

don't care for the feather. But these water crows are rare birds and these white people don't know it. And they just let them drop. So I was around the lake one day and a duck hunter killed one of them, I guess. He had him in his hand, and I come to him and he said, "You know this bird?" "Yes." I told him, "That's what we call water crow." "Well, I didn't know what it was." They have coarse feathers like steel--just like a hair brush--just stiff. And it's got a little streak across the tail feathers and wing. And this white man says, I asked him, "What you going to do with it?" "Oh, I just shot him out here." You want him?" I says, "Yeah!" And so he give it to me. I was kinda glad to get ahold of it. And there was a sub-agency there. I was employed at that sub-agency. And I was there. At the time, I was Indian police. And I coming along and some Indian--they come over there to sub-agency for some business--couple of old Indians--some old--came up there and they saw me with that bird. And--and one of them looked at it. Says, "I'll give you ten dollars for the tail feathers." well, I--want to keep them but he insisted. He said, "You better sell me them feathers. I want them. I want them. I'll give you ten dollars." So, he just keep offerin' the ten dollars to me, so I give them to him. (Laughing) Didn't have it a hour and then I got rid of it!

(Well, could you describe that bird, I mean tell me what these water crows look like?)
 Well. They're about the size of a pheasant. Did you ever see a pheasant? They just about that pheasant size. But they're black, and they got a beak something like a--they not got a duck beak, they've got a sharp beak. But it's kinda in a little bit. And they got a red streak next to the eye, coming this way. And--and the feathers--wing feathers are kinda long. They longer than ordinary crow. And they're not as wide. Crow is short and wide. These water crows are kinda pointed--pointed like a pheasant. And the tails must be about eight inches long, something like that. Well, I never noticed exactly what the feet look like, but I have seen them dive. And they can dive twenty-five to a hundred yards under water. And I've seen them dive. I've seen one lit in the water--and hit the water and went about three feet under the water and water was clear, and I could see him moving along--going under the water. Then he came out about almost hundred yards from where I was standing. He come out of the water and flew and perched on a bank on a large rock--sit down.

(Where do they live--I mean, what kind of country do they live in?)