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## Pb(II) and Oil Contamination Analysis of Belawan Sea, Medan City, North Sumatera

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### ABSTRACT

*Belawan waters are very densely populated with shipping, industrial and settlement. These various activities have an impact in the form of sea pollution by liquid waste such as Pb (II) and oil. Based on the results of the analysis of the content of Pb (II) in the highest waters, which is equal to 26.9120 ppm, it exceeds the threshold. The oil content in the waters has exceeded the threshold of 0.05 gr / L. One way to reduce the levels of Pb (II) and oil is by using coconut husk biosorbent. This is evidenced by the results of the analysis that there was a decrease in Pb (II) metal content after adsorption using coconut coir biosorbent which was equal to 6.2430ppm with adsorption capability of 20,699 ppm. The oil content in the water after the water is adsorbed using coconut coir biosorbent shows the Not Applicable result because the seawater sample has been homogenized so that no significant changes occur. This shows that coconut coir biosorbent is effective to reduce the content of Pb and Oil in water in the waters of the sea.*

**Keywords:** Wild sea pollution, Pb (II) metal, biosorbent, coconut fiber, Oil

## **I. Introduction**

Sea pollution is a problem that is widely discussed in the world, especially Indonesia. The sea is the estuary of all community activities and industrial activities that indicate the high potential of sea water pollution.<sup>1</sup> According to Darmono<sup>2</sup> the sea receives materials that are carried by water from agricultural areas, household waste, garbage, waste material from ships, oil spills, and other waste materials. Pollutant loads that have exceeded the sea water quality threshold will cause the sea has been polluted and does not function in accordance with its purpose. If the sea has been polluted by various marine debris continuously with large volumes in high concentrations, it will cause the sea to no longer be able to purify because it has exceeded its carrying capacity so that it damages the sea balance.

Belawan waters are open sea waters that are directly related to the Deli River basin. Deli River is one of the rivers that divides the city of Medan to North Medan and empties into Belawan Waters. The Belawan area is an international port area filled with industry and settlements and other public facilities. At present there are around 35 industries such as Crude Palm Oil (CPO) storage, fertilizer industry and cement industry in the Belawan environment.<sup>4</sup> One of the causes of belawan waters pollution is heavy metals and oil spills which can be a serious problem.<sup>3,4</sup>

The content of heavy metals that have exceeded the threshold will be very dangerous if it enters the body and can interfere with human health. One of the heavy metals contained in belawan waters is Pb (II) metal. Lead metal (Pb) has toxic properties that can interfere with health and cause death. High lead content can be traced to industrial waste from various sources, such as electric battery manufacturing, lead smelting, and mining activities. Lead in drinking water is known to cause various types of serious health problems that can cause death in cases of extreme exposure.<sup>5</sup> Lead (Pb) is a type of heavy metal that has the potential to become a contaminant, because it is a compound that lasts a long time in a water bodies before finally settling or absorbed by the various physical and chemical reactions in the waters.<sup>5,9</sup>

Oil pollution at sea (oil spill) is a very important environmental problem.<sup>13</sup> Oil spills at sea, especially

large scale oil spill accidents, have posed a major threat and caused extensive damage to the coastal environment. Contaminants can accumulate in the body of marine organisms and are harmful to humans.<sup>3,13</sup> Based on the results of field observations, it appears that people around the use of water in Belawan waters directly to meet the water needs in everyday activities. The metal content of Pb (II) and oil can accumulate in the body. If this situation continues for a long period of time, it can endanger human health.

Considering the negative impact of Pb (II) metal and oil on living things and the environment, an effort is needed to control the presence of these two hazardous liquid wastes. One way to reduce metal and oil content is through the process of adsorption by coconut coir biosorbents.

Coconut coir is one of the biomass that is easily obtained and is a byproduct of agriculture. The composition of coir in coconuts is about 35% of the total weight of coconuts. Coconut coir consists of fiber (fiber) and cork (pitch) that connects one fiber to another fiber. Coconut coir consists of 75% fiber and 25% cork.<sup>12</sup> The potential use of coconut fiber as biosorbent to remove heavy metals from the waters is quite high because coconut coir fiber contains lignin (35% -45%) and cellulose (23% - 43%).<sup>1,12</sup> Thus it is expected that coconut coir biosoben can absorb and reduce the metal content of Pb (II) and oil in belawan sea waters.

## **II. Experimental Method**

The materials used in this study were dry coconut coir obtained from Tembung village of Deli Serdang Regency, Sodium hydroxide (NaOH), aquadest, water samples from Belawan waters, Chloride Acid (HCl) 1:1, Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> anhydrous, n-Hexane. Glassware used are separating funnel, erlenmeyer, glass funnel, filter paper, measuring flask, measuring pipette, oven, beaker glass, coarse filter paper, scales, desiccators, set of glassware, volume pipettes, suction balls, pH meters, ovens, and analytical balance, magnetic stirrer. Sample analysis is carried out in a laboratory by using atomic absorption spectrophotometry (AAS). Sampling was carried out at three observation points, the location of sampling was determined by positive

sampling, in a sequence that is PLTU, mangrove areas, residential areas.

#### Preparation of NaOH-activated biosorbents.

Coconut fiber is washed thoroughly and rinsed with distilled water, then dried in the sun. After drying, the sample is cut into small pieces with a size of 1-2 mm. Then washed with distilled water until clean. The sample is then dried in an oven at 70°C until a constant weight is obtained and stored in a desiccator.

#### Biosorbent Activation.

573 grams of biosorbent was put into 7162.5 mL of 1.2 M sodium hydroxide (NaOH) solution. The mixture was stirred for 2 hours, then filtered and the residue washed with distilled water to a neutral pH (pH 7). Biosorbent is dried in an oven at 70, then stored in a desiccator.

#### Oil Extraction

A sample of 500 mL containing Belawan seawater acidified by adding 1: 1 Hydrochloric Acid (HCl) until the pH was less than 2, then extracted with n-hexane as much as 100 mL for 2 minutes. Let the water and n-hexane layers separate. The water phase is separated into erlenmeyer, while the n-hexane phase layer is passed through filter paper containing 10 grams of anhydrous sodium sulfate (Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>) and accommodated in a distillation flask with known weight (W<sub>0</sub>). The n-hexane phase layer is distilled with a water bath at temperature. When the solvent condensation is stopped, the distillation is stopped. Cool and dry the distillation flask in the oven with a temperature of ± for 30-45 minutes. The distillation ash is put into the desiccator for 30 minutes and weighed the distillation flask until a fixed weight (W<sub>1</sub>) is obtained. The oil level is calculated.

### III. Results and Discussion

The results of the analysis of Pb metals in belawan waters using AAS indicate that the Pb (II) metal content in belawan sea waters has exceeded the Pb (II) metal quality standards in sea waters. Pb (II) metal analysis results in belawan waters can be seen in Table 1.

**Table 1.** Results of the analysis of the metal content of Pb (II) in belawan waters before treatment

No	Sample Point	Pb (ppm)
1	PLTU	24.13
2	Mangrove Area	26.91
3	Fisherman Area	11.18

The results of the analysis showed that there were differences in the metal content of Pb (II) in belawan sea waters at each sampling point. Lead metal content in Belawan waters at 3 points has exceeded the Lead metal content threshold in port waters. Based on the quality standard limits set by the Minister of Environment No. 51 of 2004 in annex 1 concerning seawater quality standards for port waters, the Pb (II) metal quality standard value is 0.05 mg / L. The metal content of Pb (II) at three sampling points has exceeded the specified quality standard threshold. The content of Pb (II) in the power plant is 24.1255 ppm. The high content of Pb (II) in the power plant is due to the area being an industrial waste disposal in Belawan waters. Lead (Pb) is widely used in industry for example as a fuel additive, lead pigment in paint which is a major cause of increased Pb levels in the environment.<sup>8</sup> According to (Walker et al., 1998) that if pollution occurs it is suspected that the main source of lead (Pb) comes from the residual combustion of motor vehicle exhaust gases and paint. So that metals in the waters will accumulate in the sediment.<sup>14</sup>

The content of Pb (II) in the mangrove area is 26.9120 ppm. The content of Pb (II) in the mangrove area is classified as very high due to the mangrove area close to the location of the power plant. The lowest Pb (II) content is located in the fishing village of 11.1780 ppm. This is due to the fishing village located in residential areas that tend not to be dense with industrial activities that cause Pb metal contamination. Resulting in a dilution of the residents' activities which can cause Pb (II) metal content to decrease in belawan sea waters.

Lead (Pb) is a heavy metal that is very toxic and is not needed by humans, so that if food is contaminated by the metal, the body will release it.<sup>6</sup> In the human body Pb metal can inhibit the activity of enzymes involved in the formation of hemoglobin (Hb) and a small portion accumulates in the kidneys, liver, fat tissue and hair.<sup>15</sup>

One of the most dangerous pollutants for human health is heavy metals. World Health Organization (WHO) or the World Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) recommends not to consume seafood (seafood) that is contaminated with heavy metals. Heavy metal has long been known as an element that has the potential for poison and has the ability to accumulate in the organs of the human body. In fact, not a few cause death. Some dangerous heavy metals are mercury or mercury (Hg), Cadmium (Cd), Lead (Pb), Copper (Cu), and others.<sup>2</sup>

This research uses adsorption method using coconut coir biosorbents. Water samples from three sampling points are absorbed using coconut coir biosorbents. Pb (II) metal analysis results in belawan waters after receiving treatment was observed in Table 2.

**Table 2.** Results of analysis of Pb (II) metal content in belawan waters after treatment

No	Sample Point	Pb (ppm)
1	PLTU	7.04
2	Mangrove Area	6.24
3	Fisherman Area	4.14

The results of the Pb metal analysis after treatment showed that there was a decrease in the Pb (II) metal content after being adsorbed by the biosorbent of coconut coir in water samples in belawan waters. Pb (II) metal adsorbed at sample point 1, sample 2, and sample 3 were 17.0875 ppm, 20.669 ppm, and 7.038 ppm, respectively. This shows that biosorbents adsorb Pb (II) metal well during experiments.

The results of the analysis of oil content in Belawan waters amounted to 0.05 gr / L. This shows that the oil content in Belawan waters has exceeded the oil content threshold in the port waters area stipulated by the Ministry of Environment No. 51 of 2004 which is 5 mg / L is equivalent to 0.005 gr / L.

**Table 3.** Results of oil content analysis in belawan waters after treatment

No.	Sample Point	Minyak (gr/L)
1.	PLTU	NA
2.	Mangrove Area	NA
3	Fisherman Area	NA

The trial was conducted at three sampling points and homogenized. The results of the analysis of oil content in belawan sea waters after the treatment showed Not Applicable results due to sea water samples had been homogenized so that no significant changes occurred. Coconut coir fibers are very potential as biosorbents because they contain cellulose that is inside its molecular structure contains carboxyl groups and lignins which contain phenolic acids which take part in the binding of metals. Cellulose and lignin are biopolymers associated with the process of separating heavy metals.<sup>11</sup> The results of the analysis of the decreased Pb (II) metal content and oil content in belawan waters indicate that coconut coir biosorbents are effective in absorbing Pb (II) metal and oil.

#### IV. Conclusion

Based on the analysis of Pb (II) metal content in belawan waters, it was concluded that the Pb (II) metal contamination had passed the threshold of Pb (II) metal content in port waters, Pb (II) content in PLTU was 24.1255 ppm, in the area mangrove at 26.9120 ppm, and in fishing villages at 11.1780 ppm. The results of the analysis of oil content in Belawan waters amounted to 0.05 gr / L. The results of the analysis of the Pb (II) metal content after adsorption by using biocarp coir biosorbents showed a decrease in the Pb (II) metal content. Pb (II) metal adsorbed at sample point 1 was 17.0875 ppm, at sample point 2 it was 20,669 ppm, and at sample point 3 it was 7,038 ppm. As for the results of the analysis of oil content in belawan sea waters after treatment showed Not Applicable results. Based on the results of the analysis of the metal content of Pb (II) and oil show that coconut coir biosorbents are effective in adsorbing Pb (II) metal and oil.

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