



**Pelican  
Harbor**  
SEABIRD  
STATION

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2020  
ANNUAL  
REPORT



## Mission

*Pelican Harbor Seabird Station is dedicated to the rescue, rehabilitation and release of sick, injured or orphaned brown pelicans, seabirds and other native wildlife; and the preservation and protection of these species through educational and scientific means.*

## Vision

*As a trusted wildlife rehabilitation center, Pelican Harbor Seabird Station embodies professionalism, compassion, and integrity. Through innovation, education and outreach, we provide the highest quality of patient care while promoting the importance of conservation in the community.*

### Deeks Foundation



### The Batchelor Foundation

The Pelican Harbor Seabird Station would like to extend a special acknowledgment of gratitude to the Deeks Foundation for its incredible support of our Capital Campaign in 2020, which allowed us to purchase our beautiful new 2.6-acre riverfront home.

We also extend our tremendous gratitude to The Batchelor Foundation for its matching grants towards our operating and capital campaign in 2020.



# Pelican Harbor

SEABIRD STATION

## Board of Directors

David Epstein  
*Chairman*

Marc McCarthy  
*Vice Chairman*

Darren Steinbook  
*Treasurer*

Helene Valentine  
*Secretary*

Jacqueline Contney

Astrid Garcia

Robert Glidewell

Jacqueline D. Greenberg, CPA

Marilyn Magill

David Williams, Jr.

## Staff

Christopher Boykin  
*Executive Director*

Yaritza Acosta  
*Wildlife Rehabilitation Manager*

Kiki Mutis  
*Operations Manager*

Stephanie Moure  
*Wildlife Patient Intake & IT Manager*

Dr. Linda Gegard, DVM  
*Veterinarian*

Dr. Renata Schneider, DVM  
*Veterinarian*

Mary Diddle  
*Accounting Coordinator*

Tori Fields  
*Wildlife Rehabilitator*

Judith Gatti  
*Development Director*

Douglas Giraldo  
*Wildlife Rehabilitator*

Natalie Mahomar  
*Wildlife Intake Coordinator*

Sam Martinez  
*Wildlife Intake Coordinator*

Hannah McDougall  
*Communications & Outreach Coordinator*

Dear Friends of Pelican Harbor,

For 42 years, Pelican Harbor Seabird Station has served the Pelicans, wildlife, and citizens of Southern Florida. 2020 was a year that we will never forget. Not just because of the turmoil and loss of life associated with the COVID-19 pandemic, but also because it was the year that Pelican Harbor recommitted itself to becoming a leading wildlife rescue, rehabilitation, and release organization. As part of this recommitment, we have started a journey to build a new more expansive state-of-the-art facility to provide a higher quality of care for our animals and to help educate our next generation on what needs to be done to heal our planet and work toward restoring biodiversity.

We have purchased a beautiful 2.6-acre property on the bank of Miami's Little River and are starting work with the City and other organizations to obtain the necessary building permits. Our building project team — led by Board Vice Chairman Marcus McCarthy, Board Member Robert Glidewell, and our fearless Executive Director Christopher Boykin — are working with our architect, staff, and others to make sure we build a facility that will allow us to not only just treat more animals, but to also ensure we continue to employ the most current housing and health standards for our patients.

A total of about \$9.5 million in capital funds needs to be raised to realize our vision. So far, we are approximately 71% of the way there. Amidst this ambitious project, our daily work does not stop! We treated 2,364 patients during 2020 (of which eight were on Florida's threatened species list), and in the first quarter of 2021 our patient count has already grown by another 24%. So, if you have been considering a gift to Pelican Harbor Seabird Station, there is no better time than now to make one! I want to thank our donors, friends, volunteers, and employees for their ongoing dedication and support.

I invite you to join us in helping to restore South Florida's biodiversity and assist in healing the world in which we live, work, play, and grow.

Sincerely,

David Epstein  
Chairman, Board of Directors



Great horned owl



Male American redstart



Virginia opossum

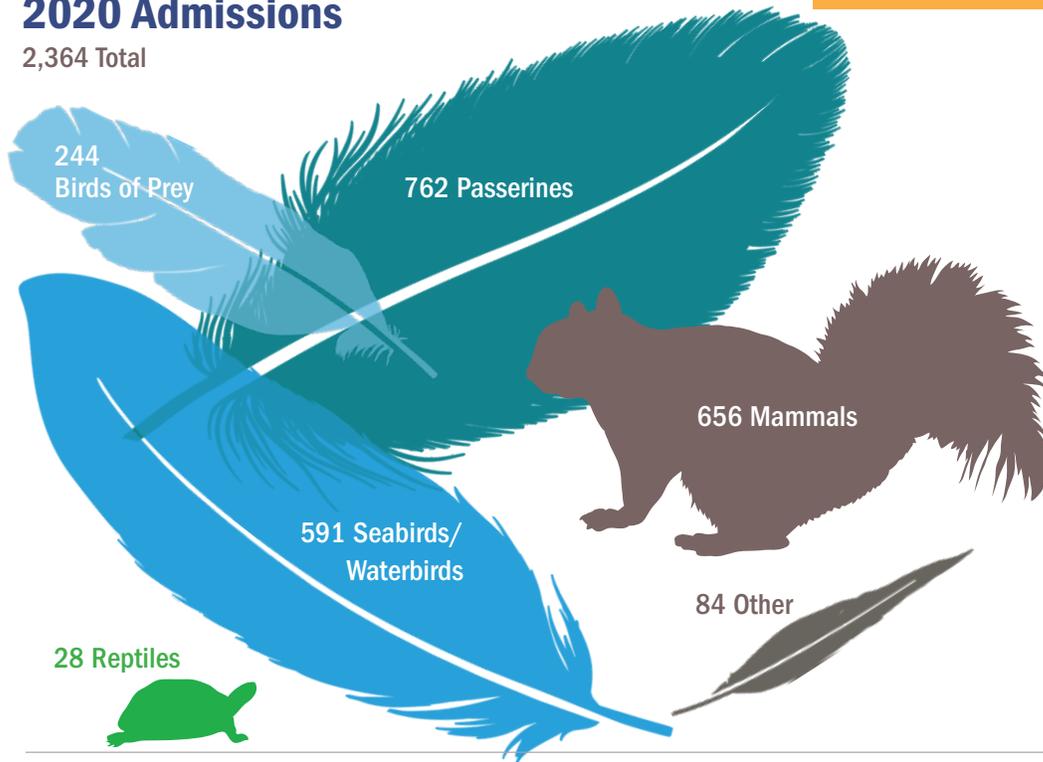


Peregrine falcon receiving laser treatment

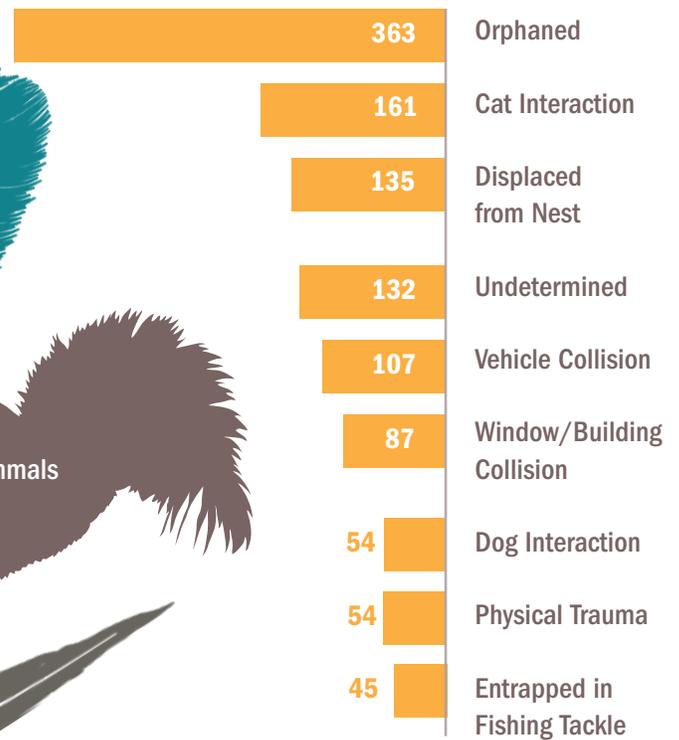
# Admission Facts

## 2020 Admissions

2,364 Total



## Top Reasons for Admission



## 2020 Top 10 Species Treated

- > 375 Virginia opossum
- > 238 Eastern grey squirrel
- > 170 Blue jay
- > 157 Laughing gull
- > 125 Northern mockingbird
- > 94 Brown pelican
- > 75 Mourning dove
- > 72 Eastern screech owl
- > 51 White ibis
- > 40 Ovenbird

## 1980-2020 Top 10 Avian Species Treated

- > 9,015 Brown pelican
- > 1,723 Laughing gull
- > 1,477 Northern mockingbird
- > 1,174 Blue jay
- > 1,055 Mourning dove
- > 738 Double-crested cormorant
- > 519 Royal tern
- > 518 Ring-billed gull
- > 442 White ibis
- > 423 Eastern screech owl



Baby Barn owl receiving an eye exam



Northern parula



Connecticut warbler



Blue jay being examined

# Wildlife Rescue, Rehabilitation & Release

*Every day, PHSS receives calls from concerned neighbors reporting sick, injured, or orphaned wildlife. Many of our patients fall victim to fishing hooks and/or fishing line entanglement. Birds fly into windows, are hit by vehicles, or fall prey to domestic pets. Baby birds fall from their nests, while orphaned baby squirrels and opossums without immediate help will surely perish. We also receive patients suffering from poisoning, botulism, parasites, fungal infections, and exposure to toxic chemicals in the environment. Some are malnourished due to a lack of adequate food sources and the loss of their natural habitats. When these animals come through our doors they are given a second chance to live.*

## State Threatened Species in 2020

- > American kestrel   > Black skimmer   > Burrowing owl
- > Least tern   > Little blue heron   > Tricolored heron
- > White-crowned pigeon   > Wood stork (federally threatened)

## New Species in 2020   > Connecticut warbler

- > Eastern whip-poor-will   > Red-headed woodpecker

## Fresh Feathers

In May, we received a Blue jay whose feathers had certainly been ruffled. In fact, they had been completely clipped. A good samaritan found the bird hopping in her yard, unable to fly. The jay had a long piece of string tied to its leg, likely someone's inhumane and illegal attempt to keep the bird as a pet.

The Blue jay was clinically healthy, showing no sign of sickness or physical trauma. Its feathers, on the other hand, would need some TLC. Every two weeks, for over three months, each broken feather had to be carefully plucked until the bird had a brand new set of plumage. Eighty-seven days later, the Blue jay made a full and miraculous recovery and was released, where he was finally free to spread his wings and fly!

## Connecticut warbler Is Added to our Species Treated List

In June, a small Connecticut warbler was brought into the station, a species we had never treated. The small warbler weighed a whopping 10 grams! After the intake examination, we noticed a small abrasion and missing feathers on its cere (*a waxy fleshy covering at the base of the upper beak*) and impaired balance and coordination. These clinical signs point towards head trauma, most likely from a window/building collision. We prescribed anti-inflammatory and mild pain medications. The warbler was very skinny, which can be fatal for a bird of this size. It was put on cage rest and offered mealworms to fatten up. After a week in care, the Connecticut warbler was strong enough to be released and free to continue migration.



Kiki Mutis, Nancy Jackson,  
District 112 State Representative  
Nicholas Duran & Bruce the Opossum



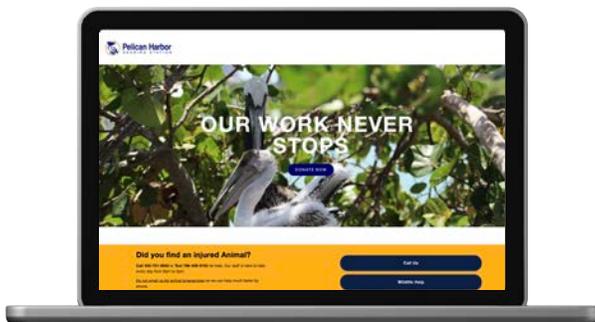
Ronald Washington, Officer at Florida Fish & Wildlife  
Conservation Commission, on the banks of the  
Little River at our new property

# Education & Community Outreach

## Community Members Reached

- 1,572,000** Social Media and Direct Mail
- 1,035** Tabling at Community Events
- 249** Virtual School Presentations
- 180** PHSS Tours
- 109** Civic Group & Non-Profit Presentations
- 92** Natural History Speaker Series
- 55** On-site School Presentations
- 34** Seabirds on the Bay Cruises

**1,573,754** Total



Environmental Education continues to be a pillar of the Seabird Station through the COVID pandemic. With the Station's closure to the general public, school closures, and community events cancellation, we had to adapt to reach the community on important environmental and wildlife conservation topics. Through Zoom presentations, Facebook LIVE releases, and social media, we engaged and interacted with community members, schools, colleges, and civic organizations. We showcased our work to the community to empower community members to make informed decisions and become stewards of the environment. During our online programming, participants learned about Pelican Harbor Seabird Station, saw patient treatments, rehabilitated patients being released, and met our ambassador animals, Basil the Virginia opossum and Mowgli the Eastern screech owl.



Wildlife Rehabilitator Tori Fields holds  
a Great white heron prior to its release



**Larry**

*Species:* Brown pelican  
*Favorite Pastime:* Sitting on the roof  
*Favorite Snack:* Fish!



**Mowgli**

*Species:* Eastern screech owl  
*Favorite Pastime:* Relaxing in her box  
*Favorite Snack:* Worms and mice

# Ambassadors Bring Teaching to Life

Our number one goal is to rehabilitate and release our patients back into their native habitat. However, some patients cannot be released for various reasons: leg or wing injuries rendering them unable to fly, partially blind, brain damaged, or in some cases, they are too people-friendly. When space and funding are available, these animals may join an elite group of Ambassador Animals that participate in PHSS' Environmental Education Programs.



**Humberto & Rosario**

*Species:* Florida box turtles  
*Favorite Pastime:* Burying themselves  
*Favorite Snack:* Mealworms



**Pepe & Enrique**

*Species:* Brown pelicans  
*Favorite Pastime:* Building their nest together  
*Favorite Snack:* Fish!



**Luna**

*Species:* Great horned owl  
*Favorite Pastime:* Hanging out on her perch  
*Favorite Snack:* Lots of mice and rats



**Monroe**

*Species:* White pelican  
*Favorite Pastime:* Swimming with best friend Pepe  
*Favorite Snack:* Fish!



**Basil**

*Species:* Virginia opossum  
*Favorite Pastime:* Climbing trees  
*Favorite Snack:* Blackberries



**Felix**

*Species:* Eastern brown pelican  
*Favorite Pastime:* Splashing in the pool  
*Favorite Snack:* Fish!



PHSS Volunteers Raquel & Monique working in our outside enclosures

“It is a quiet place to be with the animals and your thoughts, and yet it is not quiet if you pay attention to the small sounds. It is a chance to practice mindfulness and to help our world, one volunteer shift at a time.”

Trina Aguila



PHSS Volunteer Evelyn shares the story of PHSS at a community event

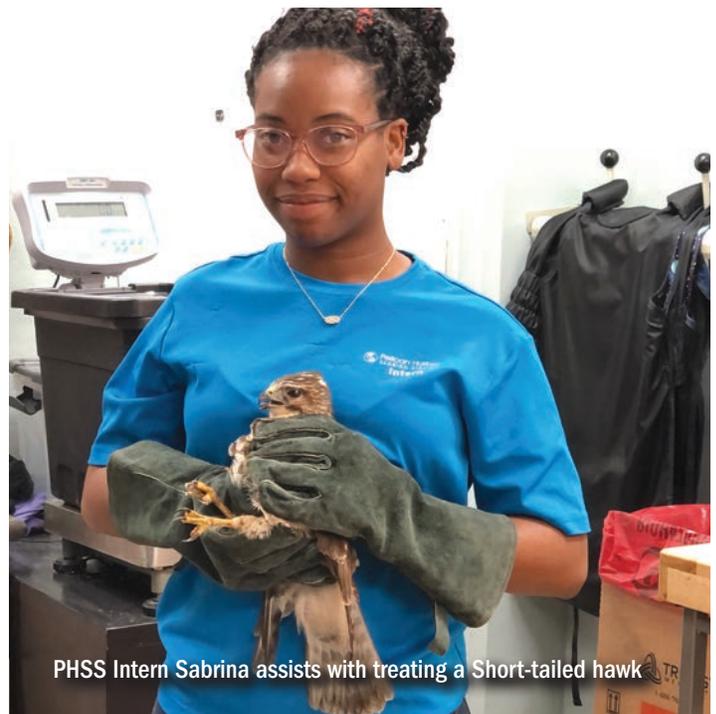
# Our Extraordinary Volunteers & Interns

“Without volunteers, the Seabird Station’s success would be impossible. Volunteers prepare the carefully prescribed animal diets and maintain and clean their enclosures as the patients regain strength before being released. When COVID hit, we closed the volunteer program, leaving feeding and cleaning to interns who were also aiding the clinic staff with patient care. After a few months, slowly and cautiously following COVID safety protocols, we re-opened volunteer shifts. Still, we cut the number of volunteers by 66% to ensure the staff, interns, and volunteers’ safety. The dedication, sweat, and passion of the volunteers enabled PHSS to treat an incredible number of patients during the pandemic.”

Kiki Mutis  
Operations & Volunteer Manager

## Special thanks to our volunteers and interns who donated 200+ hours each in 2020:

- > Carolina Labro
- > Christine Webber
- > Evelyn Hilliker
- > Keri Reiter
- > Neil Krasner
- > Raquel Castillo
- > Samantha Martinez



PHSS Intern Sabrina assists with treating a Short-tailed hawk

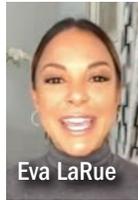
**63 Volunteers & Interns > 6,370 Service Hours > \$173,264 Value of In-Kind Services**



Wildlife Rehabilitation Manager Yaritza Acosta addresses attendees at one of our Pelican Party brunches



Deepak Chopra



Eva LaRue



Don Johnson



Philippe Cousteau



WPLG-Miami Channel 10 news anchor Jacey Birch and Christian Hadfield

# 41st Anniversary Pelican Party

We are always ready to celebrate the work Pelican Harbor Seabird Station has been doing over the last 41 years serving South Florida's native wildlife! 2020 led us to virtually host our Annual Pelican Party fundraiser and maintain physical distance for our VIP in-person guests as we honored the legacy built on the dreams of Harry and Darlene Kelton.

- > Over the past 41 years, we have treated over 36,000 patients from 210 species. PHSS became North America's premier Brown Pelican Hospital.
- > Planting seeds of environmental stewardship through our innovative environmental programming, PHSS reached over 1,645 community members in the past year.
- > A dedicated coalition of volunteers, individuals, government officials, foundations, nonprofit organizations, celebrities, community leaders, and municipalities came together to support PHSS.

Whether you have given financial support or contributed your time, talent, and resources, each of you in your own way has made a significant contribution in fulfilling our mission.



Arhlerie Ayalin and Surfside Commissioner Tina Paul



Miami-Dade County Commissioner Eileen Higgins



PHSS Board Members David Epstein, Marcus McCarthy, and Robert Glidewell

**Thank you** to the 2020 Host Committee and all the staff, volunteers, and donors that came together to make this year's events an incredible success.

# 2020 Financials

Pelican Harbor Seabird Station is a 501(c)(3) non-profit. We strive to keep our fundraising and administrative costs to a minimum, so that we can stretch our dollars and provide the best patient care possible.



■ Individuals . . . . .	\$269,356 . . . . .	31%
■ Grants & Foundations . . . . .	\$473,609 . . . . .	54%
■ Special Events . . . . .	\$135,519 . . . . .	15%
<b>TOTAL REVENUE . . . . .</b>	<b>\$878,484 . . . . .</b>	<b>100%</b>

■ Wildlife Treatment . . . . .	\$529,258 . . . . .	64%
■ Education . . . . .	\$168,702 . . . . .	20%
■ Fundraising . . . . .	\$ 72,507 . . . . .	9%
■ Administration . . . . .	\$ 58,678 . . . . .	7%
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES . . . . .</b>	<b>\$829,145 . . . . .</b>	<b>100%</b>

The release of this document precedes our Financial Review and 990 submission to the IRS. These documents may be found on our website under the About Us tab. Additionally, these financials do not include capital campaign gifts.

As a result of the budget variance, \$49,339 of the General Operating Support from the Deeks Foundation was reallocated to the Capital Campaign for 2020.

## Financial Supporters

### \$100,000+

- > Batchelor Foundation
- > Deeks Foundation
- > Three Opinions Foundation Inc.

### \$50,000 - \$99,999

- > Leslie L. Alexander Foundation Inc.
- > Vera Kunsak Charitable Trust

### \$25,000 - \$49,999

- > William H. Donner Foundation Inc.
- > Fleming Family Foundation
- > Leila Knight
- > Knopf Family Foundation
- > Miami Foundation-Miami-Dade County

### \$10,000 - \$24,999

- > City of Miami Beach
- > Ron Magill
- > Evelyn Marko
- > Pat Schuh

### \$5,000 - \$9,999

- > Aileen S. Andrew Foundation
- > Apple, Inc.
- > Bernice Barbour Foundation
- > Bruce & Joyce Chesney
- > The Burnap Foundation
- > Dart Foundation
- > The Gloria Estefan Foundation
- > Felburn Foundation
- > Fleming and Fleming, PLLC
- > Patrick Francis

- > Deborah Freud
- > Huizenga Family Foundation
- > Marian & Bob Hymen
- > Pamela Anne Isdell
- > Mrs. Cynthia Knight
- > Carol Lang & Terry Bienstock
- > Doug & Kaisa Levine Family Support Foundation
- > Audrey Love Charitable Foundation
- > Folke H. Peterson Foundation
- > Peggy Ochandarena
- > Carol & Foster Schwartz
- > Roy Schwartz
- > The Donald Slavik Family Foundation
- > The Spurlino Foundation
- > The Summerlee Foundation
- > Lew and Pat Titterton
- > B. Rodney White & Michael Williams

Although space does not permit us to list everyone who has supported PHSS, we are mindful that it is only with your support that we are able to continue this important work. Thank you all for being a member of the PHSS family.



Bruce the Virginia opossum



Burrowing owl



Nestling Brown pelicans



Brown pelican release

# Ways You Can Help

**We have many opportunities for you to support our mission!**

## Donate

- > Make a financial contribution—one-time or recurring gift
- > If you have a foundation or trust, consider inviting PHSS to apply. All gifts are tax-deductible
- > Fundraise on Facebook for us on your birthday or anniversary

## Volunteer

- > Donate your time to help with animal care or administration at PHSS, at an event, become an Operation Rescue & Release team member, or help with our community outreach activities

## Educate and advocate

- > Invite PHSS to speak at your club, conference, or office
- > Sponsor a school Zoom or live presentation
- > Become an advocate by pledging to be a Wildlife Warrior

## Adopt an Ambassador Animal

- > Sponsor the continuous care of our Ambassador animals that help educate the community about their species

## Attend an event

- > Take a Seabird on the Bay Cruise with family and friends
- > Attend a Natural History Speaker Series lecture
- > Take a tour of PHSS—bring friends, or come with a group
- > Attend our Annual Pelican Party

## Apply for an internship

- > We offer internships opportunities in animal care for college and graduate students

## Stay informed and help spread the word

- > Sign up to receive our emails and newsletters
- > Follow us on social media and share our posts and events

## *The Legacy Society*

The Legacy Society recognizes those individuals and families who have remembered Pelican Harbor Seabird Station in their estate plans through a documented planned gift. More so, it serves to enable members and friends to witness the value of PHSS in their lives and secure Florida's native wildlife populations.

### Membership is simple—no need to donate today!

You simply name PHSS as a beneficiary in your will, trust, insurance policy, donor-advised fund, or foundation. Your gift can be anonymous or publicly acknowledged with your permission. We encourage our legacy society members to participate in the benefits of membership.

### Thank you to Legacy Society members:

- > Pablo Arus Bayarri
- > Christopher Boykin & Stratton Politzer
- > Victoria Brandt
- > Sue Burns
- > Theodore Crandall
- > Lindsay Donzanti
- > Patrick Francis
- > Carol Garvin
- > Philomena Hausler
- > Kathy & Larry Hull
- > Harry Kelton
- > Jonah & Teresa Kowall
- > Marvin & Meira Langsam
- > Sara (Sally) E. Lloyd
- > James E. Lockwood
- > Laura L. Morgan
- > Mary Newman
- > Collins & Elizabeth Powell
- > Howard & Patricia Rosen
- > Jon & Kate Sage
- > Gerard M. Schocken
- > Dr. David B. Thornburgh
- > Roberta Waller



*“Just being surrounded by bountiful nature, rejuvenates and inspires us.”*

E.O. Wilson



**Pelican Harbor**  
SEABIRD STATION

1279 NE 79th Street Causeway, Miami, FL 33138  
Wildlife Clinic: 305-751-9840  
Administrative Offices: 305-762-7633  
PelicanHarbor.org



Pelican Harbor Seabird Station is located in a Miami-Dade County Park. We are grateful to Miami-Dade County Parks Department for the use of the facility and for our partnership that has allowed us to focus on our mission and the well-being of our patients.

*Pelican Harbor Seabird Station is a registered 501(c)(3) non-profit. Our registration # is CH17487. A copy of the official registration and financial information may be obtained from the Division of Consumer Services by calling 800.435.7352 toll-free within the State.*

Federal Tax ID # 59-2137331



@pelicanharbor



@seabirdstation



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Seabird Station



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