

2014 Regional Snapshot

How many of our ecological communities are extinct or threatened with extinction?

Ecological communities are groups of plants and animals that interact in a unique habitat. They provide food and shelter for native species, store carbon, and filter the air, water and soil on which we all depend. They support tourism, agriculture and fisheries industries, and they have cultural significance for all Australians.

Some ecological communities are considered threatened under national legislation. The number of ecological communities listed indicates how many communities require urgent conservation.

Land-based ecological communities are threatened by land clearance, habitat degradation and fragmentation, changes to water flows, weeds and pest animals, inappropriate fire regimes, poor grazing and farming practices, and pollution.

The health of our ecological communities relies on the [management](#) of these threats.



Trend in the number of ecological communities listed as threatened



State target

Improve the management of species and ecological communities

Trend (2009–13)

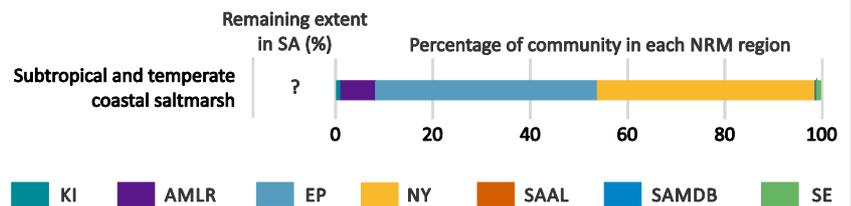
Getting worse

One ecological community has been listed as threatened in the last 5 years

One ecological community is nationally listed as threatened in the Kangaroo Island NRM region: subtropical and temperate coastal saltmarsh. This community has been listed in the last 5 years as nationally vulnerable.

This NRM region contains around 1 per cent of subtropical and temperate coastal saltmarsh (see graph on right).

About 3 per cent of what is left is in a [protected area](#).



Where we are at (2013)

Poor

One ecological community is nationally threatened in the NRM region

One ecological community that occurs in this NRM region is listed as nationally threatened (see map on right).

Kangaroo Island narrow-leaved mallee woodlands and *Posidonia* seagrass meadows are being assessed as threatened ecological communities under national legislation. An additional 3 ecological communities are being assessed to determine their conservation status.

More information about the conservation activities and monitoring occurring for threatened ecological communities can be found [here](#).



Coastal Saltmarsh

Note: mapping of threatened ecological communities is indicative but not accurate of current extent

Reliability of information



Excellent

Further information:

[Technical information for this report](#)

[Department of the Environment- threatened species and ecological communities](#)