



Plate 79.—Classification: SYSTEM Palustrine, CLASS Scrub-Shrub Wetland, SUBCLASS Broad-leaved Evergreen, DOMINANCE TYPE *Ledum decumbens*, WATER REGIME Saturated, WATER CHEMISTRY Fresh, SOIL Mineral. Subordinate species include: cloudberry (*Rubus chamaemorus*), mountain cranberry (*Vaccinium vitis-idaea*), crowberry (*Empetrum nigrum*), dwarf birch (*Betula nana*), reindeer moss (*Cladina* spp.), sedge (*Carex aquatilis*), bluejoint (*Calamagrostis canadensis*), and Alaska spiraea (*Spiraea beauverdiana*). Shrubs are less than 20 cm (8 in) tall. Although this site looks like a dry heath, permafrost at a depth of only 15-20 cm (6-8 in) keeps the soil saturated near the surface throughout the growing season. (Taluk River area, Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta, Alaska; July 1985; Photo by F. C. Golet)