

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

WINGED BOX JELLYFISH—"SEA WASP"



Box jellies look like a bell with four flattened sides and a long bundle of tentacles attached to each of the four corners. In Hawaii, they are colorless and transparent; tentacles can be up to 2' long. In the water, they resemble plastic bags and are very difficult to see. You can receive a sting from a tentacle, even if it has been detached from the animal. At night, they move towards the light and hundreds can wash up on shore during a single night. On Maui we see very few of them as compared to Oahu's southern beaches which are often plagued by swarms of them on a regular basis. Check out: www.808jellyfish.com, which gives detailed information about boxjellies. WATCH FOR THEM TO OCCUR IN SHALLOW WATER EACH MONTH 7-10 DAYS AFTER THE FULL MOON. For this year, be cautious Oct. 1-3, Nov. 6-8 & Dec. 7-9.

DATE OF REPORT: OCT. 14, 2012 WATER TEMP. 80 VIZ: 50' PHOTO: NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC

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