

2016 State Report Card

How many of our ecological communities are extinct or threatened with extinction?

Ecological communities are groups of plants and animals that interact in a unique habitat. They provide food and shelter for native species, store carbon, and filter the air, water and soil on which we all depend. They support tourism, agriculture and fisheries industries, and they have cultural significance for all Australians.

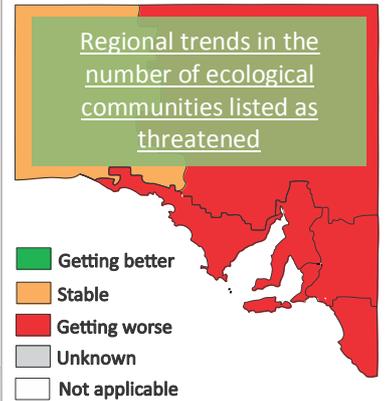
Some ecological communities are considered threatened under national legislation and require urgent conservation to ensure the ecological community persists to benefit future generations.

Land-based ecological communities may be threatened by land clearance, habitat degradation and fragmentation, changes to water flows, weeds and pest animals, inappropriate fire regimes, poor grazing and farming practices, climate change, and pollution. Marine ecological communities may be threatened by coastal development, declining water quality from freshwater inputs, fishing impacts, pollution and climate change.

The health of our ecological communities relies on the [management](#) of threats applicable to each community.



Regional trends in the number of ecological communities listed as threatened



State target

Improve the management of species and ecological communities

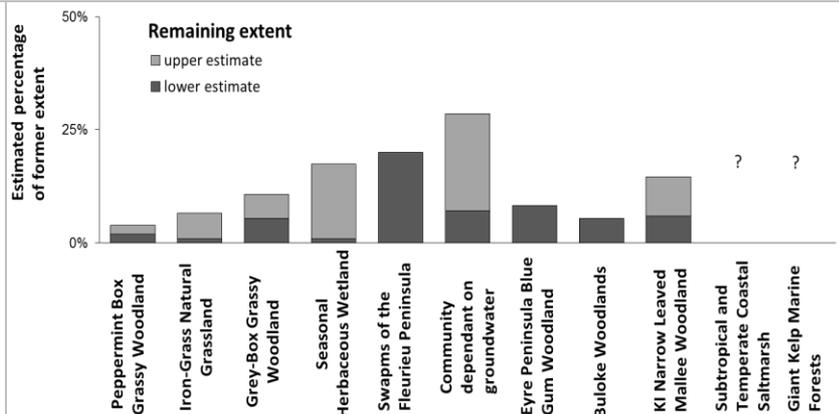
Trend (2012–16)

Getting worse

Five ecological communities have been listed as threatened in the last 5 years

There are currently 11 ecological communities nationally listed as threatened. Five of these have been listed in the last five years. All NRM regions except Alinytjara Wilurara have new ecological communities listed in the last five years.

The former extent of all threatened ecological communities in South Australia has been reduced by over 70 per cent (see graph on right). Less than 11 per cent of these communities are protected. Of the total remaining extent of the 10 terrestrial ecological communities, less than 10 per cent occurs in public protected areas, and less than one per cent is in heritage agreements on private land.



Where we are at (2016)

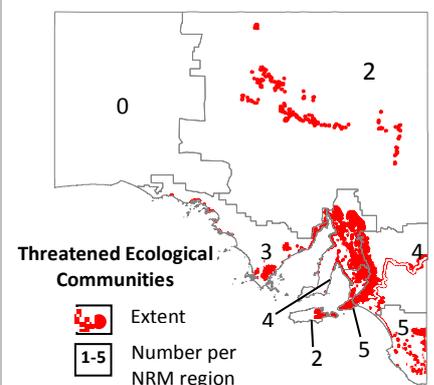
Poor

Ecological communities are threatened in many NRM regions

Many of South Australia's ecological communities are under threat (see map on right).

In addition to the 11 communities listed under national legislation, four ecological communities are being [considered for threatened](#) status under national legislation including, estuarine dependent species, ridged plain mallee woodland, Karst rising springs and mallee bird community.

More information about the conservation activities and monitoring occurring for threatened ecological communities in each NRM region can be found [here](#).



Reliability of information



Good

Further information: [Technical information for this report](#), [Threatened species and ecological communities](#)

