

most northern conifers at head of John Canyon and there confined mainly to river bottom. Peaks high to south but without snow. Snow more to east. There are many outstanding peaks that are worthy of mountaineering. Anderson reports colors have been in John River Canyon for last 10 days. These colors are confined mainly to canyon bottoms and on immediate sidehills. Eusebe saw 1 mountain sheep near convergence of Hunt's and John River canyons and 1 moose near lower limits of John^{R.} Canyon. Arrived Bettles at late twilight and set 50 traps along north side of runway (air plane) in timbered marsh land (west of road that leads to river).

Bettles, 66° 54', 151° 34', 671 ft., Alaska

Aug. 26, 1951

Checked trapline this A.M. and collected: 2 *Sorex tundrensis*, 6 *Clethrionomys rutilus*, 3 *Microtus oeconomus*. The *Sorex* t. were 10 feet apart and on a well established trail on surface of sphagnum moss (mat) among and under sparse growth of spruce and birch. Swallows observed on previous trip now missing having left to south sometime in last two weeks. Robert William, an Eskimo employed by Anderson reports the following:

Fifty five years ago rabbits, ptarmigan and walrus were common at Bettles (region) but are now rare.

Muskrats and beaver up John River as far as Hunt's Canyon Today 5 or 6 Caribou are seen in Bettles but 15 years ago were common.

most large mammals gone but geese & ducks still about as common as formerly.

Mink, otter, marten in Bettles area.

Porcupine less common than.

Rained all night and day. Mrs. Ralph James Anderson saw a least weasel run under the board walk in front of their home. Reports *Microtus oeconomus* in their cellar. Jones shot a Richardson grouse and tree squirrel. The grouse was in erosional bank preparing for roosting. Mr. R. J. Anderson, our pilot, has a parka made of 20 sic-see-puk or *marmota caligata*. This coat made by Eskimo and valued at \$350.00. The marmot has a commercial value of \$6.00 to \$8.00. He says that one Eskimo will spend all summer collecting 20 marmots. They do not like to hunt for them because of their difficulty of