

2012 Arctic Ecosystem Integrated Survey

Daily Update for:

September 24, 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:

Arctic Eis updates: F/V Bristol Explorer: Favorable weather allowed us to fish four surface stations today. First three stations, where we had large catches of juvenile salmon, had sea surface temperatures greater than 7.0 C. Sea surface temperatures dropped at our last station to 4.9 C; we caught no juvenile salmon and a mixture of fishes that included immature chum, P. herring, large rainbow smelt, large capelin, and subadult walleye pollock (age 1's and 2's). The night sky is filled with stars and planets; there's a fall chill in the air.

Summary of yesterday's catches: j. pink – 25; j. chum – 733; j. Chinook; - 13; P. herring – 701; capelin (age0) – 4; capelin – 11; rainbow smelt – 7; Arctic lamprey – 3; Greenland halibut larvae – 4; jellyfish (combined) – 137 kg; saffron cod – 5; P. sand lance (age0) – 1; P. sand lance – 34; walleye pollock – 45; P. cod (age0) – 3; unid flatfish larvae – 1; sturgeon poacher – 1.

Interesting birds of the day: Pelagic cormorants, and the usual, northern fulmars, short-tailed shearwaters, and black-legged kittiwakes.

Marine mammals: None observed.

F/V Alaska Knight: Have a safe journey home!

F/V Other Surveys: Other surveys in the Chukchi Sea, check out the following sites:

Chukchi & Western Beaufort Circulation Study: <http://dm.sfos.uaf.edu/chukchi-beaufort/data/drifters/>

Russian-American Long-term Census of the Arctic (RUSALCA): <http://rusalcaproject.com/>

Chukchi Sea Environmental Studies Program (CSESP): <http://www.chukchiscience.com/>

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 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

Date: September 22, 2012

