

# 2014 Regional Snapshot

## Are landscapes that are culturally important to Aboriginal communities being managed appropriately?

Culturally important landscapes have been shaped by the land, plants, animals, and the Aboriginal heritage, traditions, laws, management and uses of the landscape. Knowledge of these landscapes and their components is passed from generation to generation through story, song and dance. Culturally important landscapes are protected to support Aboriginal culture, stories, connection to country and spiritual wellbeing.

Pressures on environmental landscapes include industrial and urban development, farming, changing the natural flow of [water](#), [tourism](#) and recreational use of sensitive areas.

To protect some culturally important landscapes from development and degradation, specific sites, objects and remains are recorded by the [Department of State Development](#).

This initial report uses the available information on culturally important landscapes. These landscapes are managed in partnership by Aboriginal communities and NRM boards. For more information on the management of culturally important landscapes, refer to NRM board [website](#).



**State target**

Increase understanding of the condition of landscapes (geologically and culturally important features)



Trends in the condition of culturally important landscapes



<b>Trend</b>	Unknown	Trends in the condition of culturally important landscapes are unknown
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Trends in the condition of the sites, objects and remains, and the culturally important landscapes are not known.

<b>Where we are at (2014)</b>	Unknown	In the NRM region, 504 sites, objects and remains have been recorded by the Department of State Development
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Aboriginal communities have identified and registered 504 sites, objects and remains in the South East NRM region. Two of these are the Blue Lake and volcanic formations and the 'Meeting of the Waters' site at the Murray Mouth (map on right). Aboriginal sites, objects and remains are managed by Aboriginal communities, with support from the Department of State Development - Aboriginal Affairs and Reconciliation, the South East Aboriginal Focus Group, and the Department of Environment, Water and Natural Resources.

In the South East NRM region, the South East Aboriginal Focus Group and the Ngarrindjeri Regional Authority play a pivotal role in managing our natural resource, this includes input into regional plans and delivery of projects, for example monitoring ecosystem health.

In 2009, the Government of South Australia entered into the Kungun Ngarrindjeri Yunnan Agreement with the Ngarrindjeri Regional Authority. The agreement established a consultation and negotiation framework to improve the engagement of Ngarrindjeri in natural resource and cultural heritage management. As part of the agreement, a series of joint initiatives are being developed to assist in incorporating Ngarrindjeri descriptions of the cultural health of the Ramsar site and negotiate the use and application of Ngarrindjeri Cultural Knowledge. The integration of Ngarrindjeri perspectives is an important step in increasing the understanding of the cultural health of the Ramsar site, and creating sustainable futures for Ngarrindjeri in caring for their Yarluwar-Ruwe (Sea Country). Ngarrindjeri have informed the icon site Environmental Watering Plan, and are involved in regional monitoring and research activities.

While management and protection of culturally important landscapes occurs in the NRM region, no information is available to report on their condition.



<b>Reliability of information</b>	☆☆☆☆	There is no information on the condition of culturally important landscapes
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Further information: [Technical information for this report](#), [Co-managed parks](#)

