

ASAMM-Beaufort – Flight 14 – 16 August 2017

Area flown: Blocks 1 and 2, 4 complete transects; block 3, 2 partial transects; block 5, 2 complete transects and 2 partial transects; block 7, 2 partial transects.

Total hours flown: 8.8 (2 flights)

Total transect hours: 4.1

Number of bowhead whales seen: 57 (22 calves)

Weather and visibility: Skies were overcast to clear. Sea state ranged from Beaufort 1 to 5.

Visibility ranged from 0 km to unlimited; with glare, haze, and low ceilings. Sea ice ranged from 0 to 1 percent broken floe in the area surveyed.

Sightings: Bowhead whales, belugas (including 4 calves), bearded seals, unidentified pinnipeds, small unidentified pinnipeds, and a polar bear. The polar bear was resting on a barrier island spit northeast of Deadhorse.

Preliminary Summary, Flight 14 Date: Wednesday, August 16, 2017

Total bowhead whales: 57	Start time: 8/16/2017 10:24:33 AM	End time: 8/16/2017 8:15:50 PM
Bowhead whale sightings: 33	Transect minutes: 244	Transect km: 925.8
Bowhead whales on transect: 15	Circling minutes: 58	Circling km: 165
Bowhead whale calves: 22	Trans+Circ minutes: 302	Trans+Circ km: 1090.8
Bowhead whale calves on transect: 4	Search minutes: 36	Search km: 115
Bowhead whale repeats: 0	Total minutes: 529	Total km: 2181.5
Possible repeats: 0	Deadhead minutes: 191	Deadhead km: 975.7
Total gray whales: 0	Search blocks: 1,2,3,5,7	
Total belugas: 19	Transect blocks: 1,2,3,5,7	
Other whale sightings: 0		
walrus: no		
Total polar bears: 1		

Cetacean sightings:

Event	Lat	Long	Block	Species	Total	Calves	Behavior	Swim Direction	On Effort
141	69.84	-140.46	5	bowhead whale	2	1	rest	-1	True
146	69.84	-140.42	5	bowhead whale	1	0	swim	-1	False
149	69.86	-140.41	5	bowhead whale	2	1	swim	-1	False
157	69.83	-140.38	5	bowhead whale	1	0	feed	-1	False
167	69.9	-140.45	5	beluga	1	0	dead	-1	True
175	69.89	-140.51	5	bowhead whale	1	1	swim	-1	False
178	69.89	-140.54	5	bowhead whale	2	1	dive	-1	False
182	69.91	-140.55	5	bowhead whale	1	1	swim	-1	False
187	69.92	-140.59	5	bowhead whale	3	2	dive	-1	False
191	69.92	-140.59	5	bowhead whale	1	1	swim	-1	False
193	69.92	-140.58	5	bowhead whale	2	0	swim	-1	False
284	69.91	-140.95	5	bowhead whale	2	0	swim	-1	True
287	69.9	-140.91	5	bowhead whale	6	1	swim	-1	False
291	69.91	-140.93	5	bowhead whale	1	1	swim	-1	False
303	69.88	-140.95	5	bowhead whale	2	1	swim	-1	True
305	69.87	-140.96	5	bowhead whale	2	1	dive	-1	False
308	69.87	-140.96	5	bowhead whale	1	1	rest	-1	False
324	69.76	-140.95	5	beluga	10	2	swim	298	True
325	69.75	-140.95	5	beluga	7	2	swim	327	True
369	69.94	-141.46	5	bowhead whale	2	0	dive	-1	True
370	69.94	-141.46	5	bowhead whale	2	1	rest	-1	True
377	69.95	-141.44	5	bowhead whale	3	1	swim	-1	False
381	69.94	-141.41	5	bowhead whale	1	1	swim	-1	False
387	69.96	-141.4	5	bowhead whale	1	0	dive	-1	False
391	69.94	-141.46	5	bowhead whale	3	2	swim	-1	False
397	69.94	-141.43	5	bowhead whale	4	1	swim	-1	False
409	70.02	-141.46	5	bowhead whale	1	0	swim	-1	True
411	70.03	-141.46	5	bowhead whale	1	0	swim	274	False
412	70.04	-141.48	5	bowhead whale	1	0	dive	-1	False
424	70.12	-141.46	5	bowhead whale	1	0	swim	-1	True
428	70.12	-141.35	5	bowhead whale	1	0	swim	-1	False
430	70.12	-141.31	5	bowhead whale	1	1	swim	-1	False

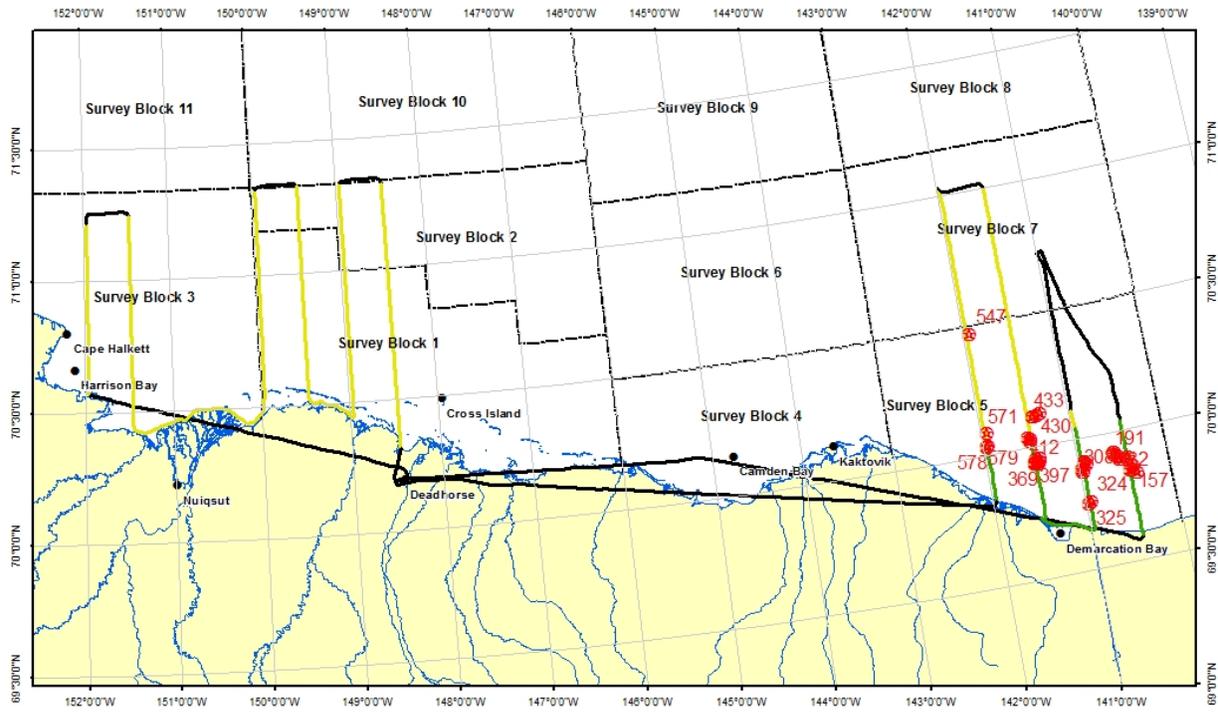
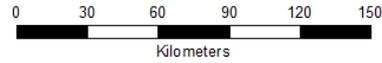
433	70.11	-141.39	5	bowhead whale	2	1	swim	-1	False
547	70.47	-141.95	5	beluga	1	0	swim	358	True
571	70.08	-141.95	5	bowhead whale	1	0	swim	326	True
578	70.03	-141.96	5	bowhead whale	1	0	swim	91	True
579	70.03	-141.96	5	bowhead whale	1	1	swim	272	True

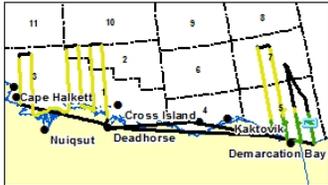
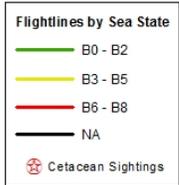
Flightlines by Sea State

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

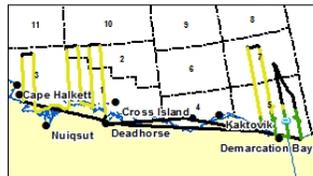
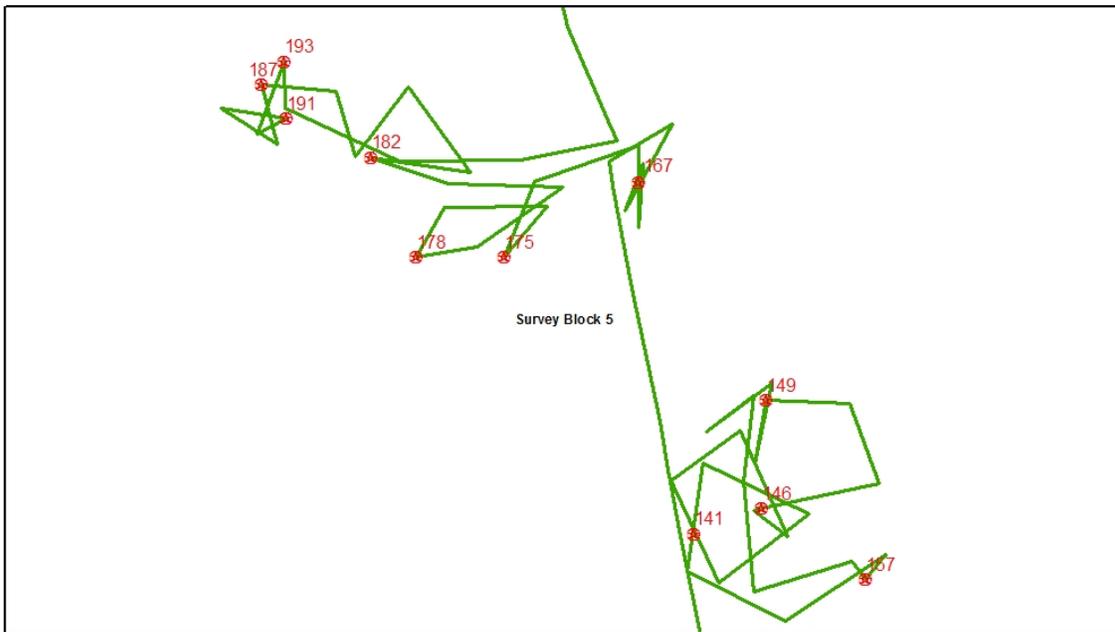
Cetacean Sightings - Labeled by sighting number as shown on Summary Table

NOAA/AFSC/MML-BOEM
Aerial Surveys of Arctic Marine Mammals Program
Flight 14, 8/16/2017 10:24:33 AM

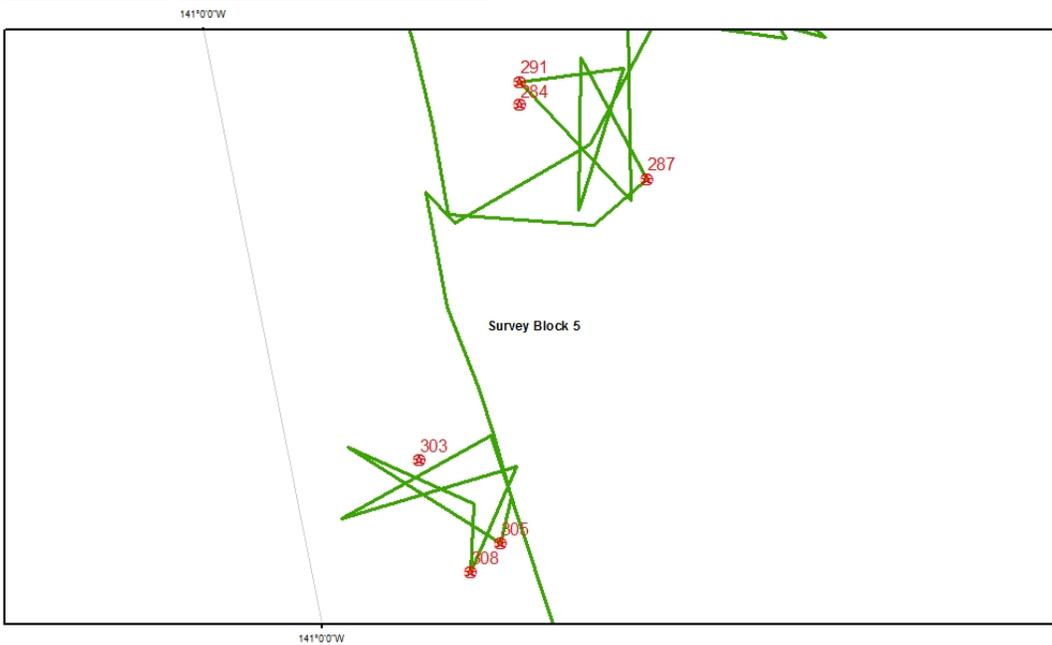
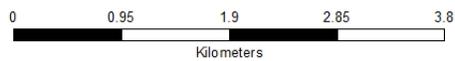


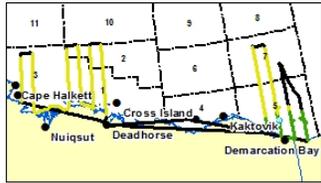
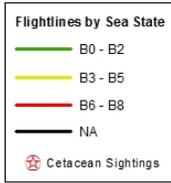


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 Aerial Surveys of Arctic Marine Mammals Program
 Flight 14, High Density Cluster 1, 8/16/2017

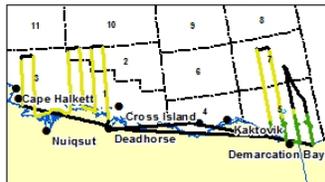
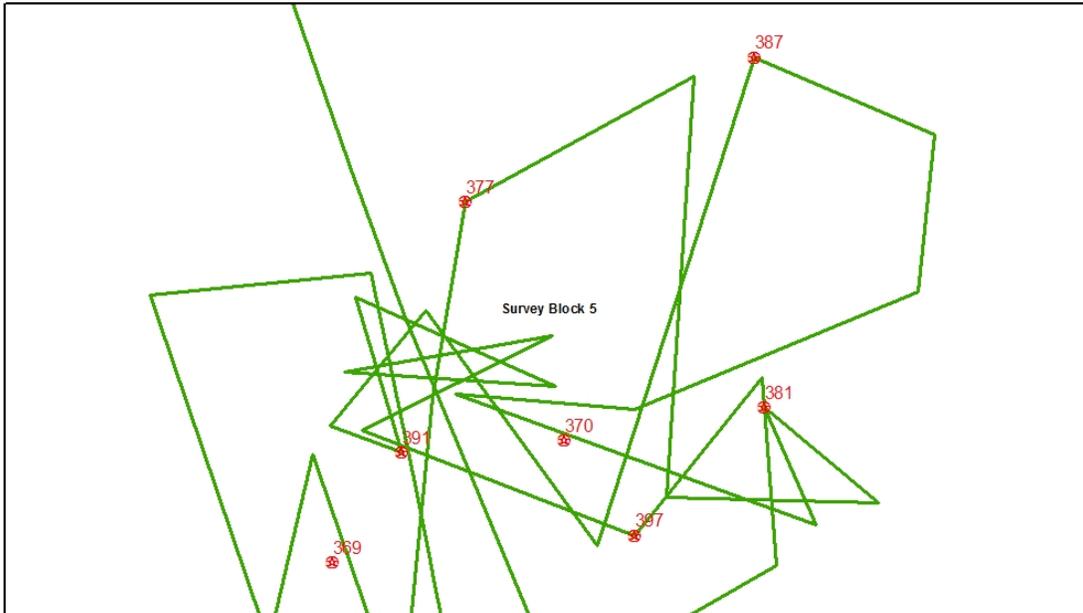
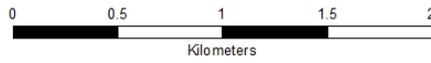


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 Flight 14, High Density Cluster 2, 8/16/2017

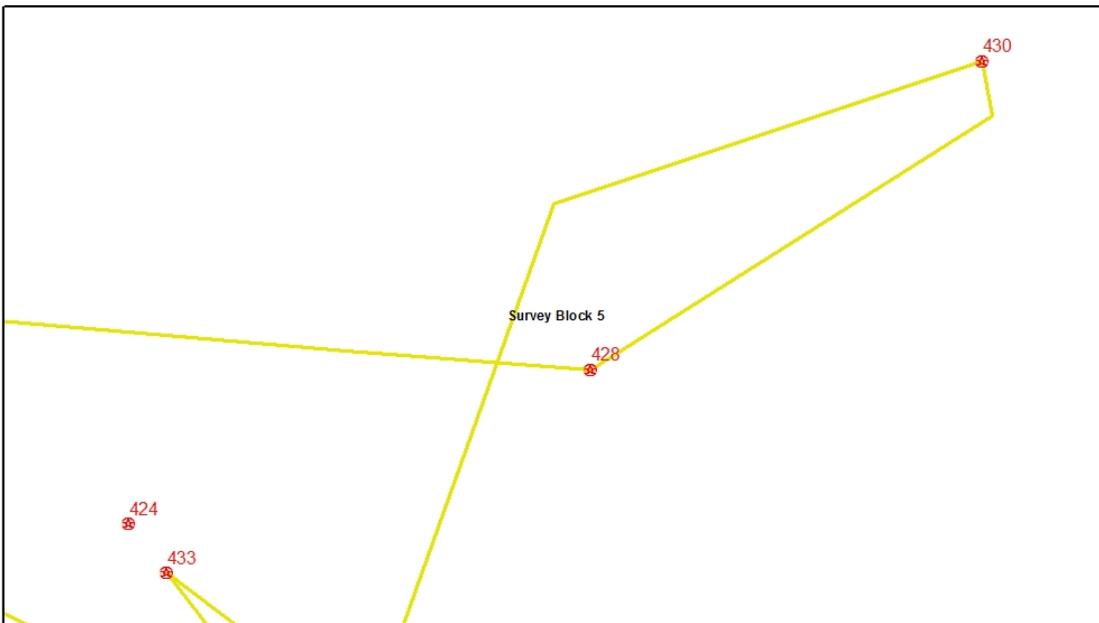
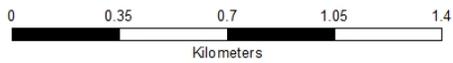




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 Aerial Surveys of Arctic Marine Mammals Program
 Flight 14, High Density Cluster 3, 8/16/2017



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 Aerial Surveys of Arctic Marine Mammals Program
 Flight 14, High Density Cluster 4, 8/16/2017





This mother bowhead, calf at her side, may be easy to recognize when seen again due to the white scar marks all along her rostrum from living in an often frozen ocean. This cow-calf pair was observed approximately 40 km northeast of Demarcation Bay, Alaska (event 149) during ASAMM-Beaufort Flight 14, 16 August 2017.



Bowhead whale cow-calf pair observed approximately 30 km north of Demarcation Bay, Alaska (event 391), during ASAMM-Beaufort Flight 14, 16 August 2017. The calf was nuzzling mom just prior to rolling down her side as she surfaced beneath it. On the large white chin of mom, orange splotches are visible that may be encrusted diatoms (small phytoplankton).



Just like mom! A bowhead whale cow-calf pair take synchronized breaths at the surface approximately 30 km north of Demarcation Bay, Alaska (event 391), during ASAMM-Beaufort Flight 14, 16 August 2017. This pair was followed closely by another larger calf, whose mom was presumably still deep below the surface.



A bowhead whale calf observed exploring on its own approximately 30 km north of Demarcation Bay, Alaska (event 397), during ASAMM-Beaufort Flight 14, 16 August 2017. This calf was in the vicinity of several other bowhead whales, adults and calves. Many of the adults were spending little time at the surface and returning to the waters below with flukes raised high, possibly indicating subsurface feeding.