



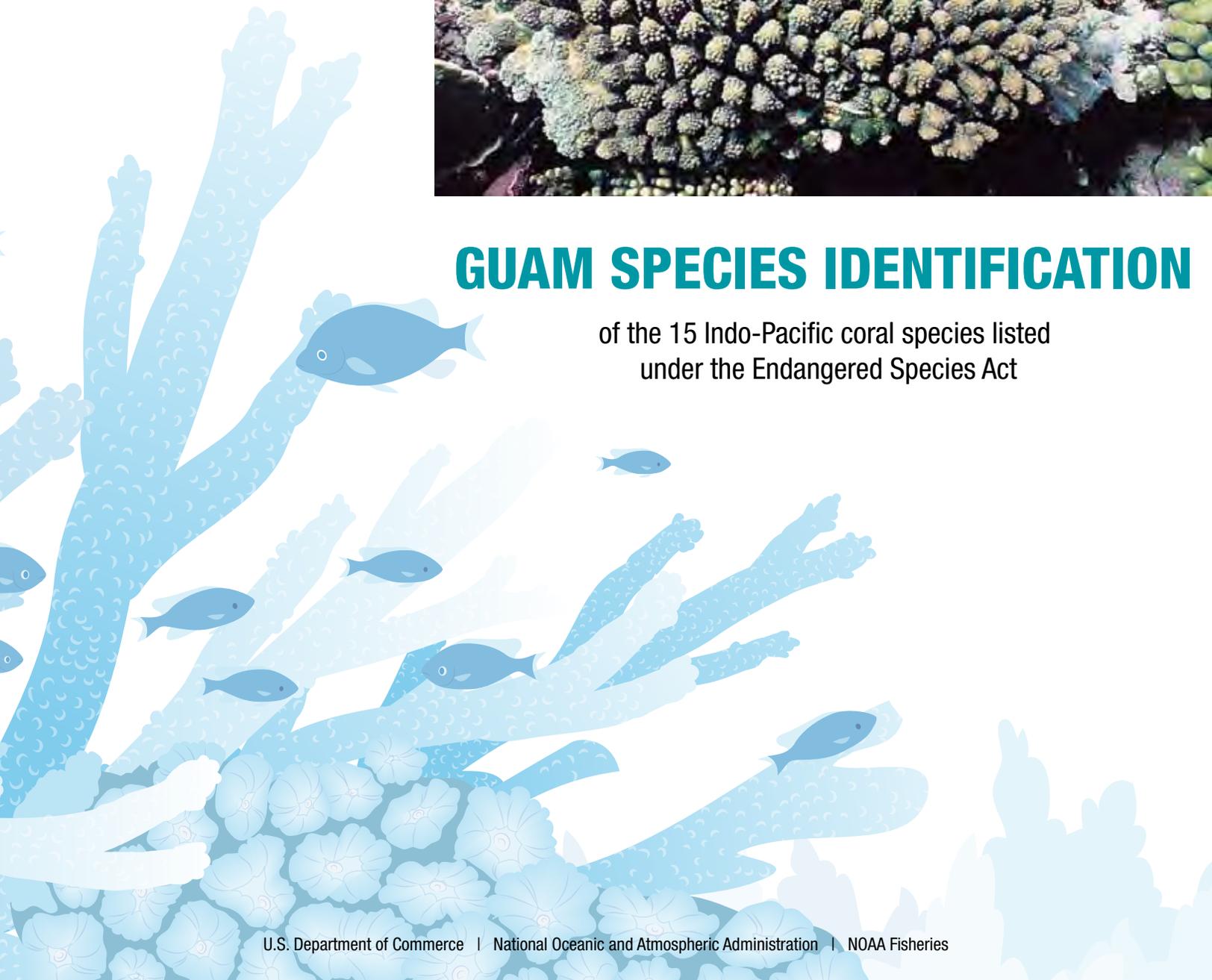
NOAA
FISHERIES
Pacific Islands Region

corals



GUAM SPECIES IDENTIFICATION

of the 15 Indo-Pacific coral species listed
under the Endangered Species Act





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Acropora globiceps

WHAT DOES IT LOOK LIKE?

Colonies of *Acropora globiceps* are usually small and resemble the shape of a spread hand with finger-like branches. The size and appearance of branches depend on degree of exposure to wave action but are always short and closely compacted. Colonies exposed to strong wave action have pyramid-shaped branchlets. Colonies are either blue (which may photograph purple) or cream in color (Veron, 2000).

WHERE IT'S FOUND

Acropora globiceps has been reported from intertidal (i.e., area between high and low tide marks), upper reef slopes and reef flats (Veron, 2000).





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Acropora retusa

WHAT DOES IT LOOK LIKE?

Colonies of *Acropora retusa* look like flat plates with short, thick, uniform finger-like branchlets. Colonies are brown in color.

WHERE IT'S FOUND

Acropora retusa grows on upper reef slopes and tidal pools (Veron, 2000; Veron and Wallace, 1984).





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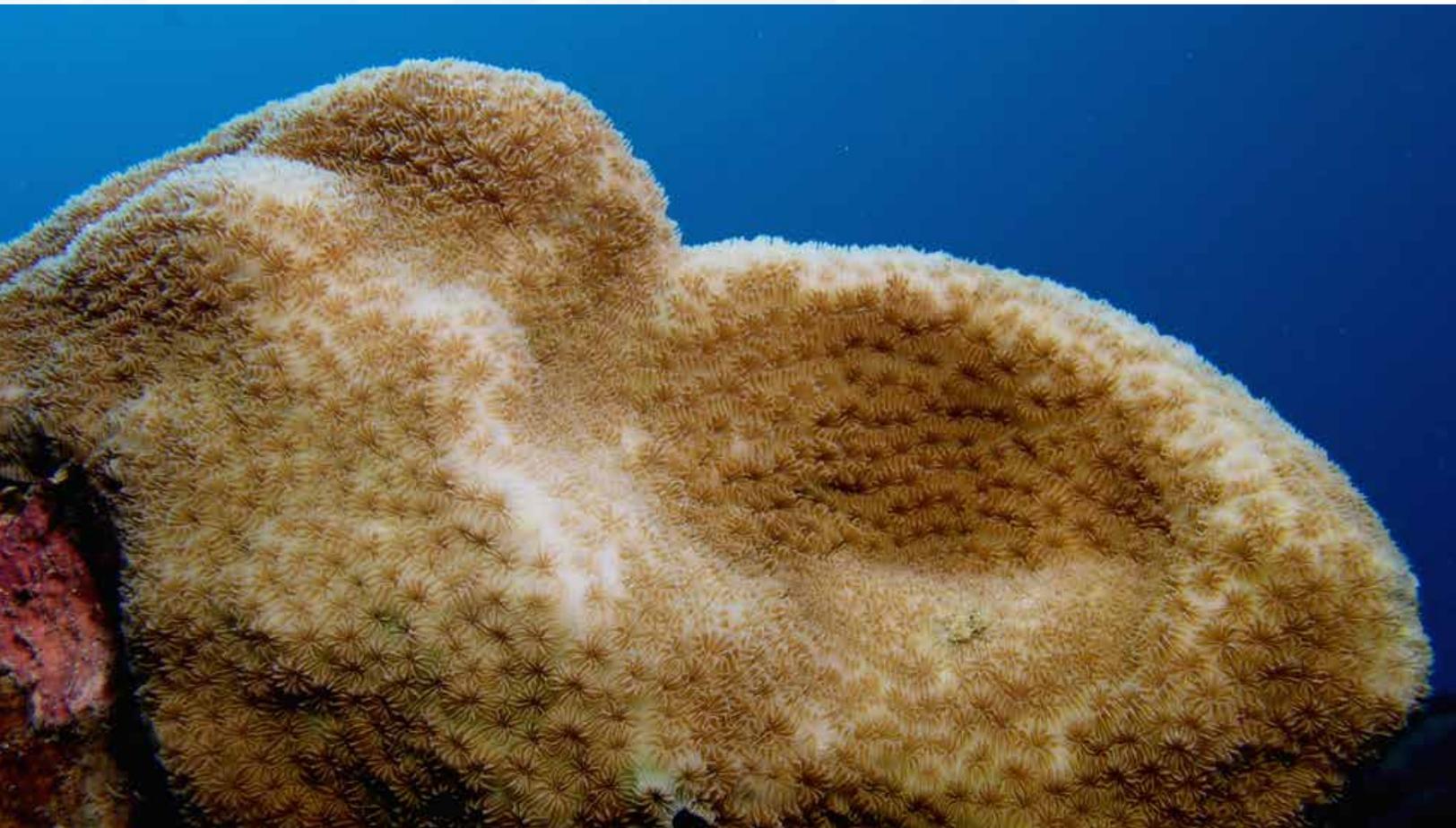
Pavona diffluens

WHAT DOES IT LOOK LIKE?

Colonies of *Pavona diffluens* form knobs, columns, or wedges that grow up from an encrusting (i.e., grows flat over hard surfaces) base. Polyps are deep and have a star-like shape covering the surface. Colonies are tan colored (Veron, 2000).

WHERE IT'S FOUND

Pavona diffluens grows in most reef habitats (Veron, 2000).



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Seriatopora aculeata

WHAT DOES IT LOOK LIKE?

Colonies of *Seriatopora aculeata* have thick, short, tapered branches, usually in fused spiky-looking clumps. Their polyps are unevenly distributed over the coral, and tentacles are commonly extended during the day. Colonies are pink or cream in color (Veron, 2000).

WHERE IT'S FOUND

Seriatopora aculeata grows in shallow reef areas (Veron, 2000).

