

Analysis of Environmental Conditions in Operation Area of Bottom Longlineat Kao Bay, Halmahera, North Maluku Province

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Abstract:

The factors that influence the success bottom longline operation include seabed topography, substrate bottom, and physico-chemical conditions of waters. Until now there has been available information about these factors in the study area. The aim of this study is to create a profile and compare the environmental conditions between guyot habitat, reef habitat, and river estuary habitat. The results showed that the characteristic of the topography on third habitats varies with different depths. The substrate on guyot and reef habitat are not significant differences, but on a river estuary is significantly different. The mean values of temperature, chlorophyll-a, and salinity in front of coral reef habitat is not different from the river estuary habitat. The average value of pH and DO on coral reef habitats and other habitats were not significantly different.

Keywords: Bottom Longline, Environmental Condition, Halmahera Island

I. INTRODUCTION

One of the fishing gear used by fishermen in the bay Kao, is bottom longline. This gear was operated in potential fishing areas. Based on observations, there are several aquatic habitats as potential for fishing areas such as guyot (table mount), coral reef habitat; and river estuaries. Factors that influence the success of bottom longline operation is the design of fishing gear, seabed topography, substrate characteristic, and physico-chemical condition. The design of fishing gear will affect the performance when interacting with longline fishing, while the other factors that will affect to availability of resources of fish on their habitats.

Several studies related to the performance of bottom longline gear has been done. For example; Observation of some basic aspects of bottom longline operations in Juana, Central Java by Harifin and Wijopriyono (1993); The rate of fishing (hook rate) with bottom longline in kalipo, Binuangen, West Java by Nasution (1993); The influence of mesh size of bottom longline on fish catches by Wudianto et al (1995); and the trial of bottom longline using hook no 4, 6, and 8 in the Gulf Watermelon, South Lampung by Hufiadi and Nurdin (2006). But the information about seabed topography, substrate characteristic, and physico-chemical condition are not available.

Data and information on the topography of seabed condition in demersal fishing activities are needed, especially to recognize the characters and conditions of the waters. Depth has a major factor that influences on the distribution, abundance and diversity of fish species (Thistle, 2003; Bianchi, 1992; Fujita et al, 1995). Characteristic of bottom waters has an important role in controlling the distribution of demersal fish, because the type of substrate affects the lives of organisms such invertebrates as food fish (Lowe and McConnell, 1987). Distribution of a fish species was influenced by several factors; include physico-chemical condition, relationships with other organisms and behavior organism in selecting habitat (Krebs 1989).

The purpose of this research is to create a profile and compare the environmental conditions on three habitats; guyot habitat, reef habitat, and river estuary habitat. We expected that the result can be valuable information to improve the performance of bottom longline operation.

II. MATERIALS AND METHODS

A. Study Area

Location of the study is on Kao Bay, Halmahera Island - North Maluku Province (Fig.1). This location is the bottom longline operation area. Data Collection was started from April 2015.

B. Sampling Method

Water depth measurement using Fishfinder type Garmin 350C (77 Hz and 200 Hz). Substrate sediment sampling use *Ekman Grab Sampler*. Measurement of physical-chemical parameters using water quality checker Horiba U50. Measurements were taken at the surface and ten meters. Chlorophyll-a data obtained through image digitization.

C. Analysis Method

Water depth data analysis using surfers, then overlay with the basic topographical map of Indonesia (RBI) published by the Geospatial Information Agency, to generate bathymetry. This map hereinafter described seabed morphology. Sediment samples from each location visually identified and categorized based on Wentworth Scale. Analysis of Physical-chemical condition using ANOVA with Tukey mean difference test (Tukey's HSD Test) confidence interval $\alpha = 0.05$ (Zar, 1984; Petersen, 1985; Tenriware, 2012).

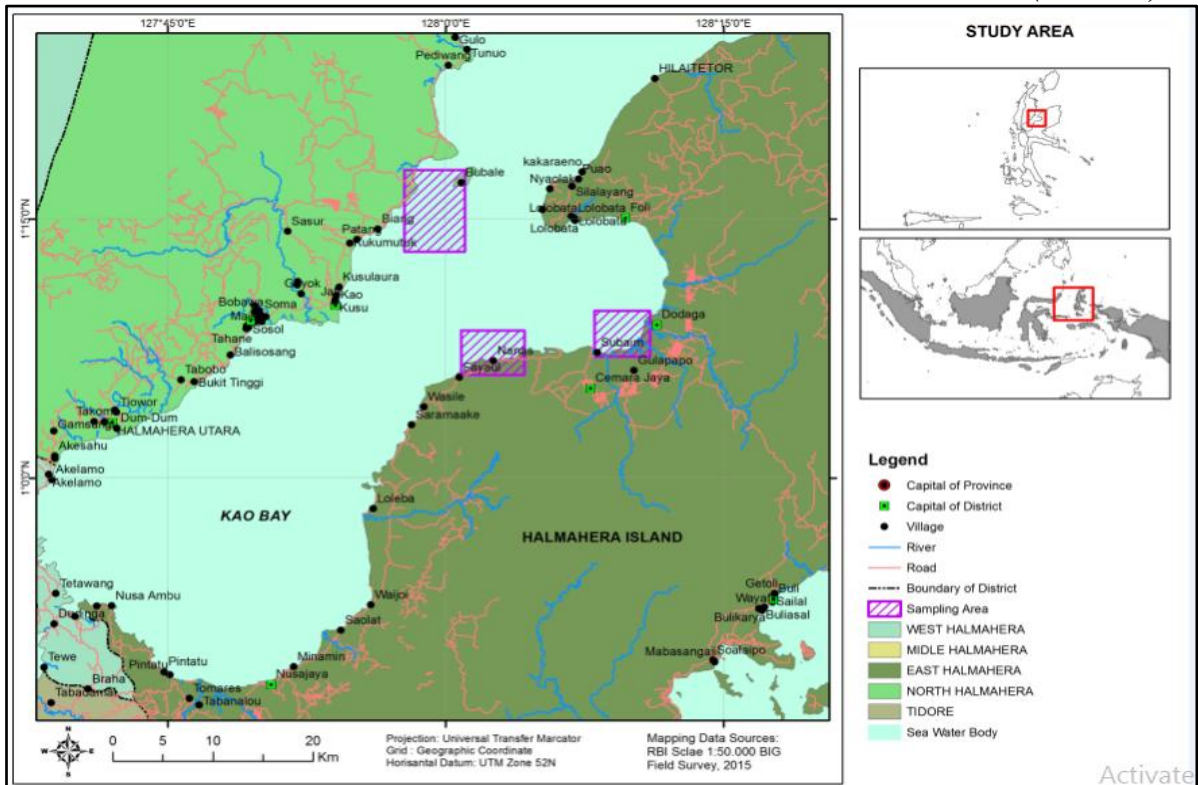
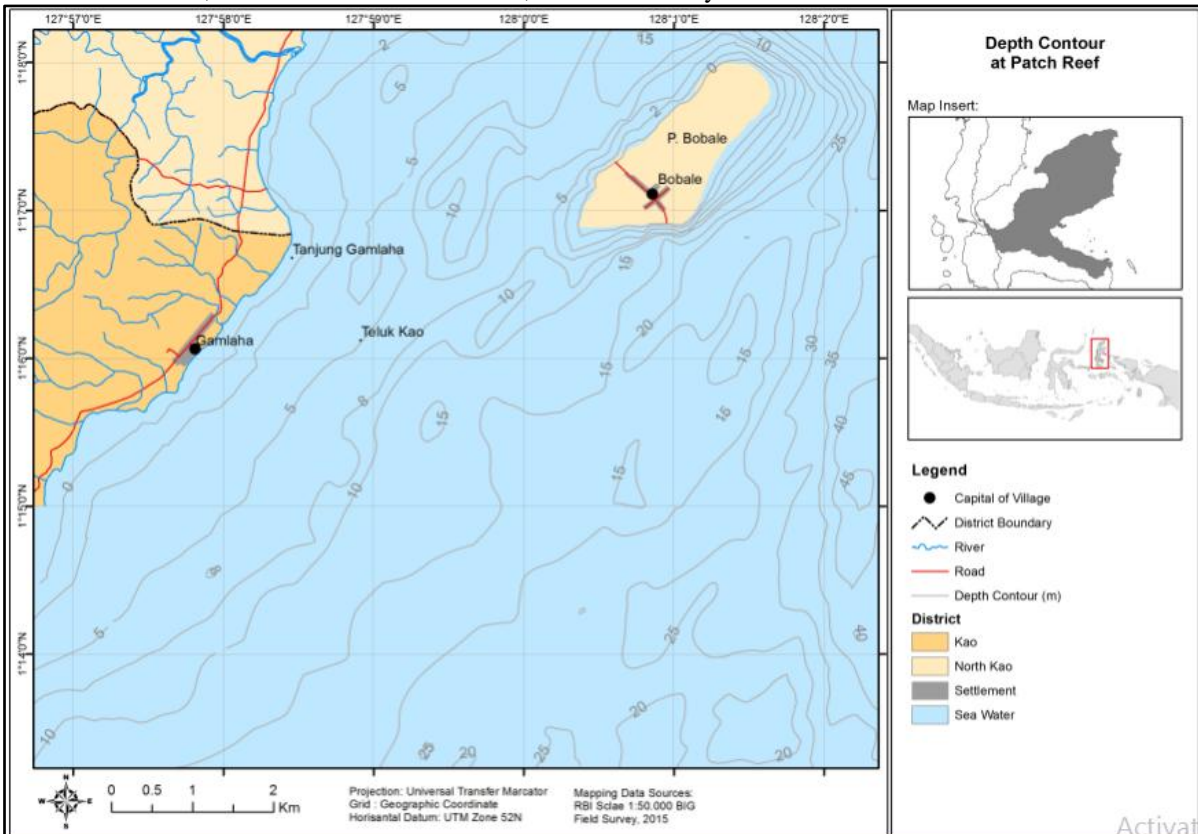


Figure 1. Study Area

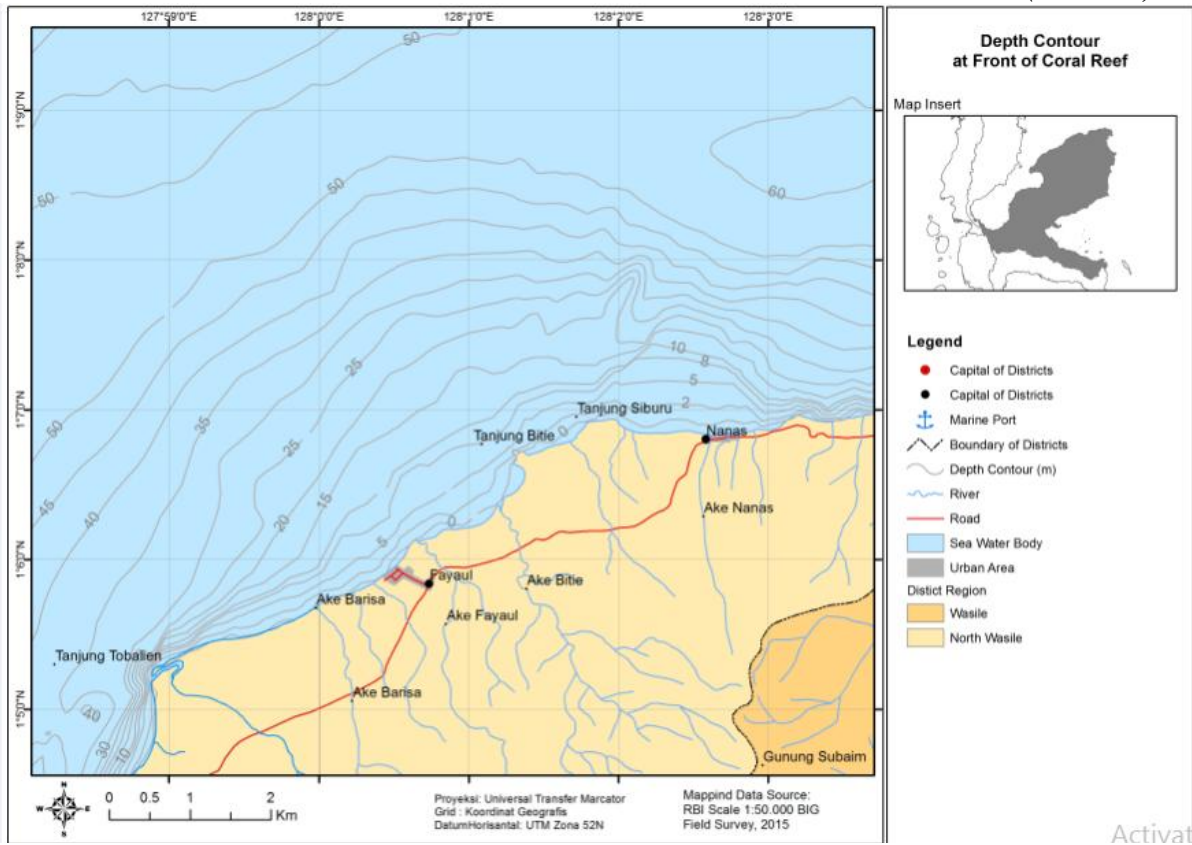
III. RESULT AND DISSCUSION

A. Topography of Study Area

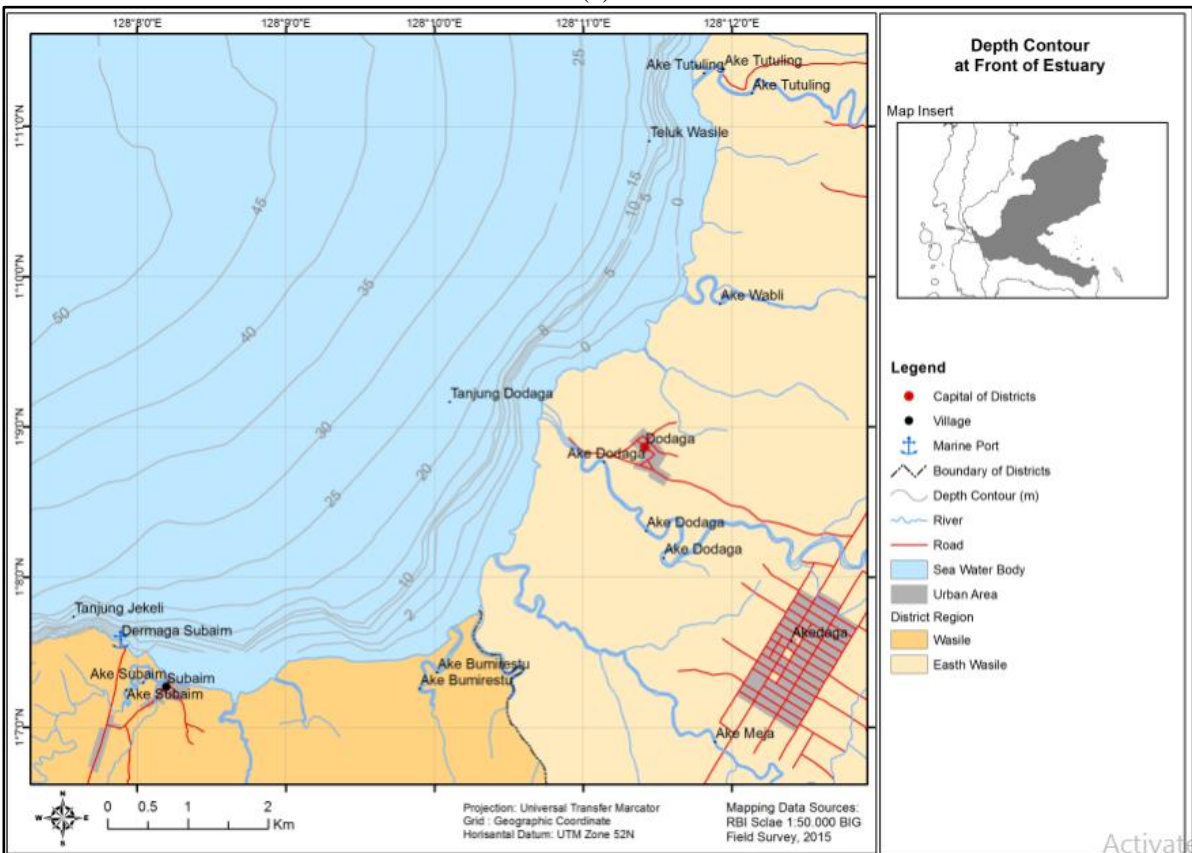
The Characteristic of Seabed topography on all areas operation of bottom longline has different from one habitat to others habitat. On guyot areal shows the depth profiles is very complex and varied. Most of the area looks shallow (Fig.2a). The reef habitats tend to flat (Fig.2b). And river estuary habitat tends to shallow to depth (Fig.2c). Depth interpolation result from each stations shows the variations in depth between all habitats. On guyot habitat, the depth variation between 1-20m, on reef habitat between 2-25m, and river estuary habitat varied between 1-25m.



(a)



(b)



(c)

Figure 2. The depth characteristic at Study Areal (a) GuyotHabitat ;(b) Coral Reef Habitat; (c) River Estuary Habitat

B. Substrate Characteristic

Substrate characteristic on each station shows that the sediment varied among each. Substrate at Guyot habitat dominated by granular rocks/rubble, sand, and shells. At reef habitat, the substrate was dominated by rubble. And at river estuary habitat, the substrate was dominated by muddy sand (Table 1).

Table 1. Characteristic of Substrate at Each Station

No	Habitats	Substrate Characteristic
1	Guyot	Rubble, sand and shell
2	Reef	Rubble, sand
3	River Estuary	Sand, muddy

C. Physico-Chemical Condition

Physico-Chemical condition at operations area on surface water (0m) and depth 10m are presented in Table 2 and 3.

Table 2. The Average of physics-chemistry conditions on surface water (0 m)

No	Parameter	Guyot Habitat	Coral reef Habitat	River estuary Habitat
1	Temperature (°C)	28.89b±0.34	30.30a±0.25	30.75a±0.66
2	Chlorophyll- a (mg/m3)*	2.31b±0.61	0.59a±0.27	0.69a±0.34
3	Salinity (psu)	35.62b±0.13	34.11a±0.07	34.46a±0.42
4	pH	8.62a±0.26	7.29a±0.09	4.34b±2.44
5	Dissolve Oxygen (mg/l)	6.92a±0.40	5.55a±0.11	9.40b±1.93

Note: The different of superscript on the same line ($\alpha = 0.05$) based on Tukey test

* Only on the surface waters

Table 3. The Average of physics-chemistry conditions on 10 m

No	Parameter	Guyot Habitat	Coral reef Habitat	River estuary Habitat
1	Temperature (°C)	28.4b±0.19	30.18a±0.16	30.00a±0.48
2	Salinity (psu)	35.70b±0.14	34.04a±0.05	34.32a±0.83
3	pH	8.16a±0.42	7.66a±0.28	4.97b±0.39
4	Dissolve Oxygen (mg/l)	8.16a±0.51	5.51a±0.19	8.73b±1.57

Note: the different of superskrip on the same line in different real ($\alpha = 0.05$) based on Tukey test

The average values of each parameter are variations among all three habitats. The high temperature is relatively observed in a river estuary habitat, while a low temperature recorded in its natural guyot habitat. Comparison temperature vertically shows that surface temperature higher than the bottom temperature. The chlorophyll-a on the surface waters is relatively high founded in guyot habitat (2.31 mg/m³), while in coral reef habitat and river estuary habitat have more value which is relatively low each 0.56 and 0.69 mg/m³. Salinity on surface waters is relatively high in guyot habitat, while vertically salinity in coral reefs habitat and river estuary habitat noted high than on the surface waters. pH value in guyot habitat was higher if compared with pH value in coral reef habitat and river estuary habitat. Vertical distribution of pH shows that pH value at guyot habitat in the surface was higher than in the bottom, but in coral reef habitat and river estuary habitat, the pH value was lowest at surface and higher at bottom. The concentration of dissolve oxygen was high founded at river estuary habitat and lowest at coral reef habitat. While the vertical distribution of dissolve oxygen shows that at surface was high concentrations better than at the bottom.

Result of Tukey mean test shows that the parameters; temperature, chlorophyll-a, salinity, in coral reefs habitat are no different from river estuary habitat, but both of the habitat are really different with guyot habitat. On the other parameter, pH level and dissolve oxygen in guyot habitat and coral reef habitat are not different, but they were different from river estuary habitat.

D. Discussion

The operations areas at guyot habitat have a basic complexity and variety of topography. Meanwhile, coral reef habitat has flat form and in river estuary habitat, the topography tends to decrease far from the coast. This describes specification this region in biodiversity that were in it. Demersal fish can live with both in the waters that are substrate mud or mud sandy with the details communities are complex (Aoyama, 1973). Types of habitat have an importance role in controlling distribution of demersal fish, as the type life of organisms substrate affected that live in the waters such as invertebrates that is also important as food fish (Lowe's Cos and McConnell, 1987).

The fish potential resources caught in the Kao bay identified as many as 22 types. One of the fish catches that dominates is a type of fish (17.35 percent) (BLH North Maluku, 2014). Substrate characteristic in this area can support the survival of fish. Main areas of red snapper fish (*Lutjanus malabaricus*) were uncharted waters with a substrate coral reef and rocky, a mix of sand, sand muddy, and associated with coral reefs (Allen, 1985). This species were associated with coral reef because coral gives protection from larvae till small fish and the majority of growth in this area (*nursery ground*) (Andrade, 2003).

The lowest temperature in guyot habitat was influenced by the position of this area close to each other and to deal with waters from Hatetabako where the temperature is relatively low (BLH North Maluku, 2014). The temperature that was thus found in river estuary habitat has averaged 30.75°C. This value in river estuary habitat was influenced by the position with the Wasileguyot where the temperature is relatively high because of its semi-closed bay (BLH North

Maluku, 2014). The high temperature of seawaters between 30.0-32.0 °C because of its semi-closed have been reported coastal waters in the Luwu Regency Bone Gulf (Andriyani, 2004), in the waters Palopo and waters Kolaka (Zainuddin, 2011).

The concentration of chlorophyll-a was relatively high in guyot habitat (2.31 mg/m³), while in coral reef habitat and river estuary habitat was relatively low each 0.56-0.69 mg/m³. The chlorophyll-a in this research was high compared with an average of chlorophyll-a in Indonesian waters of 0.19 mg/m³ (Nontji, 2002). The highest concentration of chlorophyll-a caused by the location of areal study was very close to land, so that the nutrients that comes from the land influences the habitat.

Salinity was relatively high measured in guyot habitat, which on the surface waters was 35.62 and the 10 meters was 35.70. The salinity has been recorded by several researchers in the range between 33.63 - 34.15 psu (BLH North Maluku, 2014), range between 33.09-34.19 psu (Tarigan and Edward, 2003), ranged between 28.6 %)-over 32.3 psu (Sediadi and Sidabutar, 1995). Furthermore, pH levels in guyot habitat and coral reef habitat noted between 7.29 and 8.62. This value was not different from previous research results: between 7.97-8.35 (BLH North Maluku, 2014), in the range 7.01-8.05 (Sediadi and Sidabutar, 1995), between 6.95-7.01 (Tarigan and Edward, 2003). pH levels in river estuary habitat were relatively low (4.23). The low of pH value in this habitat because of the influence of fresh water mass form river, but it is not permanent (Tenriware, 2012). The pH value obtained during the research was still able to support of phytoplankton and other organism life (Prescod, 1973). The concentration of dissolved oxygen in the surface water (0 m) on the three habitats between 5.55-9.40 mg/l, less than the depth water (10 m) between 5.51-8.73 mg/l. the lower of the dissolved oxygen has been reported in the range 5.05-5.26 mg/l (Tarigan and Edward, 2003).

IV. CONCLUSION

Topography profile at guyot habitat were complex with the depth of 20 meters, at coral reef habitat, structured are flat, tends to be at a depth of about 25 m, while river estuary habitat, the topography tend to increase into the far from the coast, with the depth 25 m. The substrate at guyot and coral reef habitats dominated by rubble and sand, but at river estuary habitat dominated by sand and mud. Tukey test with $\alpha = 0.05$ shows that temperature, chlorophyll-a, and salinity in guyot habitat was different with coral reef habitat and river estuary habitat, while coral reef habitat was not significant difference with river estuary habitat. pH value and concentration of DO at guyot habitat and river estuary habitat was not different but both of habitat were different with coral reef habitat.

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