

ASAMM-Chukchi – Flight 217 – 6 August 2015

Area flown: Block 3, 4 complete transects; block 11, 2 partial and 2 complete transects; search survey from Cape Halkett to Barrow.

Total hours flown: 3.5

Total transect hours: 1.3

Number of bowhead whales seen: 0 (no calves)

Weather and visibility: Skies were partly cloudy to overcast. Sea state ranged from Beaufort 2-6.

Visibility ranged from <1 to 10 km, with glare, low ceilings, fog and haze. Sea ice in the area surveyed ranged from 0 to 85 percent broken floe. Offshore fog and low ceilings in the survey area, as well as the Barrow Airport runway closing time, curtailed further effort.

Sightings: Belugas (including one calf) and one polar bear. The polar bear was on a barrier island east of Smith Bay.

Preliminary Summary, Flight 217 Date: 8/6/2015

Total bowhead whales: 0	Start time: 8/6/2015 4:33:36 PM	End time: 8/6/2015 8:03:57 PM
Bowhead whale sightings: 0	Transect minutes: 110	Transect km:388.8
Bowhead whales on transect: 0	Circling minutes: 5	Circling km: 0
Bowhead whale cow-calf pairs: 0	Trans+Circ minutes: 115	Trans+Circ km: 388.8
Bowhead whale cow-calf pairs on transect: 0	Search minutes: 61	Search km: 249
Bowhead whale repeats: 0	Total minutes: 210	Total km: 786.2
Possible repeats: 0	Deadhead minutes: 34	Deadhead km: 148.4
Total gray whales: 0	Search blocks: 11, 3, 0, 12	
Total belugas: 4	Transect blocks: 3, 11	
Other whale sightings: 0		
Walrus: No		
Total polar bears: 1		

Cetacean Sightings:

Event	Lat	Long	Block	Species	Total	Calves	Behavior	Swim Direction	On Effort
289	71.78	-152.95	11	beluga	2	0	rest	-1	True
552	71.37	-156.3	12	beluga	2	1	swim	108	False

NOAA AFSC NMML-BOEM
Aerial Surveys of Arctic Marine Mammals Program
Flight 217, 8/6/2015 4:24:29 PM

