

# US Country Report

**Jacqueline Grebmeier**

Member, PAG Executive Committee, Chesapeake Biological Laboratory, University of Maryland  
Center for Environmental Science, Solomons, Maryland, USA

Pacific Arctic Group Meeting  
November 6, 2017  
PMEL/NOAA  
Seattle, Washington, USA



<http://pag.arcticportal.org/>

# Linking Physics to Biology: the Distributed Biological Observatory (DBO)



[updated by Karen Frey from Grebmeier et al. 2010, EOS 91]

- DBO sites (red boxes) are regional “hotspot” transect lines and stations located along a latitudinal gradient
- DBO sites are considered to exhibit high productivity, biodiversity, and overall rates of change
- DBO sites serve as a change detection array for the identification and consistent monitoring of biophysical responses
- Sites occupied by national and international entities with shared data plan



# 2018 PAG and DBO Field Plan-Draft 11/06/17

**2018 PAG and DBO Field Season (version 11\_06\_17): Sampling Contributors. Projects Key:** AON=US Arctic Observing Network (National Science Foundation); ArCS=Arctic Challenge for Sustainability; ArcticEIS2=Arctic Ecosystem Integrated Survey, ASGARD=Arctic Shelf Growth, Advection, Respiration and Deposition Rate Experiment, C30=Canada's Three Oceans; CHINARE=Chinese Arctic Research Expedition; DBO=Distributed Biological Observatory, JAMSTEC= Japan Agency for Marine-Earth Science and Technology; KOPRI = Korea Polar Research Institute; NOAA=National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration; Office of Naval Research (ONR) Marginal Ice Zone (MIZ) project; PMEL=Pacific Marine Environmental Laboratory; RUSALCA=Russian-American Long-term Census of the Arctic. **DBO Region Key:** DBO1=So. St. Lawrence Is., DBO2=Chirikov Basin, DBO3=So Chukchi Sea, DBO4=NE Chukchi Sea, DBO5=Barrow Canyon, DBO6=East Beaufort Sea, DBO7=Beaufort Sea Central, DBO8=Bathurst polynya region.

Dates 2018 (Port calls)	Ship	DBO Region	Projects	PAG contact	Chief Scientist
June 1-25 (Seward-Nome)	Sikuliaq	2, 3	ASGARD	Seth Danielson <a href="mailto:sldanielson@alaska.edu">sldanielson@alaska.edu</a>	Seth Danielson <a href="mailto:sldanielson@alaska.edu">sldanielson@alaska.edu</a>
7-15 July (Nome-Nome)	Norseman II	3	Bering Strait Mooring Project/AON	Rebecca Woodgate <a href="mailto:woodgate@apl.washington.edu">woodgate@apl.washington.edu</a>	Rebecca Woodgate <a href="mailto:woodgate@apl.washington.edu">woodgate@apl.washington.edu</a>
July 29-July 17 (Dutch Harbor return)	Oshoro-maru	1,2,3	ArCS project	Toru Hirawake <a href="mailto:hirawake@salmon.fish.hokudai.ac.jp">hirawake@salmon.fish.hokudai.ac.jp</a>	Atsushi Ooki <a href="mailto:ooki@fish.hokudai.ac.jp">ooki@fish.hokudai.ac.jp</a>
July 10-22 (Dutch-Barrow)	Sir Wilfrid Laurier	1,2,3,4,5	C30/DBO (AON)	Jackie Grebmeier <a href="mailto:jgrebmei@umces.edu">jgrebmei@umces.edu</a>	Svein Vagle <a href="mailto:Svein.Vagle@dfo-mpo.gc.ca">Svein.Vagle@dfo-mpo.gc.ca</a>
July-Sept (Shanghai-Shanghai)	Xuelong	3	CHINARE	Jianfeng He <a href="mailto:hejianfeng@pric.org.cn">hejianfeng@pric.org.cn</a>	Jianfeng He <a href="mailto:hejianfeng@pric.org.cn">hejianfeng@pric.org.cn</a>
Aug 3-27 (Nome-Nome)	Sikuliaq	6	Shelf Break Ecology	Frank Rack <a href="mailto:frack@nsf.gov">frack@nsf.gov</a>	Carin Ashjian <a href="mailto:cashjian@whoi.edu">cashjian@whoi.edu</a>
Late Aug – Sept (Dutch-Nome-Nome-Dutch)	F/V Northwest Explorer	1,2	Northern Bering Sea Assessment	<a href="mailto:Ed.Farley@noaa.gov">Ed.Farley@noaa.gov</a>	Kris Cieciel, <a href="mailto:kristin.cieciel@noaa.gov">kristin.cieciel@noaa.gov</a> (Leg 1); Ed Farley, <a href="mailto:ed.farley@noaa.gov">ed.farley@noaa.gov</a> (Leg 2)
Aug 7-27 (Nome-Barrow)	Araon	3+Chukchi Borderland	K-AOOS (Korea-Arctic Ocean Observing System)	Sung-Ho Kang <a href="mailto:shkang@kopri.re.kr">shkang@kopri.re.kr</a>	Sung-Ho Kang <a href="mailto:shkang@kopri.re.kr">shkang@kopri.re.kr</a>
August (Nome-Nome)	Healy	2,3,4,5	FOCI-DBO/NCIS	Jackie Grebmeier <a href="mailto:jgrebmei@umces.edu">jgrebmei@umces.edu</a>	<a href="mailto:phyllis.stabeno@noaa.gov">phyllis.stabeno@noaa.gov</a> and Robert Pickart <a href="mailto:rpickart@whoi.edu">rpickart@whoi.edu</a>
September	Healy	5,6	Western Arctic boundary current in a warming climate	Robert Pickart <a href="mailto:rpickart@whoi.edu">rpickart@whoi.edu</a>	Robert Pickart <a href="mailto:rpickart@whoi.edu">rpickart@whoi.edu</a>
Sept 19-Oct 13 (Dutch)	Healy	-	Navy-CANAPE	Frank Rack <a href="mailto:frack@nsf.gov">frack@nsf.gov</a>	Navy
Sept 22-Oct 6 (Dutch Harbor-Kodiak)	Dyson	1 and M8	EcoFOCI	Phyllis Stabeno, <a href="mailto:Phyllis.stabeno@noaa.gov">Phyllis.stabeno@noaa.gov</a>	Geoff Lebon <a href="mailto:geoffrey.t.lebon@noaa.gov">geoffrey.t.lebon@noaa.gov</a>
Sept -Oct	Louis S. St-Laurent	-	JOIS/AON-BGOS	<a href="mailto:Bill.Williams@dfo-mpo.gc.ca">Bill.Williams@dfo-mpo.gc.ca</a>	<a href="mailto:Bill.Williams@dfo-mpo.gc.ca">Bill.Williams@dfo-mpo.gc.ca</a>
Oct	Sir Wilfrid Laurier	4,8	C30	<a href="mailto:Bill.Williams@dfo-mpo.gc.ca">Bill.Williams@dfo-mpo.gc.ca</a>	<a href="mailto:Humfrey.Melling@dfo-mpo.gc.ca">Humfrey.Melling@dfo-mpo.gc.ca</a>
November	Mirai	-	Japanese Atmospheric cruise; National Institute of Polar Research (NIPR)	Takashi Kikuchi <a href="mailto:takashik@jamstec.go.jp">takashik@jamstec.go.jp</a>	Dr. Inoue ( <a href="mailto:inoue.jun@nipr.ac.jp">inoue.jun@nipr.ac.jp</a> ) at

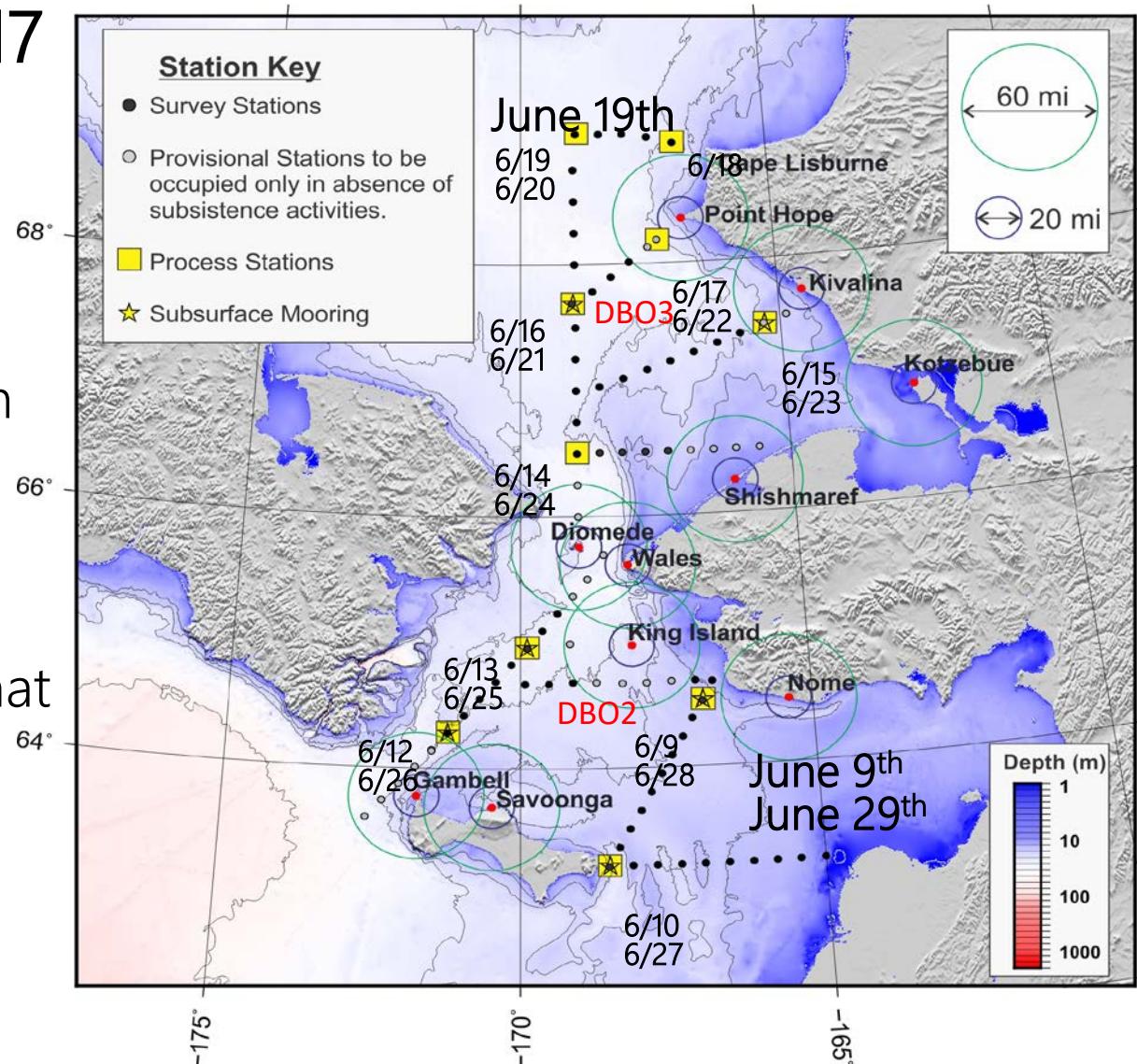
# ASGARD Project 2017

## 1st: Process Studies

Set up experiments that require multi-day incubations. Deploy moorings. Epibenthic fish sampling.

## 2nd: Synoptic Surveys

Multi-station transects that cross biogeographical domains. More fishing.



- June 2017 & 2018 on R/V Sikuliaq
- 2017/18 and 2018/19 moorings

[Seth Danielson, UAF]

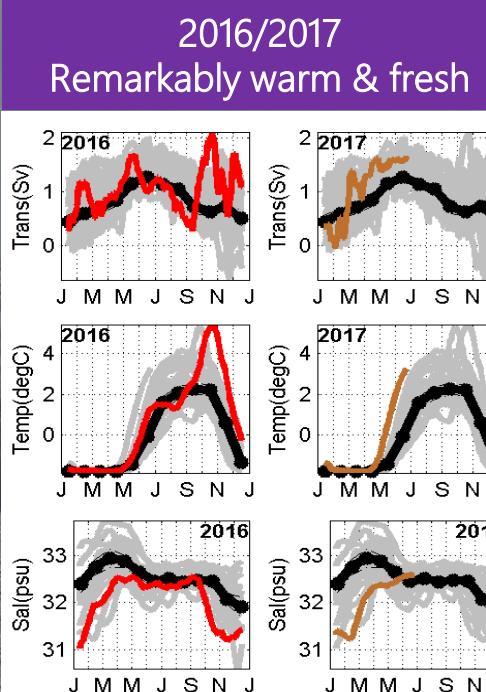
# Bering Strait Mooring Program – 2017 Updates

Rebecca Woodgate University of Washington, Seattle, USA

Funded by  
NSF-AON



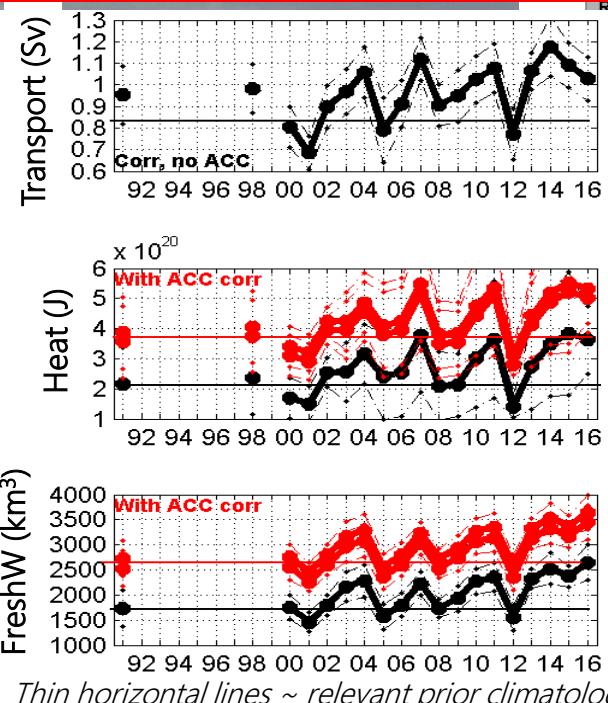
Our July 2017 Norseman 2 cruise recovered & redeployed the 3 Bering Strait moorings, and took CTD sections, finding the Chukchi **remarkably warm**. Recovered data show:



Color=2016 or 2017 30day smoothed data.  
Black = climatology; Grey=all past years

- \* Oct 2016 & June 2017 both **3°C warmer** than climatology
- \* ~20 day late cooling in 2016
- \* ~15 day early warming in 2017
- \* Salinities **0.5-1psu fresher** than climatology

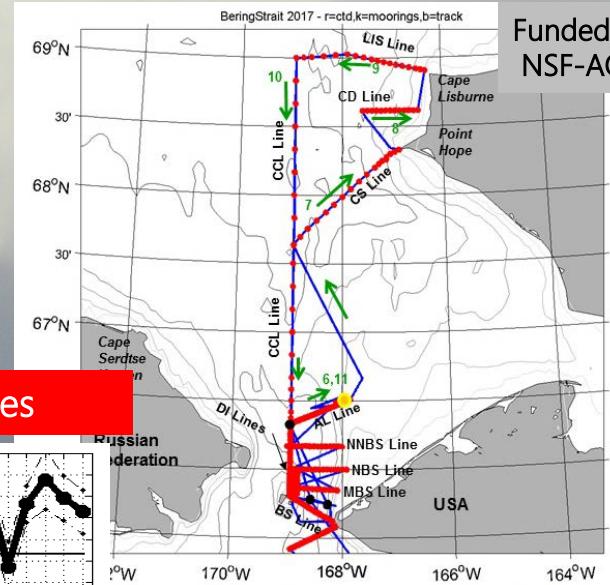
Still Increasing annual mean fluxes



Thin horizontal lines ~ relevant prior climatologies

Trans  $\geq 1\text{ Sv}$ ; FW  $\sim 3500\text{ km}^3/\text{yr}$  (cf 34.8 psu)  
Heat  $\sim 5 \times 10^{20}\text{ J}/\text{yr} \sim 15\text{ TW}$  (cf -1.9°C)

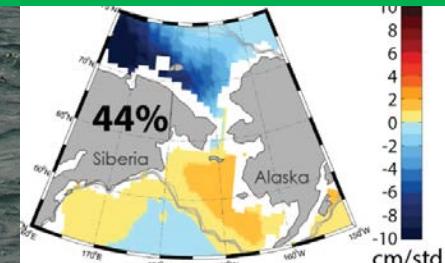
Find data and papers at:  
[psc.apl.washington.edu/Bstrait.htm](http://psc.apl.washington.edu/Bstrait.htm)



Recent papers document also:

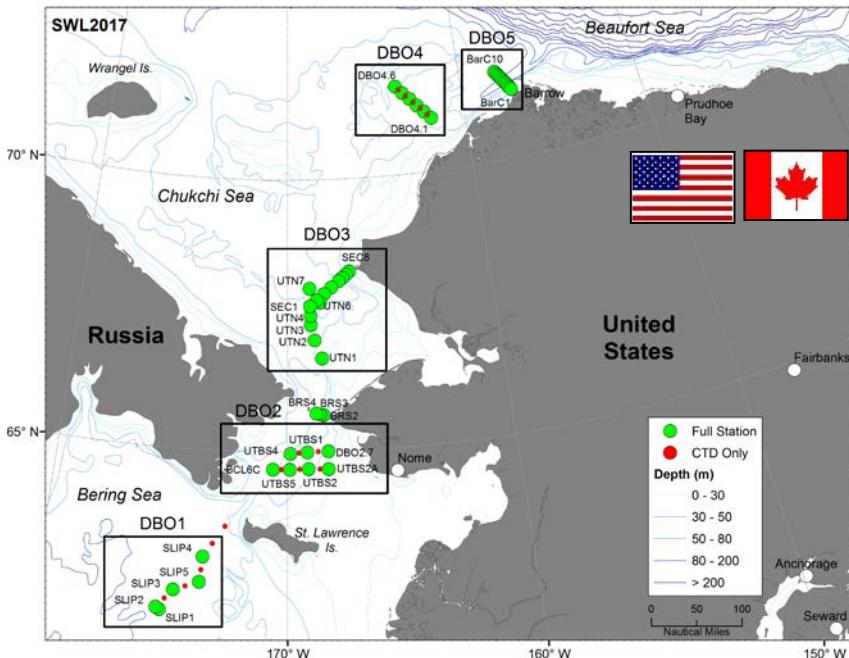
- \* trends in seasonal changes
- \* flow increase driven by pressure head, far field forcing;
- \* patterns of the pressure head forcing, finding flow dominantly driven from the Arctic

Woodgate 2017 in review PiO  
Peralta-Ferriz & Woodgate 2017  
GRL



# Canada's Three Oceans (C3O) and the DBO: CCGS Sir Wilfrid Laurier, July 10-22, 2017

Focus: sampling along latitudinal transect lines developed as a “change detection array” for consistent monitoring of biophysical responses to changing environmental conditions



## DBO data collections

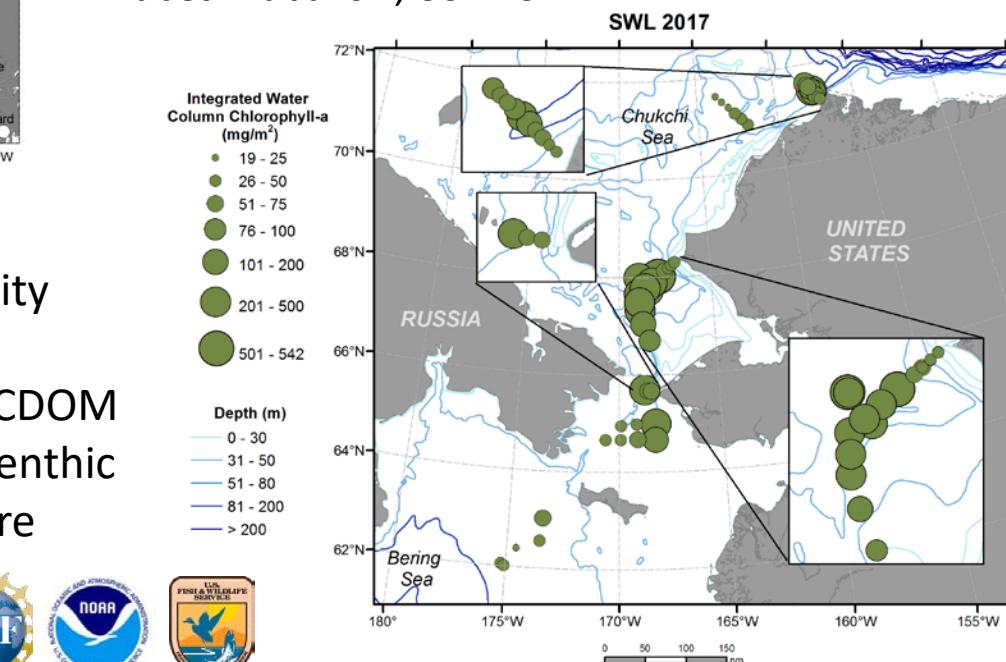
- Seawater temperature and salinity; velocity measurements
- Nutrients, chlorophyll, carbon products, CDOM
- Phytoplankton, zooplankton and macrobenthic abundance, biomass, community structure
- Marine mammal and seabird surveys

## Canadian Component:

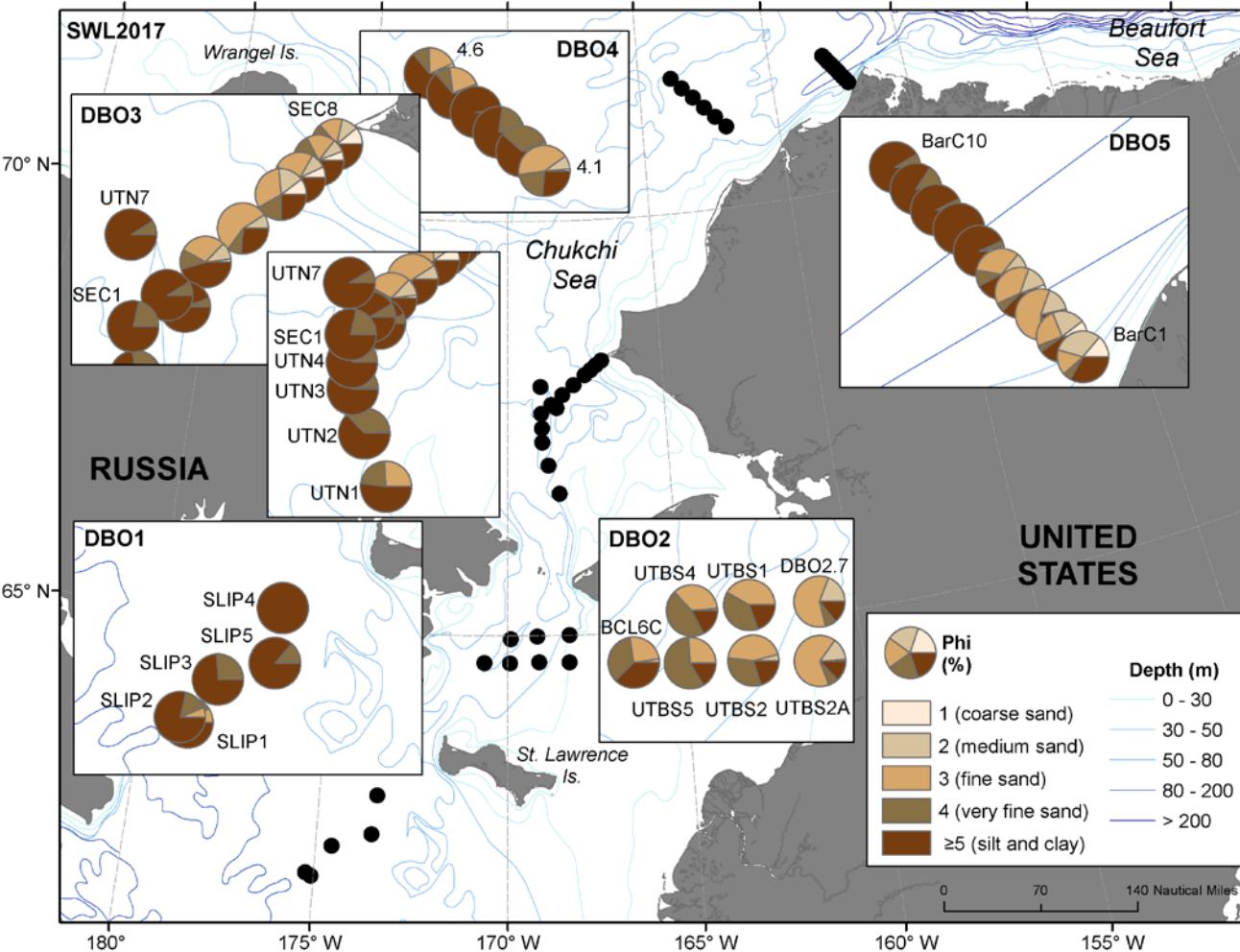
Svein Vagle, DFO/IOS (Chief Scientist), Nina Nemcek, DFO/IOS; Diana Varela, U Victoria; Sile Kafrissen, U Victoria; Annaliese Meye, U Victoria; John Nelson, Seastar Biotech; Lauren Howell, Vancouver Aquarium

## US Component:

Jacqueline Grebmeier, CBL; Lee Cooper, CBL; Christina Goethel, CBL; Basia Oleszczuk, Poland; Kristen Shake, Clark U; Melisha Santiago, Clark U; Elizabeth Labunski, USFWS



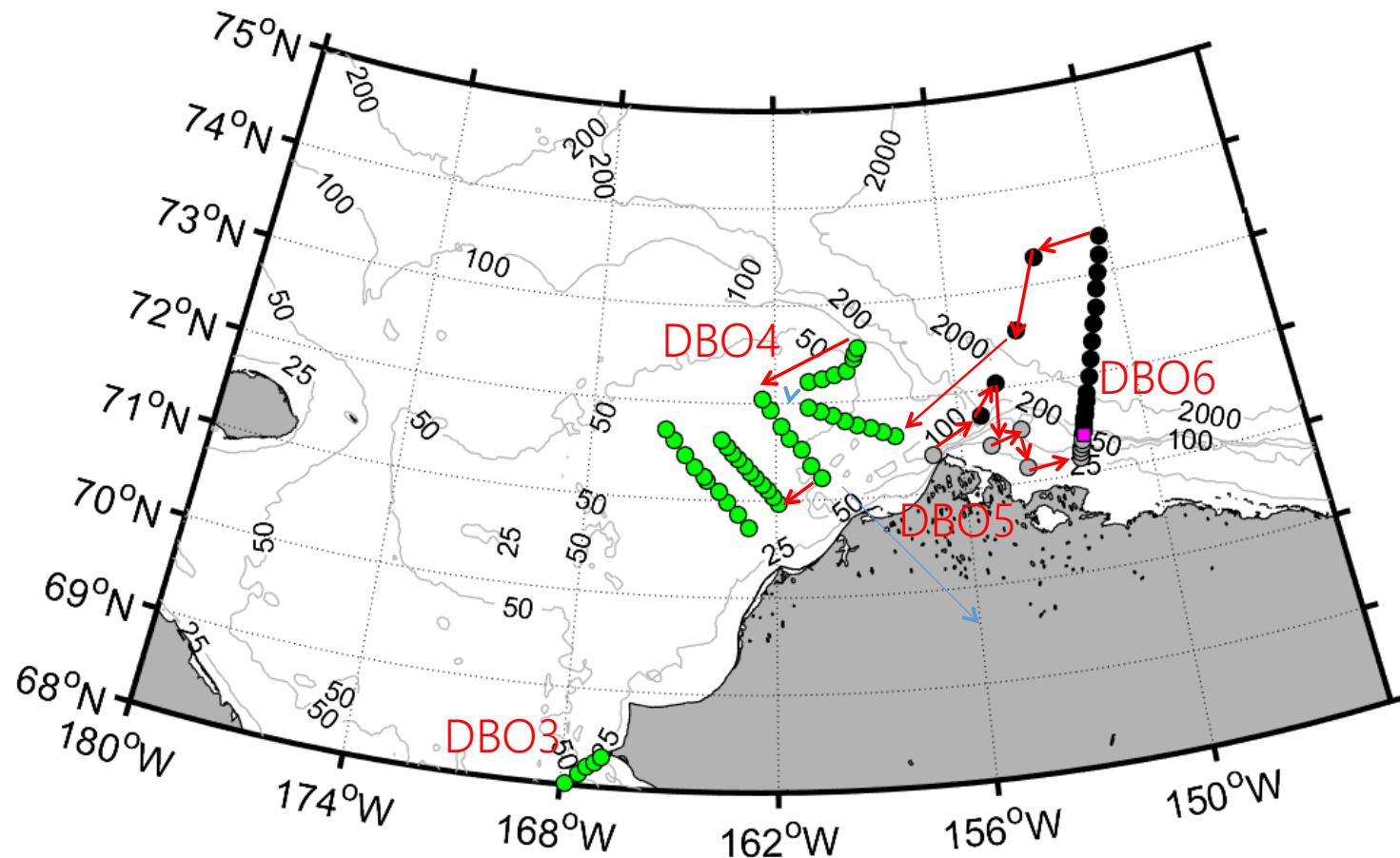
# SWL17 Example data product: Sediment grain size for DBO1-5



- Highest % total organic carbon content in silt & clay regions in lower current areas
- High silt & clay in DBO1, offshore DBO3 sites, DBO4.4, and western half of DBO5
- High TOC and silt/clay coincident with higher benthic biomass
- Lowest silt & clay content in sandy area of DBO 2 (Chirikov Basin), eastern part of DBO3-DBO5 in Alaska Coastal water

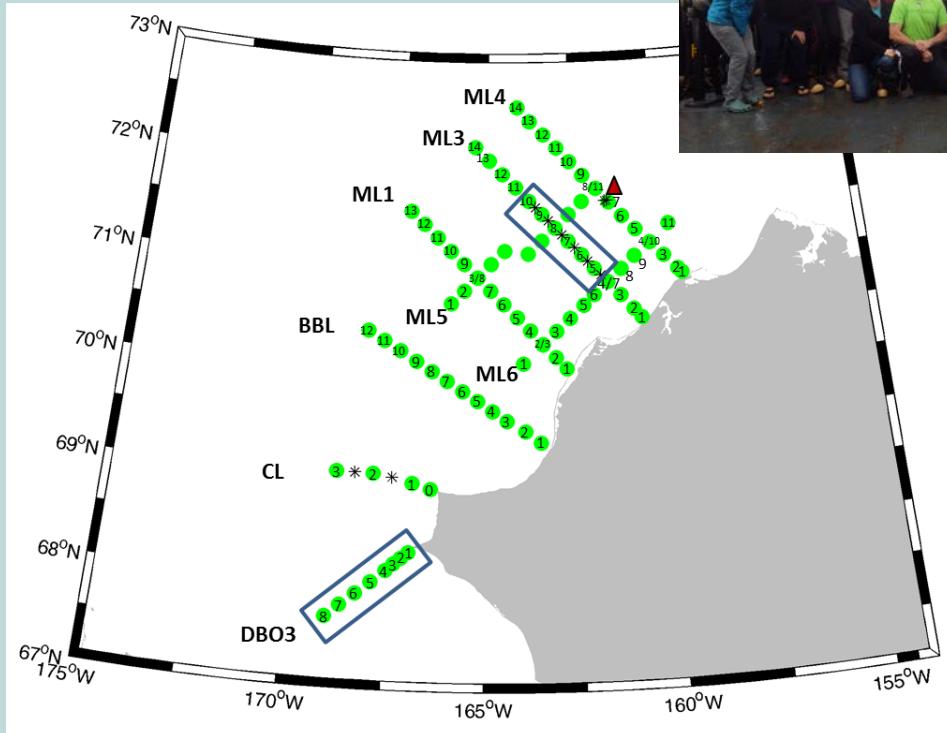
Laura Juranek (OSU) and Rachel Seper August 9-23, 2017  
cruise (DBO 3,4,5,6)

## Primary Productivity and Nitrogen Cycling



# Arctic Marine Biodiversity Observing Network (AMBON); NOAA/BOEM/Shell

## August 2017 (Norseman II), including DBO3 & 4, CEO moorings

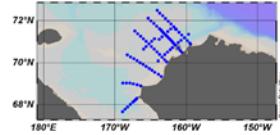
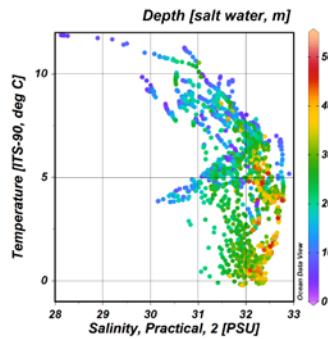


- Lead Katrin Iken (UAF); Co-PIs: Seth Danielson, Eric Collins, Russ Hopcroft, Franz Mueter
- co-PIs: Jackie Grebmeier, Lee Cooper (CBL/UMCES)
- Sue Moore (NOAA), Kathy Kuletz (USFWS)
- T/S
- Chlorophyll, nutrients
- Phytoplankton and zooplankton composition
- Macrofauna and epifauna
- Fishes
- Marine mammal and seabird surveys

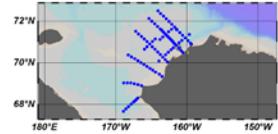
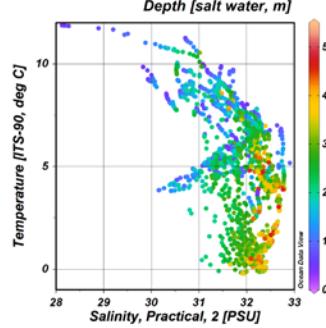
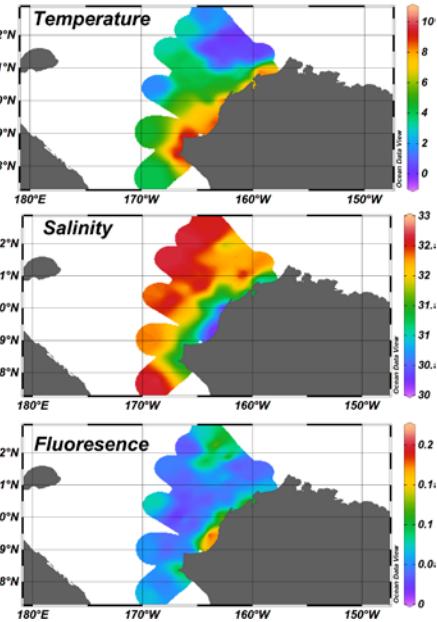
Station map of the AMBON 2017 cruise. Stars indicate CTD stations only, red triangle indicates location of the CEO moorings, and the blue boxes indicate location of the DBO3 and DBO4 lines



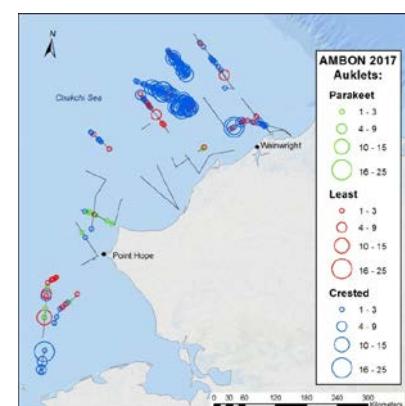
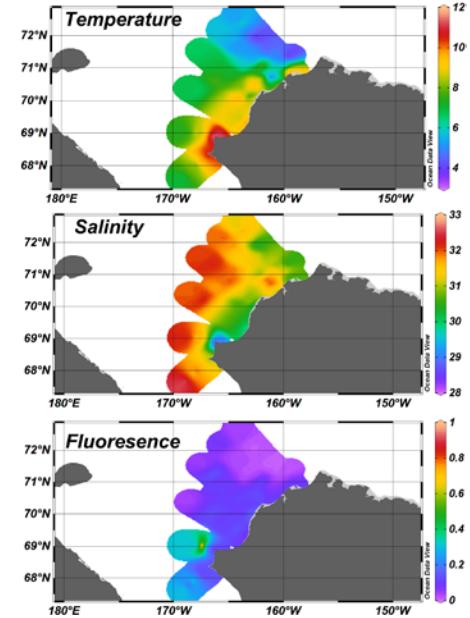
# AMBON17 Data Products from Cruise Report



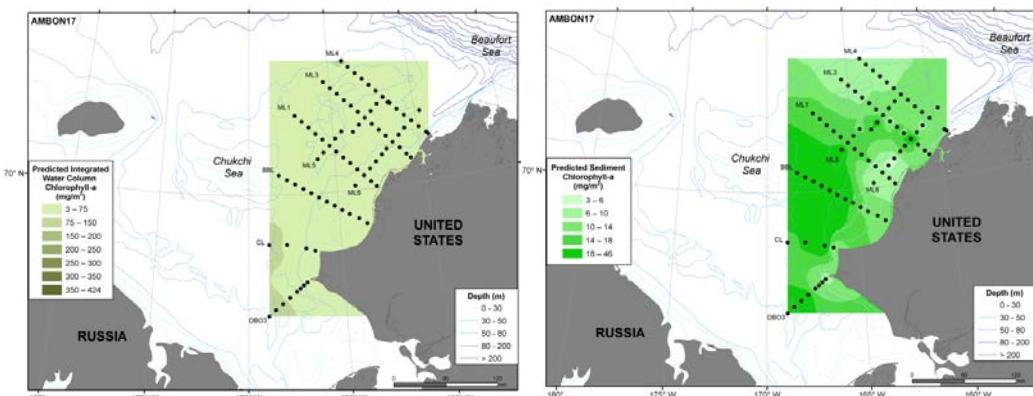
**Figure 2a:** Surface water properties during AMBON 2017.



**Figure 2b:** Bottom water properties during AMBON 2017.



**Figure 12:** Distribution of auklets observed on transect during AMBON 2017.



**Figure 8. a.** Integrated chlorophyll a (mg/m<sup>2</sup>) and **b.** surface sediment chlorophyll a (mg/m<sup>2</sup>) present in study area during the August AMBON17 cruise.

**Figure 13:** Distribution of northern fulmars observed on transect during AMBON 2017.

# NE CHUKCHI ECOSYSTEM OBSERVATORY (CEO) 2015-2017 MEASUREMENTS:

Pressure, Temperature, Salinity

Significant Wave Height & Direction

Directional Wave Spectra

Ice Draft (level ice thickness & keels)

Passive acoustic recordings

Acoustic Backscatter: 38, 125, 200 & 455 KHz

Chlorophyll a fluorescence

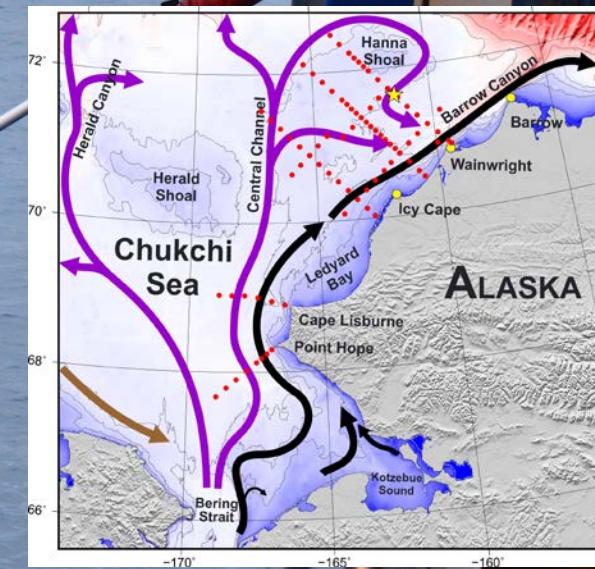
Optical Backscatter, PAR

CDOM, NO<sub>3</sub>, DO

Webcam

- **24-bottle Sediment Trap (Catherine Lalande, Canada):**

- Chlorophyll a
- Phytoplankton identification
- Total particulate matter (dry weight)
- Particulate organic carbon
- Particulate nitrogen
- Zooplankton species
- Zooplankton fecal pellets



[AOOS  
support  
]

[Seth Danielson, UAF}

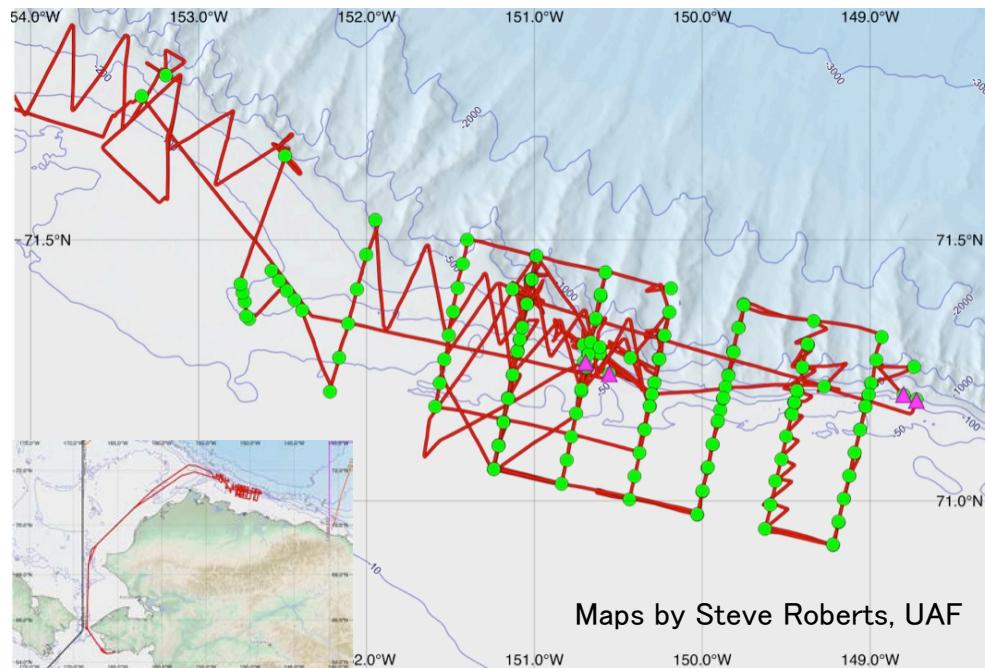


# BEAUFORT SHELF BREAK ECOLOGY – PLANKTON, FISH, AND BELUGAS

August 25 – September 18, 2017, *R/V Sikuliaq*

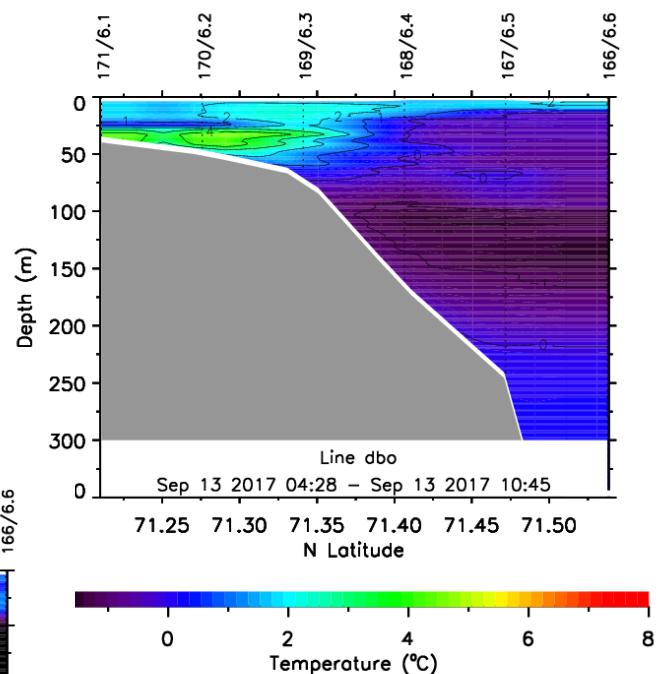
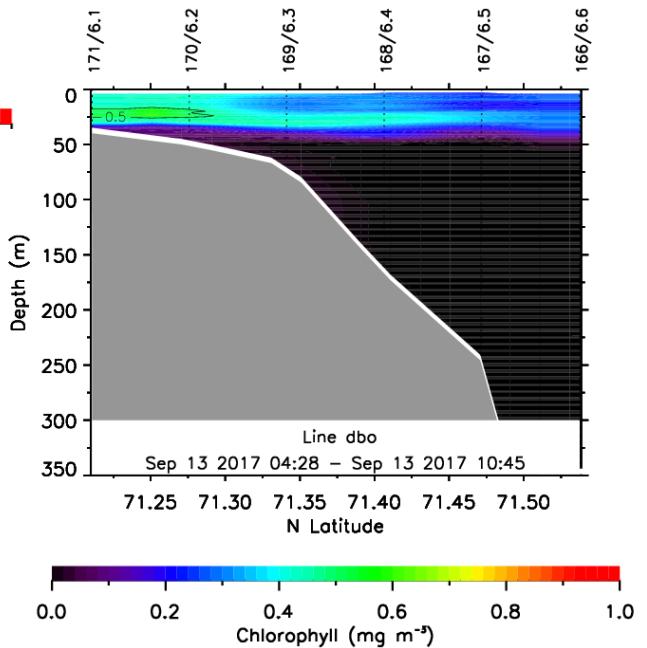
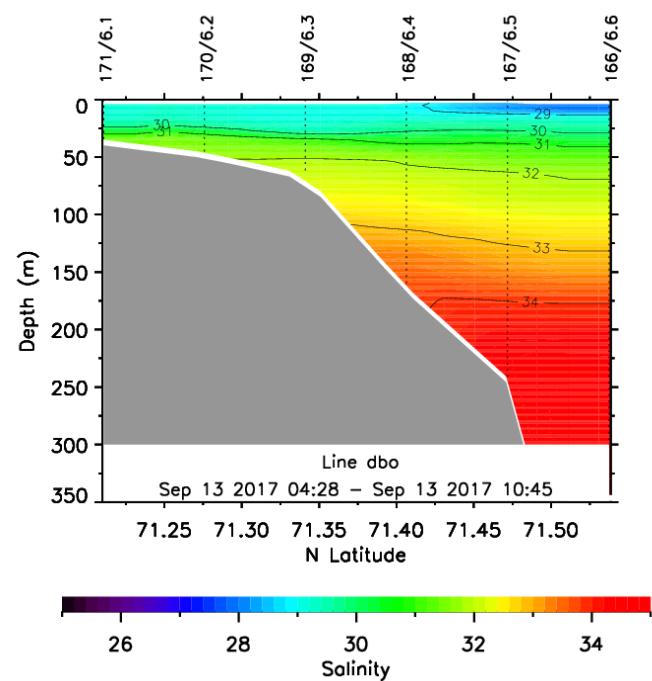
C. Ashjian, R. Campbell, M. Jech, K. Kuletz, J. Llopiz, M. Lowe, S. Okkonen, K. Stafford, J. Zhang

**Are beluga whales found along the shelf break because they can find high abundances of their Arctic cod prey there and are these abundances driven by shelf break upwelling of plankton? How will this change in the future?**



Activity	Number
Stations	184
Bongo Tows	37
CTD Casts	184
Fish Trawls	16
Mooring Deployments	4
Ring Nets	4
Slocum Glider Recovery	1
Tucker Trawls	69

# Preliminary Results: Beaufort Shelf Break Ecology



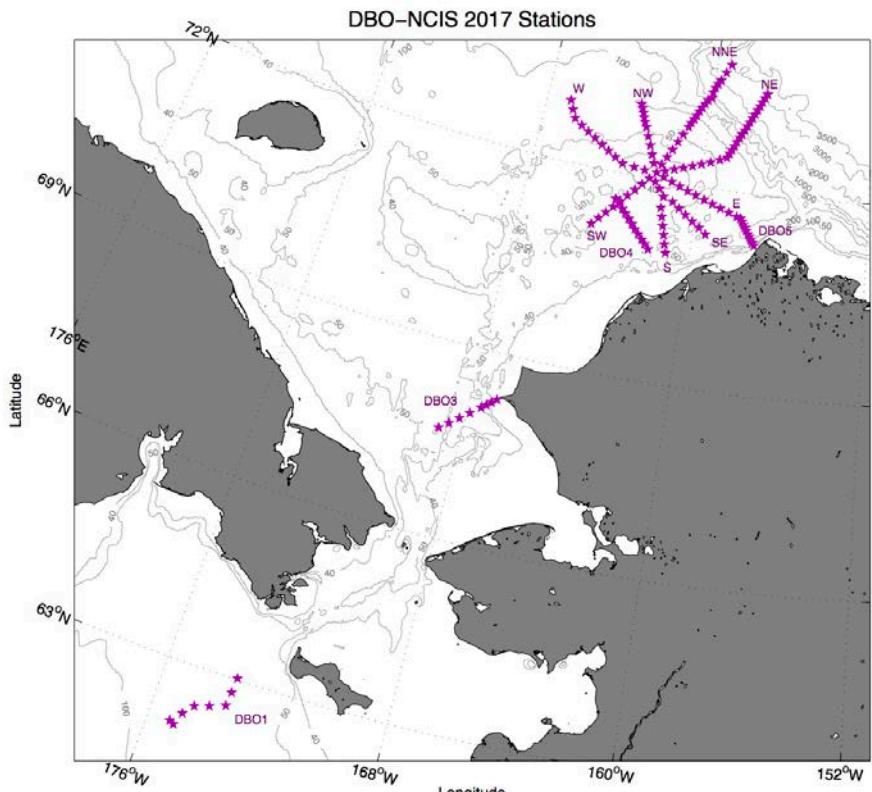
# 2017 DBO-NCIS (Northern Chukchi Sea Integrated Study) NOAA Arctic Research Program (WHOI, UMCES and NOAA PMEL) Aug 28 Aug-Sept 13, 2017 (Dutch-Dutch, Alaska)



Chief Scientist: Robert Pickart, WHOI

Co-Chief Scientist, Jackie Grebmeier, UMCES

**Objectives:** (1) occupy DBO lines 3-5 in the Chukchi Sea for suite of water column and benthic measurements; and (2) process study of the NE Chukchi shelf to understand the physical-biological links that result in the biological hot spots in this region.

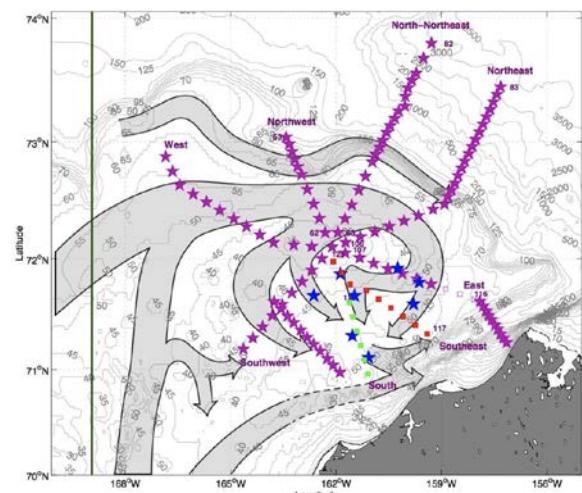
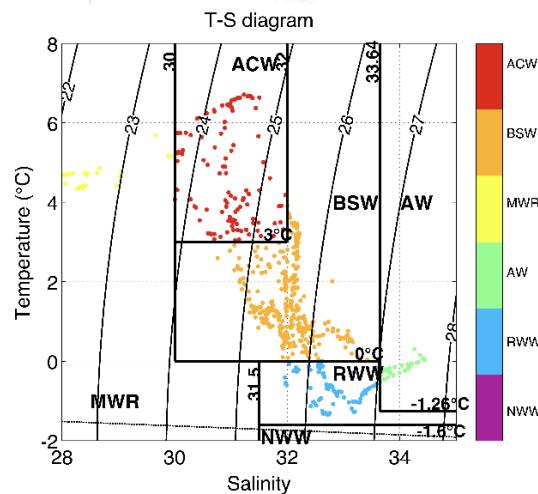
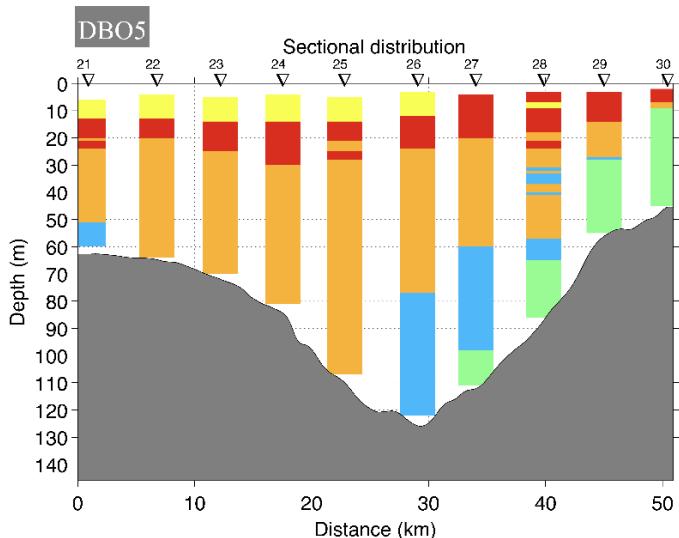


## Field Measurements:

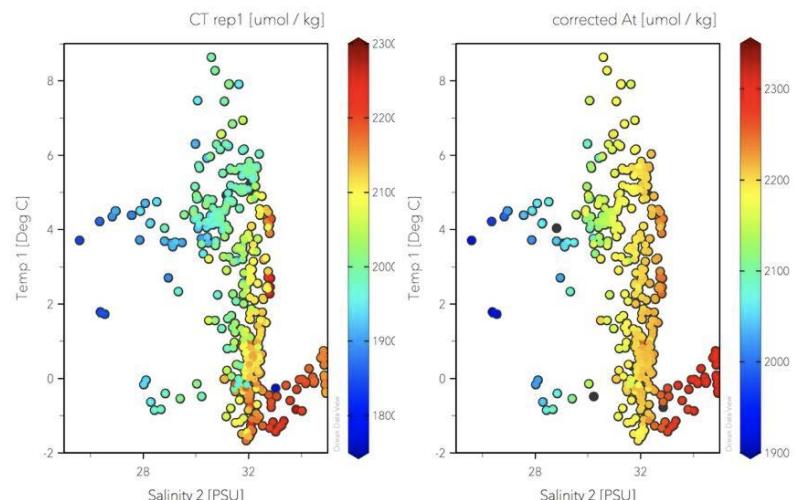
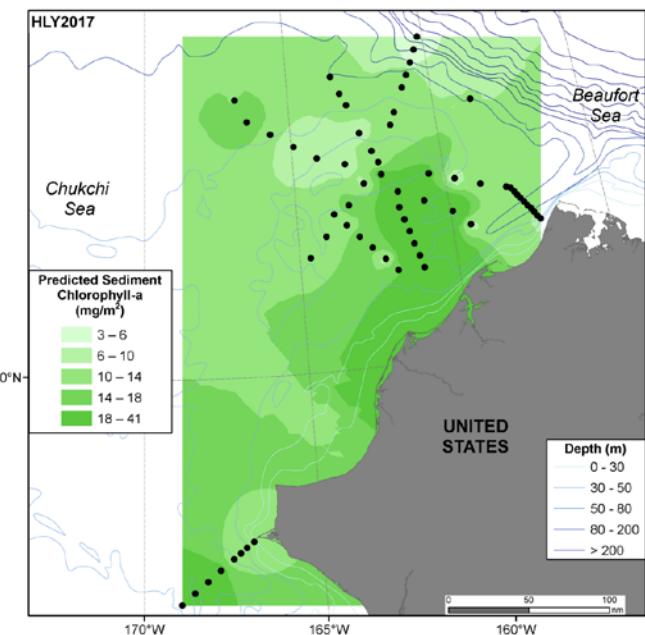
- Water mass properties and circulation, R. Pickart (WHOI)
- Nutrients and chlorophyll, C. Mordy (PMEL)
- Dissolved inorganic carbon and total alkalinity, J. Cross (PMEL)
- Mesozooplankton and larval fish, J. Duffy-Angerson (NMFS)
- Macrofauna, sediment characteristics, and sea ice melt tracers ( $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ ), J. Grebmeier and L. Cooper (UMCES)
- Aerosols, J. Creamean (NOAA)
- Dissolved nitrous oxide and isotopes, A. Bourbonnais (WHOI)
- Water sampling biases (C. Paver, UMCES)
- Dissolved methane and underway methane sampling, C. Magen (UMCES)
- Ostracod distributions, L. Gemery (USGS)
- Microbes, E. Collins (UAF)
- Marine mammals, S. Moore (NMFS)
- Seabirds, K. Kuletz (USFWS)

# 2017 DBO-NCIS: Preliminary Results

**Below.** Water mass type across DBO5, upper Barrow Canyon

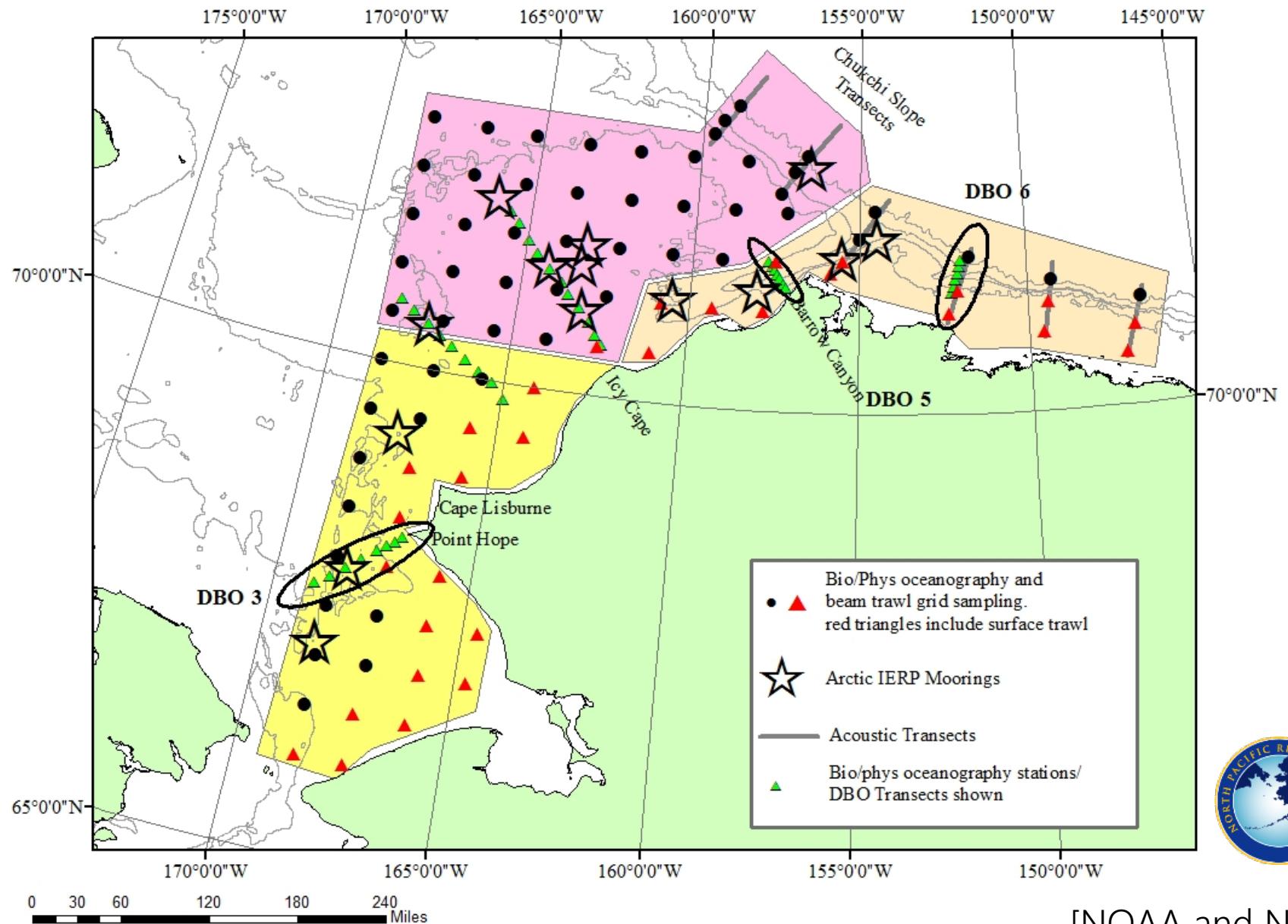


**Below.** Surface sediment chlorophyll a (mg/m<sup>2</sup>)



**Left.** Scatter plots showing the distribution of total inorganic carbon (CT,  $\mu\text{mol kg}^{-1}$ , left) and total alkalinity (AT,  $\mu\text{mol kg}^{-1}$ , right) versus salinity.

# Arctic Ecosystem Integrated Survey: ArcticEIS2 (NOAA)-August/Sept 2017 and 2019



# Seabird Surveys - Platforms in 2017

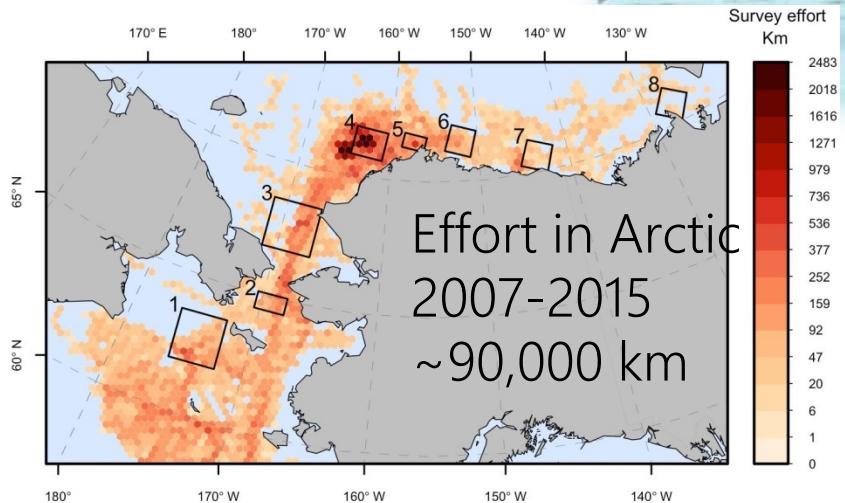
Principal Investigator : Kathy Kuletz (U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service)

- Arctic IERP (NPRB/BOEM /NOAA Ecosystem Study/ E. Farley)
- ASGARD (Arctic Shelf Growth Advection Respiration Deposition/S. Danielson)
- AMBON (Arctic Marine Biodiversity Observation Network/ K. Iken)
- Canadian Icebreaker cruises (3-Oceans/ J. Grebmeier & S. Vagle)
- NCIS – DBO (NSF/ WHOI/R. Pickart)
- North Bering Sea Fish Surveys (NOAA/ J. Murphy )

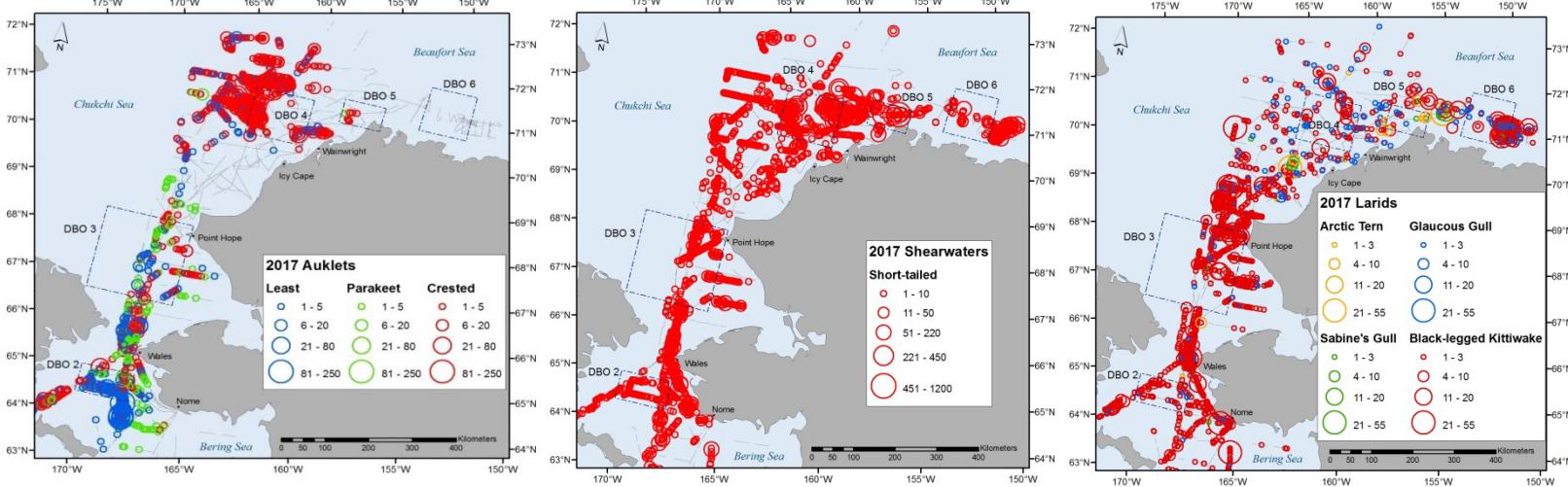
Planned 2018-2020: ASGARD, AIERP, 3-Oceans, NBS,  
others....



# Seabird Surveys in the Pacific Arctic

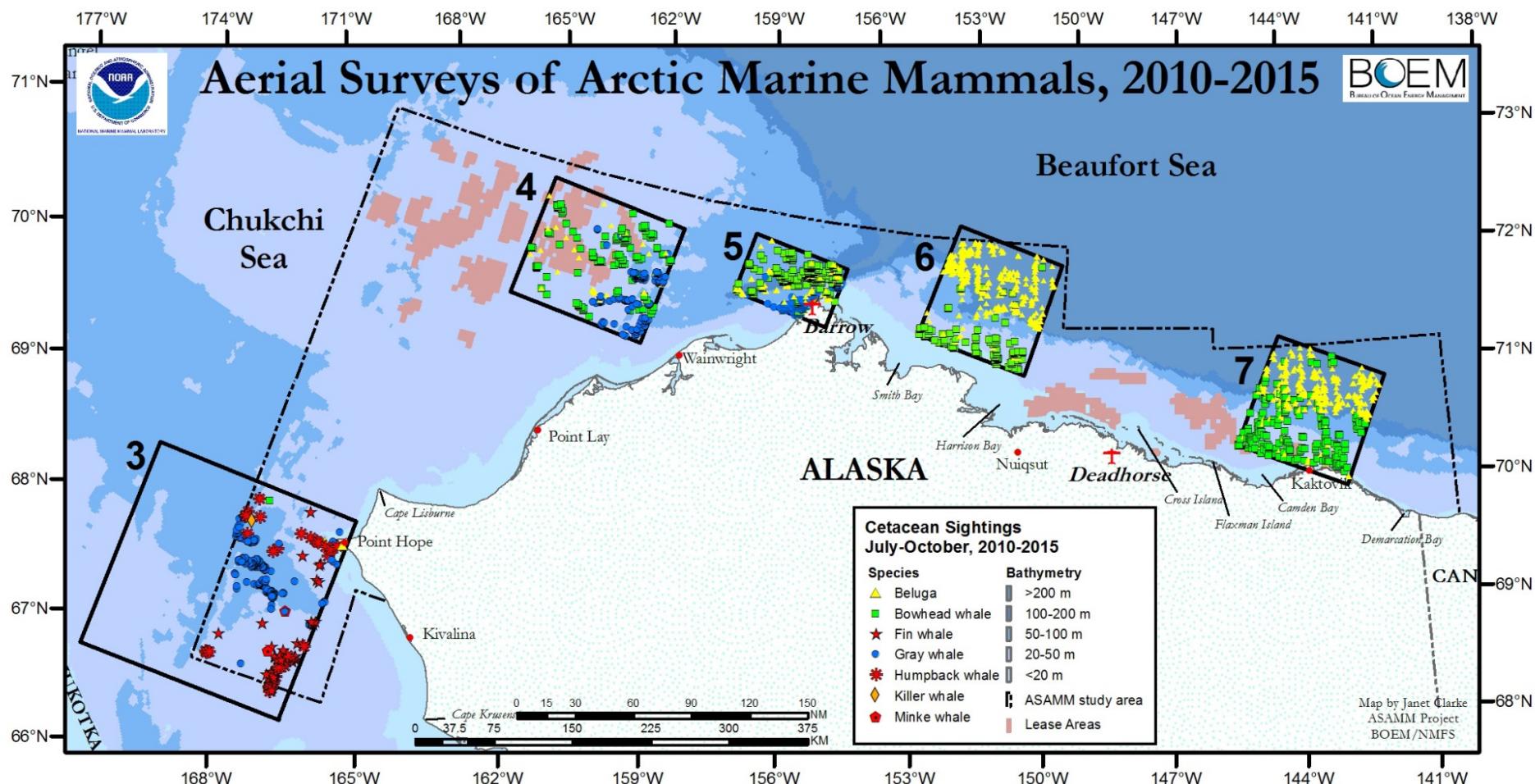


In 2017  
~ 19,700 km surveyed in  
North Bering, Chukchi, Beaufort



2017 Distribution of Auklets (3 spp), Short-tailed shearwaters, Larids (4 spp)

# DBO 3, 4, 5, 6, and 7



**DBO-3 – gray whale hot spot, subarctic cetaceans**

**DBO-4 and DBO-5 – bowhead whales, gray whales, belugas**

**DBO-6 and DBO-7 – bowhead whales, belugas**

<http://www.afsc.noaa.gov/NMML/cetacean/bwasp/>

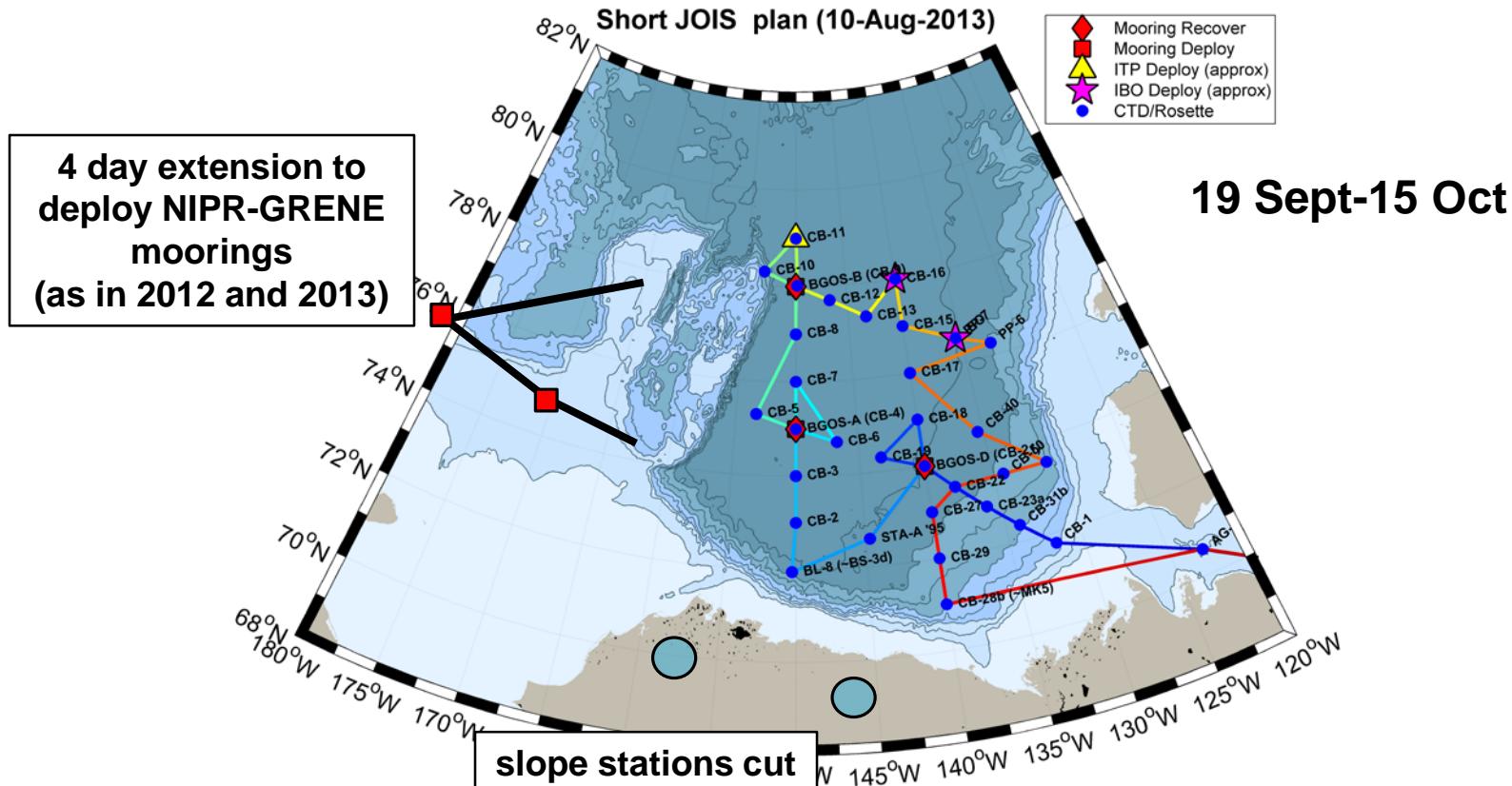


**BOEM**  
BUREAU OF OCEAN ENERGY MANAGEMENT

[Janet Clark]

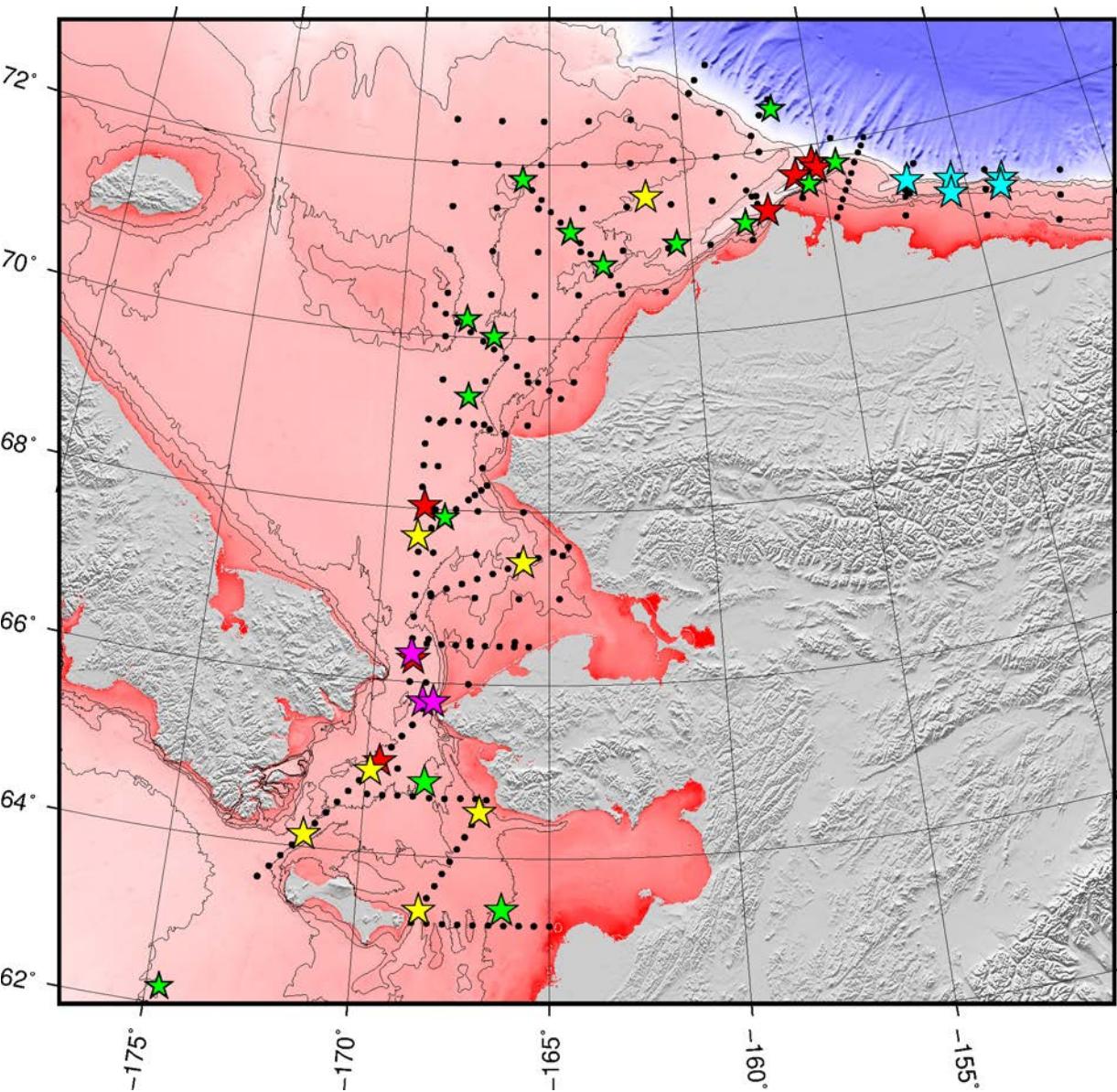


# SCIENCE-BASIN JOIS/AON BGOS (CANADA-USA-JAPAN)



JOIS=Joint Ocean-Ice Study; AON=Arctic Observing Network;  
BGOS=Beaufort Gyre Observing System

(courtesy Bill Williams, IOS)



## AIERP & Other 2017-2018 Moorings

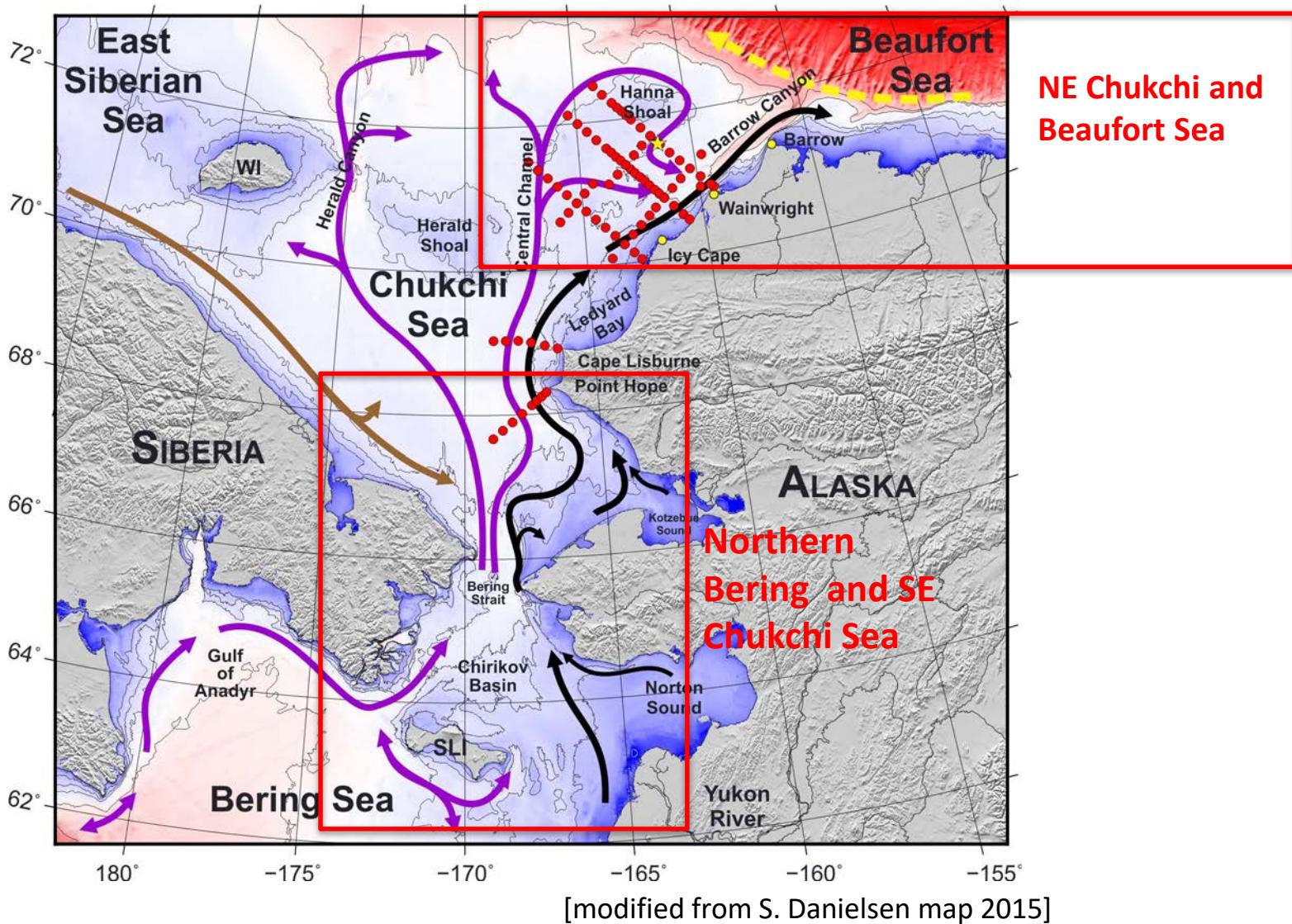
- ★ UAF
- ★ NOAA PMEL & NMML
- ★ UW-APL
- ★ ArCS & JAMSTEC
- ★ WHOI & WHOI/UAF

[courtesy Seth  
Danielson/UAF]



# Science access during subsistence whaling: April-May and Sept-Oct periods

-need to interface with coastal communities through new Arctic Waterways Safety Committee to interface with Alaska Eskimo Whaling Commission, Eskimo Walrus Commission, and other parties; see <http://www.arcticwaterways.org/>



# Thank you for your attention.

## Questions and comments?

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