

Supplementary Data: Tables

Table S1: Chlorophyll *a* concentration measured between the 16/08/10 and the 15/12/11 in $\mu\text{g/L}$.

Date	c Chlorophyll <i>a</i> [$\mu\text{g/L}$]	Date	c Chlorophyll <i>a</i> [$\mu\text{g/L}$]
16/08/10	7.1	06/06/11	5.1
30/08/10	6.7	09/06/11	4.4
15/09/10	7.7	17/06/11	2.9
28/09/10	4.6	23/06/11	4.5
22/10/10	4.0	30/06/11	6.3
01/11/10	4.1	04/07/11	6.7
15/11/10	1.9	15/07/11	5.7
26/11/10	3.6	21/07/11	3.3
17/12/10	4.5	27/07/11	5.7
24/01/11	3.7	01/08/11	3.2
10/02/11	1.2	08/08/11	5.6
23/02/11	0.5	22/08/11	6.6
08/03/11	5.2	29/08/11	4.4
23/03/11	12.9	12/09/11	4.6
05/04/11	22.2	21/09/11	1.8
11/04/11	8.6	29/09/11	3.4
19/04/11	10.7	14/10/11	1.8
26/04/11	14.0	20/10/11	3.0
03/05/11	5.0	31/10/11	2.7
11/05/11	5.5	15/11/11	2.6
18/05/11	2.0	28/11/11	2.0
24/05/11	10.8	15/12/11	1.6
01/06/11	1.8		

Table S2: Phytoplankton diversity and abundance. Abundance measured in cells/L.

Dates	cells/L [$\times 10^6$]															Total
	cyanobacteria					Cryptophyta		Chlorophyta		Diatoms					Haptophyta	
	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	
08/09/10	6	3														9
15/09/10			3													3
23/09/10						2										2
28/09/10		1						1								2
08/10/10								1								1
14/10/10			42													42
22/10/10								1		2						3
01/11/10		1														1
15/11/10								2								2
26/11/10								2	2							4
17/12/10			9						2							11
24/01/11			3	13					2							18
10/02/11								2								2
23/02/11			1													1
08/03/11										2						2
15/03/11										2						2
23/03/11								1			1					2
28/03/11										2	1					3
05/04/11											3					3
11/04/11						0.5										0.5
19/04/11						1				2					7	10
26/04/11												9			21	30
03/05/11												3			26	29
11/05/11													2		13	15
18/05/11														0.5		0.5
24/05/11										2	3					5
06/06/11								1		1						2
09/06/11							0.5	1								1.5
17/06/11															1	1
23/06/11															1	1
30/06/11															3	3
04/07/11		0.5														0.5
15/07/11		1														1
21/07/11											1					1
27/07/11	6															6
01/08/11	9									2						11
08/08/11										1					1	2
15/08/11															1	1
22/08/11															2	2
29/08/11						0.5										0.5
12/09/11					1											1
15/09/11	8															8.2
21/09/11							0.2									2
29/09/11						1				1						2
14/10/11						1		1								2
20/10/11															2	2
31/10/11								1								1
15/11/11		3														3
28/11/11								2								2
15/12/11								2		1						3

Cyanobacteria: A *Chroococcaceae*, B *Chlorococcales*, C *Cyanophyta*, D *Snowella*, E *Microcystis*; Cryptophyta: F *Hemiselmis*, G *Plagioselmis*; Chlorophyta: H *Prasinophyceae*, I Chlorophyta; Diatoms: J *Bacillariales*, K *Thalassiosiraceae*, L *Chaetoceros*, M *Pseudo-nitzschia delicatissima*, N *Cylindrotheca closterium*; Haptophyta: O *Phaeocystis globosa*

Table S3: Order-level bacterial diversity and abundance in North Sea SPM based on the 16S rRNA gene amplicon sequencing. Percentage based on total bacteria reads excluding Chloroplast reads.

bacterial groups	% of total bacteria reads															
	28/09/ 2010	26/1 1	10/01/ 2011	08/0 3	23/0 3	05/0 4	19/0 4	03/0 5	18/0 5	17/0 6	30/0 6	15/0 7	22/0 8	06/0 9	21/0 9	28/10/ 2011
<i>Acidimicrobiales</i>	1.7	3.4	1.1	1.1	0.8	0.2	0.3	0.5	1.2	3.3	2.4	1.4	4.7	4.6	10.8	6.7
<i>Micrococcales</i>	3.2	1.7	1.1	0.2	0.1	0.6	0.8	1.1	6.1	2.6	2.4	2.0	5.8	1.2	0.3	0.2
<i>Flavobacteriales</i>	16.2	13.2	10.6	16.8	14.7	27.9	29.7	30.8	28.6	25.3	27.8	22.1	21.0	17.3	14.2	13.4
<i>Sphingobacteriales</i>	3.4	2.7	4.6	4.6	4.5	3.9	3.6	3.3	3.2	4.1	3.8	3.1	3.5	2.7	2.7	2.9
<i>Pirellulales</i>	8.1	2.9	2.9	3.1	2.6	0.6	0.1	0.3	0.1	0.3	0.4	1.0	1.8	2.1	3.4	2.7
<i>Rhodobacterales</i>	8.2	12.4	9.7	9.2	8.4	5.6	6.5	5.9	9.1	11.2	9.1	5.8	9.1	10.0	11.6	6.4
<i>Rickettsiales</i>	8.4	12.2	12.0	6.1	8.7	16.8	15.5	7.0	5.5	2.6	3.2	6.0	7.6	5.6	7.5	9.9
<i>Methylophiales</i>	0.9	1.8	2.5	1.9	1.0	1.0	1.2	0.7	1.7	1.0	2.3	2.4	2.0	1.7	1.6	4.0
<i>Rhodocyclales</i>	0.9	2.1	6.5	5.1	3.7	2.1	3.9	2.5	1.3	0.4	0.7	1.4	1.1	0.5	0.1	0.9
<i>Alteromonadales</i>	10.7	9.3	13.2	11.8	12.7	8.8	11.6	17.0	9.7	17.3	13.1	14.1	10.0	12.0	8.9	11.1
<i>Oceanospirillales</i>	3.0	7.9	4.3	5.1	7.3	7.4	12.0	7.8	10.5	7.1	8.1	6.5	6.6	7.2	8.7	8.4
<i>Thiotrichales</i>	3.1	1.6	2.9	1.6	2.4	1.2	0.4	3.8	1.6	1.7	3.2	2.6	3.1	3.4	1.4	2.5
<i>Puniceococcales</i>	0.6	1.0	0.3	1.9	5.4	8.5	3.4	1.3	0.9	0.4	5.6	2.6	3.5	1.4	0.9	0.7
<i>Verrucomicrobiales</i>	5.1	1.0	1.1	2.9	4.5	2.3	0.7	1.7	2.3	3.2	2.8	3.7	3.3	1.3	0.8	1.0

Actinobacteria: Acidimicrobiales, Micrococcales; Bacteroidetes: Flavobacteriales, Sphingobacteriales; Planctomycetes: Pirellulales; α -Proteobacteria: Rhodobacterales, Rickettsiales; β -Proteobacteria: Methylophiales, Rhodocyclales; γ -Proteobacteria: Alteromonadales, Oceanospirillales, Thiotrichales; Verrucomicrobia: Puniceococcales, Verrucomicrobiales

Table S4: Fatty acid abundance in North Sea water samples.

Date	Fatty acid abundance [%]					
	C14:0	C16:1*	C16:0	C18:x	C18:0	C20:5 PUFA
16/08/10	14	23	36	16	6	5
30/08/10	17	26	29	15	6	7
15/09/10	19	27	32	14	5	4
28/09/10	14	24	29	18	9	7
15/11/10	13	17	32	23	13	3
26/11/10	13	20	31	21	13	2
10/12/10	12	13	35	28	11	1
17/12/10	11	30	28	26	4	0
10/01/11	9	27	32	23	8	0
24/01/11	7	23	29	30	7	4
17/02/11	8	27	31	24	9	0
08/03/11	11	35	24	16	3	11
23/03/11	13	33	21	17	5	12
05/04/11	10	34	26	13	4	13
19/04/11	13	35	25	11	2	14
03/05/11	17	23	23	22	2	12
18/05/11	17	28	29	12	6	9
17/06/11	21	21	35	9	10	4
30/06/11	27	20	26	14	5	8
15/07/11	21	25	28	9	7	10
27/07/11	16	25	33	11	10	5
08/08/11	14	25	26	10	7	18
22/08/11	21	15	31	17	8	7
06/09/11	14	20	32	10	18	6
21/09/11	13	16	38	20	10	3
11/10/11	16	22	37	13	11	0
28/10/11	12	21	32	22	9	5
15/11/11	12	25	31	17	8	6
28/11/11	15	26	32	15	7	5
16/12/11	8	27	30	19	9	6

*n*C16:1*: double bond at the ω 7 position

Table S5: δD values of fatty acids.

Date	$\delta D_{\text{fatty acid}}$ [‰]				
	C14:0	C16:1*	C16:0	C18:0	C20:5 PUFA
16/08/10	-219	-201	-201	-185	-191
30/08/10	-222	-202	-189	-186	-199
15/09/10	-216	-206	-197	-186	-180
28/09/10	-219	-198	-192	-197	-207
15/11/10	-213	-203	-182	-200	N.D.
26/11/10	-226	-202	-188	-203	N.D.
10/12/10	-225	-188	-191	-202	N.D.
17/12/10	-232	-193	-194	-188	N.D.
10/01/11	-221	-200	-186	-204	N.D.
24/01/11	-212	-191	-195	-192	-209
17/02/11	-223	-208	-195	-206	N.D.
08/03/11	-226	-214	-205	-182	-235
23/03/11	-241	-216	-205	-190	-241
05/04/11	-223	-210	-209	-212	-223
19/04/11	-235	-224	-221	N.D.	-240
03/05/11	-238	-225	-214	-212	-236
18/05/11	-219	-205	-198	-178	-214
17/06/11	-225	-211	-196	-190	N.D.
30/06/11	-225	-210	-202	-175	-213
15/07/11	-204	-195	-188	-181	-217
27/07/11	-220	-200	-203	-180	-201
08/08/11	-222	-202	-201	-180	-234
22/08/11	-231	-202	-189	-190	-202
06/09/11	-224	-217	-221	-216	-218
21/09/11	-218	-204	-185	-194	N.D.
11/10/11	-213	-191	-183	-188	-226
28/10/11	-217	-187	-181	-184	-207
15/11/11	-212	-198	-191	-184	-221
28/11/11	-217	-193	-190	-180	-197
16/12/11	-198	-179	-174	-188	N.D.

*n*C16:1*: double bond at the ω 7 position

Table S6: Fatty acid profiles of the bacterio- and phytoplankton observed via 16S rRNA gene amplicon sequencing and microscopy.

Organism	Fatty acid profile	Literature
<i>Acidimicrobiales</i>	OCS155: uncultured <i>Microthrixaceae</i> : fatty acid profile not determined	
<i>Micrococcales</i>	<i>Microbacteriaceae</i> : mainly <i>ai</i> C15:0, <i>i</i> C16:0, <i>a</i> C17:0	(Evtushenko and Takeuchi, 2006)
<i>Flavobacteriales</i>	<i>Flavobacteriaceae</i> : mainly <i>i</i> C15:0, <i>ai</i> C15:0, C15:0; only traces of C16:0, C18:0, C14:0 <i>Cryomorphaceae</i> : mainly <i>i</i> C15:0, <i>i</i> C15:1 ω 10, C15:0; only traces of C16:0, C18:0, C14:0	(Van Trappen et al., 2004b; Khan et al., 2006; Heindl et al., 2008) (Bowman et al., 2003; O'Sullivan et al., 2005)
<i>Sphingobacteriales</i>	<i>Sphingobacteriaceae</i> : mainly <i>i</i> C15:0, <i>i</i> C17:0 3-OH, <i>i</i> C17:1 ω 9 and potentially C16:1 ω 7; minor amounts of C16:0 and C14:0 NS11-12: uncultured	(Gallego et al., 2006)
<i>Pirellulales</i>	<i>Pirellulaceae</i> : mainly C16:0, C18:1 ω 9; minor amounts of C14:0, C16:1 ω 7 and C18:0	(Kerger et al., 1988; Schlesner et al., 2004)
<i>Rhodobacterales</i>	<i>Rhodobacteraceae</i> : mainly C18:1 ω 7, C16:0, C16:1 ω 7, C18:0	(Yoon et al., 2007a; Venkata Ramana et al., 2009; Jung et al., 2010; Park and Yoon, 2014)
<i>Rickettsiales</i>	SAR11 cluster: fatty acid profile not determined	
<i>Methylophiales</i>	<i>Methylophilaceae</i> : mainly C16:0 and C16:1 ω 7; traces of C18:0	(Kalyuzhnaya et al., 2006; Kalyuzhnaya et al., 2012)
<i>Rhodocyclales</i>	<i>Rhodocyclaceae</i> : mainly C16:0, C16:1 <i>cis</i> -9, C18:1; only traces of C14:0 and C18:0	(Reinhold-Hurek et al., 1993; Anders et al., 1995)

<i>Alteromonadales</i>	<i>Alteromonadaceae</i> : mainly C18:1 ω 7, C16:0, C16:1 ω 7; only traces of C14:0 and C18:0 SAR92 clade: fatty acid profile not determined OM60 clade: mainly C16:0, C16:1 ω 7, C16:1 ω 6, C18:1 ω 7; only traces of C14:0 and C18:0	(Bowman et al., 1998; Van Trappen et al., 2004a; Tang et al., 2008; Lee et al., 2012; Teramoto and Nishijima, 2014) (Spring et al., 2009; Spring et al., 2013)
<i>Oceanospirillales</i>	<i>Halomonadaceae</i> : mainly C16:0, C18:1 ω 7; minor amounts of C14:0, C16:1 ω 7; traces of C18:0	(Sánchez-Porro et al., 2009; Long et al., 2013)
<i>Thiotrichales</i>	<i>Piscirickettsiaceae</i> : mainly C16:0, C16:1 ω 7; minor amounts of C14:0; traces of C18:0 <i>Thiotrichaceae</i> : mainly C18:1 ω 7, C16:1 ω 7, C16:0; minor amounts of C14:0, C18:0	(Doronina et al., 2003; Kim et al., 2007; Antony et al., 2012) (Aruga et al., 2002)
<i>Puniceococcales</i>	<i>Coraliomargarita</i> : mainly C14:0, C18:1 ω 9, C18:0	(Yoon et al., 2007b)
<i>Verrucomicrobiales</i>	<i>Verrucomicrobiaceae</i> : mainly C16:0, some also C14:0 and C16:1 ω 7	(Yoon et al., 2008)
<i>Chlorophyta</i>	<i>Mamiellales</i> : mainly C16:0, C16:1 ω 7, C18:1 ω 7, C18:1 ω 9; only traces of C14:0 and C18:0	(Martínez-Fernández et al., 2006; Vaezi et al., 2013)
<i>Stramenopiles</i> (diatoms)	<i>Thalassiosira</i> : mainly C14:0, C16:0, C16:1 ω 7; only minor amounts of C18:0 <i>Chaetoceros</i> : mainly C14:0, C16:0, C16:1 ω 7, C20:5; only minor amounts of C18:0	(Viso and Marty, 1993) (Viso and Marty, 1993; Zhukova and Aizdaicher, 1995)

<i>Haptophyta</i>	<i>Phaeocystis</i> : mainly C14:0, (Al-Hasan et al., 1990; C16:0, C18:1 ω 9; minor Nichols et al., 1991; amounts of C16:1 ω 7, C18:0 Hamm and Rousseau, and C20:5 PUFA 2003)
<i>Cryptophyta</i>	<i>Chroomonas</i> : mainly C16:0, (Viso and Marty, 1993; C18:1 ω 9, C20:5 PUFA; only Zhukova and minor amount of C14:0, Aizdaicher, 1995) C16:1 ω 7 and C18:0

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Figure legends Supplementary

Figure S1

Phylogenetic tree of 16S rRNA gene sequence reads assigned to *Bacteroidetes*. Scale bar indicates 0.10 % estimated sequence divergence. Groups containing sequences are highlighted.

Figure S2

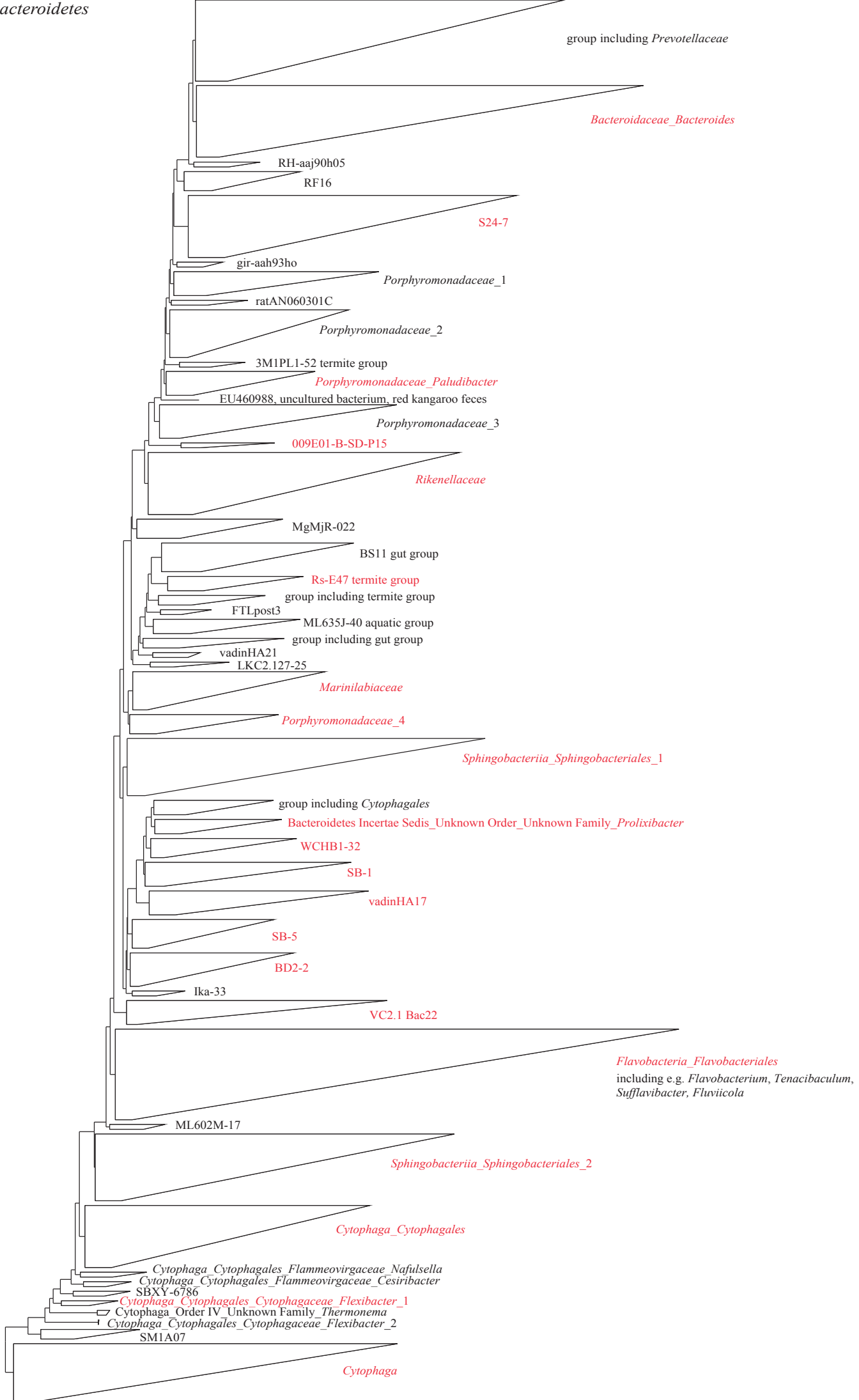
Phylogenetic tree of 16S rRNA gene sequence reads assigned to *Alphaproteobacteria*. Scale bar indicates 0.10 % estimated sequence divergence. Groups containing sequences are highlighted.

Figure S3

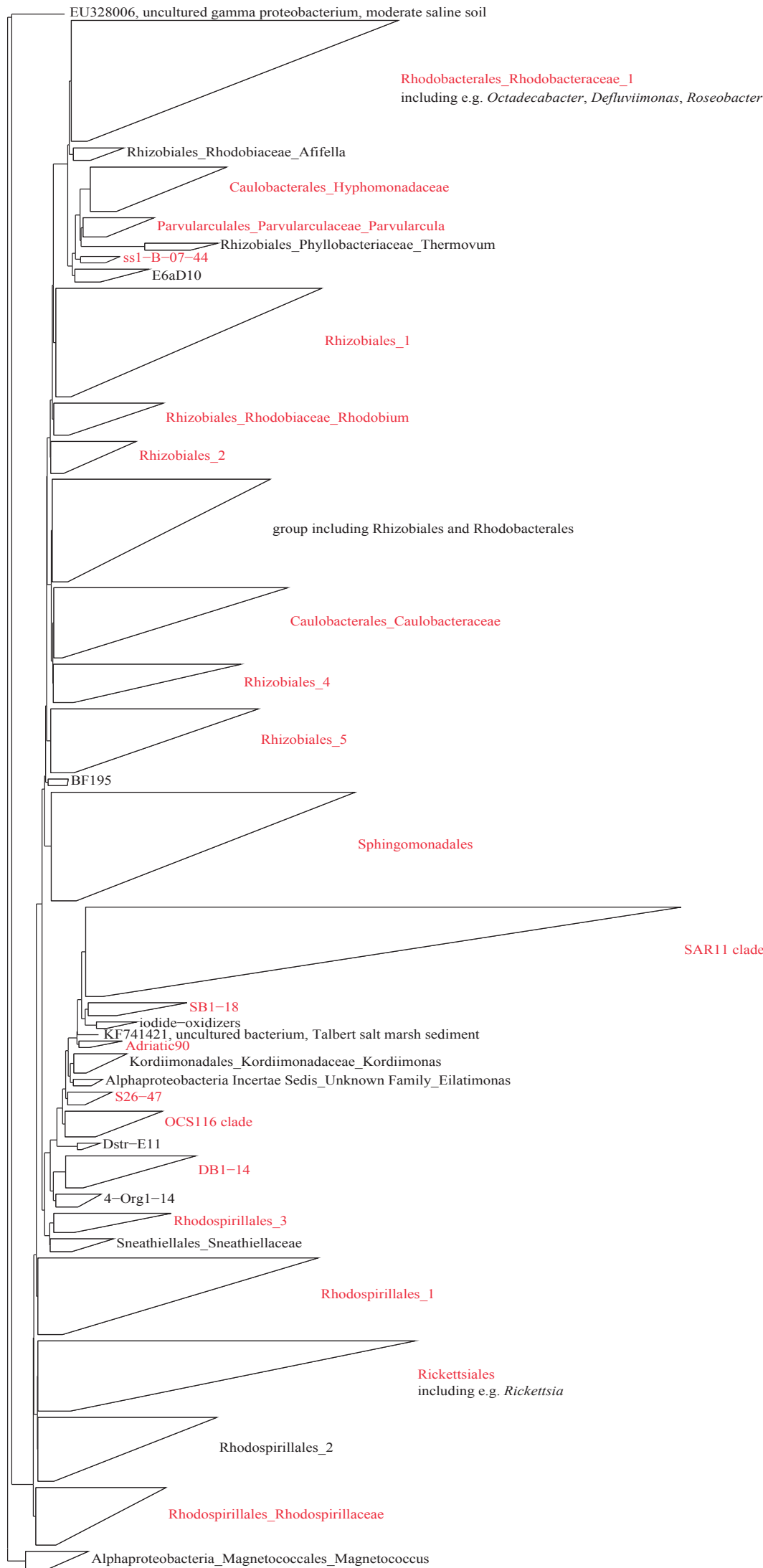
Phylogenetic tree of 16S rRNA gene sequence reads assigned to *Gammaproteobacteria*. Scale bar indicates 0.10 % estimated sequence divergence. Groups containing sequences are highlighted.

Figure S4

δD_{water} versus salinity of North Sea SPM sampled in 2013.



Alphaproteobacteria



Gammaproteobacteria

