

Denali Park
Weds July 23rd
July - ~~Thurs July 24th~~
Nature rock - 6:30

approx Animals in park
1200 moose
300400 - Dall sheep
200-300 - Bears
40-50 wolverines
1500-1800 Caribou

Took bus out of anchorage. The destination was Denali Park, 56 million square areas of wilderness land. Hence most of the park is underlain with permafrost and the growing season is so short the land has a very delicate balance. Many acres are required to support, for example, one moose or caribou so compared to the extensive land acreage in the park, the animal population is quite small.

Up until now there has been a small amount of mining in the park, but it has now ceased. So there is some private property for sale in the park.

Most of the active glaciers in the park are around Mount Denali - In the area where we took the ^{nature} tour there are only isolated spots of snow.

May is the month when all nature seems to renew in Denali. The animals have their young, the snow begins to melt, the flowers start to grow & bloom, nature comes to life. murrelet - a scavenger. - Comes only up here to breed. Breed along meadows. Often perch on spruce trees. not very many left.

Glacial effect on bears - no fish - forces them to be largely vegetarian. Therefore smaller than bears in ^{fr. West. Alaska} a full size moose will eat 60-70 lbs of food a day. Even babies eat brush.