



Volunteer Level A Kits

What is a Level A kit?

First remember that Level A data is the information, like species and measurements, we collect to better understand and document stranding events. Skin and teeth/jaw samples are also collected from every animal possible. These samples are used for genetic and life history (aging the animal) data.

Level A kits contain all the materials and equipment you need to collect Level A data.

What is IN a Level A kit?

The following is a list of materials/equipment that your Level A kit should have:

Small bag of latex gloves	Approx. 20 cut-up Tyvek tags
1 Disposable camera**	Tag bags (2 x 3 bags)
Blank photo ID card	Medium sized bags 4 x 6
1 China marker/dry erase marker	Large bags 8 x 10 bags
2 Pens	2 Large trash bags
2 Sharpie pens	5 Blank white Tyvek tags
1 Pencil	5 Cable ties
1 Tape measure	10 Seal Watching Guidelines pamphlets
1 Knife	10 CCSN brochures (when in stock)
1 Screwdriver	10 Pinniped Datasheets
1 Scissor	10 Cetacean Datasheets
1 Paint stick	Several wet naps
Red flagging tape (when available)	

** either provided by IFAW or personal digital/still camera may be used instead, your preference

How do I get a Level A kit?

When able IFAW tries to provide volunteers with Level A kits. However, if you wish you can make up your own Level A kit. Each kit costs approximately \$15 to \$20 to put together. We provide things like gloves, bags, tags and datasheets. Items like knives, screwdrivers, and tackle/tool boxes can be purchased at local discount stores.

IFAW is also working on placing Level A kits in strategic locations throughout the Cape for volunteers to use. This way volunteers who do not have a kit and do not wish to make their own may pick a kit up use it and then return it for the next volunteer.

What do I do with my Level A samples?

If you're close to the IFAW offices you can drop both your samples and data sheets off with us. If you don't live near us here are a few places you can drop your samples off at:

Cape Cod Museum of Natural History
Cape Wildlife Center
Provincetown Center for Coastal Studies
Lloyd Center
Yarmouth Department of Natural Resources
Wellfleet Audubon
Woods Hole (Marine Research Facility)
IFAW office
UMass Dartmouth School for Marine Science and Technology

Data sheets can be faxed to us at **(508) 744-2099** or mailed to us at:

IFAW Marine Mammal Rescue
290 Summer St.
Yarmouthport, MA 02675

I already have a Level A kit but I'm running out of materials. What do I do?

You can call the IFAW offices at (508) 744-2271 or stop by at 290 Summer St. in Yarmouth port and pick up extra supplies like gloves, bags and tags. You can also let any IFAW staff know when you see us at trainings, outreach events or strandings and we will get the materials to you.

Thanks for becoming a Level A Volunteer with IFAW Marine Mammal Rescue.

We appreciate your help!