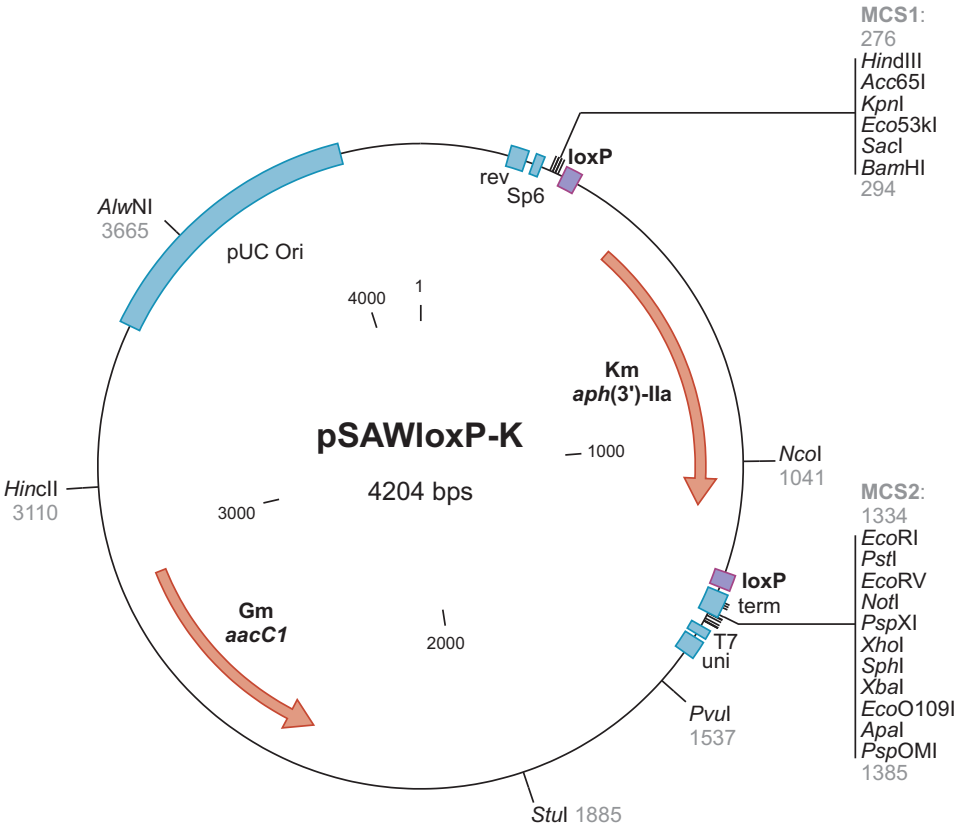

Supplementary Figure 1: Detailed physical map of the plasmid vector pSAWloxP-K. The vector backbone of the plasmid suitable for replication in *Escherichia coli* was derived from pFV7 (Vorhölter et al., 2001). A gentamicin (Gm) resistance marker encoded by the gene *aacC1* is useful for selection. Between two multiple cloning sites (MCS), the plasmid carries a kanamycin resistance cassette built from the aminoglycoside 3'-phosphotransferase gene *aph*(3')-IIa from pK18mob (Schäfer et al., 1994), two flanking loxP sites and a stem-loop structure for transcriptional termination (term). The two MCS facilitate the insertion of DNA fragments that flank a genomic region to be deleted. The loxP sites enable the generation of marker-free deletion mutants by introduction of a Cre recombinase to excise the kanamycin resistence cassette. Binding sites are indicated for the M13 universal and reverse primers (uni, rev) as well as for the T7 and SP6 primers. Unique cut sites of restriction endonuleases are given by the enzyme names at their specific positions. The complete 4204 base-pairs DNA sequence is available under accession HE995436 at the EMBL nucleotide sequence database.