Table S1. Ensemble Species Code.

Species	Name of Gene	Ensemble Code
Xiphophorus maculatus	nucleobindin 2b	ENSXMAG00000012412
Oryzias latipes	nucleobindin 2	ENSORLT00000001613
Gasterosteus aculeatus	NUCB2 (1 of many)-201	ENSGACG00000006759.1
Gasterosteus aculeatus	NUCB2 (1 of many)-202	ENSGACT00000009029
Danio rerio	nucleobindin 2b	ENSDARG00000036291
Tetraodon	nucleobindin 2	ENSTNIT00000005819

Table S2. Summary of primer pair sequences used for Real Time PCR (RT- PCR) and *in situ* hybridization (ISH).

Gene	RT-PCR primer sequence	Product size lenght	Annealing temperature
NUCB2_fw	ACT GTG GGC TGG TCC TAC TG	150 bp	60 °C
NUCB2_rev	CTT CCC TGA GGT AAC GGT CA		
TBP_fw	CGGTTGGAGGGTTTAGTCCT	100 bp	60 °C
TBP_rev	GCAAGACGATTCTGGGTTTG		
Gene	**ISH primer sequence**	**Product size length**	**Annealing temperature**
NUCB2_fw	CCA CCA GCG AGC ACT GAC ACC	416 bp	60 °C
NUCB2_rev	GGT AAT ACG ACT CAC TAT AGGATA CCT CTT GAA CTC ATC ATG		

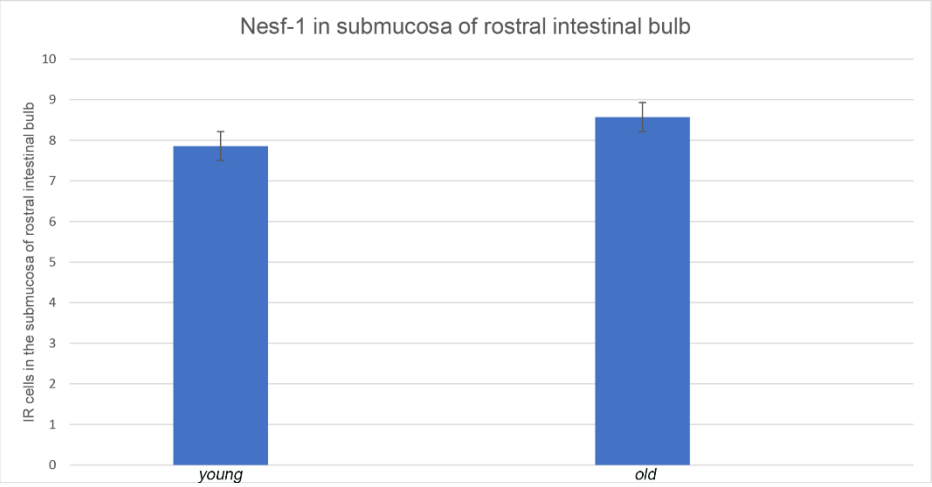

Figure S1. NESF-1 positive cells in the submucosa of the rostral intestinal bulb of young and old animals. Cell count was carried out manually on 7 consecutive sections by using an open source image-processing program (ImageJ). Cells were identified on the basis of their morphological aspect. The graphical analysis was produced by Excel and did not reveal any significance difference between the two age points studied.