<u>Grading of beach water quality</u> <u>released</u>

The Environmental Protection Department (EPD) today (August 28) released the latest grading of water quality for 38 gazetted beaches (see Note 1) and one non-gazetted beach (i.e. Discovery Bay, see Note 2).

Twenty-five beaches were rated as Good (Grade 1) and 14 as Fair (Grade 2).

Grade 1 beaches are:

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Grade 2 beaches are:

Anglers' Beach	Hoi Mei Wan Beach
Approach Beach	Kadoorie Beach
Butterfly Beach	Lido Beach
Cafeteria New Beach	Ma Wan Tung Wan Beach
Casam Beach	Pui O Beach
Castle Peak Beach	Silver Mine Bay Beach
Golden Beach	Ting Kau Beach

Under the present grading system, beaches are classified into four grades, namely Good (Grade 1), Fair (Grade 2), Poor (Grade 3) and Very Poor (Grade 4), according to the level of E. coli in the water. Grades are calculated on the basis of the geometric mean of the E. coli counts on the five most recent sampling occasions.

A summary of beach grades is published weekly before the weekend. The latest beach grades based on the most current data may be obtained from the EPD's website on Beach Water Quality (<u>www.epd.gov.hk/epd/beach</u>) or the beach hotline, 2511 6666.

Note 1: In view of the latest situation of COVID-19, the Leisure and Cultural Services Department announced on July 13 that all beaches would be temporarily closed from July 15 until further notice.

Note 2: Discovery Bay is a non-gazetted beach without lifeguard service.