

# 2014 Regional Snapshot

## How much of our native vegetation is protected?

South Australia's native vegetation - from small ground covers and native grasses to large trees and water plants - is fundamental to the health of our environment and prosperity of our primary industries.

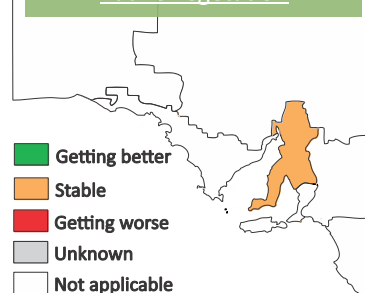
Development has necessarily impacted our native vegetation. It has been cleared from 14 per cent of South Australia, with extensive clearance in the 6 agricultural NRM regions (75 per cent cleared) and less in the arid NRM regions (SA Arid Lands, Alinytjara Wilurara; 1 per cent cleared).

By permanently protecting some areas we build the capacity of our native plants and animals to adapt to climate change and other pressures. South Australian and Australian governments [aim](#) to protect at least 10 per cent of the area of all ecosystems, across all ecosystem scales, including broad ([bio-regional](#)), medium ([sub-regional](#)) and fine ([environmental associations](#)).

This report summarises the coverage of our protected areas in the Northern and Yorke NRM region, and the percentage of environmental associations that are *adequately protected* (10 per cent of the area). This report should be read alongside others on vegetation [condition](#), [extent and connectivity](#).



Trend in the protection of native vegetation



State target

Increase extent and improve condition of native vegetation

Trend (2008–13)

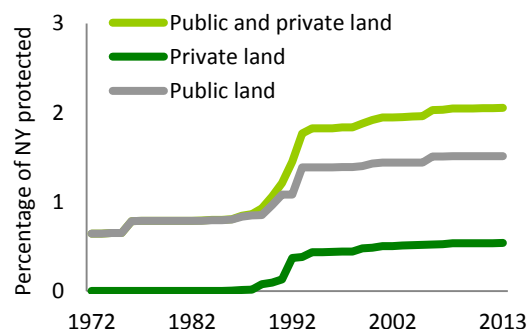
Stable

There was no increase in the number of adequately protected ecosystems (environmental associations) in the SA Northern and Yorke NRM region

Over the last 6 years the number of *adequately protected* (10 per cent of the area) environmental associations in Northern and Yorke NRM region remained stable (map above).

Public protected areas now cover almost 2 per cent of Northern and Yorke NRM region and private areas cover almost 1 per cent (graph on right).

Public protected areas are National and Conservation Parks, Native Forest Reserves and Conservation Areas. Private areas comprise Heritage Agreements.



Where we are at (2013)

Poor

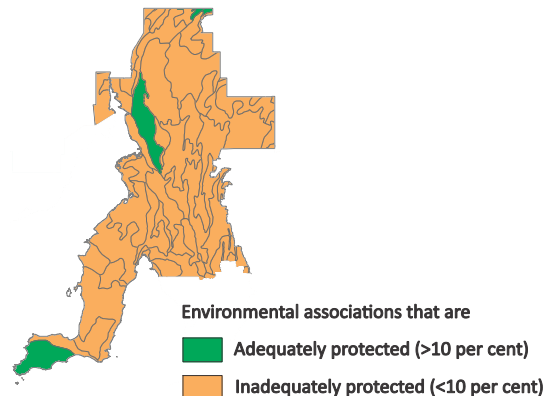
The Northern and Yorke NRM region is dominated by agricultural industries. Seven per cent of its ecosystems (environmental associations) are adequately protected

At the end of 2013, 7 per cent of the 60 environmental associations in the Northern and Yorke NRM region were classified as *adequately protected* (map on right).

Over the last 40 years, large additions to protected areas include Winninowie and Mount Brown Conservation Parks, expansion of Mount Remarkable National Park, and additional Heritage Agreements on southern Yorke Peninsula.

Across the Northern and Yorke NRM region, 28 per cent of environmental associations did not have any areas that were protected.

This information is used by the South Australian and Australian governments to prioritise investments in ecosystems that require protection.



Reliability of information



Very Good

Further information: [Technical information for this report](#), [DEWNR native vegetation](#), Strategies for establishing protected areas in [South Australia](#) and [Australia](#)