



# Adelaide and Mount Lofty Ranges Natural Resources Management Board



Working for you and the local environment



**Government of South Australia**

Adelaide and Mount Lofty Ranges  
Natural Resources Management Board





Working for you and the local environment





Australia is often considered the “lucky” country because of its distinctive environment and the abundance of natural resources.



Ensuring that these natural resources – our soil, water, marine environments, native plants and animals are sustained for future generations, requires more than luck, it requires good management by today’s citizens and those of tomorrow.

The recent formation of the Adelaide and Mount Lofty Ranges Natural Resources Management Board recognises the need for an integrated approach to caring for our important environmental assets.

The role of this new Board is to manage, protect and in some cases, restore the region’s precious natural resources. In order to do this, the Government has brought together the activities of the former local Catchment Water Management, Soil Conservation and Animal & Plant Control Boards under the one umbrella with the aim of achieving a more integrated approach to the management of our soil, water, coastal and biodiversity assets.



## Activities of the Board





Almost all of the Board's activities are carried out in partnership with others, such as community groups, individual landholders, industry, local councils and government agencies.

### **Community education and awareness**

To ensure that current and future generations appreciate and understand the importance of protecting our natural resources, the Board carries out a range of activities designed to educate and raise awareness among targeted audiences and the broader community.

It is critically important to teach our young people how to care for the environment. Consequently, the Board offers a number of programs that provide students with hands-on learning experiences. These include Catchment Care, Our Patch, Weed Warriors and Waterwatch programs.

Rural landholders are provided with education opportunities via the Land Management Program. There is also a focus on the business community through the successful Stormwater Pollution Prevention Program.

### **Rehabilitating our creeks and rivers**

Helping the community to rehabilitate and protect local creeks and rivers is a key role of the Board.

The Board operates Catchment Care, Our Patch and Watercourse Management Assistance programs which provide groups and individuals with technical advice, educational resources and financial support to assist them to improve the health of watercourses.

Currently there are hundreds of landholders, community groups and schools participating in programs across the Board's area. The activities undertaken in partnership with these stakeholders include weed removal, growing and planting local native plants and erecting fences to keep stock out of creeks.

### **Protecting our water resources**

Water is scarce in this State and one of the Board's priorities is to ensure that it is sustainably managed for the benefit of the community and the environment. One method the Board uses to achieve success in this area is to partner with industry, local government and the community to develop new and efficient ways of using and storing water.

In areas where water resources are under pressure, the Board works with the community and irrigators to develop a detailed Water Allocation Plan to ensure that the needs of all users, including the environment, can be met and maintained in the long term.

Caring for the local environment also necessitates scientific investigations. The Board regularly undertakes research and monitoring activities to ensure that the quantity and quality of both surface and ground water is suitable to sustain delicate local ecosystems.



## Protecting our precious soils

Maintaining healthy and productive soils is an important element of good land management. The Board works with rural landholders to raise awareness and provide information about the latest developments in best practice soil conservation.

## Keeping our environment pest free

Over the years feral pests, plants and animals have been introduced to our local environment. These pests destroy native habitat, prey on local wildlife, and damage productive agricultural land. A key role of the Board is to identify new outbreaks and assist landholders to control and eradicate these unwanted visitors.

## Managing our marine and coastal environments

Our coastal, estuarine and marine environments provide habitat for native fish, plants and animals, recreational and aesthetic values and economic opportunities. Managing the health of this important resource is a responsibility of the Board.





## Funding Board activities







The environment is our most valuable asset.  
The restoration and protection of this asset comes  
at a huge cost.



A great deal of the resources required to undertake the various tasks needed comes in the form of volunteers and other agencies committing their time and effort. To facilitate the important and much needed work, the Board relies on a levy collected from the community, now called the NRM levy. This is modest when considered in terms of the benefits that the works carried out bring to us all.

A regional NRM levy is collected by councils and forwarded directly to the Adelaide and Mount Lofty Ranges Natural Resources Management Board and is based on the value of the property. Licensed water users in the McLaren Vale, Barossa and Northern Adelaide Plains areas also pay a water levy based on their water allocation and/or use.

All of the money raised within the Board's area is spent within that area, with funds directed to where they are needed most – protecting and restoring your natural environment.



Our region





The extensive area covered by the Adelaide and Mount Lofty Ranges Natural Resources Management Board is diverse in nature.



It extends from Cape Jervis in the South and continues along the ridge of the Mount Lofty Ranges to Stockwell in the north. It incorporates parts of the Light and Mallala District Council areas, including Freeling and Two Wells.

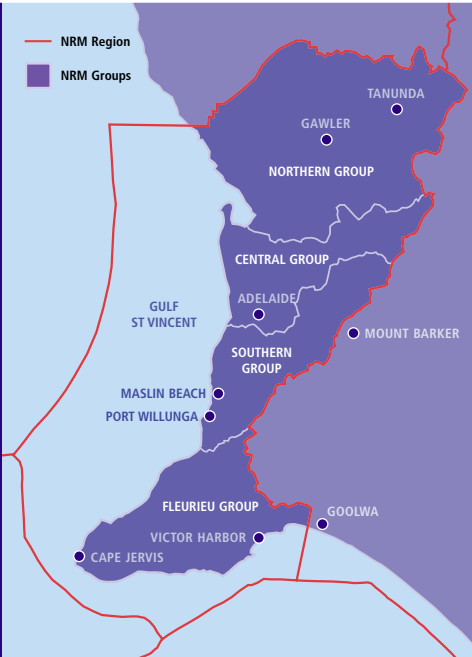
Approximately 80% of the State's population lives in the Adelaide and Mount Lofty Ranges Natural Resources Management Board region. The area is highly productive, with reliable rainfall and makes a substantial contribution to the State's agricultural output. Included are eight large reservoirs that supply on average 60% of Adelaide's water supply.

The region also supports areas of high biodiversity, which are particularly significant, as only 13% of the original native vegetation remains as isolated pockets in a largely urbanised landscape.

The more densely populated metropolitan area has its own natural resource features, including river systems, coast, estuarine and marine areas and isolated sites of particular biodiversity significance. Although the land use and issues vary markedly between the Mount Lofty Ranges and the urban areas, the use and management of natural resources is intrinsically linked.

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Region and NRM Group Boundaries



Government  
of South Australia

Adelaide and  
Mount Lofty Ranges  
Natural Resources  
Management Board

[www.amlrnrm.sa.gov.au](http://www.amlrnrm.sa.gov.au)