



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

ORIENTAL FLYING GURNARD-”loloa’u pinao”



They actually do not fly, but crawl along sandy bottoms using fingerlike spines on their pelvic fins. They also use these spines, like a chicken, scratching for worms. The wings are kept folded along their box-like body. When alarmed, the gurnard spreads it’s wings, thereby increasing it’s size in an effort to fool predators. They sometimes make a popping sound with the spine on the top of their heads to intimidate predators. They are related to the scorpion fish; grow to about 15”; and are quite shy.

DATE OF REPORT: FEBRUARY 2, 2013

**WATER TEMP. 76 VIZ: 50’+
(OUTSIDE REEF)**

PHOTO BY: STEVE MADARAS

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