



[Redacted name] You



12 JULY 2021

Hi [Redacted] and [Redacted], long time, no chat.... Wondering if you guys are around at all?

12:43 ✓✓

([Redacted] from NZ)

12:43 ✓✓

Hi [Redacted] it is great to hear from you. We are around. What's up?

12:44

Oh you guys are amazing 😊 Ah... Sooo... We have a stranded Orca calf and lots of drama surrounding that...

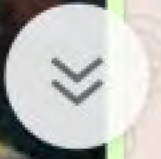
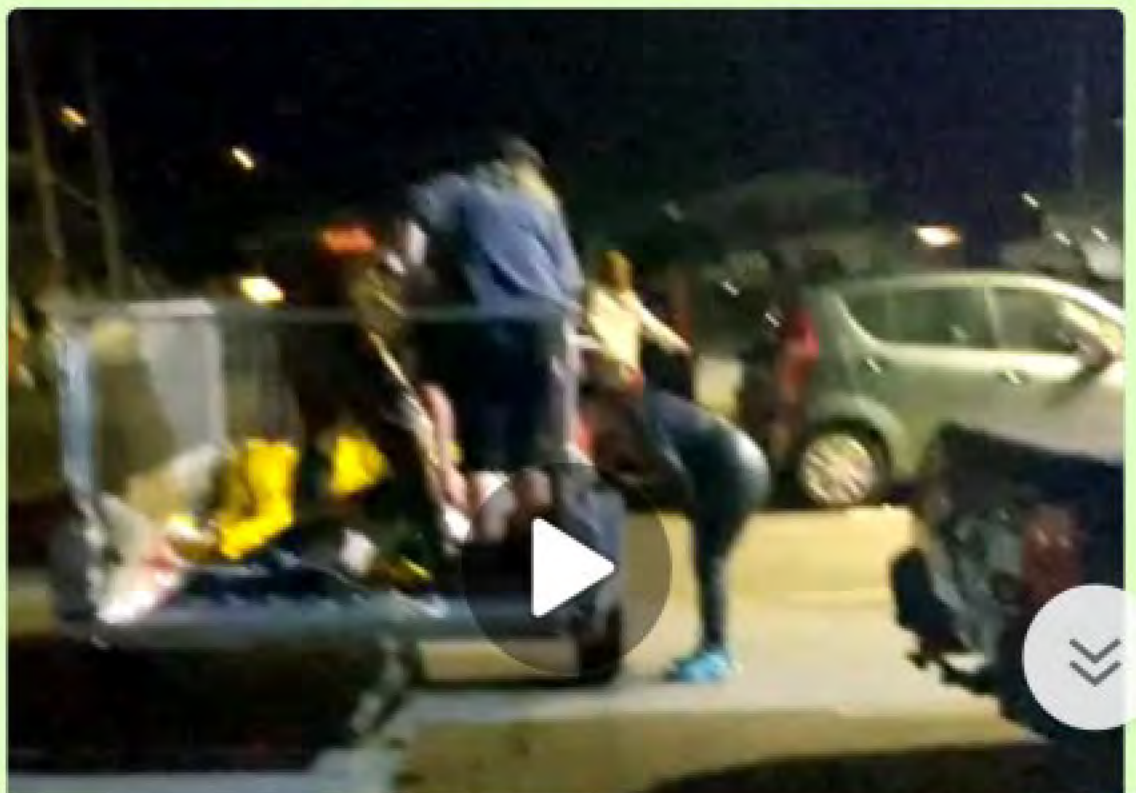
13:07 ✓✓

I have been asked to help provide technical advise, would love any thoughts on fluid rates, bloods to run... [Redacted]

[Redacted] But it is going to be a nightmare.

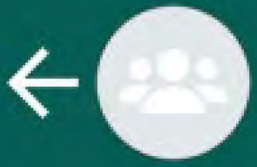
13:09 ✓✓

Forwarded



Type a message





[Redacted name] You



<https://www.facebook.com/groups/554312507954499/permalink/4321437747908604/> 13:09 ✓✓

[Redacted]
Ugh I can imagine. So sorry!
Dependent? Mom or surrogates
anywhere around? 13:10

Dependent for sure... Pod was seen
yesterday but had left it.. M 13:10 ✓✓

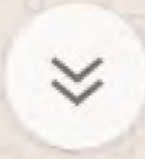
[Redacted]
Oh dear. Ok. So foam underneath,
sterna recumbency. 13:10

Ugh so sad. If dependent with no hope
of reuniting, euth would be the most
humane option. 13:11

But if that's not possible... 13:11

They held overnight out of water, back
in water this morning and terrible
bouncy issues from the videos I have
seen... They are searching for the pod
but not had any success finding yet
from what I have heard. 13:11 ✓✓

[Redacted]
IV bolus (as fast as possible) 20 ml/
kg can repeat especially if it's been





[Redacted Name], You



IV bolus (as fast as possible) 20 ml/kg, can repeat especially if it's been out of water that long. I would do at least two of those boluses then 50 ml/kg/day maintenance thereafter.

13:12

If they can get it back in some water and maintain it there, that would be preferable to on land for any extended period of time

13:13

Have you ever tried oral (the vets helping will have zero experience with cetaceans)

13:14 ✓✓

[Redacted Name]
If they can get it back in some water and maintain it there, that would be preferable to on land for any extended period of time

Yep definitely my thoughts too! Poor kid. Horrified they had it out of the water overnight.

13:14 ✓✓

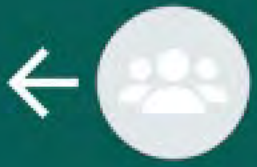
[Redacted Name]
Yep, oral is actually easy, this animal could take a 2cm orogastric tube with some sterile lube. Use towels to pry the mouth open and prevent it from biting off the tube. Can't go down the trachea, so hard to mess up. You can use electrolyte solution at full or half strength or just fresh water if that's all that's available.

13:17



Type a message





[Redacted name]

You



OV tube should go to the axilla (length-wise) can measure alongside before tubing to make sure 13:18

Ah you are amazing THANK YOU so very much Trolling Facebook it looks like the pod may have been sighted... So hopefully can reunite but going to be terrible political pressure if not successful to keep trying 13:18

[Redacted name] *OG tube 13:18

Geez, I'm so sorry. 13:19

Volume wise, any thoughts on what they handle orally? 13:19

[Redacted name] If at all possible satellite tagging would be the only way to know for sure if they do release it. 13:20

Yeah I wish... Won't be allowed 13:20

[Redacted name] Any weight estimate at all? 13:20

Not yet that I am aware of but will hopefully find out soonish... 13:21



Type a message





[Redacted contact name]

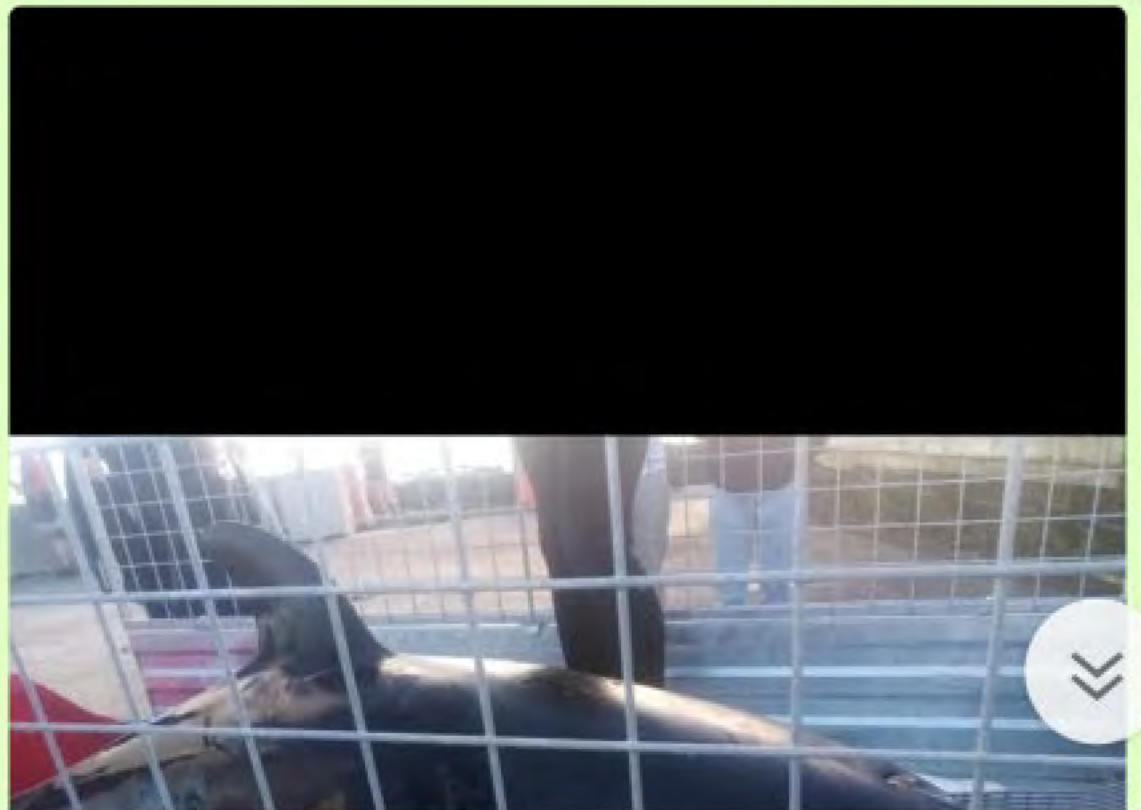
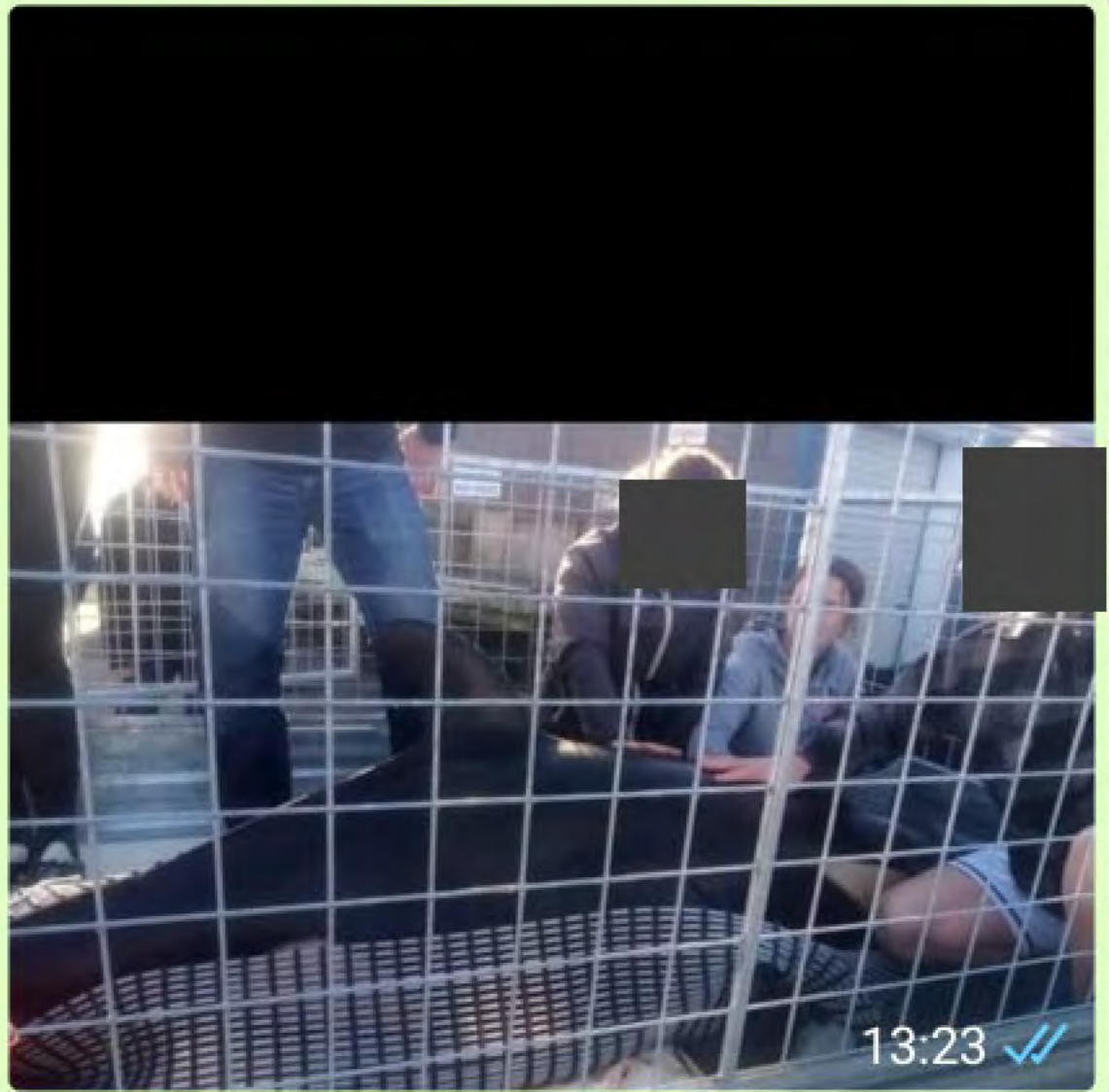
You



[Redacted sender] Any length estimate at all? 13:21

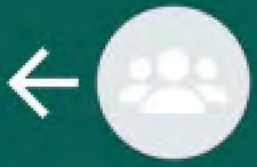
Have sent you a video on Facebook messenger - I think 13:21 ✓✓

I would estimate no more than 2m... It is tiny... Dorsal fin is upright and not super prominent foetal folds 13:22 ✓✓



Type a message





[Redacted]
[Redacted] You



[Redacted]
So Whale scale estimates for 300 cm orca calf should be ~ 500kg. So 2 liters orally to start, see how it tolerates that, then can repeat if handles it ok.

13:24

You are the best ❤️ Thank you so so much!

13:24 ✓✓

[Redacted]
Of course. Fingers crossed for the little one and let me know if you need anything else. If there are livestock vets around, they could also administer vitamin E /Se at 0.06mg/kg IM to help with reperfusion injury. Just once.

13:29

Oooh I am sure they could get it! Will hopefully be Zoo vets attending so good skills just not cetacean!

13:29 ✓✓

[Redacted]
Awesome. Wishing you all lots of luck! And do t hesitate if you need anything else!

13:31




Type a message





Massive virtual hug. You are absolutely amazing. Thank you! Will let you know what happens for sure


13:32 ✓✓

Sorry [redacted].. If you are still awake  Any thoughts on how often to go with oral fluids?


15:51 ✓✓

And they are talking about feeding and possibly rehabbing... [redacted]

15:52 ✓✓

[redacted]
[redacted] Oral fluids ok q6, if the calf isn't too stressed by that. If they are keeping it much longer, they'll need to start it on formula soon. Seaworld vets would be the best resource for hand rearing an orca calf. But it won't be releasable if they do this. 

22:36

 Was just writing you an email. Have been asked to get advice on some options - will hit send on the email in a couple of mins, just finishing writing it.... Including the question of do you have SeaWorld vet contacts.

22:39 ✓✓

Oh my goodness and I just got your out of office on email... I am so so so



Type a message





contacts.

22:39 ✓✓

Oh my goodness and I just got your out of office on email... I am so so so sorry! Feel free to pass the message onto your colleague!

22:45 ✓✓

Lol no worries at all. I'm never really **off!** Back in today though. Will send you some contacts soon!

22:46

Haha oh the life of a wildlife vet with a very specialised set of skills. You are truly wonderful. Thank you again so very much.

22:47 ✓✓

13 JULY 2021

Sheesh mad day, just wanted to say thank you again [redacted] Will send you an update in a couple of hours. Sounds like little one is stableish at this point and the vet team have a plan with good support from Sea World vets.

17:02 ✓✓

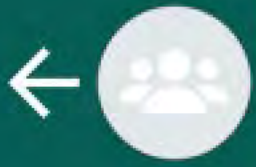
15 JULY 2021

Just because I imagine it is going to come up - would you support the application of one of the satellite tags we have here in NZ being applied to the Orca calf? Or is he too young to



Type a message





the Orca calf? Or is he too young to have one applied?

11:20 ✓✓

Yes we would absolutely support it. It will be the only way to know if the right disposition decision was made. It is also the only way to monitor in case the calf does not succeed and additional intervention is needed, such as restranding.

11:27

Thank you so very much [redacted] I was hoping that would be your answer but didn't wish to presume! Is there anything we need to do to ensure they are still functioning well? Turn on and place outside for a couple of hours?

11:29 ✓✓

We have used those tags to track harbor porpoise so size/age is not a factor at all.

11:29

Yes a tag test would be good, if possible, so that we can check the battery. Let me know when it is turned on and I will monitor the sat hits.

11:30

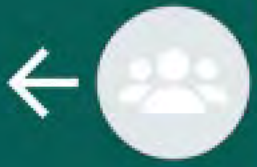
Thank you! What time works best for you? I need to give [redacted] a call and talk through with her too.

12:08 ✓✓



Type a message





talk through with her too.

12:08 ✓✓

Any time. Are they looking to release today?

12:11

Still trying to find a pod and scenario planning... Starting to think IF one is found what needs to be done in advance....

12:17 ✓✓

Yes, just echoing what [redacted] said, would highly recommend satellite tagging this calf. Let us know if you guys would like a zoom tagging refresher, happy to do that since it's been a while! Would not be a bad scenario for a first tagging since it will be somewhat more controlled and planned than a typical stranding. Happy to support you guys in any way we can, so just let us know!

12:28

You guys are amazing 😊 Will get the ball rolling here - I feel like Zoom refresher will be brilliant no matter if we tag this calf of back to pilot whales! (Plus would be a good chance to see you both!) Will be back in touch again soon!

12:31

Have chatted to [redacted] and they will



Type a message





[Redacted name]



chance to [Redacted]!) Will be back in touch a [Redacted] 15 JULY 2021 12:31 ✓✓

Have chatted to [Redacted] and they will get the tags up and running tomorrow (NZ time) she will drop us an email before hand to let you know to expect pings 17:22 ✓✓

16 JULY 2021

[Redacted] Great news!! Thanks [Redacted] 01:07

Any chance I could give you a call and talk to either of you 😊 11:16 ✓✓

[Redacted] Certainly. Can we call you in 10? 11:17

Perfect. Thank you!!! 11:18 ✓✓

18 JULY 2021

Just a heads up to check your emails. We would love to have [Redacted] on our international technical advice group - look for an email from Kirsty Knowles 13:44 ✓✓

22 JULY 2021



[Redacted] in the airport, he



22 JULY 2021

I ran into [redacted] in the airport - he is keen for 11 tomorrow as well so let's go for that and I will make it happen! Thank you!

15:51 ✓✓

23 JULY 2021

You guys are just incredible! Thank you so very much!

11:56 ✓✓

[redacted]

Happy to help in whatever way we can. How long do you think you will be in Wellington?

12:08

It would be good to do a tag test at some point with that tag so that it gets a couple of satellite hits so that it geolocates better. Let me know whenever you have time to do that. I would also like to have someone hook the tag up to their computer so we can tweak the transmission cycles slightly

12:13

I can walk someone through it on a video chat. It should only take about 10 minutes

12:14

I have said I COULD be here through to 1st August at this stage... Will see if it is needed. We all have work computers which are pretty locked



Type a message





[Redacted]
[Redacted] You



computers which are pretty locked down so might need to do it at home!

12:30 ✓✓

What time is it for you at the moment? Trying to work out time difference!

12:30 ✓✓

[Redacted]
Hooking up the tag to a computer does require the download of a small program and USB driver software from the Wildlife Computers website.

12:32

We are 16 hours behind you, so 20:30 now

12:33

Sheesh... Might have a sighting so this might be about to explode

12:45 ✓✓

How critical is the connect up?

12:46 ✓✓

[Redacted]
Oh wow, well glad we snuck the refresher in!!

12:46

You definitely need to turn the tag on with the magnet so that it knows it's in the Southern Hemisphere!

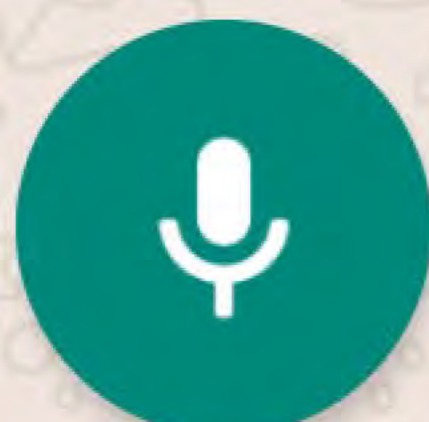
12:47

Otherwise the hits at the beginning can be wonky.

12:47



Type a message





[Redacted name]

You



can be wonky.

12:47

23 JULY 2021

[Redacted]
Don't worry about hooking the tag up to a computer if things are progressing there. It is not an essential

12:49

I just double checked and you are in a satellite dead zone until 16:00 your time. If things don't progress with the sighting and you have time try turning it on after 16:00 with a clear view of the sky for an hour or two then shut it down.

12:58

It would be good to do but not a requirement

12:58

I thiiiiinnnk we have decided it is too late logistically to respond today (whew). Will get the tag turned on tonight and have shopping lists fired all over to get supplies here

12:59 ✓✓

[Redacted]
Whew is right! A little breathing room. You've got this!

13:02

No tag test tonight. He died about an hour ago

21:14 ✓✓

[Redacted]
I'm so sorry [Redacted] 🙏

21:53



Type a message





[Redacted]
[Redacted] You



sighting and yo 23 JULY 2021 y turning it on after 16:00 with a clear view of the sky for an hour or two then shut it down. 12:58

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I thiiiiinnnk we have decided it is too late logistically to respond today (whew). Will get the tag turned on tonight and have shopping lists fired all over to get supplies here 12:59 ✓✓

[Redacted]
Whew is right! A little breathing room. You've got this! 13:02

No tag test tonight. He died about an hour ago 21:14 ✓✓

[Redacted]
I'm so sorry, [Redacted] 🥲 21:53

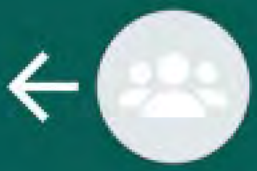
[Redacted] Glad the end at least was quick. Massive hug. Thank you again for all you and [Redacted] have done over the last 12 days. Was so very good to see you both today! 21:54 ✓✓

[Redacted]
Indeed. Poor little calf. Big hugs to you as well!! 21:56



Type a message





[Redacted contact name]



17 JULY 2021

Messages and calls are end-to-end encrypted. No one outside of this chat, not even WhatsApp, can read or listen to them. Tap to learn more.

+ [Redacted] created group "Neonate ORCA NZ 2021"

[Redacted] added you

[Redacted]
Kia ora folks, adding in [Redacted]
[Redacted] DOC vet and Kirsty Knowles
DOC Marine Ecosystem Manager

11:35

On this group we have a selection of
IWC Expert Panel members and [Redacted]
[Redacted] who is head vet at [Redacted]
[Redacted] a facility that has orca
husbandry experience.

11:39

[Redacted] added [Redacted]

Kirstie Knowles

Kia ora koutou. Thanks for adding me
[Redacted]. Introduction: my name is
Kirstie Knowles and I am DOCs
Marine Ecosystems Manager -
another science team. I'm tagging in
for Ian Angus this weekend so keen to
stay on top of IWC advice. Thanks so
much for your support everyone!



Type a message





[Redacted group name]



stay on top of IWC advice. Thanks so much for your support everyone!

11:54

Kia Ora koutou (hello everyone). Thank you so much for you assistance in this situation. I am a veterinarian working for DOC with lots of stranded cetacean response background and a keen interest Orca. Let us know what information we can provide to assist you with any comments on this situation.

12:07 ✓✓

Thanks [Redacted] and [Redacted] I know many time zones are covered here within this group so thanks all for your input and support as folks awake. I am adding in IFAW vet and strandings manager too here next

12:13

[Redacted] added [Redacted]

[Redacted] added [Redacted]

[Redacted] added [Redacted]

[Redacted] Strandings Manager and Deputy VP Animal Rescue IFAW are now added to this group

12:44



Type a message





[Redacted group name]



IWC EP [Redacted] who also leads Global Strandings Network also added to our group 12:46

[Redacted] Thanks for including us. 13:13

[Redacted] added [Redacted]

[Redacted] Introducing IFAW strandings veterinarian [Redacted] who jointly led with Brian our satellite tag training in NZ in 2017 13:44

[Redacted] ~ [Redacted] Hi. I am happy to stay on and contribute best I can but I have no experience with orcas. If you are looking for experienced cetacean vet with orca experience, I can recommend [Redacted] 13:46

[Redacted] added [Redacted]

[Redacted] Adding [Redacted] if Project Jonah here. Thanks for your message [Redacted] we will add [Redacted] to the email list. 14:54

[Redacted] joined using this group's invite link



Type a message





[Redacted name]
[Redacted name]



...

[Redacted text]

Hello. This is [Redacted] 20:54

[Redacted text]

Hi [Redacted] Thanks for joining us.

20:56

[Redacted], Kirstie would it be possible to provide a few lines of an update on Toa for our international colleagues whom have just joined the group?

21:02

[Redacted text]

Hi! I was just writing regarding this. Do you have also may be some documents/references (may be by mail then?) on what he is being fed for the moment (this being probably the most important for the time being).

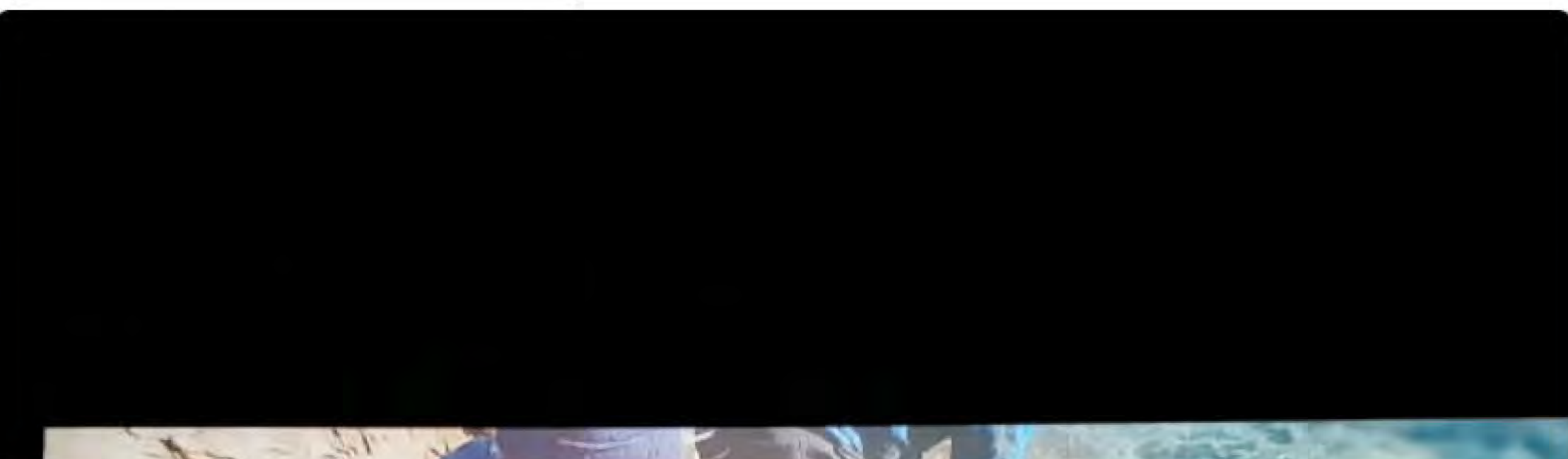
21:04

[Redacted text]

I know DOC staff are flat out and while I am not on the ground, I am attaching a news report here filmed for yesterdays news which details the feeding

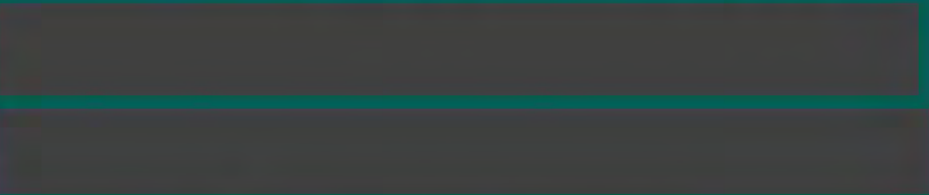
21:24

[Redacted text]

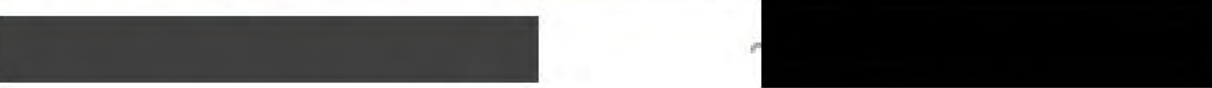


Type a message





17 JULY 2021



Thank you. Difficult to hear but I believe I heard 3L formula in once. Please be careful. You will very fast have problems with this volume. It is too much at once and the calf will very soon not be able to process it.

21:36

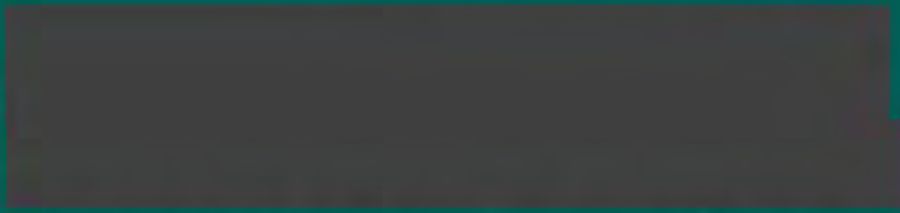


Hi all. Huge kudos for the efforts being made and the dedication of the many folks responding to this stranding. While teams are striving to meet the immediate needs of this animal, I think we also need to be thinking about what the eventual outcome may be for this calf. Given



Type a message





outcome may be for this calf. Given both immediate and longterm welfare concerns, what are the possible outcomes for this animal? The ideal is obviously reunification with its natal pod. If that can't be done soon, what are the other outcomes being considered?

23:20

I'm joining [redacted] and [redacted] in welcoming [redacted] and the others in this event. I agree with [redacted] tha all the decision should be driven by the final Outcomes and possibilities according to national policies on animal welfare and health. [redacted] will summarize all the discussion here and liaise with DOC. Thx for this.

23:33

18 JULY 2021

Are sea conditions favorable for spotting the pod? Can you confirm the sex of the calf?
I agree it is too soon to make plans but it is maybe not too soon to manage public expectations regarding the unlikely ultimate happy ending ?

03:14



Type a message





Agreed [redacted] 04:52



04:55

No favourable conditions over recent days, male calf, DOC are trying public expeditions to the best of their ability but NZ does encounter some significant challenges around orca when it comes to managing public expeditions

09:06

I hope they don't preform euthanasia on him when a pod can't be found that is accepting him.

10h Like Reply 1 🤔

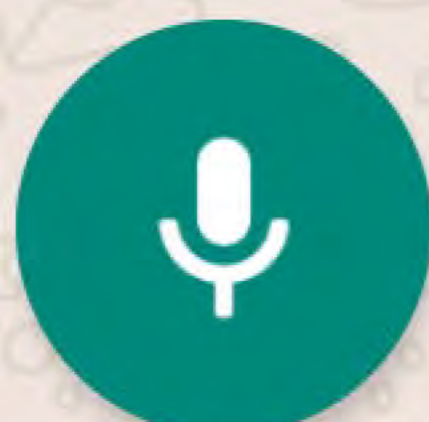
Author Whale-Rescue.org [redacted] that will not happen if necessary this will go on as long as required until his or another pod can be located..

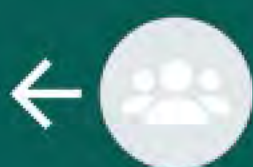
9h Like Reply 63 🍊❤️

Fyi, whale rescue on social media advising that euthanasia is not an



Type a message





[Redacted contact name]



option: 22:01

This was posted on 18th July at 1300hrs 22:04

19 JULY 2021

[Redacted]
That is unfortunate. Is this the official stance? 00:12

[Redacted]
Hi [Redacted], I'm not privy to the official stance, but this was published by Whale Rescue in their official social media channel. 06:30

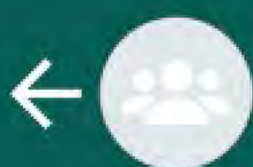
Kirstie Knowles

Good morning from Aotearoa everyone. As [Redacted] said the team here on the ground are extremely busy and will be unable to provide updates direct to you. We are putting out daily media updates though so you can follow those via DOCs website. As you know we have a young male calf that is currently stable and is in an emergency holding pool due to a major storm here over the weekend. The team is working extremely hard to work through the range of scenarios and plan thoroughly for implementation. We are consulting national and international experts



Type a message





across a range of disciplines and thank IWC for their emailed advice.

10:26

Actually not finding the pod is indeed not a recommendation for euthanasia, more a management kill/culling. Which would be a difficult call for anyone and would satisfy no one. Euthanasia will more likely be needed if the animal condition degrades due to rubbing lesions, gut stasis or chronic diarrhea or pneumonia to take just the more common complications associated with his condition (orphan and rescued).

I think it may be useful to discuss/agree with all parties on what conditions constitutes a humane endpoint so that when that point is reached everyone is on board no matter how sad. Like planning for a cancer patient. The notions of humane endpoint or quality of life are interchangeable here

10:56

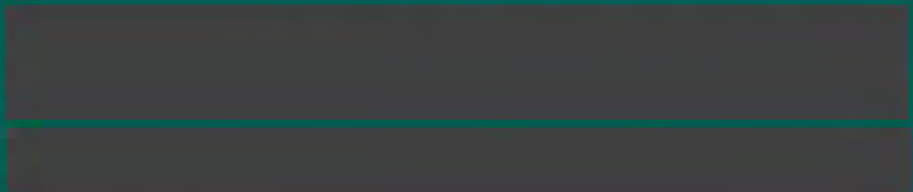
Thanks Kirstie, we certainly understand how strapped you are on the ground. We are here if you need us, so please reach out if we can be of help to you.

11:48



Type a message





help.

01:32

23 JULY 2021

Kia ora folks. Toa passed away just a while away after complications with his breathing. More soon but thank you for your support.

21:14

Sorry to hear that, usually how it goes. Toa was Lucky to have had you guys to care about its fate and well-being. Thanks for the opportunity

21:16

Really sorry to hear this. Thanks everybody for the support to IWC SEP and to NZ DoC. Hope to work with you in the future

21:19

keep us posted on the pm results

21:19

Sadly I doubt approval will be given for postmortem. I imagine iwi will not agree even though I wish to be wrong

21:22

I understand...

21:23

Make blood his assistants and...



Type a message





[Redacted name]



[Redacted] ~ [Redacted]
I understand...

21:23

Maybe blood biochemistry and exams could help in having some info

21:23

[Redacted]
[Redacted] is insite so hopefully if that's possible she will

21:25

[Redacted] ~ [Redacted]
Of course if and when possible

21:26

[Redacted] ~ [Redacted]
Hello all. So sorry to hear this. I believe all did a fantastic job to help him!

21:28

[Redacted] [Redacted]
Sad news. Thanks for letting us know. Hoping a PM is allowed so we can learn as much as possible to inform future efforts.

23:28

[Redacted]
Sadly no postmortem examination is being allowed.

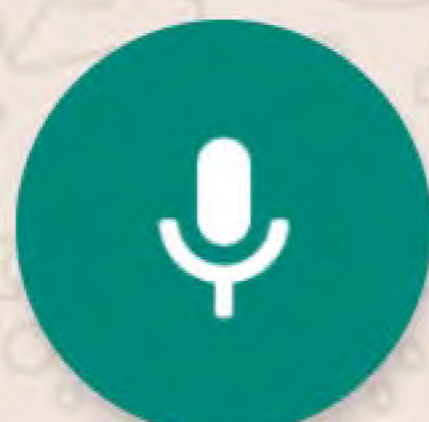
23:45

24 JULY 2021

[Redacted]
That's really too bad about the pm.



Type a message





[Redacted contact name]



24 JULY 2021

Sarah Sharp

That's really too bad about the pm. Any chance that a CT could at least be performed to gain some information on this case? It's a non-invasive procedure and he's small enough that it could be feasible (check weight and height limits for the CT, sometimes human facilities will allow it after hours and with proper biosafety precautions). If not for this case, might be worth exploring ahead of the next case where a pm is not allowed for a small but important animal. Thanks for the update, [Redacted], I know this is a difficult time for everyone involved.

00:40

[Redacted] ~ [Redacted]
Sorry if question seems ignorant, but what is a possible reason for not doing a necropsy?

00:59

[Redacted] ~ [Redacted]
I would really agree that a PM would be very helpful to learn more to help potential future stranded animal but understand the cultural importance. The suggestion of a CT is a good idea to respect this.

01:11



Type a message





Neonate ORCA NZ 2021



Sorry if question seems ignorant , but what is a possible reason for not doing a necropsy?

00:59

I would really agree that a PM would be very helpful to learn more to help potential future strandef animal but understand the cultural importance. The suggestion of a CT is a good idea to respect this.

01:11

Sarah, CT is a great idea is possible!

04:01

Hi all, unfortunately the decision not to necropsy is one that was made by the local iwi (local tribe). By their traditions they considered him an ancestor and for them a necropsy would be disrespectful. A CT is a brilliant idea - wish I had thought of it earlier. It is not possible at this stage sadly, but is something I will be able to raise when we debrief this response. Thank you again everyone for all your support and thoughts on this situation.

07:34 ✓✓

Thanks from me too everyone.

08:41



Type a message

