

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

## **APRIL IS "CORAL MONTH"!!!**

PLATE -AND-PILLAR CORAL-("pohaku puna")- Hard Corals are anemone-like polyps that secrete calcium carbonate skeletons; most have stinging tentacles and most are colonial; skeletons can exceed 25' in height and can live to be 1,000 years old. Corals of this genus are the most important reef builders in Hawaii. The surfaces of these corals are relatively smooth, forming rounded, pointed lobes or branching fingers. Colonies are either all male or all female and females brood their eggs, rather than releasing them. They are considered to be encrusting in their growth pattern and tend to grow between raised ridges in an upright form.

DATE OF SIGHTING: APRIL 7, 2012 AIRTEMPERATURE: 83 degrees WATER TEMPERATURE: 74 degrees

VIZIBILITY: 100' +

PHOTOS BY: DIANA MADARAS



