

ASAMM-Beaufort – Flight 34 – 20 September 2017

Area flown: Block 1, 2 complete transects; block 2, 2 complete transects; block 3, 2 complete transects; block 10, 2 complete transects; block 11, 2 complete transects; block 12, 6 complete transects.

Total hours flown: 9.5 (2 flights)

Total transect hours: 5.4

Number of bowhead whales seen: 68 (8 calves)

Weather and visibility: Skies were clear to overcast. Sea state ranged from Beaufort 1 to 4.

Visibility ranged from 5 km to unlimited, with glare. There was no sea ice in the area surveyed.

Sightings: Bowhead whales, gray whales, unidentified cetaceans, walrus, one bearded seal, one unidentified pinniped, small unidentified pinnipeds, and one polar bear. The polar bear was swimming approximately 1 km from a barrier island east of Utqiaġvik.

Preliminary Summary, Flight 34 Date: Wednesday, September 20, 2017

Total bowhead whales: 68	Start time: 9/20/2017 10:10:51 AM	End time: 9/20/2017 8:30:52 PM
Bowhead whale sightings: 49	Transect minutes: 323	Transect km: 1193.4
Bowhead whales on transect: 40	Circling minutes: 96	Circling km: 277.4
Bowhead whale calves: 8	Trans+Circ minutes: 419	Trans+Circ km: 1470.8
Bowhead whale calves on transect: 7	Search minutes: 8	Search km: 24.8
Bowhead whale repeats: 0	Total minutes: 567	Total km: 2171.7
Possible repeats: 0	Deadhead minutes: 140	Deadhead km: 676.1
Total gray whales: 6	Search blocks: 1,3,12	
Total belugas: 0	Transect blocks: 1,2,3,10,11,12	
Other whale sightings: 3		
walrus: yes		
Total polar bears: 1		

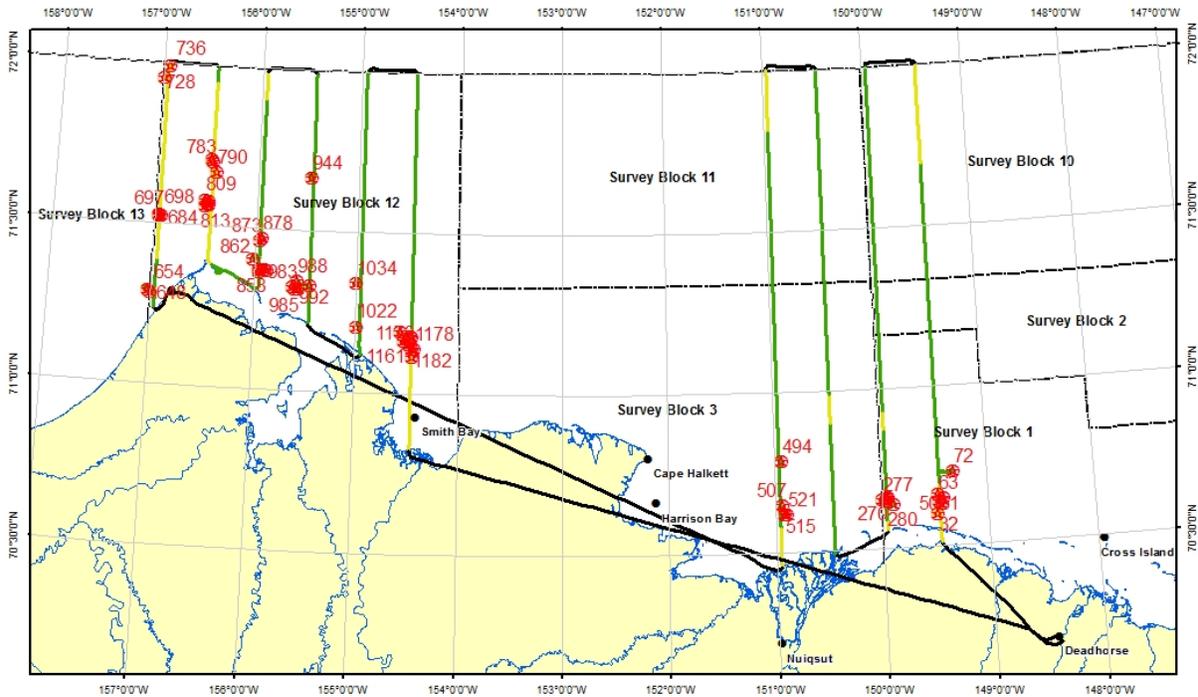
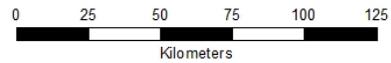
Cetacean Sightings:

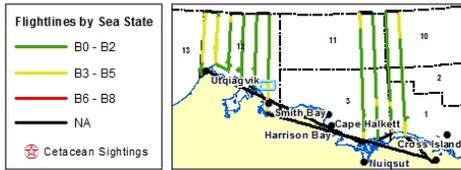
Event	Lat	Long	Block	Species	Total	Calves	Behavior	Swim Direction	On Effort
32	70.6	-149.45	1	bowhead whale	1	0	swim	270	True
50	70.63	-149.46	1	bowhead whale	2	0	feed	-1	True
57	70.65	-149.42	1	bowhead whale	1	0	swim	-1	False
61	70.64	-149.45	1	bowhead whale	1	0	swim	268	True
63	70.66	-149.46	1	bowhead whale	3	1	swim	268	True
72	70.73	-149.45	1	bowhead whale	1	0	breach	-1	True
265	70.66	-149.95	1	bowhead whale	3	0	swim	270	True
267	70.65	-149.95	1	bowhead whale	2	0	dive	-1	True
270	70.66	-149.94	1	bowhead whale	1	0	swim	-1	False
277	70.65	-149.99	1	bowhead whale	1	0	unknown	-1	False
280	70.64	-149.96	1	bowhead whale	1	0	swim	270	True
494	70.78	-150.95	3	bowhead whale	1	0	swim	360	True
507	70.65	-150.95	3	bowhead whale	1	0	swim	300	True
515	70.62	-150.95	3	bowhead whale	1	0	swim	358	True
521	70.62	-150.89	3	bowhead whale	1	0	swim	-1	False
648	71.28	-156.95	12	gray whale	2	0	feed	-1	True
654	71.29	-157.02	13	gray whale	3	0	feed	-1	False
684	71.52	-156.96	12	unid cetacean	1	0	swim	360	True
697	71.53	-156.96	12	gray whale	1	0	swim	-1	False
698	71.53	-156.96	12	unid cetacean	1	0	swim	-1	False
728	71.95	-156.95	12	bowhead whale	2	1	swim	303	True
736	71.99	-156.96	12	unid cetacean	1	0	dive	-1	True
775	71.71	-156.45	12	bowhead whale	3	2	swim	264	True
783	71.7	-156.46	12	bowhead whale	1	0	swim	-1	False
790	71.67	-156.45	12	bowhead whale	1	0	swim	360	True
804	71.57	-156.45	12	bowhead whale	2	1	swim	91	True
806	71.57	-156.48	12	bowhead whale	3	0	mill	-1	False
807	71.57	-156.48	12	bowhead whale	1	0	swim	-1	False
809	71.58	-156.52	12	bowhead whale	1	0	swim	-1	False
813	71.56	-156.51	12	bowhead whale	1	0	swim	-1	False
850	71.37	-155.96	12	bowhead whale	1	0	dive	-1	True
851	71.37	-155.96	12	bowhead whale	2	0	swim	268	True
856	71.37	-155.9	12	bowhead whale	1	0	swim	-1	False
858	71.37	-155.88	12	bowhead whale	1	0	swim	-1	False

862	71.41	-155.95	12	bowhead whale	3	1	mill	-1	True
873	71.46	-155.96	12	bowhead whale	1	0	swim	92	True
878	71.47	-155.94	12	bowhead whale	2	0	mill	-1	False
944	71.66	-155.45	12	bowhead whale	1	0	swim	270	True
978	71.33	-155.45	12	bowhead whale	1	0	swim	-1	False
983	71.32	-155.62	12	bowhead whale	1	0	swim	-1	False
985	71.32	-155.6	12	bowhead whale	1	0	swim	-1	False
988	71.34	-155.57	12	bowhead whale	1	0	swim	-1	False
992	71.32	-155.56	12	bowhead whale	1	0	swim	-1	False
1022	71.21	-154.95	12	bowhead whale	1	0	swim	271	True
1034	71.34	-154.96	12	bowhead whale	1	0	swim	269	True
1153	71.18	-154.45	12	bowhead whale	1	0	swim	271	True
1155	71.15	-154.46	12	bowhead whale	1	0	swim	2	True
1159	71.17	-154.48	12	bowhead whale	1	0	swim	-1	False
1160	71.17	-154.5	12	bowhead whale	1	0	swim	-1	False
1161	71.17	-154.52	12	bowhead whale	1	0	swim	-1	False
1164	71.19	-154.56	12	bowhead whale	2	0	swim	-1	False
1169	71.18	-154.46	12	bowhead whale	2	1	rest	-1	False
1173	71.14	-154.45	12	bowhead whale	2	1	swim	359	True
1178	71.14	-154.42	12	bowhead whale	1	0	swim	-1	False
1182	71.11	-154.45	12	bowhead whale	1	0	swim	358	True

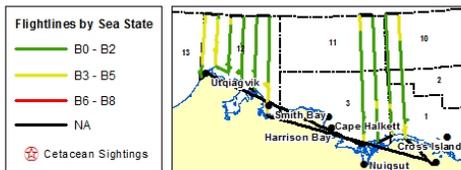
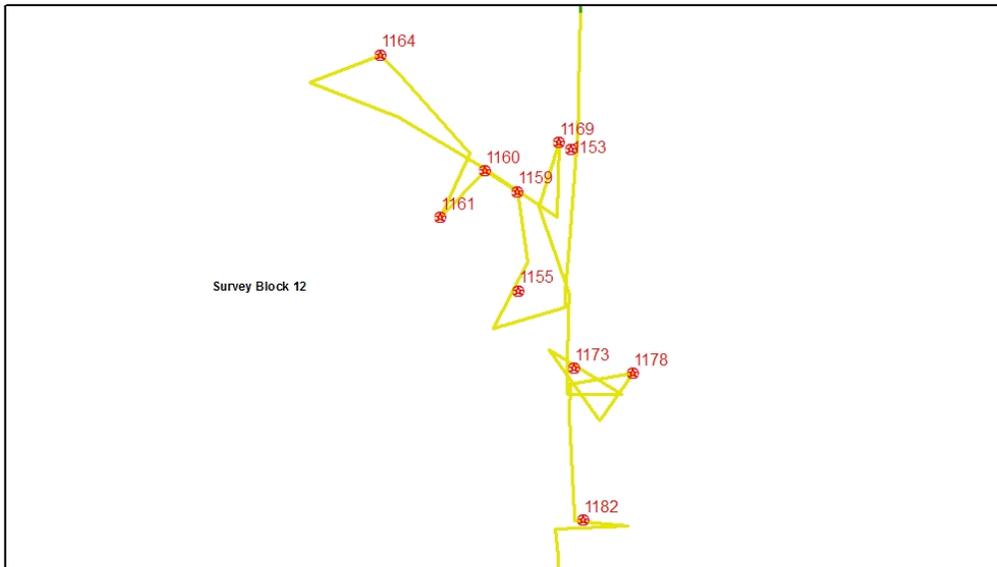
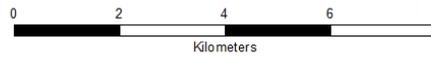


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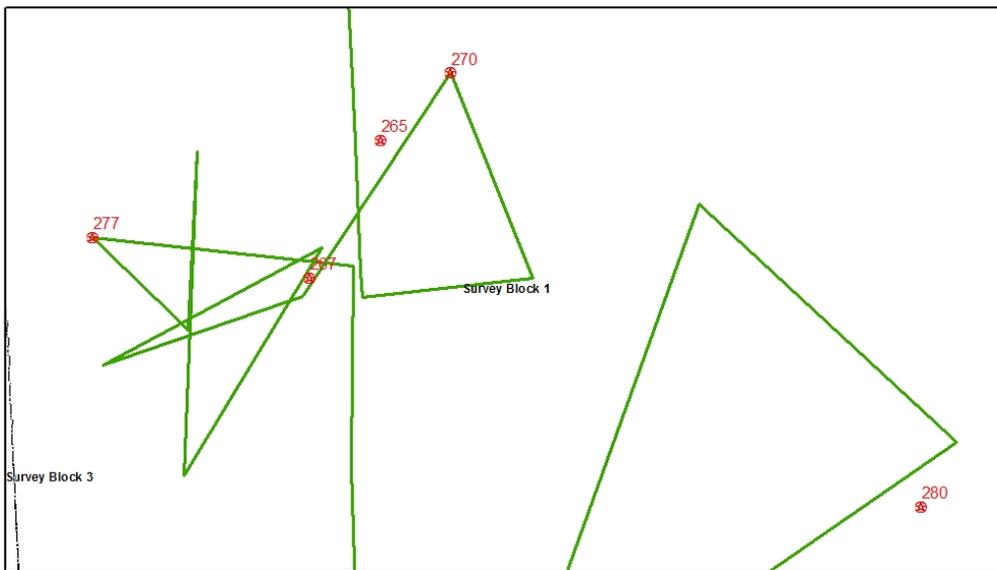


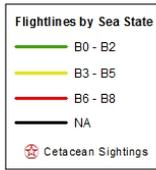


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Flight 34, High Density Cluster 1, 9/20/2017

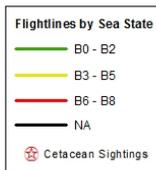
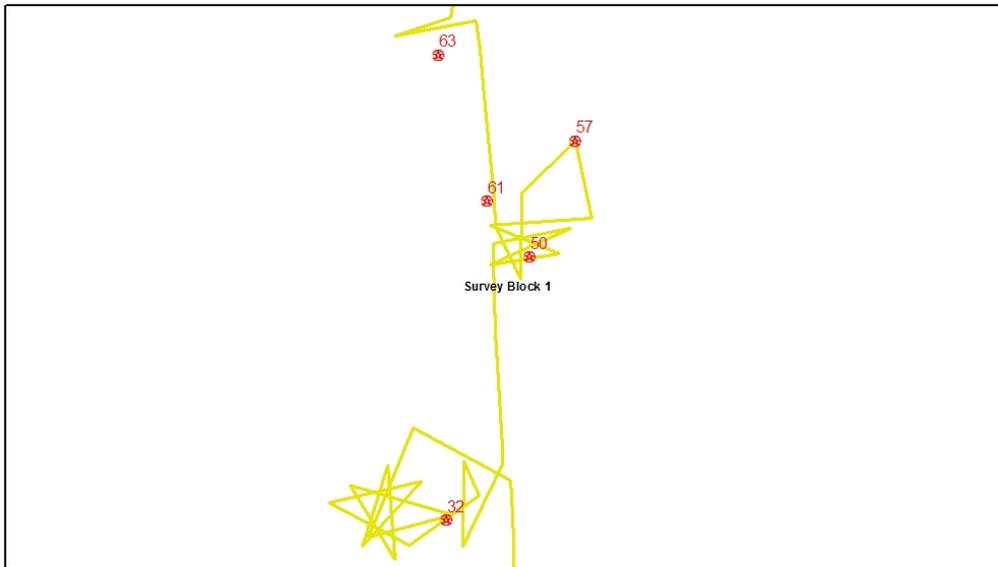
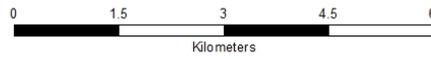


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Flight 34, High Density Cluster 2, 9/20/2017

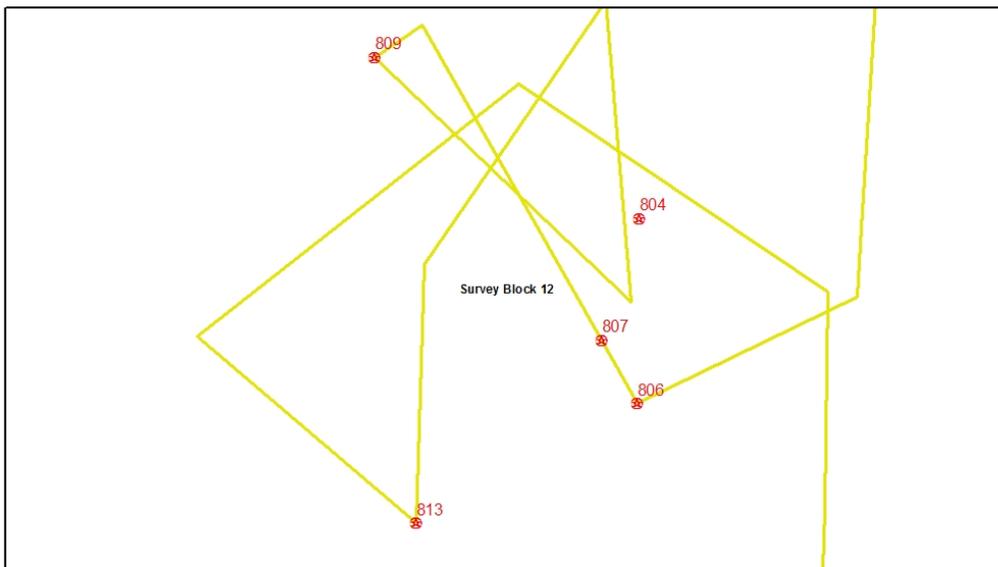
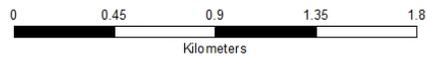


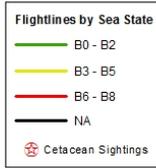


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Flight 34, High Density Cluster 3, 9/20/2017

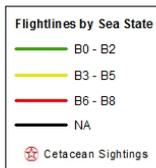
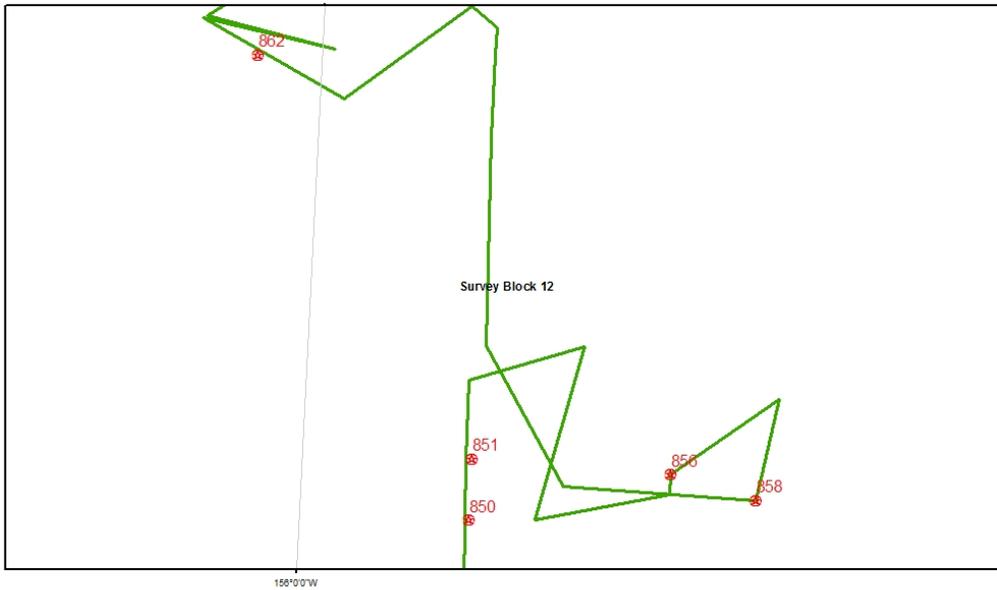
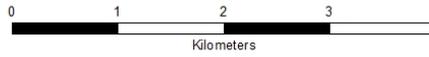


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Flight 34, High Density Cluster 4, 9/20/2017

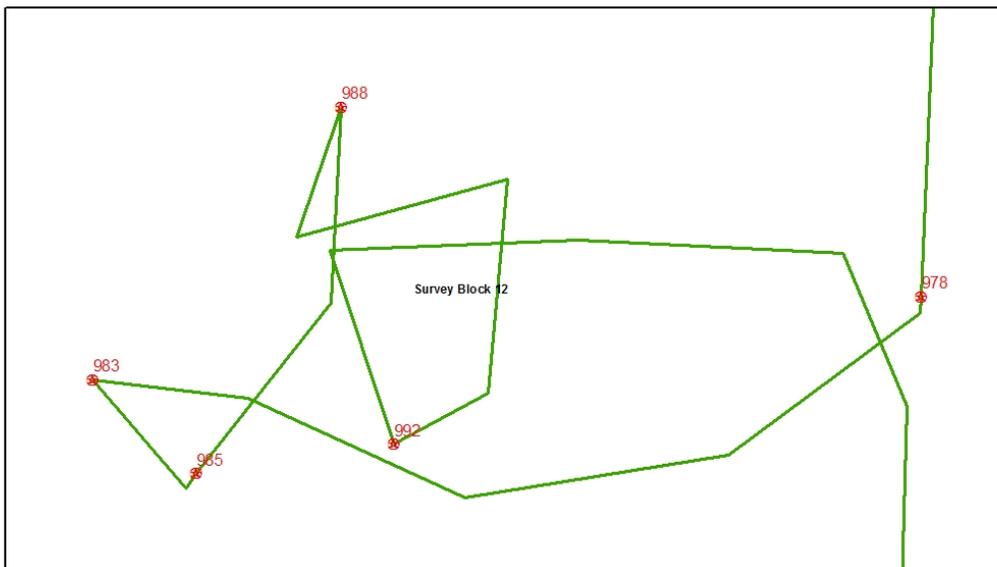




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Flight 34, High Density Cluster 5, 9/20/2017



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Aerial Surveys of Arctic Marine Mammals Program
Flight 34, High Density Cluster 6, 9/20/2017





This bowhead whale is (a) saying "hi", (b) showing off a nice-looking flipper, (c) thermoregulating, a la sea lions on docks, or (d) all of the above? (Answer below) This whale was observed approximately 25 km north of a barrier island northwest of Deadhorse, Alaska (event 72), ASAMM-Beaufort Flight 34. It was also observed breaching and flipper and tail slapping.



Bowhead whale cow-calf pair observed about 90 km northwest of Pt. Barrow, Alaska (Event 728), ASAMM-Beaufort Flight 34. The calf is subsurface to the right of its mom.

Answer: (a) absolutely