

**GROSS NECROPSY REPORT**

*Updated 11/11/2010*

**SPECIES** *Tursiops truncatus* **FIELD NUMBER** 75IMMD080310 **DATE** 8/4/2010

**LOCATION** Gulfport, MS **LAT** 30.19.152/**LONG** -89.00.681

**GENDER** Male **TL** 245.8 **COND** 3 **WEIGHT** 193 kgs

**HISTORY:** Found floating dead 4.4 miles SSE of Cowan Rd, Gulfport, MS

**NECROPSY**

**EXTERNAL EXAM:** Generalized superficial linear and “x” shaped lesions on dorsal, ventral, and lateral sides, head, rostrum and jaws. Right fluke missing with circular, irregular edges- suspect shark bite. Upper right jaw- 24 teeth, 2-8 (caudal to cranial count) teeth worn diagonally on the cranial aspect. 15-23 worn horizontally on distal tip. Lower right side- 25 teeth, 6-10 worn on caudal aspect, 23 broken on caudal aspect. Tongue- blackish green, swollen. Right and left eyes protruding. Right flipper- multiple excoriation lesions on the cranial surface. Tip of flipper missing, healed. Multiple superficial scrapes on the right lateral aspect of right flipper. Excoriations on the lower jaw. Multiple conspecific rake marks on sides, abdomen- healed. Multiple linear and “x” shaped lesions on fluke. Excoriations to connective tissue on cranial and caudal edges of fluke. Penis extruded. Ventral left flipper- multiple healed conspecific rake marks and linear and x shaped superficial lesions. Excoriations in front of right eye. Excoriations on left side of neck. Multiple linear and “x” lesions along entire left side. Tip of left flipper had triangular 0.5x0.6 cm piece and a 1 cm circular piece missing, healed. Slight indentation behind head (peanut head).

**INTERNAL EXAM:** Large hematoma on left lower jaw. No fractures palpable. Severe degenerative joint disease in left shoulder.

**BLUBBER:** Subcutaneous tissue well hydrated

**MUSCULOSKELETON**

**Axial Muscle:** Severe degenerative joint disease in left shoulder.

**Axial Skeleton:** No fractures found. Bruising on left shoulder. Approximately 28 cm X 7 cm area of bruising on left lateral body dorsal to left shoulder.

**Ribs & Sternum:** No fractures found

**CIRCULATORY SYSTEM**

**Heart:** Hemorrhaging around coronary arteries

**RESPIRATORY SYSTEM**

**Blowhole:** Blood coming out of blowhole

**Lungs:** Blood in trachea and bronchi. Tracheal and bronchial mucosa-dark red. Multiple, generalized granulomas- parasitic. Moderate to severe parasitemia- long slender white worms. Left lung had fingerlike projection on cranial medial aspect. Projection was 22.5 cm long with 4 cm finger. Subcutaneous air surrounding base of aorta.

**DIGESTIVE SYSTEM**

**Esophagus:** Undigested menhaden from midthorax esophagus to forestomach. Blood in cranial esophagus.

**Fore Stomach:** Packed full of partially digested and undigested menhaden

**Main Stomach:** Empty

**Pyloric Stomach:** Several Branina sp

**Intestine:** No parasites found.

**Describe food-stuffs found in GI Tract:** Packed with partially digested and whole menhaden

**Describe parasites found in GI Tract:** Circular, off-white, attached to stomach mucosa.

**Liver:** Edges sharp, some bleeding on cutting.

**Pancreas:** large, subcutaneous air on mucosa

**URINARY SYSTEM**

**Kidneys:** No kidney stones found.

**Adrenals:** Dark red

**Urinary Bladder:** Approx. 25 mls of thick, opaque urine in bladder.

**ENDOCRINE & HEMOLYMPHATIC SYSTEMS**

**Thymus:** Not present

**Thyroid:** Dark red

**Pituitary:** dark red

**Spleen:** Dark red

**Lymph Nodes:** No abnormalities found.

**REPRODUCTIVE TRACT:**

1.5 cm x 0.6 cm raised cauliflower like lesion oriented perpendicular to dorsal midline of penis, 4 cm from tip of penis.

**CENTRAL NERVOUS SYSTEM**

**Brain:** Extremely decomposed

**Spinal Cord:** No abnormalities found

**HEAD** Multiple excoriations on head

**SENSORY ORGANS**

**Eyes:** Both eyes protruding, swollen.

**Ears:** No abnormalities found

**Carcass Disposition:** Frozen in evidence truck at IMMS

**CAUSE OF DEATH FROM FIELD DETERMINATION:** Trauma. Suspect fishing net entrapment. Some evidence of hemorrhaging.

**This report was generated by:** Dr. Connie Chevis

**TISSUES COLLECTED**

**Frozen (-10°C): IMMS**

Teeth  
Blubber  
Muscle  
Liver  
Kidney  
Stomach contents  
Urine  
Abdominal fluid  
Blood

**Hydrocarbon analysis: Frozen**

Bile  
Blood  
Urine  
Liver X2  
Kidney X 2  
Blubber X 2  
Abdominal X 2  
Stomach content 2

**Histo (10% Buffered Formalin): Dr. Rotstein X2, IMMS X2**

Blubber  
Muscle  
Liver  
Kidney- left  
Stomach  
Lung-left  
Eyes- R-DROT, L-IMMS  
Heart- L,R atrium, L,R ventricle  
Intestine  
Lymph nodes- sprascapular, tracheobronchial, mesenteric  
Testis  
Spinal cord  
Adrenal  
Pulmonary artery  
Aorta  
Penis  
Left shoulder joint for DROT

**70% ETOH:**

skin

**Virology study- Dr. Romero:**

Penile lesion  
Lung  
BH swab  
Spleen  
Liver

Kidney  
Culturette: shoulder joint, abdominal fluid

**Cultures to Memorial Hospital Gulfport.**

Stomach fluid- **Results:** Vibrio damsela, 2+Vibrio damsela. No fungus isolated at 4 weeks.

**Other:** Parasites to Dr. Overstreet in formalin

**PHOTOS/VIDEO:** Yes/No

**ASSOCIATED DATA SHEETS:** Level A Data Form, Delphinid Specimen record, NOAA Photo Log, NOAA Chain of custody record.