, some parts of lake have been open and then refrozen, some slopes almost completely covered with yucca. 146.7 west end reservoir open, 2000 ducks. Some cattle trails on slopes eroded to 4' deep. Junipers on S side lake associated with Cretaceous cliff areas. 150.6 Garden Co. 151.2 sparrow hawk. 153.0 one group of six and

