

# 2014 Regional Snapshot

## Are the extent and condition of our mangroves improving?

The marine environment provides valuable resources for regional economies, supporting tourism, commercial and recreational fishing, aquaculture, shipping and mining. Most South Australians live near the coast and many coastal and marine systems are under pressure from human impacts.

Mangrove areas, where mangrove trees grow in dense thickets, are located in tidal estuaries, saltmarshes and on muddy coasts, and form a transition zone between land and marine ecosystems.

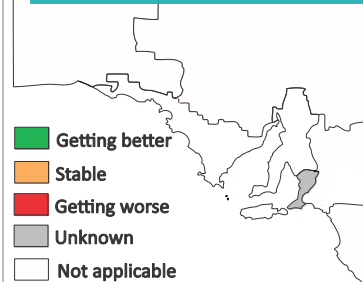
Mangroves trap sediment and prevent coastal erosion. They also maintain coastal water quality, cycle nutrients, store carbon and provide food and shelter for marine animals, including commercial fish in their juvenile stages.

Mangroves in the Adelaide and Mount Lofty Ranges NRM region are threatened by clearance, coastal development, construction of tidal barriers and drains, and changes in freshwater inputs that decrease salinity and increase nutrients, pollutants and sediments.

The health of mangrove ecosystems relies on the management of coastal development and water quality within catchments.



Trend in the extent and condition of mangroves



State target

Improve condition of coastal and marine ecosystems

### Trend in extent and condition

Unknown

Ongoing efforts will be needed to monitor and protect our mangroves

In the Adelaide and Mount Lofty Ranges NRM region, mangroves cover 80 per cent of their former extent.

Trends in the condition of mangroves across South Australia are not known (map above).

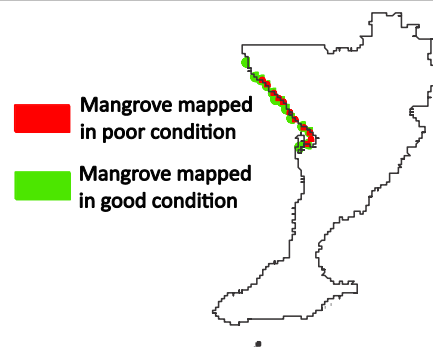
### Where we are at (2007)

Good

Over 97 per cent of mangroves are in 'good' condition in the Adelaide and Mount Lofty Ranges NRM region

Approximately 20 per cent of the mangroves in South Australia are in the Adelaide and Mount Lofty Ranges NRM region.

Broad-scale mapping across South Australia by the Department of Environment, Water and Natural Resources between 1997 and 2007 classed 97 per cent of mangroves in 'good' condition. Detailed field surveys of mangrove condition have not been undertaken in the Adelaide and Mount Lofty Ranges NRM region.



### Reliability of information



Good

### Further information:

[Technical information for this report](#), [Coast Protection Board](#)