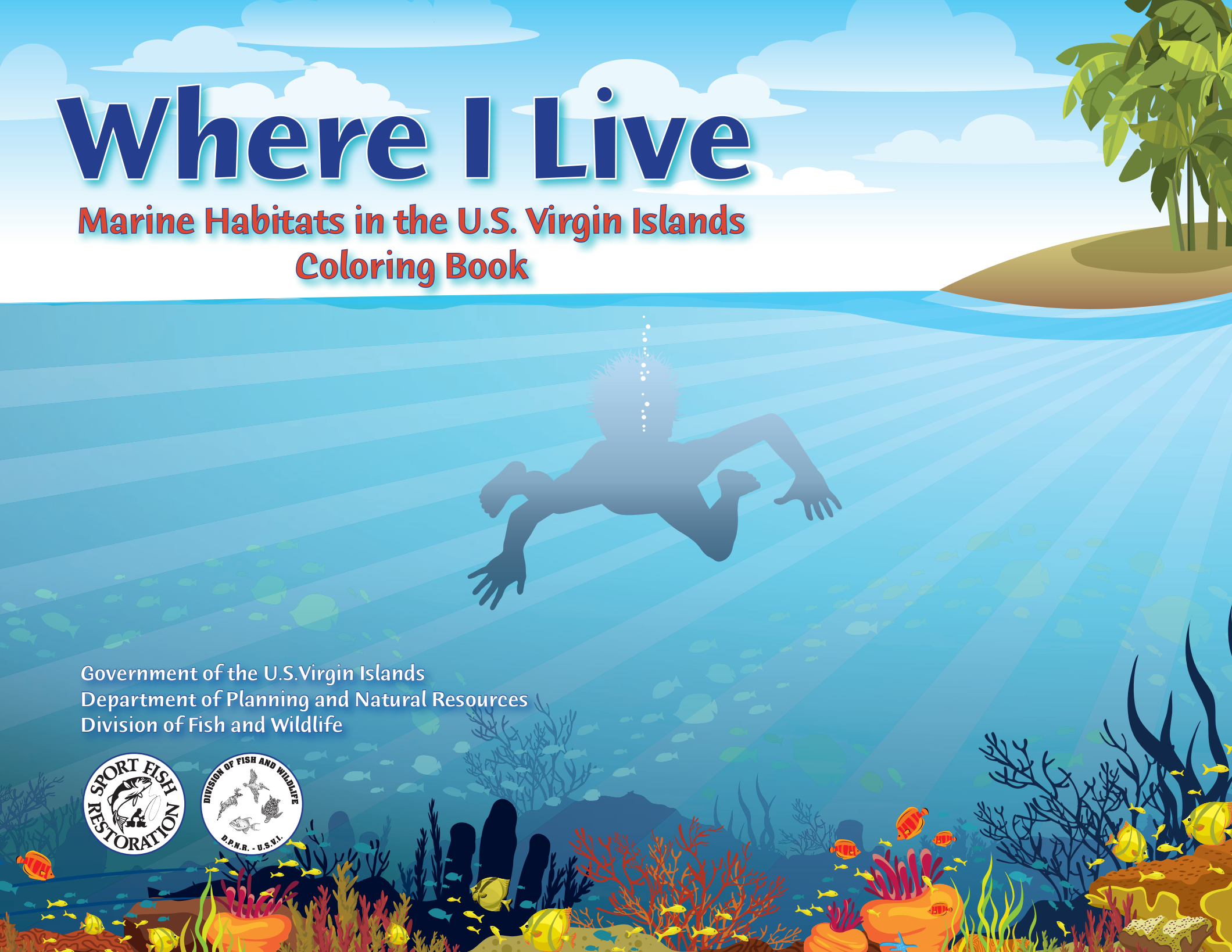
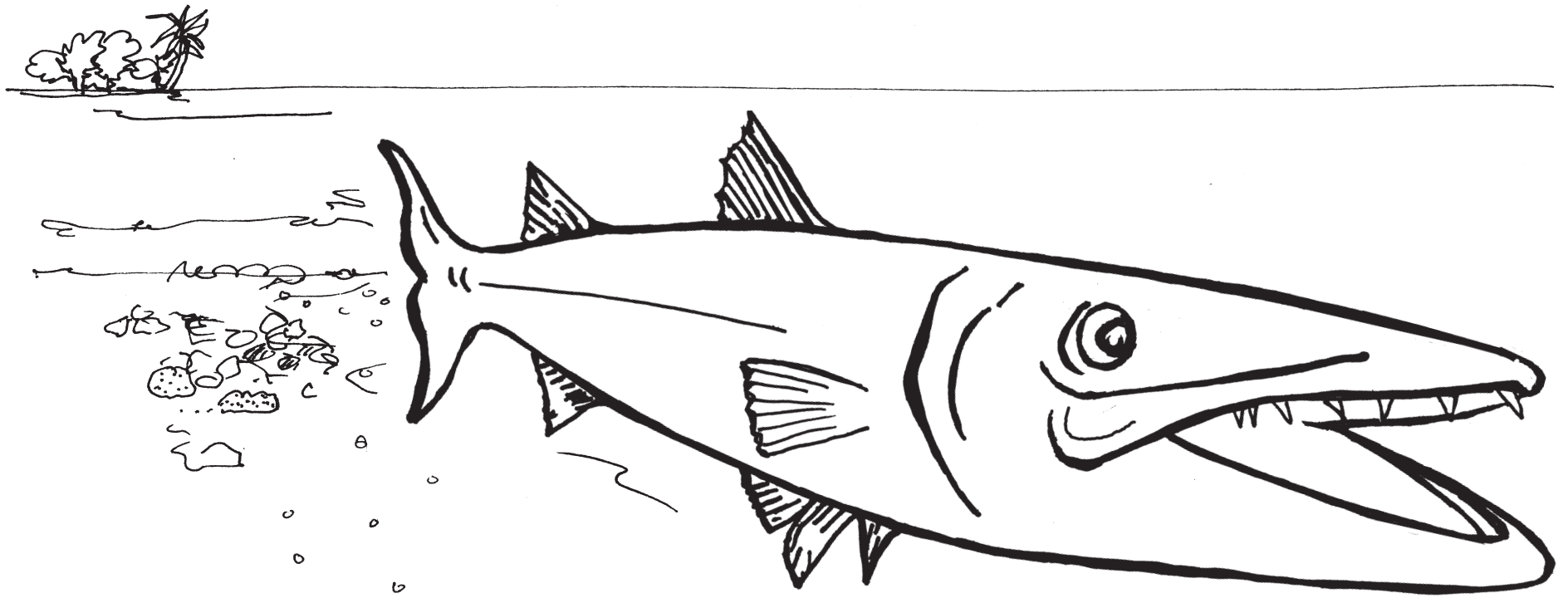


Where I Live

Marine Habitats in the U.S. Virgin Islands Coloring Book

Government of the U.S. Virgin Islands
Department of Planning and Natural Resources
Division of Fish and Wildlife

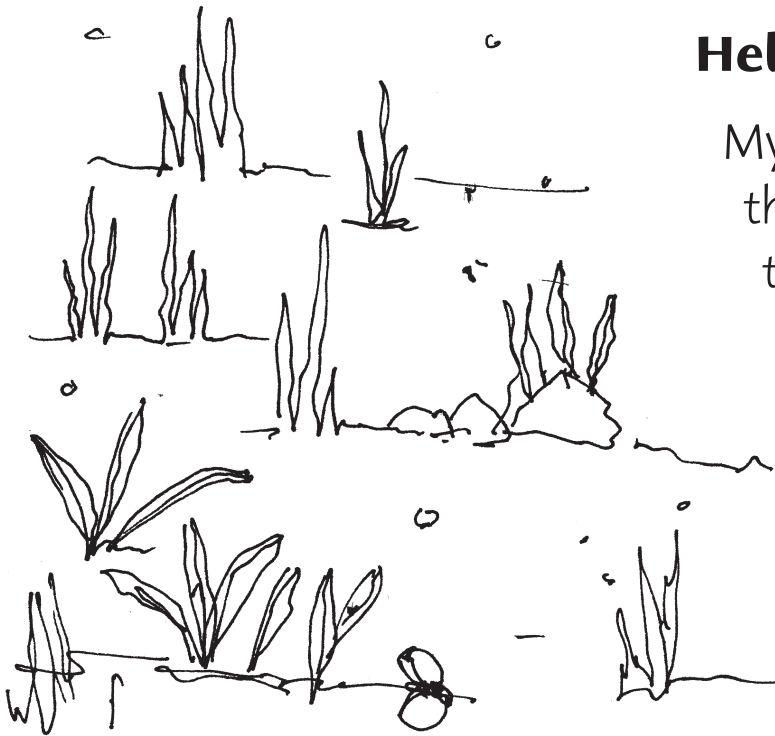




Hello!

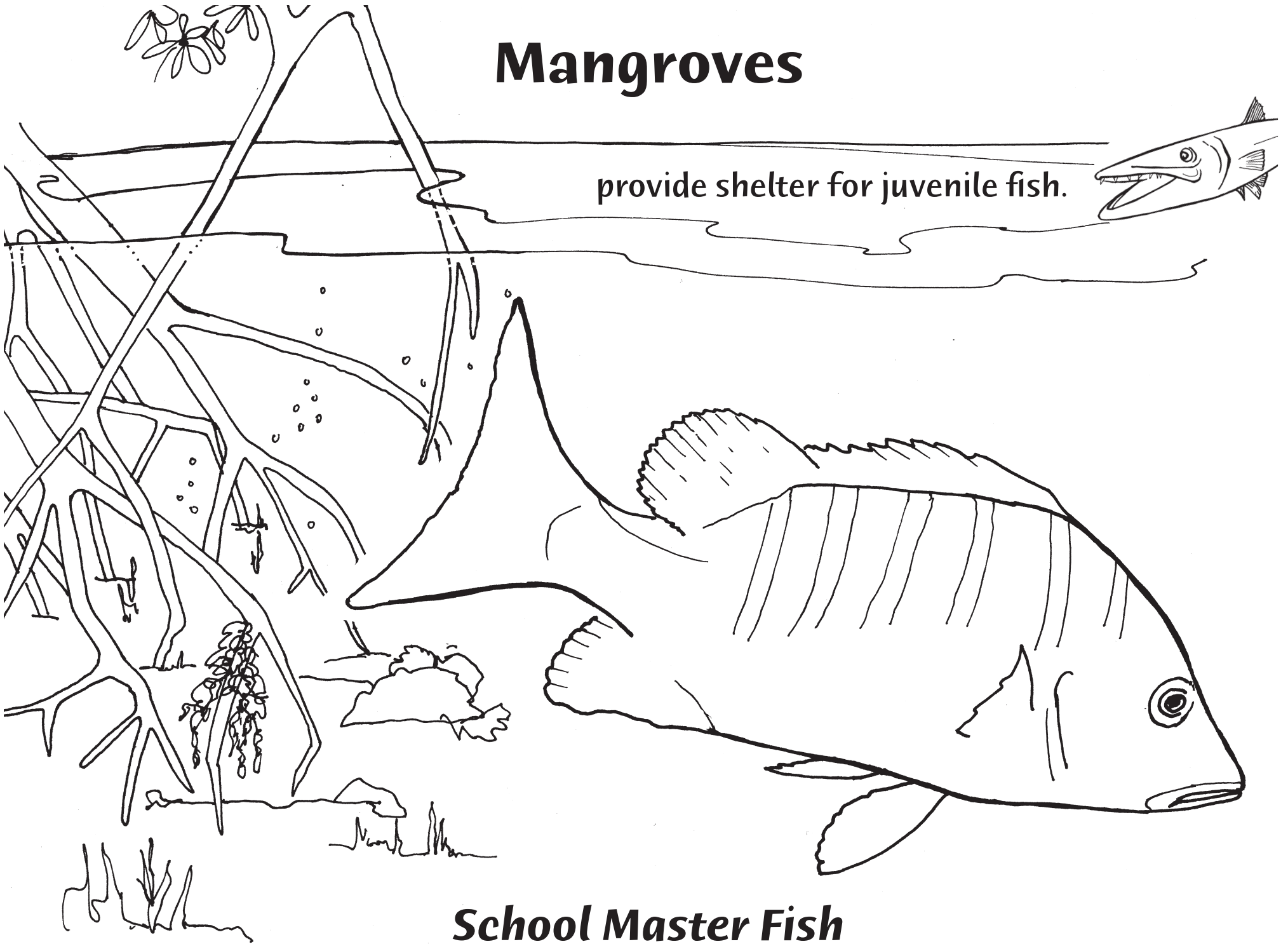
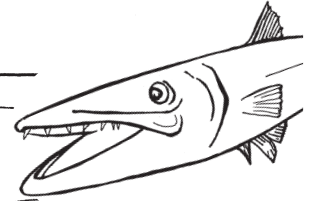
My name is **Barry** and I am a Barracuda, one of the thousands of fishes that live in the sea surrounding the Virgin Islands.

Throughout this book I will introduce you to other local fishes and where they live. This is called a **Marine Habitat** and there are 4 kinds described here: **Mangrove**, **Beach/Shallow Water**, **Coral Reef** and **Deep Water**. Each one is different, though some fish may travel from one to the other.



Mangroves

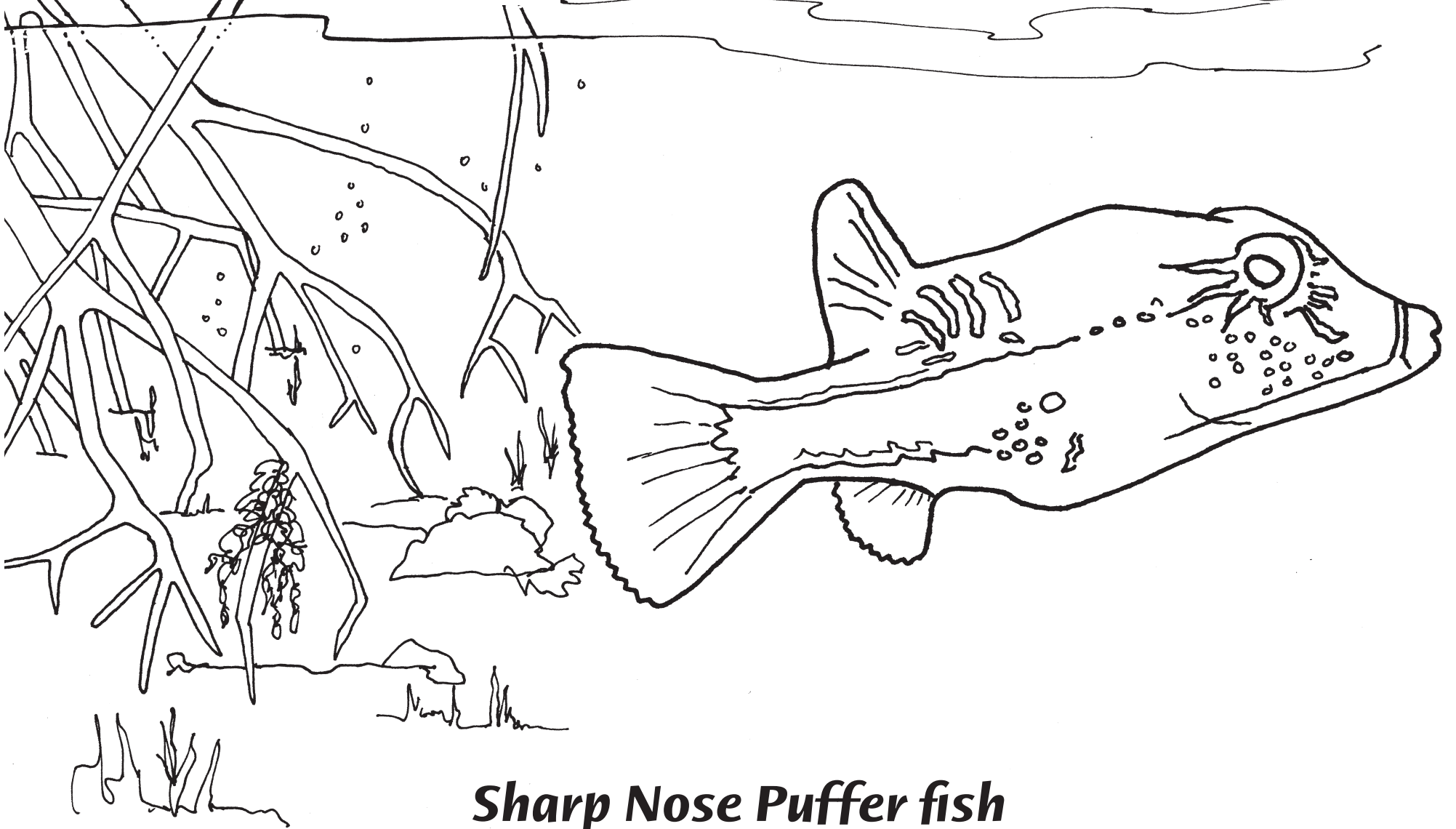
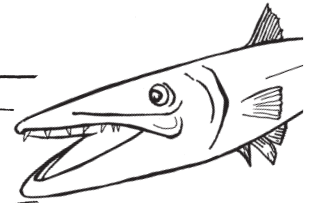
provide shelter for juvenile fish.



School Master Fish

Mangroves

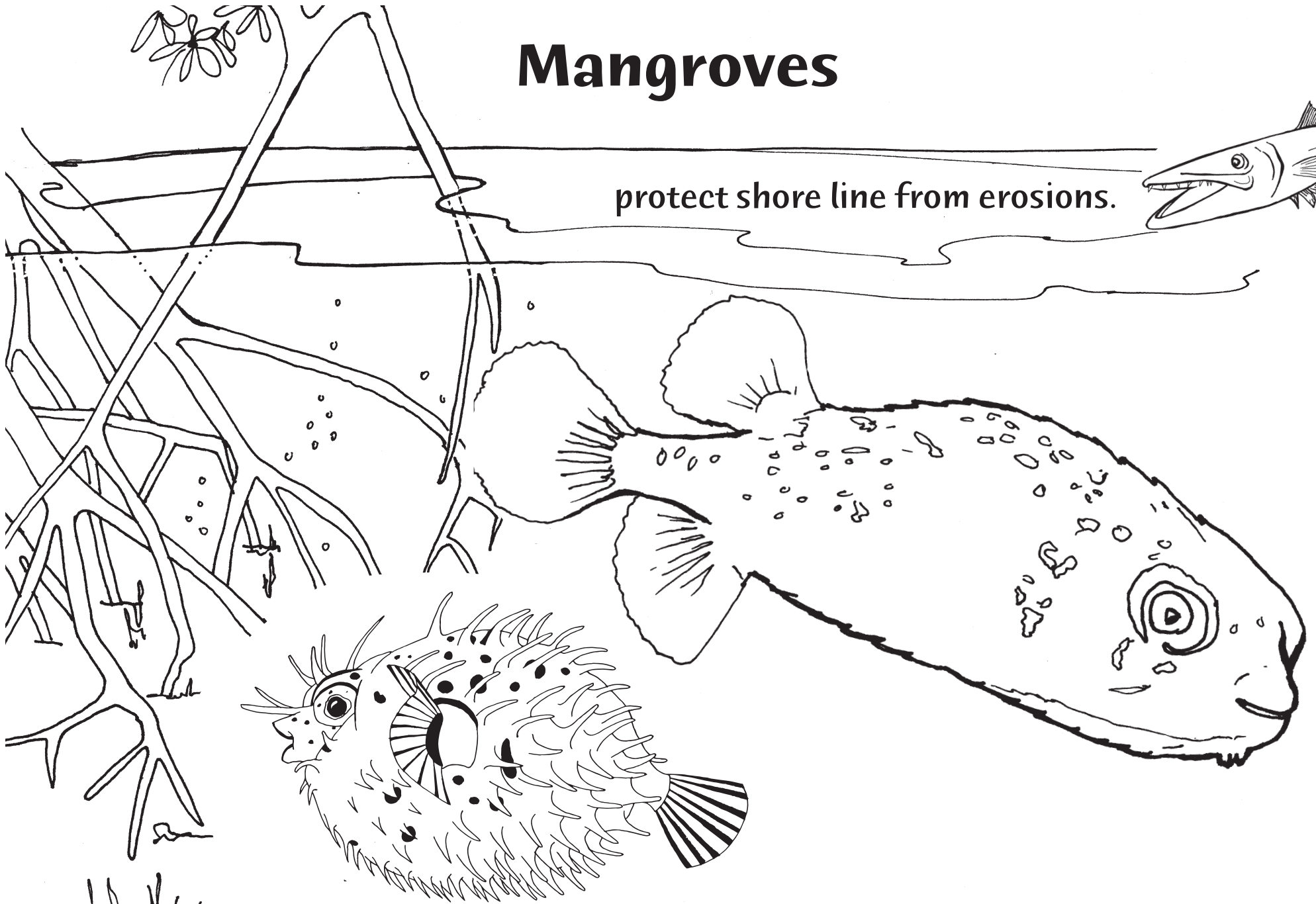
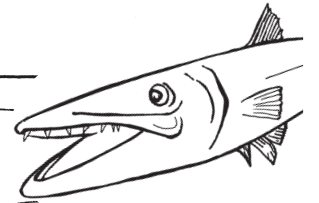
filter run off entering the marine environment.



Sharp Nose Puffer fish

Mangroves

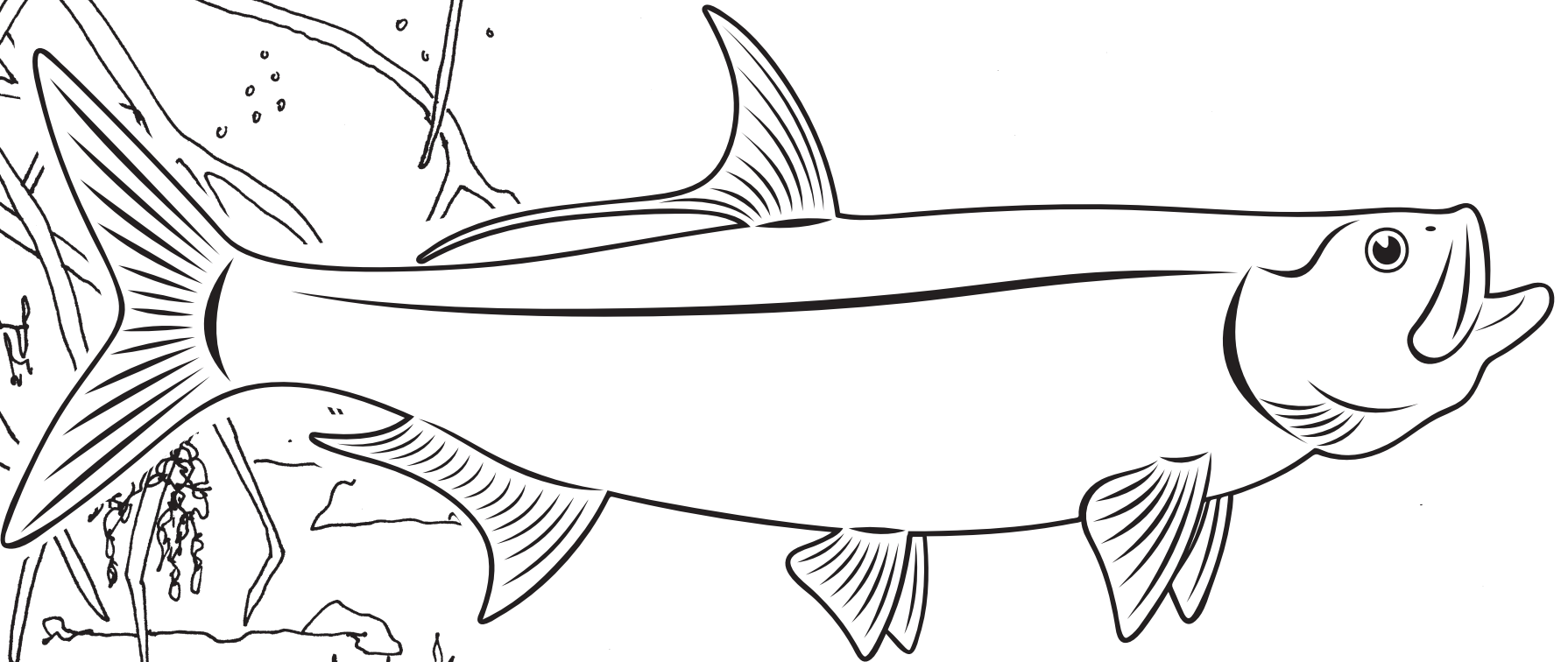
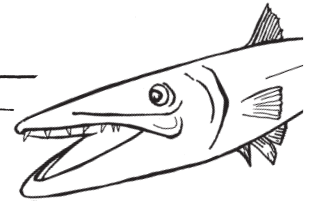
protect shore line from erosions.



Balloon Fish

Mangroves

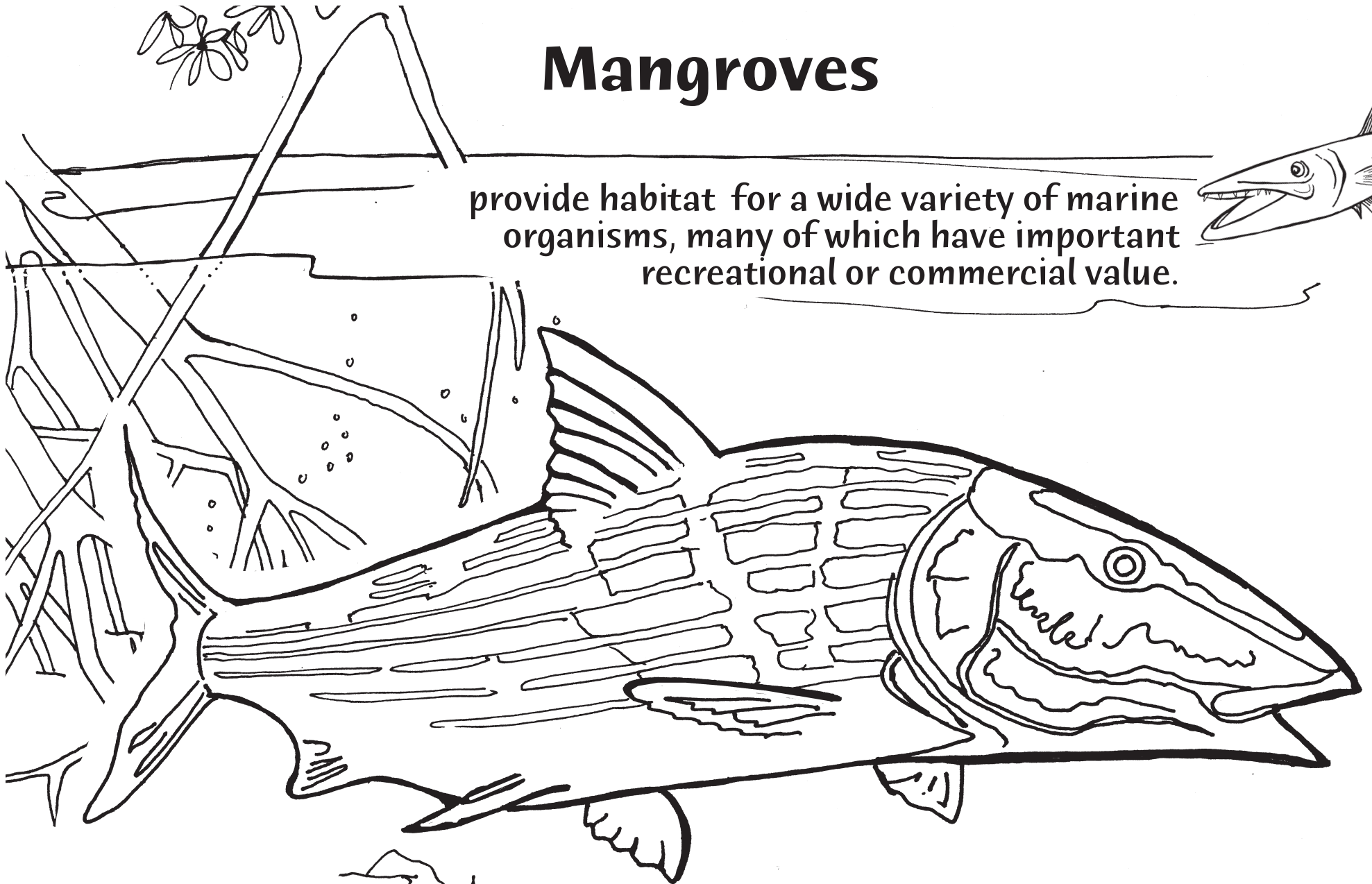
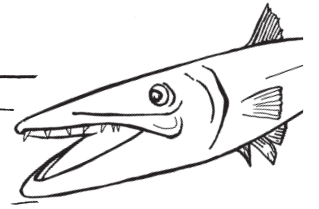
serve as storm buffers by reducing wind and wave action in shallow shoreline areas.



Tarpon

Mangroves

provide habitat for a wide variety of marine organisms, many of which have important recreational or commercial value.

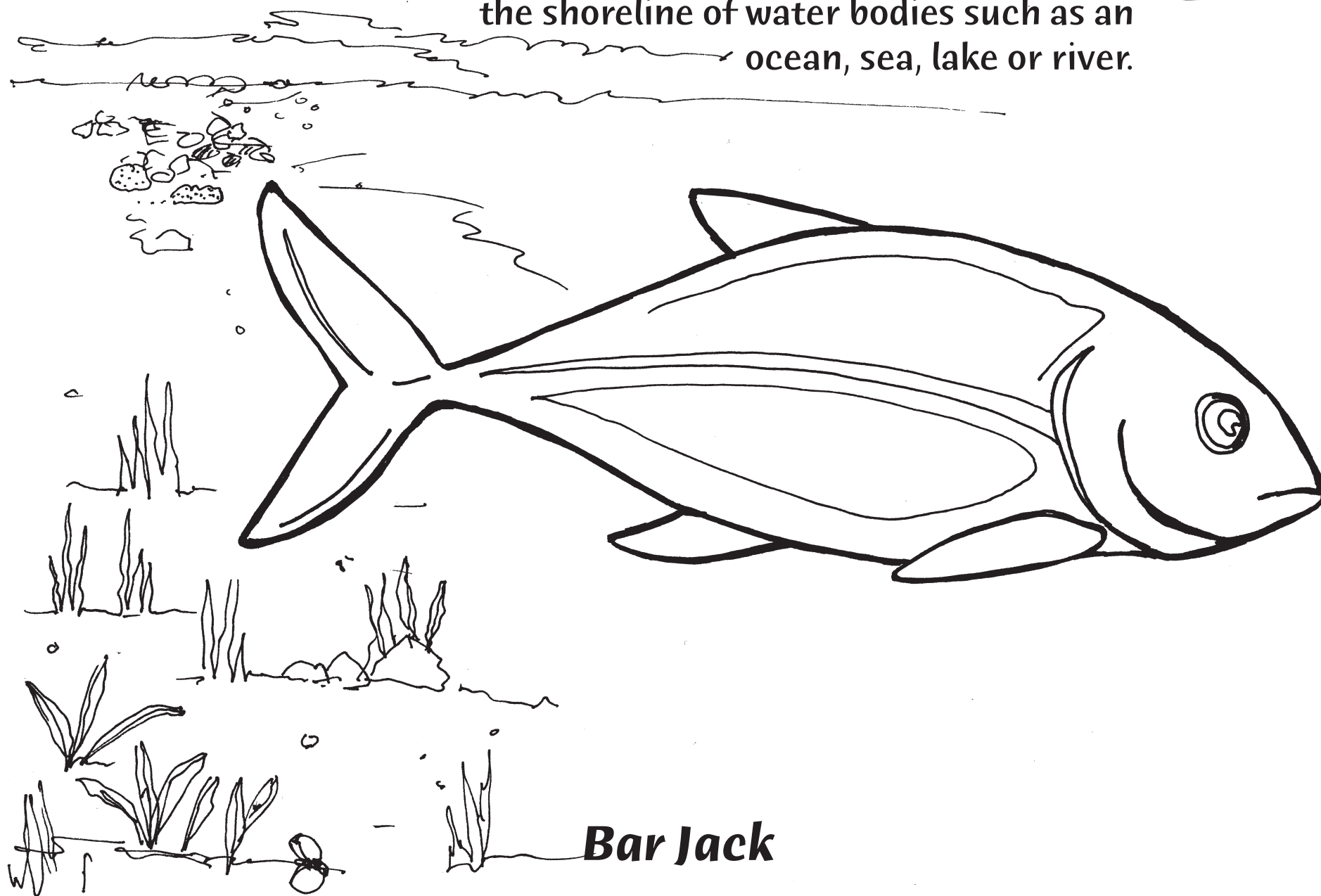
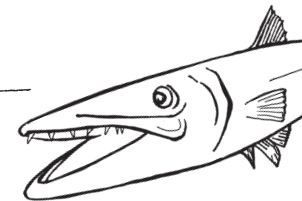


Bonefish



Beaches/Shallow Water

Beaches are landforms located along the shoreline of water bodies such as an ocean, sea, lake or river.

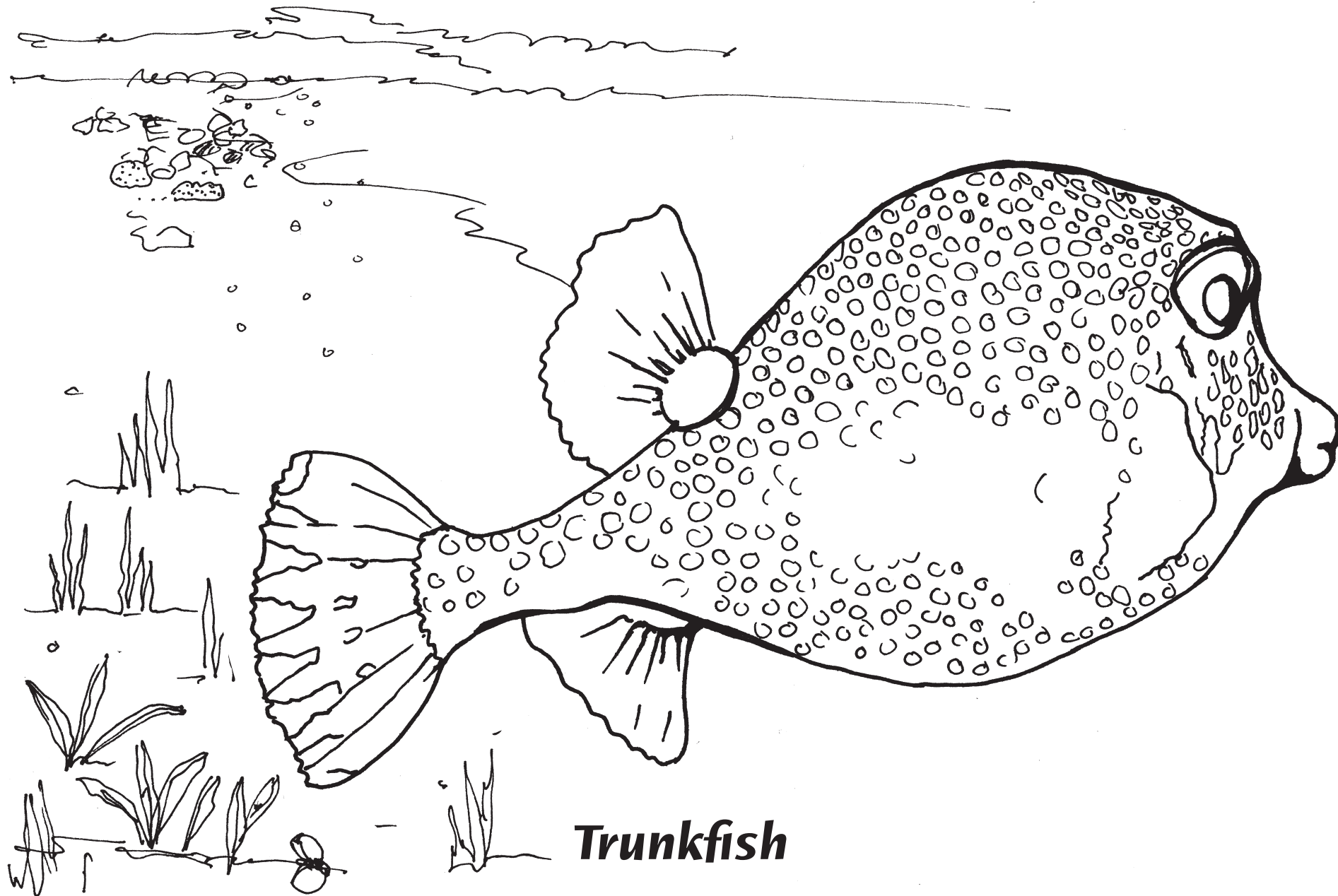
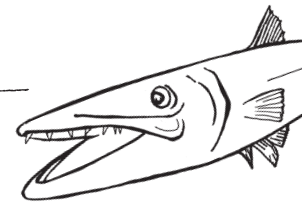


Bar Jack



Beaches/Shallow Water

are feeding grounds for turtles, fish and seabirds.

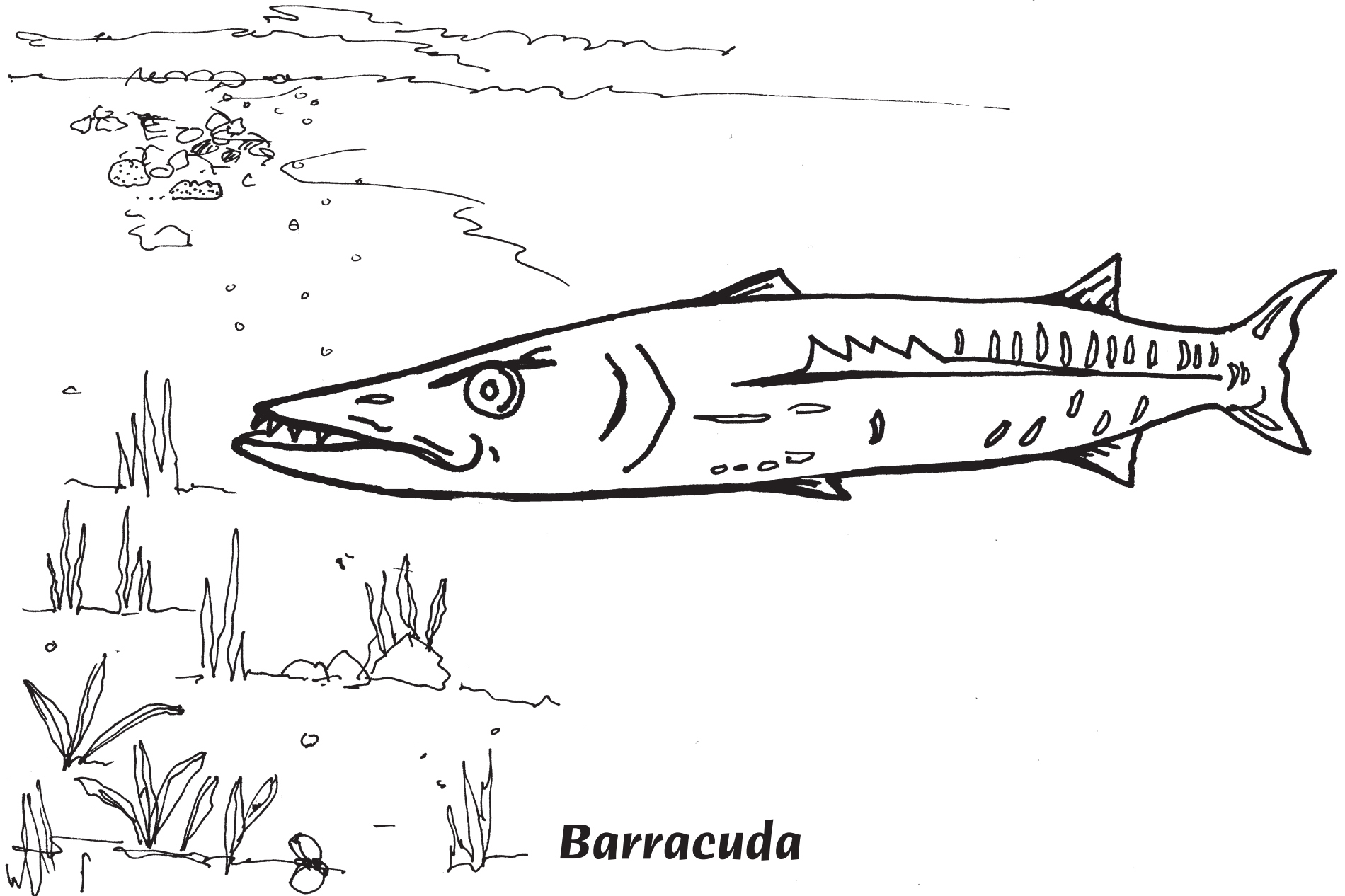
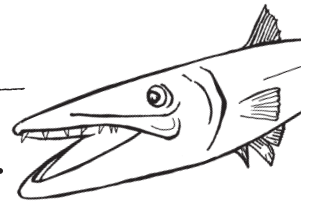


Trunkfish



Beaches/Shallow Water

Remember when you visit the beach you are visiting someone's home.

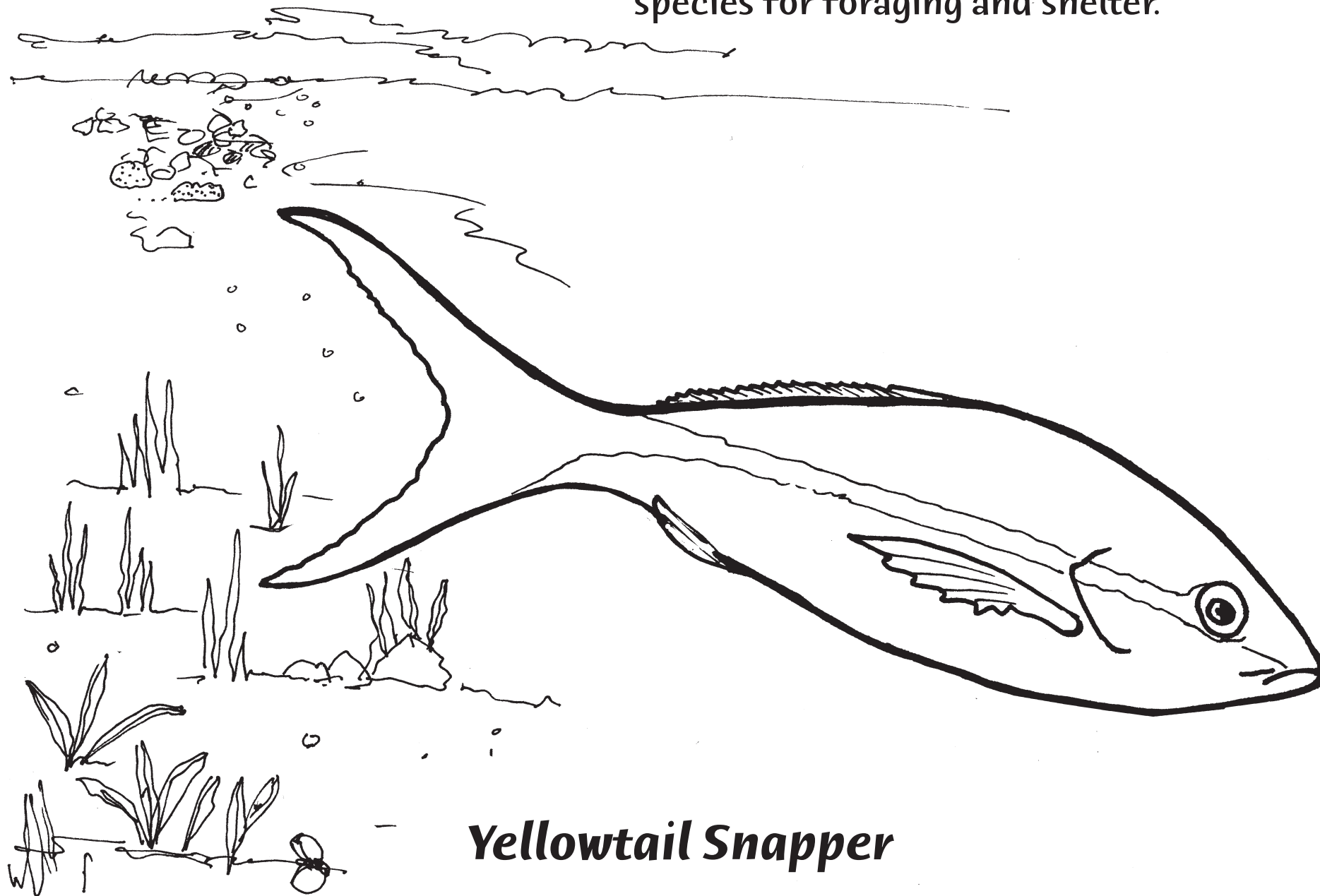
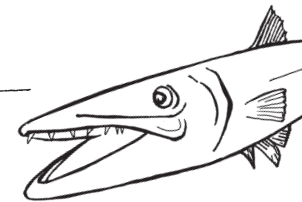


Barracuda



Beaches/Shallow Water

contain seagrass beds used by many species for foraging and shelter.

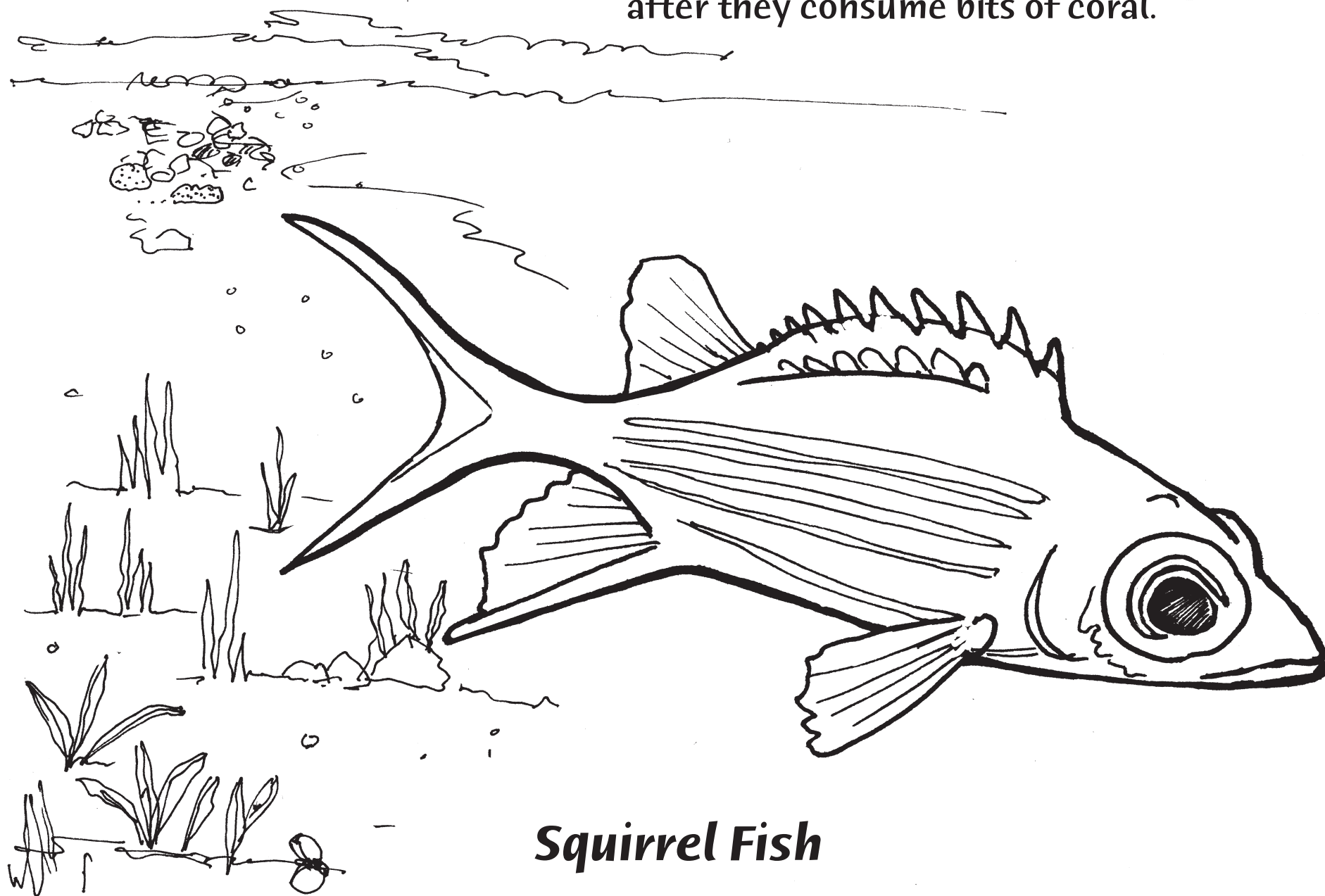
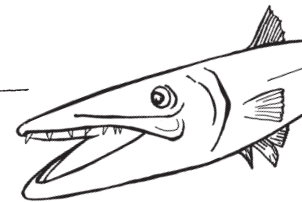


Yellowtail Snapper



Beaches/Shallow Water

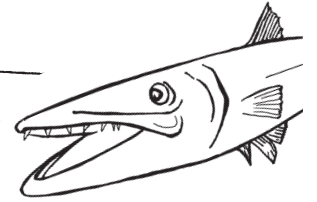
White sand is produced from Parrotfish
after they consume bits of coral.



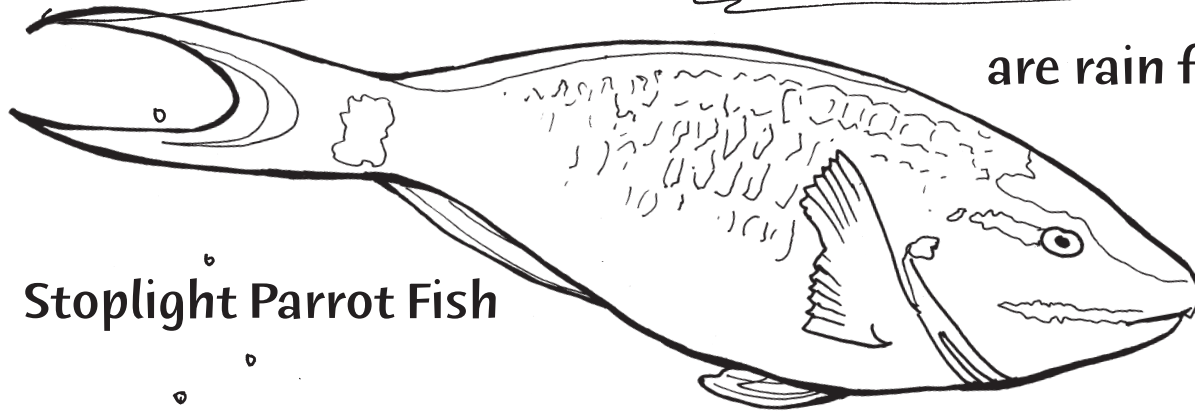
Squirrel Fish

Coral Reefs

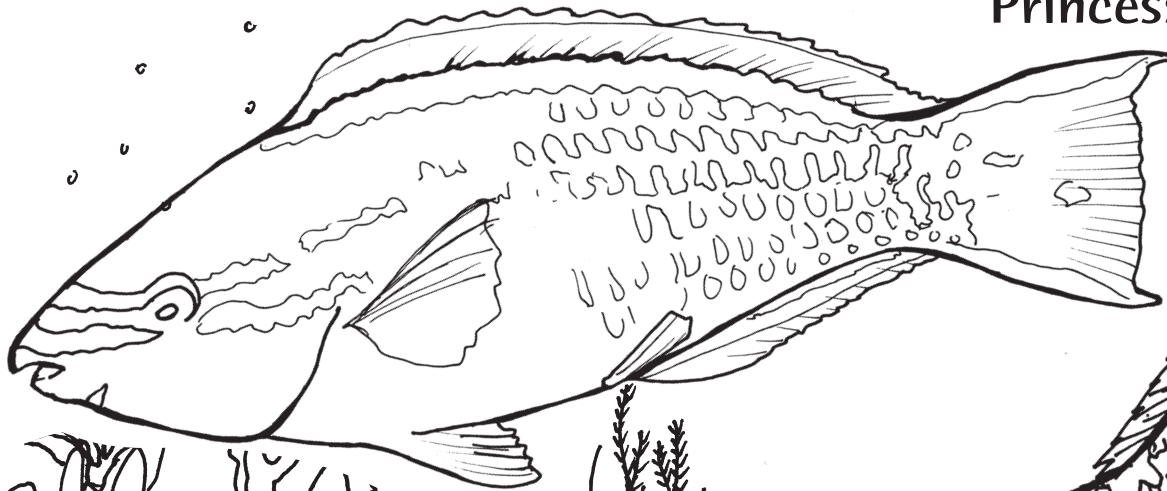
are rain forests of the ocean.



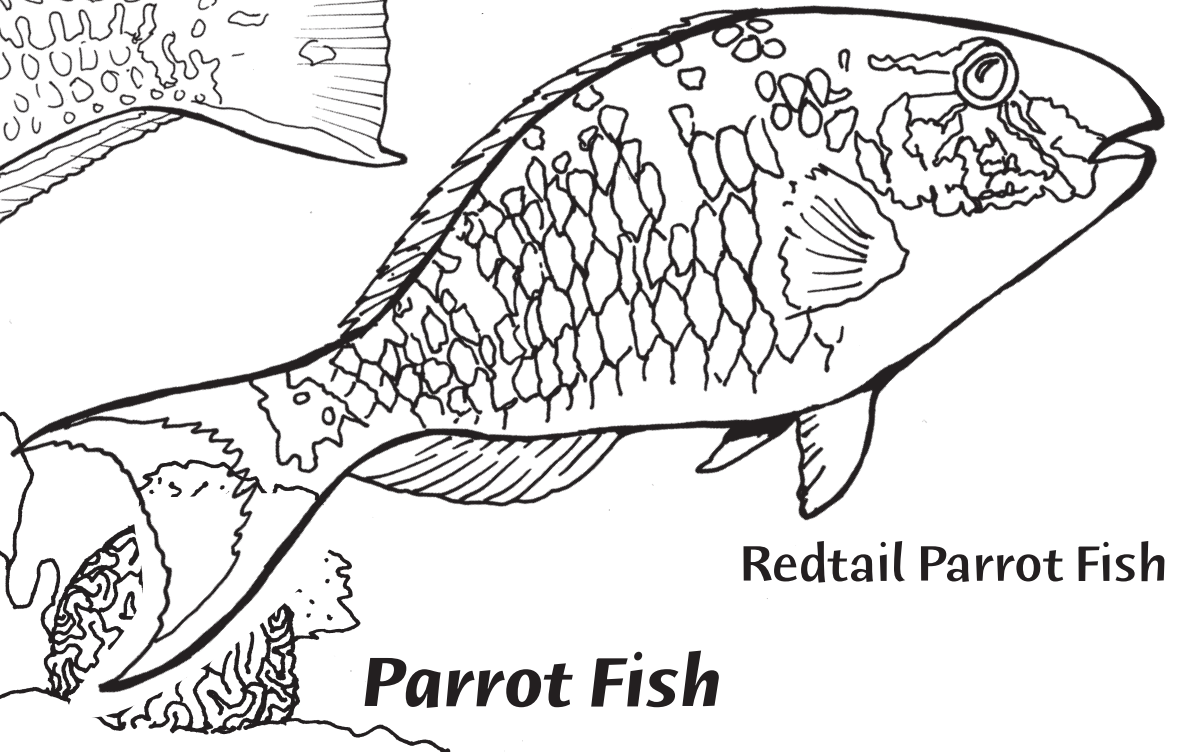
Stoplight Parrot Fish



Princess Parrot Fish



Redtail Parrot Fish

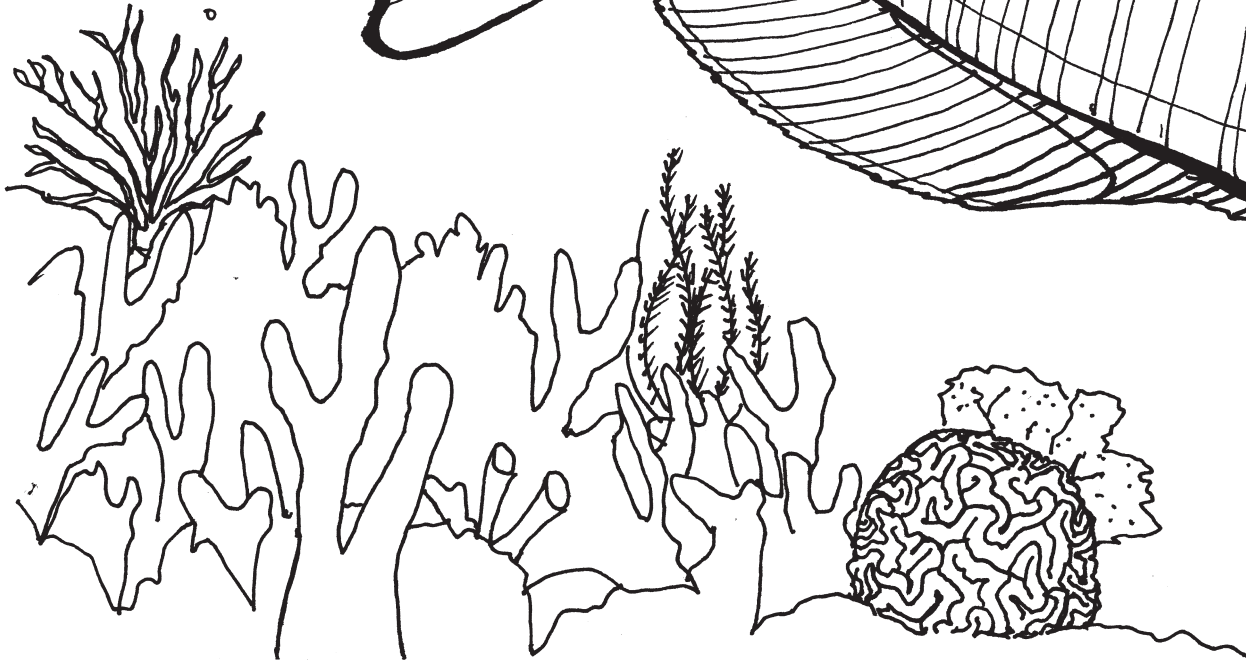
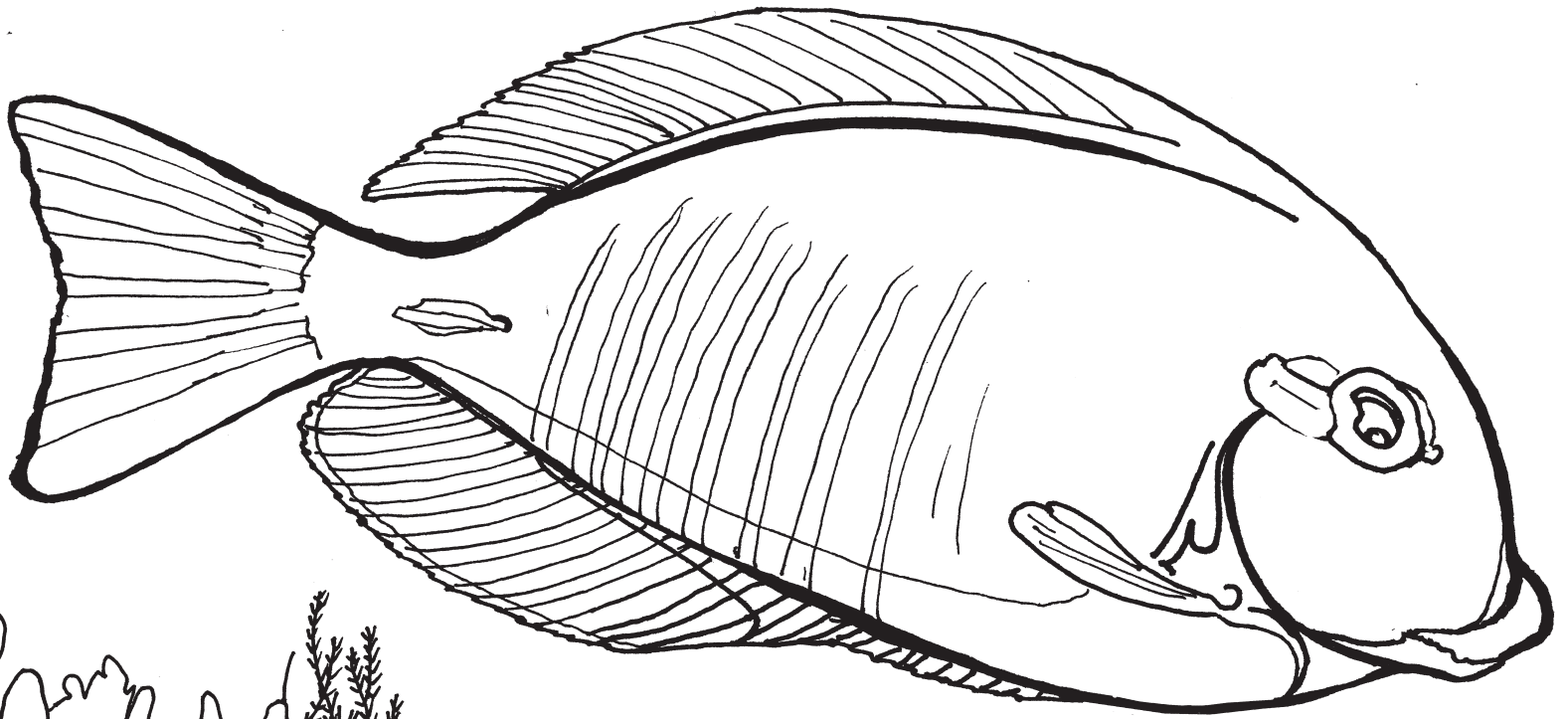
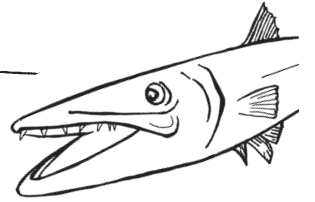


Parrot Fish



Coral Reefs

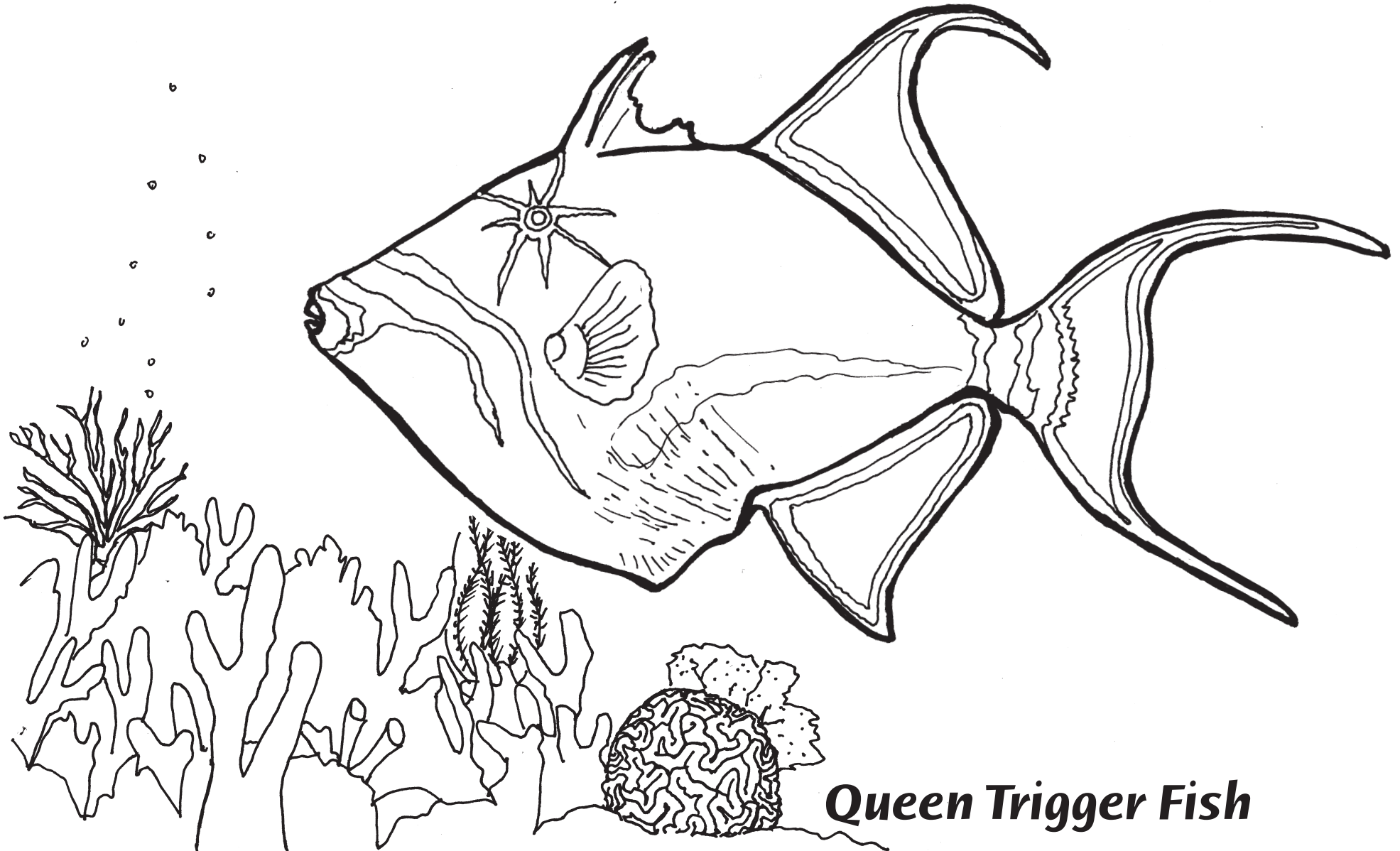
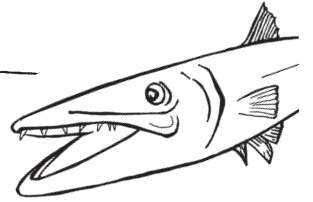
are home to many species of fish.



Doctor Fish

Coral Reefs

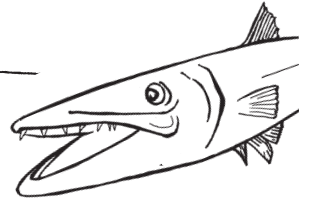
are sometimes looked at as living rock.



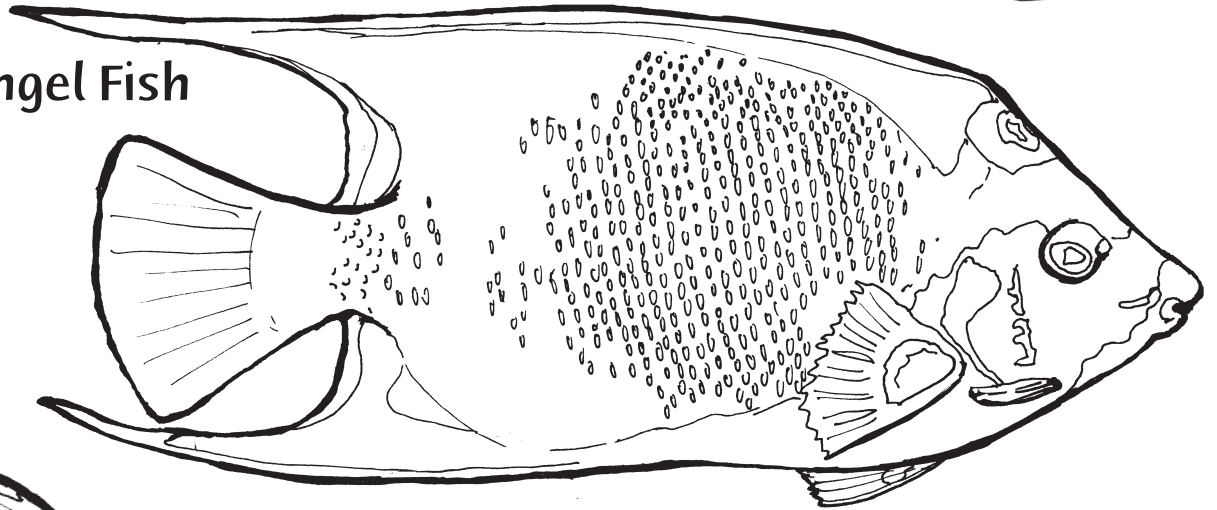
Queen Trigger Fish

Coral Reefs

are the largest living structure on earth.



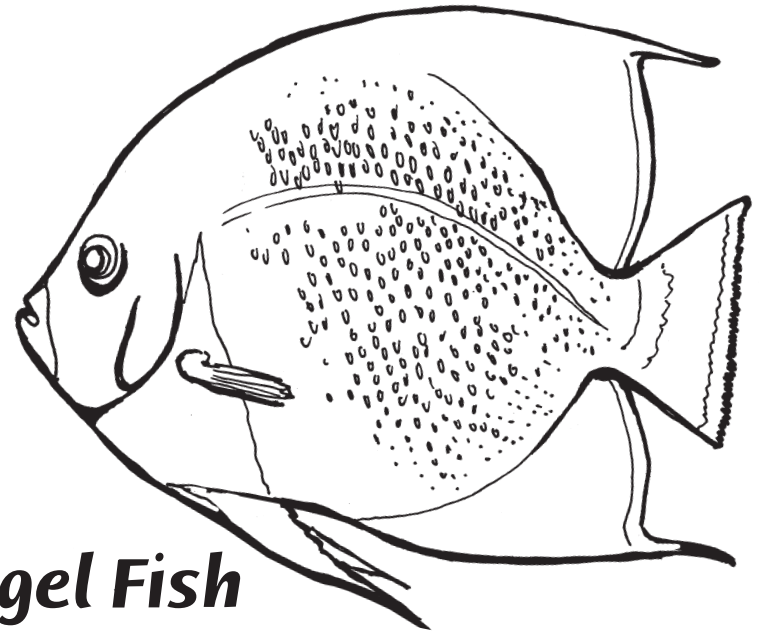
Queen Angel Fish



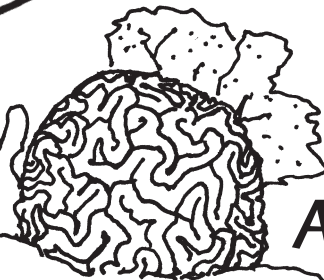
French Angel Fish



Gray Angel Fish

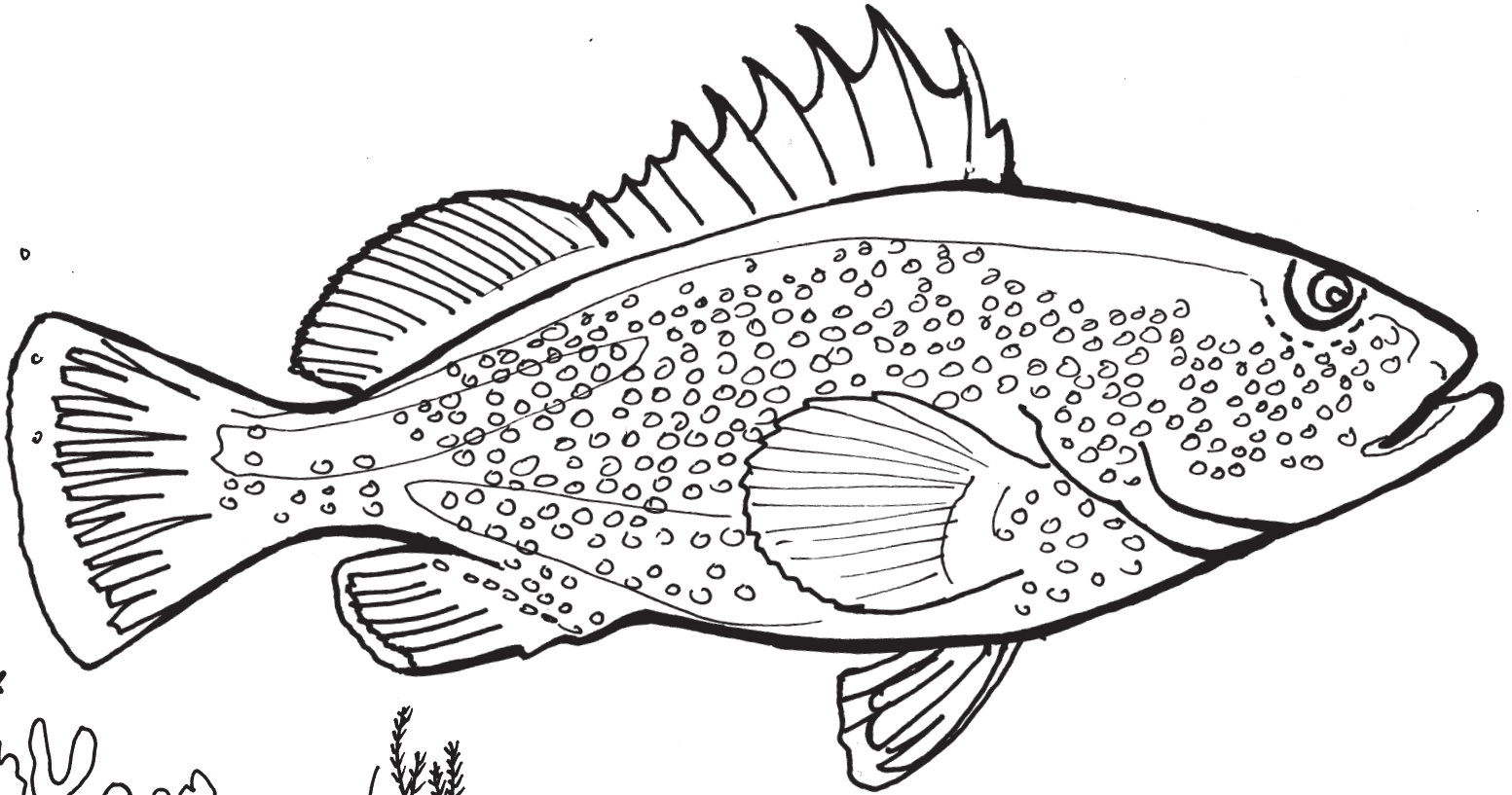
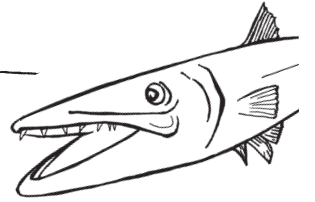


Angel Fish



Coral Reefs

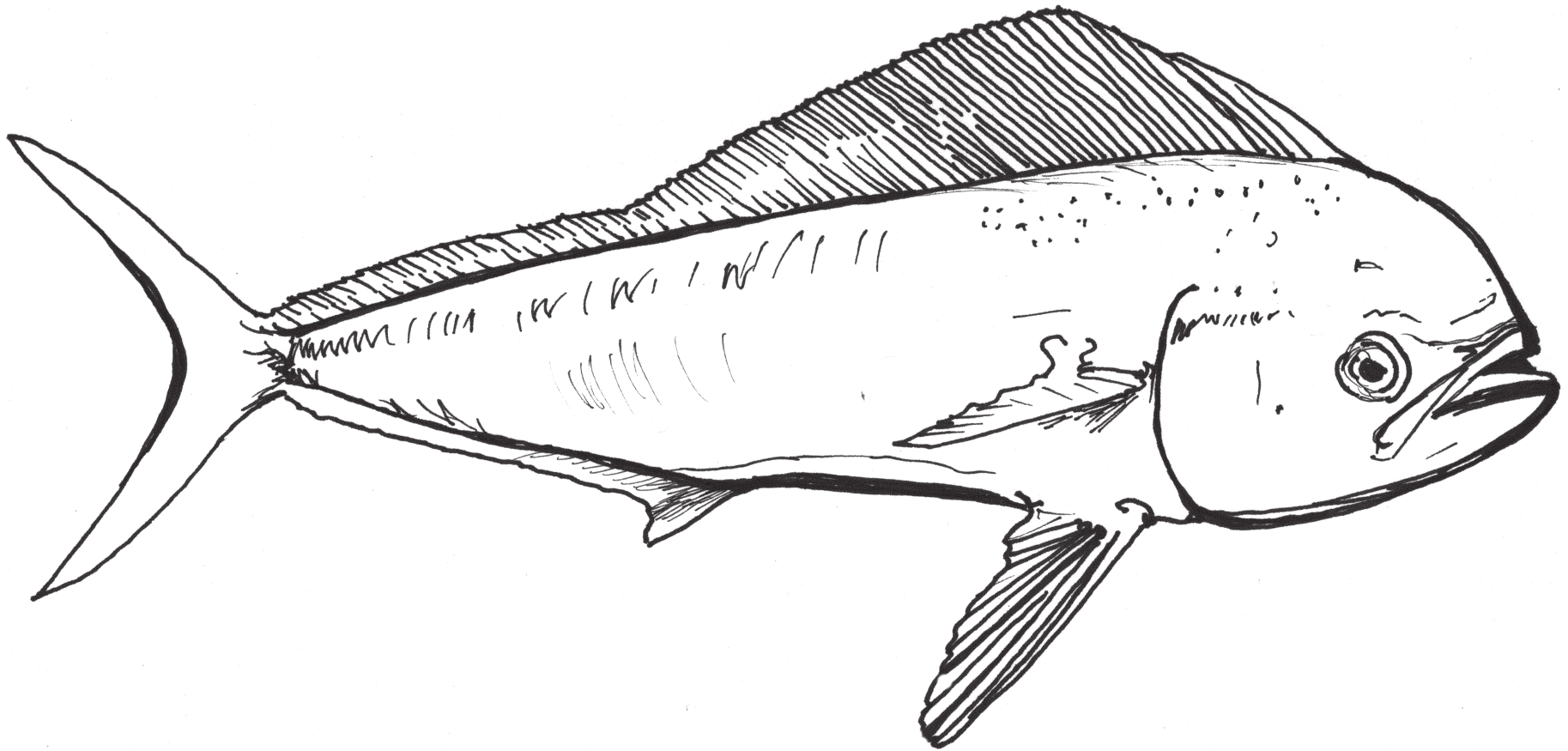
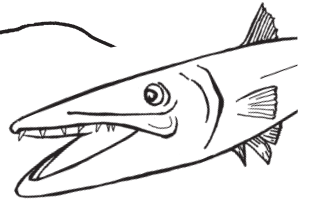
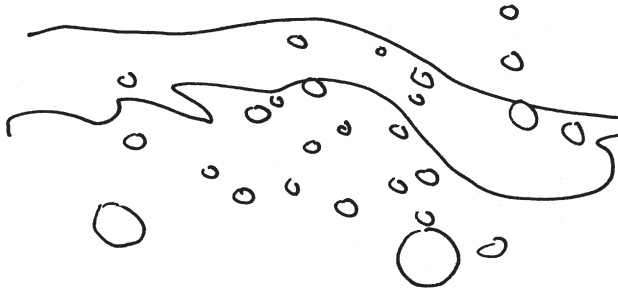
are home to 25% of the World's marine life.



Red Hind Fish

Deep Water

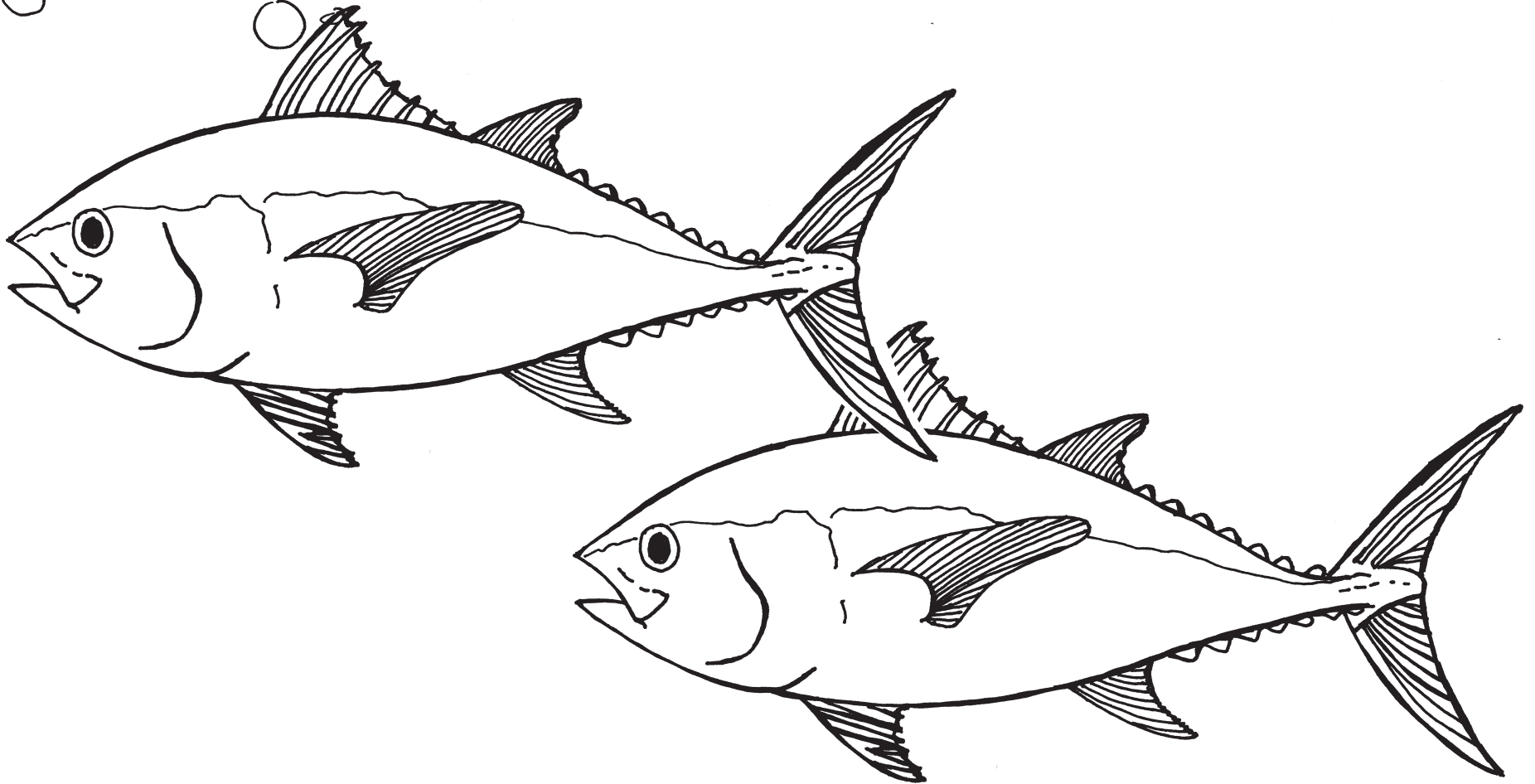
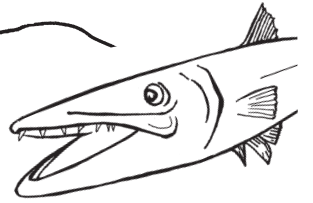
is home to the larger fish species.



Mahi Mahi

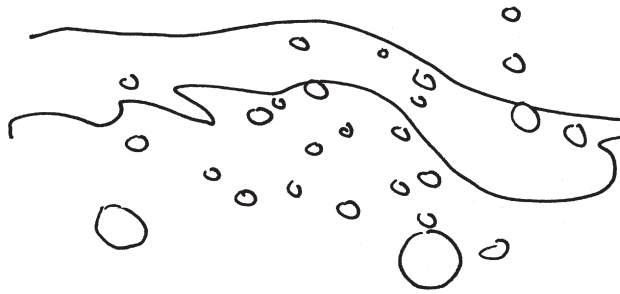
Deep Water

acts like a high way for migratory species.

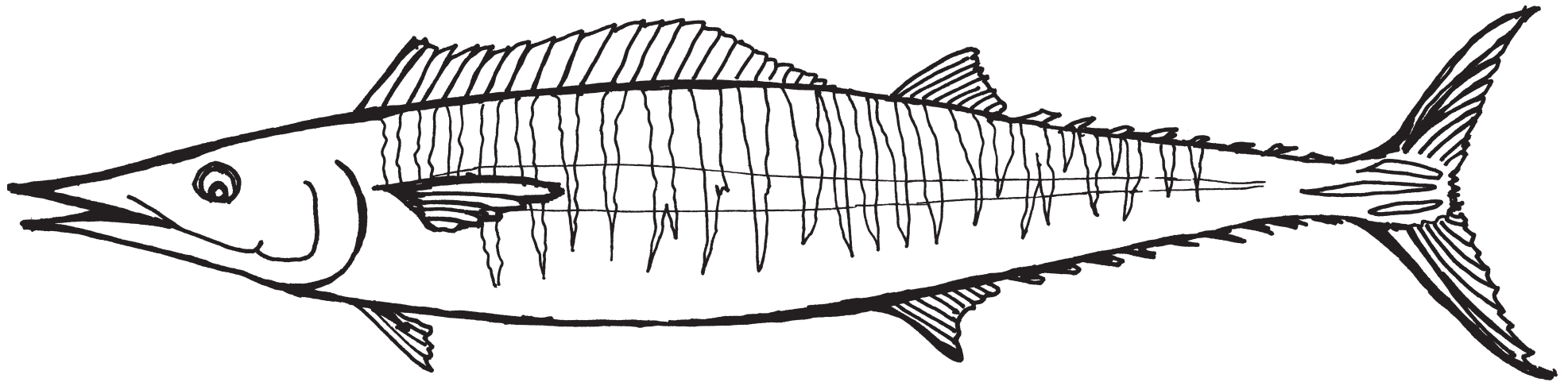
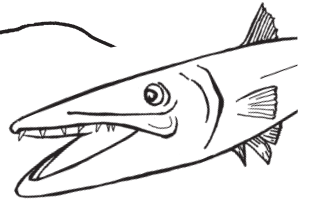


Tuna

Deep Water



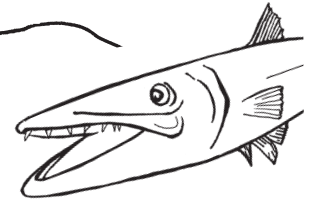
Depth can range from 1000 ft to over 20,000 ft. The Puerto Rico trench is the deepest part of the Atlantic Ocean exceeding 25,000 ft.



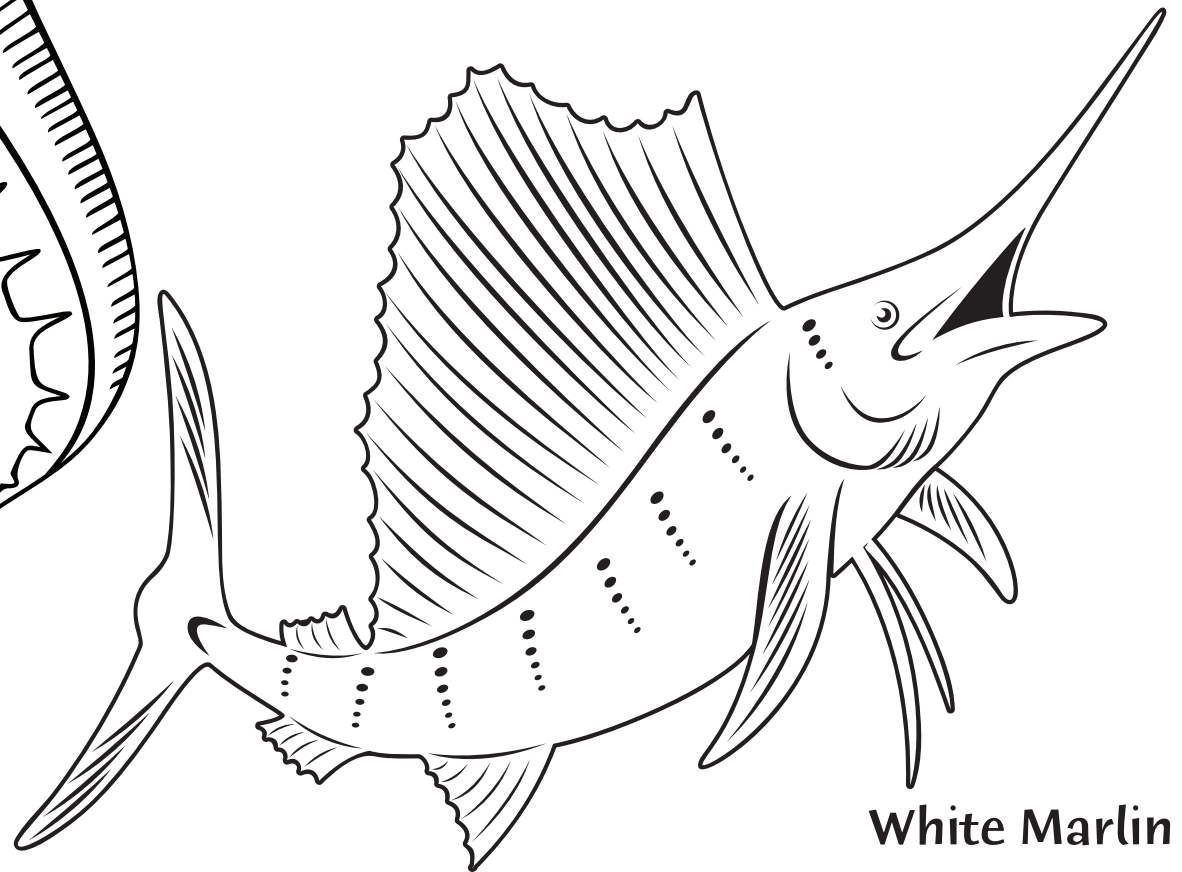
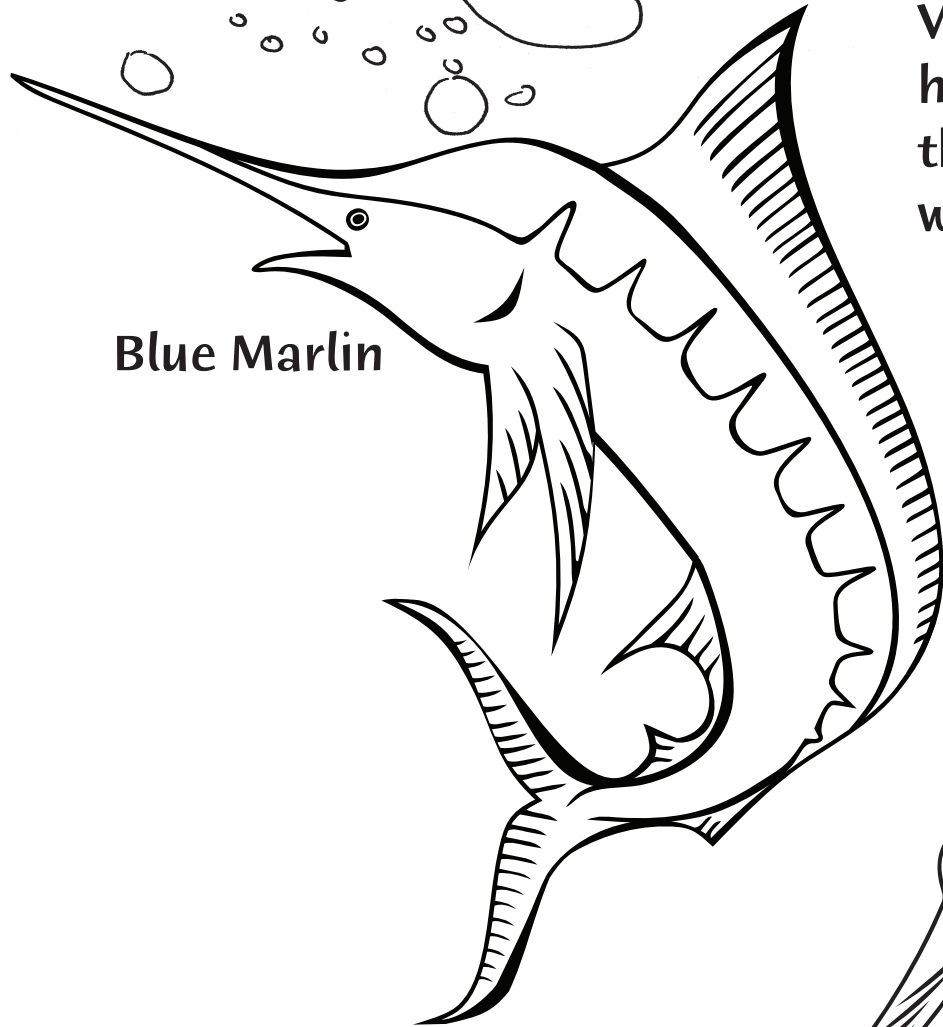
Wahoo

Deep Water

Various world records in fishing have been set in the Virgin Islands including the still-standing IGFA Women's 'All-Tackle' world record for blue marlin.



Blue Marlin

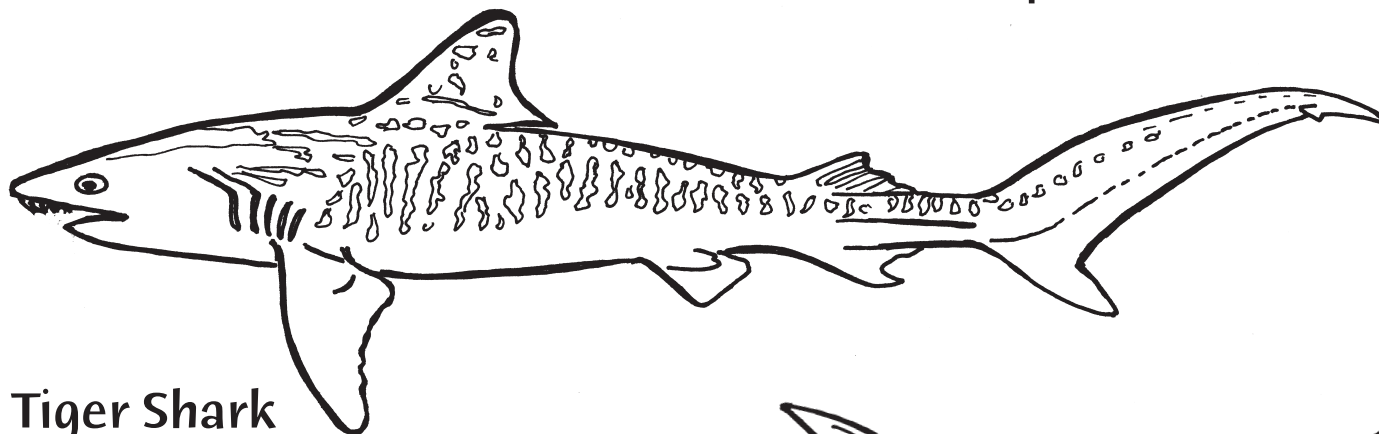


White Marlin

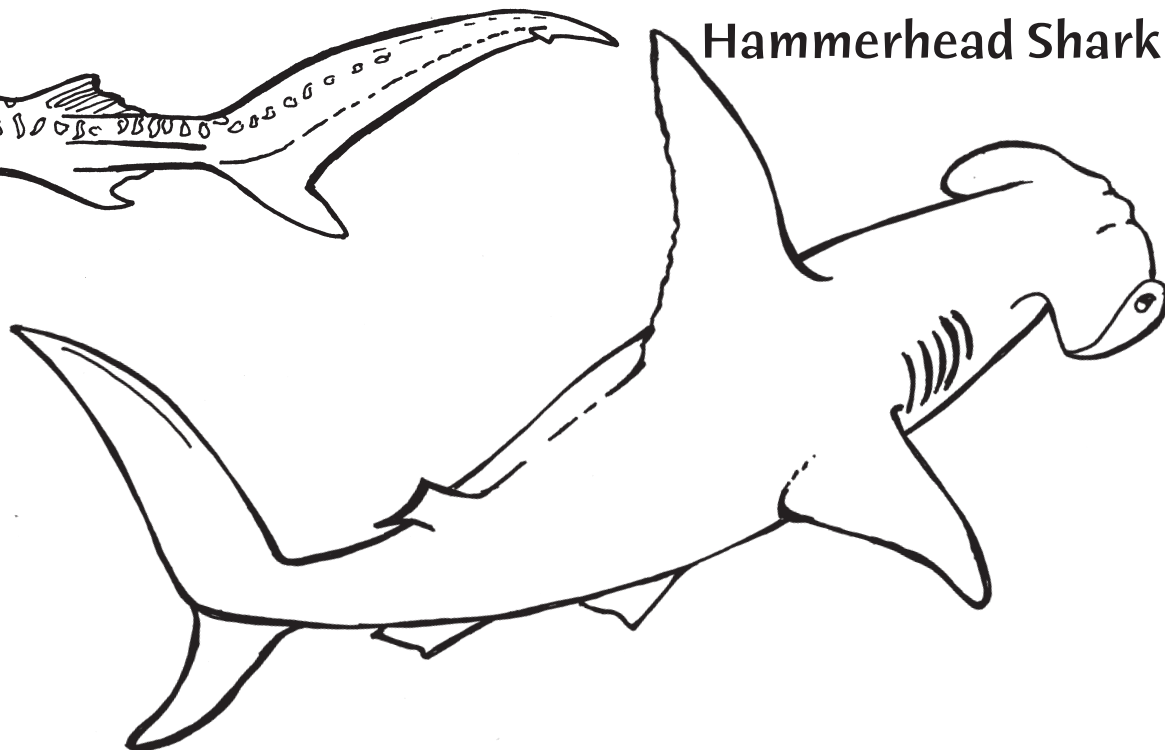
Marlins

Deep Water

Two well known fishing areas off of St. Thomas are the North Drop, about 20 miles north of St. Thomas; and the South Drop, 8 miles south of St. Thomas.



Tiger Shark



Hammerhead Shark



Nurse Shark

Sharks

Where I Live

Marine Habitats of the Virgin Islands

Coloring Book

This coloring book was produced by the
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Department of Planning and Natural Resources
Division of Fish and Wildlife
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Illustrations and the book were produced by Kate Norfleet of Kate N Design, Inc.

For more information on these or any other environmental issues, please contact the
Division of Fish and Wildlife
at St. Thomas 340 775 67262 or St. Croix 340 772 1955
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