

Mangrove vegetation



Percentage cover

South Australia's

Environmental trend and condition report card 2018

STATEWIDE



Trend
Getting better



Condition
Unknown



Reliability
Excellent

Trend

The statewide percentage cover of mangrove vegetation is getting better.

This assessment uses data, for the three natural resources management regions with mangrove vegetation, from the South Australian land cover layers 1990-2015.

The trend in percentage cover of mangrove vegetation is getting better in two regions (Eyre Peninsula [EP] and Northern and Yorke [NY]) and stable in one region (Adelaide and Mt Lofty Ranges [AMLR]) (top figure). The increase is estimated as 770 hectares.

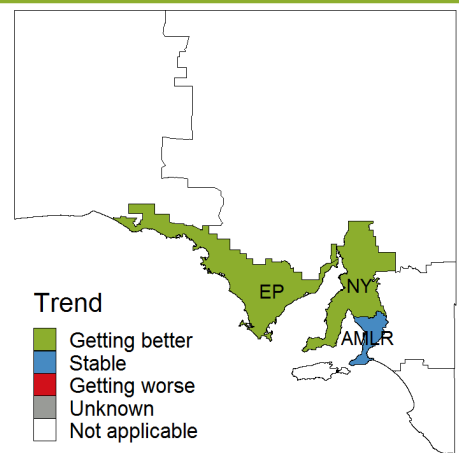
While mangrove vegetation experienced some loss in cover before 1990 due to clearing for urban developments and pollution from nutrient run-off and oil spills, the current increase in coverage is positive.

Condition

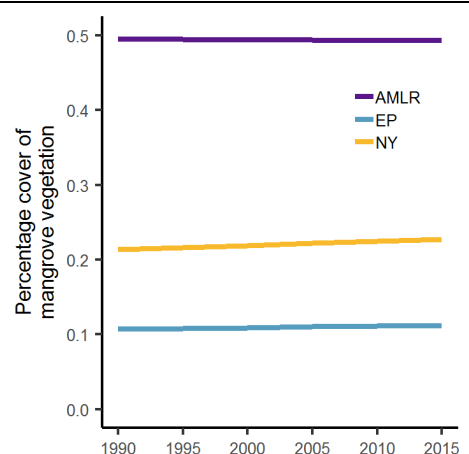
Because there are no agreed benchmarks for the percentage cover of mangrove vegetation in South Australia, it is not possible to assign a condition rating.

Across South Australia, the estimated extent of mangrove vegetation is 16,960 hectares.

At the regional level, estimates are 3,270 hectares in AMLR (0.49% of the region), 5,820 hectares in EP (0.11% of the region) and 7,870 hectares in NY (0.23% of the region) (bottom figure).



Mangrove cover along South Australia's coastline has increased since 1990



Why is mangrove vegetation important?

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

What are the pressures?

Mangroves are under pressure from land-based inputs such as stormwater, pollutants, nutrients and sediments. Coastal development, construction of tidal barriers and drains, and climate change also threaten mangroves.

What is being done?

Implementation of the Adelaide Water Quality Improvement Plan is improving water quality for mangrove vegetation by reducing nutrient and sediment inputs to Adelaide coastal waters.

Marine parks, national parks and native vegetation legislation protect mangrove vegetation from inappropriate development and clearing.

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



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