

**Supplementary Table S2:** Strains used in this study

Strain	Description	Source or reference
<b><i>Escherichia coli</i></b>		
DH5α	F <sup>-</sup> supE44 ΔlacU169 (Φ80 lacZΔM15) hsdR17 recA1 endA1 gyrA96 thi-1 relA1 thrB1004 pro thi rpsL hsdS lacZΔM15 RP4-1360 Δ(araBAD)567 ΔdapA1341::[erm pir]	Invitrogen, life technologies, Darmstadt
WM3064	DAP auxotroph derivative of <i>E. coli</i> strain B2155	W. Metcalf, unpublished
BW29427		K. Datsenko and B. L. Wanner, unpublished
<b><i>Magnetospirillum gryphiswaldense</i></b>		
<i>M. gryphiswaldense</i> MSR-1 R3/S1	Rif <sup>R</sup> , Sm <sup>R</sup> spontaneous mutant, lab strain	D. Schultheiss, <i>et al.</i> , 2003
<i>M. gryphiswaldense</i> ΔmamJ	ΔmamJ	A. Scheffel, <i>et al.</i> , 2006
<i>M. gryphiswaldense</i> ΔmamM	ΔmamM	R. Uebe, <i>et al.</i> , 2011
<i>M. gryphiswaldense</i> ΔcheW <sub>1</sub>	ΔcheW <sub>1</sub>	this study
<i>M. gryphiswaldense</i> MSR-1 FP66	in frame fusion of egfp to cheW <sub>1</sub>	this study
<i>M. gryphiswaldense</i> ΔcheW <sub>1</sub> (pJH01)	ΔcheW <sub>1</sub> complemented with p JH01	this study
<i>M. gryphiswaldense</i> MSR-1 JH5	FP66 transposon mutant with inserted maggbp from P <sub>mamDC45</sub> , Km <sup>R</sup>	this study
<i>M. gryphiswaldense</i> MSR-1 JH6	FP66 transposon mutant with inserted mamC-maggbp from P <sub>mamDC45</sub> , Km <sup>R</sup>	this study
<i>M. gryphiswaldense</i> MSR-1 JH7	FP66 transposon mutant with inserted mamC-maggbp-gbp from P <sub>mamDC45</sub> , Km <sup>R</sup>	this study
<i>M. gryphiswaldense</i> MSR-1 JH8	FP66 transposon mutant with inserted mamC-mCherry-maggbp from P <sub>tet</sub> , Km <sup>R</sup>	this study
<i>M. gryphiswaldense</i> MSR-1 JH9	FP66 transposon mutant with inserted mamC-maggbp-gbp from P <sub>tet</sub> , Km <sup>R</sup>	this study

<i>M. gryphiswaldense</i> MSR-1 JH10	FP66 transposon mutant with inserted <i>mamC-maggbp-gbp-maggbp</i> from P <sub>tet</sub> , Km <sup>R</sup>	this study
<i>M. gryphiswaldense</i> MSR-1 JH11	Δ <i>mamJ</i> with inframe fusion of <i>egfp</i> to <i>cheW<sub>1</sub></i>	this study
<i>M. gryphiswaldense</i> MSR-1 JH12	JH11 transposon mutant with inserted <i>mamC-maggbp</i> from P <sub>mamDC45</sub> , Km <sup>R</sup>	this study
<i>M. gryphiswaldense</i> MSR-1 JH13	Δ <i>mamM</i> with inframe fusion of <i>egfp</i> to <i>cheW<sub>1</sub></i>	this study
<i>M. gryphiswaldense</i> MSR-1 JH14	JH13 transposon mutant with inserted <i>mamC-maggbp-gbp</i> from P <sub>mamDC45</sub> , Km <sup>R</sup>	this study