

Report of a Dead Manatee

Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission
Fish and Wildlife Research Institute
Marine Mammal Pathobiology Laboratory
3700 54th Avenue South St. Petersburg, FL 33711 (727) 893-2904

Field ID #: MEC21249
Date of Report: 2021-Mar-15
Filed By: FWC EC Field Station

FWC Case # 4987 FWC Region: NE

Sex: Female Length: 292 cm Weight: Not Taken kg

DATE REPORTED: 2021-Mar-15 By: Citizen to FWC NE Dispatch

DATE COLLECTED: 2021-Mar-16 By: FWC-SMW,MRS

DATE NECROPSIED: By:

LOCATION: State: FL Latitude: N

County: Brevard Longitude: W

Waterway: Berkeley Canal

Locality description: Satellite Beach, grounded approximately 30 me SW of 364 West Arlington Street.

CONDITION: Confirmed; Not Necropsied

PROBABLE CAUSE OF DEATH: Verified; Not Necropsied

EXPLAIN: Watercraft wound(s); Verified through complainant photographs and FWC biologists. External work-up performed, but necropsy not conducted.

PRELIMINARY DATA.

PHOTOGRAPHS TAKEN: Dorsal, Ventral, Lateral, Scar, Fluke.

FINDINGS MAY BE ADDED

MATERIALS COLLECTED:

Genetics.

OR DELETED AFTER REVIEW

DISPOSITION OF MATERIAL: FWC EC Field Station pending distribution.

AND CAUSE OF DEATH MAY CHANGE

ADDITIONAL DATA:

REMARKS:

PIT tag scan negative. Lactating. Also FWC case numbers 4961 and 4982.

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Necropsy Report	
Lat/Long	

MORPHOMETRICS:

Total length:	292 cm	Fluke base:	cm	Girth at axillae:	cm
Snout to anus:	cm	Fluke width:	cm		
Snout to U/G:	cm	Girth at fluke base:	cm		
Snout to umbilicus:	cm	Girth at anus:	cm		
Flipper width:	cm	Girth at umbilicus:	cm	Nail count: R:	L:

	Ventral	Lateral		
Skin Thickness:	cm	cm		
Outer Blubber Thickness:	cm	cm	Abdominal Fat Thickness:	cm
Inner Blubber Thickness:	cm	cm	Epidermis Thickness:	cm

Perinatal:	Ductus Arteriosus Diameter:	cm
	Left Pulmonary Artery Diameter:	cm
	Right Pulmonary Artery Diameter:	cm

Uterine Scarring Measurements:

Side	Circumference (cm)	Width (cm)
Right		
Right		
Left		
Left		

Male Reproductive:

Fetus 1: Sex: Report?:

Length:
Weight:
Samples Taken:

Fetus 2: Sex: Report?:

Length:
Weight:
Samples Taken:

Brevetoxin Results:

Tissue	Concentration	Units
Liver		ng/g
Stomach Contents		ng/g
Kidney		ng/g
Lung		ng/g
Urine		ng/mL

Other Brevetoxin Results:

PRELIMINARY DATA.
 FINDINGS MAY BE ADDED
 OR DELETED AFTER REVIEW
 AND CAUSE OF DEATH MAY CHANGE

MARINE MAMMAL NECROPSY REPORT FORM

FIELD I.D. MEC21249

RECOVERY DATE 16 March 2021

GENDER Female **TL** 292 **cm** **WT** N/T **kg**

SPECIES *T. manatus latirostris*

NECROPSY DATE N/A

CONDITION Confirmed; Not Necropsied

HISTORY **15 March 2021**, at 1642 hrs, FWC biologist-Nadia Gordon (NJG) received a text alert from FWC NE Dispatch-Orlando regarding a manatee carcass in the Berkeley Canal, Satellite Beach, Brevard County. FWC case number 4961 was assigned. The complainant, Pedro Uriarte (321-863-1860), stated that the carcass was belly-up and an adult. At 1735 hrs, NJG received verification photos and passed the information to the EC Field Station. At 1829 hrs, FWC on-call biologist-Amber Howell (ARH) received a text alert from Dispatch regarding the same manatee carcass in Berkeley Canal. FWC case number 4982 was assigned. The complainant, Courtney Mott (381-230-3650), stated that the carcass was bloated and ten feet long. ARH received verification photos at 1838 hrs and forwarded the information to the EC Field Station at 1841 hrs. At 1915 hrs, ARH received a text alert from Dispatch regarding the same manatee carcass. FWC case number 4987 was assigned. The complainant, Kathy Bessa (321-848-3106), stated that the carcass was large and bloated. **16 March**, FWC biologist-Sara Wappes arrived at Berkeley Canal at 1427 hrs, launched a kayak, and secured the carcass to a dock accessible by boat at 1445 hrs. FWC biologist-Molly Schubert, FWC intern-Kylie Lawson, and FWC Officer Loeffler launched an FWC LE boat from the Patrick Air Force Base boat ramp, collected the carcass at 1530 hrs, towed it to a remote location, and completed an external work-up by 1615 hrs. The remains were left on site.

EXTERNAL FINDINGS Approximately 60% of the epidermis was present but sloughing. The carcass was distended with gas. There was an eroded watercraft-related wound pattern across the dorsal peduncle and left margin of the fluke which consisted of at least seven parallel propeller wounds (#1 -7). Wounds #2 and 3 cut into the dermis, and wounds #5 and 6 cut through the fluke margin. The carcass was lactating from both teats. A minimum of three well-healed watercraft-related scar patterns was observed on the dorsal aspect. PIT tag scan was negative. A genetics sample was collected.

COMMENTS External work-up performed, but necropsy not conducted.

SIGNIFICANT FINDINGS

- Verified through complainant photographs and FWC biologists
- Watercraft wounds

PROBABLE CAUSE OF DEATH

Verified; Not Necropsied

NECROPSY CONDUCTED BY

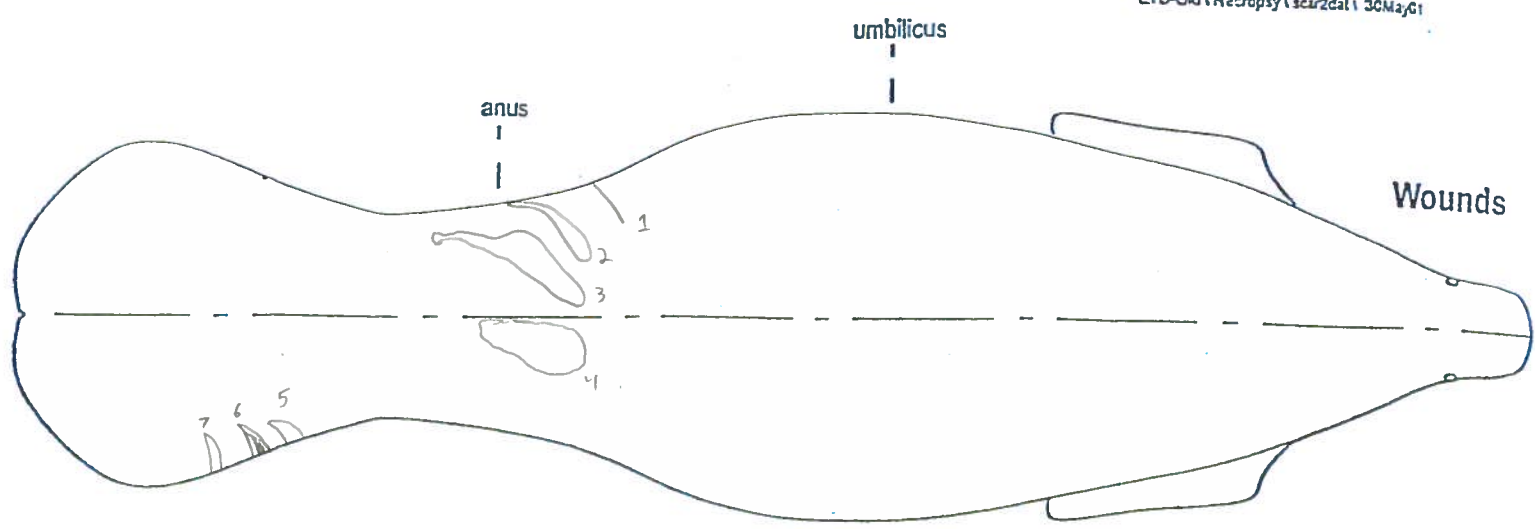
N/A

REPORT FILED BY Wappes

Date _____

Field I.D. MEL21249

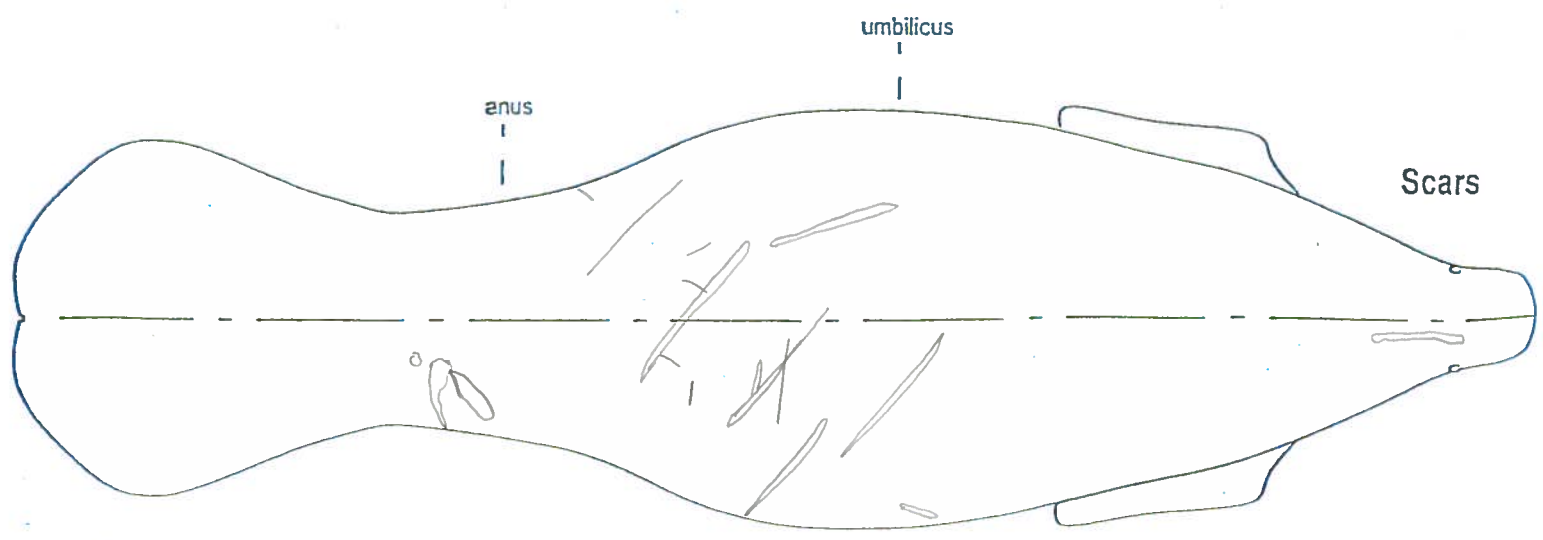
c:\D-Old\Necropsy\scars2dat\30May01



Number	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Length																				
Width																				
Depth																				
Distance																				

BLB

From photographs



MMPL, FWRI, Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission **Field ID #** _____
3700 54th Ave. South, St. Petersburg, FL, 33711; (727) 893-2904

FWC Case # _____ **FWC District:** _____
Sex: _____ **Length (cm):** _____ **Est** _____ **Confidence** _____ **Weight (kg)** _____
Date reported: _____ **By:** _____
Date collected: _____ **By:** _____
Date necropsied: _____ **By:** _____

LOCATION INFORMATION: **State:** _____ **County:** _____ **Waterway:** _____
Latitude: N _____ **Longitude:** W _____
Locality description: _____

Carcass Orientation: _____

CONDITION:

PROBABLE CAUSE OF DEATH:

Human related: _____ Watercraft Collision: _____
Flood Gate/Canal Lock: _____ Structure ID/Name (if applicable) _____
Other _____
Perinatal (≤150 cm): **Natural** _____ **Undetermined** _____ **Not Necropsied** _____
Natural: _____ Cold Stress _____ Other (includes Red Tide) _____
Undetermined: _____ Too Decomposed _____ Other _____ Not Necropsied _____
Explain: _____

PHOTOGRAPHS:

Dorsal Ventral R. Lateral L. Lateral Scars Fluke Cranial Internal Site
Verification photograph Other _____

MTLS COLLECTED:

Genetics Earbone Skull Partial Skeleton Complete Skeleton Histology Other _____

Archive Tox: Stomach Liver Kidney Blubber Lower Jaw Other _____
ELISA Tox: Stomach Liver Lung Urine Kidney (if no urine) Other _____
Genetics Box # _____

LACTATING: _____

PREGNANT: _____

UTERINE SCAR: _____

UTERINE HORNS: _____

ADDITIONAL DATA:

External measurements Wound measurements Perinatal evaluation Organ weights
Rescue Report/Map Other _____

PIT TAG Scan:

Left side: _____ Right side: _____

REMARKS: _____