

School of Veterinary Science

Pathology Report

Submitter Ref.: H310	Date Sent: 22/11/2022	Accession No.: 61470
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To: [REDACTED]
Department of Conservation
Christchurch

Report Sent: 04/12/2022

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Species: Cetacean	Breed: Hector's Dolphin		
Age: Juvenile	Sex: Male		
Owner: Department of Conservation	Type: Post Mortem		
ID:	Prev. Accn.:		
Submitted:	At Risk:	Affected:	Dead:

History

Returned by trawl vessel.

Gross Findings

This calf was presented chilled. The body was in a good state of post mortem preservation, and in good body condition with no obvious neck, and a flat to slightly curved hypaxial lumbar profile.

Weight = 33.5kg

Standard length = 1.140m

Blubber: dorsal = 19mm; lateral = 17mm; ventral = 19mm

Summed testicular mass (with epididymis) = 13g

There were very large numbers of superficial (1-2mm deep) recent lacerations and rake marks covering the body, similar to those present on H309. There was no subcutaneous bruising. The oral mucous membranes were slightly pale.

The intestinal lymphatics were distended with chyle (evidence of recent feeding) and the stomach contained milky tan turbid fluid. The intestines contained watery khaki fluid.

The lungs were pink and hyperinflated, with minimal fluid in the airways. No foam was present, and no bullae were identified. There were myriad 1-2mm diameter cystic to gritty nodules throughout the lung fields (lungworm granulomas) and many lungworm present in the smaller airways. The lymphatics over the pulmonary pleura were prominent.

Histopathology

Histology is pending; an addendum report will be sent if anything significant is found.

Diagnosis

Known bycatch

Comments

This young calf was in good body condition and had recently suckled. The post mortem findings are consistent with the circumstances of death: known bycatch.

Date: 05/12/2022	Pathologists: [REDACTED]
Students:	