

## Cover Letter

21<sup>st</sup> July 2021

Editorial Team of Indonesian Journal of Geography, Faculty of Geography, Universitas Gadjah Mada, Indonesia

Dear Editor of IJG,

I am submitting a manuscript for consideration of publication in Indonesian Journal of Geography. The manuscript is entitled “Physical and Chemical Parameters of Estuarine Waters around South Sulawesi”. It has been approved by all authors, has not been published elsewhere and that it has not been submitted simultaneously for publication elsewhere.

This paper presents data on important water quality parameters for the downstream, estuarine and surrounding coastal waters of 8 major rivers around the western, southern and eastern coasts of South Sulawesi Province, Indonesia. Data collected during January 2020 were interpolated and mapped in ArcGIS 9.3 to reveal distribution patterns of nine physical and chemical parameters. The results revealed levels of nutrients (nitrate and ammonium) in excess of government standards and low levels of dissolved oxygen (DO) at all sites, and elevated sea surface temperatures at most sites. On the STORET scale, two sites were classed as moderately polluted and six as heavily polluted, with the most severe pollution in Makassar City. Turbidity was very high at one site, in Pangkep Regency. The results call for regular monitoring of DO, research to better understand and potentially mitigate the occurrence of hypoxic conditions. Climate change mitigation and adaptation should be considered, including watershed-wide strategies to reduce nutrient loading of riverine and coastal waters.

For the purpose of reviewing my manuscript, I suggest the following reviewers:

1. Dr. Ir. Samliok Ndobe, M.Si., Tadulako University: samndobe@yahoo.com
2. Dr. rer. nat Gino Valentino Limmon, M.Sc., Pattimura University, gino.limmon@gmail.com
3. Dr. Ratnawati Gatta, SPi, M.Si., Bosowa University, wongmogey@gmail.com

Thank you very much for your consideration.

Yours Sincerely,



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