

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

## IRIDESCENT FIREWORM — "aha huluhulu"



Fireworms are carnivores that live under stones and in crevices from shallow water down to at least 600'. Their segments bear tufts of sharp, toxic bristles on each side that easily penetrate and break off in human skin causing burning, itching and numbness that can last for several hours. There are six species currently known to occur in Hawaii. The one pictured above is the most common and can be found in pink, orange, green or purple. They feed on mollusks, live coral and other worms. The fireworm above is almost 6" long and was traveling quite quickly across the sand, probably in search of food. We gave him a wide berth!

**DATE OF REPORT: AUGUST 18, 2012** 

AIRTEMP. 86 degrees WATERTEMP. 77 degrees

DEPTH: 27' VIZIBILITY: 60' PHOTO BY: STEVE MADARAS

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