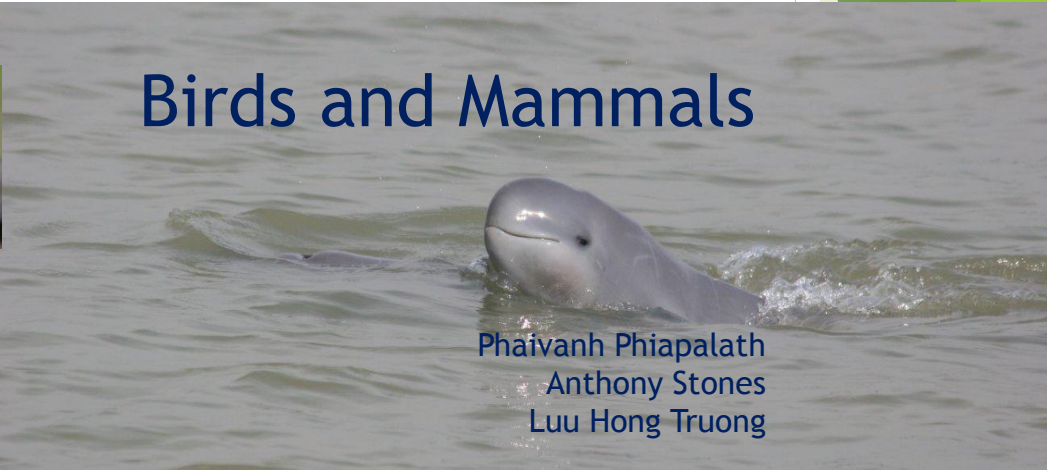




Trends and Status Assessment

Birds and Mammals



Phaivanh Phiapalath
Anthony Stones
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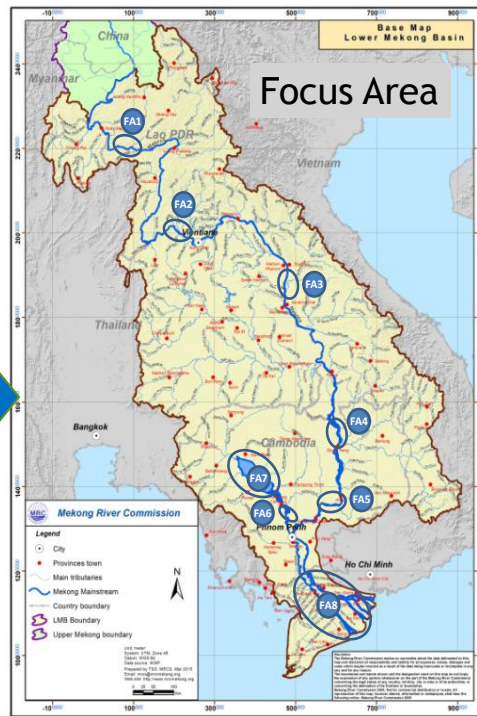
There are 13 guilds identified and matched with 16 indicator species of birds and mammals that are associated with the Mekong ecosystem - the flows, of which

9 Guilds for 13 bird species and
3 Guilds for 3 mammal species

Guild	Indicator Species
1. Medium / large ground-nesting channel species	1. River Tern
2. Small non-flocking landbird of seasonally flooded vegetation	2.1 Jerdon's Bushchat 2.2 Mekong wagtail 2.3 Manchurian reed warbler
3. Tree-nesting large waterbird	3. White-shouldered ibis
4. Bank/hole nesting species	4. Pied kingfisher
5. Flocking non-aerial passerine of tall graminoid beds	5. Baya weaver
6. Large ground-nesting species of floodplain wetlands	6.1 Sarus crane 6.2 Bengal florican
7. Channel-using large species which require bank side forest	7.1 Lesser fish eagle 7.2 Grey-headed fish eagle
8. Natural rocky crevice nester in channels	8. Wire-tailed swallow
9. Dense woody vegetation / water interface	9. Masked Finfoot
10. Channel-dwelling cetacean	11. Irrawaddy dolphin
11. Otters	12. Otters - all species
12. Wetland ungulates	13 Hog deer



Zones and sections	Zone Names are used for the Council Study
Zone 1. China border - Vientiane (key sites: Pakbeng, Paklay, Sanakham, Sangthong)	Mekong River in Lao PDR
Zone 2. Vientiane - Pakse (key sites: Vientiane, Paksan, Pak Kading, Phou Xiengthong, Pakse)	Mekong River in Lao PDR/ Thailand
Zone 3. Pakse - Kratie (key sites: NE Cambodia, Stung Treng, Sambor, Kratie, Siphandone, Xe Pian, Sekong)	Mekong River in Cambodia
Zone 4a. Kratie - Tonle Sap (key sites:)	Tonle Sap River
Zone 4b. Tonle Sap - Great Lake (key sites: Great Lake)	Tonle Sap Great Lake
Zone 5. Mekong Delta (Plain Reeds/ Tram Chim)	Mekong Delta



Focal Area	Location Name
FA1	MR at Pakbeng
FA2	MR at Vientiane
FA3	MR at Xebangfai
FA4	MR at Stung Treng
FA5	MR at Khampong Cham
FA6	TS at Prek Kdam
FA7	TS Great Lake
FA8	Mekong Delta

The Assessment for each indicator species

Zone	Status	Abundance estimate % relative to 2015 (where 2015 = 100) ¹				
		2015	1900*	1950	1970	2000
Mekong River in Lao PDR	A - E					
Mekong River in Lao PDR/Thailand	A - E					
Mekong River in Cambodia	A - E					
Tonle Sap River	A - E					
Tonle Sap Great Lake	A - E					
Mekong Delta	A - E					

¹ = Notes of expert judgement based on data available.

Ecolog. Rating	Meaning
A	Natural, unmodified
B	Largely natural
C	Moderately modified
D	Largely modified
E	Critically modified

1. River Tern

Sterna aurantia, NT



Area	Description
Distribution Area	5.1 million km ²
Occurrence/ in the LMB	From India to Vietnam Cam, Thai, Laos, Viet
Population/pop. in LMB	50,000 - 100,000/250
Key record sites in LMB	MR.in Cambodia (Z3) 168 birds in 2008 but 60 in 2012, fewer in Laos (8 pairs prior to 2001).
Important ecology	Nest on large sandbar, Breed (Feb-Apr), 2 eggs.
Key threats	Drivers of Anthro. causes
1. Nest flooded	1. Harvesting pressure
2. Predators	2. Overfishing
3. Disturbance	3. Damming on tributaries
4. Hunting	4. Disturb nests
5. Collecting eggs	5. Mining on tributaries

Status Assessment for River Tern in the LMB

Zone	Status	Abundance estimates as % relative to 2015 (where 2015 = 100) ¹				
		2015	1900	1950	1970	2000
Mekong River in Lao PDR	E		2,000	1,857	1,800	560
Mekong River in Lao PDR/ Thailand	E		2,000	1,857	1,800	560
Mekong River in Cambodia	D		2,000	1,857	1,800	560
Tonle Sap River	-		-	-	-	-
Tonle Sap Great Lake	-		-	-	-	-
Mekong Delta	-		-	-	-	-

¹ = River tern is considered to have declined by over 90% since 1900 - a figure of 5% of its 1900 population has been used for 2015 along the Mekong; the Mekong in Cambodia currently holds about 60% of the LMB population. There is no information on the rate of decline, so it has been assumed that the decline between 1900 and 1970 is lower (c. 10% decline), and that the decline from 1970 to 2015 has been more pronounced, due to expanding human population increase along the river and the associated impacts of hunting.

2.1 Jerdon's Bushchat

Saxicola jerdoni, LC



Area	Description
Distribution Area	390,000 km ²
Occurrence/ in the LMB	From India to Vietnam Laos and Vietnam
Population/pop. in LMB	n/a
Key record sites in LMB	LA006, downstream of Z1 Paklay-VTE/IBA LA006 Ca. 200 pairs in 1996, Some hundreds in 2012, At Paksang - 60 km from VTE City - 3 pairs/5 ha (Duckworth 1997).
Important ecology	Dense bushland on island, Breeds Mar-May, 3-4 eggs
Key threats	Drivers of Anthro. causes
1. Habitat loss	1. Disturbance
2. Disturbance	2. Land use change
3. Embankment	3. Hunting pressures
4. Dredging	4. Collecting eggs
5. Potential damming	5. Embankment and other

Status Assessment for Jerdon's Bushchat in the LMB

Zone	Status	Abundance estimates as % relative to 2015 (where 2015 = 100) ¹			
		2015	1900	1950	1970
Mekong River in Lao PDR	B	100	100	100	100
Mekong River in Lao PDR/ Thailand	-	-	-	-	-
Mekong River in Cambodia	-	-	-	-	-
Tonle Sap River	-	-	-	-	-
Tonle Sap Great Lake	-	-	-	-	-
Mekong Delta	-	-	-	-	-

¹ = The population levels of Jerdon's Bushchat is not considered to have declined. The availability of its preferred habitat within the river channel north of Vientiane has remained largely unmodified from the information that can be derived from historic maps, so it has been assumed that it's population has remained stable.

2.2 Mekong Wagtail

Motacilla samveasnae, NT



Area	Description
Distribution Area	37,900 km ²
Occurrence/ in the LMB	Cam, Laos & Thai
Population/pop. in LMB	n/a (discovered 2001)
Key record sites in LMB	Very few records so far, most in Z3 and Z4 3 birds in NE Cambodia - east of Sambor (Bejuizen et al. 2008)
Important ecology	Channel mosaic, bushland, sandbar, Breeds May-Jun
Key threats	Drivers of Anthro. causes
1. Some hunting	1. Habitat loss
2. Habitat loss	2. Land use change
3. Flooding	3. Hunting pressures
4. Irregular flows	4. Embankment
5. Potential damming	5.

Status Assessment for Mekong Wagtail in the LMB

Zone	Status	Abundance estimates as % relative to 2015 (where 2015 = 100) ¹			
		2015	1900	1950	1970
Mekong River in Lao PDR	-	-	-	-	-
Mekong River in Lao PDR/ Thailand	-	-	-	-	-
Mekong River in Cambodia	B	101	101	101	101
Tonle Sap River	-				
Tonle Sap Great Lake	-				
Mekong Delta	-	-	-	-	-

¹ = This species was described to science as recently as 2001 (Duckworth et al. 2001). There is little evidence to comment on the historical population levels of Mekong wagtail, so it is assumed that the population has been present and stable since 1900, although the IUCN Red List suggests a decrease of **perhaps 1% over the last decade**, which is reflected within the table. The habitats in which the species typically occurs appear not to have undergone significant change.

2.3 Manchurian r. Warbler

Acrocephalus tangorum, VU



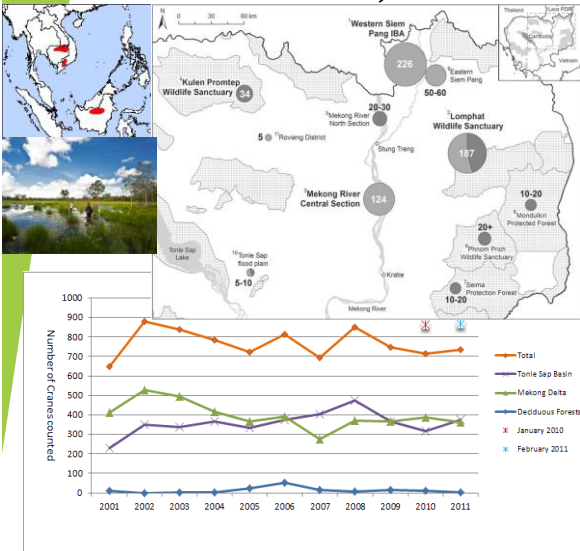
Area	Description
Distribution Area	490,000 km ²
Occurrence/ in the LMB	SE Russia, S-China, Indo Cam, Laos, Thai and Viet
Population/pop. in LMB	3,500-15,000 birds
Key record sites in LMB	Cam: Northern Plain and Tonle Sap grassland (Z4a), Laos: Paksan wetlands Thai: Bung Boraphet (rare)
Important ecology	Various habitats e.g tall grass, wetlands, scrub Breeds: n/a
Key threats Habitat loss e.g conversion, burning, drainage etc.	Drivers of Anthro. causes 1. Habitat loss 2. Land use change 3. Grassland burned 4. Hunting pressures 5. Impoundment

Status Assessment for Manchurian r. Warbler in the LMB

Zone	Status	Abundance estimates as % relative to 2015 (where 2015 = 100) ¹			
		2015	1900	1950	1970
Mekong River in Lao PDR	-	-	-	-	-
Mekong River in Lao PDR/ Thailand	-	-	-	-	-
Mekong River in Cambodia	-	-	-	-	-
Tonle Sap River	D	250	185	159	120
Tonle Sap Great Lake	D	250	185	159	120
Mekong Delta	E	-	-	-	-

¹ = Population declines since 1900 are probably due to changes (e.g. habitat loss) occurring within the breeding area (Duckworth pers. com. 2015; Table 5.36). The survey area population now is considered to be reduced to c. 40% of 1900 level (the delta habitat was already severely modified by 1990), given the near complete loss of habitat in the delta and comparing the size of the delta with the BTSIA and the proportionately very small amounts of similar habitat associated with the main channel. For the purposes of this assessment it has been assumed that the population has declined by 40% since 1900.

3. White-shouldered Ibis *Pseudibis davisoni*, EN



Source: Wright et al. 2012

Area	Description
Distribution Area	88,900 km ²
Occurrence/ in the LMB	LMB and Indonesia Cambodia and Laos
Population/pop. in LMB	970 birds/850 birds
Key record sites in LMB	Cam: Western Siem Pang, Lomphat WS (Z3), Mekong River Central Section (Z4a), Kulen Promtep WS, Laos: Xe Pian but no recent records
Important ecology	Wetland, watercourse, ponds, grassland etc. Breeds Dec - May
Key threats	Drivers of Anthro. causes
1. Disturbance	1. Habitat disturbance
2. Habitat loss	2. Habitat loss
3. Accidental hunting	3. Land use change
	4. Hunting pressures
	5.

Status Assessment for White-shouldered Ibis in the LMB

Zone	Status	Abundance estimates as % relative to 2015 (where 2015 = 100) ¹				
		2015	1900	1950	1970	2000
Mekong River in Lao PDR	E		2,000	1,174	843	348
Mekong River in Lao PDR/ Thailand	E		2,000	1,174	843	348
Mekong River in Cambodia	D		2,000	1,174	843	348
Tonle Sap River	E		2,000	1,174	843	348
Tonle Sap Great Lake	E		2,000	1,174	843	348
Mekong Delta	E		2,000	1,174	843	348

¹ = It is considered to have declined by over 90% since 1900, and a figure of 5% of 1900 levels has been applied for 2015. There is no information on the rate of decline, so it has been assumed that the decline has been linear throughout the period 1900 - 2015, and equally along the length of the river.

4. Pied Kingfisher

Ceryle rudis, LC



Area	Description
Distribution Area	23.9 million km ²
Occurrence/ in the LMB	Asia, Africa, Europe all
Population/pop. in LMB	n/a
Key record sites in LMB	High number of records in Cam: NE (Z3), Z4a e.g 75 birds in 2000, 68 birds in Stung Treng in 2008), Laos: South, Sekong (Z3), Viet: at Tram Chim (Z5)
Important ecology	Variety of habitats, riverine, wetlands Breeds Feb - Apr, 3-6 eggs.
Key threats	Drivers of Anthro. causes
1. Rapid change in flows	1. Disturbance
2. Dams	2. Habitat change
3. Disturbance	3. Some hunting
	4. Decline in fish stock

Status Assessment for Pied Kingfisher in the LMB

Zone	Status	Abundance estimates as % relative to 2015 (where 2015 = 100) ¹				
		2015	1900	1950	1970	2000
Mekong River in Lao PDR	D		2,000	1,174	843	348
MR in Lao PDR/ Thailand	D		2,000	1,174	843	348
Mekong River in Cambodia	D		2,000	1,174	843	348
Tonle Sap River	D		2,000	1,174	843	348
Tonle Sap Great Lake	D		2,000	1,174	843	348
Mekong Delta	*		33	50	50	75

¹ = It is considered to have declined **by over 90% since 1900**, and a figure of 5% of 1900 levels has been applied for 2015. There is no information on the rate of decline, so it has been assumed that the decline has been linear throughout the period 1900 - 2015, and equally along the length of the river, except in Vietnam.

** In Vietnam, from **1900-1950, the French built and developed an extensive canal system**, thus increasing available habitat; between 1950-1970 the War meant that this type of habitat was not further expanded. Since 1970, the canal system has been expanded further until 2000. In Vietnam, we have assumed that the pied kingfisher population has increased threefold from 1900-1950 in line with the habitat increase, from 1950-1970 it remained stable, and from 1970-2000 it has increased by a further tenfold in line with the habitat increase.

5. Baya Weaver

Ploceus philippinus, LC



Area	Description
Distribution Area	6.34 million km ²
Occurrence/ in the LMB	Across Asia all
Population/pop. in LMB	n/a
Key record sites in LMB	Some number of records in Cam: Kratie (Z3), Stung Treng in 2008), Tonle Sap Laos: Paksan
Important ecology	Open country, wetlands, grassland, on ground Breeds Dec-June, 2-5 eggs.
Key threats	Drivers of Anthro. causes
1. Disturbance	1. Habitat loss
2. Habitat loss, nest tree	2. Land use change
3. Overharvest	3. Overharvest
	4. Embankment
	5. Water related projects

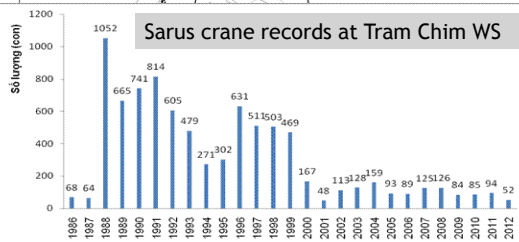
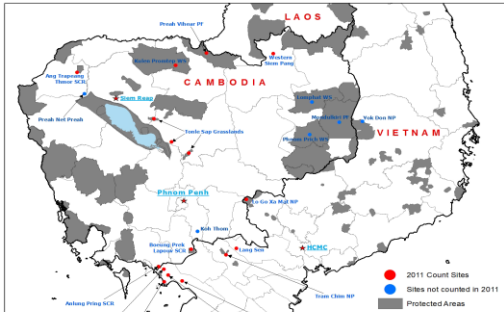
Status Assessment for Baya Weaver in the LMB

Zone	Status	Abundance estimates as % relative to 2015 (where 2015 = 100) ¹			
		2015	1900	1950	1970
Mekong River in Lao PDR	■	-	-	-	-
Mekong River in Lao PDR/ Thailand	-	-	-	-	-
Mekong River in Cambodia	C	125	114	110	103
Tonle Sap River	C	125	114	110	103
Tonle Sap Great Lake	C	125	114	110	103
Mekong Delta	C	125	114	110	103

¹ = It has been assumed that the decline in Baya weaver has been 20% since 1900 (W Duckworth pers. com.) and that the decline has been linear across the range of the species during this period.

6.1 Sarus Crane

Grus antigone, VU
Grus Antigone sharpii - Sub-sp



Area	Description
Distribution Area	1.83 million km ²
Occurrence/ in the LMB	India, SEA, E-Australia Viet, Cam, Laos
Population/pop. in LMB	800-1,000/ca.500
Key record sites in LMB	A number of records in Viet: Tram Chim (Z5), Cam: Tonle Sap grassland (Z4a), Laos: fewer, Xe Pian (Z3),
Important ecology	Wetlands, Grassland plain Breeds June-Oct, 2-3 eggs.
Key threats	Drivers of Anthro. causes
1. Habitat loss	1. Habitat conversion
2. Disturbance	2. Human disturbance
3. Pesticides	3. Indigestion of pesticides
4. Some hunting	4. Harvest eggs, chicks
5. Harvest eggs, chicks	5.

Status Assessment for Sarus Crane in the LMB

Zone	Status	Abundance estimates as % relative to 2015 (where 2015 = 100) ¹			
		2015	1900	1950	1970
Mekong River in Lao PDR	Y	-	-	-	-
Mekong River in Lao PDR/ Thailand	E	2,000	1,174	843	348
Mekong River in Cambodia	E	2,000	1,174	843	348
Tonle Sap River	E	2,000	1,174	843	348
Tonle Sap Great Lake	E	2,000	1,174	843	348
Mekong Delta	D	2,000	1,174	843	348

1 = The status assessment refers to the population of Sarus Crane that occurs within the Lower Mekong Basin, but note that c. 50% of the sub-population is found in Myanmar.

2 = Sarus Crane is considered to be present at population levels at less than 5% of its 1900 populations along the Mekong. Accurate count data is available for the Mekong data from 1990, and the total population in 2012 was 52 birds (which is the figure used as a reference for 2015).

6.2 Bengal Florican *Houbaropsis bengalensis*, CR



Area	Description
Distribution Area	84,500 km ²
Occurrence/ in the LMB	India to Nepal and SEA Cam, Viet
Population/pop. in LMB	/ca.312-550 in Tonle Sap
Key record sites in LMB	Some recent records in Cam: Tonle Sap (Z4a) Viet: Tram Chim (Z5),
Important ecology	Lowland, seasonally inundated grassland, Breeds (n/a).
Key threats	Drivers of Anthro. causes
1. Habitat degradation	1. Land use change
2. Habitat loss	2. Habitat loss
3. Disturbance to nests	3. Land concession
4. Some hunting	4. Human disturbance
	5.

Status Assessment for Bengal Florican in the LMB

Zone	Status	Abundance estimates as % relative to 2015 (where 2015 = 100) ¹			
		2015	1900	1950	1970
Mekong River in Lao PDR	-	-	-	-	-
Mekong River in Lao PDR/ Thailand	-	-	-	-	-
Mekong River in Cambodia	-	-	-	-	-
Tonle Sap River	-	-	-	-	-
Tonle Sap Great Lake	D	165	165	165	150
Mekong Delta	E	?	?	100	100

¹ = The population in this species has been widely documented in Cambodia since 1997, but there is little information on the population of the species prior to this, and there is no readily obtainable quantifiable information on the population in Viet Nam, other than the species is probably extirpated here (Table 5.39).

7.1 Lesser Fish Eagle

Ichthyophaga humilis, NT



Area	Description
Distribution Area	2.9 million km ²
Occurrence/ in the LMB	India to Brunei, most SEA Cam, Viet, Laos
Population/pop. in LMB	15-35,000/
Key record sites in LMB	Some recent records in Cam: Srepok (Z3) Laos: Sekong, Nam Ou, Xebangfai (Z2)
Important ecology	Waterhead areas, forested rivers with good fish stock.
Key threats	Drivers of Anthro. causes
1. Habitat degradation	1. Habitat degradation
2. Habitat disturbance	2. Habitat disturbance
3. Overfishing	3. Overfishing
4. Some hunting	4. Some hunting
	5. Water pollution

Status Assessment for Lesser Fish Eagle in the LMB

Zone	Status	Abundance estimates as % relative to 2015 (where 2015 = 100) ¹			
		2015	1900	1950	1970
Mekong River in Lao PDR	E	2,000	1,857	1,800	560
Mekong River in Lao PDR/ Thailand	E	2,000	1,857	1,800	560
Mekong River in Cambodia	E	2,000	1,857	1,800	560
Tonle Sap River	E	2,000	1,857	1,800	560
Tonle Sap Great Lake	-	-	-	-	-
Mekong Delta	-	-	-	-	-

¹ = Lesser Fish Eagle is considered to be present at population levels of **c. 1% of its 1900** populations (W. Duckworth *pers. comm.*) along the Mekong. There is no information on the rate of decline, so it has been assumed that the decline has been linear throughout the period 1900 - 2015, and equally along the length of the river.

7.2 Grey-headed Fish Eagle

Ichthyophaga ichthyaetus, NT



Area	Description
Distribution Area	xx million km ²
Occurrence/ in the LMB	India to Brunei, most SEA Cam, Laos, Viet, Thai
Population/pop. in LMB	15-35,000/
Key record sites in LMB	Some recent records in Cam: Prek Toal (30 birds), and Tonle Sap Lake (Z4b has ca. 100 pairs) Laos: fewer
Important ecology	Tall trees close to slow- moving rivers, lakes, nest in high trees.
Key threats	Drivers of Anthro. causes
1. Habitat degradation	1. Habitat degradation
2. Habitat loss	2. Habitat disturbance
3. Overfishing	3. Overfishing
4. Some hunting	4. Some hunting
5. Pollution	5. Water pollution

Status Assessment for Grey-headed Fish Eagle in the LMB

Zone	Status	Abundance estimates as % relative to 2015 (where 2015 = 100) ¹			
		2015	1900	1950	1970
Mekong River in Lao PDR	-	-	-	-	-
Mekong River in Lao PDR/ Thailand	-	-	-	-	-
Mekong River in Cambodia	-	-	-	-	-
Tonle Sap River	-	-	-	-	-
Tonle Sap Great Lake	D	400	270	218	140
Mekong Delta	E	?	?	?	?

¹ = Grey-headed fish eagle is considered to be present at population levels of c. 10-40% of its 1900 populations (W. Duckworth *pers. com.*) along the Mekong; a figure of 25% has been adopted for level. There is no information on the rate of decline, so it has been assumed that the decline has been linear throughout the period 1900 - 2015, and within the BTSIA.

8. Wired-tailed Swallow

Hirundo smithii, LC



Area	Description
Distribution Area	15.1 million km ²
Occurrence/ in the LMB	Across range in Asia Cam, Laos, Thai and Viet
Population/pop. in LMB	n/a
Key record sites in LMB	Some records so far, incl. Cam: 100 birds in Stung Streng, Srepok, Tonele Sap Laos: 500 birds at Paksang - IBA La006 (Z1), also Z2.
Important ecology	Rocky channels, open country
Key threats	Drivers of Anthro. causes
1. Habitat change	1. Habitat disturbance
2. Disturbance	2. Hunting pressures
3. Potential damming	3. Potential damming
	4.

Status Assessment for Wired-tailed Swallow in the LMB

Zone	Status	Abundance estimates as % relative to 2015 (where 2015 = 100) ¹			
		2015	1900	1950	1970
Mekong River in Lao PDR	C	125	114	110	103
Mekong River in Lao PDR/ Thailand	C	125	114	110	103
Mekong River in Cambodia	C	125	114	110	103
Tonle Sap River	C	125	114	110	103
Tonle Sap Great Lake	-	-	-	-	-
Mekong Delta	-	-	-	-	-

¹ = The estimate of the 2015 population is 70-90% of 1900 levels (W Duckworth pers. com.). Thus a population of 80% of 1900 levels has been assumed across the species range with a linear decline during this period. Such as estimate has been omitted from Zone 4b, as the species only occurs here as an occasional species.

9. Masked Finfoot

Heliopais personatus, EN



Area	Description
Distribution Area	33,600 km ²
Occurrence/ in the LMB	India to Indo, most SEA Most LMB country
Population/pop. in LMB Key record sites in LMB	<2,500/ca. 100-200 pairs Little info is known today, Laos: one record in Sekong and another in Dong Khanthung (Z3), Cam: Tonle Sap region
Important ecology	Slow water body, forested rivers/stream, forested pool, marshes
Key threats	Drivers of Anthro. causes 1. Habitat disturbance 2. Habitat loss 3. Hunting pressures 4. Potential damming 5.

Status Assessment for Masked Finfoot in the LMB

Zone	Status	Abundance estimates as % relative to 2015 (where 2015 = 100) ¹			
		2015	1900	1950	1970
Mekong River in Lao PDR	-	-	-	-	-
Mekong River in Lao PDR/ Thailand	-	-	-	-	-
Mekong River in Cambodia	E	2,000	1,174	843	348
Tonle Sap River	E	2,000	1,174	843	348
Tonle Sap Great Lake	E	2,000	1,174	843	348
Mekong Delta	E	2,000	1,174	843	348

¹ = It is considered to have declined by **over 90% since 1900**, and a **figure of 5% of 1900 levels** has been applied for 2015. There is no information on the rate of decline, so it has been assumed that the decline has been linear throughout the period 1900 - 2015, and equally along the length of the river.

10. Irrawaddy Dolphin

Orcaella brevirostris, CR



*Found in 8 places/
8 sub-population*

Area	Description
Distribution Area	xx km ²
Occurrence/ in the LMB	South and SEA India to Philippines/ Cam, Laos and Viet
Population/pop. in LMB	7,000/ 84
Key record sites in LMB	Ayeyarwady (Myan) Mahakham (Indo), Mekong (Cam, Laos, Viet) mainly Kratie (FA5) but inclu. Delta (FA8), Tonle Sap (FA6), Great Lake (FA7)
Important ecology	Channel dwelling, deep pools, inshore, in group,
Key threats	Drivers of Anthro. Causes 1. Noise from motor-boat 2. Accidentally bycatch 3. Explosive used for fishing 4. Pollution from agri.
	1. Habitat degradation, 2. Food source depletion 3. Noise disturbance 4. Accidentally bycatch 5. Explosive used 6. Pollution from agri.

Status Assessment for Irrawaddy Dolphin in the LMB

Zone	Status	Abundance estimates as % relative to 2015 (where 2015 = 100) ¹			
		2015	1900	1950	1970
Mekong River in Lao PDR	-	-	-	-	-
Mekong River in Lao PDR/ Thailand					
Mekong River in Cambodia	E	P	P	P	142 ²
Tonle Sap River	-	P	P	P?	-
Tonle Sap Great Lake	-	P	P	P	-
Mekong Delta	-	P	-	-	-

¹ = Perhaps a few thousand individuals in the river between Khone Falls and the delta c. 1900 - 1920 (Beasley *et al.* in Campbell 2009).

² = This figure has been calculated by using a mid-point figure (84 individuals) for 2015 (estimate of 78-91 individuals, WWF) and assuming a figure of 200 individuals in 200 (based on Baird's 1996 estimate of no more than 200 individuals present in the river), thus representing a 42% decline in population during this period. P = Present.

11. Otter sp., VU

4 species:

Hairy-nosed otter, VU

Smooth-coated otter, VU

A. small-clawed otter, EN

Eurasian otter, NT



Area	Description
Distribution Area	xx km ²
Occurrence/ in the LMB	Wide distribution but low density/all
Population/pop. in LMB	n/a
Key record sites in LMB	All, but fewer in upper Lao Mekong
Important ecology	Use in large river, wetlands, lakes, rice fields.
Key threats	Drivers of Anthro. Causes 1. Habitat loss 2. Hunting 3. Pesticide 4. 5.

Status Assessment for Otter sp. in the LMB

Zone	Status	Abundance estimates as % relative to 2015 (where 2015 = 100) ¹			
		2015	1900	1950	1970
Mekong River in Lao PDR	E	2,000	1,174	843	348
Mekong River in Lao PDR/ Thailand	E	2,000	1,174	843	348
Mekong River in Cambodia	E	2,000	1,174	843	348
Tonle Sap River	E	2,000	1,174	843	348
Tonle Sap Great Lake	E	2,000	1,174	843	348
Mekong Delta	E	2,000	1,174	843	348

¹ = Otter populations of all species are considered to have declined by over 90% since 1900, and a figure of 5% of 1900 levels has been applied for 2015. There is no information on the rate of decline, so it has been assumed that the decline has been linear throughout the period 1900 - 2015, and equally along the length of the river.

12. Hog Deer

Axis porcinus annamiticus, CR

2 sub-species

A. p. annamiticus

A. p. porcinus



Area	Description
Distribution Area	xx km ²
Occurrence/ in the LMB	Asia, India - Vietnam Cambodia only (2006)
Population/pop. in LMB / few groups
Key record sites in LMB	Kratie Province (Z3, FA5)
	Extirpated in Laos, Thai and Vietnam
Important ecology	Floodplain tall grass, associated with rivers.
Key threats	Drivers of Anthro. Causes
1. Hunting	1. Hunting
2. Habitat degradation,	2. Habitat degradation,
3. Disturbance	3. Disturbance
4. Regular flow change	4. Chasing by dogs

Status Assessment for Hog Deer in the LMB

Zone	Status	Abundance estimates as % relative to 2015 (where 2015 = 100) ¹			
		2015	1900	1950	1970
Mekong River in Lao PDR	-	-	-	-	-
Mekong River in Lao PDR/ Thailand	-	-	-	-	-
Mekong River in Cambodia	E	380	380	302	195
Tonle Sap River	-	-	-	-	-
Tonle Sap Great Lake	-	-	-	-	-
Mekong Delta	-	-	-	-	-

¹ = The rate of population decline in the last 21 years has exceeded 90%, a continuation of similar declines from the 1950s onwards. A figure of 95% decline has thus been applied to the period 1950-2000, and also 95% for the period 2000-2015. It has been assumed that the population was stable between 1900-1950.

Preliminary Conclusions

- *This draft assessment considers trends of relative abundance and ecological status based on available data and expert judgment.*
- *Mekong River in Cambodia (Z3, FA4) is the most important biodiversity hotspot of the Mekong mainstream.*
- *Many indicator species have declined sharply due to habitat change, disturbance and hunting.*
- *Most non-channel birds appear fairly stable prior to 1970, but dropped gradually to dramatically after this date due to hunting.*
- *Certain indicator species - River Tern, Hog Deer, White-shouldered Ibis and Sarus Crane, Masked Finfoot and Irrawaddy Dolphin, are critically endangered, and many populations are of global conservation importance.*

