

GROSS NECROPSY REPORT

SPECIES Tursiops truncatus FIELD NUMBER 64IMMS06192010 DATE 19June2010

LOCATION Gulf of Mexico LAT 30.15231 LONG -89.06033

GENDER Male TL 224 cms COND 3 WEIGHT N/E 450# Est.

HISTORY: Found dead off of Cat Island, Ms. Pulled to shore

NECROPSY

**EXTERNAL EXAM:** Distal portion of left fluke was cut off and healed. Healed rake marks extending across middle of dorsal surface of left fluke. Right fluke dorsal surface had conspecific rake marks along entire cranial border. Distal dorsal right fluke had red excoriated lesion from conspecific rake marks. Ventral right fluke had several conspecific rake marks on distal tip and dorsal aspect. Lateral left side of peduncle had multiple scars from conspecific rake marks. Penis was extruded and had narrow linear raised lesion. Left dorsal fin had multiple healed conspecific rake marks. Left lateral side had multiple linear superficial scrapes extending from left eye to mid dorsal fin. Left eye was extruding. Just caudal to dorsal fin on lateral left side were multiple fly maggot eggs. Teeth arcade looked normal. Tongue was swollen and purple. Right pectoral flipper had approximately 2 inches cut off and healed on distal end. Right ventral neck had 2 swirling rake marks. Right side of body from caudal mouth to dorsal fin had thick brownish orange colored sticky material. (oil?). Responder who picked up cadaver yesterday said the material was not visible yesterday. Blistered skin under axilla-postmortem autolysis. Healed circular indented scar lesion on left mid lateral peduncle

**INTERNAL EXAM:** Left shoulder joint- NAF

**BLUBBER:**

Mid-thoracic blubber thickness (mm): 9 mm (dorsal), 8 mm (lateral), 9 mm ventral.

Anterior dorsal fin (mm): 20 (dorsal), 9 (lateral), 9 (ventral)

Peduncle (mm): 29 (dorsal), 10 (lateral), 22 (ventral)

**MUSCULOSKELETON**

**Axial Muscle:** Epaxial muscle normal. Well muscled. Hyaxial muscle normal.

**Axial Skeleton:** No observed broken bones

**Ribs & Sternum:** No observed broken bones

**CIRCULATORY SYSTEM**

**Heart:** Pericardium was full of serosanguineous fluid. Heart had reddish black streaks and appeared to have hemorrhaging around the blood vessels. There appear to be very little fat around the arteries. Heart valves were normal. Left atrium was reddish black.

COPY

**RESPIRATORY SYSTEM**

**Blowhole:** NVL

**Trachea:** Trachea and bronchial lining was dark red (hemorrhagic)

**Lungs:** Serosa was dark reddish colored. Lung was firm. Several nodules were palpable throughout the lungs. Nodules contained long linear white worms and inflammatory tissue.

**DIGESTIVE SYSTEM**

**Abdominal cavity:** Large amount of serosanguinous fluid poured out when cut into abdominal cavity.

**Esophagus:** Reddish, tan fluid observed coming out of esophagus. Four undigested fish in esophagus up to area over heart.

**Fore Stomach:** Packed full of undigested fish and 2 shrimp. Gastric fluid was cream colored.

**Main Stomach:** Few otoliths.

**Pyloric Stomach:** Full of gas and tan colored fluid

**Intestine:** Moderate amount of tan colored fluid.

**Colon:** Thick light brown material in colon. Sample collected for hydrocarbon analysis

**Describe food-stuffs found in GI Tract:** 20- 30 undigested whole fish and two shrimp. One digested shrimp. Several otoliths in contents.

**Describe parasites found in GI Tract:** One 1-cm long narrow white worm

**Liver:** NVL. No parasites seen

**Pancreas:** Very large, firm and light pink colored

**URINARY SYSTEM**

**Kidneys:** There was air under the renal capsule on both sides. Medulla was red

**Adrenals:** Adrenal glands were red

**Urinary Bladder:** Small amount of yellow, thick urine

**ENDOCRINE & HEMOLYMPHATIC SYSTEMS**

**Thymus:** Not present

Thyroid: NVL

Pituitary: Small, decomposing

Spleen: Serosa had a few black spots on the serosa. Deep to the black spots were reddish black nodules

Lymph Nodes: Mesenteric ln were hemorrhagic.

REPRODUCTIVE TRACT:

CENTRAL NERVOUS SYSTEM

Brain: Very autolyzed, pale and small.

Spinal Cord: Autolyzed

HEAD

SENSORY ORGANS

Eyes: Both eyes extruding- Post mortem change

Ears: NAF

OTHER:

CONCLUSIONS:

Carcass Disposition: Put in refrigerator then will be moved to custody freezer truck at IMMS

CAUSE OF DEATH FROM FIELD DETERMINATION:

This report was generated by: Dr. Connie Chevis