

Dear editor

Oecologia Australis

We wish to submit an original research article entitled “THE INFLUENCE OF SECONDARY FOREST SUCCESSION STAGES ON A BIRD COMMUNITY IN A SOUTHERN BRAZILIAN PROTECTED AREA” for consideration by Oecologia Australis **in the special issue edition “*Survey, ecology and species management in Protected Areas*”**. We confirm that this work is original, that has not been previously published, that it is not being considered for publication elsewhere and that all authors have read and approved the submission.

The study was carried out in the Municipal Park Mata do Rio Uruguai Teixeira Soares (Parque Natural Municipal Mata do Rio Uruguai Teixeira Soares - Teixeira Soares Park - TSP), northern Rio Grande do Sul State. In this study, we discuss how the stages of succession can influence the distribution of the avifauna in the Park. The TSP is a small Protected Area (423 ha), located in a region with a highly fragmented landscape and composed of different stages of forest succession. In fact, the TSP can be considered as one of the few remnants of the Deciduous Seasonal Forest (Uruguay River Forest). Our work can be interesting to the international readership because expansion in area of the secondary forest is a global phenomenon. Similar situations should occur around the globe. In this way, understanding how birds are distributed through the stages of succession can provide important information in the definition of conservation strategies for the group.

If you feel that the manuscript is appropriate for OECOLOGIA AUSTRALIS (**special issue edition “*Survey, ecology and species management in Protected Areas*”**), we suggest the following reviewers:

- Vítor de Queiroz Piacentini (ramphocelus@hotmail.com)
- Glayson A. Bencke (gabencke@fzb.rs.gov.br)
- Eliara Solongue Muller (eliara@unochapeco.edu.br)
- Marilise Mendonça Krügel (marilisemk@gmail.com)
- Roberto Boçon (rbocob@gmail.com)

Sincerely

The authors