

AUTUMN MIGRATION ROUTE OF BELUKHA WHALES IN THE CENTRAL
AND WESTERN BEAUFORT SEAS

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Aerial surveys of the Beaufort Sea ice front between 140°W and 162°W in September 1982 confirmed that the westward autumn migration of belukha whales through this region is offshore to the extent determined by location of the ice margin. The hypothesis tested by our surveys was initially developed based on the circumstances of occasional sightings obtained over several years in the western Beaufort and Chukchi seas, and on the seasonal decrease of belukhas reported in nearshore waters of northwest Canada.

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Abstracts



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