# **Abstract Book**



# 37 S L 20 24 FOZ DO IGUAÇU | BRAZIL

Organization -





Committee





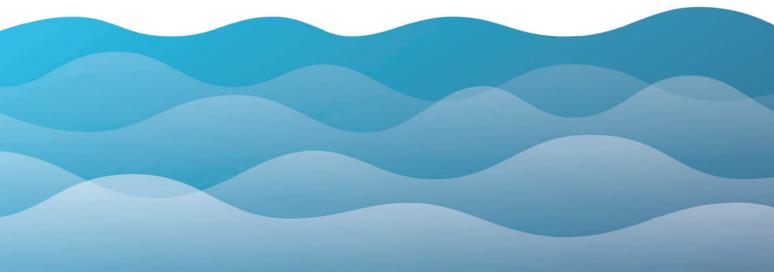


# **Content**

ASO2 - Pollution and contamination of inland water ecosystems  ASO3 - Planktonic communities  ASO4 - Benthic communities  ASO5 - Fish and fisheries  ASO5 - Fish and fisheries  ASO6 - Food Webs  ASO6 - Food Webs  ASO7 - Multiple stressors on ecosystems  ASO9 - Restoration ecology  ASO9 - Tropical Sessions (SS)  ASO6 - From local to global water quality assessment with remote sensing	RS01 - Biogeochemistry	1(
1803 - Planktonic communities 1804 - Benthic communities 1805 - Fish and fisheries 1805 - Food Webs 1806 - Food Webs 1807 - Multiple stressors on ecosystems 1808 - Biodiversity conservation 1809 - Restoration ecology 1818 - Ecosystem services 1808 - Bodiversity conservation 1809 - Restoration ecology 1819 - Ecosystem services 1809 - Restoration ecology 1819 - Ecosystem services 1809 - From Iocal foodplain lakes: ecological and hydrological processes 1809 - Tropical floodplain lakes: ecological and hydrological processes 1809 - From Iocal to global water quality assessment with remote sensing 1809 - From Iocal to global water quality assessment with remote sensing 1809 - From Iocal to global water quality assessment with remote sensing 1809 - Poeliphering Human- and Climate-Driven Impacts on Lakes using Paleolimnological Studies 1809 - Deciphering Human- and Climate-Driven Impacts on Lakes using Paleolimnological Studies 1809 - Individual Studies		
Stop		
1805 - Fish and fisheries 1806 - Food Webs 1807 - Multiple stressors on ecosystems 1808 - Biodiversity conservation 18309 - Biodiversity conservation 18309 - Restoration ecology 18309 - Restoration ecology 18300 - Ecosystem services 1840 - Ecosystem services 18500 - State and Trends Of Latino-America Freshwaters 18500 - State and Trends Of Latino-America Freshwaters 18500 - Tropical floodplain lakes: ecological and hydrological processes 18500 - From local to global water quality assessment with remote sensing 18500 - Coupling remote sensing, modelling and in situ monitoring to support lentic ecosystems management: targeting lakes and reservoirs 18500 - Deciphering Human- and Climate-Driven Impacts on Lakes using Paleolimnological Studies 18500 - Landscape limnology 18501 - Landscape limnology 18501 - Landscape limnology 18501 - Landscape limnology 18503 - Cerenhouse gases emission and carbon sequestration in aquatic ecosystems: Unraveling drivers, magnitude and uncertainties 18503 - Cerenhouse gases emission and carbon sequestration in aquatic ecosystems: Unraveling drivers, magnitude and uncertainties 18503 - Cerenhouse gases emission and carbon sequestration in aquatic ecosystems: Unraveling drivers, magnitude and uncertainties 18503 - Cerenhouse gases emission and carbon sequestration in aquatic ecosystems: Unraveling drivers, magnitude and uncertainties 18503 - Cerenhouse gases emission and carbon sequestration in aquatic ecosystems: Unraveling drivers, magnitude and uncertainties 18503 - Cerenhouse gases emission and carbon sequestration in aquatic ecosystems succuture and function along the saline continuum: from freshwaters to hypersaline inland waters 18503 - Cerenhouse gases emission and carbon sequestration in aquatic ecosystems succuture and function along the saline continuum: from freshwaters to hypersaline inland waters 18504 - Lake restoration - controlling eutrophication 18505 - Constitutions from the Brazil-LTER /PELD and REC-Rio Doce projects to the restorators of the Rio Doce basin, Southeas		
Multiple stressors on ecosystems		
RS09 - Restoration ecology		
Special Sessions (SS)  SSOI - State and Trends Of Latino-America Freshwaters	RS07 - Multiple stressors on ecosystems	112
Special Sessions (SS)    State and Trends Of Latino-America Freshwaters   148	RS08 - Biodiversity conservation	132
Special Sessions (SS)  State and Trends Of Latino-America Freshwaters	RS09 - Restoration ecology	13
Sistal - State and Trends Of Latino-America Freshwaters	RS10 - Ecosystem services	14
SSO2 - Tropical floodplain lakes: ecological and hydrological processes  SSO6 - From local to global water quality assessment with remote sensing  SSO7 - Coupling remote sensing, modelling and in situ monitoring to support lentic ecosystems management: targeting lakes and reservoirs rom Global South countries  SSO8 - Mathematical Modeling in Limnology: Present and Future  SSO9 - Deciphering Human- and Climate-Driven Impacts on Lakes using Paleolimnological Studies  TO - Landscape limnology  SSO1 - Landscape limnology  SSO1 - Land-Use Changes on Neotropical Streams: Impacts and Scientific Advances  SSO2 - Greenhouse gases emission and carbon sequestration in aquatic ecosystems: Unraveling drivers, magnitude and uncertainties  SSO3 - Cyanobacteria; Nutrients; Control: from Science to Management  SSO3 - Cyanobacteria; Nutrients; Control: from Science to Management  SSO3 - Cyanobacteria; Nutrients; Control: from Science to Management  SSO3 - Ecosystem structure and function along the saline continuum: from freshwaters to hypersaline inland waters  SSO3 - Challenges of Aquatic Biodiversity and Conservation Strategies in Mined Environments: Exploring Impacts and Pathways to Recovery  SSO3 - Advantic metacommunities: diversity patterns, assembly processes, spatial scales, and network connectivity  SSO3 - Advancing and advance scosystems for the biodiversity and society in the context of global changes.  SSO3 - The relevance of ponds ecosystems for the biodiversity and society in the context of global changes.  SSO3 - The phytothelmata as aquatic ecosystems  SSO3 - Homogenocene and Antropocene in inland waters  SSO3 - Homogenocene and Antropocene in inland waters  SSO3 - Homogenocene and Antropocene in inland waters  SSO3 - South American Spatially Extensive Biological Assessments; Gaps & Opportunities  SSO3 - South American Spatially Extensive Biological Assessments; Gaps & Opportunities  SSO3 - Non-native taxa in freshwater ecosystems	Special Sessions (SS)	
SSO2 - Tropical floodplain lakes: ecological and hydrological processes  SSO6 - From local to global water quality assessment with remote sensing  SSO7 - Coupling remote sensing, modelling and in situ monitoring to support lentic ecosystems management: targeting lakes and reservoirs rom Global South countries  SSO8 - Mathematical Modeling in Limnology: Present and Future  SSO9 - Deciphering Human- and Climate-Driven Impacts on Lakes using Paleolimnological Studies  TO - Landscape limnology  SSO1 - Landscape limnology  SSO1 - Land-Use Changes on Neotropical Streams: Impacts and Scientific Advances  SSO2 - Greenhouse gases emission and carbon sequestration in aquatic ecosystems: Unraveling drivers, magnitude and uncertainties  SSO3 - Cyanobacteria; Nutrients; Control: from Science to Management  SSO3 - Cyanobacteria; Nutrients; Control: from Science to Management  SSO3 - Cyanobacteria; Nutrients; Control: from Science to Management  SSO3 - Ecosystem structure and function along the saline continuum: from freshwaters to hypersaline inland waters  SSO3 - Challenges of Aquatic Biodiversity and Conservation Strategies in Mined Environments: Exploring Impacts and Pathways to Recovery  SSO3 - Advantic metacommunities: diversity patterns, assembly processes, spatial scales, and network connectivity  SSO3 - Advancing and advance scosystems for the biodiversity and society in the context of global changes.  SSO3 - The relevance of ponds ecosystems for the biodiversity and society in the context of global changes.  SSO3 - The phytothelmata as aquatic ecosystems  SSO3 - Homogenocene and Antropocene in inland waters  SSO3 - Homogenocene and Antropocene in inland waters  SSO3 - Homogenocene and Antropocene in inland waters  SSO3 - South American Spatially Extensive Biological Assessments; Gaps & Opportunities  SSO3 - South American Spatially Extensive Biological Assessments; Gaps & Opportunities  SSO3 - Non-native taxa in freshwater ecosystems	SS01 - State and Trends Of Latino-America Freshwaters	14
15506 - From local to global water quality assessment with remote sensing   15507 - Coupling remote sensing, modelling and in situ monitoring to support lentic ecosystems management: targeting lakes and reservoirs rom Global South countries   16508 - Mathematical Modeling in Limnology: Present and Future   16509 - Deciphering Human- and Climate-Driven Impacts on Lakes using Paleolimnological Studies   17500 - Landscape limnology   18501 - Land-Use Changes on Neotropical Streams: Impacts and Scientific Advances   18501 - Land-Use Changes on Neotropical Streams: Impacts and Scientific Advances   18501 - Land-Use Changes on Neotropical Streams: Impacts and Scientific Advances   18501 - Carenhouse gases emission and carbon sequestration in aquatic ecosystems: Unraveling drivers, magnitude and uncertainties   19501 - Carenhouse gases emission and carbon sequestration in aquatic ecosystems: Unraveling drivers, magnitude and uncertainties   19501 - Carenhouse gases emission and carbon sequestration in aquatic ecosystems: Unraveling drivers, magnitude and uncertainties   19501 - Carenhouse gases emission and carbon sequestration in aquatic ecosystems: Unraveling drivers, magnitude and uncertainties   19501 - Carenhouse gases emission and carbon sequestration in aquatic ecosystems: Unraveling drivers, magnitude and uncertainties   19501 - Carenhouse gases emission and carbon sequestration in aquatic ecosystems   20501 - Carenhouse gases emission and carbon sequestration in aquatic ecosystems   20501 - Carenhouse gases emission and carbon sequestration of the Brozilla freshwater biomonitoring agenda   20501 - Carenhouse gases emission and carbon sequestration of the global freshwater biomonitoring agenda   20501 - Carenhouse gases emission and carbon sequestration of the global freshwater biomonitoring agenda   20501 - Carenhouse gases gases emission and carbon sequestration gand implementation of the global freshwater biomonitoring and managing freshwater ecosystems   20501 - Carenhouse gases gases gases emission and		
SSOR - Coupling remote sensing, modelling and in situ monitoring to support lentic ecosystems management: targeting lakes and reservoirs rom Global South countries		
SSOB - Mathematical Modeling in Limnology: Present and Future	SS07 - Coupling remote sensing, modelling and in situ monitoring to support lentic ecosystems management: targeting lakes and reservoirs	
SSO9 - Deciphering Human- and Climate-Driven Impacts on Lakes using Paleolimnological Studies  SS10 - Landscape limnology  SS11 - Land-Use Changes on Neotropical Streams: Impacts and Scientific Advances  SS12 - Greenhouse gases emission and carbon sequestration in aquatic ecosystems: Unraveling drivers, magnitude and uncertainties  SS13 - Cyanobacteria; Nutrients; Control: from Science to Management  SS14 - Lake restoration - controlling eutrophication  20  SS15 - Ecosystem structure and function along the saline continuum: from freshwaters to hypersaline inland waters  21  SS16 - Challenges of Aquatic Biodiversity and Conservation Strategies in Mined Environments: Exploring Impacts and Pathways to Recovery  23  SS17 - Contributions from the Brazil-LTER /PELD and REC-Rio Doce projects to the restoration of the Rio Doce basin, Southeast Brazil: A Legacy  23  SS18 - Aquatic metacommunities: diversity patterns, assembly processes, spatial scales, and network connectivity  24  SS19 - The relevance of ponds ecosystems for the biodiversity and society in the context of global changes.  25  SS20 - The phytothelmata as aquatic ecosystems  26  SS21 - Ecology and conservation of temporary aquatic ecosystems  27  SS22 - Challenges and opportunities for implementation of the global freshwater biomonitoring agenda  28  SS22 - Challenges and opportunities for implementation of the global freshwater biomonitoring agenda  25  SS23 - Homogenocene and Antropocene in inland waters  26  SS24 - Plankton diversity in face of anthropogenic changes  27  SS25 - South American Spatially Extensive Biological Assessments: Gaps & Opportunities  28  SS27 - Advancing and implementing environmental DNA and RNA methods for assessing, monitoring and managing freshwater ecosystems  28  SS29 - Non-native taxa in freshwater ecosystems		
SS10 - Landscape limnology	SS08 - Mathematical Modeling in Limnology: Present and Future	16
SS11 - Land-Use Changes on Neotropical Streams: Impacts and Scientific Advances		
SS12 - Greenhouse gases emission and carbon sequestration in aquatic ecosystems: Unraveling drivers, magnitude and uncertainties		
SS13 - Cyanobacteria; Nutrients; Control: from Science to Management		
SS14 - Lake restoration - controlling eutrophication		
SS15 - Ecosystem structure and function along the saline continuum: from freshwaters to hypersaline inland waters		
SS16 - Challenges of Aquatic Biodiversity and Conservation Strategies in Mined Environments: Exploring Impacts and Pathways to Recovery		
225 SS18 - Contributions from the Brazil-LTER /PELD and REC-Rio Doce projects to the restoration of the Rio Doce basin, Southeast Brazil: A Legacy		
SS18 - Aquatic metacommunities: diversity patterns, assembly processes, spatial scales, and network connectivity 225 SS19 - The relevance of ponds ecosystems for the biodiversity and society in the context of global changes. 246 SS20 - The phytothelmata as aquatic ecosystems 246 SS21 - Ecology and conservation of temporary aquatic ecosystems 247 SS22 - Challenges and opportunities for implementation of the global freshwater biomonitoring agenda 256 SS23 - Homogenocene and Antropocene in inland waters 256 SS24 - Plankton diversity in face of anthropogenic changes 256 SS24 - Plankton diversity in face of anthropogenic changes 256 SS25 - South American Spatially Extensive Biological Assessments: Gaps & Opportunities 266 SS27 - Advancing and implementing environmental DNA and RNA methods for assessing, monitoring and managing freshwater ecosystems 266 SS29 - Non-native taxa in freshwater ecosystems 266		
SS19 - The relevance of ponds ecosystems for the biodiversity and society in the context of global changes.  SS20 - The phytothelmata as aquatic ecosystems		
SS20 - The phytothelmata as aquatic ecosystems		
SS21 - Ecology and conservation of temporary aquatic ecosystems		
SS22 - Challenges and opportunities for implementation of the global freshwater biomonitoring agenda		
SS23 - Homogenocene and Antropocene in inland waters		
SS24 - Plankton diversity in face of anthropogenic changes		
SS25 - South American Spatially Extensive Biological Assessments: Gaps & Opportunities		
SS27 - Advancing and implementing environmental DNA and RNA methods for assessing, monitoring and managing freshwater ecosystems26		
SS29 - Non-native taxa in freshwater ecosystems26		
2991 - OFICIALITY AND OFICIAL CHANGINGS OF MICHOLINIA REPORT AND LEFTAGE AND MICHOLINIA CONTRACTOR OF THE PROPERTY OF THE PROP		
SS32 - Environmental education and outreach		
SS33 - Resilience Capacity (Adaptation and Transformation) of Water Management and Governance Systems28		
SS36 - Eutrophic Waters Restoration by Biomanipulation of Aquatic Animals28		
	Authors Index	28

# **Welcome to SIL 2024**





After almost 30 years, Brazil is once again hosting a **SIL International Congress on Limnology.** As a historical indigenous land, Latin America and the Caribbean are blessed with incredible water resources and breathtaking landscapes! However, the fragmentation of the indigenous people and water bodies across the continent has led to scientific and economic inequalities with serious consequences for biodiversity conservation.

The diversity of water bodies in Latin American and the Caribbean is as great as their indigenous people and their culture, which are fully connected to the water. For these people and their descendents, freshwaters are considered a holy ground, a gift supporting the dignity of their people and ancestors. These characteristics make Brazil a relevant site to host this global Limnology event.

Therefore, in 2022, limnologists from 18 countries came together to reduce such distances and borders, in an effort to restore part of the connections between people and waters over these incredible territories!

The theme for the 37<sup>th</sup> SIL Congress is **"Building bridges between science and society to reduce the effects of fragmentation and degradation of inland waters".** By bringing together researchers, policymakers, and stakeholders, it aims to reconcile the multiple uses of the water with the challenges for conservation in the face of climate change and human pressures. In this regard, the main issue we want to address is the legacy that we will need to leave in a fragmented world, where indigenous and non-indigenous people need to work together for a sustainable land.

In Brazil, indigenous people say "Never again a Brazil without us". After the 37th SIL we expect to address this claim, indicating that the world needs to break the barriers between science and society to reduce impacts under the water resources over the world. This is the greatest challenge and certainly will be a legacy for the next generations.

To maintain and restore our water resources, we will need to work together on a common path! This conciliation embraces the challenges that the global south scientists and societies have been facing to sustain water bodies conservation. This challenge permeates the history of limnology in Latin American and the Caribbean and represents an excellent opportunity to meet developed and developing countries in bilateral and mutual support.

Join us for SIL 2024, May 5-9! Brazil, Latin America and the Caribbean are waiting for you! Let's make the world an indigenous land again!

Luciana Barbosa

President of Brazilian Limnology Association and Leader of Latin American and Caribbean Limnology Network and Chair SIL 2024

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## **SPECIAL SESSION**

267

SS27 - Advancing and implementing environmental DNA and RNA methods for assessing, monitoring and managing freshwater ecosystems

## 1498

Having IMPACT on monitoring aquatic parasite diversity – presenting a new pipeline evaluating eDNA as an integrative tool for studying parasites

KAMIL HUPALO<sup>1</sup>; Daniel Grabner<sup>1</sup>; Florian Leese<sup>1</sup>; Rachel Paterson<sup>2</sup>; Bernd Sures<sup>1</sup>;

Parasites are usually presented as biological villains due to threats posed to human health and wildlife conservation. However, most metazoan parasites have no zoonotic potential and are instead known to be crucial organisms that contribute to the health and functioning of ecosystems and make up an overwhelming proportion of current biodiversity. Nonetheless, parasites remain the most neglected components of biodiversity monitoring and management strategies, and have only recently begun to be considered in conservation discussions. Monitoring of parasite biodiversity is hampered by inefficient tools for detecting parasites, with current methods involving the sacrifice of many hosts to quantify parasite biodiversity, and still, parasites occurring in low prevalence may be difficult to detect. Thus, for ethical reasons and amid a potential 6th mass species extinction, it is necessary to develop less invasive and non-lethal monitoring methods. Environmental DNA (eDNA) offers a potential solution, particularly for studying aquatic parasites by allowing them to be monitored in environmental matrices without the need to sacrifice hosts. Recent literature reviews show that eDNA has proven useful in the detection of single parasite species. However, very few studies targeted multiple parasite species within and across defined parasite groups at once. Given that eDNA is increasingly used in aquatic biodiversity monitoring worldwide, it offers a great opportunity for obtaining parasite diversity data in existing monitoring programs. Here, we present a methodological pipeline for the simultaneous detection of multiple fish parasite groups using eDNA that will be tested within the framework of the newly acquired project IMPACT.

## 1645

## Application of eDNA metabarcoding to phytoplankton research in freshwater and saline lakes

MILOS CIRIC<sup>1</sup>; Clarisse Lemonnier<sup>2</sup>; Benjamin Alric<sup>3</sup>; Srđan Miletić<sup>1</sup>; Jelena Avdalović<sup>1</sup>; Biljana Dojčinović<sup>1</sup>; Željka Milovanović<sup>4</sup>; Vladimir Petrović<sup>4</sup>; Andreas Ballot<sup>5</sup>; Frédéric Rimet<sup>3</sup>;

Freshwater lakes have been heavily altered by multiple stressors for decades, including a wide range of harmful human activities. Similarly, it is estimated that most of continental saline lakes will have undergone changes in their functioning by 2025. In the European Water Framework Directive (WFD), the ecological status assessment of lakes is based on the survey of key communities (i.e., Biological Quality Elements, BQEs). Due to its ecological features, phytoplankton is one of the key BQEs required by the WFD. In current assessments, phytoplankton is studied using a standardised microscopy approach. The advent of methods based on molecular techniques (e.g., eDNA metabarcoding) provides an alternative to overcome issues associated with microscopy-based assessment. The aim of our study was to compare phytoplankton data obtained by microscopy approach with eDNA metabarcoding based on the 23S RNA marker gene. Water was sampled in eight sites: four sites in Savsko lake (urban freshwater lake) and four sites in Plava Banja (saline clay pit pond) during spring, summer, and autumn 2023. The water quality analyses showed that nutrient concentrations (especially total nitrogen), chlorophyl a and conductivity were several times lower in the freshwater lake than in the saline lake. The very high total dissolved mineral content in Plava Banja had a substantial impact on the phytoplankton composition The results of lake species inventories obtained using both approaches will be presented. Particular attention will be paid to the level of congruence between the floristic lists. This study is a part of the EU funded BIOLAWEB project.

SS27 - Advancing and implementing environmental DNA and RNA methods for assessing, monitoring and managing freshwater ecosystems

## 1663

Evaluation on the use of eDNA metabarcoding in microbial communities as potential bioindicators of ecosystem integrity in a tropical river with anthropogenic pollution gradient.

RICARDO IVAN CRUZ CANO<sup>1</sup>; Melanie Kolb<sup>1</sup>; Luz Bretón-Deval<sup>1</sup>; Martha Martinez<sup>1</sup>; Pindaro Diaz-Jaimes<sup>1</sup>:

Aquatic bioindicators are a valuable tool that provide insights into various aspects of water quality beyond what physicochemical analysis can reveal, like the ecological status of rivers, and are cost-effective. Microorganisms, including bacteria and protozoa, play crucial roles in nutrient cycling and productivity but have not been used widely as bioindicators because their use requires taxonomic expertise and specialized equipment for organism collection. Environmental DNA (eDNA) can be used to characterize aquatic communities and identify a wide range of microorganisms that are difficult to detect through other methods. This study used eDNA metabarcoding to assess the potential of microbial communities in a tropical river in Mexico City as bioindicators of the ecosystem integrity along a gradient of human influence. Community diversity and abundance of identified groups decreased with increased human influence. In forests and rural sites, bacterial communities are dominated by Cyanobacteria, Planctomycetota, and Verrucomicrobiota, while eukaryotic microbial communities by Diatomea, Cercozoa, and Arthropoda. Urban sites with high human influence show a dominance of Campilobacterota, Fusobacterota, and Firmicutes (bacteria) and Chlorophyta, Ciliophora, and Oligohymophorea (eukaryotes). This approach can help connect ecological integrity studies with public health implications. The study demonstrated that microbial communities are influenced by human impact and seasonality, making them suitable for biomonitoring.

## 1861

# Diversity of planktonic microeukaryotes by metabarcoding in the Araguaia River floodplain, Brazil

JOCILAINE SANTOS DE JESUS<sup>1</sup>; DIEGO ORTIZ DA SILVA<sup>1</sup>; CÍNTIA PELEGRINETI TARGUETA<sup>2</sup>; WALTER ROSA DA CONCEIÇÃO FILHO<sup>1</sup>; JOÃO CARLOS NABOUT<sup>3</sup>; THANNYA SOARES NASCIMENTO<sup>1</sup>;

Phototrophic planktonic microeukaryotes are organisms that play a fundamental role in sustaining life on Earth. The diversity and composition of their communities are primarily influenced by the environment, and can be analyzed from three main aspects: alpha diversity, beta diversity, and gamma diversity. The use of NGS tools, such as the molecular technique of metabarcoding, has become common for obtaining diversity and community composition data, due to the precision and effectiveness of the method. Here, we investigate the diversity of planktonic microeukaryotes (phytoplankton) across 121 lakes in the floodplain of the Araguaia River, one of the most important rivers in the Central-West region of Brazil. For this, we sequenced the 18S-V4 gene from water samples collected and filtered with a 0.45μm membrane. The PIMBA pipeline was used for bioinformatic analyses. We calculated alpha, beta (turnover and nestedness) diversity indices, gamma diversity, and the relative abundance of identified Operational Taxonomic Units (OTUs). In total, we obtained 6122 OTUs, of which 4443 could be taxonomically assigned. The total OTU richness was 3293, varying between 1 and 120 OTUs per lake. Shannon diversity ranged from 2.46 to 5.93 across locations, presenting a total richness of 6.04. Simpson diversity varied from 0.71 to 0.99, with a total richness of 0.99. Beta diversity obtained through the Sorensen index (β SOR) was 0.97, and in terms of partitioning, 0.95 was attributed to turnover and 0.01 to species nestedness. The results indicate that the lakes exhibit high turnover, meaning the environments have distinct OTUs.

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