

**Northern Gulf UME Sample Collection Checklist** (Franklin County, FL to LA/TX Border) March 9, 2011

Photographs (see page 2) and morphometrics should be collected for all animals

Chain of custody procedures should be followed for ALL samples, photographs, and datasheets

If the animal is visibly oiled please call 877-433-8299 immediately

Field # **561MMS031311**

\*\*indicates priority sample

**PAH/Chemistry:**

Code 2 &amp; 3, 10-20g or 5 ml

Freeze -20, I-chem vial or foil

- ☒ Blubber  
☒ Liver  
☒ Lung  
☒ Kidney

Freeze -20, I-chem or glass vial:

- ☐ \*\*Bile  
☒ \*\*Urine  
☐ Whole blood  
☒ Aqueous humor **(L)**

**PAH/Chemistry con't:**

Freeze -20, foil, dull side in

All conditions:

- ☒ \*\*Swab  
☐ \*\*Tongue depressor (visibly oiled)

**CYP 1A:**

Code 2 &amp; 3, 1 cm thick section:

Freeze, cryovial, -80 if possible

Skin+full-thick blubber section

Formalin, 10:1 ratio

Skin+full-thick blubber section

**Biotoxins:**

Freeze -20, codes 2-4, 1 ml or 5g:

- ☒ \*\*Feces  
☒ \*\*Urine (if enough after PAH)  
☒ Liver

**Parasites (codes 2 - 4):**

In 70% Isopropyl alcohol

- External ☐ Representative sample from  
 Internal ☐ each species and each  
 location

**Life History (Codes 2 - 5):**

Freeze, -20:

- ☒ \*\*Teeth (4 or whole mandible)  
☒ \*\*Skin (isotope)  
☒ \*\*Stomach whole (prey, biotoxin, & PAH)  
 (see stomach instructions page 2)

In DMSO or frozen:

- ☒ \*\*Skin (genetics)

**Viral:**

Code 2 and early 3: 2 sets - 1 in RNA later vial and 1 in cryovial, both frozen at -80

Code late 3 and 4 - 1 set of priority samples (\*\*) in RNA later if possible

- \*\*Brain** RNA later ☒ -80 Grossly affected Lymph nodes and  
 Lung assoc LN- RNA later ☐ -80 other grossly affected tissues (list):  
**\*\*Lung** RNA later ☒ -80 *Skin Lesion -80*  
**\*\*Spleen** RNA later ☒ -80 *Lung Lesion -80*  
**\*\*Adrenal gland** RNA later ☒ -80  
**Kidney** RNA later ☒ -80  
**\*\*Liver** RNA later ☒ -80

**Bacterial Culture Swabs or tissues:**

Code 2 Ship to lab immediately on ice packs

- ☐ lung assoc. lymph node  
☐ \*\*Brain ☐ Liver  
☐ Spleen ☐ \*\*Lung

Other at vet's discretion:

**Histology (code 2 & 3):**

10% neutral buffered formalin, 10:1 formalin:tissue ratio

Samples fixed in formalin should be no more than 1 cm thick

- ☒ \*\*Lung ☒ \*\*Liver  
☒ \*\*Trachea ☒ \*\*Kidney  
☒ \*\*Heart (all 4 chambers) ☒ \*\*Adrenal Gland  
☒ Aorta ☒ Urinary bladder  
☐ Pulmonary Artery ☒ Blubber  
☐ Thymus ☒ Skin **1-LESION, 1-NORMAL**  
☐ \*\*Thyroid ☒ Muscle (specify location) **(L) Apaxia**  
☐ \*\*Laryngeal Assoc. Lymph. Tissue ☒ Eye **(L)**  
☒ Pharynx ☒ Gonad  
☒ Tongue ☐ Mammary Gland  
☐ Esophagus ☐ \*\*Uterus/Uterine horn  
☒ Small Intestine (proximal, mid, distal) ☒ Vagina & Cervix  
☒ Colon ☒ Prostate & Penis  
☐ Pancreas ☒ Lymph nodes (list): **\***  
☒ \*\*Spleen ☒ \*\*Thoracic **Mediastinal**  
☒ Spinal Cord (specify location) ☒ \*\*Abdominal/Genital **Mesenteric**  
☒ \*\*Brain **Cerebrum** **\*PRESCAPULAR L.N.**  
☐ **cerebellum** **stem, pituitary** **\*see back**

**Pregnant or postparturient females (code 2 & 3):**

- Uterine horn: ☐ Culture swab ☐ Formalin/histo ☐ -80 ☐ RNA later  
**\*\*Placenta:** ☐ Culture swab ☐ Formalin/histo ☐ -80 ☐ RNA later  
**\*\*Amniotic fluid:** ☐ Culture swab ☐ -80 ☐ RNA later  
 Genital LN: ☐ Culture swab ☐ Formalin/histo ☐ -80 ☐ RNA later  
 Fetus: follow fetal/neonate (<115 cm) protocol

**Live animals:**

Blood:

Collect the following and please see preparation information on page 2

- ☐ 1 - 3ml purple top K<sub>3</sub>EDTA  
☐ 5 - 10 ml red/gray tiger top SST tubes  
☐ 1 red top tube

Freeze -80 in Teflon for PAH:

☐ Whole blood

Swab:

- in viral transport media  
☐ Blowhole Swab (ship immediately on ice  
 packs if possible. If not, freeze at -80)

**Tursiops <115 cm (see also pg 2):**

Code 2/early 3 or visibly oiled:

- necropsy ASAP by network vet  
☐ \*\*Radiograph (before necropsy -  
 dorso-ventral view skull & body)  
☐ \*\*Fetus/neonate datasheet  
☐ \*\*Skull and skeleton, freeze intact  
☐ \*\*Umbilical stump & body wall (formalin)  
☐ Serum, from heart, freeze at -20, cryovial

Code Late 3 - 5 (no visible oil):

- ☐ \*\*Freeze whole (photos, length, PAH swab first)

Other Samples Collected:		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>urates</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**Standardized external photographs - As feasible, please collect the following from all animals:**

Whole body: left side, right side, dorsal, ventral Close ups: Dorsal fin, head, genitals Neonate add: umbilicus, tongue/mouth

**Tursiops <115 cm additional details:**

Code 2 OR early code 3 OR visibly oiled - any condition: These animals should be necropsied as soon as possible by a stranding network veterinarian. If your vet is unavailable, call the stranding pager and we will help find you an alternative. Please collect dorso-ventral view radiographs of the skull & body before necropsy. Please save the entire skull and skeleton. When collecting the urinary bladder for histo be sure to collect it whole or collect the tip and include the urachus.

Late code 3 - 5 (no visible oil): These should be frozen whole. Please collect your external PAH swabs at the stranding site. Please take external photographs and the genetics skin sample in DMSO before freezing. If time allows, please score the external neonate characteristics from the neonatal characters data sheet

**Blood preparation instructions - Blood from live animals:**

The following blood tubes are for CBC, serum chemistry and serum electrophoresis:  
Send 1st samples from intake or beach to Cornell and a pre-release sample to Cornell, other diagnostics may be done locally  
Send on ice packs the night of collection, if not possible, send the next morning:  
1 - 3ml purple top K3EDTA - refrigerate, send whole on ice packs  
1 - 10 ml red/gray tiger top SST tube - spin and refrigerate, send on ice packs

The following blood tubes are for hormones and can be shipped to cornell in batches:  
(hormones include: cortisol, progesterone, testosterone, aldosterone and thyroid hormones - total T4, free T4 and total T3)  
2 - 10 ml red/gray tiger top SST tubes - spin and remove the serum from both into a 5 ml cryovial, freeze at -80, ship on dry ice

**Serum for archive:**

1 - 10 ml red/gray tiger top SST tube - spin, remove serum into a cryovial and archive at -80

**Serum for biotoxin:**

1 - 10 ml red/gray tiger top SST tube - spin, remove serum into a cryovial, freeze at -20 until shipment on dry ice

**Buffy coat (if possible):**

1 red top tube, spin, carefully remove buffy coat into a cryovial and freeze at -80

**Blood preparation instructions - Blood from dead animals:**

Tursiops calves <115 cm - code 2 : Use red/gray tiger top SST tubes, collect as much blood as possible from a heart stick - spin, remove serum into a cryovial, freeze at -20 for future shipment, will be used for electrophoresis  
Code 2 or 3 - please collect whole blood in an i-chem or glass vial and freeze at -20 for PAH

**Stomach special instructions:**

Tie off the stomach at both ends. Remove whole stomach and freeze in plastic. Do not open it!  
A person will be identified who will receive the stomachs, examine them for internal lesions, collect histology samples of lesions as needed, identify the prey and subsample for biotoxins

**PAH/Chemistry:**

If you have questions regarding collection methodology, please see attached Appendices 6 & 7 from the Marine Mammal Oil Spill Response Guidelines



## GROSS NECROPSY REPORT

**SPECIES :** *Tursiops truncatus* **FIELD NUMBER:** 56IMMS031311 **DATE:** 3/16/2011

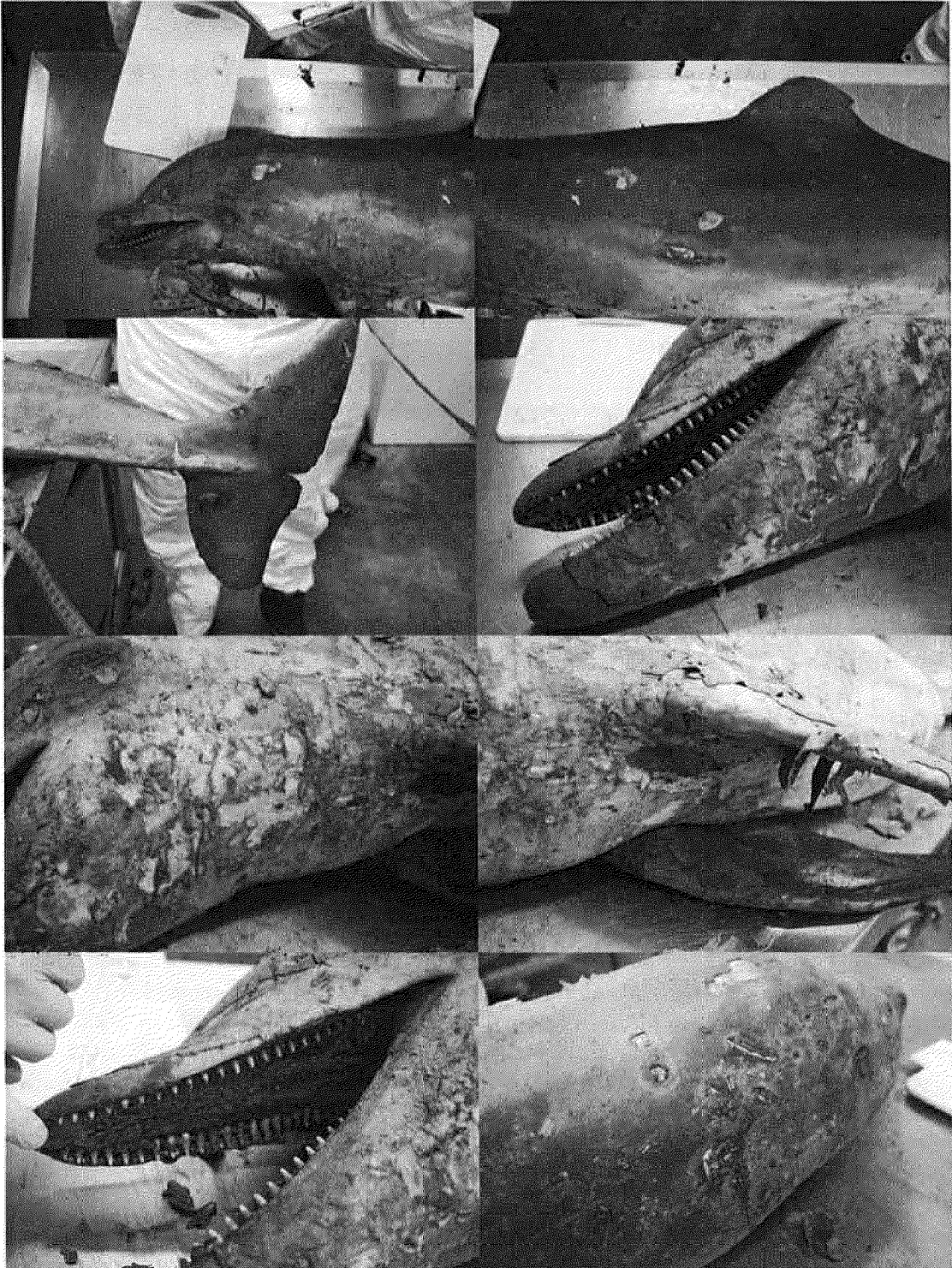
**LOCATION :** Davis Bayou **LAT** 30.39414/**LONG** -88.77150

**GENDER:** Male **TL:** 211.5 cm **COND:** 3 **WEIGHT:** est. 200 lbs

**HISTORY:** Animal was found at Davis Bayou on bank partially on the bank and marsh. Single incident. Findings of human interaction CBD, no gear collected.

### NECROPSY

**EXTERNAL EXAM:** The animal appears to be underweight with a body condition score of 2 of 5 wherein 3 is the ideal, 1 is completely emaciated, and 5 is extremely obese. When manipulating the animal on the necropsy table a moderate amount of blood leaked from the mouth and blowhole. There is sloughing of the skin bilaterally on the rostral aspect of the maxilla and mandible the underlying tissue appears to be bruised and hemorrhagic. All the teeth are present and appear to be in good condition. The tongue appears grossly normal with mild autolysis. The skin is sloughed from the hard and soft palate and the underlying tissue is necrotic and hemorrhagic. Tissue under the tongue is also necrotic and hemorrhagic. Both eyes are present. There are multiple superficial conspecific scrapes and lacerations on the dorsal melon and lateral cervical region. The skin is sloughed around the blow hole. Dorsally and right laterally, caudal to the blowhole a large irregular shaped area of skin sloughing is present. Dorsally the underlying tissue is darkly pigmented and laterally the underlying tissue is hemorrhagic and bruised. There are multiple irregular shaped ulcerations of the skin with hemorrhagic and bruised underlying tissue ventrally from the rostral mandible to the pectoral fins. There is dried blood on the left ventro-lateral cranial two-thirds of the animal. The skin is sloughing on the pectoral fins with hemorrhagic underlying tissue. The dorsal fin has irregular shaped notches on the caudal edge and skin missing from the distal cranial margin. The base of the dorsal fin on the right side has two linear superficial lacerations one above the other. The left lateral aspect of the animal has multiple superficial irregular shaped ulcerations along with multiple small puncture wounds which extend to the blubber. Punch biopsies were obtained from these wounds. The right lateral aspect of the animal has multiple conspecific superficial lacerations and a irregular square shaped wound extending into the muscle. This wound is located in a ventro-dorsal plane at the level of the proximal humerus and a cranio-caudal plane at the level of the cranial edge of the dorsal fin. The wound has a tract extending from the caudo-ventral edge of the wound and extends caudo-ventrally into the muscle but does not breach the abdominal cavity. The peduncle has missing skin dorsally and bilaterally with hemorrhagic underlying tissue, and a circular puncture wound at junction of the peduncle and fluke which extends through the blubber. The fluke has multiple superficial lacerations along with sloughing of the skin and hemorrhagic underlying tissue both ventrally and dorsally and cranially and caudally.













**INTERNAL EXAM:** When entering the thoracic cavity a cranial vessel on the left side was accidentally severed allowing blood to escape into the thoracic cavity. However prior to dissecting the animal blood was leaking from the mouth and blowhole which may indicate that hemothorax was not completely iatrogenic.



**BLUBBER:** Regions described above of hemorrhagic/ bruised areas, dark pigmented areas and grossly normal areas.

**MUSCULOSKELETON**

**Axial Muscle:** Grossly normal

**Axial Skeleton:** Grossly normal

**Ribs & Sternum:** Grossly normal

**CIRCULATORY SYSTEM**

**Heart:** Grossly normal

**RESPIRATORY SYSTEM**

**Blowholes:** Blood leaking from blowhole when manipulating animal on necropsy table  
Skin around Blowhole sloughing

**Lungs:** No Gross lesions were observed on the serosal surface. The parenchyma of all lung lobes contained generalized multifocal calcified nodules ranging in shape and size. The lungs did float in water and no parasites were observed.

**DIGESTIVE SYSTEM**

**Esophagus:** Serosal and mucosal surfaces grossly normal

**Fore Stomach:** the serosal surfaces of all three stomachs were grossly normal. All three stomachs were excised en-block as directed by necropsy protocols and the lumen or mucosal surfaces were not examined.

**Main Stomach:** See above

**Pyloric Stomach:** See above

**Intestine:** The Serosal and mucosal surfaces of the large colon grossly normal the distal aspect of the colon contained a small amount of liquid feces. Duodenum Jejunum and ileum. The serosal and mucosal surfaces were grossly normal, the lumen was empty no parasites observed.

**Describe food-stuffs found in GI Tract:** none

**Describe parasites found in GI Tract:** none

**Liver:** The serosal surface of the liver was grey in color indicating autolysis no lesions were observed on the surface or parenchyma

**Pancreas:** Grossly normal was taken en-block with the stomachs

**URINARY SYSTEM**

**Kidneys:** Grossly normal

**Adrenals:** Grossly normal

**Urinary Bladder:** Grossly normal, contained a small amount of urine

**ENDOCRINE & HEMOLYMPHATIC SYSTEMS**

**Thymus:** Not found

**Thyroid:** Not found

**Pituitary:** Not found

**Spleen:** Mild to moderately autolyzed no gross lesions observed

**Lymph Nodes:** Grossly normal

**REPRODUCTIVE TRACT:** Grossly normal

**CENRTRAL NERVOUS SYSTEM**

**Brain:** Moderately autolyzed no gross lesions observed

**Spinal Cord:** Grossly normal

**HEAD**

**SENSORY ORGANS**

**Eyes:** Both eyes present no gross lesions observed

**Ears:** Grossly normal

**OTHER:**

**CONCLUSIONS:** Noteworthy lesions/observations include the multifocal calcified nodules in the lung parenchyma. Hemothorax; to some extent the cause was iatrogenic. There was leaking of blood from the mouth and blowhole during manipulation of animal on necropsy table prior to entering the thoracic or abdominal cavities.

**Carcass Disposition:** Frozen at IMMS

**CAUSE OF DEATH FROM FIELD DETERMINATION:** Could not be determined from gross necropsy

**This report was generated by:** Joey Kaletsch DVM and Connie Chevis DVM

**TISSUES COLLECTED**

**Frozen: PAH NOAA**

Blubber  
Liver  
Lung  
Kidney  
Urine  
Aqueous humor – Left eye  
Swab

**Frozen: Biotoxins NOAA**

Feces  
Urine  
Liver

**Viral: -80 Frozen NOAA**

Brain  
Lung  
Spleen  
Adrenal gland  
Kidney  
Liver  
Skin lesion  
Lung lesion

**Life History:**

Teeth: NOAA  
Skin isotope  
Stomach whole Frozen NOAA  
Skin frozen

**Frozen Samples: IMMS (6)**

Teeth  
Blubber  
Muscle  
Kidney  
Urine  
Feces  
Liver (7)  
Skin (1)

**PAH samples: Frozen IMMS X 2**

Blubber  
Liver  
Lung  
Kidney

Swab X 2

**Alcohol (EtOH) X2**

Skin

**Frozen : Dr.Romero virology IMMS**

Skin lesion

Spleen

**Formalin: Right eye NOAA**

**Formalin: NOAA- CYP1A**

**Histo (10% Buffered Formalin): DROT x1, IMMS X 2**

Lung

Trachea

Heart- R, L Atrium, R, L Ventricle.

Aorta

Pharynx

Tongue

Small intestine (mid, distal)

Colon

Spleen

Liver

Brain-cerebrum, cerebellum

Eye-R- IMMS

Kidney-

Adrenal gland

Urinary bladder

Spinal cord

Adrenal

Skinx 2: normal, lesion

Muscle-L epaxial

Gonad

Prostate & penis

Lymph nodes- mediastinal, prescapular, mesenteric

Ureter

**Hydrocarbon: IMMS**

Blubber

Liver

Kidney

Lung

**Viral: Dr. Romero**

Spleen

Skin lesion

**PHOTOS/VIDEO: Yes/No**



**Field Number** 56IMMS031311

**Observers:** Erila Wilberg, Michelle Kessler, Joe Glover, Ashley Capps, Alexis Malone, Mike Washburn

**ASSOCIATED DATA SHEETS:** Level A Data Form, Delphinid Specimen record, NOAA Photo Log, NOAA Chain of custody record. Northern Gulf UME Sample Collection checklist,