

Environmental Science & Technology

Article

conditions previously documented in bottlenose dolphins from other U.S. coastal sites (e.g., vol. 5, p. 10).

Given these findings, it would be surprising not to see a recurrent objective to dolphin mortality for 30 yr. In fact, dolphins from this area in the 30 years have been observed and measured as

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reported.

The severe disease documented by this study and the continued elevation of mortalities raise significant concerns regarding both short-term and long-term impacts on the Barataria Bay dolphin population. Continued photographic monitoring studies, also being conducted as part of the *Deepwater Horizon* NRDA, will help to elucidate potential impacts on dolphin reproduction and long-term survival.

under the terms of the consent to publish, and do not necessarily reflect the views of NOAA.

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through permits for monitoring marine mammal populations (Dolphin Assess) and mortality in the distribution of chlorinated hydrocarbon related to geographic sampling sites. *J. Mar. Res.* 2009, 79, 983-992.

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