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6	North Atlantic circulation and reservoir age changes over the past 41,000 years
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9	Auxiliary material
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14	Joseph V. Stern and Lorraine E. Lisiecki
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17	Department of Earth Science, University of California, Santa Barbara, California, USA.
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1. Nomenclature: Heinrich Stadial 1 and the Mystery Interval

20	The term "Heinrich stadial" was originally defined as any cold interval in Greenland that
21	contains a Heinrich event [Barker et al., 2009]. With this definition, the ends of Heinrich stadials
22	are easily identified by rapid warming events in Greenland, but their beginnings are more
23	difficult to identify. For example, recent studies have discussed the beginning of Heinrich Stadial
24	1 (HS1) as early as 19 kyr BP [Bouimetarhan et al., 2012] or as late as 17 kyr BP [Thornalley et
25	al., 2010b]. For the purposes of this paper, we demarcate the beginning of HS1 as the well-dated
26	19 kyr BP initiation of deglacial melting [Clark et al., 2009], which also corresponds
27	approximately with the increase in high-latitude North Atlantic (HLNA) reservoir age. Thus, the
28	end of the Last Glacial Maximum (LGM; 26 to 19 kyr BP) [Clark et al., 2009] transitions
29	directly into HS1 (19 to 14.7 kyr BP).
30	The "Mystery Interval" is often defined by a rapid, large decrease in atmospheric Δ^{14} C
31	between 17.5 and 14.5 kyr BP and is sometimes used synonymously with HS1 [Denton et al.,
32	2006, 2010; Broecker and Barker, 2007; Broecker et al., 2009]. New calibration data [Ramsey et
33	al., 2012; Southon et al., 2012] suggest that this drop began earlier and was not as rapid as
34	previously thought, consistent with a 19 kyr BP start to both the Mystery Interval and HS1.
35	
36	2. Methods background
37	
38	The most direct approaches to determining past reservoir ages involve comparing 14 C
39	dates from paired terrestrial and marine archives of the same calendar age. For example, the
40	difference between marine and terrestrial uncalibrated ¹⁴ C ages taken near the same ash layer

41	provides a reservoir age [Bard et al., 1994; Thornalley et al., 2011a]. Alternatively, both marine					
42	and terrestrial material can be found in the same sediment core in certain near-shore					
43	environments [Bondevik et al., 2006]. In these scenarios, calendar ages can be ascribed either by					
44	calibrating terrestrial ¹⁴ C ages or by deferring to an event age in a Greenland ice core					
45	chronology. Complications with these methods include potential bioturbation of sediments,					
46	interpolation and the assumption of constant sedimentation rate between dates, and imperfections					
47	in ice core chronologies. The most important limitation with these techniques, however, is that					
48	they can only be applied to very specific locations and times.					
49	To overcome these limitations, we developed a method (see Methods section below) to					
50	reconstruct average HLNA reservoir ages for the past 41 kyr based on four main assumptions:					
51	(1) synchrony of benthic δ^{18} O changes within the deep North Atlantic; (2) synchrony of ice-					
52	rafted debris (IRD) deposition within the North Atlantic; (3) synchrony of relative paleointensity					
53	(RPI) changes on the Iberian Margin, and; (4) constant low-latitude reservoir ages. Before					
54	detailing our methods, we address the validity of each of these assumptions.					
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56	3. Deep North Atlantic benthic δ^{18} O synchrony					
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58	The oxygen isotopic composition (δ^{18} O) of benthic foraminiferal calcite is affected by					
59	temperature-dependent fractionation and seawater δ^{18} O. The controls on seawater δ^{18} O can be					
60	bifurcated into global effects due to continental ice volume and regional/local effects that covary					
61	with salinity. <i>Shackleton</i> [1967] laid the foundation for benthic δ^{18} O stratigraphy by highlighting					
62	continental ice volume as the dominant control on glacial-interglacial benthic δ^{18} O changes.					
63	Since then, the assumption of global benthic $\delta^{18}O$ synchrony has been widely employed for the					

development of both millennial- and orbital-scale chronostratigraphies [e.g., *Pisias et al.*, 1984; *Martinson et al.*, 1987; *Lisiecki and Raymo*, 2005].

A few studies have identified regional differences in the timing of benthic δ^{18} O changes 66 67 during the last deglaciation when comparing Atlantic and Pacific [Skinner and Shackleton, 2005; 68 Lisiecki and Raymo, 2009, intermediate and deep [Labeyrie et al., 2005; Waelbroeck et al., 69 2011], and North and South Atlantic sites [Waelbroeck et al., 2011]. There is active debate about 70 whether these differences represent diachronous temperature responses [*Skinner and Shackleton*, 2005], slow mixing of the global deglacial δ^{18} O signal [*Friedrich and Timmermann*, 2012], or 71 72 changes in water mass properties [Waelbroeck et al., 2011]. No study has observed differences in the timing of benthic δ^{18} O changes within the deep North Atlantic. 73 Several model results have addressed the possibility of a diachronous deglacial δ^{18} O 74 75 signal within the deep North Atlantic. For the injection of a passive tracer into the HLNA, 76 Wunsch and Heimbach [2008] concluded that, "Within the North Atlantic itself, hundreds of 77 years are required to achieve local equilibrium at depth." Tracer injection into a different region 78 would only slightly increase the time to equilibrium in the deep North Atlantic [Wunsch and 79 Heimbach, 2008]. Primeau and Deleersnijder [2009] point out that Wunsch and Heimbach 80 [2008] overestimated equilibrium times by prescribing surface concentrations rather than fluxes 81 of the tracer. This point is conceded by Siberlin and Wunsch [2011], but there is some 82 disagreement about the magnitude of this overestimation. These three studies [Wunsch and 83 *Heimbach*, 2008; *Primeau and Deleersnijder*, 2009; *Siberlin and Wunsch*, 2011] are based on 84 present day ocean circulation models that do not fully capture Antarctic Bottom Water (AABW) formation processes, so equilibrium times for tracer injections through AABW are likely 85 86 overestimated [Wunsch and Heimbach, 2008]. AABW was probably the dominant water mass in

87	the deep Atlantic during the LGM and HS1 [<i>Curry and Oppo</i> , 2005; <i>Negre et al.</i> , 2010].
88	Friedrich and Timmermann [2012] suggest that the time to equilibrium in the deep North
89	Atlantic for a passive tracer injected at the surface HLNA is several thousand years when the
90	AMOC is reduced, but tracer concentrations remain similar within the entire deep North Atlantic
91	as equilibrium is achieved. All these modeling studies treat $\delta^{18}O$ as a purely passive tracer,
92	which could result in slightly overestimated equilibrium times because δ^{18} O is associated with
93	both temperature and salinity [Siberlin and Wunsch, 2011]. Taken together, these modeling
94	results suggest that possible diachroneity of the deglacial δ^{18} O signal is probably less than a few
95	hundred years (and almost certainly less than 1000 yr) for individual sites in the deep North
96	Atlantic. Our averaging techniques would further minimize the effects of these small
97	diachroneities. The spatial pattern of these diachroneities would probably be complex, as it
98	would depend on the details of bathymetry and deep water flow paths.
99	We selected an upper boundary of 2000 m water depth for the deep North Atlantic
100	(Figure S1), based on the traditional LGM boundary between Glacial North Atlantic
101	Intermediate Water and Glacial Antarctic Bottom Water [Curry and Oppo, 2005], recognizing
102	that many aspects of LGM ocean circulation are unresolved. For example, the LGM boundary
103	between northern- and southern-sourced waters may have been somewhat deeper and the deep
104	Atlantic may have included a third water mass [Yu et al., 2008; Lippold et al., 2012]. The deepest
105	core in our compilation comes from approximately 4600 m. Waelbroeck et al. [2011] found that
106	the initial deglacial benthic δ^{18} O decrease occurred ~500 yr earlier at intermediate depths (1000-
107	2200 m) compared to deep (3000-4100 m) sites within the North Atlantic. However, we find
108	North Atlantic cores from 2000-2200 m consistent with deeper cores.

109 We chose meridional limits for this study at the equator and 65°N. North and South Atlantic benthic δ^{18} O changes are often considered synchronous even at the millennial-scale 110 111 [Vidal et al., 1999]. However, we used a more conservative southern boundary because *Waelbroeck et al.* [2011] identified a ~1000 yr difference between deglacial benthic δ^{18} O 112 113 changes when comparing two deep cores from the North and South Atlantic. Our northern 114 boundary at 65°N excludes sites from the Nordic and Arctic Seas and effectively restricts our study area to south of Iceland. Benthic δ^{18} O from the Nordic and Arctic Seas may record strong 115 116 local effects [Meland et al., 2008], negating their usefulness for alignments to cores from the open North Atlantic. These extremely high latitude areas probably also experienced variable 117 118 reservoir ages during the deglaciation [Voelker et al., 1998; Sarnthein et al., 2007; Hanslik et al., 119 2010], but, again, local overprints may be strong.

120 The boundary between high and low latitudes was placed at 40°N for our study. This 121 approximates the classical position of the LGM polar front, which was both more southerly and 122 zonal than modern [Ruddiman and McIntyre, 1981]. A more recent study suggests that, at least 123 on the Iberian Margin, the polar front may have only reached 40°N during Heinrich events 124 [Evnaud et al., 2009]. Other studies have hypothesized [Bard, 1988; Bard et al., 1994] and 125 observed [Waelbroeck et al., 2001] that significant deglacial reservoir age variability is restricted 126 to >40°N in the North Atlantic. Our results are only minimally affected by small shifts in the 127 latitude used for this boundary. Meridional and zonal gradients in reservoir ages within the 128 HLNA are likely to have been present in the past, but the available data do not allow us to 129 identify any spatial variability within the HLNA (see Section 11 of the auxiliary materials for 130 further discussion).

132 4. Synchrony of ice-rafted debris deposition

133

134 North Atlantic IRD correlations are another well-established stratigraphic tool [Chapman 135 and Shackleton, 1998; Elliot et al., 2002; Gherardi et al., 2009]. IRD is generally defined as 136 sediment transported to the open ocean by floating icebergs or sea ice that is then deposited upon 137 melting [Hemming, 2004]. North Atlantic IRD records are dominated by six prominent peaks 138 during the last glacial period [Heinrich, 1988], termed "Heinrich layers" or "Heinrich events" 139 and labeled 1-6 from youngest to oldest. A host of geochemical studies have shown that Heinrich 140 events 1, 2, 4, and 5 were derived from melting of the Laurentide ice sheet through the Hudson 141 Strait; the smaller Heinrich events 3 and 6 record mostly European ice sheet melting and may be 142 affected by low foraminifera intervals (see review by *Hemming* [2004]). In addition to the six Heinrich events (only four of which occur during our study interval), minor IRD peaks have also 143 144 been used for correlations [Elliot et al., 2002]. 145 "Precursor events" are potentially the biggest threat to accurate IRD correlations. 146 Precursor events refer to IRD deposited immediately before a Heinrich event, identified by 147 distinct lithological and/or geochemical characteristics. For example, the main Hudson Strait 148 Heinrich events are dominated by maxima in detrital carbonate content, while volcanic 149 fragments are a commonly identified precursor [Bond and Lotti, 1995; Hemming, 2004; Jullien 150 et al., 2006]. The provenance of precursor IRD can be difficult to identify with certainty, and the 151 magnitude of an IRD event at a particular core location depends on both its proximity to the 152 source and additional oceanographic factors [Hemming, 2004]. It is thus conceivable to 153 erroneously align precursor IRD with Heinrich event IRD, which would result in age 154 discrepancies of up to ~ 1000 yr. We paid close attention to additional lithological and

155 geochemical constraints provided by previous authors to avoid naïve IRD alignments for the 156 records we used.

157 Chapman et al. [2000] proposed that Heinrich Event 1 IRD was deposited ~500 yr earlier 158 in the central Atlantic (40°N) than on the Iberian Margin (38°N). However, the central Atlantic sites they consider are located just north of 40°N, and applying our increased early HS1 reservoir 159 160 ages would eliminate this IRD age difference. The distinction between precursory IRD beginning 161 at 18 kyr BP, the Laurentide-sourced Heinrich Event 1 peak at 17 kyr BP, and a later European-162 sourced IRD peak at 16 kyr BP (discussed in the main text) could also influence the conclusions 163 of Chapman et al. [2000]. Some of the records used by Chapman et al. [2000] are included in 164 our compilation.

165

166 **5. Iberian Margin relative paleointensity**

167

168 RPI records characterize changes in the intensity of Earth's magnetic field and have been 169 used for both regional- [*Laj et al.*, 2000; *Thouveny et al.*, 2004] and global-scale correlations [*Laj* 170 *et al.*, 2004; *Channell et al.*, 2009]. Major events such as the Laschamp (~41 kyr BP) and Mono 171 Lake (~34 kyr BP) excursions provide the most reliable alignment constraints, but all the studies 172 cited above correlate continuous time series.

173 Iberian Margin RPI records agree quite well with each other, justifying their use as a 174 stratigraphic tool [*Thouveny et al.*, 2004], but we chose not to align North Atlantic RPI records 175 from outside the Iberian Margin. The Laschamp excursion appears to be somewhat broader and 176 occurs somewhat earlier in Iberian Margin records [*Thouveny et al.*, 2004] compared to other 177 North Atlantic records [*Laj et al.*, 2000]. Furthermore, the Mono Lake excursion is difficult to

identify in Iberian Margin records, where two or three RPI minima often occur between about34-39 kyr BP.

180 Within our compilation of cores that have both benthic δ^{18} O and planktonic ¹⁴C dates, 181 there are more RPI records from the Iberian Margin than from other North Atlantic sites. 182 Therefore, we used Iberian Margin RPI to further constrain our alignments while taking the 183 conservative approach of not including RPI from other North Atlantic sites because Iberian 184 Margin RPI may have some unique features. For our RPI proxy, we used the natural remanent 185 magnetization normalized by the anhysteretic remanent magnetization for the 30 mT alternating 186 field demagnetization step.

187

188 6. Low-latitude North Atlantic reservoir ages

189

In the modern North Atlantic, reservoir ages are 300-400 ¹⁴C yr in the tropics and 190 subtropics and 400-500 ¹⁴C yr at high latitudes [Bard, 1988]. Low-latitude sites are located far 191 192 from deep water formation regions and their associated upwelling zones, and are isolated from 193 even the most extreme shifts in the polar front, so large reservoir age changes in the past are 194 unlikely. Attention on low-latitude North Atlantic reservoir ages has been disproportionately focused on two regions – the western subtropical Atlantic and the Iberian Margin – because ${}^{14}C$ 195 196 ages from these areas have been included in some calibration curves. Within the western subtropical Atlantic, the assumption of constant $\sim 400^{14}$ C yr reservoir 197

ages in the Cariaco Basin (11°N) [Hughen et al., 2006] and at Barbados (13°N) [Fairbanks et al.,

- 199 2005] has generated significant interest. Several studies have now suggested a significant
- 200 decrease in western subtropical Atlantic reservoir ages during the early Younger Dryas (YD), to

values around 200 ¹⁴C yr [*Kromer et al.*, 2004; *Ritz et al.*, 2008; *Singarayer et al.*, 2008; *Southon et al.*, 2012]. Another decrease, possibly to reservoir ages as low as ~0 ¹⁴C yr in the western
subtropical Atlantic, has been proposed for HS1 [*Southon et al.*, 2012]. The spatial extent and the
roles of local and regional influences on these low reservoir ages are still being investigated.
Two recent studies suggest highly variable reservoir ages in the western subtropical Atlantic
during the last deglaciation, with reservoir ages ranging from ~0 to 900 ¹⁴C yr and large changes
occurring over a couple hundred years [*Butzin et al.*, 2012; *Ramsey et al.*, 2012].

208 Iberian Margin reservoir ages have been studied using a series of cores from nearly identical latitude (38°N). Waelbroeck et al. [2001] reconstructed constant ~400 ¹⁴C yr Iberian 209 210 Margin reservoir ages during the last deglaciation. Peck et al. [2007] suggested near-modern Iberian Margin reservoir ages between 24 and 19 kyr BP with up to $\sim 1000^{-14}$ C yr reservoir ages 211 212 between 17.3 and 16.4 kyr BP. Skinner [2008] proposed that Iberian Margin reservoir ages were ~430 ¹⁴C yr older than Cariaco Basin reservoir ages before ~22 kyr BP. This could result from a 213 214 decrease in Cariaco Basin reservoir ages, an increase in Iberian Margin reservoir ages, or both. *Ramsev et al.* [2012] reported Iberian Margin reservoir ages up to ~800 ¹⁴C yr during the LGM 215 216 and HS1.

Aside from these two specific regions, we must turn to modeling studies to get a sense of the potential variability in broader-scale low-latitude North Atlantic reservoir ages.

219 Unfortunately, there is little agreement between model results on this subject. Glacial boundary

220 conditions may have slightly increased [Butzin et al., 2005] or decreased [Franke et al., 2008]

221 low-latitude reservoir ages, when present day Atlantic meridional overturning circulation

222 (AMOC) is maintained. For a freshwater-induced AMOC reduction, low-latitude Atlantic

reservoir ages may have decreased [Delaygue et al., 2003; Singarayer et al., 2008], increased

224	[Franke et al., 2008], stayed the same [Butzin et al., 2005], or decreased and then increased [Ritz					
225	et al., 2008]. Franke et al. [2008] model the most variable low-latitude North Atlantic reservoir					
226	ages of any study; they suggest that low-latitude reservoir ages remain between \sim 300 and 500					
227	$^{14}\mathrm{C}$ yr except during the Laschamp and Mono Lake excursions when increased atmospheric $\Delta^{14}\mathrm{C}$					
228	causes reservoir ages of ~650 14 C yr. Five of the low-latitude sites in our compilation come from					
229	the west African coast, and model results suggest that reservoir ages remain between ~ 250 and					
230	550 ¹⁴ C yr during freshwater-induced AMOC reduction, despite enhanced upwelling in this area					
231	[<i>Ritz et al.</i> , 2008].					
232	Based on the available evidence, it seems likely that averaged low-latitude North Atlantic					
233	reservoir ages remained within a couple hundred years of the modern $\sim 400^{14}$ C yr average.					
234	Reservoir age changes of this magnitude are within the uncertainty of our low-latitude					
235	radiocarbon age model. At individual low-latitude sites, reservoir ages may have increased or					
236	decreased by up to $\sim 400^{-14}$ C yr.					
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238	7. Methods					
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240	HLNA reservoir age reconstruction					
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242	We compiled previously published planktonic 14 C dates, benthic δ^{18} O, IRD, and relative					
243	paleointensity (RPI) records for 33 deep (>2000 m) North Atlantic cores (Table S1). These cores					
244	all have benthic δ^{18} O records with an average resolution better than ~2000 yr over the studied					
245	interval and planktonic ¹⁴ C dates; fifteen cores also have IRD records; four Iberian Margin sites					
246	have RPI records. We made a new age model for each core based only on that core's 14 C dates					

247 using the Bayesian age modeling program Bchron [Parnell et al., 2008] and the Marine09 calibration [Reimer et al., 2009] with constant 405 ¹⁴C yr reservoir ages. Bchron identifies 248 249 outlying dates probabilistically and provides robust Monte Carlo error estimates for depths 250 between dates. Due to computational limitations, certain cores with very many dates or 251 significant outliers required multiple, overlapping (in the depth domain) Bchron runs which we 252 then spliced together to create a single, continuous age model for each core. In these cases, 253 boundaries between sections were chosen where the age versus depth relationship appeared 254 smoothest and excellent agreement was achieved between overlapping sections. An additional 255 difficulty is encountered when potentially outlying dates occur at the beginning or end of a 256 sequence. In these cases, we deferred to the original authors to decide whether to include the 257 very youngest or oldest dates for a particular core.

We aligned all the benthic δ^{18} O records to MD95-2042 [*Shackleton et al.*, 2000] using the 258 259 automated alignment software Match [Lisiecki and Lisiecki, 2002]. Where available, IRD and 260 RPI data also constrained the alignments. Multi-proxy alignments yield more robust core-to-core 261 correlations by reducing the degrees of freedom for an alignment [Channell et al., 2009]. For the alignments, benthic δ^{18} O and RPI records were normalized to have means = 0 and standard 262 263 deviations = 1, while IRD records were scaled to have maximum values of 1. Tie points were added where needed. All benthic δ^{18} O, IRD, and RPI alignments are shown in Figures S2-4. 264 265 We aligned the individual records on their own depth scales to MD95-2042 on the 266 GICC05 age model [Svensson et al., 2008]. The GICC05 age model merely acts as a placeholder 267 here (rather than MD95-2042 depth), and our reservoir age determinations are not actually tied to 268 the ice core chronology. We put MD95-2042 on the GICC05 age model by aligning planktonic δ^{18} O to NGRIP δ^{18} O using Match. Having MD95-2042 on an age model improves the 269

270 alignments by removing its sedimentation rate changes. This is similar to the procedure used by 271 Lisiecki and Raymo [2005], where their final alignments were performed using a "transitional 272 stack" on a preliminary age model as the alignment target. Channell et al. [2009] also did their 273 multi-proxy Match alignments using a target core on an age model rather than its depth scale. 274 Based on these alignments, we then used Bchron to generate age estimates at evenly 275 spaced 500 yr intervals on the preliminary GICC05 age model for the low-latitude cores. For 276 every 500 yr time step, we took the average of all available low-latitude Bchron-generated age estimates. This yields a preliminary low-latitude ¹⁴C age model, versus GICC05 age (Figure S5). 277 Using the same alignments and this preliminary low-latitude ¹⁴C age model, we next 278 279 generated Bchron age estimates at evenly spaced 500 yr intervals for all cores on the low-latitude 280 age model. Then we averaged these ages together to make separate high- and low-latitude ¹⁴C 281 age models. Simply comparing the two age models at this point would not provide true reservoir ages because the units are still in calendar years, not ¹⁴C yr. 282 283 For every age step, we "uncalibrated" both the high- and low-latitude age models using Marine09, then compared these uncalibrated surface ocean ¹⁴C ages to the contemporaneous 284 atmospheric ¹⁴C ages provided by IntCal09 [*Reimer et al.*, 2009]. This yields separate high- and 285 low-latitude reservoir age estimates in units of ¹⁴C yr. The empirically calculated low-latitude 286 reservoir ages differ somewhat from the assumed constant value of 405 ¹⁴C yr due to noise in the 287 288 data and the fact that we fixed the age models at 0 kyr BP. Therefore, we subtracted the lowfrom the high-latitude reservoir ages then added 405 ¹⁴C yr to get our final HLNA reservoir ages. 289

290 This step corrects our reservoir age curve for the effects of anomalously old ages near the core-

291 tops but has a negligible effect elsewhere.

292	Bchron-generated Monte Carlo samples were propagated through the entire procedure,
293	providing robust 95% confidence intervals around our final HLNA reservoir age estimates.
294	The Vedde Ash occurs at 12.1 kyr BP (on our low-latitude ¹⁴ C age model) in five of the
295	cores used in our compilation. This is consistent with the currently accepted age of the ash
296	[Rasmussen et al., 2006], confirming the reliability of our alignments and age models during the
297	YD.
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299	Planktonic foraminifera depth habitats
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301	Radiocarbon dates from a variety of planktonic foraminifera species were used in our
302	compilation, but the vast majority of dates come from Neogloboquadrina pachyderma,
303	Globigerina bulloides, Globorotalia inflata, and Globigerinoides sacculifer. G. bulloides lives in
304	the near-surface layer, between ~0-60 m water depth [Ganssen and Kroon, 2000], while G.
305	sacculifer prefers mixed layer depths between ~20-40 m [Farmer et al., 2007]. G. inflata
306	occupies the bottom of the winter mixed layer, between ~100-300 m water depth [Ganssen and
307	Kroon, 2000; Salgueiro et al., 2010]. N. pachyderma calcifies in the lower mixed layer or
308	pycnocline but reproduces below the pycnocline, giving apparent calcification depths of ~50-200
309	m [Simstich et al., 2003; Winsor et al., 2012]. The depth habitat of N. pachyderma (s) also
310	depends on local salinity stratification, as this species does not tolerate low salinities [Hillaire-
311	Marcel and de Vernal, 2008]. N. pachyderma (d) appears to occupy slightly shallower depths
312	than N. pachyderma (s), but differences between these two could also be due to seasonality
313	[Benway et al., 2010].

314 Depth habitats are relevant for our study of reservoir ages because shallower-dwelling 315 foraminfera might be expected to better record surface conditions, while deeper-dwelling species 316 might be more influenced by subsurface-to-intermediate depth water masses. In practice, this 317 potential complication is difficult to assess with respect to planktonic radiocarbon dates because 318 few cores contain levels that have been dated using multiple species independently. A third of 319 the records used in our compilation have radiocarbon dates based on a single species for the 320 entire record (although different species are used between these cores). Most workers date 321 monospecific samples from local abundance maxima in the core to minimize the effects of 322 bioturbation [Bard et al., 1987a], although two to three species may be dated along the length of 323 the core (one species during warm intervals and another during cold intervals, for example). 324 Finally, a few records in our compilation include dates from mixed assemblages of planktonic 325 foraminifera. Usually, when independent dates are taken from different planktonic species at the 326 same level in a core, the dates agree within their uncertainties [e.g., Skinner and Shackleton, 327 2004]. Rare discordances between dates from different species have been attributed to 328 differential dissolution and fragmentation of fragile versus robust shells and sediment reworking, 329 rather than differences in depth habitat [Broecker et al., 2006; Barker et al., 2007]. 330 Depth habitats are of particular interest regarding our interpretation of the HLNA 331 reservoir age decrease around 16 kyr BP, where our explanation calls on freshwater-induced 332 surface stratification limiting mixing from below and allowing surface equilibration with the 333 atmosphere. Many of the foraminifera species that constrain our age models are not true surface 334 dwellers, and *N. pachyderma* (s) would have likely migrated deeper in response to surface 335 freshening [Hillaire-Marcel and de Vernal, 2008]. The fact that our average HLNA reservoir age at 16 kyr BP (\sim 700 ¹⁴C yr) is somewhat larger than the modern regional average (\sim 400-500 ¹⁴C 336

337 yr), despite model results suggesting that freshwater-induced stratification would lead to slightly 338 smaller than modern reservoir ages [*Ritz et al.*, 2008], might be partly due to subsurface dwelling 339 foraminifera recording the influence of deeper water masses. This highlights the importance of 340 models presenting reservoir age results for actual foraminifera living depths, rather than just the 341 actual surface of the ocean, to allow for better model-data comparisons. Because our composite 342 age models and HLNA reservoir age reconstruction include dates from many different locations 343 and species, they are probably best interpreted as representing the average age of the upper 344 couple hundred meters of the water column and they should be less sensitive than an individual 345 record to the living preferences of any particular species.

346

347 IRD stack

348

Our IRD stacking methods basically follow those used by *Lisiecki and Raymo* [2005] for the construction of their benthic δ^{18} O stack. We used our alignments to transfer scaled IRD values from their original depths, to GICC05 age, and finally to low-latitude ¹⁴C age. The IRD stack was created with 500-yr resolution on the low-latitude ¹⁴C age model. Each stacked value represents the average of all available scaled IRD values within ±250 yr. This technique weights high-resolution records more than low-resolution records and avoids the use of any interpolated IRD values.

There are a number of ways to quantify the IRD content of a sediment core, based on either absolute counts of coarse lithic fragments or percentages of total sediment, and different authors sometimes use different size fractions [*Hemming*, 2004]. Because of this, we stacked the scaled versions of IRD records that also constrained our alignments. Our IRD stack is thus

360 presented in arbitrary units. This IRD stack is well suited for evaluating the timing of IRD, but 361 our scaling process may distort the relative magnitude of the IRD peaks because not all IRD 362 records extend over the entire studied interval.

363 Some of the effects of combining different types of IRD records over such a broad region 364 can be seen in Figure S6, where we show separate IRD stacks for percent (%) vs. absolute count 365 (#/g) IRD records and east vs. west North Atlantic IRD records. Here, "west" refers to core 366 locations on or west of the Mid-Atlantic Ridge; "east" refers to core locations east of the Mid-367 Atlantic Ridge. The IRD peak during HS3 is much more pronounced in the % IRD stack 368 compared to the #/g IRD stack, consistent with Heinrich Event 3 being affected by an interval of 369 low foraminifera abundance (as mentioned in Section 4 of the auxiliary materials). The east IRD 370 stack has a single peak during HS1 at 16 kyr BP, consistent with the established timing of a 371 major European-sourced IRD event (discussed in the main text). In contrast, the west IRD stack 372 contains two peaks during HS1: the earlier peak at 17 kyr BP likely corresponds to the 373 Laurentide-sourced Heinrich Event 1, while the later peak at 16 kyr BP correlates with the 374 European-sourced peak in the east IRD stack. These features confirm the quality of our 375 alignments over HS1. The early HS1 IRD peak (Heinrich Event 1; ~17 kyr BP) appears stronger 376 in the % IRD stack compared to the #/g IRD stack. This could reflect the higher resolution of the 377 two western % IRD records compared to the two eastern % IRD records, the influence of a low 378 foraminifera abundance event, and/or the generally noisier nature of the % IRD stack as it only 379 contains four records.

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- 382

383 8. Alignment perturbations

384

385 Assessing the uncertainty associated with the alignment of paleoclimate records is an 386 important but formidable task, and formal alignment uncertainty calculations are beyond the scope of this work. In general, we expect benthic δ^{18} O changes to be synchronous within a few 387 388 hundred years in the deep North Atlantic (as discussed in Section 3 of the auxiliary materials). 389 Small diachroneities probably account for some of the scatter in radiocarbon ages shown in 390 Figure S5, and this scatter is taken into account in our age model and reservoir age uncertainty 391 calculations. Our averaging technique minimizes the effects of small diachroneities between individual benthic δ^{18} O records, and further alignment constraints from IRD records, Iberian 392 393 Margin RPI records, and the Vedde Ash add robustness to our results. Nonetheless, despite our 394 best intentions and careful attention to detail, it is possible that we have misaligned a small 395 number of records, so here we investigate the effects of misalignment on our reservoir age 396 results.

397 To investigate the effects of one or two alignments being off by up to 2 kyr, we 398 artificially adjusted some of our alignments by adding or subtracting 2 kyr at 17 kyr BP and 399 tapering linearly to no adjustment at 12 and 22 kyr BP (on the preliminary GICC05 age model). 400 We centered the perturbations at 17 kyr BP to focus our investigation on HS1 reservoir age 401 changes. Proportionately smaller perturbations to more records should provide similar results. In the low latitudes, cores EW9209-2 and EW9209-3 have distinct light benthic δ^{18} O 402 403 anomalies during HS1 that are not present in other records. These records also have fairly low 404 sedimentation rates (~5 cm/kyr average), are dated with low sampling resolution, and lack other types of paleoclimate records (except benthic δ^{13} C) to corroborate their alignments. So, we tested 405

406 the effects of shifting both these records to older aligned ages and both these records to younger407 aligned ages (following the procedure outlined in the previous paragraph).

In the high latitudes, we investigated the effects of individual alignments on the large early HS1 reservoir ages and the small late HS1 reservoir ages. SU90-11 has the largest early HS1 reservoir ages, so we shifted this alignment to older aligned ages to decrease the average early HS1 reservoir age. GIK17049 has the smallest late HS1 reservoir ages, so we shifted this alignment to younger aligned ages to increase the average late HS1 reservoir age.

These four experiments where we shifted one or two alignments by up to 2 kyr resulted in only very small (up to $\sim 200^{14}$ C yr) changes in the average HLNA reservoir age curve (Figure S7). The four reservoir age curves that include perturbed alignments all lie within the reported uncertainty of our actual reservoir age curve, confirming that our average HLNA reservoir age history is robust to alignment errors of up to 2 kyr in one or two cores.

418

419 9. Sedimentation rates

420

The bioturbation of ocean sediments has been recognized as an important source of uncertainty in past HLNA reservoir age reconstructions since the first estimates were published by *Bard et al.* [1994]. Calculations by *Bard et al.* [1994] suggest possible age biases of \sim 500 ¹⁴C yr for a mixing depth of 10 cm and sedimentation rate of 8 cm/kyr. Average sedimentation rates range from about 4 to 65 cm/kyr for the cores used in this study, based on our low-latitude ¹⁴C age model (Figure S8).

In particular, we wish to address the possibility that our relatively small late HS1
reservoir ages (which disagree with some previous studies, discussed further in Section 12 of the

429 auxiliary materials) may have been influenced by downward mixing of Bølling-Allerød aged 430 sediments at low sedimentation rate core locations. To do this, we recalculated average HLNA 431 reservoir ages after removing records that have sedimentation rates <5 cm/kyr at any time between 18-13 kyr BP on our low-latitude ¹⁴C age model. This criterion removed cores 432 433 EW9209-1, EW9209-2, EW9209-3, GIK13289, ODP658C, SU90-03, SU90-08, SU90-11, 434 GIK17045, GIK23415, GIK17049, GIK17051, and V29-202. The reservoir age curve calculated 435 from only high sedimentation rate cores is shown in Figure S9. The general pattern of large early 436 HS1 reservoir ages and small late HS1 reservoir ages remains, with the transition between about 437 16.5 and 16.0 kyr BP, although the major decrease in reservoir ages over the early/late HS1 438 boundary occurs 500 yr later in the high sedimentation rate reservoir age curve. The high 439 sedimentation rate reservoir age curve suggests smaller BA reservoir ages and a more rapid 440 transition to large YD reservoir ages. All these changes are within the reported uncertainty of the 441 composite reservoir age curve. Small reservoir ages during late HS1 and the rapid decrease in 442 reservoir ages around 16 kyr BP do not appear to be artifacts of bioturbation, nor are these 443 features affected by our use of low sedimentation rate cores.

444

- 445 **10.** New ¹⁴C calibration curves
- 446

Three studies [*Hoffmann et al.*, 2010; *Ramsey et al.*, 2012; *Southon et al.*, 2012] have
provided significant additions to the available radiocarbon calibration data since the publication
of IntCal09 and Marine09 [*Reimer et al.*, 2009]. Potential updates to IntCal09 and Marine09
during HS1 are of particular interest.

IntCal04 [*Reimer et al.*, 2004] and Marine04 [*Hughen et al.*, 2004] included ¹⁴C data 451 452 from the western subtropical Atlantic with the assumption of constant $\sim 400^{14}$ C vr reservoir ages. 453 Because consensus has emerged that reservoir ages in this region decreased during the early YD, 454 IntCal09 and Marine09 did not include western subtropical Atlantic data from this interval 455 [*Reimer et al.*, 2009]. Recent work from Hulu Cave [Southon et al., 2012] and Lake Suigetsu 456 [Ramsey et al., 2012] supports a similar decrease in western subtropical Atlantic reservoir ages 457 across the early/late HS1 boundary (Figure S10). 458 There are two conceivable ways this change in the calibration curve could affect our results during HS1. First, our low latitude 14 C age model would shift to older ages by up to ~400 459 460 yr between ~ 17 and 15.5 kyr BP. As the resolutions of our IRD stack and HLNA reservoir age 461 reconstruction are 500 yr, we consider this shift to be negligible. Second, we must consider what 462 effect this update would have on the HLNA reservoir ages. We argue that our method is 463 insensitive to subtle changes in the calibration curve because we take the difference between uncalibrated high- and low-latitude ¹⁴C ages (plus 405 ¹⁴C yr) as our reservoir ages. 464 465 466 11. Spatial variability in HLNA reservoir ages 467 468 We produce a single averaged reservoir age history for the HLNA because reservoir ages 469 calculated for individual sites have much larger uncertainties than a composite record. However,

470 previous workers have noted the possibility of zonal and meridional gradients in HLNA reservoir

471 ages when the AMOC is reduced [Bard, 1988; Ritz et al., 2008; Rashid et al., 2012]. Such

472 gradients could bias our average HLNA reservoir ages and limit the applicability of our results to

473 additional sites.

474 In general, we would expect HLNA reservoir ages to increase with latitude when the 475 AMOC is reduced, similar to the modern high-latitude Southern Ocean and North Pacific [Bard, 476 1988]. However, no significant meridional trend is present either in previous work [Waelbroeck 477 et al., 2001] or in our study (Figure S11) during HS1 and the YD. Rashid et al. [2012] suggest 478 larger reservoir ages in the eastern compared to western Atlantic at 34°N during HS1. In 479 contrast, model results suggest larger reservoir ages in the western compared to eastern North 480 Atlantic during AMOC reduction [Ritz et al., 2008]. Cao et al. [2007] compare estimates from 481 several studies and conclude that no significant zonal gradient was present in YD HLNA 482 reservoir ages.

483 Thus, it is not immediately clear what kind of spatial variability in HLNA reservoir ages 484 we might expect with reduced AMOC. As we suggest in this study, AMOC reduction might 485 increase or decrease HLNA reservoir ages, depending on location, magnitude, and duration of 486 freshwater input. These same melting factors could influence the AMOC and thus spatial 487 variability in reservoir ages differently. For example, Bard et al. [1994] argued that weakening 488 of the Gulf Stream and lower North Atlantic Deep Water (NADW) formation would increase 489 HLNA reservoir ages, while weakening the northward transport of thermocline waters and upper 490 NADW formation in the Labrador Sea would have no effect on HLNA reservoir ages.

Figure S11 and Table S2 provide reservoir age estimates for individual cores used in this study for select time slices. There are no obvious trends with either latitude or longitude, nor are there any apparent differences between marginal and open ocean sites. However, the western HLNA is underrepresented in our compilation, so zonal gradients in past reservoir ages may become apparent with the addition of more data from this region in the future. Again, we

emphasize that reservoir ages calculated for individual sites have much larger uncertainties thanour composite HLNA reservoir ages.

498

499 12. Comparison with other late HS1 reservoir age estimates

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501A fairly comprehensive comparison of our HLNA reservoir ages with estimates from502previous studies is provided in Figure S12. Each of the various time intervals of interest are503discussed in the main text. Here, we elaborate on the differences between our relatively small504late HS1 reservoir ages and the generally larger estimates provided by four separate studies.505Waelbroeck et al. (2001). The disagreement between our late HS1 HLNA reservoir age

results and those of *Waelbroeck et al.* [2001] (hereafter, W01) are particularly surprising. The three marine cores used by W01 are all included in our compilation. W01 compared the ¹⁴C ages of two rapid warming events (HS1/BA and YD/Holocene transitions) in marine sea surface temperature (SST) records with the ages given by Greenland ice core chronologies to develop their reservoir age estimates. W01 did not directly use benthic δ^{18} O alignments to reconstruct reservoir ages (as we did), but they did note improved benthic δ^{18} O alignments after applying their increased reservoir ages for high-latitude cores.

We reconstructed W01's reservoir ages to investigate whether updates to the Greenland ice core age model or radiocarbon calibration curve, or using Bchron versus polynomial interpolation, could explain the disagreement (Table S3). The midpoint of the HS1/BA transition in Greenland is 100 yr older on the new ice core chronology, which would slightly decrease the calculated reservoir ages. On our chronologies (using Marine09, Bchron, and constant 405 ¹⁴C yr reservoir ages), the midpoint of the HS1/BA warming occurs 200 yr later in NA87-22 and 300 yr

519	earlier in CH69-K9, compared to W01's results. The age shift of NA87-22 is within W01's					
520	reported uncertainty, while that of CH69-K9 is outside W01's reported uncertainty. However,					
521	the age uncertainties we calculated for these cores (95% confidence intervals) are larger than					
522	those of W01, suggesting that W01 may have underestimated the age uncertainties for their high-					
523	latitude sites. As a result of the Greenland ice core age model update, small shifts in re-calculated					
524	age models for these cores, and the use of different radiocarbon calibration curves, we calculate					
525	reservoir ages at the HS1/BA transition that are over 700 ¹⁴ C yr smaller for NA87-22 and about					
526	100 ¹⁴ C yr smaller for CH69-K9, compared to W01. After these adjustments, there is					
527	considerable overlap between the lower bounds of reservoir ages estimated for these cores (~770					
528	14 C yr) and the upper bound of our estimate of mean HLNA reservoir age at 15 ka (970 14 C yr).					
529	Additionally, our calculated reservoir ages for NA87-22 and ODP 980 (from a nearly identical					
530	location and using radiocarbon dates from <i>Benway et al.</i> [2010]) agree within about 100 14 C yr					
531	during late HS1 and the BA (Figure S11 and Table S2).					
532	Björck et al. (2003). Using four sites, Björck et al. [2003] (hereafter, B03) reconstruct an					
533	average of $\sim 1000^{14}$ C yr HLNA reservoir ages from 15 kyr BP through the end of the YD, with					
534	significant scatter in their individual estimates. All but one of B03's late HS1 reservoir age					
535	estimates are within error of our reconstructed values. B03's largest late HS1 reservoir age					
536	estimate (~1500 ¹⁴ C yr at 15 kyr BP) comes from their highest latitude site (63°N). This site is					
537	located poleward of our northernmost site, and may record larger reservoir ages than our					
538	averaged HLNA estimates. B03's reliance on a now-outdated Greenland ice core chronology and					
539	their extrapolation of estimated terrestrial ¹⁴ C ages may also contribute to the discrepancy.					
540	Additionally, the oldest reservoir age reported by B03 occurs at the oldest ¹⁴ C date for one of					

their cores, and it is difficult to identify outlying ¹⁴C dates at the beginning or end of a sequence
of dates.

543 Peck et al. (2007). Peck et al. [2007] (hereafter P07) suggest a reservoir age of ~2000 yr 544 at 15.1 kyr BP for core MD01-2461 in the northeast Atlantic. P07's reservoir age estimates are 545 reported in calendar years, but converting to radiocarbon years still yields an estimate of ~1700 ¹⁴C yr, much larger than our late HS1 average HLNA reservoir age estimates of around 500-700 546 ¹⁴C yr. Core MD01-2461 is not included in our study because it is from intermediate water 547 depths, but two cores in our compilation also show reservoir ages of $\sim 1500-1700^{-14}$ C yr during 548 549 late HS1 (Figure S11 and Table S2). Individual estimates of reservoir ages at any particular time 550 can display significant scatter about the mean but do not show any particular spatial pattern. 551 Thornalley et al. (2011). Thornalley et al. [2011b, 2011c] (hereafter T11) report late HS1 reservoir ages up to 2000 ¹⁴C yr for four cores located south of Iceland between 61 and 63°N. 552 553 These core locations are near modern deep water convection and overflow sites. Although the 554 age models of T11's cores are well constrained by tephra correlations, unique oceanographic 555 conditions at this locality mean that these reservoir age estimates are probably not representative 556 of average HLNA conditions: "Mixing with underlying [southern-sourced waters] may have 557 been greater on the South Iceland Rise than that in more open ocean sites because of coastal 558 upwelling and turbulent mixing caused by interaction with seafloor topography" [Thornalley et 559 al., 2011a]. Thus, radiocarbon-depleted waters from the Southern Hemisphere or Nordic Seas 560 may have contributed to these old reservoir ages [Thornalley et al., 2011b]. Several other cores 561 used in our study were taken from areas with rough bathymetry around continental margins 562 where similar arguments might apply, but we observe no obvious systematic differences between 563 past reservoir ages at marginal versus open ocean sites (Figure S11).

564 13. Potential mechanisms for changes in HLNA reservoir ages

566	In the main text, we called on AMOC reductions and shifts in the polar front to explain
567	HLNA reservoir age changes at the beginning (~19 kyr B.P.) and middle (~16 kyr B.P.) of HS1.
568	The magnitudes of the reservoir age changes we observe appear to require such mechanisms.
569	However, many other factors can cause small reservoir age changes, and these may have also
570	contributed to the changes we observe. Here, we provide an outline of the potential effects on
571	HLNA reservoir ages for different mechanisms. In some cases, these effects might be linked
572	through (linear or nonlinear) feedbacks.
573	AMOC reduction and southward shift of the polar front. Reduced northward advection of
574	tropical surface waters and an associated southward shift in the polar front are implicated as a
575	primary cause for increased HLNA reservoir ages during HS1 and the YD by virtually all studies
576	that have made such observations [Bard et al., 1994; Waelbroeck et al., 2001; Bondevik et al.,
577	2006; Cao et al., 2007; Knutz et al., 2007; Austin et al., 2011; Hall et al., 2011; Thornalley et al.,
578	2011b]. This mechanism implies a meridional contraction of the AMOC cell and at least a partial
579	reduction in North Atlantic Deep Water (NADW) formation because these warm, salty tropical
580	waters feed modern NADW. Even with increased reservoir ages and the implied AMOC
581	reduction, deep waters may still be formed south of the polar front [Austin et al., 2011], weak
582	convection might continue north of the polar front [Waelbroeck et al., 2001], and upper deep
583	waters fed by high-latitude upwelling of thermocline and intermediate waters (akin to modern
584	Labrador Sea processes) could potentially form [Bard et al., 1994]. Although data studies agree
585	on the importance of AMOC reduction and a southward shift of the polar front for causing
586	increased HLNA reservoir ages, models have not been able to demonstrate this effect, especially

for large >1000 ¹⁴C vr reservoir ages that we and others observe during HS1. (One simple box 587 588 model [Bard, 1988] is an exception.) Most modeling studies addressing reservoir ages have 589 focused on the YD and used present day boundary conditions [Stocker and Wright, 1996; 590 Delaygue et al., 2003; Ritz et al., 2008; Singaraver et al., 2008]. These studies were often trying to model features of the Cariaco Basin atmospheric Δ^{14} C record, which probably overestimated 591 592 peaks during HS1 and the early YD, as discussed earlier. Even when glacial boundary conditions 593 are used [Butzin et al., 2005], the duration of HS1 melting may have been underestimated. In 594 addition, the specific location of freshwater input probably has ramifications for the impacts that 595 melting has on the AMOC [Roche et al., 2010]. Of course, data reconstructions have their 596 limitations as well, and different HLNA reservoir age estimates are not in perfect agreement 597 during HS1 and the YD. Our estimates suggest large reservoir age changes, but the lower limit of our early HS1 95% confidence intervals ranges from 440 to 800 ¹⁴C yr, allowing for the 598 599 possibility of much smaller HLNA reservoir age variability. We suggest that future modeling 600 efforts into HS1 HLNA reservoir age variability include realistic ice sheets (which influence the 601 polar front position), realistic melting history (volume and location), and realistic sea surface 602 temperature evolution.

<u>Sea ice.</u> The presence of sea ice increases reservoir ages by suppressing air-sea gas
exchange [*Bard*, 1988]. Reduced AMOC, a southward shift in the polar front, and bipolar seesaw
cooling in the HLNA are all clearly compatible with increasing sea ice as well. Sea ice is
regularly invoked as a contributor to increased HLNA reservoir ages [*Bard et al.*, 1994; *Waelbroeck et al.*, 2001; *Bondevik et al.*, 2006; *Knutz et al.*, 2007; *Austin et al.*, 2011; *Hall et al.*,
2011; *Thornalley et al.*, 2011b]. Models generally agree that the presence of sea ice can increase
reservoir ages by up to ~200-300 ¹⁴C yr [*Bard et al.*, 1994; *Stocker and Wright*, 1996;

610 *Singarayer et al.*, 2008]. Even if sea ice extended all the way to ~40°N for a full 12 months per 611 year during early HS1 (which is unlikely), this would be a minor effect in comparison to the 612 observed >1000 14 C vr HLNA reservoir ages.

Surface-to-deep ocean mixing. The introduction of an especially ¹⁴C-depleted 613 614 intermediate-to-deep water mass or enhanced upwelling could potentially increase surface 615 reservoir ages. If radiocarbon-deficient Antarctic Intermediate Water (AAIW) extended farther 616 northward during the YD and HS1, this could contribute to increased HLNA reservoir ages [Cao 617 et al., 2007; Thornalley et al., 2011a, 2011b]. However, the extent of AAIW in the Atlantic 618 during the YD and HS1 is still being debated [Pahnke et al., 2008; Xie et al., 2012]. The Nordic 619 Seas are another possibility for a depleted intermediate-to-deep water mass [*Thornalley et al.*, 620 2011b]. The size of surface reservoir age changes that would be produced by introducing a depleted intermediate-to-deep water mass is not well constrained and would depend on the 621 622 magnitude of depletion and degree of upwelling. Models show that decreasing the ventilation of 623 the deep ocean has a major effect on the radiocarbon content within the deep North Atlantic (i.e., the benthic-planktonic ¹⁴C age difference), but very little effect on surface reservoir ages [*Bard*, 624 625 1988; Stocker and Wright, 1996; Butzin et al., 2005]. The vertical diffusivity parameter in models affects both ¹⁴C mixing and convection, but adjustments to this parameter probably have 626 a negligible effect on both surface and atmospheric Δ^{14} C [*Bard*, 1988; *Delaygue et al.*, 2003]. 627 ¹⁴C production rate. Changes in the production rate of ¹⁴C in the atmosphere could also 628 affect reservoir ages. An increase (decrease) in ¹⁴C production causes a transient increase 629 630 (decrease) in reservoir ages because of the time delay required for the surface ocean to return to 631 steady-state [Bard, 1988; Franke et al., 2008]. Björck et al. [2003] call upon such a mechanism 632 to explain minor oscillations in their deglacial reservoir age reconstruction. However, these

633	authors allow that some of their data are not suitable for determining reservoir ages. Their large
634	reservoir ages during late HS1 and the BA disagree with other studies (including our own), and
635	the oscillations they attribute to production changes are not statistically significant. Production
636	rate effects on reservoir ages would be short-lived, global, and relatively small (except maybe in
637	the Southern Ocean) [Bard, 1988; Franke et al., 2008]. It is noteworthy that we do not observe
638	an increase in HLNA reservoir ages during either the Laschamp (~41 kyr BP) or Mono Lake
639	(~34 kyr BP) excursions. Production rates of cosmogenic isotopes (such as 14 C) can be
640	independently reconstructed by global paleointensity records [Laj et al., 2004] and ice core ¹⁰ Be
641	[<i>Muscheler et al.</i> , 2004]. Deconvolution of the atmospheric Δ^{14} C record shows that deglacial
642	changes in atmospheric Δ^{14} C were caused by ocean circulation changes and increasing
643	atmospheric CO ₂ [<i>Lal and Charles</i> , 2007]. Many studies agree that ocean Δ^{14} C controlled
644	atmospheric Δ^{14} C during the deglaciation, not the other way around [<i>Bondevik et al.</i> , 2006;
645	Singarayer et al., 2008; Austin et al., 2011; Southon et al., 2012].
646	Wind stress (speed). An increase (decrease) in wind stress enhances (reduces) air-sea gas
647	exchange and decreases (increases) surface ocean reservoir ages. Realistic changes in wind stress
648	for LGM and deglacial conditions only result in very small (~100 14 C yr maximum) reservoir age
649	changes [Bard, 1988; Bard et al., 1994; Delaygue et al., 2003; Butzin et al., 2005].
650	Addition of ¹⁴ C-depleted meltwater. Flooding of the North Atlantic with ¹⁴ C-depleted
651	meltwater might increase reservoir ages in this region [Knutz et al., 2007; Hall et al., 2011], but
652	there are no available estimates of the magnitude of this effect. Additionally, meltwater input
653	might lead to stratification and rapid equilibration with the atmosphere, such as we propose
654	happened during late HS1. This effect appears in several model results [Stocker and Wright,
655	1996; Delaygue et al., 2003; Ritz et al., 2008; Singarayer et al., 2008].

656	Sea surface temperature. "A decrease in temperature affects the solubility of CO2
657	(increases), the piston velocity (decreases) and the kinetic isotopic fractionation factors
658	(increases). However, the overall effect is rather small since the different components vary in
659	opposite directions." [Bard et al., 1994]
660	<u>Atmospheric CO₂ concentration.</u> Decreasing atmospheric CO ₂ by ~100 ppmv would
661	cause a ~100-200 ¹⁴ C yr increase in reservoir ages [Bard, 1988; Bard et al., 1994]. This effect
662	would be globally distributed. <i>Butzin et al.</i> [2005] model a \sim 200 ¹⁴ C yr reservoir age increase
663	(compared to modern) for most areas when they use glacial sea surface temperatures,
664	atmospheric Δ^{14} C, and CO ₂ , consistent with these earlier results.
665	Ocean surface area. The surface area of the glacial ocean was reduced relative to modern,
666	which might cause global reservoir age increases up to $\sim 100^{-14}$ C yr [<i>Bard</i> , 1988].
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Figure S1: Zonally compressed latitude versus depth profile showing the locations of core sites
used in this study. Colors indicate salinity, based on data from the WOCE A16 transect (cruise
track shown in the inset in the bottom right).











Figure S4 (above): Relative paleointensity (RPI) alignments. The four Iberian Margin RPI records are on our low-latitude ¹⁴C age model. Records were normalized for the alignments, so no y-axis is given. Vertical bars as in Fig. S2.

Figure S3 (left): Ice-rafted debris (IRD) alignments. The individual IRD records (black and red)
and IRD stack (blue) are on our low-latitude ¹⁴C age model. Records in black reported IRD as
absolute counts of coarse lithic fragments; records in red reported IRD as percentages of total
sediment. All records were scaled for the alignments, so no y-axis is given. Vertical bars as in
Fig. S2.





Figure S5: Individual radiocarbon dates and age model comparisons. (a) Low-latitude age model and dates versus GICC05 age. The only significant departure of the low-latitude age model from the 1:1 line is from ~23-35 kyr BP, similar to observations made by *Skinner* [2008]. (b) Highand low-latitude age models and dates versus the low-latitude ¹⁴C age model. For (a and b), error bars on individual dates show 95% confidence intervals and open symbols indicate Bchronidentified outliers.





Figure S6: Different versions of the IRD stack, each with 500-yr resolution on our low-latitude 706 ¹⁴C age model. The IRD stack at the top (in blue) includes all available IRD records and is also 707 708 shown in Figures 2, 3, and S3. The east IRD stack only includes records taken from east of the 709 Mid-Atlantic Ridge. The west IRD stack includes records taken from west of and along the Mid-710 Atlantic Ridge. The "#/g" IRD stack only includes records reported as absolute counts of coarse lithic fragments. The "%" IRD stack only includes records reported as percentages of total 711 712 sediment. The number of records included in each stack is indicated in parentheses in the figure. 713 Vertical bars as in Fig. S2.



Figure S7: Alignment perturbation effects on average reservoir ages. The four colored lines show different versions of our average HLNA reservoir age history with one or two alignments artificially shifted by up to 2 kyr. The bold black line is our actual HLNA reservoir age history, thin black lines are the 95% confidence limits, and the dashed line indicates the modern global average reservoir age of 405¹⁴C yr. Vertical bars as in Fig. S2. Figure S8 (next page): Sedimentation rates for (a) low-latitude and (b) high-latitude cores used in this study based on our low-latitude ¹⁴C age model, in units of cm/kyr. The extreme and unrealistic variability of MD95-2042's sedimentation rate results from our alignment of that core's planktonic δ^{18} O to NGRIP δ^{18} O. Vertical bars as in Fig. S2.







Figure S9: The effect of low sedimentation rate sites on average HLNA reservoir ages. The red
line shows average HLNA reservoir ages calculated using only high sedimentation rate sites (see
Section 9 in the auxiliary materials for details). The bold black line is our actual HLNA reservoir
age history using all sites, thin black lines are the 95% confidence limits, and the dashed line
indicates the modern global average reservoir age of 405 ¹⁴C yr. Vertical bars as in Fig. S2.



740 Figure S10: Comparison between IntCal09 [Reimer et al., 2009], Hulu Cave [Southon et al.,

- 741 2012], and Lake Suigetsu [*Ramsey et al.*, 2012] uncalibrated ¹⁴C ages over the last deglaciation.
- Near the early-late HS1 boundary, younger ages (by up to about 400 ¹⁴C yr) in IntCal09 are due
- to the inclusion of dates from Cariaco Basin, where the local reservoir age may have been
- 744 overestimated. Vertical bars as in Fig. S2.



Figure S11: Reservoir ages (in units of ¹⁴C yr) calculated for the individual cores used in this study, for select time slices: (a) 12.5 kyr BP, (b) 14.0 kyr BP, (c) 15.0 kyr BP, and (d) 18.0 kyr BP. The wide distribution of reservoir ages within individual times slices is likely the result of larger uncertainties for radiocarbon age models from individual records, records with different temporal resolution, spatial variability of reservoir ages within the HLNA, and potentially small alignment errors resulting from slightly diachronous benthic δ^{18} O changes within the deep North Atlantic.



Figure S12: Compilation of high-latitude North Atlantic (HLNA) reservoir age estimates for the last 41 kyr. Our regionally averaged HLNA reservoir ages (thick black line) with 95% confidence intervals (thin black lines) on our low-latitude ¹⁴C age model and the dashed line at 405 ¹⁴C yr are shown as in Figure 1. Filled red circles indicate HLNA reservoir age estimates from previous studies [Bard et al., 1994; Austin et al., 1995; Waelbroeck et al., 2001; Björck et al., 2003; Bondevik et al., 2006; Ascough et al., 2007, 2009; Thornalley et al., 2011c]. Open red circles indicate estimates reported in calendar years [Knutz et al., 2007; Peck et al., 2007; Hall et al., 2011; Stanford et al., 2011] and intermediate water ages interpreted as surface ages [Cao et al., 2007]. Uncertainty estimates from previous studies have been omitted for clarity. Vertical bars as in Figure S2.

Table S1: Locations and data references for the cores used in this study.

Core	Latitude	Longitude	Depth	References
	(°N)	(°W)	(m)	
EW9209-3JPC	5.31	44.26	3288	[Curry et al., 1999; Ostermann and
				<i>Curry</i> , 2000]
EW9209-2JPC	5.64	44.47	3528	[Curry et al., 1999; Ostermann and
				<i>Curry</i> , 2000]
EW9209-1JPC	5.91	44.20	4056	[Curry and Oppo, 1997; Curry et al.,
				1999; Ostermann and Curry, 2000]
GeoB9526	12.44	18.06	3223	[Zarriess and Mackensen, 2010, 2011;
				Zarriess et al., 2011]
GeoB9508-5	15.50	17.95	2384	[<i>Mulitza et al.</i> , 2008]
GIK13289-2	18.07	18.01	2485	[Sarnthein et al., 1994]
GeoB7920-2	20.75	18.58	2278	[Tjallingii et al., 2008; Collins et al.,
				2011]
ODP658C	20.75	18.58	2273	[deMenocal et al., 2000]
KNR31-GPC5	33.69	57.63	4583	[Keigwin and Jones, 1989, 1994;
				Keigwin et al., 1991]
KF13	37.58	31.84	2690	[<i>Richter</i> , 1998]
SU81-18	37.77	10.18	3135	[Bard et al., 1987b, 2000; Waelbroeck et
				al., 2001; Gherardi et al., 2005]
MD99-2334	37.80	10.17	3146	[Skinner et al., 2003; Skinner and
				Shackleton, 2004, 2005]
MD95-2042	37.80	10.17	3146	[Shackleton et al., 2000, 2004; Bard et
				al., 2004; Thouveny et al., 2004; Eynaud
				<i>et al.</i> , 2009]
MD03-2698	38.24	10.39	4602	[<i>Lebreiro et al.</i> , 2009]
SU90-03	40.05	32.00	2475	[<i>Chapman et al.</i> , 2000]
MD95-2040	40.58	9.86	2465	[de Abreu et al., 2003; Schönfeld et al.,
	40.50	10.25	2201	2003; <i>Thouveny et al.</i> , 2004]
MD95-2039	40.58	10.35	3381	[Thomson et al., 1999, 2000; Schönfeld et
	41 75	47 25	4100	<i>al.</i> , 2003; <i>Thouveny et al.</i> , 2004]
СН69-К9	41.75	47.35	4100	[Labeyrie et al., 1999; Waelbroeck et al.,
01100 00	42.05	20.04	2000	2001]
5090-08	43.05	30.04	3080	[Grousset et al., 1993; Cortijo, 1995;
CU100 11	44.07	40.02	2615	Labeyrie et al., 1995]
5090-11	44.07	40.02	3043	[Labeyrie et al., 1995; Jullien et al.,
MD02 2602	16.92	0.52	1061	2000] [Maitabid at al. 2005: Frances d at al.
MD03-2092	40.85	9.32	4004	[Mojiania et al., 2005, Eynaua et al., 2007: Touganno et al. 2000]
MD05 2024	50.21	15 60	2110	$[H_{00}]$
GIK 17045	50.21 52.42	45.09	2440 2662	$\begin{bmatrix} 1100 gakker \ el \ al., 2011 \end{bmatrix}$
GIK 17045 GIK 22/15 0	52.45 52.19	10.07	2003 2472	[Sur ninein et al., 1994] [Jung 1006: Woinelt et al. 2002]
GIK 17040 6	55.10	17.13	∠+/∠ 2221	[Jung, 1770, Weinen ei un., 2003] [Sarnthain at al. 1004: Jung 1006]
UIKI/049-0	55.20	20.73	3331	[Surminein et al., 1994, Jung, 1990]

NA87-22	55.48	14.68	2161	[Duplessy et al., 1992; Labeyrie et al.,
				1995; Cortijo et al., 1997; Vidal et al.,
				1997; Waelbroeck et al., 2001]
ODP980	55.49	14.7	2168	[McManus et al., 1999; Oppo et al.,
				2003; Benway et al., 2010]
GIK17051	56.16	31.99	2295	[Sarnthein et al., 1994; Jung, 1996]
MD95-2006	57.03	10.06	2130	[Wilson and Austin, 2002; Austin et al.,
				2004; Dickson et al., 2008]
V29-202	61.00	21.00	2658	[Oppo and Lehman, 1995]
RAPID-17-5P	61.48	19.54	2303	[Thornalley et al., 2010a, 2010b, 2011b]
SU90-24	62.07	37.03	2100	[<i>Elliot et al.</i> , 1998, 2002]
RAPID-15-4P	62.29	17.13	2133	[Thornalley et al., 2010a, 2011b]

Table S2: Reservoir ages for individual HLNA cores at select time slices. Time slices are

labeled along the top of the columns, in kyr BP on our low-latitude ¹⁴C age model. All reservoir

ages are reported in units of ¹⁴C yr. Our average HLNA reservoir ages are given in the last row.

Core	12.5	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
SU90-03	-	-	-	-	750	620	970	500	330
MD95-2040	-	-90	300	660	720	220	-570	-440	-410
MD95-2039	-80	-380	220	420	890	1540	1070	550	310
СН69-К9	1920	1300	960	820	710	1110	840	610	420
SU90-08	-	1440	1740	1750	1450	600	270	400	400
SU90-11	-	660	380	410	1340	2240	1200	560	130
MD03-2692	1030	660	940	1310	1460	1480	500	400	430
GIK17045	-	660	810	460	750	1030	670	920	640
GIK23415-9	1600	750	870	700	870	480	-30	260	330
GIK17049-6	1020	-30	210	270	1260	1600	1240	1100	830
NA87-22	920	740	880	620	990	830	1200	1150	1380
ODP980	1450	660	750	1530	1200	590	-20	320	330
GIK17051	1020	90	760	1020	1430	1550	1330	-	-
V29-202	-	-	-	400	690	820	860	1060	950
RAPID-17-5P	1660	670	790	-	-	1570	480	40	-140
SU90-24	_	240	290	600	740	1050	910	1930	2060
RAPID-15-4P	1230	490	1450	1690	2020	_	_	-	-
Average HLNA	1060	630	740	690	1090	1150	840	660	460

Table S3: Calculated sea surface temperature (SST) leads over rapid Greenland warmings and reservoir ages for the Heinrich Stadial 1/Bølling-Allerød (HS1/BA) transition, identified by the midpoint of temperature change. Table entries in red are from this study. Parenthetical uncertainty estimates for reservoir ages calculated in this study are 95% confidence intervals.

Record	Latitude (°N)	Longitude (°W)	Age of the midpoint	SST lead	Reservoir age (¹⁴ C yr)	Reference
			(kyr B.P.)	(kyr)		
GRIP/	~ 72.5	~ 38	14.53 ±			[Waelbroeck et
GISP2			0.53			<i>al.</i> , 2001]
NGRIP	75.1	42.3	$14.62 \pm$			[Rasmussen et
(GICC05)			0.185			al., 2006]
NA87-22	55.48	14.68	$16.44 \pm$	$1.94 \pm$	1880 ± 750	[Waelbroeck et
			0.49	0.75		al., 2001]
NA87-22	55.48	14.68	$16.25 \pm$	$1.63 \pm$	1100 (770,	This study
			1.09	1.09	1960)	
CH69-K9	41.75	47.35	$15.73 \pm$	$1.23 \pm$	1180 ± 630	[Waelbroeck et
			0.22	0.60		al., 2001]
CH69-K9	41.75	47.35	$16.02 \pm$	$1.39 \pm$	1060 (760,	This study
			0.83	0.84	1260)	
SU81-18	37.77	10.18	$14.87 \pm$	$0.37 \pm$		[Waelbroeck et
			0.47	0.74		al., 2001]
SU81-18	37.77	10.18	$14.99 \pm$	$0.37 \pm$		This study
			0.47	0.52		

Age	Age model	Age model	Reservoir	Reservoir	Reservoir	IRD stack	IRD stack
(kyr	lower 95%	upper	age (¹⁴ C	age lower	age upper	(norm-	σ (norm-
B.P.)	limit (kyr	95% limit	yr)	95% limit	95% limit	alized	alized
	B.P.)	(kyr B.P.)		(¹⁴ C yr)	(¹⁴ C yr)	units)	units)
0.0	-	-	-	-	-	0.012	0.025
0.5	0.00	1.39	250	-210	520	0.002	0.002
1.0	0.86	1.51	610	130	1120	0.037	0.072
1.5	1.28	2.01	510	70	940	0.001	0.002
2.0	1.69	2.48	470	20	910	0.002	0.004
2.5	2.18	3.03	340	-130	770	0.017	0.029
3.0	2.58	3.47	300	-170	760	0	0
3.5	3.14	3.95	180	-200	600	0.004	0.008
4.0	3.64	4.32	250	-90	600	0.011	0.022
4.5	4.10	4.78	230	-90	580	0.005	0.01
5.0	4.59	5.26	490	220	820	0.011	0.021
5.5	5.13	5.72	620	250	990	0.008	0.011
6.0	5.74	6.28	460	150	770	0.011	0.011
6.5	6.25	6.86	410	60	750	0.016	0.019
7.0	6.68	7.37	410	10	750	0.009	0.011
7.5	7.22	7.83	210	-240	690	0.012	0.015
8.0	7.71	8.33	120	-310	540	0.008	0.014
8.5	8.23	8.80	100	-250	530	0.009	0.012
9.0	8.73	9.35	240	-90	570	0.017	0.018
9.5	9.22	9.85	380	-40	800	0.011	0.018
10.0	9.73	10.37	490	120	860	0.014	0.02
10.5	10.18	10.84	610	120	1060	0.018	0.023
11.0	10.66	11.34	740	280	1030	0.033	0.033
11.5	11.17	11.85	750	470	1170	0.054	0.061
12.0	11.63	12.32	900	470	1340	0.069	0.085
12.5	12.06	12.72	1060	560	1550	0.059	0.083
13.0	12.65	13.27	790	330	1220	0.056	0.067
13.5	13.19	13.77	760	380	1190	0.068	0.078
14.0	13.77	14.29	630	380	900	0.06	0.072
14.5	14.24	14.78	530	400	770	0.116	0.13
15.0	14.76	15.36	740	410	980	0.239	0.21
15.5	15.28	15.88	550	430	680	0.312	0.246

806 reservoir ages, and ice-rafted debris stack, with calculated uncertainties.

 Table S4: Low-latitude ¹⁴C age model, regionally averaged high-latitude North Atlantic

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16.0	15.78	16.38	690	450	1130	0.434	0.223
16.5	16.21	16.82	1260	850	1500	0.253	0.254
17.0	16.69	17.28	1090	680	1630	0.29	0.312
17.5	17.15	17.73	1120	790	1680	0.162	0.223
18.0	17.67	18.27	1150	500	1750	0.137	0.184
18.5	18.14	18.74	1270	740	1800	0.066	0.104
19.0	18.69	19.26	840	380	1450	0.172	0.211
19.5	19.28	19.82	720	290	1250	0.138	0.169
20.0	19.78	20.41	660	130	1140	0.064	0.093
20.5	20.19	20.94	500	220	920	0.102	0.134
21.0	20.63	21.41	460	40	1040	0.135	0.181
21.5	21.08	21.89	400	-220	1040	0.071	0.078
22.0	21.53	22.35	420	-50	1010	0.079	0.083
22.5	22.08	22.86	270	-410	1030	0.095	0.157
23.0	22.62	23.39	310	-210	690	0.12	0.157
23.5	23.12	23.88	150	-340	780	0.15	0.174
24.0	23.70	24.45	60	-550	670	0.318	0.278
24.5	24.13	24.98	300	-330	920	0.508	0.288
25.0	24.60	25.60	440	-130	940	0.437	0.279
25.5	25.01	26.03	630	110	1210	0.281	0.268
26.0	25.36	26.51	880	390	1430	0.145	0.144
26.5	25.94	26.96	700	150	1240	0.121	0.119
27.0	26.42	27.44	590	160	1150	0.101	0.118
27.5	26.85	27.92	730	80	1380	0.129	0.14
28.0	27.50	28.40	860	-100	1730	0.039	0.052
28.5	28.08	28.98	540	-280	1200	0.054	0.076
29.0	28.61	29.58	390	-410	1200	0.08	0.117
29.5	29.00	29.98	360	-530	1260	0.116	0.187
30.0	29.47	30.48	300	-510	970	0.148	0.199
30.5	30.08	31.04	170	-660	1040	0.204	0.194
31.0	30.64	31.60	370	-930	1430	0.171	0.177
31.5	31.10	32.14	590	-210	1620	0.127	0.168
32.0	31.62	32.73	430	80	810	0.122	0.138
32.5	32.02	33.27	400	-150	760	0.12	0.121
33.0	32.42	33.76	480	-220	1060	0.125	0.159
33.5	32.88	34.23	570	160	1160	0.129	0.105
34.0	33.26	34.97	330	-830	910	0.102	0.111
34.5	33.72	35.51	330	-1230	1420	0.062	0.071
35.0	34.16	35.96	390	-720	1830	0.121	0.241
35.5	34.59	36.41	430	-390	1730	0.065	0.107

36.0	35.09	36.91	300	-890	1000	0.081	0.113
36.5	35.60	37.41	-230	-1310	780	0.055	0.067
37.0	36.10	37.89	-20	-1080	1430	0.074	0.073
37.5	36.78	38.19	190	-300	770	0.18	0.162
38.0	37.31	38.78	240	-420	650	0.3	0.228
38.5	37.79	39.20	220	-720	990	0.497	0.299
39.0	38.09	40.05	140	-890	1360	0.638	0.234
39.5	38.49	40.45	220	-610	1360	0.47	0.268
40.0	38.93	40.88	650	-200	1510	0.134	0.14
40.5	39.30	41.23	650	-360	1690	0.091	0.101
41.0	39.88	41.74	450	-830	1760	0.069	0.07
41.5	40.48	42.21	-	-	-	0.117	0.163
42.0	40.89	42.93	-	-	-	0.096	0.107
42.5	41.48	43.63	-	-	-	0.206	0.245
43.0	41.93	44.14	-	-	-	0.106	0.178

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