

GROSS NECROPSY REPORT

SPECIES *Tursiops truncatus* FIELD NUMBER 63IMMS031711 DATE 3/18/11

LOCATION Petit Bois Island, MS LAT 30.20686/LONG -88.49474

GENDER Female TL 171.5 COND 3 WEIGHT Est. 89.5 kgs

HISTORY: Found dead on Peteit Bois Island, MS. Single stranding. Findings of human interactions CBD. No gear found on the animal or in the vicinity. No gear collected.

NECROPSY

EXTERNAL EXAM: Upper left jaw- 21 teeth, #22 (caudal to cranial) missing. Upper left jaw- 22 teeth, #22 worn even with gumline. Lower right jaw- 22 teeth, Upper right jaw- 22 teeth. Lingual papillae present. Left eye- scavenger lesions present. Aqueous humor left eye- dark brown colored. Discoloration on left jaw below eye. Left flipper, lateral aspect, long linear superficial scape mark. First responders dragged carcass onto boat for transport so this could have caused the scrape mark. Medial aspect has 3.5 mm x 1.5 mm piece of skin missing. Scavenger activity on left ventral body. Healed conspecific rake mark on left fluke. Ulcer lesion on left dorsal fluke. 2 frozen samples collected. Scarred conspecific rake mark on dorsal peduncle. 6 cm dark gray circular discoloration on left lateral peduncle. Ventral dorsal fin 3 cm x 1.2 cm irregular slightly indented dark skin lesion. 5 dead Xenos on dorsal fin, broken off. Right fluke, dorsal aspect, 9 dead Xenos, broken off. Left fluke 4 dead Xenos. Left dorsal flipper 3 xeno attachment lesions. Right eye- scavenger lesion. Blood coming from mouth. Blowhole patent. Brownish discoloration on right lateral ventral neck- 4 cm x 0.6 cm. 2 Xenos on right lateral flipper, dead and broken off. 3 Xeno attachment scars. Slight brownish indentation on right ventral 3.5 cm x 1.6 cm. Body condition- 3.5 out of 5 with 5 being obese. Lateral vertebrae visible on peduncle. Indentation ventral to dorsal fin.

INTERNAL EXAM: Slight edema on ventral jaw. Left shoulder joint grossly normal. Prescapular ln appear normal. Submandibular ln slightly green, necrotic. Serosanguineous fluid in abdominal cavity.

BLUBBER: Blubber grossly normal. Subcutaneous tissue was moist and dissected easily. No parasites seen in blubber.

MUSCULOSKELETON

Axial Muscle: Edema, hemorrhaging in prescapular area. Edema dorsal to pharynx.

Axial Skeleton: No fractures found. Left shoulder joint grossly normal.

Ribs & Sternum: No fractures found.

CIRCULATORY SYSTEM

Heart: Small amount of serosanguineous fluid in pericardial sac. Valves appeared grossly normal.

RESPIRATORY SYSTEM

Blowhole: Patent

Lungs: Serosanguineous fluid in thoracic cavity. Serosanguineous fluid in trachea and right lung. Lungs serosa was pinkish with generalized irregular dark red mottling. Lungs floated in water. Few parasites in left lung- long, linear, white. Right lung serosa was mottled with whitish, greenish, circular irregular discoloration. Right lung had multiple blackish red circular lesions (0.5 to 1 cm diameter) in the parenchyma.

DIGESTIVE SYSTEM

Tongue: Ulcerative lesion on left lateral tongue 1 cm long x 0.4 cm deep.

Esophagus: No food, parasites or foreign body in esophagus.

Fore Stomach: Entire stomachs tied off and collected in situ. Stomach felt empty.

Main Stomach: Entire stomachs tied off and collected in situ. Stomach felt empty.

Pyloric Stomach: Entire stomachs tied off and collected in situ.

Intestine: no parasites found in intestines. Appeared grossly normal.

Describe food-stuffs found in GI Tract: not evaluated, collected whole.

Describe parasites found in GI Tract: Stomach not evaluated, collected whole. No parasites found in intestines.

Liver: Light pink colored, blood poured out of liver when cut. No parasites found. Firm to touch.

Pancreas: Light pinkish white colored. Bile bright orange yellow.

URINARY SYSTEM

Kidneys: Subcapsular air present. Reniculi appeared grossly normal. No stones found.

Adrenals: Grossly normal.

Urinary Bladder:

ENDOCRINE & HEMOLYMPHATIC SYSTEMS

Thymus: Not found.

Thyroid: Grossly normal.

Pituitary: Grossly normal.

Spleen: Slight darker color than normal. One accessory spleen attached by a peduncle.

Lymph Nodes: Prescapular Ln appeared normal. Colonic Ln had irregular tan and dark tan discoloration. Submandibular Ln slight greenish and necrotic. Mesenteric Ln- irregular dark and light colored tan colored. Lung associated Ln- dark red. Hilar Ln- irregular pink and pale discoloration. Tonsils appeared small.

REPRODUCTIVE TRACT: Whitish mucous plug in cervix.

CENTRAL NERVOUS SYSTEM

Brain: Congested blood vessels in the left hemisphere of the brain. 1 cm granulomatous lesion found in frontal section of left hemisphere.

Spinal Cord: Appeared grossly normal.

HEAD- Appeared grossly normal.

SENSORY ORGANS

Eyes: Scavenger lesions around eyes. Aqueous humor collected from left eye.

Ears: Appeared grossly normal.

CONCLUSIONS: Significant findings include edema and hemorrhaging in ventral jaw and prescapular area, mild pulmonary parasitism, granulomatous abscess in left frontal lobe, congested blood vessels in left occipital area, multiple lymph nodes with irregular discoloration and a very pale liver with profuse bleeding from cut surface.

Carcass Disposition: Frozen post necropsy in IMMS freezer.

CAUSE OF DEATH FROM FIELD DETERMINATION: Could not be determined on gross inspection.

This report was generated by: Connie Chevis, DVM

Observers: Michael Young, Mike Mashburn, Jamie Klaus, Shannon Finerty, Rhiannon Blake

PHOTOS/VIDEO: Yes/No

ASSOCIATED DATA SHEETS: Level A Data Form, Delphinid Specimen record, IMMS MM Necropsy tissue form, Northern Gulf UME Sample Collection Check List, NOAA Chain of custody record.