

# More Corals = More Fish



**Protecting and actively restoring critically endangered acroporid corals in Belize.**



# More Corals=More Fish

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All artwork (cover and sketches) are original work by Anton Leslie. Anton is from Placencia Village, Stann Creek District, Belize. Placencia Village, a coastal community, has a long, rich history with the ocean. Fishing and now tourism are key components to healthy livelihoods. Fishers and tour guides recognize the value of their marine resources and comprise the membership of the community-based, not-for-profit organization Fragments of Hope, Ltd.

Fragments of Hope, Ltd. pioneered reef replenishment activities in Belize, and is committed to spreading the awareness and importance of coral reefs, their associated biodiversity, and all marine ecosystems. Funding was made possible for this second version of the coloring book from GEF Small Grants Program and via a private donation from Hatchet Caye/Wild Orchid. For more information, including how to contact artist Anton Leslie, visit [www.fragmentsofhope.org](http://www.fragmentsofhope.org).



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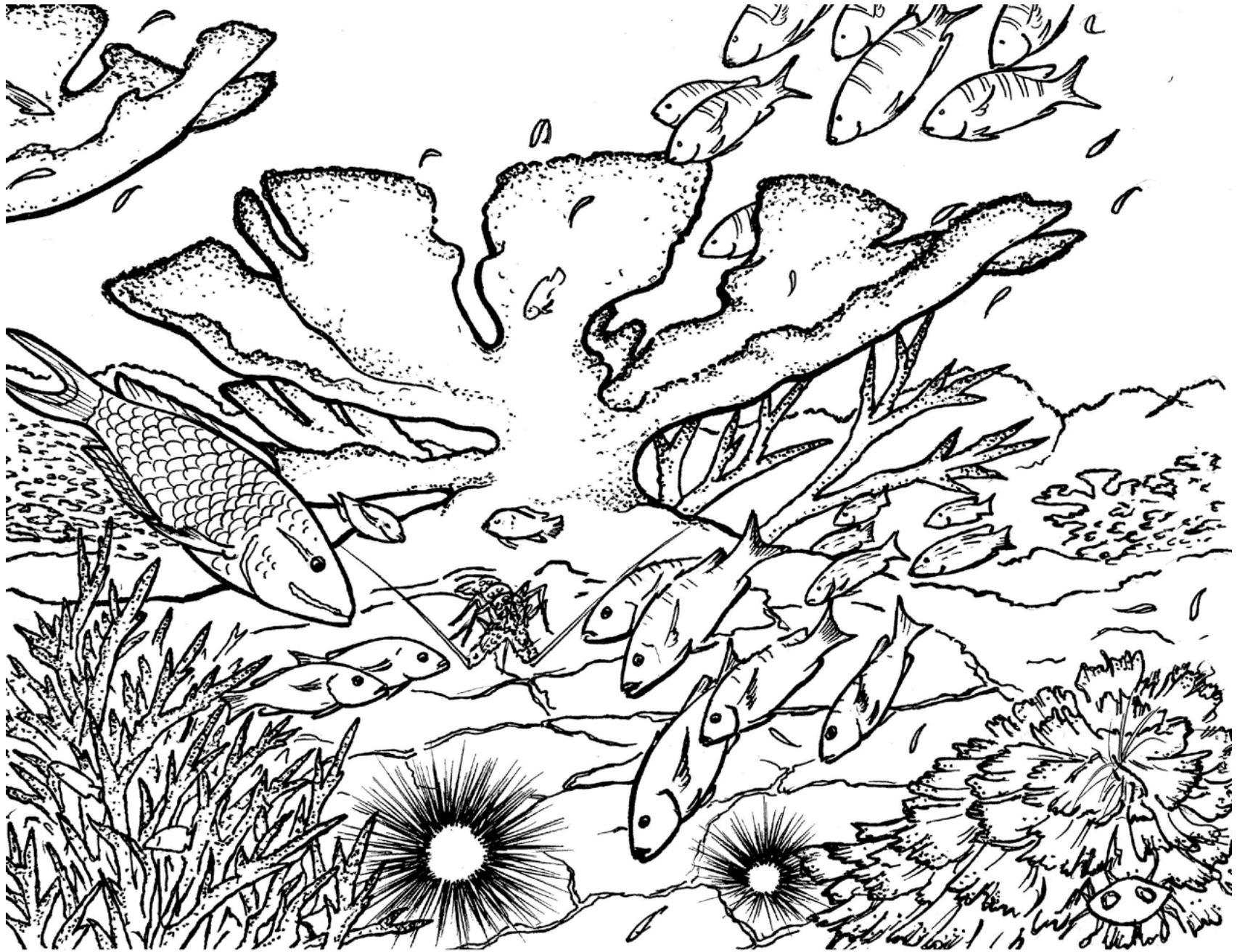
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Corals are alive! Each colony is made of thousands of small animals (polyps) that live with helpful algae that give them their color and most of their energy. Coral reefs help people by providing shoreline protection from storms, creating habitat (places to live) for hundreds of other marine creatures like the Caribbean spiny lobster, and are beautiful to behold which makes for a thriving tourism industry. Belize hosts the second longest barrier reef system in the world.

But in recent years, healthy, living coral reefs have declined drastically in Belize, and all over the world. Pollution, overfishing and rising sea temperatures all threaten corals. Since 2006, Fragments of Hope has been actively protecting and repopulating coral reefs. Replenishing corals provides homes for so many fish and other creatures. We have shared just a few of our favorites in this second edition coloring book. We provide the common name, and the scientific name. Scientific names for all living things are two part, and always written in *italics*. The first part is capitalized and is the genus name, and the second part is never capitalized and is the species name. Example: *Homo sapiens* is the scientific name for us, humans.

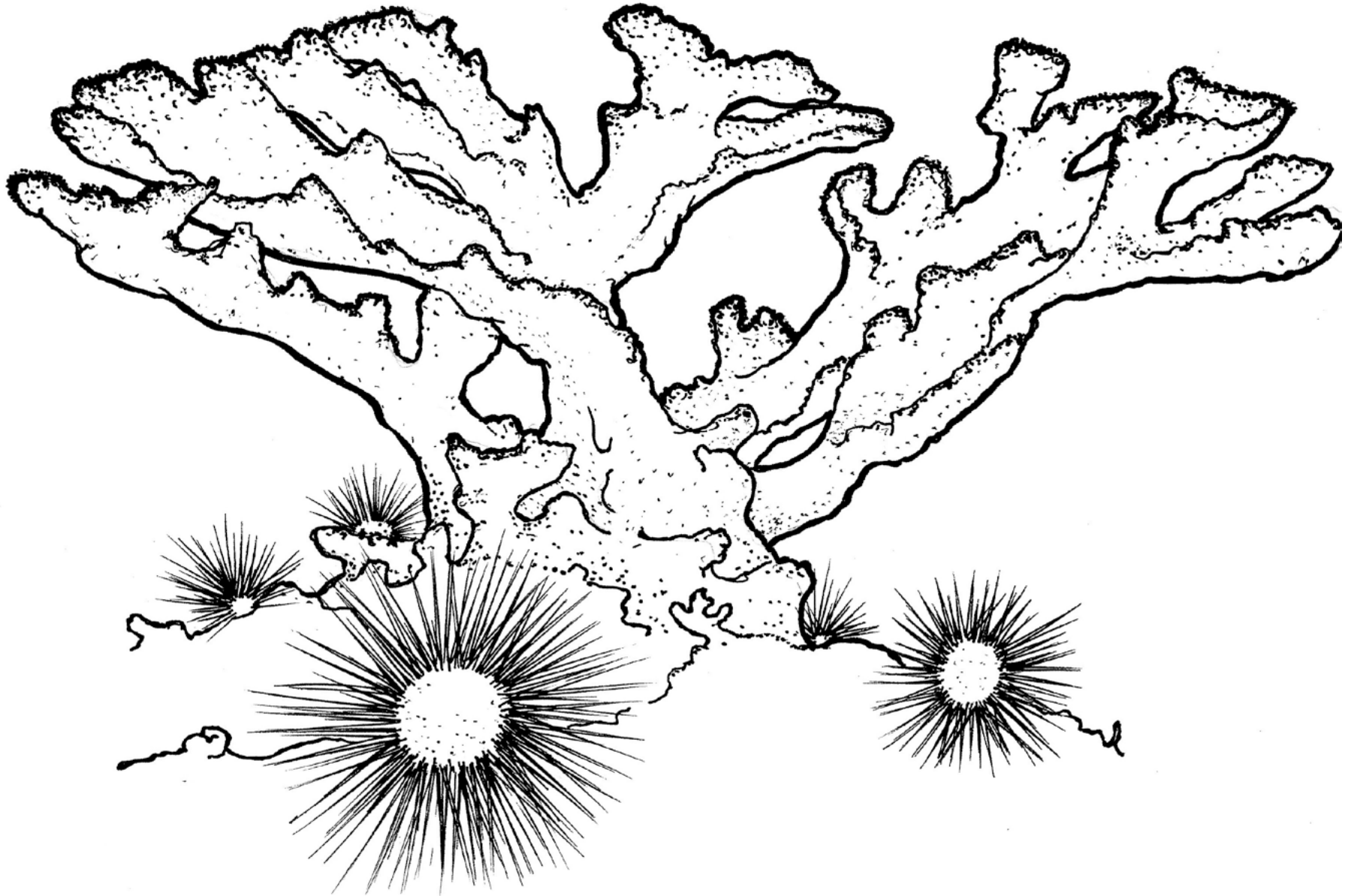
For more information on our work see our website [www.fragmentsofhope.org](http://www.fragmentsofhope.org) and/or our Face book page: Fragments of Hope.

More corals=more fish!



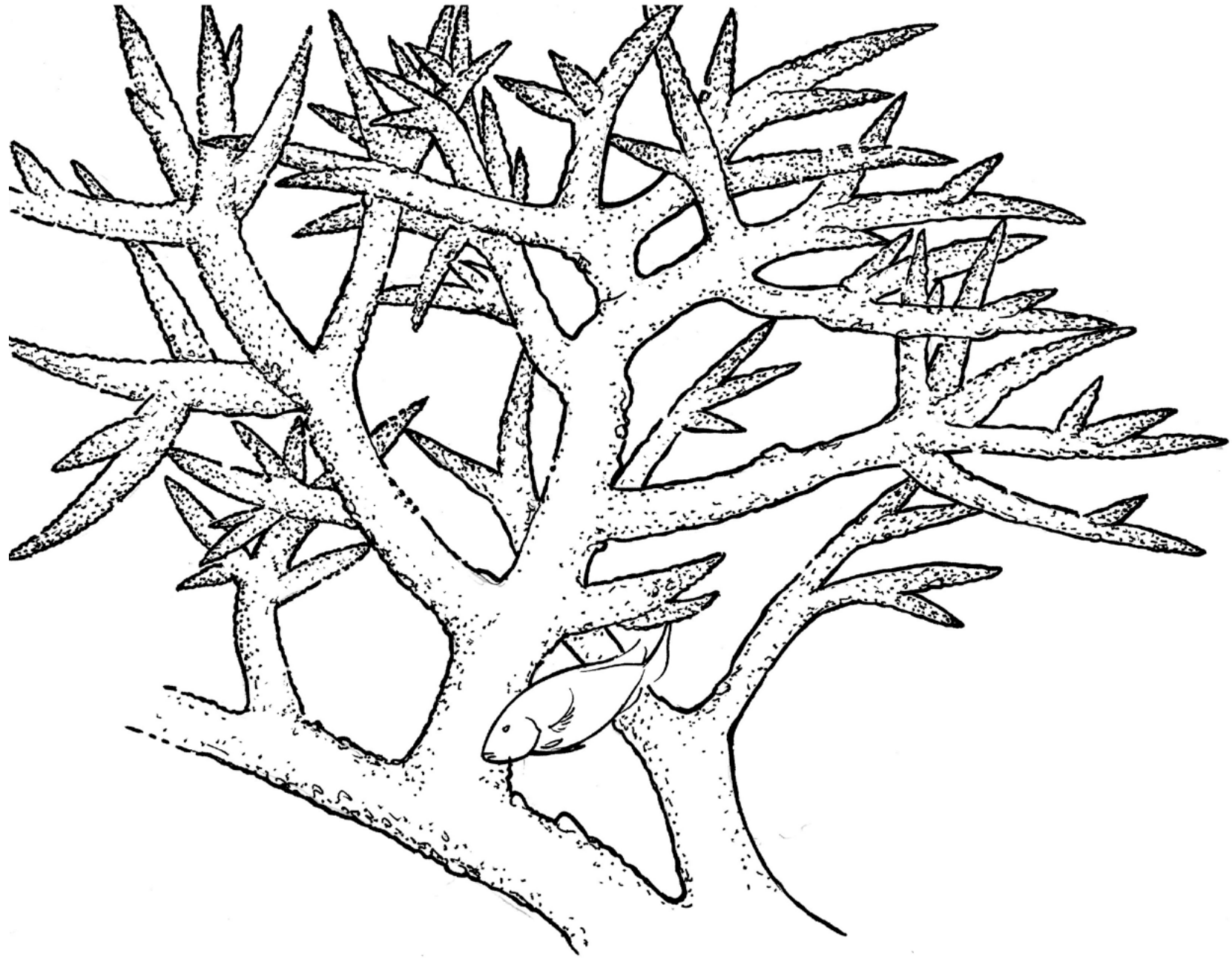
Corals provide shelter for hundreds of marine organisms. Lots of critters especially love acroporid corals because they can live in, on or under, their many branches. By protecting and replenishing acroporid corals, we also help hundreds of other creatures.

Elkhorn coral (*Acropora palmata*) “Pan-tail” inna kriol.



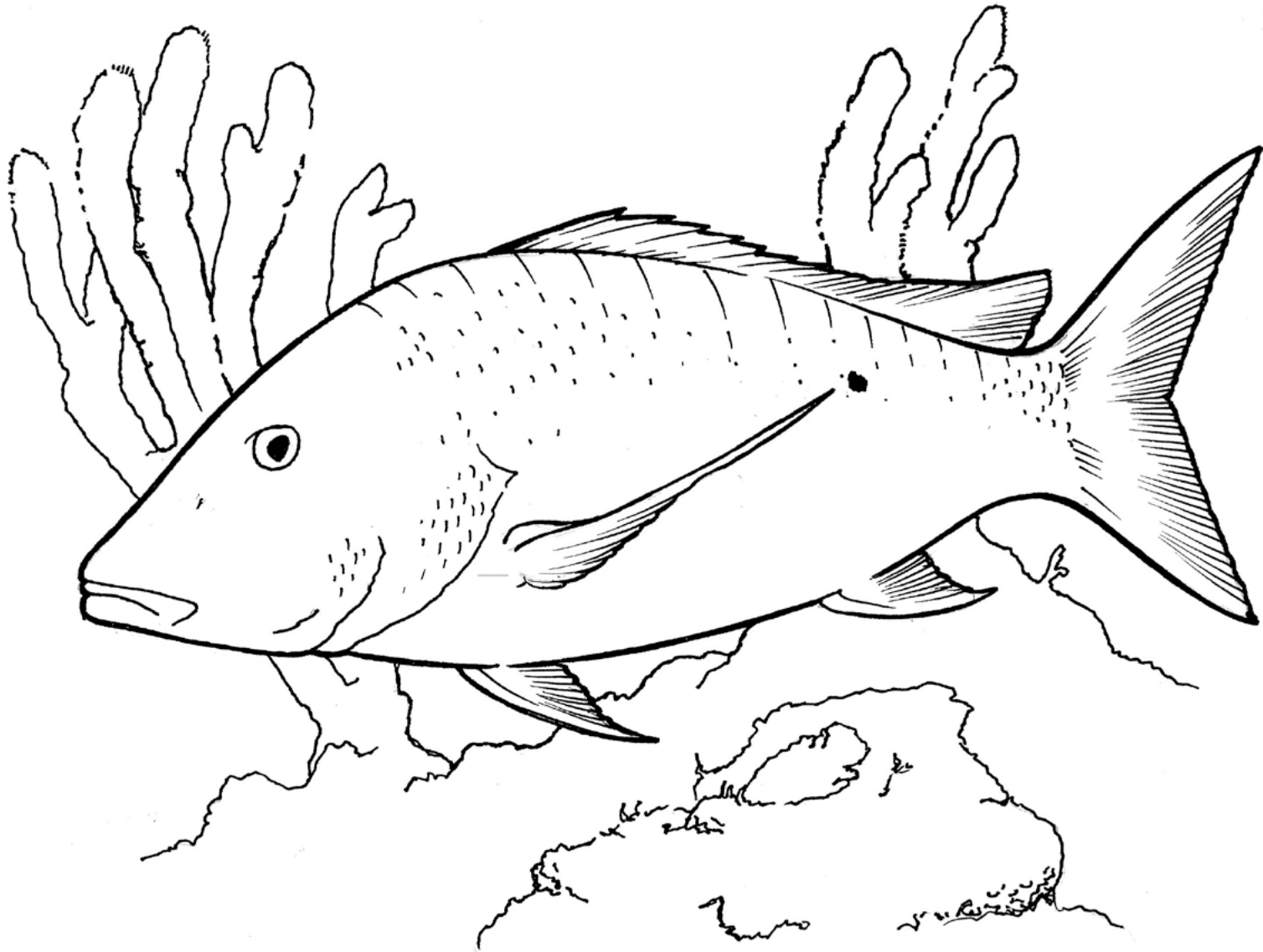
Elkhorn corals are the largest branching corals (up to 12 feet across!) and live in shallow water, providing the most shoreline protection by breaking waves. The long-spined urchin (*Diadema antillarum*) eat algae which helps baby corals by leaving a clean place on the reef to settle and grow.

Staghorn coral (*Acropora cervicornis*) “Pipe-shank” inna kriol.



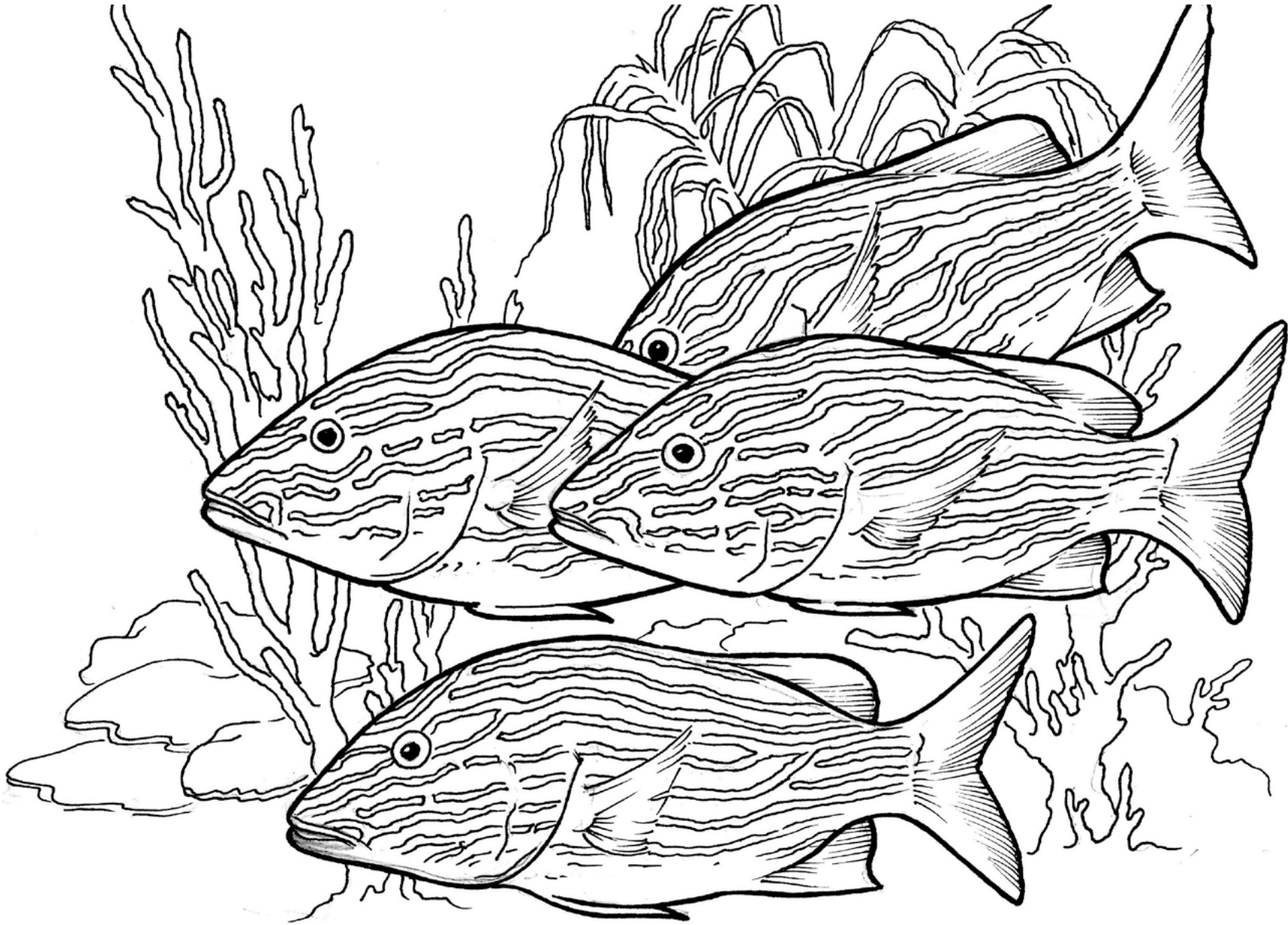
Fish and crabs love to shelter in staghorn corals! Colonies can cover large areas because when branches break off in storms, they continue to grow and spread out. That is also why they are so easy to grow in coral nurseries.

# Mutton snapper (*Lutjanus analis*)



Belize has more than ten species of snapper, how many can you name? How can you tell the mutton snapper from others? "Mutton has the button"-that dark spot on its body towards its tail.

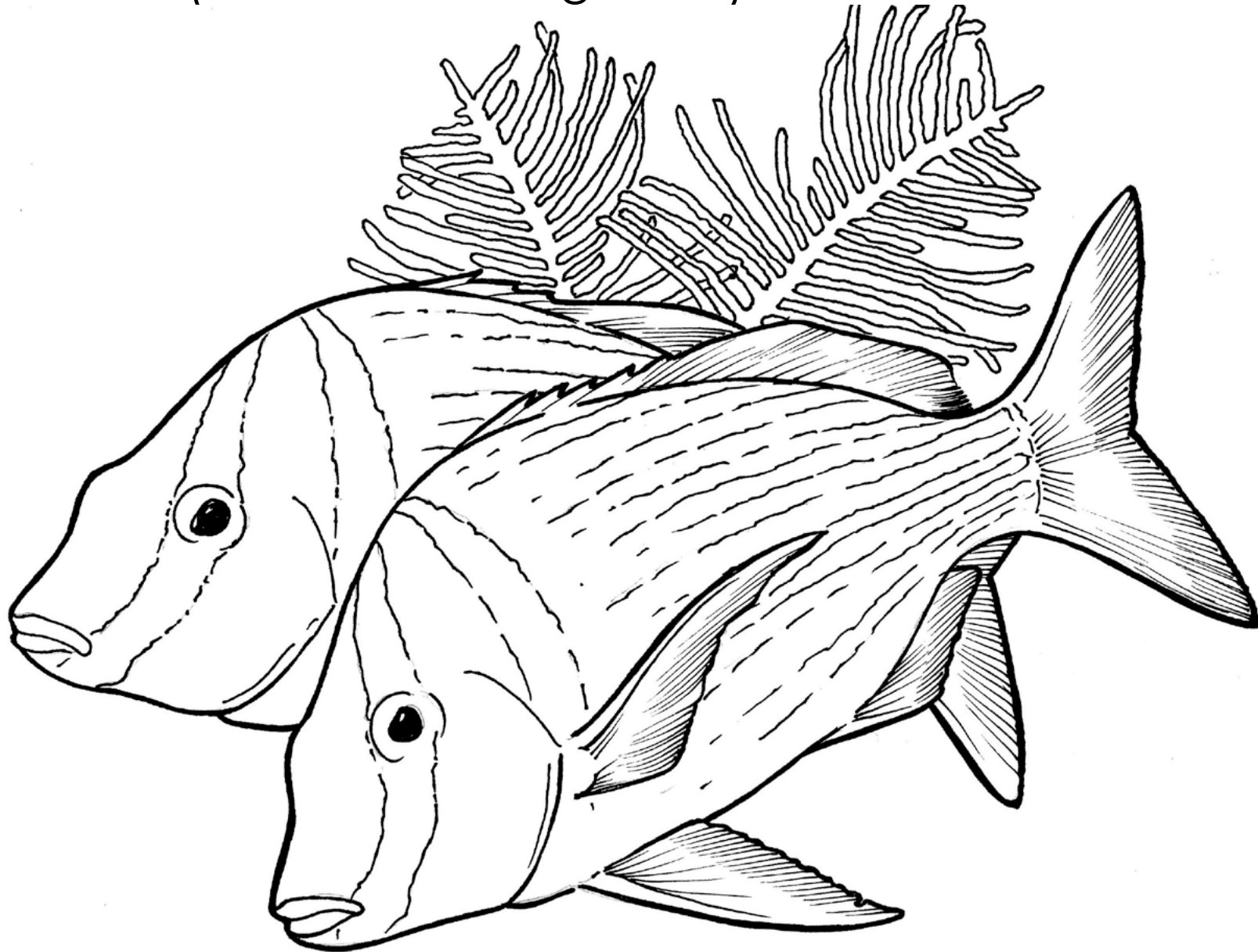
## French grunt (*Haemulon flavolineatum*)



Belize has even more species of grunts than snappers (>12)! The French grunt has yellow stripes, unlike the blue-striped grunt for example, and a distinct diagonal pattern of stripes in the middle of their bodies, that other grunts do not have.

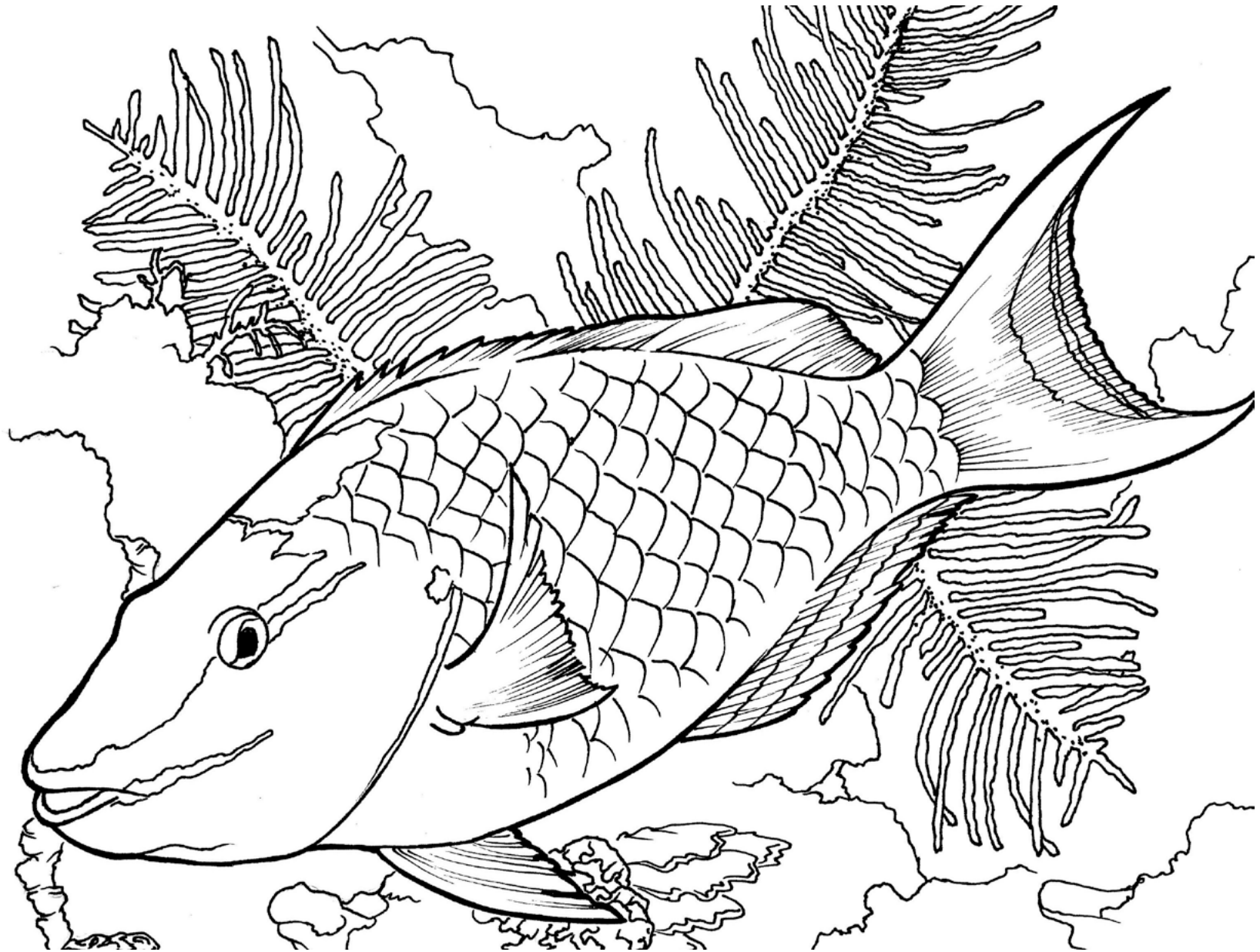


## Porkfish (*Anisotremus virginicus*)



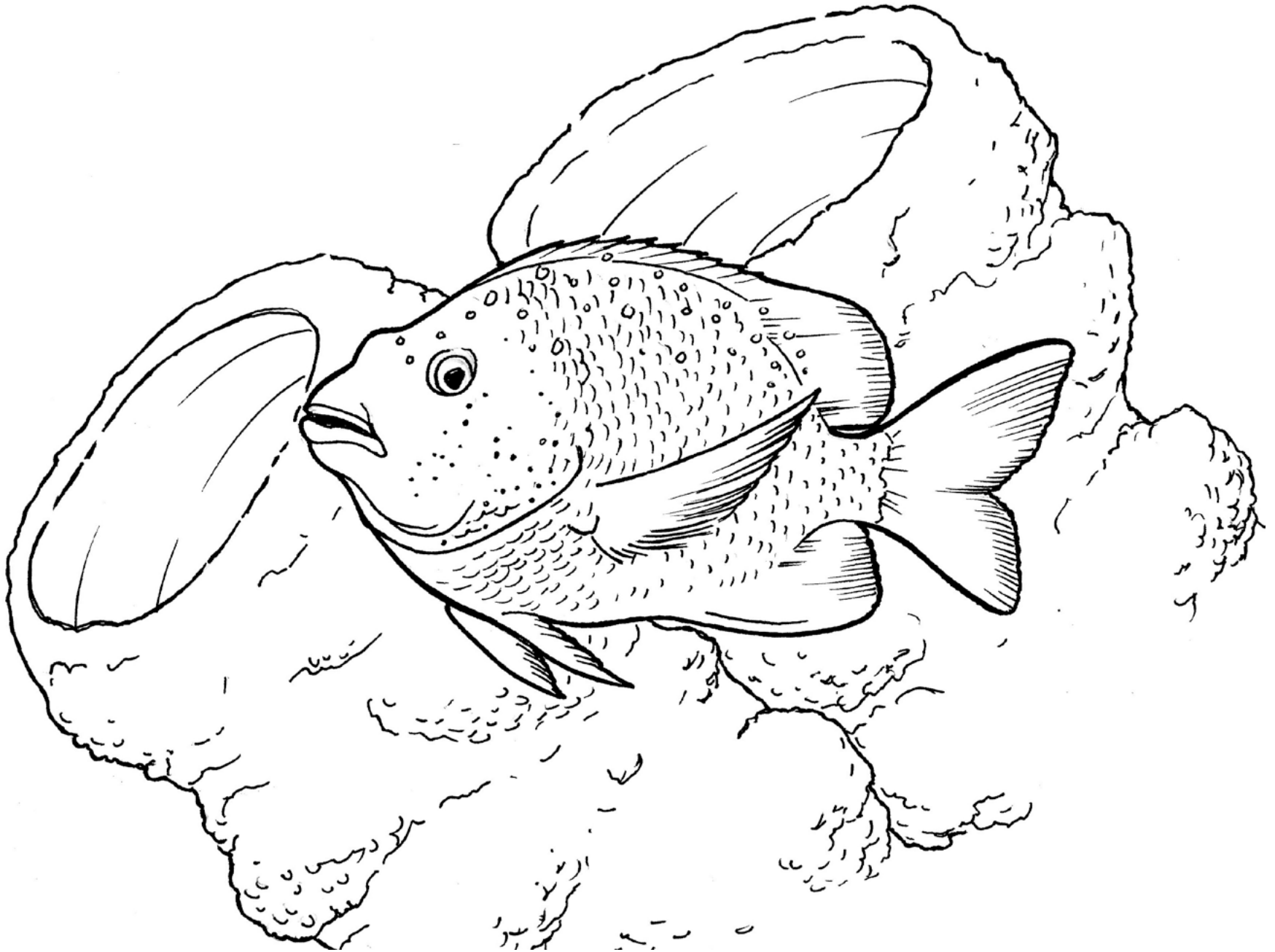
The porkfish is another common grunt species in Belize. The two bands on its head are black, and the other stripes and its fins and tail are bright yellow. Did you know the juvenile porkfish looks completely different from the adult?

# Stoplight Parrotfish (*Sparisoma viride*)



Did you know all parrotfish are protected in Belize since 2009? That is because they are so important to coral reef health since they eat algae (plants). Belize has > 12 species of parrotfish but the stoplight is easily recognizable by its bright colors!

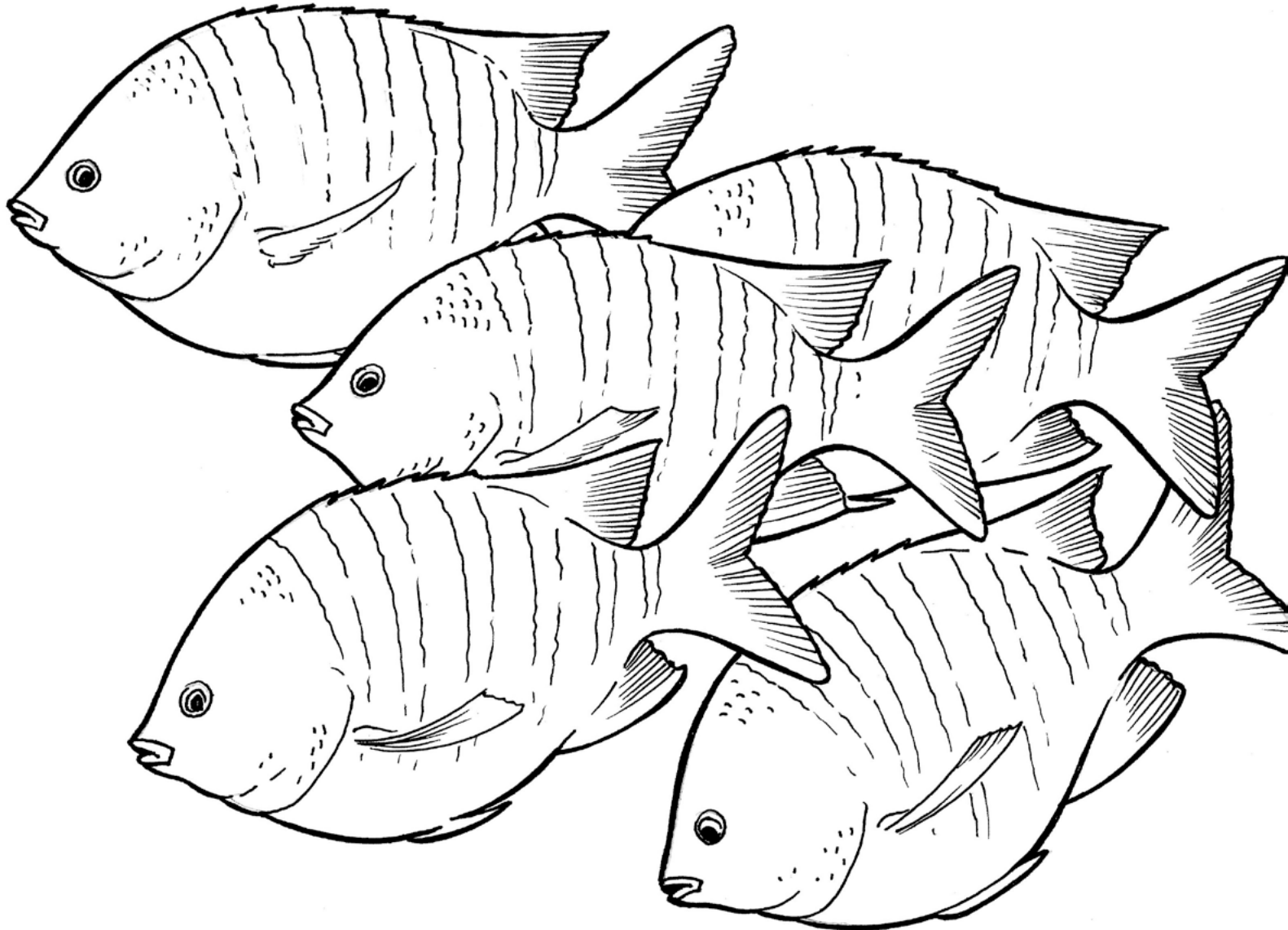
## Yellowtail damselfish (*Microspathodon chrysurus*)



Many fish are named for their appearance, so can you guess what color the tail is? The little spots on its back are bright blue, and the juvenile is even prettier, covered in neon blue speckles. That makes these small fish a crowd pleaser on snorkel trips!

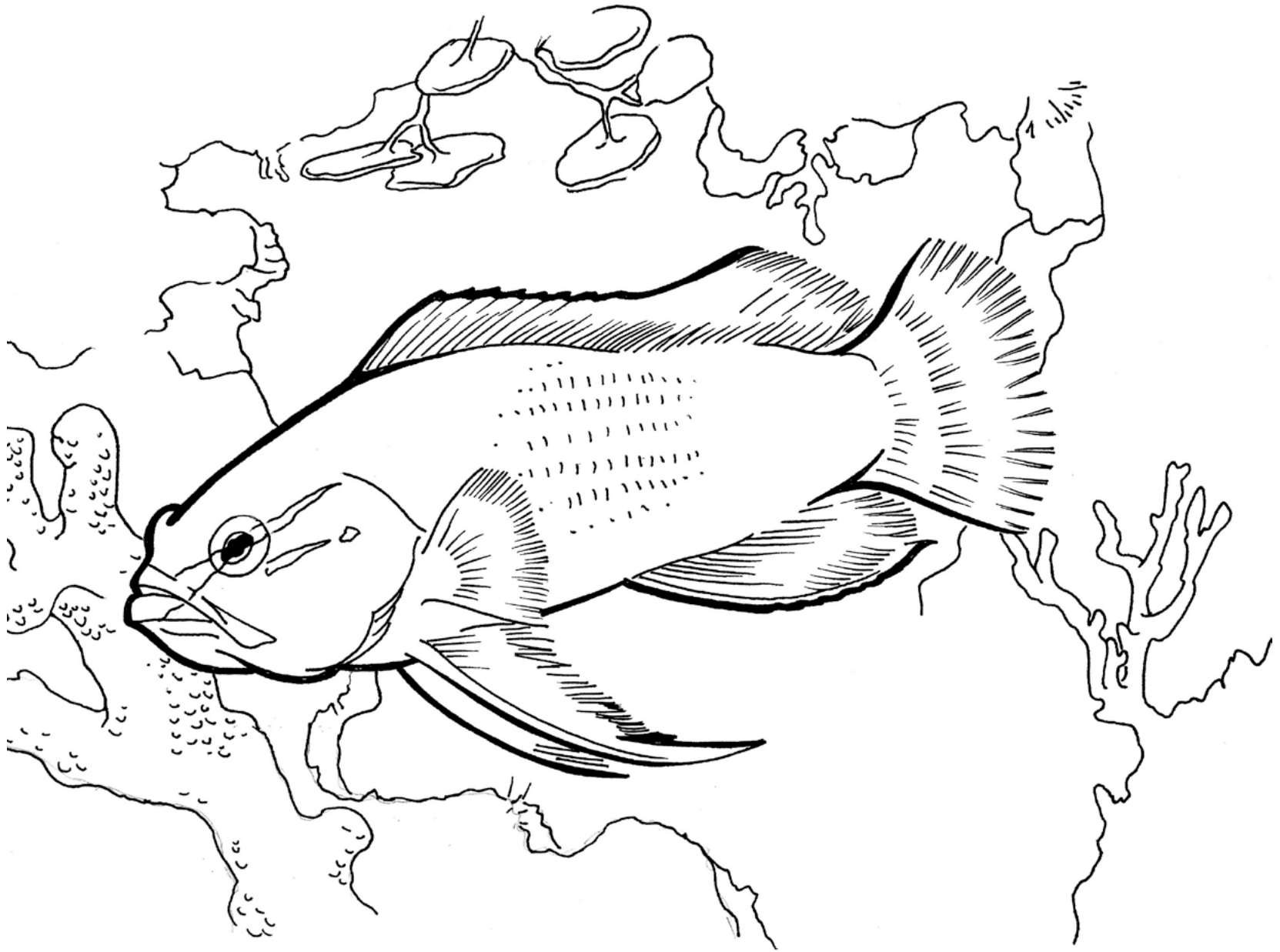


## Sergeant Major (*Abudefduf saxatilis*)



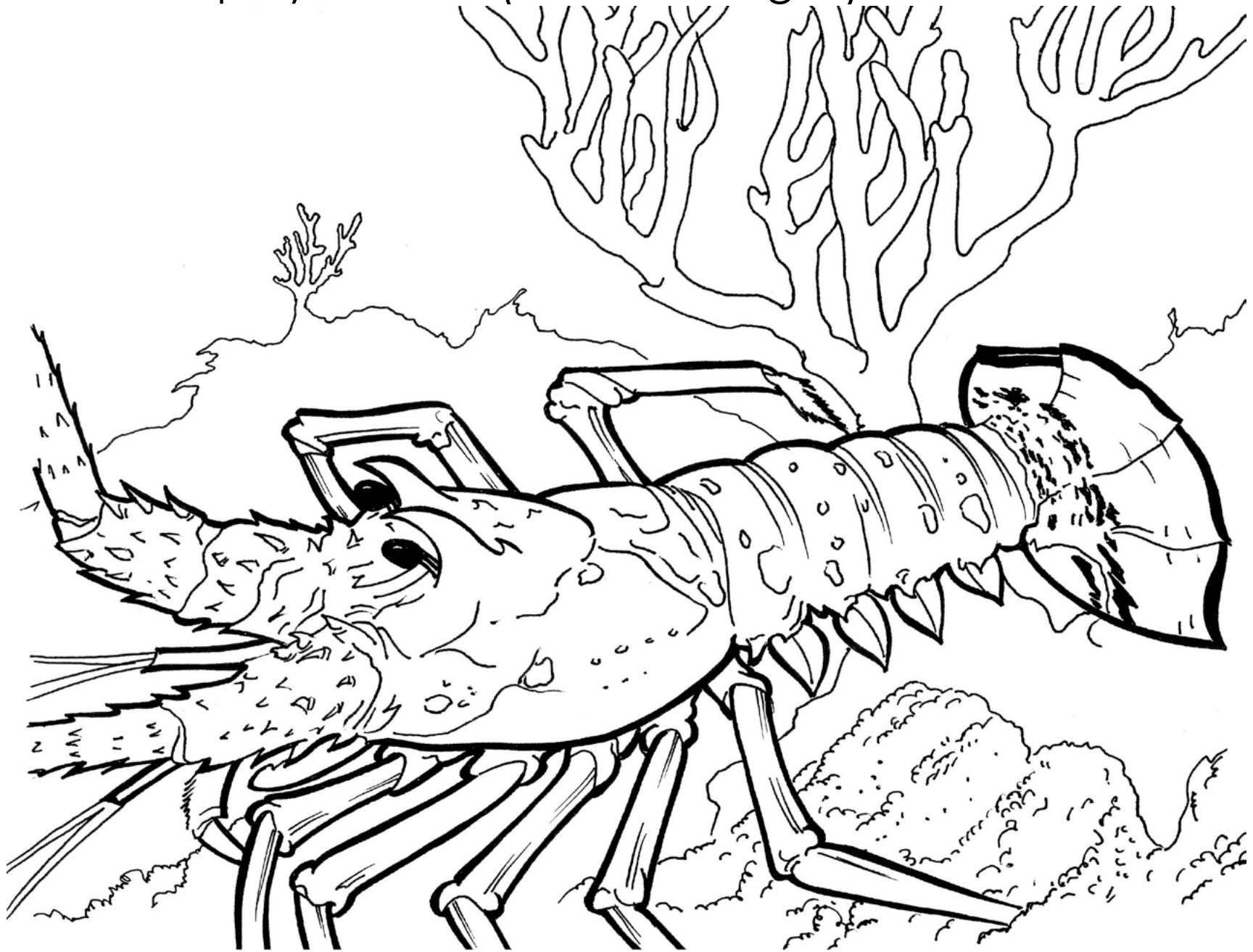
Sgt. Majors are named for their black bands/stripes. The top of the fish is yellow, and the rest of the body is light grey/blue/white. They are in the damselfish family and a very common reef fish.

# Fairy Basslet (*Gramma loreto*)



Some people call this fish the Royal Gramma since the fish is a regal purple (front half) and (rear half) gold. They are small (2.5 inches max) and are often sheltering under ledges or in crevasses on the reef.

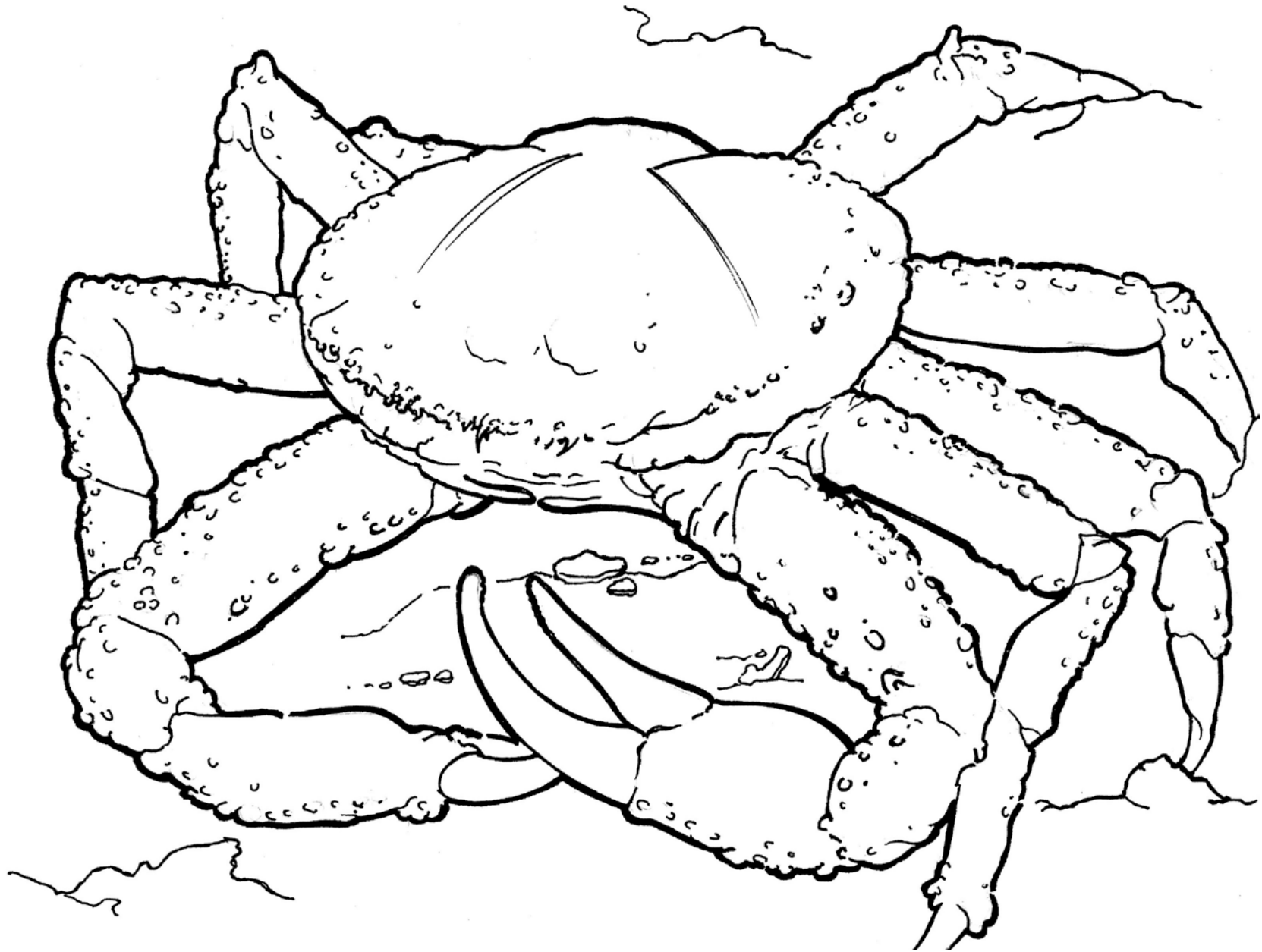
# Caribbean Spiny Lobster (*Panulirus argus*)



Did you know lobster export earned Belize over 13 million dollars during the 2014/2105 season? Remember lobster season is closed February 15-June 14 every year, to allow them some recovery time!

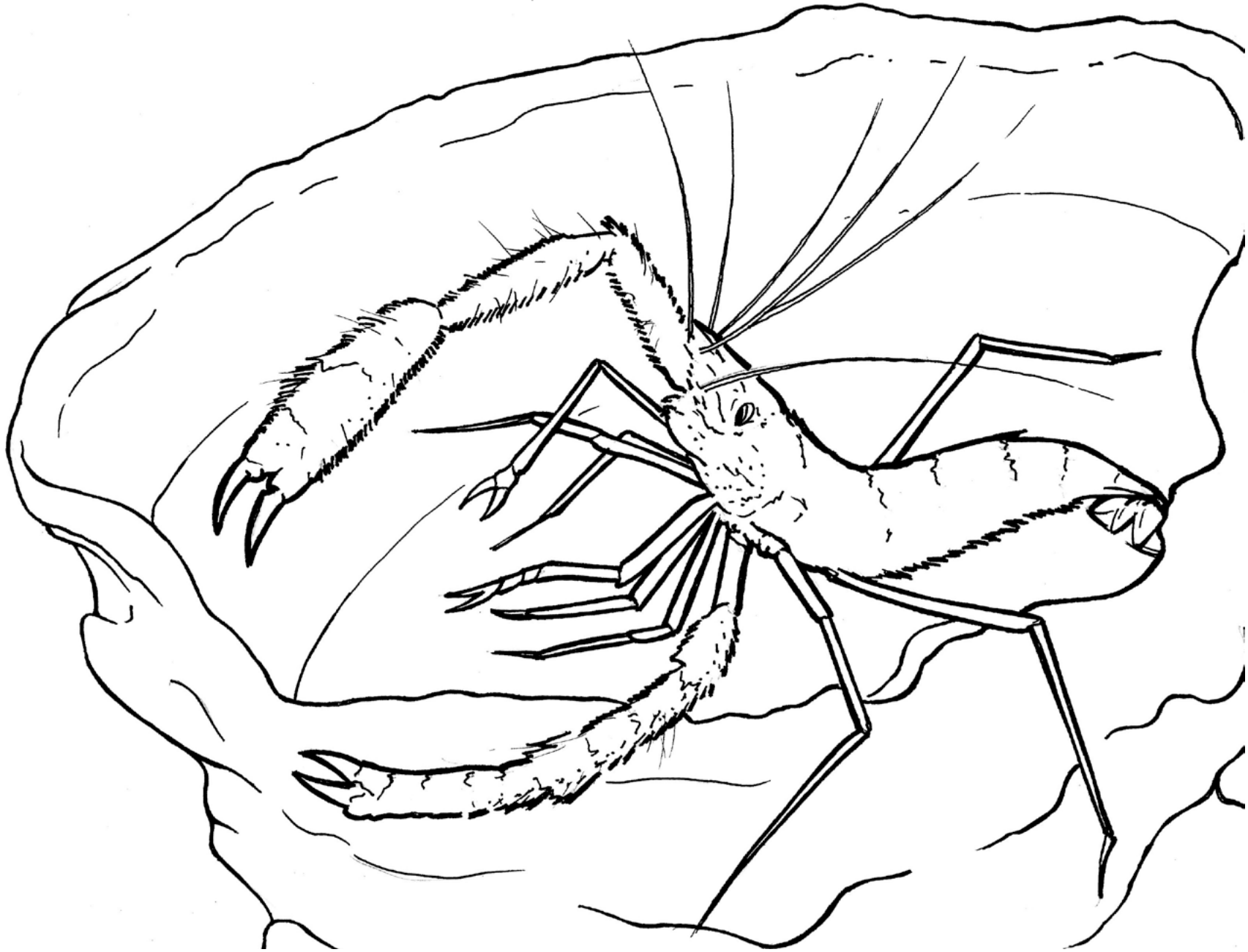


# Channel Clinging Crab (*Mithrax spinosissimus*)



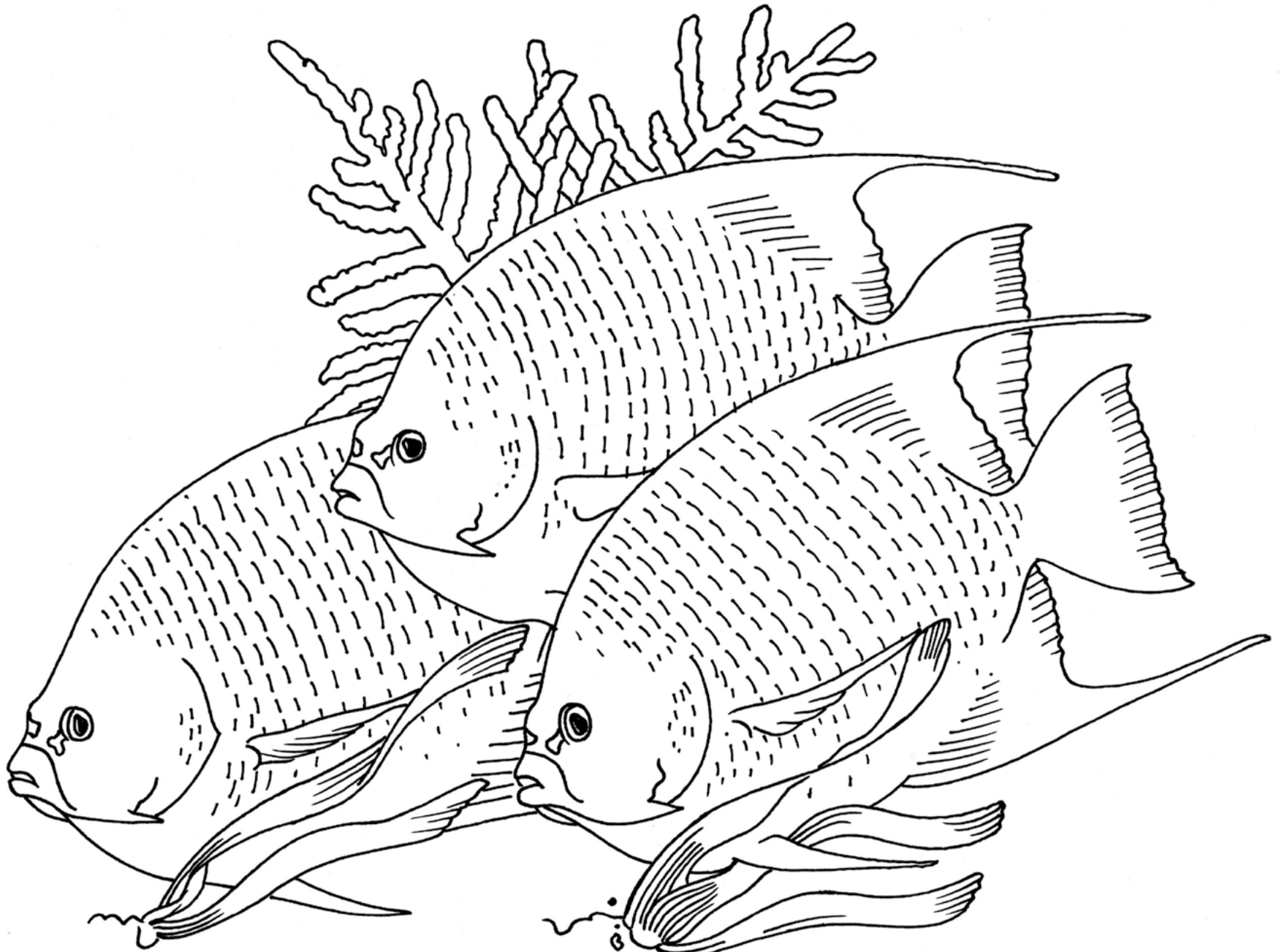
This is the largest crab species in Belize, just one of many we like to eat! But they also help the reef by eating algae, which gives baby corals a clean place to land and settle. Sometimes called devil crab, it has many other common names, but only one scientific name. It is always good to know animals' (and plants') scientific name to reduce confusion.

## Banded Coral Shrimp (*Stenopus hispidus*)



This shrimp is named for its red bands all along its claws and body. They are only about two inches long and are often hiding, but you can find them by looking for their long white antennae.

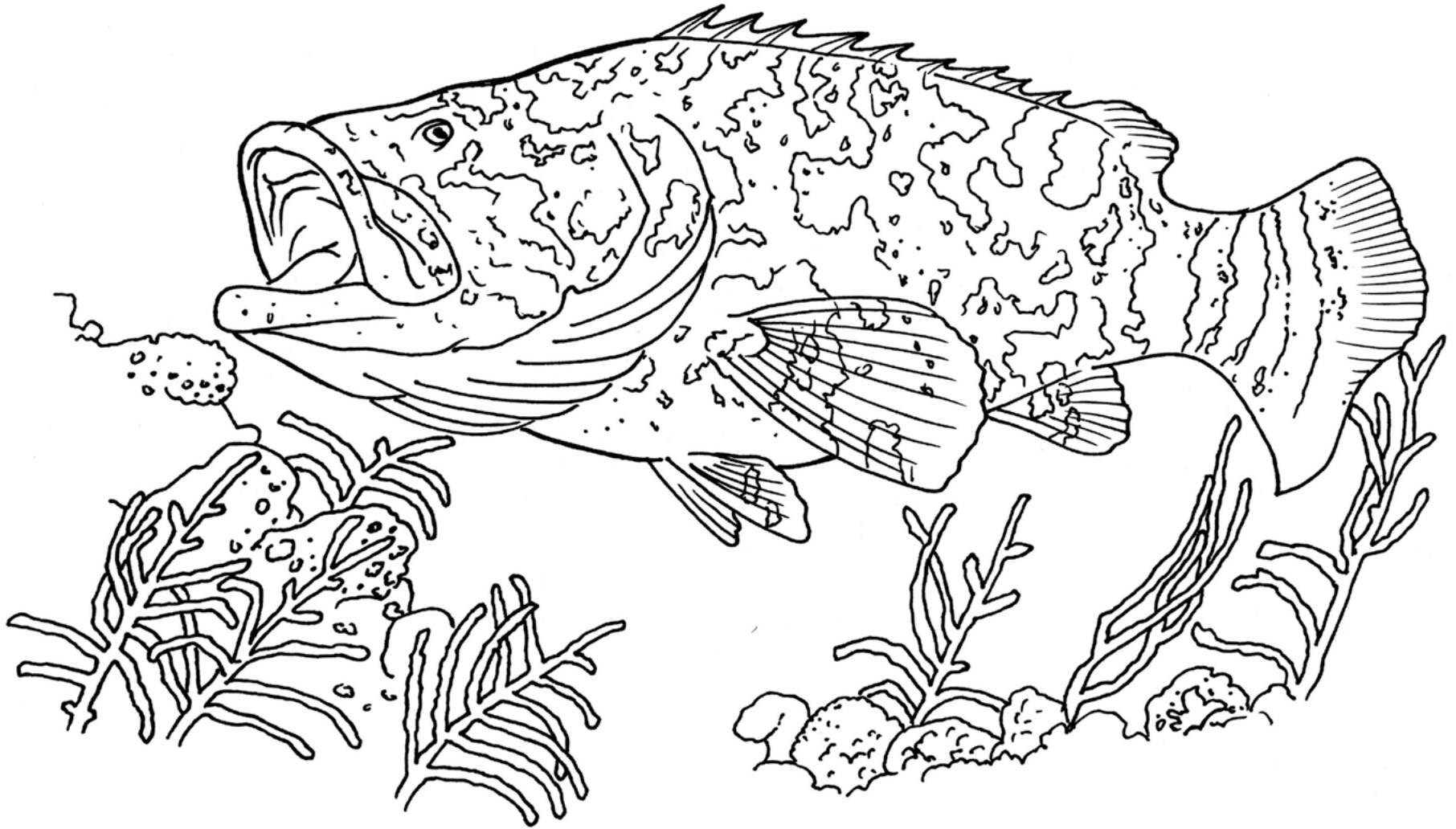
# Grey Angelfish (*Pomacanthus arcuatus*)



Did you know that juvenile Grey Angelfish are not grey? These beauties are actually black with two yellow bars on their body and a yellow tail with a black spot in the middle. When an adult, their bodies turn grey with black spots on each scale and their mouths white. They are often seen traveling in pairs, feeding on sponges, algae and sea-grasses.

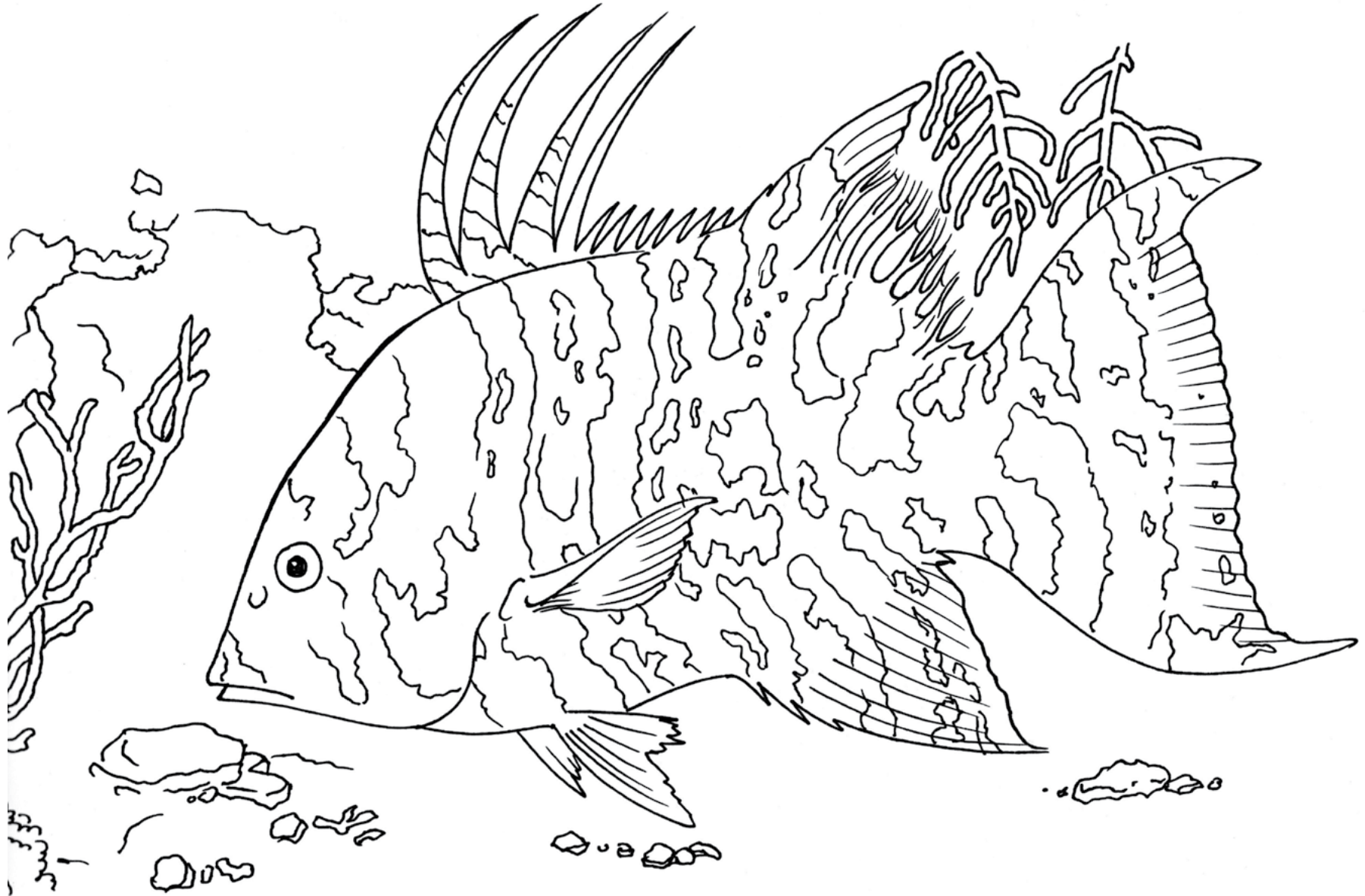


# Goliath grouper (*Epinephelus itajara*)



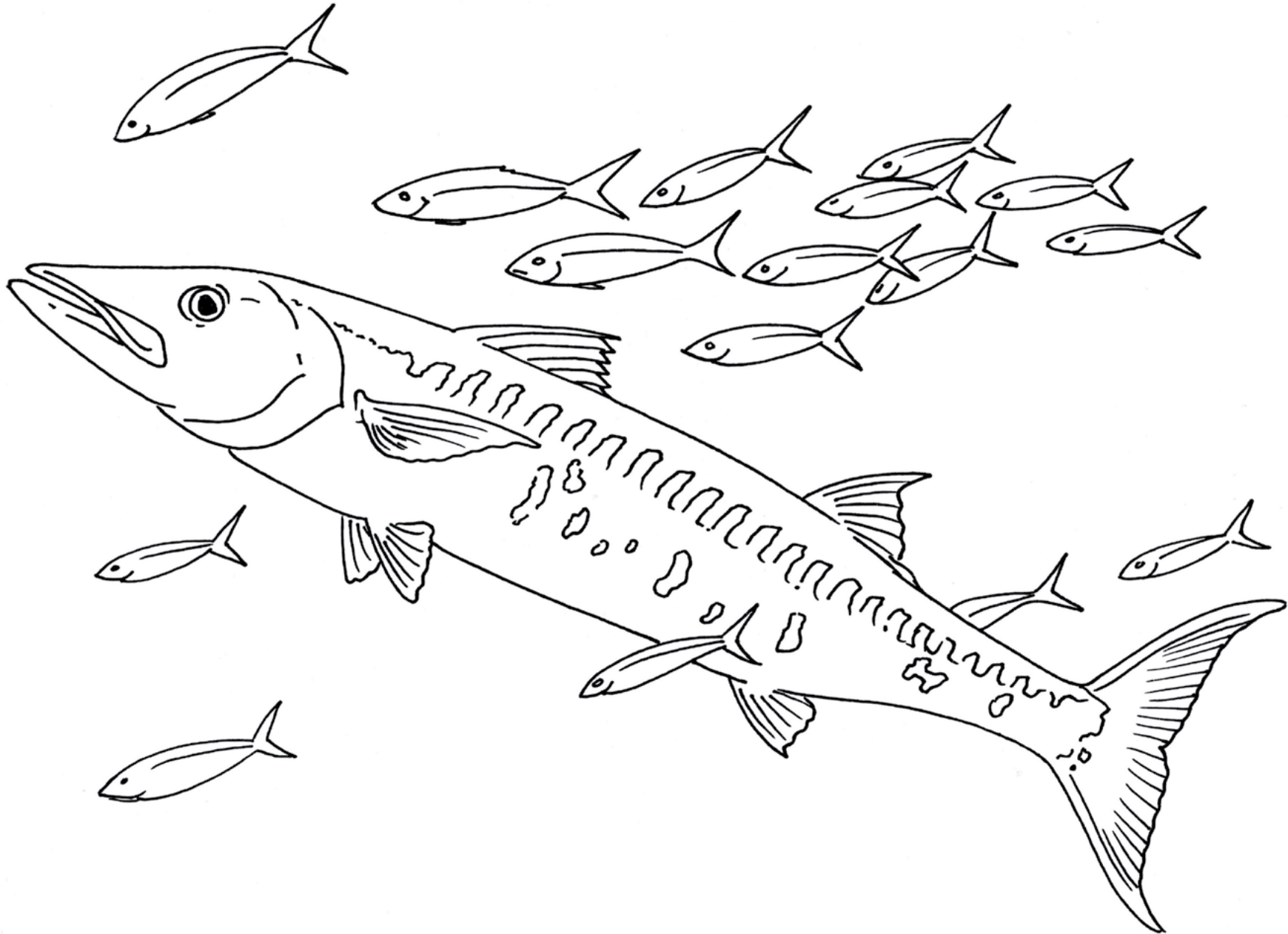
Known to many as a Jewfish, the Goliath Grouper is critically endangered, can grow up to 8 feet large and can weigh up to 800 pounds! Isn't that remarkable? They live mostly in reef, mangrove, and sea-grass habitats so if you see one, be sure to point it out.

## Hogfish -juvenile phase (*Lachnolaimus maximus*)



Known for its good taste and abundance in Belize, the adult Hogfish has a long “pig-like” snout that is used to search for crustaceans in the sand, and explains its name. Even though in Belize we say hogfish ‘snapper’, this fish is actually in the wrasse family. Pictured here is a juvenile, with shades of bright orange-the adult looks very different!

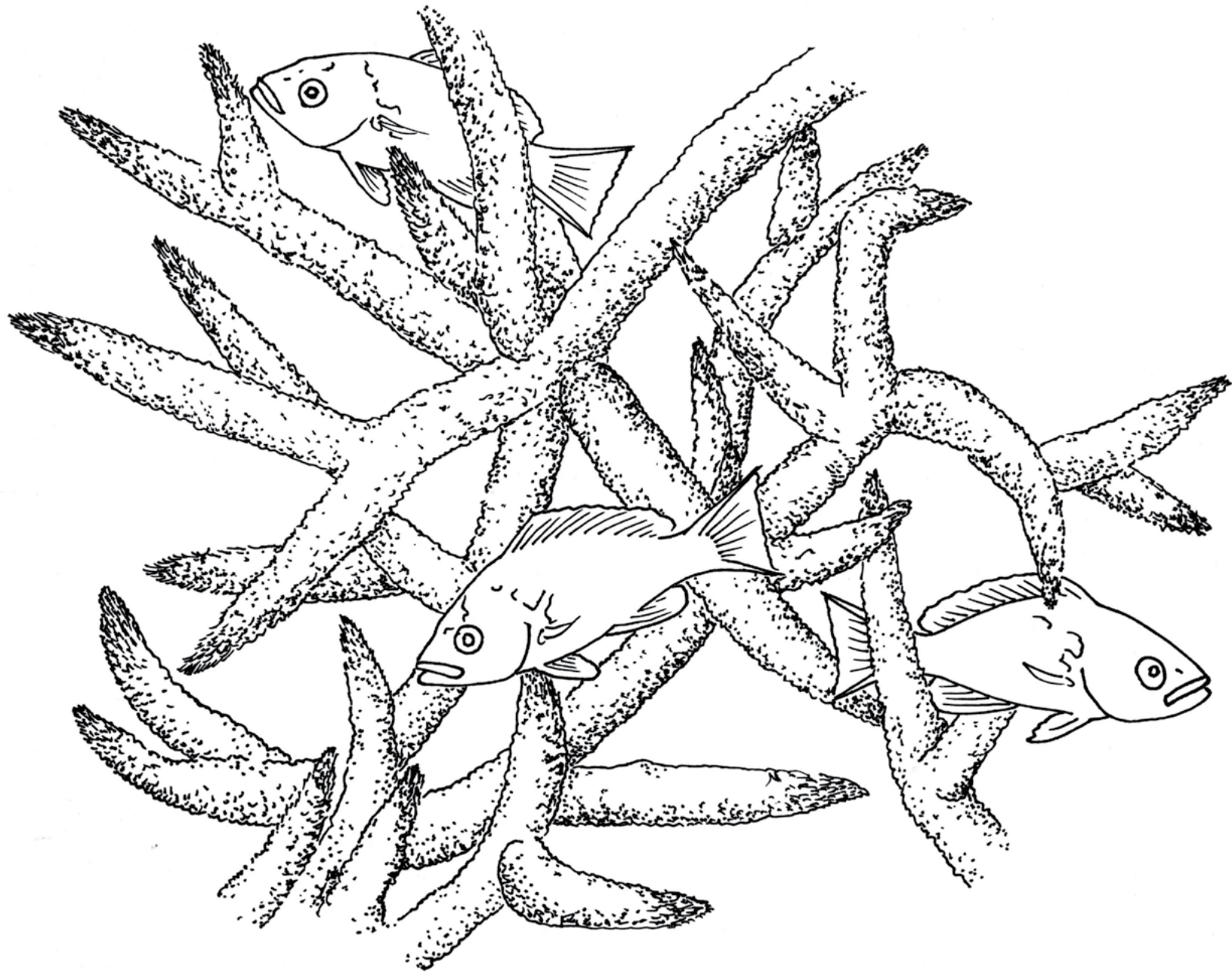
# Great Barracuda (*Sphyraena barracuda*)



“Barrow”- inna Kriol- the **Great Barracuda** live in the tropics and subtropics, and spend most of their time alone, but can occasionally be found hanging out in schools. They have a slender silver body with dark spots and can grow up to six feet long. Pictured here with a school of small bar jacks, also silvery.



# Blue (Maya) hamlet (*Hypoplectrus maya*)



The Blue and the Maya hamlet have a stunning, bright blue color-almost shimmering! They are not seen in groups, like we show here, but usually alone, and the Maya hamlet is ONLY found in southern Belize! They love the staghorn corals, which are bright orange, so protecting and restoring more staghorn makes more homes for the special Maya hamlet.

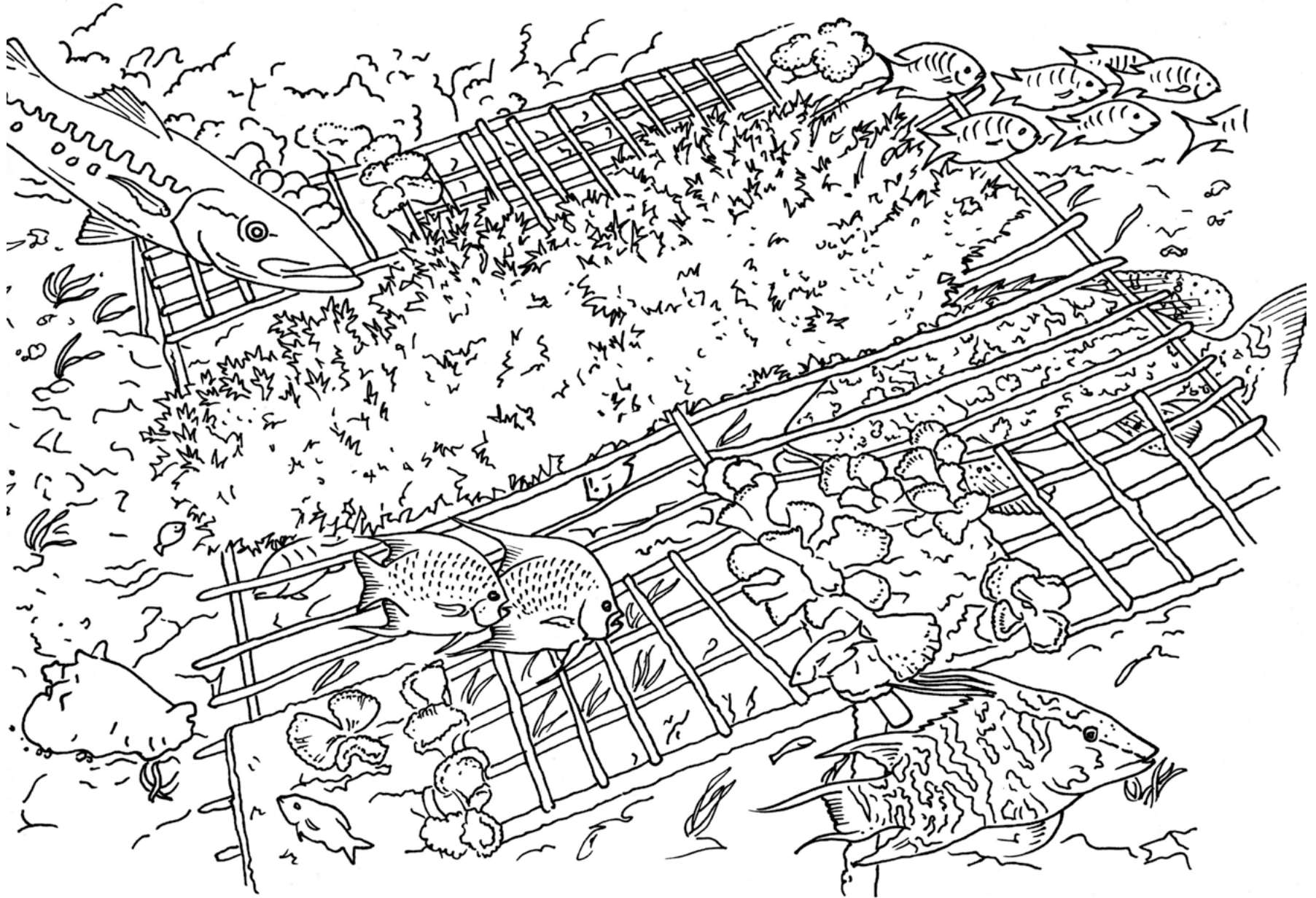
# Queen conch (*Strombus gigas*)



Noticeable by its large pink shell, the Queen Conch can be found throughout the coast of Belize and is protected under the fisheries regulations with specific open and closed seasons, and size restrictions. They have been used since the days of the Mayas for food, communication, jewelry and ornaments and are often considered a large sea snail. We also all know it as the seashell horn, making it a really cool musical instrument.



# A coral nursery



In the center are staghorn corals, grown on ropes in the nursery and then harvested and transferred to the reefs. Staghorns have long thin branches, and the elkhorn on the grids are very young, more flower shaped, both are orange. There are many ways to grow corals underwater, but this "table" method attracts lots of other marine life! Fragments of Hope has > 20 coral nurseries in > 15 different places in Belize-from Placencia to Turneffe Atoll!