

**ZOOLOGICAL PATHOLOGY PROGRAM  
STRANDED CETACEAN NECROPSY REPORT**

**Field ID:** 41IMMS022711  
**Additional Identifier:**  
**ZPP Accession Number:** 11-33Tt  
**Species:** *Tursiops truncatus*  
**Strand Date:** 2/27/11  
**Strand Location:** Dauphin Island, Alabama  
**Sex:** F  
**Age Class:** Calf  
**Necropsy Date:** 3/1/2011  
**Condition code:** 3  
**Total Length:** 87 cm  
**Weight:** 10 lbs estimated  
**Blubber Depth:**  
**Body Condition:**

**Gross Necropsy:** Report on file.

Gross findings include (from report):

**EXTERNAL EXAM:** Multiple skull fractures visible; it was noted that may have been worsened at time of recovery. Unable to visualize fetal folds. No vibrissae present on beak. Maxilla – tooth buds present and some teeth starting to erupt. Mandible – only buds present and symphysis separated. Both eyes missing. Large section of tissue missing from the melon. Right pectoral fin absent except for one phalanx. Fins and flukes soft and flexible. Tip of dorsal fin missing –blunt edge. Right side of the body has almost all of the skin missing. Open abdomen. Left side of body – 95% of skin still present. Some bruising present behind left axilla. Open hole (scavenging) under left flipper. Umbilicus open (4 cm x 4cm).

**MUSCULOSKELETON**

**Axial Muscle:** Extensive bruising from left shoulder joint through thorax and up to dorsum.

**Axial Skeleton:** Hemorrhagic tissue covering left side of skull. Skull fragments collected.

**CIRCULATORY SYSTEM**

**Heart:** Patent ductus arteriosus

**Slides/Tissues Received:** 4 regular slides.

**Microscopic Findings:**

Slide 1:

Blood vessel: No significant findings (NSF).  
Unidentifiable tissue (possible heart): NSF

Slide 2:

Blood vessel (probably aorta and pulmonary artery): NSF

Slide 3:

Bone: NSF

Slide 4:

Bone: NSF

**Final Diagnosis:**

Open

**Ancillary Test Results:** None available at the time of report.

**Comments:**

Cause of death was not evident in the tissues examined, however, only a few pieces of tissue were submitted for analysis. In addition there was marked autolysis.

Reported By:

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September 29, 2011