

Table S1 – Total number of eggs processed using Sanger sequencing according to the marker used: cytochrome b (*cytb*), cytochrome oxidase subunit I (*COI*), or 12S ribosomal RNA (*12S*).

| Predator      | No. eggs | Eggs identified | <i>cytb</i> (450 bp) | <i>COI</i> (300 bp) | <i>12S</i> (180bp) | All markers |
|---------------|----------|-----------------|----------------------|---------------------|--------------------|-------------|
| Sardine       | 53       | 43 (81%)        | 25 (47%)             | 26 (49%)            | 42 (80%)           | 16 (30%)    |
| Chub mackerel | 65       | 59 (91%)        | 48 (74%)             | 52 (80%)            | 57 (88%)           | 45 (69%)    |
| Total         | 118      | 102 (86%)       | 73 (62%)             | 78 (66%)            | 99 (84%)           | 61 (52%)    |

Table S2 -Molecular identification of single eggs based on barcodes of cytochrome b (*cytb*), cytochrome oxidase subunit I (*COI*), and 12S ribosomal RNA (*12S*). Best hits from blast searches against the NCBI *nt* database are shown with the corresponding percent identity values of best hit (%id).

| Predator | Egg # | Cytb best hit            | %id_cytb    | COI best hit                 | %id_COI     | 12S best hit                           | %id_12S     | Final molecular identification         |
|----------|-------|--------------------------|-------------|------------------------------|-------------|--|-------------|--|
| PIL      | 1     | Boops boops              | 99.7        | Boops boops                  | 99.6        | Boops boops                            | 100.0       | Boops boops                            |
| PIL      | 2     | No sequence data.        | n.d.        | No sequence data.            | n.d.        | Boops boops                            | 99.4        | Boops boops                            |
| PIL      | 3     | No sequence data.        | n.d.        | No sequence data.            | n.d.        | Pagellus erythrinus                    | 98.3        | Pagellus sp.                           |
| PIL      | 4     | Boops boops              | 99.7        | Boops boops                  | 99.6        | Boops boops                            | 99.4        | Boops boops                            |
| PIL      | 5     | Pagellus erythrinus      | 99.5        | No sequence data.            | n.d.        | Pagellus erythrinus                    | 100.0       | Pagellus erythrinus                    |
| PIL      | 6     | Engraulis encrasicolus   | 99.7        | Engraulis encrasicolus       | 99.5        | Engraulis encrasicolus                 | 98.9        | Engraulis encrasicolus                 |
| PIL      | 7     | Diplodus annularis       | 91.3        | Diplodus bellottii/annularis | 99.1        | Pagellus bogaraveo                     | 94.8        | Diplodus sp.                           |
| PIL      | 8     | Pagellus erythrinus      | 99.7        | No sequence data.            | n.d.        | Pagellus erythrinus<br>Chelidonichthys | 100.0       | Pagellus erythrinus<br>Chelidonichthys |
| PIL      | 9     | Trigloporus lastoviza    | 100.0       | No sequence data.            | n.d.        | lucerna/cuculus/Eutrigla gurnardus     | 100.0       | lastoviza                              |
| PIL      | 10    | No sequence data.        | n.d.        | No sequence data.            | n.d.        | Sardina pilchardus                     | 99.5        | Sardina pilchardus                     |
| PIL      | 11    | <b>No sequence data.</b> | <b>n.d.</b> | <b>No sequence data.</b>     | <b>n.d.</b> | <b>No sequence data.</b>               | <b>n.d.</b> | <b>Not identified</b>                  |
| PIL      | 12    | Serranus hepatus         | 99.7        | No sequence data.            | n.d.        | Serranus scriba/papilionaceus          | 94.9        | Serranus hepatus                       |
| PIL      | 13    | No sequence data.        | n.d.        | No sequence data.            | n.d.        | Diplodus puntazzo/sargus               | 97.8        | Diplodus sp.                           |
| PIL      | 14    | Pagellus erythrinus      | 100.0       | No sequence data.            | n.d.        | Pagellus erythrinus                    | 100.0       | Pagellus erythrinus                    |
| PIL      | 15    | Engraulis encrasicolus   | 99.7        | Engraulis encrasicolus       | 99.7        | Engraulis encrasicolus                 | 98.3        | Engraulis encrasicolus                 |
| PIL      | 16    | Trisopterus luscus       | 99.5        | No sequence data.            | n.d.        | No sequence data.                      | n.d.        | Trisopterus luscus                     |
| PIL      | 17    | Echiichthys vipera       | 100.0       | Echiichthys vipera           | 99.6        | Echiichthys vipera                     | 100.0       | Echiichthys vipera                     |
| PIL      | 18    | Ciliata mustela          | 100.0       | No sequence data.            | n.d.        | Ciliata mustela                        | 100.0       | Ciliata mustela                        |
| PIL      | 19    | Dicologlossa cuneata     | 99.7        | Dicologlossa cuneata         | 100.0       | Microchirus variegatus                 | 100.0       | Soleidae                               |
| PIL      | 20    | <b>No sequence data.</b> | <b>n.d.</b> | <b>No sequence data.</b>     | <b>n.d.</b> | <b>No sequence data.</b>               | <b>n.d.</b> | <b>Not identified</b>                  |

|     |           |   |             |  |             |  |             |   |
|-----|-----------|---|-------------|--|-------------|--|-------------|---|
| PIL | 21        | No sequence data.<br>Gaidropsarus               | n.d.        | Dicologlossa cuneata<br>Gaidropsarus       | 99.1        | Microchirus variegatus                     | 100.0       | Soleidae  |
| PIL | 22        | mediterraneus/gutattus                          | 99.4        | mediterraneus/guttatus                     | 98.9        | Enchelyopus cimbrius                       | 94.3        | Gaidropsarus sp.                                |
| PIL | 23        | Dicologlossa cuneata                            | 99.2        | Dicologlossa cuneata                       | 100.0       | Microchirus variegatus                     | 100.0       | Soleidae  |
| PIL | 24        | Umbrina canariensis                             | 98.7        | Umbrina canariensis                        | 98.9        | Umbrina canariensis                        | 100.0       | Umbrina canariensis                             |
| PIL | 25        | Engraulis encrasicolus                          | 100.0       | Engraulis encrasicolus                     | 100.0       | Engraulis encrasicolus                     | 98.3        | Engraulis encrasicolus                          |
| PIL | <b>26</b> | <b>No sequence data.</b>                        | <b>n.d.</b> | <b>No sequence data.</b>                   | <b>n.d.</b> | <b>No sequence data.</b>                   | <b>n.d.</b> | <b>Not identified</b>                           |
| PIL | <b>27</b> | <b>No sequence data.</b>                        | <b>n.d.</b> | <b>No sequence data.</b>                   | <b>n.d.</b> | <b>No sequence data.</b>                   | <b>n.d.</b> | <b>Not identified</b>                           |
| PIL | <b>28</b> | <b>No sequence data.</b>                        | <b>n.d.</b> | <b>No sequence data.</b>                   | <b>n.d.</b> | <b>No sequence data.</b>                   | <b>n.d.</b> | <b>Not identified</b>                           |
| PIL | 29        | No sequence data.                               | n.d.        | Ctenolabrus rupestris                      | 100.0       | Ctenolabrus rupestris                      | 100.0       | Ctenolabrus rupestris                           |
| PIL | 30        | No sequence data.                               | n.d.        | Callionymus lyra                           | 99.1        | Callionymus lyra                           | 100.0       | Callionymus lyra                                |
| PIL | 31        | Dicologlossa cuneata                            | 100.0       | Dicologlossa cuneata                       | 99.1        | Microchirus variegatus                     | 100.0       | Soleidae  |
| PIL | 32        | Diplodus annularis                              | 91.3        | No sequence data.                          | n.d.        | Pagellus bogaraveo                         | 94.8        | Sparidae  |
| PIL | 33        | Diplodus puntazzo                               | 91.2        | No sequence data.                          | n.d.        | Pagellus bogaraveo                         | 93.8        | Sparidae  |
| PIL | 34        | Cynoscion regalis/Archosargus<br>rhomboidalis   | 99.7        | Cynoscion regalis                          | 100.0       | Cynoscion regalis                          | 100.0       | Scianidae                                       |
| VMA | 46        | Engraulis encrasicolus                          | 100.0       | No sequence data.                          | n.d.        | Serranus scriba/papilionaceus              | 94.8        | <b>Not identified</b><br>Engraulis encrasicolus |
| VMA | 47        | Engraulis encrasicolus                          | 100.0       | Engraulis encrasicolus                     | 98.8        | Engraulis encrasicolus                     | 98.9        | Engraulis encrasicolus                          |
| VMA | 48        | <b>No sequence data.</b>                        | <b>n.d.</b> | <b>No sequence data.</b>                   | <b>n.d.</b> | <b>No sequence data.</b>                   | <b>n.d.</b> | <b>Not identified</b>                           |
| VMA | 49        | Trachurus trachurus                             | 100.0       | Trachurus trachurus                        | 99.6        | Trachurus trachurus                        | 100.0       | Trachurus trachurus                             |
| VMA | 50        | Lepidotrigla cavillone                          | 99.7        | Lepidotrigla cavillone                     | 100.0       | Lepidotrigla<br>guentheri/kishinouyi/alata | 98.9        | Lepidotrigla sp.                                |
| VMA | 51        | Boops boops                                     | 99.7        | Boops boops                                | 99.1        | Boops boops                                | 100.0       | Boops boops                                     |
| VMA | 52        | No sequence data.<br>Pagellus acarne/Thalassoma | n.d.        | Serranus hepatus<br>Pagellus acarne/Oblada | 99.2        | Serranus scriba/papilionaceus              | 94.3        | Serranus hepatus                                |
| VMA | 53        | pavo  | 99.7        | melanura                                   | 99.1        | Pagellus acarne                            | 100.0       | Sparidae  |
| VMA | 54        | Boops boops                                     | 100.0       | Boops boops                                | 100.0       | Boops boops                                | 100.0       | Boops boops                                     |
| VMA | 55        | Boops boops                                     | 99.7        | Boops boops                                | 100.0       | Boops boops                                | 100.0       | Boops boops                                     |

|     |    |                                 |       |                                 |       |                               |       |                     |
|-----|----|---------------------------------|-------|---------------------------------|-------|-------------------------------|-------|---------------------|
| VMA | 56 | Pagellus erythrinus             | 100.0 | Pagellus erythrinus             | 99.1  | Pagellus erythrinus           | 100.0 | Pagellus erythrinus |
| VMA | 57 | Boops boops                     | 100.0 | Boops boops                     | 99.3  | Boops boops                   | 100.0 | Boops boops         |
| VMA | 58 | Boops boops                     | 100.0 | Boops boops                     | 98.8  | Boops boops                   | 100.0 | Boops boops         |
| VMA | 59 | Boops boops                     | 99.5  | Boops boops                     | 99.1  | Boops boops                   | 100.0 | Boops boops         |
| VMA | 60 | Boops boops                     | 100.0 | Boops boops                     | 99.1  | Boops boops                   | 100.0 | Boops boops         |
| VMA | 61 | Boops boops                     | 99.7  | Boops boops                     | 99.1  | Boops boops                   | 100.0 | Boops boops         |
| VMA | 62 | No sequence data.               | n.d.  | Pagellus acarne/Oblada melanura | 99.6  | No sequence data.             | n.d.  | Sparidae            |
| VMA | 63 | Serranus cabrilla               | 99.7  | Serranus cabrilla               | 99.4  | Serranus scriba/papilionaceus | 95.3  | Serranus cabrilla   |
| VMA | 64 | Serranus hepatus                | 99.5  | Serranus hepatus                | 100.0 | Serranus scriba/papilionaceus | 94.8  | Serranus hepatus    |
| VMA | 65 | Boops boops                     | 99.7  | Boops boops                     | 98.8  | Boops boops                   | 100.0 | Boops boops         |
| VMA | 66 | Pagellus erythrinus             | 100.0 | No sequence data.               | n.d.  | Pagellus erythrinus           | 100.0 | Pagellus erythrinus |
| VMA | 67 | Dentex gibbosus                 | 100.0 | Dentex gibbosus                 | 99.1  | Dentex gibbosus               | 100.0 | Dentex gibbosus     |
| VMA | 68 | Boops boops                     | 99.7  | Boops boops                     | 98.5  | Boops boops                   | 100.0 | Boops boops         |
| VMA | 69 | Dentex dentex                   | 100.0 | Dentex dentex                   | 99.7  | Dentex dentex                 | 100.0 | Dentex dentex       |
| VMA | 70 | Boops boops                     | 99.7  | Boops boops                     | 99.1  | Boops boops                   | 100.0 | Boops boops         |
| VMA | 71 | Trachurus trachurus             | 100.0 | Trachurus trachurus             | 99.4  | Trachurus trachurus           | 100.0 | Trachurus trachurus |
| VMA | 72 | Boops boops                     | 99.7  | No sequence data.               | n.d.  | Boops boops                   | 100.0 | Boops boops         |
| VMA | 73 | Pagellus acarne/Thalassoma pavo | 100.0 | No sequence data.               | n.d.  | Pagellus acarne               | 99.4  | Sparidae            |
| VMA | 74 | Scomber scombrus                | 99.7  | Scomber scombrus                | 99.7  | Scomber scombrus              | 100.0 | Scomber scombrus    |
| VMA | 75 | Serranus cabrilla               | 100.0 | Serranus cabrilla               | 99.7  | Serranus scriba/papilionaceus | 95.3  | Serranus cabrilla   |
| VMA | 76 | Pagellus acarne/Thalassoma pavo | 100.0 | Pagellus acarne                 | 99.7  | Pagellus acarne               | 100.0 | Sparidae            |
| VMA | 77 | Pagrus pagrus                   | 99.7  | Pagrus pagrus                   | 99.4  | Pagrus pagrus                 | 100.0 | Pagrus pagrus       |
| VMA | 78 | Pomadasy incisus                | 99.7  | Pomadasy incisus                | 98.8  | Conodon nobilis               | 87.3  | Pomadasy incisus    |
| VMA | 79 | Pagellus erythrinus             | 99.7  | No sequence data.               | n.d.  | Pagellus erythrinus           | 100.0 | Pagellus erythrinus |
| VMA | 80 | No sequence data.               | n.d.  | Parapristipoma trilineatum      | 92.8  | Parapristipoma trilineatum    | 98.3  | Parapristipoma sp.  |
| VMA | 81 | Boops boops                     | 99.5  | Boops boops                     | 99.1  | Boops boops                   | 100.0 | Boops boops         |

|     |           |                                 |             |                                      |             |                               |             |                       |
|-----|-----------|---------------------------------|-------------|--------------------------------------|-------------|-------------------------------|-------------|-----------------------|
| VMA | 82        | No sequence data.               | n.d.        | Serranus hepatus                     | 99.4        | Serranus scriba/papilionaceus | 94.9        | Serranus hepatus      |
| VMA | 83        | Boops boops                     | 99.5        | Boops boops                          | 99.6        | Boops boops                   | 100.0       | Boops boops           |
| VMA | <b>84</b> | <b>No sequence data.</b>        | <b>n.d.</b> | <b>No sequence data.</b>             | <b>n.d.</b> | <b>No sequence data.</b>      | <b>n.d.</b> | <b>Not identified</b> |
| VMA | 85        | Serranus cabrilla               | 100.0       | Serranus cabrilla                    | 99.7        | Serranus cabrilla             | 100.0       | Serranus cabrilla     |
| VMA | 86        | Serranus hepatus                | 99.7        | Serranus hepatus                     | 99.4        | Serranus scriba/papilionaceus | 94.8        | Serranus hepatus      |
| VMA | 87        | Pagellus acarne/Thalassoma pavo | 100.0       | Pagellus acarne/Oblada melanura      | 99.1        | Pagellus bogaraveo            | 94.8        | Sparidae              |
| VMA | 88        | Pagellus acarne/Thalassoma pavo | 100.0       | Pagellus acarne/Oblada melanura      | 99.1        | Pagellus acarne               | 100.0       | Sparidae              |
| VMA | 89        | Pagellus acarne/Thalassoma pavo | 99.5        | Pagellus acarne/Oblada melanura      | 99.1        | Pagellus acarne               | 100.0       | Sparidae              |
| VMA | 90        | Oblada melanura                 | 99.7        | Oblada melanura                      | 100.0       | Diplodus puntazzo/sargus      | 99.4        | Sparidae              |
| VMA | 91        | Pagellus acarne/Thalassoma pavo | 100.0       | Pagellus acarne/Oblada melanura      | 99.7        | Pagellus acarne               | 100.0       | Sparidae              |
| VMA | 92        | No sequence data.               | n.d.        | Trachinus draco                      | 99.6        | Trachinus draco               | 100.0       | Trachinus draco       |
| VMA | <b>93</b> | <b>No sequence data.</b>        | <b>n.d.</b> | <b>No sequence data.</b>             | <b>n.d.</b> | <b>No sequence data.</b>      | <b>n.d.</b> | <b>Not identified</b> |
| VMA | <b>94</b> | <b>No sequence data.</b>        | <b>n.d.</b> | <b>No sequence data.</b>             | <b>n.d.</b> | <b>No sequence data.</b>      | <b>n.d.</b> | <b>Not identified</b> |
| VMA | 95        | No sequence data.               | n.d.        | No sequence data.                    | n.d.        | Chelon labrosus/ramada        | 100.0       | Chelon sp.            |
| VMA | 96        | Chelon ramada                   | 99.7        | Chelon ramado/saliens/Mugil cephalus | 100.0       | Chelon labrosus/ramada        | 100.0       | Mugilidae             |
| VMA | <b>97</b> | <b>No sequence data.</b>        | <b>n.d.</b> | <b>No sequence data.</b>             | <b>n.d.</b> | <b>No sequence data.</b>      | <b>n.d.</b> | <b>Not identified</b> |
| VMA | 98        | No sequence data.               | n.d.        | No sequence data.                    | n.d.        | Chelon labrosus/ramada        | 97.4        | Chelon sp.            |
| VMA | <b>99</b> | <b>No sequence data.</b>        | <b>n.d.</b> | <b>No sequence data.</b>             | <b>n.d.</b> | <b>No sequence data.</b>      | <b>n.d.</b> | <b>Not identified</b> |
| VMA | 10        | No sequence data.               | n.d.        | No sequence data.                    | n.d.        | Sardina pilchardus            | 100.0       | Sardina pilchardus    |
| VMA | 10        | Phycis phycis                   | 100.0       | Phycis phycis                        | 99.4        | Phycis phycis                 | 97.7        | Phycis phycis         |
| VMA | 2         | No sequence data.               | n.d.        | Phycis phycis                        | 99.3        | Urophycis tenuis              | 94.1        | Phycis phycis         |

|     |                 |                                    |             |  |             |                          |             |                            |
|-----|-----------------|------------------------------------|-------------|--|-------------|--------------------------|-------------|----------------------------|
| VMA | 10<br>3         | Chelon ramada                      | 99.7        | Chelon<br>ramado/saliens/Mugil<br>cephalus | 100.0       | Chelon labrosus/ramada   | 100.0       | Mugilidae                  |
| VMA | 10<br>4         | Chelon ramada                      | 99.7        | Chelon<br>ramado/saliens/Mugil<br>cephalus | 100.0       | Chelon labrosus/ramada   | 99.6        | Mugilidae                  |
| VMA | 10<br>5         | No sequence data.                  | n.d.        | Chelon<br>ramado/saliens/Mugil<br>cephalus | 100.0       | Chelon labrosus/ramada   | 100.0       | Mugilidae                  |
| VMA | 10<br>6         | No sequence data.                  | n.d.        | Lepidopus caudatus                         | 100.0       | Lepidopus caudatus       | 100.0       | Lepidopus caudatus         |
| VMA | 10<br>7         | No sequence data.                  | n.d.        | No sequence data.                          | n.d.        | Chelidonichthys lucerna  | 100.0       | Chelidonichthys<br>lucerna |
| VMA | <b>10<br/>8</b> | <b>No sequence data.</b>           | <b>n.d.</b> | <b>No sequence data.</b>                   | <b>n.d.</b> | <b>No sequence data.</b> | <b>n.d.</b> | <b>Not identified</b>      |
| VMA | <b>10<br/>9</b> | <b>No sequence data.</b>           | <b>n.d.</b> | <b>No sequence data.</b>                   | <b>n.d.</b> | <b>No sequence data.</b> | <b>n.d.</b> | <b>Not identified</b>      |
| VMA | 11<br>0         | No sequence data.                  | n.d.        | Sardina pilchardus                         | 98.8        | Sardina pilchardus       | 99.5        | Sardina pilchardus         |
| VMA | 11<br>1         | No sequence data.                  | n.d.        | Sardina pilchardus                         | 98.8        | Sardina pilchardus       | 100.0       | Sardina pilchardus         |
| VMA | 11<br>2         | No sequence data.                  | n.d.        | No sequence data.                          | n.d.        | Sardina pilchardus       | 100.0       | Sardina pilchardus         |
| VMA | 11<br>3         | No sequence data.                  | n.d.        | Sardina pilchardus                         | 98.8        | Sardina pilchardus       | 99.5        | Sardina pilchardus         |
| VMA | 11<br>4         | No sequence data.                  | n.d.        | No sequence data.                          | n.d.        | Sardina pilchardus       | 100.0       | Sardina pilchardus         |
| VMA | <b>11<br/>5</b> | <b>No sequence data.</b>           | <b>n.d.</b> | <b>No sequence data.</b>                   | <b>n.d.</b> | <b>No sequence data.</b> | <b>n.d.</b> | <b>Not identified</b>      |
| VMA | 11<br>7         | Pagellus acarne/Thalassoma<br>pavo | 99.7        | Pagellus acarne/Oblada<br>melanura         | 99.1        | Pagellus acarne          | 100.0       | Sparidae                   |
| VMA | <b>11<br/>8</b> | <b>No sequence data.</b>           | <b>n.d.</b> | <b>No sequence data.</b>                   | <b>n.d.</b> | <b>No sequence data.</b> | <b>n.d.</b> | <b>Not identified</b>      |
| VMA | 11<br>9         | Diplodus vulgaris                  | 100.0       | Diplodus vulgaris                          | 100.0       | Diplodus vulgaris        | 100.0       | Diplodus vulgaris          |

|     |         |                                 |       |   |       |                        |       |                    |
|-----|---------|---------------------------------|-------|---|-------|------------------------|-------|--------------------|
| VMA | 12<br>0 | No sequence data.               | n.d.  | Sardina pilchardus  | 98.8  | Sardina pilchardus     | 100.0 | Sardina pilchardus |
| VMA | 12<br>1 | No sequence data.               | n.d.  | Sardina pilchardus  | 98.8  | Sardina pilchardus     | 100.0 | Sardina pilchardus |
| VMA | 12<br>2 | No sequence data.               | n.d.  | Sardina pilchardus  | 98.8  | Sardina pilchardus     | 99.5  | Sardina pilchardus |
| VMA | 12<br>3 | Pagellus acarne/Thalassoma pavo | 100.0 | Pagellus acarne<br>Chelon<br>ramado/saliens/Mugil<br>cephalus | 99.3  | Pagellus acarne        | 99.4  | Sparidae           |
| VMA | 12<br>4 | Chelon ramada                   | 99.7  | Pagellus acarne/Oblada<br>melanura                            | 100.0 | Chelon labrosus/ramada | 100.0 | Mugilidae          |
| VMA | 12<br>5 | Pagellus acarne/Thalassoma pavo | 100.0 | Chelon<br>ramado/saliens/Mugil<br>cephalus                    | 99.1  | Pagellus acarne        | 100.0 | Sparidae           |
| VMA | 12<br>6 | Liza ramado                     | 99.4  | Pagellus acarne/Oblada<br>melanura                            | 100.0 | Chelon labrosus/ramada | 100.0 | Mugilidae          |
| VMA | 12<br>7 | Pagellus acarne/Thalassoma pavo | 100.0 | No sequence data.   | 99.1  | Pagellus acarne        | 100.0 | Sparidae           |
| VMA | 12<br>8 | No sequence data.               | n.d.  | No sequence data.   | n.d.  | Diplodus vulgaris      | 100.0 | Diplodus vulgaris  |
| VMA | 12<br>9 | No sequence data.               | n.d.  | Microchirus azevia  | 100.0 | No sequence data.      | n.d.  | Microchirus azevia |
| VMA | 13<br>0 | No sequence data.               | n.d.  | Sardina pilchardus  | 98.8  | Sardina pilchardus     | 100.0 | Sardina pilchardus |

Table S3 – Read counts per ASV retrieved from high-throughput sequencing of 12S metabarcodes comparing PCR replicates (rep1–rep3) and its respective pool for a total of eight bulk egg samples.

| Sample name  | ASV1 | ASV2  | ASV3 | ASV4 | ASV7 | ASV10 | ASV11 | ASV12 | ASV16 | ASV18 | ASV19 | ASV20 | ASV22 | ASV24 | ASV27 | ASV29 | ASV33 | ASV41 | ASV62 | ASV65 |
|--------------|------|-------|------|------|------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| Stom171 pool | 6762 | 0     | 0    | 0    | 1477 | 426   | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 6     | 1271  | 0     | 11    | 0     | 0     | 0     |
| Stom171-rep1 | 6204 | 0     | 0    | 0    | 1435 | 377   | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 1188  | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     |
| Stom171-rep2 | 3525 | 0     | 0    | 0    | 739  | 195   | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 633   | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     |
| Stom171-rep3 | 2804 | 0     | 0    | 0    | 551  | 159   | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 506   | 0     | 3     | 4     | 0     | 0     |
| Stom172 pool | 8084 | 2     | 0    | 0    | 0    | 0     | 0     | 2013  | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 2904  | 0     | 0     | 0     | 18    | 0     | 0     | 0     |
| Stom172-rep1 | 2376 | 0     | 0    | 0    | 0    | 0     | 0     | 522   | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 612   | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     |
| Stom172-rep2 | 2663 | 0     | 0    | 0    | 0    | 0     | 0     | 608   | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 766   | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     |
| Stom172-rep3 | 2531 | 0     | 0    | 0    | 0    | 0     | 0     | 684   | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 938   | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     |
| Stom173 pool | 1357 | 0     | 1946 | 0    | 0    | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 3     | 0     | 0     | 5     | 0     | 0     | 0     |
| Stom173-rep1 | 262  | 0     | 601  | 0    | 0    | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     |
| Stom173-rep2 | 245  | 0     | 591  | 0    | 0    | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     |
| Stom173-rep3 | 1210 | 0     | 1840 | 0    | 0    | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 4     | 0     | 0     | 0     |
| Stom174 pool | 101  | 0     | 1898 | 0    | 3215 | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 2     | 2463  | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 5     | 0     | 0     | 0     |
| Stom174-rep1 | 87   | 0     | 2077 | 0    | 3279 | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 2316  | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     |
| Stom174-rep2 | 79   | 0     | 1238 | 0    | 2304 | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 1863  | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     |
| Stom174-rep3 | 38   | 0     | 464  | 0    | 867  | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 640   | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 3     | 0     | 0     | 0     |
| Stom175 pool | 2427 | 10334 | 0    | 0    | 0    | 0     | 0     | 2424  | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 3     | 0     | 2610  | 12    | 0     | 0     | 0     |
| Stom175-rep1 | 248  | 1074  | 0    | 0    | 0    | 0     | 0     | 235   | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 225   | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     |
| Stom175-rep2 | 187  | 505   | 0    | 0    | 0    | 0     | 0     | 151   | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 150   | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     |
| Stom175-rep3 | 454  | 1581  | 0    | 0    | 0    | 0     | 0     | 429   | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 462   | 4     | 0     | 0     | 0     |
| Stom176 pool | 496  | 0     | 4104 | 0    | 1198 | 0     | 0     | 0     | 1589  | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 4     | 0     | 0     | 3     | 0     | 0     | 2     |
| Stom176-rep1 | 359  | 0     | 3099 | 0    | 1212 | 0     | 0     | 0     | 1455  | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 3     | 0     |
| Stom176-rep2 | 351  | 0     | 1569 | 0    | 885  | 0     | 0     | 0     | 936   | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     |
| Stom176-rep3 | 231  | 0     | 1267 | 0    | 613  | 0     | 0     | 0     | 689   | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 2     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 4     | 0     |
| Stom177 pool | 8156 | 0     | 0    | 17   | 0    | 0     | 0     | 1102  | 0     | 0     | 0     | 4266  | 0     | 4     | 0     | 0     | 12    | 0     | 0     | 0     |
| Stom177-rep1 | 2408 | 0     | 0    | 0    | 0    | 0     | 0     | 327   | 0     | 0     | 0     | 1484  | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     |
| Stom177-rep2 | 661  | 0     | 0    | 0    | 0    | 0     | 0     | 65    | 0     | 0     | 0     | 315   | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     |
| Stom177-rep3 | 1504 | 0     | 0    | 0    | 0    | 0     | 0     | 253   | 0     | 0     | 0     | 993   | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 2     | 0     | 0     | 0     |
| Stom178 pool | 0    | 0     | 4219 | 0    | 0    | 0     | 0     | 302   | 0     | 2132  | 0     | 0     | 0     | 2     | 0     | 0     | 8     | 0     | 0     | 0     |
| Stom178-rep1 | 0    | 2     | 3685 | 0    | 0    | 0     | 0     | 211   | 0     | 2072  | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     |
| Stom178-rep2 | 0    | 0     | 3172 | 0    | 0    | 0     | 0     | 248   | 0     | 1797  | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     |
| Stom178-rep3 | 0    | 0     | 1018 | 0    | 0    | 0     | 0     | 101   | 0     | 601   | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0     | 3     | 0     | 0     | 0     |



Table S4 – Summary table with fish species identified in ingested eggs of sardine and chub mackerel, including sampling season and area with detections in addition to habitat (of the adult fish), feeding guild and spawning season. All data from the latter three variables were taken from FishBase (<http://fishbase.se/>) if available from eastern Atlantic locations south of the North Sea, or from references (where applicable).

| Taxon identification                                | PIL | VMA | Area detected    | Season detected* | Habitat (Adults)     | Feeding guild                                  | Spawning season               | references  |
|---|-----|-----|------------------|------------------|----------------------|--|-------------------------------|---|
| <b>Callionymidae</b>                                |     |     |                  |                  |                      |  |                               |   |
| <i>Callionymus lyra</i>                             | 2   |     | West coast       | Spring           | demersal             | invertebrate feeders <sup>1</sup>              | April-August                  | <sup>1</sup> Prista et al. 2003   |
| <b>Carangidae</b>                                   |     |     |                  |                  |                      |  |                               |   |
| <i>Trachurus trachurus</i>                          |     | 16  | South coast      | Spring           | pelagic/semi-pelagic | zooplanktivorous/piscivorous <sup>2</sup>      | November-April <sup>3</sup>   | <sup>2</sup> Garrido et al. 2015; <sup>3</sup> Borges & Gordo 1991          |
| <b>Clupeidae</b>                                    |     |     |                  |                  |                      |  |                               |   |
| <i>Sardina pilchardus</i>                           | 18  | 21  | West/South coast | Spring/Fall      | pelagic              | generalist planktivorous <sup>4</sup>          | November-March <sup>5</sup>   | <sup>4</sup> Garrido et al. 2008; <sup>5</sup> Stratoudakis et al. 2007     |
| <b>Engraulidae</b>                                  |     |     |                  |                  |                      |  |                               |   |
| <i>Engraulis encrasicolus</i>                       | 33  | 20  | West/South coast | Spring           | pelagic              | zooplanktivorous/piscivorous <sup>2</sup>      | May-August <sup>6</sup>       | <sup>2</sup> Garrido et al. 2015; <sup>6</sup> ICES 2022                    |
| <b>Gadidae</b>                                      |     |     |                  |                  |                      |  |                               |   |
| <i>Trisopterus luscus</i>                           | 5   |     | West coast       | Spring           | benthopelagic        | invertebrate feeders; piscivorous <sup>1</sup> | February-April <sup>7</sup>   | <sup>1</sup> Prista et al. 2003; <sup>7</sup> Alonso-Fernández et al., 2008 |
| <b>Gaidropsaridae</b>                               |     |     |                  |                  |                      |  |                               |   |
| <i>Ciliata mustela</i>                              | 4   |     | West coast       | Spring           | demersal             | invertebrate feeders; piscivorous <sup>1</sup> | January-May                   | <sup>1</sup> Prista et al. 2003   |
| <b>Haemulidae</b>                                   |     |     |                  |                  |                      |  |                               |   |
| <i>Pomadasys incisus</i>                            |     | 1   | South coast      | Spring           | demersal             | invertebrate feeders                           | June-August                   |   |
| <b>Labridae</b>                                     |     |     |                  |                  |                      |  |                               |   |
| <i>Ctenolabrus rupestris</i>                        | 2   |     | West coast       | Spring           | reef-associated      | invertebrate feeders                           | April-August                  |   |
| <b>Merlucciidae</b>                                 |     |     |                  |                  |                      |  |                               |   |
| <i>Merluccius merluccius</i>                        |     | 1   | South coast      | Spring           | demersal             | piscivorous <sup>1</sup>                       | December-May <sup>8</sup>     | <sup>1</sup> Prista et al. 2003; <sup>8</sup> Piñeiro et al. 2003.          |
| <b>Mugilidae</b>                                    |     |     |                  |                  |                      |  |                               |   |
| <i>Chelon labrosus</i>                              |     | 4   | West/South coast | Fall             | demersal             | zooplanktivorous/detritivorous                 | No data                       |   |
| <b>Mullidae</b>                                     |     |     |                  |                  |                      |  |                               |   |
| <i>Mullus surmuletus</i>                            | 1   |     | West coast       | Spring           | demersal             | invertebrate feeders <sup>1</sup>              | May-July                      | <sup>1</sup> Prista et al. 2003   |
| <b>Phycidae</b>                                     |     |     |                  |                  |                      |  |                               |   |
| <i>Phycis phycis</i>                                | 2   |     | West coast       | Fall             | demersal             | invertebrate feeders; piscivorous              | September-January             |   |
| <b>Scianidae</b>                                    |     |     |                  |                  |                      |  |                               |   |
| <i>Umbriina canariensis</i>                         | 1   |     | South coast      | Spring           | demersal             | invertebrate feeders                           | May-November                  |   |
| <b>Scomberidae</b>                                  |     |     |                  |                  |                      |  |                               |   |
| <i>Scomber japonicus</i> (likely <i>S. colias</i> ) | 3   |     | West/South coast | Spring/Fall      | pelagic              | zooplanktivorous/piscivorous                   | December-May <sup>9</sup>     | <sup>9</sup> ICES 2020  |
| <i>Scomber scombrus</i>                             | 1   |     | South coast      | Spring           | pelagic              | zooplanktivorous/piscivorous <sup>2</sup>      | January-February              | <sup>2</sup> Garrido et al. 2015  |
| <b>Scophthalmidae</b>                               |     |     |                  |                  |                      |  |                               |   |
| <i>Zeugopterus regius</i>                           |     | 1   | South coast      | Spring           | demersal             | invertebrate feeders; piscivorous              | March-July                    |   |
| <b>Serranidae</b>                                   |     |     |                  |                  |                      |  |                               |   |
| <i>Serranus cabrilla</i>                            | 9   |     | South coast      | Spring           | demersal             | invertebrate feeders; piscivorous              | No data                       |   |
| <i>Serranus hepatus</i>                             | 1   | 4   | South coast      | Spring           | demersal             | invertebrate feeders; piscivorous              | No data                       |   |
| <b>Soleidae</b>                                     |     |     |                  |                  |                      |  |                               |   |
| <i>Buglossidium luteum</i>                          | 1   |     | West coast       | Spring           | benthic              | invertebrate feeders <sup>1</sup>              | March-June                    | <sup>1</sup> Prista et al. 2003   |
| <i>Microchirus azevia</i>                           |     | 1   | West coast       | Fall             | benthic              | invertebrate feeders                           | No data                       |   |
| <i>Solea senegalensis</i>                           | 3   |     | West coast       | Spring           | benthic              | invertebrate feeders <sup>1</sup>              | March-June                    | <sup>1</sup> Prista et al. 2003   |
| <b>Sparidae</b>                                     |     |     |                  |                  |                      |  |                               |   |
| <i>Boops boops</i>                                  | 5   | 46  | West/South coast | Spring           | pelagic              | generalist planktivorous <sup>2</sup>          | February-May                  | <sup>2</sup> Garrido et al. 2015  |
| <i>Dentex dentex</i>                                |     | 1   | South coast      | Spring           | demersal             | invertebrate feeders; piscivorous              | No data                       |   |
| <i>Dentex gibbosus</i>                              | 1   | 1   | South coast      | Spring           | demersal             | invertebrate feeders; piscivorous              | No data                       |   |
| <i>Diplodus vulgaris</i>                            |     | 2   | West coast       | Fall             | demersal             | invertebrate feeders                           | September-April <sup>10</sup> | <sup>10</sup> Gonçalves et al. 2003   |
| <i>Pagellus acarne</i>                              | 2   | 22  | South coast      | Spring           | demersal             | omnivorous <sup>1</sup>                        | November-April                | <sup>1</sup> Prista et al. 2003   |
| <i>Pagellus erythrinus</i>                          | 3   | 13  | South coast      | Spring           | demersal             | omnivorous                                     | March-November                |   |
| <i>Pagrus pagrus</i>                                |     | 2   | West/South coast | Spring           | demersal             | invertebrate feeders; piscivorous              | April-June                    |   |
| <b>Trachinidae</b>                                  |     |     |                  |                  |                      |  |                               |   |
| <i>Echiichthys vipera</i>                           | 5   |     | West coast       | Spring           | demersal             | No data  | No data                       |   |
| <i>Trachinus draco</i>                              | 1   |     | South coast      | Fall             | demersal             | invertebrate feeders; piscivorous              | No data                       |   |
| <b>Trichiuridae</b>                                 |     |     |                  |                  |                      |  |                               |   |
| <i>Lepidopus caudatus</i>                           | 1   |     | West coast       | Fall             | demersal             | invertebrate feeders; piscivorous              | No data                       |   |
| <b>Triglidae</b>                                    |     |     |                  |                  |                      |  |                               |   |
| <i>Chelidonicthys lastoviza</i>                     | 1   | 1   | South coast      | Spring           | demersal             | invertebrate feeders                           | No data                       |   |
| <i>Chelidonicthys lucerna</i>                       | 1   |     | West coast       | Fall             | demersal             | invertebrate feeders; piscivorous <sup>1</sup> | No data                       | <sup>1</sup> Prista et al. 2003   |

\*Spring: April-May; Fall: October-November.

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