Mapping of potential areas for landfill installation in the Metropolitan Region of Belém

Mapeamento de áreas potenciais para a instalação de um aterro sanitário na Região Metropolitana de Belém

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ABSTRACT

The production of solid waste in Brazil has increased considerably, with the creation of a great number of dumps. Several socio-environmental impacts result from this inadequate disposal. The present work had the objective to evaluate, based on environmental, economic and social criteria, possible favorable areas for the installation of a sanitary landfill in the Metropolitan Region of Belém (MRB), state of Pará. To this end, data were processed using a Geographic Information System (GIS). A map with potential areas for landfill installation in the MRB was created, based on the criteria and weights assigned to each variable through map algebra methods. The results showed four areas in the municipality of Santa Bárbara and Santa Izabel as favorable for installation of the project, with characteristics that meet the criteria established in legislation (NBR 13896/1997).

Keywords: Solid waste; Social and environmental impacts; Geographic Information System

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RESUMO

O Brasil tem registrado um aumento na produção de resíduos sólidos. Associado a isso, cresce o número de lixões por todo o país, bem como os impactos socioambientais decorrentes dessa disposição inadequada. Nesse sentido, esse trabalho tem como objetivo avaliar, a partir de critérios ambientais, econômicos e sociais, a melhor alternativa locacional para um aterro sanitário da região metropolitana de Belém (RMB), estado do Pará. Para alcançar o objetivo proposto, os dados obtidos foram processados em um Sistema de Informação Geográfica (SIG) e assim elaborado o mapa de aptidão das áreas potenciais para a instalação do aterro sanitário da RMB, a partir dos critérios e pesos atribuídos a cada variável com métodos de álgebra de mapas. Os resultados mostraram que 4 áreas são consideradas aptas no município de Santa Bárbara e Santa Izabel para a instalação do aterro sanitário, por atenderem aos critérios exigidos na legislação (NBR 13896/1997).

Palavras-chave: Resíduos sólidos; Impactos socioambientais; Sistema de informação geográfica.

1 INTRODUCTION

Population increase, rapid urban growth, and increasing access to products have led to greater consumption and consequent solid waste generation (LOURENÇO et al., 2015). At the same time, there is a growing concern with the preservation of natural resources and with the issue of public health associated with waste disposal. This, in turn, leads to an increasing claim of society for public policies to address these issues.

In Brazil, the National Solid Waste Policy (PNRS) (Law nº. 12.305/2010) provides for integrated solid waste management, as well as environmentally sound management, under the premise of sustainable development. One of the options to avoid damage or risks to public health and safety and to minimize adverse
environmental impacts is the final disposal of waste in landfills, observing specific operational rules (BRASIL, 2010). However, there has been an increase of garbage dumps in Brazilian municipalities, contrary to what is advocated by environmental legislation, since they are open dump sites whose creation was not based on technical choices (CORREIA et al., 2017). Among the environmental impacts of this inadequate waste disposal are the alteration of the physico-chemical composition of the soil and its contamination by leachate from decomposing organic matter present in the waste, and contamination of both surface and underground water sources (SILVA et al., 2012; SILVA et al., 2013).

A landfill is defined by NBR 8.419/1992 as a technique of disposal of urban solid waste in the soil that does not cause damage to public health and safety and minimize environmental impacts. This method is based on the application of engineering principles to confine solid waste to the smallest possible area and reduce it to the smallest allowable volume, covering it with a layer of earth at the conclusion of each workday (ABNT, 1992). With regard to the location of landfills, NBR 15849/2010 provides for the minimum conditions required in terms of location, design, implementation, operation and closure of small landfills for the final disposal of municipal solid waste (ABNT, 2010). The parameters considered are the topographic and geological conditions, existing soil types, vegetation, distance from water resources, minimum distance to population nuclei, available size, and useful life of the landfill, as well as costs of implementation (CORREIA et al., 2017).

The most favorable locations for implantation of sanitary landfills have been analyzed in previous works in Brazil and in the world considering criteria such as hydrography, conurbation areas, conservation units, slope, distance from roads, Permanent Preservation Area (PPA), land use and land cover, geology, soil type, and distance from archaeological sites (MOREIRA et al., 2016; FELICORI et al., 2016; REZENDE et al., 2015; NAS et al., 2010). In the state of Pará, in the Metropolitan Region of Belém (MRB), the problem of solid waste management in the municipality is old. For over more than 20 years, all the waste produced in the capital of Pará and some municipalities of the MRB were deposited in the Aurá landfill (located in Ananindeua).
This landfill was originally built to work together with an incineration plant and a recycling and composting plant, but this never occurred and the area turned into an open dump, directly impacting the surrounding hidric resources (SANTO, 2014; DANTAS et al., 2015).

It is currently the municipality of Marituba that receives the waste produced in the capital of Pará (VASCONCELOS and SILVA 2017). However, the company responsible for the landfill committed several environmental irregularities and crimes, such as contamination of water, air and soil, which were exposed by the local population (JUNIOR and CORRÊA 2017). These authors also emphasize that the project has not yet been technically adapted to the norms established in the PNRS, especially with regard to the minimal distance required from nature reserves and groundwater. Therefore, the Marituba landfill can be considered a controlled landfill, which is defined as “a way to technically confine the collected waste without polluting the external environment, but without promoting the collection and treatment of leachates and the collection and burning of biogas” (ZVEIBIL, 2001). In this context, this work aims to contribute to a diagnosis of the best potential location for a potential landfill in the MRB based on environmental, economic and social criteria and geoprocessing techniques.

2 MATERIAL AND METHODS

2.1 Study area

The Metropolitan Region of Belém (MRB) is located in the state of Pará, has an area of 3,566 km², and consists of seven municipalities: Belém, Ananindeua, Marituba, Benevides, Santa Bárbara, Santa Isabel and Castanhal (IBGE, 2018). The municipality of Castanhal will not be considered in this study due to its greater distance from the municipalities of Belém and Ananindeua, which are the largest producers of solid waste. The distance of Castanhal raises the operating cost of the possible landfill. Thus, the study area of the present study includes the municipalities of Belém, Ananindeua, Marituba, Benevides, Santa Bárbara and Santa Isabel (Figure 1).
The study area had an estimated population of 2,292,758 inhabitants in 2018, according to IBGE (2018), and Belém, the state capital, had about 64% of these inhabitants, with 1,485,732 people. In terms of demographic density, the municipality of Ananindeua is the leader with 2,477 inhabitants/km², while Santa Bárbara has only 61.62 inhabitants/km².

The metropolitan area is located at the mouth of the Guajará Bay, composed of several rivers and islands, especially the Guamá river. The terrain is flat, with elevations ranging from 12 to 58 meters, and a relief characterized by fluvial plains and tablelands of Pará (COSTA, 2015). Four conservation units are present in the study area: Combu Island Environmental Protection Area (State Law nº 6,083 of 11/13/1997), Environmental Protection of the Metropolitan Region of Belém (APA Belém) (State Decree nº 1,551, of 03/05/1993, reworded by Decree nº 1,329, 02/10/2008), Utinga State Park (State Decree nº 1,552, of 03/05/1993, reworded by State Decree nº 1,330 of
02/10/2008) and Metrópole da Amazônia Wildlife Refuge (Decree nº 2,211 of 30/03/2010).

Regarding pedology, the soils are classified as latosol, spodosol, gleysol and plinntossol (IBGE, 2004). The geology of the region is characterized by the Barriers Group, Alluvial Deposits and Post-Barriers sediments (CPRM, 2013). According to the Köppen classification, the region is in the Afi climate zone, characterized by a humid tropical rainforest climate. Rainfall is present throughout the year; the rainiest period is in December to May and least rainy, from June to November. The average temperature is 26 °C and and the annual rainfall is 2870 mm (SANTOS, 2017).

2.2 Criteria Used

Environmental, economic and social criteria, based on NBR 13896/1997 and the Integrated Solid Waste Management Manual (ZVEIBIL, 2001), were considered for the analysis of potential areas for landfill installation. The environmental criteria used were: fauna attraction, protected areas, water body, slope, geology and pedology, and water table. In the economic criteria, the following variables were considered: access, landfill area, land use, and landfill useful life. In the social aspect, the urban area, estimated population, and solid waste production were used as criteria (Box 1).

Box 1 – Criteria for the selection of landfill sites

| Criterion/Variable | Justification | Technical considerations |
|--------------------|--------------|--------------------------|
| Environmental      | Fauna Attraction | The waste disposal site attracts fauna, especially birds, and this attraction can cause problems related to the air. Thus, a minimum distance from airports is recommended (MORAES, FERREIRA & OLIVEIRA, 2010). | It is necessary to respect a distance of 10 km (Law 12.725/2012) |
|                    | Protected Areas | In the case of protected areas, according to Law 9,985 of July 18, 2000, the National System of Conservation Units (SNUC) establishes the creation of buffer areas in order to minimize environmental impacts. Thus, a distance of 3 kilometers for environmental protection areas is mandatory. | SNUC recommends in its Art. 25 the creation of a buffer zone in conservation units. The distance of 3 km from protected areas (protected areas, indigenous lands, Quilombola communities) was established. |
| Water body | Contamination of water bodies must be avoided. | A minimum distance of 200 m from any water body and also from the PPA, according to law 12.651/2012 of the forestry code, is recommended. |
|---|---|---|
| Slope | Installation of landfills must take place in flat areas, because the slope is directly related to erosion and landslides (LOURENÇO, 2015). | Places with slopes greater than 1% and less than 30% are recommended, according to NBR 13.896/1997. |
| Geology and pedology | Geology and pedology are important for determining soil purification and infiltration rate. | More impermeable soils and rocks to resist infiltration mainly of leachate are recommended, according to NBR 13.896/1997. |
| Water table | Contact of groundwater with leachate must be avoided. | A depth of 1.5 meters between the bottom surface of the landfill and the highest groundwater level must be respected, according to NBR 13.896/1997. |
| Access | Closer distance from roads favor potential areas for landfill installation | A distance of 100 meters from the highways must be respected, according to NBR 13,896/1997. |
| Landfill area | A certain landfill area is required for solid waste disposal. | The landfill area has to correspond to population size and waste production (CARRILHO; CANDIDO & SOUZA, 2018) |
| Land use | Most appropriate areas must be chosen to install the landfill. | Already deforested areas are to be chosen for installation (LOURENÇO et al., 2014) |
| Landfill useful life | The useful life of the landfill is related to the cost of the project. | A minimum useful life of 10 years is recommended, according to NBR 13.896/1997. |
| Urban area | Proliferation of diseases and strong odor from the landfill must be avoided. | A distance of 2 km for urban perimeters and 500 meters for small conglomerates must be respected, according to NBR 13,896/1997. |
| Estimated population | The population size must be determined for a period of 15 years, according to the useful life (NBR 13,896/1997). | The minimum landfill area must be determined (NBR 13.896/1997) |
| Estimated waste production | Total waste generation over a period of 15 years, depending on the useful life of the landfill. | The minimum landfill area must be determined (NBR 13.896/1997) |

Source: Adapted from NBR 13896 (1997); SHIMIDT (2016); CORREIA et al. (2017)
2.3 Data acquisition

Data were collected from various sources and in digital raster and vector formats (Box 2; Figure 2). In the environmental criterion, fauna attraction information was extracted using a distance of 10 km from the airport, identified with the aid of Google Earth imagery. Information on protected areas was obtained from the Brazilian Institute of Environment and Renewable Natural Resources (IBAMA), and of water bodies from the Amazon Protection System (SIPAM).

Box 2 - Databases used in the research

| Variable                   | Files               | Format | Source                |
|----------------------------|---------------------|--------|-----------------------|
| Fauna attraction           | Google Earth        | Raster | Google                |
| Protected areas            | Conservation units  | Vector | IBAMA                 |
| Water body                 | Hydrography         | Vector | SIPAM                 |
| Slope                      | SRTM                | Radar  | INPE                  |
| Geology and pedology       | Geology/Soils       | Vector | CPRM/IBGE             |
| Water table                | Wells               | Vector | SIAGAS                |
| Access                     | Roads               | Vector | BDGEX                 |
| Landfill area              | Author (2019)       | Numeric| Author (2019)         |
| Land use                   | Sentinel 2          | Raster | USGS                  |
| Landfill useful life       | NBR                 | Numeric| NBR 13.896/1997       |
| Urban area                 | Sentinel 2          | Raster | USGS                  |
| Estimated population       | IBGE                | Numeric| Author (2019)         |
| Estimated waste production | ABRESPE             | Numeric| Author (2019)         |

Thirty-meter resolution Shuttle Radar Topography Mission (SRTM) images processed by the National Institute for Space Research (INPE) were used to obtain slope data. Information about Geology was provided by the Mineral Resources Research Company (CPRM) and pedology data were acquired in the RADAM project (2004) on the website of the Brazilian Institute for Geography and Statistics (IBGE).

Water table depth data were retrieved from the Water Table Information System (SIAGAS) website, provided by CPRM. Water table information was accessed from the digital platform of SIAGAS is made available in a Geographic Information System (GIS). A total of 1,688 wells registered in the study area were used to analyze the water table depth through the static water level. Then, the Inverse Distance
Weighted (IDW) method was used for the spatialization of the water table depth data. This geostatistical method uses mathematical equations for an equal distribution of points for data spatialization with precision and quality, and has been widely used for data interpolation (GARDIMAN, DE FREITAS & CECILIO, 2012).

In the economic criterion, access data, which refer to roads, were obtained from the Brazilian Army Geoportal BDGEX website. Landfill area and useful life were determined based on population size and waste production, according to social criteria. Two Sentinel 2 Satellite images of the 22MGD and 22MHD point orbits were used for the analysis of land use. They had a 10-meter spatial resolution and 2R3G4B color composition, and were obtained from the American Geological Survey (USGS) on October 20, 2018. The software Ecognition Developer 64 was used for this analysis, and 5 classes were established: Urban Area, Water Body, Forest, Clouds and Pastures. The identification and quantitative analysis of land use data was performed using the segmentation technique. This method consists of a group of pixels that have similar characteristics and thus can determine the type of class (ZHOU et al., 2012).

As to the social criterion, the urban area was delimited with the aid of Sentinel 2 images, based on the land use data generated with them. To estimates of population and waste production, the equations (1) and (2), respectively, were used. The estimated population of the MRB for the year 2034 was based on the works of Carrilho; Candido & Souza (2017) and Luz et al. (2017). Growth rates were based on the 2010 IBGE demographic census. This method uses the population growth rate of the last demographic census, according to the equation below.

\[ P_x = P_i * (1 + d)^t \]  

(1)

Where:

- \( P_x \) = population to be estimated;
- \( P_i \) = current population;
- \( d \) = annual growth rate
- \( t \) = time in years.
According to the legislation, the landfill must meet a waste production of at least 10 years. Thus, the present study adopted a useful life of 15 years. The product of the estimated population by the annual average production of solid waste/inhabitant of 0.640 kg/inhab./day was used to estimate the production of solid waste by 2034 (ABRELPE, 2016).

\[
Prs = P \cdot Rs
\]  

(2)

\(Prs\) = estimated solid waste production (2034);

\(P\) = population in the year 2034;

\(Rs\) = annual average solid waste production/inhabitant

The methodology of Baierle et al. (2016) was used to estimate the daily volume of waste produced (\(Vrs\)). First, the amount of waste produced was multiplied by its specific weight value (700 kg/m³) (equation III). This specific weight value was also found in the works of Lourenço et al. (2015) and Baierle et al. (2016).

\[
Vrs = \frac{Prs \times 365 \times \text{Vida Ótima}}{\text{Peso Específico}}
\]  

(3)

To calculate the minimum landfill area, the ratio between the volume of waste produced (\(Vrs\)) and the maximum height (\(h\)) of stacked waste is estimated (equation 4) (MOREIRA et al., 2016).

\[
\text{Area} = \frac{Vrs}{h}
\]  

(4)
2.4 Map algebra

For data spatialization, we worked in a GIS environment using map algebra operations to generate a Suitability Index that indicates suitable areas for potential installation of a landfill. To this end, the variables access, urban area, water body, slope, geology, water table, pedology and land use were transformed into vector data. For each variable used based on the adopted criteria, a weight ranging from 1 to 10
was assigned; 1 indicated the most unsuitable areas and 10 the most suitable areas for landfill installation (Table 1). Then, a weight was attributed to the suitability index according to Lourenço et al. (2015) to generate a final value according to equation (5). The UTM coordinate system and Datum SIRGAS 2000 spindle 23 South was used in this research and the data were processed in the Arcgis 10.5® software.

Table 1 - Weight distribution for each variable of the adopted criteria

| Access             | Weight | Water body         | Weight |
|--------------------|--------|--------------------|--------|
| 100 - 200 Meters   | 10     | 200 Meters         | 1      |
| 200 - 400 Meters   | 8      | 200 - 400 Meters   | 4      |
| 400 - 600 Meters   | 6      | 400 - 600 Meters   | 6      |
| 600 - 800 Meters   | 4      | 600 - 800 Meters   | 8      |
| 800 - 1000 Meters  | 2      | 800 - 1000 Meters  | 10     |
| Slope (%)          | Weight | Land use           | Weight |
| 0 – 5              | 10     | Water body         | 1      |
| 5 – 15             | 8      | Urban area         | 1      |
| 15 – 25            | 6      | Forest             | 1      |
| 25 – 45            | 4      | Deforested Area    | 10     |
| > 45               | 2      | Clouds             | 1      |
| Water table (depth)| Weight | Pedology           | Weight |
| 5 Meters           | 2      | Spodosol           | 2      |
| 5 - 10 Meters      | 6      | Gleysol Haplicos   | 2      |
| 10 - 15 Meters     | 8      | Yellow Latosol     | 10     |
| Above 15 Meters    | 10     | Plinthosol         | 10     |
| Urban area         | Weight | Geology            | Weight |
| 0 - 2000 Meters    | 1      | Barriers Group     | 10     |
| 2000 - 5000 Meters | 10     | Alluvial Deposits  | 2      |
| 5000 - 8000 Meters | 8      | Post-Barrier Sediments | 4 |
| 8000 - 11000 Meters| 6      |                    |        |
| 11000 - 14000 Meters| 4     |                    |        |
| 14000 - 17000 Meters| 2     |                    |        |
| 17000 - 20000 Meters| 1     |                    |        |

Source: Adapted from Baierle et al. (2016); Lourenço et al. (2015).
Table 2 – Weights attributed to the variables used in the research

| Variables     | Weight (%) |
|---------------|------------|
| Access        | 10         |
| Urban area    | 15         |
| Water body    | 10         |
| Slope         | 15         |
| Geology       | 10         |
| Water table   | 10         |
| Soil          | 10         |
| Land Use      | 20         |
| Total         | 100        |

Source: Lourenço et al. (2015).

Suitability Index = 0.1 * Access + 0.15 * Urban Area + 0.1 * Water Body + 0.15 * Slope + 0.1 * Geology + 0.10 * Water table + 0.1 * Pedology + 0.2 * Land use (5)

3 RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

3.1 Social criteria

The population of Belém estimated for the year 2034 is of 1,657,291 inhabitants. In 2019, according to IBGE, the municipality of Belém had a population of 1,485,732 inhabitants, the largest in the state of Pará (Table 3). Thus, over a 15-year period, an increase of 384,040 people is expected, amounting to a total of 2,676,798 people. With the disordered growth of Brazilian cities and inefficient public policies, solid waste production has been growing in a disorganized manner (CEZAR et al., 2015).

The amount of solid waste produced in the state of Pará is 1,723.15 tons/day. The planning of the landfill area considered an annual production of 600 thousand tons/year, generating a produced volume of more than 9 million tons of accumulated waste until the year 2034 (Table 3). An important observation is that the municipalities
of Belém and Ananindeua have the highest daily production of waste: 1060.67 and 405.95 tons/day, respectively. The municipalities of Santa Bárbara and Benevides presented the lowest values: 18.66 and 54.40 tons/day, respectively.

Thus, in order to meet the needs of the MRB, which has a daily production of waste of 1,715.15 tons/day, the landfill must be large. Landfills of up to 100 tons/day are considered small; up to 800 tons/day, medium sized; and around 2000 tons/day, large (ABRETE, 2007). The estimated area for the volume of waste produced in Belém alone totals 138.27 hectares, and the smallest volume produced was of the municipality of Santa Bárbara, requiring an area of 2.43 hectares. The area was estimated according to the needs of each municipality; however, the survey took into consideration only sites larger than 223 hectares as the potential places for the installation of the project.

Table 3 – Population and area estimates for landfill installation

| Municipality       | 2010 Population census | Current Population | Annual growth rate | Population 2034 | Solid waste (tons/day) | Solid waste (tons/year) | Produced Volume 2034 (tons) | Area (ha) |
|--------------------|------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|-----------------|------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|-----------|
| Belém              | 1,393,999              | 1,485,732          | 0.73               | 1,657,291       | 1,060.67               | 387,143.29               | 5,807,149.36              | 138.27    |
| Ananindeua        | 471,980                | 525,566            | 1.26               | 634,296         | 405.95                 | 148,171.63               | 2,222,574.50              | 0.52      |
| Marituba          | 108,246                | 129,321            | 2.16               | 178,275         | 114.10                 | 41,645.15                | 624,677.29               | 14.87     |
| Benevides         | 51,651                 | 61,689             | 2.15               | 84,992          | 54.40                  | 19,854.24                | 297,813.63               | 7.09      |
| Santa Bárbara     | 17,141                 | 20,704             | 2.30               | 29,160          | 18.66                  | 6,811.97                 | 102,179.62               | 2.43      |
| Santa Isabel      | 59,466                 | 69,746             | 1.92               | 92,781          | 59.38                  | 21,673.77                | 325,106.52               | 7.74      |
| Total             | 2,104,493              | 2,292,758          |                    | 2,676,798       | 1,713.15               | 625,300.06               | 9,379,500.93              | 223.32    |

According to ABETRE (2007) data, the total budget for a large landfill to be created in the MRB, including pre-installation, installation, operation, closure and post-closure steps is around R$ 525 million, of which about 87% of the amount is to be used in the operation phase of the project, for a period of 42 years, from the pre-installation phase to the closure of the landfill.
3.2 Economic criteria

As for potential areas for installation of a sanitary landfill according to the variable access, areas at a distance of 1km to highways in Pará were considered ineligible because they are busy roads with a large flow of people and cars. Areas at a distance of 100 meters from highways were also considered as restricted. According to Table 4, sites with the highest potential for landfill installation, which were found at distances from 100 to 200 meters, represented 11.56% of the studied area, and those with the lowest potential, which were at distances above 1000 meters (Figure 3), represented over 60% of the studied area.

In the criterion urban area, areas up to 5 km are considered suitable and represented half of the total studied area (51.07%), with 1,117 km² (Table 4). The furthest sites, those located at 17,000 to 20,000 meters from urban areas, are less favorable for landfill installation and account for about 4% of the total studied area. The criteria urban area and access are important in view of the costs involved in transportation of the waste to its final destination, the landfill. The cost analysis evaluates the distance between the generation points and the landfill, always taking into consideration the transportation of the waste (MOREIRA et al., 2016).

3.3 Ambiental criteria

Considering the distance from rivers, an area of approximately 474 km² is unfit for landfill installation due to distances of less than 200 meters from water bodies (Table 4). Areas considered suitable, more than 200 meters distant from water bodies, correspond to 81.31% of the total studied area, with emphasis on sites whose distance from water bodies is above 1000 meters, which received weight 10. They correspond to 904.18 km², and 38.34% of the total area. Water bodies that are close to landfills are eventually recipients of liquid waste, and this may end up contaminating the water table and water bodies (ROSA et al., 2017).

As for slope, the studied area has five classes, distributed mainly in slopes between 0 and 45%. Most part of the studied area, approximately 84%, is composed of flat surfaces, thus considered suitable for landfills (Table 4, Figure 3). The slope is
directly related to the installation of erosive processes and landslides (LOURENÇO et al., 2015).

The geology of the studied area is characterized by the Barriers Group, Alluvial Deposits and Post-Barriers sediments and had a 10% importance degree. The Barriers Group, which received weight 10 and is composed of sandstones and claystones, correspond to 44.27% of the total area. It is characterized by its capacity to support loads and well-drained sediments (OLIVEIRA, ALVES & OLIVEIRA, 2012). Alluvial deposits are unfit for landfill installation and, according to Lino (2007), have high susceptibility to flooding. Alluvial deposits correspond to 13% of the studied area. The class Post-Barriers sediments are sandy-clay soils with pebble layers of rust sandstone (CPRM, 2010), amount for 42.60% of the total area, and received weight 4 in the analysis. According to Souza & Anjos (2004), this type of sediment may facilitate the contamination of aquifers and is not recommended for landfill installation.

Areas with water table depths of up to 5 meters, which are unsuitable for landfill installation, corresponded to 440 km² or 17.33% of the total area (Table 4). Thus, most of the study area, 82.67%, are areas with depths greater than 5 meters and are therefore considered suitable for the installation of the project. High water table depth is important to avoid possible contamination through leachates (PORTELLA & RIBEIRO, 2014).

The gleysol and spodosol classes occur in an area of 484.92 km² and 60.81 km², respectively (Table 5). They received weight 2 in the analysis due to their limitations regarding drainage and risk of contamination of watercourses and water table. The gleysol class is characterized by the grayish color coming from the floodplain area, and in the spodosol class the soils are sandy (EMBRAPA, 2011). The latosol class had an area of 619.11 km². It received weight 10 because it is characterized by well-developed, deep and well-drained soils (EMBRAPA, 2011). The plintossol class also received weight 10, as it has restricted percolation of water, is located on dry lands, and has a smooth wavy and flat relief, that is, good characteristics for landfill installation (SILVA & PINHEIRO, 2010).
Table 4 - Area in km² and % of the criteria used in the research

| Access       | Area | Geology       | Area       |
|--------------|------|---------------|------------|
|              | km²  | km²           | %          |
| 100 - 200    | 259.87 | 846.01 | 44.27 |
| 200 - 400    | 239.54 | 250.58 | 13.11 |
| 600 - 800    | 210.08 | 814.17 | 42.60 |
| 800 - 1000   | 171.51 |        |          |
| > 1000       | 1366.59 |       |          |
|              |       | Barriers Group |          |
|              |       | Alluvial Deposits |      |
|              |       | Post-Barrier Sediment | |
|              |       | Water table (depth) | Area |
|              | km²  | km²           | %          |
| 0 - 5        | 846.01 |        | 440.29 |
| 5 - 10       | 1766.97 |       | 69.55 |
| 10 - 15      | 301.25 |        | 11.86 |
| >15          | 31.95  |        | 1.26  |
|              |       | Pedology     | Area      |
|              | km²  | km²           | %          |
| Gleysol      | 484.92 |        | 25.46 |
| Spodosol     | 60.81  |        | 3.19  |
| Latosol      | 1183.58 |       | 62.13 |
| Plinthosol   | 175.67 |        | 9.22  |
|              |       | Land use     | Area      |
|              | km²  | km²           | %          |
| Urban area   | 224.95 |        | 8.86  |
| Water body   | 649.98 |        | 25.59 |
| Forest       | 1215.21 |       | 47.84 |
| Deforested   | 379    |        | 14.92 |
| Area/Exposed Soil Cloud | 70.86 | | 2.79 |
| Slope (%)    | Area | %          |
|              | km²  | %          |
| 0 - 5        | 2144.01 | 84.38 |
| 5 - 15       | 391.91  | 15.42 |
| 15 - 25      | 4.63   | 0.18  |
| 25 - 45      | 0.13   | 0.005 |
| > 45         | 0.006  | 0.0002 |

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Five land use classes were identified in the study area (Figure 3). The class “deforested area/exposed soil”, considered suitable for installation of the project, corresponded to 14.92% of the total area. Areas considered inappropriate (urban area, water body, forest, clouds) for landfill installation represented about 85% of the total area of the MRB (Table 4). Land use areas that were not in accordance with current environmental legislation and with the municipality's master plan were considered non-recommended areas (ZVEIBIL, 2001).

Figure 3 – Map of potential areas for the installation of the landfill in the MRB, in relation to the variables: access, urban area, hydrography, slope, geology, water table, pedology, and land use

3.4 Potential areas for sanitary landfill installation

Four areas were selected for possible installation of a landfill in the MRB. Areas 1 and 2 had an area of 228 and 220 hectares, respectively, and a suitability index of
8.7 (Table 5). Area 3 had the best index in the analysis (8.9) and an extension of 225 hectares, while area 4 corresponded to a total of 231 hectares and presented a suitability index of 8.8 (Figure 4).

Ineligible areas account for approximately 85% of the total area of the MRB. They are inadequate due to the presence of protected areas such as the Utinga Park, Combu Island and the Metrópole da Amazônia Wildlife Refuge (Figure 4), and also due to the large amount of water bodies.

Table 5 – Potential areas for landfill installation

| Potential areas | Area (ha) | Suitability index |
|-----------------|-----------|-------------------|
| 1               | 228       | 8.7               |
| 2               | 220       | 8.7               |
| 3               | 225       | 8.9               |
| 4               | 231       | 8.5               |

Figure 4 – Suitability index for the installation of the landfill in the MRB
Based on the amount of waste generated in the MRB, the municipalities of Belém and Ananindeua are the ones that most need areas for landfill installation. However, these municipalities did not have suitable areas for the installation of the project. Area 1 is located between the municipalities of Benevides, Santa Bárbara and Santa Isabel and the other areas are in the municipality of Santa Isabel.

Importantly, the smallest distance between the closest area (area 1) and the city of Belém, the municipality with the largest amount of waste generated, is approximately 35 km. Carrilo, Candido & Souza (2015) and Gomes et al. (2018) stress that a distance of up to 20 km is recommended, because of the cost of moving vehicles to the landfill. Thus, an alternative would be the leasing of transhipment stations for the disposal of waste in places where the distance to the landfill is greater than 20 km (NUNES & SILVA, 2015).

Figure 5 – Areas selected for landfill installation
The areas indicated for landfill installation (Figure 5), according to the territorial dimension necessary to meet the population demand until 2034, are located in flat terrains with exposed soil, ideal for the implementation of the project. They are also located near highways, so as to facilitate the transport of solid waste to its final disposal in the landfill. According to the National Environmental Registry System (SICAR), the selected areas are located in private properties.

Importantly, other areas also had good levels of suitability for landfill installation, but have less than 214 hectares and do not meet the MRB population demand.

5 CONCLUSIONS

The methodology used in the research allowed selecting potential areas for the installation of a sanitary landfill, using geoprocessing techniques, according to the restriction criteria of NBR 13896/1997, considering the necessary size to meet the solid waste production in the region, access roads, topography, water bodies, useful life, and types of land use.

Four areas were considered suitable for landfill installation in the MRB as they met the criteria established by law. However, although the methodology was effective, the use of geoprocessing has some limitations; field validation is necessary because some information is not available in digital spatial data.

Other important variables need to be considered for the analysis of favorable areas for landfill installation, such as wind direction, to avoid the odor to reach urban areas. It is also necessary to analyze the permeability in loco, to test the velocity and flow efficiency of the percolated liquids in the soil for drainage installation. Therefore, following the verification of potential areas for landfill installation through geoprocessing techniques, further analysis for the final selection is of paramount importance.
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