

CROOKED RIVER FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE



The Crooked River with its variety of riparian habitat is essentially a headwaters system originating in Summit Lake on the Arctic Divide. As such it lacks many of the moderating and more productive features of other meandering river systems. Features such as rich nutrient loads carried by other rivers of greater length, more moderate climate or valleys at lower elevations and different aspect with relation to prevailing weather systems are benefits lacking in the Crooked River system. When compared to other local river systems the Crooked River is indeed a productive fish stream for an arctic drainage watershed, but it is a poor sports fishery due to the abundance of coarse fish thriving in its waters.

FISHERIES

The Crooked River is relatively slow moving as it loses relatively little elevation between Summit Lake and McLeod Lake, some sixty-two canoe miles to the North. It is a shallow stream with wide pool areas some of which are actually lakes, such as Davie, Redrocky and Kerry Lake. Aquatic vegetation is very abundant and the poor drainage creates many swamps and marshes that serve as solar heat traps to encourage productivity. Many springs also contribute to the river, the largest is called Livingstone Springs.

A variety of fish species are found in the system and the many habitats available allow them to coexist without domination by any one species. Three species of sucker and squawfish are perhaps the most successful and adaptable species in the Crooked River system. Chub and Whitefish (Rocky Mountain) are also common. Sculpins and red side shiners are found throughout the system. Rainbow trout and Dolly Varden while not common are the major sports fish sought by the river angler.

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Fisheries authorities indicate rainbow to one pound and Dollies to five pounds are as large as these species grow in these waters. The sizes of rainbow most commonly caught by fly-fishing and spin-casting anglers are in the eight to ten inch range.

The lakes of the system contain burbot, lake char and lake whitefish as well as the previously mentioned species. These species prefer the deep waters of the lake depressions to the river shallows.

Within the river, coarse fish predominate to the detriment of a sports fishery. Fisheries management investigations have shown that the Crooked River system is virtually a write-off for enhancement potential. The policy of the fisheries staff will be to direct their efforts elsewhere with regard to enhancement. It is expected that the present fishery will retain itself indefinitely under present use by anglers but increased pressure will harm the sportfish population in the future.

WILDLIFE

Observations of wildlife along the Crooked River have been extensive but few have been recorded as reference material. The Provincial Parks personnel have compiled a bird list for Crooked River Park that includes a twenty five mile radius of the Park. That list is as follows:

COMMON LOON
RED-NECKED GREBE
COMMON GOLDENEYE
BUFFLEHEAD
RED-BREASTED MERGANSER
BARROWS GOLDENEYE
BLACK TERN
BONAPARTES BULL
MEW GULL
WHITE-WINGED SCOTER
LESSER SCAUP
MARSH HAWK

CANADA GOOSE
MALLARD
BLUE-WINGED TEAL
CANVASBACK
RING-NECKED DUCK
GREAT BLUE HERON
AMERICAN BITTERN
SOLITARY SANDPIPER
SPOTTED SANDPIPER
COMMON SNIPE
LESSER YELLOWLEGS
SHORT - EARED OWL

RED-TAILED HAWK
 BALD EAGLE
 OSPREY
 MERLIN
 KESTRAL
 SHARP-SHINNED HAWK
 COMMON NIGHTHAWK
 RUFUS HUMMINGBIRD
 BELTED KINGFISHER
 STELLARS JAY
 GREY JAY
 RAVEN
 COMMON CROW
 LEAST FLYCATCHER
 WESTERN FLYCATCHER
 OLIVE-SIDED FLYCATCHER
 WESTERN WOOD PEEWEE
 BARN SWALLOW
 CLIFF SWALLOW
 VIOLET GREEN SWALLOW
 TREE SWALLOW
 BANK SWALLOW
 ROUGH-WINGED SWALLOW
 ROBIN
 VARIED THRUSH
 HERMIT THRUSH
 SWAINSONS THRUSH
 VEERY
 WOOD THRUSH
 ORANGE-CROWNED WARBLER
 MAGNOLIA WARBLER
 YELLOW-RUMPED WARBLER
 TOWNSEND'S WARBLER
 BLACKPOLL WARBLER
 MCGILLVERY'S WARBLER
 YELLOW WARBLER
 WILSON'S WARBLER
 LINCOLN'S SPARROW
 WHITE-CROWNED SPARROW
 SONG SPARROW
 CHIPPING SPARROW

BARRED OWL
 GREAT HORNED OWL
 SPRUCE GROUSE
 RUFFED GROUSE
 SHARP-TAILED GROUSE
 FLICKER
 PILEATED WOODPECKER
 HAIRY WOODPECKER
 DOWNY WOODPECKER
 NORTHERN 3-TOED WOODPECKER
 RED-BREASTED SAPSUCKER
 ROCK DOVE
 MOURNING DOVE
 BLACK-BILLED MAGPIE
 RUSTY BLACKBIRD
 RED-WINGED BLACKBIRD
 BREWERS BLACKBIRD
 BROWN-HEADED COWBIRD
 STARLING
 BLACK-CAPPED CHICKADEE
 RED-BREASTED NUTHATCH
 DIPPER
 MOUNTAIN BLUEBIRD
 CEDAR WAXWING

 RUBY-CROWNED KINGLET
 GOLDEN-CROWNED KINGLET
 AMERICAN REDSTART
 WESTERN Tanager
 EVENING GROSBEAK
 PURPLE FINCH
 WHITE-WINGED CROSSBILL
 RED CROSSBILL
 PINE GROSBEAK
 NORTHERN WATERTHRUSH
 YELLOWTHROAT
 PINE SISKIN
 JUNCO
 MOUNTAIN CHICKADEE
 RED-EYED VIREO
 WARBLING VIREO

The 105 species listed for Crooked River Park are obviously incomplete since the valley represents a north-south flyway over a low part of the Arctic Divide. During an early July canoe trip in heavy rain the following birds were observed: VARIED THRUSH, COMMON MERGANSER, CANVASBACK DUCK, BLUE-WINGED TEAL (7 immature), MALLARD,

GOLDENEYE, HERRING GULL, RED-TAILED HAWK, KESTRAL, BALD EAGLE, GOLDEN EAGLE, OSPREY, KINGFISHER, DIPPER, GREY JAY, STELLARS JAY, RAVEN, RUFUS HUMMINGBIRD, BARN SWALLOW, TREE SWALLOW, ROBIN, HERMIT THRUSH, SPOTTED SANDPIPER, FLICKER, HAIRY WOODPECKER, NORTHERN THREE-TOED WOODPECKER, YELLOW BELLIED SAPSUCKER, RED-WINGED BLACKBIRD, RUSTY BLACKBIRD, AMERICAN REDSTART, YELLOW-RUMPED WARBLER, BOHEMIAN WAXWING, YELLOW WARBLER, TREESPARROW, SONG SPARROW, WHITE-CROWNED SPARROW, RUBY-CROWNED KINGLET, WESTERN WOOD PEEWEE, JUNCO, NORTHERN WATERTHRUSH, WESTERN TANAGER AND BLACKPOLL WARBLER.

During a helicopter survey on January 19th a total of seventy-one Trumpeter Swans were recorded on the Crooked River of which seventeen were cygnets (young of the year). Bufflehead, Goldeneye and mallard were also observed as were Dippers and Grey Jays. Stellars Jays were seen at Summit Lake and Common Redpolls and White-Winged Crossbills were travelling up on the highway at Bear Lake.

The riparian habitat along the Crooked River and the lake shores contains excellent bird habitat and thus offers the quiet water traveller a wonderful opportunity for bird watching.

Reptiles and amphibians were not observed during our canoe trip. Park records include the Common Garter Snake and amphibians such as the Northwestern Toad, Wood Frog and Spotted Frog.

Mammals reported in Crooked River Park are Mink, Mule Deer, Moose, Wandering Shrew, Meadow Vole, Red-Back Vole, Jumping Mouse, Deermouse, Flying Squirrel, Red Squirrel, Snowshoe Hare, Black Bear, Grizzly Bear, Lynx, Coyote, Red Fox, Wolf, Northwestern Chipmunk, Weasel, Woodchuck, Otter, Fisher, Marten, Beaver and Muskrat. During our canoe trip only a muskrat was observed swimming along the river shoreline.

The winter helicopter survey recorded eighteen bull moose, thirty-two cow moose and fourteen calves wintering along the Crooked River. Tracks of three wolves were also observed.

Again on February 16th 1983 a helicopter survey from Davie Lake to McLeod Lake observed 53 swans (including 2 cygnets), a bald eagle, goldeneye, buffelhead and mallards. The river reach from Davie Lake to Redrocky Lake is a winter moose concentration area with 48 and 32 moose counted on the two winter flights. The two flight totals are not additive as some of the same birds and animals would be recounted. Extensive areas of riparian habitat and old burn areas exist from Kerry Lake to McLeod Lake but very little moose utilization was recorded this winter. It may be used in heavy snow years but it is more likely that the aspen on the burn has outgrown its usefulness to moose in winter.

Wildlife habitat varies along the river length from Summit Lake to McLeod Lake. Waterfowl habitat is concentrated in the marshy open areas where the river meanders and spreads into the brushy margins where small sloughs or pothole lakes are found. Passerine birds favour the thick willow and alder thickets in the same areas. Insect-eating birds utilize the air above the river as their feeding areas.

In the winter, open water areas supply trumpeter swans with both food and protection as they feed on the aquatic plants available on the stream bottom. Springs help to keep stretches of the river open. Other diving ducks and water ouzels also take advantage of the open water in winter. The river from La Pas road bridge downstream to Davie Lake offered the best habitat for swans in January 1983. Ducks and Canada Geese use the islands and wet areas to nest and rear their

6.

young in the spring and summer.

Moose utilize the river edges in winter as an accessible food source. The river ice also forms a travel route for the moose, as they feed on the willows of the shoreline. In the spring, usually Mid-May to Mid-June, cow moose use the wet areas along the stream as a buffer to protect against predators when they give birth to their young. Mineral licks attractive to moose exist at Livingstone Springs, and elsewhere along the river.

The beaver cuttings and other sign was extensive along the river and it is obvious that a substantial population exists along the Crooked River. Muskrat habitat in marshes and wide areas of the river likely support a viable population as well.

Enhancement of the wildlife habitats would best be served by protecting the areas adjacent to the river environs from logging or other forms of disruption such as land clearing or road building. The mosaic or mix of habitats along the Crooked River is best maintained as it is in perpetuity for the benefit of the species currently dependent upon it.

Grant Haselwood

Reference - Flora and Fauna Report - Crooked River by B. Herrin,
1969 updated by B. Schnider, 1974

Crooked River Park - Report on Interpretation 1979
64 pp. by E. van Ingen

flora and fauna reports

- completed to January 1973, April 1974, April 1975.
- please replace all pamphlets after use

In order to ensure that Flora and Fauna Reports are kept up-to-date, please report any additions on a separate, single page in the Annual Report of the park. Details of the sightings/ location and name of the observer(s) must be included.

CROOKED RIVER

Past reports have been deficient in:

1. Annotated list of plants and all animals including status (common, rare, local), sightings, behavioral observations, eating habits.
2. Geology of area.
3. General description of area and park, including any unique features of natural history interest.
4. History of area.

CROOKED RIVER PROVINCIAL PARK

Established 1965

Class A Park

Acreage 2,512

P.U.P. - Stores, cabin sites, no logging, no mining.
No hunting.

CROOKED RIVER PARK

Commencing at the southwest corner of Lot 2963, Cariboo District; thence easterly along the southerly boundary of said Lot 2963 35 chains; thence due north to a point 15 chains north of the northerly boundary of said Lot 2963; thence due west 88 chains more or less to the westerly limit of the British Columbia Railway right-of-way; thence northerly along the said westerly right-of-way limit to its intersection with the northerly boundary of Lot 2965, Cariboo District; thence westerly along the northerly boundaries of said Lot 2965, Lot 2966 and Lot 2967 to the natural boundary of the Crooked River on the right bank thereof; thence in a general southerly direction along the natural boundary of the said Crooked River to its most southerly intersection with the westerly boundary of the aforesaid Lot 2967; thence southerly along the westerly boundary of said Lot 2967 to a point 10 chains north of the southwest corner of said Lot 2967; thence due east 80 chains more or less to the easterly boundary of said Lot 2967; thence southerly along the easterly boundaries of Lots 2967 and 2960 to a point 10 chains south of the natural boundary of the aforesaid Crooked River on the left bank thereof; thence in a general easterly direction 10 chains perpendicularly distant and parallel to the said left bank of the Crooked River to the southerly boundary of Lot 2962; thence easterly along the said southerly boundary of Lot 2962 to the southwest corner of Lot 2963 being the point of commencement; save and except thereout the rights-of-way of Provincial Highway No. 97, the British Columbia Railway, the Westcoast Transmission Company Limited Pipeline and the Western Pacific Products and Crude Oil Pipelines Ltd. Pipeline and containing 2,511 acres more or less.

Status as of April, 1974.
1975.

L 2966

L 2965

Skeleton Lake

BEAR LAKE

Swamp

Timber

Grass Swamp

JOHN HART HIGHWAY

Naturalists trail

P.I. F.B.

Excellent jump site

talk tree

Asp.

Sp. F

F.O.-22

Usable flat ground

reedy shoreline
firm sand bottom

PI

Start of pacing traverse

PI

flat

reedy shoreline

F.S.B.

rocky bottom

HEAR

L 2962

CROOKED RIVER

RIVER

River Flat

River Flat

edge of River flat

Willow

Willow

Creek

Edge of Drop

ASP

flat

some flat

Excellent Existing day use

Sandy bottom

Sandy bottom

o-2' bank

o-2' bank

reedy shoreline

reedy shoreline

reedy shoreline

Sandy bottom

reedy shoreline

reeds

semi open

Choked with weed, reed + lillies

Flat
Asp. Fir P.

Interpretive Notes of Crooked River Park

from the Report of Brian Herrin, 1969.

Lichen and fungi flora were particularly diverse in late August.

Leaf miners were active as well as fungi-eating larvae of insects.

Shore birds congregated to feast on emerging toads.

Reports of bats, not included on mammal list - species should be identified in 1974.

NOTES ON THE INTERPRETATIVE POTENTIAL OF
CROOKED RIVER PROVINCIAL PARK

This park lacks spectacular natural features and the flora and fauna is rather impoverished. There is a sameness about the park. It is, however, different geologically and botanically from the surrounding area. The main physical features are the lakes and hills of fine sand. Much of the park supports a park-like cover of Lodgepole Pine. Ground cover is composed of a carpet of mosses and lichens particularly Cladonia. Herbaceous plants are few here. Only Kinnikinnick; Blueberry, Vaccinium Canadense, and Pipsissewa were seen. Areas where more humus has accumulated have a much more varied plant cover. Here grows ^hWite Spruce, Aspen, White Birch, and a variety of flowering plants. Water bodies have scouring rush, sedges and horsetails around the margins, and water-lilies in the shallows. Plants have been removed from the beach areas of Bear Lake.

Plants:	-Black Spruce,	-Thimbleberry,
	-White Spruce,	-Wild Rose,
	-Lodgepole Pine,	-Spreading Dogbane,
	-Aspen,	-Scopolalia,
	-Black Cottonwood,	-Hardhack,
	-Mountain Alder,	-Bunchberry,
	-White Birch,	-Water Lily,
	-Willow (spp.),	-Pearly Everlasting,
	-Douglas Fir (only one tree seen),	-Waxberry,
	-Canada Blueberry,	-Fireweed,
	-Kinnikinnick,	-Horsetail, (sp.)
	-Saskatoon,	Pyrola, (sp.)
	-Pipsissewa,	-Sedges, (spp.)
	-Flat-top Spirea,	-Scouring Rush

Mosses and lichens are a noticeable botanical feature of the park. Three most abundant species are:

1. Cladonia raugiferina on the ground,
2. Usnea vulpina (black) on Lodgepole Pine, and
3. Usnea (gray) on Spruce.

Clubmosses are particularly abundant. Three species which were seen are:

1. Stiff Clubmoss -- Lycopodium annatinum,
2. Ground-cedar -- Lycopodium complanatum, and
3. Ground-pine -- Lycopodium obscurum.

Mammals

Beaver cuttings at Squaw Lake. D. Stirling, October 28, 1968.

Some Flora of Crooked River Park

WESTERN YEW
THIMBLEBERRY
DOUGLAS FIR
AMABILIS FIR
LODGEPOLE PINE
BLACK SPRUCE
WHITE SPRUCE
COMMON JUNIPER
TREMBLING ASPEN
WHITE BIRCH
BLACK COTTONWOOD
MOUNTAIN ALDER
SITKA ALDER
MOUNTAIN ASH
WILLOW
TWAYBLADE
CORAL ROOT (SPOTTED)
CORAL ROOT
BIG-LEAVED REIN ORCHID
RATTLESNAKE PLANTAIN
SWAMP GOOSEBERRY
SOOPOLLALIE
SQUASHBERRY
BUNCHBERRY
WILD ROSE
SASKATOON BERRY
BITTER CHERRY
VELVET LEAVED BLUEBERRY
KINIKINNIK
SPREADING DOGBANE
BASTARD TOAD-FLAX
SILVERWEED
FIREWEED
FOAM FLOWER
COLT'S FOOT
TWISTED STALK
BLACK TWINBERRY
YARROW
CLOVER
TWINFLOWER
ASTER
INDIAN PAINT BRUSH
FALSE SOLOMON'S SEAL
SARSAPARILLA
VIOLA
PRINCES PINE
PYROLA
ONE SIDED PYROLA
QUEEN CUP
WATER ARUM

Taxus brevifolia
Rubus parviflorus
Pseudotsuga mensiesii
Abies amabilis
Pinus contorta
Picea mariana
P. glauca
Juniperus communis
Populus tremuloides
Betula papyrifera
Populus trichocarpa
Alnus tenuifolia
A. sinuata
Sorbus sitchensis
Salix spp.
Listera sp.
Coralorrhiza maculata
C. trifida
Habenaria orbiculata
Goodyera oblongifolia
Ribes lacustre
Shepherdia canadensis
Viburnum pauciflorum
Cornus canadensis
Rosa sp.
Amelanchier alnifolia
Prunus emarginata
Vaccinium myrtilloides
Arctostaphylos uva-ursi
Apocynum androsaemifolium
Comandra livida
Potentilla sp. (in marshes)
Epilobium angustifolium
Tiarella unifoliata
Petasites sp.
Streptopus amplexifolius
Lonicera involucrata
Achillea millefolium
Trifolium spp.
Linnaea borealis
Aster sp.
Castilleja sp.
Smilacina racemosa
Aralia nudicaulis
Viola sp. (white)
Chimaphila sp.
Pyrola virens
P. secunda
Clintonia uniflora
Calla palustris

BUCKBEAN
YELLOW POND LILY
NORTHERN BEDSTRAW
HARDHACK
FLAT TOP SPIREA
BLADDERWORT
YELLOW PEA
LABRADOR TEA
COTTON GRASS
SMALL MISTLETOE
PUSSYTOES
DANDELION
SLENDER HAWKWEED
WHITE HAWKWEED
BROAD LEAVED ARNICA
LYCOPodium

EQUISETUM

OREGON GRAPE

Menyanthes trifoliata
Nuphar polysepala
Galium boreale
Spiraea douglassii
S. lucida
Utricularia vulgaris
Lathyrus ochroleucus
Ledum groenlandicum
Eriophorum sp.
Arceuthobium americanum
Antennaria sp.
Taraxacum officinalis
Hieracium gracile
H. albiflorum
Arnica latifolia
L. obscurum
L. annotinum
L. complanatum
Equisetum sulvaticum
E. arvense
Mahonia spp.

- above listed June 14/15, 1969.

1973 additions - (Schnider)

CALYPSO
COLUMBINE
INDIAN HELLEBORE
ROCK HARLEQUIN
WESTERN BUTTERCUP
PEARLY EVERLASTING
DEVIL'S CLUB
STINGING NETTLE

Calypso bulbosa
Aquilegia formosa
Veratrum eschocholtzii
Corydallus sempervirens
Ranunculus occidentalis
Anaphalis margaritacea
Oplopanax horridus
Urtica lyalli

The campground area supports a rich undergrowth of bunchberry, queen's cup, saskatoon, vaccinium, solomon seal, soap-olallie, and archids. White spruce intermingled with alpine fir and lodgepole pines. (Schnider, 1973).

CROOKED RIVER PARK

SOME REPTILES

Striped garter snake

SOME AMPHIBIANS

Northwestern Toad

Yellow Tree Toad

List of Some Mammals of Crooked River Park

BEARS

Black Bear
Grizzly Bear

CATS

Lynx

CANINES

Coyote
Red Fox
Wolf

CHIPMUNKS AND SQUIRRELS

Northwestern Chipmunk
Red Squirrel

MUSK CARRIERS

Canadian River Otter

DEER AND GOATS

Moose
(Osporn) Caribou

LARGER RODENTS

Beaver
Muskrat

MICE AND RATS

Deer Mouse

Birds (should be revised as per changes in 1973 AOU. birdlist)

Dat

Common Loon*	Gavia immer
Red-necked Grebe*	Podiceps grisegena
Canada Goose*	Branta canadensis
Mallard*	Anas platyrhynchos
Blue-winged Teal	Anas discors
Canvasback	Aythya valisineria
Ring-necked Duck*	Aythya collaris
Common Goldeneye*	Bucephala clangula
Bufflehead*	Bucephala albeola
Red-breasted Merganser	Mergus serrator
Marsh Hawk	Circus cyaneus
Red-tailed Hawk	Buteo jamaicensis
Bald Eagle*	Haliaeetus leucocephalus
Osprey*	Pandia haliaetus
Pigeon Hawk*	Falco sparverius
Spruce Grouse	Canachites canadensis
Ruffed Grouse*	Bonasa umbellus
Sharp-tailed Grouse	Pediocetes phasianellus
Great Blue Heron	
American Bittern*	Botaurus lentiginosus
Solitary Sandpiper*	Tringa solitaria
Spotted Sandpiper*	Actitis macularia
Common Snipe*	Capella gallinago
Bonapartes Gull*	Larus philadelphia
Short-eared Owl	Asio flammeus
Barred Owl*	Strix varia
Great Horned Owl	Bubo virginianus
Common Nighthawk*	Chordeiles minor
Rufous Hummingbird*	Selasphorus rufus
Belted Kingfisher*	Megasceryle alcyon
Yellow Shafted Flicker*	Colaptes auratus
Red Shafted Flicker*	Colaptes cafer
Pileated Woodpecker*	Dryocopus pileatus
Red-breasted Sapsucker*	Sphyrapicus varius
Hairy Woodpecker*	Dendrocopos villosus
Downy Woodpecker*	Dendrocopos pubescens
N. Three-toed Woodpecker	Picoides tridactylus
Least Flycatcher*	Empidonax minimus
Western Flycatcher*	Empidonax difficilis
Western Wood Pewee*	Contopus sordidulus
Olive-sided Flycatcher	Nuttallornis borealis
Barn Swallow*	Hirundo rustica
Cliff Swallow	Petrochelidon pyrrhonota
Violet-green Swallow*	Tachycineta thalassina
Tree Swallow*	Iridoprocne bicolor
Bank Swallow*	Riparia riparia
Rough-winged Swallow*	Stelgidopteryx rufficollis
Steller's Jay	Cyanocitta stelleri
Gray Jay*	Perisoreus canadensis

Common Raven*
 Common Crow*
 Black-capped Chickadee*
 Dasher
 Red-breasted Nuthatch*
 Robin*
 Varied Thrush*
 Hermit Thrush*
 Swainsons Thrush*
 Veery*
 Mountain Bluebird
 Ruby-crowned Kinglet*
 Cedar Waxwing
 Starling
 Red-eyed Vireo*
 Warbling Vireo*
 Orange-crowned warbler
 Magnolia Warbler
 Audubon's Warbler*
 Townsends Warbler*
 Blackpoll Warbler
 Northern Waterthrush
 Yellowthroat*
 Macgillavrays Warbler
 American Redstart*
 Brewers Blackbird*
 Brown-headed Cowbird*
 Western Tanager*
 Evening Grosbeak*
 Purple Finch
 White-winged Crossbill
 Pine Siskin*
 Oregon Junco*
 Chipping Sparrow*
 Song Sparrow*

Corvus corax
 Corvus brachyrhynchos
 Parus atricapillus
 Cinchus mexicanus
 Sitta canadensis
 Turdus migratorius
 Ixoreus naevius
 Hylocichla guttata
 Hylocichla ustulata
 Hylocichla fuscescens
 Sialia currucoides
 Regulus calendula
 Bombycilla cedrorum
 Sturnus vulgaris
 Vireo olivaceus
 Vireo gilvus
 Vermivora celata
 Dendroica magnolia
 Dendroica auduboni
 Dendroica townsendii
 Dendroica striata
 Seiurus nomeboracensis
 Geothlypis trichas
 Oporornis tolmiei
 Setophaga ruticilla
 Euphagus cyanocephalus
 Molothrus ater
 Piranga ludoviciana
 Hesperiphona vespertina
 Carpodacus purpureus

 Spinus pinus
 Junco oreganus
 Spizella passerina
 Melospiza melodia

Birds were recorded on a twenty-five mile radius of the park. Those marked with an asterix were recorded within the park. Local people reported swans that wintered along the Crooked River but there was no records during the summer.

Bird life is not exactly plentiful, but there are a fair number of species in the campground. The campers favorites are Western tanager and Red-necked grebe.
 (Schnider, 1973.)

Bob Schnider, 1974.

CROOKED RIVER

Temporary Add'n.

New birds - 1974 (records marked * are inside the park.)

- *Lesser Yellowlegs
- *Rusty Blackbird
- *Red-wing Blackbird
- *Sparrow Hawk
- Barrow's Goldeneye
- *Golden Crowned Kinglet
- *White-crowned Sparrow
- Black billed Magpie
- *Wilson's Warbler
- *Mountain Chickadee
- *White Winged Scooter
- Black Tern
- Lincolns Sparrow
- Pine Grosbeak
- *Mourning Dove

New Mammals

- Mink - 1 record
- Mule Deer - 1 record
- Wandering Shrew - 2 records
- Flying Squirrel - 2 records

Bob Schnider, 1974.

Temporary Add'n.

New Plants

Ox-eye Daisy
Yellow Monkey Flower
White pea-vine
Vetchling
Blue-eyed grass
Fox tail
Cat tail
Cinquefoil sp.
Canada Thistle
Pineapple Weed
Canada Mint
Red Oscir Dogwood
Goldenrod
Spurred Gentian

Leucanthemum vulgare
Mimulus guttatus
Lathyrus sp.
Lathyrus sp.
Sisyrinchium angustifolium

Typha Latifolia

Cirsium arvense
Matricaria matricourioides

Cornus stolonifera
Solidage nemoralis
Halenia deflexa

Temporary Add'n.

Black Bear

The Black Bear is our commonest large mammal. They frequent the local dump and the campsite. These two areas are connected by a well travelled Bear path. In the campsite the bears become extremely bold. They do not scare easily. In 1973, one large male broke into a trailer. He was eventually removed and shot. Several attempts to trap the bear had been made previously. The same bear had attempted to charge the camp cook but was driven off by a wooden spoon across the snout.

A female was observed at the dump with three (3) cubs in 1973. This year another female was observed in the same area with three (3) cubs. It is unknown whether this is the same individual.

Every effort should be made to instruct the campers in proper food storage and waste elimination to prevent bear problems.

Grizzly Bear

While fairly common in the area, this bear is not seen often. A grizzly female and cub were recorded at the rock pit near Whiskers Point in late June. Several reports of grizzly came from Teapot and Coffeepot Mountains and grizzlies were observed at Arctic Lake and Merton Tower in 1973.

Two local youths reported a grizzly at the Bear Lake dump on June 23, but this report has not been authenticated.

Later checks revealed this "grizzly" at Bear Lake dump to be a very large cinnamon black bear.

Lynx

A lynx was recorded in early July, 1973 near LePas bridge. Lynx was recorded again in 1974 about two miles from this bridge. Though not seen often in summer, local residents claim there are "lots" around.

Coyote

Seen occasionally near highways in late evening. Never in numbers. Heard often at night from campsite. Very small animals, probably to a maximum of 25 lbs. Feeding habits unknown.

Red Fox

Recorded on Le Pas road at Mile 4 in 1973 and 1974. Perhaps there is a den in this area. Recorded in early morning and early afternoon, never in evenings.

Wolf

Seen only once in 1973 but tracks often found at Forestry Campsite on Dominion Lake. One hide from road kill was observed as well. Youth Crew foreman reports (confirmed by observations) that nearly all wolves here are very dark, some almost totally black, and keep this coloring all year.

Northwestern Chipmunk

Uncommon in the park area. Seen more often at Crystal Lake. Two records for Dominion Lake.

Red Squirrel

Common throughout the park and surrounding area. In spite of this, few signs of their presence are observed, i.e. squirrel's table, storehouse etc. Quite tame, often stealing food in campsite. One individual is a frequent visitor to the cookhouse pantry.

Canadian River Otter

Seen occasionally in Crooked River. One observed catching a white-fish under Le Pas bridge.

Moose

More common than sightings would lead one to expect. Several residents in or near slough two miles north of Summit Lake on Hart Highway. Three recorded in campsite in early June, 1974.

Moose (con't.)

Local residents have been known to ride moose while swimming. They claim that the moose are easily steered by pulling their ears.

Trail around Bear Lake shows signs of winter brousing and is scattered with moose turds (also known as "smartening-up-pills" or poo!!).

Moose in Crooked River can be called by dumping water from a billy can into the river. Do not attempt this method during the rutting season!!

Cariboo

Herd summers on meadow above road to Church Logging Camp. Observed in 1973, reported in 1974. Estimated to be about 40 in the herd.

Beaver

Very common. All along Crooked River. Also in Squaw Lake, Dominion Lake, and Beaver Pond. Usually seen in evenings between 8:00 p.m. and 8:30 p.m. Mother observed swimming downriver from LePas bridge with one young on her back. Beaver skull found at Ferguson bridge in mid-June.

Muskrat

Numerous along Crooked River. Often seen in willows along the edge of the river. One recorded under Le Pas bridge, June 25, 1974.

Deer Mouse

Common, but not often seen. Heard at night in woods and under cabins. Two road kills examined in 1973, one in 1974. Stomach contents were unrecognizable.

CROOKED RIVER

ADDITIONS TO PARK FLORA & FAUNA: (New sightings MUST be verified by two or more naturalists, detailed field notes or photographs. No others will be accepted. NO LIVING THING WILL BE COLLECTED IN ORDER TO VERIFY REPORTS.

Not enough flora and fauna work was done this year, and keying of plants was found to be difficult and slow without the aid of a microscope. Some errors occur in the present flora list: Amabilis fir (Abies amabilis) does not occur in the park but Alpine fir Abies lasiocarpa does. It is doubtful if western yew, Taxus brevifolia occurs in the park.

Additions to Flora 1975

On ridge above Crooked River:

Yellow violet - Viola sp.

Buck brush - Ceanothus sanguineus

Squaw Lake

Skunk cabbage - Lysichiton kamschatcense

Marsh skullcap - Scutellaria galericulata

Around Bear Lake

Water smartweed - Polygonum amphibium

Marsh (Swamp) cinquefoil - Potentilla palustris

Tall white bog orchid - Habenaria dilatata var. leucostachys

Slender-spire orchid - Habenaria unalascensis

Cow wheat - Melampyrum lineare

Pine drops - Pterospora andromedea

Pinesap - Hypopitys monotropa

Golden corydalis - Corydalis aurea

Drummond's Rock cress - Arabis drummondii

Skeleton Lake

Moorwort - Andromeda polifolia

At least 1 more species of Vaccinium is common throughout the park.

Pyramid spiraea - Spiraea pyramidata - or is it Spiraea douglasii and Spiraea betulifolia cross breeding?

Liverworts - by Park Headquarters and in ditches along campsite road.

Many plants are found only where topsoil has been brought into the park; e.g.

Golden corydalis, Canada Thistle, and Drummond's rockcress. There are many other "weed" type plants found growing only in the topsoiled areas as well.

These additions should be regarded as tentative as they have not been verified by another naturalist. The exception is Buck brush seen by David Stirling and Grace Barclay June 18, 1975.

Additions to Bird List

(Birds recorded on 25 mile radius; those marked * recorded within park)

Lesser Scaup*

Sharp-shinned hawk

Mew gull*

Rock dove*

Yellow warbler

Red crossbills*

These additions should be regarded as tentative as they have not been verified by another naturalist, except the Mew Gull seen Aug. 16, 1975 by Glen Ryder and Grace Barclay.

UPDATE YOUR FIELD GUIDES

Change

Pacific Loon
 Holboell's Grebe
 Fulmar
 Pale-footed Shearwater
 Slender-billed Shearwater
 Fork-tailed Petrel
 Leach's Petrel
 Great White Heron }
 Wurdemann's Heron }
 Blue Goose
 European Teal
 Common Teal
 Baldpate
 American Widgeon
 Shoveller
 Canvas-back
 Greater Scaup Duck
 Lesser Scaup Duck
 American Golden eye
 Buffle-head
 Old-squaw
 American Scoter
 Common Scoter
 American Merganser
 Harlan's Hawk
 American Rough-legged Hawk
 Marsh Hawk or Harrier
 Duck Hawk or Peregrine Falcon
 Pigeon Hawk or Merlin
 Sparrow Hawk or Kestrel
 Coot
 Oyster Catcher
 Wilson's Snipe
 Hudsonian Curlew
 Greater Yellow-legs
 Lesser Yellow-legs
 Knot
 Red-backed Sandpiper
 Dowitcher
 Avocet
 Herring Gull
 Kittiwake
 Atlantic or Common Murre
 Richardson's Owl
 Nighthawk
 Flicker
 Yellow-shafted Flicker
 Red-shafted Flicker
 Gilded Flicker
 Arctic Three-toed or Black-backed
 Woodpecker
 American Three-toed Woodpecker
 Western or Arkansas Kingbird

To

Arctic Loon
 Red-necked Grebe
 Northern Fulmar
 Flesh-footed Shearwater
 Short-tailed Shearwater
 Fork-tailed Storm-Petrel
 Leach's Storm-Petrel
 Great Blue Heron
 Great Blue Heron
 Snow Goose
 Green-winged Teal
 Green-winged Teal
 American Wigeon
 American Wigeon
 Northern Shoveler
 Canvasback
 Greater Scaup
 Lesser Scaup
 Common Goldeneye
 Bufflehead
 Oldsquaw
 Black Scoter
 Black Scoter
 Common Merganser
 Red-tailed Hawk
 Rough-legged Hawk
 Marsh Hawk
 Peregrine Falcon
 Merlin
 American Kestrel
 American Coot
 Oystercatcher
 Common Snipe
 Whimbrel
 Greater Yellowlegs
 Lesser Yellowlegs
 Great Knot
 Dunlin
 Short-billed Dowitcher
 American Avocet
 Herring & Thayer's Gull
 Black-legged Kittiwake
 Common Murre
 Boreal Owl
 Common Nighthawk
 Common Flicker
 Common Flicker
 Common Flicker
 Common Flicker
 Black-backed Three-toed Woodpecker
 Northern Three-toed Woodpecker
 Western Kingbird