2016 State Report Card

Are activities being undertaken to conserve our threatened ecological communities?

South Australia's native plants, animals and ecosystems are of cultural significance to Aboriginal people, the traditional custodians of the land and waters. The survival and health of South Australia's native plants, animals and ecosystems are crucial to our social and economic well-being. This is particularly the case for our ecological communities, which are groups of plants and animals that interact in unique habitats.

There are 11 ecological communities in South Australia that are nationally threatened with extinction due to the legacy of past actions combined with new and ongoing threats. This number has increased in recent years. Acting to conserve threatened ecological communities helps to preserve the ecosystems we all rely on. Threatened ecological communities require targeted conservation activities such as habitat restoration and protection, and the control of threats such as weeds, pests, inappropriate fire regimes and grazing practices. Improvements to land and water-use practices are also required. Monitoring programs are used to ensure our conservation activities are effective.





State target

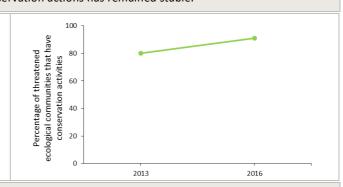
Improve the management of species and ecological communities

Trend (2013-16)

Stable

Natural resource managers prioritise conservation activities for threatened ecological communities based on many factors, including the risk of species collapse, the feasibility of preventing collapse and funding availability. To get the best outcomes from our conservation activities, natural resource managers control threats and make improvements that will benefit multiple plants and animals in these unique habitats. Improving the prospects of our threatened ecological communities is difficult. It will take substantial effort and conservation investments over many years to prevent extinction.

The amount of threatened ecological communities with conservation actions has remained stable.



Where we are at (2016)

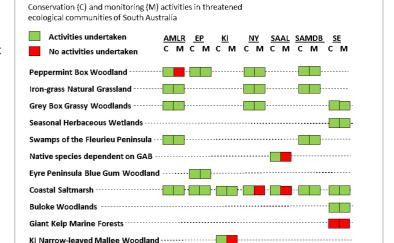
Fair

More conservation activities and monitoring are required

Natural resource managers undertake some conservation or monitoring activities in 10 of the 11 threatened communities in South Australia (see graph on right). The amount of habitat that benefits from these activities varies among NRM regions, typically because the area of each community varies among NRM regions.

For six of the 11 threatened communities, conservation activities and monitoring are undertaken in all of the NRM regions where the communities occur (see graph on right).

Changes in the <u>extent</u> have not been recorded for any of the ecological communities since they were categorised as threatened.



Reliability of information



Excellent

Further information: Technical information for this report card, Threatened species and ecological communities



