

**ZOOLOGICAL PATHOLOGY PROGRAM  
STRANDED CETACEAN NECROPSY REPORT**

**Field ID:** MCT-20100529-LA001BCF-20110503-LA001  
**Additional Identifier:** BP-2010-LA63 (LA63); 10-239C  
**ZPP Accession Number:** 11-056Tt  
**Species:** *Tursiops truncatus*  
**Strand Date:** 05-29-10  
**Strand Location:** Grand Isle, LA  
**Sex:** male  
**Age Class:** Subadult  
**Necropsy Date:** 05-29-10  
**Condition code:** 3  
**Total Length:** 154 cm  
**Weight:**  
**Blubber Depth:**  
**Body Condition:**

**Gross Necropsy:** Oiled marine mammal gross report available.

**Slides/Tissues Received:** 11 regular slides.

**Microscopic Findings:** Autolysis is severe, greatly impeding tissue identification and interpretation; also widespread colonization by large numbers of postmortem bacteria.

Slide 1:

Peripheral nerve and adjacent lymph node: No Significant Findings (NSF)

Luminal organ: NSF

Glandular organ; possible adrenal: NSF

Slide 2:

Skeletal muscle: NSF

Testis and epididymis: NSF

Slide 3:

(Presumed) spleen: NSF

Lung: Few bronchi and bronchioles contain luminal mineralized nematode remnants. The submucosa and immediately adjacent interstitium have mild fibrosis. Another bronchiole contains several apparently viable nematodes.

Glandular, tissue (rule out salivary gland): NSF

Slide 4:

Lung (3 sections): Scattered conducting airways contain luminal mineralized or viable nematodes. Submucosa and or surrounding interstitium of some airways has increased fibrous tissue. Surrounding alveoli often contain many cells; some are recognizable as macrophages. In two sections the pleura has a moderate, diffuse increase in dense mature fibrous tissue.

Slide 5:

Heart: NSF

Slide 6:

Thymus: NSF

Unknown tissue: NSF

Heart: NSF

Slide 7:

Stomach: NSF

Kidney: NSF

Liver: NSF

Slide 8:

Lung (3 sections): Similar, though lesser changes as for Slide 4.

Slide 9:

Luminal organs, intestine, stomach/ampulla and urinary bladder, presumptive: NSF

Slide 10:

Great vessels: NSF

Slide 11:

Skin with blubber: NSF

Skeletal muscle: NSF

**Final Diagnosis:**

1. Mild, multifocal, bronchitis with intralesional nematodes and with alveolar histiocytosis

**Comments:**

Autolysis was advanced rendering meaningful interpretation of many tissues difficult. Lungworm infection and associated pulmonary changes was mild and of no clinical significance. Pleural fibrosis noted in two sections likely corresponded to regions near or at fibrous adhesions

described grossly. The absence of additional (inflammatory) cell infiltrates [even with autolysis presence of cells should have been evident] suggested this was a chronic/resolved lesion reflecting prior insult.

Reported By:

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June 29, 2012