

## COMIDA – Flight 223 – 27 August 2009

Area flown: Transects 10 and 13, partial; coastal transect completed from Wainwright north.

Total hours flown: 4.4

Total transect hours: 3.0

Number of bowheads seen: 0 (0 calves)

Weather and visibility: Ceilings were generally good; low ceilings and heavy showers at the offshore end of transect 13 precluded surveying. Sea state conditions were very good, ranging from Beaufort 2-4. Rain showers were intermittent throughout the survey area and visibility was overall very good with just a few areas of reduced visibility due to rain.

Sightings: Gray whales, unidentified cetaceans (probable gray whales), walrus, bearded seals and unidentified pinnipeds. Three whale carcasses sighted on previous flights or already documented by the North Slope Borough Department of Wildlife Management were seen; no new unreported carcasses were observed.

### Bowhead Preliminary Summary, Flight 223 Date: 8/27/2009

Total bowheads: 1	Start time: 8/27/2009 2:07:12 PM	End time: 8/27/2009 6:29:16 PM
Bowhead sightings: 1 (dead)	Transect minutes: 178	Transect km: 619.6
Bowheads on transect: 1 (dead)	Circling minutes: 2	Circling km: 5.5
Bowhead Cow-calf pairs: 0	Trans+Circ minutes: 180	Trans+Circ km: 625.1
Bowhead Cow-calf Pairs on transect: 0	Search minutes: 56	Search km: 215.8
Bowhead repeats: 0	Total minutes: 262	Total km: 949.1
Possible repeats: 0	Deadhead minutes: 26	Deadhead km: 108.2
Total gray whales: 8 (2 dead)	Search blocks: 12, 13, 0, 17, 15, 16	
Total belugas: 0	Transect blocks: 17, 18, 13, 0, 12, 15, 16, 14	
Other whale sightings: 2		
Total walrus: 106 (1 dead)		
Total bear: 0		

Event	Lat	Long	Block	Species	Total	Repeat	Calves	Swim direction	Swim Speed	Behavior	On effort
9	71.22	-156.99	13	unknown cetacean	1	.	0	-1	.	.	False
618	70.93	-157.6	0	bowhead	1	no	0	-1	.	dead	True
641	71.21	-157	12	gray whale	1	.	0	-1	.	dead	True
652	71.31	-156.75	12	gray whale	1	.	0	-1	.	dead	True
470	70.99	-161.46	17	unknown cetacean	1	.	0	-1	.	.	True
471	70.99	-161.44	17	gray whale	1	.	0	-1	.	feed	True
503	70.78	-160.68	17	gray whale	1	.	0	131	.	swim	True
507	70.75	-160.6	17	gray whale	1	.	0	72	.	feed	True
553	70.81	-159.63	13	gray whale	1	.	0	235	.	swim	True
492	70.84	-160.9	17	gray whale	1	.	0	250	.	feed	True
495	70.83	-160.86	17	gray whale	1	.	0	-1	.	feed	True

**Flightlines by Sea State**

- B0 - B2
- B3, B4
- B5, B6
- B7 - B12
- n/a

 Cetacean Sightings - Labeled by sighting number as shown on Summary Table

NMML/MMS  
COMIDA Aerial Survey Program  
Flight 223, 8/27/2009

