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#### Please note:

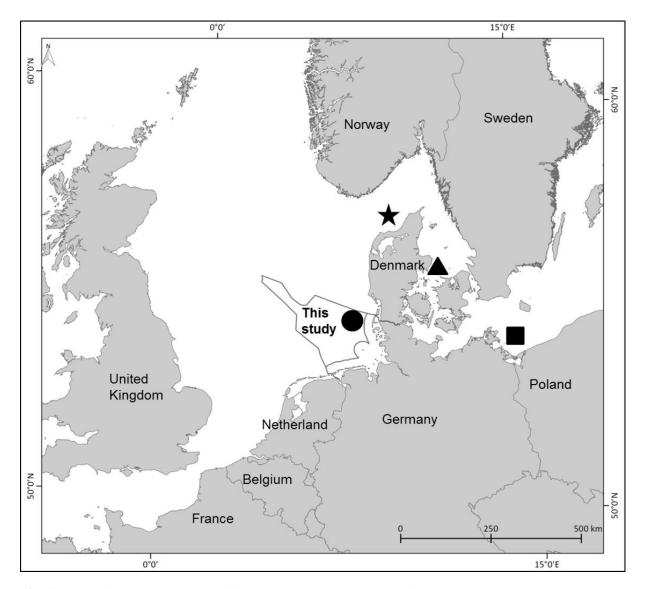
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1 Figure legends

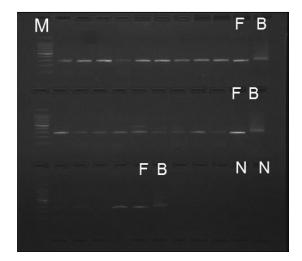
2 Fig. 1



**Fig. 1** Study site where red-throated divers were captured and sampled in the German North Sea. The German Economical Exclusive Zone (EEZ) and 12 nautical miles are indicated (grey line). Red-throated diver capture positions for both sampling years are summarised as a black dot. Large symbols indicate the locations of previous dietary studies on red-throated diver in adjacent waters, star presents Durinck et al. 1994, triangle presents madsen 1957, square presents Guse et al. 2009.

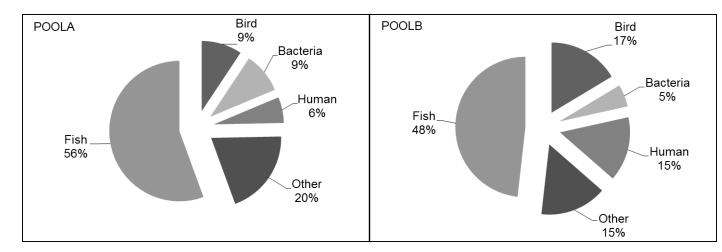
## Diet composition of red-throated divers in the German Bight

## 15 Fig. 2



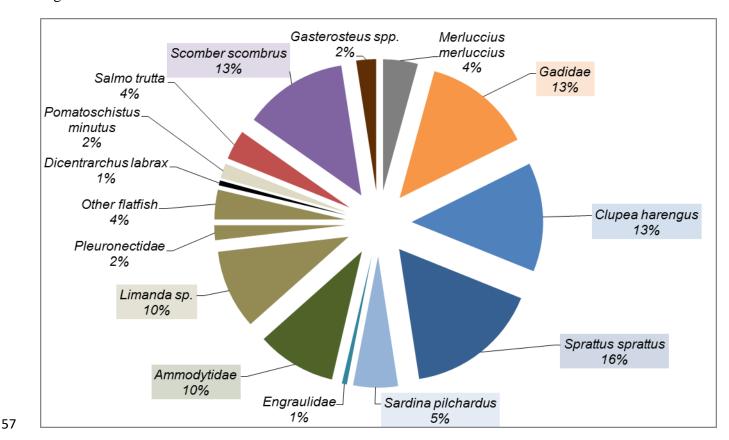
**Fig. 1** Agarose gel electrophoresis of 16S mtDNA fragments amplified from faecal samples with fish (chordate) primers. M = 1000bp ladder, F = fish DNA control, B = red-throated diver DNA control and N = negative control.

#### 35 Fig. 3



**Fig. 2** Proportions of MOTUs in per cent for fish, contamination (bacteria, human and others) and for bird assignments amplified with the fish primer set. On the left with the blocking probe (PoolA) and on the right without the blocking probe (PoolB) for both sampling years (2015 and 2016) combined.

#### 56 Fig. 4



**Fig. 4** Percent occurrence of MOTUs (n=169) in all faecal samples (n=29) assigned for fish prey: blue – clupeids, orange – gadoids, grey – hake, brown – sticklebacks, violet – mackerels, red – salmonids, beige – sand gobies, black – seabass, grey – light-brown flatfish and green – sand lances. Captions of prey groups with highest proportions (>5%) are highlighted.

## Diet composition of red-throated divers in the German Bight

75 Fig. 5