

ASAMM-Chukchi – Flight 235 – 6 September 2016

Area flown: Transects 13 and 15, partial; coastal transect from east of Icy Cape to Barrow; search of Peard Bay.

Total hours flown: 3.0

Total transect hours: 1.4

Number of bowhead whales seen: 0 (0 calves)

Weather and visibility: Skies were partly cloudy to overcast. Sea state ranged from Beaufort 2-5. Visibility was 0 to 10 km, with precipitation, low ceilings, and glare. There was no sea ice in the area surveyed. Low ceilings prevented complete coverage of transects.

Sightings: Gray whales (including 1 carcass), 1 polar bear, unidentified pinnipeds, and small unidentified pinnipeds. The gray whale carcass was sighted floating approximately 35 km north of Icy Cape, Alaska. The polar bear was sighted feeding on a very decomposed unidentified marine mammal carcass on the beach near Point Franklin, Alaska. Three walrus carcasses were sighted on the beach near Point Franklin; 1 of the carcasses was a repeat sighting from earlier surveys but 2 of the carcasses were new.

Preliminary Summary, Flight 235 Date: Tuesday, September 06, 2016

Total bowhead whales: 0	Start time: 9/6/2016 9:10:52 AM	End time: 9/6/2016 12:13:13 PM
Bowhead whale sightings: 0	Transect minutes: 86	Transect km: 327.1
Bowhead whales on transect: 0	Circling minutes: 18	Circling km: 46.8
Bowhead whale cow-calf pairs: 0	Trans+Circ minutes: 104	Trans+Circ km: 373.9
Bowhead whale cow-calf pairs on transect: 0	Search minutes: 16	Search km: 62.2
Bowhead whale repeats: 0	Total minutes: 182	Total km: 779.4
Possible repeats: 0	Deadhead minutes: 62	Deadhead km: 343.3
Total gray whales: 2	Search blocks: 12,13,17,18	
Total belugas: 0	Transect blocks: 13,17,18	
Other whale sightings: 0		
walrus: yes		
Total polar bears: 1		

Cetacean Sightings:

Event	Lat	Long	Block	Species	Total	Calves	Behavior	Swim Direction	On Effort
199	70.56	-162.15	17	gray whale	1	0	dead	-1	True
305	70.85	-159.38	13	gray whale	1	0	swim	-1	False

Flightlines by Sea State

- B0 - B2
- B3 - B5
- B6 - B8
- NA

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

NOAA/AFSC/NMML-BOEM
Aerial Surveys of Arctic Marine Mammals Program
Flight 235, 9/6/2016 9:08:51 AM

