



SCUBA LUV MAUI DIVE REPORT

**KEAWAKAPU BEACH
"CRITTER OF THE WEEK"
(808) 870-2738**

**REUNION WITH AN OLD FRIEND, A FEMALE MANTA
WE HAD "PHOTO-LOGGED" TWO YEARS AGO....**



MANTA #12 AT MAKENA, 05/10/2010



MANTA #12 AT KEAWAKAPU, 10/19/12

We started a "MANTA SIGHTING LOG" when we were operating in the Makena area, between 2006 and 2011. It is a photographic record of individuals and the date of their appearances. Since moving to Keawakapu, we have not had as many manta sightings...at least until last Fridays' scooter dive. We had a group of four divers on the bottom doing a check of everybody's air...suddenly a shadow hovered over us...it was an 8' manta and she was enjoying the feeling of our exhaled air bubbles rising up against her belly. She circled the group and made eye contact with Steve...he rose off the bottom and she hovered waiting for him. He rose up next to her so close he could have touched her but he did not. He immediately recognized her markings and her gentle, curious personality as a female manta who often frequented us in Makena! She left him and swam to Diana, doing the same thing...eye contact and hovering....We don't know if she recognized the scooters or our blue camouflage wetsuits but she definitely acted as though we were old friends. We have been smiling ever since .

**DATE OF REPORT: OCT. 19, 2012
WATER TEMP. 79 VIZ: 100'
PHOTO: STEVE MADARAS**

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