

COMIDA – Flight 234 – 18 September 2010

Area flown: Transects 12, 10; search north and west of Barrow to try to relocate dead bowhead

Total hours flown: 5.2

Total transect hours: 2.5

Number of bowheads seen: 5 (0 calves)

Weather and visibility: Partly cloudy to overcast, with patches of haze and low ceilings. Sea state ranged from Beaufort 2 to 6, and visibility ranged from 0 km to unlimited. No sea ice was present in the area surveyed.

Sightings: Five bowhead whales in Block 12, gray whales, walrus, and unidentified pinnipeds. An attempt was made to relocate the bowhead carcass observed on 17 September, but low ceilings made some of that area inaccessible.

Bowhead Preliminary Summary, Flight 234 Date: 9/18/2010

Total bowheads: 5	Start time: 9/18/2010 11:26:36 AM	End time: 9/18/2010 4:36:43 PM
Bowhead sightings: 4	Transect minutes: 149	Transect km: 496.7
Bowheads on transect: 0	Circling minutes: 16	Circling km: 45.8
Bowhead Cow-calf pairs: 0	Trans+Circ minutes: 165	Trans+Circ km: 542.5
Bowhead Cow-calf Pairs on transect: 0	Search minutes: 93	Search km: 399.8
Bowhead repeats: 0	Total minutes: 310	Total km: 1178.3
Possible repeats: 0	Deadhead minutes: 52	Deadhead km: 236
Total gray whales: 11	Search blocks: 12, 0, 17, 16, 15, 13	
Total belugas: 0	Transect blocks: 17, 14, 15, 16	
Other whale sightings: 0		
Total walrus: 4		
Total bear: 0		

Event	Lat	Long	Block	Species	Total	Repeat	Calves	Swim direction	Swim Speed	Behavior	On effort
542	71.12	- 158.18	13	gray whale	1	.	0	-1	.	swim	False
546	71.12	- 158.15	13	gray whale	1	.	0	-1	.	feed	False
548	71.12	- 158.11	13	gray whale	1	.	0	-1	.	feed	False
537	71.11	- 158.17	13	gray whale	2	.	0	-1	.	feed	False
641	71.52	- 156.88	12	bowhead	1	.	0	-1	.	rest	False
643	71.51	- 156.89	12	bowhead	1	.	0	-1	.	rest	False
645	71.52	- 156.92	12	bowhead	1	.	0	-1	.	rest	False
647	71.52	- 156.94	12	bowhead	2	.	0	-1	.	rest	False
671	71.23	- 157.73	13	gray whale	1	yes	0	-1	.	feed	False
672	71.22	- 157.75	13	gray whale	1	yes	0	-1	.	feed	False
678	71.17	- 157.94	13	gray whale	1	.	0	-1	.	feed	False
680	71.16	- 157.99	13	gray whale	1	.	0	-1	.	feed	False
681	71.16	- 158.02	13	gray whale	1	.	0	246	.	swim	False
682	71.16	- 158.02	13	gray whale	1	.	0	-1	.	feed	False

560	71.18	- 157.87	13	gray whale	1	.	0	-1	.	swim	False
575	71.22	- 157.75	13	gray whale	1	.	0	126	.	swim	False



NMML/MMS
COMIDA Aerial Survey Program
Flight 234, 9/18/2010

