

ASAMM-Beaufort – Flight 19 – 25 August 2017

Area flown: Block 4, 2 complete transects; block 5, 2 complete transects; block 6, 2 complete transects; block 7, 2 complete transects; coastal transect from west of Kaktovik to approximately 30 km ENE of Deadhorse.

Total hours flown: 4.5

Total transect hours: 2.4

Number of bowhead whales seen: 27 (6 calves)

Weather and visibility: Skies were overcast to partly cloudy. Sea state ranged from Beaufort 2 to 3. Visibility ranged from 0 to 10 km; with glare and low ceilings. There was no sea ice in the area surveyed.

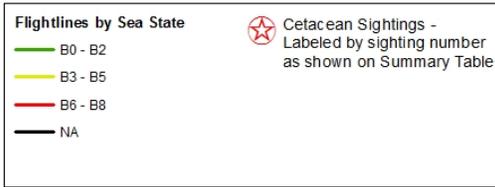
Sightings: Bowhead whales, belugas, bearded seals, one unidentified pinniped, small unidentified pinnipeds, and polar bears. The polar bears were all resting on barrier islands.

Preliminary Summary, Flight 19 Date: Friday, August 25, 2017

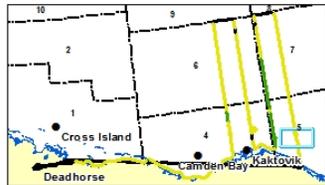
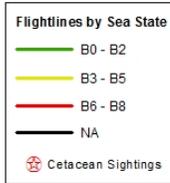
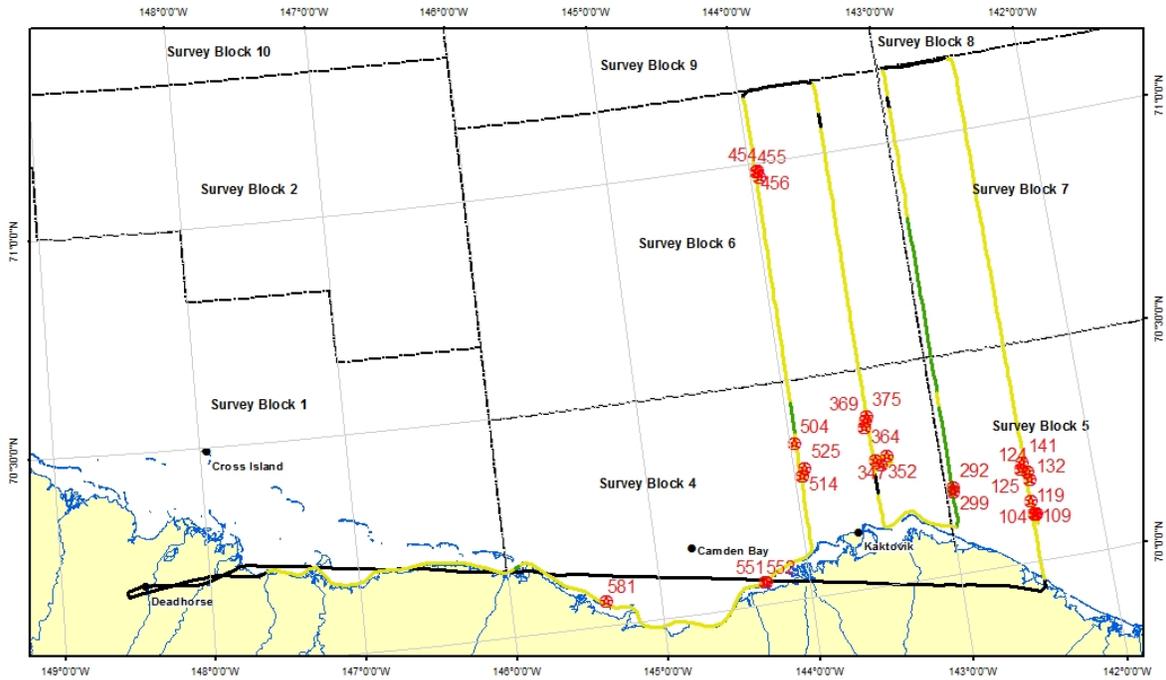
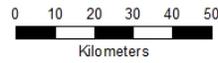
Total bowhead whales: 27	Start time: 8/25/2017 1:00:05 PM	End time: 8/25/2017 5:31:59 PM
Bowhead whale sightings: 19	Transect minutes: 144	Transect km: 550.3
Bowhead whales on transect: 19	Circling minutes: 38	Circling km: 105.7
Bowhead whale calves: 6	Trans+Circ minutes: 182	Trans+Circ km: 656
Bowhead whale calves on transect: 5	Search minutes: 24	Search km: 93.8
Bowhead whale repeats: 0	Total minutes: 271	Total km: 1072.1
Possible repeats: 0	Deadhead minutes: 66	Deadhead km: 322.3
Total gray whales: 0	Search blocks: 1,4,5,6,7	
Total belugas: 8	Transect blocks: 4,5,6,7	
Other whale sightings: 0		
Walrus: no		
Total polar bears: 6		

Cetacean Sightings:

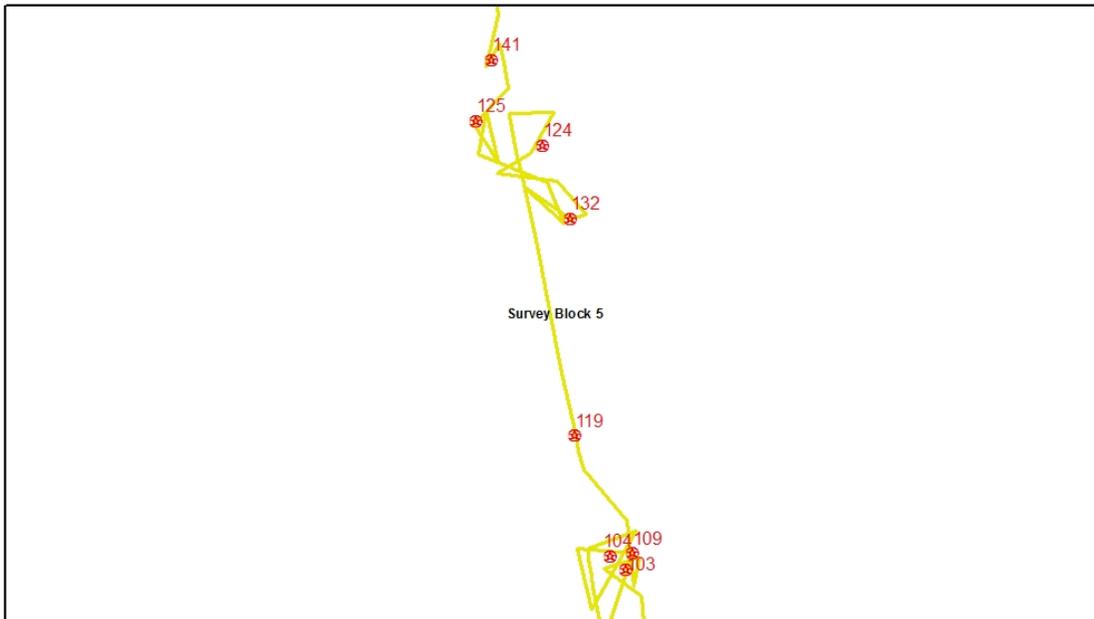
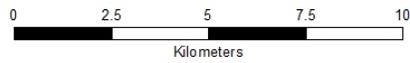
Event	Lat	Long	Block	Species	Total	Calves	Behavior	Swim Direction	On Effort
103	70.11	-142.46	5	bowhead whale	2	0	feed	-1	True
104	70.11	-142.46	5	bowhead whale	2	1	swim	4	True
109	70.11	-142.43	5	bowhead whale	1	0	swim	-1	False
119	70.14	-142.45	5	bowhead whale	2	1	rest	-1	True
124	70.2	-142.46	5	bowhead whale	2	1	swim	-1	True
125	70.21	-142.46	5	bowhead whale	1	0	swim	183	True
132	70.19	-142.43	5	bowhead whale	2	1	mill	-1	False
141	70.23	-142.46	5	bowhead whale	1	0	swim	267	True
292	70.2	-142.96	5	bowhead whale	1	0	rest	-1	True
299	70.19	-142.95	5	bowhead whale	1	0	feed	-1	False
336	70.29	-143.46	4	bowhead whale	1	0	swim	181	True
347	70.29	-143.36	4	bowhead whale	1	0	rest	-1	False
352	70.27	-143.4	4	bowhead whale	1	0	rest	-1	False
364	70.37	-143.46	4	bowhead whale	2	1	swim	-1	True
369	70.38	-143.46	4	bowhead whale	1	0	swim	274	True
375	70.39	-143.44	4	bowhead whale	1	0	swim	-1	False
454	70.98	-143.96	6	beluga	2	0	swim	89	True
455	70.98	-143.96	6	beluga	2	0	swim	89	True
456	70.96	-143.95	6	beluga	1	0	swim	86	True
504	70.35	-143.95	4	bowhead whale	2	1	swim	242	True
514	70.28	-143.95	4	bowhead whale	2	0	mill	-1	True
525	70.29	-143.92	4	bowhead whale	1	0	swim	-1	False
551	70.05	-144.29	4	beluga	1	0	swim	232	True
552	70.05	-144.29	4	beluga	1	0	swim	233	True
581	70.05	-145.37	4	beluga	1	0	swim	-1	True



NOAA/AFSC/MML-BOEM
Aerial Surveys of Arctic Marine Mammals Program
Flight 19, 8/25/2017 1:00:05 PM



NOAA/AFSC/MML-BOEM
Aerial Surveys of Arctic Marine Mammals Program
Flight 19, High Density Cluster 1, 8/25/2017

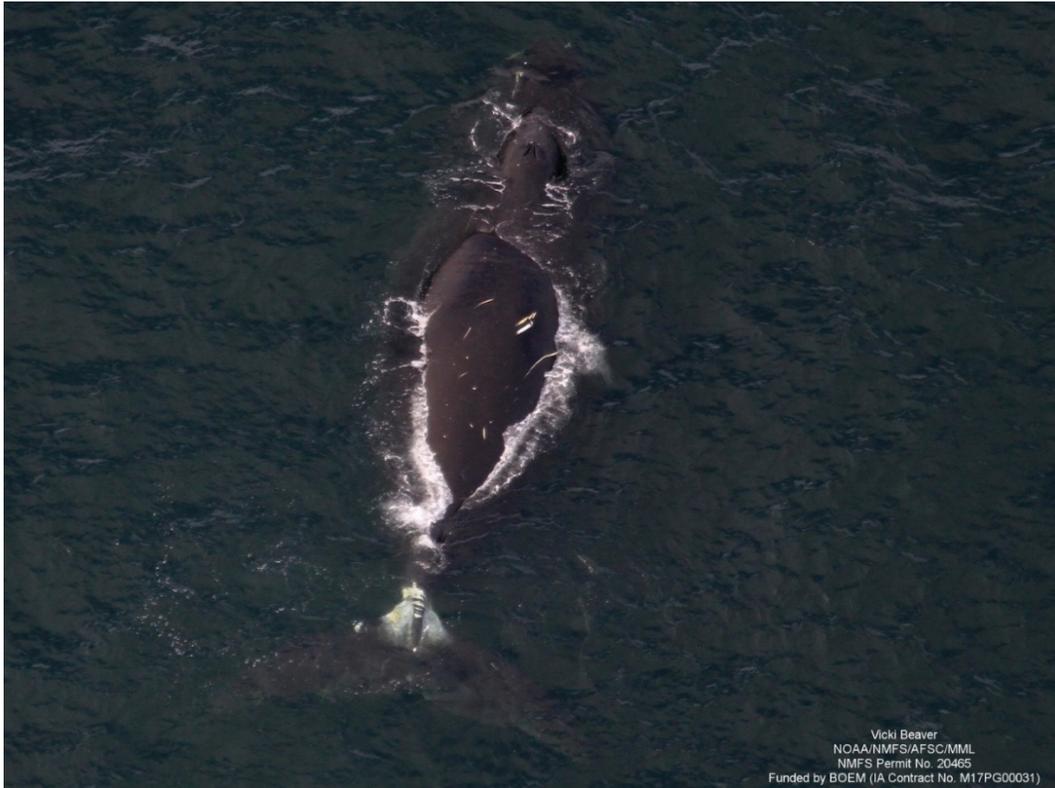




This young bowhead whale has distinctive markings on its rostrum and across both blow holes. It was observed approximately 50 km ENE of Kaktovik, Alaska (Event 141), during ASAMM-Beaufort Flight 19, 25 August 2017.



With mouth slightly agape and a mud-covered rostrum, this bowhead whale surfaces for a breath after feeding on the ocean floor. It was observed approximately 30 km ENE of Kaktovik, Alaska (Event 299), during ASAMM-Beaufort Flight 19, 25 August 2017.



Along with many scars from living in a sometimes frozen sea, this heavily marked bowhead whale also carries scars on its peduncle congruent with having been entangled in fishing gear. It was observed approximately 20 km NNE of Kaktovik, Alaska (Event 352), during ASAMM-Beaufort Flight 19, 25 August 2017.



A bowhead whale cow-calf pair surfaces together approximately 30 km NNE of Kaktovik, Alaska (Event 364), during ASAMM-Beaufort Flight 19, 25 August 2017. The white chin of the calf can be easily seen, while the white on the chin and trailing edge of the tail on the cow are more subtle.