

June 10, 1943 #1

Took the Vertebrate Zoology class consisting of Sam Wright, Bill Webster, Judy Chapman and Alice Mary White on a collecting trip through the Juncos Mountains. We left Albuquerque at 5:40 AM and went to Cuba via the Rio Salado and Rio Puerco valley and returned via Juncos Springs. The morning was threatening rain, midday was partly cloudy and from about 6 PM on until 1 AM rain. Total mileage 215 miles.

Juncos Creek was dry below San Ysidro. The Rio Salado was flowing ^{four miles above San Ysidro} but seemed devoid of fish. I walked along for 300 yards without any sign of fish. May be dry in very hot weather but probably does not because of the salt springs opening along the valley. Apparently is subject to great fluctuation.

Rio Puerco arroyo was dry up to about 8 miles (by road) above La Ventana. Very little water was present at this point. No fish could be seen.

A rattlesnake was found coiled in a shallow depression about large enough for the snake four miles above San Ysidro. It was rather conspicuous in one sense. The soil was red clay, the snake was as green as any rattler that I have ever seen. Yet Judy Chapman almost stepped on it before she saw it.

June 10, 1943 #2

Collected a bull snake from the road about seven miles south of Cuba.

Senorita Creek about 8 miles east of Cuba was small. It seemed to be without fish. Several good pools had none in. Not seined. Collected a red-naped sapsucker here.

Saw a porcupine at a small pond 3 miles further east. It climbed a pine when disturbed on the ground. Collected a Rana pipiens here. Elev. 8140 (Paulsen altimeter reading).

WJK43-06-10-01
Seined the Rito Pesa where it first crosses the road east of Cuba. Altitude 8220. Width up to ten feet, mostly shallow. Some riffles 2-3 feet wide 2-3 inches deep. This feature gives a better idea of the real size than the preceding. Current moderate, Water Clear white. Air 63° Water 59° at 1:55 PM Mountain War Time. Weather Partly cloudy. Pools and riffles about equal in length. Pools small, fair in quality. Bottom boulders and sand, some gravel. Vegetation sparse, filamentous algae. Shade fairly heavy. Fish food poor, mostly mayflies. Appears to be limiting factor for producing more fish. Watershed mountains covered with yellow pine and spruce and aspen. Stream appears normal in height, the gradient is moderate, fluctuations appear to be relatively slight. No barriers or diversions observed. One female cut-throat was ripe. All fish saved.

June 10, 1973 #3

WJK43-06-10-02

Searched the Rio de las Vacas just above its junction with the Rio Pasa. Elev. 8210. Width average about 10 feet depth four inches. up to 20 feet wide, shallow trough least. Current moderately strong. Water, clear white. Air 65° Water 59.5 at 2:40 PM. Partly cloudy to overcast. Pools infrequent small, shallow. Shelter fair - boulders. Bottom mostly boulders and sand. Shade moderately dense. Vegetation sparse - filamentous algae. Food poor, ^(probably limiting) largely mayflies. Watershed: montanians with spruce, pine and aspen. Stream normal in height, apparently with relatively little fluctuation. Gradient moderately steep - steeper than La Pasa. Volume - all water can pass through a ~~one~~ space ⁴/₈ feet wide and 6 inches deep with a moderately strong current. All fish scored. ♂ & ♀ cut-throats ripe. Photo.

WJK43-06-10-03

Searched Rock Creek near mouth. Elev. 8210. Average width 5 feet, extremes 4 feet - 10 feet. Depth two inches to ten inches, average 4-5. Current moderate - ~~at~~ moderately strong. Water, clear white. Air 70° W 63° at 3:25 PM. Overcast. Pools predominate ~~over~~ over riffles. Shelter poor fish poor - mostly from eroding banks. ^{Bottom gravel and silt.} Food poor. Stream in mountain valley with wooded slopes and grassy bottom. Stream about normal in size, apparently subject to great fluctuation. Eroding banks badly. Small dams may aid considerably. Gradient slight. No barriers or diversions seen. Fish more numerous, especially small ones than in previous streams. Many eluded capture. All captured, scored. Stream small, may get warm because of lack of shade. Photo.