

Institute for Marine Mammal Studies
February 25, 2011

The Institute for Marine Mammal Studies would like to confirm that further dolphin strandings have been reported since our last press release on Wednesday, February 23, 2011. The total count for the year now stands at 34 strandings, with 27 of these involving calves. This brings the total number of strandings for the year in Mississippi to 18 with 12 of these involving calves. Alabama's total now stands at 16 with 15 of the strandings involving calves.

We are continuing to collect samples from the animals where possible to conduct tissue analysis for age and genetics as well as toxicology, histopathology, virology and parasitology. These samples are sent to laboratories outside of the IMMS and due to the extensive processes involved and the high number of samples to be tested, we do not expect any immediate results.