# GROSS NECROPSY REPORT

SPECIES: Tursiops FIELD NUMBER: 94IMMS052011 DATE: 052011

LOCATION: Biloxi Ms. LAT: 30,39343 /LONG: -88,92448

GENDER: Male TL: 172 cm COND: code 3 WEIGHT: 170 lbs

#### **HISTORY:**

Animal found beached, lying on the left side with the head facing the water. No blood was present and animal did not appear to have hemorrhagic lesions externally. When the animal was moved blood leaked from the mouth. The animal was transported to IMMS and frozen prior to necropsy.

# **NECROPSY**

#### **EXTERNAL EXAM:**

The skin is sloughing bilaterally on the rostrum maxilla, and mandible. The sloughing continues in an irregular shape which encompasses both eyes. The underlying tissue of the mandible is hemorrhagic. The right eye is intact and the left eye is ruptured. All teeth appear to be present and in good condition. The palate is hemorrhagic. The tongue is swollen and necrotic lesions are present bilaterally. There is generalized sloughing of skin of both pectoral fins. The proximal one-third of the left pectoral fin is swollen transversely and a 3cm superficial circular lesion is located on the lateral aspect of the fin adjacent to the cranial margin. The ventrum is hemorrhagic. Multiple superficial rake marks are present laterally on the left. The marks start longitudinally at the cranial margin of the dorsal fin ventrally, and continue diagonally caudo-dorsaly and end longitudinally at the penis. The penis is extended and lesions are present distally on the dorsal surface and at the base. The peduncle and fluke have generalized sloughing of the skin.

#### **INTERNAL EXAM:**

#### **BLUBBER:**

Regions of petechiae both dorsally and ventrally no evidence of trauma in those regions skin and underlying tissue appeared grossly normal.

# MUSCULOSKELETON

**Axial Muscle:** 

Appeared grossly normal

**Axial Skeleton** 

Appeared grossly normal

Ribs & Sternum:

**Grossly normal** 

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# **CIRCULATORY SYSTEM**

Heart:

Serosal surface appeared grossly normal. The superior mucosal surface of both the left and right ventricles appeared hemorrhagic.

#### RESPIRATORY SYSTEM

**Blowholes:** 

Appeared grossly normal

#### Lungs:

The serosal surface of both lungs appears grossly normal. The parenchyma contains multiple diffuse calcified nodules ranging from 1 to 4 mm

#### **DIGESTIVE SYSTEM**

Esophagus:

Appeared grossly normal a small amount of dietary matter was observed in the distal portion

Fore Stomach: The serosal surface appeared grossly normal. The stomach was

Excised en-bloc and tied off cranially at the distal esophagus and caudally at the duodenum to preserve gastric contents.

Further evaluation was not possible

Main Stomach:

**Pyloric Stomach:** 

**Intestine:** 

The intestine was moderately autolysed no gross lesions were observed.

**Describe food-stuffs found in GI Tract:** 

Stomach contents could not be evaluated intestinal tract contained brown/yellow liquid fecal material

**Describe parasites found in GI Tract:** 

None

Liver:

The left lobe appears pale and autolysed it is smaller than the right lobe which appears more normal in color and texture. No lesions or parasites were observed in either lobe.

Pancreas:

**Autolysed** 

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# **URINARY SYSTEM**

**Kidneys:** 

Mildly autolysed no gross lesions observed

**Adrenals:** 

Appeared grossly normal

**Urinary Bladder:** 

The serosal and mucosal surfaces appeared grossly normal the lumen contained bloody urine

# **ENDOCRINE & HEMOLYMPHATIC SYSTEMS**

Thymus:

Not located

Thyroid:

Not located

Pituitary:

Autolysed

Spleen:

Moderately autolysed

**Lymph Nodes:** 

Appeared grossly normal

**REPRODUCTIVE TRACT:** 

**Appeared grossly normal** 

**CENRTRAL NERVOUS SYSTEM** 

**Brain:** 

**Autolysed** 

**Spinal Cord:** 

Autolysed

**HEAD** 

**SENSORY ORGANS** 

Eyes:

Both eyes autolysed the right eye still intact the left eye was ruptured.

Ears:

Appeared grossly normal

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# **OTHER:**

# **CONCLUSIONS:**

The animal was frozen prior to necropsy making it difficult to determine which of the above described lesions occurred post mortem

# **Carcass Disposition:**

**IMMS** 

# CAUSE OF DEATH FROM FIELD DETERMINATION:

Cause of death could not be determined from gross necropsy.

This report was generated by: Joey Kaletsch DVM, Connie Chevis DVM

PHOTOS/VIDEO: Yes/

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