Maringá, September 2nd, 2019

To Editorial Board of *Oecologia Australis*

We are submitting the manuscript “**Long-term temporal change in migratory fish body size in a dammed Neotropical floodplain under dams effects**” as a “Research Article” for evaluation by the *Oecologia Australis* editorial board.

As many hydroelectric dams are planned for construction on several rivers around the world, it is crucial to understand the impacts of these projects on different ecological aspects. Impacts such as changes in hydrological regime, physicochemical variables and transparency and effects on freshwater fish community structure are widely discussed in the literature. In this sense, in this study we evaluate the long-term impact of temperature, flow regulation, and sediment retention by hydroelectric dam construction on migratory fish body size in the Upper Paraná River floodplain, a high diverse environment with rivers with and without influence of dams upstream. Using a temporal series (1986-2018) and linear mixed effects models, we evaluated effect of abiotic factors on the standard length of migratory fish species. We found that fish body size tended to decrease; environmental factors related to seasonal variability (water level and temperature) and those affected by reservoir operation (water transparency and nutrients) explained the decreasing in body size. Our results highlight that the larger sizes of migratory fish were found in the undammed river with lower transparency, demonstrating the importance of protected areas. Our study used the time series of the ‘Programa de Pesquisas Ecológicas de Longa Duração - PELD site 6’ and is being submitted for the Special Edition organized by *Oecologia Australis*.

As requested, we suggest as possible referees to handle our manuscript:

Ana C. Petry (Universidade Federal do Rio de janeiro; ac\_petry@yahoo.com.br)

Eder A. Gubiani (Universidade Estadual do Oeste do Paraná; egubiani@yahoo.com.br)

Edson Fontes Oliveira (Universidade Federal Tecnológica do Paraná; edsfontes@gmail.com)

Jean Carlos Gonçalves Ortega (Universidade Federal do Acre; Ortegajean@gmail.com)

Eduardo Ribeiro Cunha (Texas A&M University; edurcunha@gmail.com)

As we are not native English speakers the manuscript might need substantial language improvements. We put ourselves at ease to send the final version of the manuscript to a deep English proof if necessary. We opted for submitting the manuscript first and letting the English proof after acceptance as the structure and writing of the manuscript can change deeply due to suggestions or requisitions of the reviewers.

Finally, we stress that this work is not under consideration for publication in any other journal or book and that all authors have approved the version submitted. We hope that our manuscript is in accordance with the level of this journal and are available for any clarifications.

Thank you for your attention,

Sincerely,

Taise Miranda Lopes1\*, Oscar Peláez1, Rosa Maria Dias1, Anielly Galego de Oliveira1, Rafaela Giacomel Rauber1, Luiz Carlos Gomes1,2 & Angelo Antonio Agostinho1,2

1Universidade Estadual de Maringá (UEM), Programa de Pós-Graduação em Ecologia de Ambientes Aquáticos Continentais (PEA), Laboratório de Ecologia e Ictiologia, bloco H90, sala 002, Avenida Colombo, 5790, Maringá, Paraná, Brazil.

2Núcleo de Pesquisa em Ictiologia, Limnologia e Aquicultura (Nupélia), Av. Colombo, 5790, 87020-900 Maringá, Paraná, Brazil.

E-mails: taisemlopes@gmail.com; oscar\_pelaez@hotmail.es; rmdias2003@yahoo.com.br, anielly\_oliveira@hotmail.com; rafaelagrauber@outlook.com; gomes.luizcarlos@gmail.com; agostinhoaa@gmail.com