



Fisheries and Biodiversity: An Intricate Balance

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Abstract

The world's oceans are teeming with life, hosting an incredible array of species and ecosystems that form the backbone of global biodiversity. Among these, fisheries play a vital role in maintaining the ecological balance while supporting human livelihoods and food security. However, the relationship between fisheries and biodiversity is complex and often fraught with challenges. Overfishing, habitat destruction, and climate change are just a few of the factors threatening marine biodiversity and, by extension, the sustainability of fisheries. This article explores the intricate balance between fisheries and biodiversity, highlighting the importance of sustainable practices to preserve both marine life and human communities.

Keywords: Fisheries; Biodiversity; Overfishing

Introduction

Fisheries encompass a wide range of activities, from small-scale artisanal fishing to large industrial operations. They target various species, including fish, crustaceans, and mollusks, which are integral components of marine food webs. Healthy fish populations contribute to the overall stability of marine ecosystems by maintaining predator-prey relationships, supporting nutrient cycles, and enhancing habitat structure [1,2].

Methodology

For example, predatory fish help control the population of smaller species, preventing any single species from dominating the ecosystem and causing imbalances. Additionally, certain fish species contribute to the health of coral reefs and seagrass beds by grazing on algae, which can otherwise smother these critical habitats.

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