



PASTORAL LANDS BOARD

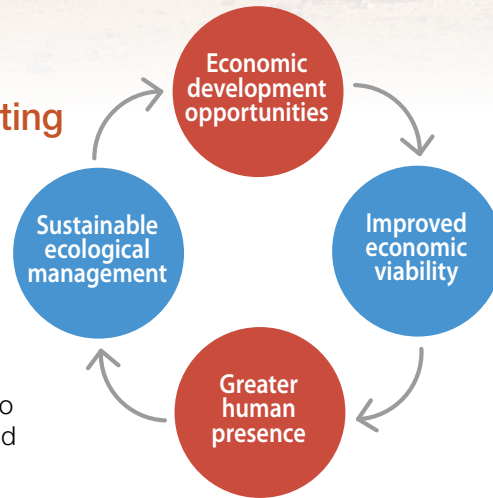
Statement of Strategic Intent 2024–2027

Strategic Vision

A sustainable pastoral estate supporting prosperity for all people in regional Western Australia.

The Pastoral Lands Board believes that the economic development and ecological management of pastoral lands are interdependent.

Achieving this balance requires an environment where government works cooperatively with pastoral lessees to enhance productivity, financial viability and improved land management.



The Pastoral Lands Board

The Pastoral Lands Board has joint responsibility with the Minister for Lands for administering Western Australia’s pastoral leases in accordance with *The Land Administration Act 1997*. The Board’s functions include advising the Minister for Lands in relation to pastoral land policy and ensuring that pastoral leases are managed on an ecologically sustainable basis.



Industry Snapshot

- The pastoral industry is one of Western Australia’s oldest industries and continues to make a significant contribution to regional economic activity.
- The pastoral estate covers approximately 34% of Western Australia’s landmass, or around 856,000 square kilometers, which is larger than the United Kingdom, New Zealand and Italy combined.
- There are 431 pastoral stations consisting of 489 pastoral leases. The average station measures approximately 199,000 hectares.
- The pastoral estate is diverse, with a wide variation of climatic conditions and vegetation types ranging from monsoonal savannah and grasslands in the Northern Rangelands through to the hot arid interior and the cooler grasslands of the Southern Rangelands.
- Pastoral leases are predominantly used for growing cattle and sheep for meat and wool. Many pastoralists have diversified into other activities, including horticulture, aquaculture, carbon capture and tourism. Currently beef production accounts for the bulk of pastoral production.
- There are more than 1 million head of cattle on the pastoral estate, approximately 55% in the Kimberley, 20% in the Pilbara and 25% in the Southern Rangelands. Currently there are approximately 130,000 head of sheep and 33,000 head of goats, all in the Southern Rangelands.

Membership of the Pastoral Lands Board

Six of the Eight Board members are appointed by the Minister for Lands, being the chairperson, three pastoralists, an expert in the field of flora, fauna or land conservation management and an Aboriginal person with pastoral experience. The Directors General of the Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development, and the Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage are also members of the Board.

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The following objectives, outputs and activities are required to enable the Pastoral Lands Board (PLB) to achieve its vision:

An ecological sustainable pastoral industry

What we will achieve:

The PLB's Good Pastoral Land Management guidelines are well understood and widely used

How we will do it:

We will support initiatives which link sustainable land management and improved economic outcomes

What we will achieve:

Pastoralists understand and are compliant with the requirements of their pastoral lease

How we will do it:

We will engage with pastoral lease holders to promote knowledge and awareness of their rights and responsibilities under their lease

What we will achieve:

The PLB will promote the protection of Aboriginal cultural heritage on the pastoral estate

How we will do it:

We will promote awareness of and respect for Aboriginal cultural heritage recognising the important linkage and connection of First Nations People with the pastoral estate

Prosperous pastoral enterprises

What we will achieve:

An efficient approvals process for diversified economic activities on pastoral land

How we will do it:

We will facilitate the reduction of administrative barriers to diversified economic activities

What we will achieve:

Sustainable land and stock management practices are universally used within the pastoral industry

How we will do it:

We will support region specific initiatives which add value to the pastoral industry and work with other government agencies to provide the pastoral industry clarity around land clearing practices

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Contemporary policies recognising the diverse uses and geography of the pastoral estate

What we will achieve:

The PLB policy suite and the Pastoral Purposes Framework provide timely and helpful guidance to the pastoral industry

How we will do it:

We will continue to engage with the pastoral industry when developing new policies and reviewing existing policies to ensure they meet the requirements of government and industry

We will work with government and industry to develop and implement a robust land condition monitoring system land condition standards

We will undertake a comprehensive review of the existing suite of PLB policies and the Pastoral Purposes Framework

We will work with industry peak bodies to strengthen the public perception of the pastoral industry

Implementation of the 2023 amendments to the *Land Administration Act 1997*

What we will achieve:

Clear and practical guidance to government and industry on the implementation of the 2023 amendments to the LAA

How we will do it:

We will engage with government and industry to ensure the PLB's advice regarding implementation of the 2023 amendments to the LAA is timely and practical

What we will achieve:

The PLB's policy suite recognises the changes to the pastoral industry as a result of the 2023 LAA amendments

How we will do it:

We will conduct a full review of the PLB policy suite to ensure all policies recognise changes arising from the 2023 LAA amendments