

2014 Regional Snapshot

What are the distribution and abundance of pest animals?

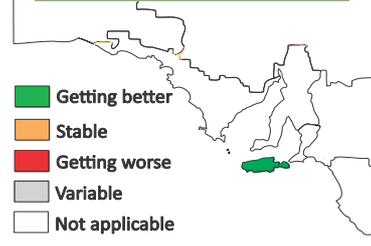
Pest animals prey on and compete with our native and agricultural plants and animals. For example, foxes and cats are efficient hunters of native animals, and rabbits damage native animal habitat and reduce agricultural productivity. Foxes, cats and rabbits are nationally listed as *key threatening processes* due to their environmental impacts. In 2009, pest animals were estimated to cost Australia about \$740 million every year.

In 2007, about 80 per cent of agriculture businesses in Kangaroo Island NRM region reported pest animal problems and implemented some pest animal control activities.

This report summarises information on the distribution and abundance of pest animals and should be read alongside reports on the [management of weeds and pest animals](#).



Trend in the distribution and abundance of key pest animals



State target

Limit the establishment of pests and diseases and reduce the impact of existing pests.

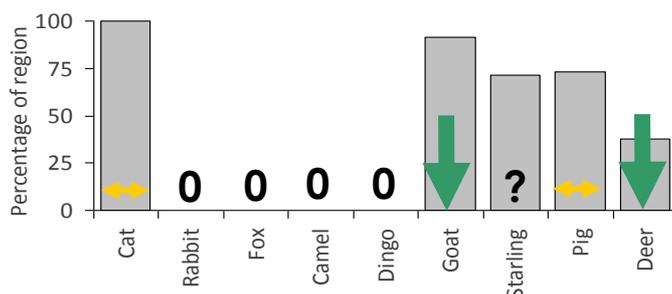
Trend (2008–12)

Getting Better

The trend for key pest animals varies between species: 2 species are decreasing, 2 species are stable, 1 is unknown

In the Kangaroo Island NRM region, the trends in the distribution and abundance of key pest animals vary by species but are generally improving (map above).

There has been a decrease in the distribution and abundance of goat and deer populations (arrows on graph). The distribution and abundance of cats and pigs are stable.



↑ ↓ Large change
 ↔ Stable
 0 Not established
 ? Unknown

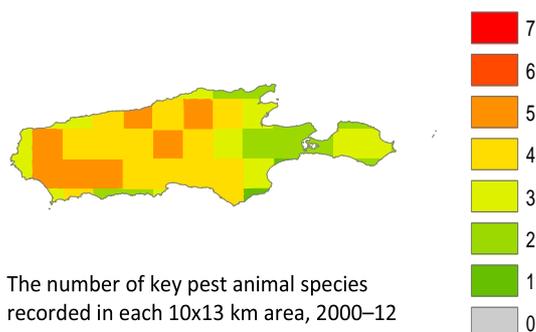
Where we are at (2012)

Good

Managing pest animals continues to be a complex challenge

Based on records from 2000-12, key pest animals have been recorded throughout the Kangaroo Island NRM region. Until recently, goats and deer occupied significant areas of the region, but the populations have almost been eradicated due to control efforts. Rabbits and foxes, which do not occur on Kangaroo Island, are significant pests elsewhere in South Australia and it is a key priority to prevent them from becoming established.

The areas where key pest animals have been recorded (map to right) do not reflect their abundance and do not reflect the impacts of recent control efforts.



The number of key pest animal species recorded in each 10x13 km area, 2000–12

Reliability of information



Poor, there are insufficient data on the abundance and trends of pest animals

Further information:

[Technical information for this report](#), [Pest animals in South Australia](#)