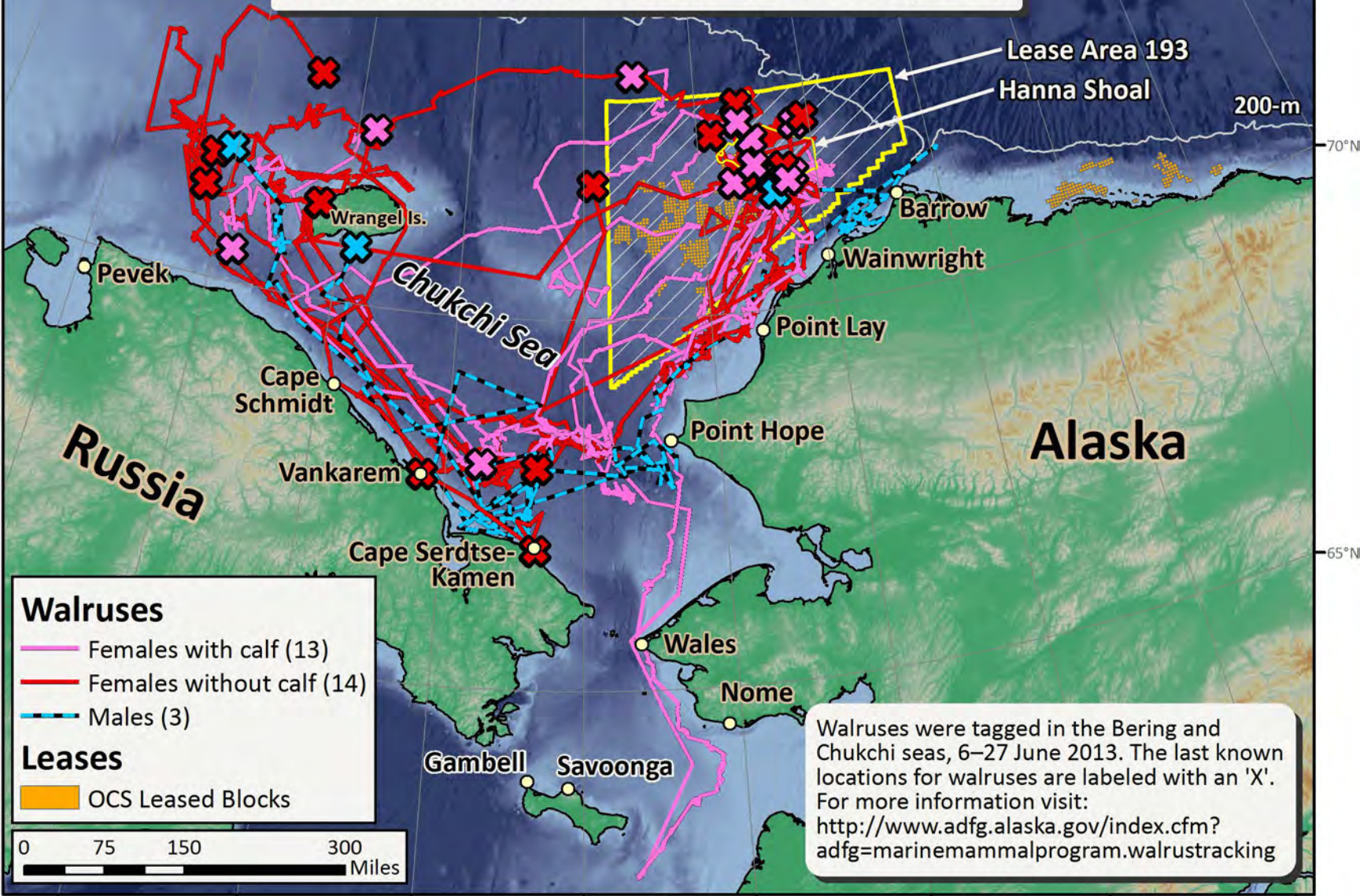


# Walrus Movements: 6 June – 16 October, 2013



Walrus were tagged in the Bering and Chukchi seas, 6–27 June 2013. The last known locations for walrus are labeled with an 'X'. For more information visit: <http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=marinemammalprogram.walrustracking>

Satellite-linked transmitters were deployed on walrus in the Bering and Chukchi seas in June 2013. The tags transmitted for an average of 55 days, ranging from 4 to 124 days (~4 months). During this time walrus traveled, on average, a minimum distance of 1,118 miles, ranging from 158–2,765 miles. At a minimum, these walrus traveled, about 21.7 miles per day.

Tags were deployed on 34 walrus (15 females without calves, 13 females with calves and 6 males).

This tagging project is part of the Village-based Walrus Studies funded by BOEM. This funding supported Clarence Irrigoo from Gambell and Perry Pungowiyi from Savoonga to participate in all of the activities on the walrus research cruise including the tagging. They tagged some of the walrus using a crossbow and some with a pole. They assisted Patrick Lemons in collecting biopsies, and they advised the researchers and small boat drivers about how to approach walrus safely and effectively.

The information from these tagged walrus will be used to understand how much time walrus spend in the Chukchi Sea Lease Sale area and when. It also provides general walrus movement and haulout patterns.

Report to the Eskimo Walrus Commission presented on 10 December 2013 by Lori Quakenbush (907-459-7214).