## AFCD continues to close barbecue sites and campsites in country parks until May 7

The Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) announced today (April 21) that, in light of the latest development of COVID-19 and to reduce social contact, the barbecue sites and campsites in country parks will continue to be closed until May 7 (11.59pm of Thursday night).

There are currently 163 barbecue sites and 41 campsites under the management of the AFCD, and all of them have been closed since 6pm on March 28 until April 23. In view of the latest development of the epidemic, the Department decided to continue extending the closure until May 7. Details of these sites are available on the AFCD's website (<a href="www.afcd.gov.hk">www.afcd.gov.hk</a>). During the closure of the above facilities, no one should carry out barbecuing or camping activities in country parks. Staff of the AFCD will step up patrols of the sites concerned. Violation of relevant regulations may be subject to prosecution. In the past two weeks, the AFCD has taken enforcement action against 34 persons who carried out barbecuing or camping activities in country parks in contravention of the regulations.

The AFCD will continue to closely monitor the situation and review the above arrangement as appropriate. For enquiries, please call 1823. For the latest updates on the facilities in the country parks, members of the public can also visit the "Enjoy Hiking" website (<a href="www.hiking.gov.hk">www.hiking.gov.hk</a>).

The AFCD would like to remind visitors to country parks to ensure personal and environmental hygiene and maintain social distancing. Visitors should properly handle used masks and waste and take their litter home.