

Interactive
Comment

Interactive comment on “Microbial assemblages on a cold-water coral mound at the SE Rockall Bank (NE Atlantic): interactions with hydrography and topography” by J. D. L. van Bleijswijk et al.

Anonymous Referee #3

Received and published: 12 May 2015

This manuscript describes the microbial community in a cold water coral environment and links it to environmental parameters including water flow and topography. For the first time, Archaea are detected in coral mucus.

Major point: Neulinger et al and Kellogg et al report on two potential symbionts of *Lophelia* and Hansson et al. on one of *Madrepora*. It is somewhat startling that the authors completely ignore that. It is imperative to address this question: do their data support that or not.

Minor points: Where are the sequences deposited

The size of the collected corals is not mentioned. Is there information on the type of

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branches (old vs young)? How long lasted the incubation for collecting mucus?

Interactive comment on Biogeosciences Discuss., 12, 1509, 2015.

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