Dear Editor

We are submitting the manuscript entitled “**A protection area in a subtropical floodplain increased the phytoplankton functional diversity**” that my co-authors and I would like to have evaluated for publication in *Oecologia Australis.*

In this manuscript, we evaluated species richness and phytoplankton functional diversity over a discontinuous series of 20 years of study before and after the implementation of a conservation area. This study is part of a Long Term Ecological Program (PELD - Site 6).

We believe our manuscript will be of broad interest to the international audience of *Oecologia Australis* for several reasons. First, long-term studies allow understanding patterns and processes that are rarely identified in other types of studies. Another reason is that the manuscript brings important results about maintaining conservation areas and how they impact communities, including microbial ones.

We thank you in advance for your time and effort spent handling our manuscript.

I would appreciate whether you could confirm the reception of our manuscript.

Thank you,

Alfonso Pineda and co-authors