



**MUSKOX (*Ovibos moschatus*) DISTRIBUTION AND
ABUNDANCE, MUSKOX MANAGEMENT UNITS MX-08,
BOOTHIA PENINSULA, AUGUST 2017.**

This summary is based on the information in the full English version of the research report on the muskox of the Boothia Peninsula done in August 2017. The original English copy of the report has been provided for reference.

Peninsula. Based on this change, the whole management unit was surveyed at 20% coverage, with 8 km spacing between transect lines, with no strata of different effort allocation (Figure 1).

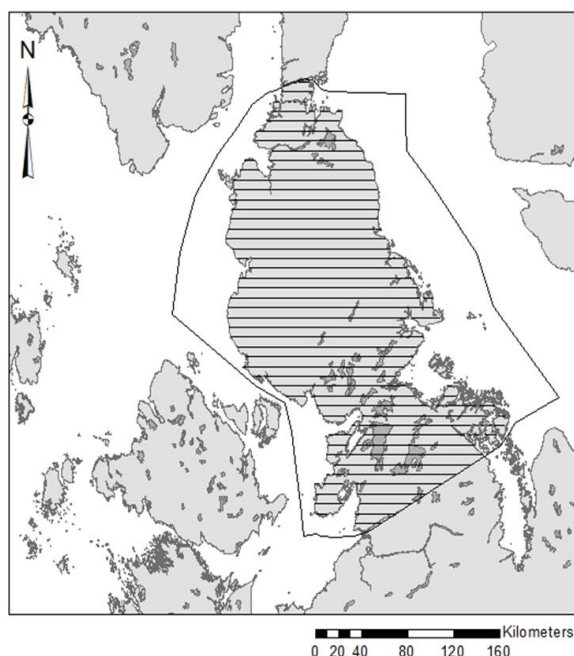


Figure 1: Transect lines flown in August 2017, representing 20% coverage, of the muskox management unit MX-08.

Aircraft configuration

A systematic transects line survey was flown with a fixed-wing single engine turbine aircraft; a grand caravan. The transect lines were surveyed at a speed of 160 km/hr at an altitude of about 121 meters above ground level (AGL). The strip transects included 800 meters on each side of the aircraft. Observers on both side of the plane were responsible for continuously searching for, spotting, and counting muskox including the number of calves. Incidental sightings of

caribou, polar bear, wolverine, and wolf were also recorded.

Results

Distribution

The survey was conducted from the community of Taloyoak from August 7 to August 12, 2017. During the survey, 170 groups of muskoxen were seen, both on and off-transect. Larger groups of muskoxen, 16-19 adult animals, were mainly distributed from Cape Farrand to Abernethy Bay within 40 km from coast. It was the first time that muskoxen were recorded south of Cape Cambridge, close to Acland Point at their southernmost distribution (Figure 2).

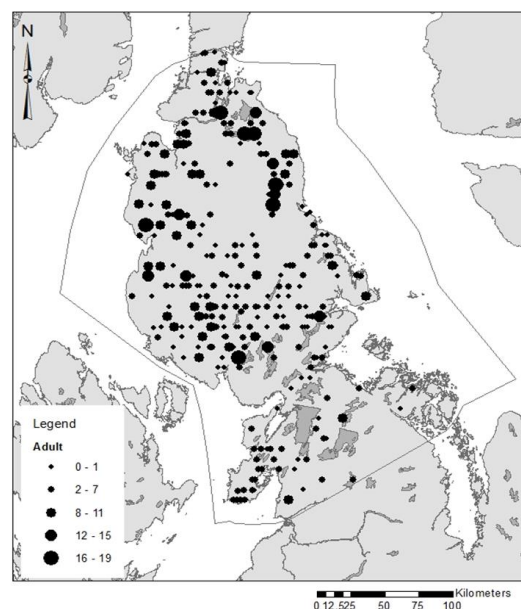


Figure 2: Muskox distribution, on and off transect, in the management unit MX-08 during the survey, where the number of animals per group was classified into groups of 0-1, 2-7, 8-11, 12-15, and 16-19 animals.

