

2014 State Report Card

How many of our species are extinct or threatened with extinction?

The goods and services that support state and regional economies are dependent on the maintenance of our biodiversity and ecosystems.

Threatened plants and animals are considered matters of national environmental significance. The number of Australian species that are threatened with extinction (critically endangered, endangered or vulnerable) or extinct under national legislation shows that our biodiversity is declining. Plants and animals that are critically endangered or endangered are most likely to become extinct in the near future.

Our native plants and animals are threatened by land clearance, habitat degradation and fragmentation, changes to water flows and water quality, the introduction of weeds and pest animals, inappropriate fire regimes, poor fishing and farming practices, and pollution.

The survival of our plants and animals relies on the [management](#) of all these threats.



Regional trends in the number of plants and animals listed as threatened



State target

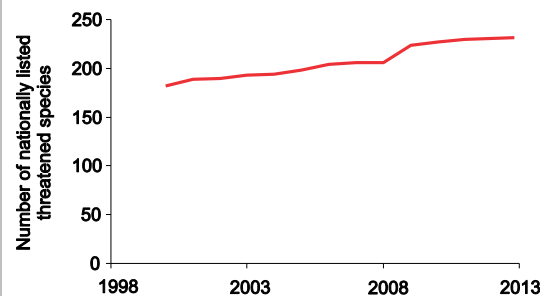
Improve the management of species and ecological communities

Trend (2009–13)

Getting worse

In the last 5 years, 23 South Australian plant and animal species have been nationally listed as threatened with extinction

The total number of plants and animals in South Australia that are nationally extinct or listed as threatened has increased from 181 in 2000 to 227 in 2013 – an increase of more than 3 each year (see graph on right). These rates of increase match global patterns for birds, mammals, amphibians and plants.



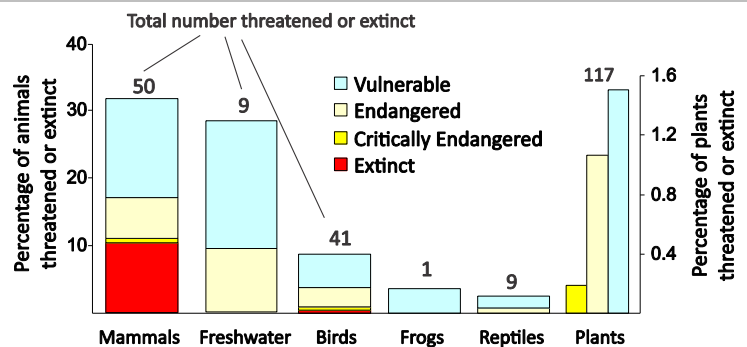
Where we are at (2013)

Poor

More and more native plants and animals continue to be under threat. Ongoing efforts must be made to ensure their protection.

A total of 4352 plant and 965 animal species have been recorded in South Australia. A total of 117 plants (around 3 per cent) and 92 animals (around 10 per cent) are threatened with extinction. Mammals, freshwater fish and birds have the highest percentage of threatened species of all animal groups (see graph on right).

A total of 18 animal species are extinct, of which 17 are mammals. No plants are nationally listed as extinct.



Reliability of information



Excellent

Further information:

[Technical information for this report](#)

[Department of the Environment- threatened species and ecological communities](#)