

**Figure S2**: Algal abundances located in the fringing zone (a) versus in the sandy terraces (b) before the beach stranding event of 18th January 2018. The panel (c) indicates the variation in mean algal abundances () before and after the event, in the fringing zone (c.1) and in the sandy terrace (c.2). Red arrows mark the dates of reported stranding events on the PGD beach, and dots indicates that the corresponding sentinel-2 image was cloud free and thus, used for the analysis. The panel (d) compares the fringing zone at a period where a very poor algae abundance was found on the field (25/11/2020, panel d.1) with the sandy terraces when the abundance was high (20/03/2017, panel d.2).

*(b.1)*

*(a.3)*

*(a.2)*

*(a.1)*

(c.2)

(c.1)

(d.1)

(d.2)