

BUREAU OF WILDLIFE DIVERSITY AND CONSERVATION
FLORIDA FISH AND WILDLIFE CONSERVATION COMMISSION
WILDLIFE RESEARCH LABORATORY
4005 SOUTH MAIN STREET
GAINESVILLE, FLORIDA 32601

Tag/Band No.: None

Other ID: None

Sex: M Age: 3 yr Weight: 125 lbs

Species: Florida panther

Physical condition: Good

Area: Northeast Region

County: Flagler UTM: E 473.204 N 3280.053

Collector's name: Dave Turner

Collection date: 6/4/05

Address: FWC – NE Regional Office

Received: 6/4/05

Carcass Condition: Fresh

Examined: 6/4-6/05

HISTORY: This uncollared panther was hit at approximately 0600 hr on 4 June 2005, on the Flagler/St. Johns County line on I-95 (southbound lane). Carcass was reported by Superior Construction crew. Panther was recovered at approximately 0900 hr. A transponder chip was not detected using the large reader (however dorsal thoracic area suffered severe trauma). This panther was not rabies vaccinated. Carcass was fresh but severely mutilated.

EXTERNAL EXAMINATION

BODY MEASUREMENTS: Wt: 120 lbs (actual), 125 lbs (estimated live-weight); zoological total length (excluding tail): 132 cm, straight line: 114 cm; tail length: 80 cm; neck circumference: nd; chest girth: nd.

PELAGE/INTEGUMENT: No cowlick seen (although dorsum was severely damaged). Numerous ticks observed.

ORAL CAVITY: Severe acute trauma to face. No obvious abnormalities noted. The upper right first premolar was collected for aging.

EARS/NOSE/EYES: No abnormalities other than acute injuries noted.

INTERNAL EXAMINATION

MUSCULOSKELETAL/SUBCUTANEOUS: No kink detected in last vertebrae of tail. Subcutaneous fat (SQ): medium. Extensive bruising present in SQ tissues.

THORACIC CAVITY: Thoracic organs severely damaged, lungs protruded through dorsum (acute trauma).

PULMONARY SYSTEM: No abnormalities noted.

HEART: No congenital defects observed. Right heart, pulmonary trunk, and 2E arteries examined for heartworms – none found.

ABDOMINAL CAVITY: Abdominal fat – medium to heavy. One nematode (1 mm diameter, 12 cm length) found in abdominal cavity (suspect *Dirofilaria striata*).

GASTROINTESTINAL TRACT: Appears normal (external). Examination for helminths pending.

LIVER: Liver – severe fractures present.

KIDNEYS: No abnormalities noted.

GENITOURINARY TRACT: Both testes are descended into scrotum. Right testis: H – 25.5 mm, W – 25.5 mm, wt. 7.09 g; Left testis: H – 24.5 mm, W – 24.5 mm, wt. – 6.56 g. Penis appears normal, retained frenulum, no spicules.

OTHER ABDOMINAL ORGANS: Right adrenal glands not found (trauma), Left adrenal appears normal. Spleen: length 22 cm, width 6 cm, wt – 130.3 g, cleft present – 8 cm.

ANCILLARY TESTS: Rabies FRA: negative. FeLV SNAP test: negative for FeLV. Radiographs – thorax, neck, caudal aspect of skull – no evidence of projectile fragments, no evidence of transponder chip.

DIAGNOSES:

1. Fractures, abrasions/bruising, lacerations; acute; severe; multifocal; skeletal and soft tissues.

CONCLUSION: Suspected cause of death (vehicular collision) confirmed at necropsy. A cleft in the spleen was the only congenital defect observed.

Mark W. Cunningham, DVM

Date: 6/8/05

Copies sent to:

Darrell Land

Mark Lotz

Jennifer Wheaton

Tim O'Meara

Kipp Frohlich

Florida State Museum