



Volunteer Brian Allen (L) and RAPS student Pat Snow (R) prepare to sample the vegetation in this bog/sedge area. (PB 7/93)

Measurements of wildlife habitat components were derived from wildlife locations and circles generated around said locations on plant community and physical feature digital map data. Wildlife locations are obtained from sightings, tracks, or transmitter affixed animals. Circles, of multiple radii generated around locations, quantify what plant communities form the complex or complexes used by a species, how much area the complex must occupy within specific distances, the proportion of each community component of the complex, and the physical features important to the complex (water, topography, roads, etc.). The information from the circles can be applied to the entire Refuge or other area for a full coverage map and data base, if the wildlife locations were collected in an unbiased manner and sample size is adequate.

#### **Vegetation and Habitat Mapping Manual**

A vegetation and habitat mapping manual entitled "Classification and Mapping of Vegetation on National Wildlife Refuges in Alaska for Conservation of Fish and Wildlife Populations and Habitats in their Natural Diversity" was drafted in 1993. Topics discussed were field determination and mapping of environmental gradients, vegetation succession and plant communities, determination of mapping units, and map media. Also included were wildlife habitat classification and mapping (discussed above), and classification of wetlands and deepwater habitats (discussed below). Applications of this data for wildlife population and