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DIAGNOSTIC CASE REPORT

U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY-BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES DIVISION
NATIONAL WILDLIFE HEALTH CENTER-HONOLULU FIELD STATION
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KALOKO
BOOK

Case Number: 21624

Submitter Name:

Mr. George Balazs
National Oceanic and Atmospheric
Administration
2570 Dole St
Honolulu, Hawaii 96822
United States

Species submitted (n):

Turtle: Green (1)

Location: Honokohau
Area: Hawaii
State: Hawaii
Country: United States

DateCollected: 7/13/2011
DateSubmitted: 8/2/2011
DateReceived: 8/2/2011
DateExamined: 8/2/2011

SPECIMENS SUBMITTED: Carcass-Thawed

History: This turtle was found floating dead in Honokohau Harbor. The turtle was released from the Mauna Lani captive program in 1996. The MTRP ID date is 7-13-11. Identification: Pit tags - LHF 4323321B72, RHF 4337725578, metal tag Q-580 in LFF.

Findings: Accession 1-green turtle subadult male in excellent body condition. Significant gross findings included massive amounts of fat in the coelomic cavity, submandibular edema, and an esophagus and stomach packed with macerated fish. Small nodules were also seen in the intestinal wall that on histology were confirmed to be small granulomas.

Final diagnosis: Accession 1-Undetermined.

Comments: This animal was morbidly obese. The presence of an esophagus full of fish suggested that death was sudden. Absent evidence of forced submergence or entanglement, it is difficult to incriminate these as potential cause of death. Other than morbid obesity, no lesions indicative of cause of death were seen.

Management:

Report Date (mm/dd/yyyy): 9/23/2011 **Necropsy report:** Available upon request

Copies of this report sent to:



If you have questions regarding this case, contact Thierry M. Work MS, DVM, MPVM at 808-792-9520. Include above Case Number. Diagnostic findings may not be used for publication without the pathologist's knowledge and consent.

NOTE: Information in this report supersedes any information from previous reports regarding this case

**NATIONAL WILDLIFE HEALTH CENTER
NECROPSY REPORT**

Submitter Name:

Mr. George Balazs
National Oceanic and Atmospheric
Administration
2570 Dole St
Honolulu, Hawaii 96822
United States

Case: 21624
Accession: 1
Date Collected: 7/13/2011
Date Examined: 8/2/2011
Prosecutor: T. M. Work
Pathologist: T. M. Work

Signalment-Morphometrics-History

CONDITION:(Excellent) POSTMORTEM:(Good) EUTHANASIA:(Not euthanized)
TAG TYPE:(Other band) TAG NO.:(4337725578)
SPECIES:(Turtle: Green) AGE:(Subadult) SEX:(Male)
MORPHOMETRICS: Weight carcass (104.5 kg), Straight carapace length (79.1 cm).
COLLECTION-SITE:(Honokohau) AREA:(Hawaii) STATE:(Hawaii) COUNTRY:(United States)
HISTORY: This turtle was found floating dead in Honokohau Harbor. The turtle was released from the Mauna Lanī captive program in 1996. The MTRP ID date is 7-13-11. Identification: Pit tags - LHF 4323321B72, RHF 4337725578, metal tag Q-580 in LFF.

External/Internal

EXTERNAL: The pseudo penis is fully extruded.

INTERNAL: The animal is morbidly obese. The fat is gray in color and measures 11 cm in thickness in the inguinal area. There is submandibular edema. The masseter muscle is enlarged on each side of the head. The esophagus is full to the glottis of macerated fish. There are 3 mm nodules on the serosa of the small intestines. The liver appears enlarged.

PRELIMINARY DIAGNOSIS: Undetermined.

Samples

SECIMENS RECEIVED: Carcass-Thawed.

HISTO: Heart (A); Kidney, Epididymis (B); Lung (C); Liver, Pancreas, Spleen (D); Intestine small (E); Lung (F).

Laboratory Results

HISTOPATHOLOGY

Intestine small: Within the serosa are two large abscesses consisting of nidi of eosinophilic debris surrounded by giant cells and connective tissue. In one of these, the nidus contains foreign structure characterized by variably sized round to semicircular to cylindrical refractile hollow structures.

All other Organs: No remarkable lesions are seen.

Morphologic Diagnosis:

1. Moderate, multifocal, chronic, inflammation and necrosis, serosa, intestine small.

COMMENTS: This animal was morbidly obese. The presence of an esophagus full of fish suggested that death was sudden. Absent evidence of forced submergence or entanglement, it is difficult to incriminate these as potential cause of death. Other than morbid obesity, no lesions indicative of cause of death were seen.

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)