

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

**PATHOLOGY REPORT**

**Status:** Pending

**Date:**

**Type:** Mortality

<p><b>Submitter</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Department of Conservation</p>	<p><b>Submission Details</b></p> <p>Lab. Case/Spec ID: <b>49090</b></p> <p>Submitter's Ref:</p> <p>Date Submitted:</p> <p>Date Received: 19/12/2012</p> <p>Previous Case ID:</p> <p>WMD Case/Spec ID: 6707/1</p>
<p><b>Animal Details</b></p> <p><b>Animal ID:</b></p> <p><b>Animal Name:</b> W12-20Ch</p> <p><b>Species:</b> <i>Cephalorhynchus hectori hectori</i></p> <p><b>Common Name:</b> Hector's Dolphin</p> <p><b>Sex Class:</b> Male</p> <p><b>Age Class:</b> Neonate</p> <p><b>Date Died:</b></p>	<p><b>Epidemiology</b></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	20/12/2012	Neonate
Dorsal Blubber Depth		12 mm	20/12/2012	Neonate
Eye to Blowhole Length		.09 m	20/12/2012	Neonate
Eye to Corner of Mouth Length		.025 m	20/12/2012	Neonate
Girth at Anus		.35 m	20/12/2012	Neonate
Girth at Eye		.365 m	20/12/2012	Neonate
Girth at Flippers		.49 m	20/12/2012	Neonate
Girth at Navel		.51 m	20/12/2012	Neonate
Height of Dorsal Fin		.055 m	20/12/2012	Neonate
Lateral Blubber Depth		12 mm	20/12/2012	Neonate
Length of Base of Dorsal Fin		14 m	20/12/2012	Neonate
Length of Flipper		.054 m	20/12/2012	Neonate
Length of Flukes		.08 m	20/12/2012	Neonate
Snout to Anus Length		.518 m	20/12/2012	Neonate
Snout to Corner of Mouth Length		.105 m	20/12/2012	Neonate
Snout to Genital Slit Length		.465 m	20/12/2012	Neonate
Snout to Origin of Dorsal Fin Length		.342 m	20/12/2012	Neonate

Snout to Origin of Flipper Length	.185 m	20/12/2012	Neonate
Total Length	.745 m	20/12/2012	Neonate
Ventral Blubber Depth	14 mm	20/12/2012	Neonate
Width of Flipper	.054 m	20/12/2012	Neonate
Width of Flukes	.245 m	20/12/2012	Neonate
Weight	6.54 kg	20/12/2012	Neonate

#### DIAGNOSIS

Maternal separation

#### COMMENTS

Decomposition of this calf made it difficult to assess fully, but the most likely cause of death is maternal separation. No infectious disease or traumatic injuries were diagnosed.

#### ANIMAL HISTORY

Found floating dead by a tourist operator vessel. Collected and taken to Akaroa field office.

#### GROSS PATHOLOGY

This young calf had faint fetal folds and no fetal whiskers. The internal organs were extremely friable (moderate to marked autolysis). The stomach was empty, and no meconium was present. There was extensive (post mortem) gas production, most notably under the pleura. No significant gross abnormalities were detected.

#### HISTOPATHOLOGY

Histology summary:

All tissues were extremely autolysed, making meaningful interpretation difficult.

Lungs: a small amount of wispy eosinophilic material (oedema fluid) is present in most alveoli, along with large numbers of squames

Pathologist:

Assistant(s):