2013 State Report Card

Are control programs focused on high priority weeds and pest animals?

Weeds compete with native plants and damage native animal habitat and agricultural land. In 2004 it was estimated that weeds cost Australia over $4 billion every year in lost agricultural production and management.

Pest animals prey on and compete with native animals and livestock, and damage native vegetation, landscapes and agricultural businesses. In 2009, it was estimated that pest animals cost Australia over $740 million every year.

It is not feasible to eradicate all weeds or pest animals in Australia. Risk management is used to minimise their impacts. Risk management helps to coordinate and prioritise control efforts and investments to protect the environment, agricultural production and public health and safety.

Regional trends in the application of risk management

- 🟩 Getting better
- 🟧 Stable
- 🟥 Getting worse
- ⬜ Unknown

State target

Limit the establishment of pests and diseases and reduce the impacts of existing pests

Trend	Getting better	Natural Resource Management staff prioritise weed and pest animal management activities

To prioritise pest species for management, Natural Resource Management staff in each region use the SA Weed and Pest Animal Risk Management Guides, which were developed by the Department of Primary Industries and Regions SA. These guides recommend management actions based on assessments of risks posed by a pest species and feasibility to contain it.
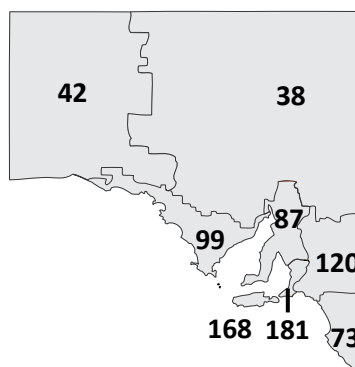
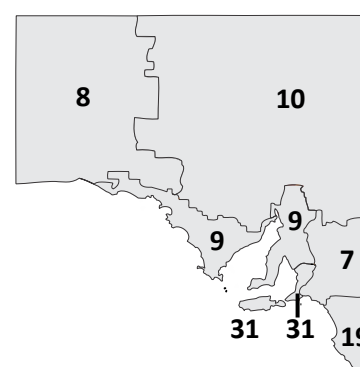| Where we are at (2013)	Good	Each region has assessed an average of 101 weed species and 16 pest animal species

The numbers of weed and pest animal species assessed indicates the extent to which risk management is used. Every region has conducted assessments for both weed and pest animal species (maps on right).

Additional assessments are undertaken when new pests or weeds are detected, when new threats are identified or as conditions change.

Weed assessments

Pest animal assessments

Reliability of information	★★★★★	Excellent

Further information:
Technical information for this report card
South Australia Weed Risk Management Guide
South Australia Pest Animal Risk Assessment Guide

This report is a work in progress. As resource monitoring improves, so too will our ability to describe trends in condition.
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Government of South Australia