

**Figure S2. Nucleotide alignment of Clado1 COI and from four closely related sponges.** The COI sequence of Clado1 is very close to the COI sequence found in both *Cladorhiza* and in *Chondrocladia*. It shares diverging sites with both genera, as well as some mutations unique to this sequence.

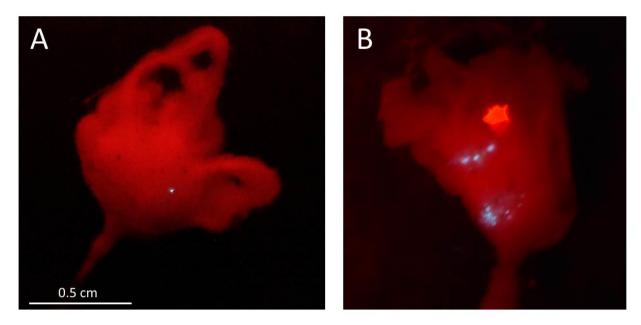
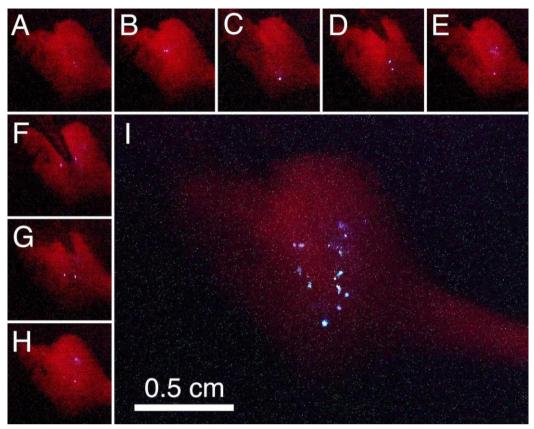
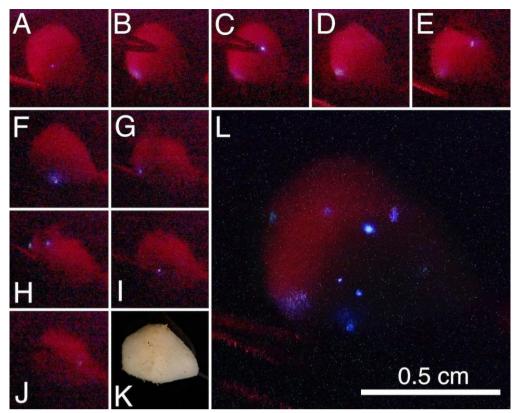


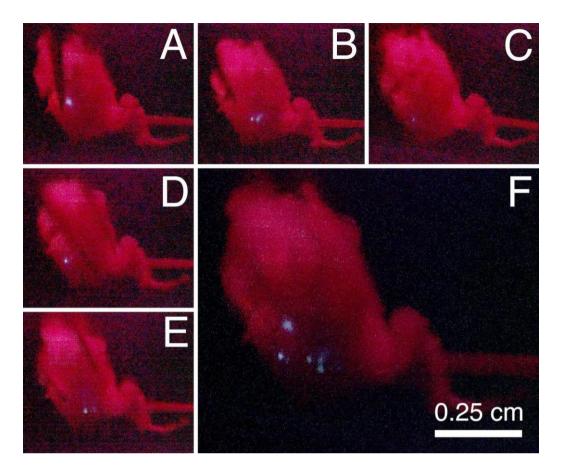
Figure S3. Bioluminescence emission under red light, in the lab. Bioluminescence events from mechanically stimulating Clado1 (A), and Clado2 (B).



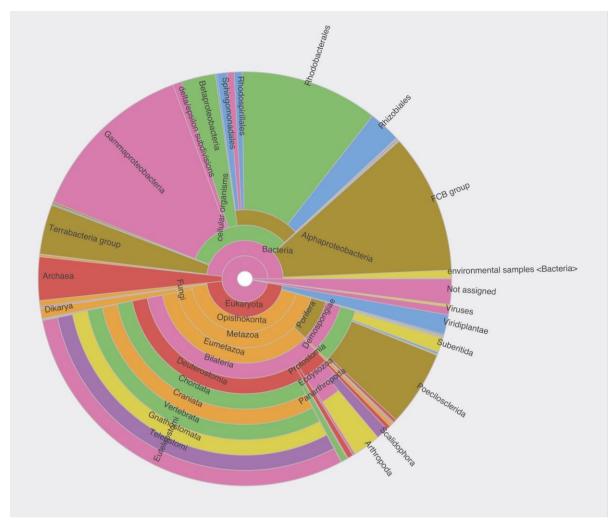
**Figure S4. Composite bioluminescence from Clado3.** Individual video frames (A-H) of discrete luminescence events from mechanically stimulating Clado3. (I) is a composite of the individual frames.



**Figure S5.** Composite bioluminescence from Clado4. Individual video frames (A-J) of discrete luminescence events from mechanically stimulating Clado4. (K) is a white-light image. (L) is a composite of the individual frames.



**Figure S6. Composite bioluminescence from Clado5.** Individual video frames (A-E) of discrete luminescence events from mechanically stimulating Clado5. (F) is a composite of the individual frames.



**Figure S7.** Composition of taxa from metagenomic analysis. The proportion of 64,221 identifiable reads are shown here, split into taxa. Reads mapping to fishes were mostly false positive hits to the *Cyprinus carpio* genome, which erroneously has many Illumina sequencing adapters.

Table S1: Samples references into the VARS database.

Sample name	Dive number	VARS sample number
Clado1	D961	SS2
Clado2	D1021	BT2
Clado3	D1165	SS6
Clado4	D1165	SS7
Clado5	D1165	SS9
Clado6	D1167	BT2