

2014 Regional Snapshot

Are landscapes that are culturally important to Aboriginal communities being managed appropriately?

Culturally important landscapes have been shaped by the land, plants, animals, and the Aboriginal heritage, traditions, laws, management and uses of the landscape. Knowledge of these landscapes and their components is passed from generation to generation through story, song and dance. Culturally important landscapes are protected to support Aboriginal culture, stories, connection to country and spiritual wellbeing.

Pressures on culturally important landscapes include climate change, pest plants and animals, mining and exploration, [tourism](#) and recreational use of sensitive areas.

To protect some culturally important landscapes from development and degradation, specific sites, objects or remains are recorded by the [Department of State Development](#).

This initial report uses the available information on culturally important landscapes. These landscapes are managed in partnership by Aboriginal communities and NRM boards. For more information on the management of culturally important landscapes, refer to [NRM board website](#).

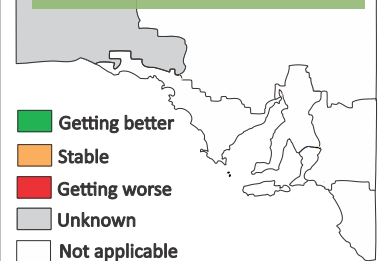


State target

Increase understanding of the condition of landscapes (geologically and culturally important features)



Trends in the condition of culturally important landscapes



Trend

Unknown

Trends in the condition of landscapes that are important to Aboriginal communities are unknown

Trends in the condition of the sites, objects and remains, and culturally important landscapes are not known.

Where we are at (2014)

Unknown

In the NRM region, 392 sites, objects and remains have been recorded by the Department of State Development

Aboriginal communities have identified and registered 392 sites, objects and remains in the Alinytjara Wilurara NRM region.

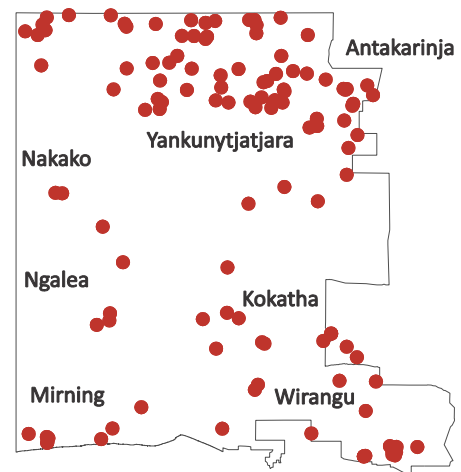
Freshwater sources, such as rockholes, springs and soaks are central to Aboriginal occupation in the arid lands and are culturally important (map on right). There are also innumerable places of importance within co-managed Parks, including Mamungari Conservation Park, Yellabinna and Yumbara Parks, and Nullarbor National Park.

All work carried out within the Alinytjara Wilurara NRM region is overseen by the NRM Board, consisting of representatives of each Landholding Authority in the region (APY, MT, Yalata, and West Coast Aboriginal Corporation). All work carried out by NRM staff is done so in conjunction with landowning authorities and Traditional Owners.

Throughout 2014, Alinytjara Wilurara NRM continued the support of Aboriginal Women's access to country, through providing logistical and financial support. The Alinytjara Wilurara NRM also supports work to identify and protect cultural sites within the pastoral area of APY, including fencing and the establishment of monitoring points to enable ongoing monitoring of pastoral condition.

While management and protection of culturally important landscapes occurs in the NRM region, no information is available to report on their condition.

Pitjantjatjara



● Rockholes, springs and soaks

Language group name

As used in The Encyclopaedia of Aboriginal Australia (D.Horton, General editor), published in 1994 by the Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies (Aboriginal Studies Press)

Reliability of information



There is no information on the condition of culturally important landscapes

Further information: [Technical information for this report](#), [Co-managed parks](#)