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**Breeding in a den of thieves: pros and cons of nesting close to egg predators**

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**Appendix S1**

Table: Mean clutch sizes and number of brent geese nests in the study area.

| Island           | ha    | 2004 |        | 2005 |        | 2006 |        | 2007 |        | 2008 |        |
|------------------|-------|------|--------|------|--------|------|--------|------|--------|------|--------|
|                  |       | n    | clutch | n    | clutch | n    | clutch | n    | clutch | n    | clutch |
| Bartoucha        | 0.33  | 6    | 2.5    | 2    | 3.5    | -    | -      | 5    | 4.2    | 4    | 1.8    |
| Big Bird island* | 15.72 | 118  | 1.7    | 57   | 3.6    | 32   | 0.7    | 101  | 1.8    | 71   | 0.1    |
| Beacon Middle    | 82.09 | 194  | 2.5    | -    | -      | 21   | 2.0    | 38   | 2.5    | -    | -      |
| Beacon North     | 68.72 | 62   | 2.3    | -    | -      | -    | -      | -    | -      | -    | -      |
| Beacon South     | 24.10 | 219  | 2.8    | 82   | 3.0    | 14   | 1.9    | 28   | 2.6    | -    | -      |
| Dorita*          | 0.32  | 5    | 4.0    | 3    | 4.0    | 1    | 2.0    | 2    | 2.5    | 1    | 4.0    |
| House*           | 2.74  | 66   | 2.3    | 40   | 3.3    | 32   | 2.7    | 52   | 2.3    | 22   | 1.4    |
| Kolgans          | 0.13  | 5    | 2.2    | 2    | 4.0    | 3    | 2.0    | 4    | 2.0    | -    | -      |
| North-BBI*       | 1.02  | 13   | 2.4    | 9    | 3.6    | 8    | 2.8    | 6    | 3.3    | 4    | 0.0    |
| Senecio*         | 0.50  | 5    | 3.2    | 5    | 3.0    | 3    | 1.7    | 7    | 3.1    | 3    | 1.0    |
| St.Joseph*       | 2.76  | 47   | 1.2    | 26   | 2.2    | 28   | 2.4    | 43   | 2.0    | 16   | 0.0    |
| Wasya*           | 0.21  | 3    | 2.0    | 3    | 4.0    | 2    | 2.0    | 6    | 3.3    | 4    | 2.5    |
| Total nest*      |       | 257  |        | 143  |        | 106  |        | 217  |        | 121  |        |