**Table S2.** Environmental characteristics and community attributes of the three sites compared.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Chernaya Bight | Medvezhya Bight | Seldyanaya Bight |
| Beach width, m | 105 | 55 | 200 |
| Beach Index | 2.2 | 2.2 | 3.0 |
| % Silt | 25 ± 14 | 28 ± 14 | 72 ± 12 |
| Total biomass (g m−2), mean ± SD | 195.7 ± 159.7 | 169.7 ± 124.2 | 211.9 ± 136.1 |
| Epifauna:Infauna respiration ratio | 40:60 | 73:27 | 52:48 |
| Surface deposit feeders (% of tot. respiration) | 44.4 | 59.4 | 49.0 |
| Subsurface deposit feeders | 7.5 | 13.7 | 26.0 |
| Suspension feeders | 41.9 | 23.1 | 17.9 |
| # of species for six years | 36 | 42 | 44 |
| # of species per year | 20.6 ± 2.3 | 26.0 ± 3.5 | 28.7 ± 6.9 |
| # of species per sample | 7.4 ± 2.9 | 8.3 ± 2.7 | 9.4 ± 3.6 |