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Dear Editor

Here by is our manuscript PHYTOPLANKTON BIOMASS INCREASES IN A SILT-IMPACTED AREA IN AN AMAZONIAN FLOODPLAIN LAKE OVER 15 YEARS written by Vera Lúcia de Moraes Huszar, Caio Graco-Roza, João Carlos Nabout, Patrícia Nunes, Enoque G. Ribeiro, Sergio de Melo, Simone J. Cardoso, Uanderson J. Pereira, Marcos Paulo Figueiredo de Barros, Reinaldo L. Bozelli, Fabio Roland, Lucia Helena Sampaio da Silva & Francisco A. Esteves submitted as Original Article to the Special volume of *Oecologia Australis*, in homage to Dr. Francisco Esteves.

This manuscript assessed the possible abiotic drivers of the total phytoplankton biomass in a silted impacted area compared to a natural non-impacted area over 15 years in an Amazonian floodplain lake impacted by bauxite tailings. The temporal trend in phytoplankton biomass increased significantly over time only in the impacted area, approximating the non-impacted area. Our data also indicated that in the impacted area, total phytoplankton biomass positively responds to the synergy between rising regional temperature and increasing site depth and the decreasing residual light attenuation and total phosphorus concentrations, regardless of hydrologic phase. This study illustrates the response of a floodplain system to long-term siltation caused by bauxite tailings in a sensitive area such as the Amazon.

The manuscript has not been published elsewhere, neither is it submitted simultaneously to another journal. All authors have seen and approved the submitted manuscript and agree with the *Oecologia Australis* rules.

We believe our findings match the scope of *Oecologia Australis* and hope you will find the manuscript interesting enough and appropriate for publication in this journal. We are looking forward to your decision.

Kind regards,

On behalf of all co-authors

Vera Lucia de M. Huszar  
Full Professor-Museu Nacional  
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