

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

**PATHOLOGY REPORT**

**Status:** Final  
**Date:** 05/03/2010  
**Type:** Mortality

Submitter	Submission Details
Henk Stengs Department of Conservation  Greymouth	Lab. Case/Spec ID: <b>44666</b>  Submitter's Ref: H196 Date Submitted: 01/03/2010 Date Received: 02/03/2010 Previous Case ID: WMD Case/Spec ID: 4976/1
Animal Details	Epidemiology
<b>Animal ID:</b> H196 <b>Animal Name:</b> W10-01Ch <b>Species:</b> <i>Cephalorhynchus hectori hectori</i> <b>Common Name:</b> Hector's Dolphin <b>Sex Class:</b> Female <b>Age Class:</b> Adult <b>Date Died:</b>	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		.025 m	02/02/2010	Adult
Dorsal Blubber Depth		19 mm	02/02/2010	Adult
Eye to Blowhole Length		.11 m	02/02/2010	Adult
Eye to Corner of Mouth Length		.03 m	02/02/2010	Adult
Girth at Anus		.5 m	02/02/2010	Adult
Girth at Eye		.58 m	02/02/2010	Adult
Girth at Flippers		.85 m	02/02/2010	Adult
Girth at Navel		.91 m	02/02/2010	Adult
Height of Dorsal Fin		.115 m	02/02/2010	Adult
Lateral Blubber Depth		16 mm	02/02/2010	Adult
Length of Base of Dorsal Fin		.235 m	02/02/2010	Adult
Length of Flipper		.22 m	02/02/2010	Adult
Length of Flukes		.12 m	02/02/2010	Adult
Snout to Anus Length		1.04 m	02/02/2010	Adult
Snout to Corner of Mouth Length		.17 m	02/02/2010	Adult
Snout to Genital Slit Length		.85 m	02/02/2010	Adult
Snout to Origin of Dorsal Fin Length		.655 m	02/02/2010	Adult

Snout to Origin of Flipper Length	.31 m	02/02/2010	Adult
Total Length	1.41 m	02/02/2010	Adult
Ventral Blubber Depth	13 mm	02/02/2010	Adult
Width of Flipper	.08 m	02/02/2010	Adult
Width of Flukes	m	02/02/2010	Adult
. left part of fluke absent			
Weight	45 kg	02/02/2010	Adult

## DIAGNOSIS

1. By-catch (Drowning - Saltwater)

## COMMENTS

This animal appeared to be a healthy adult female in good body condition. The linear marks around the snout are consistent with net entanglement; there were no signs of disease. Part of the left portion of the fluke had been removed cleanly, after the animal had died, most probably with a large, sharp knife.

## CASE HISTORY

Dolphin found cast on the beach, 5pm, 28/02/2010 with skin marks consistent with net entanglement. Part of the tail fluke had been removed.

## GROSS PATHOLOGY

The animal was an adult female, weighing 45kg. The animal was in good body condition and in a good state of preservation (fresh, with mild decomposition).

Approximately 10cm caudal to the tip of the snout were three, closely grouped, discrete linear shallow excoriations in the skin extending from the ventral part of the mandible, around the left lateral part of the mandible and up and over the left lateral and dorsal maxillary part of the snout.

Approximately 10cm of the lateral portion of the left part of the tail fluke was absent. The edges of the remaining part of the left tail fluke were smooth; there was no evidence of swelling or haemorrhage. There were no other external signs of trauma, and no bruising was evident in subcutaneous tissue.

The lungs were well aerated, and congested but not oedematous. There was no foam in the airways and no lung worms were seen.

The stomach was devoid of ingesta, as was the majority of the small and large intestine.

Both ovaries contained several follicles (up to 30mm in diameter).

No other abnormalities were detected on gross post-mortem.