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DEFINITION OF INTEGRITY

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Definition of ecological integrity



The ecological integrity of a river system is defined as its ability to support and maintain a balanced, integrated composition of physico-chemical and habitat characteristics, and biotic components on a temporal and spatial scale that are comparable to the natural characteristics of ecosystems of the region.

Integrity categories

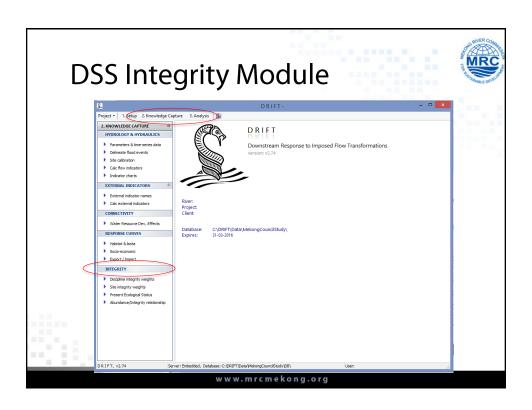


Α	Unmodified, natural	As close as possible to natural conditions.
В	Largely natural	Modified from the original natural condition but not sufficiently to have produced measurable change in the nature and functioning of the ecosystem/community.
С	Moderately modified	Changed from the original condition sufficiently to have measurably altered the nature and functioning of the ecosystem/community, although the difference may not be obvious to a casual observer.
D	Largely modified	Sufficiently altered from the original natural condition for obvious impacts on the nature and functioning of the ecosystem/community to have occurred.
E	Completely modified	Important aspects of the original nature and functioning of the ecosystem community are no longer present. The area is heavily negatively impacted by human interventions.

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INPUTS TO DSS



Calculating integrity



For a scenario:

- Each indicator's final score (end of period)
- + or added for a move towards or away from natural
- Weighted average = Integrity
- Can be calculated per discipline or for all disciplines (overall integrity)

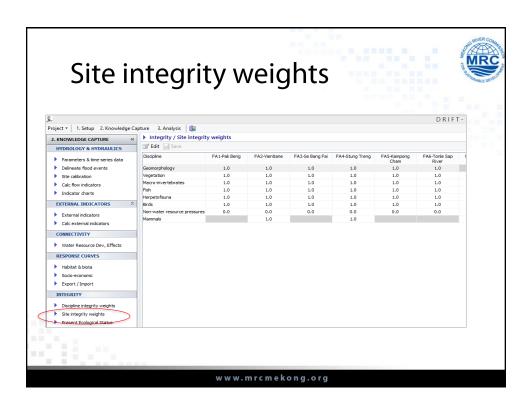
DSS: Integrity sub-section

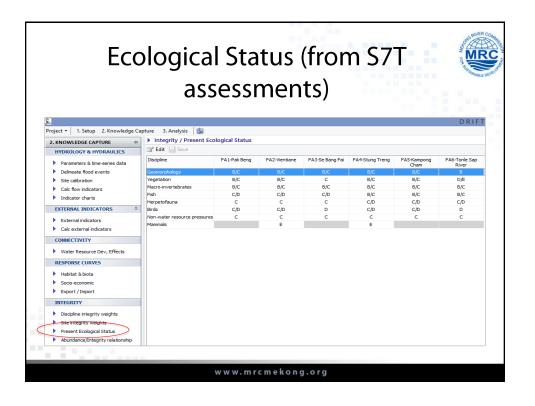


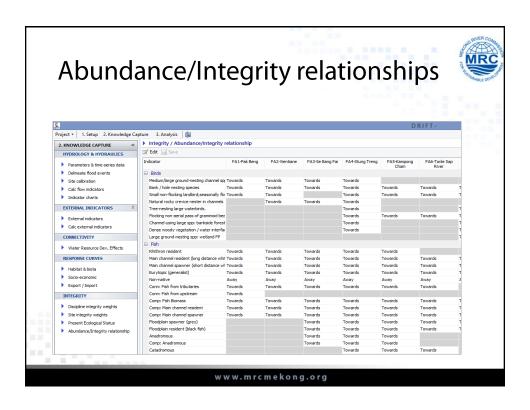
- Weights for each indicator for calculating discipline level integrity;
- Weights for each discipline for calculating <u>site</u> <u>level integrity;</u>
- <u>Ecological status</u> of each discipline at each site; and
- <u>Abundance vs. integrity relationships</u> for each indicator at each site.

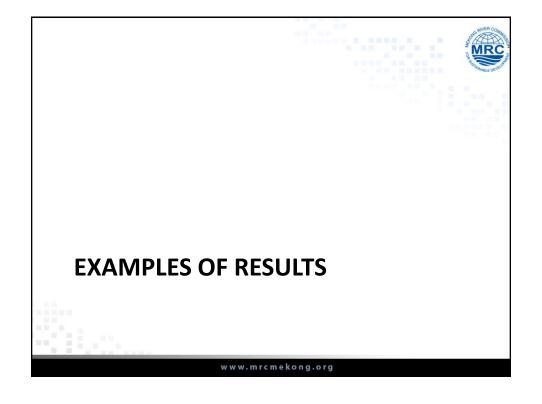
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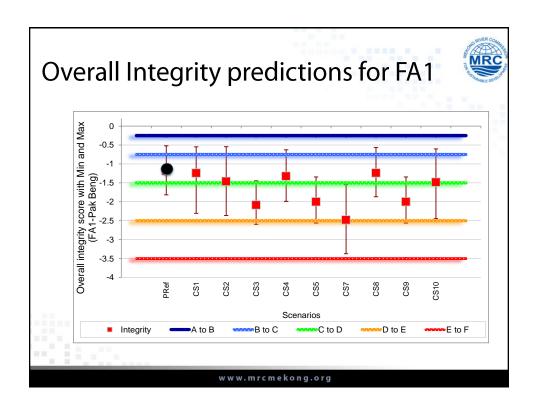
Discipline integrity weights 2. KNOWLEDGE CAPTURE HYDROLOGY & HYDRAULICS Lintegrity / Dicipline integrity weights Edit Save FA3-Se Bang Fai FA4-Stung Treng FA5-Kampong Bank / hole nesting species Small non-flocking landbird; seasonally flo Natural rocky crevice nester in channels reaction from the control of the con EXTERNAL INDICATORS Calc external indicators Rhithron resident Main channel resident (long distance whit Main channel spawner (short distance wh Eurytopic (generalist) ▶ Habitat & biota Non-native Conn: Fish from tributaries Conn: Fish from upstream Comp: Fish Biomass Comp: Main channel resident Export / Import INTEGRITY Site integrity weights Comp: Main channel spawner Abundance/Integrity relations www.mrcmekong.org

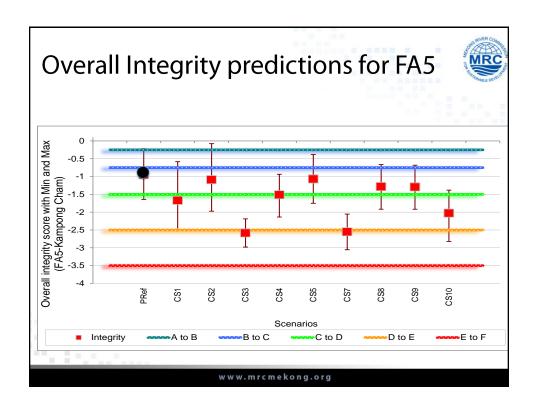


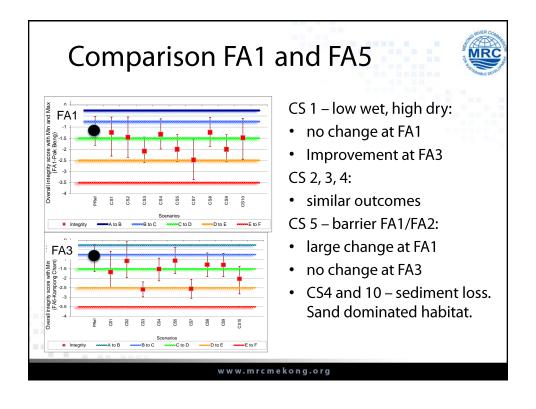


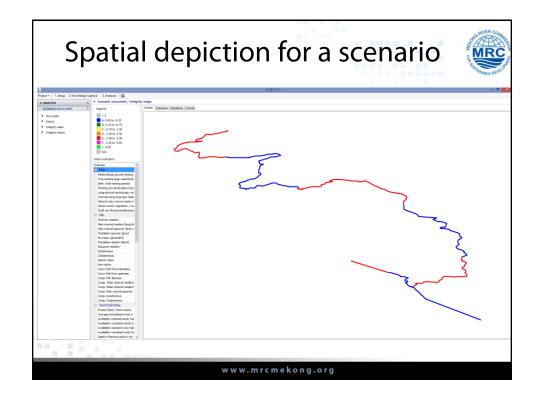














INTERROGATING RESULTS

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What is driving integrity?



For a scenario:

- Check which discipline and indicators used
- Check weights
- Check overall scores
- Identify which indicator(s) are driving integrity score
- Allie to go through examples

