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Information sought on dead snubfin dolphins

STAFF WRITERS | June 2nd, 2011



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The rare snubfin dolphin is found around inshore waters of northern Australia.

THE discovery of two dead rare snubfin dolphins tied to mangroves and a block of cement has sparked a call for information on their deaths. WARNING: GRAPHIC IMAGES

The dolphins were found by recreational fishermen on May 23 in the upper reaches of Two Mile Creek near Toolakea Beach, north of Townsville.

Authorities believe the dolphins were caught accidentally during netting.

Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority Field Management Director Mick Bishop said this type of behaviour was totally unacceptable and was being investigated.

"Given the circumstances, the death of these animals is of concern and we urge anyone with information relating to this incident to come forward," he said.

"Their deaths should have been reported.

"Instead, there has been a clear attempt to conceal the bodies of these dolphins."

Mr Bishop said snub-fin dolphins are rare and are listed as 'near threatened' under Queensland law.

"Snub-fin dolphins inhabit the inshore waters of northern Australia and they face a number of threats, particularly from coastal development, habitat loss and illegal netting," Mr Bishop said.

Anyone with information should contact the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority on [07 4726 0588](tel:0747260588).



TWO snubfin dolphins were found tied to a mangrove and a block of cement in the upper reaches of Two Mile Creek near Toolakea Beach, north of Townsville.



Two dead snubfin dolphins, found in the upper reaches of Two Mile Creek.

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