

Red tide sighted

A red tide was sighted over the past week, an inter-departmental red tide working group reported today (April 16).

The red tide was spotted by staff of the Leisure and Cultural Services Department on April 13 at Pui O Beach, Lantau Island. The red tide persists and no associated fish deaths have been reported as at today.

A spokesman for the working group said, "The red tide was formed by *Takayama tuberculata*, which is not common in Hong Kong waters and is non-toxic."

Red tide is a natural phenomenon. The Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department's proactive phytoplankton monitoring programme will continue monitoring red tide occurrences to minimise the impact on the mariculture industry and the public.