The characterisation of impacts is often summarised through the inclusive concept of significance. The impact of an action on a system element is not just any change: referring to a chosen point in time, it is the difference between the values of [a chosen dimension of] that system element — akin to what is known in medicine or pharmaceutics as a 'side effect'. Impacts as 'one-on-one' outcomes of project actions on system elements (key: 1-

## Action 2

**−**

### Action 4

5

### Cumulative change

cumulative change

3.3 Synthesis


Perdicolis, A. (2010, p.74)


Introduction to Environmental Impact Assessment (Perdicolis, 2014f).


Sterman, 2000, p.152), which is precisely the sense of an 'impact' (intended to take place)

## DCD Impact Map

**4.1 DCD Impact Map**


Sterman, 2000, p.152)

## 7 Impact Continuum

The upper (shaded) field of the receiving node hosts the cumulative change (Perdicolis et al., 2014)

## 5.3 Cumulative change

The upper (shaded) field of the receiving node hosts the cumulative change (Perdicolis et al., 2014)

## 4.2 Impact matrix

Table: Impact Continuum

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>2</th>
<th>3</th>
</tr>
</thead>
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<td>B</td>
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</tbody>
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## 3 Environmental impact


## 2 Change

Change

## 6.9 Data

The change occurs over four months (Perdicolis, 2010, p.74)

## 1 Action

Action — from

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