

# MARINE MAMMAL STRANDING REPORT - LEVEL A DATA

FIELD #: \_\_\_\_\_ NMFS REGIONAL #: NMFS-MX-06-25-SD NATIONAL DATABASE#: \_\_\_\_\_  
 COMMON NAME: unk. beaked whale GENUS: Mesoplodon SPECIES: sp.  
 EXAMINER Letterholder: Refuge Manager Palmyra Atoll Nat. Wildlife Refuge  
 Name: William Smith Affiliation: william-smith@fws.gov  
 Address: 300 Ala Moana Blvd. 5-231, Honolulu, HI 96850 Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

<b>LOCATION OF INITIAL OBSERVATION</b> State: _____ County: <u>Palmyra Atoll</u> City: _____ Body of Water: <u>South Pacific</u> Locality Details: <u>eastern lagoon</u> Latitude: <u>05° 52.683</u> N <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> actual Longitude: <u>162° 03.603</u> W <input type="checkbox"/> estimated How lat/long determined (Check ONE): <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GPS <input type="checkbox"/> Map <input type="checkbox"/> Internet/Software	<b>OCCURRENCE DETAILS</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Restrand GE#: _____ Group Event: <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO If Yes, Type: <input type="checkbox"/> Cow/Calf Pair <input type="checkbox"/> Mass Stranding # Animals: _____ <input type="checkbox"/> actual <input type="checkbox"/> estimated Findings of Human Interaction: <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Could not Be Determined (CBD) If Yes, Check one or more: <input type="checkbox"/> 1. Boat Collision <input type="checkbox"/> 2. Shot <input type="checkbox"/> 3. Fishery Interaction <input type="checkbox"/> 4. Other Human Interaction: _____ Describe How Determined: _____ Gear Collected? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO Gear Disposition: _____ Other Findings upon Level A: <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CBD If Yes, Check one or more: <input type="checkbox"/> 1. Illness <input type="checkbox"/> 2. Injury <input type="checkbox"/> 3. Other Findings: _____ Describe How Determined: _____
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**INITIAL OBSERVATION**  
 Date: Year: 2006 Month: 07 Day: 08  
 First Observed: ☒ Beach or Land ☐ Floating ☐ Swimming

**CONDITION AT INITIAL OBSERVATION** (Check ONE)  
☐ 1. Alive ☒ 4. Advanced decomposition  
☐ 2. Fresh dead ☐ 5. Mummified/Skeletal  
☐ 3. Moderate decomposition ☐ 6. Unknown

**LEVEL A EXAMINATION** ☐ Not Able to Examine  
 Date: Year: 2006 Month: 07 Day: 08

**CONDITION AT EXAMINATION** (Check ONE)  
☐ 1. Alive ☒ 4. Advanced decomposition  
☐ 2. Fresh dead ☐ 5. Mummified/Skeletal  
☐ 3. Moderate decomposition

**INITIAL LIVE ANIMAL DISPOSITION** (Check one or more)  
☐ 1. Left at Site ☐ 7. Transferred to Rehabilitation: \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ 2. Immediate Release at Site Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Facility: \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ 3. Relocated ☐ 8. Died during Transport  
☐ 4. Disentangled ☐ 9. Euthanized during Transport  
☐ 5. Died at Site ☐ 10. Other: \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ 6. Euthanized at Site

**MORPHOLOGICAL DATA**

**SEX** (Check ONE) **AGE CLASS** (Check ONE)  
☐ 1. Male ☒ 1. Adult ☐ 4. Pup/Calf  
☐ 2. Female ☐ 2. Subadult ☐ 5. Unknown  
☒ 3. Unknown ☐ 3. Yearling

**CONDITION/DETERMINATION** (Check one or more)  
☐ 1. Sick ☐ 4. Deemed Healthy ☐ 7. Location Hazardous:  
☐ 2. Injured ☐ 5. Abandoned/Orphaned ☐ a. To animal  
☐ 3. Out of Habitat ☐ 6. Inaccessible ☐ b. To public  
☐ 8. Unknown/CBD ☐ 9. Other: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

Straight Length: 152 ☐ cm ☒ in ☐ actual ☒ estimated  
 Weight: \_\_\_\_\_ ☐ kg ☐ lb ☐ actual ☐ estimated

**PHOTOS/VIDEOS TAKEN:** ☒ YES ☐ NO  
 Photo/Video Disposition: in file  
5 on site, 5 off jaw/skull off site.

**TAG DATA**  
 Tags Were:  
 Present at Time of Stranding (pre-existing): ☐ YES ☐ NO  
 Applied during Stranding Response: ☐ YES ☐ NO

ID #	Color	Type	Placement *	Applied	Present
			(Circle ONE) D DF L	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
			LF LR RF RR	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
			D DF L	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
			LF LR RF RR	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
			D DF L	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
			LF LR RF RR	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

\* D = Dorsal; DF = Dorsal Fin; L = Lateral Body  
 LF = Left Front; LR = Left Rear; RF = Right Front; RR = Right Rear

**WHOLE CARCASS STATUS** (Check one or more)  
☒ 1. Left at site ☐ 4. Towed: Lat \_\_\_\_\_ Long \_\_\_\_\_ ☐ 7. Landfill  
☐ 2. Buried ☐ 5. Sunk: Lat \_\_\_\_\_ Long \_\_\_\_\_ ☐ 8. Unknown  
☐ 3. Rendered ☒ 6. Frozen for Later Examination ☒ 9. Other: \_\_\_\_\_  
removed skull + lower mandible + vertebrae

**SPECIMEN DISPOSITION** (Check one or more)  
☒ 1. Scientific collection  
☒ 2. Educational collection  
☒ 3. Other: frozen tissue sample  
 Comments: skull + mandible

**NECROPSIED** ☐ YES ☒ NO Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
**NECROPSIED BY:** \_\_\_\_\_

## ADDITIONAL REMARKS

ADDITIONAL IDENTIFIER: Kevin Morphy (TNC Isl. Man.) (If animal is restranded, please indicate any previous field numbers here)

USS Sumner was offshore the atoll in June doing  
Navy bathymetry measurements

### DISCLAIMER

THESE DATA SHOULD NOT BE USED OUT OF CONTEXT OR WITHOUT VERIFICATION. THIS SHOULD BE STRICTLY ENFORCED WHEN REPORTING SIGNS OF HUMAN INTERACTION DATA.

### DATA ACCESS FOR LEVEL A DATA

UPON WRITTEN REQUEST, CERTAIN FIELDS OF THE LEVEL A DATA SHEET WILL BE RELEASED TO THE REQUESTOR PROVIDED THAT THE REQUESTOR CREDIT THE STRANDING NETWORK AND THE NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE. THE NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE WILL NOTIFY THE CONTRIBUTING STRANDING NETWORK MEMBERS THAT THESE DATA HAVE BEEN REQUESTED AND THE INTENT OF USE. ALL OTHER DATA WILL BE RELEASED TO THE REQUESTOR PROVIDED THAT THE REQUESTOR OBTAIN PERMISSION FROM THE CONTRIBUTING STRANDING NETWORK AND THE NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE.

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## ADDITIONAL REMARKS

ADDITIONAL IDENTIFIER: \_\_\_\_\_ (If animal is restranded, please indicate any previous field numbers here)

July 19, 2006

The animal was discovered washed to shore & dead at the eastern shore of Palmer Atoll National Wildlife Refuge on July 8, 2006. On July 9, 2006 M. J. & Kevin Murphy (TAR Island Member) examined the remains. M. J. collected a tissue sample & removed the skull to lower mortality. The remaining vertebrae were collected on July 17, 2006. I contacted David Schofield of NOAA & informed him of the event. We are rebuilding the skull bones & will ship the remains to NOAA for further examination when they are ready.

It may be important to note: This is the third Mesoplodon stranding on Palmer Atoll in less than a year. Additionally, in early July 2006 we were in radio & visual contact with the NAVY vessel USS Sumner. They reported their mission as Doherty, near remains.

William S. Smith

Refuge Manager

Palmer Atoll National Wildlife Refuge

United States Fish & Wildlife Service

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