



UNIVERSITY of ALASKA ANCHORAGE

3211 Providence Dr
Anchorage, Alaska 99508-8104

COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES
Department of Biological Sciences
(907) 786-4770
Fax: (907) 786-4607

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MEMO

TO: Placer Moose Project Personnel
Marc Perry

FROM: Don Spalinger

SUBJECT: Forage Digestibility Analysis: Team Schedule

The Digestibility team will meet for the first time on Friday Sept. 8 at 1:00 PM. I will review the objectives of the team's project, and give them background materials and an overview of the analytical procedures to be used. The team will set a meeting time for the week of Sept. 11 to begin learning the procedures of detergent extraction (NDF and ADF extraction). They will meet again sometime on the week of the 25th, and review the next procedures (lignin and cellulose isolation). We will meet again on the week of Oct. 16 to learn how to run the FTIR and allow the team to practice with samples from previous digestion trials on moose in Palmer. Prior to this meeting, the team will have extracted a series of samples from nylon bag and digestion trials on moose last year, and have these ready to run on the FTIR. They will use these techniques to prepare forages from the Placer Valley and Juneau Creek field collections for FTIR analysis beginning on Nov. 10, when we meet again. Prior to this date, the team will have demonstrated proficiency in fiber extraction and isolation, and have done a thorough review of literature pertaining to FTIR, and the use of FTIR for the analysis of complex chemical substrates, particularly forage carbohydrates. The team will then continue with the analysis of the forages collected in Placer and Juneau Creek.

The team will run FTIR on all the samples collected and run in the nylon bag digestions done by the digestion kinetics team.