

**Institute of Veterinary, Animal and Biomedical Sciences
Massey University**

PATHOLOGY REPORT

Status: Pending

Date:

Type: Mortality

<p>Submitter</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Department of Conservation</p>	<p>Submission Details</p> <p>Lab. Case/Spec ID: 42428</p> <p>Date Submitted:</p> <p>Date Received:</p> <p>Previous Case ID:</p> <p>WMD Case/Spec ID: 4628/1</p>
<p>Animal Details</p> <p>Animal Name: W08-19Ch</p> <p>Species: <i>Cephalorhynchus hectori hectori</i></p> <p>Common Name: Hector's Dolphin</p> <p>Sex Class: Male</p> <p>Age Class: Subadult</p> <p>Date Died:</p>	<p>Epidemiology</p> <p>Number Dead:</p> <p>Number at Risk:</p> <p>Number Sick:</p> <p>Number Submitted: 1</p>

Growth and Development

Parameter	Result Description	Value	Date Measured	Age Group
Depth of Tail Notch		.015 m	23/10/2008	Subadult
Dorsal Blubber Depth		14 mm	23/10/2008	Subadult
Eye to Blowhole Length		.145 m	23/10/2008	Subadult
Eye to Corner of Mouth Length		.035 m	23/10/2008	Subadult
Girth at Anus		.42 m	23/10/2008	Subadult
Girth at Eye		.516 m	23/10/2008	Subadult
Girth at Flippers		.689 m	23/10/2008	Subadult
Girth at Navel		.73 m	23/10/2008	Subadult
Height of Dorsal Fin		.067 m	23/10/2008	Subadult
Lateral Blubber Depth		14 mm	23/10/2008	Subadult
Length of Base of Dorsal Fin		.19 m	23/10/2008	Subadult
Length of Flipper		.205 m	23/10/2008	Subadult
Length of Flukes		.104 m	23/10/2008	Subadult
Snout to Anus Length		.865 m	23/10/2008	Subadult
Snout to Corner of Mouth Length		.152 m	23/10/2008	Subadult
Snout to Genital Slit Length		.742 m	23/10/2008	Subadult
Snout to Origin of Dorsal Fin Length		.571 m	23/10/2008	Subadult

Snout to Origin of Flipper Length	.29 m	23/10/2008	Subadult
Total Length	1.199 m	23/10/2008	Subadult
Ventral Blubber Depth	13 mm	23/10/2008	Subadult
Width of Flipper	.075 m	23/10/2008	Subadult
Width of Flukes	.37 m	23/10/2008	Subadult
Weight	27 kg	23/10/2008	Subadult

DIAGNOSIS

Open

COMMENTS

This dolphin had no evidence of entanglement, but the cause of death could not be determined.

ANIMAL HISTORY

"Found by a member of the public at about 13:00 - 13:30 at water-line approx. Tide going out at the time shortly after peak tide."

GROSS PATHOLOGY

Images show blood oozing from blow-hole. Animal stranded at tide line on sandy beach.

EXTERNAL FINDINGS

The body was well preserved with a small amount of superficial skin sloughing (<5%) on one side. There were excoriations over the tip of the beak and scavenging of the periorbital tissue on the right. Several parallel skin marks were present along the top of the head and around the beak. Each "set" of wounds had two parallel lines with one slightly longer than the other. These were 3-4mm apart and 2-3 mm deep.

Three circular dark skin patches with well defined darker rims were present on the right side of the dolphin and two similar lesions were present on the left (pox lesions or healed wounds).

The dolphin was in good body condition.

There was bruising around the lower margins of the mandible and at the throat. No blubber cestodes were found.

INTERNAL FINDINGS

Abdominal organs.

The stomach contained only two otoliths. The mucosa of the glandular compartment had one partial thickness ulcer. There were multiple 4mm parasitic cysts adherent to the glandular mucosa. There were no other abnormalities.

Thoracic organs.

The lungs were moderately well aerated, with minimal congestion and oedema. No foam was present in the airways. There were numerous 2-4cm long fine nematodes present throughout the lungs, although no granulomas were palpable.

Brain.

The brain was removed and saved in formalin. It was grossly normal.