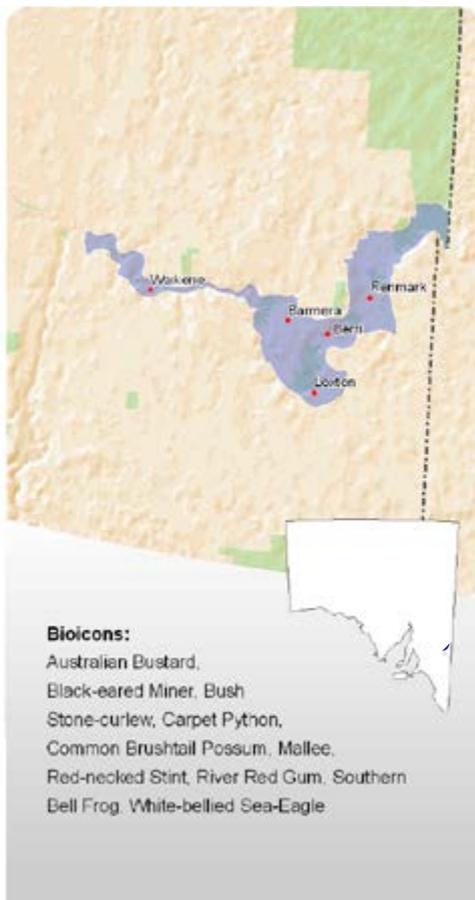


Riverina



Photo ©SATC/Adam Bruzzone

Banrock Station



The Riverina bioregion is mainly located in southern New South Wales with only 3% in South Australia.

It has a semi-arid climate with low rainfall, hot summers and cool winters. Renmark receives about 260mm of rain per year, mostly during the winter.

The land in the bioregion is used mainly for sheep and cattle grazing as well as for growing wine grapes, vegetables and citrus.

Biodiversity and habitat

This bioregion includes creeks, channels, lagoons, billabongs, swamps and lakes which are related to the Murray River. Between these features are floodplains that are flooded when the river levels rise. The main vegetation types are chenopod shrublands and grasslands. Other vegetation includes River Red Gum and Black Box woodlands, mallee woodlands and shrublands, native grasslands and wetlands.

The floodplain has large areas of woodlands which provide good habitat for a number of threatened species. The bioregion provides an important habitat for migratory and nomadic birds, and native fish.

Threatened species include the Bush Stone-curlew, Carpet Python, Southern Bell Frog and Riverine Flax-lily. A recovery program for the Bush Stone-curlew is underway.

Floodplain habitats are under severe stress because of drought and water management issues in the catchment. This is leading to a decline in tree health and loss of valuable wetland habitat.





Photo ©SATC/Johnny Kamma

Threats

Threats to the Riverina bioregion and its dependent species include:

- changing patterns of water flow
- invasive animals such as feral pig, fox, rabbit, feral cat, European Starling and European Carp
- invasive weeds including Alligator Weed and Bridal Creeper.

The bioregion includes the Riverland Ramsar Wetland which is located along an 80km section of the River Murray.

Conservation

Community conservation work in the bioregion is reliant on groups of key people including the SA Murray-Darling Basin Natural Resource Management Board and Local Action Planning groups.

You can help conserve the Riverina bioregion and its dependent species by:

- participating in special events, information sessions, tree planting days and weed eradication programs in your local area
- finding out more about the Ramsar Agreement and why it is important for wetlands around the world.

For further information

Public enquiries

For more local information on any of the species in this resource please contact your nearest Natural Resource Centre office on:

Eastwood: (08) 8273 9100

Gawler: (08) 8523 7700

Lobethal: (08) 8389 5900

Willunga: (08) 8550 3400

Education enquiries

For teachers wanting more information about environmental education resources and opportunities please contact the relevant NRM Education sub regional team on:

Northern Adelaide: (08) 8406 8289

Barossa: (08) 8563 8436

Central Adelaide: (08) 8234 7255

Southern Adelaide: (08) 8384 0176

Southern Fleurieu: (08) 8551 0524

