

## Supplemental Material

### Identification of a novel matrix protein that promotes biofilm maturation in *Vibrio fischeri*

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**Fig. S1A**

BmpA MYQFFK**I**TMLI**LL**LV**SS**SKV-----FA**V**AFD**S**CP**S**KAYLFQ**G**KPV**S**--V**Y**GIN**L**VT**G**T**N**SL 53  
BmpB **M**K**S**K**H**S**I**SY**L**AT**L**SIALGVSTQL**Q**AA**V**PF**E**SC**P**S**Q**AF**M**L**Q**N**P**SG**T**PI**A**Y**G**I**S**L**D**V**G**SY**S**T 60  
BmpC **M**K**Y**Q**L**I**P**I**I**ALATAS**I**PI**H**-----**A**T**I**V**D**L**D** 27  
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BmpA L**Q**DD**T**G**L**SS**N**ING**V**GF**N**ET**D**RY**I**Y**G**FD**T**T**N**Y**N**V**V**RL**G**Q**N**F**Q**AT**T**L**N**V**N**GL**P**S-D**K**T**F**Y**V**G 112  
BmpB **L**S**E**V**G**-**S**G**K**IN**A**V**G**Y**S**V**H**DD**F**I**Y**G**W**D**Y**G**A**Q**S**L**T**K**I**G**S**D**F**I**S**N**P**L**S**V**S**N**L**N**I**G**P**T**S**F**Y**V**G** 119  
BmpC **F**S**N**H**I**ED**T**N**L**N**S**F**G**P**S**Y**D**G**P**V**M**H**F**L**N**V**G**V**H**N**G**K**T**I**D**A**K**I**S**S**R**I**I**G**D**A**T**F**L**Y**H**T**P**N**Y**K**E**G 87  
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BmpA **D**V**Y**D**H**H--**Y**V**Y**R**S**G**T**G-----**L**Y**K**I**D**L**S**P**L**D**S**N**V**N**S**T**L**T**A**Q**L**I**T**S**T**A**S**V**S**L**T**D**F**A**F**H**P**S 165  
BmpB **D**V**S**T**N**E**S**A**W**Y**G**Y**R**I**N**G-----**L**F**K**I**D**I**D**T**L**T**M**S**Q**V**A**T**S**-----**T**T**I**G**K**L**R**I**L**D**M**A**F**H**P**D 169  
BmpC **S**T**Q**P**S**G**D**I**G**F**L**Y**Q**T**N**S**P**G**P**A**G**L**I**Y**T**F**E**F**F**D**G**T**D**G**L**S**G**T**F**S**I**P**Y**T**I**P**E**F**E**M**I**G**Y**D**I**D**E**G**P**V 147  
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BmpA **N**S**R**L**Y**G**V**D**N**G**S**G**G**L**Y**E**F**D**I**N**T**G**A**T**Y**I**G**-----**D**T**G**E**L**G**T**F**G**A**M**Y**F**D**V**D**G**Y**L**Y**L**S**R**N**Q**D 219  
BmpB **D**G**I**I**Y**S**V**D**N**-**Y**G**Y**L**Y**Q**I**D**P**T**T**G**A**S**T**Q**L**N**Q**V**I**S**S**S**G**V**G**H**S**L**S**F**G**A**Q**Y**F**D**V**D**G**T**L**Y**L**S**N**N**G**N 228  
BmpC **Q**S**E**Q**V**R**V**Y**K**N**E**G**F**F**S**Y**Q**T**G**S**A**G**A**S**L**T**A**E**E**S**P**D**G**L**S**V**L**F**T**G**P**G**T**N**Y**N**E**T**D**T**S**G**A**V**K**F**T**Y**K**N 207  
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BmpA **G**Q**I**Y**R**V**N**L**S**T**Q**A**I**I**D**S**G**V**V**P**A**I**K**F**A**D**G**P**Y**S**N**Q**N**D**G**A**R**C**A**N**A**P**L**I**D**T**D**E**P**A**T**I**D**F**G**D**A**P**D**T 279  
BmpB **G**Y**I**Y**A**V**D**I**N**G---**M**N**S**---**S**S**E**F**F**A**Y**G**P**S**S**N**S**N**D**G**A**R**C**A**F**A**A**V**G**Q**N**D**N**---**S**D**Y**G**D**A**P**D**S** 279  
BmpC **T**S**I**V**T**L**Q**F**E**T**V**T**A**S**N**S**P**L**P**N**P**I**F**S**A**F**D**G**N**W**D**L**D**----**F**T**P**I**G**S**S**D**E**---**S**D**F**G**D**A**P**D**S** 260  
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BmpA **N**Y**G**T**T**L**A**A**N**G**A**R**H**E**M**D**G**V**T**W**L**G**A**S**V**D**G**D**Y**Y--**A**A**Q**S**P**D**S**D**D**S--**I**T**S**D**E**D**E**D**G**V**G**F**V**T**A**I**E**P 336  
BmpB --**Y**G**T**L**Y**D**S**M**G**A**R**H**G**V**S**D**L**R--**L**G**D**V**V**D**G**E**S**D--**A**Y**V**Y**P**L**S**D**D**A**S**D**S****S**N**D**D**D**G**I**S**F**P**V**P**I**E**I** 335  
BmpC --**Y**N**T**L**K**S**N**D**G**A**E**H**A**M**T**S**T**L**Y**L**G**S**V**D**A**D**T**D**G**Q**P**G**I**A**S**N**G**D**D**L**D**V**D**G**N**D**D**D**G**I**T**I**L**T**S**L**E**K 319  
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BmpA **G**L**D**S**V**I**T**V**N**A**S**---**T**T**G**Y**L**S**A**W**F**D**W**N**D**D**G**D**F**S**D**D**G**E**Q**V**I**T**D**K**T**L**V**A**G**S**N**N**L**V**I**S**V**P**F**G**A**T 393  
BmpB **Q**E**T**S**F**I**Y**A**N**V**N**G**A**E**G**E**G**V**L**S**A**W**I**D**W**D**Q**D**G**Q**F**N**D**--**E**I**I**L**N**S**E**W**V**D**D**G**Q**N**Q**L**Y**F**N**V**P**S**W**A**L** 394  
BmpC **G**L**D**A**L**I**N**V**N**A**S**---**G**S**G**Y**L**Q**A**W**A**D**W**D**M**N**G**S**F**D**E**G--**E**Q**I**L**T**N**H**P**I**V**S**G**V**Q**I**V**P**I**R**V**S**D**A**T 375  
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BmpA **V**G**E**T**S**R**F**R**F**S**Q**Q**T**G**L**A**Y**Y**G**G**S**T**S**G**E**V**E**D**H**V**V**T**I**V**D**A**N**T**S**Q**R**H**F**P**S**A**D**G**V**T**I**A**Y**E**D**N**W**P 453  
BmpB **A**G**T**T**W**A**R**F**R**L**S**R**T**Y**D**L**G**P**N**G**G**V**S**M**G**E**V**E**D**Y**Q**V**T**V**T**D**Q**G**V**S**V**E**L**Y**P**S**G**A**A**Y**T**F**A**Y**E**D**Q**Y**P** 454  
BmpC **I**G**S**V**Q**T**R**F**R**L**S**N**P**N**I**P**S**S**G**Y**V**D**G**E**V**E**D**Y**V**F**D**V**T**D**P**G**T**T**I**Q**H**S---**G**Y**Y**T**A**F**E**D**N**W**P** 431  
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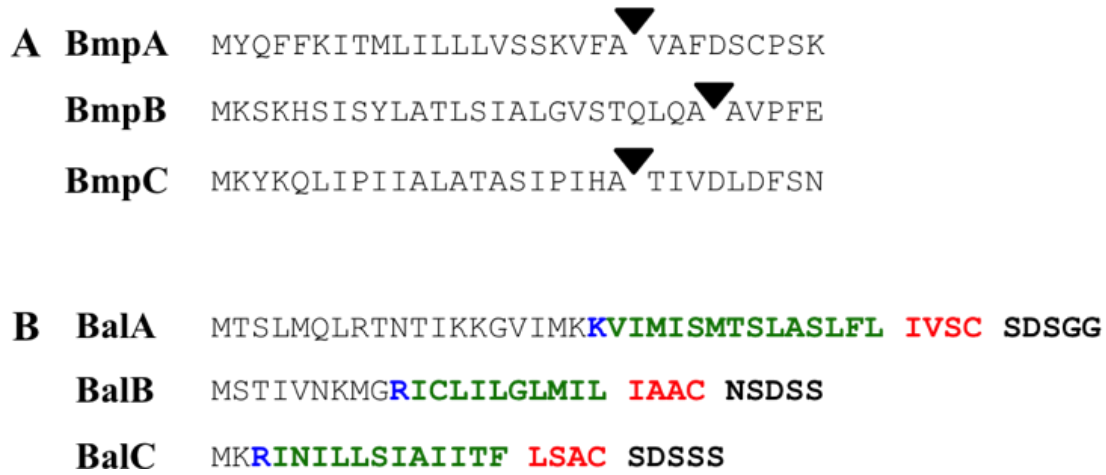
BmpA **E**T**A**D**Y**D**M**N**D**M**V**L**R**Y**R**I**T**E**T**L**K**D**G**D**V**A**K**V**S**I**S**G**Q**L**V**A**V**G**A**S**Y**H**S**G**F**A**V**R**L**A**G**I**D**A**T**N**I**D**S**D 513  
BmpB **K**V**G**D**Y**D**M**N**D**V**L**M**N**V**K**Y**T**E**Y**S**H**S**N**K**V**I**Q**L**R**I**D**G**Q**V**A**L**G**G**T**Y**R**S**G**F**A**I**R**L**P**G**I**S**P**S**K**I**K**S**A** 514  
BmpC **E**I**G**D**F**D**L**N**D**V**V**A**Y**Y**R**T**T**I**V**S**K**D**G**E**V**L**R**F**D**I**T**G**T**I**M**A**Y**G**A**S**Y**G**N**G**L**G**W**K**L**N**G**F**S**E**S**D**I**N**L**S 491  
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BmpA **K**T**R**L**Y**Y**N**S**A**L**Q**D**G**N**A**Q**E**S**G**M**T**E**A**S**F**I**V**I**N**D**A**I**E**V**S**Y**N**-----**C**Y**F**F**R**T**L**D**D**C**R**E 563  
BmpB **S**V**K**L**I**I**D**G**E**L**Q**N**T**E**V**V**E**S**G**T**T**D**A**V**L**I**V**H**E**D**L**W**S**F**T**E**S**G**E**-----**E**E**G**C**Y**M**F**R**T**Q**L**G**C**G**T** 568  
BmpC **L**A**R**L**E**K**N**G**V**T**R**A**N**I**S**P**F**T**G**E**D**K**S**I**A**S**P**G**D**L**V**V**V**A**S**L**N**L**R**E**D**I**I**N**E**E**C**K**F**H**R**T**N**P**S**C**S**A 551  
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BmpA **D**V**G**---**V**E**F**E**L**N**F**S**L**I**T**---**P**V**T**T**G**S**M**P**A**M**P**Y**D**P**F**L**Y**A**T**-**P**G**F**Y**H**G**P**S---**F**A**Q**A**P**G**R**S 612  
BmpB **Q**H**R**---**P**S**W**T**L**I**I**P**F**E**Q**---**P**I**S**Q**S**Q**M**P**D**F**P**Y**D**P**F**I**F**A**T**-**P**G**Y**Y**H**G**N**D**G**L**L**V**S**G**G**H**P**G**R**G 621  
BmpC **S**L**E**S**E**Q**M**T**F**S**I**S**L**P**F**N**D**G**S**E**P**S**V**S**L**L**P**L**N**G**A**D**P**F**I**F**A**G**Y**G**L**Y**H**G**S**----**F**S**T**A**P**G**T**D 607  
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Fig. S2



**Figure S2. Putative signal sequences of the Bmp and Bal proteins.** (A) Signal sequence prediction program SignalP (4) predicts the presence of a signal sequence at the N-termini of BmpA, BmpB, and BmpC. The inverted triangle indicates the predicted site of cleavage. (B) The Database of Bacterial Lipoproteins (DOLOP) (5) predicts that the Bal proteins are lipoproteins based on the presence of the following sequences: a charged residue (blue), followed by a hydrophobic stretch of amino acids (green), and a lipobox sequence ending in an cysteine residue (red); bold black sequences after the invariant cysteine do not appear to contain an inner membrane retention signal (6).

Fig. S3A

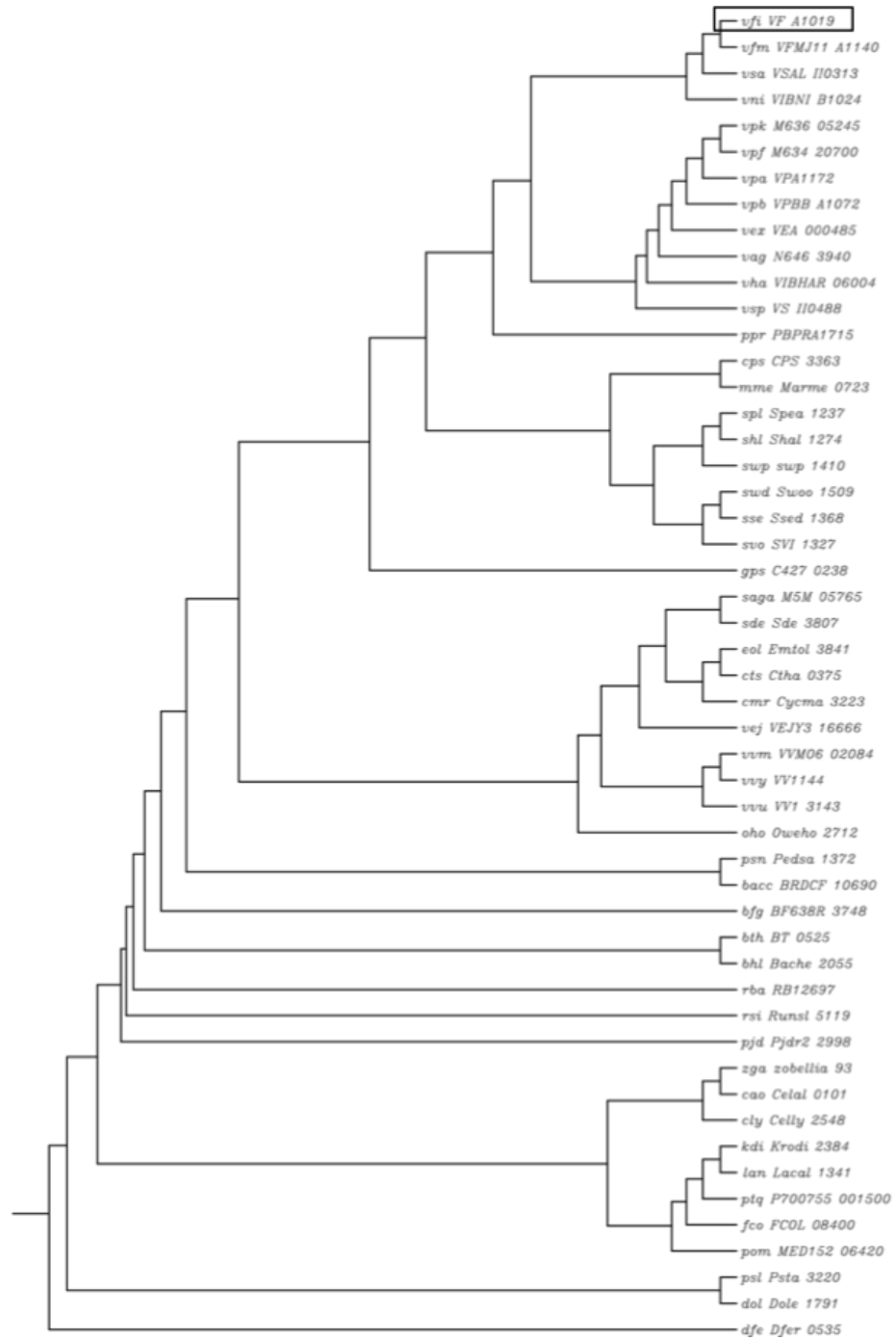
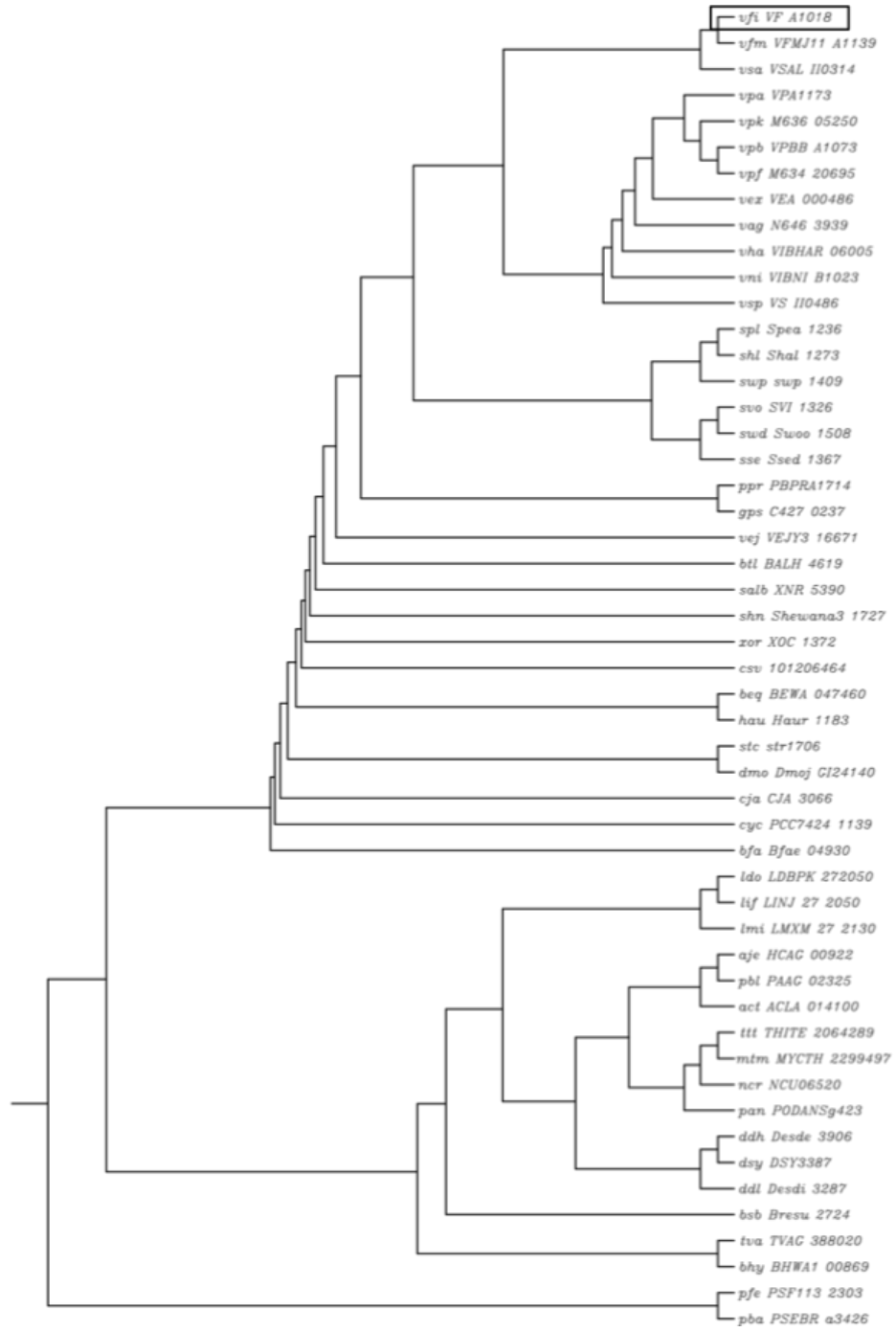
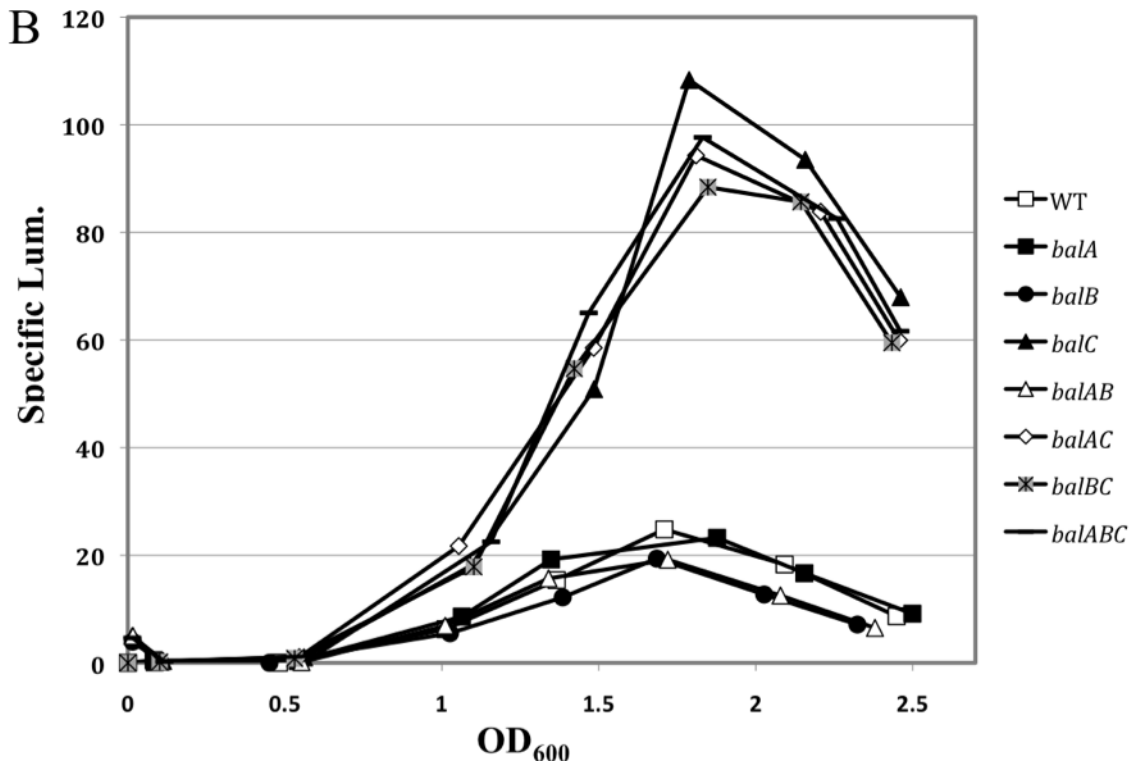
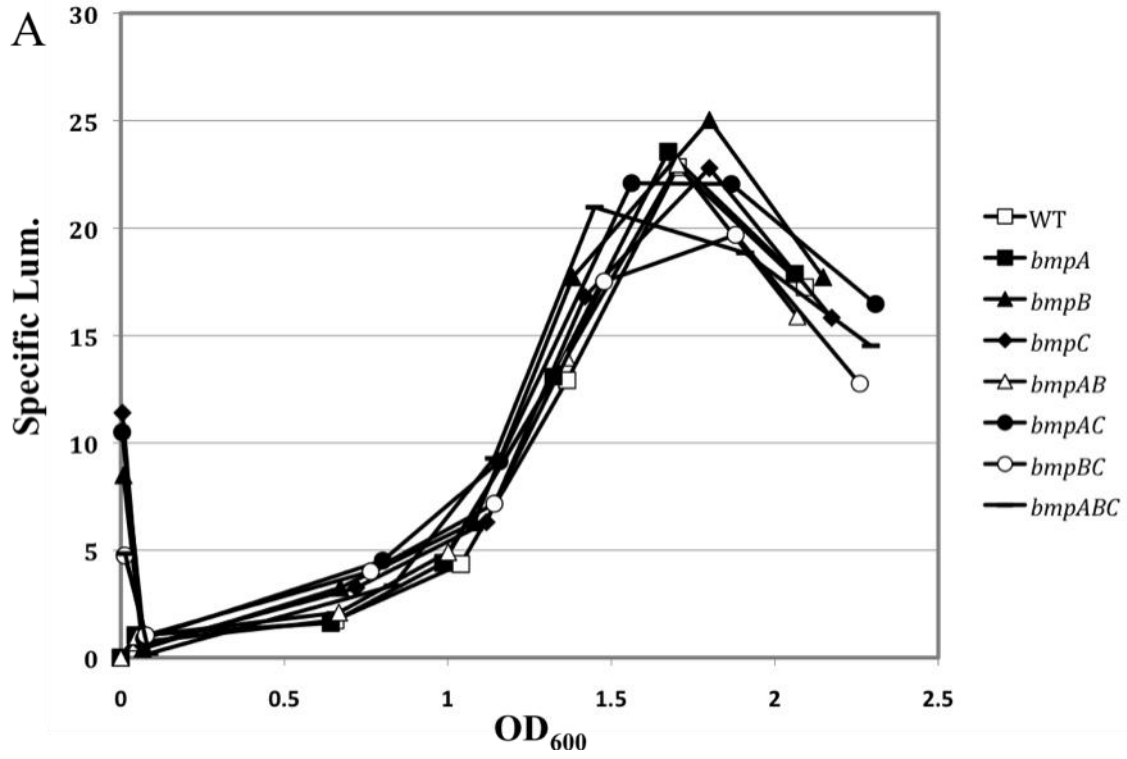


Fig. S3B



**Figure S3. Conservation of Bmp and Bal in other bacteria.** Conservation of the (A) Bmp protein and (B) the Bal protein in other bacteria. Sequences of BmpA and BalA, respectively, were submitted to KEGG (7, 8) for comparison with other proteins. The indicated trees were generated with a subset of the conserved proteins with the *V. fischeri* protein boxed for reference in each tree.

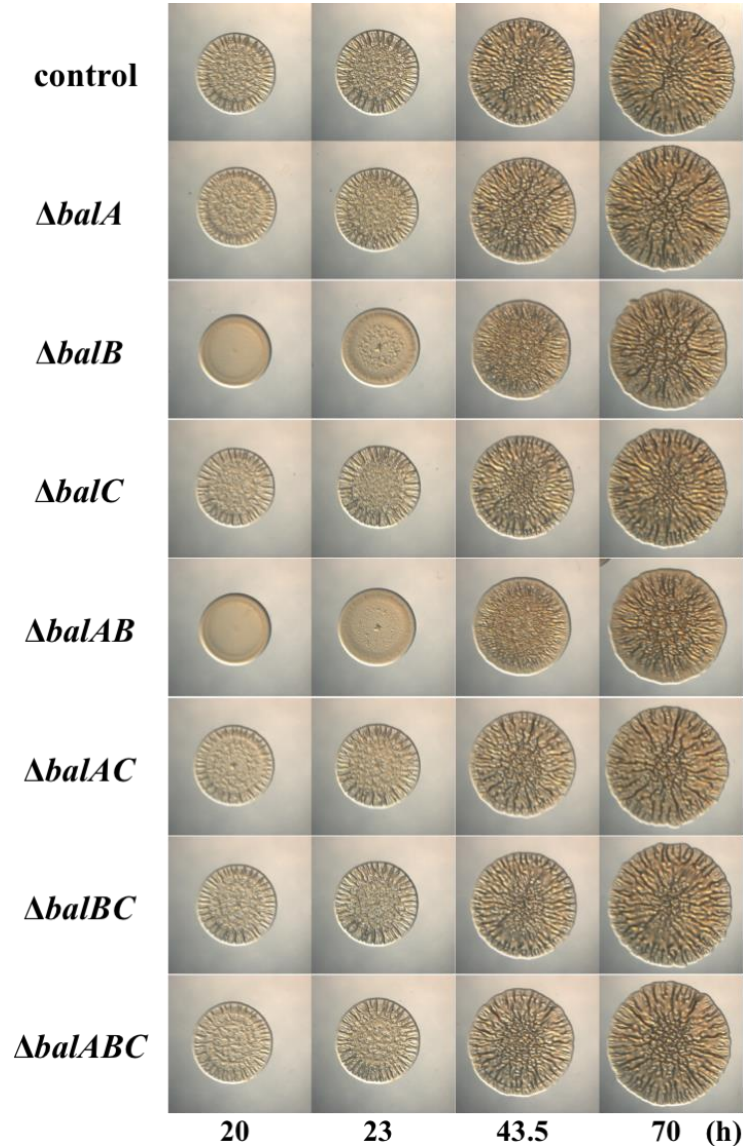
Fig. S4





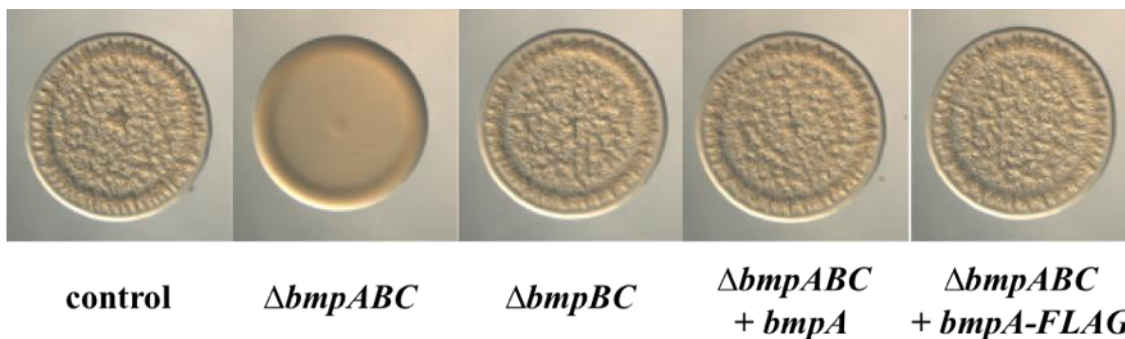
**Figure S4. Luminescence of the *bmp* and *bal* mutants.** The impact of *bmp* and *bal* mutations on bioluminescence was assessed by growing single, double, and triple *bmp* mutants and the wild-type control in SWTO, monitoring luminescence over time, and calculating specific luminescence as described in Materials and Methods. (A) The strains assessed are as follows: wild-type (ES114),  $\Delta bmpA$  (KV6886),  $\Delta bmpB$  (KV6638),  $\Delta bmpC$  (KV6787),  $\Delta bmpAB$  (KV7078),  $\Delta bmpAC$  (KV7079),  $\Delta bmpBC$  (KV6712), and  $\Delta bmpABC$  (KV6897). (B) The strains assessed are as follows: wild-type (ES114),  $\Delta balA$  (KV6890),  $\Delta balB$  (KV6924),  $\Delta balC$  (KV6923),  $\Delta balAB$  (KV7080),  $\Delta balAC$  (KV7081),  $\Delta balBC$  (KV7369), and  $\Delta balABC$  (KV7128). These data are representative of at least two independent experiments.

**Fig. S5**



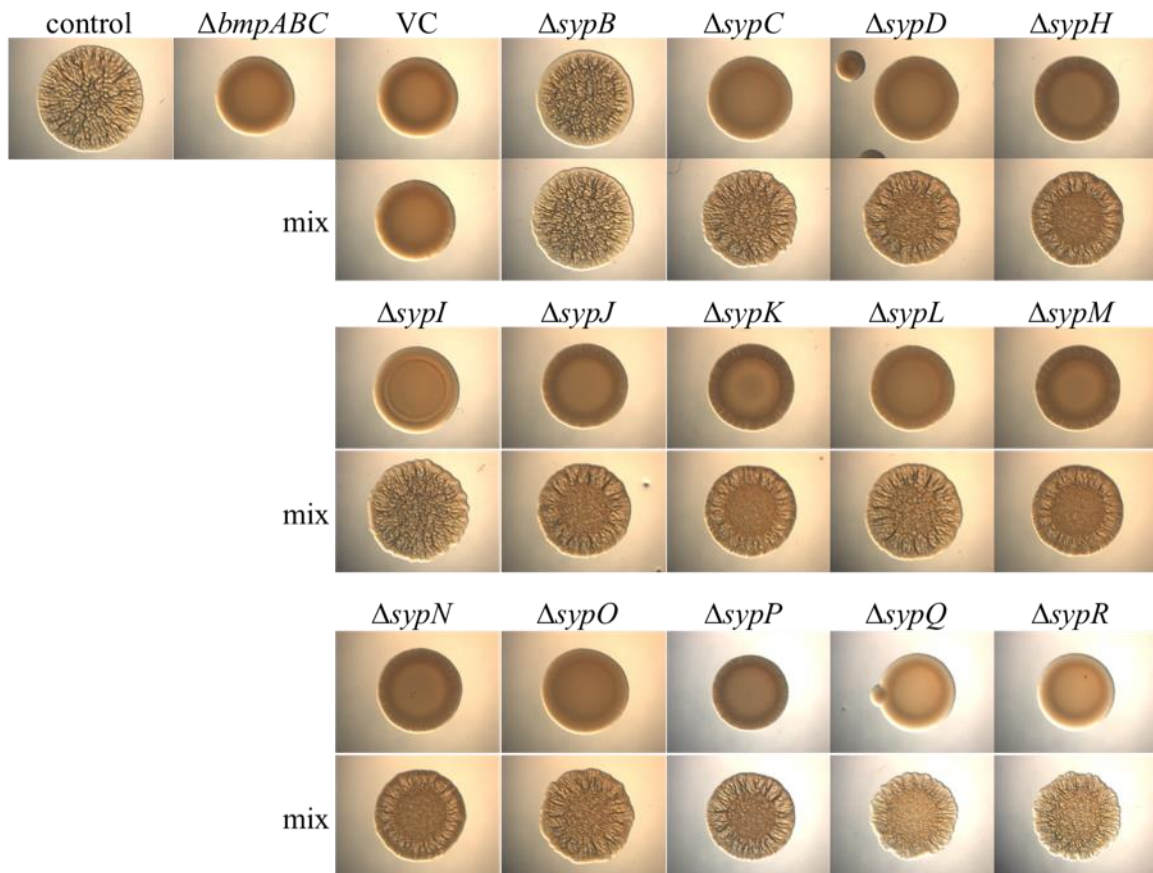
**Figure S5. Impact of *bal* mutations on biofilm formation.** To assess the impact of *bal* on biofilm formation, we spotted cultures of various *bal* mutants onto LBS medium containing Tc and incubated them at room temperature. All strains overexpressed *rscS*. Images were collected up to 70 h for the following strains: wild-type control (ES114),  $\Delta balA$  (KV6890),  $\Delta balB$  (KV6924),  $\Delta balC$  (KV6923),  $\Delta balAB$  (KV7080),  $\Delta balAC$  (KV7081),  $\Delta balBC$  (KV7369), and  $\Delta balABC$  (KV7128). The images are representative of at least two independent experiments.

**Fig. S6**



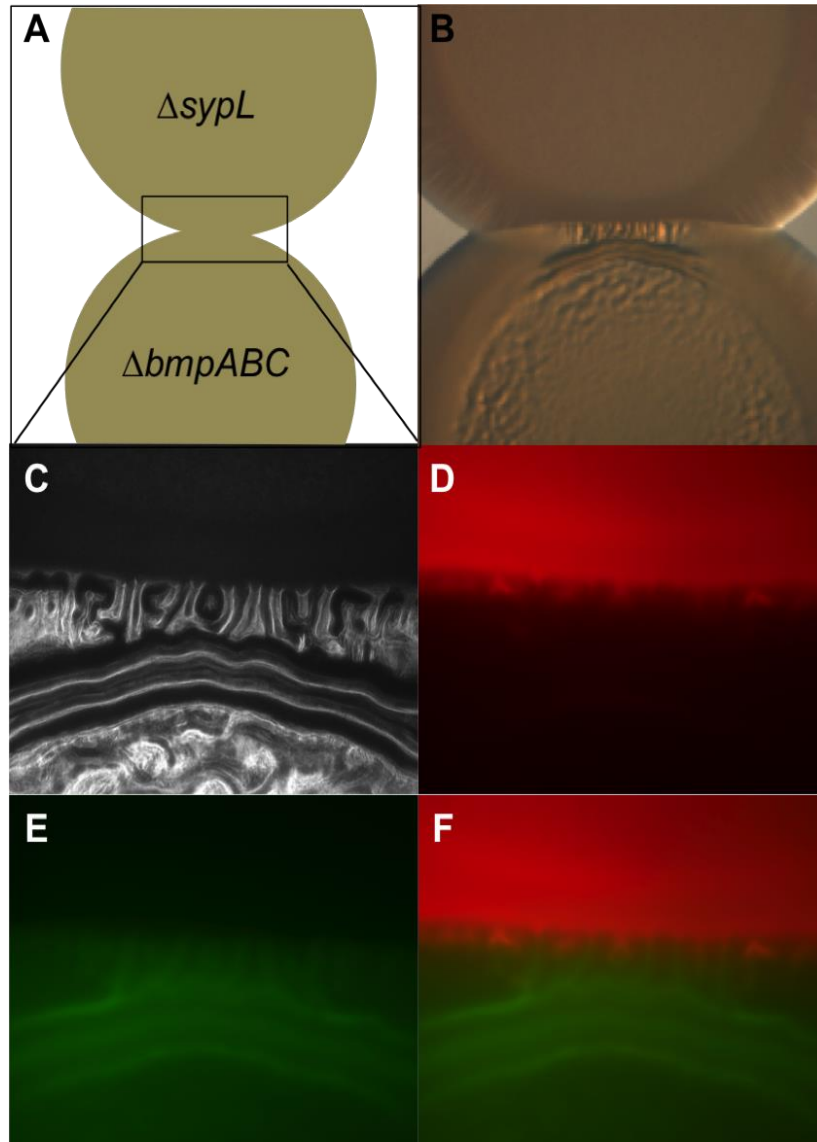
**Figure S6. The biofilm defect of the *bmp* mutant can be complemented by *bmpA*.** The ability of the *bmpA-balA* operon or *bmpA-FLAG* to complement the triple *bmp* mutant was assessed via wrinkled colony formation. In the experiment shown, cultures were spotted onto LBS medium containing Tc and incubated at room temperature for 22 h. The strains assessed were pKG11-containing derivatives of: wild-type (control; ES114),  $\Delta bmpABC$  (KV6897),  $\Delta bmpBC$  (KV6712),  $\Delta bmpABC$  *attTn7::bmpA-balA* (KV7062), and  $\Delta bmpABC$  *attTn7::bmpA-FLAG* (KV7274). The images are representative of at least two independent experiments.

**Fig. S7**



**Figure S7. A mixture of biofilm-defective *bmp* and *syp* strains permits wrinkled colony formation.** We assessed the ability of each of the biofilm-defective *syp* mutants to complement the *bmp* mutant for wrinkled colony formation by spotting, onto LBS medium containing Tc, a mixture of the pKG11-containing  $\Delta bmpABC$  mutant with each of the following pKG11-containing *syp* mutant strains:  $\Delta sypB$  (KV5145),  $\Delta sypC$  (KV5192),  $\Delta sypD$  (KV5067),  $\Delta sypH$  (KV5193),  $\Delta sypI$  (KV5068),  $\Delta sypJ$  (KV5664),  $\Delta sypK$  (KV5097),  $\Delta sypL$  (KV5069),  $\Delta sypM$  (KV5194),  $\Delta sypN$  (KV5098),  $\Delta sypO$  (KV5146),  $\Delta sypP$  (KV5044),  $\Delta sypQ$  (KV5099), and  $\Delta sypR$  (KV5195). As controls, we spotted each strain separately as well as the biofilm-proficient pKG11-containing wild-type strain ES114. In the experiment shown, cultures were spotted onto plates and incubated at room temperature for 48 h.

**Fig. S8**



**Figure S8. Evaluation of the interface of touching spots using epifluorescence.** To further examine the interface of touching spots, we utilized epifluorescence microscopy and the pARM7-containing  $\Delta sypL$  (KV5069) and  $\Delta bmpABC$  (KV6897) strains also harboring either constitutively expressed RFP (pVSV208) or GFP (pESY37) plasmid, respectively. Cultures were spotted onto plates and incubated at room temperature for 43 h. (A) A diagrammatic representation of the experiment and (B) the touching spots used to collect the epifluorescence data. (C) A DIC image of the interface, (D) the RFP channel only, (E) the GFP channel only, and (F) a merge of the RFP and GFP channels. Some mixing of the two strains is observed at the interface (F), but there does not appear to be a massive invasion. Images are representative of 2 independent experiments. Magnification for images (C-F) is at 40x.

**Table S1. Strains used in the supplemental material.**

Strains	Genotype	Reference
KV3299	$\Delta sypE$	(9)
KV4715	$\Delta sypA$	(10)
KV5044	$\Delta sypP$	(11)
KV5067	$\Delta sypD$	(11)
KV5068	$\Delta sypI$	(11)
KV5069	$\Delta sypL$	(11)
KV5097	$\Delta sypK$	(12)
KV5098	$\Delta sypN$	(11)
KV5099	$\Delta sypQ$	(11)
KV5145	$\Delta sypB$	(11)
KV5146	$\Delta sypO$	(11)
KV5192	$\Delta sypC$	(11)
KV5193	$\Delta sypH$	(11)
KV5194	$\Delta sypM$	(11)
KV5195	$\Delta sypR$	(11)
KV5664	$\Delta sypJ$	(11)
KV6890	$\Delta balA$	This study
KV6923	$\Delta balC$	This study
KV6924	$\Delta balB$	This study
KV7080	$\Delta balA \Delta balB$	This study
KV7081	$\Delta balA \Delta balC$	This study
KV7128	$\Delta balA \Delta balB \Delta balC$	This study
KV7369	$\Delta balB \Delta balC$	This study

**Table S2. Plasmids used in this study.**

Plasmid	Description	Relevant Primers <sup>1</sup>	Reference
pARM7	EcoRI partial digest of pKG11 ( <i>rscS</i> ); tetR	N/A	(13)
pEAH73	pKV69 carrying wild-type <i>sypG</i> ; Cm <sup>R</sup> Tc <sup>R</sup>	N/A	(9)
pEAH121	pEVS107 + P <i>sypI</i> - <i>lacZ</i> EmR (FL + SE-I)	N/A	(14)
pESY37	pVSV105 (KpnI) + 1.3 bp BamHI/XmnI fragment from pKV111 containing <i>gfp</i> ; Cm <sup>R</sup>	N/A	(15)
pEVS104	Conjugal helper plasmid ( <i>tra trb</i> ); Kn <sup>R</sup>	N/A	(16)
pEVS107	Mini-Tn7 delivery plasmid; <i>oriR6K</i> , <i>mob</i> ; Kn <sup>R</sup> , Em <sup>R</sup>	N/A	(17)
pKG11	pKV69 carrying <i>rscS1</i> allele; Cm <sup>R</sup> Tc <sup>R</sup>	N/A	(15)
pKV69	Cm <sup>R</sup> , Tc <sup>R</sup> , <i>mob</i> , <i>oriT</i>	N/A	(18)
pKV363	Cm <sup>R</sup> , <i>oriT</i> , <i>oriR6K</i> , <i>ccdB</i>	N/A	(11)
pKV485	pKV363 containing 1.2 kb sequencing flanking <i>bmpB</i>	1536, 1537, 1538, 1539	This study
pKV486	pKV363 containing 1.2 kb sequencing flanking <i>bmpC</i>	1540, 1541, 1542, 1543	Thus study

pVAR77	pKV363 containing 1.2 kb sequencing flanking <i>bmpA</i>	1532, 1533, 1675, 1535	This study
pVAR78	pKV363 containing 850 bp sequencing flanking <i>balA</i>	1659, 1676, 1661, 1662	This study
pVAR80	pKV363 containing 1.2 kb sequencing flanking <i>balC</i>	1665, 1666, 1667, 1668	This study
pVAR81	pKV363 containing 1.2 kb sequencing flanking <i>balB</i>	1669, 1670, 1671, 1672	This study
pVAR88	pEVS107 containing ~2.8 kb fragment with the native <i>bmpA</i> promoter and <i>bmpA</i> and <i>balA</i>	1754, 1755	This study
pVAR94	pEVS107 containing ~2.5 kb fragment with <i>bmpA</i> with a C-terminal FLAG-tag	1754, 1644, 1830	This study
pVAR95	pEVS107 containing ~2.5 kb fragment with <i>bmpA</i>	1754, 1833	This study
pVAR96	pEVS107 containing ~3.3 kb fragment with the native <i>bmpA</i> promoter fused to <i>lacZ</i>	1754, 1821, 1824, 1827	This study
pVAR97	pEVS107 containing ~3.3 kb fragment with the native <i>bmpC</i> promoter fused to <i>lacZ</i>	1758, 1823, 1826, 1827	This study
pVSV105	Mobilizable vector, Cm <sup>R</sup>	N/A	(19)
pVSV208	Cm <sup>R</sup> , <i>rfp</i>	N/A	(19)

<sup>1</sup>Relevant primers for plasmids generated in this study; N/A, not applicable.

**Table S3. Primers used in this study.**

Number	Primer <sup>1</sup>
1532	AAGGCTACGTGTGATAAATCG
1533	taggcggccgcacttagtatgTGAGCTGACTAATAAAAAGTATTAG
1535	CCATCTCACGAATCTAACTCTTC
1536	TCACGTTGCCACCTAGTGC
1537	taggcggccgcacttagtatgCGTTGCAAGATAGGATATTGAGTG
1538	catactaagtgcggccgcctaGGCAAGGCTTATACAGATTAAGGAG
1539	CGTGGCAACTTCTGTGTGG
1540	CGATTATGGCTCGGAAGCC
1541	taggcggccgcacttagtatgCGCAGTAGCGAGGGCAATAATCGG
1542	catactaagtgcggccgcctaAATACTTGGTCAACAGCTGACTAAC
1543	GAGCTCCTTGTATTGCTTGG
1644	ggtaccttatttatcatcatcatctttataatcATAGTATTTGTTTCGCAATTGCATTAG
1659	GATTGTCGAGAAGATGTCGG
1661	catactaagtgcggccgcctaGAATGGTATTAACTTAAAATAATAC
1662	GCCGAATTATCCGTTACAATTG
1665	GCATCACTTGAATCAGAGCAG
1666	taggcggccgcacttagtatgGATACTTAGTAATATATTAATTCG
1667	catactaagtgcggccgcctaGCCACTTTATAAACATCATTAAGC
1668	CCCAGTTGGACGTACACGC
1669	GGTTGTGGTACTCAACATCG
1670	taggcggccgcacttagtatgACAAATGCGACCCATTTTATTTAC

1671	cataactaagtgcggccgcctaATTAATTAAAGAGACAAAAATGCC
1672	GAGATCGGTGTTGATGGGATC
1675	cataactaagtgcggccgcctaGCAGACTATACGACGTCAGGCGGT
1676	taggcccgcgcacttagtatgCATAATAACTTTTTTCATAATAAC
1754	gatctactagtgccaggtaccCGATGATATATTCTCAATTTGCAAT
1755	ccagtctagttctagagggcccCTCACATGTATTATTTTAAGTTA
1758	gatctactagtgccaggtaccGTAAAATTTATATTCTCATATTGATTC
1798	gccttgcgataaatatttgcccatggAAGTCGATTCTCATTCTGCAA
1799	gccttgcgataaatatttgcccatggCTGCATTGCAAATTGAGAATATA
1800	gattacgccaagcttgcatgcCTGCAGGAATTCGAGCTCGGTACC
1821	tcctgtgtgaTGAGCTGACTAATAAAAAGTATTAG
1823	tcctgtgtgaCGCAGTAGCGAGGGCAATAATCGG
1824	agtcagctcaTCACACAGGAAACAGCTATGAC
1826	cgctactgcgTCACACAGGAAACAGCTATGAC
1827	ccagtctagttctagagggcccGTACATAATGGATTTCTTACGC
1827	ccagtctagttctagagggcccGTACATAATGGATTTCTTACGC
1830	ccagtctagttctagagggcccTTATTTATCATCATCATC
1833	ccagtctagttctagagggcccCTTTTTAATAGTATTTGTTCGCAAT

<sup>1</sup>Non-native sequences are indicated with lower-case letters

## Supplemental Methods

**Luminescence assays.** *V. fischeri* cultures were grown in LBS overnight at 24°C with shaking, then diluted to an optical density at 600 nm (OD<sub>600</sub>) of ~0.01 in 30 ml of SWTO and incubated at 24°C with vigorous shaking. Samples were taken every 30-60 minutes. At each time point, bioluminescence (using a Turner Designs TD-20/20 luminometer at the factory settings and a large, clear scintillation vial) and OD<sub>600</sub> (using a cuvette) were measured for each sample. Maximum luminescence was observed at OD<sub>600</sub> measurements between 1.5 and 2 for all strains. Specific luminescence was calculated as relative luminescence (the relative light units of 1 ml of culture integrated over a 6-second count) divided by the OD<sub>600</sub>.

**Epifluorescent microscopy.** Spots were made per Materials and Methods in the main body of the text. DIC and epifluorescent images were captured using an Optronics MagnaFire S60800 CCD Microscope Camera attached to a Leica DMIRB with a Prior Lumen 200 light source. Images are at 40x magnification (4x objective lens and 10x eyepiece). Images were processed using ImageJ.



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