

ASAMM-Chukchi – Flight 216 – 29 July 2016

Area flown: Transects 3 and 8, complete; transects 1, 5, and 6, partial.

Total hours flown: 3.8

Total transect hours: 1.9

Number of bowhead whales seen: 0 (0 calves)

Weather and visibility: Skies were partly cloudy to overcast. Sea state ranged from Beaufort 1-5. Visibility was 0 km to unlimited, with glare, precipitation, and low ceilings. Sea ice ranged from 4 to 80 percent broken floe in the area surveyed. Issues with the survey computer program prevented complete coverage of transect 1 and low ceilings prevented complete coverage of transects 5 and 6.

Sightings: Gray whales (including one calf), walruses, bearded seals, unidentified pinnipeds (including one carcass), small unidentified pinnipeds, and polar bears. One polar bear was seen swimming approximately 105 km northwest of Barrow in 50% broken floe sea ice, about 2 km from the on-ice kill site of the unidentified pinniped carcass. The other polar bear was sighted on ice approximately 180 km northwest of Wainwright in 65% broken floe sea ice.

Preliminary Summary, Flight 216 Date: 7/29/2016

Total bowhead whales: 0	Start time: 7/29/2016 11:00:24 AM	End time: 7/29/2016 2:53:13 PM
Bowhead whale sightings: 0	Transect minutes: 116	Transect km:451.1
Bowhead whales on transect: 0	Circling minutes: 5	Circling km: 0
Bowhead whale cow-calf pairs: 0	Trans+Circ minutes: 121	Trans+Circ km: 451.1
Bowhead whale cow-calf pairs on transect: 0	Search minutes: 72	Search km: 252.5
Bowhead whale repeats: 0	Total minutes: 233	Total km: 846.2
Possible repeats: 0	Deadhead minutes: 40	Deadhead km: 142.6
Total gray whales: 2	Search blocks: 12, 13, 14	
Total belugas: 0	Transect blocks: 13, 14, 15	
Other whale sightings: 0		
Walruses: Yes		
Total polar bears: 2		

Cetacean Sightings:

Event	Lat	Long	Block	Species	Total	Calves	Behavior	Swim Direction	On Effort
593	71.02	-158.41	13	gray whale	2	1	swim	272	False

NOAA\AFSC\NMML-BOEM
Aerial Surveys of Arctic Marine Mammals Program
Flight 216, 7/29/2016 10:55:26 AM

Flightlines by Sea State

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

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

