ASAMM-Chukchi – Flight 243 – 7 October 2017

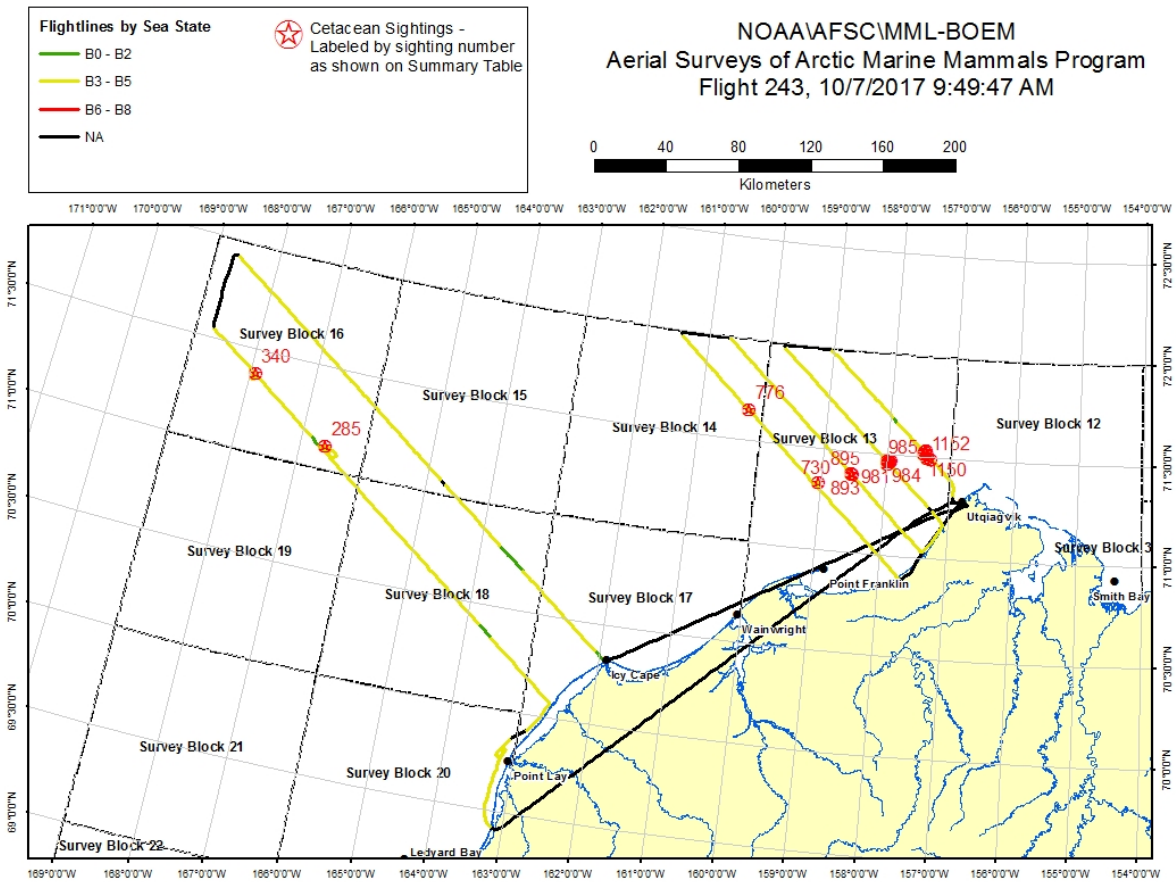
Area flown: Transects 2, 3, 4, 5, 13, and 15, complete; coastal transect near Pt. Lay.
Total hours flown: 8.8 (2 flights)
Total transect hours: 5.2
Number of bowhead whales seen: 29 (3 calves)
Weather and visibility: Skies were partly cloudy to overcast. Sea state ranged from Beaufort 2 to 4. Visibility ranged from 0 km to unlimited, with glare, ice on the windows, low ceilings, and precipitation. There was no sea ice in the area surveyed.
Sightings: Bowhead whales, unidentified cetaceans (including one carcass), walruses, unidentified pinnipeds, and small unidentified pinnipeds.

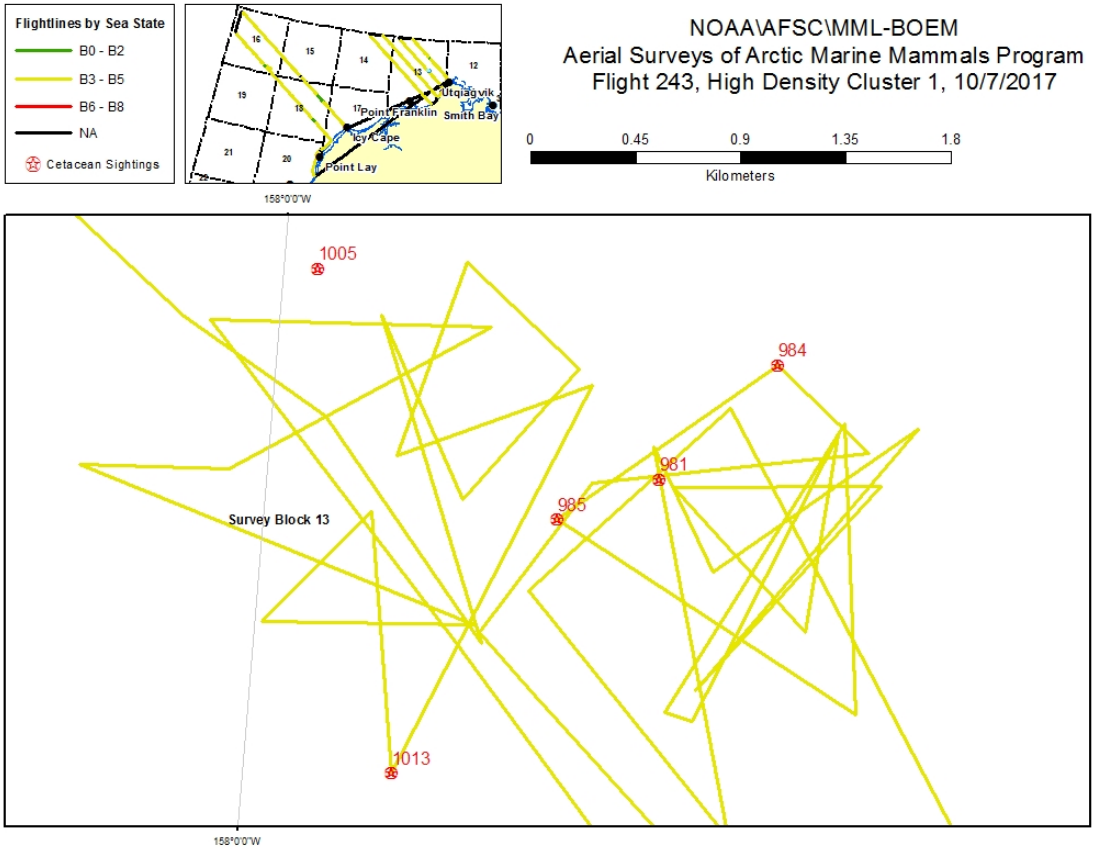
Preliminary Summary, Flight 243 Date: Saturday, October 07, 2017

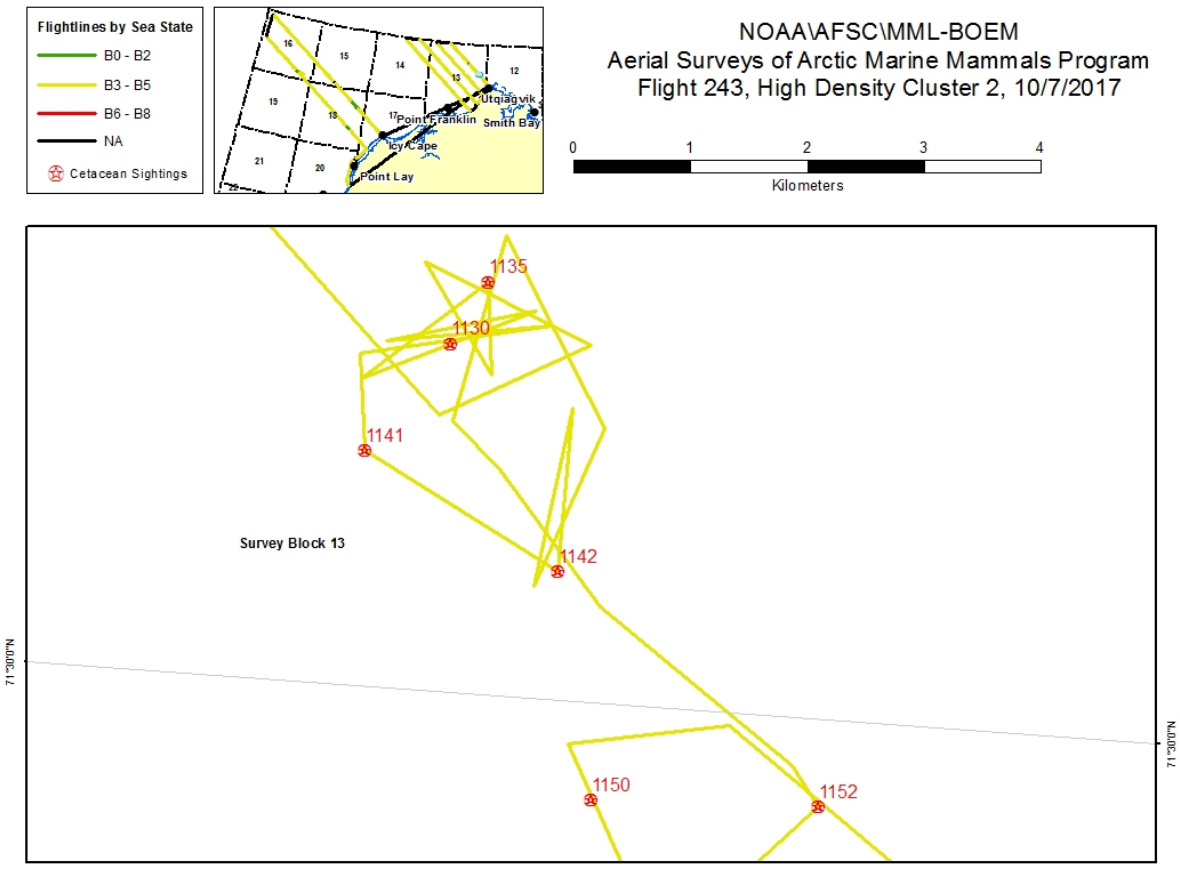
Total bowhead whales: 29	Start time: 10/7/2017 9:49:47 AM	End time: 10/7/2017 7:19:36 PM
Bowhead whale sightings: 14	Transect minutes: 309	Transect km: 1152
Bowhead whales on transect: 11	Circling minutes: 59	Circling km: 176.6
Bowhead whale calves: 3	Trans+Circ minutes: 368	Trans+Circ km: 1328.6
Bowhead whale calves on transect: 1	Search minutes: 22	Search km: 92.5
Bowhead whale repeats: 0	Total minutes: 525	Total km: 2146.4
Possible repeats: 0	Deadhead minutes: 136	Deadhead km: 725.3
Total gray whales: 0	Search blocks: 12,13,14,15,16,17,20	
Total belugas: 0	Transect blocks: 13,14,15,16,17,18,19,20	
Other whale sightings: 3		
walrus: yes		
Total polar bears: 0		

Cetacean Sightings:

Event	Lat	Long	Block	Species	Total	Calves	Behavior	Swim Direction	On Effort
285	71.1	-166.65	16	unid cetacean	1	0	swim	66	True
340	71.38	-167.92	16	unid cetacean	1	0	dead	-1	True
730	71.32	-159.07	13	bowhead whale	2	0	swim	283	True
776	71.65	-160.24	14	unid cetacean	1	0	swim	-1	True
893	71.39	-158.54	13	bowhead whale	1	0	swim	73	True
895	71.39	-158.52	13	bowhead whale	1	0	swim	-1	False
981	71.46	-157.97	13	bowhead whale	3	0	mill	-1	True
984	71.47	-157.94	13	bowhead whale	6	2	mill	-1	False
985	71.46	-157.96	13	bowhead whale	1	0	mill	-1	False
1005	71.47	-158.01	13	bowhead whale	2	1	swim	239	True
1013	71.45	-157.98	13	bowhead whale	1	0	swim	-1	False
1130	71.52	-157.42	13	bowhead whale	1	0	swim	15	True
1135	71.53	-157.41	13	bowhead whale	1	0	rest	-1	False
1141	71.52	-157.43	13	bowhead whale	1	0	swim	-1	False
1142	71.51	-157.39	13	bowhead whale	4	0	swim	-1	False
1150	71.5	-157.35	13	bowhead whale	2	0	swim	-1	True
1152	71.49	-157.32	13	bowhead whale	3	0	swim	-1	False


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 243, 10/7/2017 9:49:47 AM
0 40 80 120 160 200
Kilometers
Survey Block 16
Survey Block 15
Survey Block 14
Survey Block 13
Survey Block 12
Survey Block 19
Survey Block 18
Survey Block 17
Survey Block 21
Survey Block 20
Survey Block 22
340
285
776
730
895
893
985
981
984
1152
1150
Utqiagvik
Point Franklin
Wainwright
Icy Cape
Point Lay
Ledyard Bay
Smith Bay


Flightlines by Sea State
B0 - B2
B3 - B5
B6 - B8
NA
Cetacean Sightings
NOAA\AFSC\MML-BOEM
Aerial Surveys of Arctic Marine Mammals Program
Flight 243, High Density Cluster 1, 10/7/2017
0 0.45 0.9 1.35 1.8
Kilometers
Utqiagvik
Point Franklin
Smith Bay
Icy Cape
Point Lay
158°0'0"W
1005
984
981
985
Survey Block 13
1013



Bowhead whale flukes surrounded by white water make for a striking image. Observed during ASAMM-Chukchi Flight 243, 7 October 2017, approximately 80 km west of Utqiaġvik, Alaska (event 730).

Bowhead whales milling near Barrow Canyon, approximately 40 km west of Utqiaġvik, Alaska (Event 984), ASAMM-Chukchi Flight 243, 7 October 2017. This group of whales included two of the first three bowhead whale calves seen in the Chukchi Sea in 2017.