

This part of Montana has more grass and less sagebrush than in Wyoming across the border to the south. Little Big Horn River about $\frac{1}{3}$ full. 813.8 4 groups of teal in pond. At Crow Indian Reservation stopped in to check in a trading post to buy some authentic merchandise but no store. Visited instead the Indian Hospital. One white man was selling blankets at \$35.00 a piece but they looked more like Navajo type blankets than Crow. He sold out of his van but on the Crow Agency. The nearest shopping town is about 15 miles beyond at Hardin. Big Horn River $\frac{1}{2}$ full, sandbars not exposed. 892.5 Yellowstone River at Billings. 933.0 Bushes associated with ponderosa pine are evenly spaced rather than clumps of bushes. Continued to Columbus and camp just S along the Yellowstone River.

Columbus, Stillwater Co., Montana

Aug. 5, 1979

Left camp at 941.1 at 8:00 A.M. Yellowstone here has a river bed of cobbles ^{up} to 14" diameter and what would be equivalent to sandbars are smaller cobbles, larger toward banks. Three feet (height) of soil on top of river deposits and above present river valley are benches of sands, clay and cobbles. There are some limited spots of sand in river bed. These boulders

are rounded by river action and are ^{light} grayish, ^{fine grained} granite.

Great blue heron flew up river, also in area killdeer,

yellow warbler, mallard, and Brewer blackbird. Left area, starlings in town. This country is characterized by bluffs and ponderosa pine and riparian forests of cottonwood along the river. Mourning dove. Montana so far has had air pollution all along the way from factory pollution etc to forest fire smoke. The haze is continuous and obscures distant mountain ranges, in all directions. Sunset last night a most unusual yellowish brown. 953.4 Yellowstone River.

Cottontail road kill. Grass grows right up under ponderosa pine. Many young pines on slopes. 961.0 Sweetgrass Co.

963.4 150 Brewers blackbirds along road. 967.3 Bridger Creek. Have just left the good stands of ponderosa pines and the country now has fewer and smaller pines and the country is much drier. 986.3 First yellow-headed blackbird.

