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**Title:** *Recognition of selected properties of driftwood from Bellsund coast*

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The driftwood of coniferous species is one of more often materials deposited by sea current on a coasts of the Spitsbergen fiords. The object of preliminary recognition was driftwood samples obtain from Bellsund coast. It was made during the polar expedition of Maria Curie Skłodowska University in Lublin in 2012. It were selected two logs from several logs of wood that were found on the coast near Calypsobyen. Ten wood discs of 2 - 5 cm thick were cut out from whole cross-section of selected logs. The data obtained so far indicated that it is wood of coniferous species. It was conducted preliminary study of selected physical - mechanical properties of wood: density, the strength of compression along the grain, equilibrium moisture content, heat of combustion - calorific value; main chemical components of wood: cellulose, lignin, water and ethanol soluble substances, mineral substances (ash), pH value; susceptibility to decay caused by *Basidiomycetes* fungi. The results of investigations were compared with properties data of temporary, natural wood of the same species as driftwood.