

Internal email in the incident...

On Wed November 17, A Navy Amphibious Assault Ship reported a whale strike at 1046 36 51.2N 75 45.6W. A report was received from the Virginia Marine Science Museum at approx 1200 the same day of an injured whale that was sighted inshore of Chesapeake Bay Light Tower at 36 55N 75 46W. The whale was moving slowly but steadily toward the ESE. It appeared to have a fresh wound to the fluke with a large portion missing and bleeding.

Apparently, the whale we are reporting today does have part of it's fluke missing. Therefore, there is reason to believe that this could be the same whale as reported above. Pic's will be forwarded in a few hours.

The VMSM team is currently enroute to secure carcass over night. Sampling will begin tomorrow morning. Also, the whale has now been reported as a code three instead of a code 4.

Today (24NOV04), a 35 ft code 4 right whale came ashore in Ocean Sands, N.C. along the Northern Outer Banks at Lat:36 30 58 Long:077.80-023 Bill McClellan (Necropsy Team Leader) of UNCW and team to respond along with Sue Barco and team (VMSM) and Karen Sayles (NOAA, Beaufort).