

# 2012 Arctic Ecosystem Integrated Survey

Daily Update for: August 9, 2012

This form provides daily updates for two survey vessels conducting fisheries surveys in waters off Alaska during August and September 2012: *The F/V Alaska Knight* is conducting a bottom trawl survey in the Chukchi Sea and the F/V Bristol Explorer is conducting a surface trawl / acoustic survey, as well as plankton and oceanographic surveys, in the Chukchi Sea and northern Bering Sea. The attached maps show planned sampling locations, stations completed to date, and stations planned for today. The survey schedules for the vessels are:

## Bottom Trawl Survey (F/V Alaska Knight):

Aug 9	Depart Dutch Harbor	Aug 31/Sep1	Nome, crew change
Aug 12/13	Nome, pick up scientists	Sep 2-18	Southern Chukchi Sea
Aug 14-30	Northern Chukchi Sea	Sep 24	Return to Dutch Harbor

## Surface Trawl Survey (F/V Bristol Explorer):

Aug 3	Depart Dutch Harbor	Sep 11/12	Nome, crew change
Aug 6-23	Southern Chukchi Sea	Sep 13-25	Northern Bering Sea
Aug 24/25	Nome, crew change	Sep 28	Return to Dutch Harbor, offload
Aug 26-Sep10	Northern Chukchi Sea		

## Notes from the field:

[F/V Bristol Explorer](#): Correction: Drifting near King Island took place on Aug 6<sup>th</sup>

Catches have been relatively small but diverse (except for the midwater trawl). Some of the fishes sampled include juvenile pink salmon, juvenile and maturing chum salmon, juvenile sockeye salmon, capelin, herring, saffron cod, arctic cod, sand lance, eelpouts, pricklebacks and a variety of others. Last trawl of the day was mostly jellyfish (*Melanaster chrysaora*). The midwater trawl caught mostly adult herring. Bird activity has dropped off significantly since moving northward away from the Bering Strait. Birds include a yellow-billed loon, fulmars, black-legged kittiwakes, glaucous gulls, murrelets, tufted puffins, and a flock of phalaropes (mostly red). We noticed a concentration of fulmars and glaucous gulls close to our transect and discovered an unidentifiable pinniped carcass (possibly a walrus); tattered and decomposed.

(Daily updates will not include a separate sheet for the F/V Alaska Knight bottom trawl survey until sampling begins around August 14).

To opt out of receiving fax notifications, you may also send a return fax to Angie Steeves at 907-796-5446.

IMPORTANT NOTE: If you do NOT wish to receive these daily updates, or if you are receiving both an e-mail and a fax and wish to opt out of one communication, please send us an e-mail at [arctic.eis@alaska.edu](mailto:arctic.eis@alaska.edu) with your preference. If you know of anyone else who might want to receive these notifications, please send us their contact information (fax and/or e-mail).

For general information or comments about the survey, please e-mail [fmuetter@alaska.edu](mailto:fmuetter@alaska.edu)

Date: August 9, 2012

