

# Seabirds in the DBO – 2019 Update



Kathy Kuletz- U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Elizabeth Labunski - U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Dan Cushing – Pole Star Ecological Research LLC



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# Data collection, management, archiving

Visual observations entered directly into laptop  
(*program Dlog3, R.G. Ford Consulting., Portland OR*)

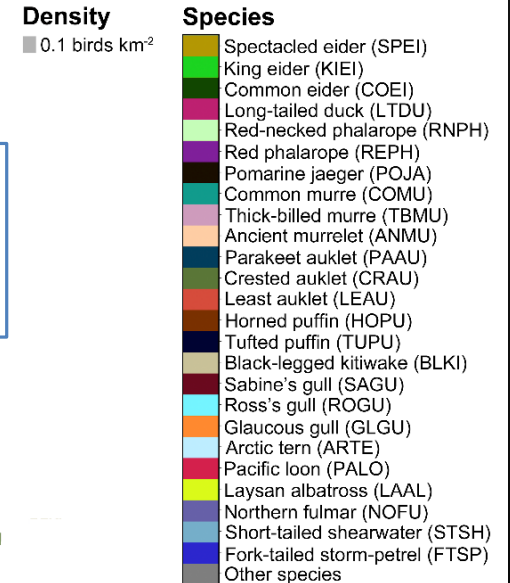
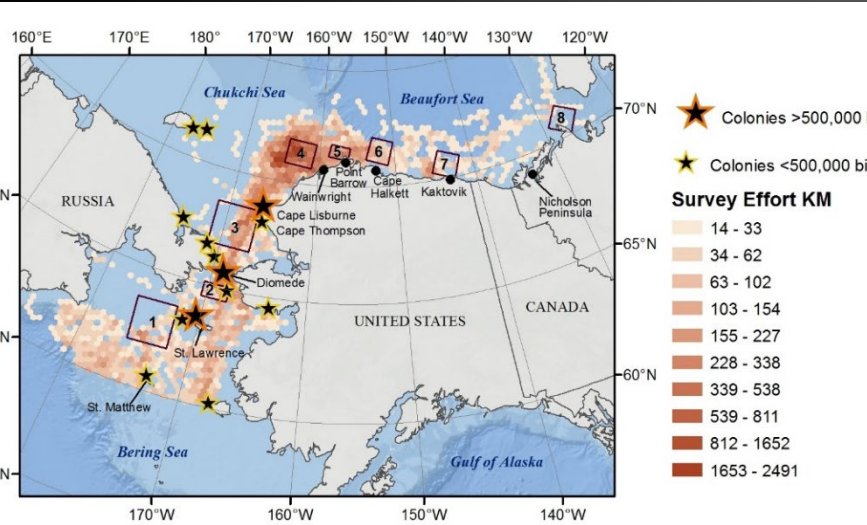
Raw counts (*csv files*) processed into densities  
(*birds/km<sup>2</sup>*) in 3-km segments

Raw & processed data submitted to BOEM and AOOS  
Workspaces for associated projects (ArcticEIS, Bering  
Sea Project, DBO, GWA, etc)

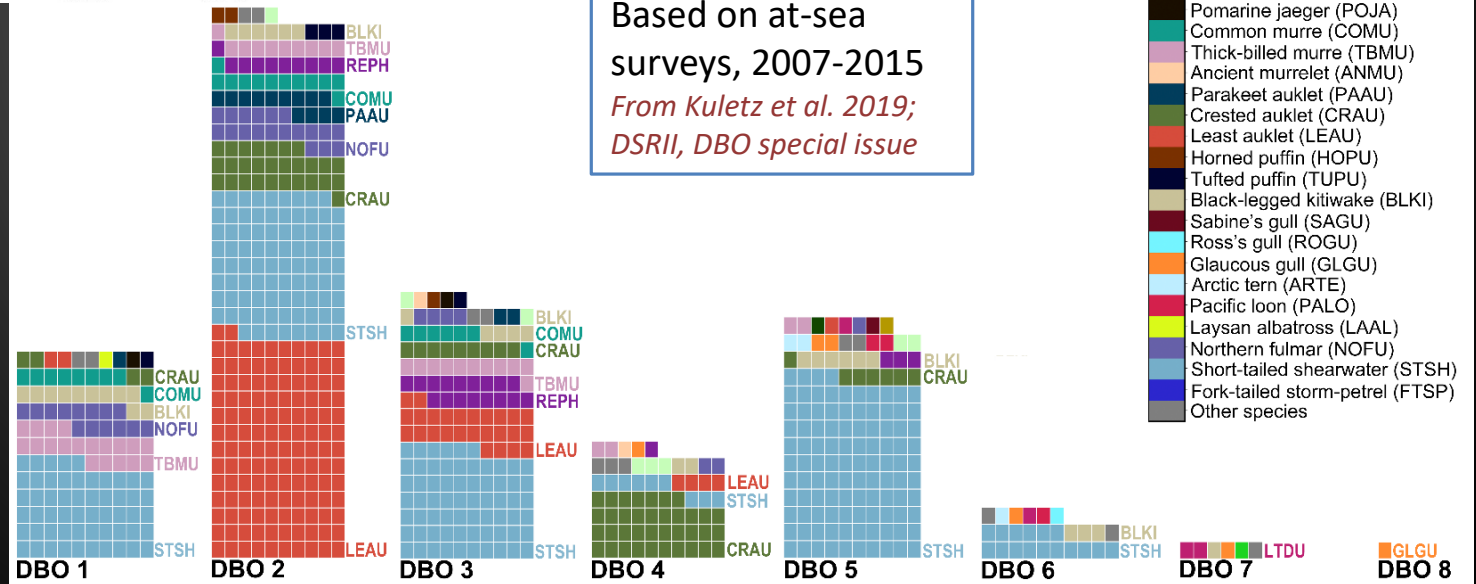
Processed data also in North Pacific Pelagic Seabird  
Database <https://alaska.usgs.gov/products/data.php?dataid=1>

# Survey effort and Seabird species composition by DBO, 2007-2015

- 63 spp total  
(NBS > Chukchi > Beaufort)
- DBO 2 (Chirikov Basin) had highest densities, mainly planktivorous auklets & shearwaters
- Shearwaters most abundant spp in 5 of 8 DBOs



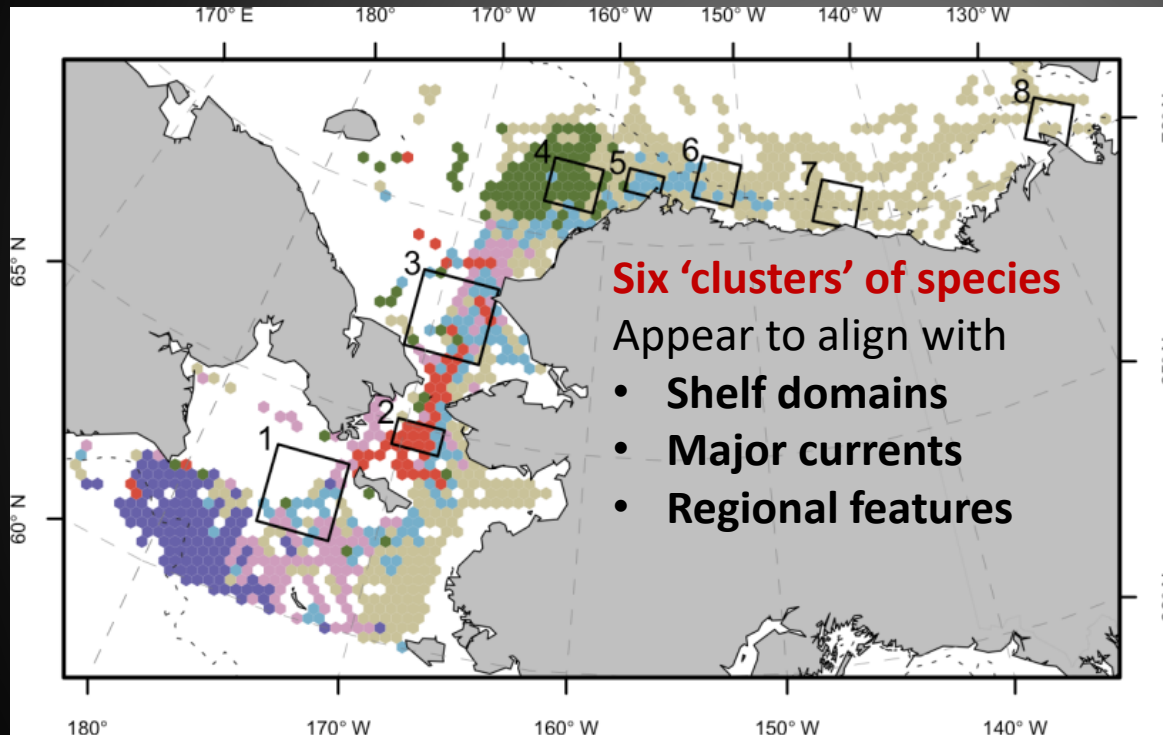
Based on at-sea surveys, 2007-2015  
From Kuletz et al. 2019;  
DSRII, DBO special issue



# Seabird Communities in Pacific Arctic

## How well does the DBO array work for seabirds?

(Kuletz *et al.* 2019; DSR II)



### Main findings

- Six major communities
- Five had a dominant species
- One characterized by low seabird densities (none dominant)
- DBOs captured communities (exception – Fulmar community)
- Need all DBOs to capture full seabird community for LMEs
- Beaufort effort too low to track low seabird densities offshore

Fulmar

Shearwater

TB Murre

Least Auklet

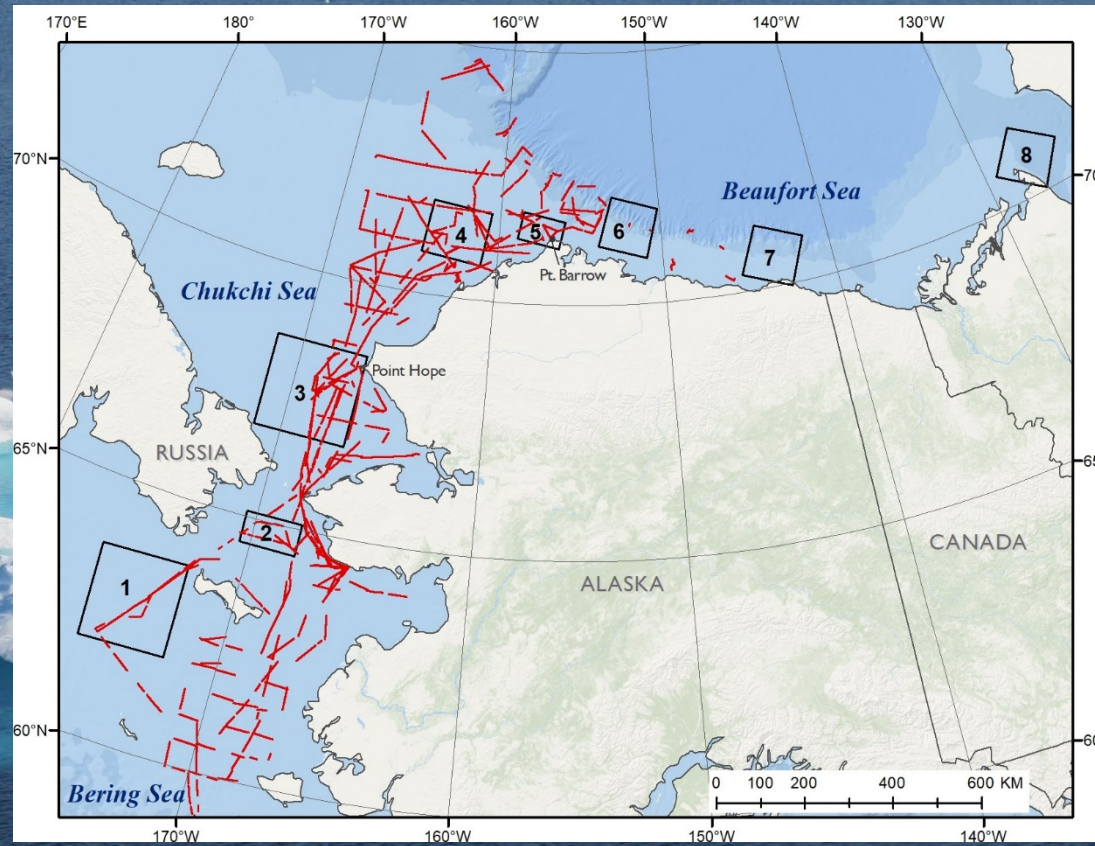
Crested  
Aukle

Low  
Densities

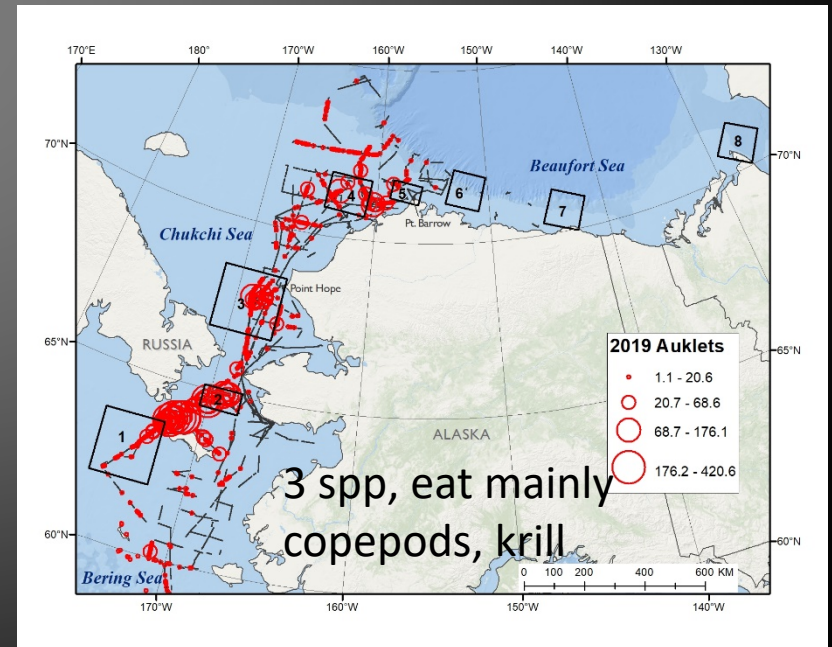
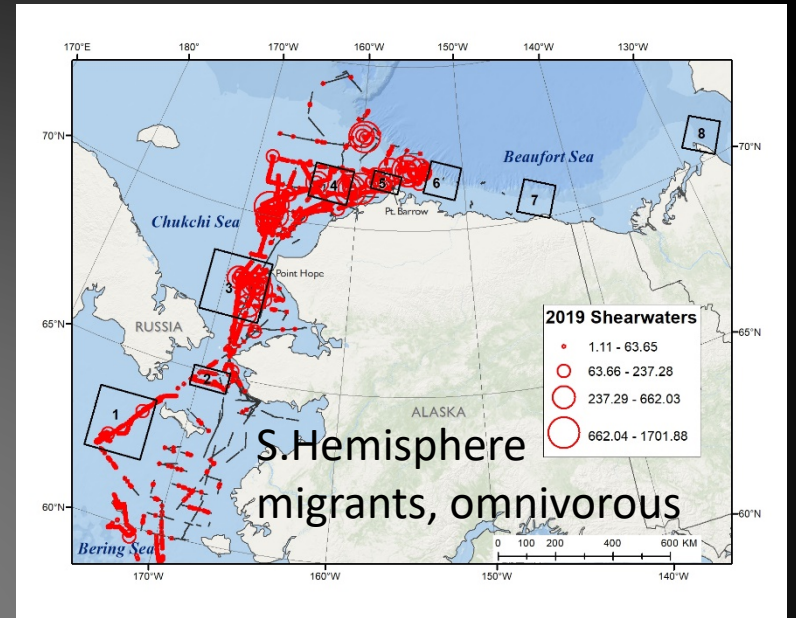
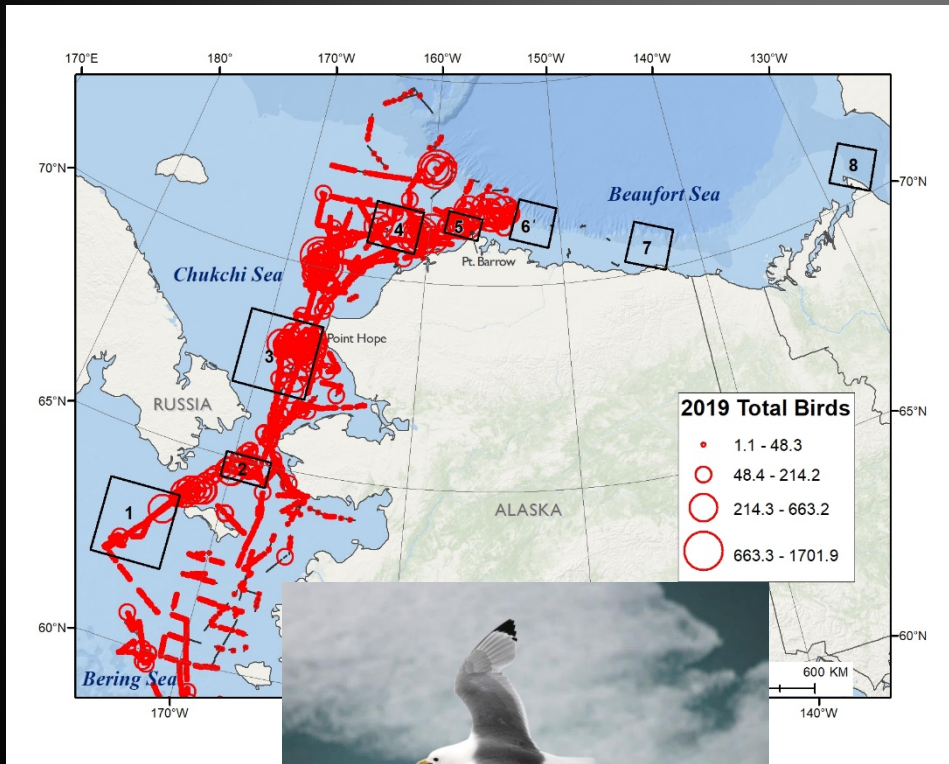
Cluster Analysis of at-sea survey data, 2007-2015

# Survey Effort in 2019

Region	DBO box	Km Surveyed
Bering Sea	1	654
	2	360
Chukchi	3	1503
	4	833
	5	359
Beaufort	6	8
	7	0
	8	0
Total Km in DBOs		3,716
Non-DBO Km surveyed		14,864



# 2019 Distribution of Total birds & 2 key species



# 2019 Seabird Die offs in Alaska – primarily starvation

