

Clinton Reservoir, Lone Star Lake, Douglas Co., Kansas

Oct. 6, 1980

Left for Clinton and Lone Star and will keep list of all birds & mammals. 22734.2 at home. 8 grackles, turnoff to Clinton Res from highway 40. turkey vulture flew $\frac{2}{10}$ mi straight against the wind. Clinton dam. white-cops on lake and good surf on shallow areas, 10 waves constituting surf. At N end dam, 12 ring-billed gulls, 1 crow, 1 turkey vulture and 2 cormorants along beach ^{at N end} when a turkey vulture flew N up beach about 15' above water, all the gulls left the beach but immediately returned. Cormorants remained on edge of beach. Groups of 8-4-2-6-4 barn swallows along dam. no other gulls or shorebirds along length of dam. at S end dam at 10:45^{am} can see approx. 60,000 Franklin gulls in a long ^{N-S} raft in middle of lake, at least 20,000 in air and moving out of the area. 62 pelicans in bays beyond center island on W side (Rock Creek side), 18 cormorant flew by into wind from the SW and they dropped down to within a foot of the water at which time, one of the cormorants near the rear of the formation dropped down and alighted on the water before the rest of them set their legs indicating that it anticipated that the rest of the flock decided to alight on the water which they immediately did or it may have entral the other cormorants to alight. 120 starling on telephone line on Lone Star road. 3 grackles, 4 barn swallows, Crow at Lone Star village, Lone Star dam. many Franklin gull arriving from N and alighting in lake bed (recently drained except ^{small} open pond of an acre and other drainage canals. 300 Franklin gulls, 64 ring-billed gulls, 8 dowitcher and 8 pectoral sandpipers feeding in mud that is up to their knees (heel). Something displaced all birds, gulls returned but most of them left area. Pectoral now feeding to belly in mud where the dowitcher sunk down to only a half inch from knee. Franklin gulls have darker backs and 3 to 4, generally 4 spots visible in wing primaries when resting. Ring-bill generally 2-3. Two small turtles working up a channel and backs completely covered with mud and heaped up into 3 or 4 masses in addition. Group 12 ring-billed gulls feeding like dabbling ducks with head low ^{and submerged to eyes and bill open} + bill sweeping from right to left.