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Brown Pelican population roaring back



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Plaquemines Parish, LA-- Despite last summer's BP oil disaster, Pelican populations are booming along a huge stretch of Louisiana's coast.

2011 will go down as "the most productive since Katrina" for nesting, according to refuge manager Jack Bohannon.

The Breton Sound National Wildlife Refuge was home this year to an estimated 8,400 nesting pairs of Brown Pelicans.

Bohannon said 70,000 Sandwich Terns and 59,000 Royal Terns also nested in the refuge, which includes the Chandeleur Island chain.

The refuge was only lightly oiled during last summer's spill, although other barrier islands in Plaquemines Parish took on more oil and the long-term effects could be more serious.

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