

400.8 striped skunk road kill, birds rare and have seen only those recorded. 404.0 meadowlark. 407.1 inordinate number of junipers along river to the S including many young ones just coming up. 407.7 shrike. 410.7 white jackrabbit with blackish ears road kill, far removed from any habitation. 415.9 barrow pit with more ducks than we have seen so far (in barrow pits and ponds), 400 ducks. 416.8 Turnoff 177 to ^{183 to} N. Platte, end of ^{complete} census from Elm Creek (Buffalo Co.). 417.5 N Platte Bridge in N. Platte. 418.8 now onto Interstate 80 in N. Platte. Have been recording all gulls thru this area. Lake with 150 ducks at 431.3. 432.4 barrow pit with 400 ducks including golden eye. 440.5 redtail on fence post. [reel malfunctioned to Lake Mc Conaughy to N side dam] N side dam with extensive sandy beaches to W. This area with present level of lake is (4:00 P.M.) very photogenic and has unusual lighting effects at this time of day. Recorder starting at 500.3 sparrow hawk. 502.5 Garden Co. Herds of cattle confined to small areas and straw on ground for calving. 503.7 appearance of sandhill cranes abrupt. From here 92 to Lewellen and thence W on 26 counted the sandhill cranes (larger numbers are estimates), 32-20-4-5-3-21 5 of road and flying N. 100 to S, 100 to N, 50 to S, 100 crossing road to W, 100 to W, 50 to S, 100 to N, 40 to S, 80 to N, 60 to N, 100 to W, 200 to S, 3 to S (not calling). Reference is to S is birds observed to S not flying to S, birds to N = either in fields or flying to N. At 505.0 the birds were absent ^(4:15 P.M.) and as abruptly as they began at 503.7. In this distance of 1.3 miles there were 1248 sandhill cranes in remarkably uniform groups of approx. 50 or 100 in groups. They were definitely flying from river valley N into fields. At 505.8 60 sandhills flew N across road. 510.5 5 ♂ redwings on territories. 511.5 1500 sandhill in 1 main diffuse group flying E (instead of N). 516.9 redtail on top telephone post 40' from road. 522.1 sparrow hawk. 536.0 Morrill Co at 6:00 P.M. at sundown (sun just touching horizon. 6:06 P.M. ray of sun disappeared. The final count of sandhills in 7.8 miles (503.7 to 511.5) in Garden Co. is 2748, or 351.3 sandhill cranes per mile. Their occurrence here may be associated with sandhill lakes to N. There are more pheasants 85% ♀ 15% ♂ in Nebraska than we have ever observed on previous trips. Arrived