

MINKE WHALE STRANDED AT CERVANTES

On 16th May a Minke whale was stranded at Cervantes. Fisheries Inspector K. Marshall investigated and found the animal to be alive but very weak. It had been badly mauled over most of the body, possibly by sharks, and the tail and dorsal fins were also badly damaged.

The animal was a juvenile female and measured ten feet in length.

Efforts were made to save the whale by dragging it into deeper water but these were unsuccessful because the whale kept returning to the shore.

Because of the damage to the fluke the whale would not have been able to swim, and therefore was humanely destroyed by departmental officers.