

Introduction

PAG/DBO Workshop | November 2017

Danielle Dickson | NPRB Senior Program Manager

Background

- Funding partners: North Pacific Research Board, Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, North Slope Borough/Shell Baseline Studies Program, Office of Naval Research Marine Mammals and Biology Program
- In-kind support from National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration, University of Alaska Fairbanks, and National Science Foundation
- \$18.6 million investment 2016-2021



Overarching question

How will reductions in Arctic sea ice and the associated changes in the physical environment influence the flow of energy through the ecosystem in the Chukchi Sea that influence:

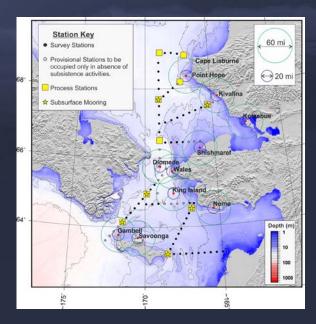
- Transport, seasonal composition, distribution, and production of phytoplankton, particulate matter, zooplankton, fishes, benthic invertebrates, seabirds, and marine mammals
- Timing, magnitude and fate of the primary and secondary productivity
- Partitioning/flux of energy between pelagic and benthic realms
- Distribution, condition, and standing stocks of large crustacean zooplankton that serve as the prey base for upper trophic level fishes and seabirds
- Assemblages, distributions, abundances, and condition of larval and early juvenile fishes that influence the recruitment success of later life stages
- Density of marine mammals and seabirds
- Human use of and interaction with the marine environment



Scope

 UAF cruises aboard vessel Sikuliaq in northern Bering and southern Chukchi Seas in June 2017 & 2018

Focus on rate process measurements, physical, chemical, biological oceanography; fish sampling

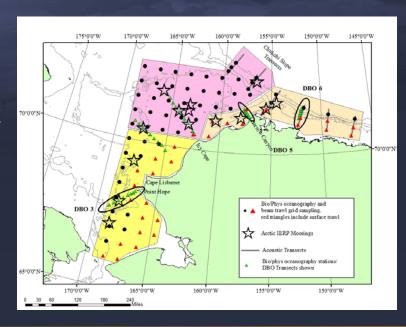




Scope

 NOAA cruises aboard Ocean Starr in Beaufort & Chukchi Seas in August – October 2017 & 2019

Focus on factors
driving the distribution
of fish, especially Arctic
& saffron cod, and
pink and chum salmon





Scope

- Acoustic recorders on moorings in Bering Strait and southern Chukchi Sea
- Social science study on Chukchi
 Coastal Communities' Understanding of
 and Responses to Environmental
 Change



Integrated Work Plan

 Document describes the scope of the program, including specific hypotheses and cruise plans.

