Regional trends in

conservation and

monitoring activities

Getting better

Stable Getting worse

Unknown

2014 State Report Card

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 10 ecological communities in South Australia that are nationally threatened with extinction due to the legacy of past actions, combined with new and ongoing threats. This number has increased in recent years.

Acting to conserve threatened ecological communities helps to preserve the ecosystems on which we all rely. Threatened ecological communities require targeted conservation activities such as habitat restoration and protection, and the control of threats such as weeds, pests, and 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.

State target

Improve the management of species and ecological communities

Trend

Unknown



Natural resource managers prioritise conservation activities for threatened ecological communities based on the risk of extinction, the feasibility of preventing extinction and funding availability. To get the best returns from our conservation activities, natural resource managers control threats and make improvements that will benefit the groups of 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 their extinction.

Where we are at (2013)	Fair	More conservation activities and monitoring are required
Natural resource managers undertake some conservation or monitoring activities in 9 of the 10 threatened communities in South Australia (see graph on right). The amount of habitat that benefits from these activities varies among NRM regions, because the area of each community varies among regions. For 8 of the 10 threatened communities, conservation activities are undertaken in all of the NRM regions where the communities occur. The condition of 8 of the 10 communities is monitored in all NRM regions where the communities occur (see graph on right). Changes in the extent of threatened communities have not been recorded since they were categorised as threatened. Information about the conservation and monitoring activities for these communities in each NRM region can be found in regional summaries of this report card.		Conservation (C) and monitoring (M) activities in threatened ecological communities of South Australia Activities undertaken AMLR EP KI NY SAAL SAMDB SE C M C M C M C M C M C M C M C M No activities undertaken C M C M C M C M C M C M C M C M Peppermint Box Woodland C M C M C M C M C M C M Iron-grass Natural Grassland C M C M C M C M C M Grey Box Grassy Woodlands C M C M C M C M Seasonal Herbaceous Wetlands C M C M C M C M Swamps of the Fleurieu Peninsula C M C M C M C M Native species dependent on GAB C M C M C M C M C M Eyre Peninsula Blue Gum Woodland C M C M C M C M C M C M Giant Kelp Marine Forests C M C M C M C M C M C M
Reliability of information	****	Excellent
Further information:		

Technical information for this report card, Department of the Environment - threatened species and ecological communities

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