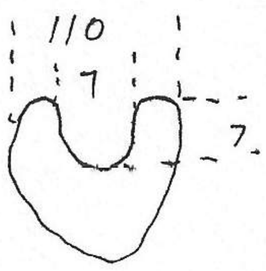
790522-139

Topeka, Atchison Santa Fe Railroad, Lawrence Water Plant to W Curve, Douglas Co., Kansas.

May 22, 1979

Left Water Plant at 8:35 A.M. Will record birds and mammal. 3 young cottontails 100' N of Park gates, robin, killdeer must have nest in made-made lot W of tracks, Indigo bunting, mourning dove, cardinal, oriole, red-headed woodpecker, fox squirrel. Mourning dove nest 790522-1 of 2 eggs in black willow tree. Now W up creek for a short distance. Cotton from cottontrees cover plowed field like snow. Measured one cottonwood tree at base of double trunk as 10'11" which is 100' below old ford crossover. Mourning dove, robin, water in backed up areas covered with cotton. Another cottonwood tree measured 11'8" and another double trunk cottonwood at 12'6" one trunk. Steel another cottonwood at 11'4" circumference. Two black-capped chickadees, peach-leafed willow in full blossom whereas black willow next to it was not in blossom, yellow-throated ~~warbler~~ warbler, barn swallow. Now back to R.R. bridge over creek and continuing N. 2 grackles, redwing, Baltimore oriole. Turnpike overpass 50' N of Conduit that goes under turnpike is a beaver dam that impounds water for an unknown distance. Dam of willows but no evidence of willows cut in the area. 2 redwings, cardinal, 4 barn swallows. At R.R. switch to W left tracks and checked fields to W. Measured a sycamore ~~not~~ along drainage at 13'10" circumference, green heron. Nest of red-winged blackbird 790522-2 in cattails. Surrounding area open or grown young trees. General



area marshy. One grackle nest of 3 eggs in juniper tree 4' above ground in tree 10' high. Open area around. Will check later. Returned to R.R and checked cattails in barrow pit between where side track leaves main r.r. route and where r.r. turns westerly. 12 redwing black birds nesting. Where cottonwoods are replacing ~~cattails~~ cattails the black birds will nest in trees rather than in cattails below. One nest of 4 eggs (skeletal elements) 790522-3 and no. 790522-4 of 4 eggs (skeletal elements) from same general area. Other nests abandon or not get started egg laying, other nests with 1-2-3-4 eggs. At lunch along Kaw River at bend, water high for this time of year. While on bank a soft shelled turtle left ~~the bank~~ a log and swam at least 150' down river. 3 grackles in the deep riparian forests. At park by Water Plant noted a redtail and 2 red-bellied woodpeckers.