

Accepted Manuscript

Comprehensive Endocrine Response to Acute Stress in the Bottlenose Dolphin from Serum, Blubber, and Feces

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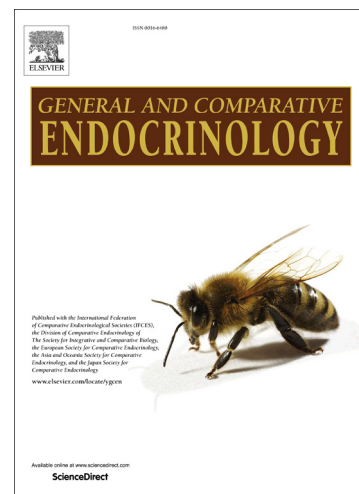
PII: S0016-6480(17)30853-5
DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ygcen.2018.05.015>
Reference: YGCEN 12941

To appear in: *General and Comparative Endocrinology*

Received Date: 20 December 2017
Revised Date: 11 May 2018
Accepted Date: 13 May 2018

Please cite this article as: Champagne, C.D., Kellar, N.M., Trego, M.L., Brendan, D., Rudy, B., Wasser, S.K., Booth, R.K., Crocker, D.E., Houser, D.S., Comprehensive Endocrine Response to Acute Stress in the Bottlenose Dolphin from Serum, Blubber, and Feces, *General and Comparative Endocrinology* (2018), doi: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ygcen.2018.05.015>

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Highlights

- Induced stress activated the HPA axis with typical increases in stress hormones (e.g. cortisol).
- Serum corticosteroids rapidly returned to baseline levels when dolphins were returned to the water.
- Elevated cortisol was detectable in blubber as well as in feces.
- These alternate matrices may be useful indicators of acute stress in dolphins.

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