

## **The WDCS Shorewatch Training Day**

WDCS will provide training and support in appropriate land-based research techniques so that volunteers are confident in the collection of high quality data across this network of sites. In coordination with the Scottish Agricultural College (SAC) and British Divers Marine Life Rescue (BDMLR), volunteers will be made aware of how to manage situations involving stranded whales and dolphins. Finally, volunteers will receive training as naturalists/visitor guides to promote the value of the marine environment in Scotland, raise awareness of the conservation issues affecting the animals and highlight the need to protect the natural heritage of the region to the general public. In this way, Shorewatchers will collect valuable observational data but will also become ambassadors for the animals themselves.

## At WDCS Shorewatch training, you will cover:

- Introduction to WDCS and to the Shorewatch Programme;
- The WDCS Shorewatch protocol how to watch and how to use the equipment;
- Species ID Identifying the whales and dolphins that are likely to be found in Scottish waters:
- Stranded animals what to do, how to identify them, why strandings information is vitally important to conservation:
- Local sites where to watch and who else is watching in your area;
- Raising awareness how to talk to people about whales and dolphins;
- Current events what is happening with whales, dolphins and their environment in Scottish waters? In your local area?







Practicing the protocol with Shorewatch equipment

The WDCS Shorewatch Programme is made possible through the generous support of Scottish Natural Heritage



