

ASAMM-Chukchi – Flight 235 – 14 September 2017

Area flown: Transects 1, 2, 4, 5, and 7, complete; transect 3, partial.

Total hours flown: 5.8 (2 flights)

Total transect hours: 3.7

Number of bowhead whales seen: 5 (0 calves)

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

Visibility ranged from 0 km to unlimited, with glare, haze, and low ceilings. There was no sea ice in the area surveyed.

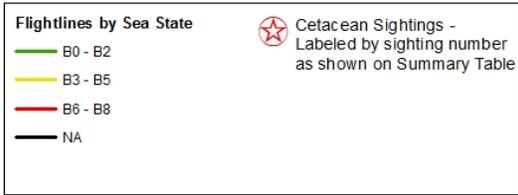
Sightings: Bowhead whales, gray whales, one unidentified cetacean, walrus, bearded seals, and a gazillion small unidentified pinnipeds.

Preliminary Summary, Flight 235 Date: Thursday, September 14, 2017

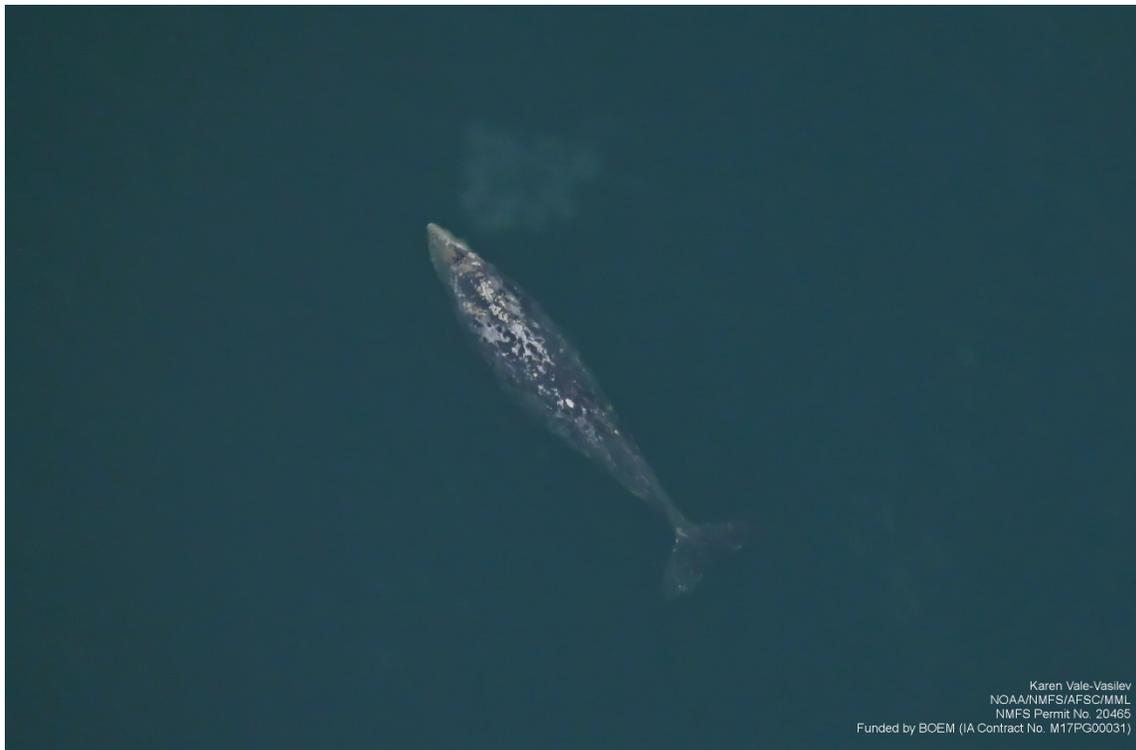
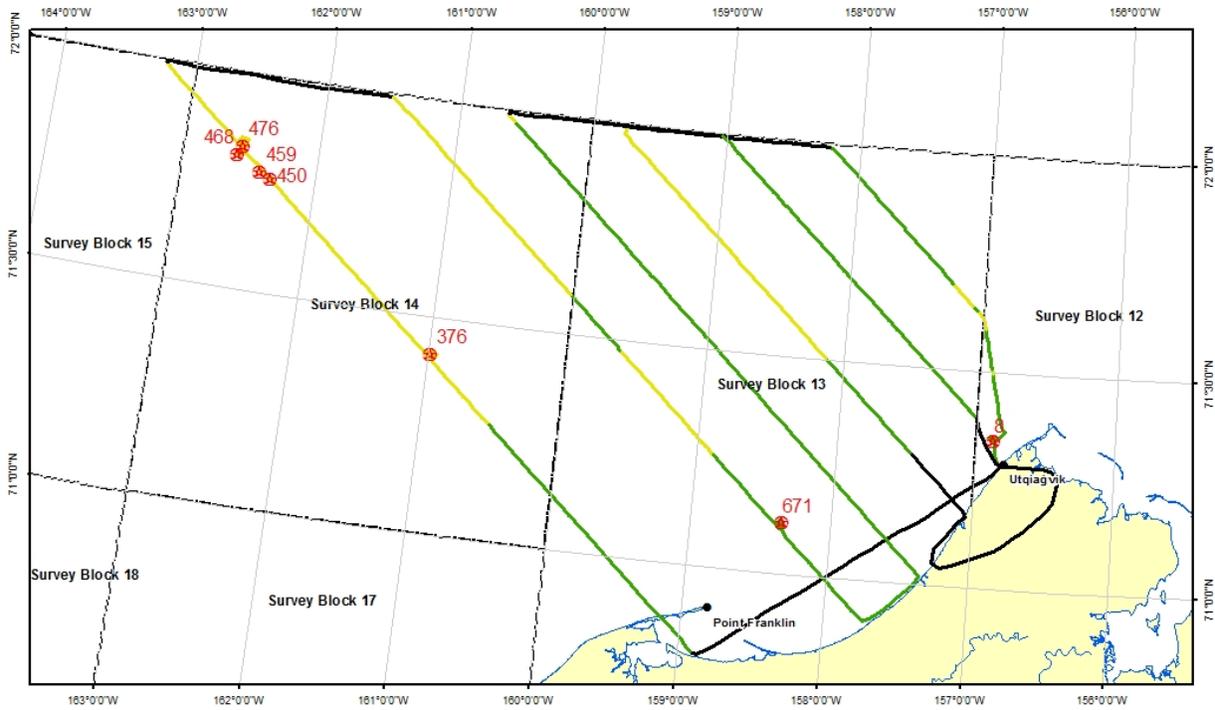
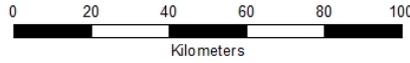
Total bowhead whales: 5	Start time: 9/14/2017 10:28:29 AM	End time: 9/14/2017 7:52:56 PM
Bowhead whale sightings: 4	Transect minutes: 221	Transect km: 807.1
Bowhead whales on transect: 4	Circling minutes: 29	Circling km: 88
Bowhead whale calves: 0	Trans+Circ minutes: 250	Trans+Circ km: 895.1
Bowhead whale calves on transect: 0	Search minutes: 22	Search km: 57.9
Bowhead whale repeats: 0	Total minutes: 348	Total km: 1329.7
Possible repeats: 0	Deadhead minutes: 76	Deadhead km: 376.7
Total gray whales: 2	Search blocks: 12,13,14,15	
Total belugas: 0	Transect blocks: 12,13,14,15	
Other whale sightings: 1		
Walrus: yes		
Total polar bears: 0		

Cetacean Sightings:

Event	Lat	Long	Block	Species	Total	Calves	Behavior	Swim Direction	On Effort
8	71.34	-156.87	12	gray whale	1	0	rest	-1	False
376	71.41	-161	14	bowhead whale	2	0	swim	221	True
450	71.76	-162.32	14	bowhead whale	1	0	swim	279	True
459	71.78	-162.39	14	bowhead whale	1	0	swim	117	True
468	71.82	-162.55	14	unid cetacean	1	0	swim	132	True
476	71.83	-162.56	14	bowhead whale	1	0	swim	-1	False
671	71.11	-158.37	13	gray whale	1	0	feed	254	True



NOAA\AFSC\MML-BOEM
Aerial Surveys of Arctic Marine Mammals Program
Flight 235, 9/14/2017 10:28:29 AM



The slightest puff of breath hovers in the still air above this gray whale observed approximately 5 km north of Utqiagvik, Alaska (Event 8), ASAMM-Chukchi Flight 235, 14 September 2017.



This large bowhead whale, with a distinctive mark on its left flank and a white peduncle and trailing fluke edge, was observed approximately 150 km west of Utqiagvik, Alaska (Event 376), ASAMM-Chukchi Flight 235, 14 September 2017.