The pastoral industry is one of Western Australia’s oldest industries and continues to make a significant contribution to regional economic activity. This strategic plan reflects the Pastoral Lands Board’s commitment to build on a strong legacy of rural leadership to support responsible pastoral rangeland management.

Pastoral rangelands with healthy ecological systems sustaining a financially viable industry enabled by a resourced and effective Pastoral Lands Board.

The board welcomes engagement with industry and stakeholders as it works for practical outcomes that secure the long term future of this important industry.

**MEMBERSHIP OF THE PASTORAL LANDS BOARD**

Six of the eight Board members are appointed by the Minister for Lands, being, the chairperson, three persons who hold or have held an interest in a pastoral lease, an expert in the field of flora, fauna or land conservation management and an Aboriginal person with experience in pastoral leases. The Directors General of the Department of Agriculture and Food and the Department of Lands are also represented on the Board.

**THE PASTORAL LANDS BOARD**

The Pastoral Lands Board is a statutory authority established under Section 94 of the Land Administration Act 1997. It is responsible for administering the pastoral leases of Western Australia in accordance with Part 7 of this Act.

The functions of the Pastoral Lands Board are:

- to advise the Minister for Lands on policy relating to the pastoral industry and the administration of pastoral leases
- to administer pastoral leases
- to ensure that pastoral leases are managed on an ecologically sustainable basis
- to develop policies to prevent the degradation of rangelands and rehabilitate degraded or eroded rangelands to restore their pastoral potential
- to consider applications for the subdivision of pastoral land and make recommendations to the Minister for Lands in relation to them
- to establish and evaluate a system of pastoral land monitoring sites
- to monitor the numbers and the effect of stock and feral animals on pastoral land
- to conduct or commission research into any matters that it considers are relevant to the pastoral industry.

**INDUSTRY SNAPSHOT**

- Pastoral leases cover approximately 34.4% or 87 million hectares of Western Australia’s land mass.
- There are 508 pastoral leases comprising 453 stations.
- In addition to livestock production, pastoralists monitor and manage the ecological systems on their properties.
- The industry is actively engaged in developing and deploying new technologies to enable pastoralists to remotely monitor, muster and manage herds through remote sensing, pasture modelling, monitoring and satellite telemetry.
- Cattle and sheep are the main livestock on the rangelands. In June 2011, there were approximately 1,060,000 head of cattle and 365,000 head of sheep on stations. Managed goats are also present, but in relatively small numbers.
- In 2011/12 estimated rangeland cattle production was valued at $288.7 million, sheep production was $10.5 million and goat production was valued at $1.5 million. The total value of production in 2011/12 was $301 million.
- For the last 25 years the pastoral cattle industry has experienced steady growth driven largely by private rather than corporate businesses.
- The industry is engaged in a diversity of activities including livestock production, wool, horticulture, agriculture, aquaculture and tourism.
- Western Australia is a major exporter of live cattle, accounting for approximately 40 percent of Australia’s live cattle export volume. One half to two thirds of Western Australia’s total beef production is exported as live cattle or boxed beef.
- From 2007 to 2011 the live cattle export industry in Western Australia generated between $170 million and $230 million dollars in cattle sales per annum. The industry services the domestic market and a diversity of export markets including Indonesia, Israel, Egypt, Turkey, Malaysia, Saudi Arabia and the Philippines.

**PASTORAL LANDS BOARD**

**CONTACT DETAILS**

Telephone: 08 6552 4574  
Country callers: 1800 735 784  
Email: plb@lands.wa.gov.au  
Pastoral rangelands are managed on an ecologically sustainable basis and to their best advantage as a pastoral property. The approval of permits to allow a range of activities to improve productivity and profitability.

Balanced land use that promotes industry diversification and enhances productivity and financial viability to achieve improved land management outcomes.

A pastoral industry that has broad support, where rangelands are administered efficiently and realise reasonable financial returns.

Quality production systems that acknowledge cultural and conservation values.

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<td>STATUTORY RESPONSIBILITIES</td>
<td>Pastoral rangelands are managed on an ecologically sustainable basis and to their best advantage as a pastoral property. The approval of permits to allow a range of activities to improve productivity and profitability.</td>
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<td>Pastoral rangelands are managed on an ecologically sustainable basis that prevents the degradation of rangelands and rehabilitates degraded or eroded rangelands to restore their pastoral and economic potential.</td>
<td>The exercise of the Board's authority to enhance the economic potential and the ecological sustainability of the pastoral rangelands.</td>
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<td>STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES</td>
<td>Balanced land use that promotes industry diversification and enhances productivity and financial viability to achieve improved land management outcomes.</td>
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<td>Identify priority areas for policy development and implementation relating to the responsibilities of the Board.</td>
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<td>PASTORAL INDUSTRY EXPECTATIONS</td>
<td>Balanced land use that promotes industry diversification and enhances productivity and financial viability to achieve improved land management outcomes.</td>
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<td>Support and provide incentives to pastoralists to improve the health of ecological systems on pastoral rangelands.</td>
<td>Increased understanding of the role and responsibilities of the Pastoral Lands Board and the opportunity to engage with the Board and be consulted.</td>
<td>The Pastoral Lands Board is informed about the pastoral industry and sufficiently resourced.</td>
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<td>COMMUNITY EXPECTATIONS</td>
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<td>Consultation in areas impacting shared outcomes and areas of contention.</td>
<td>The Pastoral Lands Board is fulfilling its functions.</td>
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Outcomes:

- **<12 Months**: Diverse activities occurring on Rangelands.
- **1 - 5 Years**: Pastoralists are financially viable.
  - The industry has a positive and confident future.
  - New people are entering and remaining in the industry.
  - The community has a positive perception of the industry.
- **5+ Years**: Rehabilitation of degraded rangelands to restore pastoral potential.

The Pastoral Lands Board is respected and valued by government, industry and community.