

Clinton Reservoir, Douglas Co., Kansas

March 21, 1979

Checked areas of State Park and Clinton put-in area (old bridge, ^{area} 72. Clinton). From home to headquarters 6.6 mi. Check State Park; buildings too conspicuous, no consideration for natural landscape, muzzymung man made artefacts not considered, road straight instead of curved, forest edge cleared and now park-like, mushroom shelters should be in protection of trees, not in open fields. From here to valley road, ^{N side} that formerly led to bridge N of Clinton. Water now almost to valley side at Coon Creek which is about 3 feet from flood level. Met Mr. Theodore Buchheim who lives in first house to N where yard is in rock fences. He was born in 1907 and he and father lived here all their lives. He reports: river valley in early days all in timber - oak, walnut, elm, hickory, sycamore etc, and was cleared for farming. Swamps and ponds in some area with waterfowl by the millions. High grasses in meadows. On March 5 and 6, hundreds of snow geese in area mallard now stay in area all year. Coyotes kill chicken and one ^{unsaved} trap placed under a pear tree caught 6 coyotes last year. The coyotes eat the fruit.

11:00 A.M.
While I was parked at the end of the road at water edge noted 6 baldpate, 3 coot, 73 redhead ducks, 12 canvas backs, 3 mallards, 15 bluewing teal, 6 common golden eye, 2 buffle heads, 17 greater scaup, 2 shovellers. At 11:05 an immature eagle flew W up lake and finally dropped down below level of the trees at about 1/2 mi. NW of Belvone bridge position. It was circling about 300' above trees. 11:08 marsh hawk flew from S to N across valley. at 11:20 a helicopter came from the west and increased the ducks in air from approx. 5 groups of 3-10 ducks to per minute to 20x this number so the harassment was positive. Helicopters use the area as an exercise ground for training and defy the law on low flying. This condition is hard on wildlife and should be corrected. Left 11:30 P.M. Left and drove to Leecompton.

Kaw River, Leecompton area, Jefferson Co., Kansas

March 21, 1979

Made complete check of river for bald eagles, making observation from usual vantage points. At the valley levee point (1st check point) found 8 soft drink cans, ^{together} with an average of 9 22 shot holes in each can and 4 beer bottles shattered.