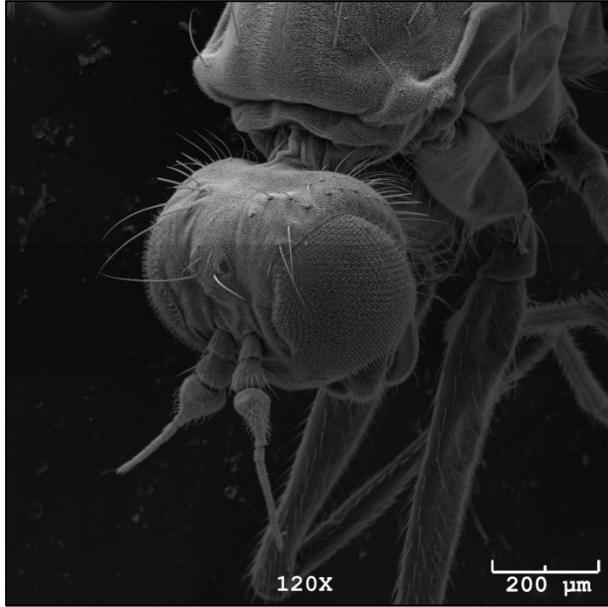
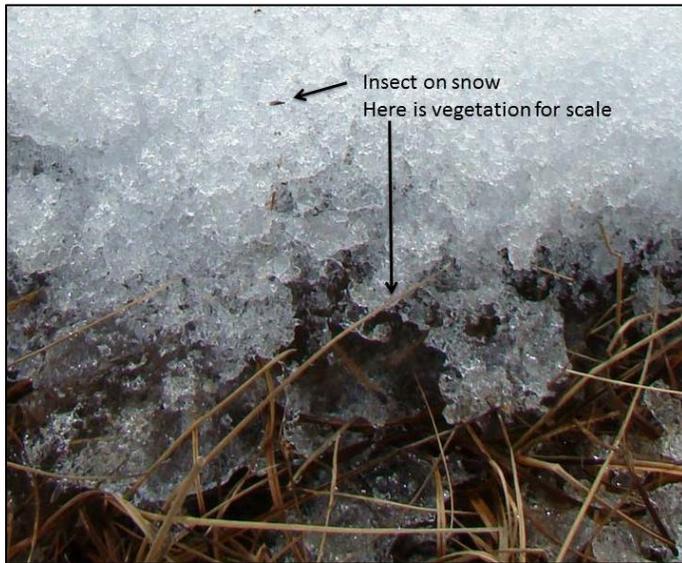


Spring 2013 Newsletter  
Mystery Picture



Jody Clark from Winnemucca, Nevada, was the first person to answer the question on the Mystery Picture. She googled Todd Sformo and found the picture online!

The Mystery Picture is a Scanning Electron Micrograph taken by Todd Sformo (NSB-DWM) at the Advanced Instrumentation Laboratory, University of Alaska Fairbanks. This insect is a fungus gnat called *Clinocera nivalis*, a holarctic species found in North America from Quebec to Alaska. It was collected on the tundra just outside of Barrow. It is a freeze-avoiding insect, meaning that if it freezes, it dies. So it must get through the winter in Barrow by avoiding freezing. Todd has found that it can avoid freezing down to -31F.



Here is a picture of the fungus gnat on snow on the tundra,

and one of the claws at the end of a leg.

For more information on these insects, contact Todd Sformo at [todd.sformo@north-slope.org](mailto:todd.sformo@north-slope.org)

