

Bird Point Count

Denis Island hosts a number of rare endemic bird species, most of which were introduced to the island to provide them with a safe rat-free environment. The Environment Team makes sure that the populations are regularly monitored and population sizes are estimated every year.

An island-wide point count was conducted at the end of 2015 consisting of a grid with 58 counting points (150m apart from each other) made with a GPS. For a duration of 5 minutes, all endemic bird species (Seychelles Paradise Flycatcher, Seychelles Warbler, Seychelles Magpie Robin, Seychelles Fody and Seychelles Blue Pigeon) seen and heard were counted at each point.

For the staff, the census was fun to do, as it involved a lot of strolling through the dense forest in parts that are rarely visited. Long clothes and plenty of mosquito spray were a must though! With the data, a distribution map was made for each species, and by use of specialized analysis software, a population estimate for each species will be generated. We will keep you updated on the results!

