

ASAMM-Beaufort – Flight 30 – 18 September 2015

Area flown: Block 3, 1 complete transect and 1 partial transect; block 11, 2 partial transects; block 1, 5 complete transects; block 2, 5 complete transects and 1 partial transect.

Total hours flown: 5.6 (2 flights)

Total transect hours: 3.4

Number of bowhead whales seen: 2 (0 calves)

Weather and visibility: Skies were overcast and partly cloudy. Sea state ranged from Beaufort 2 to 5. Visibility varied from 0 to 10 km, with visual impediments including precipitation, low ceilings, glare, and ice on the window. Sea ice cover ranged from 0 – 8% broken floe in the area surveyed. Low ceilings and freezing precipitation prevented completion of transects.

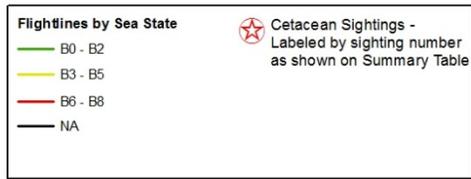
Sightings: Bowhead whales, belugas (including 1 calf), and polar bears. All of the polar bears were on Cross Island. Post-flight review of aerial photographs confirmed that there were 17 polar bears walking, feeding, and resting.

Preliminary Summary, Flight 30 Date: 9/18/2015

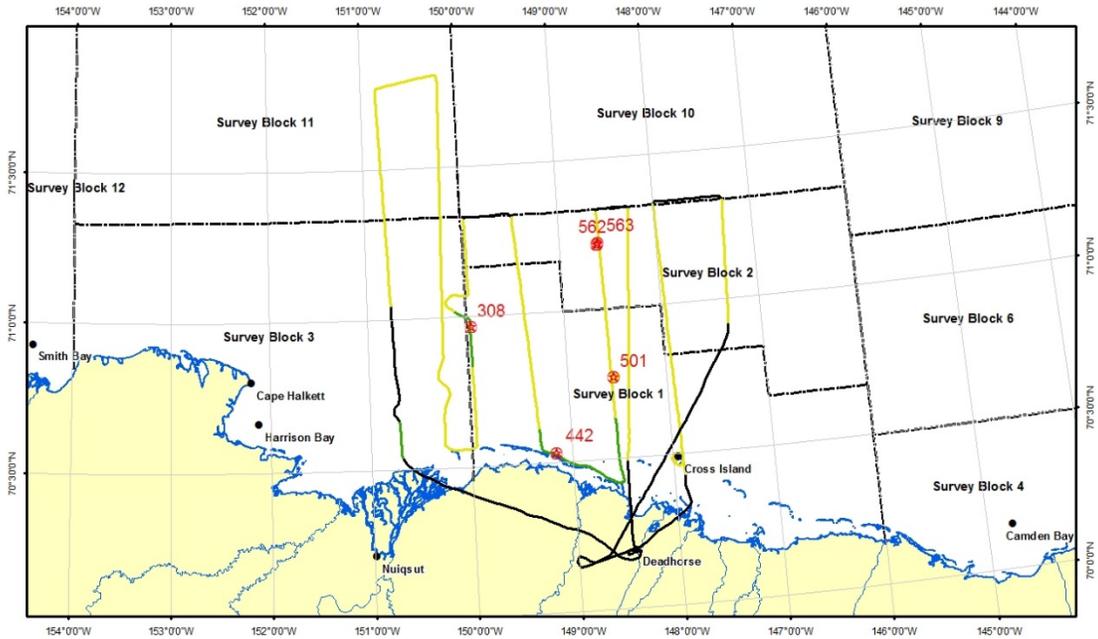
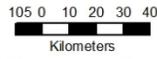
Total bowhead whales: 2	Start time: 9/18/2015 12:07:43 PM	End time: 9/18/2015 6:27:20 PM
Bowhead whale sightings: 2	Transect minutes: 204	Transect km: 711.3
Bowhead whales on transect: 2	Circling minutes: 12	Circling km: 41.6
Bowhead whale cow-calf pairs: 0	Trans+Circ minutes: 216	Trans+Circ km: 752.9
Bowhead whale cow-calf pairs on transect: 0	Search minutes: 34	Search km: 117.4
Bowhead whale repeats: 0	Total minutes: 335	Total km: 1292
Possible repeats: 0	Deadhead minutes: 85	Deadhead km: 421.7
Total gray whales: 0	Search blocks: 3, 11, 1, 2, 10	
Total belugas: 4	Transect blocks: 3, 11, 1, 2	
Other whale sightings: 0		
Walrus: No		
Total polar bears: 17		

Cetacean Sightings:

Event	Lat	Long	Block	Species	Total	Calves	Behavior	Swim Direction	On Effort
308	70.97	-149.96	1	bowhead whale	1	0	swim	300	True
442	70.53	-149.16	1	beluga	1	0	swim	290	False
501	70.77	-148.56	1	bowhead whale	1	0	swim	267	True
562	71.21	-148.59	2	beluga	2	1	swim	60	True
563	71.22	-148.59	2	beluga	1	0	swim	356	True



NOAAAFSC/NMML-BOEM
 Aerial Surveys of Arctic Marine Mammals Program
 Flight 30, 9/18/2015 12:04:02 PM



Polar bears on Cross Island feeding on bowhead whale carcass, ASAMM-Beaufort Flight 30, 18 September 2015.