

Microplastic pollution in the Black Sea Coast of the Anatolian side of Istanbul, Turkey

Müge Şener, Pelin Doğruyol, Nilgün Balkaya*

Department of Environmental Engineering, Istanbul University-Cerrahpasa, Avcilar-Istanbul, Turkey, emails: nbalkaya@istanbul.edu.tr (N. Balkaya), mugesener92@hotmail.com (M. Şener), pelin_dogruyol@hotmail.com (P. Doğruyol)

Received 5 June 2019; Accepted 3 November 2019

ABSTRACT

This study was carried out to investigate plastic pollution in the Black Sea Coast of the Anatolian side of Istanbul, Turkey. In the study, the plastic particles in the collected samples (beach sands) were classified depending on size. The abundance of microplastics (1–5 mm) and large plastics (>5 mm) by number and weight were determined. The spatial and seasonal variations in the abundance by number and weight were also reported. The highest abundances by number were found at Riva station, whereas the lowest abundances by number were found at Sile Port.

Keywords: Black Sea Coast; Marine pollution; Microplastic; Plastic debris

^{*} Corresponding author.