

**ZOOLOGICAL PATHOLOGY PROGRAM
STRANDED CETACEAN NECROPSY REPORT**

Field ID: SDD20110404-LA001
Additional Identifier: LA500
ZPP Accession Number: 11-74Tt
Species: *Tursiops truncatus*
Strand Date: 04/04/2011
Strand Location: Grand Isle, Louisiana
Sex: M
Age Class: Neonate
Necropsy Date:
Condition code: 3
Total Length: 104 cm
Weight:
Blubber Depth:
Body Condition:

Gross Necropsy: Gross report on file. Gross findings include (from report):

There is no meconium within the colon. Rostral follicles are evident and the dorsal fin is folded to the left. The ductus arteriosus and foramen ovale are patent and representative portions of lung sink in formation.

Slides/Tissues Received: 8 slides

Microscopic Findings:

Slide 1:

Kidney: No significant findings (NSF).

Liver: NSF

Spleen NSF

Slide 2:

Lung: Sections are diffusely atelectic. Throughout the sections alveolar spaces and bronchioles contain moderate numbers of amniotic squamous cells and there is a moderate increase in cellularity (indicative of inflammation). Scattered bronchioles and alveolar spaces contain small to moderately sized accumulations of smudgy eosinophilic to golden yellow material (presumed meconium).

Liver: NSF

Slide 3:

Heart: NSF

Unknown tissue (possible mediastinum): NSF

Slide 4:

Heart: NSF

Umbilical vessel: NSF

Soft tissue with blood vessel, location unknown: NSF

Slide 5:

Heart: NSF

Slide 6:

Testis: NSF

Unknown soft tissue: NSF

Slide 7:

Heart: NSF

Slide 8:

Intestine: NSF

Final Diagnoses:

1. Lungs: Diffuse atelectasis, fetal distress, and moderate pneumonia

Ancillary Test Results: None available.

Comments:

There was evidence of fetal distress and pneumonia in this neonate indicative of in utero fetal infection. Bacterial infection is the top rule out and additional testing for *Brucella* sp. via PCR should be considered. The diffuse atelectasis indicates that this animal did not breath following birth/abortion. Though there was marked autolysis that hindered histologic analysis, morphologic features of the lung lesions were similar to other cases of pneumonia in neonatal dolphins recently diagnosed from the Gulf of Mexico.

Reported By:

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