



STEVE HEASLIP/Cape Cod Times

Members of the Cape Cod Stranding Network prepare to carry one of three dolphins off a beach in front of Cape Cod Sea Camps in Brewster yesterday.

DOLPHINS STRAND

Animals euthanized after frostbite, gull attacks

Members of the Cape Cod Stranding Network and the Brewster Fire Department worked to save three Atlantic white-sided dolphins that stranded on a beach in front of the Cape Cod Sea Camps in Brewster yesterday morning. But, the animals, which likely were on the beach since the preceding tide, were suffering from frostbite and attacks by gulls and had to be euthanized, according to Stranding Network director Katie Touhey. A fourth dolphin, also suffering from frostbite, gull attacks and cuts from oyster shells, came ashore in Chipman's Cove in Wellfleet sometime during the night on Monday and also had to be euthanized yesterday. All were taken off the beaches to a

Stranding Network laboratory at the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution where necropsies will be performed to try to determine why they came ashore. None of the dolphins was part of the group of five animals rescued and sent back to sea by Stranding Network members over the weekend in Rock Harbor in Orleans, according to Touhey. Those animals were common dolphins and were tagged by team members, she said.

A network team was also busy in Falmouth yesterday trying to track a report of nine Atlantic white-sided dolphins swimming about a quarter-mile from shore. The team found no trace of the group, according to Touhey.

— ROBIN LORD