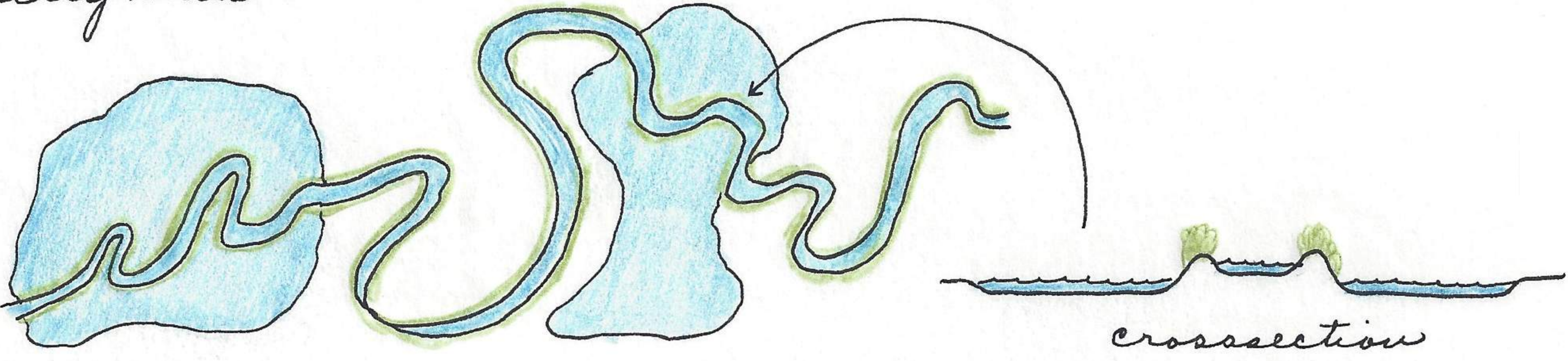


These caribou were at divide above timberline and the largest group was about 180. One grizzly bear and 2 cubs observed in this same area June 13, 1952. Enroute to Point Barrow recorded the following observations. Route, Fairbanks, Minto, Bettles, Umanat, Point Barrow. Flying over hills west of Fairbanks (8:48 A.M.) observed snow cornices on the only remaining snow cover. The higher ranges all looked like they are fairly well covered with snow. Approaching broad valley of the Tanana River (8:49 A.M.). This valley is at grade and is characterized by flood plains of old meandering rivers, or bays (lobes) by the hundreds, meandering vegetation scars and lakes of all description from young ones to old extinct ones. In many lakes the yellowish vegetation seemed to be confined mainly to the east side. Natural levees meander throughout the valley thus:



vegetation bordering but water beyond. These rivers and creeks are actually higher than the surrounding water level. This would suggest a stream that has reached base level and is actually filling in the old Pleistocene valley. at 8:52 A.M. many lake segmented from originally larger lake.



green vegetation beyond lake

at 8:55 A.M. turning north at Minto for Bettles 9:01 A.M. across few hills with snow cornices only. a few below timberline. The hills are broad and gently rolling and carved by frost action rather than by glaciation. As a result of rolling topography the slopes are character-

ized by linear lines of vegetation do to rill action of running water and soil creep. The following drawing of typical topography of the broad Tanana River Valley as seen from air.