

1 Supplemental Supporting Information

2 S1 Table. Coordinates, land area, and benthic taxa sampled at the five Southern Line

3 Islands in the Republic of Kiribati.

4 Islands closest to the equator have higher inorganic nutrient concentrations due to equatorial
5 upwelling. In all tables and figures, islands are listed from south to north in order of increasing
6 proximity to the equator.

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Island	Land (km ²)	Coordinates	Coral	Algae
Flint	3.2	11°26'S 151°48'W	<i>Pocillopora</i> <i>Montipora</i>	<i>Porolithon</i> <i>Halimeda</i>
Vostok	0.24	10°06'S 152°25'W	<i>Pocillopora</i> <i>Montipora</i>	<i>Porolithon</i> <i>Avrainvillea</i>
Millennium	3.76	9°57'S 150°13'W	<i>Pocillopora</i> <i>Montipora</i>	<i>Porolithon</i> <i>Halimeda</i>
Starbuck	16.2	5°37'S 155°56'W	<i>Pocillopora</i> <i>Montipora</i>	<i>Porolithon</i> <i>Halimeda</i>
Malden	39.3	4°01'S 154°59'W	<i>Pocillopora</i> <i>Montipora</i>	<i>Porolithon</i> <i>Avrainvillea</i>