



IPS-161 Biological Collections

Group 2 - Practicals

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Vertebrate practical

Photo: Stena, the most famous
Finnish walrus



Background

- Luomus collects vertebrates by active and passive way
 - Active way means shooting or trapping the target
 - Nowadays scientific needs determines where and how the active collecting will happen
 - For example, the next year Luomus is going to Amazon to collect samples
 - Passive way includes all donations of dead vertebrates found or owned by people
 - In practical we used vertebrates which were collected passive way

Photo: A donated lion hide. Usually donated vertebrates are charismatic ones, like big cats or eagles



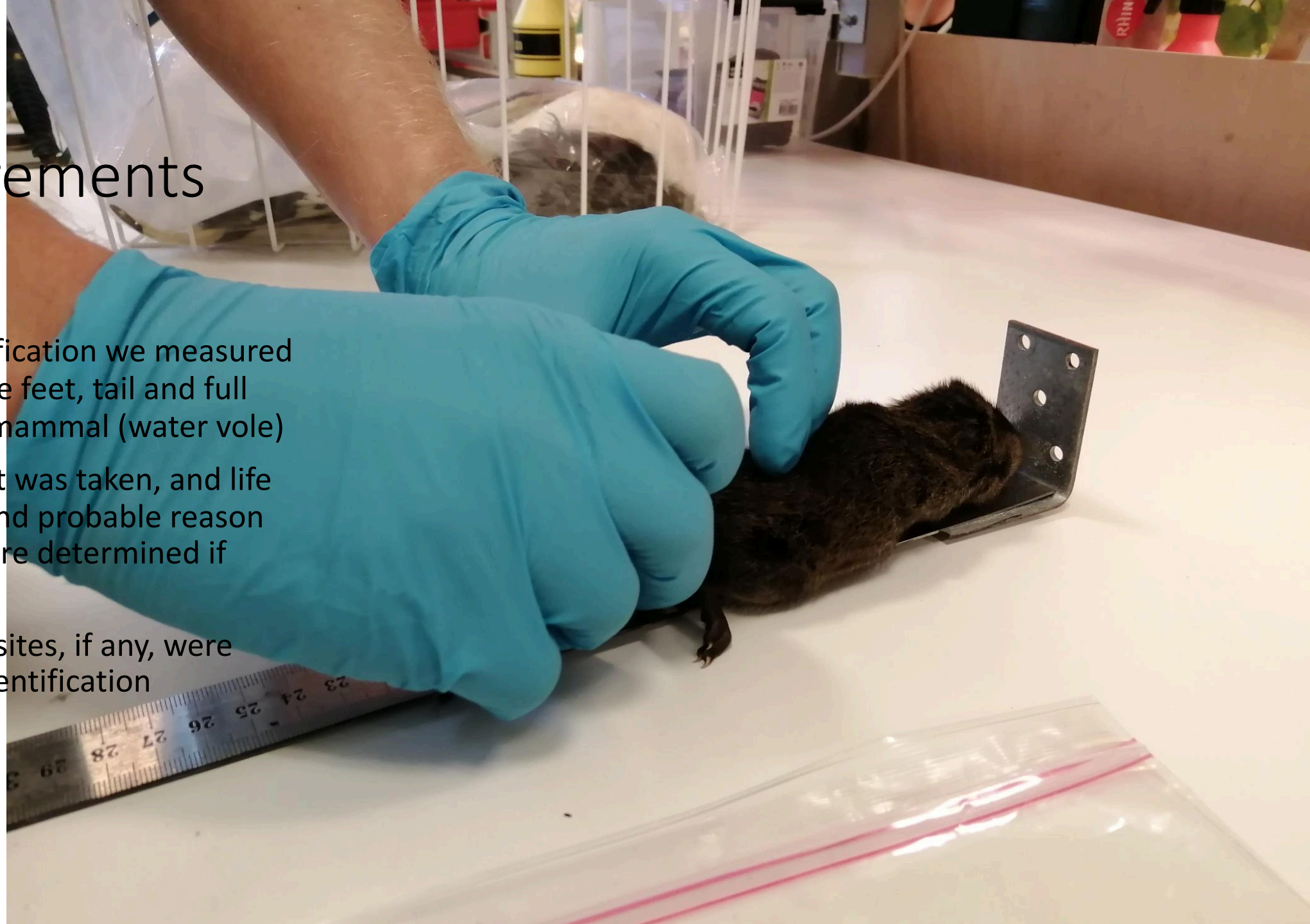
Specimens

- Preferably the donated vertebrate comes to museum with a tag telling the founding date, place and coordinates, name of the founder and description of surroundings when found
 - If not, they need to be found out, if possible
- In practical we first had four species, mammal (European water vole), bird (common gull), reptile (common viper) and amphibian (common toad)
- First, we identified the exact species



Measurements

- After identification we measured length of the feet, tail and full body from mammal (water vole)
- Then weight was taken, and life stage, sex and probable reason for dead were determined if possible
- All the parasites, if any, were taken for identification



Measurements

- From bird (common gull), we took the wing length and determined the age
 - Then we looked at the stage of the moult and tried to determine the reason of death
- From reptile (common European adder), we took its length and weight
 - Then we determined the sex and life stage
 - In the end we put the information into Kotka database and the snake in a jar full of 40 % ethanol



- After the measurements, all of us got one vertebrate to prepare
- We had two bohemian waxwings and one Norway rat
- We skinned them and removed everything not to be collected
- From rat we took the skin, skull and piece of gluteus maximus to collections
- From birds we took the skeleton and piece of breast muscle to collections
- We also verified the sex from gonads during the procedure



Afterwork

- Bird skeletons were taken to these special kind of beetles for cleaning up
 - They like dead meat, but not living meat, feathers or bones
- Rat hide was cleared from fat and dried
- When they are ready, they can be added to collection
- In the end of our practical, we took some vertebrates that were prepared before to collection



12.5.2019
 14. *Bombus terrestris*
 nimi *Espoo* Suomi, Malminkaari, Malminkaari
 sijainti *Keskusta, Salmela* MATTI LINDYRÄ
 vuosi *31.12.2017* (mm/yyyy)
 laji *Uros, Hidas*
 sukupuoli *Uros* *Nainen*
 ikä *1-2* *3-4* *5-6* *7-8* *9-10*
 muuta *1* *2* *3* *4* *5* *6* *7* *8* *9* *10*
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