

Copy TO Bob Morris &
Thierry Werk
1-15-03
from GBAKZS

Memorandum

To: All mainland Hawaiian green sea turtle holders

From: Brian E. Joseph, DVM, Attending Veterinarian, Sea Life Park Hawaii

Date: May 10, 2002

Subject: Hawaiian green sea turtles in mainland zoological facilities

We thank you all for your patience in retaining the Hawaiian green sea turtles that are on loan to you from Sea Life Park. We apologize for the length of time that you have been required to hold the turtles.

We are in the process of attempting to gather information that may lead to the return of these turtles to Hawaii and need your cooperation. This process will consist of two phases:

Phase 1 will consist of our review of records and digital photographs. We need you to send us the following information on these turtles:

- A complete photocopy of each individual turtle's medical record;
- A complete history of housing for each individual turtle including any exposure to other reptiles;
- Current carapace measurements (length, maximum width and maximum thickness) and weight measurements on each individual turtle;
- Digital photographs from multiple angles (Turtle held perpendicular to the ground from front and back, turtle from the head, the side and the rear).

Phase 2 will consist of submission of as yet unspecified samples from the turtles. We are currently finalizing tests that will be required and associated costs.

At the end of the second phase we will assess all of the data and hope to make a recommendation concerning the disposition of these turtles.

Please advise us how soon you can furnish Phase 1 data.

Thank you for your consideration and understanding. Your prompt attention to this matter will be greatly appreciated. Responses can be sent via e-mail at slpanimalprogram@aol.com, or Fax (808) 259-7373, or U.S. postal mail to the following address:

Michael T. Osborn
Sea Life Park Hawaii
Animal Programs
41-202 Kalaniana'ole Highway, #7
Waimanalo, HI 96795

Oklahoma City Zoo

1. Would like to transfer the two turtles from the Oklahoma City Zoo to Oklahoma Aquarium in Jenks, Oklahoma, correspondence dated May 14, 2002

E942

- July 16, 1999 radiodense rock like material in gut observed in gut, no clinical symptoms
- February 2, 2000 shell necrosis on carapace
- February 21, 2000 shell lesions resolved
- June 8, 2000 deep necrotic shell lesions noted
- No other health problems

E952

- No health problems

Housing history

- Months 1-6 1000 gallon aquarium without other animals
- Months 6-24 each alone in a 1000 gallon aquarium
- 24 months – present 1 in a 20,000 gal with fish, 1 alone in a 5000 gallon holding tank
- Never housed with other reptiles
- A complete photocopy of each individual turtle's medical record – **complete, no significant health problems**
- A complete history of housing for each individual turtle including any exposure to other reptiles – **complete, never housed with other reptiles**
- Current carapace measurements (length, maximum width and maximum thickness) and weight measurements on each individual turtle – **no measurements present**
- Digital photographs from multiple angles (Turtle held perpendicular to the ground from front and back, turtle from the head, the side and the rear) - **complete**

Columbus Zoo

1. would like to keep the turtle, email correspondence dated June 14, 2002

ZF75

- A complete photocopy of each individual turtle's medical record – **complete, no significant health problems most recent blood work from 5-23-01**
- A complete history of housing for each individual turtle including any exposure to other reptiles – **housed in a 100,000 tank with elasmobranches and indo-pacific fish, never housed with reptiles**

- Current carapace measurements (length, maximum width and maximum thickness) and weight measurements on each individual turtle – **most recent measurements 5-23-01**
- Digital photographs from multiple angles (Turtle held perpendicular to the ground from front and back, turtle from the head, the side and the rear) - **need requested pictures**

Dallas World Aquarium

1. request to keep turtles in 6-25-02 correspondence

Clyde ZJ97

- calcium/phosphorous imbalance 9-18-02
- evidence of renal disease 9-18-02 possibly due to dietary imbalance
- extremely high calcium 6-13-01
- clinical notes not included

Bonnie ZJ90

- necropsy findings severe renal disease; metastatic mineralization
- fracture of l humeral head noted August 6, 2002; right humerus healed – no explanation
- calcium phosphorous imbalance 8-6-02
- fungal dermatitis 7-31-02 - no clinical explanation
- incomplete clinical notes

- A complete photocopy of each individual turtle's medical record – **clinical notes incomplete**
- A complete history of housing for each individual turtle including any exposure to other reptiles – **housed only with the deceased Hawaiian sea turtle;**
- Current carapace measurements (length, maximum width and maximum thickness) and weight measurements on each individual turtle - **absent;**
- Digital photographs from multiple angles (Turtle held perpendicular to the ground from front and back, turtle from the head, the side and the rear) - **complete.**

Zoo Minnesota

1. request in correspondence from Henry Doorly Zoo to receive one of MN Zoo turtles on 10/31/02
2. request in correspondence from Shedd Aquarium to receive one turtle 11/3/02
 - 9254 one dot - no significant health problems
 - 9255 two dot – January 1, 1999 shark bite
 - 9567 ZF76 – no significant health problems

- A complete photocopy of each individual turtle's medical record - **complete**
- A complete history of housing for each individual turtle including any exposure to other reptiles- **complete, no contact with other reptiles**
- Current carapace measurements (length, maximum width and maximum thickness) and weight measurements on each individual turtle – **no measurement of maximum thickness**
- Digital photographs from multiple angles (Turtle held perpendicular to the ground from front and back, turtle from the head, the side and the rear) – photographs adequate - **complete**

Brookfield Zoo

1. Implies George Parsons, Shedd Aquarium, wants two turtles

Triton ZJ73

- Oral lesions reported March, April and May 2001; photo documentation not present

Neptune ZJ66

- Bruised palate July 4, 2000
- Oral lesions reported March, April, May 2001; photo documentation not present

Bartolomi E960

- Oral lesions reported March, April, May 2001; photo documentation not present
- History of eating silicon and filter floss

Santiago E923

- Fish hook removed from cloaca; yellow, hard, nodules biopsied from back of neck June 22, 2000
- Histopathology on above tissue: moderate, chronic, locally extensive, epidermal hyperplasia with orthokeratotic hyperkeratosis and dermal fibroplasias August 10 2000 (likely due to trauma of arching in attempt to climb out of pool– follow up
- Yellow, proliferative mass at previous biopsy site removed on March 14,, 2001
- Histopathology on above tissue: acanthosis and orthokeratotic hyperkeratosis, diffuse, moderate with superficial dermal fibroplasias and multifocal ulcerative dermatitis – chronic dermatitis (same as above)
- Oral lesions reported March, April, May 2001
- Dr. Joe Flanigan suggests lesions seen at above biopsy site is due to trauma as he has seen in Kemp Ridley turtles on April 17, 2001 Kemp Ridley
- Was DNA pcr performed on the tissue as suggested in the clinical notes?
- Eating silicon from window seals July 2000
- Injured front flippers during physical examination May 16, 2001

- A complete photocopy of each individual turtle's medical record – **complete, excepting question concerning DNA pcr of biopsy tissue;**
- A complete history of housing for each individual turtle including any exposure to other reptiles – **no mention of housing with other reptiles**
- Current carapace measurements (length, maximum width and maximum thickness) and weight measurements on each individual turtle – **complete**
- Digital photographs from multiple angles (Turtle held perpendicular to the ground from front and back, turtle from the head, the side and the rear) -**complete.**

Draft Turtle Summary Table
 Hawaiian green sea turtle loan program
 December 28, 2002

Draft Turtle Summary Table
 Hawaiian green turtle *Chelonia mydas*

Location	ID	Health Problems	Last Blood	Measured	Length cm	Max Width cm	Max Thick cm	Weight Kg
Dallas World Aquarium	Clyde	Possible renal disease due to diet	9-18-02	?	?	?	?	?
Brookfield Zoo	Bartolomi E960	Oral lesions March-May 2001 History of foreign body ingestion	5-19-00	05-02-02	61	48.3	24.8	25.4
Brookfield Zoo	Santiago E923	Oral lesions March-May 2001 Lesion on neck June 2000 & March 2001 History of foreign body ingestion	6-2-01	05-02-02	58.4	43.2	25.4	22.7
Brookfield Zoo	Neptune ZJ66	Bruised palate July 2000 Oral lesions March-May 2001	7-8-00	05-02-02	66	53.3	25.4	37
Brookfield Zoo	Triton ZJ73	Oral lesions March-May 2001	6-1-00	05-02-02	66	53.3	29.2	37.4
Minnesota Zoo	9255 2 dot	Shark bite to flipper; healed	5-21-02	05-21-02	79.8	33	?	70.5
Minnesota Zoo	9254 3 dot	No significant health problems	5-21-02	05-21-02	84.6	34.7	?	85
Minnesota Zoo	9567 ZF76	No significant health problems	5-21-02	05-21-02	80.1	34.2	?	75.5
Columbus Zoo	ZF75	No significant health problems	5-23-001	5-23-01	65	59.3	?	33.2
Oklahoma City Zoo	E942	No significant health problems	6-21-00	?	?	?	?	?
Oklahoma City Zoo	E952	No significant health problems	6-15-00	?	?	?	?	?

Location	Person	email	Fax	Phone	Information needed
Dallas World Aquarium	Jan Raines	zoovet@dwazoo.com			Diet info; Current blood work; More complete medical history
Brookfield Zoo	Greg Dye	gdye@brookfieldzoo.org	708 485 3130	708 485 0263 ext 442	Pcr results from biopsies; Photographs of oral lesions; housed with other reptiles
Minnesota Zoo	Alan Maguire	amaguir@mail.mnzoo.state.mn.us	952 431 9302	952 431 9289	Carapace thickness
Columbus Zoo	Mike Brittsan	mbrittsa@colzoo.org		614 645 3580	Recent measurements and weight
Oklahoma City Zoo	Don Whitton	dwhitton@okczoo.org	405 425 0220	405 425 0274	All measurements; Wrong contact person