

Project Update: June 2016

We are over halfway through our 2016 field season on Abaco Island in The Bahamas, and the Bahama swallows are in full breeding mode. A primary goal of this project is to estimate the current population size of this endangered bird. To do this, we have been capturing Bahama swallows to mark individuals, and we are conducting population surveys throughout the island. We are also collecting breeding biology data by monitoring active nests using a “peeper camera” that allows us to see the contents of nesting cavities. Most nests have eggs or nestlings, and soon we will start to see fledglings. To assess how much breeding habitat is available and what species Bahama swallows interact with, we are conducting habitat surveys and locating active nests of other cavity-nesting species.



Left to right: Local children releasing Bahama swallow; newly hatched Bahama swallow nestlings and egg; and the bird ladies 2016.