

Supplementary Table S1. Database search for number of publications (1968-present) on the methods used to collect and assess biodiversity of floating *Sargassum*. Key phrases used for search include: ‘*Sargassum* AND Biodiversity’, ‘*Sargassum* AND Faunal Communities’, ‘Sargasso Sea AND Faunal Communities’, ‘*Sargassum* AND Fauna’ and ‘Sargasso Sea AND Biodiversity’. Only journal articles and thesis dissertations were selected for further consideration. The key search phrases utilized resulted in the identification of 9661 articles across 22 databases

Database	Number of records
<i>Complementary Index</i>	6265
<i>Environment Complete</i>	902
<i>Gale Academic OneFile</i>	663
<i>ScienceDirect</i>	637
<i>Academic Search Complete</i>	549
<i>Scopus</i>	271
<i>Gale Academic OneFile Select</i>	109
<i>MEDLINE</i>	109
<i>Academic Search Index</i>	51
<i>Directory of Open Access Journals</i>	26
<i>Gale OneFile: Informe Académico</i>	22
<i>JSTOR Journals</i>	18
<i>Gale In Context: Science</i>	14
<i>British Library EThOS</i>	5
<i>Supplemental Index</i>	5
<i>HeinOnline</i>	4
<i>Persée</i>	4
<i>KERIS Theses of Dissertations</i>	2
<i>SciTech Connect</i>	2
<i>LexisNexis Academic: Law Reviews</i>	1
<i>Westlaw UK</i>	1
<i>SwePub</i>	1
Total	9661