



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE

Nancy Friday, PhD
National Marine Mammal Laboratory
Alaska Fisheries Science Center
7600 Sand Point Way NE
Seattle, WA 98115-6349 U.S.A.
+1 206-526-6266 (phone)
+1 206-526-6615 (fax)
Nancy.Friday@noaa.gov

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Contracting Officer's Technical Representative
Attention: Carol Fairfield
Environmental Sciences Management Section
Alaska OCS Region
Bureau of Ocean Energy Management
3801 Centerpoint Drive, Suite 500
Anchorage, AK 99503-5823

Dear Carol:

Please accept this letter as the Annual Report for work completed in 2016 on the BOEM-funded Arctic Whale Ecology Study (ARCWEST; Inter/Intra Agency Agreement Number M12PG00021, AKC-108). All of the ARCWEST PIs are currently working on data analysis and writing for the upcoming draft final report. In addition, a number of presentations are being prepared for the 2017 Alaska Marine Science Symposium.

Below is a brief status report:

Visual Observation: analysis is completed and ready for inclusion in the Final Report.

Satellite Tagging: analysis is completed and ready for inclusion in the Final Report.

Passive acoustics: analysis is ongoing and on-track for inclusion in Final Report.

Lower Trophic Level Sampling: all zooplankton data will be processed by the end of this month and the analysis is on track for Final Report.

Physical Oceanographic Sampling: oceanographic data analysis is nearly complete and on track for Final Report.

I hope this satisfies your needs for this annual report. As always, the reports will be uploaded to the NMML website in the next couple of days (<http://www.afsc.noaa.gov/nmml/cetacean/arcwest.php>)

Sincerely,

Nancy Friday
Program Coordinator
Arctic Whale Ecology Study (ARCWEST)

Enclosure: 13 Interim color jpegs

