



SPONGES of Deepwater Communities in the Northwestern Gulf of Mexico

Developed by Flower Garden Banks National Marine Sanctuary

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Higginsia coralloides



Ptilocaulis sp.



Neopetrosia sp.



Neopetrosia sp.



Verongula reiswigi



Verongula reiswigi



Ectoplysia ferox



Neopetrosia sp.



Higginsia coralloides



Agelas cf. *cebrum*



Acanthella cubensis



Acanthella cubensis



Acanthella cubensis



Batzella rubra



Placosphaera antillensis



Placosphaera antillensis



Didiscus oxeata



Myrmekioderma gyroderma



Auleta sycinularia



Halichondria sp.



Halichondria sp.



Halichondria sp.



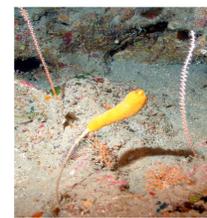
Haliclona sp.



Didemniidae ascidian



Halichondria sp.



Rhizaxinella clava



Myrmekioderma gyroderma



Dictyonellidae



Auleta sycinularia



Smenospongia sp.



Myrmekioderma gyroderma



Dysidea sp.



Axinellidae



Smenospongia sp.



Aplysilla sulfurea



Yucatania sphaeroidocladus



Plakortis zygompha



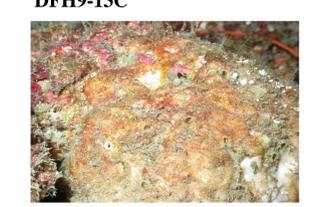
Dysideidae



DFH9-13C



Erylus trisphaera



Yucatania sphaeroidocladus



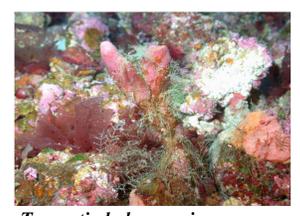
Acornia sp.



DFH9-13F



Chondrosia sp.



Topsentia bahamensis



Niphates erecta



Ircinia sp.



Ircinia sp.



Chondrosia sp.



Pleraplysilla sp.



Niphates erecta



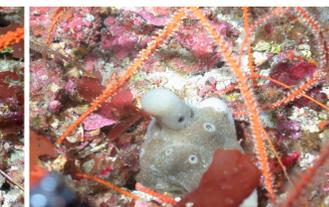
Ircinia sp.



Ircinia sp.



Petrosia sp.



Petrosia sp.



Erylus allenii



Erylus trisphaera



Erylus allenii



Corallistes typus

The majority of these sponges were sampled at the Flower Garden Banks National Marine Sanctuary by remotely operated vehicle at depths between 162 feet and 355 feet.