



Hampton bioregion

Description

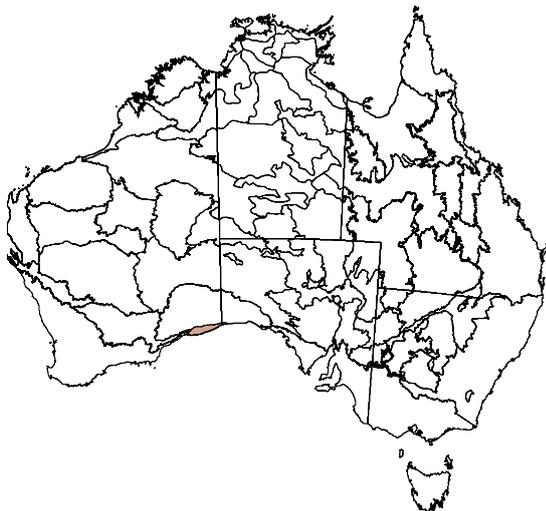
Area: 10 860 km²

The landforms of the Hampton bioregion include marine dunes and limestone escarpments. The vegetation is a mix of mallee, eucalypt and myall woodlands. Tenure is mainly pastoral leasehold and unallocated crown land, with pastoralism as the main industry. The main population centre is Eucla.

Location

The Hampton bioregion is located on the south coast of Western Australia (WA), extending marginally into South Australia (SA; 4% of bioregion area). Figure 1 shows the location of the bioregion.

Figure 1 Location of the Hampton bioregion



Data sources available

Site-based monitoring data are not available.

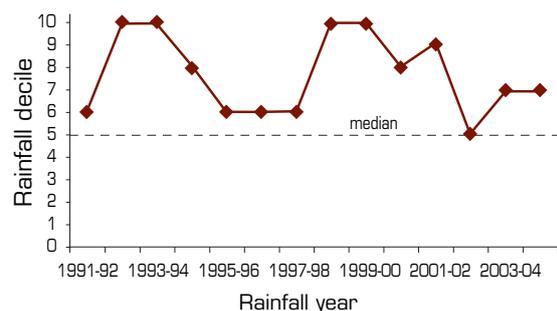
Other datasets include:

- dust
- distance from water
- distribution and relative abundance of invasive animals and weeds
- land use
- conservation estate.

Climate

The Hampton bioregion has a semiarid climate with winter-dominant rainfall. Spatially averaged median (1890–2005) rainfall is 251 mm (April to March rainfall year; see Figure 2).

Figure 2 Decile rainfall for the period 1991–1992 to 2004–2005



Annual rainfall is for the 12-month period 1 April to 31 March.



Decile rainfall was above the long-term median for the whole of the 1992–2005 reporting period, indicating above-average *seasonal quality*. This would be the best sequence of years on record.

Note that regional averaging of rainfall conceals spatial variability. Some parts of the Hampton bioregion may have experienced better *seasonal quality* and others worse during the 1992–2005 period.

Landscape function

There are no suitable data for reporting change in landscape function.

Sustainable management

Critical stock forage

There are no suitable data for reporting change in critical stock forage.

Plant species richness

There are no suitable data for reporting change in plant species richness.

Change in woody cover

There are no suitable data for reporting change in woody cover.

Distance from stock water

Data on the distance from stock water apply to WA pastoral leases only. Approximately 13.1% of the pastoral lease country in the WA part of the Hampton bioregion is within three kilometres of permanent and semipermanent sources of stock water (38.2% of WA Hampton is pastoral leasehold). It is not possible to report change in watered area for the 1992–2005 period.

Weeds

Weeds known to occur in the Hampton bioregion include:

Common name	Scientific name
Sea spurge	<i>Euphorbia paralis</i>

See www.anra.gov.au for distribution maps

Components of total grazing pressure

Domestic stocking density

Approximately 50% of the Hampton bioregion is grazed. However, there are very few pastoral leases, and data sourced from the Australian Bureau of Statistics are not sufficiently reliable to report change.

Kangaroos

There are no suitable data for reporting change in kangaroo populations.

Invasive animals

Invasive animal species known to occur in the Hampton bioregion include:

Common name	Scientific name
Fox	<i>Vulpes vulpes</i>
Wild dog	<i>Canis spp.</i>
Feral cat	<i>Felis catus</i>
Starling	<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>
Camel	<i>Camelus dromedaries</i>
Horse	<i>Equus caballus</i>
Rabbit	<i>Oryctolagus cuniculus</i>

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Products that support reporting of landscape function and sustainable management

Fire

Fire, if it occurred during the 1997–2005 period, was insignificant, and the WA Department of Land Information did not report any statistics on extent, intensity or frequency to the Australian Collaborative Rangelands Information System.

Dust

The mean Dust Storm Index value (1992–2005) was 1.00, which is low compared with all rangeland bioregions. Dust Storm Index values were slightly higher in the west than the east of the bioregion.

Biodiversity

In the Hampton bioregion, there are (Biodiversity Working Group indicator: Threatened species; see **Section 7 of Chapter 3** of *Rangelands 2008* — *Taking the Pulse*):

- 8 threatened mammal species
- 6 threatened bird species
- 1 threatened reptile species.

Socioeconomic characteristics

Land use and value

Approximately 50% of the Hampton bioregion is grazed. This area has not changed appreciably over the 1992–2005 reporting period.

Key management issues and features

There are no known regional issues for the Hampton bioregion. Approximately 11.0% of the bioregion is within the conservation estate.