

Rounds Notes is a report on the health of animals at the National Marine Life Center from Sea Rogers Williams VMD for the staff, volunteers, and community of the center including professionals involved the captive care of similar species, the views expressed are not necessarily that of NMLC. Information in Rounds Notes should be considered confidential and used solely to benefit the health of aquatic animals everywhere.

June 6, 2013

Rounds Notes

16:53-57 (2013)

HeadHeadlines News: Townsend

pre-release

wt = 35.5 kg; TPR = 98.9, 120, 40-60

Townsend passed some blood tests this week, which can serve as a pre-release evaluation or pre-sedation values for a CT and hearing test, which could be done as early as next week. The surgery is healed with only a scar to show for the trouble.



Clinical Update:Howland

SO LONG, and thanks for all the fish

Howland was released this week, he had gained weight, his coat was looking great, and had no further active medical problems. He had tested negative for Morbilli and Phocine Herpes, but the exact cause of his disability and stranding are not known. He was suffering from a common intestinal fluke called *Cryptocotyle*, which can cause disease in some species with heavy infestations, this was treated with Droncit.



UNDER the Microscope:

Lungworms still, got to love 'em

Take a look at the digital image of the lateral view of an adult (L5) male *Halocercus delphini*, from a bottle-nose dolphin from MD. Very nice when the a cleared specimen in the typical host leads to a quick identification, these bastards knot up in lungs which some believe help prevent them from being expelled during the rapid and forceful respiratory cycles of dolphins. They are certainly capable of causing significant problems in the form of verminous pneumonia and obstructive pulmonary disease.



Sea Turtles: Topsy 20

elevated tissue enzymes

CC: plastron abrasion, oral spots
Meds: d/c

Last Blood: 3-26-13; LDH, resolving

Last Rads: 3-26-13 WNL

wt=4.0 kg, SCL=27.5, SCW=26.3, HR=48, BAR, B/S=3/5

Blood tests this week as part of a pre-release evaluation.



Sea Turtles: Gerald 21

elevated tissue enzymes

CC: flipper tip lesions, resolved

Last Blood: 3-26-13, glu and UA resolved, increase CK, LDH and PCV

Last Rads: 3/26/13 WNL

wt= 6.7 kg, SCL=33.8, SCW=31.2, HR=60, BAR, BS= 3/5

Blood tests this week as part of a pre-release evaluation.

Scrape on the left side of the rhamphotheca



Sea Turtles: Betsy 22

elevated tissue enzymes

CC: resolving rash and circular neck mark, flipper tip lesions
MEDS: d/c

Last Blood: 5-8-13; LDH still elevated, improvement

Last Rads: 5-21-13, repeat flipper tips, other WNL

wt= 6.0 kg, SCL=31.3, SCW=29.2, HR=48, BAR, BS= 3/5

Blood tests this week as part of a pre-release evaluation.



Sea Turtles: Ernest 26

rash resolving, minor flipper tips

CC: resolving flipper tip lesions

Last Blood: 3-26-12; spike in LDH UA resolved, eosinophilia

Last Rads: 5-21-13, phlange autolysis 2-5-13

wt=4.0 kg, SCL=27.7, SCW=26.1, HR=40, BAR, BS = 3/5

Blood tests this week as part of a pre-release evaluation.



C. Rogers Williams VMD

Sea Rogers Williams VMD
attending veterinarian and director of science



Gray seals: Lucky NMLC 13-013

ah parasites, let me count the ways

13-13 this seal must be lucky and so he is “Lucky” in name always. By the way, never call a patient ‘Lucky’, it’s the kiss of death.

This 20 kg grey seal male was rescued by the New England Aquarium from Gloucester MA, and brought to the NMLC for rehabilitation.

Besides a crushed and necrotic digit of the left hind flipper, stress molt with patchy alopecia, crust and sloughing of surface epidermis, and various ulcerations, we discovered some parasitic diseases too (or three or four . . .)

Here is our Active Problem List

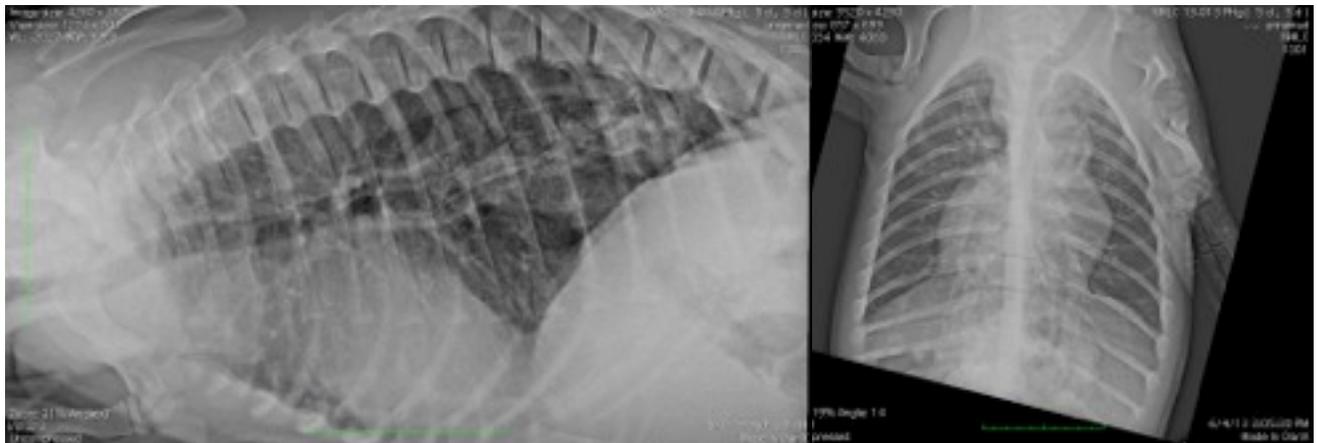
date active	problem	priority	status
5/30/2013	Left hind flipper D1 is necrotic	high	
5/30/2013	malnutrition	moderate	
5/30/2013	dehydrated NA>160	high	
5/30/2013	alopecia	low	
5/30/2013	skin abrasions	low	
5/31/2013	leukocytosis	moderate	
6/3/2013	lice	low	
6/4/2013	<i>Pseudoternova</i> infection	low	
6/4/2013	intestinal trematodes <i>Cryptocotyle</i>	low	
6/4/2013	lungworm R/O <i>Otostrongylus</i>	high	
6/4/2013	intestinal <i>Corynosoma</i>	moderate	
6/4/2013	verminous pneumonia	high	



to my count that is 6 parasitic diseases:

Our plan to is improve hydration and nutritional status, clean, debridement, and flush the wound while providing pain medications (Buprenx and meloxicam) and antibiotics (Naxcell), once stable we’ll address the parasites in order.

Below: note the caudal dorsal patchy infiltrates of *Otostrongylus* verminous pneumonia in a grey seal



Cooters:Ringo**Metabolic Bone Disease**

CC: Severe nutritional secondary hyperparathyroidism

Last Blood: 6/6/13 iCa= 1.47

Last Rads: 6/6/13

wt = 77.3 g, SCL = 68.3 mm, SCW = 67.7 mm

TX: NMLC husbandry, oral calcium, vit D3 parenteral

PE: generalized severe edema, advanced softness of shell with deformity, generalized weakness. Prognosis is poor.

**Cooters:Paul****Metabolic Bone Disease**

CC: Severe nutritional secondary hyperparathyroidism

Last Blood: 6/6/13 iCa=1.77

Last Rads: 6/6/13

wt = 186.0 g, SCL = 91.7 mm, SCW = 80.5 mm

TX = NMLC husbandry, oral calcium, vit D3 parenteral

PE: mild edema, shell deformed, shell soft

**Cooters:George****Metabolic Bone Disease**

CC: Severe nutritional secondary hyperparathyroidism

Last Blood:

Last Rads: 6/6/13

wt = 154.6 g, SCL = 87.7 mm, SCW = 78.0 mm

TX = NMLC husbandry, oral calcium, vit D3 parenteral

PE: soft shell, mild edema and domed appearance of the shell

**Cooters:John****Metabolic Bone Disease**

CC: Severe nutritional secondary hyperparathyroidism

Last Blood:

Last Rads: 6/6/13

wt = 125.6 g SCL = 86.5 mm, SCW = 86.4 mm

TX = NMLC husbandry, oral calcium, vit D3 parenteral

PE: generalized edema, soft shell, carapace deformity



Cooters: Yoko**Metabolic Bone Disease**

CC: nutritional secondary hyperparathyroidism

Last Blood: 6/6/13 iCa = 1.69

Last Rads: 6/6/13

wt = 218.4 g, SCL = 109.0 mm, SCW = 98.9 mm

TX = NMLC husbandry, oral calcium, vit D3 parenteral

PE: essentially WNL, mild MBD suspected, acting as a control turtle, this was a group of 5 animals all from the same heart-start program

**Cooters: Sargent Pepper - big****Shell fungal Disease**

CC: shell discoloration, yeast on shell scrape

Last Blood:

Last Rads:

wt = 540 g SCL = 14.7 cm, SCW = 12.3 cm

TX: 5% amorolfine topically Curanail® after local debridement

PE: heavy discoloration and yeast growth on shell

**Cooters: Mr Kite - middle****Shell fungal Disease**

CC: shell discoloration, yeast on shell scrape

Last Blood:

Last Rads:

wt = 435 g SCL = 13.8 cm, SCW = 11.2 cm

TX: 5% amorolfine topically Curanail® after local debridement

PE: mild to moderate shell discoloration and yeast presence

**Cooters: Jude - small****Shell fungal Disease**

CC: shell discoloration, yeast on shell scrape

Last Blood:

Last Rads:

wt = 274 g SCL = 11.2 cm, SCW = 10.1 cm

TX: 5% amorolfine topically Curanail® after local debridement

PE: mild patchy areas of shell discoloration, rare yeast present

