

SIGHTING SURVEY OF MARINE MAMMALS

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The sighting survey of whales and other marine mammals on board of the UMITAKA MARU was carried out during the period from November 1980 to February 1981 as a part of BIOMASS project. The survey was mainly made in two areas, on the meridional line of 125°E and on the lines of 155°E and 160°E. Few marine mammals were found in the former area, while the scanty of krill in the same waters was as expected. On the other hand, in the latter area there were found many patches of krill together with many marine mammals varying in species. It was made clear that the ability of expert in detecting fairly excel in the visual range as well as in the sighting technique than that of non-expert. The records made by non-expert would be preferable to be amended to some extent without accepting them at face value. (p. 213-224)