



# About NatureLinks

# nature links

## What is NatureLinks?

NatureLinks is a landscape-scale approach to conserving South Australia's plants and animals by managing and restoring large areas of habitat within broad 'biodiversity corridors'.

This will provide the best opportunity for our native plants and animals to survive and adapt to environmental change across the landscape.

Protected areas alone, such as National Parks, do not ensure the conservation of South Australia's biodiversity. NatureLinks builds on these core protected areas with a broader and more connected approach to nature conservation.

NatureLinks provides the overarching framework for Government agencies, conservation organisations, landholders and local communities to work together to restore and manage land and sea between existing conservation areas.

## Why is it needed?

Functioning natural systems underpin South Australia's social and economic well-being.

Unfortunately, many plant and animal species are threatened or endangered because their habitat has been cleared, degraded or fragmented.

Climate change adds to the threat of species extinction by reducing the quality of suitable habitat, and exacerbating the impacts of fire and drought.

Restoring large areas of habitat within biodiversity corridors across the state will help native plants and animals withstand and adapt to environmental change.

Landscape-scale conservation is rapidly becoming the dominant approach for responding to the challenges of biodiversity conservation, sustainable livelihoods, and climate change throughout the world.

NatureLinks is central to the State Government's No Species Loss strategy, which aims to minimise the decline of our biodiversity.

NatureLinks complements existing conservation efforts such as state and regional natural resource management plans and regional biodiversity strategies.

## How is it different?

In the past, nature conservation has focused on individual species or particular locations.

NatureLinks focuses on integrated management and restoration of landscapes, including entire plant and animal communities.

This shift in approach is necessary if we are to meet the challenges to nature conservation that are presented by climate change.

## What are we doing?

Five biodiversity corridors are being developed across the state:

- **Arid Lands NatureLink:** encompasses the stony plains and inland lakes in the centre and north of the state, from Marree to Marla.
- **Cape Borda to Barossa NatureLink:** from the western edge of Kangaroo Island, north-east across Backstairs Passage, and north through the Adelaide region to the Barossa Valley.
- **East meets West NatureLink:** from central Eyre Peninsula to the Western Australian border, including the Nullarbor Plain and the Great Australian Bight.
- **Flinders-Olary NatureLink:** starting in the southern Flinders Ranges and extending north to the Flinders and Gammon Ranges, and north-east to the Olary Ranges.
- **River Murray-South East NatureLink:** stretching the full length of the River Murray in South Australia, encompassing the entire Coorong area and continuing along the south eastern coast to the Victorian border.

Nature conservation activities will continue to occur in areas outside these broad NatureLinks. However, any on-ground actions will be of greater benefit if they are part of an integrated landscape-scale approach.

## Who is involved?

South Australia's economic and social well-being depends upon prudent natural resource management. Building resilience into our environmental, social and economic systems is critical if we are to meet the State's growth targets, and challenges such as climate change.

To succeed, NatureLinks requires the support and involvement of various partners – those with a responsibility for managing the land and the sea, those with an interest in the State's prosperity, and those with an ability to assist.

Major partners include private landholders, community groups, conservation organisations, local councils, Aboriginal communities, research institutions and industry bodies.

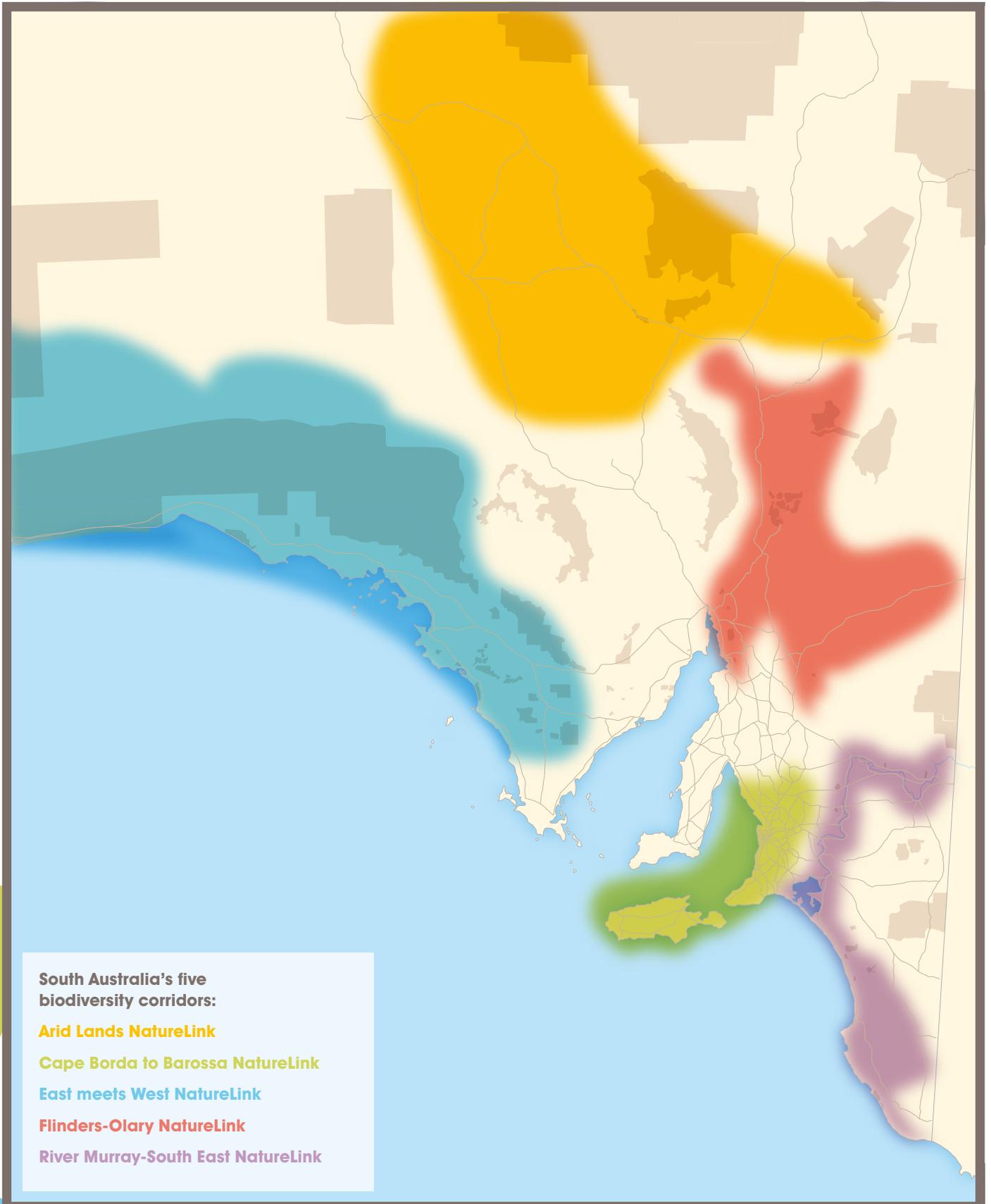
Working together, South Australians can secure a stable social, economic and environmental future.

## Want to know more?

If you would like to know more about NatureLinks, please visit [www.naturelinks.sa.gov.au](http://www.naturelinks.sa.gov.au) or call the Department for Environment and Heritage on (08) 8204 1910.



# Functioning natural systems underpin South Australia's social and economic well-being





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