

Clinton Reservoir, Douglas Co., Kansas

Oct 8, 1979

checked birds from S end dam. approx. 250 ring-billed gulls on emergent road bed n w gate (outlet). Included in group was one imm. Bonaparte gull. An immature ring-billed gull; harassed this small gull. At point to W 270 pelicans, 50 more generally distributed in upper Rock Creek bay. 120 Canada geese circulated in reservoir area. One group of 18 snow and blue geese swam and rested in main body of reservoir W of dam. This group maintained a separation of 5 snow geese (2 adults and three young), and with some interchanging of group composition of 2 adults and 2 imm, one adult and one imm, 3 adults, 1 adult and 3 imm. This group was displaced by a speed boat. They flew in three circles then left E over dam. While in flight the 5 snow geese maintained their segregation and led the flock of 18 the entire time in the air. 1/2 hours later they returned to reservoir and again the snows maintained segregation. One large raft ^{4,000 birds} generally dispersed included approx 50-50 godwits and baldpate, 30 pintails, 20 mallards, 3 pied-billed grebes, one scaup. 30 cormorants generally distributed. approx 40 great blue herons around edge of reservoir. Red tailed hawk flew E over lake.

Oct 9, 1979

checked birds from S end dam. Today there are approx. 3,000 pelicans in some general area as yesterday, resting on shoreline. Others in Rock Creek bay and main lake to W. The Franklin gulls were in the ~~same~~ general area of lake ^{to W near emergent vegetation}, and numbered approx. 9000. They formed a long raft and there was little activity except an occasional gull moving n along the raft. At any one movement there would be 2 or 3 gull elevate their wings (per 300 birds). At 9:45 one group of approx 200 gulls left the raft, circled to S and then returned to raft at 10:00 A.M. In the lake are also 250 coot, 3000 pelicans and 35 cormorants. Other birds in bay at head of Rock Creek. 40 ring-bill gulls in area, generally distributed. The ring-bills are the only gulls working the area. At 10:50 wind increased to whitecaps and ring-billed gulls started to feed into wind as they moved n. Approx 90 ring-bills pass across the lake in slow evenly dispersed formation and it took 1/2 hour for them individually to pass by. At 10:55 6000 Franklin gulls left the raft and circled high and finally disappeared. At this