

COMIDA – Flight 203 – 19 June 2011

Area flown: Transect lines 13, 15, 17, and 19, complete.

Total hours flown: 9.6 (2 flights)

Total transect hours: 5.4

Number of bowheads seen: 3 (0 calves)

Weather and visibility: Skies were clear with brief patches of partly cloudy. Sea state ranged from Beaufort 0-3. Visibility was 3 to 10 km. Ice cover ranged from 0-90% and included broken floe and shorefast ice. The offshore ice edge is near 71.7° N in block 15.

Sightings: Bowhead whales, a gray whale, belugas, walruses, bearded seals, unidentified pinnipeds, and a swimming polar bear. The polar bear was approximately 55 km from the nearest land and heading north. Several walrus groups were seen hauled out on ice floes. One dead gray whale was observed offshore.

Bowhead Preliminary Summary, Flight 203 Date: 6/19/2011

Total bowheads: 3	Start time: 6/19/2011 9:56:44 AM	End time: 6/19/2011 8:45:31 PM
Bowhead sightings: 2	Transect minutes: 326	Transect km: 1125.1
Bowheads on transect: 3	Circling minutes: 14	Circling km: 38.3
Bowhead Cow-calf pairs: 0	Trans+Circ minutes: 340	Trans+Circ km: 1163.4
Bowhead Cow-calf Pairs on transect: 0	Search minutes: 38	Search km: 126.6
Bowhead repeats: 0	Total minutes: 576	Total km: 2450.9
Possible repeats: 0	Deadhead minutes: 198	Deadhead km: 1160.9
Total gray whales: 2	Search blocks: 17, 16, 20, 0, 19	
Total belugas: 29	Transect blocks: 17, 18, 15, 16, 0, 19, 20	
Other whale sightings: 0		
Total walrus: 418		
Total bear: 1		

Event	Lat	Long	Block	Species	Total	Repeat	Calves	Swim direction	Swim Speed	Behavior	On effort
157	70.84	-164	18	beluga	1	.	0	277	.	swim	True
399	71.26	-167.52	16	bowhead	1	.	0	276	.	swim	True
357	71.54	-168.8	0	beluga	1	.	0	-1	.	swim	True
359	71.54	-168.8	16	beluga	25	.	0	-1	.	swim	True
532	70.58	-164.67	18	bowhead	2	.	0	-1	.	mill	True
948	70.24	-165.02	18	gray whale	1	.	0	68	.	swim	True
1111	71.16	-168.94	16	beluga	1	.	0	126	.	swim	True
1203	70.45	-167.57	19	beluga	1	.	0	37	.	swim	True
1189	70.49	-167.77	19	gray whale	1	.	0	-1	.	dead	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 203, 6/19/2011

