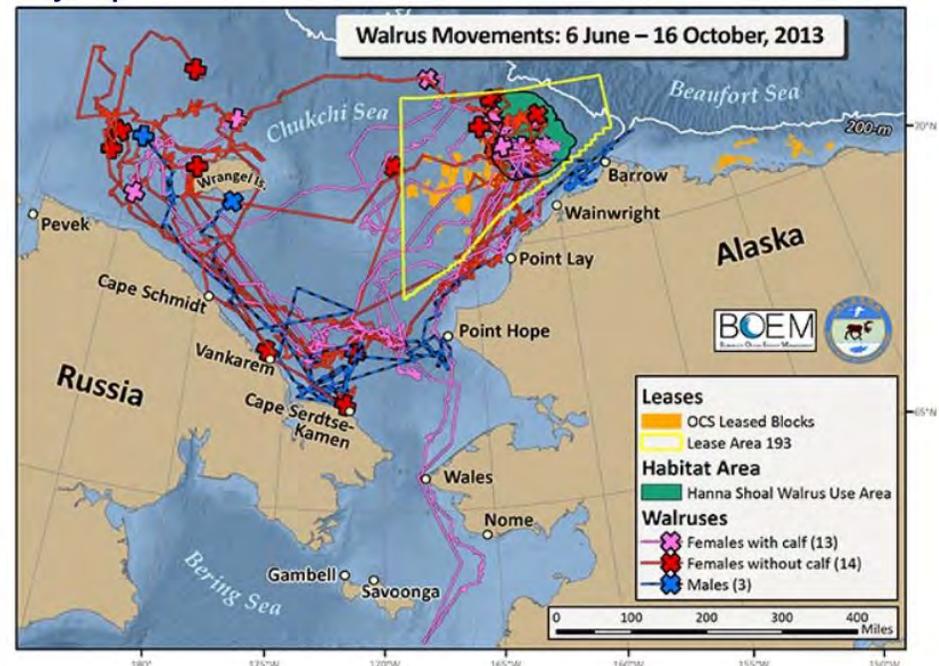
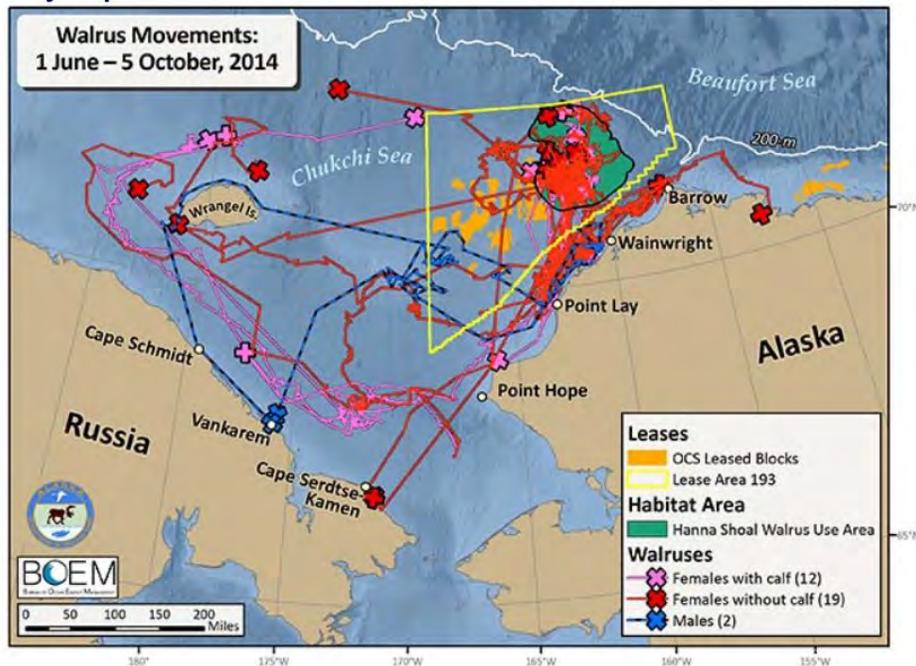
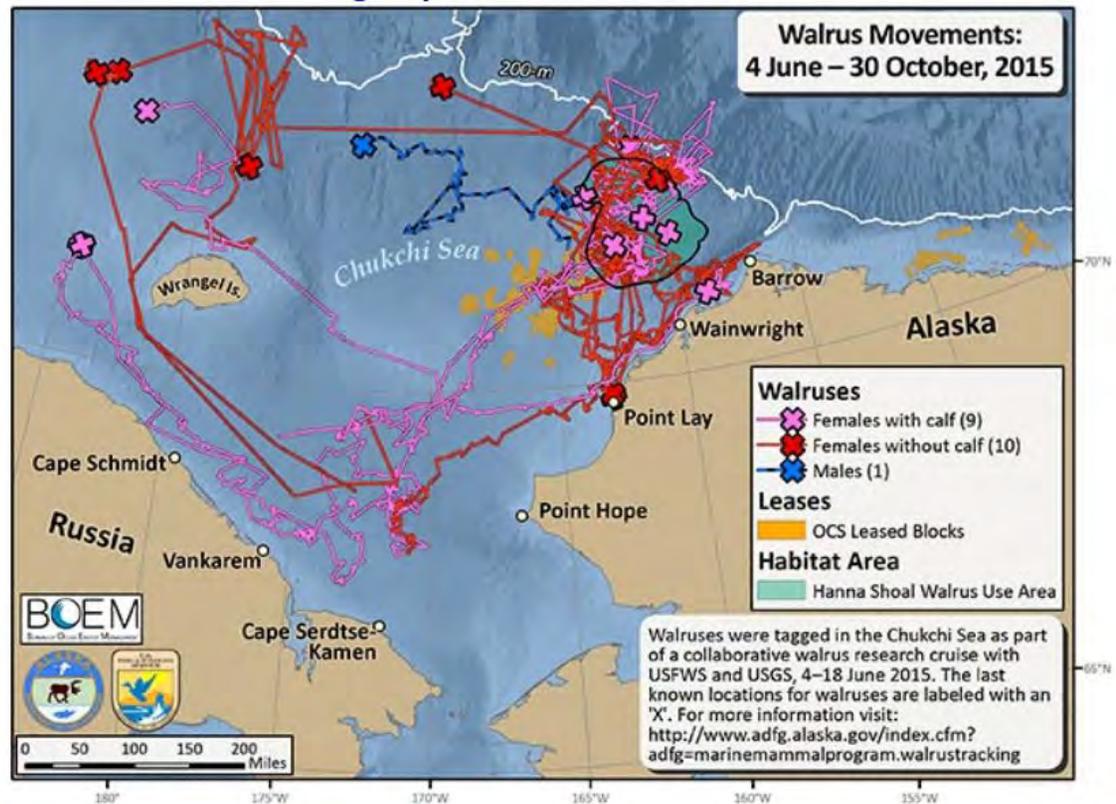


Satellite-linked transmitters were deployed on walrus in the Bering and Chukchi seas in June 2013, 2014, and 2015.



Report to the Eskimo Walrus Commission

7 December 2015 presented by Lori Quakenbush (907-459-7214).

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In total, for all three years, 83 tags were deployed on walruses (43 females without calves, 34 females with calves, and 6 males).

In 2013, 30 tags were deployed (14 females without calves, 13 females with calves, and 3 males). The tags transmitted for an average of 55 days (maximum 124 days, ~4 months). Walruses traveled an average minimum distance of 1,120 miles, ranging from 160 to 2,760 miles, at a rate of 22 miles/day (range: 9–41 miles/day).

In 2014, 33 tags were deployed on walruses (19 females without calves, 12 females with calves, and 2 males). The tags transmitted for an average of 50 days (maximum 105 days, ~3.5 months). Similar to 2013, tagged walruses traveled, on average, a minimum distance of 1,100 miles, ranging from 110–2,600 miles, at a rate of about 21.7 miles per day.

In 2015, 20 tags were deployed (10 on females without calves, 9 on females with calves, and 1 male). The tags transmitted for an average of 56 days (maximum 123 days, ~4 months).

The information from these tagged walruses will be used to:

- provide general walrus movement and haul out patterns,
- compare behavior of females with calves to females without calves to see, for example, if females with calves spend more time resting than diving,
- understand how much time walruses spend in the Chukchi Sea Lease blocks and if they avoid drilling activity.