## SA Arid Lands NRM Region People and communities

## 2014 Regional Snapshot

## How many volunteers are involved in natural resource management?

We all have a stake in maintaining the health and sustainability of our natural resources – our plants, animals, soil and water.

One way of engaging and educating people about our natural resources is to provide opportunities to volunteer on natural resource management projects. Volunteer projects improve the sustainability of our natural resources and provide opportunities for people to network, learn new skills and improve their physical, mental and social wellbeing.

In the SA Arid Lands NRM region, volunteers are involved in projects on both private and public land, including national parks, conservation parks and reserves. Volunteers assist with revegetation, soil and land management, native animal and plant surveys, fire management, trail maintenance, weed and pest animal control, heritage site restoration, public education, fundraising and project administration.





## State target

Involve more people in the sustainable management of natural resources

Trend	Unknown	Trends in volunteer conservation activities will be available in the future
Future reporting will track trends in the number of volunteer groups and volunteer hours in natural resource management projects, inside and outside parks (see graphs on right).	Number of volunteer groups 0 2012	8 6 0 2013 2013 2013
Where we are at (2013)	Fair	A total of 8 volunteer groups spent nearly 7,000 hours volunteering on natural resource management projects

A <u>survey</u> undertaken by Australian Bureau of Statistics found that more than 60,000 South Australians (about 2.2 per cent) volunteered on natural resource management projects in 2012. These projects included those coordinated or undertaken by private landholders, non-government organisations, and government agencies.

In the South Australian Arid Lands NRM regions in 2013, around 100 people from 8 volunteer groups spent nearly 7,000 hours volunteering on natural resource management projects coordinated or funded by the Government of South Australia and NRM Boards. Most of this volunteer effort was spent on activities outside of parks.



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