

ASAMM-Chukchi – Flight 243 – 20 September 2016

Area flown: Transects 8, 10, 12, 13, 14, and 15, partial.

Total hours flown: 4.9

Total transect hours: 2.1

Number of bowhead whales seen: 4 (0 calves)

Weather and visibility: Skies were partly cloudy to overcast. Sea state ranged from Beaufort 2-3. Visibility was 0 to 10km, with precipitation, low ceilings, and glare. Sea ice ranged from 0 to 1 percent broken floe ice in the area surveyed. Low ceilings precluded offshore coverage of transects.

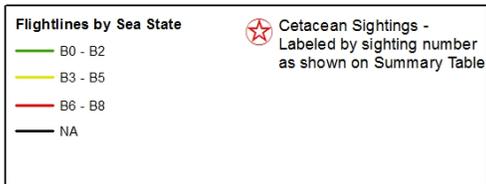
Sightings: Bowhead whales, gray whales, killer whales (including 1 calf), unidentified cetaceans (including 1 beached carcass and 1 floating globster), walrus (including 1 carcass), unidentified pinnipeds, and small unidentified pinnipeds. The beached unidentified cetacean carcass was resighted near Point Franklin, Alaska (first sighted on ASAMM Flt 242, E383) and the globster was sighted floating near Icy Cape, Alaska. The walrus carcass was sighted floating approximately 90 km northwest of Icy Cape.

Preliminary Summary, Flight 243 Date: Tuesday, September 20, 2016

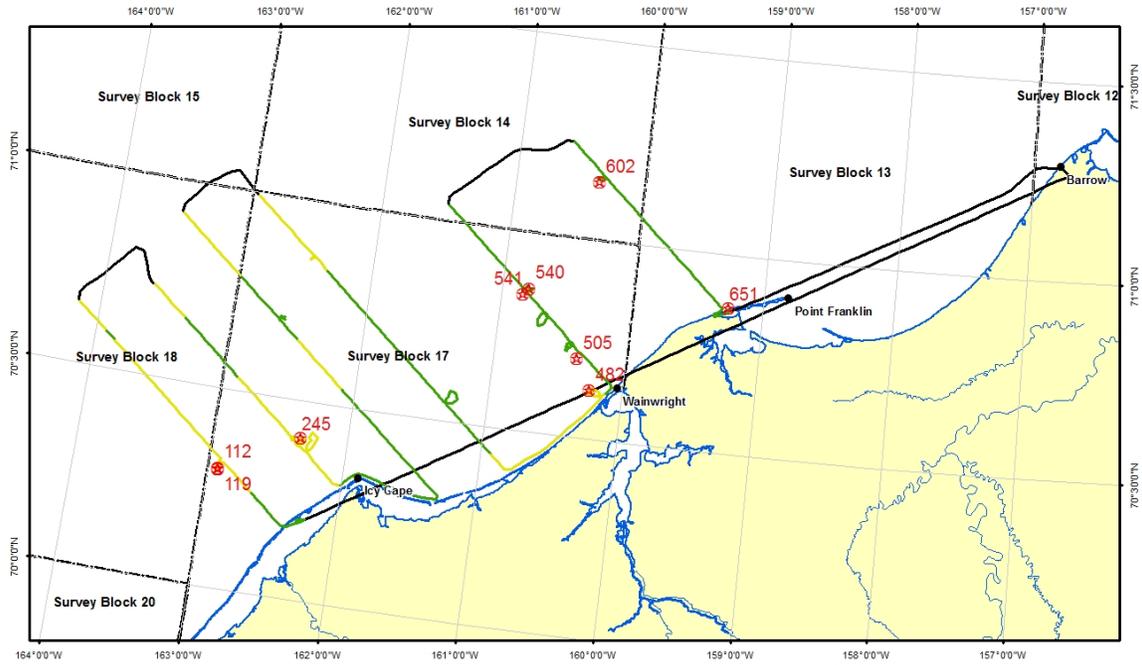
Total bowhead whales: 4	Start time: 9/20/2016 9:18:56 AM	End time: 9/20/2016 2:12:41 PM
Bowhead whale sightings: 3	Transect minutes: 127	Transect km: 489
Bowhead whales on transect: 3	Circling minutes: 54	Circling km: 131.2
Bowhead whale cow-calf pairs: 0	Trans+Circ minutes: 181	Trans+Circ km: 620.2
Bowhead whale cow-calf pairs on transect: 0	Search minutes: 24	Search km: 94.5
Bowhead whale repeats: 0	Total minutes: 293	Total km: 1162.2
Possible repeats: 0	Deadhead minutes: 88	Deadhead km: 447.5
Total gray whales: 2	Search blocks: 13,14,17,18	
Total belugas: 0	Transect blocks: 13,14,17,18	
Other whale sightings: 10		
walrus: yes		
Total polar bears: 0		

Cetacean Sightings:

Event	Lat	Long	Block	Species	Total	Calves	Behavior	Swim Direction	On Effort
112	70.31	-162.88	17	killer whale	4	0	feed	-1	True
119	70.3	-162.92	17	killer whale	3	1	mill	-1	False
245	70.41	-162.34	17	unid cetacean	1	0	swim	-1	False
334	70.69	-162.64	17	unid cetacean	1	0	dead	-1	True
482	70.6	-160.16	17	bowhead whale	1	0	swim	212	False
505	70.71	-160.33	17	bowhead whale	1	0	swim	221	True
540	70.85	-160.81	17	gray whale	1	0	feed	-1	True
541	70.85	-160.81	17	gray whale	1	0	swim	131	True
602	71.16	-160.32	14	bowhead whale	2	0	swim	222	True
651	70.87	-159.26	13	unid cetacean	1	0	dead	-1	False



NOAA\FSC\NMML-BOEM
 Aerial Surveys of Arctic Marine Mammals Program
 Flight 243, 9/20/2016 9:10:57 AM



Killer whales (part of a group of 7 total) sighted ~40 km west of Icy Cape, Alaska (events 112 and 119), ASAMM-Chukchi Flight 243, 20 September 2016.

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A rare “mud-free” gray whale photo! This gray whale was sighted ~35 km northwest of Wainwright, Alaska (event 541), ASAMM-Chukchi Flight 243, 20 September 2016.



The other black and white cetacean seen during ASAMM-Chukchi Flight 243, 20 September 2016. This pair of bowhead whales was sighted ~60 km north of Wainwright, Alaska (event 602).