

**ZOOLOGICAL PATHOLOGY PROGRAM  
STRANDED CETACEAN NECROPSY REPORT**

**Field ID:** MCT-20110330-LA001  
**Additional Identifier:** LA 496  
**ZPP Accession Number:** 12-Sa24  
**Species:** *Stenella attenuata*  
**Strand Date:** 03/30/2011  
**Strand Location:** Louisiana  
**Sex:** Male  
**Age Class:** Subadult  
**Necropsy Date:** 03/30/2011  
**Condition code:** 2  
**Total Length:** 203 cm  
**Weight:**  
**Blubber Depth:**  
**Body Condition:**

**Gross Necropsy:** Gross report on file. Animal found caught in a trawl net with 2 other conspecifics.

**Slides/Tissues Received:** 25 regular slides, 1 large slide.

**Microscopic Findings:**

Slide 1:

Intestine: No significant findings (NSF).

Slide 2:

Caudal Lung: Regionally bronchioles and alveoli are filled with red blood cells. Focally within a dilated bronchiole there is an aggregate of up to 80 micron diameter nematodes surrounded by small numbers of macrophages, eosinophils, and lymphocytes. Parasites have an eosinophilic cuticle, coelomyarian musculature, lateral cords, and an intestinal tract with few multinucleated cells.

Slide 3:

Lung: Multifocally alveoli and bronchioles contain moderate numbers of red blood cells.

Lung associated lymph node: There is moderate lymphoid hyperplasia. Few macrophages in sinuses contain dark brown to black pigment.

Slide 4:

Cranial lung: Regionally alveolar spaces are expanded by clear space and septae are straightened.

Adrenal gland: NSF

Slide 5:

Middle lung: Regionally bronchioles and adjacent alveoli contain moderate numbers of foamy macrophages and lymphocytes. Alveolar septae contain small to moderate numbers of lymphocytes. Some macrophages contain pale yellow material. More diffusely there is moderate hemorrhage.

Diaphragm: NSF

Slide 6:

Lung: NSF

Thyroid gland: NSF

Trachea: The submucosa contains small numbers of lymphocytes and plasma cells.

Slide 7:

Esophagus: NSF

Pancreas: NSF

Lymph node: Sinuses contain moderate numbers of histiocytes some of which contain hemosiderin.

Slide 8:

Kidney: Within the interstitium are scattered small to moderately sized aggregates of lymphocytes and few macrophages. These aggregates occasionally surround blood vessels.

Unknown connective tissue: Along one side of a piece of connective and adipose tissue there are large numbers of plasma cells and lymphocytes and fewer macrophages and hemosiderin laden macrophages. Focally these cells surround a superficial aggregate of eosinophilic fibrillar, necrotic debris, macrophages, smaller numbers of lymphocytes and plasma cells, and a few red blood cells. Connective tissue contains many reactive blood vessels.

Slide 9:

Spleen: NSF

Liver: Hepatocytes contain very small amounts of hemosiderin.

Urinary bladder: NSF

Slide 10:

Larynx: NSF

Epididymis: NSF

Slide 11:

Heart: NSF

Slide 12:  
Heart: NSF

Slide 13:  
Heart and Aorta: NSF

Slide 14:  
Skin: NSF

Skin: Adipose tissue contains a moderately sized nodule with a cavitory center. The central cavity is surrounded by a rim of moderate numbers of macrophages and multinucleated giant cells, a band of fibrous connective tissue and external to the band moderate numbers of lymphocytes and plasma cells.

Slide 15:  
Axillary lymph node: NSF

Oral mucosa: NSF

Slide 16:  
Penis: NSF

Slide 17:  
Testis: NSF

Epididymis: NSF

Slide 18:  
Cerebrum: NSF

Slide 19:  
Cerebrum: NSF

Slide 20:  
Cerebrum: NSF

Slide 21:  
Cerebrum: NSF

Slide 22:  
Brain: NSF

Slide 23:  
Cerebellum: NSF

Slide 24:

Cerebellum: NSF

Slide 25:

Bone marrow: NSF

Slide 26:

Eye: NSF

**Final Diagnoses:**

1. Body as a whole: Drowning in a trawl net (clinical diagnosis)
2. Lung: Moderate multifocal hemorrhage
3. Caudal lung: Mild granulomatous bronchopneumonia with intralesional metastrongyles
4. Cranial lung: Moderate focal emphysema
5. Lung associated lymph node: Mild hemosiderosis
6. Kidney: Mild multifocal lymphocytic interstitial nephritis
7. Connective tissue (unknown site): Moderate lymphoplasmacytic and granulomatous cellulitis
8. Blubber: Focal parasitic cyst

**Ancillary Test Results:**

Bacterial and fungal culture results on file. No significant findings.

**Comments:**

This animal was found dead in a trawl net with several other dolphins and presumably drowned. The pulmonary hemorrhage and emphysema noted may be a result of drowning. The cellulitis, granulomatous bronchopneumonia, and blubber cyst were all consistent with various mild parasitic infections. Other lesions were regarded as incidental findings.

Reported By:

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