

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

**PATHOLOGY REPORT**

**Status:** Final  
**Date:** 04/11/2009  
**Type:** Mortality

Submitter	Submission Details
Mike Morrissey Department of Conservation  Kaikoura	Lab. Case/Spec ID: <b>44217</b>  Submitter's Ref: H189 Date Submitted: 03/11/2009 Date Received: 03/11/2009 Previous Case ID: WMD Case/Spec ID: 4943/1
Animal Details	Epidemiology
Animal ID: H189 Animal Name: W09-18Ch Species: <i>Cephalorhynchus hectori hectori</i> Common Name: Hector's Dolphin Sex Class: Male Age Class: Subadult Date Died: 01/11/2009	Number Dead: 1 Number at Risk: Number Sick: Number Submitted: 1

**Growth and Development**

Parameter	Result Description	Value	Date Measured	Age Group
Depth of Tail Notch		.015 m	03/11/2009	
Dorsal Blubber Depth		27 mm	03/11/2009	
Eye to Blowhole Length		.12 m	03/11/2009	
Eye to Corner of Mouth Length		.027 m	03/11/2009	
Girth at Anus		.455 m	03/11/2009	
Girth at Eye		.565 m	03/11/2009	
Girth at Flippers		.742 m	03/11/2009	
Girth at Navel		.855 m	03/11/2009	
Height of Dorsal Fin		.085 m	03/11/2009	
Lateral Blubber Depth		22 mm	03/11/2009	
Length of Base of Dorsal Fin		.185 m	03/11/2009	
Length of Flipper		.18 m	03/11/2009	
Length of Flukes		.1 m	03/11/2009	
Snout to Anus Length		.91 m	03/11/2009	
Snout to Corner of Mouth Length		.16 m	03/11/2009	
Snout to Genital Slit Length		.763 m	03/11/2009	
Snout to Origin of Dorsal Fin Length		.6 m	03/11/2009	

Snout to Origin of Flipper Length	.304 m	03/11/2009
Total Length	1.218 m	03/11/2009
Ventral Blubber Depth	18 mm	03/11/2009
Width of Flipper	.08 m	03/11/2009
Width of Flukes	.355 m	03/11/2009
Weight	37.5 kg	03/11/2009

#### DIAGNOSIS

Known bycatch

#### COMMENTS

The gross lesions in this dolphin were consistent with death due to entanglement in a fishing net. He was in good body condition, with no signs of chronic disease, and showed evidence of recent feeding (stomach contents and presence of chyle-rich fluid in mesenteric lymphatics). In addition, there were multiple skin wounds consistent with net marks.

#### GROSS PATHOLOGY

The body was fresh, with minimal skin slippage, and in good nutritional condition. There were encircling lacerations and impressions over the snout (continuing ventrally to involve the lower mandibular area), tail (involving both peduncle and flukes) and caudal aspect of right flipper (in axilla). A few rake marks were present over the dorsum. There was no bruising of blubber or muscles.

The left lung lobe and caudal aspect of the right lobe were congested and collapsed, while the cranial half of the right lobe was hyperinflated. Lower airways contained minimal oedema fluid, and no froth was evident in the airways. There were low numbers of lungworm, with a few small (2-3mm) granulomas scattered throughout the parenchyma.

The stomach was full, with partially digested fish as well as fish bones present. A focal area of mucosal reddening, measuring about 40 mm diameter, was present in the glandular portion of the stomach. Adjacent to this was a similar sized area of thickened, pale mucosa (likely associated with gastric nematodes). The proximal duodenal mucosa contained several 5mm cystic structures, within which were numerous elongate 6mm long structures with two black spots at one end. The mesenteric lymphatics were prominent and white (chyle).