## **Supplementary Methods**

## Mass spectrometry analysis

The gel fragments containing the isolated proteins were destained, reduced in 10 mM DTT for 1 hour at 56°C, and then alkylated in 55 mM chloroacetamide for 1 hour at room temperature. Gel fragments were washed in 50 mM ammonium bicarbonate and transferred to 100% acetonitrile. Protein digestion was performed using trypsin in 50 mM ammonium bicarbonate for 8 hours at 37°C. The peptides were extracted in 90% acetonitrile and the sample dried in Speed Vac. Samples were resolubilized in a 5% acetonitrile, 0.2% formic acid solution. Samples were separated on a C18 column (150  $\mu$ m × 10 cm) using an Eksigent nanoLC-2D system. A 56-min gradient from 5-60% acetonitrile (0.2% formic acid) was used to elute peptides from a reverse-phase column (150  $\mu$ m i.d. x 100 mm) with a flow rate of 600 nL/min.

The column was connected to a nanoprobe interfaced with a Q-Exactive mass spectrometer (Thermo-Fisher). Each full MS spectrum was followed by 10 MS/MS spectra (eleven scan events), where the ten most abundant multiply charged ions were selected for MS/MS sequencing. Tandem MS experiments were performed using higher-energy collisional dissociation in the linear ion trap.



**Figure S1**. (A) 2D-DiGE images of proteins stained with Cy2, Cy3 or Cy5. (B) A representative internal standard gel image showing up-regulated (red) and down-regulated (green) proteins in response to Cu deficiency. Proteins were numbered sequentially during isolation.



**Figure S2**. Cumulative frequency of transcripts of *T. oceanica* from low to high expression levels as a function of transcript expression. Transcript expression was quantified in an mRNA sequencing project and reported as values of Fragments Per Kilobase of transcript per Million (FPKM) mapped reads.<sup>1</sup> The pie chart shows the percentage of differentially expressed proteins identified in this study grouped according to level of transcript expression.



**Figure S3.** Relative expression of CYC6A (A) and CYC6B (B) in *T. oceanica* as a function of total Cu concentration in growth medium. Trace metals were added complexed to 100  $\mu$ M EDTA, as described in the Materials and Methods. Fold-change ratio (FCR) was calculated by normalizing expression level of each gene to the diatom housekeeping gene, actin. Error bars represent  $\pm 1$  standard deviation of three biological replicates.

## References

1. L. Kong, Molecular and physiological responses of an oceanic diatom to copper deficiency, *PhD thesis*, McGill University, 2019.