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IN THE BERING SEA, 6-16 APRIL 1972

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## SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

Between 7 and 16 April 1972 a Grumman turbo conversion or "Super Goose" aircraft was flown at 145 mph, altitude 500 feet, for approximately 4,280 nautical miles over the Bering Sea ice from Bering Strait to the Alaska Peninsula and from Alaskan to Siberian coastal waters. Eight species of marine mammals were observed and the counts and estimated numbers in a 1-mile wide survey track were recorded: (sea otter, 8; walrus, 9,300; largha seal, 79; ringed seal, 29; ribbon seal, 6; bearded seal, 221; bowhead whale, 1; and beluga, 33). Two areas of abundance of walruses were observed: (1) north and south of the west end of St. Lawrence Island, and (2) in central Bristol Bay. Areas of low abundance surrounded these areas of concentration. No marine mammals were found in the Nunivak or St. Matthew areas or on the ice north and east of these areas to the east end of St. Lawrence Island. Information was available that no walruses were in the Chukchi Sea at the time of our surveys.

Estimates based on the field data indicate that the Pacific walrus may number about 136,000 animals. Statistical treatment of these data indicates that there could be as few as 93,000 or as many as 178,000 walruses.

## INTRODUCTION

Beginning in 1960 the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife has conducted five aerial surveys of walruses and other ice inhabiting marine mammals as listed (Table 1). The primary purpose of these surveys was to obtain information on the distribution and general abundance of the Pacific walrus (Odobenus rosmarus divergens) in the Bering Sea. A secondary objective was to obtain similar information on other marine mammals. The eight species observed in the survey strip and the total numbers recorded in the 1972 surveys are listed in Table 2, and Table 3 lists daily observations of walruses and bearded seals.

Pagophilic (ice-loving) marine mammals are not distributed evenly or randomly in the Bering Sea. Our accumulated aerial surveys show that these mammals occupy certain geographically circumscribed areas. Within these geographic regions their distribution at different times is determined by the extent of the pack ice and the composition of the ice (for example; heavy old pack, young ice, expansive unbroken ice sheets, and ice-edge zone). Ultimately, when the ice leaves the Bering Sea in spring and summer the majority of pagophilic pinnipeds retreat to the Chukchi Sea with it.

Following is a presentation of all data gathered on walruses including the field record of counts and estimates of animals seen and the geographical charts to which these data were extrapolated on the basis of the recorded time of each observation. It was necessary to summarize separately the observations for the different geographical areas observed and these tables are included.

I consider that the 1972 survey was the best we have yet conducted for the following reasons: (1) weather conditions were favorable during the surveys; (2) because of the knowledge gained on distribution of walruses on previous surveys we were able to concentrate our surveys in the areas where walruses occur; (3) because of the speed and long range of the turbo goose aircraft we were able to complete transect flights through and beyond areas of high abundance to establish the approximate limits of these areas. Because of this a statistical evaluation of our data was possible.

Data on species other than the walrus are still being examined for possible statistical treatment and whatever conclusions may be drawn from it will be treated in a future report.

## ITINERARY (Nome time is shown unless otherwise noted)

- 6 April 1972 0940-1600 (Seattle time) fly Seattle to Anchorage  
aboard BSFW Super Goose No. N780
- 7 April 1972 1700-1852 fly Anchorage to Nome aboard N780.  
Survey Norton Sound, Unalakleet to Nome.
- 8-10 April 1972 At Nome. Snow and wind, no flight possible.
- 11 April 1972 1140-1945 aerial survey: Nome to Bering Strait  
to Gulf of Anadyr to St. Lawrence Island to Nome.
- 12 April 1972 1215-1823 survey central Bering Sea: Nome to  
St. Lawrence Island to St. Matthew Island to Nunivak Island  
to Kuskokwim Bay to Bethel.
- 13 April 1972 1212-1902 survey central and south Bering Sea:  
Bethel to Pribilof Islands (St. Paul) to Bristol  
Bay to King Salmon.
- 14 April 1972 1150-1853 survey eastern Bering Sea: King Salmon  
to Bristol Bay to Port Moller to Togiak (Walrus)  
Islands to Cape Newenham to Kuskokwim Bay,  
around Nunivak Island to Bethel.
- 15 April 1972 1025-1610 survey central and northern Bering Sea:  
Bethel to St. Lawrence Island to King Island to Nome.
- 16 April 1972 1202-1335 survey Norton Sound.  
1335-1606 flight to Anchorage  
1805 (Anchorage time)-2240 (Seattle time), arrive Seattle.

Aerial Survey Crew: The following participated in all survey flights:

Don Borchert, Photographer, Institute of Arctic Biology, University of Alaska, Fairbanks, Alaska; Dr. Clyde Jones, Recorder, Bird and Mammal Laboratories, BSFW, U.S. National Museum of Natural History, Washington, D. C.; Karl W. Kenyon, Observer, Marine Mammal Substation, BSFW, Seattle, Wash.; Herman Ruess, Copilot, Aircraft Division, BSFW, Anchorage, Alaska; Karl Schneider, Observer, Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Anchorage, Alaska; and Theron A. Smith, Pilot, Aircraft Supervisor, BSFW, Anchorage, Alaska.

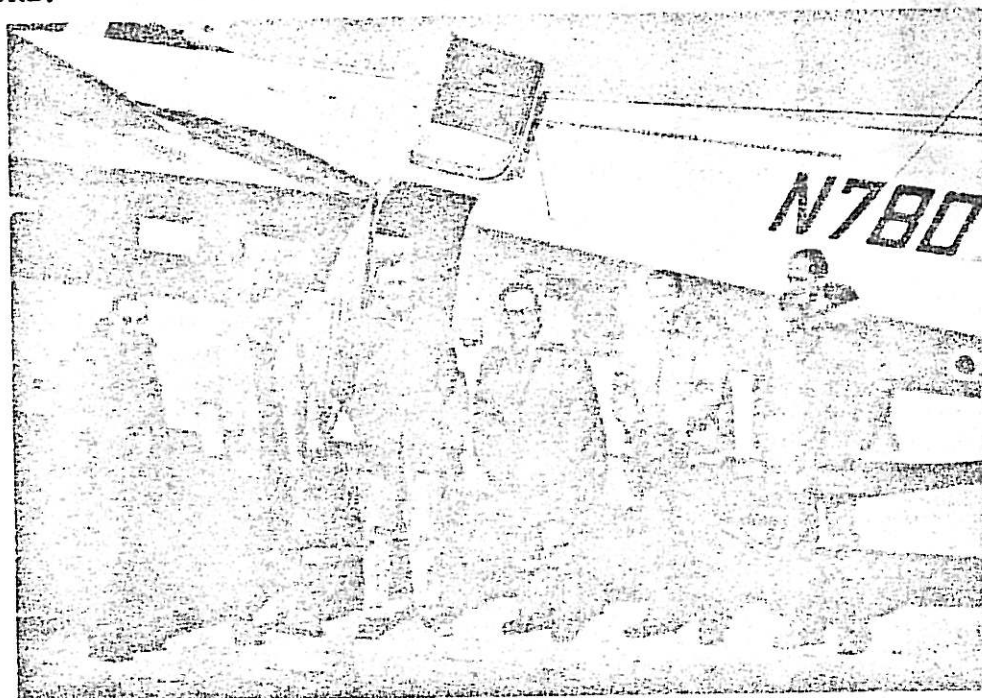


Figure 1. --Survey crew: L. to R.; Ruess, Smith, Jones, Borchert, Kenyon, Schneider. Photo No. KWK 72-5-1.

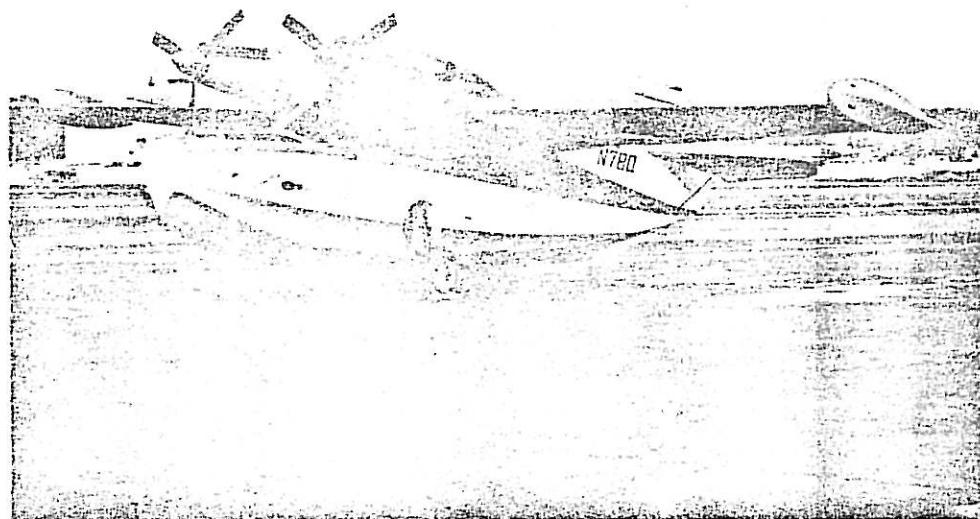


Figure 2. --The turbo conversion or "Super-Goose" aircraft (No. N780).

Photo No. CL 72-6-21.

Prior to 1972 all aerial surveys of marine mammals on the Bering Sea ice and in the Aleutian Islands were made from DC-3 aircraft. Although the DC-3 is capable of adequate long-range flight, the facilities for observers in the cockpit are poor. It was necessary for observers to stand behind the pilot and copilot and bend forward to observe ahead and to the side. Observer fatigue and physical discomfort from holding this distorted position for hours on end made these surveys ordeals of endurance.

Because many of the aircraft requirements of the BSFW are unique, Aircraft Supervisor Smith set out in 1968 to design a plane that would fulfill many needs not met by conventional aircraft. He sought advice from many of us who require aircraft for specialized uses. Between 1968 and March of 1972 a Grumman Goose was completely rebuilt under Smith's supervision in the BSFW hangar, Anchorage.

This aircraft was fully certificated by the Federal Aviation Agency in early April 1972, shortly before our survey trip. The features which make this aircraft as nearly perfect as is possible for our work are: (1) Observers' seats are directly behind and slightly higher than those of the pilot and copilot. This feature gives the observers excellent visibility ahead and to each side of the aircraft from a normal sitting position. (2) The extra large windshield (adapted from two bus windshields) and side windows provide an unobstructed view in all directions. (3) The fuel capacity that provides for about 11 hours of flight is excellent for long-range aerial surveys. (4) The turbo-prop engines furnish smooth cruising at 145 knots. This speed--as opposed to 120 knots in the DC3--is highly satisfactory for over ice surveys. (5) The safety factor of having an amphibian-type aircraft for long over-water and over-ice operations is a great improvement over having to do such surveys in a nonamphibious land-type aircraft.

(6) The navigational equipment includes Loran, radio direction finder, and Omni. This equipment is superior to any previously available in a survey aircraft. We were thus able to know our exact geographical position at all times, even though several hundred miles from the nearest U.S. navigation facility or land fix. Theron Smith should be commended for recognizing the need for a specialized aircraft and then building and flying it.



## THE SURVEYS

Definitions

Flight track. --An imaginary line directly beneath the aircraft when in flight.

Survey strip (or survey track). --This is the 1-mile strip out to 1/2 mile on either side of the flight track. Within this strip, walruses on the ice were easily seen. It was chosen as the area within which to make counts and estimates of all walruses observed. The counts thus give directly the numbers of animals per square mile along the flight track. Walruses outside the strip were also recorded--but in separate listings. In areas where walruses were abundant, some animals outside the survey strip could not be recorded because there was insufficient time to estimate and record all animals simultaneously in view. The width of the survey strip was established by flying over the center of an airstrip that was 1 mile in length. The observers' estimates of those animals "inside" and those "outside" the 1/2-mile strip are admittedly subjective in borderline cases.

Miles. --Nautical miles are used throughout this report. To obtain statute miles, multiply nautical miles by 1.15.

High abundance areas. --Areas in which we recorded from 1.0 to 24.4 walrus per square mile.

Low abundance areas. --Areas in which we recorded less than one walrus per square mile.

Vacant areas. --Large expanses of many miles of ice where no marine mammals were seen.

### Methods

It is fortunate that good weather is required for aerial surveys because it is generally true of marine mammals that they prefer to haul out, where they are most visible, and sun themselves when the weather is clear and calm. In some species, for example the Steller sea lion, the greatest numbers were seen out of water in fair weather in the afternoon (Kenyon and Rice, 1961, J. Mammal. 42(2): 223-234). We thus conducted most of our surveys from midday until mid- or late-afternoon in the hope that the maximum possible number of animals would be seen.

Our procedure during the surveys follows: The two observers sat in the seats close to the large windows directly behind the pilot and copilot. From here we had an unobstructed view directly ahead of the aircraft and in all directions on both sides. Animals that we passed directly over could be seen ahead but were not visible from the side windows.

Each observation and the time to the nearest minute that it was made were entered in a notebook by the recorder who sat between the observers. Data on numbers of animals observed were entered in four columns: inside the 1/2-mile survey strip on each side (total 1 mile) and outside the survey strip on both sides of the aircraft (see Field Records, Appendix 1). We made an effort to enter each group of animals seen rather than mentally combining several small groups before entry in the log, thus preserving data on group size.

#### Weather

Wind and snow prevented survey operations on 8, 9, and 10 April. During the surveys (7 April and 11 through 16 April) the weather was generally clear. We encountered minor fog patches in several areas. These did not substantially interfere with the surveys but sometimes necessitated minor course changes to avoid further fog interference.

### Aerial Photography

Aerial photography has been considered as a means of enumerating all walrus that occur within the survey track. The reasons that this method has not been attempted are: The animals are scattered over a vast area and the volume of photos required, establishing the proper photographic techniques, and obtaining the proper equipment (both aircraft and cameras) would in itself be a major undertaking. Such a project would probably require flight along the transects at fairly high altitude and the use of telephoto lenses to obtain vertical photographs of the survey strip. Presumably the walrus would not be disturbed by a high-flying aircraft, which would be an advantage to this kind of survey. That the survey craft would often be flying above the fairly frequent patches of low stratus clouds would be a disadvantage.

The objective of our small-scale photography was to obtain sample views that might reveal age and sex composition of some of the walrus groups seen. The reasons for a low degree of success in this undertaking were: (1) The animals crowded for the water when we were in photographic range. (2) When the walrus move toward the water, most of them hold their heads bent forward so that the tusks are not visible from above. (3) Where walrus have rested on the ice for a considerable period (as most groups apparently had) the ice

is stained dark muddy brown by their excrement. In photographs, much detail is not distinguishable because the rusty brown walruses do not show up well against the dark background.

#### Identification of Ages and Sexes

Adult males possess heavier tusks (of greater diameter) than females and are larger. The speed of our survey craft and the fact that, at the nearest, the animals were 500 feet away made it difficult and usually impossible to quantitatively observe characteristics that would separate the sexes. We hoped that by studying photographs we might be able to ascertain to some degree the ages and sexes in sample groups. This technique met with limited success (see Aerial Photography).

I gained the general impression, however, that the large concentrations in the northwestern Bering Sea were composed to a large extent of females with young. Also, that the central Bristol Bay concentration may have been composed primarily of males.

The best information on the distribution of different age and sex classes can probably be obtained from surface observations. During aerial surveys the animals usually stampede into the water as the aircraft approaches and passes over, giving little time for careful observations or even to photograph groups or individual walruses.

Calving

On 15 April 1972, at 1302, and about 120 miles southwest of the west end of St. Lawrence Island we saw a large female walrus alone on a piece of old ice beside an open lead. She was at the edge of a patch of bright red (fresh) blood about 10 feet in diameter. Beside her lay a newly born calf. The calf lay flat on its belly and we did not see it move while we circled to take photographs. The mother, although moving about and making several false starts toward the water, did not plunge in but remained near the calf.

Although other patches of blood were seen on the ice, this was our only observation of a mother and newborn young.

The question is raised: Do parturient females leave the immediate vicinity of other walruses to bear their young in solitude? There were a number of groups in the general vicinity. If young were born to mothers in groups, the observation from the air of blood on the ice would be difficult because of staining of the ice by excrement.

Our observation at least identifies this area southwest of St. Lawrence Island as a calving area.

### Grouping of Walruses

The majority of walruses were seen in groups. Only 104 of the estimated 9,300 walruses that we recorded in the survey strip were singles.

We recorded 330 groups of 9 or fewer animals; 177 groups of 10 or more but less than 100 animals; and 45 groups of more than 100 animals. Among these, the largest group was estimated to number about 1,000 animals.

These data have not been analyzed further because the significance of doing so is not at the moment clear. The data demonstrate, however, that the walrus is a highly gregarious mammal.

### Problems in Making Aerial Surveys of Walruses

Ice conditions. --The ice in the Bering Sea is in constant motion under the influence of air and water currents. Important changes in the geographical distribution of ice and open water can occur within a few hours and, of course, vast changes occur seasonally. Since marine mammal distribution is related to ice conditions and distribution, variable factors of unknown magnitude influence the results when surveys conducted on different days are combined. Because the ice appeared to remain relatively stable and at maximum extent during

the 1972 surveys, we do not consider that ice movements introduced appreciable error in our final results.

Because walruses are large (to 3,000 pounds) and groups or individuals and the excrement-stained patches on which they rest appear dark against the snow-covered expanse that blankets much of the Bering Sea in winter and spring, they are easily seen when they are out of the water. When the weather was clear we estimated that we saw animals to a distance of about 2 miles on either side of the flight track.

When animals are in the water, however, they are difficult to detect. The water in leads appears very dark blue to almost black, so that there is little contrast between the water and the rusty-brown walruses. Most of the animals that were seen in the water were observed very near (probably none more than a quarter of a mile) on either side of the plane's flight track. Thus the 233 animals observed in the water probably represent a small (but unknown) fraction that were in the water within the survey strip.



### Accuracy of Counts and Estimates

The estimates of numbers of marine mammals that we recorded are accurate counts only for those animals seen singly or in small numbers.

The recorded observations of walruses are intended to reflect the order of magnitude of the numbers of animals seen. The smaller groups were counted but when several hundred animals were in view simultaneously the number was estimated; it was impossible to count them. However, a separate estimate was recorded for each group of animals seen (Appendix 1). Thus, the records of individuals and small groups when combined with estimates of large groups give the appearance of greater accuracy of the combined total than actually exists.

Because an unknown number of walruses were in the water when the surveys were made, I have arbitrarily chosen a 10% correction factor. At the present time no data are available from which to derive a more accurate correction factor to account for the animals within the survey strip that were not seen because they were in the water. At some future time it is possible that data gathered by surface observers will furnish information on the percentage of animals

expected to be in the water at various times of day and under various weather conditions. Because general observations indicate that a significant number of animals were in the water, the estimated totals should probably be considered as conservative.

The surveys were flown in mid-April 1972 for several reasons:

(1) The aircraft was available at that time. (2) The ice is usually at maximum extent in mid-April and thus the majority of walruses would be expected to be south of Bering Strait. That this was the situation was confirmed on 6 April 1972 when I spoke with Mr. James W. Brooks, BSWF, in Anchorage. He had recently returned from field studies of polar bears in the Chukchi Sea. During some hundreds of miles of flight over the ice north of Bering Strait he saw only one lone adult male walrus. Thus, in this report no correction factor is included to account for walruses that might have been in the Chukchi Sea where we did not survey. (3) It was hoped that in some way the aerial surveys might be coordinated with or profit from simultaneous observations obtained by Mr. John J. Burns (ADF&G) and Dr. Carleton Ray (The Johns Hopkins University) who observed walruses from the icebreaker USCGC Burton Island in April. Until now I have been unable to consult with these observers. In the future I plan to discuss the possibility of combining or coordinating our data if this approach seems reasonable.

High and Low Abundance Areas

When the Bering Sea ice is at maximum extent, as it was during the 1972 surveys, we found two distinct areas of high walrus abundance. One is associated with the western end of St. Lawrence Island and off eastern Siberia and the other is approximately 400 miles to the southeast in central Bristol Bay (see chart 1). In both of these areas the action of winds and currents keep leads open and much heavy old pack ice is present. Water depths in these areas range from 30 to 50 fathoms, indicating that these are satisfactory feeding depths for the bottom-feeding walrus.

Within the areas of high abundance walruses were seen scattered singly, in small groups, or in herds of several hundred to about a thousand animals. In the areas of low abundance, individuals and small groups were widely scattered.

Our five past surveys reveal that the geographical location of areas of high and low abundance are relatively similar each year, but the geographical location of large numbers of walruses within the general areas of abundance varies in accordance with ice conditions. Young ice will not support the weight of numbers of walruses. They generally haul out on heavy compacted floe ice. This ice has been broken and then consolidated by pressures in leads among extensive ice sheets under the influence of winds and currents.

If surveys are made after a period of northerly winds, the heavy old ice may be moved many miles south of St. Lawrence Island and the intervening water covered by young ice. Under these conditions few walruses are found in the young ice area. If, on the other hand, the surveys are made following a period of southerly winds, the heavy pack ice is consolidated directly against and south of St. Lawrence Island and the walruses are concentrated there. A similar change in the geographical location of abundance areas occurs in Bristol Bay but our surveys prior to 1972 have not yielded as much information on the movement or stability of this group.

An example of how ice conditions and numbers of walruses observed in a given area may change drastically within a few days follows: On 11, 12, and 15 April 1972 overlapping but somewhat different sectors were flown west of Nome, north of St. Lawrence Island, and south of Bering Strait (see Chart 1). On 11 and 12 April the ice in this area was, for the most part, closely packed with few open leads and relatively few walruses were seen. In contrast, on 15 April, large areas of open water extended north of St. Lawrence Island off the east Siberian coast and walruses were abundant. Table 4 presents our observations.

A large percentage of the 2,763 walruses seen on 15 April were in the same geographical area (north of St. Lawrence Island) where relatively few were observed on 11 and 12 April.

In areas like the one just discussed, walruses may be scarce or abundant depending on ice conditions and amount of open water. In other areas, however, walruses are scarce or absent regardless of ice conditions or the amount of open water.

As the ice recedes in the spring the majority of walruses move north with it. Only about 2,000 adult males remain into late spring and summer in Togiak Bay, in northeastern Bristol Bay, where they usually haul out on Round Island.

It became evident during our 1972 surveys that, under the prevailing ice conditions, the St. Lawrence and Bristol Bay walrus aggregations were distinct and geographically separated (Chart 1). This raises several questions: (1) Do these two herds retain their separation throughout the year or do they mingle as the ice recedes and spend the summers together in the Arctic Ocean? (2) If this is the case, when do these two groups divide to return to their widely separated winter and spring calving, breeding, and feeding areas? (3) Do these two groups constitute two distinct breeding populations, or is it a manifestation of sexual segregation with mostly females and

young in the northwestern Bering Sea and mostly males in Bristol Bay? The males seen on Round Island later in the spring might indicate that the latter is the case. These questions indicate that we still have much to learn of the natural history of the walrus.

#### Analysis of Data

To study the areas of walrus distribution and abundance it was necessary to transfer all field observations to a chart to define the geographical locations where they were made. The field record of the time of each observation (see Appendix 1) was used to find the geographical location of the observation on a nautical chart to which all tracks flown were transposed from the aerial chart that was used during the survey flights (see Charts 2 through 9 and Table 5).

The areas of high abundance were encountered abruptly in most cases. Thus, these areas could be delimited on the chart when several flight tracks passed through them on different days and in different geographical locations. Although we made an effort to define these areas of high abundance during the surveys by flying transects through them, it became evident during my study of the data that more tracks through certain areas would be useful.

### Computation of Walrus Population Estimates

All computations are based on the number of walruses recorded in the 1-mile wide survey strip. Separate computations were made for the four major areas where walruses were observed. These are defined as the high abundance areas for the St. Lawrence aggregation and the Bristol Bay aggregation and the two low abundance areas surrounding each of them.

Walruses per mile<sup>2</sup> were computed from the measured distances along the tracks on the nautical chart in combination with the data in Appendix 1, showing the time that each walrus observation was made. These data for each survey day are summarized in tables 6 through 10.

Areas of high abundance and low abundance were defined as previously stated. From tables 6 through 10 the observations of high and low abundance were selected and combined to form tables 11 through 14. It is from these data that chart 1 was drawn to geographically define the areas of high and low abundance and absence of walruses.

From the nautical charts approximate geographical area measurements were derived (see Appendix 2) and using the data from tables 11 through 14 the following calculations were made directly:

	<u>Area mi<sup>2</sup></u>	<u>Walrus/mi<sup>2</sup></u>	<u>Total</u>
St. Lawrence high concentration	6,000	9.88	59,280
St. Lawrence low concentration	60,000	0.237	14,220
Bristol Bay high concentration	1,500	22.94	34,410
Bristol Bay low concentration	<u>36,000</u>	<u>0.437</u>	<u>15,732</u>
Total	103,500		123,642

#### Statistical Evaluation of Walrus Survey Data

Under the direction of Dr. Douglas G. Chapman, Dean, School of Fisheries, University of Washington, Mr. Nelson Ehrhardt, a graduate student in biometric studies, subjected our data to statistical treatment. The results of this work are:

1. Variance of walrus/mi<sup>2</sup> for tables 11, 12, 13, and 14.

$$s_{11}^2 = 71.084; s_{12}^2 = 0.133; s_{13}^2 = 48.475; s_{14}^2 = 0.104$$

2. Estimated number of walrus.

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{\text{No. of walrus}} &= (6000)(9.88) + (60,000)(0.237) + (1500)(22.94) + \\ &\quad (36,000)(0.437) = 123,642 \end{aligned}$$

3. Variance of estimated number of walrus.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Var } \hat{\text{No. of walrus}} &= (6000)^2 s_{11}^2/10 + (60,000)^2 s_{12}^2/11 + (1500)^2 s_{13}^2/2 + \\ &\quad (36,000)^2 s_{14}^2/7 = 371,765,250 \end{aligned}$$

4. S.D.  $\hat{\text{No.}} = \sqrt{\text{Var } \hat{\text{No.}}} = 19,281.21$



If a range for the total number of walruses, as indicated by the statistical treatment, is desired then  $123,642 \pm (19,281.21 \times 2)$  =  $123,642 \pm 38,562$ , or rounded to the nearest thousand 85,000 to 162,000 walruses.

From this, if a single figure is desired the 123,642 should be rounded to 124,000. If a correction factor is used for the unknown number of walruses missed because they were in the water, we might guess that 10% would be conservative. Thus, our estimate becomes about 136,000 Pacific walruses, range 93,000 to 178,000.

At any rate, we can conclude that the walrus is an abundant species.

#### Recommendations for Future Surveys

1. A survey should be flown in the mid-May to early June period when the extent of ice in the Bering Sea is greatly reduced. This might, as previous surveys indicated, have the effect of concentrating the walruses in smaller areas, so that more transects could be flown through the areas where walruses are concentrated in less flight time. Thus, areas of abundance could be more accurately determined in order to compute and treat statistically the total population estimates.

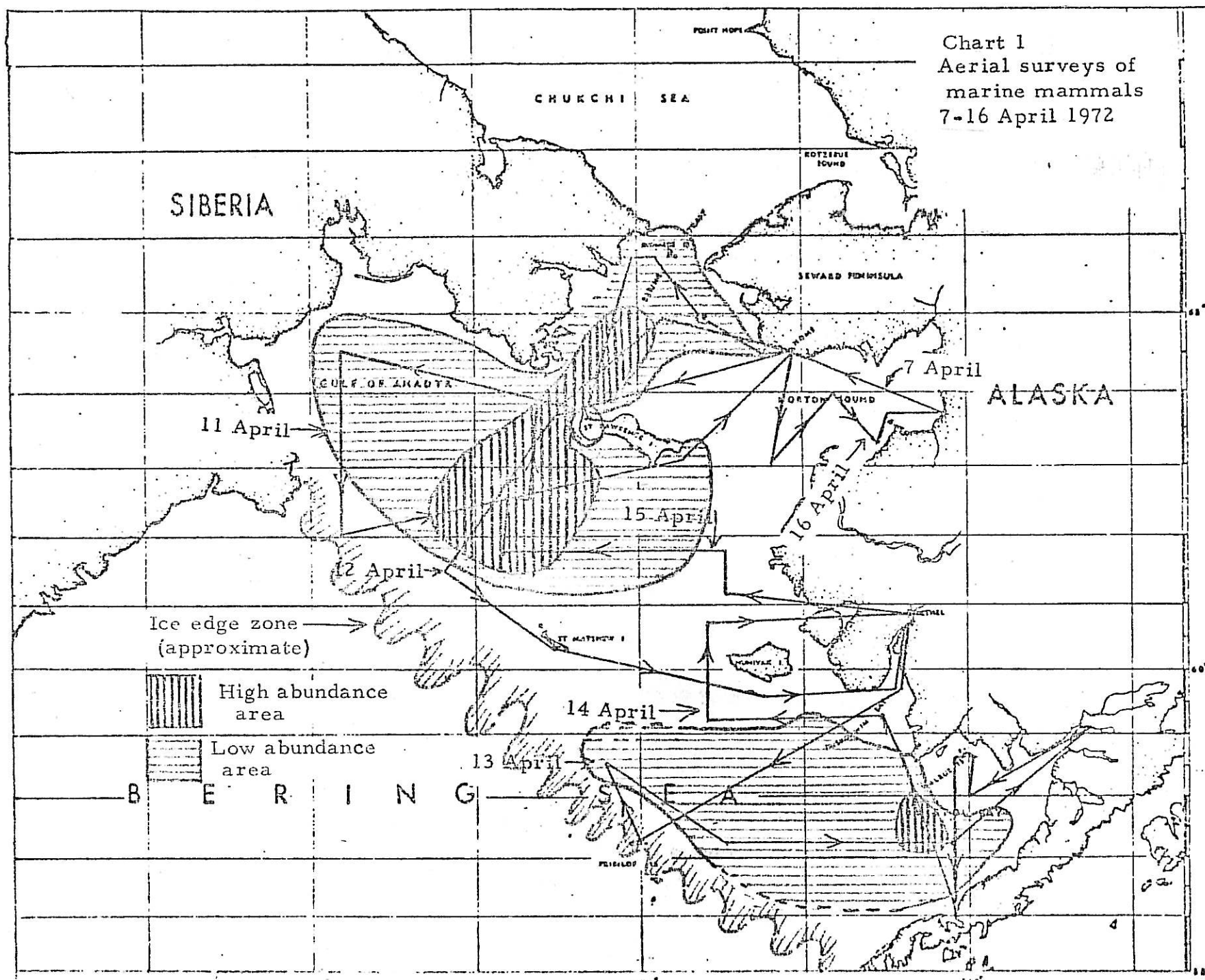
One disadvantage to a survey later in the spring is that a substantial part of the walrus population would have moved with the retreating ice into the Chukchi Sea. Perhaps, however, these animals would also be concentrated there and could be successfully surveyed. Thus, considerable knowledge not now available on distribution could be gained.

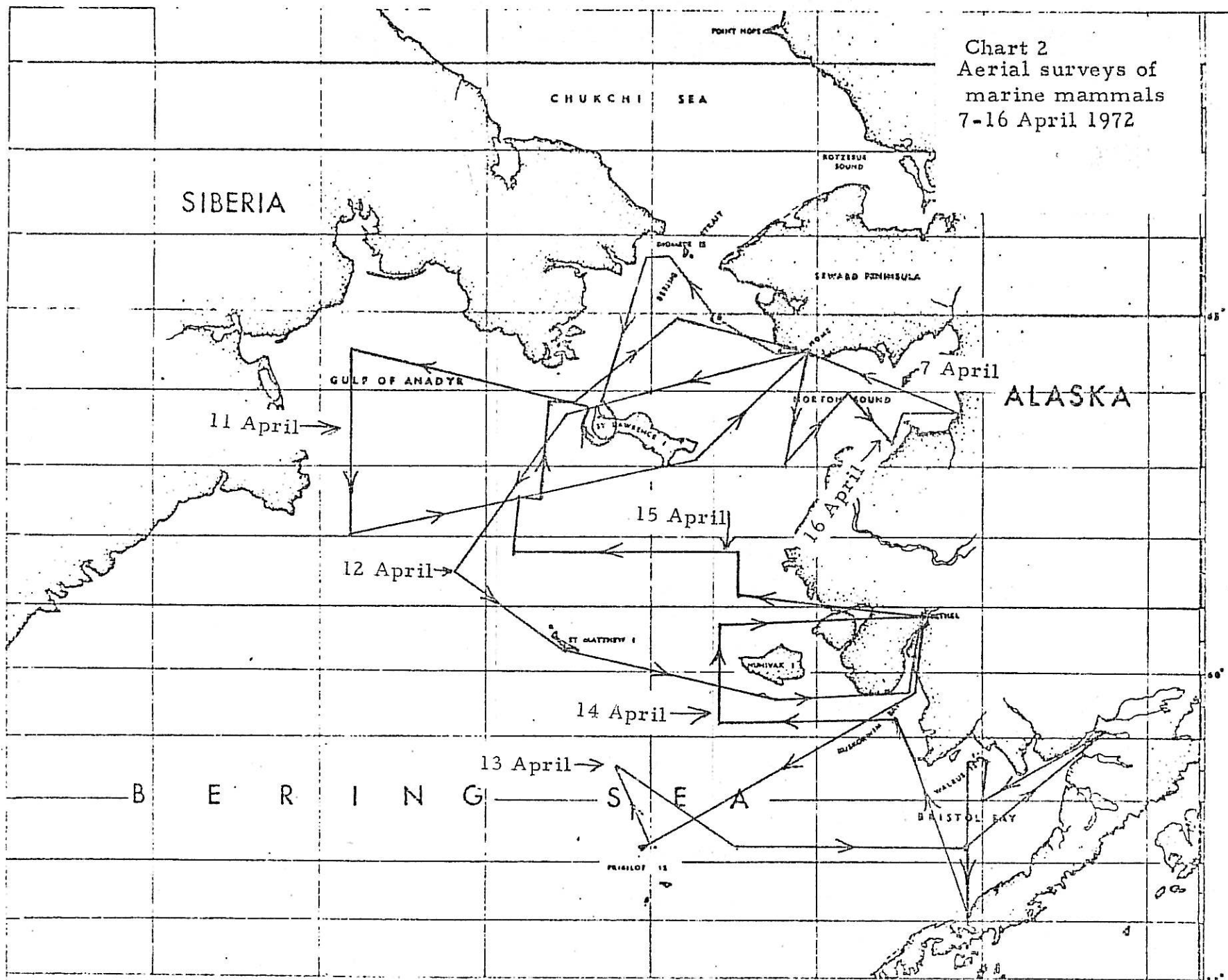
2. Cooperation with Soviet marine mammalogists should be sought. This would be particularly useful if a survey is made after walruses have moved from the Bering into the Chukchi Sea. A substantial number habitually enter waters near the Siberian coast and haul out on Soviet lands such as Wrangel Island. Thus, either permission to fly over such areas should be obtained in advance or a Soviet biologist invited to accompany the survey.

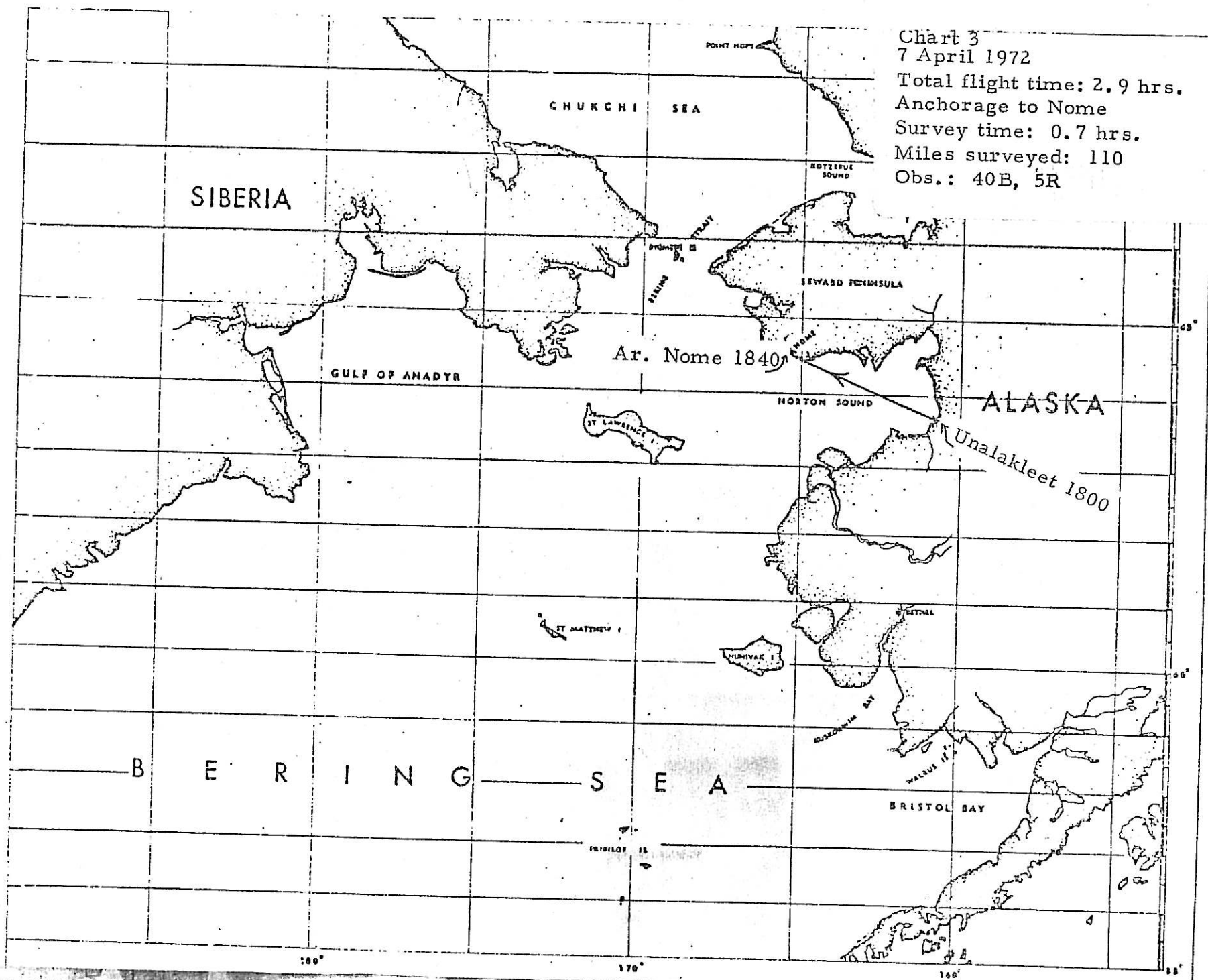
Chart 1: Abundance and distribution of walruses in the Bering Sea in mid-April 1972. The areas of "high abundance" and "low abundance" are superimposed on the geographical tracks that were covered on the 7-16 April 1972 aerial surveys. Large, semi-permanent leads or polynya varied in size from day to day are not shown on the map. The principal areas of large leads (polynya) are: along the eastern Siberian coast; south and north of St. Lawrence Island; south of Nunivak Island, and in the vicinity of the Walrus Islands in Togiak Bay.

No walruses were seen in the blank areas of central, eastern, and northeastern Bering Sea.

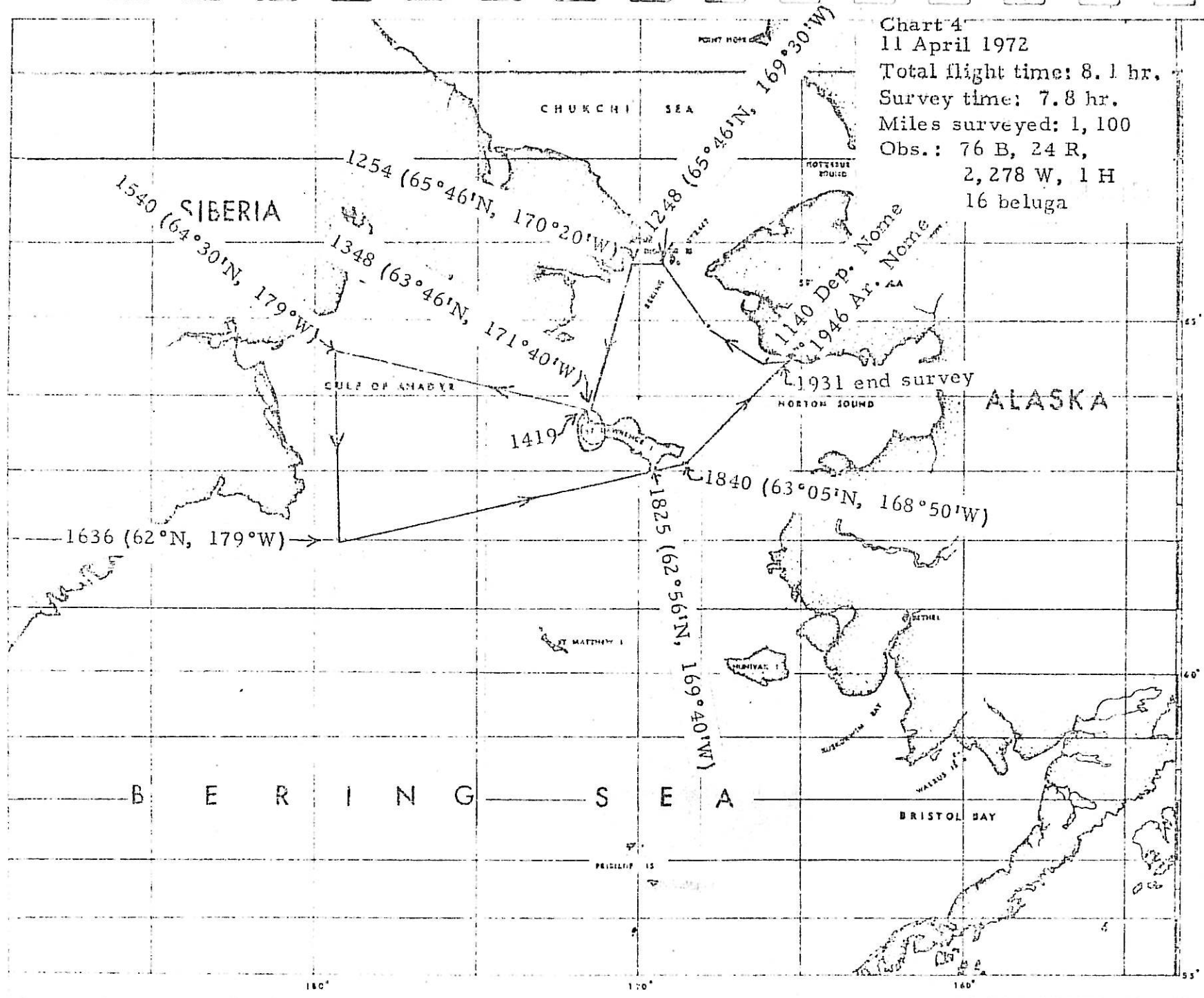
Chart 1  
Aerial surveys of  
marine mammals  
7-16 April 1972











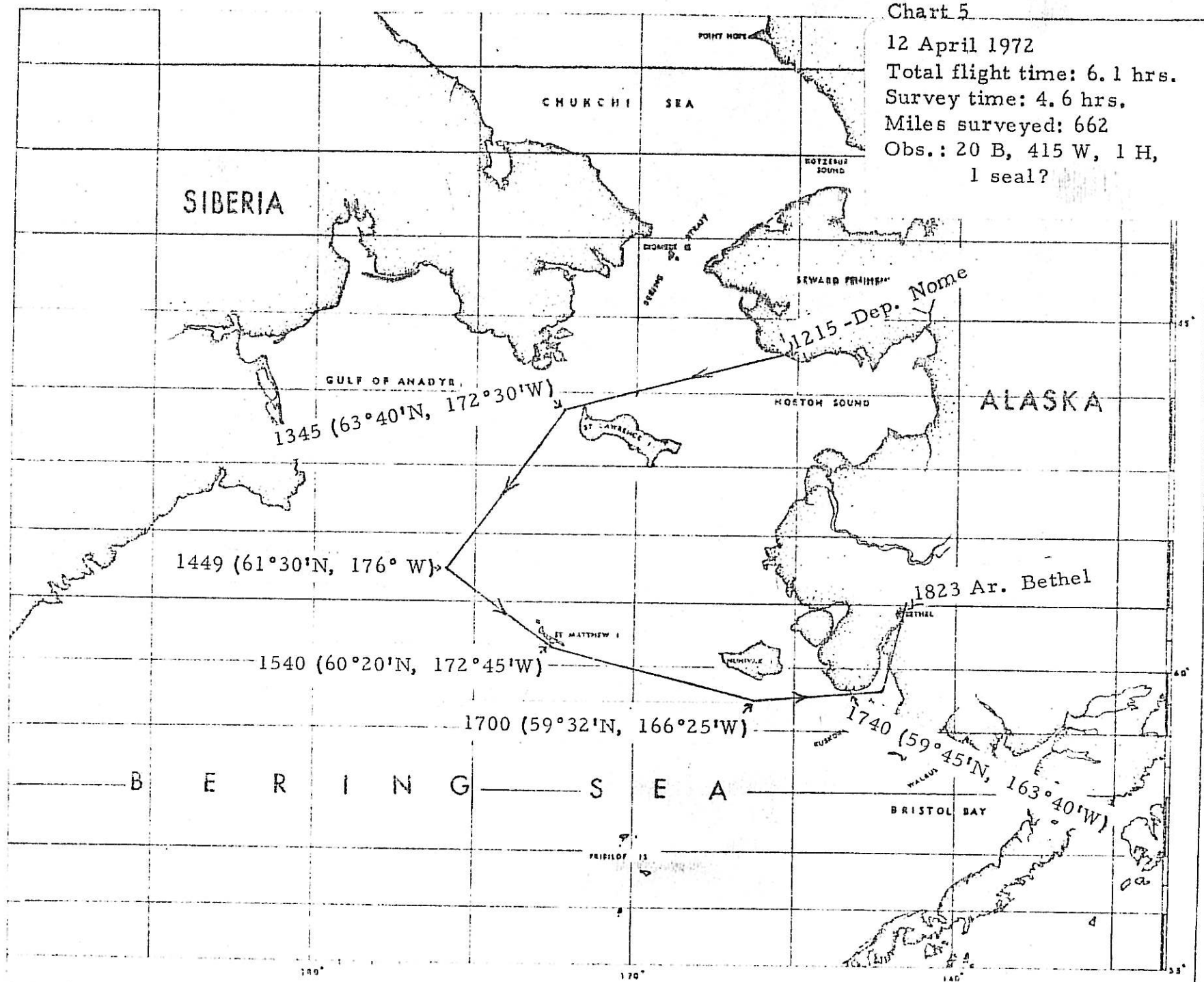




Chart 6

13 April 1972  
Total flight time: 6.9 hrs.  
Survey time: 6.1 hrs.  
Miles surveyed: 812  
Obs.: 29 B, 2,763 W, 4 H,  
51 S, 3 beluga,  
1 seal?

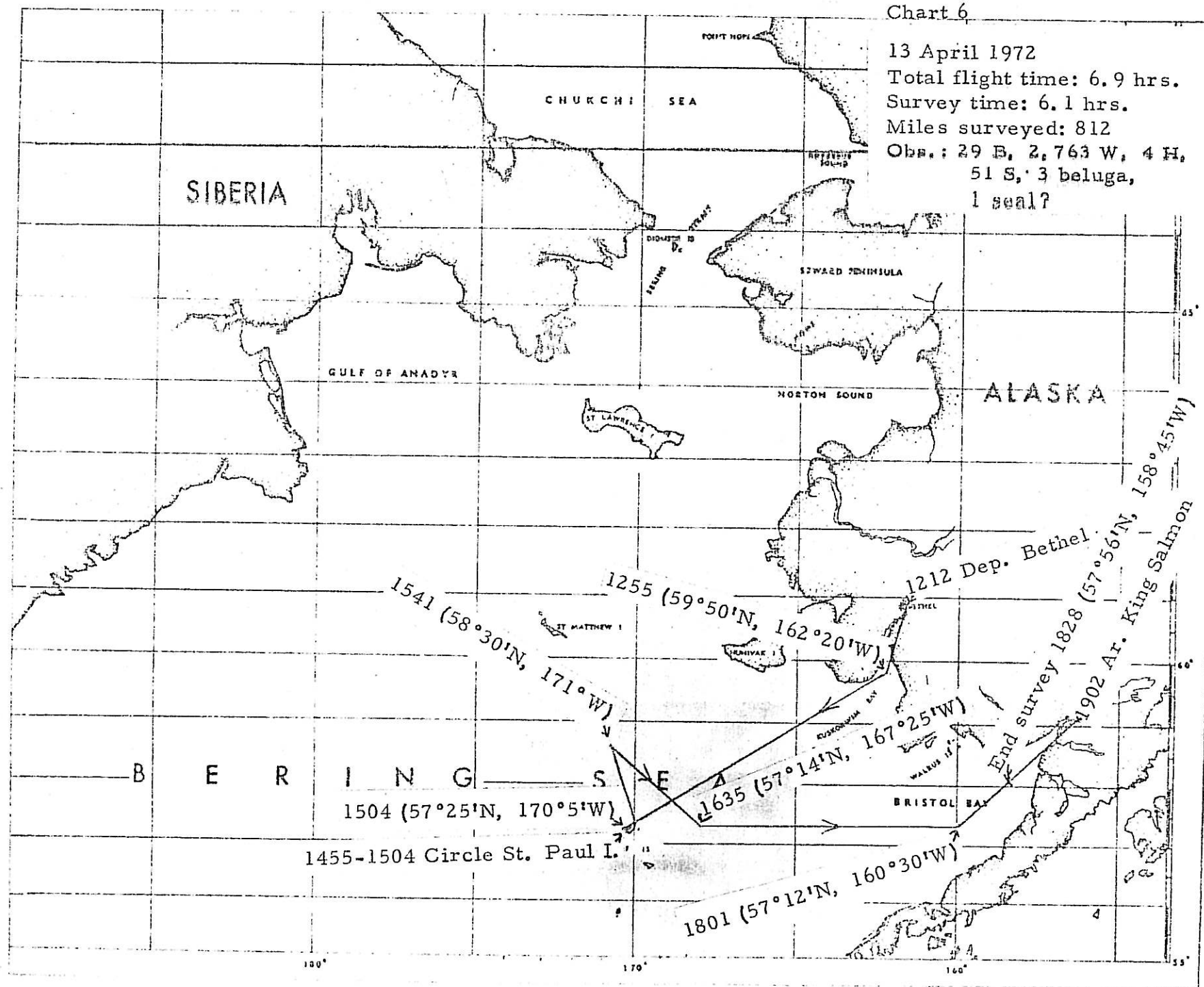


Chart 7

14 April 1972

Total flight time: 7.1 hrs.

Survey time: 6.8 hrs.

Miles surveyed: 867

Obs.: 39 B, 2, 101 W.,

21 S, '8 sea otter,

14 beluga

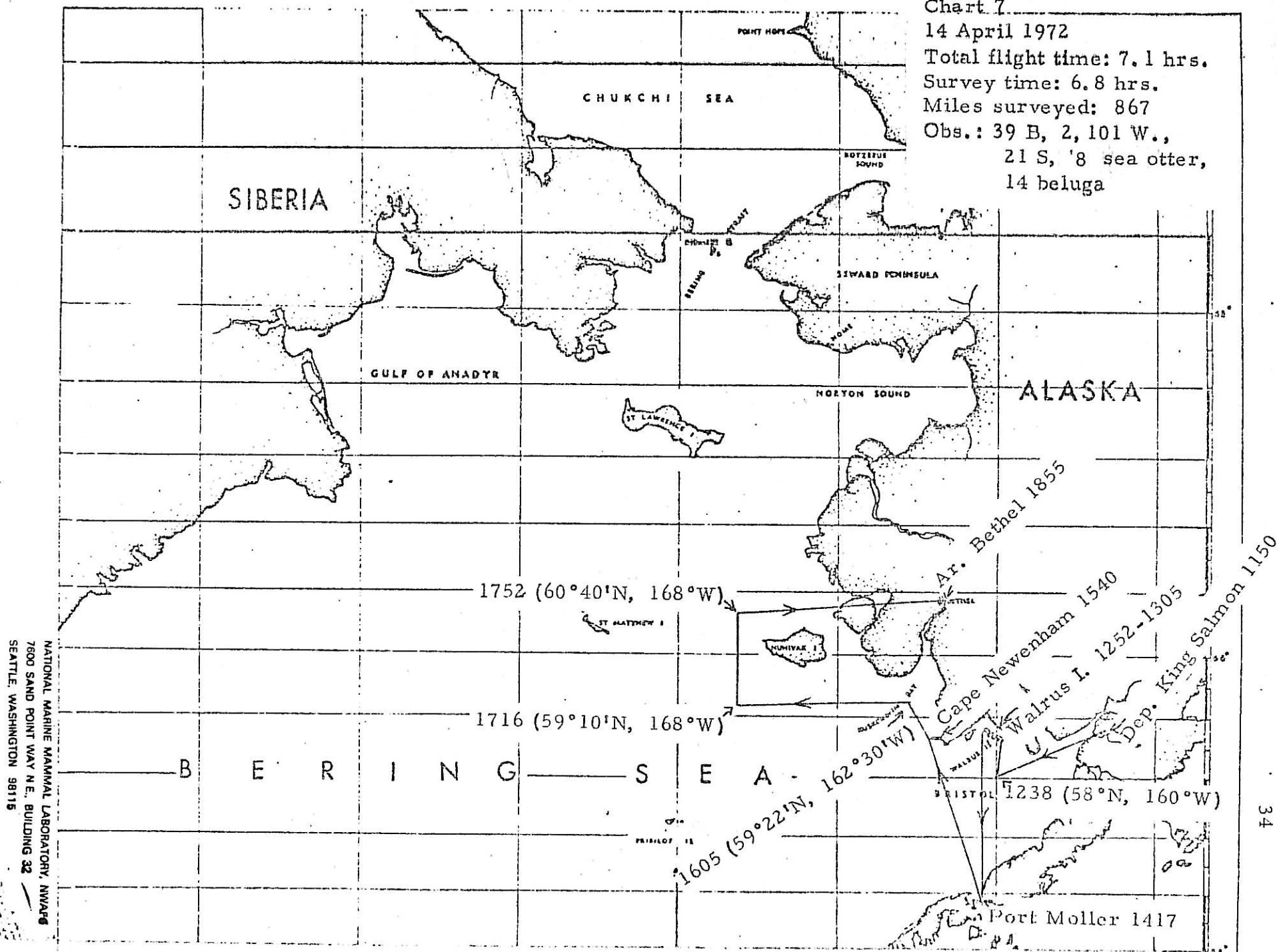
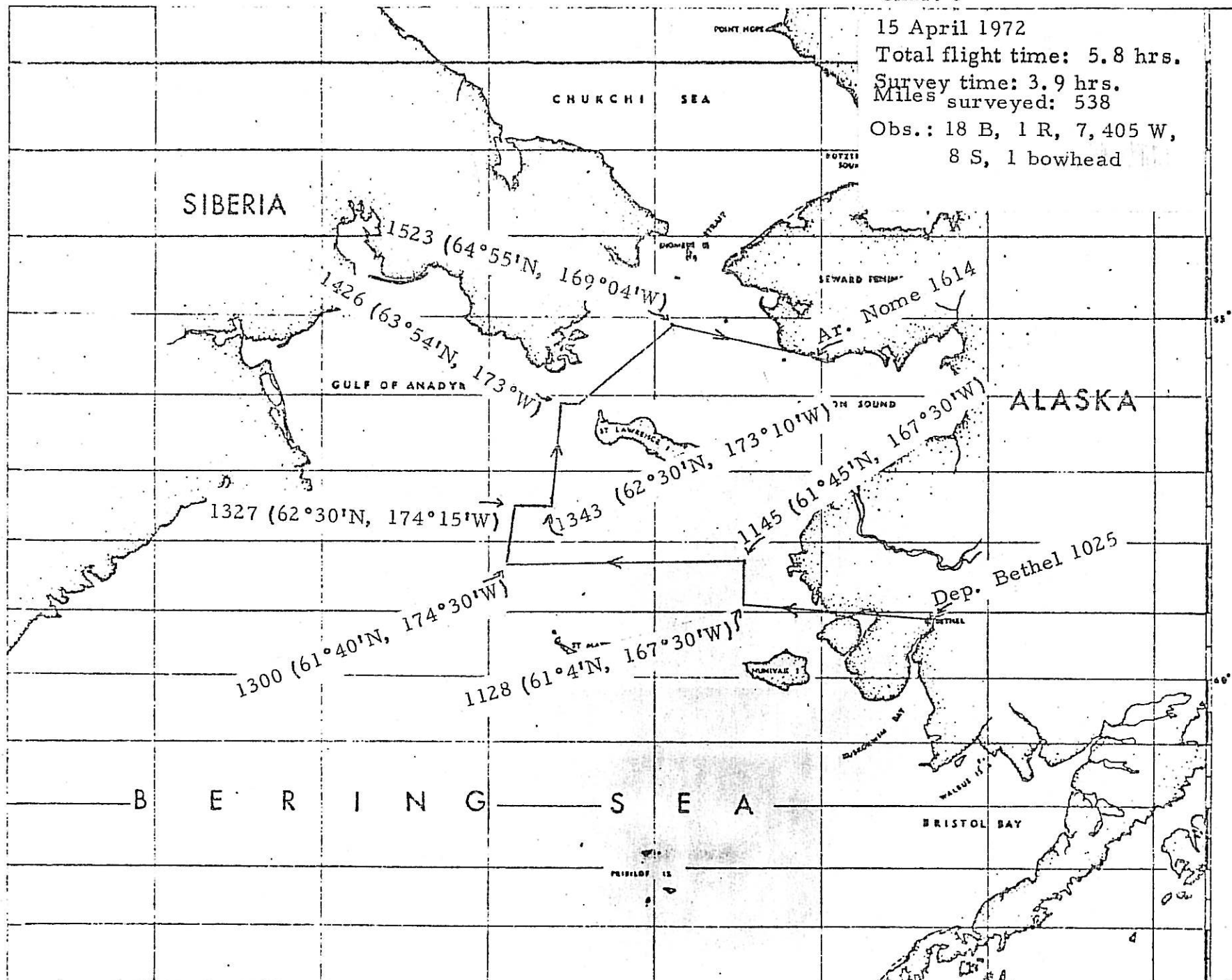


Chart 8

15 April 1972  
 Total flight time: 5.8 hrs.  
 Survey time: 3.9 hrs.  
 Miles surveyed: 538  
 Obs.: 18 B, 1 R, 7,405 W,  
 8 S, 1 bowhead



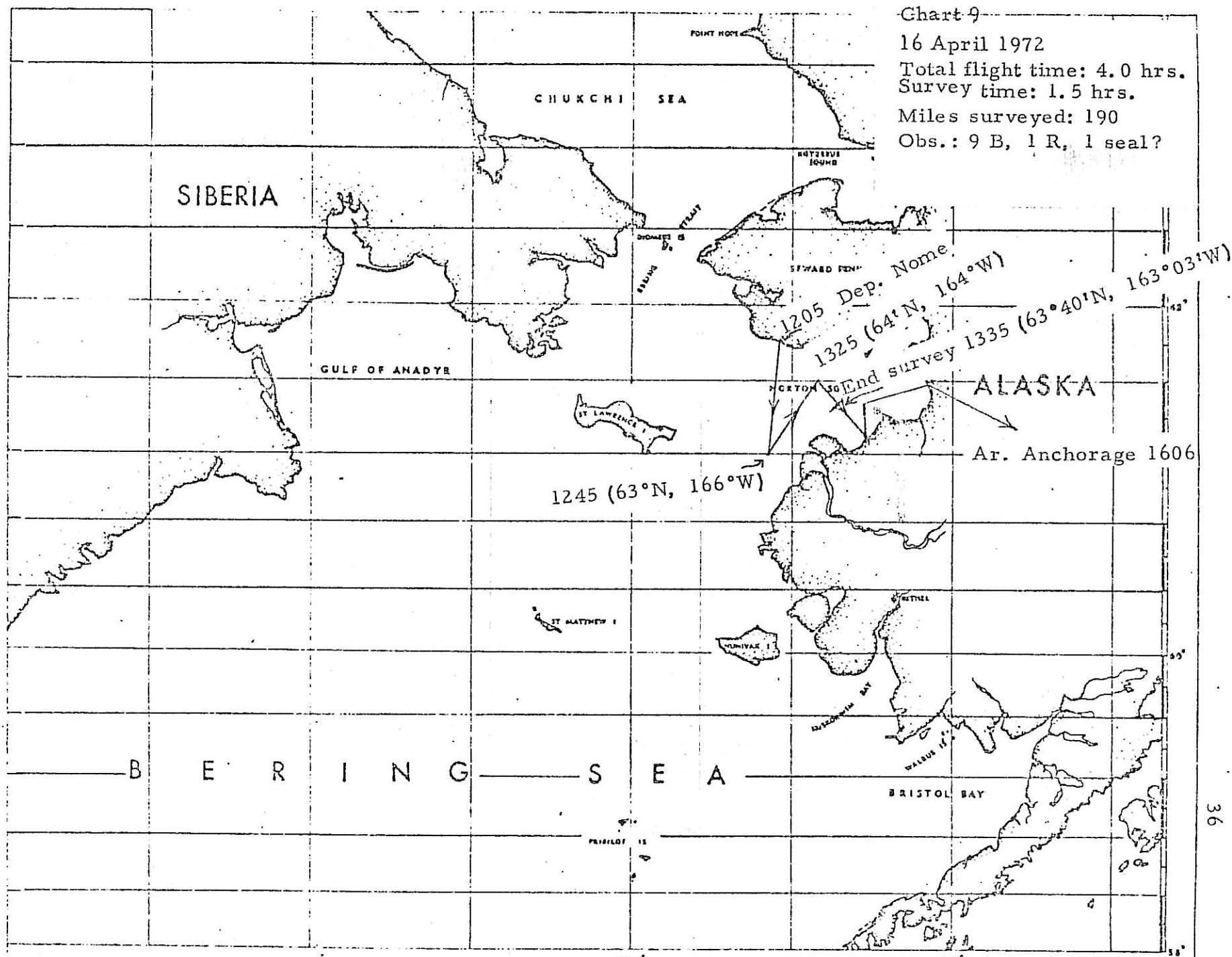


Table 1. -- Aerial surveys of walruses, 1960-72

Dates	Flt. hrs. (total)	Seen in 1-mi. strip	Total recorded	Total estimate
23 Feb. -2 Mar. 1960	31.7	3,914	4,382	78,000-117,000
23-30 April 1960	33.3	3,323	5,223	73,000-110,000
20-30 March 1961	61.3	4,929	5,475	Same
16-23 April 1968	37.5	4,666	8,547 <sup>1/</sup>	Same
7-16 April 1972	40.9	9,299	14,963	<u>85,000-162,000</u>

<sup>1/</sup> In a preliminary statement announcing our survey it was reported that we saw about 9,000 walruses during our operation.

Table 2. -- Marine mammals observed in a 1-mile survey strip,  
Bering Sea, 7-16 April 1972

Species	Number recorded
Sea otter ( <u>Enhydra lutris</u> )	8
Walrus ( <u>Odobenus rosmarus divergens</u> )	9,300
Largha seal ( <u>Phoca largha</u> )	79
Ringed seal ( <u>Pusa hispida</u> )	29
Ribbon seal ( <u>Histiophoca fasciata</u> )	6
Bearded seal ( <u>Erignathus barbatus</u> )	221
Bowhead whale ( <u>Balaena mysticetus</u> )	1
Beluga ( <u>Delphinapterus leucas</u> )	<u>33</u>
Total	9,677

Table 3. --Summary aerial survey of walruses and bearded seals, Bering Sea, 7-16 April 1972  
(Nome time throughout)

Date	Total flight time (hrs.)	Survey time	Miles surveyed (nautical)	Walruses observed			Bearded seals observed		
				In 1-mi. survey strip	Outside 1- mi. survey strip	Total	In 1/2- mi. track	Outside 1/2- mi. track	Total
7 April	2.9	0.7	110	-	-	-	40	-	40
11 April	8.1	7.8	1,100	1,664	615	2,279	74	2	76
12 April	6.1	4.6	662	285	129	415	20	-	20
13 April	6.9	6.1	812	1,101	1,662	2,763	30	-	30
14 April	7.1	6.8	867	1,944	157	2,101	39	-	39
15 April	5.8	3.9	538	4,305	3,100	7,405	16	2	18
16 April	4.0	1.5	190	-	-	-	9	-	9
Total	40.9	31.4	4,279	9,299	5,663	14,963	228	4	232



Table 4. -- Comparison of numbers of walruses recorded in one survey area in the northern Bering Sea on 3 days<sup>1/</sup>

Date 1972	Time of day on sectors (Nome time)	Time in area (hours)	Miles flown	Walruses in 1-mile sector	Walrus/mi. <sup>2</sup>
11 April <sup>2/</sup>	1148-1348	2.0	260	176	0.68
12 April	1215-1345	1.5	190	17	0.084
15 April	1426-1523	1.0	120	2,719	22.6

<sup>1/</sup> Discrepancies in miles flown per hour are caused by winds and because we circled for photographs on 15 April. To account for this, about 10 to 15 miles could be added to the mileage for this flight but this would not affect the overall results.

2. From 1159 to 1215 we went through fog patches and thus discontinued our regular survey. Glimpses through the fog, however, indicated that we probably did not miss a significant number of walruses.



Table 5. -- Aerial survey, April 1972 -- geographical fixes

Date	Time	N. lat.	W. long.	Miles on leg	Geog. fix
<u>Norton Sound</u>					
7 April	1759	63°53'	160°45'		Unalakleet
	1840	64°30'	165°20'	110	Nome
<u>Bering Sea</u>					
11 April	1140	64°30'	165°20'		Nome
	1148	64°28'	166°16'	20	Sledge I.
	1215	65°	168°	55	King I.
	1247	65°46'	169°30'	60	10 mi. W of Big Diomede
	1254	65°46'	170°20'	22	6 mi. E of Siberia
	1348	63°46'	171°40'	124	Gambell-St. Lawrence I.
	1400-			65	Circle west end of
	1416				St. Lawrence I.
	1419	63°46'	171°40'		Dep. Gambell
	1540	64°30'	179°	192	Gulf of Anadyr-near cent.
	1636	62°	179°	150	53 mi. SE Cape Navarin
	1825	62°56'	169°40'	266	SE Cape St. Lawrence I.
	1840	63°05'	168°50'	26	Punic I. St. Lawrence I.
	1931	64°30'	165°20'	120	Nome
Total survey miles: 1,100					
Total survey time: 7 hr. 50 min. = 7.8 hrs.					
Total flight time: 8.1 hr.					
12 April	1215	64°30'	165°20'		Nome
	1345	63°40'	172°30'	190	20 mi. SW of Gambell
	1449	61°30'	176°	160	120 mi. NW St. Matthew (center of I.)
	1540	60°20'	172°45'	120	St. Matthew I.
	1700	59°32'	166°25'	192	18 mi. S of Nunivak I. (center of I.)
	1740	59°45'	163°40'	90	Mouth of Kuskokwim Bay
	1823	60°48'	162°		Ar. Bethel
Total survey miles: 662					
Total survey time: 4 hr. 25 min. = 4.4 hr.					
Total flight time: 6.1 hr.					

Table 5.--Aerial survey, April 1972--geographical fixes (Con.)

Date	Time	N. lat.	W. long.	Miles on leg	Geog. fix
13 April			<u>Bering Sea</u>		
	1214	60°48'	162°		Dep. Bethel
	1255	59°50'	162°20'		Edge of sea ice Kuskokwim Bay
	1455	57°25'	170°05'	290	St. Paul I. (1454-1504)
	1504	57°25'	170°05'		Leave St. Paul I.
	1541	58°30'	171°	80	NW of St. Paul I.
	1635	57°14'	167°25'	140	90 mi. E St. Paul I.
	1801	57°12'	160°30'	232	70 mi. N Port Moller
	1828	57°56'	158°45'	70	Central Bristol Bay, fog and dark, terminate survey
	1904	58°44'	156°40'		Ar. King Salmon

Total survey miles: 812

Total miles covered: 145 kts. x 6.9 hrs. = 1,000

Total survey time: 6 hr. 5 min. = 6.1 hr.

Total flight time: 6.9 hr.

14 April	1150	58°44'	156°40'		Dep. King Salmon
	1209	58°30'	158°		Over pack ice, head of Bristol Bay begin survey
	1238	58°	160°	68	NE central Bristol Bay
	1252	58°40'	159°50'	38	Ar. Walrus (Togiak) I. survey Round, Crooked, and High Is.
	1305	58°46'	160°30'	22	Dep. Togiak I.
	1408	56°	160°30'	165	Alaska Peninsula, E shore Pt. Moller
	1417	56°	160°30'		(Over shore) Dep. Alaska Peninsula, near Pt. Mol
	1454	57°14'	161°45'	85	Central Bristol Bay
	1540	58°40'	162°10'	100	Cape Newenham
	1605	59°22'	162°30'	45	Lower Kuskokwim Bay
	1716	59°10'	168°	168	60 mi. SW Nunivak I.
	1752	60°40'	168°	90	32 mi. NW Nunivak I.
	1815	60°45'	165°	86	Off Hazen Bay, Nelson I. terminate survey
	1855	60°45'	162°		Ar. Bethel

Total survey miles: 867

Total survey time: 6 hr. 46 min. = 6.8 hr.

Total flight time: 7.1 hr.

Table 5.--Aerial survey, April 1972--geographical fixes (Con.)

Date	Time	N. lat.	W. long	Miles on leg	Geog. fix
<u>Bering Sea</u>					
15 April	1025	60°45'	162°		Dep. Bethel
	1128	61°04'	167°30'		Over ice, fog, no survey
	1142	61°40'	167°30'		Begin survey, out of fog
	1145	61°45'	167°30'	12	155 mi. N Cape Mohican, Nunivak I.
	1300	61°40'	174°30'	200	70 mi. NW Hall I.
	1327	62°30'	174°15'	53	102 mi. SW Gambell, St. Lawrence I.
	1343	62°30'	173°10'	30	75 mi. SSW Gambell, St. Lawrence I.
	1401	63°14'	173°10'	40	Fog, climb, next 40 mi. this leg no survey
	1417				W. St. Lawrence I, still partial fog, no survey
	1426	63°54'	173°		36 mi. NW Gambell, beg survey
	1429	63°54'	172°40'	10	
	1512	64°40'	170°30'		40 mi. E Kayne I. circle for photos
	1523	64°55'	169°04'	103	
	1600	64°36'	164°15'	90	Pass Sledge I., terminat survey
	1614	64°30'	165°20'		Ar. Nome

Total survey miles: 538

Total survey time: 3.9 hr.

Total flight time: 5.6 hr.

16 April	1205	64°30'	165°20'		Dep. Nome to survey Norton Sound
	1245	63°	166°	90	45 mi. W Kwikpak, mout Norton Sound
	1325	64°	164°	80	Center of Norton Sound
	1335	63°40'	163°30'	20	30 mi. NW Stuart I. terminate survey, fog.
	1606				Ar. Anchorage

Total survey miles: 190

Total survey time: 1 hr. 30 min. = 1.5 hr.

Total flight time: 4.0 hr.

Table 6.--Walrus observed in 1-mile track broken down to subsegments according to abundance,  
11 April 1972

Primary sectors					Subsectors					
Time		Elapsed time (min.)	Miles on leg	Miles per min.	Time		Elapsed time (min.)	Miles on leg	Number of walrus	Walrus/ mile <sup>2</sup>
From	To				From	To				
1148	1215	27	54	2.0						
					1148	1159	11	22	3	0.27
					1159	1215	16	32	fog	
1215	1247	22	55	2.5	No subsect.		22	55	0	0
1247	1254	7	20	3.3	No subsect.		7	20	1	0.05
1254	1348	54	120	2.2						
					1254	1311	17	37	0	0
					1311	1348	37	81	173	2.13
1348	1419	31	65		No subsect.		31	65	0	0
1419	1540	91	200	2.2	No subsect.		91	200	77	0.35
1540	1636	56	150	2.7	No subsect.		56	150	3	0.02
1636	1825	108	250	2.3						
					1636	1700	24	55	0	0
					1700	1730	30	69	345	5.0
					1730	1800	30	69	948	13.7
					1800	1825	25	58	56	0.97
1825	1840	15	25		No subsect.		15	25	23	0.92
1840	1931	51	120	2.4						
					1840	1850	10	24	35	1.5
					[1850 terminated survey]					
					1850	1931	41	96	0	0
Total								1,664		

Table 7. --Walrus observed in 1-mile track broken down to subsegments according to abundance,  
12 April 1972

Primary sectors					Subsectors					
Time		Elapsed	Miles	Miles	Time		Elapsed	Miles	Number	Walrus/
From	To	time (min.)	on leg	per min.	From	To	time (min.)	on leg	of walrus	mile <sup>2</sup>
1215	1345	90	185	2.05						
					1215	1307	52	105	0	0
					1307	1345	38	78	16	0.20
1345	1449	64	160	2.5						
					1345	1405	20	50	252	5.04
					1405	1449	44	110	17	0.31
1449	1540	51	120		No subsect.		51	120	0	
1540	1700	80	190		No subsect.		80	190	0	
1700	1740	40	95		No subsect.		40	95	0	
Total									285	

Table 8 . --Walrus observed in 1-mile track broken down to subsegments according to abundance,  
13 April 1972

Primary sectors					Subsectors					
Time		Elapsed time (min.)	Miles on leg	Miles per min.	Time		Elapsed time (min.)	Miles on leg	Number of walrus	Walrus/ mile <sup>2</sup>
From	To				From	To				
1239	1454	135	255	1.9	1239	1322	43	82	0	0
					1322	1418	56	106	98	0.92
					1418	1454	36	68	0	0
1454	1504	At St. Paul I. 37	70	1.9	1454	1504	10	Circle St. Paul I.		
1504	1541				1504	1530	26	49	0	0
					1530	1541	11	21	59	2.8
1541	1635	54	125	2.3	1541	1629	48	110	4	0.0036
					1629	1635	6	14	28	2.0
1635	1801	86	185	2.2	1635	1735	60	132	1	
					1735	1801	26	57	878	15.4
1801	1828	26	90	3.5	1801	1814	13	46	33	0.72
					1814	1828	14	49	0	0
Total								1,101		

Table 9.--Walrus observed in 1-mile track broken down to subsegments according to abundance,  
14 April 1972

Primary sectors					Subsectors				
Time		Elapsed	Miles	Miles	Time		Elapsed	Miles	Number
From	To	time (min.)	on leg	per min.	From	To	time (min.)	on leg	of walrus
1150	1238	48	130	2.7	No subsect.		48	130	0
1238	1252	14	40	2.9	No subsect.		14	40	0
1252	1305	13	38	2.9	Survey of Walrus Islands				0
1305	1408	63	162	2.6					
					1305	1331	26	68	0
					1331	1408	37	94	33
					1408	1417	9	Port Moller	0
1417	1540	83	165	2.0					
					1417	1447	30	60	15
					1447	1519	32	64	1,893
					1519	1540	21	42	2
1540	1605	25	45	1.8	Cape Newenham-Kuskokwim Bay				0
1605	1716	71	160	2.3	Nunivak area				1
1716	1752	36	92	2.6	Nunivak area				0
1752	1815	23	85	3.7	Nunivak area				0
Total									1,944

Table 10. --Walrus observed in 1-mile track broken down to subsegments according to abundance,  
15 April 1972

Primary sectors					Subsectors					
Time		Elapsed time (min.)	Miles on leg	Miles per min.	Time		Elapsed time (min.)	Miles on leg	Number of walrus	Walrus/ mile <sup>2</sup>
From	To				From	To				
1025	1128	63	160	2.5	Fog--no survey					
1128	1145	17	37	2.2						
					1128	1135	7	15	Fog--no survey	
					1135	1145	10	22	0	0
1145	1300	75	195	2.6						
					1145	1228	43	112	6	0.054
					1228	1300	32	83	166	2.0
1300	1327	27	50	1.9	No subsect.		27	50	1,219	24.4
1327	1343	16	30	1.9	No subsect.		16	30	118	3.9
1343	1426	43	80	1.9						
					1343	1400	17	32	32	1.0
					1400	1426	No survey--in fog		1	
1426	1523	57	120	2.1	No subsect.		57	120	2,719	22.6
1523	1600	37	70	1.9						
					1523	1536	13	25	43	1.7
					1536	1600	24	46	1	0.022
Total					4,305					



Table 11. --Walrus numbers in northern Bering Sea in high abundance areas, mid-April 1972

Date	Time on track		Miles on track	Walrus observed	Walrus/mi. <sup>2</sup>
	From	To			
11 April	1311	1348	81	173	2.13
11 April	1700	1730	69	345	5.0
11 April	1730	1800	69	948	13.7
12 April	1345	1405	50	252	5.04
15 April	1228	1300	83	166	2.0
15 April	1300	1327	50	1,219	24.4
15 April	1327	1343	30	118	3.9
15 April	1343	1400	32	32	1.0
15 April	1426	1523	120	2,719	22.6
15 April	1523	1536	25	43	1.7
Totals			609	6,015	9.88

Table 12. --Walrus numbers in northern Bering Sea, including  
the Gulf of Anadyr, in low abundance areas, mid-April  
1972

Date	Time on track		Miles on track	Walrus observed	Walrus/mi. <sup>2</sup>
	From	To			
11 April	1148	1159	22	3	0.27
11 April	1215	1254	75	1	0.01
11 April	1254	1311	37	0	0
11 April	1419	1540	200	77	0.35
11 April	1540	1618	85	3	0.035
11 April	1800	1825	58	56	0.97
11 April	1825	1840	25	23	0.92
12 April	1307	1345	80	16	0.20
12 April	1405	1449	115	17	0.31
15 April	1145	1228	112	6	0.054
15 April	1536	1600	46	1	0.022
Totals			855	203	0.237

Table 13. --Walrus numbers in southern Bering Sea (Bristol Bay)  
in areas of high abundance, mid-April 1972

Date	Time on track		Miles on track	Walrus observed	Walrus/mi. <sup>2</sup>
	From	To			
13 April	1735	1801	57	878	15.4
14 April	1447	1519	64	1,898	29.6
Totals			121	2,776	22.94

Table 14. --Walrus numbers in southern Bering Sea (Pribilof Islands area and Bristol Bay) in areas of low abundance, mid-April 1972

Date	Time on track		Miles on track	Walrus observed	Walrus/mi. <sup>2</sup>
	From	To			
13 April	1322	1418	106	98	0.92
13 April	1530	1635	145	91	0.63
13 April	1635	1735	132	1	0.0076
13 April	1801	1814	46	33	0.72
14 April	1331	1408	94	33	0.35
14 April	1417	1447	60	15	0.25
14 April	1519	1540	42	2	0.05
Totals			625	273	0.437

Field Data, 7-16 April 1972  
MARINE MAMMAL SURVEY

Date and Time	Beyond 1/2 mile	Within 1/2 mile	Within 1/2 mile	Beyond 1/2 mile	Remarks
7 Apr. 72	--140 kts. at 500-700 ft. Alt., lt. overcast				
1800		1 R			4 mi. out of Unalakleet
1800		1 R			on fast ice of Norton
1805		5 B			Leads
		2 B			Broken-light pack.
		1 B	10 B		0.9 cover.
		1 B + pup	2 R		25 mi. out continuous
		1 B			broken pack with lead
		1 B			29 mi. out
		1 B			
					30-37 mi. out flat ice
					no breaks.
1814		1 B			42 mi. -broken packs
		1 B + pup			
		1 B	11 B		
1817		1 B			
1830		1 R			Leads
1831		1 B			Broken-leads
1840					Over land near Nome
1852					Land Nome
Total		19 B	21 B		
		3 R	2 R		

Grand total = 40 B  
5 R

## MARINE MAMMAL SURVEY

Date and time	Beyond 1/2 mile	Within 1/2 mile	Within 1/2 mile	Beyond 1/2 mile	Remarks
11 Apr. 72--145 kts. at 500 ft. alt. depart Nome 1140, return 1945					
1142					Over pack 1.0 cover
1143		1 B	1 B		
1144			1 B		
1145		2 B	2 B		
			1 R		
1146		1 B	1 B		
			1 B		
1147		1 B	1 B		
1148				2 B	Pass Sledge Island
1149		1 R			
1150		1 B	1 R		
		1 B	1 B		
		1 R			
1152		1 R	1 R hole		
1154		2 B			
1155		1 B	1 R		
		1 R			
1156		1 B	1 R		
			1 R		
1157			1 B		0.9 cover
1158		1 W	3 R		
		1 R	2 W		
1159		1 R	2 B		Terminating--fog
		1 B			
1215		2 B			Begin survey at King Island -5° C
1216		1 B			
1217		2 B			
1222			1 B		
1224		1 B			
		1 R hole			
1225		1 B			
1232					90 murres
1233		1 B			
		2 B			
1236					35 W, new heading
1242		2 E			New heading
1243		1 B	1 B		
			1 R		
<hr/>					
Total		25 B	13 B	2 B	
		7 R	10 R		
		1 W	2 W		

## MARINE MAMMAL SURVEY

Date and time	Beyond 1/2 mile	Within 1/2 mile	Within 1/2 mile	Beyond 1/2 mile	Remarks
11 Apr. 72--Cont.					
1244			1 R		
1245		1 B	1 B		
1246		1 B	1 B		New heading near Diomedes
		1 B			
1247			1 R		New heading
1252					Siberia coast, new heading
1254			1 W		In water
1307		15 W holes			
1309		W hole & haul out--old			
1310			1 B		
1311			1 B		
			1 W		
1314		1 B			
1315		1 B	1 B		
1317	2 W		2 W		
			2 W		
1318	2 W	2 W	2 W		
		6 W			
1319		4 W	16 W		
	30 W	12 W	50 W		
		20 W	4 W		
		3 W	15 W		
		5 W	3 W		
1320	30 W	8 W			
		2 W			
1322			1 R		
1326					Big lead, 0.6 cover young ice
1327		1 W			In water
		2 W			
1328			3 W		
1332					0.1 cover
1334		1 W			In water
1336		2 W	2 W		In water
<hr/>					
Total		5 B	5 B		
			3 R		
	64 W	68 W	101 W	(of these 7W in water)	
		15 W hole			

## MARINE MAMMAL SURVEY

Date and time	Beyond 1/2 mile	Within 1/2 mile	Within 1/2 mile	Beyond 1/2 mile	Remarks
11 Apr. 72--Cont.					
1337		1 W 2 W			In water
1338		1 W	1 B		Walruses in water
1339			1 R		Terminate--snow, for new heading
1344					New heading
1400					St. Lawrence Is.
1405					South shore
1410			1 B		
1413		1 R hole			
1416					Gambell
1422				4 W	
1423		1 W			
1425		3 W			0.6 cover
1427		3 W	1 W		
1428	2 W				
1430		2 W			
1431			2 W		
1432		1 W			In water
1435			2 W	1 W	
1436	1 W		2 W 5 W		
1437	2 W		1 W 2 W 1 W		
1438		7 W	3 W		
1439		8 W			
1440	4 W		1 W		0.5 cover
1451		1 R			Heavy fog
1453					1.0 cover
1455	2 W			3 W	
1457		2 W			0.5 cover
1502				1 W	0.9 cover
1505		1 W <sub>1</sub> W			In water
1514	1507	1 B			0.8 cover
1515		3 W	4 W 3 W		Perhaps more in group 4 W
Total	11 W	36 W 1 R 1 R hole 1 B	27 W 1 R 2 B	9 W	(of these 5 W in water)



## MARINE MAMMAL SURVEY

Date and time	Beyond 1/2 mile	Within 1/2 mile	Within 1/2 mile	Beyond 1/2 mile	Remarks
11 Apr. 72--Cont.					
1519			1 B		0.7 cover
1525		1 R hole			
1529		1 B			
1530					Very large lead
1533		6 W		6 W	
1534		1 B	12 W		0.7 cover
1535					1.0 cover
1540					Due south, new heading
1541			1 B		
1552					0.9 cover since last observation
1600					0.9 cover, broken pack
1604		1 W			4 yrs
1606					About 40 mi. from Siberia, 0.3 cover broken pack (ice edge?)
1610					0.2 cover
1614			1 B		
1615					0.7 cover, slush small pack
1618		2 W			12" tusks 4 yrs? ♂♂
1624					0.8 cover, loose pack ice
1626			1 B?		small
1630			1 B		
1631					1.0 cover, refrozen pack
1635			1 H		77° new heading
1637			2 B		-8° C
1646		6 W holes			0.9 cover, beluga holes?
1650			6 beluga		In a lead
Total		9 W 2 B 1 R hole 6 W holes	12 W 7 B 1 H 6 belugas	6 W	

## MARINE MAMMAL SURVEY

Date and time	Beyond 1/2 mile	Within 1/2 mile	Within 1/2 mile	Beyond 1/2 mile	Remarks
11 Apr. 72--Cont.					
1659		Holes?	1 B		
1700					Numerous small holes?
1701		1 W			4 yrs.
1702		4 W			
1707		2 W holes?	6 W		
1708		10 W "			
1715		W "			
1716		10 W "			
1717		2 W			
1720			1 W		
1721		3 W			
1722			3 W		
1723		5 W	3 W		Lots of manure
1725			1 W		
			45 W		
1727		10 beluga (1 small animal)		10 W 60 W	12 W in water
		12 W			
1729		100 W	4 W 50 W 30 W 45 W	20 W	
1730		30 W			In water, new heading, fog
1732		1 W		20 W	
1733		1 W	2 B		
1735	20 W		15 W 2 B		
1736	10 W 25 W	6 W 100 W	6 W	100 W	
1737		120 W 30 W	75 W		
1738	2 W 20 W	10 W 5 W 300 W	30 W 50 W 50 W		10 W in water
Total	77 W	740 W 22+W holes 10 beluga	414 W 5 B	210 W	(of these 52 W in water)

## MARINE MAMMAL SURVEY

Date and time	Beyond 1/2 mile	Within 1/2 mile	Within 1/2 mile	Beyond 1/2 mile	Remarks
11 Apr. 72--Cont.					
1739			15 W 30 W 60 W		
1740				75 W	
1741	2 W				
1742	5 W			100 W	5 W in water
1747					0.8 cover, fog new heading
1750					1 Glaucous-winged gull
1751		1 B	1 B		
1753					Fog
1755			12 W		
1756			15 W		
1757		W holes			
1759			6 W		
1800		1 W			In water
1801			8 W		
1802	2 W	7 W 1 W			1 yearling 1 W in water
1803		2 W			
1805	20 W 2 W 6 W	8 W	4 W 6 W		
1806		3 W	8 W		
1808			1 W		
1809	5 W	2 B	2 W		
1814	20 W				
1820					200 auklets, 0.8 cover, large leads
1824					1 Glaucous-winged gull, 10 auklets
1825		6 W			St. Lawrence, new heading
Total	62 W	28 W + holes 3 B	167 W 1 B	175 W	(of these 1 W in water)

## MARINE MAMMAL SURVEY

Date and time	Beyond 1/2 mile	Within 1/2 mile	Within 1/2 mile	Beyond 1/2 mile	Remarks
11 Apr. 72--Cont.					
1826					4 Pigeon Guillemots 20 Stellar eiders, v large lead
1827					50 gulls, 100 Stella eiders
1832		3 W			Much open water, new heading
1838					Punuck Is.
1840			20 W		New heading
1842		♀W + calf	15 W		
1843		2 W			
1844			16 W		0.9 cover, young ic
1846					0.8 cover, broken pack
1847			1 W		
1848	1 W				
1904			1 B		0.9 cover-large ic sheets, few breaks
1905		1 B			
1914		1 R			
1920		1 B			
1921		1 R			
1926		1 B			
		1 B			
1931					Terminate survey, shore ice, 5° in No
Total	1 W	7 W 4 B 2 R	52 W 1 B		

Grand total = 76 E

24 R

2,279 W (of these 65 W in water)

1 H

16 belugas

## MARINE MAMMAL SURVEY

Date and time	Beyond 1/2 mile	Within 1/2 mile	Within 1/2 mile	Beyond 1/2 mile	Remarks
12 Apr. 72, leave Nome 1215					0.8 cover, close pack ice with leads
1237					Wind NW 15-20 kts -9° C air
1255		20 W holes			
1302		15 W "			
1304		1 B			
1307		30 W holes	Hundreds		
		30 W "	W holes		
1308			4 W		
1311			2 W		
1312			4 W		In water
1321					0.6 cover, young ice
1324		1 W			In water
		1 W			
1325					New heading
1327		2 W			
1330		1 W			W in water, 8 auklets (crested?)
1331		1 W			
		1 B			
1332					Pass Gambell, new heading
1333					Boat with sail
1335					New heading
1337			1 W		
1343			1 B		0.7 cover, young ice
1345					217 T, new heading
1351			2 W		
1352			1 W		In water
1355		100 W	10 W	50 W	0.6 cover, young ice broken pack
1356			1 W		
1358		10 W	20 W		
			5 W		
			5 W		
			10 W		
			30 W		
			40 W		
Total		116 W	135 W	50 W	(of these 7 W in water)
		95 W holes	Hundreds W. holes		
		2 B	1 B		

## MARINE MAMMAL SURVEY

Date and time	Beyond 1/2 mile	Within 1/2 mile	Within 1/2 mile	Beyond 1/2 mile	Remarks
12 Apr. 72--Cont.					
1359	2 W			10 W	
1400		4 W	9 W		
1401	50 W			2 W	
1404			5 W		
1405		Hundreds of W. holes			
1418					Cross vast lead
1420		Hundreds of W. holes			
1425		1 B			
1428		Hundreds of W holes	4 W		
1430				15 W	
1431			4 W		
1435			1 W		Loose pack, 0.8 cov
1438		1 W			
1442		20 W holes			
1444		1 B			
1445		1 W			
		6 W			
1449					127, new heading
1455			3 B		
1457			1 B		
1458		1 B			
1505		20 W holes			
1506			2 B		♀ and pup
1510		1 B			
1517			1 B		
1520					0.9 cover, close pack few leads
1528			1 B		
1530			1 B		Hall Is.
1535					Open water, St. Mathew
1540					102, new heading
1545			1 B		200 Old Squaw
1551			1 B		
Total	52 W	12 W 4 B Hundreds of W holes	23 W 11 B	27 W	

## MARINE MAMMAL SURVEY

Date and time	Beyond 1/2 mile	Within 1/2 mile	Within 1/2 mile	Beyond 1/2 mile	Remarks
12 Apr. 72--Cont.					
1553			1 B		
1555					0.9 cover, close pa
1610		1 B			
1612	1 seal				
1618		1 H (♀?)			
1638					0.9 cover, mostly unbroken, few lead
1700					New heading
1717					Young ice, 0.9 cove
1740					Terminate survey a mouth of Kuskokwi
Total	1 seal	1 B 1 H	1 B		

Grand total = 20 B  
 415 W  
 1 H (of these 7 W in water)  
 1 seal?

## MARINE MAMMAL SURVEY

Date and time	Beyond 1/2 mile	Within 1/2 mile	Within 1/2 mile	Beyond 1/2 mile	Remarks
13 Apr. 72, leave Bethel 1214					0° C
1239					235, new heading
1255					Edge of sea
1301		1 B			Loose pack, 0.6 cov
1305		1 B			
1306			1 B		
1314		30 W holes			
1315			1 B		
1320		1 S			Blood on ice
1322		2 S			
		2 S + pup			
1328		4 W			Old ice, 0.9 cover consolidated pack
1331		1 B			Looks like ice blow
1335		4 W			back from edge
1336			50 W		
			30 W		
1337	200 W		1 W		
1344		5 W			
1351	1 W				
1356		1 B			
1357	1 W				
1358			1 W		
1359		1 B + pup			
1405		1 B			
1406			1 B		
1407		1 B			Not near a lead
1408		2 S			
1409		2 B			
1411		2 B			
1413			1 B		
1415		1 H♂			
1417			3 W		
1418			1 B		
1419			1 B		Broken pack, 0.9 cover
Total	202 W	13 W 30 W holes 12 B 8 S 1 H	85 W 6 B		



## MARINE MAMMAL SURVEY

Date and time	Beyond 1/2 mile	Within 1/2 mile	Within 1/2 mile	Beyond 1/2 mile	Remarks
13 Apr. 72--Cont.					
1421		1 S+ pup	1 S		Blood on ice at 1 S and pup
1424			1 S + pup		
1430		1 B 1 S 1 S + pup			
1432		2 S + 1 pup	1 B		0° C
1435			1 S		Ice looks like ice edge zone
1438					Ship track
1440					Loose pack ice, 0.6 cover, ice edge
1441			1 B		
1442			1 S		
1449		3 beluga			Brash ice, 0.8 cover
1452					100--flock of auklets
1454					Pribilof Islands
1504					20 Common Eiders, 2 Pigeon Guillemots new heading
1510			1 S		
1518		1 S + pup			
1522			1 S		
1524					3 Red-legged Kittiwakes
1526			1 H♂		
1528			1 S		
1529			2 S		
1530			1 H♂		
1532		2 W	1 W		
1533		1 H♂		1 W	
1534			5 W		
1535	1 W 20 W	25 W			
1536	5 W 10 W		10 W		
Total	36 W	27 W 10 S 1 B 3 beluga 1 H	16 W 10 S 2 B 2 H	1 W	

## MARINE MAMMAL SURVEY

Date and time	Beyond 1/2 mile	Within 1/2 mile	Within 1/2 mile	Beyond 1/2 mile	Remarks
13 Apr. 72--Cont.					
1538	2 W	2 W			
1539		1 B			
1540		6 W 2 W	6 W	5 W	
1541					124, new heading
1543			3 W		
1544	2 W			50 W	
1549			1 B		
1550			1 W		
			1 B		
1552			1 seal?		
1553		1 B			
1555			1 B + pup		
1557					Ship tracks, close pack ice, 0.9 cover
1601		1 S			
1610		1 S + pup	1 S		
1611		1 S			
1615		1 S			Close pack with lead
1616		1 S	3 S + 1 pup		0.9
1617			1 S		
1620			2 S 1 S		
1625		1 S			
1629			1 S		
1632		3 W 25 W			
1634			1 S		Ice edge, brash ice 0.4 cover
1635					New heading
1639			1 W		In water
1640			1 B		
1645			1 S		Open water
1647					1 Kittiwake, 20 Mur Brash ice, loose pack 0.9 cover
Total	4 W	38 W 2 B 7 S	11 W 5 B 12 S 1 seal?	55 W	

## MARINE MAMMAL SURVEY

Date and time	Beyond 1/2 mile	Within 1/2 mile	Within 1/2 mile	Beyond 1/2 mile	Remarks
13 Apr. 72--Cont.					
1654					Open water
1657					5 Glaucous-winged Gulls, 10 Pacific Kittiwakes
1659					Young brash ice, 0.6 cover
1712		1 S + pup			
1722		1 B			10,000 murres
1730					Fog and snow squall visibility 500
1735		1 S			
1738			140 W		Less fog
1739			2 W		
			1 W		
1740		4 W	4 W		No fog
1741	4 W	2 W	10 W		Close to pack with open holes
1742	500 W		125 W		
			10 W		
			5 W		
			10 W		
			50 W		
1743	100 W	100 W	50 W		1 W in water
	200 W		10 W		
			1 W		
1744	100 W	1 W	15 W	200 W	
	200 W	2 W			
		6 W			
1745	6 W	2 W	25 W		
	2 W	2 W			
1746		15 W			
1747			5 W		
			1 W		
1748		100 W	25 W		
1749	10 W	10 W	2 W		
		100 W			
1750		12 W	5 W	20 W	
Total	1,122 W	356 W	496 W	220 W	
		3 S			
		1 B			(of these 1 W in water)

## MARINE MAMMAL SURVEY

Date and time	Beyond 1/2 mile	Within 1/2 mile	Within 1/2 mile	Beyond 1/2 mile	Remarks
13 Apr. 72--Cont.					
1752				2 W	
1756			5 W		
1757				10 W	
1759		2 W			
		4 W	3 W		
1800			6 W		
			6 W		
1801					48T, new heading
1802	4 W	7 W	10 W		
		1 W			
		2 W			
1803	2 W				
1804	2 W				
1805		2 W	3 W		
		2 W			In water
1806			4 W		
1808		1 W			In water
1813		1 W			In water
1814	2 W				
1816			1 B		
1819					New heading
1823		1 S			
1828					Terminated, fog and darkness
1904					King Salmon
Total	10 W	22 W 1 S	37 W 1 B	12 W	

Grand total = 30 B

2,763 W (of these 5 W in water)

4 H

51 S

3 belugas

1 seal?

## MARINE MAMMAL SURVEY

Date and time	Beyond 1/2 mile	Within 1/2 mile	Within 1/2 mile	Beyond 1/2 mile	Remarks
14 Apr. 72, leave King Salmon 1150					
1209			1 B		Close pack ice, small leads, 0.8 cover
1214		1 S	1 S		
1217		1 S			
1218			1 B		
1225		1 B			
1234		1 B			
1235		1 S	2 B		
1236		1 B			
1238					New heading
1240			3 beluga		Young ice, 0.8 cover
1247					New heading
1252 Ar. Walrus Is.					New heading
1255					Ice shelf all the way around Round Isle
1300					Very young ice, 0.4 cover, Crooked Isle
1305 leave Walrus Is.					High Isle, no sign of walrus in area
1312		2 B	1 B		
1315					Loose pack ice, 0.5 cover
1316		4 beluga			Fog
1317		1 B	1 B		
			1 B		
1320		1 B	1 S		
		3 S	2 S		
		7 B	7 B		
		4 beluga	3 beluga		
1321			1 B		
1322		1 B			
		1 S			
1324			Several hundred W holes		Very young ice, 0.9 cover
Total		7 S 15 B 8 beluga	4 S 15 B 6 beluga Several hundred walrus holes		

## MARINE MAMMAL SURVEY

Date and time	Beyond 1/2 mile	Within 1/2 mile	Within 1/2 mile	Beyond 1/2 mile	Remarks
14 Apr. 72--Cont.					
1325			1 S		
1329					Close pack ice 0.8 cover
1330			2 B 1 B		
1331			1 B		
1335			2 W	2 W	
1336		1 B	3 W		
1338		3 W	1 W 3 W		
1339	6 W	5 W 2 W			
1343		6 W 1 W			1 W in water
1344	50 W	2 W 5 W			
1345			1 S 1 S	1 W	
1347		1 S			
1403					100 Eiders
1407		1 sea otter			Heavy pack, 1.0 cover
1408					Alaska Peninsula
1417					New heading
1425		5 sea otter			20 mi. from shore, circle & return to head.
1430		2 sea otter			
1441	3 W	1 W 3 W	4 W		
1443		2 W 1 W 3 W			
1447			1 W		
Total	59 W	34 W 1 B 1 S 8 sea otter	14 W 4 B 2 S	3 W	(of these 1 W in water)

## MARINE MAMMAL SURVEY

Date and time	Beyond 1/2 mile	Within 1/2 mile	Within 1/2 mile	Beyond 1/2 mile	Remarks
14 Apr. 72--Cont.					
1451		1 B	2 W		
1454					Close pack ice, 0.8 cover, new heading
1456	10 W	15 W		2 W	
1457		60 W	3 W		
			8 W		
1458		4 W	25 W		
		70 W			
1459		100 W	25 W		
		10 W	3 W		
		30 W			
		5 W			
1500		2 W	2 W		
		3 W	100 W		
1501		15 W	5 W		
		3 W	2 W		Light fog, visibility 0.5 mi.
		10 W	4 W		
		250 W	2 W		
		2 W	150 W		
		3 W	2 W		
		3 W	30 W		
		50 W	50 W	50 W	
			500 W		
			150 W		
1502			2 W		
			4 W		
1504			1 B		
1505		1 W	5 W		
		1 W	1 W		
		2 W	2 W		
			15 W		
1506		1 W	4 W		
		4 W	20 W		
			20 W		
			10 W		
			20 W		
			3 W		
			5 W		
			35 W		
Total	10 W	644 W 1 B	1,207 W 1 B	52 W	

## MARINE MAMMAL SURVEY

Date and time	Beyond 1/2 mile	Within 1/2 mile	Within 1/2 mile	Beyond 1/2 mile	Remarks
14 Apr. 72--Cont.					
1507	30 W			1 W	
1509			1 W		Fog, visibility 0.5
1512		2 W			
1513			1 B		
			3 S + 1 pup		Blood on ice
1515			3 W		
			5 W		
			30 W		
1517			1 S + pup		Not near a lead
1519			1 W		Pink, large ♂, hair less like those that haul out during summer
1520		1 B			
1521					Clear, new heading
1528					New heading
1530				2 W	
1531		2 W			
1540					Cape Newenham
1545					New heading, close pack, old ice, 0.9 cover
1605					New heading
1645		1 W			In water
1647					Young ice with old ice
					0.8 cover
1649		2 W holes			
1716					Broken floe ice, large patches, 0.8 cover
					new heading
1730					Nunivak
1752					Unbroken ice, new heading
1815					Solid ice, no break
Total	30 W	5 W	40 W	3 W	terminate survey, 1855--Bethel
		2 W holes			
		1 B	1 B		(of these 1 W in water)
			6 S		

Grand total = 39 B

2, 101 W (of these 2 W in water)

21 S

8 sea otter

14 beluga



## MARINE MAMMAL SURVEY

Date and time	Beyond 1/2 mile	Within 1/2 mile	Within 1/2 mile	Beyond 1/2 mile	Remarks
15 Apr. 72, leave Bethel 1025, 150 kts. at 4000 ft					
1105					0° Over ice, fog
1115					1000 ft, 160 kts.
1117					500 ft, 140 kts.
1119					1000 ft, 140 kts.
1122					Heavy pack, 0.8 cov
1125					3500 ft
1128					4000 ft
1135					Start down, improve visibility
1136					Brown ice
1142					500 ft, heavy pack, 0.9 cover
1145					Snow in Bethel now, new heading
1156		1 S			
1205		1 W			Animal dove in water not seen
1214					Old W holes, frozen in
1221		2 W holes	6 W holes		
1224		6 W "	4 W "		
1225			3 W		
1226		2 W		1 W	2 W in water
1227			20 W holes		
1228			1 B	2 W	
1237			1 S		
			1 S		
1245			10 W holes		
1246			1 S		
1250		Hundreds of W holes			
1252		1 S			
1253		1 W	1 W		
1255		Hundreds of W holes			
1257		" "	" "		
1258		1 W	1 W	50 W	
				10 W	
				10 W	
Total		5 W 2 S	5 W 3 S 1 B	73 W	(of these 2 W in water)

## MARINE MAMMAL SURVEY

Date and time	Beyond 1/2 mile	Within 1/2 mile	Within 1/2 mile	Beyond 1/2 mile	Remarks
15 Apr. 72--Cont.					
1259	20 W	10 W in wat.	12 W		Extensive ice sheets with meandering leads, 0.8 cover
		50 W " "	15 W in water		
			60 W		
1300	75 W		15 W in water		
	15 W		1 W		
	25 W	1 W			
1301		20 W	30 W in water		New heading
		25 W	150 W		
		20 W			
1302		30 W	1 W		Newborn calf, looks dead, lots of blood on ice--10 ft. in diameter blood
		10 W	100 W		
1307	5 W	200 W			Circle for pictures On course
1309		100 W	20 W		
		1 W	1 W		
			20 W in water		
1310		25 W	1 W		
		150 W	1 W		
			10 W		
			1 W		
1311			30 W		
			4 W		
			2 W		
1312					New heading
1317			30 W		
1318			10 W		
				200 W	
				50 W	
				30 W	
				100 W	
				25 W	
				150 W	
1320		25 W			
1322		Hundreds of W holes			
Total	140 W	667 W	514 W	555 W	(of these 140 W in water)

## MARINE MAMMAL SURVEY

Date and time	Beyond 1/2 mile	Within 1/2 mile	Within 1/2 mile	Beyond 1/2 mile	Remarks
15 Apr. 72--Cont.					
1324		4 W in wat.	130 W		
			5 W		
			1 W		
			6 W		
			20 W		
1325		3 W	25 W		
			1 W		
			5 W		
1327		1 S			
1328		1 S			
1329					New headings
1330		Hundreds of W holes			
1331		1 W			
		4 W			
1332		1 W			
		1 W	75 W		Some W in water
1333	10 W				
1334		1 W	15 W		Fog
		20 W			
1343					New heading
1345		Hundreds of W holes			
1346					Manure on ice
1347			1 S		
1349			1 W		Large area of manure on ice, many W holes
1350					Manure on ice
1353		Hundreds of walrus holes			
1354		20 W			Young ice
		1 W			
1358		Hundreds of W holes			
1400			10 W		On 1/2 mile line
1401	50 W	1 W in wat.			Began climbing, no heading, fog.
1407	50 W				5000 ft, 140 kts.
1413				500 W	5500 ft.
1417	100 W				5500 ft, W on edge large lead west of St. Lawrence Is.
Total	210 W	57 W 2 S	294 W 1 S	500 W	(of these 5 + W in water)

## MARINE MAMMAL SURVEY

Date and time	Beyond 1/2 mile	Within 1/2 mile	Within 1/2 mile	Beyond 1/2 mile	Remarks
15 Apr. 72--Cont.					
1421	25 W				5500 ft.
1423				10 W	5500 ft.
1424					Start down
1426				1 B	2500 ft, new heading
				1 B	
1429		20 W	40 W	75 W	
			1 B	40 W	500 ft.
1430	30 W		2 W		Old floe ice surrounded by young ice
	10 W		10 W		
1431			15 W		
			12 W		
1432	10 W	30 W	2 W		
			30 W		
1433		75 W			
1435		35 W	12 W		
1440		1 W			Young ice, 0.6 cover
1443		1 W	2 W		In water
1445		1 W	3 W		In water
1446		1 bowhead			Circle and resume heading
1447		2 W			
1452	3 W				
1454		2 W	2 W		
			3 W		
1456		5 W			
1458		2 W	5 W		
			2 W		
1459		3 W	75 W		
1501		1 W	1 W		
1504	10 W		4 W		
1505		2 W + 1 calf	1 W		
			30 W		
1506			8 W	1 W	
				15 W	
1507		1 W + 1 calf	1 W + 1 calf		
			1 W		
1510		125 W			
Total	88 W	303 W 1 bowhead	262 W 1 B	141 W 2 B	(of these 5W in water)

## MARINE MAMMAL SURVEY

Date and time	Beyond 1/2 mile	Within 1/2 mile	Within 1/2 mile	Beyond 1/2 mile	Remarks
15 Apr. 72--Cont.					
1511		50 W	15 W		
1512		500 W 1000 W		50 W 75 W 100 W 150 W	Circle and return to heading
1514		150 W	10 W		
1515	500 W	1 W			
1517	400 W	15 W 45 W 50 W 75 W	5 W 100 W 25 W 25 W 25 W 50 W		
1518	25 W 20 W 50 W		4 W 2 W 2 W	20 W	
1519	3 W		1 B + pup		
1520		1 B 1 B	1 R 2 B		
1521			1 B		
1523			2 B		Consolidated pack, 0.9 cover, new head ing
1527			1 B		
1530		3 W	1 W in water		
1534			20 W		
1535		2 B	8 W 7 W		
1536		4 W			Pass King Island
1540		1 B	1 B		
1552			1 W in water		
1600					Terminate survey, pass Sledge Island
1614					Land at Nome
Total	998 W	1,893 W 5 B	300 W 9 B 1 R	395 W	(of these 2 W in water)
Grand total =	18 B 1 R 7,405 W 8 S 1 bowhead	(of these 154 W in water)			

## MARINE MAMMAL SURVEY

Date and time	Beyond 1/2 mile	Within 1/2 mile	Within 1/2 mile	Beyond 1/2 mile	Remarks
16 Apr. 72, depart Nome 1205					500 ft, 145 kts. 0° C
1207					Heavy pack, 0.8 cov
1213		1 B 1 B	1 R		
1217			1 B		
1225			1 B		
1242					Heavy pack ice, 1.0 cover
1245		4 B			
1246					New heading
1258					Open water
1301					Pack ice, 1.0 cover
1315					0.7 cover, scattered old pack-young ice
1317		1 seal?			
1325					New heading
1326					Placenta on ice
1327		1 B			Fog
1330					Heavy pack ice, 0.8 cover
1335					Terminate survey, fog
					Over solid ice
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Total		7 B 1 seal?	2 B 1 R		
Grand total =	9 B				
	1 R				
	1 seal?				

## Appendix 2

Areas of High and Low Abundance in N. Bering Sea

St. Lawrence-Gulf of Anadyr-Northern Bering Sea; ca. 240 miles long and average ca. 25 miles wide.

High abundance area =  $240 \times 25 = 6,000$  sq. miles

Low abundance area = Gulf of Anadyr and area south of St. Lawrence Island, average ca. 360 miles long by ca. 150 miles wide

$360 \times 150 = 54,000$  sq. miles

Area north of St. Lawrence Island to Bering Strait, average ca. 140 miles long by ca. 70 miles wide

$140 \times 70 = 9,800$  sq. miles

Total =  $54,000 + 9,800 = 63,800$  sq. mi.

Minus high abund. area 6,000

Total low abund. area  $57,800 \text{ mi}^2$  (probably should be rounded to 60,000 sq. miles)

Total area: High abund. area =  $6,000 \text{ mi}^2$   
Low abund. area 60,000 "

Total 66,000 "

Areas of High and Low Abundance in Bristol Bay and S. Bering Sea

High abundance area--central Bristol Bay

Av. ca.  $30 \times 50 \text{ mi} = 1,500 \text{ mi}^2$

Low abundance area--Bristol Bay to beyond Pribilof Islands

Av. ca.  $375 \text{ mi} \times 120 \text{ mi} = 37,500 \text{ mi}^2$

Minus area of high abund.  $1,500 \text{ mi}^2$

Total low abund. area  $36,000 \text{ mi}^2$