

GENERAL NOTES

DISTRIBUTION OF THE WATER SHREW (*SOREX PALUSTRIS*) IN ALASKA

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Hall (1981) described the range of the water shrew (*Sorex palustris*) and reported the northernmost record of the species as an individual captured near the Grandin River (63°32'N, 118°20'W), Northwest Territories, Canada. The northernmost water shrew recorded by Hall (1981) for Alaska was

TABLE 1. Capture and sighting locations for the water shrew (*Sorex palustris*) in Alaska.

Location	Reference
Rudyard Bay (55°33'N, 130°52'W)	Swarth 1922
Chilkat River (59°17'N, 135°42'W)	Baker 1951
Chilkat River (59°20'N, 135°45'W)	Unpubl. Univ. Alaska Museum Record
Chilkat River (59°22'N, 135°48'W)	Unpubl. Univ. Alaska Museum Record
Peters Creek (61°24'N, 149°27'W)	Baker and Findley 1954
Peters Creek (61°24'N, 149°27'W)	Unpubl. Univ. Alaska Museum Record
West Fork of the Gulkana River (62°39'N, 145°57'W)	Unpubl. Univ. Alaska Museum Record
Iliamna Lake (exact locality unknown)	Manville and Young 1965
Denali National Park (63°42'N, 149°33'W)	Visual sighting, June 1983
Healy (63°51'N, 148°58'W)	This study

from Peters Creek, approximately 4 km NE of Anchorage. This note updates the distribution of *S. palustris* in Alaska and reports a northern range extension for this species (Table 1).

On 22 July 1981, a male water shrew was captured in a pit trap located on a revegetated roadside (elev. 550 m) near Healy, Alaska. The plant community at the capture-site was dominated by grasses, especially *Festuca rubra* L., *Alopecurus pratensis* L., and *Bromus inermis* Leyss. The individual was assumed to be *S. p. navigator* based on distribution (Hall 1981). The animal was deposited in the University of Alaska Museum, Fairbanks, as specimen UAM 13478.

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