

ASAMM-Chukchi – Flight 227 – 24 August 2016

Area flown: Transect 11, partial; coastal transect between Ledyard Bay and Point Barrow.

Total hours flown: 4.0

Total transect hours: 1.8

Number of bowhead whales seen: 0 (0 calves)

Weather and visibility: Skies were clear to overcast. Sea state ranged from Beaufort 2-4.

Visibility ranged from none to unlimited, with low ceilings and glare. No sea ice was observed in the area surveyed. Low ceilings prevented complete coverage of transect 11.

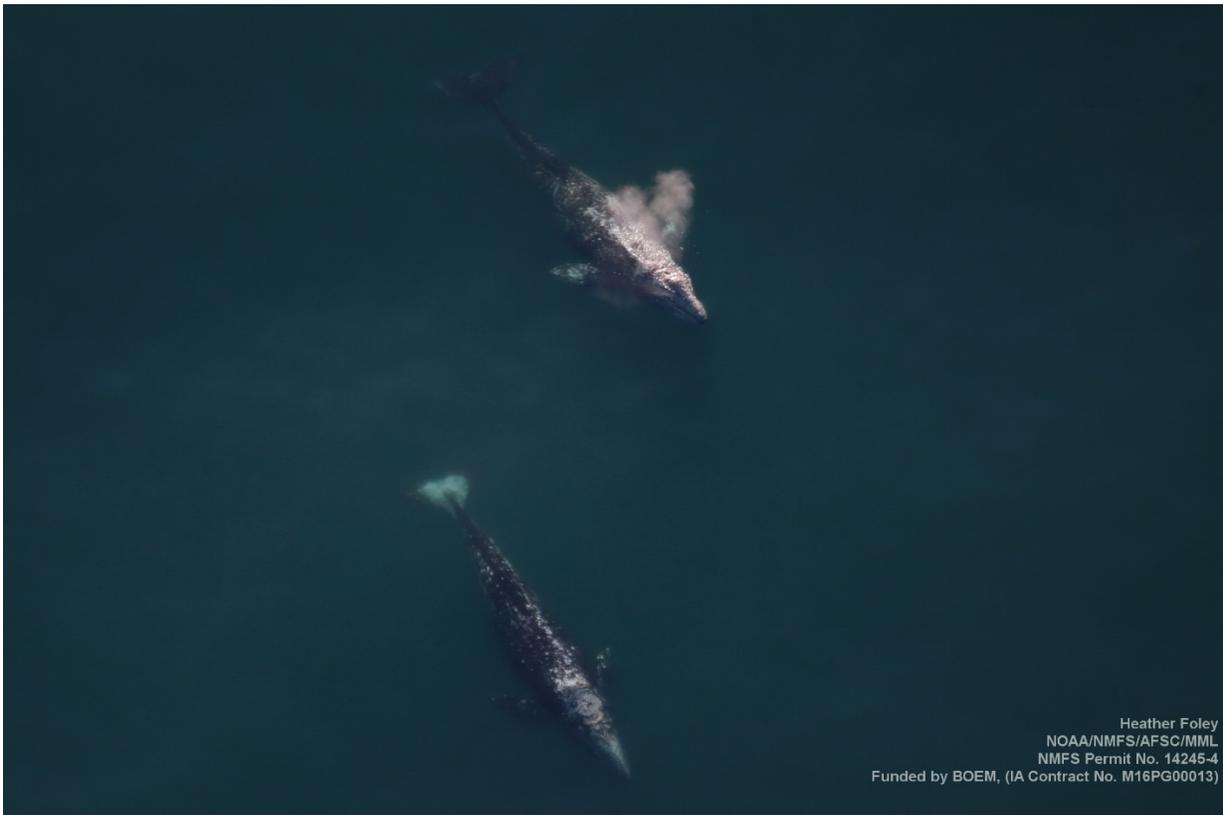
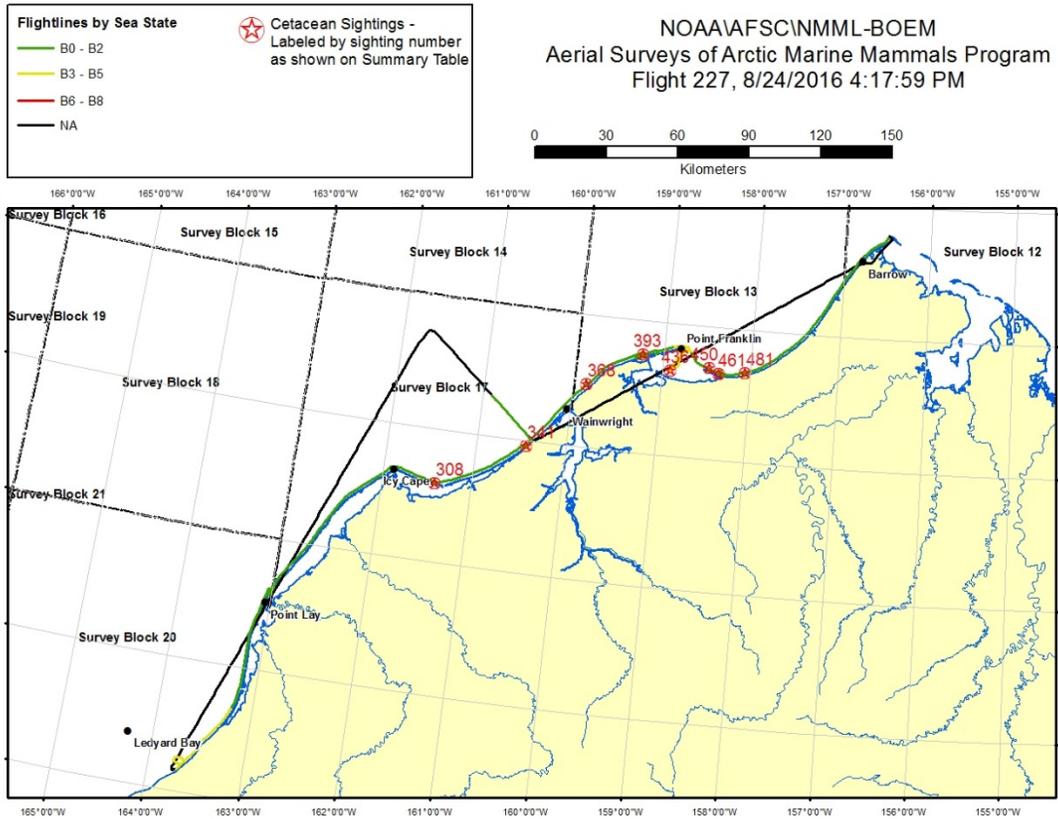
Sightings: Gray whales (including 2 calves), 1 bearded seal, unidentified pinnipeds, and small unidentified pinnipeds. A total of 8 carcasses were observed on the beach, including 2 gray whales (repeat sightings from 24 July and 22 August), 2 walrus (repeat sighting from 23 August), and 4 unidentified pinnipeds. Two gray whales were observed feeding within Peard Bay (event 436).

Preliminary Summary, Flight 227 Date: Wednesday, August 24, 2016

Total bowhead whales: 0	Start time: 8/24/2016 4:22:31 PM	End time: 8/24/2016 8:24:40 PM
Bowhead whale sightings: 0	Transect minutes: 106	Transect km: 426.6
Bowhead whales on transect: 0	Circling minutes: 52	Circling km: 147.6
Bowhead whale cow-calf pairs: 0	Trans+Circ minutes: 158	Trans+Circ km: 574.2
Bowhead whale cow-calf pairs on transect: 0	Search minutes: 0	Search km: 0.7
Bowhead whale repeats: 0	Total minutes: 242	Total km: 1005.3
Possible repeats: 0	Deadhead minutes: 84	Deadhead km: 430.4
Total gray whales: 17	Search blocks: 12,17	
Total belugas: 0	Transect blocks: 12,13,17,20	
Other whale sightings: 0		
walrus: yes		
Total polar bears: 0		

Cetacean Sightings:

Event	Lat	Long	Block	Species	Total	Calves	Behavior	Swim Direction	On Effort
308	70.31	-161.4	17	gray whale	1	0	dead	-1	True
341	70.49	-160.47	17	gray whale	1	0	dead	-1	True
368	70.74	-159.84	13	gray whale	2	0	swim	43	True
393	70.88	-159.25	13	gray whale	1	0	swim	-1	True
436	70.82	-158.91	13	gray whale	2	0	feed	-1	False
450	70.84	-158.47	13	gray whale	2	1	mill	-1	False
461	70.83	-158.35	13	gray whale	6	0	feed	-1	True
481	70.84	-158.05	13	gray whale	2	1	swim	73	True



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NOAA/NMFS/AFSC/MML
NMFS Permit No. 14245-4
Funded by BOEM, (IA Contract No. M16PG00013)

Pair of gray whales seen approximately 10 km northeast of Wainwright, Alaska (event 368), ASAMM-Chukchi Flight 227, 24 August 2016.