

# 2014 State Report Card

## 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 culturally important landscapes include industrial and urban development, farming, mining and exploration, [water use](#), [tourism](#) and recreational use of sensitive areas.

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

This initial report card 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 regional reports on NRM board [websites](#).



Regional trends in the condition of culturally important landscapes



**State target**

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

<b>Trend</b>	Unknown	Trends in the condition of landscapes that are important to Aboriginal communities are unknown
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The number of sites, objects and remains recorded by the Department of State Development increased from 4,776 in 2000 to 7,824 in 2014. Trends in the condition of the sites, objects and remains, and the landscapes, are not known.

<b>Where we are at (2014)</b>	Unknown	In total, 7,824 sites, objects and remains have been recorded by the Department of State Development
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Aboriginal communities have identified and registered 3,688 sites in the SA Arid Lands, 1,685 in the SA Murray-Darling Basin, 504 in the South East, 590 in the Northern and Yorke, 456 in the Eyre Peninsula, 445 in the Adelaide and Mount Lofty Ranges, 392 in the Alinytjara Wilurara, and 64 in the Kangaroo Island NRM regions. The number of sites recorded in each NRM region does not reflect the actual number of culturally important sites. The number typically reflects the amount of development, exploration or research in an area, and it also depends on whether Aboriginal people wish to have their sites recorded.

Examples of culturally important landscapes include: the Coorong and Lower Lakes, wetlands associated with the Murray River, rockholes, springs and soaks in arid regions, and many of our coastlines. Within these landscapes, the cultural sites, objects and remains on public land are managed by Aboriginal communities with support from the Department of State Development, [SA Native Title Services](#), and the Department of Environment, Water and Natural Resources.

While management and protection of culturally important landscapes occurs in all NRM regions, 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 card](#), [Co-managed parks](#)

