

1 **Endocrine and fitness correlates of long-chain perfluorinated**
2 **carboxylates exposure in Arctic breeding black-legged kittiwakes**

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22

23 **Abstract**

24 Increasing levels of poly- and perfluorinated alkyl substances (PFASs) have recently been
25 described in Arctic biota. These emerging substances are of concern given their resistance to
26 degradation and metabolization. Some studies have reported endocrine disrupting effects for
27 some PFASs. However, there is a gap of knowledge on the potential relationships between
28 PFASs and hormones mediating the life-history trade-off between reproduction and survival,
29 such as glucocorticoids. The aims of this study were to; 1) describe the concentrations of plasma
30 perfluoroalkyl sulfonates and perfluoroalkyl carboxylates in Svalbard black-legged kittiwakes
31 (*Rissa tridactyla*) in relation to gender and body-condition, 2) explore the relationships between
32 PFASs and corticosterone (the major glucocorticoid in birds) and 3) assess the consequences of
33 PFAS exposure for reproductive success. Perfluorononanoate was positively related to body-
34 condition in male kittiwakes; perfluorotridecanoate and perfluorotetradecanoate to decreased
35 baseline corticosterone in both sexes; and perfluorododecanoate was related to lower hatching
36 success. These results underline the importance of considering each compound separately when
37 investigating the hazardous effects of PFASs on wildlife.

38

39 **Introduction**

40 While most attention was directed towards the endocrine disrupting effects of legacy persistent
41 organic pollutants (POPs)^{1, 2, 3, 4}, the so-called emerging POPs came into focus in the late 90's.
42 Many emerging POPs are not regulated and comprise a wide array of everyday life products⁵, but
43 ecotoxicological data on these compounds are lacking⁶. Among them, poly- and perfluorinated
44 alkyl substances (PFASs) are used as surface-active agents in a multitude of manufactured and
45 consumer products (e.g., fire-fighting foam and impregnation agent for carpets, papers, and
46 textiles). PFASs are particularly alarming, because of their special properties: they are thermally
47 and chemically stable, have no route of degradation and cannot be metabolized by vertebrates
48 under normal environmental conditions⁷ which makes them extremely persistent in the
49 environment. Moreover, PFASs consist of perfluorinated carbon chains that are hydrophobic and
50 lipophobic, so they can accumulate in the blood, liver and kidney^{8, 9}. Nowadays, human exposure
51 to PFASs measured in the blood reaches the highest values observed by an exogenous chemical⁹.
52 The occurrence of PFASs have been described in polar region such as the Arctic¹⁰ and
53 concentrations of some PFASs tend to increase over time in several Arctic mammal and seabird
54 species^{11, 12, 13}. In Arctic regions long-chained perfluoroalkyl carboxylic acids (PFCAs) are
55 prevalent¹¹ and acute toxicity of PFCAs increases with chain length⁹. With regard to the potential
56 endocrine disrupting properties of PFASs, laboratory studies have shown that some PFAS
57 possess estrogenic, androgenic and thyroid-like activity^{5, 9, 14, 15}. However, to date very few
58 studies have investigated the relationships between hormones and PFAS in free living species¹⁶.
59 Furthermore, the possible influence of PFAS on some major endocrine axes has only been
60 investigated in a few studies. This is especially the case for the hypothalamo-pituitary-adrenal
61 (HPA) axis. The HPA axis plays an important role in mediating the life-history trade-off between
62 reproduction and survival across the release of stress hormones such as glucocorticoids¹⁷.

63 However, little is known about the disruption of PFASs on glucocorticoids. The release of
64 glucocorticoid hormones (cortisol, corticosterone: CORT) during stressful events triggers
65 physiological and behavioral adjustments that shift energy investment away from reproduction
66 and redirects it towards self-preservation and hence survival^{17, 18}. CORT is very likely to mediate
67 parental effort and parental investment in birds^{19, 20} and any disruption of this hormone may alter
68 the ability of an individual to adjust reproductive decisions to environmental conditions^{21, 22}.
69 Because of increasing prevalence of PFASs in the environment, especially of the most toxic long-
70 chained PFCAs in the Arctic, and because of the pivotal role of the HPA axis, PFASs should
71 therefore become the focus of interest as emerging endocrine disruptors for wildlife. There is also
72 very limited information on the potential negative impact of PFASs on fitness (e.g. reproductive
73 success, survival) of free-living organisms^{23, 24, 25}. Arctic seabirds are top predators particularly at
74 risk given the biomagnification properties of some PFASs along the trophic web²⁶. The aims of
75 this paper are to; 1) describe the concentrations of plasma PFASs (perfluoroalkyl sulfonic acids)
76 and PFCAs in an Arctic seabird species in relation to gender and body-condition, 2) explore their
77 relationships with the HPA axis, and especially with plasma CORT concentrations, 3) assess the
78 consequences of PFAS exposure on fitness traits like reproductive success. To do so, we
79 investigated these relationships in chick-rearing adult black-legged kittiwakes (*Rissa tridactyla*)
80 which in Svalbard are known to be exposed to PFASs¹⁶.

81 **Experimental**

82 *Study area and sampling collection*

83 The sampling of birds was approved by the Governor of Svalbard, and national guidelines for
84 ethical treatment of experimental animals were followed (NARA, FOTS id 4214, RIS 2961). The
85 study was conducted at Kongsfjorden, Svalbard (78°54'N, 12°13'E) from July 12th to July 26th
86 2012 during the chick-rearing period. Twenty birds (10 males and 10 females), were caught on 20

87 different nests with a noose at the end of a 5 m fishing rod. A first blood sample (*ca.* 0.3 mL) was
88 collected immediately after capture, from the alar vein with a 1 mL heparinised syringe and a 25-
89 gauge needle to assess baseline CORT concentrations. Bleeding time (i.e. time elapsed from
90 capture to the end of the first blood sample: 2min 27s \pm 31s (SD), on average) did not affect
91 CORT concentrations (GLM, $F_{1,18} = 0.39$, $p = 0.538$). Eighteen kittiwakes (10 males and 8
92 females) were then placed into a cloth bag and a second blood sample (*ca.* 2.5 mL) was collected
93 from the alar vein at 30 minutes from capture (30min 13s \pm 1min 02s) to assess stress-induced
94 CORT and PFAS concentrations. Kittiwakes were individually marked with metal rings and PVC
95 plastic bands engraved with a three-digit code and fixed to the bird's tarsus for identification from
96 a distance. Birds were weighed to the nearest 2 g using a Pesola spring balance, and their skull
97 length (head+bill) was measured to the nearest 0.5 mm with a sliding calliper. For each bird we
98 calculated its scaled mass index²⁷ as a measure of body-condition. Kittiwakes were marked with
99 spots of dye on the forehead to distinguish them from their partner during subsequent observation
100 and then released. Prior to the beginning of the sampling period, using a mirror at the end of an 8
101 m fishing rod, we checked the whole plot (*ca.* 117 nests) every two days to monitor the clutch
102 size, the number of chicks that hatched (thereafter 'hatching success') and those that reached at
103 least 12 days of age per active nest (thereafter called 'breeding success'). All birds studied and
104 sampled had a clutch of two eggs.

105 *Molecular sexing and hormone assay*

106 Blood samples were centrifuged and stored at -20°C until used respectively in hormone assays or
107 molecular sexing, at the Centre d'Etudes Biologiques de Chizé (CEBC). The sex was determined
108 by polymerase chain reaction (PCR) amplification of part of two highly conserved genes (CHD)
109 present on the sex chromosomes at the Centre d'Etudes Biologiques de Chizé (CEBC)²⁸. Plasma
110 concentrations of CORT were determined by radioimmunoassay²⁹ at the CEBC. The lowest
111 detectable concentration for CORT was 1.05 ng/ml. Only one assay was performed and the intra-
112 assay coefficient of variation was 6.7 % (N = 5 duplicates).

113 *Chemical analyses*

114 Analyses for perfluorinated compounds in plasma samples were performed at the Norwegian
115 Institute of Air Research (NILU, Tromsø, Norway). We searched for 14 PFASs: perfluorobutane
116 sulfonate (PFBS), Perfluorohexane sulphonate (PFHxS), linear perfluorooctane sulfonate
117 (PFOSlin), perfluorobutanoate (PFBA), perfluoropentanoate (PFPA), perfluorohexanoate
118 (PFHxA), perfluoroheptanoate (PFHpA), perfluorooctanoate (PFOA), perfluorononanoate
119 (PFNA), perfluorodecanoate (PFDcA), perfluoroundecanoate (PFUnA), perfluorododecanoate
120 (PFDoA), perfluorotridecanoate (PFTrA) and perfluorotetradecanoate (PFTeA). The method was
121 described in detail along with instrumental settings in previous studies^{30, 31}. In short, a sample
122 (0.5 ml) spiked with internal standards was extracted in acetonitrile (1 ml) by repeated sonication
123 and vortexing. The supernatant was cleaned up using ENVI-Carb graphitized carbon absorbent
124 and glacial acetic acid. Extracts were analyzed by UPLC/MS/MS. Recovery of the internal
125 standards ranged between 45% and 120%. The deviation of the target concentrations in the SRMs
126 (NIST Human serum 1958) were within the laboratory's accepted deviation from target
127 concentrations (< 40%) (n = 4). All blanks contained concentrations below the instrument

128 detection limits (three times chromatographic noise). For each compound, limit of detection
129 (LOD) and limit of quantification (LOQ) are given in **Table 1**.

130 *Statistical analyses*

131 For statistics, only samples with concentrations over the analyte-specific LODs and detected in
132 more than 70% of the samples were included. All statistical analyses were performed using R
133 2.13.1 and generalized linear models (GLM) with a normal/binomial error distribution and an
134 identity/logit link function were used to test our biological assumptions. First, we tested the
135 effects of 'sex' on 'body-condition', 'CORT' and 'PFASs'. Second we checked for relationships
136 between 'PFASs' and 'CORT'. Third, we tested if PFAS were related to body-condition in males
137 and females separately. Finally, we tested whether 'CORT' and 'PFASs' affected 'hatching
138 success' and 'breeding success'. Since only one bird had a null hatching success and thus a null
139 breeding success it was removed from statistical analyses, we thus performed analyses with a
140 binomial response, hatching success (1 or 2 eggs have hatched) and breeding success (1 or 2
141 chicks have reached 12 days of age) . Model selection was performed by a step-down approach
142 starting from the global model including all the independent variables, these latter were log-10
143 transformed when necessary and statistical significance was fixed to $\alpha < 0.05$. In all models we
144 tested the effect of each compound separately.

145 **Results and discussion**

146 *Compounds and levels of PFASs*

147 Fourteen PFASs were analyzed of which six (PFOSlin, PFNA, PFDcA, PFUnA, PFDoA, PFTrA)
148 were detected in the 20 captured kittiwakes and PFTeA was detected in 19 kittiwakes. PFHxS
149 and PFOA were detected in 9 and 4 birds, respectively (**Table 1**). They were thus excluded from
150 statistical analyses. The dominating compound was PFTrA closely followed by PFUnA and
151 PFOSlin then by decreasing order PFDoA > PFDcA > PFTeA > PFNA (**Table 1**). Most studies

152 on PFASs have concentrated on PFOS and PFOA, as they are often the most present compounds
153 in vertebrates³². As a consequence there is limited information available on the toxicological
154 effects and risk of PFCAs with longer chains than PFOA^{32, 33}. Contrary to kittiwake chicks,
155 where PFOSlin was the dominant compound¹⁶, in adult chick-rearing kittiwakes, odd numbered
156 longer chained PFCAs (C11 and C13) were the dominant fluorinated compounds. This difference
157 in PFASs profile could originate from PFOS regulations taken in 2009 by the Stockholm
158 Convention on POPs, indeed the study on chicks¹⁶ occurred 6 years before the present one.
159 Another explanation could be a diet difference between chicks and adults.

160 *Hormones and PFASs in relation to sex and body-condition*

161 CORT concentrations (baseline and stress-induced) and PFASs were not related to sex (GLM,
162 $F < 2.7$, $p > 0.11$, **supporting information**) however for the PFCAs with longer chains (i.e.
163 PFDoA, PFTrA and PFTeA), plasma concentrations tended to be higher in males than in females
164 ($F < 3.88$, $p > 0.064$, **supporting information**). Body-condition was higher in males than in
165 females (GLM, $F_{1,18} = 38.7$, $p < 0.001$). CORT concentrations were not related to body-condition in
166 males or in females ($F < 3.01$, $p > 0.133$). PFNA was positively related to body-condition in males
167 only (GLM, $F_{1,8} = 7.19$, $p = 0.028$; **Figure 1**) and no relationships were found between the other
168 PFASs and body-condition in males or females ($F < 2.43$, $p > 0.158$, **supporting information**). In
169 the results presented here, male kittiwakes with higher concentrations of PFNA were in better
170 body- condition. Body-condition as measured by scaled mass index is a reliable predictor of body
171 fat and proteins²⁷ and PFASs have high affinity for proteins⁸. The positive relationship observed
172 between PFNA and body-condition in male kittiwakes could be related to the structural
173 resemblance of PFASs to fatty acids and their capability to bind to nuclear receptors which play a
174 key role in lipid metabolism and adipogenesis^{34, 35}. Activation is greater as carbon backbone
175 length increases, and carboxylates (PFOA and PFNA) have higher activation properties³⁵. In

176 humans, PFNA can be associated with increased cholesterol and adiponectin concentrations^{36, 37}
177 and PFOA levels correlate with body weight but also insulin and leptin concentrations³⁸. All
178 these hormones are strongly associated to obesity and food intake; it is possible that similar
179 mechanisms to those reported in humans could occur in birds. However we should be cautious in
180 interpreting this result, as we have no evidence that PFNA disrupts lipid metabolism in birds, and
181 the reason why no relationship was found in females remains unexplained. It may result from the
182 ability of females to transfer elevated amounts of PFASs into their eggs^{13, 39} however in the
183 present study PFNA concentrations were not lower in females.

184 *Relationships between PFASs and hormones*

185 In adult chick-rearing kittiwakes baseline CORT concentrations were negatively related to PFTrA
186 and PFTeA (**Figure 2, Table 2**). No relationships were found with the other PFASs, and no
187 relationship was found between PFASs and stress-induced CORT concentrations (**Table 2,**
188 **supporting information**). This negative relationship between PFTrA, PFTeA and CORT could
189 be the result of several mechanisms: a negative feedback due to other hormones, hormone
190 displacement due to high protein affinity, or a disruption of the HPA axis that has resulted in a
191 lower ability to secrete proper baseline CORT. Some experimental studies have reported effects
192 of PFCAs on CORT: for example in PFNA treated mice, the group receiving the higher dose had
193 increased concentrations of both ACTH and cortisol⁴⁰. However, in kittiwakes PFNA
194 concentrations were not related to CORT. One possible interpretation to explain these
195 relationships between CORT, PFTrA and PFTeA comes from the ability of PFASs to displace
196 hormones by binding to proteins⁸. Because of their high affinity for proteins, it has been
197 suggested that PFASs could easily bind to transport proteins and cause hormone displacement⁸.
198 CORT is protein dependent to insure its specific role by binding to CORT-binding-globulin
199 (CBG)⁴¹. This binding of CORT to CBG may serve as a tissue buffer against potentially

200 deleterious effects of elevated circulating CORT^{41, 42}. Measuring the quantity of CBG and the
201 number of glucocorticoid receptors (GR) could inform on the effective activity of CORT in
202 kittiwakes contaminated by PFASs. Indeed, the observed decrease of baseline CORT
203 concentrations with increasing PFTrA and PFTeA in kittiwakes could be a response to an
204 increase of GR and/or a decrease of CBG. Indeed, the action of CBG is supposed to make CORT
205 inactive⁴³, so if most of the CBG are bounded with PFTrA and PFTeA, more CORT will remain
206 free and active. Very high levels of active CORT could have an important impact on health, thus
207 a decrease in the production of CORT from the adrenals may be an adaptation to keep free CORT
208 concentration within the normal physiological ranges. It has been suggested⁸ that “*given the*
209 *current environmental concentrations of PFOS, it was unlikely that PFOS would cause*
210 *displacement of hormones from serum proteins in wildlife*”; indeed though no relationships
211 between PFOS and CORT were found in the present study, the relationships with longer chain
212 PFCAs (PFTrA and PFTeA) are still of concern. These results should be interpreted cautiously
213 and would greatly benefit from experimental support. It would thus be interesting to measure free
214 CORT and GR in relation to PFTrA and PFTeA. Another interesting point is that the observed
215 pattern in the present study is the opposite of what has been found in previous studies with regard
216 to legacy POPs and CORT in Arctic seabird species^{44, 45, 46}. In these latter studies, baseline^{44, 45} or
217 stress-induced⁴⁶ CORT increased with increasing legacy POPs. The lower concentrations of
218 CORT in relation to PFTrA and PFTeA, could have interfered with the adaptive weight loss
219 observed in seabirds and consequently with chick feeding^{47, 48}. However, in the present study
220 PFTrA and PFTeA were not related to body-condition or reproductive success.

221 *Relationships between PFASs and reproductive traits*

222 Hatching success and breeding success were not related to baseline or stress-induced CORT
223 concentrations, or with the interactions with sex ($\chi^2 < 1.11$, $p > 0.29$). Hatching success was

224 significantly lower in birds with higher concentrations of PFDoA (GLM, PFDoA: $\chi^2 = 4.2$,
225 $p=0.040$; sex: $\chi^2 = 0.4$, $p=0.528$ PFDoA \times sex: GLM, $\chi^2 = 0.1$, $p=0.72$; **Figure 3, supporting**
226 **information**) and was significantly related to the interaction between PFTeA and sex (PFTeA \times
227 sex: GLM, $\chi^2 = 4.0$, $p=0.045$, **supporting information**). However when analyzing males and
228 females separately, the negative relationship between hatching success and PFTeA was only
229 close to statistical significance in males (GLM, $\chi^2 = 3.4$, $p=0.064$) and no relationship was found
230 in females (GLM, $\chi^2 = 0.6$, $p=0.455$). All the other compounds were unrelated to hatching
231 success ($p>0.35$ for all tests, **supporting information**). Breeding success was not related to
232 PFASs ($p>0.07$ for all tests, **supporting information**). In this study, male and female kittiwakes
233 bearing the higher concentrations of PFDoA were more likely to hatch one egg instead of two in
234 a two eggs clutch. In mammals, some effects of PFDoA on reproduction and development have
235 been observed. For example, in male rats fed PFDoA lower spermatid and spermatozoa counts
236 were observed in reproductive organs and in female rats PFDoA administration resulted in death
237 or in the delivery of dead pups⁴⁹. Relationships between PFASs and fitness have rarely been
238 investigated for wildlife. In tree swallows *Tachycineta bicolor*, a similar apparent reproductive
239 impairment was observed as in the present study, although the associated PFASs differed: PFOS
240 concentration measured directly in eggs was negatively associated to hatching success, with
241 PFOS concentration ≥ 150 ng/g^{24, 25}. In lesser black-backed gulls *Larus fuscus* no relationships
242 were found between PFASs and life-history traits²³. However, in lesser black-backed gulls, whole
243 blood concentrations for long chain PFCAs were slightly lower than in kittiwakes' plasma (1.4
244 ng/g versus 2.5ng/g, respectively, for PFDoA). The relationships between PFDoA and hatching
245 success could either be the result of non-viable embryos or less efficient incubation behavior. In
246 oviparous vertebrates, females transfer a large amount of PFASs to their eggs³⁹ which may result
247 in non-viable embryos for the most contaminated females. However, in the present study high

248 PFDoA concentrations measured in male kittiwakes were also related to lower hatching success.
249 Consequently the lower hatching success observed in birds with the higher concentrations of
250 PFDoA, is more likely to result from disrupted incubating behavior. Regarding legacy POPs, an
251 experimental study conducted on American kestrels *Falco sparverius*, reported that PCB
252 administration resulted in altered incubation behaviors⁵⁰: the incubation bouts realized by female
253 and male American kestrels were not synchronized and the eggs were left unattended for longer
254 periods⁵⁰. In free-ranging glaucous gulls *Larus hyperboreus*, the proportion of time absent from
255 the nest site when not incubating and the number of absences were related to blood PCB⁵¹, and
256 the most contaminated glaucous gulls were less able to maintain an optimal nest temperature⁵².
257 However we have no evidence for such effects of PFDoA. Another possible explanation that
258 could relate PFDoA to hatching success would be a disruption of the hormonal control of brood
259 patches. Brood patches are highly vascularized featherless patches placed on the ventral surface
260 of both male and female birds when bi-parental care is provided⁵³. These patches enable the egg
261 to be kept at an optimal temperature: if incubation patches are too small, one egg at least would
262 probably be less exposed to parental heat. The feather loss and vascularization of those patches
263 are under hormonal control, particularly through a synergetic association of prolactin and
264 estrogen⁵³. In rats, PFDoA administration reduces serum estradiol concentration in males and the
265 expression of estrogen receptors in the ovaries of females^{54, 55, 56}. If PFDoA reduces estradiol
266 expression in kittiwakes, this could lead to reduced brood patches, less efficient incubation and
267 non-viable embryos. Again, further studies are needed to test these hypotheses, such as
268 measurement of estrogen and monitoring incubation behavior in relation to PFDoA. Another,
269 important point is that we did not measure PFASs in the partners of our focal birds. Because
270 kittiwakes provide bi-parental care to the brood, measuring PFASs in the partner would provide
271 important data to explain the observed interaction between PFDoA and hatching success.

272 This study underlines the importance of considering each PFAS separately and their relationships
273 with sex. To the best of our knowledge this is the first study which shows relationships between
274 long chain PFCAs (PFNA, PFDoA, PFTrA and PFTeA), body-condition, baseline CORT
275 concentrations and hatching success in a free-ranging seabird. Most toxicity studies of PFASs
276 have concentrated on PFOS and PFOA, hence limited information is available on the
277 toxicological effects and risk of other PFASs³³. Additionally, PFCAs show dramatic increasing
278 trends in Arctic seabird eggs^{13, 57}, given their hazardous effects on hormones and fitness related
279 traits, more studies are needed. The small amount of data available makes interpreting the
280 statistical results difficult; additionally this study is correlational; it is thus difficult to draw
281 conclusions on the causality of these relationships, some of them could be the result of
282 unmeasured chemicals or parameters that could confound these associations.

283

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293 **Supporting Information Available**

294 Figures depicting the non-significant relationships between PFASs, body-condition and hatching
295 success are given in Supporting information. Additionally, we also included tables with statistics
296 concerning the relationships between 1) sex, PFASs, CORT and body-condition, 2) PFASs and
297 body-condition, 3) PFASs and reproductive traits. This information is available free of charge via
298 the Internet at <http://pubs.acs.org/>

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468 **Figure captions:**

469 **Figure 1:** In male black-legged kittiwakes (open circles), body-condition (scaled mass index)
470 was positively related to plasma PFNA concentrations. A relationship not found in females
471 (closed circles). The solid line refers to a statistically significant linear regression.

472 **Figure 2:** Baseline CORT concentrations in relation to seven PFASs. Baseline CORT decreased
473 with increasing plasma PFTrA and PFTeA concentrations, in male (open circles) and female
474 (closed circles) chick-rearing black-legged kittiwakes. The solid line refers to a statistically
475 significant linear regression.

476 **Figure 3:** Hatching success (1 or 2 chicks have hatched) was lower in black-legged kittiwakes
477 with high concentrations of PFDoA (*: $p = 0.040$) open circles denote males and closed circles
478 denote females.

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482 **Table 1:** PFASs mean concentrations \pm standard deviation (pg/ml ww), LOD and LOQ in the
 483 plasma of female and male chick-rearing adult kittiwakes.

484

	Females						Males				
	n° C	LOD	LOQ	N>LOD	Mean	SD	Range	N>LOD	Mean	SD	Range
<i>Perfluoroalkyl sulfonates (PFSA)</i>											
PFBS	4	18.5	55.5	0	n.d.	-	-	0	-	-	-
PFHxS	6	10.7	32.0	5	-	-	[<10.7; 216]	4	-	-	[<10.7; 130]
PFOSlin	8	704	2111	10	9299 \pm	2611	[6804; 13581]	10	10233 \pm	2685	[7002; 15183]
<i>Perfluoroalkyl carboxylates (PFCA)</i>											
PFBA	4	918	2754	0	n.d.	-	-	0	-	-	-
PFPA	5	36.2	109	0	n.d.	-	-	0	-	-	-
PFHxA	6	6.2	18	0	n.d.	-	-	0	-	-	-
PFHpA	7	91.2	274	0	n.d.	-	-	0	-	-	-
PFOA	8	26.5	80	2	-	-	[<26.5; 122]	2	-	-	[<26.5; 167]
PFNA	9	40.9	123	10	967 \pm	704	[805; 3047]	10	1241 \pm	547	[787; 2593]
PFDCa	10	61.9	186	10	1705 \pm	464	[1301; 2764]	10	2162 \pm	528	[1233; 3123]
PFUnA	11	83.0	249	10	10449 \pm	2636	[7712; 16618]	10	11413 \pm	2808	[7853; 17546]
PFDoA	12	109	327	10	2188 \pm	709	[1472; 4014]	10	2658 \pm	662	[1893; 3815]
PFTTrA	13	360	1079	10	12960 \pm	7330	[4495; 29735]	10	18156 \pm	4022	[11217; 23055]
PFTeA	14	235	706	10	1167 \pm	840	[289; 3258]	9	1798 \pm	532	[<235; 2712]
Σ 7PFASs	-	-	-	-	47947 \pm	11213	[29172; 66048]		41339 \pm	11967	[24336; 71204]

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487

488 **Table 2:** Modelling the relationship between PFASs and A) baseline and B) stress-induced
 489 CORT concentrations in chick-rearing black-legged kittiwakes.

Dependent variable	Independent variable	SS	Df	F	Pr(>F)
A) Baseline CORT	linear PFOS	0.6	1,18	0.0	0.838
	PFNA	2.9	1,18	0.2	0.668
	PFDCa	18.6	1,18	1.3	0.266
	PFUnA	36.3	1,18	2.8	0.114
	PFDoA	23.8	1,18	1.7	0.207
	PFTTrA	117.2	1,18	13.5	0.002
	PFTTeA	80.1	1,17	7.7	0.013
B) Stress-induced CORT	linear PFOS	0.5	1,16	0.0	0.905
	PFNA	2.5	1,16	0.1	0.795
	PFDCa	0.5	1,16	0.0	0.909
	PFUnA	0.6	1,16	0.0	0.899
	PFDoA	1.9	1,16	0.1	0.819
	PFTTrA	1.0	1,16	0.0	0.868
	PFTTeA	46.1	1,15	1.3	0.267

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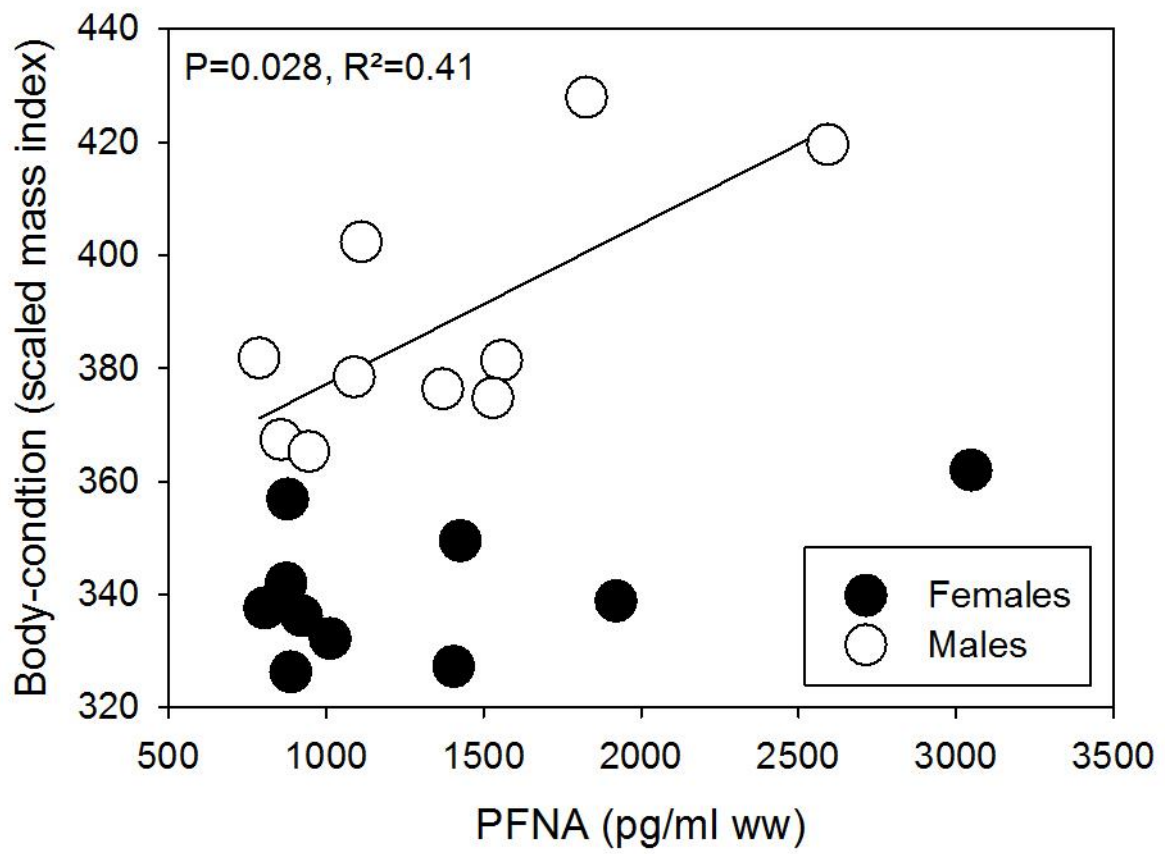


Figure 1

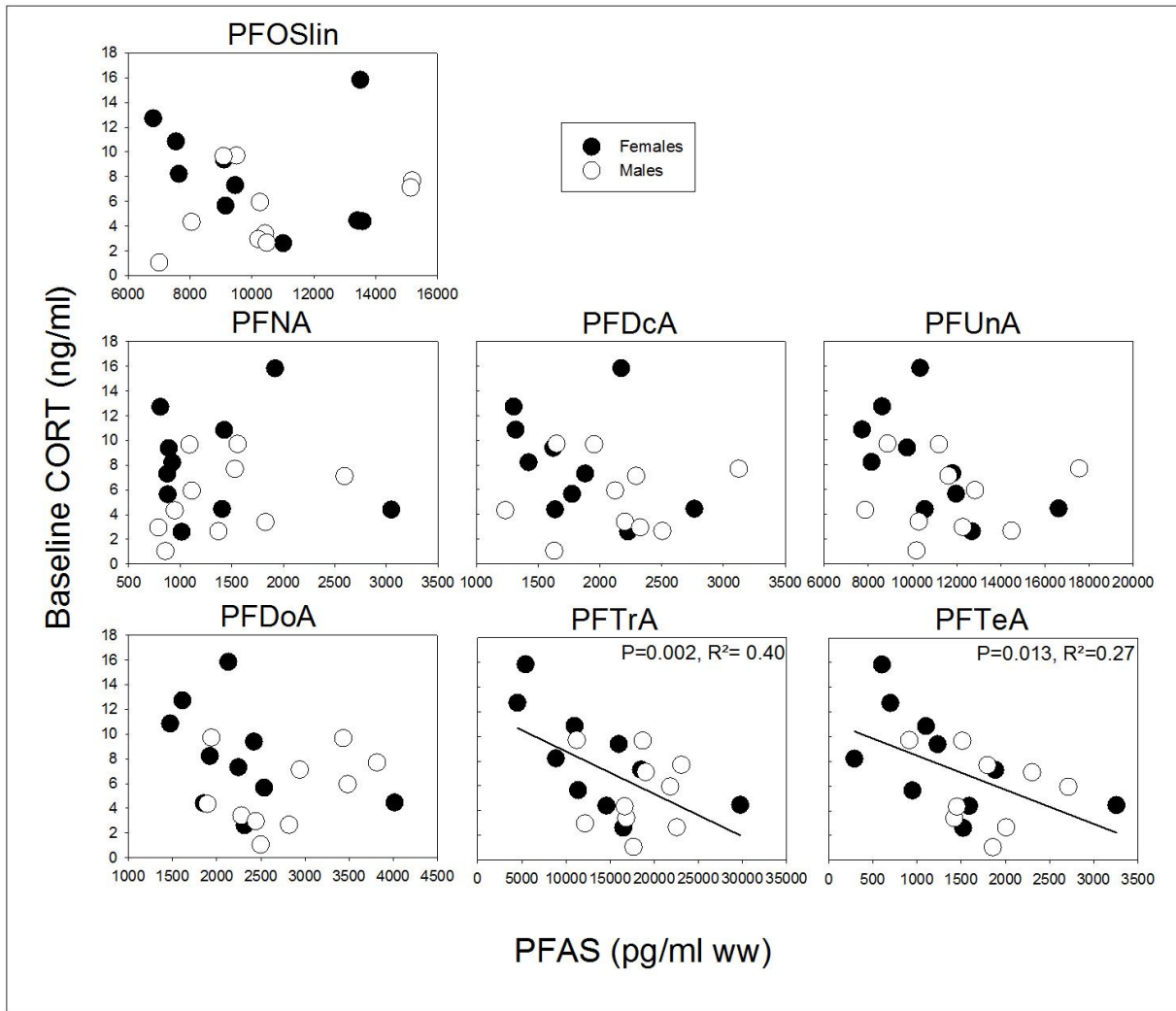


Figure 2

Number of eggs that hatched

