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UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Saratoga National Historical Park
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
Stillwater, New York

December 13, 1948

MEMORANDUM for the Regional Director, Region One:

The following report has been prepared in response to the Director's informational memorandum of November 5, 1948, and covers the entire period from July 1, 1947 to December 31, 1948.

Wildlife is generally more plentiful in this area than in previous years, although no significant changes have taken place. One of the very important aspects of the existance of the larger species of mammal is that visitors, to this historical area, are beginning to recognize that wildlife populations add immensely to their appreciation of the historic events which occurred here and also to their enjoyment in interpretation of the story of the area.

The condition of the larger animals is excellent. Deer emerged from the unusually severe winter of 1947-48 in fine condition. Red fox, being trapped in quantity, just outside of the park boundary, have been observed to be fat and in excellent fur. One of the fox trappers, who is very successful, having taken about 40 red fox in the vicinity of the park this fall says he has seldom observed fox as heavy or in as good condition. He is an expert. The same follows for other small animals except squirrel. These, through lack of a plentiful food supply, are not numerous, or apparently increasing but slowly. Rabbits captured just outside of the park seem to be in good fur and fairly well fed but are not numerous. We have noticed

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where fox and hawks have successively fed on rabbit during the winter. Pheasant, grouse, partridge, and plover are present here but rare -- only two of each being known at present. All species being considered as game are hunted extensively outside of the area, but there are more hunters than game.

No studies or scientific investigations are underway, nor have scientific studies of livestock management, as it affects wildlife, been undertaken. No management measures have been applied to the wildlife populations.

There are no fishing streams within the park that have appeal to either the local or visiting fishermen. Good fishing in nearby streams and lakes detracts from the demand for recreational fishing developments.

As far as is known, there have been no publications on the wildlife of the area since January 1, 1947.

(Sgd.) IVAN J. ELLSWORTH

Ivan J. Ellsworth
Superintendent

ANNUAL WILDLIFE REPORT FOR SARATOGA NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK
STILLWATER, NEW YORK, FOR THE YEAR 1951

9B1-4

Report ~~9a4~~

Species	Estimated Number	Comments
Chipmunk, Eastern	Common	This mammal is frequently encountered in the two picnic areas in the park as well as in wooded areas.
Deer, White-tailed	12	This population represents the largest number recorded in this area since the establishment of the park. Last year's reported population was augmented by a later sight record of 5 additional deer during the winter. This year's fawns totaled 5.
Fox, red	10	Trapping of this animal on areas adjacent to the park appear to keep it in check.
Muskrat	50	Observations of areas frequented by the muskrat in the eastern section of the park indicated a sharp increase in the animal from 1950. However, observations do not indicate that such a large number will be recorded this winter and spring.
Rabbit, Cottontail	40	There appears to be no significant change in the population from the preceding year.
Raccoon	10	Observations indicate a larger number of these mammals than previously reported.
Skunk	6	This animal is infrequently encountered in the park.
Squirrel, Grey	24	The population indicates no change from last year.
Squirrel, Red	10	Observations of the red squirrel this year indicate its presence in larger numbers than previously reported.
Weasel	4	The weasel has been seen occasionally in the area immediately east of the Superintendent's residence.
Woodchuck (Marmot)	80	Observations indicate that there has been no siginificant change in the population from last year.

ANNUAL WILDLIFE REPORT FOR SARATOGA NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK
STILLWATER, NEW YORK, FOR THE YEAR 1951

Report 9a4

Bird Species	Estimated Number	Comments
Ducks, sp.	Common	These birds frequent the eastern section of the park along the river and on two small ponds in this area.
Geese, Canada	Uncommon	During the spring and fall, migrations occasionally these birds are seen in the park.
Grouse, Ruffed	25	Along the forest and grassland edges of the park grouse are commonly encountered.
Hawks, sp.	8	Hawks are frequently seen in the park. Identifications have been made of the Red-tail, Sparrow and Marsh Hawks.
Mergansers, sp.	Uncommon	The American and Hooded Mergansers have been identified on the eastern fringes of the park along the Hudson River.
Owls, sp.	4	Owls are infrequently seen on the park, however, at least two of this total are believed to be screech owls.
Herons, Great Blue	1	This bird has been observed several times in the marshes along the Hudson River.
Pheasants, ring-necked	20	This species is frequently encountered in the western sections of the park. During the spring of 1950 a total of 8 roosters were counted.
Plover, Upland	4	These birds were observed in the headquarters area and south of the small picnic area during May and June of this year.

Saratoga National Historical Park
Stillwater, New York

January 30, 1952

Memorandum

To: Regional Director, Region One

From: Superintendent, Saratoga NHP

Subject: Wildlife Resources, Management and New Developments, Saratoga N. H. P., for calendar year 1951.

The following is submitted in response to Mr. Cox's memoranda of January 25 and 28.

(1) LARGER MAMMALS - Of the larger mammals only the white-tail deer occurs in this park. Notable increases in the population have occurred in recent years, with the most pronounced occurring this year. During the winters of previous years up to eight individuals have been actually seen in the area. As of this date this year it is known definitely sixteen deer are in the area at least on a part time basis. This year's fawn crop is known to have totaled at least five individuals. The remainder of the increase is believed accounted for by the movement of other deer into the park. The physical condition of all members appears to be excellent and indications are that the sex ratio is normal.

Protection has been provided against hunting and detrimental influences while these animals reside in the park, but no management practices have been afforded for this or other species of animals and birds mentioned in this report since the need for management studies has not been deemed necessary. Cooperative action has not been solicited.

(2) SMALLER MAMMALS - The only notable change in the population of the smaller mammals has occurred in respect to the muskrat. Observations of this animal this winter indicate the population to be approximately one third of what it was a year ago. Local New York State Game Protectors advise that a similar decrease has been noted in other areas in this general vicinity. They believe this decrease to be caused by last spring's high water level of the Hudson River which resulted in a migration of this species to more suitable habitats.

(3) BIRD LIFE - Estimated populations show no pronounced increase or decrease for this group.

(4) FISH RESOURCES - There are no streams or bodies of water in this park that are attractive to fishermen.

(5) MAJOR MANAGEMENT PROBLEMS & PROGRESS IN THEIR SOLUTION - At the present time there appear to be no major management problems. All wildlife populations are well within the carrying capacity of this area and to our knowledge there is no serious environmental factor (disease, etc.) that presents a management problem.

(6) INVESTIGATIONS OF WILDLIFE & WILDLIFE FOOD AND COVER - No investigations of this character have been initiated in this park by any private university, State or Federal biologists or any others in their employ.

(7) NEEDS FOR ADEQUATE PROTECTION & CONSERVATION OF WILDLIFE - The most pressing need under this heading is for additional protection personnel during hunting season, the height of which in this area covers a period of approximately two months. The protection services of a temporary park warden or ranger would materially aid the protection efforts of the one park ranger on the staff of this park. The justification of these services has become apparent from the increased hunting pressure in those areas surrounding the park.

As concerns the conservation of wildlife no professional biologists are employed in the park, nor does there appear to be a need for setting up any projects or expending any funds, other than for protection, for wildlife activities in this park.

I. J. Ellsworth
Superintendent

In triplicate

ANNUAL WILDLIFE REPORT FOR SARATOGA NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK

STILLWATER, NEW YORK, FOR THE YEAR 1953

Report 9bie4

Species	Estimated Number	Comments
Bobcat (Lynx)	rare	Rare. Occurrence unpredictable from year to year.
Chipmunk, Eastern	Common	Slight increase indicated.
Deer, White-tailed	18 20	This number actually observed at same time on various dates inside the park. Deer yard in park in winter and disperse in summer. The 1951 report was too low, as later count was 14.
Fox, Red	10 10	Nopopulation change indicated. One home observed where kits had been raised.
Groundhog (Woodchuck)	50	
Mink	4 4	Signs observed in eastern area near river.
Muskrat	25 36	Newhomes observed in swampy section in eastern area near river. An increase seems to be in progress again.
Rabbit, Cottontail	60 abundant	Increase indicated.
Raccoon	14 20	Slight increase indicated.
Skunk	15 30	Homes and other signs indicate an increase.
Squirrel, Gray	24 30	No population change indicated.
Squirrel, Red	10 10	No population change indicated.
Weasel	6 6	Slight increase.
Woodchuck	80	No population change indicated.
Ducks, sp.	Common	Many ducks remain in vicinity as long as open water remains. Others, including geese, drop down in spring and fall while migrating.
Grouse, Ruffed	30 40	Slight increase indicated.
Hawks, sp.	12 30	Slight increase indicated.
Owls, sp.	6 8	Increase indicated.
Herons, Great Blue	2 4	Encountered frequently in marshy area in eastern part of park.

Pheasants, Ring-necked	24	36	Increase indicated.
Plover, Upland	12	30	Increase indicated.
Woodcock	4	10	Observed on several occasions in the higher, wooded areas in eastern part of park.

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General Comment

The balance of nature in the making can be observed on a small scale in Saratoga NHP today. During the past couple of decades much of the area now park, once kept clear by farmers for many years, has been allowed to grow up. The brush ans small trees and other "weed growth" accumulating is providing much food in the form of seeds, bark, buds, roots and accompanying insects, beetles, etc., for small birds and rodents, and also produces excellent shelter for their safety. The rodents and small birds attract larger forms of animal and bird life, which in turn draw the even larger predators. Eventually a climax will be realized, which will be largely determined by the forest growth. Then a period of adjustment will be experienced, to be maintained roughly through the succeeding years.

How long this will take is highly problematic, so dependent is it on various influencing factors. In the meantime it is especially gratifying to observe, even on a small, slow scale, the return of the "natives." Especially so when it is realized that we, too, are but part of the whole, and that our long-term success and happiness is dependent on a balance of all things in nature. But right now it is good to know that little Saratoga is doing her part!

ANNUAL WILDLIFE REPORT FOR SARATOGA NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK, STILLWATER, NEW YORK, FOR THE YEAR 1955

Report 9biel4

Species	Estimated Number	Comments
Beaver	Rare	One observation in recent years.
Bobcat	Uncommon	Observed occasionally as they pass through area on hunting trips.
Chipmunk, Eastern	Common	
Deer, White-tail	20	Apparently holding their own.
Fox, Gray	Uncommon	Observed in recent years.
Fox, Red	10	No population change indicated.
Marmot (Woodchuck)	80	Holding their own.
Mink	4	Winter travellers along Hudson River.
Muskrat	30	Slight Increase.
Porcupine	Rare	Presence observed recently.
Rabbit, Cottontail	Abundant	Practically over-running the area.
Raccoon	30	Increase noted.
Rodents, Small	Abundant	Many acres of brush fields provide excellent environment.
Skunk	Common	
Squirrel, Gray	Common	
Squirrel, Red	15	Not as prevalent as the gray.
Weasel	10	As small game increases, so does the weasel population.

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Species	Estimated Number	Comments
Dove, Mourning	30	Staging a comeback.
Ducks	Common	Migratory seasons bring thousands of visitors. An appreciable number nest in area.
Geese	Common	Frequently observed in migration.
Grouse, Ruffed	50	Increasing.
Hawks	Common	Increasing in direct proportion to small game increase. Harrier (Marsh Hawk) becoming quite prevalent as year-round inhabitants.
Heron, Great Blue	Rare	No population change indicated.
Osprey	Rare	No population change indicated.
Owls	8	Slight increase.
Pheasant, Ring-necked	40	Appreciable increase.
Plover, Upland	30	Increasing.
Quail	12	Increasing.
Woodcock	6	Slight increase.

ANNUAL WILDLIFE REPORT FOR SARATOGA NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK FOR THE YEAR 1957

Report 10BIE1

Species	Estimated Number	Comments
Bobcat	Rare	None observed in park
Chipmunk, Eastern	Abundant	Chipmunks are seen throughout the park's wooded area.
Deer, White-tailed	22 Common Estimates Dec.-1957 = 8 Jan-1958 = 12 Feb.-1958 = 25 Mar-1958 = 37+ apparent nov 1958 - 4-7 Dec. 1958 - 7+(transient 12) Jan 1959	The relatively mild winter of 1956-1957 was favorable to the general area's deer population. They can be seen browsing along the roads and in the fields and look to be in good condition. Compared to last spring's deer count, there are fewer in the park this fall. This is usual, due to the migratory nature of the animals and also that for the 1st time in several years, the killing of deer of either sex was permitted on lands adjacent to the Park on the last day of the hunting season.
Fox, Gray	5 Uncommon	The gray fox is seen on rare occasions within the park. Two were spotted in the Freeman Farm area and one appeared parturient. The carcass of another was found near the Powder magazine, killed probably by dogs.
Mink	4	No population change indicated
Muskrats	Common	Their homes dot the ponds located on the Waterbattery Farm. They are seen in ponds scattered throughout the park and have increased in number with the protection they receive from trapping. They are in good condition.
Rabbit, Cottontail	Common	Local hunters report that fewer rabbits have been seen this year than last. They are still common within the park but apparently are on a downward cycle.

Raccoon	25 Common	Their number has varied little since the last report. They have been seen near the old Champlain Canal and in the section of the park adjoining the river.
Rodents, Small	Abundant	Continue to thrive on the abundant food supply in the park.
Skunk	20 Common	Several have been seen alongside roads passing through the park. Four have been killed by automobiles. Their numbers are slowly increasing.
Squirrel, Gray	Common	Seen frequently throughout the park. They have thrived on the food supply available and are in good condition.
Squirrel, Red	Common	Now well established within the park. While no actual count wasmade, they have been observed in most wooded sections of the park.
Weasel	10	The prevalence of small game affords the weasel a ready food supply. However, no population change is indicated.
Eastern Marmot (Woodchuck)	Common	Frequently seen near their holes which are scattered over the entire park. Some are very large. Their number is increasing.

BIRDS

Dove, Mourning	Common	These are seen throughout the park.
Duck, Mallard	Common	These birds are seen in ponds located on the former Waterbattery Farm and in the old abandoned Champlain Canal. Foodis readily available.
Duck, Black	15 Common	Seen in the canal and ponds frequented by the mallard ducks.
Duck, Wood	25 Common	Feeds in the same areas as the black and mallard.
Geese	Common	Migratory. Recently observed flying above the Hudson River.
Grouse, Ruffed	Common	Frequently seen along the Wilbur Farm Road and in the Wilbur basin. Reportedin other areas of the park.
Hawks	Common	Observed in various areas of the park.

Heron, Great Blue	Rare	One recently observed near Hudson River on Waterbattery Farm pond.
Osprey	Rare	No recent observations
Owls	5 (Uncommon)	The number of owls within the park varies from year to year. Slight decrease in numbers.
Pheasant, Ring-necked	68 Common	Pheasant population within the park is on the increase. Food is plentiful and the birds are healthy. They are encountered throughout the park and show little fear of humans. One of the local Rod and Gun Clubs is reported to have arranged for the release of 500 birds in 1956 near the park.
Plover, Upland	20 Common	Seen in open fields and near the river. Number slightly down from last report.
Quail	Rare	No recent observations. The County Game Protector reports that he has not seen, nor heardof any quail in this area.
Woodcock	6	No population change indicated.

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ANNUAL WILDLIFE REPORT FOR SARATOGA NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK FOR THE YEAR 1959

REPORT 10B1E1

Species	Estimated Number	Comments
Bobcat	Rare	Current reports of bobcats in this area are believed to be erroneous. No sightings or tracks to indicate presence of this animal have occurred in several years.
Chipmunk, Eastern	Abundant	Wooded sections preferred habitat. Ones observed in the picnic area are especially plump while those in other areas tend to be leaner but in good condition.
Deer, white-tailed	31 Common	Estimate of 1 deer based on recorded observations made January through March and October through December. The number of deer present in the park during the warmer summer months declined, and from sightings, only 12 were estimated to have used the area intermittently. With the approach of colder weather and the New York State fall hunting season, deer again migrated into the park. There are presently estimated to be between 20 and 31 deer on park lands from week to week.
Fox, Gray	Uncommon	While gray fox have been reported in the county, none were observed within the park in 1959. Former dens in the Freeman Farm area were taken over by Red Fox.
Fox, Red	5 Uncommon	Not reported in last census, this animal seen occassionally near former haunts of gray fox. Observed also in vicinity of Great Ravine near Burgoyne's Headquarters site. Reports indicate mange infection present in surrounding area and one infected animal seen in park.
Mink	4	No change in population indicated.

Muskrats	Common	Heavy rains this fall were responsible for the inundation on two separate occassions of park lands bordering the Hudson River. Muskrat houses on these lands and the flooded waterbattery pond were destroyed as the waters subsided. Indications are however, that most of the animals remained.
Rabbit, Cottontail	Common	Although the rabbit population continues on downward cycle, the rate of decrease seems to be slowing down.
Raccoon	30 Common	Slight increase in numbers. These mammals have been seen near Crooked Creek and along parts of the old abandoned Champlain Canal.
Rodents, small	abundant	Foodstuffs readily available in the many acres of brush covered fields.
Skunk	15 Uncommon	Fewer observed and reported. Although trapping of these animals on nearby lands has all but stopped, there are not as many present in the park as in the past.
Squirrel, Gray	Common	Frequently observed in the park, these mammals appear to be in good condition.
Squirrel, Red	Common	No change in population indicated.
Weasel	15	Abundance of small game indicates a slight population rise.
Eastern Marmot (Woodchuck)	Common	Heavily hunted outside of the park, these animals continue to thrive within the protected areas. Many are large and all appear well fed and healthy.
		BIRDS
Dove, Mourning	Common	Observations indicate no population change.
Duck, Mallard	Common	Hundreds pass over during the migratory seasons and many stop to feed and rest on ponds located within the park. Subsequently, nesting is common in the area.

Duck, Black	12 Common	Feeds and nests in same ponds and sections of abandoned canal as other resident and migratory birds.
Duck, Wood	16 Common	Fewer observed in park.
Geese	Common	Part of the passing parade of migratory birds.
Grouse, Ruffed	Common	Observed along north boundary road, in Freeman Farm basin, and in vicinity of Pettinos flats. Population believed to be slowly decreasing.
Hawks	Common	With a wealth of small animals and rodents readily available as food, hawks are frequently seen in the park.
Heron, Great Blue	Rare	Two observed in November of 1959 on Waterbattery Farm pond. One seen earlier in a section of the abandoned Champlain Canal.
Osprey	Rare	None seen or reported past two years.
Owls	8 Uncommon	No appreciable population change indicated.
Pheasant, Ring-necked	70 Common	Birds are healthy and are encountered along the roads and in the cleared fields in the park. Population remains about constant. The Stillwater Rod and Gun Club is reported to have released 140 birds in the spring of 1959 near the park.
Plover, Upland	14 Uncommon	Infrequently seen in general area of blockhouse and battlefield. Not a full time resident of the park.
Quail	Rare	Signs observed in two years period since last report are few.
Woodcock	3 Rare	Only three reported as having been seen. Additional birds believed to be in park and general area, but no confirming observations.

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N2623

Saratoga National Historical Park
Stillwater, New York

September 22, 1960

Memorandum

To: Regional Director, Region Five

From: Superintendent, Saratoga NHP

Subject: Fish and Wildlife Report

Attached in duplicate is the report on fish and wildlife requested by Mr. Palmer's memorandum of May 11 on the subject of Suggested Work Program for Wildlife Rangers.

This report was prepared by other members of the park staff from notes collected for report preparation by Park Ranger Richard A. Blasdel prior to his departure for the Departmental Management Training Program. We regret that Mr. Blasdel was unable to complete the report before leaving.

(Sgd.) I. J. ELLSWORTH

I. J. Ellsworth
Superintendent

In duplicate
Attachments

FISH AND WILDLIFE REPORT

Saratoga National Historical Park

September 22, 1960

Introduction This report is submitted in compliance with Acting Regional Director Palmer's memorandum of May 11, 1960, on the subject of Suggested Work Program For Wildlife Rangers.

1. Animals of the Saratoga Area Prior to the Influence of White Men

Detailed information concerning the pre-Colonial fauna of an area such as Saratoga National Historical Park is difficult to obtain. In the absence of specific research into the natural history of the park, non-Service sources related to the general area of northern New York States were consulted and supplied the data contained in this section of the report.

Archeological studies conducted by the New York State Department of Education under the general direction of State Archeologist Dr. William A. Richey have been primarily concerned with the examination of Indian sites, both pre and post-Columbian. These studies have revealed the presence in the northern Hudson Valley of the following: deer, bear, beaver, wolf, fresh water clams, and eagles.

While published reports provide some data concerning distribution as it was affected by forest growth, clearings, and natural enemies, they contain little data that could be specifically applied to the land within the park.

Contemporary accounts of the Saratoga campaign contain occasional references to wildlife. These references are so scattered and casual as preclude drawing any sound conclusions concerning the density of the

animal population. Nor do they provide reliable data concerning distribution. Sources mention the following: deer, bear, fox, raccoon, squirrel, muskrat, dove, eagle, geese, ducks, and unidentified fish.

Archeological studies that have been conducted within the park have uncovered the remains of domestic animals and freshwater clams, but have not recovered other native faunal specimens.

2. Fish and Wildlife Present When the Park became a Part of the National Park System

So far as is known, no written reports concerning wildlife that was present when the park became a part of the Park System were prepared. However, because this event occurred less than twenty years ago and the climatological and environmental conditions have remained relatively unchanged, inferrential evidence based upon current species provides some guidance. Occasional references in the Superintendent's monthly reports over a 19 year period provides some information.

Currently present are: deer, Eastern marmot, raccoon, rabbit, squirrel, (both red and grey), red fox, bob-white, ruffled grouse, pheasant, skunk, muskrat, crow, hawks, owls and various migratory birds. Other rare wildlife is mentioned in the 10B1E1, 9B1E4, 9A4 and 307-709 reports.

3. Efforts Made to Bring Back the Native Species

There is no approved program of wildlife restoration for this park for the purpose of re-establishing native species of wildlife, not now present. Local Rod and Gun Clubs and Sportmen's organizations have, from time to time over the past 20 years, imported Missouri Cottontail Rabbits, etc. and released them on farms throughout the County to augment the supply of native Cotton tails for hunting purposes. Other Wildlife also may have been stocked in areas outside of the park by these organizations. Records seem incomplete, and some of the programs appear to have been the result

of the initiative of one man or a small group. The local Stillwater Rod & Gun Club has an annual program of raising and releasing Ring-necked pheasant on farms near the park.

4. Restoration Efforts Needed

The need for restoration efforts should be based on a complete study of the degree, practicability and value of a restoration program.

5. Control Programs of the Past

A bounty on fox, wolf, bob-cat and rattlesnake is now and has been in effect for many years in this County.

The last organized control program of which we have information was conducted for fox in 1948 - 1949 by a local trapper over the area immediately adjacent to the park boundary. During this trapping program it is interesting to nate that although grey fox have been reported from time to time, no greys were captured. Also of interest was the fact that of the 69 foxes caught, the division between sexes was 38 males and 31 females.

There have been no control programs in the park.

6. Possible Controls for the Future

The needfor controls in the future will depend upon studies and the evidence of diseases which might have an effect on visitor safety or other important factors.

7. History of Exotic or Ferol Animals

In the relatively brief period in which this area has been established as a park there is no history of exotic or feral animals.

8. List of Research Projects Completed

None

9. List of Management and Research Projects Needed

The management and research projects needed will depend upon results of the study mentioned in 4. above.

ANNUAL WILDLIFE REPORT FOR SARATOGA NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK FOR THE YEAR 1961

Report 10B1EL

Species	Estimated Number	Comments
Bear	1 Rare	One black or brown bear sighted by the Park Ranger on June 2, 1961. Unconfirmed report of another sighting late in June. Failure of current upstate beechnut crop may have caused a number of these animals to move south in search of food.
Bobcat	Rare	Two reports of this animal being seen in the park during the month of June. Previously not observed in this area for a number of years, bobcat may be returning.
Chipmunk, Eastern	Abundant	Observed throughout the entire park but prefers wooded sections as habitat. They appear to be in good health.
Deer, white-tailed	38 Common	The number of deer present in the park may vary from season to season and month to month. This estimate is based on sight observations made January through March and October through December. Presently there are estimated to be between 11 and 19 deer in the park. They appear to be healthy and the absence of snow cover thus far has enabled them to graze on cleared grass lands somewhat further into the winter than is usual.
Fox, Gray	2 Uncommon	The gray fox is becomming a rarity in the park. Only two were reported as having been seen during this reporting period.
Fox, Red	6 Uncommon	Although seemingly well established in the park, two of the animals observed appeared to be infected with mange. This disease is reported to be present in the surrounding area. Two red fox

		were seen near the Chatfield Farm parking area, one near the American River Fortifications Overlook, and three in the vicinity of Burgoyne's Headquarters.
Mink	2 Rare	One probable sighting reported near the abandoned Champlain Canal in the north-eastern section of the park.
Muskrats	8 Uncommon	Muskrat population in the park has declined since last report. During this reporting period there were two Muskrat houses on the Waterbattery pond and one house in a small pond near an abandoned section of the Champlain Canal.
Rabbit, Cottontail	Common	Rabbit population is rising again and these animals are seen in numbers throughout the park. Rabbits appear to be healthy.
Raccoon	27 Common	No change in population trend indicated.
Rodents, small	Abundant	Population of these mammals remains high. Food is plentiful in brush covered fields.
Skunk	15 Uncommon	Observations indicate no population change.
Squirrel, Gray	Common	Squirrels appear to be robust and well fed. Observed in wooded sections throughout the park.
Squirrel, Red	Common	Like the gray squirrel, these animals seem healthy and in excellent condition.
Weasel	17 Uncommon	Seldom observed but the abundance of small mammals upon which these animals feed would indicate that the weasel population has remained about the same for the past several years.
Eastern Marmot (Woodchuck)	Common	Next to squirrels and Chipmunks, the most often seen small animal in the park. They apparently thrive within the park and are well fed and healthy.

BIRDS

Dove, Mourning	Common	No population change indicated from observations.
Duck, Mallard	Common	Ponds within the park afford resting and feeding places for these birds during migratory season. Abandoned sections of the Champlain Canal are favorite resting places.
Duck, Black	23 Common	Observed in numbers resting and feeding in ponds and in the canal within the park. Slight increase in numbers.
Duck, Wood	18 Common	No appreciable change in population.
Geese	Common	Thousands pass over during the migratory season and many choose to rest and feed in water within the park.
Grouse, Ruffed	Common	Frequent sightings of these birds in the vicinity of Pettinous Flats, east of the park office, and near the new visitor center - headquarters area. Downward trend in numbers believed to be halted and population slowly increasing.
Hawks	Common	Often seen in the vicinity of historic Asa Chatfiled Farm and along the present north boundary road. Abundance of small animals provides ready supply of food.
Heron, Great Blue	3 Rare	One seen in the Waterbattery farm pond early in October. Two observed in the abandoned Champlain Canal north of the new park entrance road in September 1961.
Osprey	Rare	No sightings of this bird have been reported in recent years.
Owls	18 Common	A family of owls made its home near the Asa Chatfield farm and were seen by many park visitors during late spring and early summer 1961. Another family of owls was heard regularly in the evenings during the summer months in the northern part of the park.

Owl, Snowy (Nyctea nyctea)	1 Rare		Observed near the present park headquarters in January 1961. This bird, tentatively identified as a snowy owl, stayed for approximately 3 months roosting on the Blockhouse-Museum, Comfort Station, and in nearby fields. It may have been the same bird observed in a field behind the Superintendent's residence in January 1960.
Pheasant, Ring-necked	Common		Observed frequently alongside park tour roads and in cleared fields. These birds show little fear of humans and appear to be in fine condition. Population increasing.
Plover, Upland	16 Uncommon		Observed in fields near Blockhouse - and behind park office. Also sighted near the Hudson River in open fields.
Quail	Rare	*	No recent observations
Woodcock	5 Rare		Five only reported as having been seen in the park. There are others believed to be in the area.

* but these birds have been heard calling in the park.

File N 2423

3 copies to region

Form 10-427
(Oct. 1961)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

ANNUAL WILDLIFE REPORT

Submit in triplicate to the Regional Director who will submit the report in duplicate to WASO. Use symbols in Columns 3 and 4 as follows: RELATIVE POPULATION: Abundant Generally (AG); Abundant Locally (AL); Common Generally (CG); Common Locally (CL); Rare (R); Infrequent (I). POPULATION TREND: Up (U); Static (S); Down (D). See reverse for detail explanation of symbols. If all important facts on wildlife have not been covered, a narrative report should be prepared as outlined on the reverse.

Park: Saratoga National Historical Park | Prepared by: Karl B. Kuhlmann | Date: April 28, 1964

SPECIES	ESTIMATED POPULATION	RELATIVE POPULATION	POPULATION TREND	NO. MOVED OUT ALIVE	NO. STOCKED IN PARK	REDUCTION KILL	ACCIDENT AND POACHER KILLED (8) Car	ACCIDENT AND POACHER KILLED (8) Other
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)		
Antelope								
Armadillo								
Badger								
Bat		CL	S	0	0	0	0	0
Bear, Black								
Bear, Grizzly								
Beaver	2	CL	U	(see narrative)				
Beaver, Mountain								
Bighorn								
Bison								
Bobcat								
Caribou								
Cat, Ringtail								
Chipmunk		CG	S	0	0	0	0	0
Coati-Mundi								
Cougar								
Coyote								
Deer, Blacktail								
Deer, Mule								
Deer, Whitetail	150	CG	U	0	0	0	2	3
Elk								
Fox, Gray	1	R	U	0	0	0	0	0
Fox, Kit								
Fox, Red	2	R	D	0	0	0	0	0
Fisher								
Goat, Mountain								
Gopher, Pocket								
Lynx								
Manatee								
Marmot		CG	S	0	0	0	0	3
Marten								
Mink		R	S	0	0	0	0	0
Moose								
Muskrat		CL	U	0	0	0	0	0
Ocelot								
Oppossum								
Otter, River								
Otter, Sea								

SPECIES	ESTIMATED POPULATION	RELATIVE POPULATION	POPULATION TREND	NO. MOVED OUT ALIVE	NO. STOCKED IN PARK	REDUCTION KILL	ACCIDENT AND POACHER KILLED (8) Car	ACCIDENT AND POACHER KILLED (8) Other
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)		
Peccary								
Pika								
Porcupine	1	I	S	0	0	0	0	0
Prairie Dog								
Rabbit, Cottontail		CG	S	0	0	0	0	1 pred'r
Rabbit, Jack								
Rabbit, Snowshoe								
Raccoon		CL	S	0	0	0	0	0
Rodents, Small		CG	S	0	0	0	0	0
Seal								
Sea Lion								
Skunk		CL	S	0	0	0	1	0
Squirrel, Ground								
Squirrel, Tree *		CG	S	0	0	0	0	0
Weasel		CL	S	0	0	0	0	0
Wolf								
Wolverine								
Alligator								
Crocodile								
Turtle, Green								
EXOTICS **								
Boar								
Burro								
Goat								
Horse								
Mongoose								
Nutria								
Rabbit								
Birds, Song		AG	S	0	0	0	0	0
Birds, Game (See below)								
Dove, Mourning		CG	S	0	0	0	0	0
Grouse, Ruffed		CL	S	0	0	0	0	1 pred'r
Pheasant, R-neck		CG	S	0	0	0	0	0
Quail, Bobwhite		R	S	0	0	0	0	0
Woodcock		R	S	0	0	0	0	0
Duck, Black		I	S	0	0	0	0	0
Duck, Mallard		I	S	0	0	0	0	0
Duck, Wood ***		I	S	0	0	0	0	0

Additional Species Goose, Canada - passes over park during migration.

* Gray and Red squirrels abundant locally. ** Two domestic white rabbits abandoned in park 4-25-64. These animals will be removed as soon as possible. *** The wood duck is a possible park nester.

Saratoga National Historical Park
Stillwater, New York 12170

N16 November 19, 1963

Memorandum

To: Regional Director, NE Region

From: Superintendent, Saratoga NHP

Subject: A Problem Concerning Beaver in Saratoga NHP

1. PROBLEM - A beaver dam in the abandoned Champlain Canal on Park property (together with watershed runoff) has backed up the canal pool to capacity beyond the park boundary for about one half mile. Heavy rains and/or snow melt runoff may cause the canal to overflow and inundate low lying lands above the park.

2. IMPLICATION - Overflowing of the canal above park property would incur liability to the United States.

3. ANALYSIS - No reasonable protection can be afforded lands above park property by lowering and maintaining the canal pool 12 to 18 inches below capacity. The canal must be drawn down about five feet to provide adequate drainage from the north or upstream direction. Highway U.S. #4 runs parallel to and within one to several rods of the canal. A State Highway official at the request of the park inspected the area and felt that the present highway ditch and culvert system would be adequate to handle runoff from the canal in the event drainage of the canal over park lands became necessary. Also, oral permission to obtain permanent relief by drainage through the highway ditch was granted the park. This may be formalized if a permanent solution indicates continuation of this method.

4. SOLUTIONS -
   (a) Present relief - Primary consideration was given to (1) preserve both beaver population and attendant habitat, and (2) confine the major solution to park property. The canal tow path was breached above the beaver lodge and the pool drained down 5 or 6 inches. Temporary relief has been maintained by daily checks to free the breach of debris brought in by beaver in attempted closure.
   (b) Future action - Construction of an earth dam in the canal at a location between the beaver lodge and the drainage trench (on park property) should maintain the environment for the beaver colony. (see attached sketch). The water level in this pool would be maintained by two side feeder creeks and normal runoff.

Flooding in the canal above the earth dam could be checked by continuance and improvement of the tow path breach described above.

(c) Other possibilities - Elimination of the problem could be achieved by removal of the beaver from the park through live trapping and maintenance of an unobstructed canal, but it would be a matter of time before another colony of beaver would move into the park and build another dam.

5. REVIEW - A sketch map indicating the problem area is enclosed. Your comments and suggestions on this matter would be greatly appreciated.

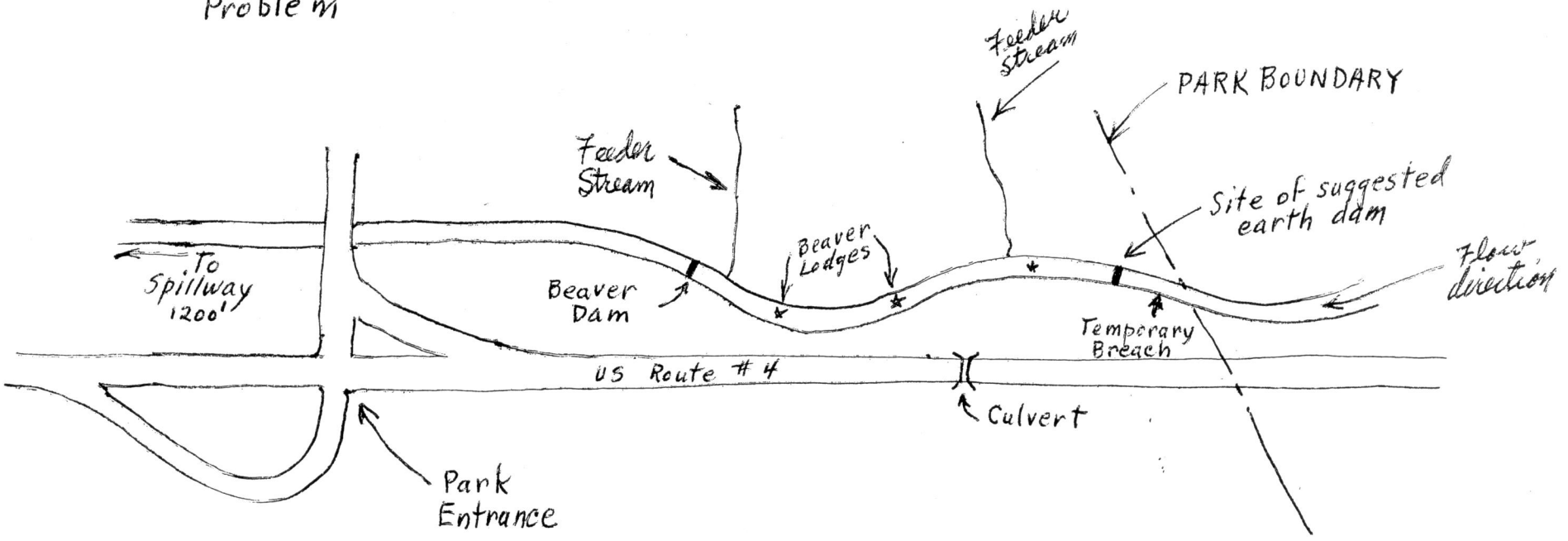
(Sgd.) I. J. ELLSWORTH

I. J. Ellsworth
Superintendent

In duplicate

Enclosures

Sketch to accompany memo of November 19, 1963 presenting Beaver Problem



Hudson River

Form 10-421
(Oct. 1961)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

ANNUAL WILDLIFE REPORT

Submit in triplicate to the Regional Director who will submit the report in duplicate to WASO. Use symbols in Columns 3 and 4 as follows: RELATIVE POPULATION: Abundant Generally (AG); Abundant Locally (AL); Common Generally (CG); Common Locally (CL); Rare (R); Infrequent (I). POPULATION TREND: Up (U); Static (S); Down (D). See reverse for detail explanation of symbols. If all important facts on wildlife have not been covered, a narrative report should be prepared as outlined on the reverse.

Park: **Saratoga National Historical Park** | Prepared by: **Donald J. Colville** | Date: **April 26, 1965**

SPECIES	ESTIMATED POPULATION	RELATIVE POPULATION	POPULATION TREND	NO. MOVED OUT ALIVE	NO. STOCKED IN PARK	REDUCTION KILL	ACCIDENT AND POACHER KILLED (8)	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	Car	Other
Antelope								
Armadillo								
Badger								
Bat		CL	S	0	0	0	0	0
Bear, Black								
Bear, Grizzly								
Beaver	4	CL	U	0	0	0	0	0
Beaver, Mountain								
Bighorn								
Bison								
Bobcat								
Caribou								
Cat, Ringtail								
Chipmunk		CG	U	0	0	0	0	0
Coati-Mundi								
Cougar								
Coyote								
Deer, Blacktail								
Deer, Mule								
Deer, Whitetail	100	CG	D	0	0	0	4	6
Elk								
Fox, Gray	6	CG	U	0	0	0	0	0
Fox, Kit								
Fox, Red	4	CG	U	0	0	0	0	0
Fisher								
Goat, Mountain								
Gopher, Pocket								
Lynx								
Manatee								
Marmot		CG	S	0	0	0	3	0
Marten								
Mink	2	R	S	0	0	0	0	0
Moose								
Muskrat	6	CL	U	0	0	0	0	0
Ocelot								
Oppossum								
Otter, River								
Otter, Sea								

SPECIES	ESTIMATED POPULATION	RELATIVE POPULATION	POPULATION TREND	NO. MOVED OUT ALIVE	NO. STOCKED IN PARK	REDUCTION KILL	ACCIDENT AND POACHER KILLED (8)	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	Car	Other
Peccary								
Pika								
Porcupine	2	I	S	0	0	0	0	0
Prairie Dog								
Rabbit, Cottontail		CG	S	0	0	0	3	0
Rabbit, Jack								
Rabbit, Snowshoe								
Raccoon	13	CL	S	0	0	0	0	0
Rodents, Small		AG	S	0	0	0	0	0
Seal								
Sea Lion								
Skunk		CL	S	0	0	0	1	0
Squirrel, Ground								
Squirrel, Tree		AG	S	0	0	0	3	0
Weasel		CL	S	0	0	0	0	0
Wolf								
Wolverine								
Alligator								
Crocodile								
Turtle, Green								
EXOTICS								
Boar								
Burro								
Goat								
Horse								
Mongoose								
Nutria								
Rabbit								
Birds, Song		AG	S	0	0	0	0	0
Dove		AG	S	0	0	0	0	0
Duck, Wood	40	CG	U	0	0	0	0	0
Grouse	10	CL	S	0	0	0	0	0
Hawk	10	CG	S	0	0	0	0	0
Pheasant	15	CG	S	0	0	0	0	0
Quail		R	S	0	0	0	0	0
Woodcock		R	S	0	0	0	0	0

Additional Species

N-2623

Saratoga National Historical Park Attachment, Form 10-421

ANNUAL WILDLIFE REPORT - Narrative Statement

Wildlife estimates for census figures were made by the park staff and New York State Conservation Department Officers.

Snows kept the ground covered for most of the winter. Cottontail rabbits were feeding quite high on shrubs and small trees in some areas and complete girdling will probably kill brush and small trees in several areas.

The deer herd seems to have wintered fairly well. Several cornfields near the park were not harvested and deer found food plentiful. The main problem affecting deer continues to be marauding packs of dogs. State Officers have disposed of several animals on lands adjacent to the park and considerable outcry has been raised by dogs running deer in communities to the west and north of us.

We have assisted several neighbors to find dogs that have strayed into the park, but these have been valuable animals and neighbors generally have paid little attention to requests to control their dogs. We are investigating the use of a "capture gun" to take the animals. After capture they will be taken to the closest animal shelter. At present the closest shelter is about 35 miles southwest at Schenectady. This appears to be the only answer short of killing the animals.

The woodchuck population in the park is increasing. Many of the burrows are near roadside and walks presenting a safety problem. Some undermining of roads and destruction of old fortification is also occuring. In the near future the park will submit a proposal for direct reduction by park forces.

Late last spring several diseased raccoon had to be disposed of near areas of heavy visitor use. Conservation Department agents report fairly heavy disease in raccoons after hibernation and did not think laboratory examination necessary.

The beaver previously reported in the old "Champlain Canal" have not been observed for over a year. The wood duck usually observed in the same area have also disappeared. No unusual activity has been noted on park lands but there appears to be some trapping north of our boundary. A search of park lands for under water "sets" proved negative.

No special reports on wildlife were prepared during the year.

Form 10-421
(Oct. 1961)

NITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIC
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

ANNUAL WILDLIFE REPORT

Submit in triplicate to the Regional Director who will submit the report in duplicate to WASO. Use symbols in Columns 3 and 4 as follows: RELATIVE POPULATION: Abundant Generally (AG); Abundant Locally (AL); Common Generally (CG); Common Locally (CL); Rare (R); Infrequent (I). POPULATION TREND: Up (U); Static (S); Down (D). See reverse for detail explanation of symbols. If all important facts on wildlife have not been covered, a narrative report should be prepared as outlined on the reverse.

Park: **Saratoga NHP** | Prepared by: **David P. Byers** | Date: **4-28-67**

SPECIES	ESTIMATED POPULATION	RELATIVE POPULATION	POPULATION TREND	NO. MOVED OUT ALIVE	NO. STOCKED IN PARK	REDUCTION KILL	ACCIDENT AND POACHER KILLED (8) Car	ACCIDENT AND POACHER KILLED (8) Other
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)		
Antelope								
Armadillo								
Badger								
Bat		CL	S	0	0	0	0	0
Bear, Black								
Bear, Grizzly								
Beaver		CL	D	0	0	0	0	0
Beaver, Mountain								
Bighorn								
Bison								
Bobcat								
Caribou								
Cat, Ringtail								
Chipmunk		CG	S	0	0	0	0	0
Coati-Mundi								
Cougar								
Coyote								
Deer, Blacktail								
Deer, Mule								
Deer, Whitetail	100	S	0	0	0	0	5	1
Elk								
Fox, Gray	12	CG	U	0	0	0	0	0
Fox, Kit								
Fox, Red	6	CG	U	0	0	0	0	0
Fisher								
Goat, Mountain								
Gopher, Pocket								
Lynx								
Manatee								
Marmot		AG	U	0	0	0	20	6
Marten								
Mink		R	S	0	0	0	0	0
Moose								
Muskrat	10	CL	U	0	0	0	0	0
Ocelot								
Oppossum								
Otter, River								
Otter, Sea								

SPECIES	ESTIMATED POPULATION	RELATIVE POPULATION	POPULATION TREND	NO. MOVED OUT ALIVE	NO. STOCKED IN PARK	REDUCTION KILL	ACCIDENT AND POACHER KILLED (8) Car	ACCIDENT AND POACHER KILLED (8) Other
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)		
Peccary								
Pika								
Porcupine		I	S	0	0	0	0	0
Prairie Dog								
Rabbit, Cottontail		AG	U	0	0	0	40	0
Rabbit, Jack								
Rabbit, Snowshoe								
Raccoon	16	CL	U	0	0	0	2	1
Rodents, Small		AG	S	0	0	0	0	0
Seal								
Sea Lion								
Skunk		CL	S	0	0	0	0	0
Squirrel, Ground								
Squirrel, Tree		AG	S	0	0	0	5	0
Weasel								
Wolf								
Wolverine								
Alligator								
Crocodile								
Turtle, Green								
EXOTICS								
Boar								
Burro								
Goat								
Horse								
Mongoose								
Nutria								
Rabbit								
Birds Song		AG	S	0	0	0	0	0
Dove		AG	S	0	0	0	0	0
Grouse	10	CL	S	0	0	0	0	0
Hawk	10	CG	S	0	0	0	0	0
Pheasant	25	CG	U	0	0	0	1	0
Quail		R	S	0	0	0	0	0
Woodcock		R	S	0	0	0	0	0
Flying Squirrel		I	S	0	0	0	0	0

Additional Species

Saratoga National Historical Park Attachment, Form 10-421

ANNUAL WILDLIFE REPORT - Narrative Statement

Wildlife observations made by the Park Staff and New York State Game Protectors were used as a basis for estimating census figures. No reliable population estimate can be made for common species such as chipmunk, marmot, rabbit, squirrel, and small rodents, etc.

Winter was extreme with full snow cover from mid Nov. - late March. During Jan. and Feb. snow cover at times was in excess of 4 feet. This coupled with extremely cold temperatures took its toll on the whitetail deer in the area. Many deer in the upper New York area starved during the winter according to the State Conservation Dept. This problem was somewhat alleviated here at the Park as several of the neighboring farmers did not harvest their corn fields. Then after the snow began to melt the problem of marauding packs of dogs began to be a problem. State Officers have disposed of several animals on lands adjacent to the park . Whether it is due to the extreme winter, or a late breeding season last spring, or a combination of both, the younger deer seem to be much smaller than in previous years at this time.

An albino cock pheasant was observed on many occasions during the summer and fall. It has not been seen this spring and we do not feel that it survived the winter.

The beaver previously reported have not been observed in the past several years. It is doubtful that any beaver reside in the park now.

No special reports on wildlife were prepareed during the year.

Form 10-421
(Oct. 1961)

UNI STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

ANNUAL WILDLIFE REPORT

Submit in triplicate to the Regional Director who will submit the report in duplicate to WASO. Use symbols in Columns 3 and 4 as follows: RELATIVE POPULATION: Abundant Generally (AG); Abundant Locally (AL); Common Generally (CG); Common Locally (CL); Rare (R); Infrequent (I). POPULATION TREND: Up (U); Static (S); Down (D). See reverse for detail explanation of symbols. If all important facts on wildlife have not been covered, a narrative report should be prepared as outlined on the reverse.

Park: Saratoga National Historical Park

Prepared by: A. Clark Stratton III

Date: May 6, 1970

SPECIES	ESTIMATED POPULATION	RELATIVE POPULATION	POPULATION TREND	NO. MOVED OUT ALIVE	NO. STOCKED IN PARK	REDUCTION KILL	ACCIDENT AND POACHER KILLED (8) Car	ACCIDENT AND POACHER KILLED (8) Other
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)		
Antelope								
Armadillo								
Badger								
Bat								
Bear, Black		CL	S	0	0	0	0	0
Bear, Grizzly								
Beaver								
Beaver, Mountain		CL	D	0	0	0	0	0
Bighorn								
Bison								
Bobcat								
Caribou								
Cat, Ringtail								
Chipmunk								
Coati-Mundi		CG	S	0	0	0	0	0
Cougar								
Coyote	4	I	S	0	0	0	0	0
Deer, Blacktail								
Deer, Mule								
Deer, Whitetail	100	CG	D	0	0	0	2	6
Elk								
Fox, Gray	10	CG	S	0	0	0	0	1
Fox, Kit								
Fox, Red	8	CG	S	0	0	0	0	0
Fisher								
Goat, Mountain								
Gopher, Pocket								
Lynx								
Manatee								
Marmot								
Marten		AG	U	0	0	0	8	2
Mink								
Moose								
Muskrat	8	CL	S	0	0	0	1	0
Ocelot								
Oppossum			I					
Otter, River								
Otter, Sea								

SPECIES	ESTIMATED POPULATION	RELATIVE POPULATION	POPULATION TREND	NO. MOVED OUT ALIVE	NO. STOCKED IN PARK	REDUCTION KILL	ACCIDENT AND POACHER KILLED (8) Car	ACCIDENT AND POACHER KILLED (8) Other
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)		
Peccary								
Pika								
Porcupine								
Prairie Dog	3	I	S	0	0	0	1	0
Rabbit, Cottontail								
Rabbit, Jack		AG	S	0	0	0	12	16
Rabbit, Snowshoe								
Raccoon								
Rodents, Small	20	CL	S	0	0	0	2	1
Seal		AG	S	0	0	0	0	0
Sea Lion								
Skunk								
Squirrel, Ground		CL	S	0	0	0	0	0
Squirrel, Tree								
Weasel		AG	S	0	0	0	10	0
Wolf								
Wolverine								
Alligator								
Crocodile								
Turtle, Green								
EXOTICS								
Boar								
Burro								
Goat								
Horse								
Mongoose								
Nutria								
Rabbit								
Birds								
		AG	S	0	0	0	0	0
Grouse	20	CL	S	0	0	0	1	0
Pheasant	30	CG	D	0	0	0	2	0
Duck		CL	S	0	0	0	0	0

Additional Species

Saratoga National Historical Park Attachment, Form 10-421

ANNUAL WILDLIFE REPORT - Narrative Statement

Wildlife observations made by the Park Staff and New York State Conservation Officers were used as a basis for estimating census figures. No reliable population estimate can be made for common species such as chipmunk, marmot, rabbit, squirrel, small rodents, etc.

The winter was fairly extreme, with a record total accumulation of snow falling for one season. Although snow cover existed from early December to mid-April, coupled with some extreme cold temperatures, the deer managed to winter very well. As the snow began to melt and the deer began to break through the upper crust level, dog packs once again played havoc with the herd. Three known kills were made by dogs, and several more suspected. Neighbors have been contacted to keep their dogs out of the Park, but cooperation has not been entirely satisfactory. State Conservation Officers have aided in disposing of several dogs attacking the deer in the area. One State Conservation Officer in an adjoining district stated he lost twelve deer in three days during a period when the snow condition was just right for the dogs to attack. Newspaper articles portraying this problem seem to have little effect on the common dog owner, because he feels that his household pet is incapable of committing such an act.

Range use seems to be good, with neighboring farm land aiding the resident herd.

The pheasant population in the Park seems to be steadily decreasing. This is partly due to a discontinuation of relaeasing birds around the surrounding farm lands by groups that used to raise them in co-operation with the State Conservation Department.

We received a lone, unconfirmed report ofa weasel in the Park. Further observations will be made during the coming year.

Oppossum have been sighted outside the Park on rare occasion.

The beaver that were at one time reported in the Park have not been observed during the past year.

No special reports on wildlife were prepared during the year.

Form 10-421
(Oct. 1961)

N2621

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

ANNUAL WILDLIFE REPORT

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Park: Saratoga National Historical Park

Prepared by: Harold L. Grafe

Date: April 26, 1971

SPECIES	ESTIMATED POPULATION	RELATIVE POPULATION	POPULATION TREND	NO. MOVED OUT ALIVE	NO. STOCKED IN PARK	REDUCTION KILL	ACCIDENT AND POACHER KILLED (8)	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	Car	Other
Antelope								
Armadillo								
Badger								
Bat		CL	S	0	0	0	0	0
Bear, Black								
Bear, Grizzly								
Beaver		CL	D	0	0	0	0	0
Beaver, Mountain								
Bighorn								
Bison								
Bobcat								
Caribou								
Cat, Ringtail								
Chipmunk		CG	S	0	0	0	0	0
Coati-Mundi								
Cougar								
Coyote	6	R	U	0	0	0	0	1
Deer, Blacktail								
Deer, Mule								
Deer, Whitetail	100	CG	D	0	0	0	5	5
Elk								
Fox, Gray	6	CG	D	0	0	0	0	0
Fox, Kit								
Fox, Red	4	CG	D	0	0	0	1	0
Fisher								
Goat, Mountain								
Gopher, Pocket								
Lynx								
Manatee								
Marmot		AG	U	0	0	0	5	0
Marten								
Mink								
Moose								
Muskrat	14	CL	U	0	0	0	0	0
Ocelot								
Oppossum								
Otter, River								
Otter, Sea								

SPECIES	ESTIMATED POPULATION	RELATIVE POPULATION	POPULATION TREND	NO. MOVED OUT ALIVE	NO. STOCKED IN PARK	REDUCTION KILL	ACCIDENT AND POACHER KILLED (8)	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	Car	Other
Peccary								
Pika								
Porcupine	4	I	S	0	0	0	0	0
Prairie Dog								
Rabbit, Cottontail		AG	D	0	0	0	10	25
Rabbit, Jack								
Rabbit, Snowshoe								
Raccoon	30	CL	U	0	0	0	2	0
Rodents, Small		AG	S	0	0	0	0	0
Seal								
Sea Lion								
Skunk		CL	S	0	0	0	2	0
Squirrel, Ground								
Squirrel, Tree		AG	S	0	0	0	5	0
Weasel								
Wolf								
Wolverine								
Alligator								
Crocodile								
Turtle, Green								
EXOTICS								
Boar								
Burro								
Goat								
Horse								
Mongoose								
Nutria								
Rabbit								
Birds		AG	S	0	0	0	0	0
Duck		CL	S	0	0	0	0	0
Grouse	40	CL	U	0	0	0	0	1
Pheasant	15	CL	D	0	0	0	2	0

Additional Species

Saratoga NHP and Saint-Gaudens NHS
Stillwater, New York 12170

N2621

May 3, 1972

Memorandum

To: Assistant Director, Operations, Northeast Region

From: General Superintendent, Saratoga NHP & Saint-Gaudens NHS

Subject: Annual wildlife report (NPS M-4)

Enclosed are copies of the annual wildlife report from Saratoga NHP. Wildlife resources at Saint-Gaudens NHS have not been considered significant enough to warrant an annual report.

Hugh D. Gurney

In duplicate
Enclosures
cc: Director, NY District

Saratoga National Historical Park Attachment, Form 10-421

ANNUAL WILDLIFE REPORT - Narrative Statement

Wildlife observations made by the Park staff and New York State Environmental Conservation Officers were used as a basis for estimating census figures. No relisble population estimate can be made for common species, such as chipmunk, marmot, rabbit, squirrel, small rodents, etc.

The winter was fairly mild, except for a heavy snowfall at Thanksgiving and then not again until February. Consequently, the deer were able to forage during a good part of the winter, and were observed in greater numbers than in recent past years. Several days members of the Park staff were able to count in excess of 100 deer visible from a drive around the tour road with a four-wheel drive vehicle on the fairly shallow snow-covered road. The existing dog problem described last year was still present, but snow conditions were such that the deer were able to escape the threats of the dog packs this year. No known kills were made on the deer, but several local dog owners were once again contacted about keeping their pets out of the Park. Range use seems to be good, with neighboring farm land aiding the resident herd. The legal deer season that surrounds the Park lands yielded approximately 16 deer to successful hunters in the area. This was nearly double the estimated take of a year before and attests to the greater number of deer found in the Park this year.

The pheasant population seems to be going steadily downward. Again, there has been no releasing of birds around the surrounding area as in past years. Hunting pressures outside the Park seem to be taking a toll on the few left.

The beaver that once were reported in the Park, but not observed in recent years, returned for a short while early this year. Fresh cuttings along the old Champlain Canal on Rt. #4, near the Park entrance were discovered, and a newly built dam caused backed-up water to concern the State Highway Department for a time. The last month has not revealed any new workings.

Several confirmed reports of the pileated woodpecker have been turned in. Although not a rare bird, it seems to be less prevalent than in past years.

We had one reported sighting of a green heron along a section of the old Champlain Canal.

No special reports on wildlife were prepared during the year.

(Oct. 1961)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

ANNUAL WILDLIFE REPORT

Submit in triplicate to the Regional Director who will submit the report in duplicate to WASO. Use symbols in Columns 3 and 4 as follows: RELATIVE POPULATION: Abundant Generally (AG); Abundant Locally (AL); Common Generally (CG); Common Locally (CL); Rare (R); Infrequent (I). POPULATION TREND: Up (U); Static (S); Down (D). See reverse for detail explanation of symbols. If all important facts on wildlife have not been covered, a narrative report should be prepared as outlined on the reverse.

Park: Saratoga National Historical Park

Prepared by: Harold L. Grafe

Date: May 2, 1972

SPECIES	ESTIMATED POPULATION	RELATIVE POPULATION	POPULATION TREND	NO. MOVED OUT ALIVE	NO. STOCKED IN PARK	REDUCTION KILL	ACCIDENT AND POACHER KILLED (8) Car	(8) Other
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)		
Antelope								
Armadillo								
Badger								
Bat		CL	S	0	0	0	0	0
Bear, Black								
Bear, Grizzly								
Beaver	4	CL	U	0	0	0	0	0
Beaver, Mountain								
Bighorn								
Bison								
Bobcat								
Caribou								
Cat, Ringtail								
Chipmunk		CG	S	0	0	0	0	0
Coati-Mundi								
Cougar								
Coyote	10	R	U	0	0	0	0	0
Deer, Blacktail								
Deer, Mule								
Deer, Whitetail	200	CG	U	0	0	0	4	1
Elk								
Fox, Gray	8	CG	S	0	0	0	0	0
Fox, Kit	4	CG	S	0	0	0	1	0
Fox, Red								
Fisher								
Goat, Mountain								
Gopher, Pocket								
Lynx								
Manatee								
Marmot		AG	S	0	0	0	4	0
Marten								
Mink								
Moose								
Muskrat	12	CL	S	0	0	0	0	0
Ocelot								
Oppossum								
Otter, River								
Otter, Sea								

SPECIES	ESTIMATED POPULATION	RELATIVE POPULATION	POPULATION TREND	NO. MOVED OUT ALIVE	NO. STOCKED IN PARK	REDUCTION KILL	ACCIDENT AND POACHER KILLED (8) Car	(8) Other
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)		
Peccary								
Pika								
Porcupine	4	I	S	0	0	0	0	0
Prairie Dog								
Rabbit, Cottontail		AG	D	0	0	0	8	0
Rabbit, Jack								
Rabbit, Snowshoe								
Raccoon	25	CL	S	0	0	0	3	0
Rodents, Small		AG	S	0	0	0	0	0
Seal								
Sea Lion								
Skunk		CL	S	0	0	0	2	0
Squirrel, Ground								
Squirrel, Tree		AG	S	0	0	0	3	0
Weasel								
Wolf								
Wolverine								
Alligator								
Crocodile								
Turtle, Green								
EXOTICS								
Boar								
Burro								
Goat								
Horse								
Mongoose								
Nutria								
Rabbit								
Birds		AG	S	0	0	0	0	0
Duck		CL	S	0	0	0	0	0
Grouse	40	CL	S	0	0	0	2	0
Pheasant	10	CL	D	0	0	0	0	3

Additional Species

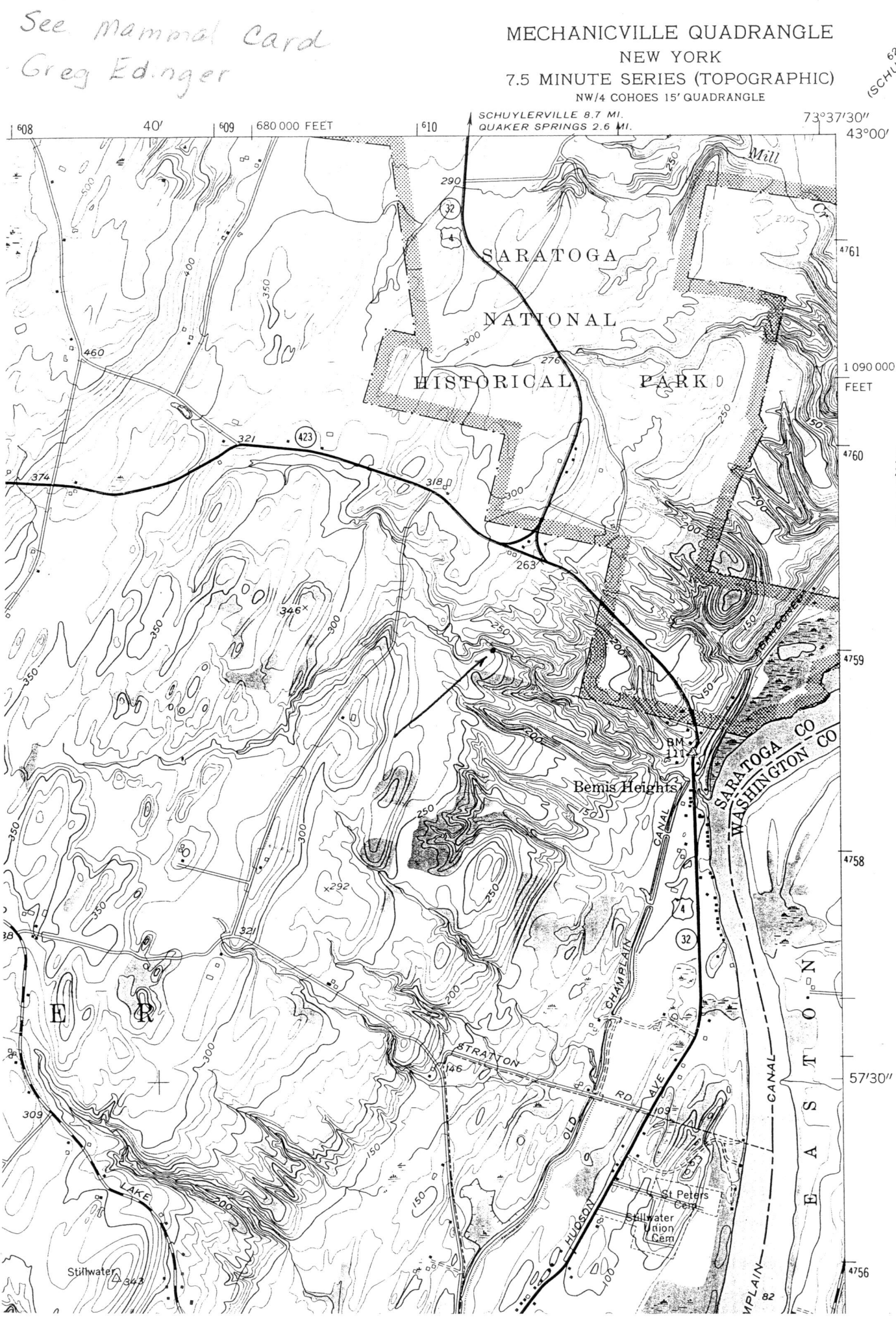
Wildlife Observations

From Wildlife Observer Field Data Book in Visitor Center:

1/30/99: 23 deer in 2 different groups near Breyman's Redout
2/22/99: Golden Eagle (Beautiful golden wings; the sun reflected wonderfully against it's feathers.
3/2/99: Coyote near Stop 1 hill.
4/4/99: 181 deer counted, weather was rainy.
4/4/99: Peregrin Falcon
4/10/99: Northern Harrier
4/6/99: Muskrat under the big bridge
4/13/99: Red Fox in the woods.
4/17/99: Opossum
5/16/99: Great-Crested Flycather, Eastern Kingbird, Catbird, Flicker
5/30/99: Great Horned Owl, Bluebird
6/12/99: 2 Pileated Woodpeckers, Bluebird, Kingbird
6/12/99: Milk Snake, about 3 feet long.
6/22/99: Red-shouldered Hawk, Blue-gray Gnatchatcher
7/11/99: Bobolinks, Song Sparrows, Yellow Warbler, Common Yellow-throat, Chestnut-sided Warbler, Kingbird, Eastern Towhee, Raven, Downy Woodpecker
7/22/99: 2 Large Turkeys
7/22/99: 3 Rabbits
8//29/99: Red-tailed Hawk, E. Wood Pewee, American Goldfinch
9/11/99: Milk Snake
9/25/99: Flock of Wild Turkey
9/22/99: Ruby Throated Hummingbird (at the VC)
9/23/99: Red-tailed Hawk
12/13/99: Great Horned Owl, Pileated Woodpecker
12/28/99: Barred Owl (near the entrance to the tour road)
2/13/00: Robins
2/22/00: Red-tailed Hawk
3/4/00: Flock of 6-10 Bluebird, 1 Goldfinch, many Chickadees
4/15/00: Red-tailed Hawk, Harrier, Great Blue Heron, Pileated Woodpecker, Cardinal, Flicker
5/1/00: Kestrel – Stop 2, 2 Myrtle Warblers – Stop 3, Red-Tailed Hawk – Stop 6, Red-Headed Woodpecker
10/9/00: Red-tailed Hawk
10/23/00: 25 Turkey – end of tour road
10/31/00: 20 Turkey
11/1/00: 18 Blue Jays, 27 Grackles, 22 Robins, Downy Woodpecker, 3 Flickers, 11 Crows, Red-tailed Hawk, 18 Bluebirds, 10 Chickadees, 15 Juncos, White-breasted Nuthatch
12/29/00: Pileated Woodpecker
1/21/01: 10-12 Bluebirds
2/4/01: 59 Deer, Red-tailed Hawk

2/25/01: 36 Deer, Red-tailed Hawk, Blue Jays, Chickadees
3/4/01: 2 Coyotes hanging around a field and running low to the ground.
3/10/01: Opossum
4/7/01: 3 Red-tailed Hawks, 2 Kestrels, Cardinals, Phoebes, Song Sparrow, White-breasted Nuthatch, Crows, Blue Jays, Flicker, Chickadees
4/22/01: Kestrel
5//19/01: Common Yellowthroat, Chestnut-sided Warbler, Kingbird, 2 Great Blue Heron, Purple Finch, Crow, Yellow Warbler, Eastern Bluebird, Solitary Vireo, Robin, cardinal
6/19/01: Indigo Bunting, Meadowlark, Kingbird, Bobolink
8/11/01: Red-shouldered Hawk (not positive ID)
7/22/01: Scarlet Tanager
8/05/01: Red Fox
12/09/01: 7 Bluebirds
2/18/00: Red-bellied Woodpecker – on Liason Trail
3/03/02: Bluebirds
3/19/02: Bald Eagle (immature), flying upriver (Tom Lake- NYSDEC)
5/04/02: Downy Woodpecker
5/14/02: Flicker, Red-winged Blackbirds
8/11/02: Beaver sighted near a pond
5/11/03: Wood Thrush, Phoebe, Chickadees
7/14/03: Kingbird, Chipping Sparrow, Field Sparrow, Broad-winged Hawk, Mourning Dove, Chickadee, Tufted Titmouse.
10/29/04: 11 Bluebirds, Chickadee, Tufted Titmouse, Cardinal, White Breasted Nuthatch, House Finch, Blue Jay, Downy Woodpecker, Crow, Rock Dove, 2 Golden-crowned Kinglets, 3 Fox Sparrow (? By Linda)

See Mammal Card
Greg Edinger



Fisher (Martes pennanti) observed by Greg Edinger (NY Natural Heritage Program on July 21, 2004 at 10 AM. The fisher jumped down from tree, stayed and looked at me, then darted jumped and ran. Shed hemlock ravine.

A. Identifiers / Location (general EOR information)

For transects that continue onto more pages minimally fill in numbers 1,2,3,7,8,11

1. Survey site name: Saratoga

Quads (Filequad checked)	County	Town	Surveyors (principal Surveyor checked)
☑ MECHANICVILLE(4207386)	SARATOGA	STILLWATER	☑ Greg Edinger

7. Sourcecode: F04EDI11NYUS

8. Surveydate: 7/21/2004

9. State: NY

6. Directions to this transect Bill Smith Road

B. Topography

On another piece of paper, draw a cross-section sketch of the observation point and show scale.

C. Vegetation / Habit

Record % cover and height in meters for each strata and % cover of dominant species within each strata.

13. Obs. pt. BS04 UTM: 610410; 4759050

14. Community name(s): Appalachian oak-hickory forest

15. Additional data: form 2 occ # 1 form3 ☐

16. General description: degraded AO-HF. Stumps, weedy, but several remnant AO-HF species present. 349' elev.

T2	55%, 20m	Quercus alba	25%
T2		Acer rubrum	15%
T2		Carya glabra	10%
T2		Quercus rubra	10%
T3	30%, 12m	Ulmus americana	15%
T3		Carpinus caroliniana	10%
T3		Ostrya virginiana	5%
T3		Prunus serotina	1%
S1	15%, 2.5	Zanthoxylum americanum	15%
S2	25%, 0.25	Rubus allegheniensis	25%
V	10%	Parthenocissus quinquefolia	10%
H	30%, 0.2	Carex pensylvanica	20%
H		Solidago rugosa	5%
H		Euthamia graminifolia	2%
H		Prunella vulgaris	2%
H		Amphicarpaea bracteata	1%
H		Circaea lutetiana	1%
H		Penstemon digitalis	1%

13. Obs. pt. BS06 UTM: 610401; 4759095

14. Community name(s): Successional northern hardwoods

15. Additional data: form 2 occ # 1 form3 ☐

16. General description: Betula populifolia dominated SNH. 306' elev.

T2	70%, 16m	Betula populifolia	40%
T2		Ulmus americana	15%
T2		Acer rubrum	10%
T2		Populus tremuloides	5%
S2	7%, 1.5m	Rubus allegheniensis	5%
S2		Fraxinus americana	1%
S2		Rosa multiflora	1%
V	75%	Parthenocissus quinquefolia	75%
H	40%, 0.5	Solidago gigantea	15%
H		Onoclea sensibilis	5%
H		Potentilla canadensis	5%
H		Solidago rugosa	2%
H		Athyrium filix-femina	1%
H		Carex spp.	1%
H		Circaea lutetiana	<1%

13. Obs. pt. BS06 UTM: 610495; 4759195

14. Community name(s): Hemlock-northern hardwood forest

15. Additional data: form 2 occ # 1 form3 ☐

16. General description: H-NHF along very steep/deep ravine (near vertical). Fisher observed running into ravine.

T2	80%, 20m	Tsuga canadensis	70%
T2		Betula lenta	10%
T2		Acer saccharum	5%
T2		Quercus rubra	5%
T3	15%, 8m	Tsuga canadensis	15%
S1	6%, 4m	Tsuga canadensis	5%
S1		Hamamelis virginiana	1%
S2	5%, 0.2m	Vaccinium pallidum	5%
H		Dryopteris intermedia	3%
H	12%, 0.25	Polypodium virginianum	3%
H		Adiantum pedatum	1%
H		Aster divaricatus	<1%
H		Carex platyphylla	<1%
H		Epipactis helleborine	<1%
H		Phegopteris hexagonoptera	<1%
N		Atrichum angustatum	5%
N		Dicranum scoparium	5%