3.2.2 Antropogenic matter

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Surface investigations showed the plastic and wood prevalence among man-made garbage (Figure 3.2.2.1). It is likely that garbage was drifted into the area by ocean currents. Metal, rubber and paper observed among floating garbage sporadically (Figure 3.2.2.2).

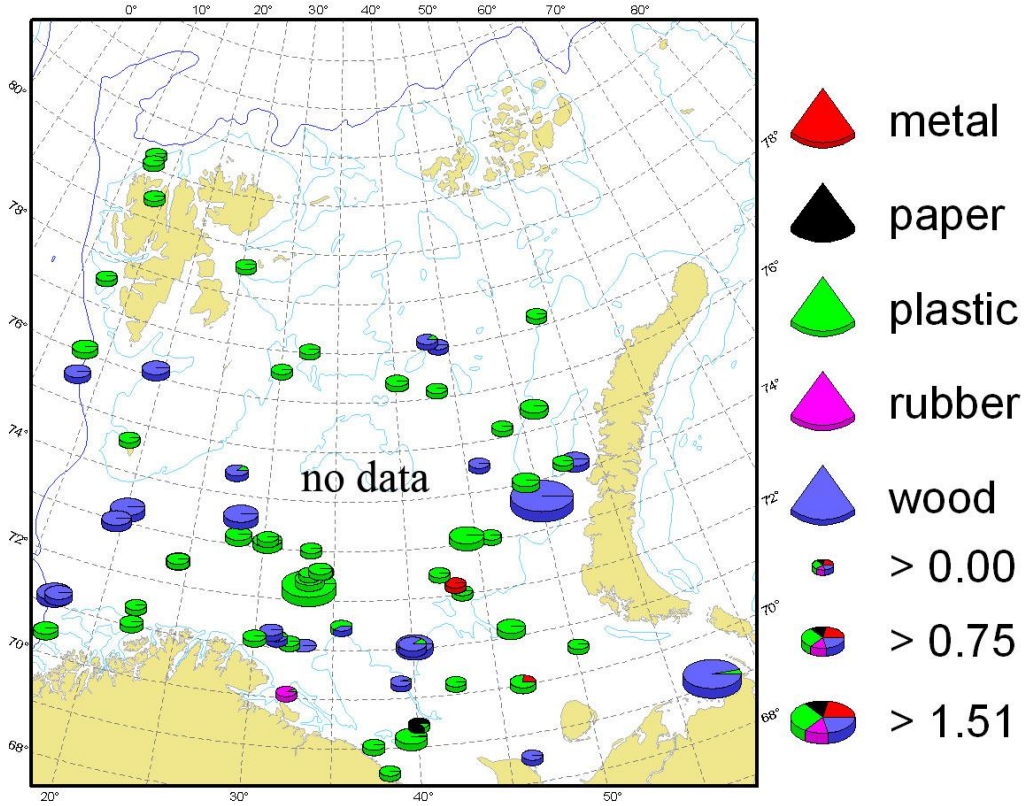

Figure 3.2.2.1. Type of visible antropogenic matter (m^3) at surface in the survey area in the 2012

Figure 3.2.2.2. Floating antropogenic matter in survey area in the 2012

As in previous years, plastic featured among man-made garbage in the trawl catches (Figure 3.2.2.3). The occurrence of plastic in the bottom trawls catches increased in the directions of northwest, northeast and east, which correspond to the directions of the main currents. In the pelagic trawls catches garbage occurred mainly in the central parts of the Barents Sea.

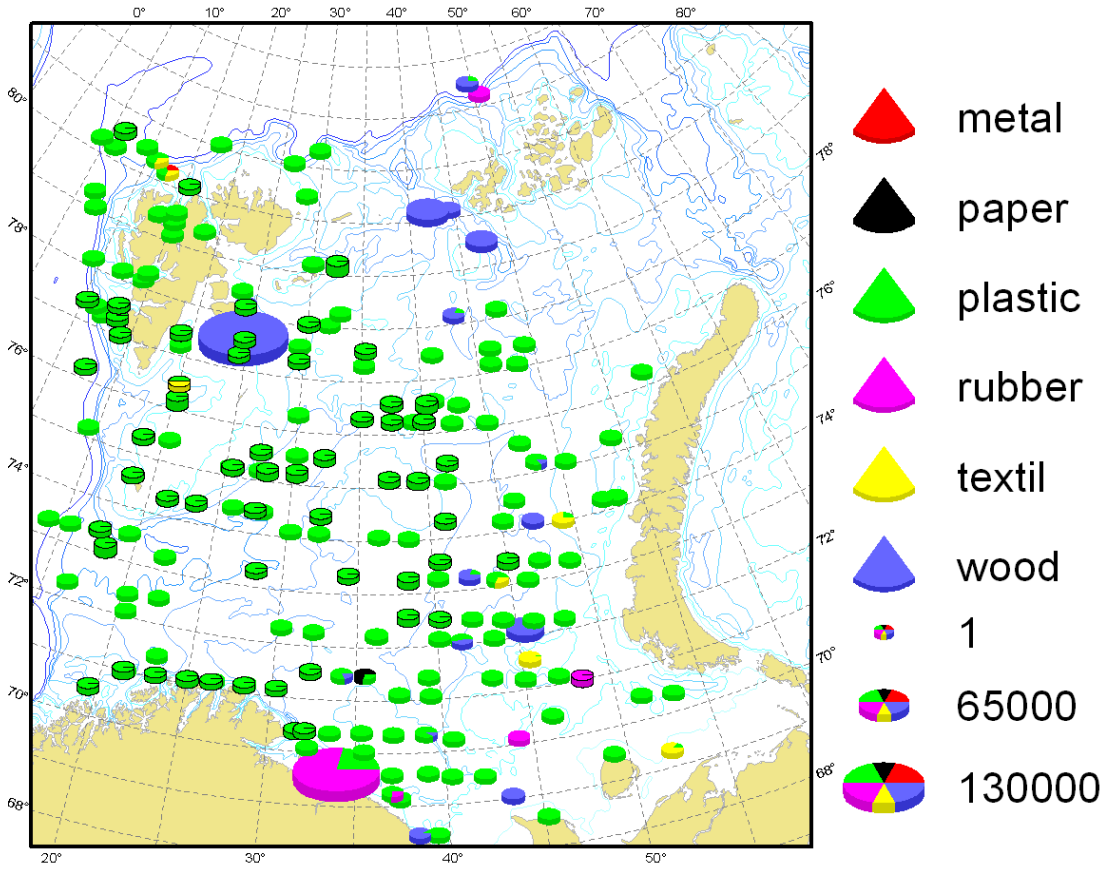

Figure 3.2.2.3. Types of garbage collected in the pelagic and bottom trawls (g)
in the 2012 survey area. Legend: symbols with contours– in pelagic trawl, symbols without contours – in bottom trawl.

Because the bottom trawl catchability is small for low density polymer materials, the amount of anthropogenic garbage in the Barents Sea may be larger than that observed.

The occurrence of wood dominated in the north and southwest, and might have been transported to the area by ocean currents from the eastern seas, since timber-rafting occurs in the Siberian Rivers. Alternatively, the wood could have been lost material from ships. This phenomenon is observed annually.

Dangerous and potential dangerous for man objects were seldom presented in the observations. In the majority of cases only inactive objects were found, which do not effect on the environment directly harmful. On the other hand, big lumps of threads, lines and nets which sea organisms may be tangled in, were found.