Evaluating Factors Influencing Occupational Transition Among Coastal Fishermen: A Three-Dimensional Analysis

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Abstract : In recent years, the decline in marine fishing productivity, coupled with the ongoing degradation of marine ecosystems, has significantly impacted the sustainable exploitation of marine resources. Coastal communities have experienced reduced economic returns from fishing activities, prompting some individuals to seek employment in alternative industries. However, constraints such as limited educational qualifications have led many to remain reluctant to exit the marine fishing sector. This study employs a structured questionnaire to investigate the production and livelihood conditions of fishermen in three coastal cities of Liaoning Province—Dalian, Zhuanghe, and Dandong. A bivariate logistic regression model is utilized to examine the determinants influencing occupational transitions among local fishermen, focusing on four key dimensions: household characteristics, working conditions, income and expenditure patterns, government support and infrastructure. The findings from the questionnaire indicate that 70% of fishers express a strong willingness to pursue occupational transfers; however, only 30% have successfully completed this transition. Then, further explore the factors influencing decision-making among fishers to facilitate better transformations that enhance local development. Additionally, it seeks to identify external support mechanisms that can help negotiate a balance among natural resource exploitation, community livelihoods, and environmental protection regulations.

Keywords : fishermen, occupation, willingness transition, behavior transition, bivariate probit model

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