

Table S1. Experimental design. Sampling days and number of replicates are described for all experimental analyses. The following coding system is applied: X + Y + Z, where X is number of replicates for oil dispersions in natural unfiltered seawater, Y is number of replicates for dispersions in sterilized filtered seawater, and Z is number of replicates for natural unfiltered seawater without oil.

| Sampling day | Particle counts (Coulter Counter) | Microbial communities (DNA extraction) | Cell counts and oxygen consumption (DAPI/MPN/O ₂) | Chemical analyses (GC/FID and GC-MS) | Oil:Temp |
|--------------|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|------------|
| 0 | 2+0+1 | 2+0+1 | 2+0+1 | 2+1+1 | TROLL:13°C |
| 7 | 2+1+1 | 2+0+1 | 2+0+1 | 2+1+1 | |
| 14 | 2+1+1 | 2+0+1 | 2+0+1 | 2+1+1 | |
| 30 | 2+1+1 | 2+0+1 | 2+0+1 | 2+1+1 | |
| 0 | 2+1+1 | 2+0+1 | 2+0+1 | 2+1+1 | TROLL:5°C |
| 6 | 2+1+1 | 2+0+1 | 2+0+1 | 2+1+1 | |
| 9 | 2+1+1 | 2+0+1 | 2+0+1 | 2+1+1 | |
| 13 | 2+1+1 | 2+0+1 | 2+0+1 | 2+1+1 | |
| 16 | 2+1+1 | 2+0+1 | 2+0+1 | 2+1+1 | |
| 30 | 2+1+1 | 2+0+1 | 2+0+1 | 2+1+1 | |
| 64 | 2+1+1 | 2+0+1 | 2+0+1 | 2+1+1 | |
| 0 | 2+1+1 | 2+0+1 | 2+0+1 | 2+1+1 | GRANE:13°C |
| 3 | 2+1+1 | 2+0+1 | 2+0+1 | 2+1+1 | |
| 7 | 2+1+1 | 2+0+1 | 2+0+1 | 2+1+1 | |
| 14 | 2+1+1 | 2+0+1 | 2+0+1 | 2+1+1 | |
| 21 | 2+1+1 | 2+0+1 | 2+0+1 | 2+1+1 | |
| 30 | 2+1+1 | 2+0+1 | 2+0+1 | 2+1+1 | |
| 64 | 2+1+1 | 2+0+1 | 2+0+1 | 2+1+1 | |
| 0 | 2+1+1 | 2+0+1 | 2+0+1 (only O ₂) | 2+1+1 | GRANE:5°C |
| 6 | 3+1+1 | 3+0+1 | 3+0+1 | 3+1+1 | |
| 9 | 3+1+1 | 3+0+1 | 3+0+1 (only O ₂) | 3+1+1 | |
| 13 | 3+1+1 | 3+0+1 | 3+0+1 | 3+1+1 | |
| 16 | 3+1+1 | 3+0+1 | 3+0+1 (only O ₂) | 3+1+1 | |
| 30 | 3+1+1 | 3+0+1 | 3+0+1 | 3+1+1 | |
| 64 | 3+1+1 | 3+0+1 | 3+0+1 | 3+1+1 | |