

**Name:** Dr. David Klein  
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**Interviewer:** Karen Brewster

**Brief Summary of Interview:** In this interview with Dr. Klein, he is talking about attending graduate school at the University of Alaska Fairbanks and doing his graduate work on mountain goats. He talks about his different jobs including working with Dave Spencer and Robert Scott doing mountain sheep and moose studies/work. He also shares various stories of his time out in the field and observations he made while he was out there.

KAREN BREWSTER: So today is February 13, 2014. And this is Karen Brewster and Dave Klein continuing on our journey through Dave's life and career.

DAVID KLEIN: More or less.

KAREN BREWSTER: More or less. And we left off last time where you had been working at the Kenai Moose Range for the summer just in between undergraduate and graduate. And I just wanted to review, before we go on, your undergraduate degree is a degree in what?

DAVID KLEIN: Wildlife Management.

KAREN BREWSTER: And what kind of courses did you focus on?

DAVID KLEIN: Well, the Forestry and Wildlife Department was within the Plant Sciences College, I guess it was called. And my courses were heavy on botany, including systematic botany. Had courses in horticulture, which I had an interest in there, and, but also animal population dynamics, and physiology, animal physiology, and comparative anatomy. And I think I took a course in agronomy, as well as some forestry courses, like forest ecology. And not specifically ecology, I don't think. But -- Yeah.

KAREN BREWSTER: That sounds quite broad.

DAVID KLEIN: It was broad and also it was more basic than a lot of state universities. A lot of them were more applied courses, emphasis. But there was -- basic biology was important. Sometimes labeled as forest and ecology, and forest ecology. And there's a good reputation for the Forestry School. And I mixed -- the students were mixed, which

was good, healthy for both of us to get forest ecology and management exposure along with the wildlife.

KAREN BREWSTER: So you feel like that was a good program? You got a good education there?

DAVID KLEIN: Yeah, especially in retrospect when I realized what other schools offered. And when I was Cooperative Wildlife Unit Leader later, then I did look into in more detail, other wildlife units in different universities and how it related to their -- whether they were more of an applied versus basic biology in their academic associations.

KAREN BREWSTER: Okay. And so you graduated in the spring of 1951?

DAVID KLEIN: That's correct.

KAREN BREWSTER: Okay. And so you started here at UAF as a graduate student?

DAVID KLEIN: I came up to work on the Kenai that summer and then I started officially in the fall. I had been accepted into the program at the University of Alaska for admission, beginning course work and coming on campus in the fall of 1951, yeah.

KAREN BREWSTER: Okay. So why did you decide to come to Fairbanks for the graduate work?

DAVID KLEIN: Well, there were several reasons. One, I had applied to -- I wanted to come to a place where I could get some -- I applied for a stipend or financial support at schools where I wanted to attend. And it was either Alaska, because I had sort of fallen in love with Alaska and thought it was a great place and I figured any program here, even though it was a new one, would be a good place for me. But I didn't know what funding might be available. And then I applied at, I think it was the University of Idaho, and the University of -- I think it was Utah State University. And both of those I got sort of favorable responses. Both of those non-Alaska ones, I got favorable responses in terms of narrowing down the applications for the positions because there was a fellowship associated with those. And one was studying sage grouse population. I think that was Idaho. And the other one, seemed to me was another -- it wasn't as well defined and that might have been Utah. But it sounded acceptable, except that they weren't Alaska. And the Alaska response was, yeah, I had all these qualifications, like having experience in Alaska, and interests. And knowing what I was getting into was important. And my undergraduate record was good. So they -- the head of the Wildlife Unit then, Neil Hosley, he said, yeah, they would accept me, but they didn't have funding for that first year. That they could accept me but they just didn't have enough funding. They were a brand new unit, Wildlife Unit, and they had very limited financial support. And this was

some state money, I think, that they had available, or territorial money, I guess at the time. So I kind of -- once I got that kind of a response, I figured I would go there and find work, part-time work on campus and whatever. I figured I could do that. I had carpenter talents, and other talents. And to me, I knew the campus and I liked it even though it was a very small university. I figured it would be a good deal. And I finally did -- I wrote letters to the other two places and said I had made this decision. And I got a response from, I think, Idaho saying oh they were disappointed because they were narrowing it down and I was one of the finalists for the other -- No, I think that was the sage grouse study. And all I could say is that it gave me some feeling of confidence that I had -- my qualifications were pretty good to get -- the possibility of getting that far along with the other one.

KAREN BREWSTER: Yeah.

DAVID KLEIN: But there was no comparison once it was Alaska. I made up my mind and that was it.

KAREN BREWSTER: Yeah, well you'd been to Fairbanks already, so you knew you liked it here.

DAVID KLEIN: Yeah, definitely. And I'd seen a little bit of Alaska. I got into the Brooks Range and I was already hooked on -- especially mountain ecology, and mountain ungulates, definitely. Mountain sheep, mountain goats. But anything that was related to large mammals then. Herbivores. And part of my training in botany was I was interested in the plant/animal relationships of these animals and how they could exist in the mountains, for example, and the Arctic and Sub-Arctic and dependent upon vegetation and a short growing season. That interest was there, but it had to grow more before I finally got into it.

KAREN BREWSTER: Well, I was gonna say, what about those Arctic ungulates and herbivores? What got you excited about them?

DAVID KLEIN: About the what?

KAREN BREWSTER: About the ungulates and the herbivores, why those species? Why did they excite you?

DAVID KLEIN: I think because they're a charismatic species for one thing. But I had enough of this understanding that there was a relationship between plant/animals. Herbivores and their food supply. I think that came from my training -- experience, farm experience. Farm work and animals. Working with dairy animals. And realizing that food is what is driving all of the productivity of these animals. Especially dairy animals where, you know, the dairy products and everything were -- and that's related to

reproduction. And so it wasn't -- it's easier to translate that into the wild with members of the deer family, for example, or the cattle group. And plus back in New England, yeah, deer were very scarce when I worked in the state forest in Connecticut. It was closed to hunting. There was some poaching going on, but the deer were very wary, scarce. I'd see their tracks, and occasionally I'd see one, but they were extremely wary. And I knew that where I'd grown up as a boy in Vermont that, yeah, as you went north there were more deer there, and deer hunting was popular there in those areas. But I was interested. And I -- you learn a lot about -- from my grandfather on the farm about deer coming and eating apples and stuff. And yeah, the deer were hunted and locals would hunt them. But they were also farmers usually and that was a sort of supplemental to their -- they didn't have to kill one of their meat-producing animals.

KAREN BREWSTER: So you say the farmers would hunt deer so they didn't have to kill one of their cattle, is that what you mean?

DAVID KLEIN: Yeah, I think it was generally true of farmers that they would hunt. And sometimes deer might be damaging crops. And so they would rationalize. They would shoot them for that purpose. But also they saw them as meat that's produced on the land, some of their own land, but they had to comply with the state regulations.

KAREN BREWSTER: Right.

DAVID KLEIN: So in North America, at least at that time, wildlife belonged to the state or the people via the state, and even the landowner would get sometimes priority for hunting, but they had to comply with harvest regulations. In contrast to Europe, for example.

KAREN BREWSTER: So why were there more deer in Vermont than in Connecticut?

DAVID KLEIN: Because there were less -- it was less intensively developed by humans. Connecticut had gone through the agriculture era and become more industrialized and more large-scale agriculture. Whereas Vermont, it was more small-scale agriculture and lower density of humans, and a lot more forested land that existed there still.

KAREN BREWSTER: Okay. So when you came to UAF in 1951, how long had the Wildlife Management Program been going on?

DAVID KLEIN: One year.

KAREN BREWSTER: Oh.

DAVID KLEIN: They started in 1950, the Wildlife Unit. And then the university also agreed in a cooperative agreement that allowed for the establishment of the Wildlife Unit where it was the university had to come up with the office and secretarial support --

office space and secretarial support. And then the Fish and Wildlife Service provided the salary for the Unit Leader, and then the State Department of Fish and Game provided a stipend contribution for support of graduate student stipends. So that -- I'm not sure what it was initially, it was just a few thousand, like maybe fifteen or twenty thousand maybe. Maybe twenty-five thousand by the state. And that was federal aid in wildlife restoration funds, the Pittman-Robertson funds. It was a territory then, that's true, it was a territory then. But they still qualified for those funds.

KAREN BREWSTER: So Pittman-Robertson funds.

DAVID KLEIN: Yeah, Wildlife and -- Conservation and Restoration was the official name of the legislation. And Pittman-Robertson were the names of the two Congressional members that sponsored it.

KAREN BREWSTER: And that was money to help the --

DAVID KLEIN: That was firearms and ammunition, primarily, tax on firearms and ammunition.

KAREN BREWSTER: And the money had to be used for what purpose?

DAVID KLEIN: Well, coming to the university, it had to be used by the Department of - - by the Game Division of the state, or territory in that case, to support graduate training in -- to be wildlife managers. So the thesis projects were supported. And the thesis projects were frequently research related to basic understanding of Alaska's wildlife species. It was a pretty basic understanding of ecology and productivity of wildlife species.

KAREN BREWSTER: So was the field of Wildlife Management already fairly well established in this country?

DAVID KLEIN: Yeah, it was. You could say that Aldo Leopold was sort of the father of wildlife management. He published the first book on wildlife management called Game Management. And that was in the early 1940's, I think, that that was published. But he had developed his understanding of wildlife ecology and the relationship of land use practices. So his focus was primarily wise land use practices and then stimulated by the mistakes made during the rush to develop the west where they had the Dust Bowl. They didn't know about cover crops, and didn't know contour planting. And in the southwest, they didn't -- then he began to run into the wildlife management issues where predator control was stimulated by the fact that farmers didn't want the predators around to kill the livestock. But they also rationalized that there would be more wildlife to hunt if they reduced the predators. And then they were major problems. Some of them were competition for grazing and lands in the forests -- in the National Forests and wildlife.

And the predators were the big losers, but also so were the farmers and the wildlife species, the herbivores, because this led to overgrazing and then the blames were put on the hunters for a while and then on predation and the lack of predation. And he began to see the role of predators in the ecology, especially in forest lands. And then he became sort of an activist in trying to educate the public, and working with local people who were mainly hunters. They were hunters, not necessarily mainly hunters, they were hunters but they also had other jobs. Some of them were business men, some of the others were people working for the federal government or new state government.

KAREN BREWSTER: So in your undergraduate education, were you exposed to these concepts that Aldo Leopold had been writing about?

DAVID KLEIN: Yeah, we used his book, Game Management, as a textbook. And the people in my undergraduate work, my wildlife professor Franklin McKamey was trained on the era of when Aldo Leopold was also a professor at the University of Wisconsin. And so there was a connection, and he was -- it was an era when the conservation and wise use of resources was receiving a lot of attention from mistakes made, and especially poor land use practices. Especially in the eastern prairies where erosion with -- water erosion was an important factor if there were poor practices. And grazing all of the riparian vegetation on streams by cattle because they let the cattle have access to the stream and you didn't have to water them. But they also ate up the aquatic vegetation. Stayed around the water hole if it was real dry conditions, and gradually had destroyed the rich wildlife habitat that was unique to riparian areas, which was important for deer as well as smaller wildlife.

KAREN BREWSTER: Yeah, they destroyed those banks, all those cattle. Terrible bank erosion.

DAVID KLEIN: Yeah, bank erosion, but also in the more level ground along streams when you'd get -- if you didn't have a good cover crop and you got fall rains, you'd get erosion in the fields and cutting channels down to the streams. And so you'd get big channels and the main thing was a washing away the high quality soil. That prairie soils would be washed away in the Dust Bowl. It was probably blown away. And those dust storms in the 30's were tremendous. It would be dark all the way back into the eastern U.S. from the dust in the air that was leaving. And the amount of soil that was blown away was overwhelming. And it was the most nutritious topsoil.

KAREN BREWSTER: Yeah. Okay, so you come to Fairbanks. Even though they don't have any money for you, you come here anyways as a graduate student.

DAVID KLEIN: Right.

KAREN BREWSTER: And did you have a project in mind that you wanted to work on?

DAVID KLEIN: Yeah, well from my experience in Kenai, I got exposure to the work that was being done by the territorial government on the various wildlife species. The moose -- There were people based in Anchorage mainly that were working with moose and some were working with the mountain sheep. The fellow that was -- They had other responsibilities working with the Fish and Wildlife Service, related to wildlife management, but they were doing their own -- They tended to partition out research activities and interests to these senior -- their only biologists they had at the time. And those -- Like, one would be responsible for moose work throughout Alaska.

KAREN BREWSTER: Wow.

DAVID KLEIN: And another one would be responsible for caribou. Another one for mountain sheep. The species that were important to sport hunting.

KAREN BREWSTER: Well, I remember you mentioned in the work in the Kenai Refuge, you were doing some mountain sheep work and working with a particular biologist.

DAVID KLEIN: Yeah, that was Robert Scott or Bob Scott. He had a master's degree from Oregon State in wildlife management. And he was doing a study on -- sort of state-wide. He worked in the Tanana Hills on mountain sheep, the White Mountains, as well as the Alaska Range, and then the Talkeetnas, Chugach, and Kenai. So he was the mountain sheep person. And he -- so I was sort of responsible to him when I was working on mountain sheep in the mountains. But I was involved in some of the moose work, including trying controlled burns to improve moose habitat.

KAREN BREWSTER: Oh, that's right.

DAVID KLEIN: And was familiar with the moose habitat work that was there. And other wildlife activities, there was a lot of focus on waterfowl but that was so widespread in the state. That's where Dave Spencer, the Refuge Manager at the Kenai -- he was responsible for flying waterfowl breeding pair counts in the spring and they were starting to do banding at different places. And he had a lot of responsibility there, as well as some of the other biologists that joined with him on that based out of Anchorage. Fairbanks was the focal point for working with caribou mostly, but it was some of both. And then there were these other species that required their attention. But ironically, the bison in the Delta area, they were introduced species, but because they were agricultural interests plus military base and potential problems of these bison wandering around. One of the problems, I remember was [a bison] falling into a basement of someone who was building a cabin. And it took the military and others' help before they could get this bison out.

KAREN BREWSTER: Well, it's interesting how you say in that time period that one biologist would take a species and cover the whole state. And now they have very small areas. You know, you've got lots of caribou biologists all over the state, or lots of moose biologists. They don't cover the whole state with one person.

DAVID KLEIN: It was a combination of the fact that they didn't have that many people employed and it made sense if they're going to be studying a given species they would have the responsibility -- they might be able to hire a summer field assistants or technicians or later on additional biologists. But one would -- one more senior biologist would then remain doing this. And this had some effect on the Cooperative Wildlife Unit in that at that time it was like I would have been happy to work with mountain sheep for my master's thesis because that's -- I was doing some of that. But it was like, well that's under the control of the -- and the research would be under the control of the biologist in charge of that, Robert Scott. Whereas the other mountain ungulate that was being -- wasn't getting attention on the Kenai where I was, or anyway else in Alaska, was the mountain goat. And so that was okay for me to do a master's project on something like that, even though my advisor was a professor -- had been hired as a professor, the first wildlife professor for the university at the time the Wildlife Unit was established and when the Director -- You know, Hosley was asked to be the Dean of the University. He took that position and then the -- John Buckley who had been hired originally from New York State. And he took over as the Wildlife Unit Leader, and so he was my major advisor. And his interest area -- his own research interest for the Unit was primarily the waterfowl and fur-bearer management, which were important issues and they didn't have -- You know, that could be partitioned out to different thesis projects. And it made sense. Plus a major study area was the Minto Flats, which was so close to Fairbanks, the logistic costs of getting students out there and having working area made good sense. But it didn't make good sense from the standpoint of my interest in alpine ungulates. And so I had a hard time convincing him that that would be okay for me to do this project, and he would be my -- it was stretching him too as my advisor and he wouldn't be able to spend as much time in the field or virtually any time in the field with me. But I felt I had the others -- already made contacts with people like Dave Spencer and Bob Scott that would be like ad-hoc advisors. And he understood that and I did, and fortunately it worked that way.

KAREN BREWSTER: So was John Buckley the only professor in the Wildlife Department?

DAVID KLEIN: The only one that was working specifically at that time. But when he moved in to be the Unit Leader, he vacated the position and the person that was hired to teach the wildlife courses was Jim Reardon, who later became primarily a writer, but he was a professor there. While I didn't take courses from him because I'd taken those courses in my undergraduate that he taught. But I got to know him quite well and he was

-- he was a nice person if you had any -- wanted any advice or help. It was nice to have him around. But it was -- Neil Hosley, while he was Dean, he still remained one of the advisors for me. And I think he was on my graduate committee as well as, I think Brina Kessel, who was hired to teach ornithology and mammalogy courses. She was a young PhD from Cornell University who was hired to do this.

KAREN BREWSTER: So your graduate committee was Neil Hosley, Brina Kessel, and --

DAVID KLEIN: I'll have to look -- check my thesis to verify that. But I'm pretty sure that was the case.

KAREN BREWSTER: And John Buckley.

DAVID KLEIN: Yeah, he was my major advisor.

KAREN BREWSTER: So when the program first started, Neil Hosley was the faculty member?

DAVID KLEIN: He was the Dean of the -- No, he was head of the Wildlife Unit. He was hired by the Fish and Wildlife Service to be the [head of the unit].

KAREN BREWSTER: And so he was the only guy.

DAVID KLEIN: Yeah, but the Cooperative Agreement -- John Buckley was hired about the same time by the University --

KAREN BREWSTER: Oh I see. Okay.

DAVID KLEIN: -- for that. That was part of the Cooperative Agreement. They had to establish -- the academic program had to have a professor of wildlife.

KAREN BREWSTER: So Fish and Wildlife paid for the Unit Leader and the University then started hiring faculty around this.

DAVID KLEIN: Yeah.

KAREN BREWSTER: And Buckley was the first faculty?

DAVID KLEIN: Yeah.

KAREN BREWSTER: And then Hosely moved to be Dean of -- ?

DAVID KLEIN: Of the university.

KAREN BREWSTER: Of Natural Resources?

DAVID KLEIN: The Dean of Students, I guess it was called.

KAREN BREWSTER: Oh, okay. And then Buckley became Unit Leader and Reardon was the faculty?

DAVID KLEIN: Yeah, that's right.

KAREN BREWSTER: Okay. So tell me about your first year as a graduate student.

DAVID KLEIN: Well, I wasn't -- not off to a great start because I'd had this wonderful summer and I arrived on campus and raring to go. And then I had established this close friendship with the head of Animal Husbandry in the Agriculture Program. I'll come up with that name in a moment. And he was a great guy, and he had sort of moonlighted on a homestead down on the Chena Pump Road. He worked at nights on the night shift to make himself some money to carry on this other activity for the pumping -- pump station there that became the Pump House. And he was recently married and he and his wife from Utah, and they were just about to start a family. So he was building this house at that time on this -- that he'd homesteaded. They already lived in a small cabin that they had built on skids and moved down there. And proved up by the -- on the land by that time, and he had actually, I think, a few cows that he was starting a dairy herd. And he was still holding down the job at the university and in my view doing a good job of that, as well. But he needed some finish work on kitchen cabinets in this house he was building, and he said I could work for him on that part-time when I had time. So the first time he took me down, dropped me off there in the afternoon, when I had the afternoon I didn't have classes. And I started working and I got sick. I had a terrible upset stomach, I thought. And it got worse and worse. And I finally just sat down on the floor and waited for him to come back when he was going to pick me up at the end of the day, which he did. And I said, "I've got this problem." And so he took me to the university sort of infirmary where there was a nurse, a trained nurse, Miss Fish. And she did a quick examination. She didn't like the looks of things. She thought it could be appendicitis. And so she -- they got me into the hospital, the old hospital --

KAREN BREWSTER: St. Joseph's?

DAVID KLEIN: Yeah, St. Joseph's. And the doctor was Haggland. Dr. Haggland. And he was about the only doctor at that time that was doing surgery and delivery of babies and what. And he said, yeah, it was pretty sure. So he did the operation and then it looked like I was -- everything went well. And then I was about ready to go back and I think maybe, I don't know whether I went back to the infirmary or I was about to, but then I was not passing food. But I had a good appetite apparently. And so that was a big problem. So then what was happening, I was getting peritonitis, and paralysis of the lower digestive tract. So they had to do stomach pumps several times and put me back on intravenous. And I almost didn't make it because they -- it'd get worse and worse. I had

a hard time sleeping. They would put me on morphine and people would come in to -- fellow students and John Buckley would come in to visit me. And at first, you know, I was feeling okay and gradually it was worse and worse and I began to realize that it was getting to be a very life-threatening situation. And the doctor couldn't do anything because they couldn't go in again and operate, it would be too -- and they couldn't do anything with -- They just provided drugs and hoped for the best. And stomach pumps several times, and the paralysis got worse and finally they moved me into a private room. And sent in the priest, or the priest came in and wanted to know if I would appreciate having him say some things over me. Which I said, "No thanks." And he said, how about a, you know, a Protestant preacher I could get to come in. And I said, "No, I don't think so." And then I got paralysis so that I could no longer pee and they had to get a male nurse, which was hard to find, to come in and put a -- I forgot what they call it.

KAREN BREWSTER: A catheter.

DAVE KLEIN: Catheter in to relieve that pressure, which that was a great relief but I was still going downhill. And I was in there for a couple of days. And finally I detected - - I think I farted. I knew what that meant. And the nurse came in and said, "How are you doing?" And I said, "I think, I farted." She said, "Oh, that's wonderful." So that was a turn around and it only took a few days before I was eating again. And they moved me onto the campus. And Miss Fish kept her eye on me and so -- she was feeding me at first, and then she let me go to the cafeteria. And then they were having a big special roast pork dinner. And so she let me go to that, and I ate too much. And I came back and I had horrible stomach pains. She really scolded me badly for that. But from then on I -- I had lost -- I was down to about 150 pounds, I think. So I'd lost about 35 pounds. And I recovered very rapidly. But then I had all these courses and where the teachers were good and had loaned me their notes for lectures and their outline and assigned me reading to catch up, which I did. I was taking mammalogy and two or three other courses. And I was able to do pretty well, partly because I was dedicating myself fully to this. But then after that when I got caught up, then this job opened up to -- it was, again, through Lynn Hollis. He was the agricultural animal husbandry man. And he knew that I had taken some course in dairy husbandry and I'd worked when I was up here the first year out with the dairy farm. So he knew that I had training in pasteurization. And they'd just built a small building on campus, like a very small building with modern pasteurization equipment. And the milk from the agricultural station was served in the cafeteria and so they needed someone to pasteurize it. And so I had the job of getting up early. As soon as the milking was over in the morning, they would -- a truck would bring the milk cans over to this -- and drop them off in front of the pasteurization plant. I would get up in time, probably about 5:30 in the morning, and pasteurize the milk and then run it through the cooler. And then put it in containers to take to the cafeteria on campus, which was just a short distance away. So I could carry them over. And they fit right in the milk

dispenser machines, and then I carried on rest of the day. But that paid me well. And I had to learn to get up early.

KAREN BREWSTER: To get up early.

DAVID KLEIN: I had to learn to work. Use my time efficiently and study hard. And I did well

KAREN BREWSTER: So how long were you sick and in the hospital with that? How much time did you miss from school?

DAVID KLEIN: I think, all I can say is several weeks, but I don't know how much. It was like, maybe a third of the semester.

KAREN BREWSTER: But it was several weeks, not several months?

DAVID KLEIN: No, it wasn't several months. But it was probably over a month before I was back onto the schedule.

KAREN BREWSTER: Right. Well didn't -- when you were here in Fairbanks the first time when you drove up with your buddy, didn't you spend that winter and work at the dairy milking cows?

DAVID KLEIN: Yeah.

KAREN BREWSTER: Yeah. So you were familiar with cows and milk?

DAVID KLEIN: And had taken a course in dairy husbandry and knew about pasteurization. Knew how to do it.

KAREN BREWSTER: Yeah. So was the -- everybody's all about sustainability and there we were, you were drinking the milk in the cafeteria from your own cows.

DAVID KLEIN: Oh yeah. Well, a little of the history of the agricultural experiment station. Technically, it was a U.S. Government facility. But the first President of the University [of Alaska], [Charles] Bunnell, there was this close relationship between the university and the experimental station. And of course, when I was there, it was because the professors in agriculture at that -- early on were -- they were split between working through the experimental station and the university. Well, there were some complaints made from the standpoint of the research station, being a research station for the federal government, and Bunnell, in effect, was making use of it to produce cheap food for the cafeteria. To keep the tuition down for the students. And so it was mainly milk, but it included some of the meat production that was a result from -- the pork was -- they were doing experiments on feeding different foods to pork and then they'd slaughter a bunch of pork. And it was all -- And some of that was available for use in the cafeteria. And

crop production, probably not so much. There might have been some. But there were also opportunities with the – the experimental station was working with farmers and early homesteaders here that were getting into crop production. And so they would frequently work out -- the university was somewhat of a market for some of that produce but it had to be -- it was easier for the university to buy that through the experimental farm rather than marketing it through stores downtown.

KAREN BREWSTER: Yeah.

DAVID KLEIN: That had shipped stuff in. But some of it went both places. Bunnell was -- he was a doer and he'd get things done in a positive way. He was impressive. I knew him a bit, and he was -- I thought he was a pretty good guy because he was all for the university and for the students, as well.

KAREN BREWSTER: So when you came -- Where were you living as a graduate student? Did you live on campus?

DAVID KLEIN: Yeah. I lived in the dorm. And well, actually that first year I lived in -- it was student housing. It was old military Quonsets that were left over from the Second World War military when the university was teaching military courses, too. And they were sort of -- they were temporary buildings and not the greatest for being heated effectively. But then I think the next year I moved into a room in the main dorm, which was mostly us grad students, a few bachelor faculty and, yeah, there were some senior students, as well.

KAREN BREWSTER: So where were those old military Quonsets located?

DAVID KLEIN: They were just -- well Hess Hall. They were just to the west of Hess Hall. There was an ice rink --hockey rink there and they were just on the north side of the hockey rink. Just down below the old faculty housing that's above the Chapman Building.

KAREN BREWSTER: Okay.

DAVID KLEIN: So in that area, yeah. The Chapman Building, it was built during that period of time.

KAREN BREWSTER: And the main dorm, where was that?

DAVID KLEIN: It was a wooden -- There was Club Dorm, Main Dorm, and there were three dorms, I think, wooden framed dorms for males. And then Hess Hall for females. These were old wooden framed buildings and one of them had the cafeteria in the basement. I forgot which one that was. I think that was Club Dorm.

KAREN BREWSTER: And so that -- those buildings are located where now the current lower campus dorms are behind the Lola Tilly Commons? Or are they the ones up on the ridge?

DAVID KLEIN: Let me see -- I think --they would've been just a little -- probably just about where the Gruening Building is now.

KAREN BREWSTER: Okay, yeah.

DAVID KLEIN: And a little bit -- And then if you go west of that, then that would be where Hess Hall was.

KAREN BREWSTER: Right.

DAVID KLEIN: And then there's that one dorm, I forgot the name of it.

KAREN BREWSTER: There's a Wickersham.

DAVID KLEIN: Wickersham, yeah.

KAREN BREWSTER: So that area, okay. That's close enough. I need to go read Dermot's -- No, Terrence Cole's book about the history of campus. It's probably all in there, where those buildings were.

DAVID KLEIN: Probably, yeah. And there was another one done by an earlier professor on the campus, I think.

KAREN BREWSTER: So how many students were in the wildlife program when you started?

DAVID KLEIN: There were -- about six because the first one was John Hakala. He was the first to graduate. And then Sal Deoleenartis [sp?] who also came just before I did. And then the rest of us, there was Cal Lensink [sp?], myself, Dave Hooper, and -- I think that was it in the first year. And then the next year there were people like Les Viereck, who was in that program for one year before he decided that he wanted to be a botanist. And then Ted Lachelt, and Ed. What was his name? A fisheries -- did a master's in fisheries in grayling.

KAREN BREWSTER: I'm sorry I can't help you.

DAVID KLEIN: I'll -- it'll come back. 'Cause I shared a room with him one time. With Cal Lensink one time, one semester, as well.

KAREN BREWSTER: So when did you start this mountain goat project? Tell me about that project.

DAVID KLEIN: Well, then I had plans for the next summer to go down there to the Kenai again. Because I was already familiar with mountain goat habitat, I knew where it was, and had visited briefly with Dave Spencer. And with the idea that I would -- there was no funding for that yet. But I had been assured some help from aircraft support, occasionally, from Dave Spencer and Fish and Wildlife Service, maybe. But I also realized I had to do this sort of on the side while I was doing mountain sheep sex and age ratio counts for Bob Scott. So he employed me as a field technician. And so I worked in the White Mountains, you know, like it was a week, to ten days at a time, then I'd move into the Alaska Range, and then into the Talkeetnas, and the Chugach. Chugach just out of Anchorage just going -- Well, I'd moved down to Anchorage and I worked out of there for the Talkeetnas, and especially the Chugach because it was so close to Anchorage. And then on the Kenai, when I would be based there. And then I would have some free time sometimes, and I would then hike into the mountain sheep areas. And Dave Spencer went in with me to one of the first areas with me to get me familiar with it and started and familiar with climbing around the mountains in summertime safely. Then I carried on by myself and worked in those mountains, but then things came up, so that I could get -- There was a project where they wanted to release mountain goats on Kodiak Island. And so they said they could pay me full schedule as a field assistant to join that project. I did it with two guys who were Predator and Rodent Control people and they were very senior people and terrific field people. So the three of us were flown out to Day Harbor, which is just to the east of Resurrection Bay out of Seward. And we set up a tent camp there. And we were going to try to capture young mountain goats with snares, leg snares, with rope. So we had to climb up into the mountains. It was kind of rugged, but once we got up there you could get around. And there were goats there. And fortunately it's kind of expected that the goats were in goat habitat and they were pretty familiar with goat habitat. Goats were. And we weren't. But we didn't have any good sit -- couldn't find any good situations for putting out snares. And then the ewes had new lambs, new kids, which stayed with them. And the billies were up higher on the mountains and weren't in that area. And we came close to getting able to lasso a kid once, but luckily we weren't successful because we learned one of the things about goats and when some -- a couple of females with kids we discovered lower than we were and when we were hiking around then. So we thought they were going to come up onto this trail where they'd gotten down there and we could get a rope. One of these guys had worked as a cowboy and he could lasso and throw a pretty good lasso. And he thought maybe he could lasso one of these kids. So he was in a good place where he could get behind this rock outcrop and where the goats were going to work their way up. And the other fellow and I were higher up. And I had a camera. A pretty good used Leica. And we're up there and down, so we couldn't be seen. And we're watching all this. And I did get a couple of slides from this one ewe and kid came up there and when the kid went by -- I'll think of his name, the guy's name. But at any rate, he threw this lasso and it came close, but that ewe just came

right for him, [inaudible] him. And they have sharp horns. And they're pretty good size. And of course the kid ran. And so he kind of started pulling in this rope and moving back to get close to this rock that he could maybe get behind it, big rock. And in the meantime, the ewe -- the lamb, started running back down the slope a little bit, on the real steep slope and so the ewe took off with it and went away. And the two of them together, they finally worked their way up another way and disappeared. But it was obvious that you weren't going to take a kid from a ewe without being under control of the ewe. And we weren't prepared, nor would we want to or have permission to shoot the ewe. And it wasn't the best idea anyway, because we'd have had to get some way to feed this kid and get it down the mountain and then get it flown out and it'd have to be taken care of, and that'd be a difficult operation. So that was a failed operation. But then the Fish and Wildlife Service thought the best way to get these animals was to get some of these old timers down in that area that had a lot of familiarity with goats, and trapping and hunting, and offer so much money for a yearling.

KAREN BREWSTER: Like a bounty, kind of?

DAVID KLEIN: Yeah, they would get a -- captured a live -- I think they were paying \$400, which was pretty good money. But of course it was realized that they would -- they'd have to be innovative. And so -- but in that summer before it went -- put into practice, I was -- Dave Spencer wanted to do some sheep and goat surveys, which was great for me, and took me along. And one of the areas where I was working and we were able to do these surveys, and we were flying pretty high over Cooper Lake. And I looked down and I saw what looked to be three swans, because there were these white things and swimming in the lake. And the lake is sort of hour-glass shaped, and the bottom and the neck there were these swans. And so Dave swooped down a little lower and it was goats swimming across the lake from one mountain to the other. They were way above tree line. And so he quickly lost altitude and landed and tried to head these goats -- they were getting close to one shore, tried to head them off. Well, he got -- it wasn't quite fast enough to get all three turned, but we got the last one turned -- we got between it and the shore, the other two got to shore and ran up the mountain. And so Dave said, grab a rope and go up underneath and into the bow, open the cockpit and take this rope and try to get it around the horns of this goat, which was swimming. And it was trying to get to shore, of course, but we were able to -- we could taxi slowly right up close to it and he had to cut the engines completely, and it was just sheer luck. And I was able to get out there and got the rope around the horns and tighten it up, so I had control of this goat. And of course, it couldn't do much because it was in the water swimming. And so he said he would then put the wheels down and taxi up on to -- so they hit bottom and we get in shallower water and then we'd have to go in and horse this goat out onto the beach to where we could handle it. So that's what we did. And we both leaped over into the water. As soon as that goat could get its feet on the bottom, it was starting to bounce, you know,

and -- but we had its head and horns. Had a good grip on that with the rope. And so we could hold it close to the boat at first. So we both jumped over. I think I did first and then Dave did. And we were able to -- he on one side, me on another, both on these horns. It was a young male, and it had horns about -- it was probably about three years old.

KAREN BREWSTER: So that's like what, 6 inches?

DAVID KLEIN: 5 inches, but good solid horns. And we got it -- The main thing was to get it up on shore. And then Dave had grabbed a parka and threw that up on shore. An old parka. And so then we got it over on the parka and each of us grabbed the feet and got it down. And then I had to haul the horns and we used some of this rope right away and could tie the two front feet together and then finally the back feet and pull those together, so he couldn't bound around. And then went back to the plane to get some more rope. And in the meantime we put part of the parka over its head so it couldn't see anything and it would calm down a bit once we covered its head. And then we had to carry it back and put it in the plane. And we flew it to Kenai, and the plan was -- it was too late to fly to Kodiak that same day. So we put it in this old shed that was sort of like a Quonset like -- big one -- a garage. And had a good sound door and had a workbench and it was wide open and wooden plank floor. And we tied it to this bench. And we took the -- we kept the line on the horns and made it more secure, but we tied it with plenty of room. And once we took the rope off the feet, it just leaped immediately up onto the bench, and stood there. And so we went out and brought in some -- we found some straw, put it on the floor, and got water, put it in there. And I think we might have found some grain or something, but I don't know whether it ate it. I think it knocked it over. We didn't know whether it ate anything. And we picked some green vegetation, put it in there. It might have eaten, but we don't know about that. So the next morning we got up early and had a little trouble capturing the goat again, but we did. And we flew it to Kodiak, right into the head of a bay where -- to the base of a mountain where they wanted to do the releases of any goats on this mountain. And we just took the goat out and released it there right at the high tide line. And it immediately went into the alders and started to climb up on the hill. And so when we flew back -- we put an ear tag in it, but flew back to Kenai. So that was a significant contribution, but it takes more than one male. So then they were successful. And there was one guy out of Seward and he had a nickname, I can't remember it, that sort of fit him. And he had a boat and he did some trapping and hunting and he started trying to capture goats. And he did -- it was successful. He put -- when the goats came down in the winter and would be on these narrow trails on the cliffs. He built these -- put a -- make a snare out of nylon rope and tie it to a big block of wood so that it couldn't be taken very far. And he would try to do it in the alders where it wouldn't come crashing down the beach. So he was able to capture, I think, two of them that way. Two young goats. And of course in snow it was a lot easier to handle them. If you could get them down into the snow, it was sort of like having them in the water. In soft snow. And he

was a big burly guy, but he did this all by himself. And he brought in these goats. And those were taken down.

KAREN BREWSTER: So his were taken to Kodiak, also?

DAVID KLEIN: Yeah. And there were some others caught later. But shortly after these first couple, I was there on the Kenai and I'd been climbing in the mountains in goat habitat and he was trying -- this was in the springtime when there was still snow, but you could get around pretty well. The lakes were still frozen, but could hike around them because the trails were pretty solid. Melting, but hard-packed snow. I was planning to go into Seward a day or two. I was only about 30 miles from Seward. And then when I came down, I talked to someone there, near Cooper Lake where I was staying, with the Forest Service. And he said, "Well, did you hear that this guy had been butted off a cliff by a goat? And he's in the hospital." So I went to Seward and I visited with this fellow in the hospital. And he'd broken some ribs and I think one arm was fractured. And he was in the hospital. And he'd fallen down into the alders and Devil's Club that was sticking through the snow. So he was pretty -- had a lot of scratches all over his face. He was just a game guy, it's unbelievable. And he said problem was it was a bigger goat than he really wanted and it turned out it was not in his snare. It was on a ledge, a narrow ledge that had come down and he'd worked his way around and the goat felt quite secure on this ledge. And he had lowered himself down onto the ledge thinking it was in a snare and couldn't move. And the goat just butted him off the cliff.

KAREN BREWSTER: And this was the guy, the trapper/hunter who'd captured the goats before?

DAVID KLEIN: Yeah.

KAREN BREWSTER: And you can't remember his name?

DAVID KLEIN: No. And he went back. I might be able to find it. I do have field diaries somewhere. I think they're in the office. He went back. He said he was going to go back and try to capture more. And I think he did capture one or two more.

KAREN BREWSTER: Wow. So was it successful? Are there now mountain goats in Kodiak?

DAVID KLEIN: Yeah. They have a hunting season there. Limited distribution. They do have a hunting season. I've seen them from the air when I've been down there at times.

KAREN BREWSTER: So this -- being this field tech for Bob Scott and working with the sheep, that was your first summer after -- while you were in graduate school or did you do that during -- I -- I -- ?

DAVID KLEIN: First summer. And I did it some in the second summer, as well.

KAREN BREWSTER: Okay.

DAVID KLEIN: So I fit that in with this other goat stuff, which was good because I was still dependent for logistic support, any flying or stuff when something was available. And another adventure came up and that was a plane -- a Grumman Goose. The Grumman Goose. The big, amphibious plane. Which the Fish and Wildlife had several. But this one belonged to another federal agency. I think it might have been BLM, but I'm not quite sure about that. At any rate, it had crashed on top of Bering Glacier. You know where Bering Glacier is?

KAREN BREWSTER: No.

DAVID KLEIN: You know where Malaspina Glacier is? That huge one?

KAREN BREWSTER: On the Kenai Peninsula?

DAVID KLEIN: No, on the coast. Just about where the panhandle begins north of Yakutat.

KAREN BREWSTER: Oh okay, yeah.

DAVID KLEIN: It's the world's largest piedmont glacier.

KAREN BREWSTER: Okay.

DAVID KLEIN: It's huge. And it comes right down to the sea. And then, another huge one, but it's not quite as big as the Malaspina, just a little further northwest along the coast is Bering Glacier. And this plane had crashed. And I think everybody was killed. So the Fish and Wildlife Service had the aircraft division and they'd gone in there and removed the bodies and what. But the plane was there and the Fish and Wildlife Service was able to get some salvage rights because they needed parts, including engine parts and other parts. And they wanted to go in and salvage some of these. So they wanted to know if I would help them. And they lined up two or three other young guys that were probably Fish and Wildlife employees. And the pilot flew us down there and we landed -- This was kind of exciting. We landed on a lake on top of the glacier. It was a good pilot, but it was risky landing in a lake on top of a glacier because there were rocks sticking up in some places and you couldn't see whether there were rocks. But it looked big enough and he skimmed at first and then finally slowed down. And we landed there and set up a camp. And so we had -- put up some tents and we had to hike about a mile on the glacier, which was -- it's a glacier that by the time it gets down to where it was, it's fairly rough but it's not steep mountains, coming out of the mountains. And you come to a big crack and you can look down in the crevice and water's running down there. Some

places there's all this moraine on top. Lateral moraine that had come from the mountains. And so you'd be walking on gravel, and some of it was tough walking, but it was more solid. And most of the time you didn't have a problem with -- we just had hiking boots and because you could have pretty good traction even on the coarse ice because it was fairly level, where we'd -- you picked your route. So we got up there and, yeah, the mechanics -- there were -- a couple of these were mechanics and they quickly determined what could be salvaged and what we could take back. So we took -- we made -- once they got to work and freed things up, we packed this stuff down to where the plane was. And after the second day, then we had everything that they thought was reasonable to get. And also we didn't -- couldn't overload the plane. We had to get off of this lake. And so we loaded it all up, got in the plane, took off and we -- they had enough gas to -- yeah, they had enough gas to get to Anchorage, and that was the plan. So we flew over Cordova and were out over Prince William Sound and one of the engines on this plane started pumping out oil in big quantities and so he cut that engine back. But we were heavy enough loaded that he had to find a place to land so he pulled into a fjord there on the mainland where it wasn't rough and it was relatively calm. He quickly landed, taxied up to the beach and he had radioed what was happening and got through to Anchorage, I think, and -- But we really didn't know what the situation was on the engine. And went ashore and they figured, well, it was obvious they were going to have to have another plane. And then he figured if we unloaded everything, including all the seats and all the gear, and all the parts on the beach, and they could send in -- he could put oil back in that one engine that was pumping out the oil, take off, and then he could fly with one engine to Cordova. We were only twenty miles or so from Cordova. So he flew back to Cordova safely. And then they sent out a Beaver, I think, on floats. Had to make a couple trips. And took us back to Cordova. And then we eventually got back to Anchorage or wherever I was going, I forget. And they were able to recover that stuff on the beach. And they had to send mechanics over and probably either replaced the engine or do the engine work in Cordova, which they could've.

KAREN BREWSTER: Or it's still sitting in Cordova.

DAVID KLEIN: No, no. Those were valuable planes they had. That's why they were getting parts. They were good about keeping these planes flying.

KAREN BREWSTER: So you were in a Grumman Goose?

DAVID KLEIN: No, we were in a Widgeon.

KAREN BREWSTER: Oh, a Widgeon.

DAVID KLEIN: It was a Widgeon, so it's smaller than the Grumman Goose. The Grumman Goose would have been big for that lake, I think.

KAREN BREWSTER: And so when was this that you did that?

DAVID KLEIN: That was in the second summer.

KAREN BREWSTER: So summer of '52.

DAVID KLEIN: Yeah. And so I fit that in with the other things I was doing. And I got a better feeling for the terrain down there. And that was goat country on the mainland, and Cordova area, as well. So I was getting more familiarity with the area. But also getting familiar with the glacier, which -- I saw some of those from a distance, you know, in the mountains. But not -- being on top of one was kind of -- and in the night you'd hear creaks and groans occasionally, which was a little unsettling.

KAREN BREWSTER: Yeah, it sounds like you really didn't like being on that glacier.

DAVID KLEIN: No, nobody did. And we always thought, too, what happens if that lake drains. The plane would be sitting there and we wouldn't have any way to get off.

KAREN BREWSTER: And that's true that it does happen with lakes on glaciers.

DAVID KLEIN: Oh, yeah.

KAREN BREWSTER: They can drain like that.

DAVID KLEIN: Definitely, yeah.

KAREN BREWSTER: Well, at least you had a radio. That was good.

DAVID KLEIN: Yeah. And of course to get us off, would have been -- there weren't that many helicopters around. That would have been a very costly operation.

KAREN BREWSTER: Yeah. So the mountain goats you were doing -- mixing in while you were working on these sheep surveys. What was your research question? What were you looking at with the mountain goats?

DAVID KLEIN: Well it was, and it was titled this, "A Reconnaissance Study," to learn as much as I could about the general behavior and ecology and their relationship to the habitat, vegetation. But it was -- it grew a little more -- it was very interesting in many ways. I went into about three study areas on the Kenai, where I did most of the work. And not counting the one where we tried to capture the goats. I guess I didn't -- I certainly learned a lot there, but it wasn't the kind of thing -- The other places I was an observer and could watch the goats from a distance that they weren't aware.

KAREN BREWSTER: So what were your three study areas?

DAVID KLEIN: Cooper Lake area, the mountains around it. And Russian Mountain, which is further to the -- it's right on the border of the Refuge [Kenai National Wildlife Refuge]. Cooper Lake is in the National Forest, near Cooper Landing. And then the other one was closer to the western edge of those same mountains near the head of Skilak Lake was Russian Mountain. And that was -- history was that was -- had been -- and Cooper Mountain, too, the history had been that those were no mountain goats on Cooper Mountain. There'd been mountain sheep only there. And the same with Russian Mountain, there were still mountain sheep there, but not very many and some mountain goats. And no mountain goats earlier. But this was based on guide outfitters that had hunted in those areas. And there had been a big decline in mountain sheep populations throughout Alaska. The Kenai, as well as Denali National Park. And there were all kinds of speculation. One of the ones that was common in some areas was that, especially in Denali, was that military pilots would practice gunnery in the mountains with their planes and shoot mountain goats, mountain sheep rather. But Adolf Murie was doing studies there and there were very severe snow winters that accounted for this die off of the sheep. The sheep populations had been high because of mild winters and easier vegetation. And they were probably higher than they should be because there had been wolf control in most of these areas. And Denali National Park was an exception at that time. But in the Kenai there'd been -- No, the wolves had died out on the Kenai, that's right, naturally probably helped by humans. But then they had died out when the first miners, prospectors, came into the area. They over-wintered. The caribou that were resident there were totally eliminated. And the wolves -- these guys trapped and in those days they used poison. It was legal to use poison for killing wolves. And the wolf pelts were valuable, too. And at that time, about the turn of the century, it was thought there was no moose on the Kenai. But there was one forester that went there and he interviewed Natives and others and the moose were apparently there, but so low. And probably because there wasn't much good moose habitat, and there hadn't been a lot of fires. And so these fires occurred and, of course, these miners and prospectors were blamed for the fires and they probably were responsible for a lot of them. And they were big fires. And they eliminated the good wintering areas for the caribou, but they also lived off this caribou. And by this time the Natives were probably hunting them, too. But when the Russians were there the whole focus was on the salmon and the sea. And the Native people that lived there, lived on the coast where all of the food was. And there was no indication that there -- with the -- it was forest and not good habitat for moose. Closed forest. And some of the upland areas where the -- must have been good caribou range, the lichens were there because of a lack of fire. And so the caribou died out. And have been reintroduced and they don't do very well now because it's totally different habitat. And unfortunately it's not well documented botanically because no one was there to look at the whole situation. But it's pretty obvious that once these extensive fires occurred, moose habitat was created and suddenly the moose were all over the place. And big ones

cuz it was brand new habitat and there were trophy moose. And in the early 1900's, these hunters would take -- wealthy hunters would come by steam ship to Seward. And the guide hunters would take them -- meet them and they would take them by rivers and then they had horses and would go into the mountains or hunt sheep and then they would want trophy moose. And so it's a totally different world. And no wolves left, they were gone. Wolves came back on their own through the isthmus there from the Chugach Mountains in the 1960's. In the meantime, the coyotes that had been there suddenly increased. They became a major predator on the mountain sheep, young calves.

KAREN BREWSTER: They can get up that high to get them?

DAVID KLEIN: Yeah, they go wherever they can get them. And they're actually a little bit more stable in high country than the wolves because they're smaller animals. But the sheep have to come out in the meadows to feed and the lambs were vulnerable, particularly vulnerable. But how significant they were in controlling the sheep populations, we don't really know. The sheep were doing quite well.

KAREN BREWSTER: So you had three study areas, you said Cooper Lake area, Russian Mountain --

DAVID KLEIN: And Ptarmigan Lake.

KAREN BREWSTER: Okay.

DAVID KLEIN: And then there was one other place close to Seward called Lost Lake. Up high. You had to hike a long way, but it was a good trail.

KAREN BREWSTER: Now, there's a very popular trail to Lost Lake.

DAVID KLEIN: Yeah, right.

KAREN BREWSTER: But at the time, I guess, there was not.

DAVID KLEIN: There was a good trail.

KAREN BREWSTER: Oh, there was already a good trail?

DAVID KLEIN: Yeah. And I think there was one cabin up right about tree line. And in fact, there was a lot of moose right there around tree line. And my friend, the agriculture guy, came down. We'd exchanged letters, and I said if you want to moose hunt, this looks like a good place. So he came down, drove down and I met him in Seward and we hiked up this trail and there'd been this one bull that was not too big, but it was like so big, and any bull was legal. And we camped in this cabin. The next morning we get up and there's a bull out there and he shot it, and we dressed it out. But that was a long hike, even if it was downhill.

KAREN BREWSTER: Is it -- how many miles down?

DAVID KLEIN: It was about three miles, I think. And it was downhill and we made two or three trips. But it was nice. And then it was timed when, with me, going back to the campus so that I could ride back with him.

KAREN BREWSTER: That was Lynn Hollis? Is that who you said his name was?

DAVID KLEIN: Yeah.

KAREN BREWSTER: Cool.

DAVID KLEIN: That was nice.

KAREN BREWSTER: So this was all your summer field work that you were doing?

DAVID KLEIN: Yeah. And I'd -- you know, you could fit all these other things in. And one time in the fall, late -- yeah, right after the moose season opened, Dave Spencer was off someplace and came flying back in and said, "Well, I don't have to do any flying for about three days." And his wife was gone someplace visiting family or something. And he said, "You want to go on a moose hunt?" And of course I said, "Yeah!" So we drove out the road toward Moose Pass in an old burn and hiked into an area where there was a small lake and set up a camp and the next day got a bull and packed it out. I was a good packer.

KAREN BREWSTER: That's why they brought you along, you carry a lot.

DAVID KLEIN: Oh, for sure. But that was great. But I didn't -- I was living in the dorms so I didn't have any great need for moose meat.

KAREN BREWSTER: But it was still fun to go on the hunts?

DAVID KLEIN: Yeah, definitely, that was fun. And anything I could do to help Dave, because he was doing flying for me. And he would -- sometimes he'd do extra stuff for me for my project. We were doing -- he would do goat counts and sometimes we'd get to land up high on a small lake and spend some time in goat habitat. But I was -- places I hadn't been able to get to through hiking. And, yeah, it was -- quite a -- accumulated a number of good observations and I was able to -- I did a lot of plant collecting so I could identify what was there and I could see where -- I could watch goats feeding, especially Cooper Lake. That was a really good area because they could be on the other side of another ridge watching them and from a long distance with binoculars. And I had a spotting scope then that belonged to the unit. And I could watch them and seeing where they're feeding and then I could go over and mark it with rocks and stuff. And then go over when the goats moved out of that area and check it out, and take notes on what was being eaten, and see their fresh droppings and stuff there. And yeah, got a lot of good

information. And I was able to make some good observations on interaction between sheep and goats. And one of the things, conclusions that I made, that no one has ever been able to prove it wrong with this -- It's strange that, you know, why are these goats in Chugach Mountains, a lot of goats, and some places there's mountain sheep, but only on the western side where it's not so much precipitation. And the goats almost always are restricted to the real steep, heavy precipitation areas. And they get by on cliffs and everything, and show that their habitat preferences were different. But there's no question, but there'd be overlap areas where there would be good habitat for sheep. Sheep didn't do well on the real cliffy areas, but they like cliffs when they were having their young. But then they wanted better grazing. Whereas the goats were more cosmopolitan in their diet and would browse on shrubs if they were there, or eat fern roots, and things that were growing on cliff faces and stuff. And so -- but I remember watching this -- I was watching this group of female mountain sheep and lambs, primarily, of about thirty. It was a pretty large group. That was on Russian Mountain. And they were in these, where you come down off a sort of more rounded terrain where they would be grazing. But then it leveled off and then there were some cliffs there. And these sheep came spilling over. And females were moving down because it looked like that was better water and it was nice and lush and green. And they're all down there grazing, and -- Oh, yeah, no they were already there. There was a group of mountain goat, females with young, like there was about a total of eight counting the young. So there were probably would be four females and four kids. And they were about as large a group as you see of mountain goats. They're not as social, in terms of group size, as mountain sheep. And they were down there feeding in this lush place and the kids were behaving like any young animals, you know, they were having a good time playing and what -- and went along this mom. The moms were close by. And then this group of mountain sheep started coming over there and was this big group. And these ewes stopped and watched. They weren't -- I mean there was no desire to move away or anything, they just watched. And they came down, and the sheep were just indifferent to these mountain goats. They were both white creatures and sheep were not disturbed by the goats being there, and they started feeding. And the lambs were running around and they started feeding closer and closer to the goats. And finally the goats started moving away. And then they just moved up and out of the area. And I saw this kind of behavior once or twice again, but not as characteristic as that. And the whole strategy of goats is to -- from predator avoidance, is to stay close to the cliffs. When you -- if you're up on good grazing, you're just above cliffs and the predators come, that could be bears or wolves. Then you go over the edge quickly and you're down on the cliffs and predators can't handle that very effectively. But the sheep, they don't want to go onto the real steep cliffs, but they run. And as a group. Until they get to more -- this kind of a slope with big rocks and stuff.

KAREN BREWSTER: What is that? What angle is that?

DAVID KLEIN: About 45. But whereas the goats are going to be real steep, where the cliffs and the -- and when you watch them in these two different habitats, I mean the goats are real climbers. And they'll also -- they'll let themselves down steep deals on their butts and use their front feet to keep them from going too fast. And you see them, they just go in these places that you think it's almost impossible. How can they be up there? And they're just up there to lay down on a ledge or something and munch on a little -- especially the big ones that are way up high where there's not much vegetation, but, yeah, there's a little patch here and a small group size. So stay in small group size because it's a food patch -- this is where patches are small. Whereas the sheep are different. They need bigger patch size because their group size is big. And being in a group is more confusing to wolves if they're -- And you're in open terrain and you start running, it's more confusing. The wolves have a hard time. And if you don't have to run too far. If you only have to run hundreds of yards -- a hundred yards or more, then you go into the rocky terrain. And sheep will stay around these kinds of slopes that are good grazing, but they stay close to where there's escape terrain. Well, the goats, technically, are doing the same thing except they're in escape terrain virtually all of the time. So there's no indication of aggressive behavior. No one's ever reported that between those two. They just don't feel comfortable when they're in -- goats, when the group is too big. And the reverse is true for the sheep. If they're grazing in a group, they want to be in a bigger group. And that's good. And caribou are the same way. You have all these eyes. And so they're not all going to have their head down at one time feeding, especially in the wintertime when they're digging through the snow.

KAREN BREWSTER: That's interesting. I've always wondered why some mountains have goats and some have sheep. Because, of course, it all looks the same to me that it's rocky, steep mountains, but I didn't realize they could specialize so much.

DAVID KLEIN: Yeah, they're real specialists. In the Talkeetnas, where they occur it's like -- I've flown over it, but I've never been on the ground there. I'd like to get up in there some time. But it's just not good meadows, lush meadows in the alpine area. It's rocky, and boulders, and steep cliffs. And that's where the goats are. And there's virtually no sheep in that area. But they're close by. And the goats, why haven't the goats spread out when the sheep populations go down? Apparently it's a terrain characteristic, they're very important for the goats.

KAREN BREWSTER: Yeah, the goats don't want to go over into those meadows.

DAVID KLEIN: There's been one authenticated observation of a goat in Denali National Park. And it was Adolf Murie made the observation. And he studied mountain goats.

KAREN BREWSTER: He kind of knew what he was talking about.

DAVID KLEIN: He knew what he was talking about. And it was crossing a road and there were no other – no sheep or other goats around. Then there was a mountain near Cantwell – There is a mountain near Cantwell that's called Goat Mountain. And the local legend is that a goat was seen there once. And that's relatively close to this place across the valley in the Talkeetnas where there's goats. Well, you know, goats, and young animals frequently wander off and disperse long distances. That's how they get from one place to another.

KAREN BREWSTER: Right. But so there aren't -- there are not goats in Denali? Those are all sheep?

DAVID KLEIN: Yeah. A lot of people that go into -- even informed people sometimes make the mistake. They see all these pictures of the big sheep.

KAREN BREWSTER: With the curled antlers.

DAVID KLEIN: And then they see their first female and they think it's a goat, because the horns are only about this long on the female.

KAREN BREWSTER: What is that 8 inches?

DAVID KLEIN: They're very --

KAREN BREWSTER: So the big curls on the sheep, those are the males?

DAVID KLEIN: Yeah, always male. Yeah.

KAREN BREWSTER: Oh.

DAVID KLEIN: Females are much smaller. And the males, as well as the b down in the Rockies, when the breeding period, they charge one another and kabang.

KAREN BREWSTER: Yeah, they hit their heads.

DAVID KLEIN: And it bangs off and you can hear that from some distance. It's quite a thing. We skied into Denali on the north side, off of Stampede Trail, one time with Ed Murphy and Ken Whitten. And it was in early December when they're rutting. We had terrific weather. It was really mild and not windy. It wasn't the greatest place to get close, but we got enough so with binoculars we could watch some of this and could hear the horns banging together. And it was -- I remember we were up there watching these and then we heard this bird, we thought. And what bird could that be? This was in December and we couldn't figure it out. And finally there was this rock, sticking up through the snow, and that was a pika. Well, we know that they're active all winter long under the snow and they're feeding on their hay piles. But this was nice weather and there was a little bit of sun still shining in the sky. And this thing was up there and it was

whistling at us. And it was far enough away so that it felt secure because it would dip back down, but it was interesting. And it came out to view the real world.

KAREN BREWSTER: So instead of a bird, it was a pika?

DAVID KLEIN: Yeah.

KAREN BREWSTER: How funny. But the sheep were banging their heads together in December? I thought that was a mating -- ?

DAVID KLEIN: It is mating. It's early December. They have a gestation period that's much shorter than moose or caribou.

KAREN BREWSTER: Oh, okay.

DAVID KLEIN: Yeah. So they mate in early December and then they have their young in May.

KAREN BREWSTER: And what about goats? The same?

DAVID KLEIN: It's about the same.

KAREN BREWSTER: Well, so it sounds like your goat research then made an important contribution?

DAVID KLEIN: Yeah, but in those days there wasn't real pressure to publish your master's thesis, 'cause it just had so many – two copies to the library. And they all had to be typed. And the copy you ended up with is hardly readable, but – And you had to pay for the binding.

KAREN BREWSTER: And so you wrote it all long hand?

DAVID KLEIN: No, I had a -- that's part of my graduate program there. I had a little portable typewriter that had belonged to my father. And you had to have strong fingers, you know.

KAREN BREWSTER: A manual typewriter.

DAVID KLEIN: Yeah, well when you went to uppercase, you had to push down and this whole carriage and bring up all the keys and stuff. But I had that plus we had -- I took a course in typing and so did virtually all these other wildlife students that were my buddies. We took this course in typing and that was very helpful. I got so that I was moderately a good typer, and I typed out the draft myself. And then I gave it to -- had to hire a woman, secretary from one of the administrators or something. And they would type it and we'd pay them so much by the hour. And that's -- for me, by the time I finished up I didn't have enough money to pay this. I had to get a student loan of \$200.

And that was about the smallest amount you could get. But I needed that much money to pay for the typist and a few other things.

KAREN BREWSTER: The binding.

DAVID KLEIN: The binding, yeah, you had to pay for the binding. They didn't have a lot of money to loan students in those days. But this wasn't a lot of money.

KAREN BREWSTER: So the way you paid for your -- did you ever get one of those research grants? Did they ever have money to -- ?

DAVID KLEIN: The second year I got -- that was paid for my tuition. I had the GI Bill that paid so much -- some of my living costs and tuition. So that was a good deal. And then I did these other jobs that I needed. But, I got by okay. When you paid so much a semester, especially if you were eating in the cafeteria. You didn't have a lot of money, but you didn't really need a lot of money. But what you suffered from is you didn't have the kind of money, I mean, I was into photography and I didn't have enough money to buy a decent camera. So I'd buy these old used cameras that were pretty good cameras, but they usually had some malfunction of some kind.

KAREN BREWSTER: But, so you made money in the summer working on those surveys. Your animal husbandry job, your pasteurization -- ?

DAVID KLEIN: I didn't make any money on -- Oh, when I was working for the sheep surveys, yeah, then I got paid something. As a technician. When I was flying on goat surveys, that was -- I was living off of my stipend.

KAREN BREWSTER: Right. Which you got -- that stipend was that grant money.

DAVID KLEIN: Yeah.

KAREN BREWSTER: Yeah, so you did get that?

DAVID KLEIN: I got so much a month from the stipend, but -- I think that's the way it paid out, and then there was a little left over, but not much. For research grants. And like that recovering that equipment from the glacier, they gave me aircraft time.

KAREN BREWSTER: Oh, in exchange.

DAVID KLEIN: So that was -- That I could draw on. And that was really good. So then I could ask Dave or somebody else that was available for some flight time. And there were a few other pilots that would be in and out.

KAREN BREWSTER: But your job with the milk pasteurizing, that was just that first winter? Or did you keep doing that?

DAVID KLEIN: I think I kept doing that. It was good. It fit in with the coursework and stuff. And it was good income. Any more income was important.

KAREN BREWSTER: So you did that for a couple years or -- ?

DAVID KLEIN: During the academic year, yeah. I just did it in the academic year. I don't know what they did in the summer. They may not have had -- The cafeteria might not have been open in the summer, I don't know. I don't think it was, because I know sometime in the summer we didn't -- maybe that was the first summer --

KAREN BREWSTER: You weren't here in the summers. You were out in the field.

DAVID KLEIN: When I was working on the -- in the sheep survey work in the White Mountains and the Alaska Range, then I was based on campus. And I think I was still living in the dorm.

KAREN BREWSTER: Oh, okay.

DAVID KLEIN: During the summer for that. And then I didn't stay in the dorm. But there was a period when -- I think that must have been the first year when we -- I remember we were -- one of us was renting -- we weren't -- that was before we moved into the main dorm, I think. And that's where I was writing the thesis there, but before that after that first year maybe -- I don't think we had -- and I was doing some work in the summer, but I don't think we had a -- we could stay in the vet's dorm. I think they were doing maintenance. You couldn't stay there. Or maybe they were getting rid of them or something. And we rented a place that was called -- down where the power plant is now. Down in the valley.

KAREN BREWSTER: You mean the university power plant?

DAVID KLEIN: Yeah. But it wasn't the power plant then.

KAREN BREWSTER: Right.

DAVID KLEIN: It was over the old -- by the mine's building. But it -- then that was called Vulture Flats, I think. That area. And it's distinct from the College corner post office, and what. And there was an old -- it'd been a house and it was run down and somebody -- it was not a house, it was just a big framed cabin or something. It was a small framed cabin, but it had a separate kitchen or something. And it was tilted at an angle. I remember one person had permission to use it, and so we'd hang out down there and we were cooking our own food. That's when we were really on a spartan diet, that's right, because we didn't have much money. I wasn't on a stipend. And others had some stipend money, but not everybody else did. And so we'd buy the cheapest food we could get. But we were meat eaters, and so we'd buy horse meat at the Piggy Willy.

KAREN BREWSTER: Piggly Wiggly, yeah.

DAVID KLEIN: And it was marked fit for human consumption, but it was mostly dog mushers that were buying it. But it was frozen and you could buy big chunks and it wasn't -- We chopped it up and made spaghetti out of it. And it was great. I don't know where the horses came from. And we harvested what we could in the wild then. And if maybe somebody got something, we shared it. But I don't think in the wintertime -- did we? I think the winter we went back -- that's when we went back into the dorm.

KAREN BREWSTER: So that was just in the summertime?

DAVID KLEIN: I think so, yeah.

KAREN BREWSTER: So were you eating grouse and ptarmigan?

DAVID KLEIN: Yeah. And fish.

KAREN BREWSTER: And fish.

DAVID KLEIN: Yeah.

KAREN BREWSTER: Is that when you bought fish at the -- you were talking earlier about the whole fish out at Piggly Wiggly.

DAVID KLEIN: Yeah, we bought those occasionally at Piggly Wiggly, yeah.

KAREN BREWSTER: From Birch Lake, is that where the guy was catching them?

DAVID KLEIN: Yeah.

KAREN BREWSTER: The whitefish.

DAVID KLEIN: Right. But it was a different world. And the things that -- We used a lot of stuff that we could use going into the field, too, like powdered whole milk. It'd come in a big can. And, you know, we couldn't afford fresh milk.

KAREN BREWSTER: No. Nobody did back then.

DAVID KLEIN: And we'd go in the field, you could get powdered eggs, whole eggs powdered. You mix that with the powdered whole milk real well and then you could make sort of like an omelet or something. And you could throw chunks of meat or bacon or something in with it. And it was quite edible. The flavor was there.

KAREN BREWSTER: Well, yeah, I was going to say your field rations were probably a little different back then than what people eat today.

DAVID KLEIN: Oh, yeah. Yeah.

KAREN BREWSTER: No fancy dehydrated foods?

DAVID KLEIN: No, they didn't have any of that. The standards were you could get -- you'd take rice, standard. You could get this bacon that lasted forever. You know, it was smoked and cured and hung. And it was just terrific bacon. You can't get anything like that nowadays. It's all got water added and what. And that was good to take in the field. And even in the summer you'd take a small chunk of it. Then you could get some of this like sausage, smoked sausage. That was pretty expensive, but you could get that, and cheese. Cheese was very important. And then you could get ham and those kind of things. One of the students in the Unit program, he was an undergraduate then, but he went on, and that was Ron Skoog who later became Commissioner of Fish and Game. And he did a PhD study on caribou. One of the classic ones. And he was a nice guy. He was a tough field guy. And in those days, you know, we'd go off by ourselves often. He was working on caribou, and that was when he was working for his master's on caribou, and he was working in the Steese-Forty Mile area out on the -- on the -- what's that, the Taylor Highway out there. And so he -- the plan was to drive out there as far as -- he wanted to know what the caribou were doing in the shortest period of winter. The coldest period of winter. And so he drove out there, and he had a tent and pack, and he had put together all of his food. In the old Main, I remember him packaging up these foods. He wanted everything as efficient as possible because he realized he had to cook with only one of these little gas, one burner stoves and pack this stuff. All the food and everything. And I don't know whether he was using skis or not. He probably had snowshoes. People weren't using skis then. And had, yeah snowshoes. And he drove as far as he could go and then he walked. He walked into the area where he would be able to see -- expected to see the caribou. He was gone for about a week. And so he had all this food packaged and everything. And when he was putting it together, he wanted it as simple as possible. The one thing that he'd eat for all meals was rice and then he'd cut up this old fashioned ham, which was nice and dry, into chunks. And he put that -- a certain amount of those in, with a plastic bag. And he'd have to wrap the plastic bag. Each one of those was a meal. He had those all laid out there. All of the same amount. And so he didn't have to worry about what meal it was, it was all the same. He just loved rice and ham. He just loved it. He probably put some salt and pepper or something in there, too. But then all he had to do was heat up the water, dump this in, and cook it. And it was old-fashioned kind of rice, so it took a while. But, he'd do that. And so I said, "Ron, you're going to get damn tired of that." "Ah, I'll never be tired of this. I love it. And it's just so much more efficient this way. And it's the way I do it." So he took off. And so two things happened. One is when he came back, he said, "I'm never going to eat ham and rice again." He got tired of it. The other thing, he came back and he realized he had slept through a whole day. Days were so short and it was cold, and he had a good sleeping bag and he had a watch of some kind. And he said he woke up and it was still dark, so he went back to sleep. And he was good at sleeping. And he woke up again, it was still dark. The night

was long. He woke up again, now the sun was out. And he kept notes everyday so he was one day off when he came back. He had slept through one whole day.

KAREN BREWSTER: Well, you only have four hours. And so if you didn't wake up in those four hours then, yeah, how would you know? What great field work!

DAVID KLEIN: Right. He came back and suddenly, ooh, there's a day off.

KAREN BREWSTER: That's funny.

DAVID KLEIN: But he had a good sense of humor. He went out on some of these sheep counts with me, down in the Chugach Mountains. He was a fun guy. He's a good guy to be with in the field.

KAREN BREWSTER: So what other things were your field rations? Was there like dried vegetables or onions or something, or -- 'cause you probably didn't take fresh? Well, you did your fieldwork mostly in the summer, right?

DAVID KLEIN: If you're in the mountains, your focus is on -- you don't get too fancy on dried vegetables and stuff. You have something. And you could get dehydrated peas, and peas and carrots. Things like that. And to me, when you cook them up, you know, they tasted pretty much like the package.

KAREN BREWSTER: They still tasted dehydrated.

DAVID KLEIN: The freeze-dried stuff was like that anyway. But at any rate, oh chocolate. I used to take, you know, the semi-sweet in big chunks and that was great stuff. And for lunch, if you're out doing a lot of hiking, then you would want real concentrated stuff. And that includes raisins or dates or figs. And but you'd want cheese and if you had to take -- if you wanted some kind of bread or carbohydrates, you'd -- pilot crackers were okay. 'Cause there wasn't any bread that would keep in those days.

KAREN BREWSTER: What about nuts? Did you take nuts?

DAVID KLEIN: I think so, but I don't think they were -- Normally, you couldn't find them in the store. Already shelled nuts. They were seasonal. They could get things and pecans that you'd crack them for around Thanksgiving or Christmas. But then let's see what else?

KAREN BREWSTER: They didn't have peanut butter probably to take like they do now.

DAVID KLEIN: They had peanut butter, I'm pretty sure, but any glass or thing like that you wouldn't want to take. If you're going out for camping and you're from the road -- and we often worked during the hunting season on checking stations, and we could

usually have meat associated with being out there. From hunters or we could take a caribou ourselves and hang it up in the fall in a tree or something, and cut -- that was nirvana.

KAREN BREWSTER: That's not like all your survey work where you're hiking around in the mountains.

DAVID KLEIN: No.

KAREN BREWSTER: You had to carry everything yourself? Or did you have a base camp?

DAVID KLEIN: Some of both. But mostly you would have a base camp up high for the mountain sheep work. But how that got up there varied. Sometimes you had to carry it all the way up. Other places, like some of the work we did down in the Chugach by Anchorage, up above Eagle River and that area, we had the military. They talked the military into flying us in with a helicopter. And the one time they sent a guy from the military that didn't like the idea of flying one person in there and leaving them all by themselves. So they sent a young, enlisted man in. And he was a fun kid. Fun guy. And he wasn't much younger than I was, but he was a fun guy. And he had his birthday in there. He told me after he got in there. And I figured we had -- Oh, we had some -- because we were brought in by the helicopter, I had some pancake flour or something like that. So I made this birthday cake. And we had candles for fire starter or at night. So I had this one candle in the center and we took a picture of him with his birthday cake. That was fun. He was a fun guy.

KAREN BREWSTER: Well, it sounds like you had some fun.

DAVID KLEIN: Yeah. Well, I did have one problem in the Chugach Mountains on a trip where I was by myself and I had -- How did I get in there? I think I hiked in. I know I had to hike out. Yeah, I hiked in. And so I went pretty light, and had a small -- just a tiny pup tent, and camped up high. And I found this freshly dead lamb. And I packed it back to the camp. And I think I'd found it the day before I was going to be taken out. No, a couple days, that's right. I might have had some plastic bags or something. So I think I put it in a plastic bag and I thought, you know, what killed it? I couldn't see any evidence that it had been attacked by a predator. And it hadn't been there too long. And so I think I put it in a snow bank to keep it fresh. And then away from my tent because --

KAREN BREWSTER: I was going to say because --

DAVID KLEIN: -- there were bears up there. But bears hadn't found it. And so I put it in there and then the next day I was -- when I woke up I had an infection in my eye. And it got worse. And so it was kind of awkward because I was using a spotting scope and

watching the sheep and doing counts and I thought this is -- I hope it doesn't get much worse, because I still have to hike out. Which I did. Or maybe that time a helicopter was coming to get me? I forgot about that. Might have been? At any rate I was by myself then. So finally the next -- it was only a couple of days with the eye infection and then the helicopter came and took me back to Anchorage. And so I -- right away I wanted to go to a doctor but -- and then they said, yeah, you definitely should. And especially they thought maybe this sheep, lamb -- they wanted them to check that out. So they took that to some lab where they were -- I think it was the Public Health Service Lab, and examined that. In the meantime, I went to a doctor. And the doctor looked at it and he said, he thought it was a kind of an eye infection that -- it was not uncommon, but they said it's -- he didn't know but he thinks it was also common in animals. And so it might have been where I got this. And gave me some drugs, eye drops and things, which I used right correctly and it cleared it up. And I think then, in the diagnosis of the lamb, they said it was likely it had an infection that was an eye infection, as well. But they couldn't say for sure that that's what killed it, or why it got the infection. But they didn't see any other sign that that was a problem. But that was a little unnerving because I was -- It was in one eye, if it got into the other, it would --

KAREN BREWSTER: I didn't realize that there could be things that would transfer. I didn't realize that there are diseases that would be transferable from a sheep to a human.

DAVID KLEIN: Things like that, eye infection, yeah, that really would be quite possible, yeah.

KAREN BREWSTER: Wow, you were lucky. You mentioned bears, and I had wanted to ask you, especially when we were talking about the food and you're taking out bacon and ham, and -- I'm thinking okay, you're going into bear country. Did you have bear problems?

DAVID KLEIN: No, not really. In the first place, most everything was kept in plastic bags. And if we had -- most of the time we would put -- if there was a snow bank, we would put the food in the snow bank. Anything that -- But most of the things were so dry and probably that bacon, we wouldn't take bacon in a situation like that in the mountains where you're camping out. And if you had a summer sausage, you know, you had it in a plastic bag and kept it in that. And just sliced it off and then sealed it up again. And put all of this food out. But you had to be careful about the food too, because there were ground squirrels and they can get into everything. So you might have to pile rocks over it so the ground squirrels couldn't get in it. And ground squirrels would try to get into your tent. And generally we had a mosquito proof tent, but if you didn't zip it down properly, ground squirrels could get in. They'd get into the food and then it's hard to get them out without creating problems. And they get more blatant as you stay in one place for any

length of time, if there's any food scraps around. But we were conscientious about not having food in your tent.

KAREN BREWSTER: Yeah.

DAVID KLEIN: Unless, in some cases, we maybe figured there wasn't any other option and you just had to -- Slept with a gun. You always had a rifle or bear gun, potentially, with you.

KAREN BREWSTER: So did you ever have any interactions with bears?

DAVID KLEIN: Yeah, a few. But the only ones that I know, that can recall from that sheep work was I was hiking in the Talkeetna Mountains on a trail down utterly low and that was in mid-summer, I think. And this was a trail that had been used for horses. By hunters to get into this country. And it was lower hills with a lot of dwarf birch and some willows and then the streams where the willows would be more common. But the vegetation was mostly only about this high.

KAREN BREWSTER: Four feet?

DAVID KLEIN: Or less, yeah. And it was kind of hilly so there would be not good visibility too far up ahead. So I was hiking there, I think going in, and I came around a bend in the trail and there was a bear in the trail. And it was -- pretty sure it was a small grizzly. It wasn't a big grizzly. And it was like diagonally the trail went down and around and it was going down to get across a little stream. So it was coming up this trail, and then we saw one another about the same time. And I carried my rifle hooked over my Kelty [pack] frame. And so the first thing I did was take it off my shoulder, put a shell in the chamber. And then I was stand there and watch this thing. Then the next thing I wanted to do was grab my camera. But then it started coming up the trail and it was acting curious. And so I waved my arms a little bit and talked lowly. Or like "Hey, you don't come up here." Or something like that. And it kept acting curious. And so then it -- and it stopped for a minute and it was just there. And I thought -- and there was a clump of sod and I reached down and I picked that up and I threw it and it landed right on his back. I threw it up on a big arc and it landed on his back. I hadn't -- I thought if it landed in front of him, thought it might frighten him a little bit, but it landed on his back. And I could tell he felt it but it wasn't -- it was a sod that was pretty soft. But it didn't faze him at all. And then I started thinking. And it started coming again. And I thought how close do I let it come before it -- I hadn't studied up much on bluff charges and stuff like that. And so I didn't want to shoot this bear. And in those days if you shot a bear in self-defense, you've got to skin the thing out, too, and report it. That would screw me up and I'd have to go back out again. By this time I got the thing up there and you know -- So when should I start to squeeze this God damn trigger. And finally, just when it was probably a little closer than I should have let it come to be totally safe, it stopped. Must

have got my smell and turned around and it just ran back down the trail, and then off into the brush and disappeared over the -- I saw it some distance away going and running away. And I've had some other ones similar to that, but that one was a bit unnerving because I hadn't had much experience with bears that close to pay attention to me.

KAREN BREWSTER: Yeah, it sounds scary. Those bluff charges. I've not had to deal with that, but it sounds scary.

DAVID KLEIN: I had one after I went -- was working down in southeast. But, we'll leave that 'til later.

KAREN BREWSTER: Okay, I think we should stop for tonight.

DAVID KLEIN: That sounds good.

KAREN BREWSTER: That's a good place to stop.

End of tape.