2014 Regional Snapshot

How many people visit parks?

There are almost 20 public protected areas in the Alinytjara Wilurara NRM region (see map at bottom), including national parks, marine parks and conservation reserves.

The parks in the Alinytjara Wilurara NRM region <u>protect</u> and showcase natural and cultural heritage, including ancient landscapes and fossils, Aboriginal art and engravings, historic sites, rugged coastlines, pristine wilderness and unique <u>plants</u> and <u>animals</u>.

These parks and reserves are also important for <u>regional tourism</u>. They are places where we can enjoy natural surroundings and the physical, social and psychological health benefits they provide. There is increasing community awareness of these benefits. For example, children develop physically and mentally when they are able to explore and play in natural surroundings.

This report summarises information on the percentage of residents who visited a land based park or reserve at least once each year. A report on our marine parks is available here.



State target

Maintain the productive capacity of our natural resources



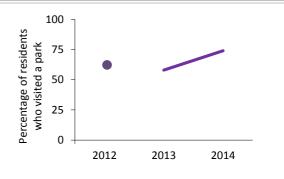
Trend (2013-14)

Stable

This is the second year these data have been collected Trends will be available in the future

Within the Alinytjara Wilurara NRM region, the percentage of residents who visited a park varied from 58 to 74 per cent between 2013 and 14 (graph on right). Information was also collected in 2012, but it was combined with a survey of residents from the SA Arid Lands NRM region. This information was not used to calculate the trend, but it is shown as a dot on the graph.

To encourage more people to visit our parks, the Government of South Australia promotes the physical, social and psychological health benefits of visiting parks and participating in <u>nature conservation activities</u>. For example, <u>Nature Play SA</u> encourages parents and communities to promote outdoor learning environments.



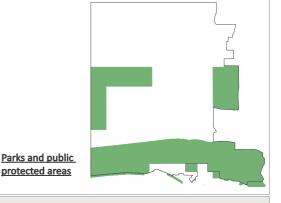
Where we are at (2014)

Good

In 2014, 74 per cent of residents visited a park at least once

In 2014, the percentage of residents from the Alinytjara Wilurara NRM region who visited a park was about 74 per cent.

Enhancing visitor experiences and conserving natural and cultural heritage requires careful management. Some of our parks are maintained to protect biodiversity and these parks have few facilities for visitors, but in many cases the Government of South Australia partners with the tourism industry to enhance opportunities for visitors.



Reliability of information



Fair, More information is needed on park visitation

Further information: Technical information for this report and SA Parks