



# SCUBA LUV MAUI DIVE REPORT

## KEAWAKAPU BEACH

### “CRITTER OF THE WEEK”

(808) 870-2738



**CUSHION STAR– FULLY GROWN CUSHION STARS RESEMBLE PLUMP CUSHIONS ABOUT 10” ACROSS AND 4” THICK. THEY CAN BE RED, MAROON, TAN OR YELLOW. ALTHOUGH THEY HAVE NO ARMS, THEY DO HAVE FIVE COLORFUL ROWS OF TUBE FEET THAT RADIATE FROM THE CENTRAL MOUTH ON THE UNDERSIDE. THESE STARS FEED ON LIVING CORAL BY EVERTING THEIR STIMACHS AND DIGESTING THE CORAL POLYOS WHILE THEY GROW AS SEEN IN THIS PICTURE. THEIR SURFACE IS FREQUENTLY HOME TO A TINY COMMENSAL SHRIMP. IF TURNED UPSIDE DOWN, THE CUSHION STAR CAN RIGHT THEMSELVES BY INFLATING ONE SIDE OF THE BODY WITH WATER AND PULLING ITSELF OVER WITH IT’S TINY FEET.**

**DATE OF REPORT: APRIL 16, 2013**  
**WATER TEMP. 75 VIZ: 100’+**  
**PHOTO BY: KEV MARATEA**

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