Supporting Information

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SI Methods

Molecular Biology. *Drosophila* codon-optimized recombinases and their cognate recognition sites were synthesized by DNA2.0, Inc. The coding sequences for the recombinases are shown in Fig. S1 for B3, KD, and B2 and Fig. S2 for R and FLP. The sequences of the stop cassettes used in this work for the B3, KD, B2, RS, and FLP stop cassettes are shown in Fig. S3.

To construct pBPhsFlp1 and pBPhsFlp2 sequences encoding yeast FLP were amplified from the pUAS-Flp vector (ref. 1; obtained from the Drosophila Genome Resource Center) to contain an optimal translation sequence and cloned as a 5' KpnI–3' Avr2 fragment into a modified pBDP (2) vector that contains the *Hsp70Bb* Heat Shock Promoter (-194 to +237) and 337-bp terminator (ref. 3; CG31359). Two variants of the FLP coding sequence were recovered; pBPhsFlp1 contains a D5 residue and pBPhsFlp2 a G5 residue. Sequences have been reported for the yeast Flp gene that encode either G5 or D5 (4, 5).

All recombinases used in the UAS vectors were synthesized to include a C-terminal PEST sequence; nuclear localization sequences were not added. The same recombinase genes (*Drosophila*-codon optimized and including the PEST sequence) and stop cassettes were used in flies, CHO cells, and mice. RFP was used as a reporter in the stop cassettes for B2, B3, KD, and R; GFP in the cassettes for Cre, Dre, and FLP.

The plasmids used for mouse in utero electroporation were based on an AAV virus backbone (6). The modular cassettes BlownOUT and KickedOUT were cloned into the BamHI site of the AAV-CAG_tdTomato vector (gift of Jinny Kim, Janelia Farm Research Campus) to generate CAG_BlownOUT_tdTomato and CAG_KickedOUT_tdTomato. AAV-syn-B3:PEST and AAVsyn-KD:PEST were constructed by substituting the *Drosophila*codon optimized B3 and KD genes, respectively, for the GCaMP3 gene in the AAV-syn-GCaMP3 construct (7).

Drosophila Transgenics and Genetics. Transgenic fly lines were generated as described (2, 8). For assaying recombinase activity, flies with appropriate stop-cassette reporter constructs inserted in attP40 and R31F10-GAL4 (in attP2) or elav-GAL4 (C155; ref. 9) were crossed to UAS recombinase flies (in attP2). To visualize the entire R31F10 pattern, a 10XUAS-mCD8::GFP reporter (pJFRC2 in attP40) was included in some cases. For testing 3XUAS recombinase constructs (in attP40), stop-cassette reporters in VK00005 and attP2 were used. For comparing the D5 and G5 FLP variants, low levels of FLP were expressed under hspromoter control (using pBPhsFlp1 or pBPhsFlp2 in attP2) by

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raising flies at 25 °C without additional heat shock. To test for toxicity of recombinase expression, UAS recombinase drivers in attP2 (20XUAS) were crossed to elav-GAL4 (C155; ref. 9), tubP-GAL4 (10), or GMR-GAL4 (11).

Imaging of Optic Lobes. Optic lobes from 5- to 10-d adult flies, mounted in an appropriate orientation, were imaged on a Zeiss LSM 710 confocal microscope by using a 20×0.8 NA objective. To aid quantification of medulla columns with stop-cassette excision, two methods were used to visualize all medulla columns: To assay KD, B2, B3, and R activity and potential cross-reactivity of these recombinases, the entire medulla pattern of R31F10 was revealed by using mCD8 GFP (pJFRC2-10XUAS-IVS-mCD8:: GFP). In this case, samples were mounted in PBS and native GFP and RFP fluorescence were imaged directly after dissection. For all other experiments, mAb24B10 (12) staining of R7 and R8 photoreceptor neurons was used as an indirect marker for the positions of T1 neurons, which, like R7 and R8, are present once per medulla column. For these experiments, brains were dissected in PBS, fixed with 2% formaldehyde in PBS for 1 h, washed several times with PBT (PBS + 0.5% TX-100), blocked with PBT with 5% goat serum and incubated with rabbit anti-GFP (Invitrogen; 1:1,000 dilution) or rabbit anti-ds-Red (Clontech; 1:1,000 dilution) plus mAb24B10 (ref. 12; Developmental Studies Hybridoma Bank; 1:20 dilution) overnight at 4 °C. Secondary antibodies were donkey anti-mouse DyLight 649 (1:500; Jackson Immunoresearch) and donkey anti-rabbit Dy-Light 488 (1:500; Jackson Immunoresearch). Samples were mounted in Slowfade Gold (Invitrogen). Eye sections to assess recombinase toxicity were prepared as described (13).

In Vivo Mouse Assays. Embryonic day 16 timed-pregnant C57BL/6J mice (Charles River) were deeply anesthetized by using an iso-flurane-oxygen mixture [2% (vol/vol) isoflurane in O₂]. The uterine horns were exposed and $\approx 1 \,\mu$ L of DNA solution was pressure-injected through a pulled glass capillary tube into the right lateral ventricle of each embryo. The DNA solution contained a mixture of plasmids in a 1:1 ratio at a final concentration of 2 μ g/ μ L. The head of each embryo was placed between custom-made tweezer electrodes, with the positive plate contacting the right side of the head. Electroporation (14, 15) was achieved with five square pulses (duration 50 ms, frequency 1 Hz, 40 V). Electroporated mice were perfused with cold saline and 4% paraformaldehyde and fixed overnight. Analysis of tdTomato expression was performed in 50- μ m-thick brain sections.

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B3 Recombinase

CTCGAGAATCAAAATGAGCTCGTATATGGATCTTGTTGATGATGAACCAGCGACTTTGTACCATAAGTTCGTGGAGTGCT TGAAAGCGGGCGAGAACTTCTGCGGAGACAAGCTGAGTGGAATTATTACCATGGCGATCCTTAAGGCAATCAAGGCGCTG TATCTCGTTTGTGTATCACTTGAAGGACTGTGATGAGCTGTCCAGGGGCTTGAGCGATGCCTTCGAGCCCTACAAATTCA AAATTAAGTCGAATAAAGAGGCAACCTCGTTTAAGACTCTCTTTCGTGGCCCCTCGTTTGGCAGCCAGAAGAACTGGCGG AAGAAAGAGGTGGACCGCGAGGTGGATAACTTGTTTCATAGCACCGAGACGAATCGATTTTCAAATTCATCTTGAA CACGTTGGATAGTATTGAGACACAAAACGAACACGGATCGCCAAAAGACGGTGCTGACTTTCATCCTGTTGATGACATTTT TCAACTGCTGTAGGAACAATGACCTGATGAACGTTGATCCCTCCACATTTAAGATTGTGAAAAACAAATTCGTCGGATAC CTGCTGCAGGCTGAGGTCAAACAGACTAAGACACGCAAGTCGAGGAACATTTTCTTCTTCTCCCATCCGCGAGAATCGATT CGATCTGTTCCTGGCCTTGCACGATTTCTTCCGCACATGCCAGCCTACCCCAAAGTCGCGTCTTTCGGATCAAGTATCGG ${\tt AGCAGAAGTGGCAGCTTTTCCGAGATTCCATGGTCATTGATTACAACCGTTTCTTTAGGAAGTTTCCAGCTTCGCCTATT}$ TTCGCAATAAAGCACGGCCCCAAGTCCCATCTGGGCCGGCATCTGATGAACAGCTTTCTGCACAAGAATGAACTGGATTC CTGGGCCAACTCCCTGGGCAACTGGAGCTCCTCCCAGAATCAACGCGAGTCCGGTGCGCGACTGGGCTACACCCACGGTG GGTCTGGAGAAGGACATTAATGATCTGTTTGACGGTATTATGGACCCACTTAATGAGAAGGAGGATACAGAGATTTGTGA AAGCTACGGCGAGTGGGCCCAAAATTGTGAGCAAGGATGTTCTGATATTTCTGAAGCGATATCATTCGAAGAACGCATGCC GGCGATATCAGAACTCCACATTGTACGCACGTACGTTCCTTAAGACAGAGTCCGTCACCTTGAGCGGCTCCAAGGGAAGC GAAGAGCCGAGCAGTCCCGTCAGGATTCCAATACTTAGTATGGGAAAAGCCTCCCCAAGCGAGGGCCCGAAAGTTGCGTGC TGTCCGACTCCGAGGACGAAACAACGGCAAGTAACATTAGCGGAATTTACCTGGACATGTCGAAAGCCAACTCCAACGTG GTCGAAGCGGCGCGCGCGTCCTGGCACCAATTAACCGGGGATCCCATGGCTTCCCTCCAGAGGTGGAGGAGCAAGATGATG GCACTCTCCCCATGAGCTGCGCTCAAGAGAGTGGCATGGATCGTCACCCCGCTGCTTGCGCCTCGGCTCGCATCAACGTG TAATCTAGA

KD Recombinase

TGGAAAGTGATACATTCAACATTAATGCGAAAGAAATACGCAACAAGTTGGCTAGTCTCTTTTCCATTCTTACCATGCAA TCGCTGTCCATCCGTAGGGAAATGAAGATTAACACGTATCGTAGCTACAAGTCCGCAATCGGAAAATCCCTGAGCTTTGA CAAGGATGACAAGATTATCAAATTCACTGTACGGCTGAGGAAGACCGAGAGTCTGCAGAAAGACATTGAAAGCGCACTCC GATGCGTCCATGGTGGGCCTCCAATTTACGAACATTCTCAGCAAGGAGAAAGACATCTGGAAAATCGTTAGCCGAATCGC GTTGCCGTTATAGCGATCTCAAAAATCTGGACCCCCGGACCTTTGAGATTTACAACAATTCCTTCTTGGGACCAATCGTG CGGGCCACGGTTACAGAGACAAAGAGTCGCACAGAGCGATATGTGAACTTTTACCCAGTGAATGGTGATTGCGATCTGTT GATTTCCCTCTACGATTACCTCCGAGTTTGCTCCCCGATCGAGAAGACTGTGTCGAGCAATCGGCCGACAAACCAGACGC ACCAGTTCCTCCCGGAATCCCTTGCGCGGGACCTTCAGCCGCTTCCTGACCCAGCACGTTGACGAGCCAGTCTTCAAGATT TGGAACGGCCCGAAGTCGCACTTCGGTCGGCACCTGATGGCTACCTTCTTGTCGCGCTCCGAAAAGGGAAAGTATGTTTC CTCCCTGGGCAACTGGCCAGGTGACCGCGAAATCCAGAGCGCCGCCGCGCCCCCCACTACTCCGCATGGCTCCCGTTACCG TTGACGACCGGGTCTTTGCATTCATATCGGGATTTTACAAAGAAGCCCCGCTGGGTTCCGAGATTTATGTGTTGAAGGAC GCGACGAGGTCCTGCAATTTATTGCGGAATATAGGCGCAAGCACGAGCTGCGGGAGCCAGCGTACGGTGGTTGCAGGATCC CATGGCTTCCCTCCAGAGGTGGAGGAGCAAGATGATGGCACTCTCCCCATGAGCTGCGCTCAAGAGAGTGGCATGGATCG TCACCCCGCTGCTTGCGCCTCGGCTCGCATCAACGTGTAATCTAGA

B2 Recombinase

CTCGAGAATCAAAATGTCGGAATTTAGTGAGTTGGTACGTATCTTGCCTTTGGATCAGGTTGCGGAGATCAAACGTATTC TGAGCCGTGGCGATCCCATCCCACCCCGCGCCTGGCTTCGCTGCTGACCATGGTGATTTTGACGGTGAACATGTCCAAA ${\tt AAGCGCAAATCGTCCCCTATAAAACTGTCGACCTTCACCAAGTACCGACGCAACGTGGCTAAGTCGTTGTACTACGATAT$ GTCGTCCAAGACAGTGTTCTTTGAGTACCACTTGAAGAACACTCAGGACCTGCAGGAAGGCCTGGAGCAGGCCATCGCTC CGTACAACTTCGTAGTGAAGGTGCATAAGAAACCCCATAGACTGGCAGAAACCAACTTAGTAGCGTCCACGAACGCAAGGCA ${\tt GGCCACCGTTCGATCCTGTCCAATAATGTGGGCGCCGAGATTTCCAAGCTGGCAGAGACCAAAGATAGCACTTGGTCGTT}$ CATCGAACGAACCATGGACCTGATCGAGGCTCGCACCCGTCAGCCCACCCCGGGTTGCATATCGGTTTCTGCTGCAGC TGACGTTCATGAACTTGTCGCCGTGCCAATGACTTGAAGAACGCCCGATCCCAGCACGTTCCAGATCATTGCTGATCCCCAC CTGGGTCGTATCCTCCGCGCCCTTTGTGCCCGAGACAAAGACCAGTATCGAGCGGTTTATCTACTTCTTCCCATGTAAAGG CCGCTGCGATCCACTCCTTGCCTTGGACAGTTACCTGTTGTGGGGGGCCCGGTGCCCAAGACGCAGACCACGGATGAAG AATATCTTCAAGATTCCCAACGGACCGAAGGCTCACCTGGGCCGCCACCTCATGGCCTCGTACCTTGGAAATAATTCGCT TAAGTCGGAGGCTACGCTGTACGGTAACTGGTCGGTGGAACGGCAAGAGGGAGTTTCGAAAATGGCCGACAGCCGATACA TGCACACCGTTAAGAAAAGCCCTCCTTCCTACCTCTTCGCCTTTTTGTCGGGTTATTACAAGAAGAGTAACCAAGGCGAA TACGTGCTTGCAGAAACCCCTCTACAACCCCTTGGATTACGATAAAACACTGCCAATAACTACCAATGAGAAGTTGATCTG TCGCCGGTATGGTAAGAACGCGAAGGTGATCCCCCAAAGATGCCCTGTTGTATCTGTACACCTATGCTCAGCAGAAGCGTA AACAGCTTGCCGATCCGAATGAACAGAATCGCCTGTTTTCGAGCGAATCCCCGGCACACCCCTTCCTGACTCCCCAGTCG ACGGGCAGCTCGACGCCGCTGACCTGGACCGCACCGAAGACGCTTTCCACCGGCCTGATGACACCGGGCGAAGAGGGATC CATGGCTTCCCTCCAGAGGTGGAGGAGCAGATGATGGCACTCTCCCCATGAGCTGCGCTCAAGAGAGTGGCATGGATC GTCACCCCGCTGCTTGCGCCTCGGCTCGCATCAACGTGTAATCTAGA

Fig. S1. The DNA sequences encoding recombinases B3, KD, and B2 are shown. The sequences have been codon optimized for *Drosophila*. The coding sequence of the recombinases are shown in black (the initiating ATG codon is underlined); a 7-bp translation initiation sequence (16), shown in blue, was included immediately upstream of the ORF. A C-terminal PEST sequence comprised of residues 422–461 from the mouse ornithine decarboxylase gene (see main text) was inserted as a C-terminal fusion (shown in red). Restriction enzyme recognition sequences used as linkers are shown in green.

R Recombinase

CTCGAGAATCAAAATGCAGCTTACCAAGGACACTGAGATTTCCACTATAAACCGACAGATGTCCGACTTCTCCGAACTGA GTCAGATTCTCCCCCTGCACCAGATCAGCAAGATTAAGGACATTCTGGAGAACGAGAACCCACTGCCGAAGGAAAAGCTC GCCAGCCACCTGACTATGATTATTCTTATGGCTAACCTGGCATCGCAAAAGCGTAAAGATGTGCCGGTTAAGCGCTCGAC TTAAGGACCCGAGCAAATTGATCAAGGGCCTTGAGGACGTTGTGAGTCCGTACCGTTTTGTCGTGGGTGTGCATGAGAAG ${\tt CAATGACGAGATAACGAAAATCGCGGAGACCCAGGAGACGATCTGGGGATTTGTCGGAAAGACCATGGATCTCATTGAAG$ CGCGGACTACACGGCCAACCACAAAAGCTGCCTACAATCTGCTCCTGCAAGCCACTTTCATGAACTGCTGTCGCGCCGAT GGAGACGAAGACAGGCACCCGCTTTGTGTACTTCTTTCCTTGCAAAGGACGGTGCGATCCGCTGCTGGCTCTGGACAGTT ACCTGCAGTGGACTGATCCCGATCCCTAAAAACACGCACCACGGATGAGGATGCCCGCTATGACTACCAACTGTTGCGTAAC ${\tt TCGTTGCTGGGTAGCTATGATGGTTTCATTAGTAAGCAGTCCGACGAATCGATATTCAAGATTCCCAATGGTCCGAAGGC$ GCACCTGGGTCGCCACGTGACGGCATCCTATTTGAGCAACAATGAGATGGACAAGGAGGCAACATTGTATGGAAACTGGT CGGCAGCCCGCGAAGAAGGTGTCAGCAGGGTCGCTAAAGCGCGCTACATGCATACCATTGAGAAGTCGCCTCCAAGCTAC TGAGCAAGACAAGAATATACCAATGATAAGCGATATAGAGACACTTATGGCACGTTACGGAAAGAATGCAGAAATCATCC CGATGGATGTGCTGGTCTTCTTGAGCTCGTACGCAAGGTTTAAGAACAACGAGGGTAAGGAATATAAGCTGCAAGCTCGG TCGAGCCGCGGAGTGCCAGATTTTCCAGATAACGGACGAACAGCGCTCTATAACGCCCTGACTGCGGCCCATGTTAAGCG CAGGAAAATCTCGATAGTCGTAGGACGTTCCATCGACACCCCGGGATCCCCATGGCTTCCCCTCCAGAGGTGGAGGAGCAAG ATGATGGCACTCTCCCCATGAGCTGCGCTCAAGAGAGTGGCATGGATCGTCACCCCGCTGCTTGCGCCTCGGCTCGCATC AACGTGTAATCTAGA

FLP Recombinase

 $\tt CTCGAGAATCAAAA\underline{ATG}CCGCAGTTTGATATCCTCTGCAAGACCCCACCAAAGGTGTTGGTGCGTCAATTCGTGGAGCGAT$ TTGAGAGGCCGTCGGGTGAGAAGATCGCCCTGTGCGCTGCCGAGTTGACCTATTTGTGTTGGATGATCACTCATAATGGC ACCGCGATTAAGCGCGCTACCTTTATGAGCTATAACACTATCATTAGCAATTCCCTGTCCTTTGACATAGTAAACAAGTC CCTGCAGTTTAAATACAAGACTCAGAAGGCCACTATATTGGAGGCTTCGCTGAAAAAGTTGATCCCCGGCATGGGAGTTCA CGATCATCCCATACTACGGTCAGAAAACACCAGAGCGATATTACCGATATTGTAAGCAGCCTCCAGCTGCAGTTTGAGTCC AGCGAAGAGGCTGATAAGGGTAATAGTCACAGCAAAAAGATGCTGAAGGCACTGCTGTCCGAGGGCGAAAGCATCTGGGA ${\tt GATTACTGAGAAAATCCTGAACTCGTTTGAGTACACCAGCCGATTCACCAAGACGAAGACCCTGTACCAGTTCCTCTTTT$ TGGCAACCTTCATCAATTGTGGTCGCTTCAGTGACATCAAAAACGTGGACCCTAAATCGTTCAAGCTGGTGCAGAATAAG GGGTCGCATCGATCCGCTGGTATACTTGGATGAGTTCCTTCGGAATAGTGAACCAGTCTTGAAGCGCGTGAACAGGACGG GCAATTCCAGTAGCAACAAGCAAGAGTACCAGCTGCTGAAGGATAATCTTGTTCGGTCGTACAACAAAGCCTTGAAGAAA ACACCCACCAGATCACGGCCATACCAGATCACTATTTCGCGCTGGTGTCGCGTTATTATGCCTATGATCCCATCAGCAAG GAGATGATCGCGCTGAAGGACGAAACCAATCCAATCGAGGAGTGGCAGCATATCGAGGAACTTAAGGGAAGCGCTGAGGG TAGCATCCGTTACCCCGCCTGGAACGGCATCATCAGCCAGGAGGTTCTGGATTACCTGAGCTCCTACATCAATCGCCGTA TTGGATCCCATGGCTTCCCTCCAGAGGTGGAGGAGCAAGATGATGGCACTCTCCCCATGAGCTGCGCTCAAGAGAGTGGC ATGGATCGTCACCCCGCTGCTTGCGCCTCGGCTCGCATCAACGTGTAATCTAGA

Fig. S2. The DNA sequences encoding recombinases R and FLP are shown. The FLP sequence encodes an aspartic acid residue at position 5 (D5). The sequences have been codon optimized for *Drosophila*. Color coding is as in Fig. S1.

A: Blown-OUT stop cassette

GTGTCGACTAAAGCCAAATAGAAAATTATTCAGTTCCTGGCTTAAGTTTTTAAAAGTGAT ATTATTTATTTGGTTGTAACCAACCAACGAATGTAAATAACTAATACATAATTATGTTA TTTAGGTTTGTCCTCCCGAAATTATTTATTTAAATGCGATGGAGAGTTGGCGCCGAATCG AAAACTTTACGCGCTTAAAAGCACGAGCTTGGCATCCCTAACGCGTAGGATCTTTGTGAAG GTATTTTAGATTCCAACCTATGGAACTGATGAATGGGAGCAGTGGTGGAATGCCTTTAAT GAGGAAAACCTGTTTTGCTCAGAAGAAATGCCATCTAGTGATGATGAGGCTACTGCTGAC TCTCAACATTCTACTCCTCCAAAAAAGAAGAGAAAGGTAGAAGACCCCCAAGGACTTTCCT GCTATTTACACCACAAAGGAAAAAGCTGCACTGCTATACAAGAAAATTATGGAAAAATAT TTGATGTATAGTGCCTTGACTAGAGATCATAATCAGCCATACCACATTTGTAGAGGTTTT TGTTGTTGTTAACTTGTTTATTGCAGCTTATAATGGTTACAAATAAAGCAATAGCATCAC $\texttt{AAATTTCACAAATAAAGCATTTTTTTCACTGCATTCTAGTTG} \underline{\texttt{TGGTTTGTCCAAACTCAT}}$ CAATGTATCTTATCATGTCTGGATCACTAGTGATCTGGCCGGGGTTGCTTAAGAATAAGT AATTCTTAAGCAACCCTCGAG

B: KD recombination site used in the Kicked-OUT stop cassette AAACGATATCAGACATTTGTCTGATAATGCTTCATTATCAGACAAATGTCTGATATCGTTT

C: B2 recombination site used in the Baild-OUT stop cassette GAGTTTCATTAAGGAATAACTAATTCCCTAATGAAACTC

D: RS recombination site used in the Rpd-OUT stop cassette $\ensuremath{\mathsf{TTGATGAAAGAATAACGTATTCTTTCATCAA}$

E: FRT recombination site used in the Flpd-OUT stop cassette GAAGTTCCTATACTTTCTAGAGAATAGGAACTTC

Fig. S3. Stop cassettes. (A) The sequence of the Blown-OUT stop cassette is shown. The stop cassettes used for each recombinase differed only by the sequence of the recombinase target site, shown here for B3 in the green boxes, that flank the transcriptional terminators. Note that recombination sites for B3 and the other recombinases are themselves inverted repeats separated by a spacer that determines the directionality of the recombination reaction. The same tandem transcriptional terminators, which are derived for the *Drosophila* Hsp70Bb gene (ref. 3; shown in blue) and the early SV40 transcription unit (refs. 17 and 18; shown in red) were used in all stop cassettes. The sequence of the target sites used for the other recombinases are shown in *B–E*; references for these target site sequences can be found in the main text.

S A