

COVER LETTER

Dear editor,

Here we submit the manuscript entitled "**Aquatic macrophytes diversity in the lower Doce river basin, Espírito Santo, Brazil**", written by Álvaro Nepomuceno, Renara Nichio-Amaral, Victor Santos Miranda, Brenno Gardman Sossai and Anderson Alves-Araújo to be evaluated and possibly published in the journal *Oecologia Australis*.

Here, we are presenting the proposal for an article of great biological and social importance, as this is the first floristic survey carried out in the lower Doce River, a portion located in the state of Espírito Santo, after the collapse of the Fundão iron ore dam, in Mariana, Minas Gerais. The data presented come from the environmental monitoring program for aquatic biodiversity - PMBA, carried out by Rede Rio Doce Mar, in direct partnership with Fundação Espírito Santense de Tecnologia and Fundação RENOVA. The manuscript has a list with 105 species and nine figures: one showing the map of the freshwater sampling stations analyzed under the PMBA, two showing the sampling stations, four with representatives of flora, a graph with the number of species per sampling station and a graph of a UPGMA grouping between the analyzed areas.

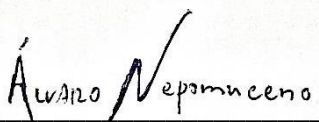
We inform that all authors approved the submission of the article in the journal *Oecologia Australis* and that it was not submitted or published in another journal. We also agree to pay the manuscript cost.

To review this manuscript, we suggest the following referees:

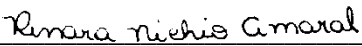
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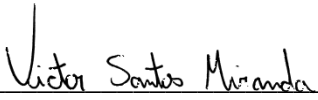
Finally, we signed this letter.



Álvaro Nepomuceno



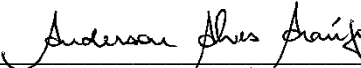
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