

Jakarta is one of the provinces and the capital city of Indonesia. No less than 13 rivers flow in Jakarta [4]. The potential of these rivers can be utilized to support various ecosystem services. Although the surface area of rivers in Jakarta only reaches 0.5% of the total land area, rivers are vital for drinking water, fisheries, and urban businesses [5]. River fisheries production accounts for up to 81% of the nutrient supply to low-income countries where other protein sources are too expensive. On the other hand, the potential for fisheries in river ecosystems has various threats. Currently, river management in Jakarta still focuses on managing river water quality due to deteriorating conditions. Along with technological advances, the transition from river management to ecological restoration must occur in stages [6].

The high level of pollutants downstream of Ciliwung significantly affects the diversity index of benthos, plankton, and fish [7]. Based on previous studies, the abundance of several classes of insects is more common in the upper reaches of the Ciliwung River because larval communities are associated with low-polluted and well-oxygenated streams [8]. The research results on benthic macroinvertebrates in the downstream Ciliwung watershed show the dominance of Mollusks, Annelids, and Insects [9]. Various aquatic ecosystems in Jakarta are already dominated by invasive species, and only a few native fish species remain [10].

During the last few decades, there have been many uses of technology that utilize DNA isolated from the environment [11]. The environmental DNA (eDNA) method can detect the presence of target species and the abundance of organisms in an area more effectively

and efficiently than conventional methods [12]. eDNA consists of DNA fragments released by organisms into the environment and will then be dispersed and degraded over time. DNA fragments can come from the skin, urine, feces, mucus, and reproductive cells. eDNA cannot describe the life phase of organisms, but it can help identify species and provide semi-quantitative estimates of taxonomic abundance based on DNA readings [13]. This study aims to: 1) identify the current status of aquatic biota and previously based on eDNA, 2) identify the water quality physically and chemically, and 3) identify the relationship between water quality and aquatic biota composition based on eDNA at three sites of the Lower Ciliwung River in Jakarta. This research will provide significant benefits and become a preliminary study of aquatic biota research in the Lower Ciliwung River. Several discoveries of aquatic biota that have not been found in previous studies can become new findings to enrich the status of the composition of aquatic biota in Jakarta.

Materials and Methods

Study Locations

Samples of eDNA were collected from three sites in the Lower Ciliwung River (Fig. 1). At each site, the sample was repeated three times. Several locations were sampled, including the natural river (point 1), the normalized river (point 2), and estuaries (point 3). The three sites were chosen based on differences in river conditions.

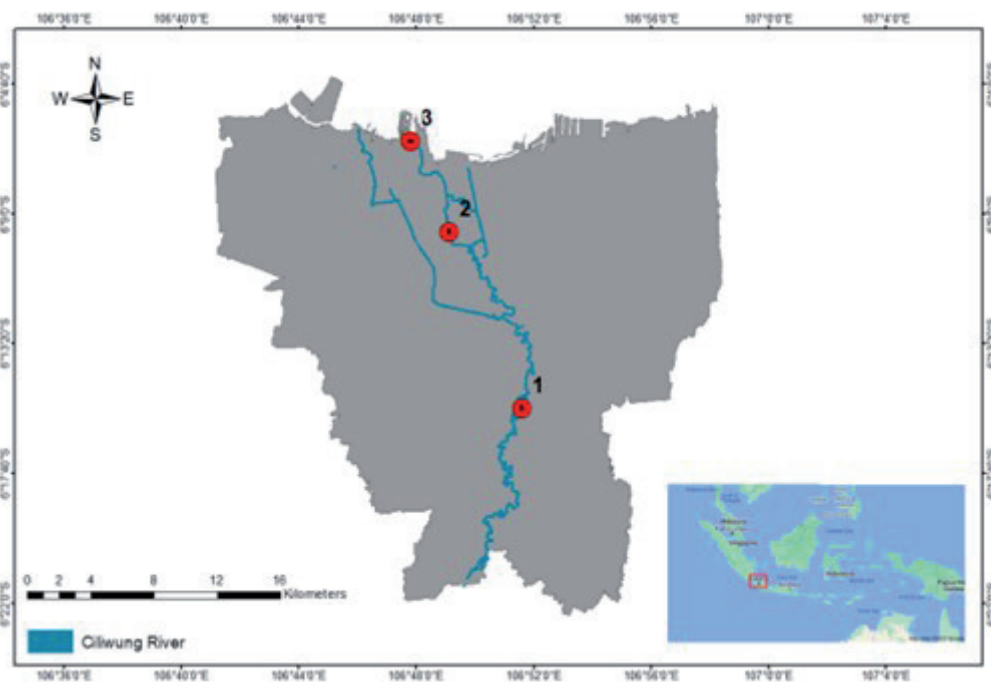


Fig. 1. Three eDNA freshwater sample collection sites across the Lower Ciliwung River: (1) East Jakarta; (2) Central Jakarta; and (3) North Jakarta.

oligotrophication of waters. Moreover, some species of diatom can also detect acidity, water's Cu concentration, Zn concentration in waters, water's contamination, ecological status of the river, and nutrient distribution. When diatoms reach a limited volume, they separate vegetatively. This type of reproduction permits the diatoms to attain (under no resource limitation) huge clonal populations and, therefore, the capacity to overcome a new space and control the accessible resources [22].

The insects were from Coleoptera, Diptera, Blattodea, Lepidoptera, Hemiptera, Hymenoptera, and Phthiraptera. Insects are ubiquitous environmental components, including terrestrial and freshwater, as part of food webs [23]. River water quality changes will affect aquatic insects' composition and distribution. The use of these animals as bioindicators is based on their wide distribution, relatively high density, and relatively high sensitivity to pollution. The benthos found in this study were from Gastropods, Bivalves, Monogenea, Polychaeta, Clitella, and Malacostraca. Benthos is an organism that lives at the bottom of the water, in direct contact with sediments. Hence, it has the potential to be directly exposed to pollutants. According to Wiedarti et al. [23], Gastropods have a wide range of tolerance to water conditions and a wide distribution area. The diversity of macro-zoobenthos is decreasing towards the lower reaches of the Ciliwung River. This is closely related to the increasing level of pollution downstream [23].

The higher DNA in the water based on the read sequence from DNA materials can be detected because genetic material can be stored for a long time. Degradation time is related to topography and oceanography, affecting water transport [24]. Environmental factors (i.e., temperature, organic matter, pH, currents, and the type and number of materials used during sampling) cause highly variable DNA particles. DNA degradation in the water column can last several hours, days, or weeks, depending on the biotic and abiotic conditions [25]. The quality of DNA also dramatically affects the time it can survive in the water column. Deiner and Altermatt [26] suggested that fish and invertebrate genetic material can be found ± 10 km from their natural habitat.

Rivers integrate the signals of aquatic and terrestrial vertebrates since water can transport material from the entire catchment, and eDNA accumulates inside water bodies [26]. In this study, a few organisms identified utilizing eDNA from water samples belong to terrestrial organisms, such as Aves and Mammalia. This result can be explained by the contact of these terrestrial organisms with water or by the transport of DNA from the encompassing terrestrial surface into the river.

The Shannon-Wiener diversity index (H') was generally negatively correlated with the Simpson dominance index (D). The diversity index H' ranged from 1.63 to 2.03 (moderate diversity), while the dominance index (D) ranged from 0.67 to 0.81 (high

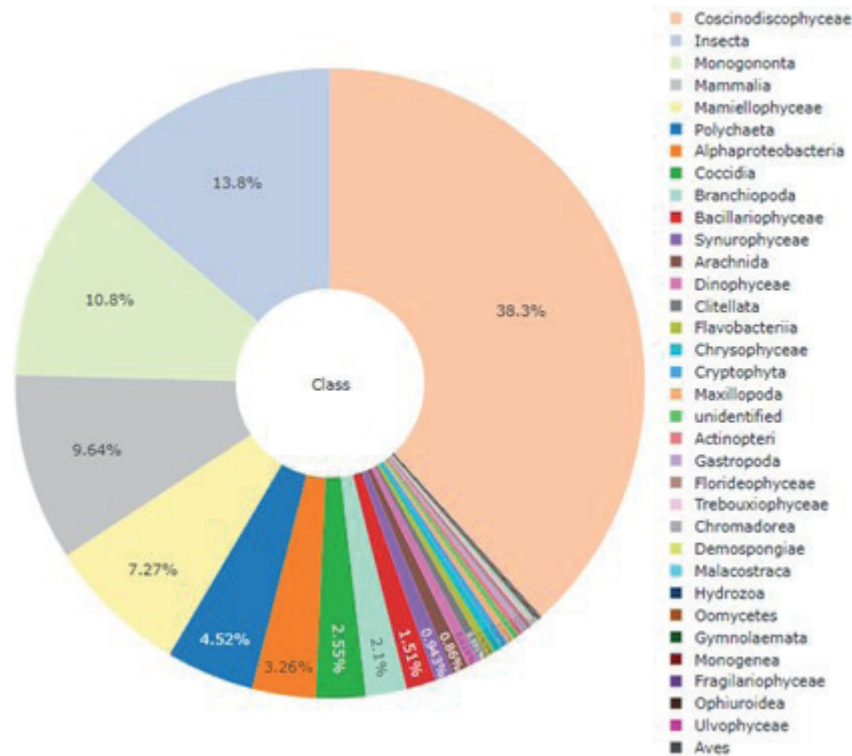


Fig. 2. Pie chart based on class for three sampling locations based on the number of reads. The pie chart was constructed based on all classes contributing to the relative abundance of each sample.

