

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



RED STRIPED SANDPERCH— These elongated predators like to live in rubble or sandy areas, preying on small crustaceans, fish and plankton and retreating into their holes when threatened. Their social structure is quite unique in the marine world...the male actually has a harem of two to three females whom he "visits" every evening! This little guy in the picture had two small females flanking him...We will head back to this spot today and try to get a " group shot"! Typically these females maintain their own feeding territories within the larger territory of the male. About 60 species of sandperch are known worldwide with only two in Hawaiian waters....

DATE OF REPORT: MAY 7, 2013 WATER TEMP. 78 VIZ: 100'+ DEPTH AT WHICH PHOTO TAKEN: 52' PHOTO BY: STEVE MADARAS

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