

Enemies

About 1,200 to 1,500 alpine swifts live in Switzerland. This is not as many as there used to be. The main problem is that many of their nests are destroyed. Alpine swifts return to the same nest year after year, but a lot of old buildings are renovated or torn down. Then it's hard for the swifts to find another place to breed, and it takes them a lot of effort to build a new nest. Sometimes buildings are renovated while swifts are breeding. Then eggs are accidentally destroyed or young swifts killed. Today there are several projects to protect the alpine swifts. Architects and builders can get information about breeding places and about replacing nests.