



SCUBA LUV MAUI DIVE REPORT

KEAWAKAPU BEACH

“CRITTER OF THE WEEK”

(808) 870-2738

SPINEY BRITTLE STAR



Brittle stars are normally hidden under rocks in the day and active at night. This guy was out in the open, in the turtle grass. They are sensitive to light, though they have no eyes. They move their flexible arms across the sand like a snake. Their arms break off easily should a predator grasp one but they grow back quickly. The Spiney Brittle star is the largest brittle star found in Hawaii. They are uniformly black by day; gray bands appearing at night. The arms grow to 5 1/2 inches !

DATE OF REPORT: NOV. 18, 2012
WATER TEMP. 77 VIZ: 60'
PHOTO: STEVE MADARAS

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