



What is a WDCS Shorewatch Volunteer?

The objective of the WDCS Shorewatch Programme is for community members to become stewards of whales, dolphins and the marine habitat which is their home. We will train up dedicated volunteers and send them out onto headlands and vantage points, armed with scientific binoculars, and a keen sense of spirit - promoting conservation in action!



As a WDCS Shorewatch Volunteer, you will:

-  Attend a half or full day WDCS Shorewatch training day on topics including Shorewatch protocol, cetacean species-ID, strandings and raising awareness;
-  Conduct 10-minute Shorewatches from a local Shorewatch site (you can watch as little or as often as is convenient for you but it must be from a specified Shorewatch site);
-  Use WDCS Shorewatch equipment (marine binoculars, watch kit);
-  Become part of a Scotland-wide Shorewatch monitoring network;
-  Raise awareness about whales and dolphins in Scotland, join Shorewatch events;
-  Receive seasonal Shorewatch newsletters, information about whales and dolphins in Scottish waters and access to WDCS expertise about cetacean issues; *and*
-  **Be taking action on behalf of whales and dolphins along your local coastline!**

WDCS Head of Scottish Policy, Sarah Dolman, commented on the need for the Shorewatch Programme saying, *“It is vital to understand which areas might be key habitat for these amazing animals. We basically need to have eyes on the sea around the entire Scottish coastline; this is why community participation is so important to the long term management of marine species and their homes.”*

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



More information: www.wdcs.org/shorewatch; shorewatch@wdcs.org; 01343 820 339

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