

# Water management

## Water allocation planning

South Australia's

Environmental trend and condition report card 2018



STATEWIDE



Trend  
**Getting better**



Condition  
**Good**



Reliability  
**Excellent**

### Trend

**The statewide trend in water allocation planning is getting better, with an increase in the number of water allocation plans (WAPs) since 2007.**

This assessment is of the percentage of actively managed water resource areas with WAPs. Currently, 38 areas are actively managed (top figure). The bottom figure shows how these actively managed areas align with the eight existing natural resources management regions.

The percentage of actively managed water resources with WAPs has increased over the past 10 years to 79% in 2017.

Water planning and management continues to improve across the state, with WAPs building on an improved understanding of water resources and risks to social, economic and environmental values.

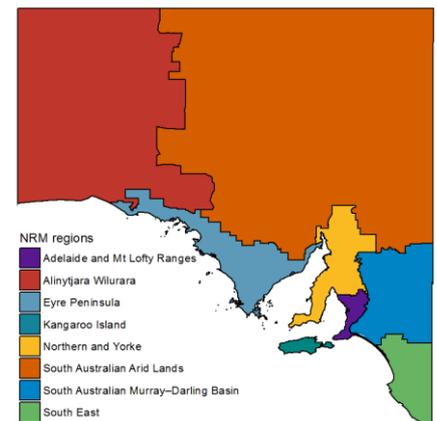
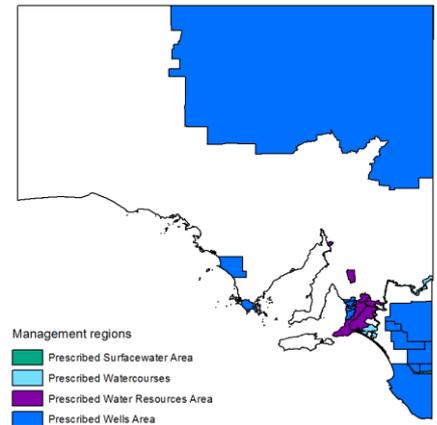
### Condition

**In 2017, the percentage of prescribed water resources with completed WAPs is considered good.**

Condition is rated as good because 79% (30 out of 38) of South Australia's actively managed water resources have WAPs in place.

WAPs set sustainable-use limits to balance the water needs of the community, industry and the environment.

**Water allocation planning in South Australia is in good condition and getting better**



### Why is water management important?

Water resources in South Australia are fundamental for our industries, environment, health and way of life.

South Australia is the driest state in the driest continent, and our water resources are important and limited. Sustainable water management and planning, in terms of both quality and quantity, is vital to South Australia's long-term water security, the environment and our economy.

### What are the pressures?

Water planning responds to changes in the climate, the way water is used, increases in the demand for water and new knowledge of environmental water needs.

The needs of the community, industry and the environment must be balanced so that we can continue to develop the state without impacting our environment into the future.

### What is being done?

In South Australia, all water resources are managed through regional natural resources management plans, developed under natural resources management legislation. If a water resource is considered vulnerable or at risk, and further management is required, a WAP is developed to ensure that the water use needs of the community, industry and the environment is sustainable.

WAPs include review processes to incorporate new science and address pressures to the resource, such as climate variability.

For further information see: [technical information](#)



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