

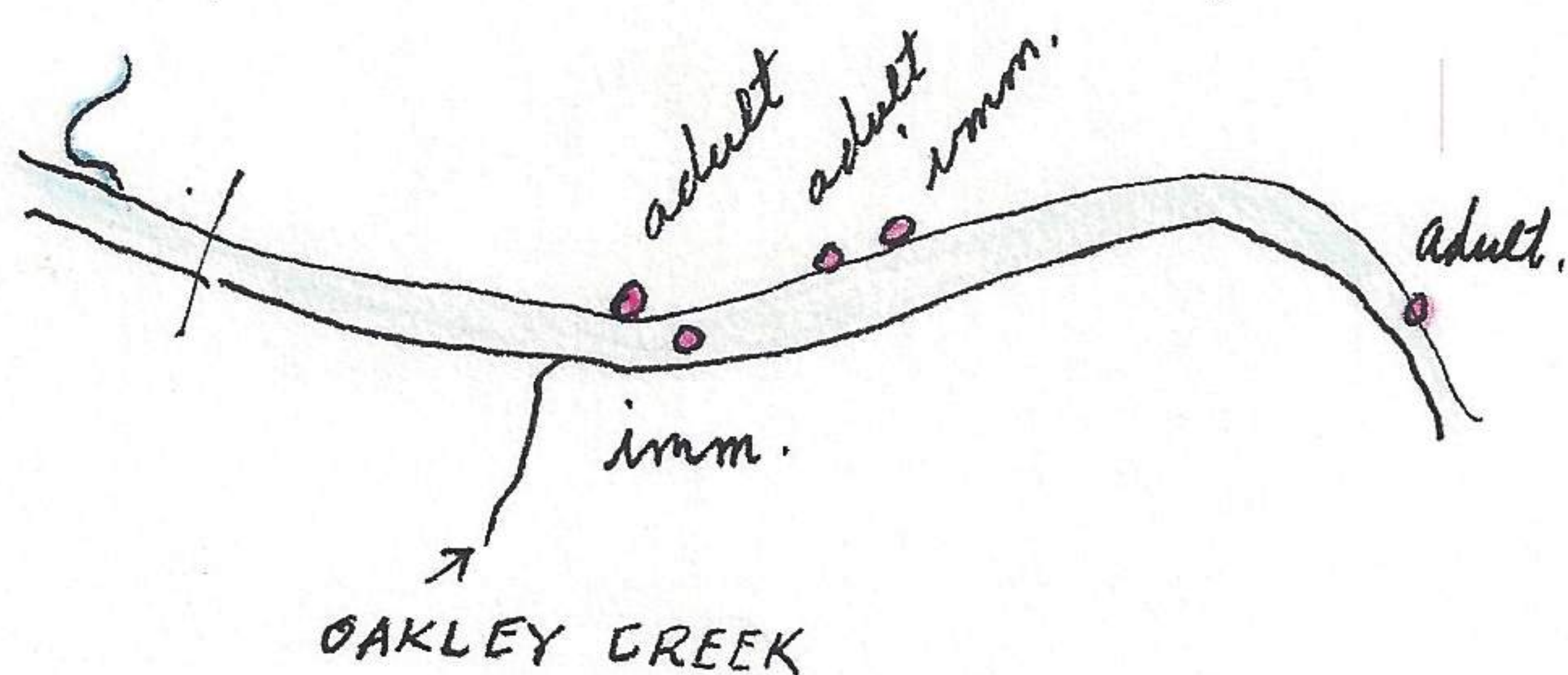
JOURNAL 1981

402 Yorkshire Dr., Lawrence, Douglas Co., Kansas
 Jan 3, 1981

at 10:48 A.M. approximately 2000 starling alighted in back yard of our home and open lawns of adjoining homes. This aggregation has occurred only twice in our area, most flocks which are common average 20 (2-50) in numbers. This large flock mainly fed on grass seeds. It is interesting that although there was a feeder in our yard with 30 or so English sparrows actively feed on the feeder and ^{on} the ground, the starling had ignored the resource of food at the feeder but continued to feed on grass and weed seeds, never coming closer than 10' of the feeder. as if the large flock behaviorism was set at feeding on ^{grass} seeds of open lawn and that their objective could not be modified.

at 10:52 a Cooper hawk sailed in just above the ground and captured one of the starling. The ^{other} starlings and sparrows left the area leaving the hawk and its prey the only birds in sight. The hawk stood upright and without movement held the bird on to the ground. at 10:54, 2 minutes later, it flew 80' N over a fence and into a brushy corner of our adjoining neighbors lot where it alighted on the ground and immediately started to pluck feathers from the breast and neck of the starling. The movement was continuous and rapid. at 10:59, five minutes later it started to feed on the prey which lasted until 11:11. During the 12 minutes of feeding it worked continuously with only 2 short pauses of 20 seconds each. The bird was moved 2 feet at one time with hardly an interruption of feeding. After finishing feeding it left the same direction at it approached the capture and feeding of the bird. It flew low to fence, over fence and low over roadway and then up & over a one story house to again drop to a low flight plan. It flies rapidly & directly.

Leecompton, Kaw River, Douglas Co., Kansas
 Jan 7, 1981



Observed 5 bald eagles this A.M. (3 adult and 2 immatures) on Kaw River downstream from Leecompton (below Oakley Creek) and all on N side river except an immature on sandbar. It flew up into tree with nearest adult.