

# 2014 Regional Snapshot

## Are activities being undertaken to conserve our threatened ecological communities?

The survival and health of South Australia's native plants, animals and ecosystems are crucial to our social and economic well being. This is particularly the case for our ecological communities, which are groups of plants and animals that interact in unique habitats.

Unfortunately, there are 5 ecological communities in South East NRM region that are nationally threatened with extinction due to the legacy of past actions combined with new and ongoing threats. Four of these communities have been nationally listed as threatened with extinction [in recent years](#).

Acting to conserve threatened ecological communities helps to preserve the ecosystems we all rely on. Threatened ecological communities require targeted conservation activities such as habitat restoration and protection, and the control of threats such as weeds, pests, inappropriate fire regimes and grazing practices. Improvements to land and water-use practices are also required. Monitoring programs are used to ensure our conservation activities are effective.



### Trend in conservation and monitoring activities



State target

Improve the management of species and ecological communities

Trend

Unknown

This is the first time this information has been collated. A trend will be available in future versions of this report.

Natural resource managers prioritise conservation activities for threatened ecological communities based on many factors, including the risk of extinction, the feasibility of preventing extinction and funding availability. To get the best outcomes from our conservation activities, natural resource managers control threats and make improvements that will benefit multiple plants and animals in these unique habitats.

Improving the prospects of our threatened ecological communities is difficult. It will take substantial effort and conservation investments over many years to prevent extinction.

Where we are at (2013)

Fair

More conservation activities and monitoring are required

Natural resource managers undertake conservation and monitoring activities in 4 threatened ecological communities in the South East NRM region (see graph on right).

The Grey box grassy woodland, Seasonal herbaceous wetlands and Buloke woodland communities each benefit from on-ground protection, improvements, surveys and monitoring, and are supported through community engagement.

Re-vegetation in the Subtropical and temperate coastal saltmarsh community is managed by the Coorong, Lower Lakes and Murray Mouth project.

Changes in the [extent](#) have not been recorded for any of the ecological communities since they were categorised as threatened.

Conservation (C) and monitoring (M) activities in threatened ecological communities - South East NRM region

Green: Activities undertaken  
Red: No activities undertaken

**Threatened ecological community**

**C M**

**Percentage of remaining SA extent that occurs in the NRM region**

Seasonal herbaceous wetlands	■	■	100
Buloke woodlands	■	■	100
Giant kelp marine forests	■	■	100
Grey box grassy woodlands	■	■	22
Subtropical and temperate coastal saltmarsh	■	■	<1

Reliability of information



Excellent

Further information:

[Technical information for this report](#), [Department of Environment – threatened species and ecological communities](#)

