ABUNDANCE AND DISTRIBUTION OF MARINE MAMMALS IN NORTHERN BRISTOL BAY

--A Status Report of the 1991 Marine Mammal Monitoring Effort at Togiak National Wildlife Refuge

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harbor seal	southwest Alaska

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SUMMARY

The number of walruses hauled out at Cape Peirce was the highest since 1988, with a peak count of 4008 animals on 12 September. Fifteen haulout peaks occurred from June through September, with haulout periods ranging from 6 to 13 days. Opportunistic censuses of walrus haulout beaches at Cape Newenham produced a high count of 870 on 5 July. Fluctuations in haulout numbers at Cape Peirce and Round Island from 1987 through 1991 may be the result of disturbance from of yellow-fin sole vessels in northern Bristol Bay.

Walrus carcasses on the beach were counted and mapped during coastal survey flights in northern Bristol Bay. The highest concentration of carcasses occurred along the southwestern shores of the Nushagak Peninsula. Other concentrations occurred along the eastern shores of Hagemeister Island. The maximum number of carcasses observed during a single survey was 49.

Nanvak Bay near Cape Peirce continues to be the largest seal haulout in northern Bristol Bay. A peak count of 400 seals in Nanvak Bay was recorded on 3 September. This peak is significantly lower than the peak count of 3100 in 1975. This decline parallels harbor seal population trends throughout the state of Alaska; the causes of the decline are unknown and must be further investigated. Both spotted and harbor seal pups were observed, with a high of 21 pups recorded on 25 June.

In cooperation with the National Marine Fisheries Service, six surveys were flown of the northern Bristol Bay harbor seal haulout sites from 23 August through 5 September. The high count for the surveys was 953 seals on 29 August, with a mean count of 750 animals.

Cape Newenham continues to be an important haulout for the threatened northern sea lion. Monitoring effort continued in 1991 in cooperation with NMFS. The haulout was surveyed from the air and ground between late April and late October. The peak count of 1295 occurred on 16 May. Approximately 30 sea lions were also observed in December during an unrelated flight. Composition of sea lions at the haulout was variable, with the percent juveniles ranging from 8-23 throughout the season. Eight tagged sea lions were seen during ground observations; numbers were read from three of the tags.

INTRODUCTION

Togiak National Wildlife Refuge's (TNWR) rocky coast and sand beaches support a diverse and abundant marine mammal population. The Cape Peirce-Cape Newenham area and the Walrus Islands State Game Sanctuary are two areas particularly rich in marine mammals, providing haulout areas for walruses (<u>Odobenus rosmarus divergens</u>), harbor seals (<u>Phoca vitulina</u>), spotted seals (<u>Phoca largha</u>) and northern sea lions (<u>Eumetopias jubatus</u>).

Round Island and Cape Peirce are the only two regularly used terrestrial haulouts for Pacific walruses in the United States. Walruses periodically haul out at Cape Seniavin and Cape Newenham, however these areas are not used every year (Frost et al. 1982). The female and young walruses that winter in and near Bristol and Kuskokwim bays migrate north in the spring, however the males remain behind and haul out at Cape Peirce and Round Island (Fay 1982). Cape Peirce was historically used as a haulout but was abandoned sometime during the first half of this century (Taylor, pers. comm.). Walruses began reusing the haulout in 1981 and have returned every summer since (Annual Narrative, TNWR 1981).

In 1987 and 1988 the number of walruses hauling out at Cape Peirce and Round Island declined (Alaska Dep. of Fish and Game and TNWR unpub. data). During this time fishing for yellow-fin sole in northern Bristol Bay began, with fishing activities concentrated in the Round Island area. Concern that the decline in the number of walruses hauling out might be related to the initiation of the yellow-fin sole fishery resulted in the National Pacific Fisheries Management Council's (NPFMC) decision to restrict yellow-fin sole fishing activities. In August of 1991 the NPFMC voted to continue indefinitely the 12-mile closure around Cape Peirce and Round Island with a three mile transit zone around Right Hand Point. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) has verbal agreements with the NPFMC, the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) and the Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADFG) to continue monitoring the walruses at Cape Peirce as part of the effort to assess the effects of the fishery.

Harbor (and some spotted) seals haul out along the Togiak NWR coast, with highest concentrations at Nanvak Bay and Hagemeister Island. Nanvak Bay is the northern-most pupping area and the largest haulout for harbor seals in northern Bristol Bay (Frost et al. 1982). The number of seals hauling out in Nanvak Bay has declined over the past 15 years (TNWR unpub. data, Jemison 1991). Population trends examined in the Gulf of Alaska indicate a similar population decline. Limited data from Prince William Sound and the southeastern Bering Sea also suggest that since the mid 1970s harbor seal numbers have declined (Pitcher 1990).

Cape Newenham and Round Island support the two largest sea lion haulouts in northern Bristol Bay. Sea lion populations have been monitored by ADFG staff at Round Island since the late 1970s. Monitoring of the sea lions at Cape Newenham began in 1990. In 1991 more concentrated efforts determined that juvenile and adult male and female sea lions use the Cape Newenham haulout, and that pupping is rare. From the late 1950s to the mid 1980s, sea lion numbers have declined in Alaska (Hoover 1988). In 1990 the northern sea lion was listed as a threatened species, making this a critical time to monitor sea lion haulout sites and rookeries.

During 1991, joint efforts between TNWR, Alaska Fish and Wildlife Research Center-Fairbanks (AFWRCF), Marine Mammals Management (MMM), NMFS, and ADFG have worked to determine abundance and distribution of walruses, seals, and northern sea lions in northern Bristol Bay. A continued cooperative effort will help insure responsible management of these species.

OBJECTIVES

- 1. Determine number of walruses, number and average length of haulout peaks, and long-term population trends at Cape Peirce.
- 2. Determine haulout locations and number of walruses at Cape Newenham.
- 3. Determine walrus behavioral response to aircraft and boats at Cape Peirce.
- 4. Determine changes in the number of walrus carcasses on the beaches of northern Bristol Bay.
- 5. Determine number, number of pups, peak numbers during pupping and molting periods and long-term population trends of harbor and spotted seals hauling out in Nanvak Bay.
- 6. Determine number of harbor seals in northern Bristol Bay during the molting period, in cooperation with NMFS.

7. Determine sex and age composition and seasonal fluctuations in number of sea lions at Cape Newenham. Determine number of pups born there.

STUDY AREA

The study area covers approximately 275 miles of coastline in southwest Alaska from the Igushik River in Nushagak Bay to Chagvan Bay (Fig. 1) and includes Hagemeister Island (Alaska Maritime National Wildlife Refuge) and Walrus Islands State Game Sanctuary (ADFG). The Cape Peirce-Cape Newenham area is located approximately 120 miles west-southwest of Dillingham within Togiak National Wildlife Refuge. Steep, jagged cliffs above rock and sand beaches characterize the coastline in this area. Nanvak Bay is located two miles north of Cape Peirce Point (Fig. 2).

METHODS

WALRUSES

Haulout

<u>Cape Peirce</u>: Beaches where marine mammals haulout at Cape Peirce were checked daily and the following information was recorded: date, time, weather (wind direction and speed, cloud cover, visibility, precipitation, temperature, barometric pressure), tide, beach conditions, number of animals hauled out, number of animals in the water, unusual scars or features on walruses.

Animals were counted using binoculars and a tally whacker from the same observation points each day to minimize inconsistencies. Each haulout was counted at least two times and the counts averaged. For smaller haulouts (<500 animals), if the two counts were not within 5% of each other the animals were counted a third time and the two closest counts were averaged. For larger haulouts (>500), at least four counts were made, the high and low counts discarded and the rest averaged. Haulouts of more than 200 animals were photographed with a 35mm Nikon camera, 200mm or 35-70mm lens, using black and white print film ASA 200 or 400. Prints were counted using a magnifying glass, each walrus marked with a felt marker when counted. Comparisons between the photographs and the ground counts have not been completed to date.

A VHF receiver was used from 14 June through 21 August to monitor the Cape Peirce haulouts for walruses that were fitted with VHF transmitters in 1990 and 1991. Haulouts were visually scanned each day for transmittered animals.

Radio contact was maintained with personnel on Round Island each night to compare walrus activity at the two haulouts.

<u>Cape Newenham</u>: Walruses were counted at Cape Newenham whenever possible, either from the cliff above the haulout using binoculars, during aerial surveys, or from photos and estimates made from the Refuge's 24-foot aluminum boat as it travelled approximately 1/2-3/4 mile offshore.

<u>Round Island</u>: The walrus haulout on Round Island was monitored by ADFG Wildlife Technicians from 30 April through 28 August. Three aerial surveys were flown over the island after camp was closed in August. Flights ranged from 3/4 to 1 mile offshore at an altitude of 1000-2000 feet.

<u>Cape Seniavin</u>: Data on the number of walruses hauling out at Cape Seniavin was collected opportunistically. The number of walruses was estimated by local pilots during flights along the Alaska Peninsula, or during harbor seal aerial surveys.

Behavioral Observations

Two types of observations were made in order to characterize walrus haulout behavior. Behavior definitions were adapted from R. E. Salter (1979) by P. Hessing (pers. comm.).

<u>Scans</u>: This type of observation looked at a few individual walruses during a specific time period. Scans were done at South Firebaugh Beach. At the start of each scan, and once every hour, weather data and the number of walruses hauled out and in the water was recorded. Five individual walruses were selected throughout the group (some from the edge, some from the center), and behavior of each animal was recorded every ten minutes. Each scan lasted two hours.

Behavior for each walrus was recorded using the following definitions:

<u>R</u> est:	Recumbent and immobile
<u>A</u> wake:	Relatively inactive: grooming, shifting, fanning
Interactive:	Involved with other individuals to some degree: <u>t</u> usking/jabbing, <u>v</u> isual threat, <u>d</u> efending (holding
	flipper out against tusking walrus)

<u>Beach Watch</u>: Observations were made to document what types of stimuli cause walruses to exhibit synchronous behavior. Responses to both natural and human-related stimuli were recorded. Observations were made at South Firebaugh Beach; the following information was recorded at the start: weather conditions, number of walruses on the beach and the number in the water. Total number of walruses moving on and off the beach was recorded for each hour. When a group of walruses responded to a stimulus, the type of stimulus, the number of walruses responding, and the behavior exhibited were recorded. Each Beach Watch lasted two hours.

Stimuli Types:

<u>Visitor</u> <u>Observer</u> <u>Plane: flying, landing</u> <u>Boat: approaching, passing</u> <u>Rockfall</u> <u>Wildlife (note what type)</u> Walrus (use <u>I</u> for code) <u>Unknown</u> Non synchronous (double code or describe as necessary)

Behavioral Response to Human Activities

In the past at Cape Peirce, walruses have moved off the beach when boats or planes travel near hauled out animals (O'Neil and Haggblom 1987, Sheffield 1988, Jemison 1989 and 1991). Walrus response to boats and planes was collected opportunistically throughout the summer. In order to determine the degree of a response, walrus behavior was divided into three category levels, based on Salter (1979). The number of walruses responding at each level was recorded.

- Level 1: Walruses raise heads or move bodies, seen as a wave or ripple within a group of walruses.
- Level 3: Walruses move toward water, usually stopping on the beach or at the water line.
- Level 5: Walruses move directly into water, usually do not mill, and do not haul again for at least several hours.

The number of walruses responding at a particular level is multiplied by the value of that level. The product of these numbers determines the index category and associated degree of response (Hessing & Sheffield 1989).

INDEX	DEGREE OF RESPONSE
0-100	LOW
101-1000	MODERATE
1000+	HIGH

AERIAL SURVEYS

Surveys were flown along the northern Bristol Bay coast from mid May through August, in a Cessna 185 on floats, at an altitude of 300-500 feet and an airspeed of 110 knots.

Carcasses

Marine mammal carcass locations were mapped and degree of decay was estimated. The coastline between the Igushik River and Chagvan Bay was divided into 32 areas based on beach type (sand/gravel or rocky) and/or exposure. Islands (except for Hagemeister) were considered separate, single areas. Two of the four surveys covered the area from the Igushik River to Tvativak Bay.

Three walrus carcasses were marked (using rope and spray paint) in August and September of 1990. The carcasses were photographed once a week through the end of September, 1990. One carcass remained on the beach throughout the winter and was photographed five times in 1991.

Marine Mammals

Location and numbers of marine mammals were recorded on maps (scale: 1:250000) of the coast. The sea lion haulout at Cape Newenham was photographed with a 35mm Nikon camera, 135mm zoom lens. Color slide film, ASA 200 was used. Slides were projected onto white paper and the number of sea lions counted.

<u>SEALS</u>

Haulout/Nanvak Bay

An observation point established on North Spit in 1990 was used again in 1991 to census the seals hauled out on the mid-bay bars in Nanvak Bay. A Klepper kayak was used to cross Nanvak channel to North Spit. A secondary observation point 1/3 mile east of Lee's Landing was used when bad weather (usually high winds) made channel crossing risky or when seals were present on North Spit. Counts were made at or close to the lowest tide of the day (usually in the late afternoon or evening), primarily with a 600mm spotting scope, or occasionally with a pair of 8 x 23 binoculars. Data recorded were: date, time, weather, tide, number of seals hauled out, number in the water, number of pups, wounded or scarred seals. Seal scat was collected from the mid-bay bars and North Spit, approximately twice a month. Scat was stored in zip-lock bags and frozen at 0 degrees F as soon as possible for later analysis.

Harbor Seal Survey

Six coastal surveys were flown in cooperation with NMFS to determine harbor seal numbers in northern Bristol Bay. Surveys were flown during the peak of the molt (23 August-5 September) beginning 1-2 hours before low tide. All but the second survey were flown in a Cessna 185 on floats; the second survey was flown in a Cessna 185 on wheels. Surveys were flown at an altitude of 300 to 500 feet and an airspeed of 110 knots. The haulout on the southwestern side of Hagemeister Island was photographed with a 35mm Nikon camera with a 135mm zoom lens and color slide film, ASA 200. Slides were projected onto white

paper and the number of seals counted.

The 23 August survey covered the coast from the Igushik River to Asigyukpak Spit, where poor weather conditions ended the survey. On 28 August the coast from Asigyukpak Spit to Chagvan Bay was surveyed. The goal of the first and second surveys was to identify all haulout locations as well as count the number of seals. Subsequent surveys covered only the areas identified as haulout locations.

NORTHERN SEA LIONS

Numbers

The number of sea lions hauling out at Cape Newenham was monitored during aerial surveys (visual estimates and slides) and ground counts.

Sex and Age Composition

Sex and age composition data was collected during ground surveys. Four observation points were established on the cliffs overlooking sea lion haulout areas at Cape Newenham. Observations were made with 8 x 23 binoculars, and data recorded were: date, time, weather conditions (wind direction and speed, cloud clover, precipitation), total number of animals, number of juveniles (animals 1 to 4 years old), and number of adult males. Females with nursing young, flipper-tagged animals and sea lions entangled in plastic or netting were recorded and photographed. Sea lions were photographed with a 35mm Nikon camera, a 300mm lens or a 35mm Ricoh camera with a 200mm lens. Color slide or print film, ASA 64 or 100, was used.

RESULTS

WALRUSES

Numbers/Haulout Patterns

<u>Cape Peirce</u>: Walrus haulout beaches were censused daily at Cape Peirce from 25 April-26 September. The census was not done on 5 days during this period. Walruses were first observed hauled out at Cape Peirce on 25 April, but the numbers were low and sporadic until 2 June, after which time 100 animals or more were usually present on at least one of the beaches. The maximum number of walruses was 4008 on 12 September. Fifteen peaks in the number of walruses hauled out occurred between 2 June and 26 September (Fig. 3). Length of haulout periods (the number of days from one low count to the next) ranged from 6 days to 13 days with a mean length of 8.1 days. Number of days between peaks ranged from 5 to 17 with a mean of 7.3 days. No VHF or satellite-linked radio transmitters were heard or seen at Cape Peirce this year.

<u>Cape Newenham</u>: Walruses were observed hauled out on the north side of Cape Newenham 22 times from 11 May-20 October (Table 1). The high count at Cape Newenham was 870 on 5 July. Walruses most often hauled out on the beaches in Bird Rock Cove, occasionally in Whitey Cove (Fig. 2).

<u>Round Island</u>: The peak walrus count was 4637 on 5 July (Van Daele, 1991). Three aerial surveys were flown over Round Island after ADFG closed camp. The estimated number of walruses hauled out: 350 on 21 September, 2000 on 28 September and 325 on 9 October. One satellite transmitter (no. 8427) that was deployed in 1990 was seen at Round Island on 7 July (Sheffield, pers. comm.).

<u>Cape Seniavin</u>: Walruses were observed at Cape Seniavin 11 times from 7 May through 12 December (Table 2). The high estimate for the year was 1500-2000 walruses on 6 November (Seybert, pers. comm.).

Behavioral Observations

<u>Scans and Beach Watches</u>: Nine Scans and nine Beach Watches were conducted between 12 June and 18 August. Data collected have not been analyzed.

Behavioral Response to Human Activities

Sixteen aircraft and ten boats travelled past hauled out walruses causing them to respond. Two occurrences were at Odobenus Cove, six on South Firebaugh Beach and eighteen on Maggy Beach. There were three degrees of response ranging from low to high (Table 3). One party hunted at Cape Peirce this season.

Aerial Surveys

Four aerial surveys of northern Bristol Bay were flown 16 May, 10 June, 17 July and 23-28 August. The first two surveys began at Tvativak Bay on the northwest edge of the Nushagak Peninsula; the last two surveys began at the Igushik River in Nushagak Bay. The coast from Chagvan Bay to Carter Spit was not surveyed this year.

<u>Carcasses</u>: The Cape Peirce and Round Island haulouts were not surveyed for carcasses during the aerial surveys. The Maggy Beach section of area 17 was surveyed from the ground on 1 August, when 29 carcasses were counted on the sand beach between the base of the cliffs and the mouth of Nanvak Bay.

Six areas were identified where walrus carcasses concentrate: area 1 (the tip of Cape Constantine), area 2 (the southwestern side of Cape Constantine), area 14 (Asigyukpak Spit to Shaiak Island), area 17 (Cape Peirce Point to the northern end of North Spit, during ground survey), area 25 (the southeastern side of Hagemeister Island), area 29 (Crooked Island) (Fig. 4). The highest concentration occurred along the southwestern side of Cape Constantine (mean: 13.5, standard deviation: 1.5). The maximum number of carcasses observed during a survey was 49 on the 23-28 August survey (Table 4). All the concentration areas were on sand/gravel beaches. Exposure varied at each concentration area: east, southeast, south, southwest and west.

Data collected on deposition, duration and decomposition of carcasses have not been analyzed.

SEALS

Nanvak Bay

<u>Haulout Patterns</u>: Seals hauling out in Nanvak Bay were censused daily from 24 April-26 September. The census was not done on 8 days during this period. Seals began hauling out on the mid-bay bars on 3 May. The bars were used exclusively until 17 August when seals began to use Channel Bar and 22 August when seals began to use North Spit. Mid-bay bars and North Spit were the most heavily used haulout areas from late August to late September.

<u>Numbers</u>: The number of seals in Nanvak Bay increased throughout the season (Fig. 5). In northern Bristol Bay, molting probably peaks in late August and early September (Johnson 1976). The peak haulout count for the molting period as well as the high count for the year occurred on 3 September with a total of 400 seals in Nanvak Bay. Both harbor and spotted seals haul out in Nanvak Bay, however the percentage of each was not determined in 1991. Six to ten seals were often seen hauled out on the rocks below Rugged Point east of Cape Peirce Point, though this area was not censused regularly. Seal scat collected in 1990 and 1991 has not yet been analyzed. <u>Pupping</u>: The first spotted seal pup observed in Nanvak Bay was found dead on mid-bay bar on 21 May. The pup was probably born only a few hours before discovery; part of the placenta was still attached to the body. It is not known if the pup was born live as there were no signs in the sand that the pup had moved since birth. Both a boat and a plane disturbed the seals off the bars around the time the pup was born.

The first harbor seal pup was seen on 4 June. The number of pups increased until a high count of 21 was recorded on 25 June (Fig. 6). The peak haulout during the pupping period was 151 seals on 14 June.

Northern Bristol Bay Haulout Locations

The coastal surveys identified all haulout areas of harbor (and possibly spotted) seals in northern Bristol Bay (Fig. 7). Small (<100 animals), regularly-used hauling areas are: Metervik Bay, Rocky Point, Estus Point, Pyrite Point, Rugged Point, the northern and southern coast of Cape Newenham, the western coast of Security Cove, the north-eastern coast of Hagemeister Island, the western coast of Summit Island, the southern and western coasts of High Island, the southern end of Crooked Island and Black Rock. The two largest (>100 animals) haulout areas are in Nanvak Bay and on the southwestern tip of Hagemeister Island.

Harbor Seal Survey

Six surveys were flown in cooperation with NMFS during the peak molting period (late August-early September) to determined the number of seals along the coast. The high count for the six surveys was 953 seals on 29 August, the mean was 750 seals.

NORTHERN SEA LIONS

Cape Newenham

<u>Numbers</u>: The northern sea lion haulout at the tip of Cape Newenham was surveyed twenty times from 3 April to 24 October. The peak sea lion count was 1295 on 16 May. The number of animals hauling out began declining after the peak, however there were still 600-800 sea lions using the area through late June (Table 5, Fig. 8). One mother and pup were seen three consecutive days on 3-5 July (Martin, pers. comm.). The pair was hauled out separately from the rest of the sea lions.

Sex and Age Composition: Sex and age composition data was collected during ground observations on three days in late June and again on three days in late July/early August. 10% to 23% of the total sea lions observed in late June were juveniles (1-4 years old). In late July/early August, the number of juveniles ranged from 8% to 17% (Table 6).

Total number of adult males present in late June ranged from 12 to 21. Two or three adult males were present in late July/early August. Sentry Point and White Rock haulout areas were used at least through early September. No animals were present on Solstice Beach or Lands End by late July.

Tagged Animals: Eight tagged sea lions were seen. All tags were red plastic and placed in the fore flippers. Numbers on the tags were extremely difficult to read, especially when dry. Only three times were numbers identified: #188 was observed on 22 June and 24 June, and # 203 was observed on 4 August. Both were males, tagged as pups on Ugamak Island on 2 July, 1990 (Merrick, pers. comm.). All but one of the tagged sea lions were seen from the White Rock observation point, the closest observation area to hauled out sea lions.

Other Observations: On four occasions female sea lions were seen nursing juveniles, 1-2 years old. Six times sea lions were observed with plastic or metal material encircling the neck (one individual was seen three consecutive days). In each case the material was cutting into the animal's neck, with folds of skin hanging over the band.

<u>Cape Peirce</u>

From 25 April through 11 August one to six sea lions were occasionally seen in the Cape Peirce Point-Odobenus Cove area. On two occasions one or two sea lions hauled out on the rocks in Odobenus Cove. On 11 August a sub-adult sea lion hauled out three times onto South Firebaugh Beach, in the middle of several hundred walruses. Each time the sea lion came ashore, it growled toward the walruses, then either got chased off the beach or left on its own. When in the water, the sea lion approached small groups of walruses, until it was chased. The sea lion circled and approached the walruses again. The sea lion remained in the cove for ten minutes before departing.

Chagvan Bay

During ground observations from 30 April through 11 May, 1-20 sea lions were observed swimming near the mouth of Chagvan Bay. On 11 May herring were seen in the bay along with 50-75 sea lions actively pursuing and feeding on the herring. Sixty sea lions were seen during a flight over the bay on 14 May, it appeared they were feeding.

Round Island

The peak sea lion count was 534 on 15 May (Sheffield, pers. comm.). Two surveys were flown over the sea lion haulout at Round Island after ADFG closed their camp. On 9 October approximately 180 sea lions were observed and on 21 September approximately 100. Two pups were born on the island; one died of unknown causes (Van Daele, 1991). Two flipper-tagged animals were observed, and there were 11 sightings of sea lions with debris around their necks (Van Daele, 1991).

DISCUSSION

WALRUSES

Limitations of Data

Inconsistencies exist in the walrus data collected at Cape Peirce from 1981 through 1986. The first walrus activity documented at Cape Peirce during this century occurred in late November 1981 when approximately 2500 walruses were observed on Maggy Beach (Annual Narrative, TNWR 1981). Several aerial surveys were flown in 1982 and 1983 but daily ground counts were not begun until 1984 when a field camp was staffed from June to September. From 1984 through 1986 untrained volunteers rotated through the field camp and censused the walruses, producing inconsistent counts. For example, a photo was enlarged of the peak haulout in 1986. The ground estimate proved to be 35% to 40% higher than the estimate from the photo (11800 ground estimate vs 7100-7500 photo estimate). As a result, the 1984-1986 peak estimates are probably biased.

The primary purpose of the Cape Peirce field camp from 1984 through 1986 was to maintain a presence in order to deter wasteful take of walruses (Hotchkiss, pers. comm.). Walrus counts became more reliable from 1987 through 1991 as personnel at Cape Peirce remained the entire season, focused on obtaining accurate counts, and had better methodological training.

The Round Island walrus numbers are also difficult to analyze. Changes in

personnel on the island and the inability to census the entire island daily result in inconsistent or incomplete haulout data (Hills pers. comm.).

With these limitations in mind, the haulout numbers from Cape Peirce and Round Island have been used to estimate numbers, general patterns in haulout behavior, and population trends over time.

Numbers/Haulout Patterns

<u>Cape Peirce</u>: The number of walruses using the Cape Peirce haulout steadily increased from 1981 through 1985, when a high count of 12,500 walruses was recorded. Numbers declined from 1986 through 1990. The 1990 peak of 1474 was the lowest recorded since the haulout was re-established in 1981. In 1991 the number of walruses hauling out increased over the two previous years, to a peak of 4008.

In 1989 and 1990 walruses primarily hauled out on South Firebaugh Beach and Odobenus Cove, the smaller, more protected beaches below the cliffs. Maggy Beach, a large, sandy, exposed beach where typically many more walruses haul out, was not used until August in 1989 and 1990. In 1991 walruses began hauling out on this beach on 27 June. Used only 27 days in 1989 and 12 days in 1990, Maggy Beach was used 53 days in 1991.

Seasonal peaks at Cape Peirce typically occur later in the year (July-August) than do the peaks at Round Island (May-early July) (Fig. 9 & 10). This may be due in part to the walruses' movement north in the fall to join the females that are moving south ahead of the ice edge (Fay 1982).

<u>Cape Newenham</u>: Information from technicians stationed at the Cape Newenham Air Force Base from 1982 through 1984 provided insight into walrus activity at Cape Newenham during those years. An Alascom technician stated that during the spring and fall months several thousand walruses hauled out on the beaches along the north side of Cape Newenham. Occasionally there were "so many walruses they would stretch from Whitey Cove east all the way to the beach below the runway" (Miller, pers. comm.). Miller had at least ten photographs of these larger haulouts. Apparently when the resupply plane (Twin Otter) came in, the animals remained on the beach, and "didn't seem bothered at all by the plane", even though the plane flew directly over the haulout when landing (Miller, pers. comm.). Almost daily while walruses were hauled out, people from the base would drive 3-wheelers to the haulout beaches, then walk slowly down the beach, scaring the walruses into the water, looking for ivory.

From 1988 through 1990 few walruses were seen at Cape Newenham. Occasionally animals hauled out in Bird Rock Cove. In 1991 walruses hauled out on the north side of Cape Newenham throughout the summer.

Currents, tides, proximity to feeding areas, frequency of disturbances, traditional locations, and population levels may all influence haulout choice. It seems that the Pacific walrus population was at its peak in the late 1970s and early 1980s and during this time new haulouts were being established and old haulouts re-established (Fay et al. 1984). This may in part explain walrus activity in the Cape Peirce-Cape Newenham area during this time.

Haulout Peaks vs Yellow-Fin Sole Fishery

A comparison of monthly peaks from 1985 through 1991 at both Cape Peirce and Round Island show fluctuations in the number of walruses hauling out from year to year. A potential cause of these fluctuations is the presence of the yellow-fin sole fishery in northern Bristol Bay. In 1987 the yellow-fin sole fishery first began fishing in the waters near Round Island. ADFG personnel on Round Island reported hearing loud noises from yellow-fin sole vessels operating near the island in 1987 and again in 1988 when the fishery returned (Hessing and Brant 1988). At Round Island, the peak number of walruses declined from 1986 to 1987. At Cape Peirce the number of walruses also declined. In 1988 the number of walruses hauling out at Round Island and Cape Peirce was similar to 1987.

In 1989 NPFMC voted to close the waters within 12 miles of Cape Peirce and Round Island to the yellow-fin sole fishery. In 1989 and 1990 the yellow-fin sole fishery did not return to northern Bristol Bay. The number of walruses hauling out at Round Island increased in 1989 and was again high in 1990, while numbers at Cape Peirce declined both years.

In 1991 the yellow-fin sole boats returned to northern Bristol Bay and once again were active in the waters near Round Island. The number of walruses at Round Island decreased; the peak for the season was 4637. ADFG staff on the island again reported hearing noises from the vessels on calm days. Up to 27 vessels were seen at one time from the island in 1991; however, vessel types were not identified (Sheffield, pers. comm.). At Cape Peirce, the haulout peak was 4008, the highest peak since 1988.

In August of 1991 the NPFMC voted to continue the 12 mile closure indefinitely, and to allow a three mile transit zone around Right Hand Point. Despite NPFMC's restrictions, it seems likely that yellow-fin sole vessels are still a potential cause in the change in distribution and number of walruses hauling out in northern Bristol Bay. Low numbers at Round Island have occurred each year the fishery was present. Feeding areas, migration routes and/or travel corridors may be obstructed or negatively impacted by the presence of the yellow-fin sole fleet. As of 6 November nine boats linked to the yellow-fin sole fishery were cited by the Coast Guard for violating the 12-mile closure around Round Island (Dubois, pers. comm).

Carcasses

In both 1990 and 1991 walrus carcass concentration areas were predominantly on sand/gravel beaches. In 1990 eight concentration areas were identified, most with a southeast exposure. The highest concentration of carcasses occurred along the southeastern side of Hagemeister Island, with a mean of 12 carcasses. A maximum of 54 carcasses were observed during the 3-4 August survey.

In 1991 six concentration areas were identified; four of these six areas were also identified in 1990. Exposure of these six concentration areas varied from east to south to west, and the highest concentration of carcasses occurred along the southwestern side of Cape Constantine, with a mean of 13.5. This Cape Constantine concentration area was not identified as a concentration area in 1990. A maximum of 49 carcasses were observed during the 23-28 August survey.

Currents, tides, and winds probably play a significant role in the movement of carcasses in the water and in the location of their deposition. During high tides and storms carcasses can be washed higher on sand/gravel beaches than on rocky beaches and are likely to remain there longer.

SEALS

Limitations of Data

In 1975 seals in Nanvak Bay were studied intensively (Johnson 1976). From 1976 to 1983 occasional aerial surveys were flown over Nanvak Bay, but not until 1984 were ground counts resumed. In order to accurately census the midbay bars it is necessary to cross Nanvak channel and view the haulout from a high point on North Spit. From 1984 through 1988 the seal population was censused only from the Cape Peirce side and not daily. In 1989 counts were made daily, but not until 1990 were the seals counted using both North Spit and Cape Peirce observation points.

Numbers/Haulout Patterns

In 1975 an estimated 3100 seals were present in the bay in late August. The maximum number of pups observed was 36. Channel bar was used primarily as a birth site in June then used heavily during the molt. In 1991 the peak count for the season was 400 seals including 21 pups. Channel bar was only used five times in August and September. Haulout patterns in 1991 were similar to those observed in 1990, when the peak count was 470, with a high of 19 pups. Channel bar was used 5 times in late September of 1990.

The decline in the number of seals in Nanvak Bay parallels population trends observed in many parts of Alaska. A variety of factors may play a role in the decline, including (Lowry 1990):

- 1. Changes in distribution
- 2. Disease or pollution
- 3. Subsistence harvest
- 4. Entanglement in nets or other debris
- 5. Incidental fishery take
- 6. Direct killing by fishermen
- 7. Changes in prey abundance and availability
- 8. Displacement by walruses hauling out at Cape Peirce (Fay, pers.comm.)

Throughout the season both boat and plane traffic, including the Refuge boat and plane, caused seals to leave the haulout.

The Nanvak Bay seal haulout is unique: it is the northern-most pupping area for harbor seals in Bristol Bay and as the season progresses, the number of seals increases until it peaks in late August/early September during molting. These factors coupled with the population decline makes the Nanvak haulout both interesting and important.

SEA LIONS

Peak counts of sea lions at Cape Newenham and Round Island occurred in mid-May. On 16 May, 1295 sea lions hauled out at Cape Newenham; on 15 May, 534 sea lions hauled out at Round Island. Herring was first sighted in northern Bristol Bay on 6 May. The commercial herring fishery had openings on 10 and 11 May, and ADFG's last herring survey was on 8 June when an estimated 14,000 tons of fish were spotted (Skrade, pers. comm.). It is probable that herring abundance and location in northern Bristol Bay influence sea lion numbers and distribution.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1. Develop a comprehensive inter-/intra-agency inventory plan to monitor marine mammals in northern Bristol Bay.
- 2. Continue monitoring walrus haulouts at Cape Peirce, coordinating methods and timing with ADFG. During peak haulouts at Cape Peirce and Round Island conduct aerial surveys of the Cape Seniavin and Cape Newenham haulouts.
- 3. In cooperation with NMFS, continue monitoring seals at Nanvak Bay. Determine their movement patterns in Bristol Bay with marked individuals. Analyze the seal scat collected at the Nanvak Bay haulout to determine diet composition. Continue scat collection each year to detect changes in prey species.
- 4. In cooperation with NMFS, continue monitoring the sea lion population at Cape Newenham. Determine movement patterns in Bristol Bay through marked individuals.
- 5. Continue monthly coastal survey flights to monitor marine mammal haulouts and carcass locations and numbers. Establish trend count areas where carcasses are most concentrated and survey these areas bimonthly. Significant changes in the number of carcasses in Bristol Bay in summer may indicate a change in the mortality rate. Significant increases in walrus mortality could be quickly realized and action taken to determine the cause of the problem. Trends in the Bristol Bay walrus population may be indicative of trends occurring on a larger scale and could prove valuable for walrus managers.
- 6. Develop a study plan to analyze the effects of disturbance from aircraft and boat traffic on walruses hauled out at Cape Peirce. Continue efforts to minimize boat and aircraft disturbance related to commercial fishing, public use and refuge activities.
- 7. Analyze the walrus carcass photographs taken at Cape Peirce to determine approximate stages of decay.
- 8. Compile and computerize sea lion data from Round Island to determine if number of sea lions hauling out has declined.

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PERSONAL COMMUNICATIONS

- Dubois, T. U.S. Coast Guard, Anchorage, Alaska. In communication with L. Van Daele, Alaska Dept. of Fish and Game, Dillingham, Alaska.
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Sheffield, G. Alaska Dept. of Fish and Game, Fairbanks, Alaska.

Skrade, J. Alaska Dept. of Fish and Game, Commercial Fisheries, Dillingham, Alaska.

Taylor, K. Alaska Dept. of Fish and Game, Fairbanks, Alaska.

Table 1.

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I. Number of walruses hauled out at Cape Newenham, southwest Alaska, May - October 1991.

Date	<pre># of Walruses</pre>	Location
5/11	15	BRC
5/27	30	BRC
6/9	80	BRC
6/10	285	Whitey
6/20	450	Whitey
6/20	12	BRC
6/21	450	Whitey
6/22	450	Whitey
7/5	870	BRC
7/6	295	BRC
7/21	660	BRC
7/23	260	BRC
7/25	60	BRC
7/27	50	BRC
7/29	470	BRC
7/30	400	BRC
7/31	145	BRC
8/2	300	BRC
8/4	100	BRC
8/7	135	BRC
8/12	5	Whitey
8/18	75	BRC
10/20	3	BRC

BRC = Bird Rock Cove Whitey = Whitey Cove

Table 2. Number of walruses hauled out at Cape Seniavin, southwest Alaska, May - November 1991.

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Date	# of Walruses
5/7	300
5/15	300
5/23	300
5/25	300
6/21	108
6/24	1169
6/25	1105
9/1	135
10/25	800-1000
11/6	1500-2000
12/12	300

Date & Loc'n	Vehicle	Alt (Ft)	Lateral Distance (estim)	∦ of Wal h/o	# Walrus Responding at each Level	Degree of Response	
5/23 OC	Boat	N/A	300′	133	L1: 18, L5: 115	Moderate	
6/10 SFB	24' Boat	N/A	N/D	156	L3: 94, L5: 62	Moderate	
6/27 MB	24' Boat	N/A	N/D	537	L1: 86, L3: 30, L5: 276	High	
7/2 SFB	Plane	N/D	N/D	52	L1: 25, L5: 2	Low	
7/4 OC	Bow Picker	N/A	N/D	1	L5: 1	Low	
7/5 MB	24' Boat	N/A	1/2 mi	318	L1: 75, L3: 33, L5: 125	Moderate	
7/5 SFB	24' Boat	N/A	1/4 mi	1443	L1: 30	Low	
7/22 MB	24' Boat Plane?	N/A N/D	3/4 mi N/D	707	L1: 350, L3: 340, L5: 11	High	
7/23 MB	24' Boat	N/A	1/2 mi	1230	L1: 350, L3: 100	Moderate	
7/25 SFB	Plane	N/D	N/D	211	L1: 211	Moderate	
8/5 MB	Cessna 185	100	over head	695	L3: 595, L5: 100	High	
8/5 SFB	Cessna	75	500′	348	L1: 76, L3: 38, L5: 234	High	
8/6 MB	Plane	N/D	N/D	2233	L1: 52, L3: 28, L5: 89	Moderate	
8/7 MB	24' Boat	N/A	1/2 mi	1100	L1: 111, L3: 51, L5: 351	High	
8/14 MB	Cherokee	N/D	3/4 mi	1381	L1: 59, L3: 35, L5: 110	Moderate	

Table 3. Walrus response to aircraft and boats at Cape Peirce, southwest Alaska, 1991.

Table continued on next page

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Table 3. Continued.

Date & Loc'n	Vehicle	Alt (ft)	Lateral Distance (estim)	# of Wal h/o	# Walrus Responding at each Level	Degree of Response
8/15 MB	Cherok ee	600	1/2 mi	917	L1: 364, L3: 40, L5: 46	Moderate
8/16 MB	Cheroke e	50- 100	3/4 mi	371	L1: 133, L3: 10, L5: 64	Moderate
8/18 MB	2-Super Cubs	300- 500	1/2 mi	780	L3: 20, L5: 229	High
8/20 MB	Plane	N/D	N/D	2011	L1: 58	Low
8/20 MB	C-130	1000- 1500	1/3 mi	1800	L1: 1350, L3: 150, L5: 10	High
8/21 MB	Cessna 185	50	3/4 mi	2937	L1: 2900	High
8/22 SFB	Lund Skiff	N/A	1/4 mi	92	L1: 82, L5: 10	Moderate
9/8 MB	Plane	>2000	N/D	50	L3: 50	Moderate
9/10 MB	DC-6	>3000	over head	819	L1: 35, L3: 30, L5: 34	Moderate
9/11 MB	Jet	>5000	over head	1735	L1: 200, L3: 75	Moderate
9/21 MB	Grumman Widgeon	50	1/2 mi	2580	L3: 60, L5: 325	High

OC =	Odobenus Cove
SFB =	South Firebaugh Beach
MB =	Maggy Beach
Alt =	Altitude
h/o =	Hauled out
N/A =	Does Not Apply
N/D =	No Data
L1 =	Level 1 (walruses raise heads)
L3 =	Level 3 (walruses move toward water)
L5 =	Level 5 (walruses enter water)

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Number of walrus carcasses observed per area during coastal survey flights from the Igushik River to Chagvan Bay, southwest Alaska, May-August 1991. Table 4.

1 AREA	5/16	6/10	7/17	8/23	N	MEAN	STAND DEV.
0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17* 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	$ \begin{array}{c} - \\ - \\ - \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0$	$ \begin{array}{c} -\\ -\\ -\\ 0\\ 0\\ 0\\ 0\\ 0\\ 0\\ 0\\ 0\\ 0\\ 0\\ 0\\ 0\\ 0\\$	0 5 12 0 0 1 1 0 0 0 0 1 2 0 0 0 0 1 2 0 0 0 0	0 5 15 0 2 2 2 0 0 0 0 1 3 2 1 0 0 0 1 3 2 1 0 0 0 1 1 0 0 0 1 1 0 0 0 1 3 2 1 0 0 0 0 1 5 0 0 2 2 2 0 0 0 0 1 5 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0	2 2 2 2 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4	$\begin{array}{c} 0.0\\ 10.0\\ 13.5\\ 0.0\\ 0.8\\ 0.8\\ 0.8\\ 0.0\\ 0.0\\ 0.0\\ 0.0$	$\begin{array}{c} 0.0\\ 0.0\\ 1.5\\ 0.0\\ 0.8\\ 0.8\\ 0.8\\ 0.0\\ 0.0\\ 0.0\\ 0.0$
TOTAL	17	23	42	49			

1 = see Figure 4 for areas
* = Cape Peirce section of this area not surveyed. A ground survey on 1 August recorded 29 carcasses on Maggy Beach.

Date	Estimate	Slide/Grnd Cnt	Count Type
3 April	70		Aerial
16 May	1000	1295*	Aerial
24 May		658	Ground
25 M ay		483	Ground
28 May	550	818*	Aerial
10 June	525	791*	Aerial
21 June		599	Ground
22 June		682	Ground
24 June		649	Ground
17 July	450	457*	Aerial
27 July		373	Ground
29 July		314	Ground
30 July	450	370 *	Aerial
4 August		231	Ground
29 August	450	457*	Aerial
30 August	600	412	Aerial
3 September	550		Aerial
5 September	500	388*	Aerial
9 October	325	241**	Aerial
24 October	400		Aerial

Table 5. Number of northern sea lions observed at Cape Newenham, southwest Alaska, April-October 1991.

--- = no data
* = slides (haulout photographed during aerial surveys)
** = minimum count (blurry slides)

Table 6. Number of juvenile, adult male, and total number of northern sea lions hauled out per beach area at Cape Newenham, southwest Alaska, June-August 1991.

		6/21	6/22	6/24	7/27	7/29	8/4
S O L S T I C E	JV	30	8*	9*	0	0	о
S	АМ	4	4	4	0	0	0
I	TL	97	111	98	о	0	0
E	₽J	31	*	*	-	_	-
S E N T R Y	JU	36	8*	10*	21	36	12
T	АМ	2	8	4	1	1	2
Y	TL	180	226	225	205	151	142
P T	ŧЈ	20	*	*	10	24	8
W H	JU	37	37	20	20	12	6
I T E	АМ	3	5	3	2	1	0
	TL	212	209	199	168	139	78
R O C	₽J	17	18	10	12	9	8
ĸ							ж.
L A	JU	20	23	5	0	о	о
N D S	АМ	3	4	2	О	0	0
	TL	93	84	50	о	о	о
E N D	₽J	22	27	10	-	~	_
ME.	AN %J	23	23	10	11	17	8

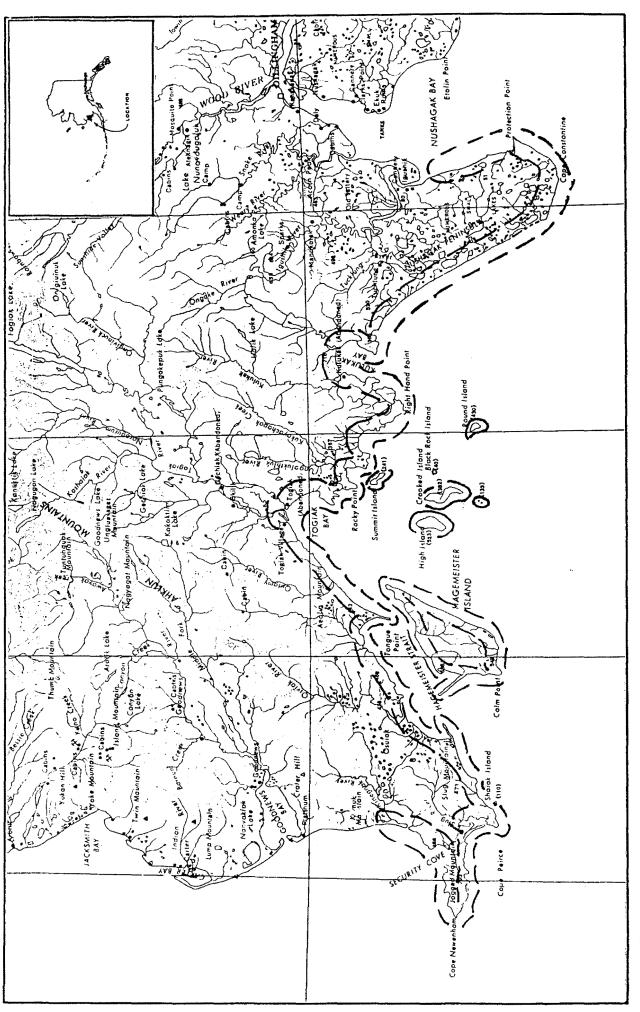
JV = Juvenile animals

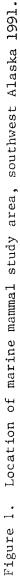
AM = Adult male

TL = Total number of sea lions hauled out

%J = Percentage of juvenile animals

* = Incomplete census





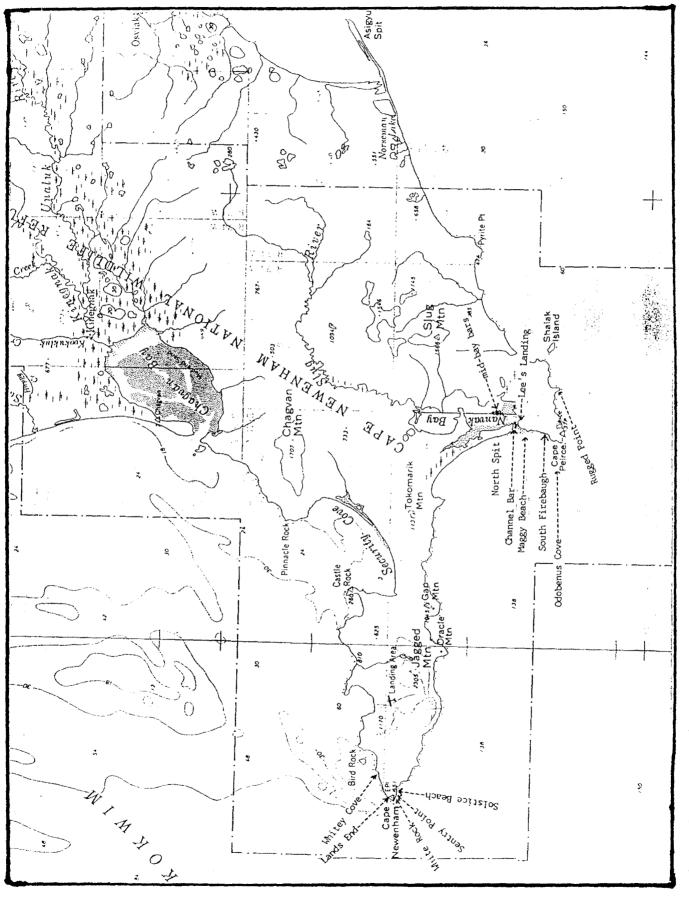
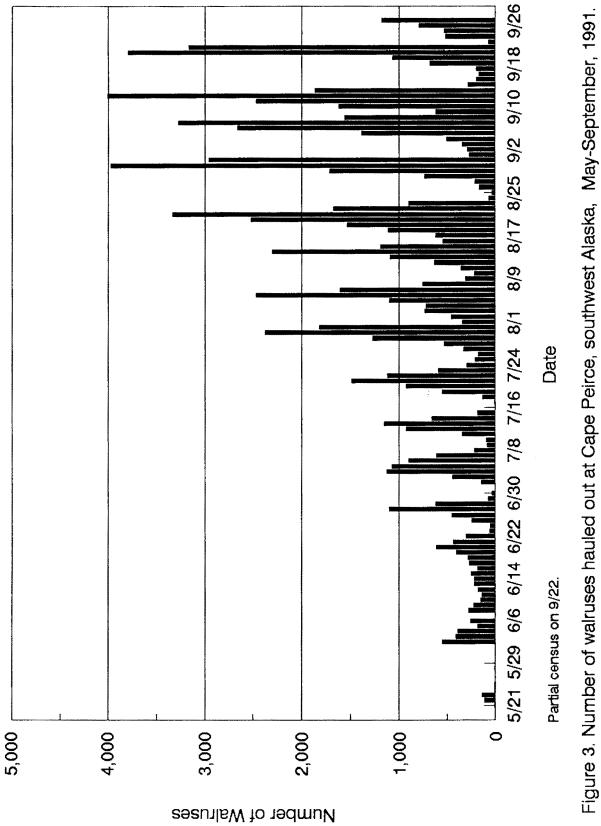
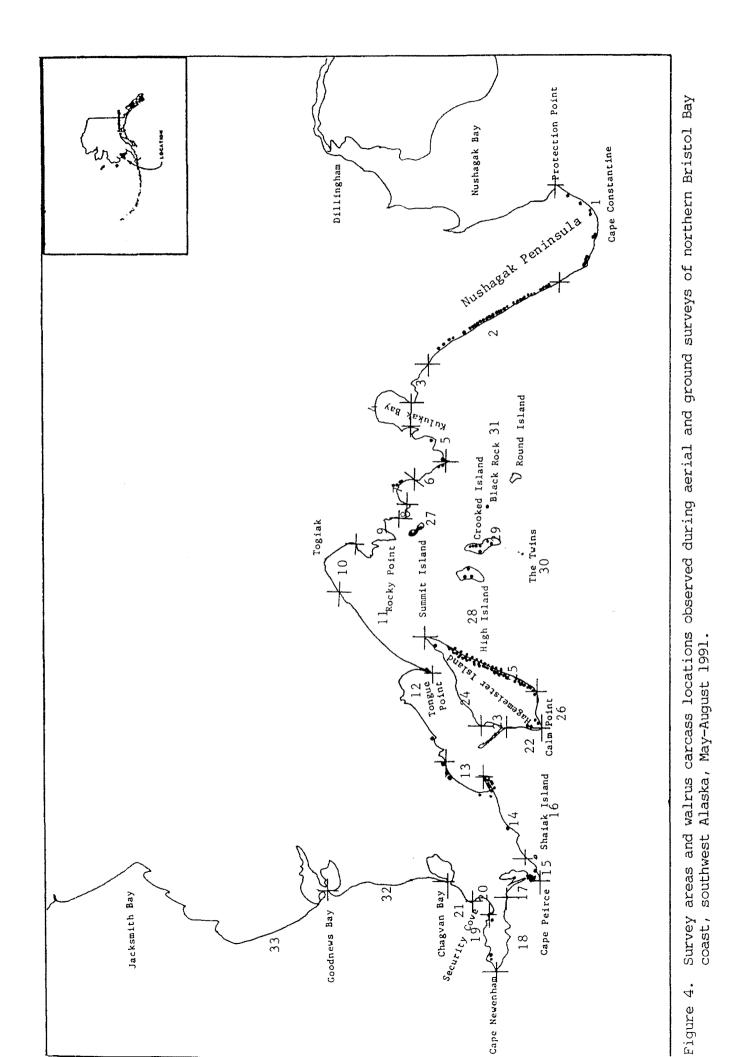
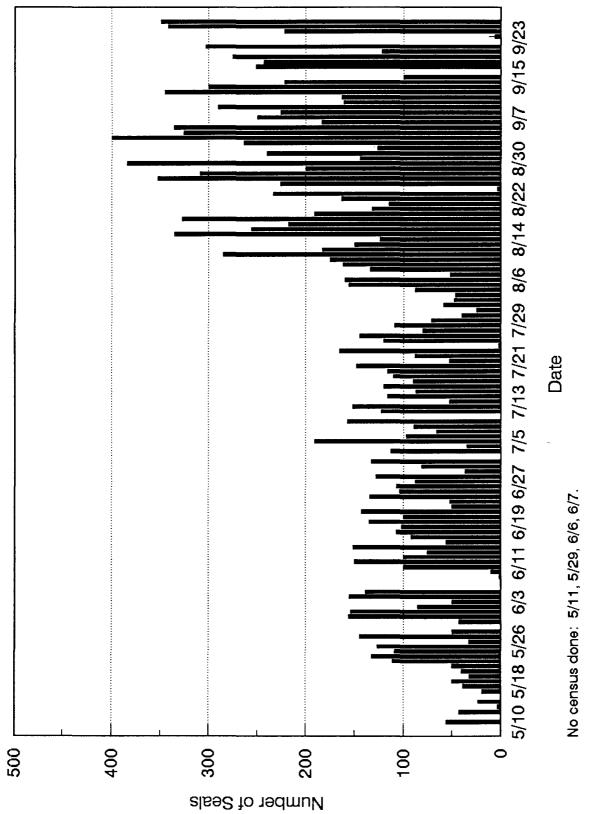


Figure 2. Cape Peirce-Cape Newenham, southwest Alaska.









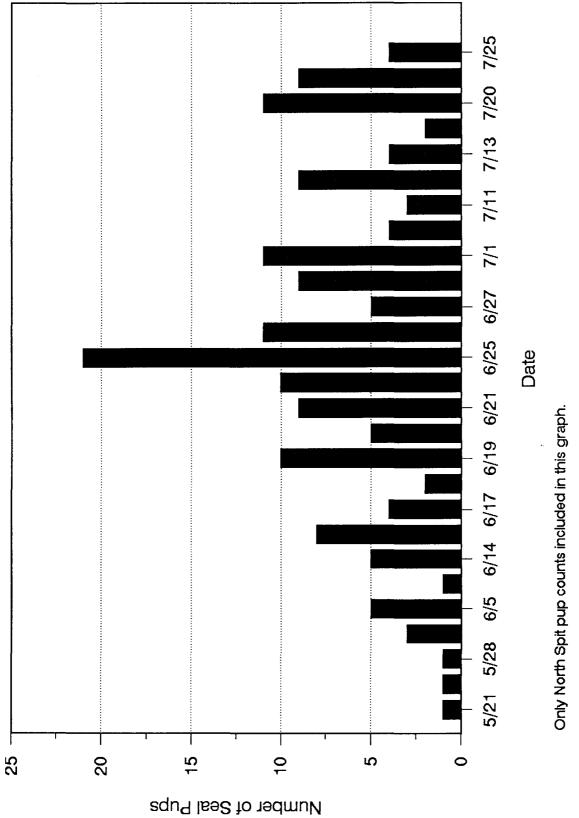
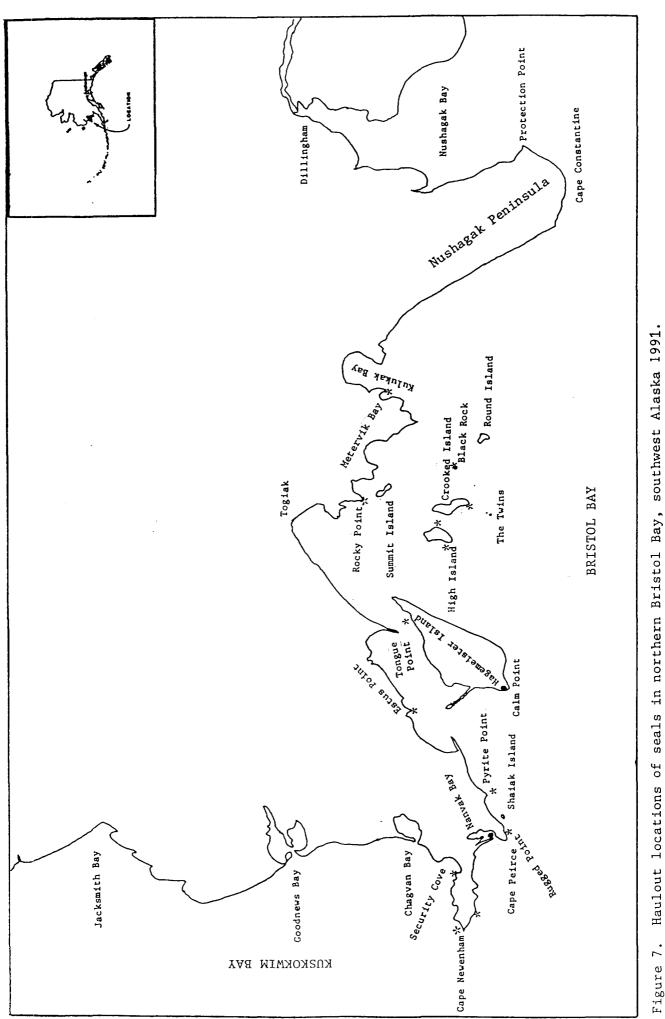
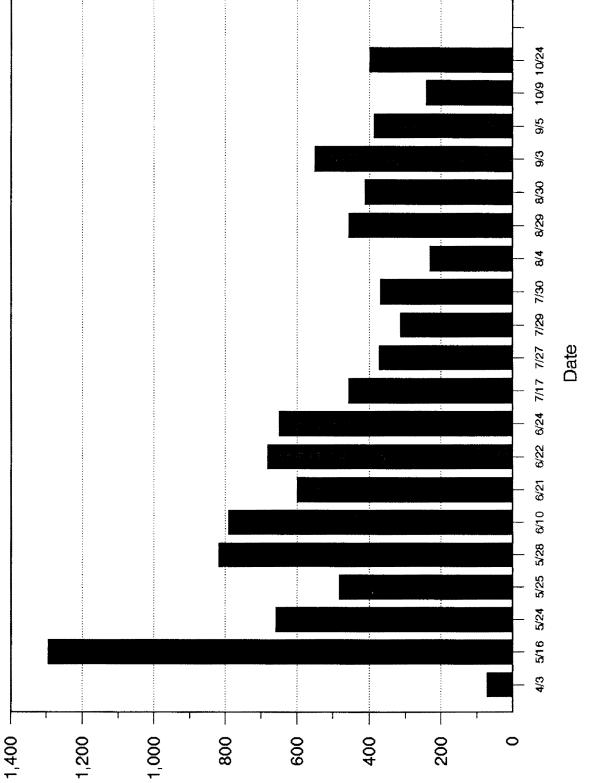
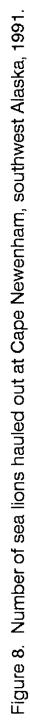


Figure 6. Number of seal pups in Nanvak Bay, southwest Alaska, May-July, 1991.

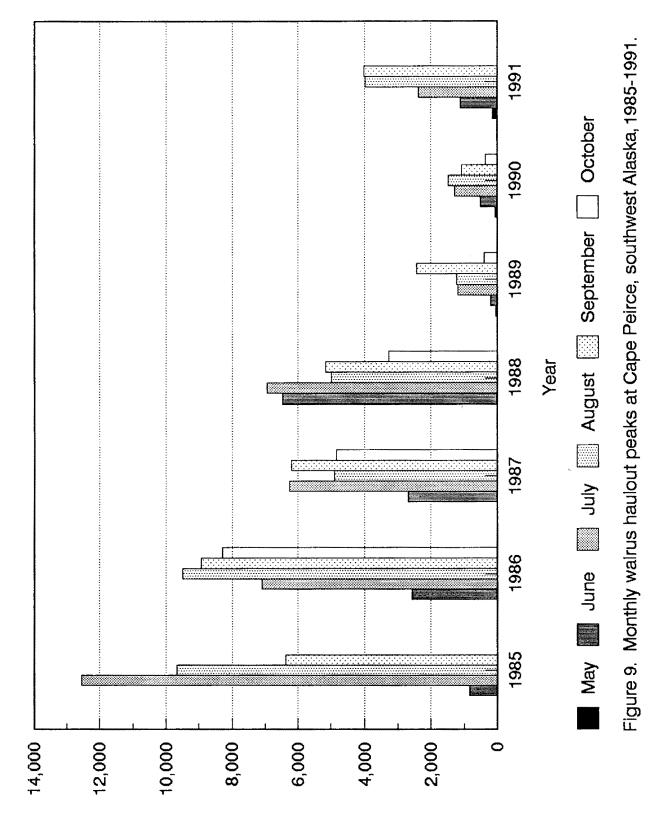


* = small concentrations (100 seals) • = large concentrations (100 seals)

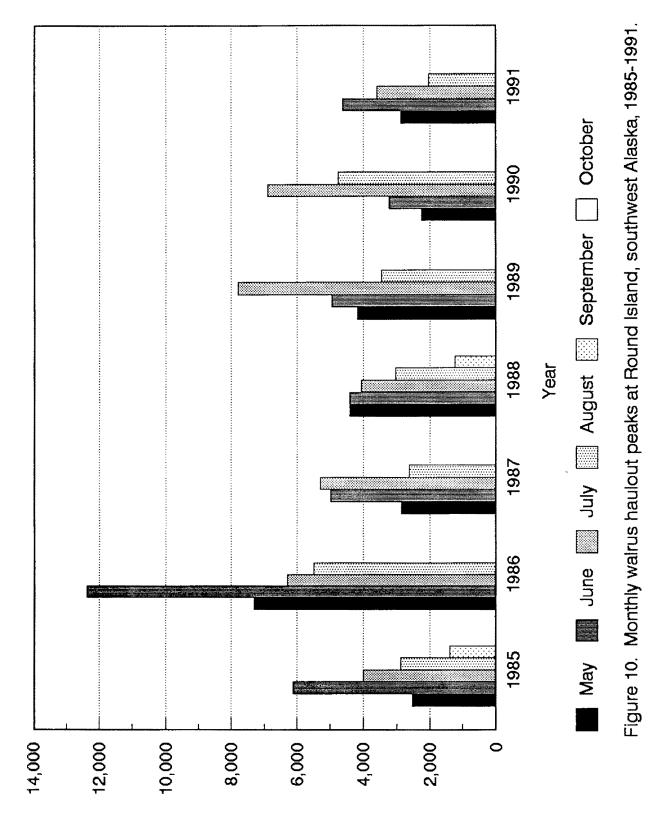




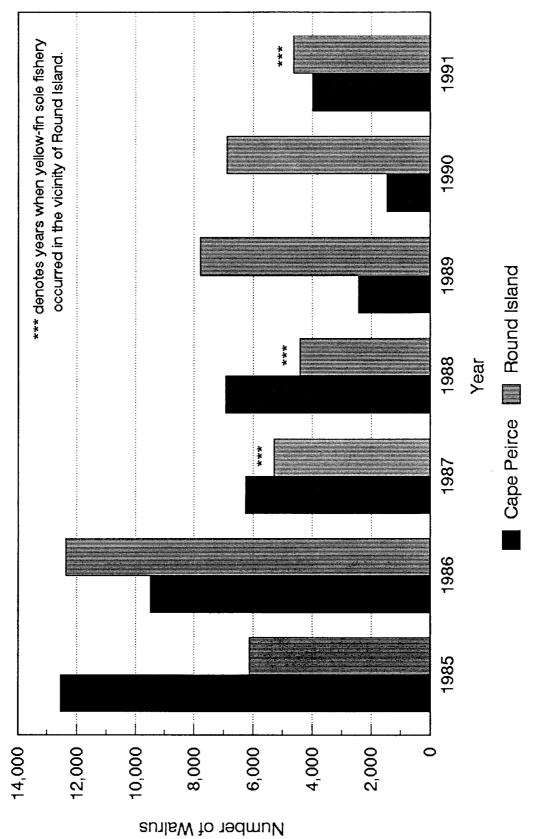
Number of Sea Lions

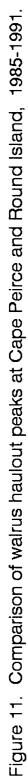


Number of Walruses



Number of Walruses





<u> </u>							ril - S					•			
			CLD	WND	WND		BAROM	ма	MI			LOC'N	СР	CP LND	CP TOT
	25 26	1 0	2 2	13 5	3 3	0		41			1424 1030		2	93	95 0
	27	1	1	15	4	0		•				SFB	0		1
	28 29	1		10 1	3						1600 1545		4 0	0	4 0
	30 1	U	L	-	,	1		40	55	1	1242	ALL	U	U	0
5	2	1	1	17	2	0						ALL	0	0	ō
5 5	3 4	1	1	17	3	0		46	35	1	2000	ALL	0	0	0 0
5	5	2	2	20	3						1100		0	0	0
5 5	6 7	2 2	2 1	7 3	3 3	1 0			37		1230 1700		1 0	0 0	1 0
5	8	-	-			Ŭ		Q 2	00	0	1,00		Ŭ	Ŭ	ŏ
5	9 10	1 2	2 2	13 13	2 7	1 1			34 32		1700 1900		0 0	0 0	0 0
	11	2	2	12	,	Т		42	32	3	1900	ALL	0	0	0
5	12	1	2	3	6						1300		0	0	0
	13 14	1 2	1 1	10 17	7 7	0					1605	OC SFB	1 3	2 0	3 3
	14	∠ 3		35	8	0		40	34	3	1700	ALL	0	0	0
5	16	2	1	25	9	ō		46	35	3	1730	ALL	ō	ŏ	ŏ
	17	1	2	15	3	1					1800		0	0	0
	18 19	2 2	1 1	40 35	8 8	0			31		180 1700		0	2 0	2 0
	20	1	1	7	8	ŏ			36		1930		ŏ	ŏ	ŏ
	21	1	0	7	7	0		55	35	4		SFB,OC		5	6
	22 23	1 1	1 0	3 3	6 9	0 0			27		2000	OC SFB,OC	27 0	88 139	115 139
	23	1	1	16	3	0		54	32	23	1300	ALL	6	139	216
5	25	1	2	10	3	1		44	39	3	1200	ALL	2	6	8
	26	2	2	30	4	1						ALL	1	0	1
	27 28	2 2	2 1	17 17	4 8	1 0			37		1215 1515		1 0		3 2
	29	3		40	8						1040		Ō	ō	ō
	30	3		40	8			40			1130		0	0	0
5 6	31 1	3	2 1	35 25	7 8	1 0		40 40			1345 1100		1 5	0	1 5
	2	1		27		ŏ						SFB,OC			
6	3	1	2	27	3	1		46	40	3	1815	SFB,OC	0	414	414
6 6	4 5	0 1	2 1	10 10	3 3	1 0			42 35			SFB,OC SFB,OC	25 3	370 184	395 187
6 6	6 7	1	1	5	7	ŏ			41			SFB,OC	4	259	263 0
6	8	0	0	7	7	0						SFB,OC	3	277	280
6	9	0	1	10	7	0		63				SFB, OC	5	223	228
6 6	10 11	1 2	1 0	13 10	6 8	0			45 45		1345 1220		16 14	141 130	157 144
6	12	1	1	7	6	ŏ			38		1400		4	175	179
6	13	2	1	15	8	0			45	3	1607	SFB	6	216	222
	14	2	2	13	7	0		55			1449		1	218	219
6 6	15 16	2 3	2 2	7 45	6 6	0 1		54 50	40 39		1140 1225		239 25	17 160	256 185
6	17	2	2	13	4	1			40		1300		6	266	272
6	18	1	1	15	4	0		56	40	4	1350	SFB	7	279	286
6 6	19 20	1 1	1 0	20 25	4 4	0 0			45		1300 1445		23	382 601	405
	20	1	1	25 17	4 4	0			45 42		1445		15 6	432	616 438

APPENDIX 1. Walrus Haulout Census Data, Cape Peirce, Southwest Alaska, April - September, 1991.

	-ENI		1. 		cinue								=======			
				WND										СР	CP	CP
MO	גמ	BC				PC	BAROM	CHG	ма	мт	מיד	TTME	LOCIN	WTR	LND	TOT
		вс 		3FD		FC	DAROM		- ma	M1		11MC				101
6	22	1	2	22	4	0			53	42	3	1334	SFB	3	305	308
6	23	ō	2	30	3	õ			54		1			ĩ	58	59
6	24	1	2	37	4	1			53		3			18	36	54
6	25	ō	2	10	4	1			51			1025			239	247
6	26	õ	2	5	4	ō			54			1415		4	448	452
6	27	ō	2	10	8	Ō			61				SFB,MB		1097	
6	28	2	2	13	8	Ō			62		3		SFB,MB	3	615	618
6	29	3	1	27	4	0			55	48	3		SFB,MB	6	67	73
6	30	3	2	30	4	0			58				SFB,MB	Ō	35	35
7	1	1	2	25	8	0			60	50		1826		4	0	4
7	2	3	1	15	8	0			65	50	1	2130	SFB	5	144	149
7	3	2	0	10	8	0			71	50	3	1530	SFB	7	438	445
7	4	1	1	17	8	0			65	52	3	1830	SFB,OC	34	1091	1125
7	5	1	0	10	7	0			70	52	3	1430	SFB,M,C	83	990	1073
7	6	1	2	20	3	0			63	46			SFB,M,C	26	875	901
7	7	0	2	7	5	0			64	46	3		SFB,MB	20	591	611
7	8	0	1	13	1	0			66	46	4	155	SFB,OC	6	212	218
7	9	2	1	25	8	0			62	49		1141		2	83	85
7	10	2	0	17	8	0			70	52		1128		6	92	98
7	11	1	0	15	8	0			74	52	3	1537		5	344	349
7	12	1	2	17	3	0				46	3		SFB,OC	9	920	929
7	13	1	2	17	7	0			63				SFB,M,C			1154
7	14	2	2	7	9	0			68	48			SFB,M,C		653	660
7	15	0	2	25	4	1			56	50			SFB,MB	7	183	190
7	16	3	2	35	6	1			54			1210		5	0	5
7	17	2	2	20	6	0			61				SFB,LL	6	1	7
7	18	2	2	15	6	1			52	51		1305		0	135	135
7	19	2	2	15	6	1			56	51		1300		8	549	557
7	20	2	2	13	6	1			63				SFB,MB	56	868	924
7	21	1	1	10	6	0			57				SFB, MB		1467	
7	22	0	0	15	6	0			66	43			SFB,MB	43	1073	_
7 7	23 24	0	1 1	15 5	4 9	0 0			68	44 54			SFB,MB	49 22	547 277	596 299
7	24	0	2	5 5	9	1				54		1210	SFB,MB	22 4	211	235
7	26	2	2	15	7	0					4	1233		3	175	178
	27	2	2	15	7	Ő			60	50	-	1451		5	332	337
7	28	2	2	23	7	1			55				SFB,MB	10	526	536
7	29	1	1	23	7	ō			66	50			SFB,MB		1258	
7	30	1	1	7	8	ŏ			66				SFB,MB		2329	
	31	2		15	7	Ŭ			62				SFB,MB		1813	
8	1	ĩ	ĩ	10	7	0			66				SFB,MB	6	339	345
8	2	1	ō	7	8	ŏ			62	36		1812		8	450	458
8	3	2	2	17	7	1			60			1750		6	730	736
8	4	1	2	5	9	Ō				49			SFB,MB	28	691	719
8	5	1	0	5	8	0			70				SFB,MB	17	1080	1097
8	6	1	2	5	9	0			68	50	1		SFB,MB		2451	2467
8	7	0	2	5	9	0					3	1330	SFB,MB	116	1488	1604
8	8	1	2	13	4	1					3	1258	SFB,MB	57	696	753
8	9	0	2	17	4	0					4	1215	SFB	6	310	316
8	10	0	2	15	4	0					4	1215	SFB	9	210	219
8	11	1	2	20	3	1					4	1300		20	344	364
8	12	1	2	17	4	0						1200		36	600	636
8	13	1	2	7	4	0			63				SFB,OC		1007	
8	14	1	2	35	4	1			54				SFB,M,C			
8	15	1	2	23	4	1			58				SFB,MB		1146	
8	16	1	1	15	4	0				52			SFB,MB		436	545
8	17	1	1	5	9	0			65				SFB,MB	32	588	620
8	18	1	1	17	4	0			60				SFB,MB		1090	
8	19	0	2	5	9	0			52	49	3	1200	SFB,MB	60	1470	1530

APPENDIX 1. Continued.

			====													====:
10	DA	BC		WND SPD		PC	BAROM	CHG	MA	MI	TD	TIME	LOC'N	CP WTR	CP LND	CP TO:
8	20	1	1	5	9	0				50	3		SFB,MB	43	2482	252
8	21	1	1	15	7	0					3		SFB,MB	16	3321	3331
8	22	1	1	10	8	0			58		3		SFB,MB	26	1647	167
8	23	1	2	10	4	0			56		4		SFB,MB	34	864	89
8	24	1	2	17	4	1				53	4	1215		6	59	6
8	25	2	2	15	7	1				50	4	1151		15	18	3.
8	26	2	2	27	8	1			57	45		1231		7	158	16
8	27	2	1	15	8	1			56	50	4	1141		4	213	21
8	28	1	0	17	1	0				52	4		SFB,MB	68	668	73
8	29	2	2	13	8	1			57	48			SFB,MB	45	1664	170
8	30	2	0	13	8	0			64	50	2		SFB,MB	72	3898	397
8	31	1	0	17	4	0			56		2		SFB,MB		2870	
9	1	1	2	35	3	0				47	3	1120		14	259	27
9	2	1	1	25	3	0			59	51	3	1117		2	292	29
9	3	1	2	13	3	0				49	3	1400		5	344	34
9	4	1	2	5	4	0			54		3	1055		5	499	50
9	5	2	2	15	7	1				50	3		SFB,MB	32	1353	
9	6	1	1	3	9	0				50	3		SFB,MB		2608	
9	7	0	3	23	3	0			55	50	4		SFB,MB	59	3215	327
9	8	0	3	10	3	1			55	48	4		SFB,MB	36	1525	156
9	9	0	3	5	3	1			55	49	3		SFB,MB		293	62
9	10	1	3	5	4	0			59	45	4		SFB,MB		1591	161
9	11	0	2	5	6	1				48	4		SFB,MB		2451	
9	12	0	2	5	1	0				47	3		SFB,MB	69	3939	400
9	13	2	2	35	3	1			52	48	2		SFB,MB		1685	186
9	14	0	2	15	3	1			53	51	2		SFB,MB	0	285	28
9	15	1	1	25	3	0			54	49	3	1450		30	173	20
9	16	1	2	35	4	1			51	47	2	1425		6	169	17
9	17	1	2	20	6	1			52	48	3		SFB,MB	4	195	19
9	18	2	2	25	6	1			54	48	2		SFB,MB	22	661	68
9	19	2	2	25	7	1			54	48	1		SFB,MB		860	106
9	20	1	1	15	7	0				44	1		SFB,MB	35	3759	
9	21	1	1	20	4	0			53	45	3		SFB,MB	55	3114	
9	22	2	2	60	3	1			50	46	2	930		75		7
9	23	0	2	10	3	1				49	4	930		21	498	51
9	24	1	2	25	4	1			49	49	3	1320	SFB	7	530	53
9	25	3	2	15	5	1				47	3	1115		12	778	79
9	26	2	2	5	7	1					3	1030	SFB,MB	17	1163	118

APPENDIX 2.	April - September, 1991.	Nanvak Bay, Southwest Alaska,

			1	Apri:	l –	Sep	temb	er,	1991	•					
MO	DA	CLD CVR	WND SPD	WND DIR	PC	MAX	MIN	TD	TIME	LOC'N	NO. WTR	NO. LND	NO. PUP	TOT	CNT LOC'N
4	23	1	5	3	0			1	725	MBB MBB MBB	1	0		1	
4	24	1	5	3	0			2	1930	MBB	7	0		7	
4	25	2	10	3	0			1	1430	MBB	2	22		24	
•										MBB MBB MBB MBB				0	
	27	1	10	4	0	41	32	1	1504	MBB	1	31		32	
	28	1	0	1 3	1	47	32	1	2039	MBB	5	27		32	
	29	2	5	1	0	40	35	4	740	MBB	2	41		43	
	30	T	/	د	0	54	34	2	1112	MBB		U		0	
5 5		1	17	3	0	43	34	2	2025	MRR DART.	1	0		1	
5		1	23	3	ŏ	46	35	3	1715	MBB,PARL MBB	ō	54		54	
5	4	-	20	Ū	Ū										
5	5	2	13	3	1	39	34	3	1850	MBB MBB MBB	2	48		50	
5	6	2			1	42	37	3	2102	MBB	4	34		38	
5	- 7	1	3	4	0	52	36	3	1730	MBB	3	0		3	
5	8														
5	9	2	7 3	3	0	40	34	3	1930	MBB MBB	12	12			
	10	1	3	9	1			2	1400	MBB	18	18		56	
	11				_			_		MBB MBB MBB MBB MBB MBB MBB MBB MBB MBB		<i>–</i> -			
	12	1	5	6	0	52	32	3	1740	MBB	22	21		43	
	13	1	10	8	0	52	30	1	1800	MBB	3	10		3	WPD
	14	1	10	8	0	46	33	1	2000	MBB	5	18		23	WPD
	15 16	1	12	8	0	40	35	1	1/30	MBB	0	10		10	WPD
	17	2	12	2	1	40	22	3	1530		4	32		30	WPD
	18	1	10	2	6	43	33	2	1930	MBB	0	50		50	WPD
	19	1	22	7	õ	42	36	1	2006	MBB	2	30		32	WPD
	20	1	7	8	ŏ	41	36	ī	2130	MBB	õ	40		40	WPD
	21	ō	3	9	ō	48	36	ī	2200	MBB	ō	50		50	КҮК
	22	1	3	6	ō	50	27	1	2315	MBB	3	108	1	111	
	23	Ō	5	3	Ō	50	29	1	1430	MBB	32	100		132	
5	24	1	20	3	0	54	32	2	1545	MBB	1	108		109	34
5	25	0	10	4	0	44	39	3	1825	MBB	0	127		127	
	26	2	25	3	1	44	38	3	2000	MBB	13	20		33	
	27	2	10	4	1	45	37	3	1800	MBB	2	143	1	145	
	28	1	25	8	0	50	38	2	2220	MBB	6	43	1	50	
	29	_			-					PARL	_				
	30	2	25	8	1		38	1	1920	MBB DIDE	3	40		43	WPD
	31	1	35	8	1	40	36	5	5100	MBB, PARL	4	151		150	M S D
6 6	1 2	1 1	7 30	3 3	0	40 50	35 35	- J - 1	2030 2127	MBB	5 0	149 85		724 724	NSD WPD
6	2	2	30	3	1	46	40		2000		0	50			WPD
6	4	1	13	3	ō	50	42		2100			155	3	155	
6	5	ō	15	7	ō	55	35		2015			131	5		NSD
6	6	-		•	-			-			-		-		
6	7														
6	8	0	15	8	0			2	2000		1	0			WPD
6	9	0	10	7	0	63	38	1	1715	MBB	10	0			LL
6	10	0	13	6	0	66	45	1				100		100	
6	11	0	13	7	0	59	45		1630			150			AER
6	12	0	20	1	0	_	38		2053		0	100	1	100	
6	13	1	15	8	0	62	45	1			0	75	_		CLF
	14	2	15	7	0	55	42	1			5	146	5	151	
	15	2	7	6	1	54	40			MBB, PARL	1	55	~		LL
6	16	2	15	7	1	50	39		2000		5	87	8		NSD
6	17	1	10	4	0	48	40	3			3	104	4		NSD
	18 19	1	17	4	1	56	40			MBB, OC	3	99 128			NCD
Ø	19	0	17	4	0	53	45	T	2125	MBB	7	128	10	135	NPD

APPENDIX	2.	Cont:	inued.
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		CLD	WND	WND			MIN	TD		LOC	' N	NO. WTR	NO. LND	NO. PUP	тот	CNT LOC ' N
6	20	1	17	4	0	52		2	2304	MBB		0	100	5	100	
	21	1	5	4		53		3	2115	MRR		0	134	q	143	
	22	2	25	4		53		-	2104	MBB		23	27	3		LL
	23	2	25	3		54		3	2104 1907 2229	MBB	D N D T	6	46	8		WPD
	24	2	25	4		53	46 46	د د	1015	MBB	PARL	ز ۱۲	131	21	134 104	
	25 26	2 2	10 2	4 4	1 1	51 54		1	2200	MBB		15	101	11	104	
	27	1	2	9	ō	61	44	1	2214	MBB		19	69	5		NSD
6	28	1	10	1	Ō	62	46	1	2304	MBB		0	128	9	128	
6	29	2	17	1	0	55	48	1	2252	MBB		4	33	6	37	LL
	30	1	30	1	0	58	49	1	2252	MBB		10	71	4		WPD
7	1	1	7	8	0	60		1	2050	MBB		9	124	11	133	
7 7	2 3	0	10 7	8 8	0 0	65 71	50 50	2	2200	MBB		1	112	٨	113	LL
7	4	1	17	8	Ő	65	52	3	2100	MBB		8	27	2	35	
7	5	ō	5	7	õ	70	52	2	1903	MBB		31	160	3		LL,WPD
7	6	1	5	9	0	63		3	1837	MBB		7	90	6		WPD
7	7	2	5	8	0	64		1	2037	MBB		9	57	3		WPD
7	8	1	13	1	0	66		1	2000	MBB		0	89	5		LL
7	9	1	25	8	0	62		1	1850	MBB		2	155	5	157	
7 7	10 11	0 0	7 5	8 9	0 0	70 74		1	2200	MBB		2	121	٦	123	LL
	12^{11}	2	5	9	ŏ	60		1	1955	MBB		19	133	8	152	
	13	2	17	8	Ō	63		3	2035	MBB		0	49	4		NSD
7	14	2	5	8	0	68	48	3	1820	MBB		0	116		116	NSD
	15	2	25	4	1	56		2	1907 2229 1915 2200 2214 2304 2252 2050 2250 2200 2251 2100 1903 1837 2037 2037 2037 2037 2037 2035 1855 2035 1820 1955 2035 1820 1920 1730 2030 1645	MBB		0	49 116 87 116 50			NSD
	16	2	25	6	1	54		1	1920	MBB		4	116	1		WPD,LL
7	17 18	2 2	15 15	6 6	1 1	55 52		د ۱	2030	WBB		40	- 50	2		AER
	19	2	25	6	1	56	51	1	2030 1645 1906 1545 1800 2110 2030 1749 2049 1925 1920 2030	MBB		4	112	5	116	WPD
	20	2	- 7	7	ō	63		ī	1906	MBB		3	145	11	148	NSD
	21	1	15	7	0	57		1	1545	MBB		4	49		53	WPD
7	22	0	2	6	0	66		1	1800	MBB		3	85		88	WPD
	23	2	7	9	0	68		1	2110	MBB		2	163	9	165	NSD
7	24 25	1 2	5 13	4 8	0		54	1	2030	MBB		2	117	٨	120	LL
7	25 26	2	15	7	0			1	2049	MBB		5	139	4	145	NSD
	27	2	20	7	0	60	50	3	1925	MBB		3	77		80	WPD
7		2	15	7	1	55		4	1920	MBB		5	104		109	NSD
	29	2	5	7	0	66	50	4	2030	MBB		3	68		71	NSD
7	30											•				
7	31	-	F	-	0			1	2020	NDD		0	25		25	NCD
8 8	1 2	1	5 7	7 8	0	66 62			2020 1800			1 0	58 48			NSD LL
8	3	2	10	7	Ő	60			1905			12	35			LL
8	4	1	7	8	Ō		49		1803			0	86	3		NSD
8	5	0	2	1	0	70	51		2000			0	156	8	156	
8	6	2	10	8	0	68	50		1852			0	160	7		WPD
8	7	2	7	4	1	58			2145			0	52	2		LL
8	8	2	20	4	1	54	48		2045			8	126	T	134	
8 8	9 10	2 1	20 20	3 4	1 0	56 58	50 52		1917 2043				150 170	1		WPD NSD/KYH
8	11	2	20	9	0	60	50		1945				249	-		WPD
8	12	1	20	ŝ	ŏ	58	50		1901				183			WPD
	13	ī	5	9	Ō	63	51		1900				134	2	150	NSD
8	14	2	37	4	1	54	44	1	1745	MBB		18	106		124	WPD
8	15	1	20	4	0	58	50		1700				310			NSD
8	16	2	20	3	1	56	52		1835				245	~		WPD
8	17	0	7	6	0		44	T	1854	WRR	, CHAN	/	211	2	218	NSD, KYI

	APPENDIX 2. Continued.														
		CLD	WND	WND					TIME	LOC'N	NO. WTR	NO. LND	NO. PUP	TOT	CNT LOC'N
-	18	2	13	4	0	60	45		1948	MBB	5	321	6	327	NSD,ZOD
8	19	2	10	8	0	52	49		1821			164		191	NSD,KYK
	20	1	7	8	0	59	50		1905			124	4		NSD, KYK
	21	1	17	7	0	57	51		1936			115		115	
8	22 23	0 2	15 17	8	0	58	52			NSB,MBB				163	
8 8	23	2	17	4 7	0 1	56 56	42 42		1949	WATER	3	402 0			LL,WPD
8	24	1	15	7	1	65	42 53		1626			214			LL WPD
8	26	2	25	8	1	57	50		1908			349		352	
8	27	1	15	8	ī	56	45		1408			304		309	
8	28	1	37	8	ō	58	50		1600			200			WPD, ARCH
8	29	2	17	8	ĩ	57	48			CHAN, NSB		384			WPD
8	30	ō	13	8	ō	64	50		1840			140			WPD,CLF
8	31	1	17	4	Ō	56	44		1623			240			WPD
9	1	2	27	3	1	54	47	3	1558	MBB		127		127	WPD
9	2	1	23	3	0	59	51	3	1430	MBB	0	264		264	WPD
9	3	2	17	3	0	58	49		1600		0	400		400	WPD
9	4	2	5	4	1	54	48		1610		0	326		326	NSD
9	5	2	15		0	60	50		1700			336		336	WPD
9	6	2	15	3	0	60	50		2000			284			WPD
9	7	2	30	3	1	55	50			NSB,MBB					CLF
9	8	2	10	4	1	55	48			NSB,MBB		192		226	
9	9	2	10	3	0	55	49		1600			290		_	WPD
9	10	2	10	5	0	59	45		1603			148			NSD
9	11	0	10	8	0	56	48	1	1559	NSB, CHAN MBB	7	156		_	WPD
9 9	12 13	1 2	10 35	4 3	0 1	56 52	47							345	
9	$13 \\ 14$	2	15	3	1	52	48 51		1530 1734			300 159			CLF WPD
9	15	2	20	5	1	51	47		1540			100			CLF,WPD
9	16	2	37	4	1	51	47		1400	MDD	Ő	0			LL,CLF
é	17	2	20	6	1	52	48		1443	MBB		235			NSD
9	18	2	25	6	ī	54	48		1732			238			WPD
9	19	2	25	7	ō	54	48		1300			269		275	
9	20	ĩ	15	7	ĩ	55	44	1		NSB		110			WPD
9	21	1	30	4	ō	53	45	_		NSB,MBB		295			WPD
9	22	2	55	3	1	50	46		1500		Ō	0			WPD
9	23	2	10	3	1	49	49		1520		6	Ō			WPD
9	24	2	20	4	1	49	49		1410			220		222	DUNES
9	25	2	15	6	1		47	1	1355	NSB,MBB		340		342	WPD
9	26	1	5	7	0			1	1430	MBB		338		349	BD

APPENDIX 3. Other marine mammal sightings, northern Bristol Bay, southwest Alaska, April-October 1991.

Harbor Porpoises (Phocoena phocoena):

8/30: 2 harbor porpoises swimming between Pyrite Point and Shaiak Island.

9/3: 2 harbor porpoises (1 adult, 1 small, possibly young?) swimming off the coast between Gap and Oracle Mountain.

Seals

5/1-5/12: 1-2 seals seen daily in Chagvan Bay.

6/10: 2 seal carcasses on Hagemeister Spit.

Whales

4/25-6/15: Gray whales (Eschrichtius robustus) were often seen travelling north along the coast of the Cape Peirce peninsula. As many as 22 whales were seen in one day (3 May) from the Cape Peirce cliffs.

5/16: 1 Killer whale (<u>Orcinus orca</u>) in water swimming mid-way between Summit Island and Rocky Point.

5/16: 1 whale carcass on Picnic Beach on the Nushagak Peninsula, pile of bones.

5/16: 1 gray whale swimming between Rugged Point and Cape Peirce Point.

7/17: 1 gray? whale swimming just off the east coast of the Twins.

7/20: 1 whale carcass (probably gray) 1/2 mile north of Nichols Spit on the Nushagak Peninsula; 3 whale carcasses (probably gray) on Picnic Beach, 4-5 miles northwest of Kikertalik Lake on the Nushagak Peninsula, one a pile of bones.

8/23: 1 whale carcass (probably gray) 1/2 mile north of Nichols Spit on the Nushagak Peninsula. Flesh peeling back, ribs showing; 1 whale carcass 7 miles southeast of Kikertalik Lake on the Nushagak Peninsula. Some of flesh gone, about half of the bones showing; 5 whale carcasses (all probably gray) on Picnic Beach on the Nushagak Peninsula: 1 20', red-gray in color, 1 20'-25', red-gray in color, 2 separate piles of whale bones, and 1 whale red-gray in color. All appeared to have been dead several months, at least.