

Is community-based co-management the key to successful fisheries ?

Written by Administrator

Thursday, 24 February 2011 18:48 - Last Updated Thursday, 03 March 2011 17:27

Is community-based co-management "the key to fisheries worldwide" ? This is the conclusion of a paper recently published in Nature. This article evaluated data on 130 fisheries in over 40 developed and developing nations. The authors conclude that the bulk of the world's fisheries – including small-scale, often non-industrialised fisheries on which millions of people depend for food – could be sustained without top-down rules from strong centralised governments. In fact, many fisheries around the world are well managed under limited central government structure, as long as communities of fishers are proactively engaged.

The study highlights aspects that seem key to the success of co-managed fisheries, including prominent community leadership and social cohesion, security over the amount fishers can catch or the area they can fish, protected areas combined with regulated harvest inside and outside, when these areas are proposed and monitored by local communities.

The authors contend that co-management is the only realistic solution for the majority of the world's fisheries and can solve many of the problems facing global fisheries today. More [here](#)

Personally I think that this is a utopian fantasy and that some government involvement is necessary for successful fisheries management, even though the track record worldwide is admittedly poor. What do you think?

TAGS: community-based, co-management, sustainable, fisheries, fishing, Nature

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