

ASAMM-Chukchi – Flight 251 – 19 October 2017

Area flown: Block 3, 7 complete transects; block 11, 3 complete and 3 partial transects.

Total hours flown: 6.9 (2 flights)

Total transect hours: 4.1

Number of bowhead whales seen: 9 (1 calf)

Weather and visibility: Skies were partly cloudy to overcast. Sea state ranged from Beaufort 0 to 3. Visibility ranged from 0 km to unlimited, with glare, low ceilings, and precipitation. Sea ice ranged from 0 to 100 percent grease and new ice in the area surveyed.

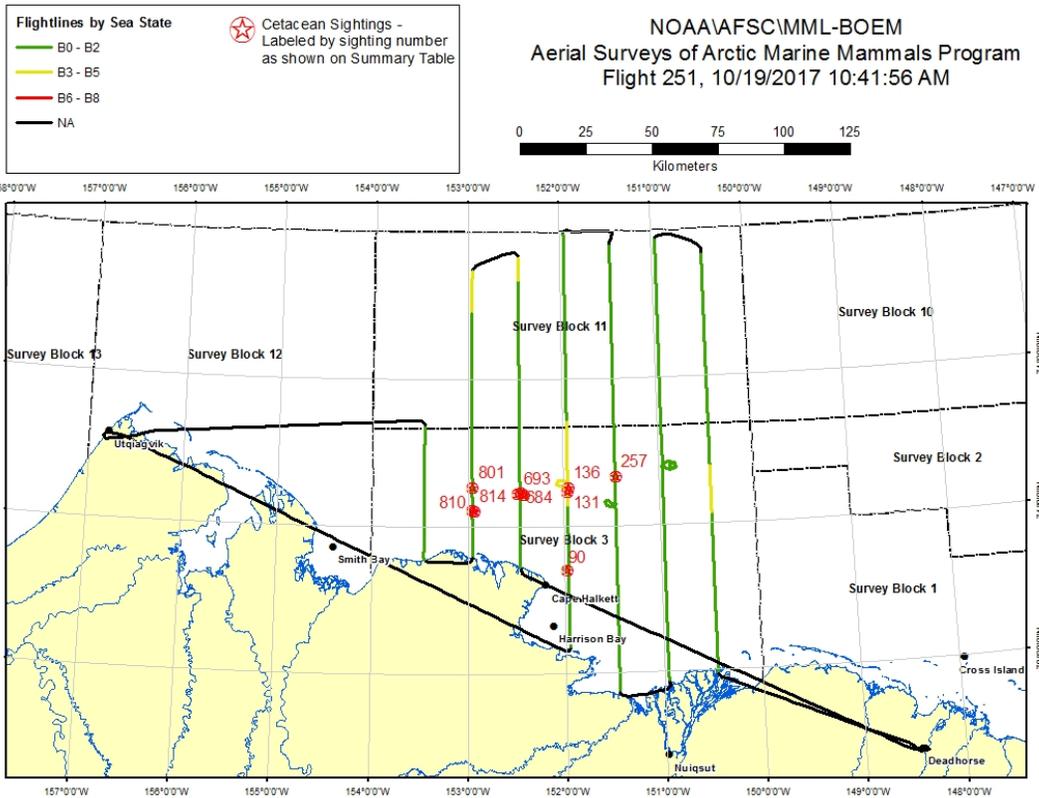
Sightings: Bowhead whales, belugas (including 3 calves), and small unidentified pinnipeds.

Preliminary Summary, Flight 251 Date: Thursday, October 19, 2017

Total bowhead whales: 9	Start time: 10/19/2017 10:41:56 AM	End time: 10/19/2017 6:19:24 PM
Bowhead whale sightings: 9	Transect minutes: 246	Transect km: 921.2
Bowhead whales on transect: 6	Circling minutes: 33	Circling km: 106.9
Bowhead whale calves: 1	Trans+Circ minutes: 279	Trans+Circ km: 1028.1
Bowhead whale calves on transect: 1	Search minutes: 1	Search km: 2.5
Bowhead whale repeats: 0	Total minutes: 411	Total km: 1718
Possible repeats: 0	Deadhead minutes: 132	Deadhead km: 687.4
Total gray whales: 0	Search blocks: 3,11	
Total belugas: 60	Transect blocks: 3,11	
Other whale sightings: 0		
walrus: no		
Total polar bears: 0		

Cetacean Sightings:

Event	Lat	Long	Block	Species	Total	Calves	Behavior	Swim Direction	On Effort
90	70.85	-151.96	3	beluga	60	3	mill	-1	True
131	71.12	-151.95	3	bowhead whale	1	0	swim	-1	False
136	71.13	-151.96	3	bowhead whale	1	0	swim	273	True
257	71.17	-151.45	3	bowhead whale	1	1	swim	89	True
682	71.11	-152.46	3	bowhead whale	1	0	swim	301	True
684	71.12	-152.44	3	bowhead whale	1	0	swim	-1	False
693	71.11	-152.46	3	bowhead whale	1	0	swim	309	True
801	71.13	-152.95	3	bowhead whale	1	0	swim	91	True
810	71.06	-152.95	3	bowhead whale	1	0	feed	-1	True
814	71.05	-152.93	3	bowhead whale	1	0	swim	-1	False



Two belugas, of a larger group of 60, observed in pancake ice east of Cape Halkett (Event 90), during ASAMM-Chukchi Flight 251, 19 October 2017.



♪ Heigh ho, heigh ho, it's through the snow we go. ♪

Not even hip and waist deep snow can keep us from taking to the skies in search of Arctic marine mammals!
Who knew that flight suits could double as snow suits for Amy Willoughby and Marjorie Foster?!
(photo by Suzie Hanlan).