

Pygmy whale found beached at Port Canaveral is euthanized



FILE PHOTO: Rescuers try and comfort a Pygmy Sperm Whale that beached itself Wednesday morning on the beach along the 300 block of north A1A in Delray Beach. According to marine veterinarian Dr. Charles Manire of the the Loggerhead Marine Life Center, the whale was in bad shape, suffering and could not be rehabilitated so it was euthanized. To see a video of the rescue attempt go to sunsentinel.com/beachedwhale (Mark Randall / Sun Sentinel)

By **Associated Press**

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PORT CANAVERAL, Fla. (AP) — A female pygmy sperm whale found beached on the rocks in Central Florida has been euthanized.

Florida Today reports that biologists had to kill the marine mammal on Monday because deep-diving whales don't survive in captivity.

Hubbs-SeaWorld Research Institute research scientist Wendy Noke Durden says rescuers can't replicate the diet and conditions the whales need in captivity.

The nearly 10-foot-long whale was found by a commercial fisherman on Monday near the Trident submarine basin at Port Canaveral.

Researchers say the whale looked like it had been sick for a while.

The animal's carcass will be examined in a necropsy at a Melbourne Beach facility.

Information from: Florida Today (Melbourne, Fla.), <http://www.floridatoday.com>

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