



חקר ימים ואגמים לישראל בע"מ (חל"צ) (PBC)  
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**Feedback on the author's thesis for the dissertation: "Diversity and the role of animals in the structure, functioning and dynamics of hypersaline water ecosystems"**

**by Elena Valerievna Anufriieva**

**1.5.16 - hydrobiology,**

**submitted for the degree of Doctor of Biological Sciences**

The dissertation of Dr. E. V. Anufriieva is focused on biodiversity, understanding the structural and functional role of aquatic animals, their adaptation, and variability under extreme environmental conditions in hypersaline aquatic ecosystems. All these aspects are barely studied and understood. This determines the relevance and importance of this research especially under ongoing climatic changes overuse the aquatic resources. This work is based on the detailed field studies carried out by E.V. Anufriieva and her comprehensive overview of available literature data.

Anufriieva conducted high complicate and extensive field and experimental studies on ecosystems of the hypersaline water bodies of different regions and ecology of their inhabiting animals. The results of those studies were published in many high-quality papers, and they are worldwide known to scientists, working in this area. Anufriieva's dissertation is based on her own results and on an overview of modern literature on hypersaline ecosystems, which allows her to use a holistic ecosystem approach for the generalization of the structure and functioning of ecological aquatic systems under extreme environmental conditions. Results and conclusions made by Anufriieva have large practical implementations.

The dissertation by E.V. Anufriieva "The diversity and role of animals in the structure, functioning and dynamics of hypersaline water ecosystems" fully complies with the requirements for doctoral dissertations (paragraphs 9-11, 13, 14 of the "Regulations on the award of academic degrees", approved by the Decree Government of the Russian Federation No. 842 dated September 24, 2013), and its author deserves to be awarded the degree of Doctor of Biological Sciences in the specialty 1.5.16 (03.02.10) - hydrobiology.

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I certify I. Ostrovsky's signature

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