

HABITAT FRAGMENTATION



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HABITAT FRAGMENTATION

Fragmentation means that area loss occurs along with the splitting up of habitat into many isolated pieces

Fragmentation is due to overfishing-when trawlers scrap the seafloor over and over again, leaving only rubble areas with mud and agriculture, rural development, urbanization.

Previously continuous habitat split into many smaller areas and there is a loss of total area of that habitat

Ex. Philippines, some 80% of the coral reefs areas have been affected by dynamite fishing, trawling and other disturbance



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Problems due to fragmentation:

- Reduction in the total area of the habitat
- Increase in the amount of edge
- Decrease in the amount of interior habitat
- Breaking up of one patch of habitat into several smaller patches
- Decrease in the average size of each patch of habitat



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Other problems:

- Because of fragments, competition for food
- Competition for habitat (space)
- Facing DO problems
- Problem in fish migration

