



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

## **KONA CRAB “papa i kua loa”**

**Kona crabs are the largest and most common “frog crabs” in Hawaii. They live on sand bottoms, usually at depths of 30’ or more. They are difficult to see and even more difficult to approach as they bury themselves into the sand when approached. Edible and large these “frog crabs” are trapped commercially in many parts of the world. Their Hawaiian name means “long backed crab” and the name “Kona Crab” is strictly a local name. Both the genus and the species name means “frog like”. They grow to 9” and they are regulated by law> Like lobsters, the law forbids taking this crab or lobsters from May through August. We found this guy in very shallow water on the way back in from the outside reef on a scooter dive. Once again, I get to use my motto, “always look for cool stuff in the sandy, shallow areas....”**



**DATE OF REPORT : JULY 15, 2012  
VISIBILITY: 80'+ WATER TEMP: 76.5  
PHOTOS BY : STEVE MADARAS**

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