

ASAMM-Beaufort – Flight 31 – 19 September 2015

Area flown: Block 1, 2 complete transects; block 2, 2 complete transects; block 4, 4 partial transects; block 6, 4 complete transects. Coastal search effort from Demarcation Bay to just east of Kaktovik.

Total hours flown: 6.2 (2 flights)

Total transect hours: 3.3

Number of bowhead whales seen: 2 (0 calves)

Weather and visibility: Skies were partly cloudy to overcast. Sea state ranged from Beaufort 2 to 5. Visibility varied from 0 km to unlimited, with visual impediments including precipitation, low ceilings, glare, and ice on window. Sea ice cover ranged from 0 – 40% broken floe. Transect effort in Camden Bay was impaired by low ceilings and precipitation.

Sightings: Bowhead whales, belugas, polar bears, and one small unidentified pinniped. The polar bears were seen on a barrier island north of Demarcation Bay.

Preliminary Summary, Flight 31 Date: 9/19/2015

Total bowhead whales: 2	Start time: 9/19/2015 12:36:59 PM	End time: 9/19/2015 7:40:15 PM
Bowhead whale sightings: 2	Transect minutes: 196	Transect km:675
Bowhead whales on transect: 2	Circling minutes: 3	Circling km: 8.3
Bowhead whale cow-calf pairs: 0	Trans+Circ minutes: 199	Trans+Circ km: 683.3
Bowhead whale cow-calf pairs on transect: 0	Search minutes: 45	Search km: 163.3
Bowhead whale repeats: 0	Total minutes: 373	Total km: 1536.9
Possible repeats: 0	Deadhead minutes: 129	Deadhead km: 690.3
Total gray whales: 0	Search blocks: 5, 9, 4, 10, 1	
Total belugas: 3	Transect blocks: 4, 6, 1, 2	
Other whale sightings: 0		
Walruses: No		
Total polar bears: 2		

Cetacean Sightings:

Event	Lat	Long	Block	Species	Total	Calves	Behavior	Swim Direction	On Effort
238	70.73	-144.15	6	beluga	1	0	swim	299	True
352	70.32	-144.6	4	bowhead whale	1	0	swim	267	True
438	70.34	-145.35	4	bowhead whale	1	0	swim	277	True
773	70.96	-146.18	2	beluga	1	0	swim	189	True
841	71.08	-146.64	2	beluga	1	0	swim	270	True

NOAAAFSC/NMML-BOEM
Aerial Surveys of Arctic Marine Mammals Program
Flight 31, 9/19/2015 12:28:28 PM

Flightlines by Sea State

- B0 - B2
- B3 - B5
- B6 - B8
- NA

Cetacean Sightings -
Labeled by sighting number
as shown on Summary Table

