

NATIONAL WILDLIFE HEALTH CENTER
NECROPSY REPORT

Submitter Name:

Mr. Dillon Brown	Case:	25784
US Air Force	Accession:	1
611 CES/CEIE	Date Collected:	04/11/2021
Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawaii 96853	Date Examined:	4/22/2021
United States	Prosector:	T. M. Work
	Pathologist:	T. M. Work

Signalment-Morphometrics-History

CONDITION: (Emaciated) POSTMORTEM: (Good) EUTHANASIA: (Not euthanized)
TAG TYPE: () TAG NO.: ()
SPECIES: (Turtle: Green) AGE: (Immature) SEX: (Female)
MORPHOMETRICS: Weight carcass (4.4 kg), Straight carapace length (37.4 cm), Notch length (37.2 cm), Straight carapace width (30.8 cm), Straight plastron length (30.4 cm).
COLLECTION-SITE: (Wake Atoll) AREA: (Wake Atoll) STATE: (Wake Atoll) COUNTRY: (United States)
HISTORY: This turtle was found dead on Wake Atoll on 11 April 2021.

External/Internal

EXTERNAL:

INTERNAL: The lungs are collapsed. The esophagus is full of algae. The small intestinal serosa contains white nodules. Identification of stomach contents were done by Dr. Karla McDermid at UH Hilo: Caulerpa 99% Dictyota 1%. Caulerpa was *C. nummularia* (green algae) and Dictyota was *D. bartayresiana* (brown alga).

PRELIMINARY DIAGNOSIS: Undetermined.

Samples

SECIMENS RECEIVED: Carcass-Frozen.
HISTO: Lung (A); Spleen, Liver (B); Heart (C); Ovary, Kidney (D); Ovary, Intestine small (E).

Laboratory Results

HISTOPATHOLOGY

Heart: Rare trematode eggs sometimes surrounded by giant cells are scattered throughout.

Spleen: Rare trematode eggs are present.

Lung: Occasional nidi of mononuclear cells surrounding trematode eggs are within smooth muscle. There is mild sloughing of edicular epithelium.

Intestine small: Within the smooth muscle wall are nidi of foamy macrophages surrounding a capsule with a metazoan (trematode cysts).

All other Organs: No remarkable lesions are seen.

COMMENTS:No definitive cause of death was determined. The animal was in poor nutritional condition and died with a GI tract full of algae suggesting death was rapid. Lungs were collapsed, a finding reminiscent of forced submergence in other turtles, but no history of netting or fishing hook entanglement was noted, nor were there physical signs of entanglement. However, this is not always a reliable indicator. Stomach contents identified by Dr. Karla McDermid at UH-Hilo as follows: 7.54g Caulerpa 99% Dictyota 1%. Caulerpa nummularia, Dictyota bartayresiana.

Final Diagnosis (in order of importance)

Diagnosis	Topog	Morpho	Etiol	Funct	Dis	Link
1. Undetermined	(T00010)	()	(E00040)	(FY3500)	()	()

Diagnostic findings may not be published without the knowledge and consent of the pathologist.

Milt Code: (Open)