

*We want to partner with you in science and research*

# Together, we can achieve more



**Government  
of South Australia**

Department of Environment,  
Water and Natural Resources

# We lead the management of our natural resources to help South Australians conserve, sustain and prosper



## Our value

We partner with researchers, industry, communities and all levels of government to expand the evidence base that underpins natural resource management decisions through fit-for-purpose science and research.

Our databases, collections, and our people hold scientific knowledge of national significance. We strive to unlock the full potential of that knowledge through our commitment to open data.

We provide strategic direction by science-literate leaders who translate and facilitate the input of research to government, making us a valuable partner for targeted multidisciplinary science.

## Our impact

We maintain a healthy River Murray that provides 85% of the State's drinking water. We ensure sustainable and secure water supplies and facilitate land management to support local food, wine, forestry, and mining industries worth \$5.8 billion. We enhance the productivity and sustainable use of land, providing iconic nature-based tourism experiences worth \$1.1 billion each year. We protect SA from fire risk across 21% of the State. We manage the State's Botanic Gardens visited by 60% of South Australians each year. We help South Australia prepare for and adapt to climate change.

## We want to partner with you

The Premier has called on government, research and industry sectors to work together to ensure South Australia prospers in the global economy.

While our core capabilities make a significant contribution to the economic prosperity of South Australia, we recognise that our knowledge and expertise is stronger when combined with that of our partners. Working together adds value to investment through the integration of joint resources, and creates mutual career development opportunities for our professional staff.

We are now seeking to strengthen our partnerships to tackle bigger questions and deliver better outcomes for South Australia.

We want to achieve more with our research investment – and we want to use our partners to their full potential on targeted research to benefit all South Australians.

*Together, we can achieve much more.*





# Our science priorities

*Our science culture is ethical, innovative, multidisciplinary, and collaborative. We bring together people and knowledge in terrestrial, freshwater, and marine systems, combined with socioeconomic disciplines. We aim to ensure sustainable management of the environment for wellbeing and economic prosperity, and to prepare for the impacts of climate change.*

*Our targeted approach to science and research delivers a sound evidence base to underpin policy and management decisions, and includes the use of citizen science.*

*At the highest level our work aligns with State and national priorities to deliver maximum benefit for South Australia.*



## Land

Enhancing the productivity and sustainable use of land, including:

- soil health, conservation and production
- acid sulphate soil management
- fire management at a landscape-scale for the protection of lives, property and the environment
- parks for tourism, health and wellbeing
- and sustainable land management for economic use - from mining and exploration, to food and wine from our clean environment.

## Water

Delivery of sustainable and secure water supplies, including:

- water resources surveillance and forecasting
- water allocation planning to manage water for consumptive, cultural and environmental use
- urban water management
- water for aboriginal communities in the Anangu Pitjantjatjara Yankunytjatjara Lands
- water management for agriculture, forestry, mining and resource industries
- South East drainage system management
- managing the Great Artesian Basin for economic and environmental benefit
- and Murray-Darling Basin Plan implementation for the economy and the environment.



## Plant and animal

Adaptive management of a changing environment, including:

- biodiversity conservation
- threatened species management
- managing pest animals, and abundant native animals
- managing weed species to support the agricultural industry and to ensure the integrity of native vegetation
- pollination services
- managing the State's Herbarium to enable plant research for economic, health and environmental benefit
- and climate change adaptation.

## Coastal and marine

Providing best practice management through policy and regulation for:

- sustainable management of marine parks for conservation, tourism and economic use
- coastal erosion and management
- blue infrastructure
- looking after SA's unique marine life, including marine mammals and seagrass management
- managing the Coorong and Lower Lakes system
- and biodiversity conservation.



## Our assets and investments

We are committed to investing in innovative science and research. We jointly invest \$4 million per year with the Natural Resource Management (NRM) Boards, and \$2 million per year through the Goyder Institute for Water Research.

We support:

- jointly funded appointments and affiliate research positions with universities and key government agencies
- PhD students through top up scholarships, in-kind resources and co-supervision by our expert scientists and policy makers
- and annual NRM Honours Scholarships through the SA NRM Research and Innovation Network.

We also manage the State's authoritative data sets and cultural and scientific collections, including:

- the Adelaide Botanic Gardens living collections
- the South Australian Seed Bank
- the State Herbarium of SA - with a collection of plant specimens valued at over \$71 million
- and the SA Soil Archive valued at \$6 million.

## Research partnerships

We leverage our high quality data, information and knowledge through active partnering with a range of research institutes. Our current research partnerships include:



## Contact us

To discuss partnership, sponsorship or research project opportunities with us please contact Sandy Carruthers, Director of Science.

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**www.naturalresources.sa.gov.au**

**www.enviroment.sa.gov.au**

**Find out more at:**

Enviro Data SA <https://data.environment.sa.gov.au> for statewide information and data focusing on expert analysis, science and research.