

Koalak River, 70°11'15", 159°47'40", _____ ft., Alaska

July 16, 1951

Rained gently since 4:00 A.M. Mosquitoes unaffected by rain. High winds are the only elements that will send them to the vegetation and ground. Took reading at 8:00 A.M. (first since 8:00 A.M. yesterday) as 52° min - 82° max. F. Reading at noon 62°F. Still raining slightly and shows sign of clearing in all directions. Will check traps when it stops. *Larus hyperboreus* in river at camp. At noon checked upland trapline as follows:

1. sprung; 5. redpoll 510716-1; 19. *Calcarius lapponicus* 510716-2; 25. *Calcarius lapponicus* 510716-3; 38. *Lemmus trimucronatus* 510716-6; 42. droppings on sprung trap; 44. *Calcarius lapponicus* 510716-7; 64. *Calcarius l.* 510716-7a; 97. *Lemmus trimucronatus* 510716-8 from damp swale of *Eriophorum* hummocks, 1 foot willows sparsely placed and caught in runway; 139. *Calcarius l.* 510716-7; In the lowland trapline caught one northern phalarope 510716-10. In the lowland trapline pulled all traps and continued upland trapline to number 216 now set in dominant *Eriophorum*. Observed pectoral sandpiper bathing in water on beach at 5:00 P.M. Checked red-throated loon nest and 2 eggs of first deep observation. Loon had left nest unnoticed by us and had come up about 6 feet from where I was standing. It swam away with head turned toward me and when about 25 feet away dove again. From upland 15 minutes later could see bird in pond. This bird gave one single guttural note of surprise when first it saw me at 6 feet. There are 3 islands of about 3 square yards in area (lake) that are about 4 feet higher than the area surrounding the lake; one of them being used by the Arctic tern. These small islands have been elevated by increase fertilization and growth of plants. On beach near camp (on Koalak River) one family of semipalmated sandpipers feeding on barren seeds. One of the young flew with wind but when it attempted to return to shore was forced into water. The traps of last night were sprung by rain by 90%. Reset at 12:00 A.M. inspection and will recheck tomorrow morning. Evening without wind and skies clearing with prospects of a clear still night and constant sunlight. Will see how this affects trapping of *Lemmus*. High temp. today 70°F. At 10:00 P.M. heard 4 shots down river and later a boat driven by a 5 horse motor and 3 Eskimos appeared. At about a mile down river they approached a point of land and 2 *Cygnus columbianus* left the shoreline. One of these birds feigned