

ASAMM-Chukchi – Flight 225 – 27 August 2017

Area flown: Transects 2 and 3, partial; block 12, 6 complete transects.

Total hours flown: 4.6

Total transect hours: 2.8

Number of bowhead whales seen: 56 (0 calves)

Weather and visibility: Skies were overcast. Sea state ranged from Beaufort 2 to 5. Visibility ranged from 0 km to unlimited, with low ceilings and precipitation. There was no sea ice in the area surveyed. Additional survey effort was impeded due to high sea states and low ceilings. Sightings: Bowhead whales, unidentified cetaceans (including one carcass), walrus, bearded seals, small unidentified pinnipeds, and one polar bear. One of the bowhead whales was playing with a log, and two groups were lunge feeding. The polar bear was walking on a barrier island.

Preliminary Summary, Flight 225 Date: Sunday, August 27, 2017

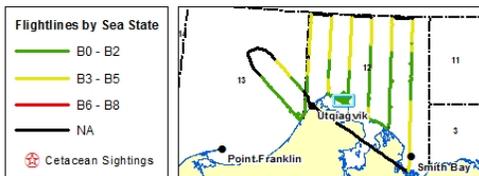
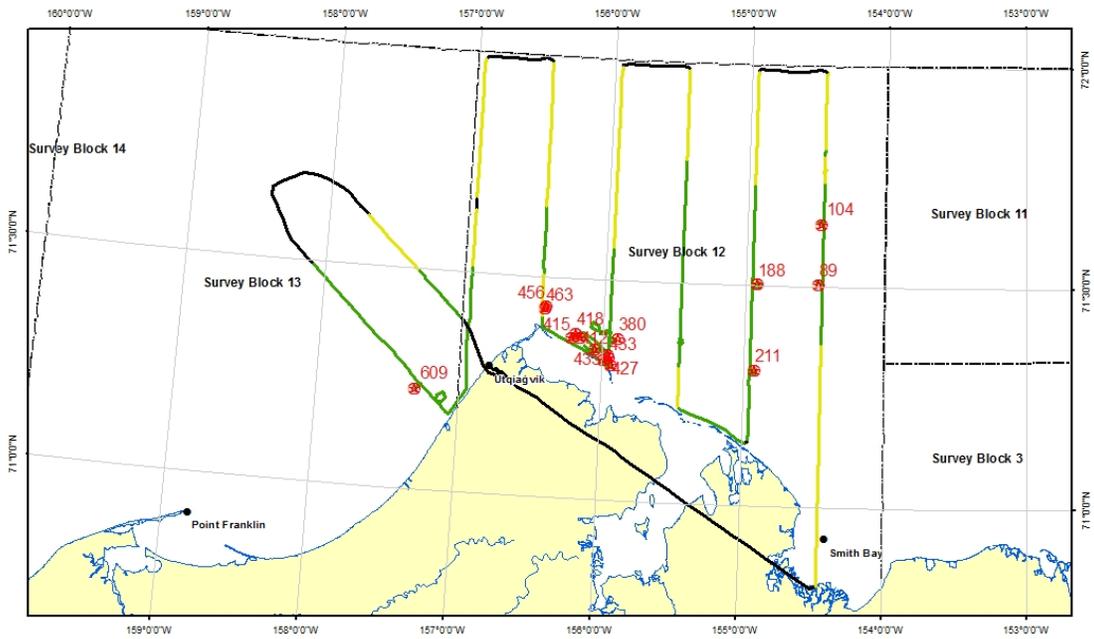
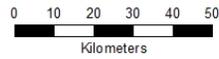
Total bowhead whales: 56	Start time: 8/27/2017 8:40:44 AM	End time: 8/27/2017 1:25:57 PM
Bowhead whale sightings: 13	Transect minutes: 170	Transect km: 608.1
Bowhead whales on transect: 23	Circling minutes: 53	Circling km: 139.4
Bowhead whale calves: 0	Trans+Circ minutes: 222	Trans+Circ km: 747.5
Bowhead whale calves on transect: 0	Search minutes: 13	Search km: 48.5
Bowhead whale repeats: 0	Total minutes: 285	Total km: 1023.7
Possible repeats: 0	Deadhead minutes: 50	Deadhead km: 227.7
Total gray whales: 0	Search blocks: 12,13	
Total belugas: 0	Transect blocks: 12,13	
Other whale sightings: 2		
walrus: yes		
Total polar bears: 1		

Cetacean sightings:

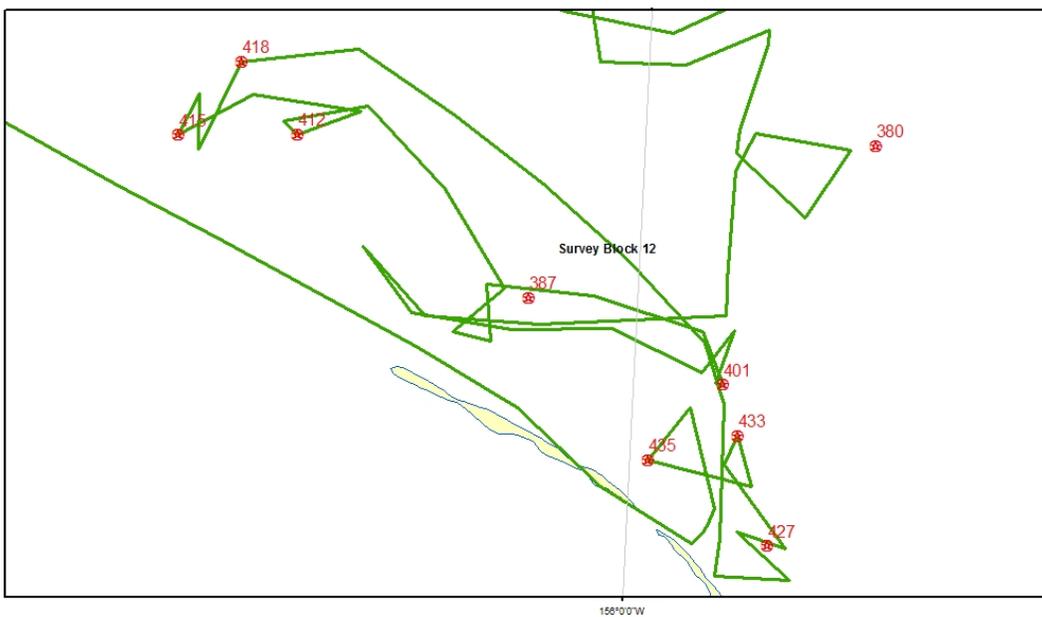
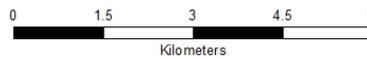
Event	Lat	Long	Block	Species	Total	Calves	Behavior	Swim Direction	On Effort
89	71.51	-154.46	12	bowhead whale	2	0	rest	-1	True
104	71.64	-154.46	12	unid cetacean	1	0	dead	-1	True
188	71.5	-154.95	12	bowhead whale	1	0	dive	-1	True
211	71.31	-154.95	12	bowhead whale	1	0	log play	60	True
380	71.37	-155.96	12	bowhead whale	1	0	swim	217	True
387	71.34	-155.96	12	bowhead whale	11	0	feed	-1	True
401	71.33	-155.96	12	bowhead whale	1	0	feed	-1	False
412	71.36	-156.16	12	bowhead whale	18	0	feed	-1	False
415	71.36	-156.22	12	bowhead whale	8	0	feed	-1	False
418	71.38	-156.19	12	bowhead whale	1	0	swim	-1	False
427	71.31	-155.96	12	bowhead whale	5	0	feed	-1	True
433	71.32	-155.95	12	bowhead whale	2	0	swim	-1	False
435	71.32	-155.99	12	bowhead whale	2	0	swim	-1	False
456	71.43	-156.44	12	bowhead whale	2	0	swim	-1	True
463	71.43	-156.42	12	bowhead whale	1	0	swim	-1	False
609	71.23	-157.3	13	unid cetacean	1	0	dive	-1	False

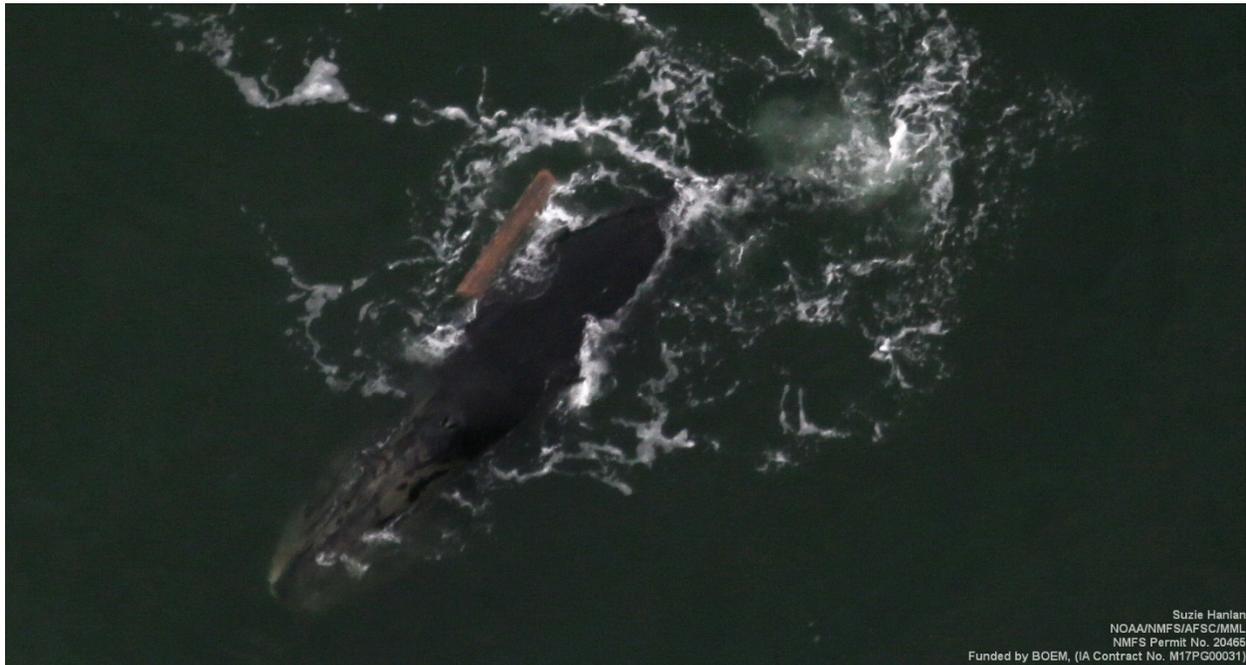


NOAA/FSC/MML-BOEM
Aerial Surveys of Arctic Marine Mammals Program
Flight 225, 8/27/2017 8:40:44 AM



NOAA/FSC/MML-BOEM
Aerial Surveys of Arctic Marine Mammals Program
Flight 225, High Density Cluster 1, 8/27/2017





When a bowhead whale just needs to take a break from feeding (and maybe clean some mud off its head), it just might opt to play with a log. This whale was observed about 70 km east of Utqiagvik, Alaska (event 211), ASAMM-Chukchi Flight 225, 27 August 2017.



Bowhead whales surface while lunge feeding approximately 25 km east of Utqiagvik, Alaska (event 412), ASAMM-Chukchi Flight 225, 27 August 2017. These four whales were part of a larger group of 18 whales that were feeding about 3 km north of the barrier islands.