

Aquatic Sub-team; CTR Design Project
Team leaders discussion
Macro-group and IEI Metrics Weighting Plans
June 12, 2014

1) Task: Approve or adjust the default weighting of 1 for each aquatic system/macrogroup.

We propose that the aquatic team approve the use of the default weighting of 1 for each aquatic system/macrogroup at this time. For your information, attached is a spread sheet that summarizes some statistics on these macrogroups (CTRiverSystemWeights.aquatic-12June.xls).

The need to increase the general importance of one macro-group in the Connecticut River watershed over another is not certain. And the impact of adjusting these model weights on the mix of aquatic landscape "habitats" ultimately identified for conservation is not clear enough to warrant changes. In addition, the default weighting of "1" for each macrogroup does not generate any obvious problems. Finally, if after an early run of the model the need for changes does become apparent, there are opportunities to make adjustments.

Please let us know if this works for you and if not, why not ... by next Tuesday, June 17th. We can then inform the UMass team.

2) Task: Approve or adjust the current weighting of metrics in the ecological integrity models for the aquatic ecosystem.

We propose that the aquatic team review the current weightings of metrics in the IEI model and then finalize during a meeting/call on June 19th (see plans below).

We think a review of the IEI input metric weightings would be valuable, especially given our recent review and adoption of the new aquatic macrogroups. Review of the input metrics will also afford the team members a better understanding of the model results.

The UMass work is slowing in wait for these IEI metric reviews from the aquatic team and requests we provide our input within a week.

We propose to meet in a conference call for 1.5 hours next Thursday June 19th. We plan to review the current default weight for each of the 18 metrics for the 25 aquatic macro-groups.

To achieve this work in the given time frame, we need each team member to review the definition of each metric and be familiar with the ecological mechanism each metric is intended to represent.

Attached a data sheet of IEI model scores (IntegrityModels.xlsx), AND the definitions for each metric (IntegrityMetrics.docx. Both were generated by the UMass team.

Our intent is to look for metric weights that we think warrant significant adjustment. We do not want to get bogged down in subtle adjustments to the metric weights that were established by a previous group of experts.

Using the Doodle Poll link below, please indicate the best time during the day on June 19th for use to review these scores together.

<http://doodle.com/u7fbs8ug5wa2qdam>

Regards,

Andrew Mac

Dave Perkins

John Warner