

Male gray whale strands on peninsula

Researchers from the West Coast Marine Mammal Stranding Network's northern Oregon and southern Washington section completed a necropsy Sunday on a yearling male gray whale that stranded on Long Beach Peninsula after becoming entangled in lines from a crab trap.

Ropes from the trap wound through the whale's mouth, around one of its pectoral flippers and its tail, and likely caused the whale's death, the research team from Portland State University and Cascadia Research Collective concluded.

The young whale suffered extensive hemorrhaging where the ropes had rubbed against its body.

The whale stranded on a remote beach at Ledbetter Point and was reported to the West Coast Marine Mammal Stranding Network a week ago. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Fisheries coordinates the network, which is made up of nonprofit and state agencies, biologists and volunteer organizations.



Volunteers work with the gray whale that stranded last week.

"The whale was in good body condition," said Debbie Duffield, a professor of biology at Portland State University who coordinates the Stranding Network. "The entanglement appears to have caused its death."

The lines entangling the

whale were attached to the buoy from a crab trap, which carried a tag issued by the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife. NOAA Fisheries will work with WDFW to identify the owner of the trap to learn more about where the trap was and for how long the whale was

Day of Caring seeks volunteers for projects

The 2018 United Way Day of Caring offers residents a variety of projects in which to participate to help the community on Saturday, April 21.

Projects include working at Tapiola Park in Astoria, along the Warrenton waterfront, at Seaside Heights Elementary School and at Camp Kiwanilong.

All volunteers will be treated to a free barbecue from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. at Camp Kiwanilong.

Event sponsors are Home Depot, Recology, SOLVE, Pacific Power, NW Natural, Clatsop Community Bank, Columbia Memorial Hospital, Astoria Co-op, Van Du-

sen Family, Aquafina, Baked Alaska and Hits 94.3 KRKZ.

Residents can show up between 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. to work on the Warrenton riverfront trail; park on the north end of the Lewis and Clark Bridge.

To work at Camp Kiwanilong, pressure-washing cabins, show up from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. and, if possible, bring your own pressure washer.

Others can clean cabins in preparation for summer youth programs.

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Event celebrates transit district's 25 years

A ribbon-cutting and open house for Sunset Empire Transportation District's Transit Center is set for 11:45 a.m. Thursday, April 26, at the transit center on Marine Drive.

The transit center is celebrating its 25th anniversary. On Jan. 27, 1993, the Clatsop County Board of Commissioners held a hearing

to consider formation of the proposed transportation district to encompass all of Clatsop County (excluding the city limits of Gearhart at that time).

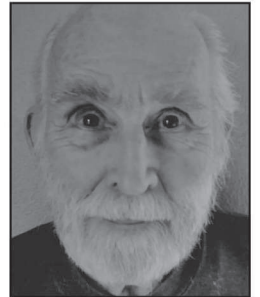
The final public hearing was March 10, 1993, and the district was created March 24, 1993.

The first election was in June 1993.

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