

2014 Regional Snapshot

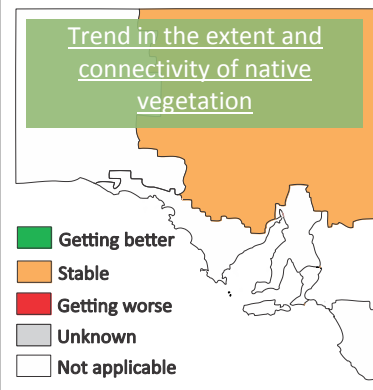
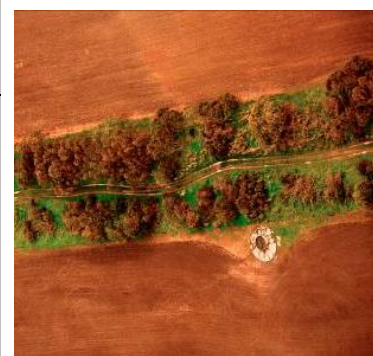
Are the extent and connectivity of our native vegetation improving?

South Australia's native vegetation—from small ground covers and native grasses to large trees and water plants—is fundamental to the health of our environment and the prosperity of our primary industries.

Native vegetation protects our land and water from erosion and dryland salinity, while improving our agricultural productivity and storing [carbon](#). It provides habitat for our native animals, places for recreation and is culturally important for Aboriginal people.

Human developments have resulted in minimal clearance of native vegetation in the South Australian Arid Lands NRM region. Where there are isolated patches of native vegetation, the ability of some native plants and animals to disperse is reduced, making them more susceptible to local disturbances that threaten their survival (e.g. fire and [pests](#)).

This report summarises the coverage (extent) and fragmentation (connectivity) of our native vegetation, and should be read alongside reports on vegetation [condition](#) and its [protection](#).



State target

Increase extent & improve condition of native vegetation

Trend (1999-2014)

Stable

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Our remaining native vegetation has been protected by [legislation](#) since 1991. Improved pastoral land management, natural regeneration and [pest plant and animal](#) control since that time have maintained native vegetation cover and condition. Government legislation permits the clearance of native vegetation for some developments, but the clearance must be offset by additional investment in re-vegetation. Minor [illegal clearance](#) also occurs.

Where we are at (2014)

Good

Native vegetation is continuous in our arid regions

Almost all of our pre-European native vegetation remains in the SA Arid Lands NRM region (see map on right). The vegetation remains continuous because there is little intensive clearance for agriculture or development in the region.

While vegetation extent remains relatively intact, it is susceptible to damage by pest plants and animals, mining and exploration, unsustainable land use, rainfall variability and climate change. Conservation investments and ongoing land management are required to improve [condition](#).

Remaining vegetation extent:
99 per cent
Percentage of connected patches:
100 per cent

Native vegetation
Agricultural and urban areas



Reliability of information



Very good

Further information:

[Technical information for this report](#), [DEWNR native vegetation](#), [Nature Conservation Society of South Australia](#)