

## 2017 Belugas Count! Highlights:

### Mammal Sightings:

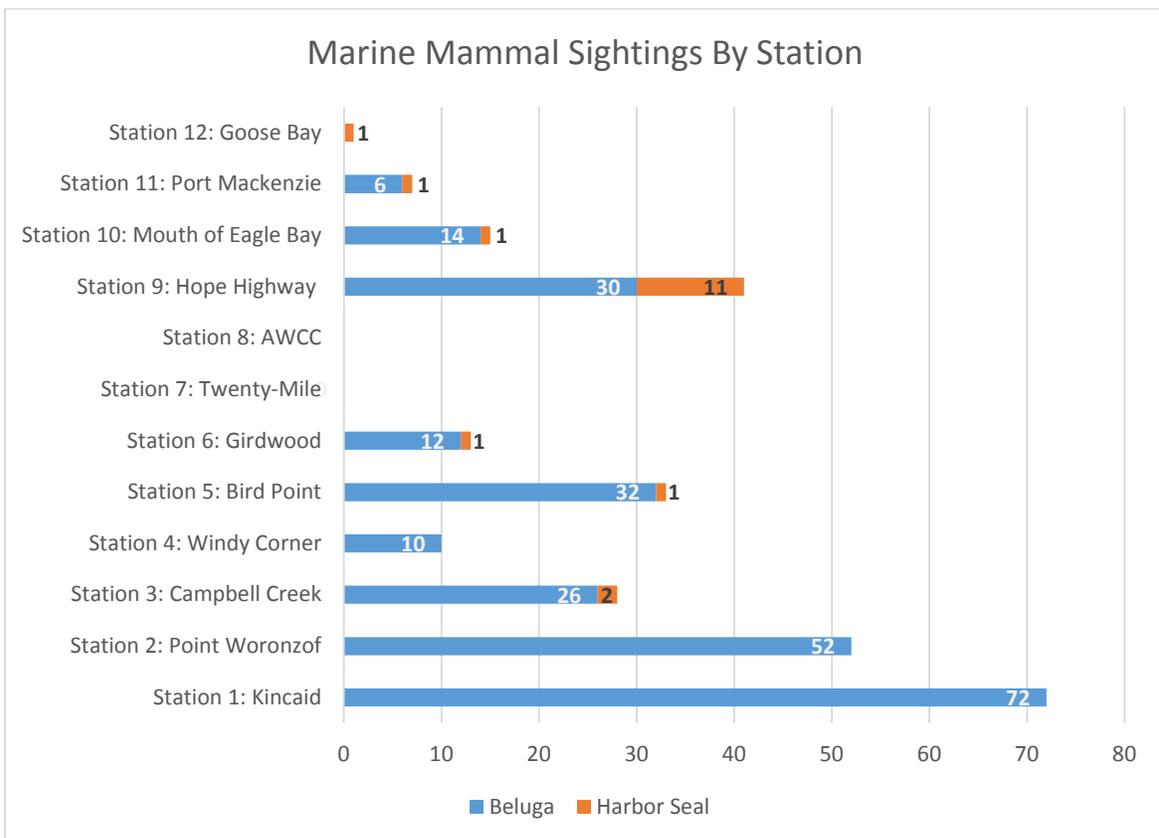
255 belugas (includes 32 calves) and 18 harbor seals observed across 12 stations (note we announced preliminary numbers of 260 belugas on count day before data had quality control check). There were 273 marine mammal observations total.

Belugas were observed at all stations excluding AWCC, Twenty-Mile River, and Goose Bay

Observations occurred between 7:30 AM and 12:38 PM

The majority of observations were made at close range (52%)

Other wildlife observed during the event included geese (2), gulls (2), steller's jays (1), bald eagles (1), magpies (7), sandhill cranes (3), northern harriers (2), black bears (3), dall sheep (3), and a mountain goat (1).



### Beluga Movement:

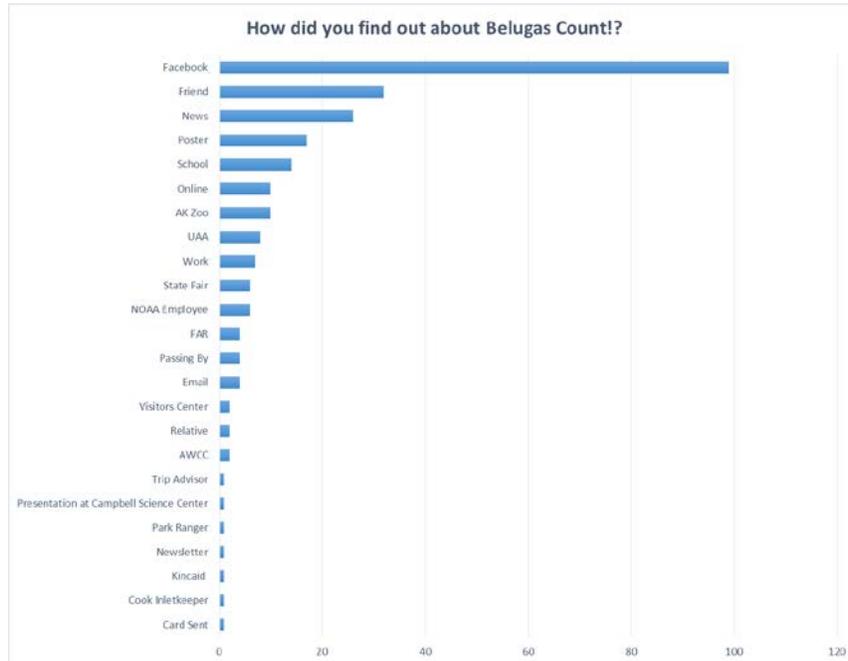
Observations made within Turnagain Arm illustrate a general pattern of beluga movement up the arm in the earlier half of the monitoring session and back down the arm in the latter half of the session.

Observations made near the point (Kincaid and Campbell Creek stations) indicate a convergence of groups of belugas between these two stations, belugas off Kincaid were traveling offshore. This observation could only be made because directionality was recorded on the datasheets for these stations.

No clear pattern of movement emerged for stations in the Knik arm.

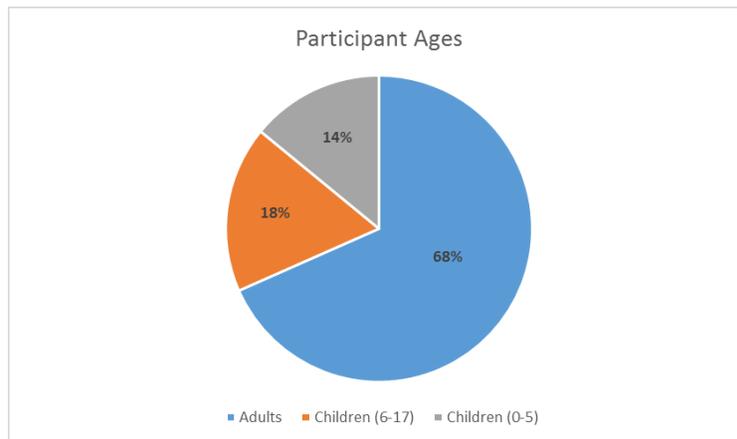
### How did you find out about Belugas Count?

Most participants found out about the event via Facebook, followed by friends, the news, and event posters.



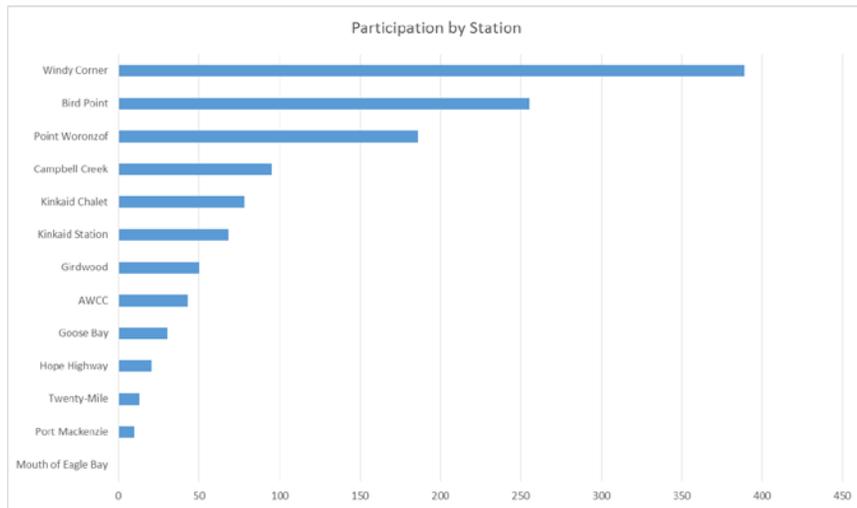
### Participant Ages

A total of 740 people were checked in on datasheets across stations and the Zoo, including 506 adults, 130 children (6-17), and 104 children (0-5).



The clicker count for participants indicated that 1,237 individuals attended the station event. More than 600 people attended the Zoo event. The Zoo numbers are an estimate as an accurate clicker count was not taken for the first couple of hours.

The stations that received the highest number of participants were Windy Corner (389), Bird Point (255), and Point Woronzof (186).



**Participants Originated From:**

17 Alaskan cities (244 groups or individuals)

20 U.S. States (and the District of Columbia) (54 groups or individuals)

10 countries outside of the U.S. (12 groups or individuals)

