


## Stranding of whale shark off Madhavpur, Gujarat

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T. Kumawat<sup>1</sup>, D. Divu<sup>1</sup>, V. K. Vase<sup>1</sup>, K. S. Sukhdhane<sup>1</sup>, P. A. Azeez<sup>1</sup>, R. Kumar<sup>1</sup>, S. Rahangdale<sup>1</sup> and F. Bloch<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Veraval Regional Centre of ICAR-Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute, Veraval

<sup>2</sup>Wildlife Trust of India (Whale Shark Conservation Project), Veraval

A dead male whale shark (*Rhincodon typus*) was found off Madhavpur coast, near the fish landing centre on morning of 28<sup>th</sup> September, 2017. The investigations were covered at the joint team of ICAR-CMFRI and Wildlife Trust of India (WTI), Veraval, Gujarat. The carcass showed an injury below the first dorsal fin but cause of its death could not be ascertained. Some measurements of the stranded whale shark were recorded before it was buried (Table 1).



Table 1. Morphometric measurements of the whale shark

<b>Parameter</b>	<b>Measurement (cm)</b>		
Total length	457.2	First dorsal base	42.6
Standard length	341.4	First dorsal fin height	54.8
Pectoral fin	85.3	Inter dorsal	33.5
Mouth width	60.9	Inter caudal	54.8
Eye to spiracle	36.6	Second dorsal base	21.3
Inter eye width	88.3	Second dorsal fin height	27.4
Snout to first dorsal fin	204.2	Caudal depth	48.7
		Caudal fin length (upper lobe)	115.8
		Clasper length	18.0