

A NATURAL HISTORY INVENTORY

Slagle Hollow Environmental
Demonstration Area

by
Brent Rowell

Presented to
The Park and Recreation Commission
Bristol, Tennessee

August 29 , 1972

Introduction

The purpose of this study was to supply the City of Bristol, Tennessee with an inventory of the fauna and flora of the Slagle Hollow Area. A second duty of the Naturalist during this summer was to operate and maintain the natural history interpretive facility at Steele Creek Park (Nature Hut).

Approximately 50% of the Naturalist's time was spent operating, maintaining, and securing exhibits for the Nature Hut. 40% of the time was spent conducting the inventory at Slagle Hollow, and 10% of the time was spent assimilating and writing up data.

The Naturalist worked 40 hours per week from 6 June - 11 June and from 18 June - 29 August 1972. The last week was spent writing the summaries. This period was shorter than the periods worked during the two previous summers.

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Methods and Materials

The majority of field work in Slagle Hollow centered around hike-surveys. Hikes were made along planned routes through specific areas of the Slagle Hollow property. Approximately 36 miles were covered by hike-surveys (FIG. 2).

When hiking in Slagle Hollow, the Naturalist usually carried a cloth snake bag, snake rake (potatoe rake), plastic bags, clip board, binoculars (sometimes camera), and two field guides. The Peterson Field Guide Series was used. Formalin solution and a plant press were left in the car for preserving specimens.

A field map was made from two topographical maps (FIG. 3). This map was enclosed in plastic and used with a map showing the identification areas and "Stream Points".

Near the beginning of the study period, Slagle Hollow was marked with plastic tape (FIG. 4). These "Stream Point" markers enabled the Naturalist to pinpoint the location of things found in the Hollow. They were placed about 5 ft. above the ground on limbs of trees. The markers were usually placed on limbs with a diameter of about 1 inch. Thirteen "Stream Points" were made from the "No Motor Vehicles" sign to Jackson's Campsite (FIG. 5).

The ridge areas of the Slagle Hollow property were sectioned into 17 identification areas using letters (FIG. 6).

Only two names were assigned to specific areas. The ridge (Q-area) above Whiteoak Hollow was called "Whiteoak Ridge", and the last part of Slagle Hollow past Jackson's Campsite (no trail) was called the "Upper End" area. Other names should be assigned to areas within the property in the future.

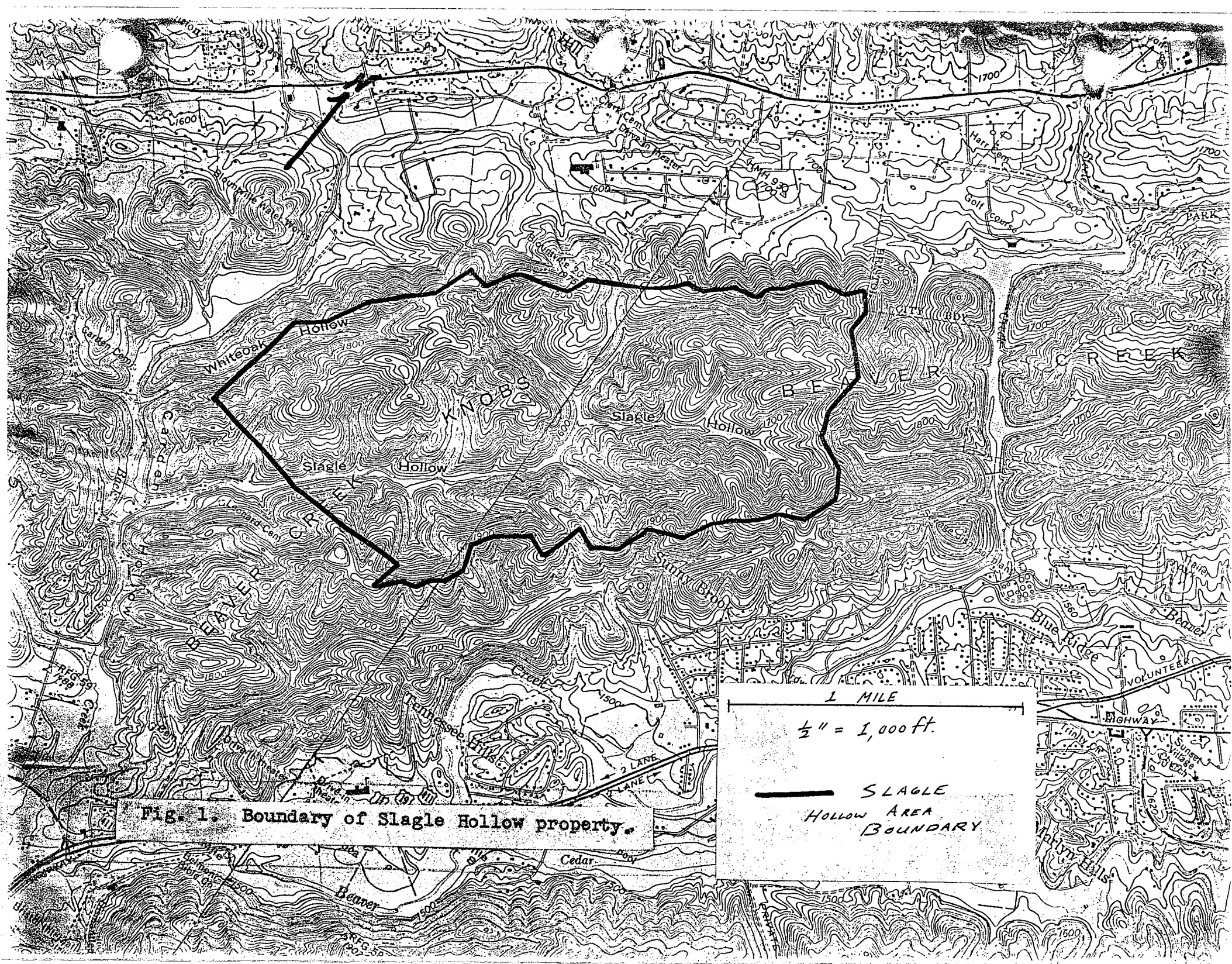


Fig. 1. Boundary of Slagle Hollow property.

1 MILE
 $\frac{1}{2}'' = 1,000 \text{ ft.}$
— SLAGLE
HOLLOW AREA
BOUNDARY

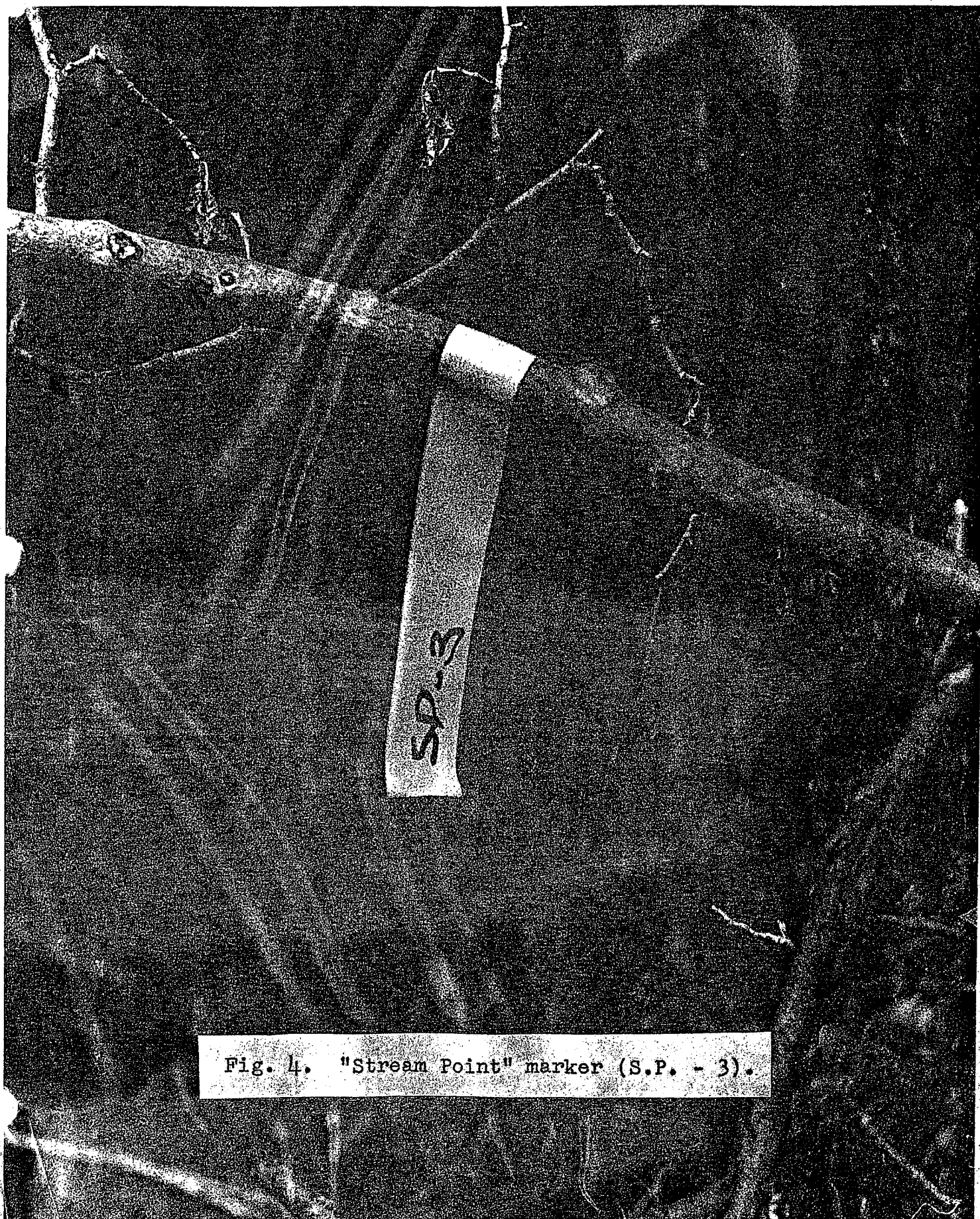
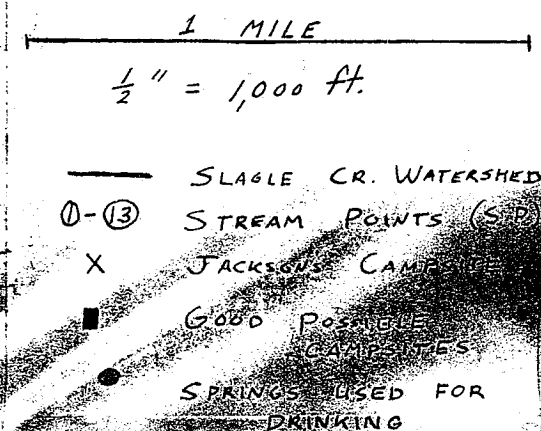


Fig. 4. "Stream Point" marker (S.P. - 3).

Fig. 5. "Stream Points" and Slagle Creek Watershed.



(Naturalist's Itinerary)

Thursday
8 June 1972

8:30 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.	Cut up and pieced together maps to be copied at Raytheon.
9:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.	Take maps to be copied at Raytheon.
10:30 a.m. - 12:00	Purchase pants & boots for work.
12:00 - 12:30 p.m.	Lunch
12:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.	Avian survey - walk through Slagle Hollow.

(Naturalist's Itinerary)

Friday
9 June 1972

8:30 a.m. - 9:45 a.m.	Office - make itinerary and compare topo map with aerial photographs to determine study plots.
9:45 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.	Slagle Creek - collect salamanders and short Avian Survey.
11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.	Meet Coffey & Mullins at Park Office; lunch.
12:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.	Walk through Slagle Hollow with Coffey.

(Naturalist's Itinerary)

Tuesday
20 June 1972

12:30 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Complete purchase list and
obtain equipment.

2:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Write up records for week
ending 10 June 1972.

3:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Go with Mullins to get snake
cage in Blountville - take to
Nature Hut.

(Naturalist's Itinerary)

Wednesday
21 June 1972

8:30 a.m. - 8:45 a.m.

Write itinerary.

8:45 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.

Finish week's records.

10:30 a.m. - 12:00

Work on objectives plan
grid system.

12:00 - 12:30 p.m.

Lunch.

12:30 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Maps enlarged at Raytheon.

2:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Work on Nature Hut - get
materials, etc.
Clean up snake cage.

(Naturalist's Itinerary)

Thursday
22 June 1972

8:30 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.

Get materials for Nature Hut
& write itinerary.

9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

Work on Nature Hut.

11:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Go with Mullins to Bob Smith's
to get snakes from Florida.

1:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Finish up work on Nature Hut.

(Naturalist's Itinerary)

Friday
23 June 1972

9:00 a.m. - 12:00

Get materials and work on
snake cages with George.

12:00 - 12:39 p.m.

Lunch.

12:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Work on snake cages and
Nature Hut.

(Naturalist's Itinerary)

Wednesday
5 July 1972

9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.

Catch up on paper work.

10:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.

Take crow cage to my house.

10:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

Steele Creek - think of needed changes in Nature Hut before week end.

11:00 a.m. - 12:00

Cut topo maps, ready for copying.

12:00 - 12:30 p.m.

Lunch.

12:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Mark trail in Slagle Hollow.

(Naturalist's Itinerary)

Thursday
6 July 1972

9:00 a.m. - 10 a.m.

Work on maps at office -
mail maps to Mrs. Howard.

10:00 a.m. - 12:00

Begin marking (with tape)
Slagle Hollow (Stream Points).

12:00 - 12:30 p.m.

Lunch.

12:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Continue marking trail and
make Avian survey.

(Naturalist's Itinerary)

Friday
7 July, 1972

9:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

Get oil filter & install
in car.

11:00 a.m. - 12:00

Work on interpretive map
of Slagle Creek Area.

12:00 - 12:30 p.m.

Lunch.

12:30 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Get Aquariums with Mullins;
make lids for aquariums.
Write card for Milk Snakes.

1:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.

Take additional animals to
Nature Hut; set up aquariums,
rearrange Nature Hut. Set
traps for mice & chipmunks.

(Naturalist's Itinerary)

Tuesday
11 July 1972

9:00 a.m. - 12:00

Work on week's records
at office.

(Naturalist's Itinerary)^s

Wednesday
12 July 1972

9:00 - 9:30 a.m.

Office work and itinerary plan
route for day.

9:30 a.m. - 12:00

Avian survey to Jackson's
campsite.

12:00 - 12:30 p.m.

Lunch

12:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Avian survey and hiking trail
survey - White Oak Ridge, and
Ridgetops of A, B, & C - knobs.

(Naturalist's Itinerary)

Thursday
13 July 1972

9:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

Classify and press plants from
12 July, organize records; plan
day's itinerary.

11:30 a.m. - 12:00

Nature Hut - take out new animals
and materials.

12:00 - 12:30 p.m.

Lunch.

12:30 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Call Bill Yambert, go to Johnson
City to get white mice.

2:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Slagle Hollow - collect flowering
plants to be pressed; Avian survey.

(Naturalist's Itinerary)

Friday
14 July 1972

9:15 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.

Plan day's itinerary.

9:30 a.m. - 12:00

Nature Hut - take out Timber
Rattlesnake and water snakes.
Seine for fish to be used at
Nature Hut.

12:00 - 12:30 p.m.

Lunch.

12:30 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Get aquarium and set up with
fish from lake.

2:30 p.m. - 5:15 p.m.

Slagle Hollow - collect flowering
plants and seine fish if needed.

(Naturalist's Itinerary)

Thursday
20 July 1972

9:30 a.m. - 12:00

Write up records for the past week.

12:00 - 12:30 p.m.

Lunch.

12:30 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Take snakes to Nature Hut, get filter for aquarium. Catch crayfish for Amphiuma.

3:00 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.

Set traps for mice.

(Naturalist's Itinerary)

Friday
21 July 1972

9:15 a.m. - 9:45

Check traps at office and plan day's hike in Slagle Hollow.

9:45 a.m. - 12:00

Avian survey in Slagle Hollow.

12:00 - 12:30 p.m.

Lunch.

12:30 p.m. - 5:15 p.m.

Continue Avian survey in Slagle Hollow; and collect flowering plants on route.

12:

(Naturalist's Itinerary)

Wednesday
26 July 1972

9:00 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.

Office, write day's itinerary
and records.

9:30 a.m. - 12:00

Avian survey, and plant collect-
ing Slagle Hollow.

12:00 - 12:30 p.m.

Lunch

12:30 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Hike on SW side of Slagle Hollow.

4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Classify and press plants.

8
(Naturalist's Itinerary)

Thursday
27 July 1972

8:30 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.

Office - write day's itinerary.

9:00 a.m. - 12:00

Get baby food to force feed snakes. Feed Pygmy Rattlesnake at Nature Hut.

12:00 - 12:30 p.m.

Lunch.

12:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Clean up and straighten up Nature Hut; set traps for mice at Steele Creek. Get more materials if needed.

(Naturalist's Itinerary)

Friday
28 July 1972

9:00 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.

Write day's itinerary.

9:30 a.m. - 12:00

Work at Nature Hut replacing old signs, cleaning aquariums, etc.

12:00 - 12:30 p.m.

Lunch

12:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Finish work at Nature Hut; transport cages, snakes, etc.

(Naturalist's Itinerary)

Tuesday
1 August 1972

9:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

Write up records at office; go
over monthly objectives for August.

11:30 a.m. - 12:00

Feed Pygmy Rattler at Nature Hut.

12:00 - 12:30 p.m.

Lunch.

12:30 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Slagle Hollow - Herptile collecting.

(Naturalist's Itinerary)

Wednesday
2 Aug. 1972

9:00 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.

Plan objectives for month of August;
plan day's itinerary.

9:30 a.m. - 12:00

Avian and plant survey - Slagle
Hollow.

12:00 - 12:30 p.m.

Lunch.

12:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Continue planned hike in Slagle
Hollow: collect salamanders along
route.

4:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Preserve specimens and press plants.

(Naturalist's Itinerary)

Thursday
3 August 1972

9:00 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.

Office - write itinerary.

9:30 a.m. - 12:00

Plan slide show for today.

12:00 - 1:00 p.m.

Eat lunch and give slide talk
to garden club at Holiday Inn.

1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Collect salamanders from creek
in Slagle Hollow.

(Naturalist's Itinerary)

Friday
4 Aug. 1972

9:00 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.

Write itinerary at office.

9:30 a.m. - 12:00

Avian survey in Slagle Hollow -
entering from behind Beacon Drive
In Theater.

12:00 - 12:30 p.m.

Lunch.

12:30 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Hike to Steele Creek Park.

3:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Collect crayfish and feed Amphiuma
at the park.

(Naturalist's Itinerary)

Wednesday
9 August 1972

8:30 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.

Office - Make itinerary.

9:00 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.

Get materials and make bait for traps.

9:30 a.m. - 12:00 a.m.

Take traps into Slagle Hollow.

12:00 - 12:30 p.m.

Lunch.

12:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Set traps in Slagle Hollow.

(Naturalist's Itinerery)

Thursday
10 August 1972

8:30 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.

Office - write itinerary.

9:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

Check traps in Slagle Hollow.

11:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Go to Johnson City. Get thesis
from Miss Howard. Get fish
shocker from Dr. Nagel.

3:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Hike route in Slagle Hollow.

(Naturalist's Itinerary)

Friday
11 August 1972

10:00 a.m. - 10:15 a.m.

Write itinerary.

10:15 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Check trap line-Slagle Hollow.

1:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Feed Amphiuma; feed snakes, change
and clean cages; replace signs and
poster board.

(Naturalist's Itinerary)

Wednesday
16 Aug. 1972

9:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.

Work on records at office.

10:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

Get field guide from Wallace Coffey; identify mice caught in Slagle Hollow.

11:00 a.m. - 12:00

Continue work on mammal trapping records.

12:00 - 12:30 p.m.

Lunch.

12:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Hike in Slagle Hollow (White Oak Hollow).

(Naturalist's Itinerary)

Thursday
17 August 1972

9:00 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.

Take film to Kelly & Green; make itinerary at office.

9:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

Finish writing mammal trapping summary.

11:30 a.m. - 12:00

Take black and white negatives to Wallace Coffey to be developed.

12:00 - 12:30 p.m.

Lunch.

12:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Hike route in Whiteoack Hollow; take photographs.

(Naturalist's Itinerary)

Friday
18 August 1972

9:00 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.

Get car, if possible, to use until Monday.

9:30 a.m. - 12:00

Avian Survey - Slagle Hollow.

12:00 - 2:00 p.m.

Hike route to Steele Creek or Whiteoak Hollow.

2:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Steele Creek - remake signs; replace materials in Nature Hut.

(Naturalist's Journal)

Thursday
8 June 1972

8:30 a.m. - 10:20 a.m. Checked on maps - called Raytheon and Coffey to see if maps could be enlarged - was not able to locate longnecker at Raytheon. Photocopied topo maps at Bank of Virginia.

10:20 a.m. - 3:15 p.m. Walked through Slagle Hollow - general fauna survey.

3:15 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. Lunch

3:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. Went to Shoe World & Hills - looking for suitable boots and pants for uniform.

(Naturalist's Journal)

Friday
9 June 1972

8:30 a.m. - 9:45 a.m. Office work - compared aerial photographs of area with topographical map to determine study areas.

9:45 a.m. - 11:45 a.m. Collected salamanders at first part of Slagle Creek.

11:45 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Helped Gary Mullins fix diving board at Haynesfield Pool.

12:30 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. Gary and I met and ate lunch with Wallace Coffey.

2:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. Walked through part of Slagle Hollow with Coffey. We discussed objectives and a marking system. (Began to rain at 3:00 p.m.).

(Naturalist's Journal)

Wednesday
5 July 1972

9:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.

Paper work at office. Established objectives - weekly; monthly.

10:30 a.m. - 12:00

Took crow cage to my house on track. Took Mullins to Rotary Field.

12:00 - 12:30 p.m.

Lunch.

12:30 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Went to Steele Creek - got materials from Nature Hut
Released chipmunk.

1:30 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Cut topo maps, glued on cardboard;

3:00 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.

Made 10 copies of map; picked up materials at Kemble Cochran; covered maps - made overlays.

(Naturalist's Journal)

Thursday
6 July 1972

9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.

Finished marking study areas
on all small topo maps.

10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Avian survey; marked Stream
Points 1-13 in Slagle Hollow.

1:00 p.m. - 1:15 p.m.

Lunch.

1:15 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Hiked through extent of Slagle
Hollow and across K-knob to Steele
Creek.

(Naturalist's Journal)

Friday
7 July 1972

9:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

Had to get a new oil filter
and install in my car.

11:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Worked on interpretive map
of Slagle Hollow to use in
Nature Hut.

12:30 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Lunch.

1:00 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Went to get aquariums for
Nature Hut with Mullins.

1:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.

Made wire and plexiglass lids
for aquariums; took additional
animals to Nature Hut, rearranged
Nilt. and set up aquariums.

5:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Set traps for chipmunks.

(Naturalist's Journal)

Sat. - Sun.
8-9 July, 1972

Sat. 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Worked on displays, cages, signs, etc. at Nature Hut. Set up cages on new table brought from Anderson St. School. Checked traps.

2:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Opened Nature Hut; had about 100 visitors.

5:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. -

Set Sherman traps for mice behind Boat Dock; reset Chipmunk traps.

Sun. 1:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.

Opened Nature Hut - had approximately 450 visitors.

Pulled up traps - 1 chipmunk and 1 Microtus pennsylvanicus.

(Naturalist's Journal)

Tuesday
11 July 1972

9:00 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.

Took Debbie Brockley and play-ground equipment to Rosemont School.

9:30 a.m. - 12:00

Worked on week's records.

(Naturalist's Journal)

Wednesday
12 July 1972

9:00 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.

Made itinerary and planned day's hike.

9:30 a.m. - 6:30 p.m.

Hiked Slagle Hollow, up through area - N and down White Oak Ridge (through area - Q). Marked Stream Points on map, marked springs (wet or dry). Made Avian survey and collected plants. Listed dominant vegetation for N and Q - areas.

6:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Took Mr. Snow into town.

(Naturalist's Journal)

Thursday
13 July 1972

9:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

Classified and pressed plants collected on 12 July, organized records; planned itinerary.

11:30 a.m. - 12:00

Called Bill Yambert About animals for Nature Hut; took amphibian specimens to my house.

12:00 - 12:30 p.m.

Lunch.

12:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Drove to Johnson City; talked to Mrs. Howard and Dr. Barclay at ETSU about her work in Slagle Creek. Also saw Dr. Nagel and asked about obtaining some mice to feed snakes at Nature Hut.

3:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Went to Game and Fish Commission office to look at animals with Bill Yambert. Brought back Sparrow Hawk and Timber Rattlesnake.

(Naturalist's Journal)

Friday
14 July 1972

9:15 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.

Made itinerary.

9:30 a.m. - 12:00

Went to get 15 gallons aquarium
for Nature Hut, and also drinking
dishes for snakes.

12:00 - 12:30 p.m.

Lunch.

12:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.

Seined for fish in Steele Creek
and Mill's Creek. Caught Bluegill,
Shad, and crayfish for aquarium;
set up aquarium.

(Naturalist's Journal)

Sat. and Sun.
15 and 16 July, 1972

Sat.

9:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. Brought out amphibians and new animals to Nature Hut. Had to catch more Bluegill from Boat Dock (first ones died). Rearranged Nature Hut.

Sun.

1:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Nature Hut open. About 304 visitors.

(Naturalist's Journal)

Wednesday
19 July 1972

7:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Went with Wallace Coffey to Camp Ahistadee to give nature hikes and a slide show to the campers. We spoke to about 50 elementary school children. I wore the Steele Creek Naturalist uniform. A Black Rat Snake was collected for the Nature Hut.

(Naturalist's Journal)

Thursday
20 July 1972

9:30 a.m. - 12:00

Wrote records for past week at office.

12:00 - 12:30 p.m.

Lunch.

12:30 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Bought aquarium filter and supplies - went home to get snake for Nature Hut.

1:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Fed Yellow Rat Snake, set up aquarium filter; fed other animals.

3:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.

Caught crayfish from Steele Creek and fed Amphiuma.

5:30 p.m. - 6:45 p.m.

Went to park office and set 8 traps for mice.

(Naturalist's Journal)

Friday
21 July 1972

9:15 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

Checked mouse traps at office
(caught 2 house mice); planned
day's hike in Slagle Hollow.
Drove to Slagle Hollow.

11:00 a.m. - 3:45 p.m.

Hiked through Slagle Hollow,
collecting and identifying flower-
ing plants; also Avian survey.

3:45 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Took Mr. Snow into town; pressed
and identified plants collected.

5:00 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.

Set mouse traps in basement of
park office.

(Naturalist's Journal)

Sat. - Sun.
22-23 July 1972

Sat.

9:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Took cages and amphibians to Nature Hut; changed water in both aquariums. Bought chlorine tablets. Mopped and swept Nature Hut.

12:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Nature Hut open. About 182 visitors.

Sun.

1:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.

Nature Hut open. About 550 visitors. Let several children handle snakes.

(Naturalist's Journal)

Wednesday
26 July 1972

9:00 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.

Wrote up records and itinerary
at office.

9:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Hiked through parts of F,G,H,
and J areas. Collected flowering
plants and noted vegetation types.

4:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Took Mr. Snow to Bristol.

(Naturalist's Journal)

Thursday
27 July 1972

8:30 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.

Wrote day's itinerary.

9:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Went to Johnson City(ETSU) to
get mice for snakes.

1:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Steele Creek - took boat to
get ferns in cove near dam;
planted ferns at Nature Hut.

3:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.

Caught crayfish in Steele Creek
and fed Amphiuma and Hellbender.

(Naturalist's Journal)

Friday
28 July 1972

9:00 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.

Planned day's work at office.
Raining all day today.

9:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Worked at Nature Hut - cleaned
aquariums, terrarium; swept floor.
Went to Kemble Cochran to get
supplies.

1:00 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Lunch

1:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Replaced poster board on displays
and remade all interpretive signs
on displays in Nature Hut. Also
talked with a group of about 100 people
from a Baptist church in Johnson City
today.

(Naturalist's Journal)

Sat. - Sun.
29 - 30 July 1972

Sat.

9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Continued fixing up Nature Hut and remaking interpretive signs. It was raining, and there were very few people in the park.

Sun.

1:30p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Nature Hut open. About 235 visitors. Weather was cloudy; it was not a big day at the park.

6:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.

Began to storm. I stayed in Nature Hut to feed Garter Snake and look over my records. Nature Hut had 3,200 visitors for the month of July.

(Naturalist's Journal)

Tuesday
1 Aug. 1972

9:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

Planned itinerary and wrote up records for past week.

11:30 a.m. - 12:00

Took large snake cage to Steele Creek.

12:00 - 12:30 p.m.

Lunch.

12:30 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Gary Mullins and I force-fed Pygmy Rattlesnake and transferred all poisonous snakes to smaller cages.

2:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Went out in boat and caught Copperhead on lake shore below Front Knob.

2:30 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Went to office; called Bill Yambert.

(Naturalist's Journal)

Wednesday
2 Aug. 1972

9:00 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.

Planned August objectives and day's itinerary.

9:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Made Avian survey and searched for salamanders in Slagle Hollow.

1:00 p.m. - 1:15 p.m.

Lunch.

1:15 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Made hike to top of C-area but had to turn back because of a heavy storm.

4:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Took Mr. Snow to Bristol, Tenn. Post Office.

(Naturalist's Journal)

Thursday
3 Aug. 1972

9:00 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.

Wrote itinerary at office.

9:30 a.m. - 11:45 a.m.

Arranged slides and planned slide talk.

11:45 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Ate lunch and gave slide talk to the Fairmount Garden Club of the Holiday Inn West.

2:00 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.

Slagle Hollow - collected salamanders from Slagle Creek.

9 (Naturalist's Journal)

Friday
4 August 1972

9:00 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.

Wrote itinerary at office.

9:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Slagle Hollow-entered from behind Beacon Drive-In. Made Avian survey and traced motorcycle trail.

1:00 p.m. - 1:15 p.m.

Lunch.

1:15 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Hiked to Steele Creek Park.

3:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Caught crayfish and fed Amphiuma.

(Naturalist's Journal)

Sat. - Sun.
5-6 August 1972

Sat.

9:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

Nature Hut - cleaned cages and
straightened up. Swept floor.

11:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.

Nature Hut open - only 170 visi-
tors; also worked on records.

Sun.

1:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.

Nature Hut open - about 465 visitors.

(Naturalist's Journal)

Wednesday
9 August 1972

8:30 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.

Office - wrote itinerary.

9:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.

Went to get materials for bait;
made bait. Took mammal traps to
Slagle Hollow.

10:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Set 100 small mammal traps in
Slagle Hollow.

3:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Lunch.

3:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Steele Creek - tried to catch
Copperhead and showed 6 people
Nature Hut.

(Naturalist's Journal)

Thursday
10 August 1972

8:30 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.

Wrote itinerary; picked up Ken Hale.

9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Checked trap line - caught 16 Peromyscus and 2 Blarina.

1:00 p.m. - 4:30

Went to Johnson City (ETSU): tried to find Dr. Barclay. Borrowed shocker from Dr. Nagel for fish survey in Slagle Creek.

(Naturalist's Journal)

Friday

~~XX~~ August 1972

11

10:00 a.m. - 10:15 a.m.

Wrote itinerary; picked up Ken Hale.

10:15 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Ran trap line and made Avian Survey in Slagle Hollow.

2:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Nature Hut - fed snakes; cleaned cages. Rearranged cages; swept Nature Hut. Changed water in aquarium. Made Deer Mouse exhibit.

(Naturalist's Journal)

Sat. - Sun.
12 - 13 August 1972

Sat.

9:00 a.m. - 12:00

Ran trap line in Slagle Hollow.

12:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Nature Hut open - about 136 visitors.

Sun.

8:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.

Ran trap line - in Slagle Hollow
with Gary Moore. Pulled up traps.

10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Off.

1:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Nature Hut open - about 385 visitors.

(Naturalist's Journal)

Wednesday
16 August 1972

9:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.

Worked on records and wrote
itinerary at office.

10:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

Went to Wallace Coffey's home to get
wild flower guide.

11:00 a.m. - 12:00

Completed last week's records.

12:00 - 12:30 p.m.

Lunch

12:30 p.m. - 1:45 p.m.

Began mammal survey summary.

1:45 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.

Slagle Hollow - made photographs
and plant work.

(Naturalist's Journal)

Thursday
18 August 1972

9:00 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.

Took film to be developed; made itinerary.

9:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

Finished writing mammal trapping summary.

11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Took black and white film to Wallace Coffey; lunch.

12:30 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Went to Slagle Hollow; car would not make it. Tried to enter White-oak Hollow from Carden Hollow Road, but many "no trespassing" signs.

2:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Went to Steele Creek; photographed & released young Garter Snakes; caught crayfish - fed Amphiuma.

(Naturalist's Journal)

Friday
18 August 1972

9:00 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.

Wrote itinerary; could not get car.

9:30 a.m. - 12:00

Steele Creek worked at Nature Hut-raining.

12:00 - 12:30 p.m.

Lunch.

12:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Went home (raining), and later went with Wallace Coffey to Steele Creek to see about Timber Rattlesnake.

(Naturalist's Journal)

Sat. - Sun.
19-20 Aug. 1972

Sat.

10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Worked at Nature Hut cleaning cages;
remaking signs; swept floor, etc.
Cleaned aquariums.

1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Nature Hut open. Rained - only about
40 visitors.

4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Went to Boyd Barne's house to pick
up Yellow and Black Rat snakes.

Sun.

1:15 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Nature Hut open - about 360 visitors.

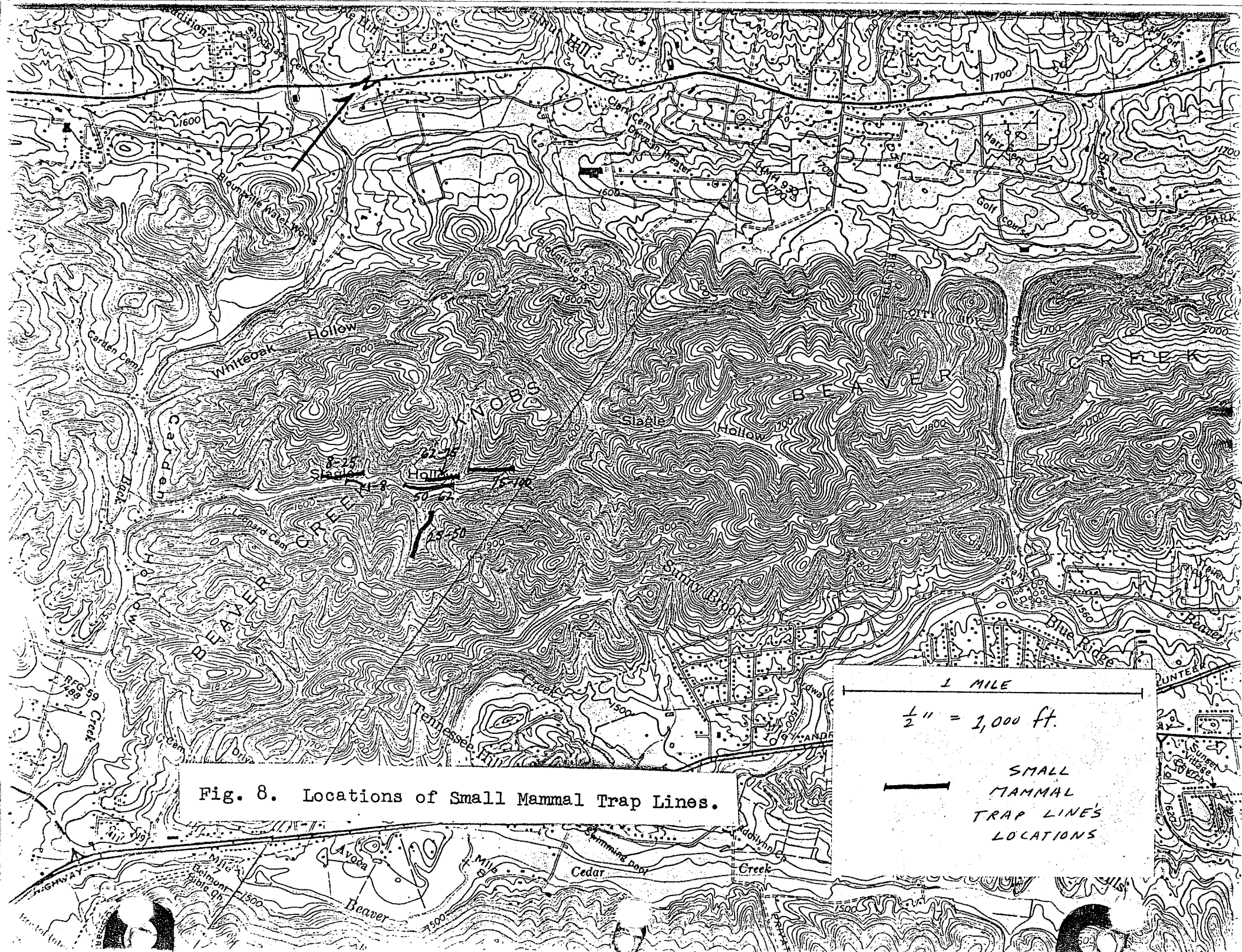


Fig. 8. Locations of Small Mammal Trap Lines.

SMALL
MAMMAL
TRAP LINES
LOCATIONS



Fig. 7. Setting Sherman Live-traps in Slagle Hollow.

A SUMMARY OF THE MAMMALS

Opossum
Didelphis marsupialis

On 12 July, Opossum tracks were found in mud on the trail in Slagle Hollow just past S.P.-11.

Smoky Shrew
Sorex fumeus

On 9 August, a Smoky Shrew was found (dead) on the trail at S.P.-11. The shrew had been partially eaten; it was probably dropped by a hawk. It had been dropped sometime between 12:00 and 2:10 p.m. On 13 August, a second Smoky Shrew was trapped across Slagle Creek between the creek and the knob of B-area, near the spring below S.P.-9 (trap line 62-75).

Short-tailed Shrew
Blarina brevicauda

Five Short-tailed Shrews were caught during the "Small Mammal Trapping Survey" from 9-13 August. Although not trapped in all of the habitats sampled, the shrew was probably present in all of the areas.

Hairy-tailed Mole
Parascalops breweri

Raccoon
Procyon lotor

During the night of 10 August, the traps in the moist hollow between E and F areas were disturbed by a larger mammal. Most of the traps were shut and turned upside down. Although the traps had not been pulled apart, the bait had been removed from the rear doors. A Raccoon could most likely pick up traps, reach in, and pull bait from the rear doors.

White-footed Mouse
Peromyscus leucopus

The most frequently captured small mammal, and probably one of the most abundant mammals in Slagle Hollow, was the White-footed Mouse. It was caught in all areas sampled during the "Small Mammal Trapping Survey", and made up 31 of the 39 total mammals caught in the survey - The White-footed Mouse is probably an important predator food source in Slagle Hollow.

Pine Vole
Pitymys pinetorum

Two Pine Voles were trapped during the "Small Mammal Trapping Survey". One was taken in the first line in the tall weeds and grass (trap line 1-8); the second vole was trapped next to a log in the moist hollow between E and F areas (line 25-50).

Norway Rat
Rattus norvegicus

On 9 June, Wallace Coffey and I observed a Norway Rat crawling in a runway on the bank of Slagle Creek at the "No Motor Vehicles" sign below Snow's house. The rat probably was attracted by the garbage and debris thrown over the bank from Snow's house.

Small Mammal Survey
Slagle Hollow, Aug. 9-13, 1972

The Naturalist conducted a small mammal survey during four nights, 9-13 August, 1972. One hundred Sherman live-traps (FIG. 7) were borrowed from the Biology Dept. of East Tenn. State University for the survey. These traps are most suitable for catching small mammals such as mice and shrews.

On the afternoon of 9 August, Ken Hale and I set the traps in six lines in parts of Slagle Hollow (FIG. 82). Different habitat types were sampled. Traps were placed three paces apart. Traps were referred to as numbers in sequence along the line (1-100). The lines were marked with red tape.

Eight traps (1-8) were placed in a line leading from the trail into the marshy open area between S.P.'s 5-6. This area had been cut over during the previous winter, but had grown up thick with weeds, some reaching 7 feet in length.

Seventeen traps (8-25) were placed in a line just to the left of the trail on the edge of the woods between S.P. 5-6. The forest above the traps (SE part of A-area) was dry, with only small trees. This area had been previously burned.

A line of 25 traps (25-50) was placed in the moist hollow between E and F areas. This hollow is rich with ferns and mosses, and contains a few large Beech trees. Several of the traps were placed along rotting logs here. During Thursday night (10 Aug.), a larger mammal, possibly a Raccoon, disturbed all but four of these traps. The traps were shut, and the bait inside had been removed. Many of the traps were upside-down and lying on their sides. A Raccoon could easily use it's forepaw to reach into the trap and pull the bait from the rear door. A large Hav-a-Hart trap and two smaller Hav-a-Hart traps were set with the other traps on 12 Aug. These Hav-a-Hart traps were not disturbed.

Twelve traps (50-62) were set in the bottom land between the trail and Slagle Creek between S.P.'s 8-9. This area contains large White Pines with little underbrush. Many of the traps in this line (as in the other trap lines) were not set in mammal runways. Few good runways could be found in trapping areas.

A line of thirteen traps (62-75) was placed across Slagle Creek between the creek and the knob of B-area, extending from the large pond to the spring below S.P. 9. This is a moist, shaded forest edge area.

The last trap line (75-100) was placed about 60ft. up on the side of the knob in the southern corner of C-area. This area is dry, has thick underbrush with many Oak and Hicory trees.

TMB. 1 Nightly Trapping Results:

Night of 9 August:

Traps 1-8: 1 Peromyscus leucopus, White-footed Mouse.
 8-25: 3 Peromyscus leucopus
 25-50: 4 Peromyscus leucopus
 50-62: 5 Peromyscus leucopus
 62-75: 1 Peromyscus leucopus
 1 Blarina brevicauda, Short-tailed Shrew
 75-100: 2 Peromyscus leucopus
 1 Blarina brevicauda

Total catch: 16 Peromyscus leucopus, 2 Blarina brevicauda trapping
 success - 18%.

Night of 10 August:

Traps 1-8: 1 Pitymys pinetorum, Pine Vole
 8-25: no catch
 25-50: no catch; traps disturbed.
 50-62: 1 Peromyscus leucopus
 62-75: 1 Peromyscus leucopus
 1 Blarina brevicauda
 75-100: 3 Peromyscus leucopus
 1 Blarina brevicauda

Total catch: 5 Peromyscus leucopus, 1 Pitymys pinetorum, 2 Blarina brevicauda.
 trapping success - 8%

Night of 11 August

Traps 1-8: 1 Peromyscus leucopus
 8-25: 1 Peromyscus leucopus
 25-50: 1 peromyscus leucopus
 1 Blarina brevicauda
 50-62: 1 Peromyscus leucopus
 62-75: 1 Peromyscus leucopus
 75-100: 2 Peromyscus leucopus

Total catch: 7 Peromyscus leucopus, 1 Blarina brevicauda
 Trapping success - 8%

Night of 12 August

Traps 1-8: no catch
 8-25: no catch
 25-50: 1 Pitymys pinetorum
 50-62: 1 Peromyscus leucopus
 62-75: 1 Sorex fumeus, Smoky Shrew
 75-100: 2 Peromyscus leucopus

Total Catch: 3 Peromyscus leucopus, 1 Pitymys pinetorum, 1 Sorex fumeus.
 Trapping success - 5%

A total of 39 mammals (TAB. 1) were captured during 400 trap nights in Slagle Hollow (1 trap x 1 night = 1 trap-night). The most frequently captured species, and probably one of the most abundant small mammals in Slagle Hollow, was Peromyscus leucopus, the White-footed Mouse. Peromyscus leucopus was found in all habitats sampled and comprised 31 of the 39 mammals caught. (79%).

Only 5 of the mammals captured were Blarina brevicauda. This mammal, although not trapped in every habitat sampled, was probably present in all of the areas. The Short-tailed Shrew does not enter traps as readily as Peromyscus, and the Shrew's subterranean runways make it difficult to trap.

The Pine Vole, Pitymys pinetorum was trapped in two of the areas. Only two individuals were trapped. One was taken in the first line (1-8), in the tall weeds and grass; the second vole was trapped next to a log in the moist hollow between E and F areas (line 25-50).

A single Smoky Shrew, Sorex fumeus, was trapped in the line adjacent Slagle Creek near the spring below S.P.-9. (line 62-75). The Shrews of the Sorex genus are difficult to trap, and S. fumeus is probably found in many other areas of Slagle Hollow. The Shrew is usually found in moist, shaded areas.

Total Catch For Each Trap Line:

Trap Line

1-8

Aug. 9: 1 Peromyscus leucopus
 Aug. 10: 1 Pitymys pinetorum
 Aug. 11: 1 Peromyscus leucopus
 Aug. 12: No catch

Trap Line

8-25

Aug. 9: 3 P. Leucopus
 Aug. 10: No catch
 Aug. 11: 1 P. Leucopus
 Aug. 12: No catch

Trap Line

25-50

Aug. 9: 4 P. leucopus
 Aug. 10: No catch - traps disturbed
 Aug. 11: 1 P. leucopus, 1 B. brevicauda
 Aug. 12: 1 Pitymys pinetorum

Trap line

50-62

Aug. 9: 5 Peromyscus leucopus
 Aug. 10: 1 P. leucopus
 Aug. 11: 1 p. leucopus
 Aug. 12: 1 p. leucopus

Trap line

62-75

Aug. 9: 1 P. leucopus, 1 Blarine brevicauda
 Aug. 10: 1 P. leucopus, 1 B. brevicauda
 Aug. 11: 1 p. leucopus
 Aug. 12: 1 Sorex fumeus

Trap line
75-100

Aug. 9: 2 P. leucopus, 1 B. brevicauda
 Aug. 10: 3 P. leucopus, 1 B. brevicauda
 Aug. 11: 2 P. leucopus
 Aug. 12: 2 P. leucopus

The trap lines at different habitats yielded different numbers and species of mammals caught (TAB. 2). In the dryest area (trap line 8-25), only a few Peromyscus were caught. In the moist hollow area (trap line 25-50), although only a few individuals were caught, three species were found. One night of trapping was ruined because of disturbance by a larger mammal here.

The bottomland area and the hillside area (lines 50-62 and 75-100, respectively) yielded high concentrations of P. leucopus. These and similar areas are probably hunted by many predators such as the Red-tailed Hawk, Broad-winged Hawk, Great Horned-Owl, etc.

The trap line near the creek bank (62-75) yielded a high percentage of individuals and also three species. The cover and moisture of the land adjacent Slagle Creek probably make good habitat for many mice and shrew.

Other small mammals not trapped during 9-13 August, but probably inhabiting parts of the Slagle Creek watershed include: Sorex longirostris, Southeastern Shrew, Microtus pennsylvanicus, Meadow Vole, Cryptotis parva, Le Shrew.

(Species Account)

Thursday
8 June 1972

Mammals:

E. Chipmunk - 5 individuals were heard and/or observed in Slagle Hollow.

Mole - Mole activity noted on trail near Jackson's campsite.

; Hairy-tail Mole - ETSU

(Species Account)

Friday
9 June 1972

Mammals:

Norway Rat - an individual was observed crawling above the creek bank (Slagle Creek) at the "No Motor Vehicles" sign.

(Species Account)

Thursday
6 July 1972

Mammals:

E. chipmunk - 2 individuals observed in Slagle Hollow.

Woodchuck - A fresh Woodchuck burrow was found on the SE side of K-knob.

Many old hollow den trees were noted in Upper End of Slagle Hollow.

(Species Account)

Wednesday
26 July 1972

Mammals:

Chipmunk - two small mammals thought to be young Chipmunks were seen briefly near top of knob in F-area.

(Species Account)

Wednesday
9 August 1972

Mammals:

Smoky Shrew (Sorex fumeus) - A partially eaten Smoky Shrew was found lying on the trail at S.P. 8. The Shrew was probably dropped by a hawk. It had been dropped sometime between 12:00 and 2:10 p.m.

Measurements:

total length - 95 mm.
Tail - 38 mm.
right hind foot - 12 mm.
ear - 3 mm.

Trapping

100 Sherman live-traps were set today in Slagle Hollow (See summary).

(Species Account)

Thursday
10 August 1972

Mammals:

Trapping - caught 16 Peromyscus leucopus and 2 Blarina brevicauda
(See summary).

(Species Account)

Friday
11 August 1972

Mammals:

Trapping - caught 1 Pitymys pinetorum (Pine Vole), 2 Peromyscus leucopus, and 2 Blarina brevicauda. (see summary).

Traps 25-50, set in the hollow between E and F areas, were disturbed during the night, possibly by a Raccoon. All but four of the traps were shut, with the bait removed. A Raccoon could easily reach inside the traps with it's forepaw and pull the bait out of the trap. Many of the traps were lying upside-down and on their sides.

Measurements:

Pitymys pinetorum

Total length	117 mm.
tail	25 mm.
Hind foot	16 mm.
ear	8 mm.

Peromyscus leucopus

164 mm.
81 mm.
19 mm.
11 mm.

Blarina brevicauda

Total length	103 mm.
tail	22 mm.
hind foot	13 mm.

Blarina

108 mm.
21 mm.
14 mm.

(Species Account)

Saturday
12 August 1972

Mammals:

trapping - caught 7 peromyscus leucopus and 1 Blarina brevicauda;
set 1 large and 2 small Hav-A-Hart traps in the hollow between E
and F areas (see summary).

At S.P.#, I saw 3 large black dogs moving through the brush on the
brush on the knob. When the dogs saw me, they ran.

(Species Account)

Sunday
13 August 1972

Mammals:

Trapping - caught 1 Smoky Shrew, Sorex fumeus, 1 pine Vole, Pitymys pinetorum, and 3 Peromyscus leucopus. The Hav-a- Hart traps had not been disturbed.

SUMMER BIRDS OF STEELE CREEK PARK 1972

BRISTOL, TENNESSEE

PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION

		2										3										4									
		June		July		August		September		October		November		December		January		February		March		April		May							
		8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31						
SPECIES																															
1	Great Blue Heron																														
2	Green Heron	1		2	1																										
3	Little Blue Heron																														
4	Blk. Cr. Night Heron																														
5	Yel. cr. Night Heron																														
6																															
7	Domestic Goose																														
8	Mallard																														
9	Wood Duck																														
10	Domestic Duck																														
11																															
12	Turkey Vulture				6																										
13	Black Vulture																														
14	Sharp-shinned Hawk																														
15	Cooper's Hawk																														
16	Red-tailed Hawk	?		3		1																									
17	Red-shold. Hawk																														
18	Sparrow Hawk																														
19	Broad-winged Hawk				1																										
20	Ruffed Grouse				1																										
21	Bobwhite	5	1	4																											
22	Turkey																														
23																															
24	American Woodcock																														
25	Spotted Sandpiper																														
26																															
27																															
28																															
29	Common Tern																														
30																															
31	Mourning Dove	4																													
32	Yellow-billed Cuckoo	1																													
33	Black-billed Cuckoo	1		1																											
34	Barn Owl																														
35	Screech Owl																														
36	Gr. Horned Owl																														
37	Chuck-will's-widow																														
38	Whip-poor-will	1																													
39	Common Nighthawk																														
40																															

SUMMER BIRDS OF STEELE CREEK PARK 1972

BRISTOL, TENNESSEE

PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION

			1	2	3	4	
	SPECIES						
1	Chimney Swift						1
2	R. th. Hummingbird	2	✓	2	1	1	2
3	Belted Kingfisher		✓		1		3
4	Yellow-shafted flicker	5	✓	✓	✓	✓	4
5	Pileated Woodpecker	1	1	✓	1	1	5
6	Red-bellied Woodpecker		2				6
7	Red-headed Woodpecker						7
8	Hairy Woodpecker	3	✓	✓	1	1	8
9	Downy Woodpecker	2	✓	2	✓	✓	9
10							10
11	Eastern Kingbird						11
12	Grt. creasted Flycatcher	1	✓	1	1		12
13	Eastern Phoebe	1	1	✓			13
14	Acadian Flycatcher	7	✓	✓	✓	✓	14
15	Traill's Flycatcher						15
16	Ea. Wood Pewee	2	✓	1	✓	✓	16
17							17
18	Horned Lark						18
19	Rough-winged Swallow						19
20	Barn Swallow						20
21	Purple Martin						21
22							22
23	Blue Jay	2	✓	✓	✓	✓	23
24	Common Crow	1		1	2	2	24
25	Carolina Chickadee	6	✓	✓	✓	✓	25
26	Tufted Titmouse	2	✓	✓	✓	✓	26
27	White-br. Nuthatch	1	✓	1	1	✓	27
28	House Wren						28
29	Bewick's Wren						29
30	Carolina Wren	1		✓	✓	✓	30
31							31
32	Robin	1	✓	✓	✓	✓	32
33	Wood Thrush	12	✓	✓	✓	✓	33
34	Eastern Bluebird						34
35	Blue-gry. gnatchatcher	2	✓	✓	✓	✓	35
36	Cedar Waxwing						36
37	Loggerhead Shrike						37
38	Starling						38
39	Mockingbird	1		1	1	✓	39
40	Catbird		2				40
	Brown Thrasher		2	1	✓	✓	



SUMMER BIRDS OF STEELE CREEK PARK 1972

BRISTOL, TENNESSEE

PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION

		1	2	3	4	
	SPECIES					
1	White-eyed Vireo	/		✓		1
2	Yellow-thr. Vireo					2
3	Red-eyed Vireo	7	✓✓✓✓			3
4	Warbling Vireo					4
5						5
6	Black-and-white Warbler	/	/			6
7	Prothonotary Warbler					7
8	Worm-eating Warbler	3	/	✓		8
9	Yellow Warbler					9
10	Yellow-throated Warbler					10
11	Prairie Warbler					11
12	Ovenbird	11	✓✓	✓	✓	12
13	Louisiana Water thrush	3	✓	/		13
14	Kentucky Warbler	5	✓✓✓✓	/	✓✓	14
15	Yellowthroat	1	/	/	✓	15
16	Yellow-br. chat					16
17	Hooded Warbler					17
18	American Redstart					18
19	House Sparrow					19
20	Eastern Meadowlark			✓	✓	20
21	Red-winged Blackbird					21
22	Orchard Oriole					22
23	Baltimore Oriole					23
24	Common Grackle	45	✓	/	✓	24
25	Brown-headed Cowbird					25
26	Scarlet Tanager	2	32	2	✓	26
27	Summer Tanager	1	1	1	✓	27
28	Cardinal	5	✓✓✓✓✓	✓	✓✓	28
29	Blue Grosebeak					29
30	Indigo Bunting	4	✓✓✓✓	✓		30
31	Dickcissel					31
32	American Goldfinch		✓4	✓✓	✓✓	32
33	Rufous-sided Towhee	9	✓✓✓✓✓	✓	✓✓	33
34	Grasshopper Sparrow					34
35	Chipping Sparrow					35
36	Field Sparrow			✓	✓	36
37	Song Sparrow			✓		37
38						38
39						39
40						40

A SUMMARY OF THE BIRDS

A total of 53 species of birds were identified in the Slagle Hollow Study Area from 8 June - 11 August. Eleven Avian Surveys were made during this period to compose the list of summer birds of the Slagle Hollow Area. Most of these birds were observed in Slagle Hollow and at the Snow Property area. Other species were identified on the ridge areas.

Only two species of birds were observed in Slagle Hollow that had not been recorded in Steele Creek Park. These were the Red-tailed Hawk and the Scarlet Tanager. About 18 species were added to the Slagle Hollow list made by Joseph W. Jackson during the summer of 1971. Only birds of particular interest are summarized below.

Green Heron
Butorides virescens

The Green Heron was observed on three occasions of Slagle Hollow. Two individuals were recorded on 12 July. The herons most often occurred on the creek below the Snow Property; although one was observed at S.P.-4.

Turkey Vulture
Cathartes aura

On 26 July, Six Turkey Vultures rose from a knob across Carden Hollow Road (possibly a small roosting area), and flew over Slagle Hollow. Two Turkey Vultures were noted on 8 June across Carden Hollow Road.

Red-tailed Hawk
Buteo jamaicensis

The Red-tailed Hawk was recorded on four occasions in Slagle Hollow. On 8 June, a large Buteo, thought to be a Red-tail was observed soaring over "Jackson's Campsite". On 12 July, 3 Red-tails were observed: One was at SP. 10 (soaring). Two immature birds flew from the side of C-area knob. On 3 August, two Red-tails were observed soaring above S.P.-9, and on 4 August, an immature Red-tail was observed (and heard) over Jackson's Campsite and C-area. Red-tailed Hawks may have nested somewhere in Slagle Hollow or in the Slagle Creek watershed.

Broad-winged Hawk
Buteo platypterus

A Broad-winged Hawk was observed only once during the summer. It was perched above the trail at S.P.-7 on 21 July. Wallace Coffey had seen a Broad-wing on 7 July 1971 in Slagle Hollow.

Ruffed Grouse
Bonasa umbellus

Ruffed Grouse were observed on 3 dates in the Slagle Hollow area. On 6 June, one was flushed from the bank of Slagle Creek, and on 12 July, one was flushed from the dry SE facing slope of Q-area. Seven Grouse were flushed from the stream bed between S.P.'s 3-4 on 10 August.

American Woodcock
Philohela minor

Woodcocks were observed three times at different locations in Slagle Hollow. On 6 June, one was recorded between S.P.'s 7-8. On 6 July, a Woodcock was observed at Jackson's Campsite (S.P.-13), and on 4 August one was flushed from the "stream" bed in the hollow between C and N areas. Jackson observed a Woodcock on 7 July 1971 in Slagle Hollow.

Screech Owl
Otus asio

Screech Owls were heard twice and observed once in Slagle Hollow. On 21 July, a Screech Owl was heard calling at about 1:00 p.m. between S.P.'s 7-8. On 26 July, a Screech Owl was seen perched in a Maple tree at the "No Motor Vehicles" sign below S.P.-1. On 13 August, a Screech Owl was heard calling (9:30 a.m.) between S.P.'s 9-10 on C-area knob.

Whip-poor-will
Caprimulgus vociferus

The distinctive song of a Whip-poor-will was heard at B-area knob on 9 June. Jackson reported two Whip-poor-wills in Slagle Hollow on 10 July, 1971.

Belted Kingfisher
Megaceryle alcyon

On 6 July, a Kingfisher was observed at Slagle Creek below A-knob, and on 2 August, a Kingfisher was seen flying high over Slagle Hollow.

Scarlet Tanager
Piranga olivacea

Scarlet Tanagers were observed on four occasions in Slagle Hollow. A maximum of three individuals were seen on 12 July. The Scarlet Tanager would normally not be expected at such low altitudes during the summer.

(Species Account)

Tuesday
6 June 1972

Birds:

The following birds were recorded along Slagle Creek in Slagle Hollow:

Ruffed Grouse (1)
Summer Tanager (1)
Worm-eating Warbler (1)
Bobwhite (7)
White-breasted Nuthatch (1)
Am. Woodcock (1) (S.P. 7-8).

(Species Account)

Thursday
8 June 1972

Birds:

Green Heron- an individual was observed on Slagle Creek across from Snow's Home.

Ruby-throated Hummingbird - a hummingbird was observed feeding from Showy Skullcap, Scutellaria serrata, in Slagle Hollow. Another hummingbird was also observed in Slagle Hollow this date.

Yellow-shafted Flicker - a Flicker was nesting in a cavity of a tree above Slagle Hollow trail.

Red-tailed Hawk - a large Buteo thought to be a Red-tailed Hawk was observed soaring above Slagle Hollow near Jackson's campsite.

A nestling Ovenbird or Wood Thrush was found beside the trail in Slagle Hollow. An adult Ovenbird was engaged in the "broken-winged act", while Wood Thrushes were diving at the Naturalist.

Birds noted adjacent Alagle Creek Area:

Turkey Vulture (2)
E. Bluebird (1)
Belted Kingfisher (1)

(Species Account)

Friday
9 June 1972

Birds:

Whip-poor-will - an individual was singing clearly from knob near Snow property at 10:45 a.m.

Scarlet Tanager - two individuals were observed near Snow property by Naturalist and Wallace Coffey.

(Species Account)

Thursday
6 July 1972

Weather conditions: Temperature cool, 64° at Snow Property at 11:00 a.m.
Sunny, with scattered clouds.

Birds:

Made Avian survey in Slagle Hollow.

Bobwhite - Observed 2 adult quail with two young below A-knob.
Many more Bobwhites were heard in Slagle Hollow.

Belted Kingfisher - A Kingfisher was recorded at Slagle Creek below
A-knob.

American Woodcock - A Woodcock was observed at Jackson's Campsite,
Stream - Point 13.

(Species Account)

Wednesday
12 July 1972

Slagle Hollow

Weather Conditions: Sunny; clear; temperature at Snow's property
78° F. Slagle Hollow at Stream Point - 10
Temp. - 74° F.
Slagle Creek water temp. at S.P. - 10 = 64° F.
(1:45 p.m.)

Birds: Green Heron - One noted at Slagle Creek on Snow's property
and another at Stream Point - 4.

Red-tailed Hawk - from Stream Point - 10, I heard and saw a
Red-tailed Hawk soaring in a southwest direction over Slagle
Hollow. At Stream Point - 12, two immature Red-tails flew
from the side of the knob on the left of the trail (C-area).
They flew to the ridge-top of C-area.

Ruffed Grouse - flushed from SE facing slope of Q-area.

(Species Account)

Friday
21 July 1972

Weather conditions: clear, sunny, becoming cloudy in afternoon with thunder and lightening. Temp. at Snow's - 82°F. (11:00 a.m.) Temp. in Slagle Hollow (S.P. - 12) 79°F. very humid.

Birds:

Broad - winged Hawk - a Broad - wing was observed perched above the trail at S.P. - 7.

Screech Owl - A Screech Owl was heard calling at about 1:00 p.m. between S.P.'s 7-8.

(Species Account)

Wednesday
26 July 1972

Weather conditions: Partly cloudy, hot and humid. Temp. of Snow's
(9:40 a.m.) 75°F. Temp. in Slagle Hollow (4:00 p.m)
83°F.

Birds:

Turkey Vulture - Six Turkey Vultures rose from a knob across Carden
Hollow Road and flew over Slagle Hollow.

Screech Owl - A Screech Owl was observed in a Maple tree at the
"No Motor Vehicles" sign before S.P. - 1.

(Species Account)

Thursday
3 August 1972

Birds:

Red-tailed Hawk - Two were observed flying above S.P. 8-9.

(Species Account)

Friday
4 August 1972

Birds:

Eastern Meadowlark and Field Sparrow - These species were observed in the fields at the boundaries of N & M areas behind the Beacon Drive - In Theater.

Pileated Wood-pecker - An individual was observed in O-area.

Red-tailed Hawk - One immature Red-tail was observed (and heard) over camp-site and C-area.

American Woodcock - A Woodcock was flushed from the stream bed in the hollow between C and N areas.

(Species Amount)

Thursday
10 August 1972

Birds:

Ruffed Grouse - Seven Ruffed Grouse flushed from the stream bed
between S.P. 3-4. (about 9:30 a.m.).

(Species Account)

Friday
11 August 1972

Birds:

Song Sparrow - A Song Sparrow was observed just below Snow's house.
This is first record of this species here.

(Species Account)

Sunday
13 August 1972

Birds:

Screech Owl - A Screech Owl was heard calling (9:30 a.m.) between
S.P.'s 9-10 on C-area knob.

A SUMMARY OF THE HERPTILES

Snapping Turtle
Chelydra serpentina

On 6 July and 9 August, a medium sized Snapping Turtle (carapace about 8 in.) was observed at S.P.-3 in Slagle Creek. Both times the Snapper swam under the large mass of sticks and debris at S.P.-3.

Box Turtle
Terrapene carolina

Box Turtles were found often in Slagle Hollow. Ten individuals were recorded, and two old shells were found. Box Turtles were found in puddles along the trail, in Slagle Creek, and in the knobs above Slagle Hollow.

Fence Swift
Sceloporus undulatus hyacinthinus

Three Fence Swifts were observed during the study period. All were observed on stumps and logs between S.P.'s 3-5.

Black Rat Snake
Elaphe O. obsoleta

On 3 August, a Black Rat Snake (about 4 ft. long) was observed lying in the trail between S.P.'s 4-5.

Ringneck Snake
Diadophis punctatus

Two young boys gave me a perfect description of a Ringneck Snake which they had seen on the small road to Snow's house (around 10 July).

Northern Water Snake
Natrix s. sipedon

A small (12 in.) Northern Water Snake was observed at a pool near Jackson's Campsite on 6 June. Other snakes heard dropping into the creek, but not observed, may have been Natrix sipedon.

Queen Snake
Natrix septemvittata

Four Queen Snakes were observed at Slagle Creek. All but one were about 15 in. long. A larger individual was observed briefly at S.P.-3 on 8 June.

Northern Copperhead
Agkistrodon contortrix mokeson

On 9 August, while setting a trap line for small mammals in the tall weeds between S.P.'s 6-7 (large swampy area), I stepped over a small (about 20 in.) Copperhead. On 10 August, I captured a Copperhead (probably the same individual) at the exact same location.

Slimy Salamander
Plethodon glutinosus

One small Slimy Salamander (2 in.) was found inside a rotting log at the termination of Slagle Hollow (Upper End area) on 6 July, 1972. On 10 July 1971, Jackson found two salamanders of the same size at the campsite (S.P.-13).

Northern Dusky Salamander
Desmognathus f. fuscus

Many Dusky salamanders were collected from Slagle Creek and springs in the watershed. This is probably the most abundant herptile in the area.

Allegheny Mountain Salamander
Desmognathus o. ochrophaeus

Two Allegheny Mountain Salamanders were found in Slagle Hollow. One was under a log at S.P.-7, and the other was under a log adjacent the trail between S.P.'s 9-10. Desmognathus o. carolineus probably occurs in the area also.

Fowler's Toad
Bufo woodhousei fowleri

A small Fowler's Toad was observed in Slagle Hollow on 8 June.

American Toad
Bufo a. americanus

Twelve American Toads were recorded in Slagle Hollow during the study period. Five were observed along the trail on 6 June and three were observed on 8 June. One was found in M-area and another at the termination of the hollow between L and M areas.

Green Frog
Rana clamitans melanota

Green Frogs were observed on almost every visit to Slagle Hollow; although they were not always recorded in the "species account". Green Frogs were

found along Slagle Creek particularly at deep pools between S.P.'s 7-13. Many were also observed in and near puddles in the trail. Jackson did not record any Green Frogs, but reported Leopard Frogs, Rana p. pipiens, in puddles along the trail. I was not able to find Leopard Frogs in Slagle Hollow during the summer.

(Species Account)

Tuesday
6 June 1972

Herptiles:

Green Frog - 2 were observed along Alagle Hollow trail.

American Toad - 5 individuals observed along Slagle Hollow trails.

N. Water Snake - A 12 in. snake was observed at a deep pool in Slagle Creek near Jackson's campsite.

(Species Account)

Thursday
8 June 1972

Herptiles:

Queen Snake - 1 noted on large mass of slicks and rubble on Slagle creek near Snow Property.

Water Snake (unidentified) - 15 in. individual dropped into pool at Slagle Creek near Jackson's Campsite.

American Toad - 3 individuals noted on trail in Slagle Hollow.

Fowlers Toad? - a toad that appeared to be a Fowler's Toad was observed in Slagle Hollow.

Green Frog - several were observed along trail (usually at puddles) in Slagle Hollow.

(Species Account)

Friday
9 June 1972

Herptiles:

Collected salamanders from first part of Slagle Creek adjacent the Snow Property and cleared areas. All were Desmognathus.

(Species Account)

Thursday
6 July 1972

Herptiles:

Snapping Turtle - A Snapper with a carapace length of approx. 8 in. was observed in Slagle Creek under mass of Sticks and debris at Stream Point - 3.

American Toad - Small toad collected for Nature Hut near Stream Point - 11.

A second specimen was collected from the dry stream bed of Slagle Creek in the Upper End of Slagle Hollow.

Slimy Salamander - (2 in.) The small Slimy was found inside a rotting log near the termination of Slagle Hollow (Upper End).

(Species Account)

Wednesday
12 July 1972

Herptiles:

Eastern Box Turtle - 3 individuals were recorded:

- 1) at Stream Point - 10
- 2) between Stream Points 2-3
- 3) at top of ridge in Q-area.

Queen Snake - 2 individuals recorded:

- 1) about 15 in., over Slagle Creek on branch at Stream Point - 7.
- 2) about 15 in., at creek section in hollow between C and L areas.

American Toad - 1 specimen found on trail between Stream Points 8-9.

Green Frog - examined 2 specimens at pool of Slagle Creek at Sp-10. Other frogs were observed (probably Green Frogs) at S.P. - 7 and S.P. - 3.

Ring - necked Snake - two young boys described to me a Ring-necked Snake they had found on the road into Slagle Hollow.

(Species Account)

Friday
21 July 1972

Herptiles:

Box turtle - a box turtle was found in the dry spring bed at
S.P. 9.

Fence Swift - a fence swift was observed on a stump adjacent the
trail between S.P.'s 4-5.

(Species Account)

Wednesday
26 July 1972

Herptiles:

Box Turtle - Found in trail just past S.P. - 7
Old, sun-bleached Box Turtle shell was found at top of
Knob in G-area.

Queen Snake - A 15 in. Queen Snake was observed at Slagle Creek between
S.P.'s 10-11.

(Species Account)

Wednesday
2 August 1972

Herptiles:

Box Turtle - One individual found at the "No Motor Vehicles" sign and another at S. P. - 7. Both were lying in puddles in the trail.

Green Frog - a small Green Frog was found at the "No Motor Vehicles" sign.

Salamanders - Two Desmognathus ochrophacus ochrophaeus were found in Slagle Hollow. One at S.P.-7 under a log and one at S.P. 9-10 under a log.

(Species Account)

Thursday
3 August 1972

Herptiles:

Black Rat Snake - A Black Rat Snake was observed at S.P. 4-5. The snake was about 4 feet long.

Box Turtle - A Box Turtle was found in the stream bed at S.P. 9-10.

Fence Swift - A small Fence Swift was observed on a log pile at S.P.-3-4.

Salamanders - These salamanders were collected from Slagle Creek (S.P.-1 to campsite).

(Species Account)

Friday
4 August 1972

Herptiles:

Box Turtle - An individual was found near the top of N-area and an old Box Turtle shell was found in the hollow between O and N areas.

American Toad - An individual was observed beside the trail in M-area, and one was found at the termination of the hollow between L and M areas.

These salamanders were collected from the hollow between O & N and C & N areas.

(Species Account)

Wednesday
9 August 1972

Herptiles:

Snapping Turtle - a Snapper was observed under the large mass of sticks at S.P.-3. This may have been the same individual observed on 6 July 1972.

Northern Copperhead - a small Copperhead (about 20 in.) was observed in the tall weeds between S.P.5-6 (Large swampy area). The snake was captured on 10 August 1972.

Box Turtle - an individual was found in Slagle Creek between S.P. 8-9.

(Species Account)

Thursday
10 August 1972

Herptiles:

Northern Copperhead - I caught the Copperhead observed on 9 August 1972. It was placed on exhibit at the Nature Hut.

Green Frog - Several small Green Frogs were observed near puddles in the trail in Slagle Hollow.

A SUMMARY OF THE FLORA

(Species Account)

Tuesday
6 June 1972

Flora:

The following plants were in bloom on this date in Slagle Hollow:

1. Showy Skullcap, Scutellaria serretata.
2. Four-leaved Milkweed, Asclepias quadrifolia.
3. Partridge-berry, Mitchella repens.

Other plants noted in Slagle Hollow (Not blooming):

1. Yellow Lady's-slipper, Cypripedium calceolus.
2. Painted Trillium, Trillium undulatum.
3. Strawberry - bush, Euonymus americanus.
4. Venus's Looking-glass, Specularia perfoliata.

(Species Account)

Friday
9 June 1972

Flora:

Plants noted while collecting salamanders at first portion of Slagle Creek adjacent Anow Property and cleared field areas:

1. Indian Pipe, Monotropa uniflora (in bloom this date)
2. Jack-in-the- pulpit, Arisaema triphyllum - large 3 ft. specimen noted along creek.
3. Liverwort, Conocephalum conicum - on rocks along creek.
4. Stonecrop, Sedum ternatum.

(Species Account)

Thursday
6 July 1972

Flora:

Black Snakeroot-Cimicifuga racemosa - blooming in Slagle Hollow this date.

Running Ground Pine, Lycopodium complanatum - growing at Stream Point - 11 between trail and creek.

Turk's - cap Lily, Lilium superbum - two plants found blooming in the upper end of Slagle Hollow.

Coral fungi, Clavaria - white and yellow - tan colored varieties found near the extent of the upper end of Slagle Hollow.

Rattlesnake Plantain, Goodyera pubescens - a patch of Rattlesnake Plantain was noted just past stream point - 11 at the left of trail.

Stonecrop, Sedum ternatum - many plants growing at the upper end of Slagle Hollow; also noticed many Bloodroot plants, Sanguinaria canadensis, and various ferns.

Spotted Wintergreen, Chimaphila maculata - blooming at upper end of Slagle Hollow.

In the upper end of Slagle Hollow, I found a very large Beech tree on which was carved "O.H.S. 1914". "H.H." was also carved on the tree. There is no trail in this Upper End area and little evidence of any human activity. I found one very old .410 shot shell and a very old (practically rusted away) steel cable. The cable was about 1 in. in diameter.

I noted that the top of K-area knob was a dry, oak-hickory forest with an abundance of Blueberry, Vaccinium spp., and Squawroot, Conopholis americana.

(Species Account)

Wednesday
12 July 1972

Flora:

Walking Fern, Camptosorus rhizophyllus - Walking Ferns were found growing on the bare rock face along Slagle Creek at S.P. - 10.

Common Bracken, Pteridium aquilinum - This fern was recorded on the ridge of Q-area directly above Carden Hollow Road.

Ginseng, Panax quinquefolius - At S.P. - 13 (campsite), two men and their sons (from Sunnybrook) were collecting Ginseng root. They had found two plants along Slagle Creek at S.P. - 13.

Teaberry, Gaultheria procumbens - found growing on the south facing slope of N-area and on parts of the ridge of Q-area.

Blooming around Snow Property: Common Fleabane, Erigeron philadelphicus
Queen Ann's Lace, Daucus carota
Butterfly Weed, Asclepias tuberosa

(Species Account)

Friday
21 July 1972

Flora:

The following plants were recorded blooming on this date:

Spotted Touch -Me-Not, Impatiens capensis (S.P. -2)
White Avens, Geum canadense (S.P. - 2)
Thimbleweed, Anemone virginiana (S.P. - 7)
Ox. Eye Daisy, Chrysanthemum leucanthemum (S.P. 3-6)
Pale Touch-Me-Not, Impatiens pallida (S.P. 3-6)
Fringed Loosestrife, Lysimachia ciliata (S.P. 3-6)
Tall Bellflower, Campanula americana (S.P. 3-6)
Deptford Pink, Dianthus armeria (S.P. 3-6)
Heal - All, Prunella vulgaris (S.P. 3-6)
Enchanter's Nightshade, Circaea quadrisulcata (S.P. 10)
Pointed-leaved Tick-trefoil, Desmodium glutinosum (S.P. 11-12)
Woodland Sunflower, Helianthus divaricatus (S.P. 12-13)
Teaberry, Gaultheria procumbens (S.P. 12-13)
Flowering Spurge, Euphorbia corollata (S.P. 1-2)
Aster spp. (pressed) (S.P. 12-13)

Other plants recorded in Slagle Hollow (not blooming this date):

Partridge Berry, Mitchella repens
White Clintonia, Clintonia umbellulata
False Solomon's - Seal, Smilacina racemosa
Soloman's - Seal, Polygonatum biflorum
Sharp-lobed Hepatica, Hepatica acutiloba
Squawroot, Conopholis americana

(Species Account)

Wednesday
26 July 1972

Flora:

The following plants were recorded blooming in F-area:

Smooth Aster, Aster laevis
Toothed White-topped Aster, Seriocarpas asteroides
Smooth False Foxglove, Gerardia laevigata
Woodland Sunflower, Helianthus divaricatus - an abundant flower in F-Area.
Teaberry, Gaultheria procumbens
Flowering Spurge, Euphorbia carollata
Pointed-leaved Tick-trefoil, Desmodium glutinosum
Goldenrod, Solidago spp.

Other plants recorded (not blooming):

Mountain Laurel, Kalmia latifolia - much Mountain Laurel on the dry side of F-area ridge.
Bracken, Pteridium aquilinum - recorded on trail near top of J-area.
Blueberry, Vaccinium spp. - grows thick along dry ridges of F, G, and J-areas.
Squawroot, Conopholis americana - found also along dry ridge top of F, G, and J areas.

(Species Account)

Wednesday
2 August 1972

Flora:

The following plants were recorded blooming in Slagle Hollow:

Agrimony, Agrimonia (S.P. 2-3)
Enchanters Nightshade, Circaea quadrisulcata (S.P. 3-4).
Wingstem, Actinomeris alternifolia (S.P. 4-5)
Swamp Milkweed, Asclepias incarnata (S.P. 4-5)
Goldenrod, Solidago spp.
Virgin's Bower, Clematis virginiana (S.P. 6-7)
Pointed-leaved Tick-trefoil, Desmodium glutinosum (S.P. 3-4)
Naked-flowered Tick-trefoil, Dismodium nudiflorum
Broad-leaved Arrowhed, Sagittaria latifolia (S.P. -8)

(Species Account)

Friday
4 August 1972

Flora:

The following plant was blooming in the hollow between O and N areas:

Stinging Nettle, Urtica dioica - abundant in this hollow.

This plant was found blooming on the side of the knob at the NE junction of L and M areas:

Pinesap, Monotropsis odorata

(Species Account)

Thursday
10 August 1972

Flora:

Mountain Mint - Pycnanthemum spp. Blooming in Slagle Hollow this
date (observed below B-area).

(Species Account)

Sunday
13 August 1972

Flora:

Cardinal Flower, Lobelia cardinalis, blooming this date on creek bank
between S.P.'s 8-9.

(Species Account)

Wednesday
16 August 1972

Flora:

Great Lobelia, Lobelia siphilitica, blooming this date at S.P.-4.

Common Skullcap, Scutellaria epilobiifolia, blooming next to creek between S.P.'s 12-13.

Cardinal Flower, Lobelia cardinalis, several plants blooming next to creek between S.P.'s 9-13.

Trees

A few of the many tree species in the park were identified and recorded; large tree specimens were measured. Trees were randomly noted and many common species are not listed here. Further research and more complete identification is needed in order to make a complete, detailed list of trees at Steele Creek Park.

Trees noted "abundant" along Flat Ridge Trail:

- A. Redbud Cercis canadensis
- B. Chestnut Oak Quercus prinus
- C. Shagbark Hickory Carya ovata

Trees recorded along lakeshore from Front Knob (entrance to The Gorge) to The Bend:

- A. Virginia Pine Pinus virginianus
- B. Yellow Birch Betula alleghaniensis
- C. White Oak Quercus alba
- D. Sassafras Sassafras albidum
- E. Black Cherry Prunus serotina
- F. Black Locust Robinia pseudacacia
- G. Yellow Buckeye Aesculus octandra
- H. Basswood Tilia sp.
- I. Dogwood Cornus florida

Trees recorded in Three Springs Picnic Area along Steele Creek:

- A. White Pine Pinus strobus
- B. White Ash - uncertain identification
- C. American Elm - uncertain iden.
- D. Shagbark Hickory Carya ovata
- E. Willow sp.
- F. Sycamore Plantanus occidentalis

Trees recorded at the Old Homeplace Field:

- A. Black Walnut Juglans nigra
- B. Lombardy Poplar Populus nigra
- C. Sugar Maple Acer saccharum
- D. Black Maple Acer nigrum

Trees measurements (circumference)

- A. Virginia Pine Pinus virginiana - 4'5"
- B. Shagbark Hickory Carya ovata - 3'5½"
- C. Black Oak Quercus velutina - 4' 43/4"
Black Oak - 5'3"
- D. White Oak Quercus alba - 3'3"

The majority of flowering plants were identified in July and August. Most of the plants listed below bloom in mid and late summer. Plants are listed under the date they were identified. An asterisk (*) indicates that the plant was in bloom on that date.

Flowering plants listed here may be the same as some of those identified by Howard and Jackson. No attempt was made to catalog, trees, shrubs, or ferns. This information is supplied by Mrs. Howard's thesis and Joseph Jackson's list. Two ferns are at the end of the list.

6 June 1972 (Slagle Hollow S.P.'s 1-13).

- 1.* Showy skullcap, Scutellaria serretata.
- 2.* Four-leaved Milkweed, Asclepias quadrifolia.
- 3.* Partridge-berry, Mitchella repens.
4. Yellow Lady's-slipper, Cypripedium calceolus.
5. Painted Trillium, Trillium undulatum.
6. Strawberry-bush, Euonymus americanus
7. Venus's Looking-glass, Specularia perfoliata.

9 June 1972 (S.P. 1-6 adjacent Slagle Creek).

- *8. Indian Pipe, Monotropa uniflora.
9. Jack-in-the-pulpit, Arisaema triphyllum.
10. Liverwort, Conocephalum conicum.
11. Stonecrop, Sedum ternatum.

6 July 1972 (locations listed below).

- 12* Black Snakeroot, Cimicifuga racemosa (Slagle Hollow).
13. Running Ground Pine, Lycopodium complanatum (S.P. - 11).
14. Turk's-cap Lily, Lilium superbum (Upper End).
15. Coral fungi, Clavaria (Upper End).
16. Rattlesnake Plantain, Goodyera pubescens (S.P.-11).
17. Bloodroot, Sanguinaria canadensis (S.P. 7-13 and Upper End).
- 18.* Spotted Wintergreen, Chimaphila maculata (Upper End).

12 July 1972

19. Ginseng, Panax quinquefolius (S.P.-13).
20. Teaberry, Gaultheria procumbens (N-area and Q-area).
- 21.* Common Fleabane, Erigeron philadelphicus (Snow Property).
- 22.* Queen Ann's Lace, Daucus carota (Snow Property).
- 23.* Butterfly Weed, Asclepias tuberosa (Snow Property).

21 July 1972

- 24.* Spotted Touch-Me-Not, Impatiens capensis (S.P.-2).
- 25.* White Avena, Geum canadense (S.P.-7).
- 26.* Thimbleweed, Anemone virginiana (S.P.-7).
- 27.* Ox-Eye Daisy, Chrysanthemum leucanthemum (S.P. 3-6).

- 28.* Pale Touch-Me-Not, Impatiens pallida (S.P. 3-6).
- 29.* Fringed Loosestrife, Lysimachia ciliata (S.P. 3-6).
- 30.* Tall Bellflower, Campanula americana (S.P. 3-6).
- 31.* Deptford Pink, Dianthus armeria (S.P. 3-6).
- 32.* Heal-All, Prunella vulgaris (S.P. 3-6).
- 33.* Enchanter's Nightshade, Circaea quadrisulcata (S.P.-10).
- 34.* Pointed-leaved Tick-Trefoil, Desmodium glutinosum (S.P. 11-12).
- 35.* Woodland Sunflower, Helianthus divaricatus (S.P. 12-13).
- 36.* Teaberry, Gaultheria procumbens (S.P. 12-13).
- 37.* Flowering Spurge, Euphorbia carollata (S.P. 1-2).
- 38.* Aster, Sp. (S.P. 12-13).
- 39.* Partridge Berry, Mitchella repens (J-area).
- 40. White Clintonia, Clintonia Umbellulata (J-area).
- 41. False Solomon's Seal, Smilacina racemosa (Slagle Hollow).
- 42. Solomon's-Seal, Polygonatum biflorum (Slagle Hollow).
- 43. Sharp-lobed Hepatica, Hepatica acutiloba (Slagle Hollow).
- 44. Squawroot, Conopholis americana (Slagle Hollow).

26 July 1972 (F-area)

- 45.* Smooth Aster, Aster laevis.
- 46.* Toothed White-topped Aster, Seriocarpas asteroides.
- 47.* Smooth False Foxglove, Gerardia laevigata.
- 48.* Woodland Sunflower, Helianthus divaricatus.
- 49.* Teaberry, Gaultheria procumbens.
- 50.* Flowering Spurge, Euphorbia carollata.
- 51.* Pointed-leaved Tick-trefoil, Desmodium glutinosum.
- 52.* Goldenrod, Solidago spp.
- 53. Mountain Laurel, Kalmia latifolia.
- 54. Blueberry, Vaccinium spp. (also G & J-areas).
- 55. Squawroot, Conopholis americana (also G and J areas).

2 August 1972

- 56.* Agrimony, Agrimonia Spp. (S.P. 2-3).
- 57.* Wingstem, Actinomeris alternifolia (S.P. 4-5).
- 58.* Swamp Milkweed, Asclepias incarnata (S.P. 4-5).
- 59.* Goldenrod, Solidago spp. (S.P. 4-5).
- 60.* Virgin's Bower, Clematis virginiana (S.P. 6-7).
- 61.* Pointed-leaved Tick-trefoil, Desmodium glutinosum (S.P. 3-4).
- 62.* Naked-flowered Tick-trefoil, Desmodium nudiflorum (S.P. 3-4).
- 63.* Broad-leaved Arrowhead, Sagittaria latifolia (S.P.-8).

4 August 1972

- 64.* Stinging Nettle, Urtica dioica (hollow between O and N areas).
- 65.* Pinesap, Monotropsis odorata (knob at NE junction of L and M areas).

10 August 1972

66.* Mountain Mint, Pycnanthemum spp. (below B-area in Slagle Hollow).

16 August 1972

67.* Cardinal Flower, Lobelia cardinalis (S.P.'s 8-13 along Slagle Creek).

68.* Common Skullcap Scutellaria epilobiifolia (S.P.'s 12-13 adjacent creek). Past peak bloom.

69.* Great Lobelia, Lobelia siphilitica (S.P.-4).

Ferns:

Walking Fern, Camptosorus rhizophyllus (bare rock along Slagle Creek at S.P.-10).

Common Bracken, Pteridium aquilinum, (Q-area ridge above Carden Hollow Road; trail near top of J-area).

- White Oak - 5' 8½"
- E. Chestnut Oak Quercus prinus - 6'4¼"
- Chestnut Oak - 4'5 5/8"

Three Springs Picnic Area:

- A. Hemlock Tsuga canadensis - 6'½", 4'2½", 5'
- B. unidentified tree - 7'7½"
- English Walnut/or Mockernut Hickory?
- C. White Oak - Quercus alba - 8'3½"
- D. " " - 7'10½"
- E. " " - 7'3½"
- F. " " - 6'4"
- G. Sycamore Plantanus occidentalis - 5'¼"

Old Homeplace Field:

- A. Black Walnut Juglans nigra (2 trunks) - 6', 6'3"
- B. Lombardy Poplar Populus nigra - 3'10"

COLLOQUIAL NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME	NE	SW	EF	SI	L	R	LOC. NO.
Indian Pipe	<u>Monotropa uniflora</u>		X			X		1
Squawroot	<u>Conopholis americana</u>	X	X		X	X		2
Heal-all	<u>Prunella vulgaris</u>	X	X	X				
Spotted Touch-me-Not	<u>Impatiens capensis</u>	X	X		X			3,4
White Wood Aster	<u>Aster divaricatus</u>	X	X	X				4
Purple Joe-Pye-Weed	<u>Eupatorium purpureum</u>	X	X	X				
Ox-Eye	<u>Heliopsis helianthoides</u>	X		X				
Great Lobellia	<u>Lobellia siphilitica</u>		X		X			3
Southern Harebell	<u>Campanula divaricata</u>	X		X				
New York Ironweed	<u>Veronia nove boracensis</u>	X	X	X				
Morning Glory	<u>Ipomoea pandurata</u>	X			X			5
Tall Milkweed	<u>Asclepias exaltata</u>	X	X		X			
Bull Thistle	<u>Cirsium vulgare</u>	X	X		X			
Pipsisiwa	<u>Chimaphila maculata</u>	X	X		X			6
Evening Primrose	<u>Oenothera biennis</u>	X	X		X			
Wild Bergamot	<u>Monarda fistulosa</u>		X		X			
Large-leaved Aster	<u>Aster macrophyllus</u>	X		X				
Goldenrod	<u>Solidago sp.</u>	X		X				
Black-eyed Susan	<u>Rudbeckia hirta</u>	X		X				
Horse Nettle,	<u>Solanum carolinense</u>	X			X			
Queen Ann's Lace	<u>Daucus carota</u>	X		X				
White Snakeroot	<u>Eupatorium rugosum</u>	X				X		7
Common Mullion	<u>Verbascum thapsus</u>	X			X			5
Boneset	<u>Eupatorium perfoliatum</u>	X				X		7
Daisy	<u>Chrysanthemum leucanthemum</u>	X			X			
Robins Plantain	<u>Erigeron pulchellus</u>	X		X				
Virgin's Bower	<u>Clematis virginiana</u>	X	X			X		8,3
Common Ragweed	<u>Ambrosia artemisiifolia</u>	X		X				
Tall Bellflower	<u>Campanula americana</u>	X			X			
Flowering Spurge	<u>Euphorbia corollata</u>	X			X			5
Butterfly Weed	<u>Asclepias tuberosa</u>	X			X			+5
Chicory	<u>Cichorium intybus</u>	X			X			+9

CHART CONTINUED

COLLOQUILL NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME	NE	SW	EF	SI	L	R	LOC. NO.
Cardinal Flower	<u>Lobelia cardinalis</u>		X				X	10,4
White Turtlehead	<u>Chelone glabra</u>						X	3
Jack-in-the-Puipit	<u>Arisaema triphyllum</u>		X			X		17
Teaberry	<u>Gaultheria procumbens</u>	X				X		18
Maple-leaved Viburnum	<u>Viburnum acerifolium</u>		X		X			19
Strawberry Bush	<u>Euonymus americanus</u>		X				X	3
Blueberry	<u>Vaccinium sp.</u>	X	X	X				14
Fire Pink	<u>Silene virginica</u>	X			X			11
Buttercup	<u>Ranunculus sp.</u>				X			9
Flame Azalea	<u>Rhododendron calendulaceum</u>	X					X	12
Mountain Laurel	<u>Kalmia latifolia</u>	X	X		X			13,14
Golden Groundsel	<u>Senecio aureus</u>	X						8,15
Vein-leaf Hawkweed	<u>Hieracium venosum</u>	X			X			13
Solomon's Seal	<u>Polygonatum biflorum</u>	X	X		X			6
False Solomon's Seal	<u>Smilacina racemosa</u>	X	X		X			6
"Wild" Rose	<u>Rosa sp.</u>	X	X		X			3,16
Devil's Shoestring	<u>Tephrosia virginiana</u>	X		X				+8,+9
May-apple	<u>Podophyllum peltatum</u>	X	X		X			4
Pokeweed	<u>Phytolacca americana</u>	X		X				
Bloodroot	<u>Sanguinaria canadensis</u>	X	X		X			15,17
Downy Rattlesnake Plantain	<u>Goodyera pubescens</u>	X	X		X			6
Ginseng	<u>Panax quinquefolius</u>		X				X	1
Wild Hydrangea	<u>Hydrangea arborescens</u>	X	X	X				
Spicebush	<u>Lindera benzoin</u>		X		X			20
"Brambles"	<u>Rubus sp.</u>	X		X				+5
Winged sumac	<u>Rhus copallina</u>	X	X				X	15,3
Poison Ivy and Virginia Creeper		X	X	X				

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COMPLETION OF CHART

COLLOQUIL NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME	NE	SW	EF	SI	L	R	LOC. NO.
Ferns and Allies								
Christmas Fern	<u>Polystichum acrostichoides</u>	X	X	X				6
Maidenhair Fern	<u>Adiantum pedatum</u>		X			X		3
Brown-stemmed Spleenwort	<u>Asplenium platyneuron</u>		X			X		3
Marinal Wood Fern	<u>Dtyopteris marginalis</u>		X			X		3
S. Beech Fern	<u>Phegopteris hexagonoptera</u>		X			X		1
Sensitive Fern	<u>Onoclea sensibilis</u>		X				X	21
Rattlesnake Fern	<u>Botrychium virginianum</u>		X		X			1,22
Oblique Grape Fern	<u>Botrychium Dissectum</u>		X				X	1
Hay Scented Fern	<u>Dennstaetia punctilobula</u>		X			X		3
Spike-Moss	<u>Selaginella sp.</u>		X			X		3
Bracken	<u>Pteridium aquilinum</u>	X	X		X	X		1,18,14

Habitats and Human Activity

The following pages are some general notes made on the vegetation and appearance of some of the areas hiked. "Human Activity" notes relate to present and past usage of Slagle Hollow by others. The photographs show a few of the features mentioned under the two headings.

(Miscellaneous)

Wednesday
12 July 1972

Habitats:

Hollow at S.P. - 8: This hollow between E and F - areas is moist and humid. There are large Beech trees, a spring, and a variety of ferns. I also noted some large den trees (of squirrel and possibly other animals).

Areas N and Q: On my hike through these areas, I noted much evidence of burning (burned stumps, logs, etc.). Oak, hickory, and Pinus spp. were the most common trees. Beach was found in the moist hollows. I also noted much blueberry, teaberry, sunflower (species?), and Squawroot. The hike from N-area across Whiteoak Ridge to Carden Hollow Road was very difficult as there were no trails.

Human Activity:

Mr. Snow told me that two motorcycles turned back after seeing my car parked in his driveway.

I noticed that Jackson's campsite had been used since 6 July. At the ridgetop of N-area, I found a 12 gauge shot shell (No. 5 shot). It was probably used in squirrel hunting.

(Species Account)

Wednesday
26 July 1972

Miscellaneous:

Habitats: There was no trail along the route hiked today (across F-area and along the ridge line of G, H, and J areas). The brush was not as thick as on the Whiteoak Ridge hike. I noted that the ridge top in H-area was very dry, and would possibly be good habitat for poisonous snakes. Here would be a good location to be considered for an observation tower. I noted the dominant trees: Oak, Hickory, Chestnut Oak, Virginia Pine, and some White Pine.

On 21 July and today, I noted that Slagle Creek was not flowing. It was very dry, and there were only scattered pools (these pools were concentrated with minnows, aquatic insects, etc.). The Upper End portion of Slagle Creek was completely dry on this date.

Human Activity: Half way up the ridge in F-area, I found a very old wooden keg. The wood had rotted away, but 4 metal hoops and a brass stopper remained.

Along the border of G and I areas, I noted remnants of an old barbed wire fence.

(Miscellaneous)

Friday
4 August 1972

Habitats:

I traced the motorcycle trail from behind the Beacon Drive - In Theater, and found that Jackson's plot of the trail was incorrect. I remapped the trail and then hiked on to Steele Creek Park by the hollow between L and M areas. This was a relatively easy hike to Steele Creek. Entering from behind the Beacon by the gap between M and N areas is an easy way to reach the rear portion (not Upper End Area) of Slagle Hollow trail. Upon reaching a division in the trail at the gap between M and N areas, one must follow the trail leading to the left. The trail on the right goes to the top of N-area and stops.

The most uncomfortable feature of hiking through portions of the Slagle Hollow Area is the presence of gnats and spiders. The hiker is constantly swatting gnats and pulling spider webs from his face.

I noted that the hollow between O & N areas was rich and moist with many plant species (also much Stinging Nettle). The hollow also contained some old Beech trees and many Beech Ferns.

(Miscellaneous)

Wednesday
9 August 1972

Human activity:

I noted that a horse had been through Slagle Hollow recently.

Habitats:

I noted a large round pond-like area of Slagle Creek below B-area between S.P. 8-9. This would make a good aquatic life study pond.

- also noted much Indian Pipe, Monotropa uniflora, between S.P. 8-9.

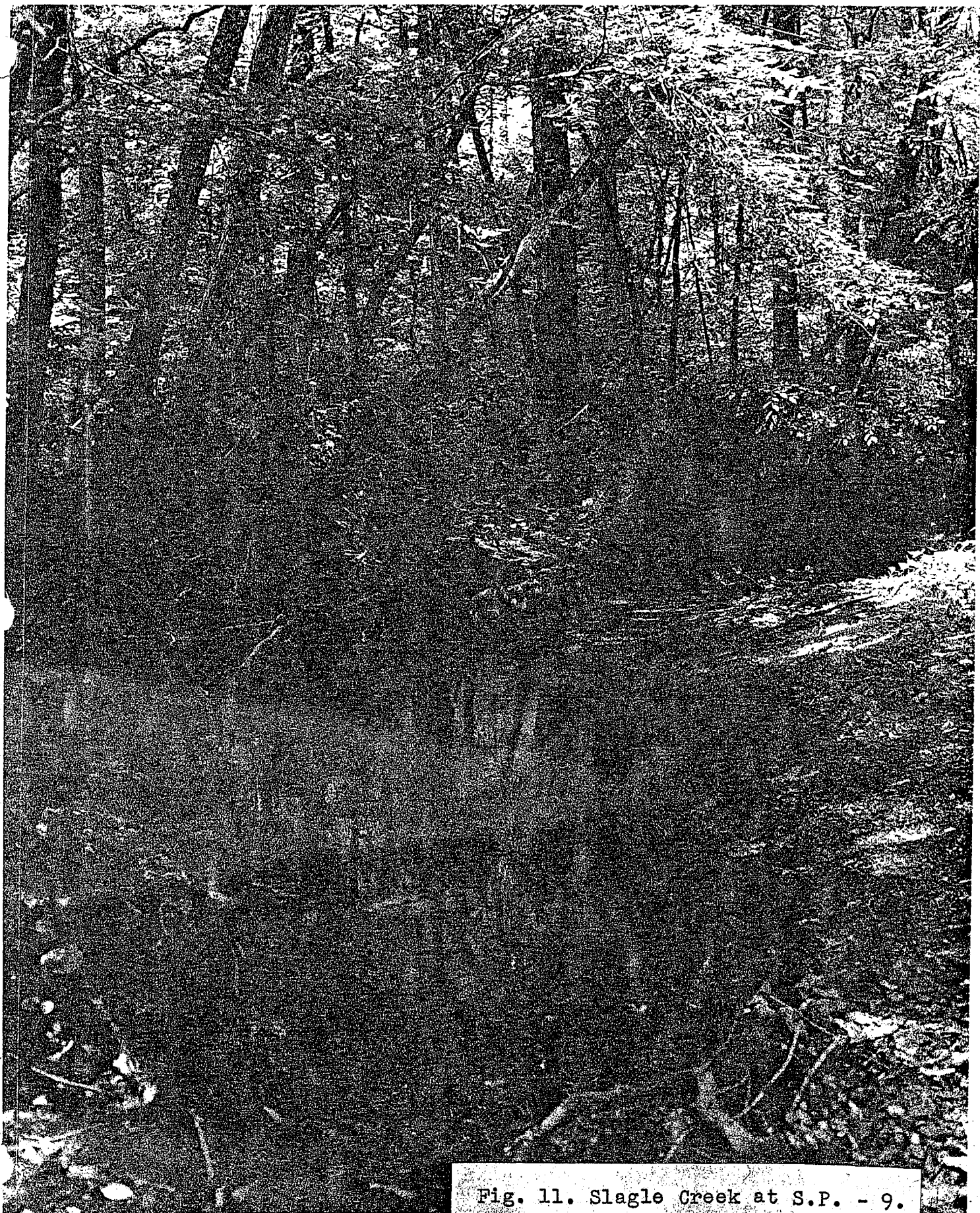


Fig. 11. Slagle Creek at S.P. - 9.

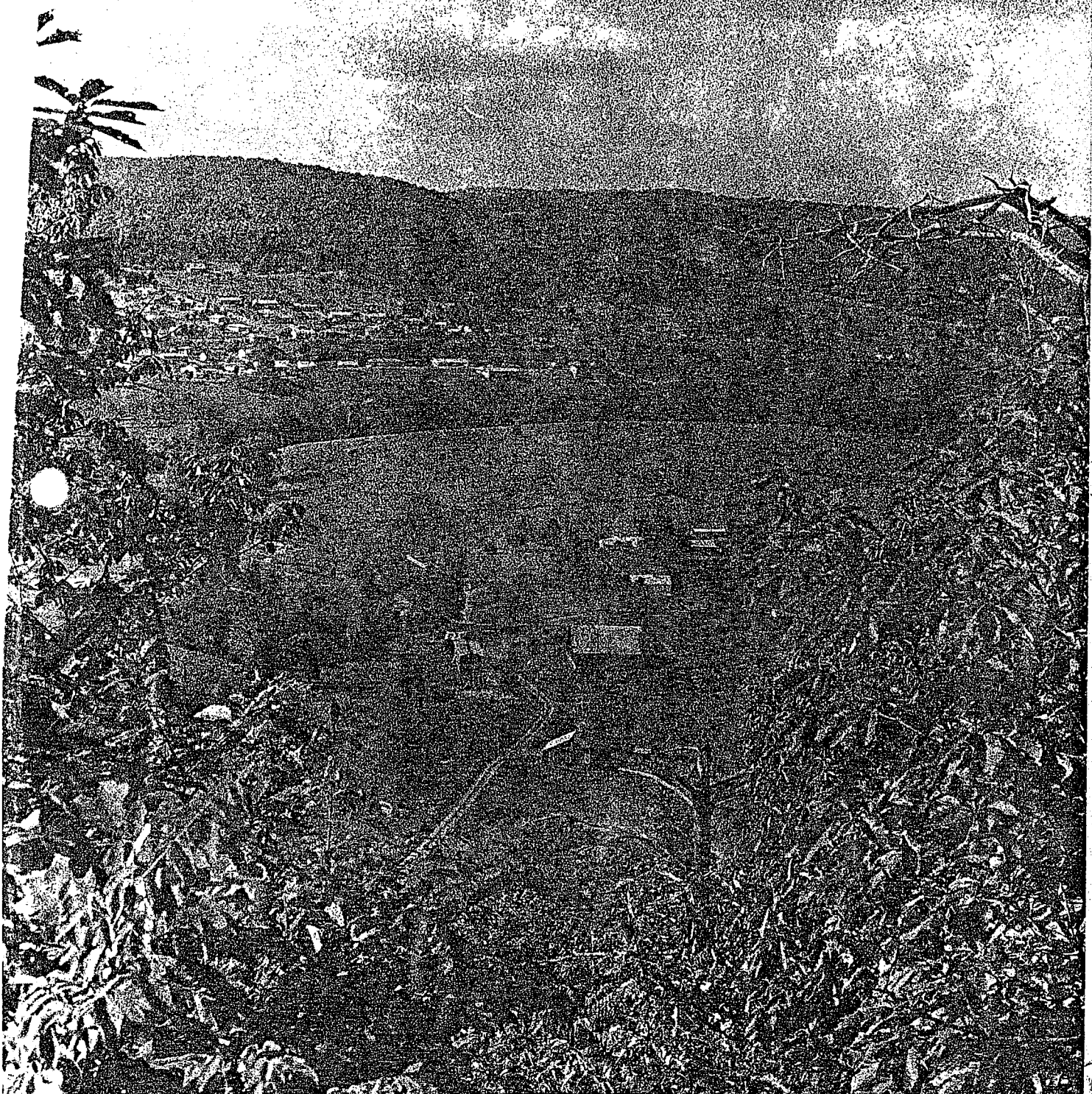


Fig. 12. View facing Blountville Highway from Whiteoak Ridge.

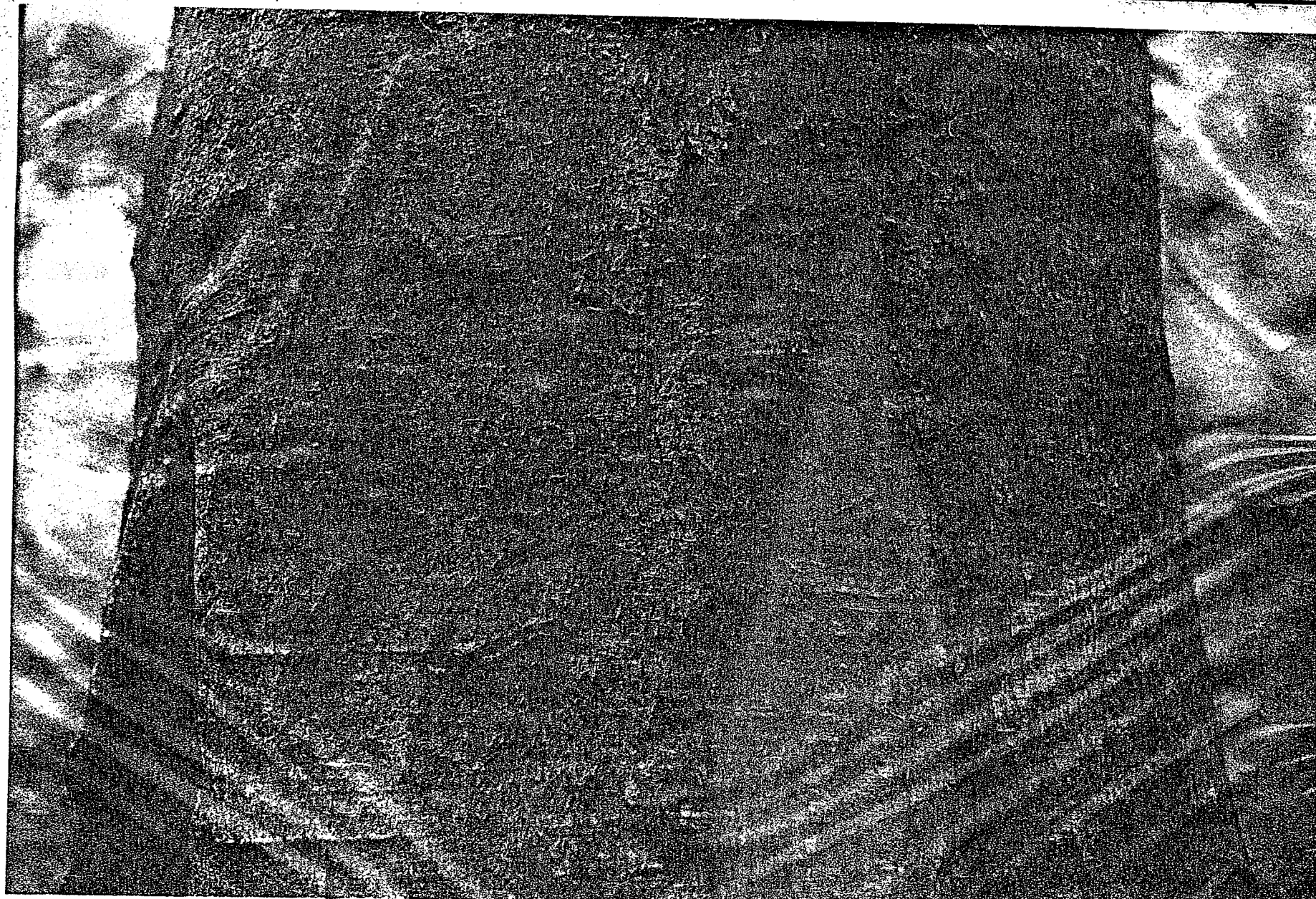


Fig. 13. O.H.S., 1914-carved on Beech in Upper End area.

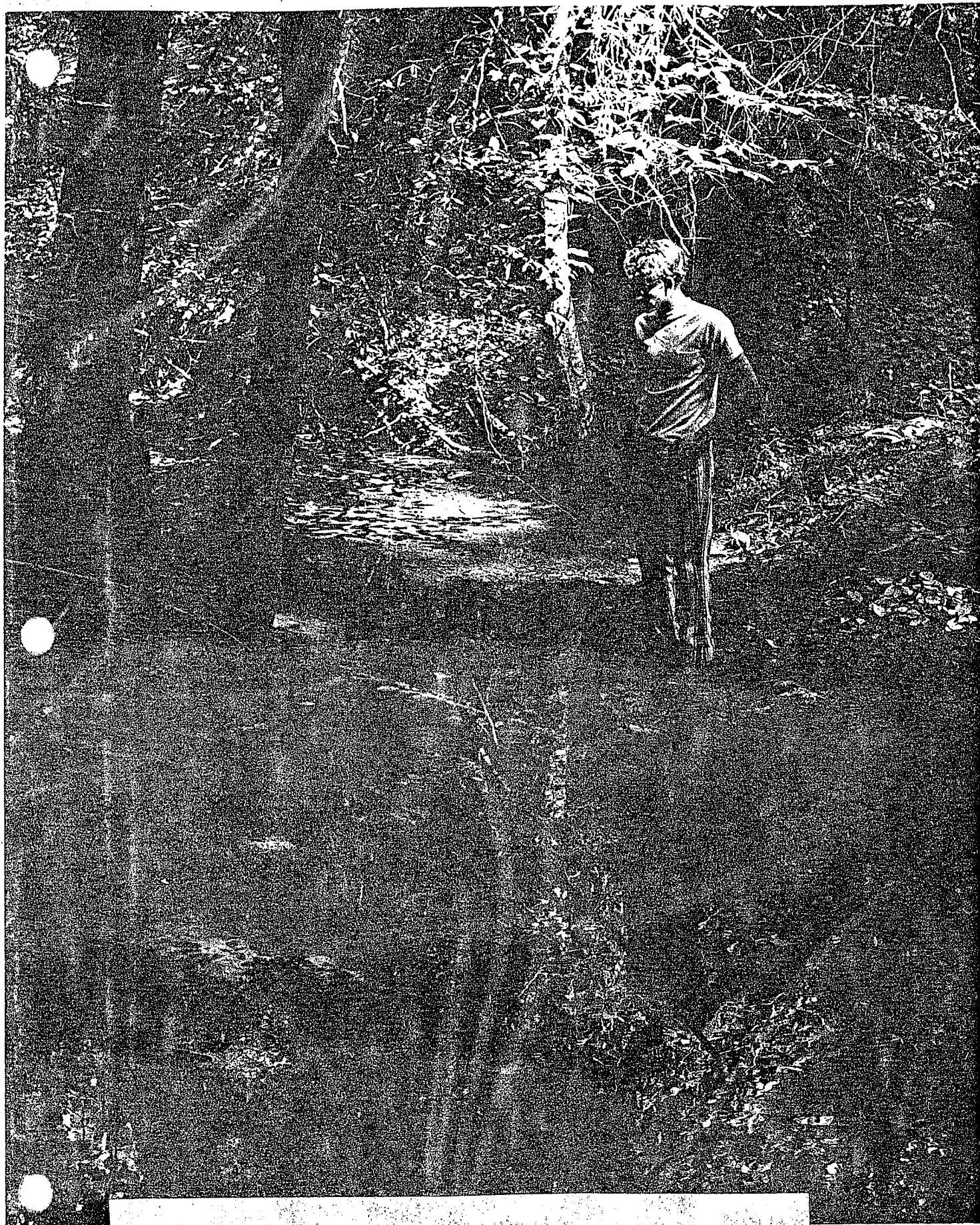


Fig. 14. Ken Hale at large pool between S.P.'s 8-9.

Nature Interpretive Program

Steele Creek Park, Summer, 1972

During the spring of 1972, the old concession building above the train station at Steele Creek Park was improved and restored in order to house natural history interpretive exhibits. This building would also serve as an office for the Naturalist at the park. The facility was called the "Nature Hut", and was open to the public from about 1:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays, during the months of July and August, 1972 (FIG. 15).

In the spring, the "Nature Hut" was renovated. A sink was installed, one wall was repaneled, the floor was painted, and lights were installed. During the last two weeks in June, the Naturalist and George Barnes constructed specially designed cages for use in the "Nature Hut". A desk, a small cabinet (for storing literature), and three tables were taken to the building. The cages were placed on these tables, and part of one table was used for literature distribution.

Aquaria were purchased for various exhibits. One 15 gallon aquarium with filter, pump, etc. was purchased to hold some of the species of fish found in the park. Two other 10-gallon aquaria held the Amphiumas (a type of aquatic salamander) and the more terrestrial amphibians. This second exhibit was made a terrarium for frogs, toads, and salamanders. The two larger cages (FIG. 16) were used for poisonous snakes. These cages were fitted with $\frac{1}{4}$ in. plexiglass and could be padlocked. One of the small cages was fitted with a lock to house a Pygmy Rattlesnake. The small cages were used to house non-poisonous snakes, lizards, and occasionally small mammals. The small cages were found not suitable for mice, as they could easily gnaw through the pegboard rear wall. Most of the small cages were lined with wood chips or newsprint, and glass ash trays were used for water dishes.

The walls of the "Nature Hut" were covered with charts and photographs. An aerial photograph of the Slagle Creek Watershed was fixed up as an interpretive map (FIG. 17), and a bulletin board of the Cherokee National Forest was made using Forest Service literature. Tennessee Game and Fish Commission posters on the ecology of Great Horned Owls, Screech Owls, Mallards, and Wood Ducks were also placed on the walls of the "Nature Hut". A mounted Great Horned Owl, and photographs of Screech Owls were placed around the posters. A topographical map of Steele Creek Park, along with framed pictures were hung above the desk.

A literature table (FIG. 18) placed below the Slagle Creek map. All literature distributed in the "Nature Hut" was free and was supplied by the Tennessee Game and Fish Commission. Many different booklets and folders were distributed: "The Tennessee Fishing Guide, 1972", "Boating Safety", "Reptiles and Amphibians of Tennessee", "How to Hunt the Ruffed Grouse", etc. Folders of Steele Creek Park and Steele Creek Park maps were placed on the desk for distribution. Several thousand of these folders were taken.

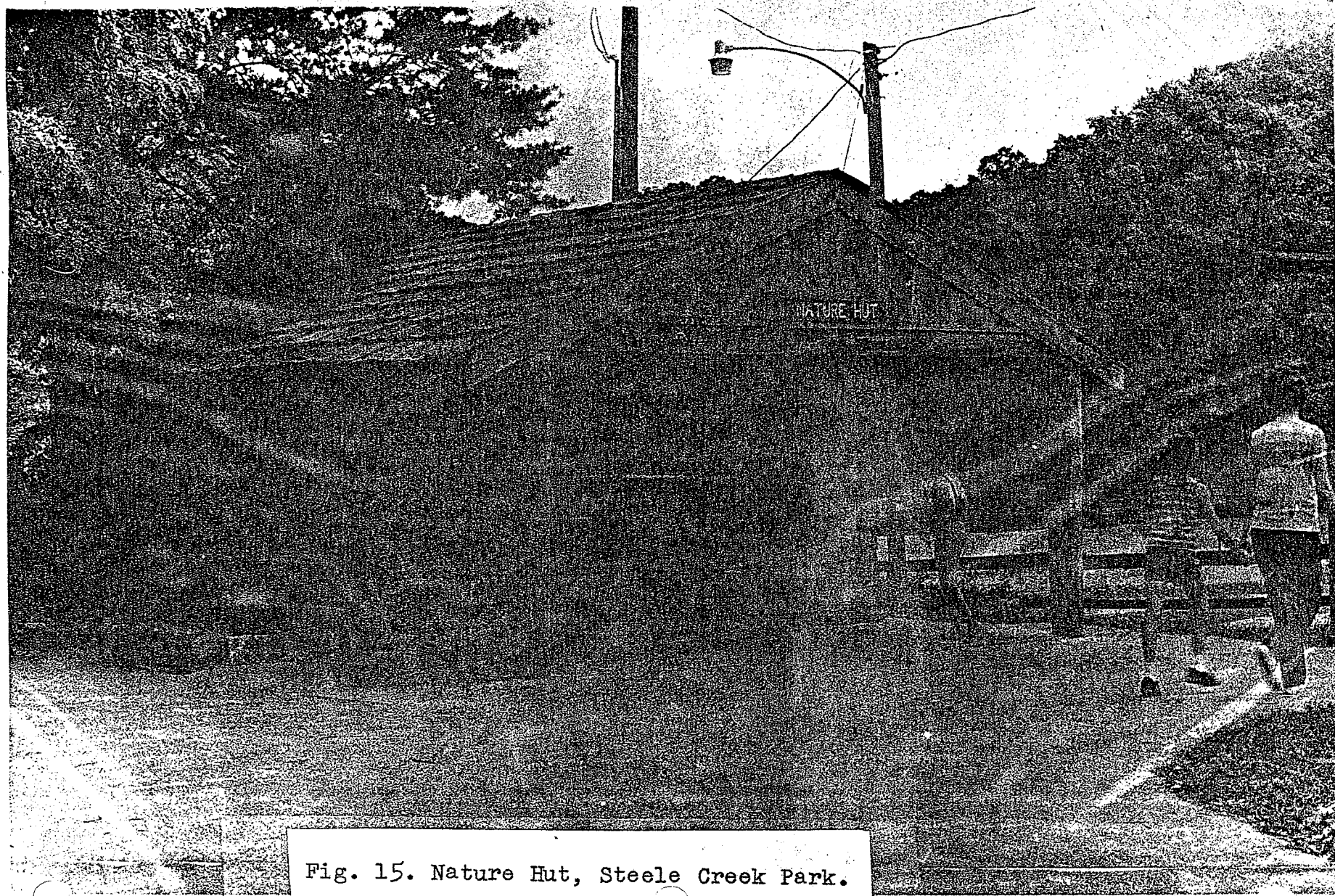


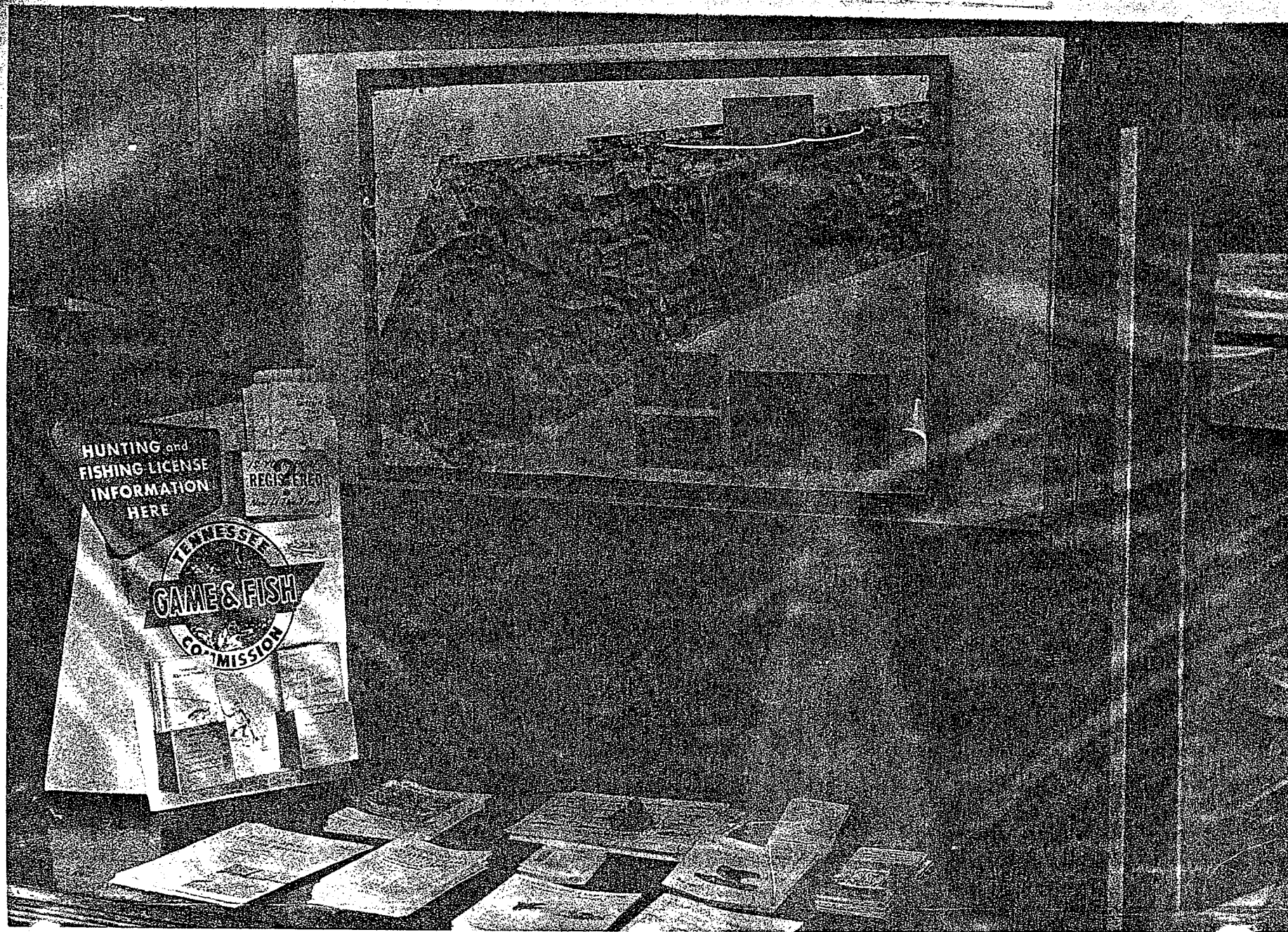
Fig. 15. Nature Hut, Steele Creek Park.

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Fig. 16. Large poisonous snake cage used in Nature Hut.

THE SNAKES AND
COPPERHEADS ARE
THE ONLY POISONOUS
SNAKES IN OUR AREA

Fig. 17. Interpretive Map and Literature Table in Nature Hut.



Short-tailed
Shrew

-its bite is slightly
poisonous.

EASTERN
MILK
SNAKE

from
the
park

Fig. 18. Interpretive Signs Used at Nature Hut.

Many species of animals (primarily snakes) were exhibited at the "Nature Hut". The first snakes were obtained from Bob Smith (a friend of Gary Mullins) who brought them from Florida. Mr. Smith gave us the Eastern Diamondback Rattlesnake, Pygmy Rattlesnake, Yellow Rat Snake, Corn Snake, Coachwhip, and the Amphiomas. Most of the other animals were caught by the Naturalist at either Steele Creek or Slagle Hollow. A sparrow hawk and a Timber Rattlesnake were borrowed from Bill Yambert, a Tennessee Game and Fish Biologist. The following is a complete list of the animals exhibited in the "Nature Hut" during the summer:

Fish: Bluegill; Gizzard Shad.

Amphibians: American Toad, Fowler's Toad, Cave Salamander, Hellbender, Green Frog, Amphiuma.

Reptiles: Black Rat Snake, Yellow Rat Snake, Corn Snake, Eastern Coachship, Black Racer, Ringnecked Snake, Queen Snake, Northern Water Snake, Garter, Eastern Milk Snake, Eastern Diamondback Rattlesnake, Timber Rattlesnake, Pygmy Rattlesnake, Northern Copperhead, Fence Swift.

Mammals: White-footed Mice, Short-tailed Shrew, Eastern Chipmunk.

Birds: Common Crow, Sparrow Hawk, Screech Owl.

Note: The animals listed above were not all exhibited at the same time. The animals were rotated - old ones released, and new animals captured.

Much of the Naturalist's time was spent maintaining the "Nature Hut". Cages had to be cleaned, and the animals had to be fed and watered. Poster board and signs had to be replaced often, because of damage by hands and wet bathing suits. The floor of the "Nature Hut" had to be swept and mopped often. Also, the area outside of the building was swept before opening. The water in the Amphiuma aquarium had to be changed often, and moss had to be replaced in the terrarium each week.

The larger snakes were fed White-footed Mice which were trapped in Slagle Hollow. Feeding the Amphiomas was time consuming. About 20 crayfish had to be caught in Steele Creek, and fed to the large salamanders each week. The smaller amphibians (frogs & toads) were not fed. These were kept refrigerated during the week, and placed in the terrarium only on Saturdays and Sundays. The Sparrow Hawk and Screech Owl were fed small birds during the brief period in which they were exhibited.

Public Contacts

Over 4,780 people visited the Nature Hut during 17 days in July and August, 1972. A cross-section of all ages visited the Nature Hut. The number of people visiting the facility was directly proportional to the number of people in the park. The following is a break-down of the number of people visiting the Nature Hut by week-end.

Sat., 1 July - 104
Sun., 2 July - 410
Tue., 4 July - 502
1016

Sat., 8 July - 162
Sun., 9 July - 450
612

Sat., 15 July - 216
Sun., 16 July - 304
520

Sat., 22 July - 182
Sun., 16 July - 550
732

Sat., 29 July - 100
Sun., 30 July - 235
335

Sat., 5 Aug. - 171
Sun., 6 Aug. - 465
636

Sat., 12 Aug. - 136
Sun., 13 Aug. - 385
521

Sat., 19 Aug. - 40
Sun., 20 Aug. - 360
400

Total - 1 July - 20 Aug. (17 days) - 4,782 people

The people that visited the "Nature Hut" were fascinated by the snakes and unusual animals. The most popular attraction of the facility was the large, beautifully patterned Diamondback Rattlesnake. It seemed as though most of the people regarded the facility as a small zoo, snake house, or just another attraction at the park. I do not think the majority of the people visiting the "Nature Hut" learned much about natural history.

At the first of the summer, 3x5 in. index cards were typed up with some life history facts about each animal being exhibited. These were seldom read. It was later found that the cards would be read if they gave only the name of the animal, and one interesting fact about the animal. Animals found in Steele Creek Park or Slagle Hollow were noted "from the park" (FIG. 184). Probably the most valuable thing learned by the public at the "Nature Hut" was to distinguish poisonous from non-poisonous snakes. People asked many questions about the snakes, and occasionally a devoted snake hater would handle a docile Black Rat Snake. Many children were able to hold the Black Snakes and conquer their fear of snakes.

The materials on the walls of the "Nature Hut" were seldom studied, and only a few people asked about the Slagle Creek Area. I feel that the total recreation atmosphere of the park is not a suitable setting for a good nature interpretive facility, although the small zoo-like approach of the "Nature Hut" does appeal to the people attracted to the park. A better facility would be built where education, not recreation, is the primary objective. This type of facility has been proposed for the Slagle Creek Area.

I feel that less time should be put into the "Nature Hut", as long as there is important research to be carried out in Slagle Hollow or in the park itself. Other aspects of the natural history program at Steele Creek Park could include slide talks, and interpretive hikes for special groups visiting the park.

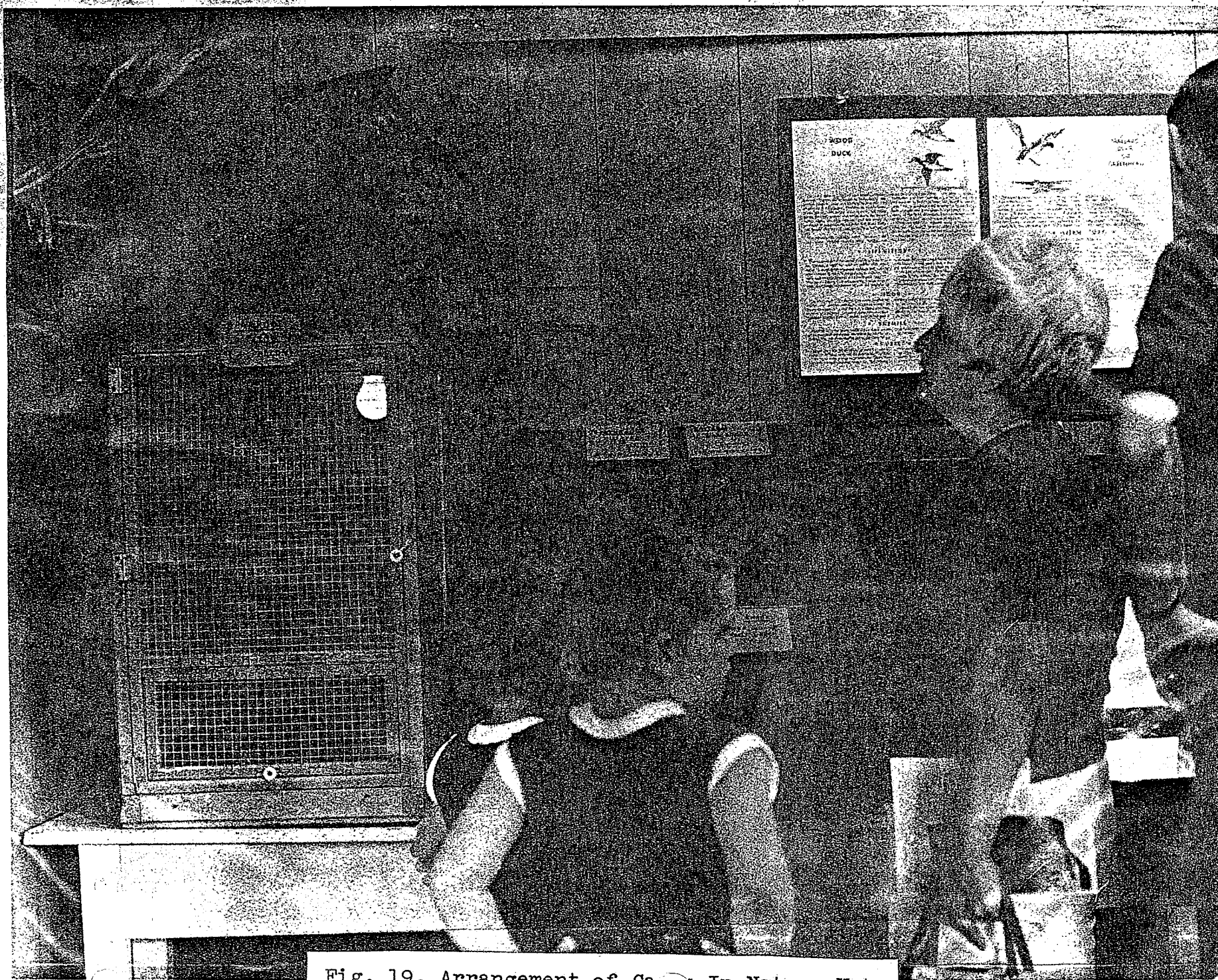


Fig. 19. Arrangement of Cases In Nature Hut.

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Fig. 20. Nature Hut Visitors.

Motorcycle Damage in Slagle Hollow

Slagle Hollow is subject to heavy usage by motorcycles. These motorcycles cause severe damage to the trail, adjacent vegetation, and the aesthetic appeal of Slagle Hollow (FIG.21). Ruts in the trail may reach $1\frac{1}{2}$ feet deep; delicate marshy areas of Slagle Hollow become large mud holes.

The "No Motor Vehicles" sign probably had little effect on the flow of motorcycles through Slagle Hollow. Fresh tracks were always present. The sign may have stopped a few entering from the Snow Property, but nothing stopped motorcycles from entering the Hollow from behind Akard Elementary School or from possibly the Sunnybrook area. The main motorcycle trail is traced in (FIG.22). Most of the motorcycles were in the area on Saturdays and Sundays. Few were seen on week days.

Placement of several more signs, with strict enforcement of the law may help to stem the flow of motorcycle traffic through Slagle Hollow.

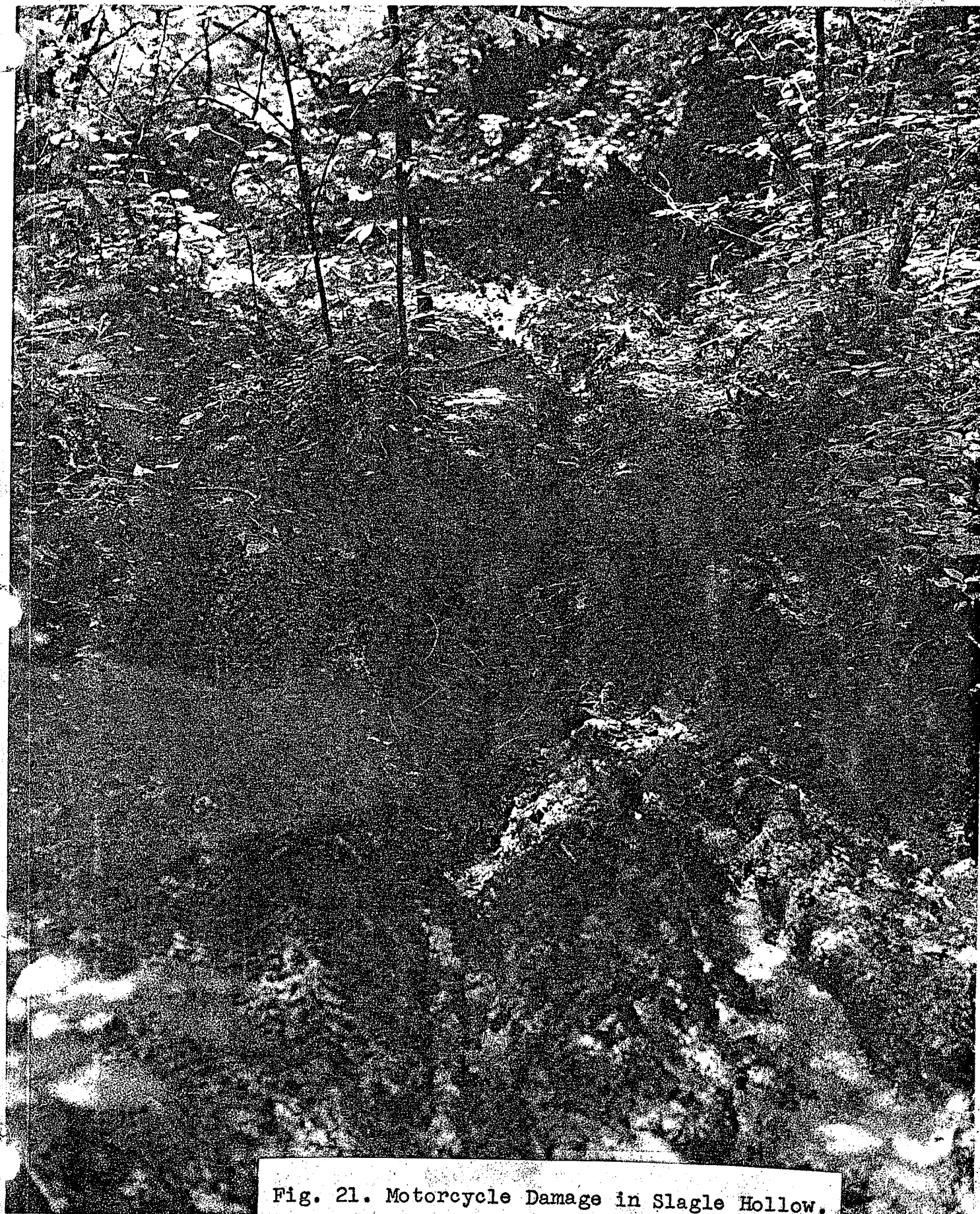


Fig. 21. Motorcycle Damage in Slagle Hollow.

Forest Service Property Report & Recommendations

On May 26, 1971, the United States Forest Service gave approximately 1200 acres of forested land to the City of Bristol, Tennessee. The land lies in the southwest end of the Beaver Creek Knobs and extends from Steele Creek Park to the Carden Hollow Road area. The only access into the area is via the Slagle Creek Road which joins the Carden Hollow Road. The Slagle Creek Road does not join the park property but ends on the property of the Berta Snow heirs. The heirs have given written permission for temporary right-of-way to the City and it's appointed representatives. This document is in the Park and Recreation files under "Slagle Creek Project".

In October 1971 the first steps were taken to develop the Slagle Creek area. At this time the Park staff requested permission from the Park and Recreation Commission to do the preliminary work on a feasibility study of the area. Permission was granted and the working name of "Slagle Creek Environmental Demonstration Area" was adopted.

In December, 1971, Mayor King authorized the Parks Department to utilize the portion of money allotted to the City under the Emergency Employment Act for hiring personnel to clear a fire road into the new park land. This road was cleared only for temporary access and in no way pre-determines the permanent access road.

In order to carry out an effective feasibility study, the Park & Recreation Department requested the services of personnel from the Forest Service, National Park Service, Tennessee Valley Authority, Soil Conservation Service, Tennessee Game and Fish Commission, and the East Tennessee State University Biology Department. Prior to the undertaking of a feasibility study, the Tennessee Department of Conservation's Planning and Development Division submitted their plan for the area.

The portions of the plan that call for horse trails and a scenic drive road in the Slagle Creek area should not be considered for that area.

On May 17, 1972, the U.S. Forest Service sent a landscape architect, William W. Martin, to look over the area. In a letter of June 27, 1972 Mr. Martin remarked there were various ways the land could be used. He stated a good use for the land would be an environmental demonstration project involving various agencies dealing with conservation and management of natural resources. Mr. Martin suggested holding construction to a minimum within a given area and constructing a trail from Steele Creek Park to the Slagle Creek area. He strongly recommended that a master plan be drawn up before any work is started.

The Forest Service has expressed a deep interest in development of the area and could serve as an excellent source of planning expertise when the project is initiated.

On May 9, Mr. Joe Beer, landscape architect for the National Park Service, visited the Slagle Creek area. He suggested the area be kept in a natural state, but developed enough to allow the general public to visit. His suggestions include a minimum of development limited to given areas, a tram system to eliminate a wide road, and a visitors' center. Mr. Beer's staff is working on a detailed map showing the boundaries of the new park land. He plans to submit the map and his written comments at a later date.

The National Park Service can serve as an excellent resource in setting up the interpretive programs for the area.

Mr. Jonathan Wert, Education Relations Officer, Tennessee Valley Authority, has visited the area four times. In October, 1971, he submitted "A Feasibility Survey of the Slagle Creek Area as an Environmental Demonstration Center". His report suggests that the area be

for environmental education for all ages, be limited in physical development, and have a detailed master plan before beginning. The report goes into some detail on needs, site location, physical facilities, and cost.

The Tennessee Valley Authority can render a broad range of services in planning and also should be able to make a financial input for environmental programming.

The Sullivan County Soil Conservation agent, Mr. H.C. Green, has made several visits to the area, and has submitted his written statements. In summary; he stated that the soils, steep elevation, and the bottom land being potential flood zones, limits the area in regard to heavy use recreation. He recommends that the area be used as a resource and environmental study area. Mr. Green has a keen interest in the project and will serve as an excellent resource person.

Mr. D.W. Yambert, Game Biologist for the Tennessee Game and Fish Commission, visited the area on July 1, 1971, and presented written recommendations. His suggestion was to use the area as a nature interpretive center. His comments include specific recommendations for management and demonstration of various natural resources.

The East Tennessee State University Biology Department and the Park Commission have entered into a working agreement, that permits their students to use the area for biological studies. The agreement requires that the Park Commission receive a written copy of all data collected by the students. Presently, Dr. Frank Barclay, Professor of Botony, has a graduate student preparing a master thesis entitled, "A Plant Inventory of Slagle Creek Watershed". All plant specimens collected will be stored in the East Tennessee State herbarium for future reference.

ence. Dr. Barclay feels the watershed is rich in fauna and thus is ideal for research.

Mr. Wallace Coffey, outdoor writer for the Bristol Herald Courier, and a naturalist, has visited the area on many occasions, and has assisted in all facets of the study. He is an excellent local resource person and can serve as a leader in soliciting citizen support and promoting publicity for the project.

The summer naturalist, Brent Rowell, is spending about 28 hrs. per week on a natural history inventory of the Slagle Creek watershed. His report will be submitted to the Park Commission at the end of the summer

I feel that the input of these various individuals and agencies constitutes a valid sampling of resource management personnel and thus renders fair opinion of how the land should best be used. It is my conclusion that all persons contacted feel that the area is best suited for a passive use type recreation and that it should be left in it's natural state with a minimum of development.

I am in full agreement with the resource personnel who visited the Slagle Creek area, and would like to present the following recommendations.

The new park land should carry the name "Slagle Creek Environmental Demonstration Area" or the "Bristol Environmental Demonstration Area". The name "Environmental Demonstration Area" can be used to support the philosophy on which the project is based.

The philosophy should state that the purpose of the project is to fulfill the need of all citizens to understand man's relationship with the natural world and how it is a vital part of this life. Only through man's wise use of the natural resources will he be able to maintain an acceptable quality of life. By exhibiting proper environmental management techniques used by various agencies participating in the project

all of the visiting public will better understand over all environmental problems and their solutions. I feel the national concern of the quality of the environment and the efforts at all levels of government to establish nation wide environmental education justifies setting up a facility such as this. As a recreation and education area it's purpose would be twofold.

The project should be set up under a Board of Directors of 21 citizens that are responsible to the elected officials of the City. It can or can not be a part of the Park and Recreation Department. If it is not a part of the Department at least two Park Commissioners should be on the Board of Directors. One or two School Board members should also be appointed to the Board. The Park and Recreation Director, Superintendent of Schools, and the Director of Slagle Creek should serve as non-voting members of the Board.

First the Board should have the area incorporated into the City and deemed by ordinance as natural history area with full protection. A set of rules and regulations should be adopted to ensure that it will be perpetual and will not be a financial or political burden to the City.

A detailed masterplan for physical facilities should be developed before any work is started. The firm of Mr. Lamar Adams, Environmental Planning and Engineering, is a reputable planning agency with experience in this field.

The masterplan should include a paved road from Carden Hollow Road to the parking area. The road should be at least 22 feet wide in order to meet federal specifications for funding. The Jacob's Creek Job Corp can do heavy construction at no cost to the city for manpower and machines.

The location of the road should be determined by the masterplan. The plan should call for either a two-lane road into a paved parking area near the visitor's center or a one-lane road with a tram system. An electric powered tram system would be most desirable in that it pollutes less and requires less area for a road. Whether a tram or a drive in system is used, visitors should not be able to see the visitor's center from the vehicular departure point. A paved guided nature trail should serve as access to the visitors center. The paved trail should be wide enough to allow deliveries (only at specific hours), or motorized access for handicapped persons.

The visitor's center building will be the major item in the construction budget. Funds will determine size & scope. It should be of native sand stone, wood, and tinted glass in order to blend with the surroundings. The standard center usually consists of a lobby, natural history sales counter, exhibit area, auditorium, classroom, laboratory, and darkroom. Electrical service for the center and the other supporting physical facilities should be underground.

Supporting facilities should include an amphitheater, pond, ranger-caretaker's resident (near the gatehouse), naturalist work area for keeping live specimens, a maintenance area, and a complete sign system. An extensive trail system would greatly enhance the physical facilities, although certain portions should be without trails to provide undisturbed wildlife areas.

The Board of Directors should be careful not to substitute physical facilities for programming. The programs will determine the success or failure of the project and should be planned to meet the needs and interest of the public. Programs should be centered around the "Environmental demonstration" theme. In this, federal, state, and local agencies will set up demonstrations on various parcels of land and interpret what they

are doing. An example of this would be wildlife management food plot set up by the Tennessee Game and Fish Commission or a one acre clear cut set up and interpreted by the Forest Service to show quality management of the environment. Programming would also utilize the exhibits in the lobby.

Program content should always be set up to show the relationship of man to the natural world. Since the programs should cater to all ages, content will have to be greatly varied. Some examples of types of programs that can be presented in the amphitheater, classroom, and auditorium are lectures, slide presentations, films, and demonstrations. The primary emphasis should be placed on outdoor learning experience. For the average visitor this would probably be a guided trail walk led by a naturalist. For students, who will make up a majority of the visitors, there should be loosely structured classes in which they use the discovery method by inquiry or investigation. These classes should be teacher-student orientated and have a minimum of naturalist participation. Teachers can be trained to handle their own classes through in-service classes. This can be accomplished by having the teachers go through the same programs that the students will go through. The best type of guidelines for student oriented programs are task sheets. By employing this type of program a minimum of naturalist staffing is required and therefore the cost of operation is cut.

All staff should be kept to a minimum in order to reflect as low an operating budget as possible. The staff should consist of a naturalist-director, naturalist (certified-teacher), secretary, custodian, ranger care-taker, and a small maintenance staff. In order not to pay a full

time salary for an exhibit preparator, exhibits should be contracted and most should be purchased when the center is built. Office of Economic Opportunity, Emergency Employment Act, and volunteer personnel should be utilized to cut operation cost.

The funds for development can be obtained from the Bureau of Outdoor Recreation (50%); Appalachian Regional Commission (10%); and Contributions, City funds, and revenue producing bonds (40%). The project cost can range from \$250,000 - \$750,000 depending on the scope. Title funds through the school system can provide a variety of educational equipment. Funds for programming can partially be provided through the Environmental Education Act. Federal and State Agencies should also be able to make contributions for demonstration projects and other educational programs.

Funds should be sought through the Land and Water Conservation Fund (Bureau of Outdoor Recreation) for the purchase of the Snow property. If funds could be made available it would enhance the project greatly to purchase all land from the southwest boundary of the Slagle Creek area to Carden Hollow Road. This purchase would make the total area about 1400 acres.

A project of this size & scope would be a great asset to the citizens of Bristol, Tennessee and especially to the students of the City school system. As Bristol grows in population and land area, a sizable tract of undisturbed forest land for a peaceful Sunday afternoon hike and a half day excursion for a fourth grade science class will be hard to find unless the City takes steps to preserve the Slagle Creek Watershed.

The project can not be expected to be a revenue producing facility. It will only render long term educational and recreational rewards for the citizens of Bristol.

Address List

Show Property Owner

Mr. Clarence Snow
9th Street
Bristol, Tennessee

Resource People

Mr. Robert Lusk, Supervisor
(William W. Martin's supervisor)
Cherokee National Forest
P.O. Box 400
Cleveland, Tennessee 37311

Mr. Granville B. Liles, Superintendent
(Joe Beer's Supervisor)
Blue Ridge Parkway (National Park Serv.)
P.O. Box 7606

Jonathan Went, Education Relations Off.
Tennessee Valley Authority
New Sprinkle Building
300 FH
Knoxville, Tennessee 37902

Gary W. Mullins, Graduate Student
Department of Recreation & Parks
Texas A. & M. University
College Station, Texas

Master Planning Agency

Environmental Planning & Engineering
245 W. Wieuca Road N.E.
Suite 104
Atlanta, Georgia 30342
Attention: W. Lamar Adams, Jr.

Exhibits

Education Research Group
P. O. Box 2190
Aspen, Colorado

Phillip Lightner, Exhibit Preparator
Springs Road
Kingsport, Tennessee

Mr. Dan Rymer, Exhibit Preparator
Maryland National Capitol Park
Derwood, Maryland

Resource People

Mr. H.C. Green
Soil Conservation Service
Blountville, Tennessee

Mr. D.W. Lambert, Game Biologist
Tennessee Game & Fish Commission
Knob Creek Road
Johnson City, Tennessee

Dr. T.P. Coperland, Chairman, or
Dr. Frank Barclay, Professor of
Botany

Department of Biology
East Tennessee State University
Johnson City, Tennessee

Mr. Wallace Coffey, Outdoor Writer
Bristol Newspaper
Bristol, Virginia

Director
Planning and Development Division
Department of Conservation
Nashville, Tenn. 37203

Sign System

Edith Shedd & Associates, Inc.
Route 2 Box 61 A1
Monroe, Georgia 30655

Sources of Funds

Bureau of Outdoor Recreation
U. S. Department of Interior
Washington, D. C.

Appalachian Regional Commission
1666 Connecticut Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D. C.

Submitted by:

Gary W. Mullins

Gary W. Mullins
Program Director
Bristol Tennessee Park and Recreation Department

Crow

Work Record

14 Oct. — 20 Nov. 1981

14 Oct.

Ten Hemlocks to be transplanted near the playground equipment by the Junior League trail were located and tagged.

15 Oct.

The Hemlocks marked on 14 Oct. were transplanted as planned.

16 Oct.

Plans were made to walk the boundary of the Slagle Creek State Natural Area. The purpose of the project was to observe any possible encroachment and also to post signs prohibiting motorised vehicles and firearms. Materials were purchased and work began.

19 Oct.

Boundary project continued.

20 Oct. Boundary project completed.

21 Oct.

A map of the Junior League trail was planned and work on it initiated. Major concerns of the map are distances, land marks and specimen identification.

22 Oct.

Work on the retaining wall for the bank along Steele Creek opposite shelter "B" was planned and begun. Some stones were brought to the area and a base for foundation rocks prepared.

23 Oct.

The entire day was spent moving stones from along the road cut next to the lake to the retaining wall location.

26 Oct.

Foundation stones for the retaining wall were put in place.

27 Oct.

The day was equally divided between mortaring stone into the retaining wall and moving stones to the wall area from the road cut along the lake.

28 Oct.

All day spent mortaring rocks into the retaining wall.

29 Oct.

Entire day spent moving rocks to the retaining wall area.

30 Oct.

Went to several businesses in the area to price ^{fixtures} ~~equipment~~ for restrooms for disabled persons.

2 Nov.

Work on the retaining wall opposite shelter "B" completed.

3 Nov.

A small water fall and channel made of native stone and mortar was planned for the spring near shelter "A". Stone for the project ^{was} ~~were~~ also moved to the site.

4 Nov.

The entire day was spent ~~prepa~~ planning, preparing and leading a one and one-half hour hike for ~~a~~ a Cub Scout troop.

5 Nov.

Part of the spring channel ~~son'~~ was cleared and some foundation stones put in place.

6 Nov.

Plants to be used as stock for junior league trail plantings were priced. A Shagbark Hickory from Holston View School was transplanted to the trail near shelter "B".

9 Nov.

Stone work at the spring near shelter "A" was continued and a two hour program and hike was presented for Girl Scout Troop 123.

10 Nov.

Development of a junior league trail map was continued. The map at this date (23, Nov. 81) has not been finalized.

11 Nov.

More stone for the work at shelter "A" was moved to the site.

12 Nov.

Stone was mortared in place in the spring near shelter "A".

13 Nov.

Work continued with stone and mortar near shelter "A".

16 Nov.

Dirt fill was placed behind the retaining wall across the creek from shelter "B" and behind completed portions of the work near shelter "A".

17 Nov.

More fill work was done and additional stone laying also at the spring near shelter "A".

18 Nov.

Stone was layed and mortared at the spring near shelter "A".

19 Nov.

Stone for the project near shelter "A" was moved to the area. A group scouts organised by Doris Hester participated in a one hour hike

20 Nov.

Assisted Park ~~maintenance~~ maintenance crew with removal of dead trees and stumps.

Junior League Trail Plan

Plans for the Junior League trail include provisions that will make it a multipurpose trail which is not limited to the average park visitor or special populations. Specific plans have been made only for the presently accessible portion which runs from Steele Creek to Mill Creek.

Plans now under consideration fall into three categories which are, the map, specimen identification and specimen natural history write ups.

The Map

A map is now on the drawing board which in final form will indicate land marks, specimens and give the needed distances for the trail guide. Hopefully this map will also give the trail guide a good idea of what is on the trail and where it is located.

Specimen Identification

Specimens near the trail have been identified and are being placed on the map. All of these specimens are within sight and most within a few feet of the trail. Additionally some specimen beds will be prepared along the main trail and a loop trail may run along the north side of the main trail behind the three drainage basins. This loop may also contain several plantings. List 1 contains those specimens already present. Lists 2 and 3 give possible plantings for the main trail and loop trails respectively.

Specimen Natural History

Each specimen will have a short write up concerning its natural history. An example is shown on the next page.

List #1 * Pin?

Bitternut Hickory ✓
American Sycamore
Red Mulberry
Sugar Maple ✓
Green Ash
Yellow Buckeye ✓
American Hornbeam
Red Cedar ✓
Red Bud
Hemlock
White Oak
Black Walnut ✓
Dogwood
Shag bark Hickory

* Should be checked against flowers in spring for sure identification

List #2

Weeping Willow
Hemlock
American Holly
Native Grasses ?
Flame Azalea
Mountain Laurel
Great Rhododendron
Catawba Rhododendron

List #3

Tall Goldenrod
Various species of sunflowers
Mary Golden Aster
New England Aster
Small White Aster
Bee-balm
Black-eyed Susan
Blazing-star
Purple Bonaset
Cardinal-flower
Rough-fruited Cinquefoil
Showy Cone flower
Day-lily
Wild-Ginger
Dwarf-Crested Iris
Canada Lily
Jerusalem Artichoke

(next page)

(List #3 cont.)

Butterfly weed

Common Milkweed

Common Mullein

Rattlesnake plantain

Solomon's Seal

False Solomon's Seal

Trillium species

Canada Violet

Bird's-foot Violet

Wing stem

Christmas fern

Rattlesnake fern

B

Black Walnut
(Juglans nigra)

The Black Walnut is one of North America's most valuable trees. Both the wood and fruit are of considerable economic importance. Due to the great value of the wood large trees have almost been extirpated in some regions.

"The leaf of the Black Walnut is a compound leaf. Each individual part of the foliage that appears to be a leaf is actually a leaflet and is one of 7-17 other narrow toothed leaflets which are attached to the leafstalk. The leafstalk, which is not woody, is attached to a branch as is any other leaf. When leaves fall in autumn the leaflets and leafstalk fall together. The entire leaf is 12"-24" in length. The tree usually reaches a height of 70'-100' and a diameter of 2'-4'.

Black Walnut develops best on deep, well-drained soils, especially well-drained bottomlands and coves in the Appalachians.

Black Walnut wood is heavy, hard and stiff with good shock resistance. The heartwood is one of the most durable and beautiful ~~when finished~~ of any hardwood and when finished is chocolate brown or darker, sometimes with purplish streaks. Most of its wood is used for furniture of the highest quality either as solid wood or as a veneer. The wood is also particularly well suited to gunstocks because of its stability after seasoning, its fine machining qualities, its uniformity of texture and its beauty. In Colonial times it became popular as an imitation of the more expensive imported mahogany.

Black Walnut bark is used in tanning and a yellow-brown dye can be made from nut husks as anyone who has very

(next page)

many husks can tell you. Squirrels and mice utilize the nuts as do humans. Deer may eat the twigs. Husks were once used to stupefy and kill fish to make their capture easier but this is now illegal.

Sugar Maple
(Acer saccharum)

The Sugar Maple is the primary species of maple from which maple syrup and maple sugar is obtained which accounts for its name. The sugar content varies from species to species and even from tree to tree but all maples produce excellent sugar.

Sugar Maple is a large tree with a dark brown trunk bark marked with rough vertical ridges when mature. The bark of younger individuals is rather smooth. Tree height ranges from 40'-60' and diameter from 1'-2'. More mature trees will grow considerably larger.

The distinctive leaves are 2"-10" in length and five-lobed lobed with moderately deep notches between lobes.

Sugar Maple seeds are an important food for many birds and mammals. The leaves and twigs are frequently browsed by White-tailed Deer.

Besides being an important shade and ornamental tree Sugar Maples primary economic importance is its wood. The wood is heavy and strong and has a high resistance to shock. Although usually straight grained, ~~maple~~ the wood occasionally has curly, wavy or "birds-eye" grain. ~~A~~ Sugar Maple wood is similar to most other maple species. Maple wood is used principally for lumber, distilled products, veneer, crossties and pulpwood. The wood is distilled to make acetic acid and wood ~~also~~ alcohol. Maple lumber is especially suited for bowling alleys and dance floors. In addition to the above mentioned uses 32 gallons of sap may be boiled down to 1 gallon of syrup or 8 pounds of sugar. Individuals are being sought with the highest possible sugar content, to use in tree-breeding programs for the production of high-yielding sugar orchards.