

Protected spring areas harbour great potential as natural shelters for endemic and endangered species and those springs located in higher plateaus are naturally protected due to their catchment basins receiving only precipitation. This study monitored the protective capacities of streams in a protected area within the Cerrado–Amazon boundary and it was developed in the Parque Estadual da Serra de Ricardo Franco, central Brazil. It presents the first record of nine cladocerans: *Bosmina longirostris*, *Acroperus tupinamba*, *Alona dentifera*, *A. iheringi*, *Alonella dadayi*, *Anthalona* sp., *Chydorus sphaericus*, *Leydigiopsis brevisrostris* and *Picripleuroxus similis*. Cladocerans are small crustaceans commonly found in most freshwater habitats, including lakes, ponds, streams and rivers. It was noted in early studies that there was a higher level of cladoceran species richness in water bodies within heterogeneous habitats. Ecological aspects, which include habitats and feeding, as well as distribution of the species are documented in this paper.