

## COMIDA – Flight 237 – 24 August 2011

Area flown: Transect lines 28, 30, 32, complete. Coastal transect completed from approximately 15 miles south of Point Hope to Wainwright.

Total hours flown: 7.5 (2 flights)

Total transect hours: 3.7

Number of bowheads seen: 0 (0 calves)

Weather and visibility: Skies were partly cloudy to overcast with low ceilings, fog, and glare.

Visibility ranged from 0 to 10 km. Sea state ranged from Beaufort 2 to 5. There was no ice present within the area surveyed. Low ceilings prevented completion of the coastal transect.

Sightings: One gray whale, one dead unidentified cetacean, one beluga, walrus (including four dead walrus), small unidentified pinnipeds, unidentified pinniped, caribou, and one brown bear. Approximately 10,500 walrus were observed hauled out on land slightly north of Point Lay (photo included).

### Bowhead Preliminary Summary, Flight 237 Date: 8/24/2011

Total bowheads: 0	Start time: 8/24/2011 10:21:59 AM	End time: 8/24/2011 6:38:32 PM
Bowhead sightings: 0	Transect minutes: 222	Transect km: 779.7
Bowheads on transect: 0	Circling minutes: 6	Circling km: 18.7
Bowhead Cow-calf pairs: 0	Trans+Circ minutes: 228	Trans+Circ km: 798.4
Bowhead Cow-calf Pairs on transect: 0	Search minutes: 30	Search km: 114.7
Bowhead repeats: 0	Total minutes: 448	Total km: 2033.4
Possible repeats: 0	Deadhead minutes: 190	Deadhead km: 1120.3
Total gray whales: 1	Search blocks: 22, 0, 20, 13	
Total belugas: 1	Transect blocks: 22, 0, 20, 17	
Other whale sightings: 1		
Total walrus: 10515		
Total bear: 0		

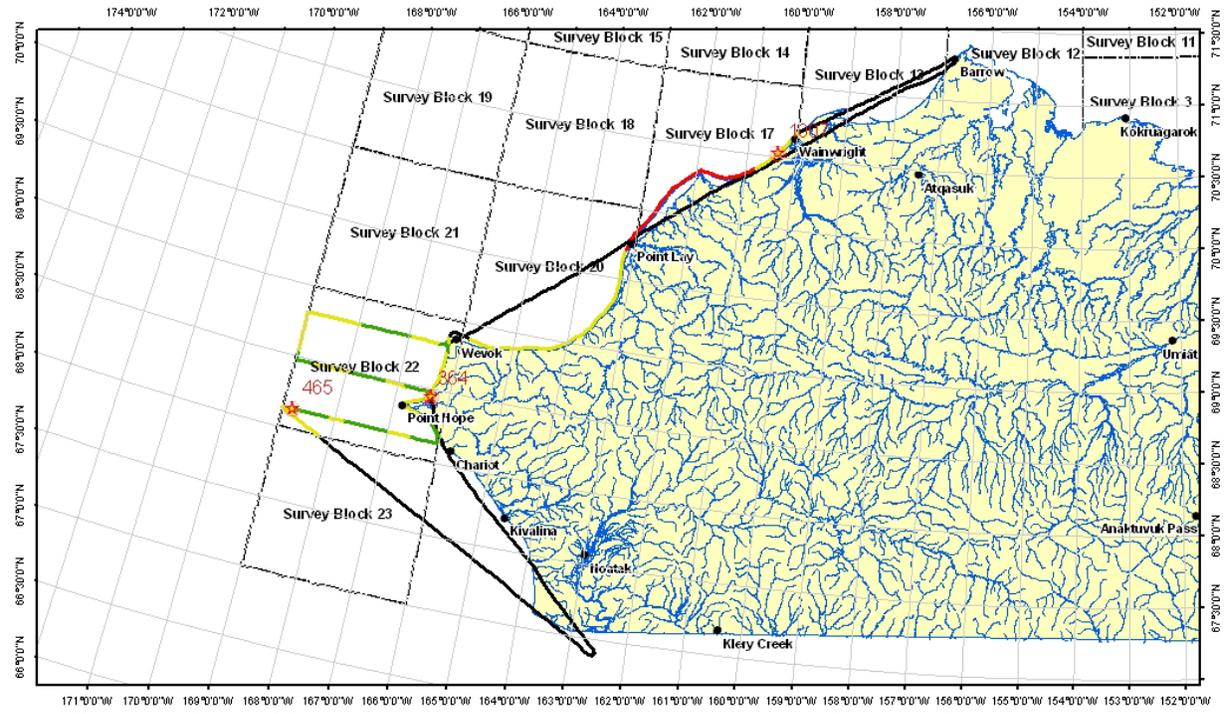
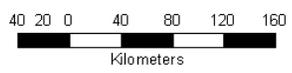
Event	Lat	Long	Block	Species	Total	Repeat	Calves	Swim direction	Swim Speed	Behavior	On effort
364	68.44	-166.33	0	unknown cetacean	1	.	0	-1	.	dead	False
465	68.14	-168.82	22	gray whale	1	.	0	-1	.	feed	True
1007	70.52	-160.36	17	beluga	1	.	0	-1	.	swim	True

**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 237, 8/24/2011





Two large walrus haulouts (estimated sizes 2500 [L] and 8000 [R] animals) sighted during COMIDA flight 237. The haulouts were located slightly north of Pt. Lay in the same area as observed on COMIDA flights 234 and 235. In the vicinity of the sighting, the COMIDA team was flying the coastal transect one km offshore, with the aircraft at 1575', and no reaction by the walrus was noted.