

Red Tides

QS 1. What is Red Tide?

Answer:

- Red tides are harmful algal blooms (HABs) that occur when toxic microscopic phytoplankton in seawater proliferate to higher-than normal concentrations (bloom), often discoloring the water red, brown, green, or yellow. These blooms of marine organisms potentially cause fish kills and some produce potent toxins that are of public significance. They poisoning syndromes such as PSP, ASP, DSP, NSP and Ciguatera Poisoning

QS 2. What seafood is unsafe to eat during Red Tide?

Answer:

- Fish, squids, shrimps and crabs can be eaten during red tide because the toxins is not absorbed to the edible tissues of these animals, however, the gills, guts and internal organs of fish must be removed before cooking.
- The public is also advised to abstain from eating small fish, of which their gills, guts and internal organs cannot be removed and also molluscan shellfish and fish from affected area and of unknown origin.

Marine Protected Areas (MPA)

QS 1. What are the functions of MPA?

Answer:

- To protect and conserve our marine natural heritage specifically marine life nursery and breeding grounds (Coral reefs) in Brunei Darussalam waters as a way to increase marine resource productivity and enhance food security.
- To preserve the sustainability of Brunei fisheries resource.
- To promote marine eco-tourism especially in SCUBA Diving Program.

QS 2. What can you do as a stakeholder/ public member to support the development of MPA?

Answer:

- Be committed to act in accordance with Fisheries Order 2009 especially the prohibition of any marine-related illegal activities on MPA such as Fishing-Free Zone, Marine life Poaching etc.
- Become a collaborator who loves to assist in conserving Marine life habitat from being polluted and destroyed by taking care of the marine environment.
- Advocate, educate and encourage others collaboratively to get involved in any marine-conservation programs in order to realize the objectives of MPA.

Resources

QS 1. What could be the reasons behind implementing Moratorium on Fishing Operation in Zone 1, Brunei Darussalam?

Answer:

- From survey done by DOF it can be concluded that the potential of fish resources has decline especially in Zone 1 area. Several factors has been detect for the decline of fish resource:
 - Capability of exceed fish catching in which using fishing equipments over the maximum limit.
 - Fishing equipment used contain small hook in range of 6mm and 25mm, high possibility of catching small fish and obstruct the fish growth.
- When too much exploit and uncontrolled fishing in Zone 1 therefore imbalance of ecosystem and resources has reached their sustainability limits.
- Towards that DOF has taken an action to strengthen the fishing operation in Zone 1 from 1 January 2008 until the resources has fully recover.