



## **Lincoln National Park, South Australia**

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## COVER PHOTOGRAPH



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**Lincoln National Park, South Australia.** This photograph shows an active parabolic dune (situated within a suite of relict parabolic dunes) in Lincoln National Park, South Australia (34° 55' S, 135° 53' E). The depositional lobe is approximately 300 m across and 500 m long. Overlooking Boston Bay, the largest natural harbor in Australia, Lincoln National Park features granite headlands, sheltered bays, and scenic offshore islands. Located on the southern side of the park are the massive, wind-sculpted sand dunes of the Sleaford-Wanna dune system and the pounding surf of the Southern Ocean. A large proportion of Lincoln National Park is covered with a mixture of mallee eucalypts vegetation, such as Coffin Bay mallee (*Eucalyptus albopurpurea*) and Port Lincoln mallee (*Eucalyptus conglobata conglobata*). The coastal dune areas, as shown in the photo, are characterized by a closed heath dominated by coastal bearded heath (*Leucopogon parviflorus*), wattle species, and a variety of other low coastal shrubs. The other main vegetation community is the drooping sheoak woodlands. This occurs primarily inland and is comprised of a diverse variety of understory shrubs and grasses. Lincoln National Park also provides a safe refuge for rare wildlife, including Rosenberg's goanna, echidna, western whipbird, malleefowl, and the hooded plover. More than 130 species of birds are known to visit this area. The brush-tailed bettong, a small member of the kangaroo family, was once common in these parts, however, the clearing of habitat and predation by foxes and cats drastically impacted this rabbit-sized animal. Now, with the help of volunteers and park managers, the brush-tailed bettong has once again been reintroduced into this coastal region. (Photograph taken February 2020 by Patrick Hesp, Flinders University, Bedford Park, South Australia.)