

The high winds that have plagued the COMIDA survey effort for most of October are not forecast to abate any time soon. The lack of ice in the study area means that sea states remain too high for our team to effectively survey. Therefore, we have decided to end the project for 2010. The aircraft will be loaded with gear and transit to Anchorage tomorrow, 28 October 2010, weather permitting.

We appreciate the efforts of all who made COMIDA 2010 a success, including: the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, Regulation and Enforcement; the National Marine Mammal Laboratory; Northern Commander; Clearwater Air; North Slope Borough Department of Wildlife Management; North Slope Borough Search and Rescue; the Department of Interior's Aviation Management Division; and, of course, our own COMIDA team members. Here's to a 2011 survey season that has a bit less fog and wind!