

SCUBA LUV DIVE REPORT "CRITTER OF THE WEEK"

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CRITTER OF THE WEEK!

SPOTTED BOXFISH ("MOA")- Boxfishes are completely encased in rigid armor plate; only their fins, eyes and mouths are movable; related to puffers, they propel themselves with their dorsal and anal fins; their skin is poisonous to defer predators; they usually hold their mouths in a pucker like they are ready to kiss; males are the most colorful; everywhere but Hawaii males have gold spots on their sides, making the local population regarded as a sub-species; grows to 6"; they like calm water; Hawaiian name means "guineafowl" because they are covered with spots like the bird!

DATE OF REPORTING: JANUARY 29, 2012

AIRTEMPERATURE: 85 degrees

WATER TEMPERATURE: 75 degrees

VIZIBILITY: 80' +

PHOTOS BY: STEVE MADARAS

