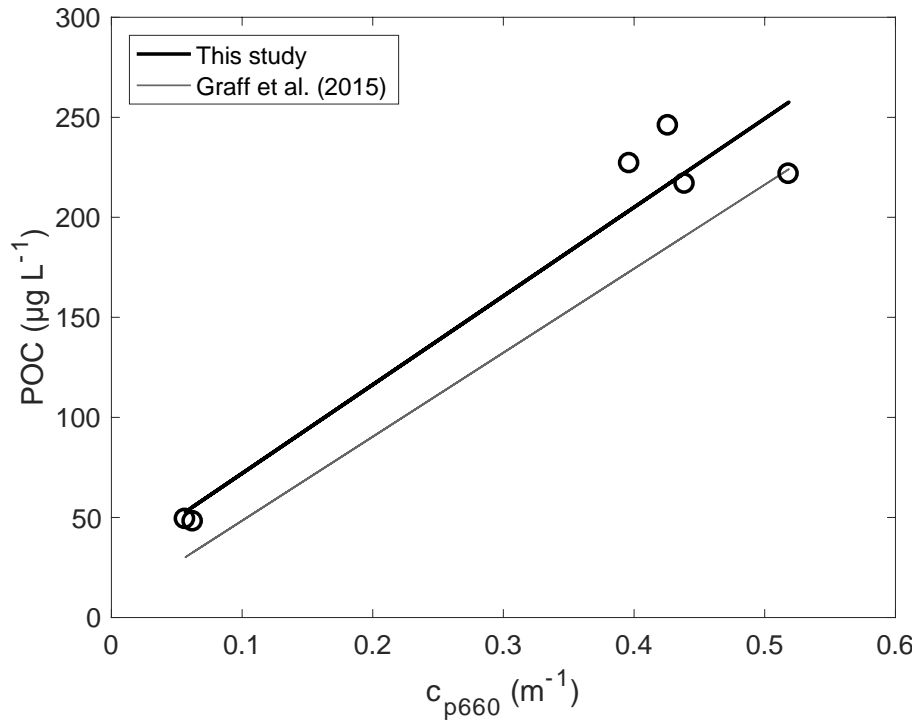
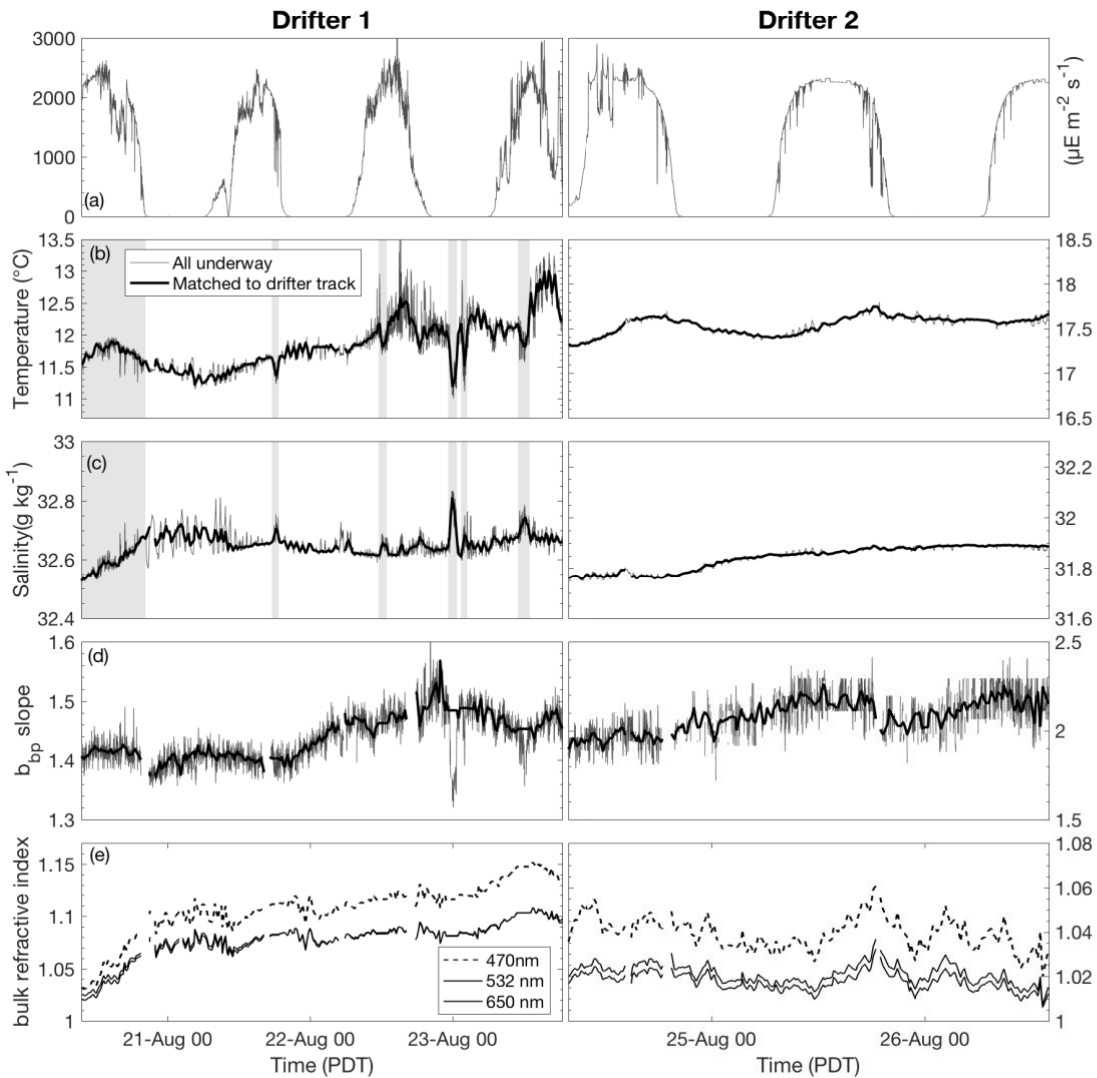


## Supplementary Information



**Figure S1:** Particulate organic carbon (POC) concentration measured in 5 m CTD cast samples as a function of underway beam attenuation ( $c_{p660}$ ) at 660 nm, measured within 5 minutes of the cast time. The five higher values were collected during drifter period 1, while the two lowest values were collected during the first day of drifter period 2. The best-fit linear regression of [POC] against  $c_{p660}$  is plotted relative to the linear regression reported in Graff et al. (2015).



10

11 **Figure S2:** (a-c) Underway measurements of sea surface PAR, temperature, and salinity.

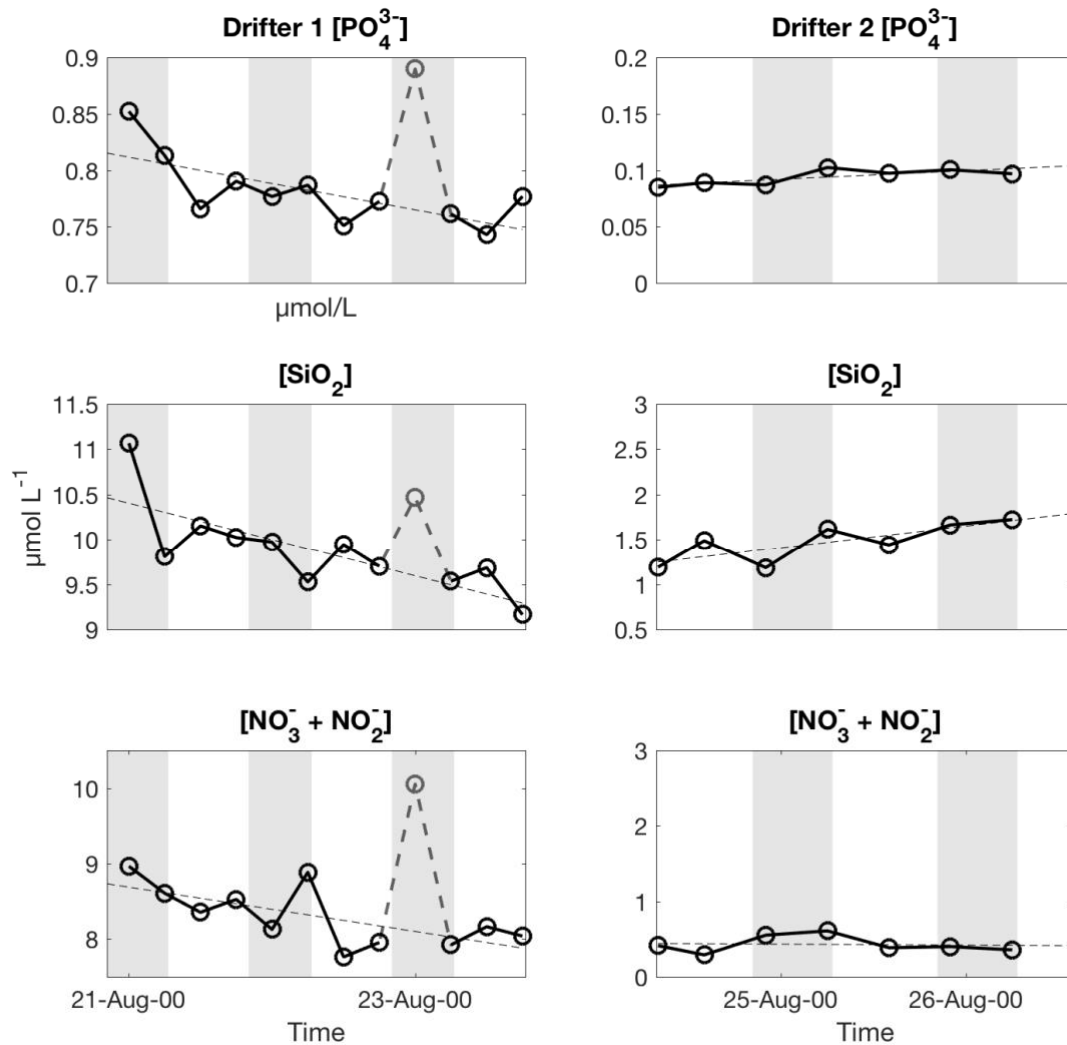
12 Anomalous values, likely from intrusion of external water masses into the sampled drifter patch,  
 13 are shaded. Underway observations from these periods were omitted from the data set. The brief

14 decrease in PAR during the morning of 21 August was caused by a total solar eclipse. (d) The

15 spectral slope of particulate backscatter ( $b_{\text{bp}}$ ). (e) Bulk refractive index ( $\eta_{\text{p}}$ ) at 470 nm, 532 nm

16 and 650 nm.

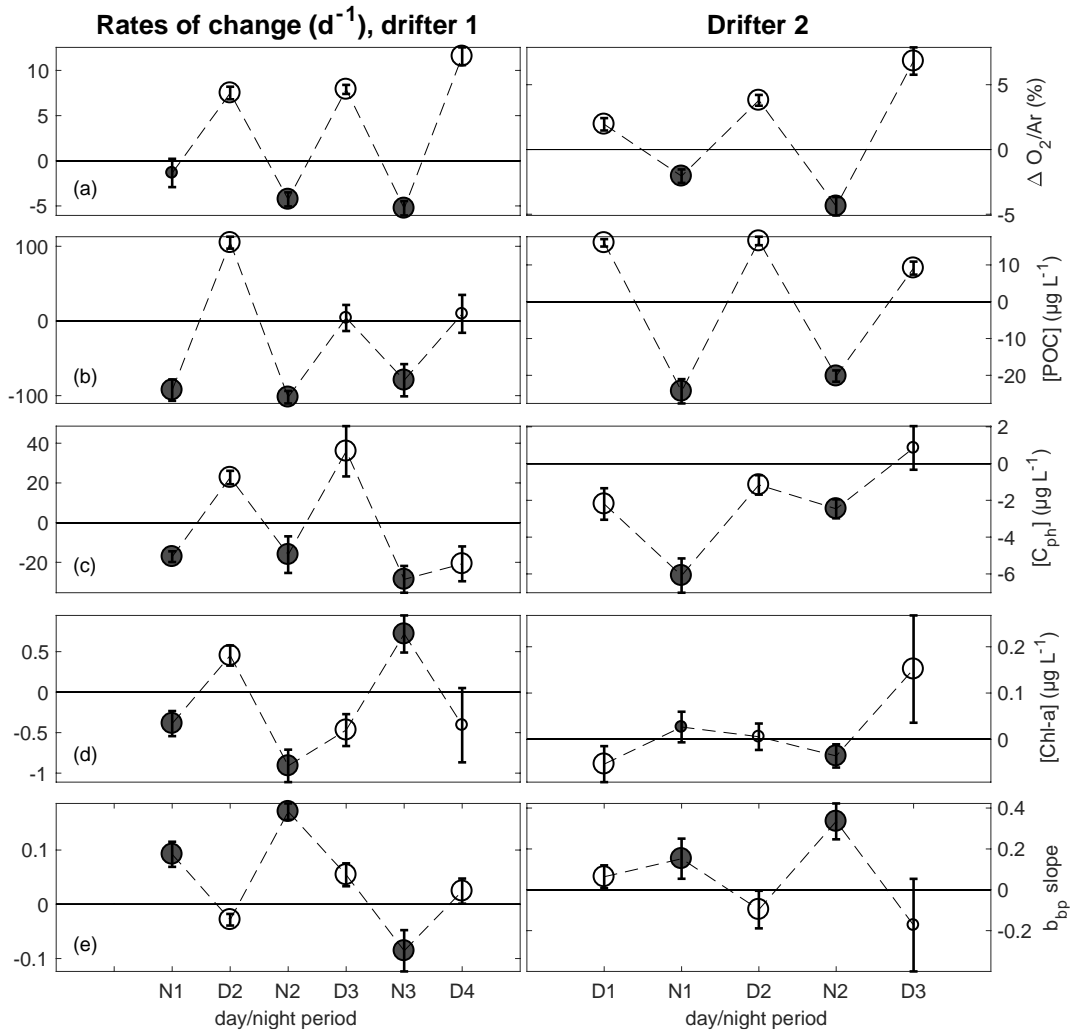
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19 **Figure S3:** Nutrient concentration time series during both drifter periods. The gray point  
 20 indicates an anomalously high value measured during an erratic CTD cast during the third night  
 21 of drifter period 1. This data point was omitted from analysis. The dashed line is the best fit  
 22 linear regression of each nutrient concentration against time. All regressions indicated significant  
 23 changes ( $p < 0.05$ ), except for  $[\text{NO}_3^- + \text{NO}_2^-]$  concentrations during drifter survey 2.

24



25

26 **Figure S4:** Rate of change of surface water properties derived from linear regressions over  
 27 successive day (D open circle) and night (N shaded circle) intervals during the two drifter  
 28 deployments. (a) Biological oxygen saturation ( $\Delta O_2/Ar$ ), (b) particulate organic carbon (POC)  
 29 concentration, (c) phytoplankton carbon ( $C_{ph}$ ) concentration and (d) chlorophyll-a (Chl-a)  
 30 concentration. Slopes of significant linear regressions ( $p < 0.05$ ) are plotted as larger circles, and  
 31 slopes of non-significant linear regressions ( $p \geq 0.05$ ) are plotted as smaller circles. The vertical  
 32 bars for each slope value span the lower and upper 95<sup>th</sup> confidence intervals of the regression  
 33 slopes.

34