

APPENDIX E

THE FAUNAL REMAINS FROM THE AKE SITE

Arthur H. Harris, Ph.D.
Linda S.W. Porter

Laboratory for Environmental Biology,
University of Texas at El Paso

Several thousand tooth and bone elements were examined from LA 13423. Most were greatly fragmented and thus unidentifiable other than to taxonomic class and general size category. A summary of taxa identified is given in Table E1, occurrence by stratigraphic level in Table E2, and the stratigraphic levels in which each identified group occurs in Table E3. Horizontal distribution is shown in Table E4.

The identified fauna include both ancient and modern material. In some cases, material obviously is recent--for example, the only identification of coyote (Canis latrans) is based on a fecal sample that is obviously modern. In most cases, however, there is little internal evidence of age. Most often, we can only assess the possibility of each taxon being intrusive by a consideration of habit and present ecology.

Some animals are, because of their lifestyles, liable to intrude into older sediments. These are the burrowers and users of burrows, and include snakes, spadefoot toads (Scaphiopus), cottontails (Sylvilagus), ground squirrels (Spermophilus), prairie dogs (Cynomys), pocket gophers (Thomomys), and kangaroo rats (Dipodomys).

Snakes are represented by a single vertebra unidentifiable to lower category. Many species burrow and other may regularly utilize rodent burrows for shelter or hunting.

Spadefoot toads regularly burrow into soft substrata for hibernation during the cold season and to prevent dessication during dry, hot

weather. The western spadefoot (Scaphiopus hammondi) is identified from the surface and may be represented from the 120-135 cm stratum; this species occurs in the general area now.

Cottontails (Sylvilagus) utilize burrows for protection and may be intrusive. One species or another utilizes almost every Southwestern habitat available today and in the past.

Ground squirrels (Spermophilus) regularly construct burrow systems and thus their remains commonly occur in older sediments. The single occurrence (110-120 cm) most likely represents either the 13-lined ground squirrel (S. tridecemlineatus) or the golden-mantled ground squirrel (S. lateralis). The former occurs now on the San Agustin Plains and the latter to the south and southwest in the Black Range and the Mogollon Mountain Complex.

The prairie dog (Cynomys) specimens are too fragmentary for specific identification. Gunnison's prairie dog (C. gunnisoni) occurs throughout the area today (Findley, et al. 1975) and likely did also during the late and early post-Pleistocene (Harris and Findley 1964). A concentration of elements in the 130-140 cm level is interpreted as intrusive; these are probably the remains of one or two individual from an old burrow system. Nothing indicates the age of the other elements recovered.

Botta's pocket gopher (Thomomys bottae) occurs near the site today; although difficult to tell from the more northern T. talpoides on the basis of the elements recovered, the most diagnostic elements seem to indicate the present species. Pocket gophers are highly fossorial and commonly occur in older sediments.

Kangaroo rats (Dipodomys) spend much of their time in burrows. Both Ord's kangaroo rat (D. ordii) and the bannertailed kangaroo rat (D. spectabilis) now occur on the San Agustin Plains. The condition of some elements, particularly those of D. spectabilis, suggests they are intrusive; other elements give no clue regarding age.

The remaining faunal elements would not be expected to be intrusive because of burrow utilization (a possible exception is the bone tentatively identified as bird; however, the identification even at that level is too speculative to follow further).

Snails of the genus Succinea are widespread and common in the Southwest in terrestrial habitats; they also occur in aquatic situations.

Jack rabbit remains occurred on the surface and in the 90-100 cm level. The latter occurrence consisted of the well preserved hind portion of a skull. The excellent preservation leads to the suspicion that the material was intrusive; the species appears to be the same as that common in the area today (Lepus californicus).

The muskrat (Ondatra zibethicus), represented only by an innominate, almost certainly is not modern. Muskrats are indicative of permanent water with good growths of emergent vegetation. The nearest historic records are from the Rio Grande to the east and from the Upper Tularosa River, Catron Co. (Findley et al. 1975).

The grazing animals are represented only by small fragments of bone and teeth (excepting one obviously modern scapula from the surface). Most of the material indicates a large artiodactyl; on the basis of probable age, these are identified as representing bison (Bison sp.). The material is not separable morphologically from that of cattle (Bos sp.). Probably most or all of the "large mammal" identifications also pertain to this taxon. Particularly striking is the very high proportion of tooth enamel fragments relative to all other remains of this size class; assuming equal likelihood of preservation, little of the skeleton could have been present relative to the number of teeth.

A few elements from the surface seem to indicate the presence of a smaller artiodactyl, possibly pronghorn or domestic sheep/goat. None such material is identifiable even to family, however.

A few small tooth fragments (120-135 cm level) are tentatively identified as horse (Equus sp.). Extinction of native horses generally is considered to antedate the Folsom hunters. If so, and the identification is correct, the choices are intrusion from older deposits or from historic times; both are possibilities. Even if the material is aged correctly, we would hesitate to state the presence of horse on such fragmentary material in a critical case.

In summary, a large portion of the identified fauna consists of burrowing forms whose association with Folsom material is suspect. This portion of the fauna occurs now in the area and, although most members also may have been present in Folsom times, this cannot be demonstrated. In addition, one non-burrowing taxon (Lepus) indicated by its preservation that it probably is intrusive. Fairly certainly associated with the Folsom material are the snail, muskrat, and bison. Horse could be associated.

Table E1. Taxa Identified from La 13423

Scientific Name	Common Name
<u>Succinea</u> sp.	Snail
<u>Scaphiopus hammondi</u>	Western Spadefoot Toad
Serpentes	Snake
? Aves	? Bird
<u>Sylvilagus</u> sp.	Cottontail
<u>Lepus</u> sp.	Jack Rabbit
<u>Lepus</u> cf. <u>californicus</u>	Jack Rabbit, cf. Black-tailed
<u>Spermophilus tridecemlineatus</u> or <u>S. lateralis</u>	13-lined Ground Squirrel or Golden-mantled Ground Squirrel
<u>Cynomys</u> sp.	Prairie dog
<u>Thomomys</u> cf. <u>bottae</u>	Pocket Gopher, cf. Botta's
<u>Dipodomys</u> cf. <u>ordii</u>	Kangaroo Rat, cf. Ord's
<u>Dipodomys spectabilis</u>	Banner-tailed Kangaroo Rat
<u>Ondatra zibethicus</u>	Muskrat
Cf. <u>Canis latrans</u>	Cf. Coyote
Artiodactyla, small or medium	Small or Medium Artiodactyl
<u>Bison</u> and/or <u>Bos</u>	Bison and/or Cattle
<u>Bison</u> sp.	Bison
Cf. <u>Equus</u>	Cf. Horse

Table E2. Summary of Fauna from LA 13423 by
Stratigraphic Level.

Level	Taxa
Surface	<u>Succinea</u> sp. <u>Scaphiopus hammondi</u> ? Aves <u>Sylvilagus</u> sp. <u>Lepus</u> sp. <u>Cynomys</u> sp. <u>Thomomys</u> cf. <u>bottae</u> <u>Dipodomys</u> cf. <u>ordii</u> <u>Dipodomys spectabilis</u> Cf. <u>Canis latrans</u> Artiodactyla, cf. small or medium <u>Bison</u> and/or <u>Bos</u>
30-40 cm	Mammalia, large
40-50 cm	Mammalia, large
50-60 cm	Mammalia, large
60-70 cm	Mammalia, large
70-80 cm	Cf. <u>Bison</u>
80-90 cm	Mammalia, large <u>Cynomys</u> sp.
90-100 cm	<u>Lepus</u> cf. <u>californicus</u> <u>Ondatra zibethicus</u> Artiodactyla, medium or large
100-110 cm	<u>Thomomys</u> cf. <u>bottae</u> Artiodactyla, cf. large
100-120 cm	<u>Succinea</u> sp.
110-120 cm	<u>Spermophilus tridecemlineatus</u> or <u>S. lateralis</u> <u>Bison</u> sp.
120 cm	<u>Dipodomys spectabilis</u>

Harris and Porter, Table E2, p 2

120-130 cm	Rodentia <u>Bison</u> sp.
120-135 cm	? <u>Scaphiopus</u> Cf. <u>Cynomys</u> Cf. <u>Equus</u>
130 cm	<u>Dipodomys spectabilis</u>
130-140 cm	<u>Sylvilagus</u> sp. <u>Cynomys</u> sp. <u>Dipodomys</u> cf. <u>ordii</u> <u>Bison</u> sp.
140-150 cm	Mammalia, large <u>Dipodomys spectabilis</u>
150 cm	Mammalia, medium <u>Bison</u> sp.
160-170 cm	Serpentes Mammalia, medium Mammalia, large <u>Cynomys</u> sp.
197-180 cm	Mammalia, medium <u>Thomomys</u> cf. <u>bottae</u> <u>Bison</u> sp.
180-190 cm	Mammalia, medium Mammalia, large <u>Thomomys</u> cf. <u>bottae</u>
190 cm	<u>Cynomys</u> sp.
190-200 cm	Gastropoda (snail) Mammalia, medium Mammalia, large <u>Thomomys</u> cf. <u>bottae</u>
200-210 cm	Mammalia, medium Mammalia, large <u>Cynomys</u> sp.

Harris and Porter, Table E2, p 3

210-220 cm	Mammalia, large <u>Cynomys</u> sp.
210-220 cm	Mammalia, large Cf. <u>Sylvilagus</u>
220-230 cm	Mammalia, large Geomyidae (pocket gopher)
230-240 cm	<u>Cynomys</u> sp.
240 cm	Mammalia, medium
250 cm	Mammalia, medium Rodentia

Table E3. Stratigraphic Distribution of
Each Taxon from LA 13423.

Gastropoda (snails)	60-70 cm
Surface	80-90 cm
100-120 cm	140-150 cm
	160-170 cm
<u>Scaphiopus hammondi</u>	180-190 cm
Surface	190-200 cm
? <u>Scaphiopus</u>	200-210 cm
120-135 cm	210-220 cm
	220-230 cm
Serpentes	
160-170 cm	<u>Sylvilagus</u> sp.
	Surface
	130-140 cm
? Aves	210-220 cm
Surface	
Mammalia, medium	<u>Lepus</u> sp.
150 cm	Surface
180-190 cm	
190-200 cm	<u>Lepus</u> cf. <u>californicus</u>
200-210 cm	90-100 cm
240 cm	
250 cm	Rodentia
	120-130 cm
	250 cm
Mammalia, large	
34-40 cm	<u>Spermophilus tridecemlineatus</u>
40-50 cm	or <u>S. lateralis</u>
50-60 cm	110-120cm

Cynomys sp.

Surface

80-90- cm

120-135 cm

130-140 cm

160-170 cm

190 cm

200-210 cm

230-240 cm

Geomyidae (pocket gopher)

220-230 cm

Thomomys cf. bottae

Surface

100-110 cm

170-180 cm

180-190 cm

190-200 cm

Dipodomys cf. ordii

Surface

130-140 cm

Dipodomys spectabilis

Surface

120 cm

130 cm

140-150 cm

Ondatra zibethicus

90-100 cm

Cf. Canis latrans

Surface

Artiodactyla, small or medium

Surface

Artiodactyla, medium or large

90-100 cm

Artiodactyla, cf. large

100-120 cm

Bison and/or Bos

Surface

Bison sp.

70-80 cm

110-120 cm

120-130 cm

130-140 cm

150 cm

170-180 cm

Cf. Equus

120-135 cm

Table E4. Horizontal Distribution of Faunal Elements. The numerical portions of the grid designations are given for each identification category (e.g., 608/28 = SW608 NW28). Items originally recorded as "Mammalia, medium or large" have been combined with "Mammalia, large."

LEVEL	FAUNA	GRID		
SURFACE	<u>Succinea</u> sp.	608/28	666/48	728/25
		740/109	745/56	748/60
		1290/128	1292/25	
	Amphibia or Reptilia	1054/66		
	Amphibia, cf. toad	1213/102		
	<u>Scaphiopus</u> sp.	1243/82		
	<u>Scaphiopus hammondi</u>	1229/70		
	? Aves	608/28		
	Mammalia	770/44	1046/65	1209/100
		1210/101	1222/97	1290/63
		1292/25	1295/78	
	Mammalia, small	1053/64	1209/104	1215/102
		1216/104	1230/88	1233/88
		1239/115		
Mammalia, small or medium	1201/101	1201/102	1204/101	
	1212/103	1214/98	1214/99	
	1215/102	1216/103	1220/97	
Mammalia, medium	475/37	614/39	744/102	
	1051/70	1206/102	1207/100	
	1207/101	1207/104	1208/100	
	1209/101	1209/102	1212/99	
	1215/105	1222/96	1271/50	
	1277/23	1290/63	1294/98	

Table E4. p 2

LEVEL	FAUNA	GRID				
SURFACE	Mammalia, large	475/37	475/53	479/57		
		481/61	603/59	608/28		
		608/52	612/9	614/39		
		615/1	615/19	615/35		
		616/30	617/27	672/15		
		682/32	682/34	683/38		
		682/39	689/42	690/173		
		703/22	706/10	728/25		
		740/150	742/103	745/25		
		747/108	750/129	760/25		
		770/44	850/71	868/164		
		870/165	916/198	922/167		
		932/94	1002/53	1003/58		
		1005/56	1019/70	1202/901		
		1207/102	1208/101	1209/102		
		1209/103	1209/104	1210/99		
		1210/100	1211/100	1212/104		
		1212/107	1215/107	1216/99		
		1218/97	1220/96	1223/100		
		1233/88	1235/86	1237/83		
		1237/84	1238/83	1238/85		
		1238/86	1239/83	1239/84		
		1239/85	1240/83	1244/81		
		1260/16	1271/167	1273/100		
		1277/22	1278/97	1283/15		
		1290/29	1290/63	1294/87		
		1295/97	1295/98	1295/103		
		1296/96	1296/97	1296/98		
		1296/99	1296/100	1296/101		
		1296/102	1296/104	1297/96		
		1297/97	1297/98	1297/99		
		SURFACE	Mammalia, large (continued)	1297/100	1297/101	1297/105
				1298/96	1298/98	1298/99
				1298/100	1298/101	1298/102
				1298/103	1299/91	1299/92
				1299/93	1299/94	1299/95
				1299/96	1299/97	1299/98
				1299/99	1299/100	1299/101
				1299/105	1300/91	1300/92
				1300/93	1300/94	1300/95
				1300/96	1300/98	1300/99
				1300/100	1300/101	1300/103
				1301/93	1301/94	1301/95
1302/94	1302/95			1303/95		
1304/95	1305/100			1306/95		
1308/93	1308/94			1945/156		
1963/141						

Table E4. p 3

Cf. <u>Sylvilagus</u> or <u>Lepus</u>	1054/60
<u>Sylvilagus</u> sp.	645/26 1297/100
Cf. <u>Lepus</u>	398/94 1945/156
<u>Lepus</u> sp.	614/39 615/135 715/18 1052/70 1212/104 1235/87
Rodentia, small or medium	1210/101
Rodentia, medium	1209/103 1212/99 1235/87 1243/87
Sciuridae, medium	1295/54
<u>Cynomys</u> sp.	688/37 1210/102 1312/87
Geomyidae	1217/97 1222/96 1299/194
Cf. <u>Thomomys</u>	728/25 1208/100
<u>Thomomys</u> cf. <u>bottae</u>	932/94 1207/101 1210/101 1296/97 1300/91
<u>Dipodomys</u> cf. <u>ordii</u>	599/68
<u>Dipodomys</u> <u>spectabilis</u>	1229/85
Cf. <u>Canis</u> <u>latrans</u>	728/25
Artiodactyla	741/29 932/94 1211/100 1308/94
Artiodactyla, cf. small or medium	590/72

Table E4. p 4

	Artiodactyla, medium	690/184		
	Artiodactyla, medium or large	926/95	217/104	1299/104
	Artiodactyla, large	997/50	1280/152	1290/43
		1290/128		
	Bovidae, large	728/25		
	<u>Bison</u> and/or <u>Bos</u>	1240/86		
30-40 CM	Mammalia, large	1050/64	1293/97	
40-50 CM	Mammalia, large	1293/97		
50-60 CM	Mammalia, large	1293/97	1294/95	
60-70 CM	Mammalia, large	1294/97		
70=80 CM	Mammalia, large	1294/97	1305/92	1306/92
	Artiodactyla, large	1310/89		
	Cf. <u>Bison</u>	1305/89	1308/89	
80-90 CM	Mammalia, large	1293/97	1294/97	1303/94
		1304/94	1309/91	1312/91
	<u>Cynomys</u> sp.	1293/97		
90-100 CM	Mammalia, large	1299/91	1299/92	1300/91
		1304/94	1305/92	1306/93
		1307/93		
	<u>Lepus</u> cf. <u>californicus</u>	1311/9		
	<u>Ondatra</u> <u>zibethicus</u>	1304/94		
	Artiodactyla, medium or large	1294/97	1295/97	
100-110 CM	Mammalia, large	1295/97	1296/97	1301/93
		1302/94	1305/92	1305/95
		1306/92	1306/93	1307/91
		1307/93	1307/94	

Table E4. p 5

	<u>Thomomys cf. bottae</u>	1296/97		
	Artiodactyla, medium or large	1313/89		
	Artiodactyla, large	1305/89		
100-120 CM	<u>Succinea sp.</u>	1293/9		
105/120 CM	Artiodactyla, large	1294/97		
110-120 CM	Mammalia, large	1242/83	1297/97	1300/91
		1300/93	1301/91	1301/92
		1301/93	1302/91	1302/92
		1302/93	1302/94	1303/92
		1303/94	1304/91	1304/92
		1304/93	1304/95	1305/91
		1305/92	1305/94	1305/95
		1306/91	1306/93	1306/94
		1307/91	1307/93	1307/94
			1308/93	1312/88
	<u>Spermophilus tridecemlineatus</u> or <u>lateralis</u>	1304/92		
	Artiodactyla, medium or large	1229/93		
	Artiodactyla, large	1301/92	1305/89	
	<u>Bison sp.</u>	1301/91	1301/92	1302/92
		1305/94	1306/94	1312/88
120 CM	<u>Dipodomys spectabilis</u>	1228/81		
120-130 CM	Mammalia, large	1298/97	1299/92	1299/93
		1299/95	1300/93	1303/91
		1307/92	1307/93	1307/94
		1308/91	1308/92	1309/92
	Rodentia	1297/97		
	Sciuridae	1297/98		
	Artiodactyla, large	1300/91	1300/95	1301/91
		1301/93	1302/92	1303/91
		1304/92	1305/90	1305/92
		1306/91	1307/89	1307/90
		1307/94	1308/93	1308/94
		1309/93	1311/92	1312/87
		1312/88	1313/92	

Table E 4. p 6

	<u>Bison</u> sp.	1302/91	1303/91	1304/91
		1305/90	1306/89	1306/92
		1306/94	1306/95	1308/92
		1309/90	1310/92	1310/93
120-135 CM	Anura, ? <u>Scaphiopus</u>	1295/97		
	Mammalia, large	1293/97	1295/97	
	Cf. <u>Cynomys</u>	1294/97		
	Cf. <u>Equus</u>	1293/97		
120-137 CM	Artiodactyla, large	1308/90		
130 CM	Mammalia, large	1306/90		
	<u>Dipodomys spectabilis</u>	1228/81		
	<u>Bison</u> sp.	1306/90		
130-140 CM	Mammalia	1297/97		
	Mammalia, small or medium	1296/102	1298/191	1299/101
		1300/104	1314/86	
	Mammalia, large	754/98	1296/100	1296/103
		1297/99	1297/100	1298/101
		1298/105	1298/130	1299/94
		1299/96	1299/97	1299/100
		1299/101	1299/105	1300/1
		1300/93	1300/95	1300/102
		1300/104	1308/92	1312/192
		1314/87	1314/89	
	<u>Sylvilagus</u> sp.	1296/99	1299/98	
	Rodentia, medium	1296/103	1300/104	
	<u>Cynomys</u> sp.	1296/104	1297/105	
		1298/102	1299/93	
	<u>Dipodomys</u> cf. <u>ordii</u>	1226/82		
	Artiodactyla, large	1299/103	1312/90	1313/90
		3114/86	1314/87	
	<u>Bison</u> sp.	1298/100	1299/94	1309/91
		1314/90		

Table E 4. p 7

140-150 CM	Mammalia, large	1312/89		
	<u>Dipodomys spectabilis</u>	1226/82	1227/81	
150 CM	Mammalia, medium	1324/81		
	<u>Bison</u> sp.	1230/84		
160 CM	Serpentes	1226/88		
160-170 CM	Mammalia, medium	1237/115		
	Mammalia, large	1224/83	1237/113	
	<u>Cynomys</u> sp.	1237/113		
160-190 CM	Mammalia, large	1234/84		
170-180 CM	Mammalia, medium	1229/89		
	Mammalia, large	1231/84	1231/90	
	<u>Thomomys</u> cf. <u>bottae</u>	1238/114		
	<u>Bison</u> sp.	1229/89		
180-190 CM	Mammalia, medium	1227/88		
	Mammalia, large	1230/89	1235/84	
	<u>Thomomys</u> cf. <u>bottae</u>	1238/114		
190 CM	<u>Cynomys</u> sp.	1226/88		
190-200 CM	Gastropoda	1226/90		
	Mammalia, medium	1232/85	1235/90	
	Mammalia, large	1232/84	1234/84	1234/85
		1235/84		
	<u>Thomomys</u> cf. <u>bottae</u>	1226/89		
200-210 CM	Mammalia, small or medium	1232/88	1234/88	1236/90
	Mammalia, medium	1236/88		
	Mammalia, large	1232/84	1233/84	1233/88
		1234/83	1234/84	1234/87
		1235/85	1235/88	1236/85
		1236/86	1237/83	1237/84
		1238/83		

Table E 4. p 8

	<u>Cynomys</u> sp.	1238/83		
210-220 CM	Mammalia, medium	1235/87		
	Mammalia, large	1235/86	1236/83	1236/86
		1237/84	1237/85	1238/85
	<u>Cf. Sylvilagus</u>	1235/87		
220 CM	Mammalia, large	1247/37	1238/87	
220-230 CM	Mammalia, large	1243/83		
	Geomyidae	1241/83		
230-240 CM	<u>Cynomys</u> sp.	1241/85		
240 CM	Mammalia, medium	1242/87		
250 CM	Mammalia, medium	1245/87		
	Rodentia	1245/87		