

SCUBA LUV MAUI DIVE REPORT KEAWAKAPU BEACH "CRITTER OF THE WEEK" (808) 870-2738



COMMON GUARD CRAB (CORAL CRAB)

DATE OF REPORT: MARCH 17, 2013 WATER TEMP. 73 VIZ: 70'+ PHOTO BY: STEVE MADARAS

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The most common of Hawaii's coral crabs, the Guard Crab likes to live deep in the branches of Cauliflower Coral, Antler Coral or any " branching coral". Mated pairs spend their lives together on one coral head, feeding on coral mucus and tissue. If a coraleating Crown of Thorns settles on their coral head, they will nip at it's tube feet to drive it away... in fact, many divers who get to close to the coral will get a little nip to from these spunky little guys! Maximum length of carapace is only 1/2 ".....

