



HEALY NEWSLETTER — DEPLOYMENT 2025

Photography by PA1 Strohmaier, PA3 Sappey, and SN Ballard
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THE STORY SO FAR...





AMOS MISSION

On its first leg of science, Healy supported Arctic Mobile Observing System (AMOS) mission. This research helps to draw a more complete picture of the physical properties of the Arctic Ocean, which will improve operational predictions in the future. Over the course of the mission, Healy conducted conductivity, temperature, and depth (CTD) casts, mapped hundreds of miles of the sea floor, and recovered and deployed moorings and autonomous underwater gliders.



Components of the moorings emit acoustic signals at precise times to enable navigation by autonomous mobile under-ice platforms.

The information gathered during the AMOS instruments, such as conductivity, temperature, and depth of water, helps the Navy understand and predict sea ice conditions and ocean thermodynamics in the Arctic.



ENGINEERING

Engineers routinely conducted Basic Engineering Casualty Control Exercises (BECCES), which are simulated engineering emergencies, to increase their ability to rapidly respond to and take initial action against engineering casualties.



Additional drills have been conducted by the Damage Control Training Team, including fire, man overboard, personnel casualty, flooding, flight crash, collision, and abandon ship. Crew and civilian personnel responded to simulated casualties to build proficiency and enhance mission readiness on deployment.





In addition to keeping the lights on and Sunday sundaes cold, the engineers onboard have kept busy combatting casualties and running drills to keep crew readiness high.



WILDLIFE



There has been no shortage of friendly faces among the ice this summer, with polar bears, seals, walruses, seabirds, jellyfish, and several types of whales being spotted at sea.



On the shores of Alaska, crew got the opportunity to see bald eagles, sea otters, salmon, brown bears, foxes, deer, and more.



FLIGHT OPS



Healy conducted two successful flight operations while at sea in collaboration with Air Station Kodiak. Here, Ensign Tipton guides a helicopter onto the flight deck for a safe landing.

ICE RESCUE



Ice rescue training was conducted to train crew members on the proper techniques to rescue personnel during periods when the crew or science party is deployed on the ice. Each member had to rescue and be rescued by another crew member from the frigid Arctic waters.



MORALE

Independence Day was celebrated with a movie showing in the Science Conference Room, cookies, and the option to wear civilian clothes.



A cornhole tournament was held on the flight deck in celebration of Coast Guard Day. Senior Chief Adams and Brian Nutall from Polar Science Network won the tournament, defeating BM3 Klein and BM3 Lillis.

Several bingo and trivia nights have been held on the messdeck, with prizes for the respective winners.



PORT CALLS



📍 DUTCH HARBOR, ALASKA

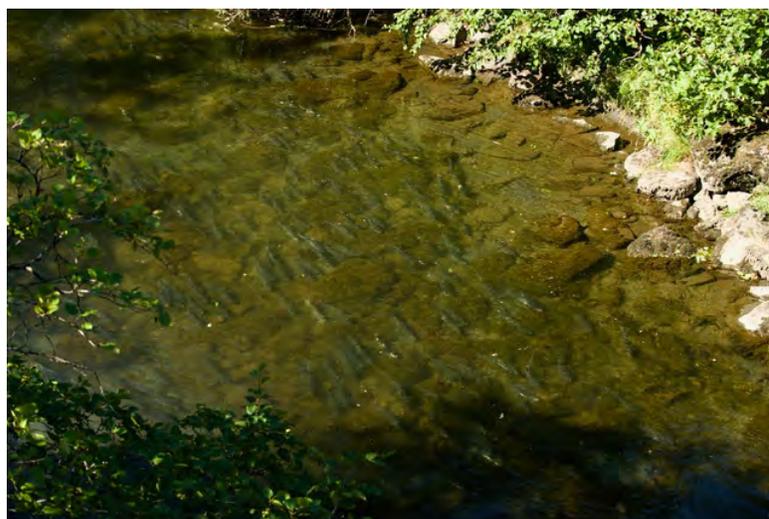
The crew took full advantage of their time in Dutch Harbor by hanging out by the fire at the Norwegian Rat Saloon, getting iced lattes at Dutch Grind coffee shop, and stocking up for the next leg of deployment at Safeway.





📍 KODIAK, ALASKA

After a longer stretch at sea, crew got a much-needed break in Kodiak, AK. The port call was filled with salmon fishing, bear-spotting, bar-crawling, eating sushi at Hana, and gearing up for a nearly two-month next leg.



OPERATION FRONTIER SENTINEL



Healy responded to and monitored multiple foreign vessels operating over the United States Extended Continental Shelf. Healy was relieved by the newly commissioned CGC Storis.





NABOS MISSION

Healy's longest leg of deployment is focused on collecting scientific data for the Nansen and Amundsen Basins Observational System, or NABOS. This data helps to monitor and draw a picture of the oceanographic and climate conditions in the Siberian region of the Arctic. Data on trace metal content, microplastics, temperature, salinity, and density of organisms is collected via various instruments cast into and retrieved from the water.



The NABOS mission gathers critical data on global trends in the Arctic climate, allowing the science party to produce publications that inform the broader scientific community. Recently, investigations have been focused on finding the cause for sea-ice reduction in the area.





ICE STATION

The final evolution of the NABOS mission was conducted not on Healy, but on the surface of the ice. Multiple stations were set up to conduct ice sampling and to deploy an on-ice mooring.





LIBERTY

After the conclusion of science, Healy crew got the opportunity to step on the ice for liberty. Quarters was conducted, which included a reenlistment, cutterman ceremony, and an advancement. Afterwards, the crew enjoyed activities such as tossing a football, making snow angels, and taking advantage of photo ops.





NEXT...

Healy has achieved significant operational successes over the past three months. Several new crew members earned the title of Golden Dragon by crossing the International Date Line, and the title of Polar Bear by crossing the Arctic Circle. The crew looks forward to the final month of patrol, including a port call in Juneau, AK.