

## Eyre Peninsula

Eyre Peninsula is a large and diverse region best known for its export-oriented primary production. Key infrastructure issues are adequate quality water supply, reliable power, efficient transport of produce to export ports, and facilities to support the fishing/aquaculture fleets.



### At a glance

<b>Area</b>	42,935 km <sup>2</sup> (4.37% of SA)
<b>Population</b>	32,346 in 2001 (2.20% of SA)
<b>Aged &lt; 15</b>	22.91% against SA average of 19.57%
<b>Aged &gt; 65</b>	13.59% against SA average of 14.40%
<b>Demographic trends</b>	2016 projection: 31,977 or 2% of SA Coastal towns will grow; inland towns steady or declining
<b>Natural Resources</b>	Native vegetation covers half of landmass Coastline with numerous pristine bays
<b>Key Industries</b>	Agriculture, tourism, fishing, aquaculture, mining
<b>Sea ports</b>	Export ports at Thevenard and Port Lincoln
<b>Commercial Airports</b>	Port Lincoln and Ceduna

## Principal Industries

### Agriculture

The region produces more than 45% of the state's wheat crop and 20% of the barley crop. Grain production is expected to grow by 30% over the next 15 years, with 3 million tonnes exported. Horticulture and viticulture are emerging industries, albeit from a small base.

### Aquaculture and Fishing

Aquaculture has experienced the largest regional economic growth over the last 10 years, growing by an average of 14% per annum.

Marine-based aquaculture is predominantly tuna and oysters. Land-based abalone farming is also being undertaken. Growth potential exists in yellow-tailed kingfish, mulloway, mussels and offshore abalone.

A sound infrastructure base for further growth of the aquaculture industry exists in Port Lincoln, Arno Bay, Coffin Bay, Smoky Bay, Denial Bay, Franklin Harbour and Louth Bay. The State Government has contributed to the construction of the new commercial fishing harbour at Arno Bay.

Wild fisheries are an important part of the economy, providing tuna for farming and 66% of the feed stock for the tuna farms.

The production value of seafood has increased three-fold since 1991/92 to be worth over \$450 million in 2002.

Future growth lies in value-adding products for the instant home meal and restaurant markets.

### Tourism

Tourism is the third-largest industry with an annual value of \$168 million. In 2002 Eyre Peninsula attracted over 450,000 overnight visitors (including 11,000 international visitors) who stayed nearly 1.6 million nights in the region. Major attractions are the extensive natural attractions of coast, beaches, cliffs and islands, as well as the scenery, flora and fauna of areas such as the Gawler Ranges and Lake Gairdner.

Tourism opportunities exist through developing tourism products that build upon the area's attributes in authentic and sustainable ways. Improved airport facilities and accommodation in key areas, including Port Lincoln and Ceduna, is required to support industry growth.

### Mining

Mining is an emerging industry, with exploration identifying a number of potentially viable sites. Sand, gypsum, graphite, jade and granite are currently mined, with prospective deposits of gold, diamonds, iron ore and coal. Future opportunities include base metals, gold, diamonds, iron ore, mineral sands and coal.

Future development will depend on a range of considerations, including commodity prices, international demand and supply, and availability of processing facilities.

### Infrastructure

The bushfires which destroyed a significant part of the Eyre Peninsula caused significant damage to public and private infrastructure.

The State Government, in co-operation with Australian and local governments, is currently working on an extensive recovery program which includes infrastructure replacement. The cost and scope of the work has not been fully established at this time.

### Energy



The transmission network needs to be upgraded to meet the SA Transmission Code; ElectraNet is committed to addressing this issue. ETSA Utilities provides low-voltage sub-transmission circuits to Ceduna and the distribution network.

Synergen has two diesel turbine generators at Port Lincoln that provide peaking power for Port Lincoln.

Eyre Peninsula has excellent wind resources, however industry-preferred sites elsewhere in South Australia make the development of local farms a less attractive option. Farms at Cathedral Rocks (66 MW) and Mount Millar (70 MW) are under construction and have taken up all available capacity in the network.

The ability to undertake value adding on farms or higher intensity agriculture, as in most of rural South Australia, is constrained by the augmentation costs of electricity. Locating new developments closer to infrastructure may minimise augmentation and connection costs.

The Lock coal deposits could be used in the Northern Power Station or a power station on site. Studies are continuing to prove up the options.

### Water



Most of the region relies upon groundwater from the Southern Basins around Port Lincoln. Some areas are supplied or supplemented by local groundwater supplies (such as Streaky Bay and Elliston). Overuse relative to sustainable yield has seen the quality of groundwater resources deteriorate. There is no connection to the Morgan to Whyalla pipeline. Options are being considered including desalination for the augmentation of water supply in the area.

Water conservation measures have seen a 16% usage reduction, but future population growth in coastal towns may reduce savings. There has been growth in population in coastal towns, especially Port Lincoln, but declining population in other areas.

Lack of irrigation water constrains vineyard and olive grove growth. Recycling projects are being assessed for commercial viability. Irrigation schemes utilising recycled water require consideration of the impacts on groundwater and the potential for soil salinisation.

Elements of the Port Lincoln wastewater treatment plant (WWTP) will require augmentation if there is significant growth in population or tourism. The scheme for distributing treated wastewater from the plant is being extended with State Government assistance.

### Transport



There are 13,798 km of roads, with 970 km of sealed roads, including the primary connection to Western Australia.

Sealing and maintenance of the local road network has been identified as a local priority. Freight routes to terminals and port facilities need to be maintained.

There are further opportunities to increase efficiencies in the grain supply distribution chain from paddock to export port to minimise the costs to grain growers and impacts on communities. Upgrades to rail (including truncation), road and loading facilities have been identified as a local priority.

The Australian Rail Group (ARG) narrow-gauge rail system is used extensively for the movement of export grain and gypsum. The future of these lines is linked to grain haulage, new mineral developments and the use of the ports.

The grains industry plan recommends concentrating its activities at Port Lincoln to maximise use of Panamax vessels and to allow grain-mixing to meet market requirements.

Growing demand for wharf access for boats across the peninsula in the fishing and aquaculture industries has been identified. Suitable facilities for the fishing fleet across the peninsula are required.

The airport at Port Lincoln is adequate for current freight and passenger demand. Expansions to the airport will depend on demonstrated demand and carrier support. The other key airport that supports regular air transport services to the area is Ceduna, while other small strips, e.g. Wudinna and Cleve, primarily cater for emergency use.

**Land**

The development of a combined housing, marina (for fishing industry and other vessels) and tourism facility at Ceduna (Ceduna Keys) will support the population shift to the coast, provide tourism facilities and opportunities for the fishing industry to locate in Ceduna. Other marinas are being considered.

New land releases for tourism and holiday developments are proposed subject to environmental approval.

**Information and Communications Technology (ICT)**



In common with many other sparsely populated areas, the cost of communicating on a business and social level is higher than in metropolitan areas.

While optical fibre now connects most of the populated areas, access to ADSL broadband is available in Port Lincoln, and Ceduna.

Mobile phone (CDMA) coverage has improved markedly in the last few years. All towns with more than 500 people now have CDMA mobile coverage, and continuous coverage now exists along most of the major highways in the region. However, there are still some black spots in eastern and central Eyre Peninsula.

**Health**



There are 10 hospitals in the region, serving 32,500 people. Ceduna and Port Lincoln are considered to be regional facilities attracting priority status within the region. The eight smaller hospitals provide a range of primary health services, including residential aged care.

Remoteness and distance between communities are major challenges for health services in this region. Telemedicine could alleviate this but an upgrade to communications networks would be required.

For remote communities (especially Aboriginal communities), in particular those west of Ceduna, and travellers on Highway One, the Ceduna hospital is an important facility.

**Justice and Emergency Services**

To achieve an appropriate level of accommodation, which delivers high standards of service to the community, the SA Police (SAPOL) facilities and courthouse at Port Lincoln are being upgraded.

### **Education and Training**

The anticipated population growth in Eyre Peninsula, in particular the coastal districts, is expected to place additional demand on schools. The State Government has identified the need to expand educational facilities for young people in Port Lincoln and an upgrade is underway at Ceduna Area school.

Locally based vocational training initiatives to meet industry demand are attracting and keeping young people in the area.

Education and training sites are being provided with increased broadband capability to enable them to offer an up-to-date curriculum. The size of the region is a factor in providing training; hence distance and access are issues to be considered when offering courses. Distance learning options are already provided through TAFE and could be built on.

### **Science, Technology and Innovation**

The South Australian Research and Development Institute (SARDI), in collaboration with Flinders University and the University of Adelaide, conducts a wide range of research projects focused around the two regional centres at Minnipa (Centre for Research on Dryland Farming) and at Port Lincoln (co-location with Flinders University at the Lincoln Marine Science Centre). Plans to significantly upgrade this infrastructure and activities through the MISA initiative will enable researchers and trainers to continue to lead industry advances. Research undertaken at these facilities focuses on key innovation challenges in the agriculture, fisheries and aquaculture sectors.

### **Waste Management**

Highly saline wastes from seafood processing facilities are currently adequately managed, but growth in seafood production may require expanded facilities.

## Projects

Project	Priority #	2005/6– 2009/10	2010/11– 2014/15	SASP Targets
<b>Energy</b>				
<b>Electricity supply capacity</b>				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Undertake network upgrades including to Port Neil and Tumby Bay and to support approved wind farms</li> <li>■ Undertake sub-station upgrades</li> </ul>	U/way	*		5.11
	U/way	*		5.11
* <b>Lead – private sector</b>				
<b>Electricity transmission network capacity</b>				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Identify options for further local utilisation of wind energy</li> <li>■ Work with potential wind and coal generators to develop cooperative schemes to connect to the national grid</li> </ul>	3		*	3.10
	3	*		5.11
<b>Lead – private sector</b>				
<b>Water</b>				
<b>Management of water supply to ensure long-term availability</b>				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Evaluate options, including desalination, to augment water supplies to support growth</li> </ul>	U/way	*		5.11
<b>Lead – State Government</b>				
<b>Transport</b>				
<b>Marine safety</b>				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Provide a marine radio service for SA</li> </ul>	U/way	*	*	2.1
<b>Lead – State Government</b>				
<b>Working vessel wharf space</b>				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Develop a master plan to identify preferred locations for the redevelopment and ongoing maintenance of wharfs for the fishing and aquaculture industries</li> <li>■ Develop facilities according to the master plan to support the fishing and aquaculture industries</li> </ul>	1	*		1.12
	2	*	*	1.12
<b>Lead – State Government, private sector</b>				
<b>Export Grain logistics</b>				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Upgrade rail network and road freight routes, including Lincoln Highway, improve grain handling facilities and develop new strategic alliances between parties (as recommended in the Sd&amp;D report) to support the entire supply chain</li> </ul>	1	*	*	1.12 1.16
<b>Lead – Australian and State Governments, private sector</b>				

\* Lead – lead responsibility for promoting, developing and evaluating the project.

# Priority – preliminary rankings. Priority numbers do not represent a final commitment by the State Government or other lead entities. See the Delivering the Plan section for further details.

Project	Priority	2005/6– 2009/10	2010/11– 2014/15	SASP Targets
<b>Capacity of Port Lincoln airport facilities</b>				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Extend the Port Lincoln airport and upgrade the terminal to cater for increased freight and tourist flights, subject to demand and identification of a viable carrier</li> </ul>	2	*	*	5.11
<b>Lead – local government</b>				
<b>Transport requirements for mining developments in the Gawler Craton</b>				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Facilitate the development of infrastructure to support viable mines</li> </ul>	2	*	*	1.6
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Evaluate the options of deepening Thevenard or accessing the main rail line to tranship minerals for processing</li> </ul>	2	*		1.12
<b>Lead – private sector</b>				
<b>Land</b>				
<b>Port Lincoln berth upgrade</b>				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Refurbish and upgrade No1 berth at Port Lincoln to support recreational fishing and tourism</li> </ul>	1	*		1.13
<b>Lead – State Government</b>				
<b>Wharf facilities at Port Lincoln</b>				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Construct proposed marina, seafood industry commercial precinct and vessel servicing complex near Billy Lights Point to support the fishing and aquaculture industries</li> </ul>	2	*	*	1.12
<b>Lead – private sector, local government</b>				
<b>Residential, tourism and marina development</b>				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop a residential, marina and tourism facility at Ceduna to support anticipated residential and business demand</li> </ul>	2	*	*	5.8
<b>Lead – private sector, local government</b>				
<b>Tourist accommodation at Port Lincoln</b>				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Construct new tourist facilities to cater for anticipated demand</li> </ul>	3	*	*	1.13
<b>Lead – private sector</b>				
<b>Information and Communications Technology (ICT)</b>				
<b>Access to broadband</b>				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Construct a high speed broadband link from Port Augusta to Port Lincoln</li> </ul>	U/way	*		4.7
<b>Lead – Australian and State Governments</b>				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Raise awareness and develop business cases that identify and aggregate demand from broadband users, to improve broadband access</li> </ul>	2	*		4.7
<b>Lead – private sector</b>				
<b>Mobile phone coverage</b>				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue roll-out of CDMA network</li> </ul>	2	*	*	5.11
<b>Lead – private sector</b>				
<b>Health</b>				
<b>Acute care mental health</b>				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Undertake acute mental health pilot projects</li> </ul>	U/way	*		2.2
<b>Lead – State Government</b>				
				2.4

Project	Priority	2005/6– 2009/10	2010/11– 2014/15	SASP Targets
<b>Hospital facilities in the Ceduna area</b>				
■ Redevelop acute care hospital facilities to better meet requirements	2		*	2.2
■ Construct an Aboriginal stepdown facility	2	*		6.1
<b>Lead – State Government</b>				
<b>Primary health care centres</b>				
■ Continue to upgrade hospital facilities to support the co-located delivery of primary health care services including general practice, allied health, mental health and Aboriginal health programs	2	*	*	2.2 6.1
<b>Lead – State Government, private sector</b>				
<b>Justice and Emergency Services</b>				
<b>Restitution of infrastructure damage from January bushfires</b>				
■ Ensure all essential services are restored to affected communities	U/way	*		5.11
■ Assess infrastructure damage from the fires and implement plans to restore and where possible enhance the infrastructure	1	*		5.11
■ Replace fire and emergency services vehicles and appliances	2	*	*	5.11
<b>Lead – State Government, local government, private sector</b>				
<b>Standard of SAPOL facilities</b>				
■ Develop new police facilities at Port Lincoln	U/way	*		2.8
<b>Lead – State Government</b>				
<b>Standard of courthouse facilities</b>				
■ Develop new courthouse at Port Lincoln	U/way	*		2.8
<b>Lead – State Government</b>				
<b>Education and Training</b>				
<b>Utilisation of school assets</b>				
■ Rejuvenate local schools to support improved utilisation and integration of services	U/way	*	*	6.14
■ Undertake planned capital works at Ceduna, Port Lincoln and Cleve schools	U/way	*		6.14
<b>Lead – State Government</b>				
<b>Vocational education and training</b>				
■ Ensure the future infrastructure requirements of TAFE, including ICT, support the expected growth in the primary and allied industries	2	*	*	6.15 6.17
<b>Lead – State Government</b>				
<b>Science, Technology and Innovation</b>				
<b>Marine research facilities</b>				
■ Construct facilities at Port Lincoln and Adelaide to support marine research (MISA)	1	*		4.8
<b>Lead – university sector, State Government</b>				
<b>Natural assets</b>				
<b>Biodiversity protection</b>				
■ Develop and implement a program of works to improve biodiversity and land and water management (especially coastal areas)	U/way	*		3.6
<b>Lead – State Government</b>				