**Supporting information for the publication: First Evidence of Microplastic Ingestion in Free-Ranging Common Bottlenose Dolphins (*Tursiops truncatus*)**

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**Introduction**

This file contains information regarding quantified particles obtained from bottlenose dolphin (*Tursiops truncatus*) gastric fluid sampled. particles are believed to be microplastic where “Yes” is indicated under the “Hot needle response” column. The following table provides information regarding the type, color, and quantity of particles identified from these samples, as well as the results from the administered hot needle test. If a particle melted, or a mark was left when the needle (250°C) was applied, then it was considered to be plastic and marked as “Yes” in the “Hot needle response” column, otherwise the particle was marked as “No”.

Table 1: Ingested particle characteristics from free-ranging Sarasota Bay bottlenose dolphins (Tursiops truncatus)

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Bottlenose dolphin | Particle color | Particle type | Quantity | Hot needle response |
| 1 | White | Foam | >100 | No |
| 1 | White | Foam | 1 | Yes |
| 1 | White | Foam | 5 | No |
| 1 | Blue | Fiber | 1 | Yes |
| 1 | Clear | Fiber | 1 | No |
| 1 | Black | Fiber | 4 | Yes |
| 1 | Yellow | Fiber | 1 | Yes |
| 1 | Clear | Fiber | 1 | No |
| 1 | Clear | Fiber | 1 | Yes |
| 1 | Blue | Fiber | 1 | Yes |
| 1 | Purple | Fiber | 1 | Yes |
| 1 | Blue | Fiber | 1 | Yes |
| 1 | Clear | Fragment | 1 | No |
| 1 | Blue | Fragment | 1 | No |
| 1 | Black | Fragment | 1 | No |
| 1 | White | Fragment | >100 | No |
| 1 | Clear | Fragment | 4 | No |
| 1 | Clear | Sheet | 5 | Yes |
| 1 | Clear | Sheet | 8 | Yes |
| 2 | Blue | Fiber | 1 | Yes |
| 2 | Black | Fiber | 3 | Yes |
| 2 | Blue | Fiber | 2 | Yes |
| 2 | Clear | Fragment | 1 | No |
| 2 | Light blue | Fragment | 1 | No |
| 2 | Clear | Sheet | 36 | Yes |
| 2 | Clear | Sheet | >100 | Yes |
| 2 | Blue | Sheet | 1 | Yes |
| 3 | White | Foam | 47 | Yes |
| 3 | White | Foam | >100 | No |
| 3 | Blue | Fiber | 4 | Yes |
| 3 | Green | Fiber | 1 | Yes |
| 3 | Black | Fiber | 1 | No |
| 3 | Black | Fiber | 1 | Yes |
| 3 | Blue | Fiber | 1 | Yes |
| 3 | White | Fiber, frayed | 1 | No |
| 3 | Blue | Fragment | 1 | No |
| 3 | Blue | Fragment | 1 | No |
| 4 | White | Foam | >100 | Yes |
| 4 | White | Foam | 1 | No |
| 4 | White | Foam | >100 | Yes |
| 4 | Blue | Fiber | 4 | Yes |
| 4 | Black | Fiber | 1 | Yes |
| 4 | Pink | Fiber | 1 | Yes |
| 4 | Blue | Fiber | 3 | Yes |
| 4 | Yellow | Fiber | 1 | No |
| 4 | Black | Fiber | 1 | Yes |
| 4 | Black | Fiber | 1 | No |
| 4 | Red | Fiber | 1 | No |
| 4 | White | Fibrous clump | 2 | No |
| 4 | Clear | Sheet | 3 | Yes |
| 4 | Yellow | Sheet | 1 | No |
| 5 | Black | Fiber | 1 | Yes |
| 5 | Blue | Fiber | 2 | Yes |
| 5 | Blue | Fiber | 2 | No |
| 5 | Green | Fiber | 1 | Yes |
| 5 | Black | Fiber | 2 | Yes |
| 5 | Black | Fiber | 2 | No |
| 5 | Teal | Fiber | 1 | Yes |
| 5 | Dark green/grey | Fiber | 3 | Yes |
| 5 | Clear | Fiber | 6 | Yes |
| 5 | Clear | Fragment | 3 | No |
| 5 | Green | Fragment | 1 | No |
| 5 | Black | Fragment | 1 | No |
| 6 | White | Foam | 3 | Yes |
| 6 | Clear | Fiber | 4 | Yes |
| 6 | Red | Fiber | 2 | Yes |
| 6 | Yellow | Fiber | 1 | Yes |
| 6 | Black | Fiber | 3 | Yes |
| 6 | Clear | Fiber | 2 | No |
| 6 | Teal | Fiber | 1 | Yes |
| 6 | Dark red | Fiber | 1 | Yes |
| 6 | Clear | Fiber | 1 | Yes |
| 6 | Black | Fiber | 3 | Yes |
| 6 | Blue/clear | Fiber | 1 | Yes |
| 6 | Black/clear | Fiber | 1 | Yes |
| 6 | Blue | Fiber | 1 | Yes |
| 6 | Clear | Fragment | 13 | No |
| 6 | Blue | Fragment | 1 | No |
| 6 | Clear | Sheet | 55 | Yes |
| 7 | White | Foam | 8 | No |
| 7 | White | Foam | 30 | Yes |
| 7 | Red | Fiber | 2 | Yes |
| 7 | Clear | Fiber | 1 | Yes |
| 7 | Blue | Fiber | 2 | Yes |
| 7 | Red | Fiber | 1 | Yes |
| 7 | Clear | Fiber | 1 | No |
| 7 | Yellowed | Fiber | 2 | Yes |
| 7 | Yellow | Fiber, knotted | 1 | No |
| 7 | Clear | Fragment | >100 | No |
| 7 | Clear | Sheet | 81 | Yes |
| 7 | Clear | Sheet | n/a | Yes |
| 7 | Yellowed | Sheet | 1 | No |