PASTORAL BOARD

ANNUAL REPORT

1 July 2012 to 30 June 2013
Pastoral Board
Annual Report 2012-13

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# TABLE OF CONTENTS

**LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL** .................................................................................. 3  
**PLANS AND OBJECTIVES** ........................................................................... 4  
**HIGHLIGHTS, OPERATIONS AND INITIATIVES** ........................................... 5  
  - HISTORY ........................................................................................................ 5  
  - THE REGION ................................................................................................. 5  
  - PASTORAL DISTRICTS .................................................................................. 6  
  - STATUTORY AUTHORITY ........................................................................... 7  
  - REPRESENTATION ON OTHER BODIES ............................................... 7  
  - STRATEGIC PLANNING ............................................................................ 8  
  - OPEN FORUM WITH LESSEES .................................................................. 9  
  - COMMUNICATIONS .................................................................................... 9  
  - MONITORING LAND CONDITION ............................................................ 9  
  - LEASE INSPECTIONS .................................................................................. 10  
  - PUBLIC ACCESS – NEW GAZETTALS .................................................... 11  
  - PUBLIC ACCESS CLOSURES ..................................................................... 11  
  - MINING DEVELOPMENT .......................................................................... 11  
  - LEASE TRANSACTIONS CONSIDERED .................................................. 12  
  - PASTORAL RENTS ..................................................................................... 12  
  - DETERMINATION OF RENTS ................................................................... 12  
  - RENT RELIEF ............................................................................................... 13  
  - PASTORAL LAND APPEAL TRIBUNAL .................................................. 13  
  - ASSISTANCE TO LESSEES VIA ‘POOL OF PERSONS’ .......................... 13  
**ROLE, LEGISLATION AND STRUCTURE** ......................................................... 13  
  - OBJECT OF THE *PASTORAL LAND MANAGEMENT AND CONSERVATION ACT 1989* ................................................................. 13  
  - ROLE OF THE BOARD ............................................................................... 14  
  - FUNCTIONS OF THE BOARD .................................................................. 14  
  - MEMBERSHIP .............................................................................................. 14  
  - MEETINGS: GENERAL AND SPECIAL ................................................... 15  
**MANAGEMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES** ...................................................... 16  
  - EMPLOYEE NUMBERS, GENDER AND STATUS .................................... 16  
**CONTRACTUAL ARRANGEMENTS** ................................................................. 16  
**FRAUD** ......................................................................................................... 17  
**CONSULTANTS** ............................................................................................ 17  
**OVERSEAS TRAVEL** ..................................................................................... 17  
**URBAN DESIGN CHARTER** ........................................................................ 17  
**FREEDOM OF INFORMATION – INFORMATION STATEMENTS** ............ 17  
**WHISTLEBLOWERS PROTECTION ACT 1993** ........................................... 17  
**REGIONAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT STATEMENTS** .............................. 17  
**RECONCILIATION STATEMENT** ................................................................. 17
11 August 2013

Ian Hunter MLC
Minister for Sustainability, Environment and Conservation
Parliament House
North Terrace
ADELAIDE SA 5000

Dear Minister

In accordance with the requirements of the Public Sector Act 2009 and section 18 (A) of the Pastoral Land Management and Conservation Act 1989 (the Act), I have pleasure in presenting the annual report of the Pastoral Board for the year ended 30 June 2013.

Yours sincerely

Geoff Mills
Presiding Member
Pastoral Board of South Australia
PLANS AND OBJECTIVES

The Board’s responsibilities and activities relate to two targets under the priority area of ‘Our Environment’ in South Australia’s Strategic Plan (SASP) 2011:

- Target 69: Lose no native species as a result of human impacts.

To facilitate this target the Board gives positive consideration to requests for changes of land use from pastoral purposes to conservation purposes.

- Target 70: Sustainable land management: By 2020, achieve a 25% increase in the protection of agricultural cropping land from soil erosion and a 25% improvement in the condition of pastoral land (baseline: 2002-03 and 2005-06 respectively).

The Board contributes to this target through its lease inspection, assessment and land condition monitoring processes. The lease assessment information collected by DEWNR on behalf of the Board is used to measure improvement in the condition of pastoral land. Based on the data from lease assessments completed up to the end of June 2013, 8% per cent of pastoral leases have recorded an improvement in paddock condition since their last lease assessment. The target is to achieve a 25% improvement in the condition of pastoral land by 2020. This would equate to a net improvement in 56 of the State’s 223 pastoral properties. A graph of the progress to date is shown below:

Furthermore, the Government has seven strategic priority areas being:
- Creating a vibrant city
- Safe communities, healthy neighbourhoods
The Board’s responsibilities and activities contribute to the priority “Premium food and wine from a clean environment”. The Pastoral Board contributes to this priority through its lease assessment, inspection and land condition monitoring programs, to ensure that the rangelands are used and managed in an environmentally sustainable manner.

HIGHLIGHTS, OPERATIONS AND INITIATIVES

HISTORY
The Pastoral Board has been in operation in South Australia for 119 years. It is one of the oldest continually active statutory authorities in Australia.

The first Board, chaired by the Acting Surveyor-General William Strawbridge, was appointed in 1894 to help administer the Pastoral Act of 1893. The 1894 Board was given the power to determine lease areas, boundaries, rents and the duration of tenured occupancies.

In the 1930s the sustainability of the current grazing practices began to be widely and openly questioned. Short-term tenures, poor stocking practices and a run of bad seasons had all contributed to the malaise that was giving rise to these questions. The Pastoral Act of 1936 introduced stocking controls on leases for the first time.

Today the sustainable management of pastoral lands subject to grazing, and the monitoring of the condition of these lands, are pivotal components of the work of the Pastoral Board and its support staff.

THE REGION
The rangelands of South Australia lie beyond the agricultural districts and occupy approximately 741 000 sq km. Rangelands encompass just over 80% of the State’s land area. Within this area the Pastoral Board is mandated to administer and monitor 322 pastoral leases that collectively occupy 410 000 sq km. The balance of the rangelands is set aside as Aboriginal lands and parks and reserves.

The pastoral lands are divided into two zones by the 2 250 km Dog Fence. Cattle leases outside the fence collectively occupy 230 000 sq km while sheep leases inside the fence occupy 180 000 sq km.

The individual leases that define the Pastoral Board’s area of responsibility range in size from 20 sq km to over 14 000 sq km. These leases are operated as 218 stations, runs, or management units.

Sustainable pastoral land use relies heavily on the availability of water. Rainfall is low and unreliable over most of the region. Averages vary from 275 mm in parts of the Flinders Ranges and in the Musgrave Ranges against the Northern Territory border, to less than 150 mm in the vicinity of Lake Eyre. In all areas extreme summer conditions contribute to evaporation rates greater than rainfall. This is a major issue with surface storage of stock
water throughout the region. Stock water distribution on most pastoral leases comes from dams, earth tanks, bores (some into the Great Artesian Basin) and troughs along pipelines.

The more northerly and westerly country receives most of its rainfall in the summer months from storms and occasional monsoonal rains from the north and northwest. It is only the southern rangelands fringing the agricultural areas that receive any significant precipitation from major southwest weather fronts.

The characteristic saltbush and bluebush shrublands on leases south of the Dog Fence are indicative of the region’s aridity. A diverse range of plants have adapted to these harsh conditions. Some are edible and provide a perennial fodder base for sheep.

The northern cattle country is more ephemeral in nature, responding to episodic rainfall events. Predominantly annual forage species respond quickly to rainfall events in the lighter sand dune and swale country whilst perennial and annual grasses of the stony tablelands require higher rainfall event to respond but generally persist longer in the landscape. Floodplains of the major rivers and creeks in the far north and north east portion of the cattle country also provide highly nutritious plant biomass for cattle.

**PASTORAL DISTRICTS**

There are seven pastoral districts in the rangelands:

- Marla-Oodnadatta
- Marree-Innamincka
- Kingoonya
- North Flinders
- Gawler Ranges
- North East
- Eastern Districts

These districts are based on the old Soil Conservation Board boundaries and are used by the assessment and inspection teams to group properties for the purposes of conducting the on ground evaluations and to help with assessments.

**SEASONAL CONDITIONS 2012-2013**

The 2012-13 financial year began in reasonably dry conditions throughout all pastoral areas. In almost all districts the last recorded rainfall was in early March 2012. By January 2013 all districts had not received any substantial rainfall. In February 2013 there were rainfalls of up to 100mm recorded in a small area east of Innamincka. No other districts received that rainfall.

In early March 2013 the unenviable record for the longest number of days without any recorded rainfall ever looked to be possible in the far northern areas of the state. However by the second week of March there was some small amount of rain. From April onwards additional falls were recorded in all southern districts and the north-west areas including the APY lands. By June 2013 most areas were considerably better off and in some cases had received well above average rainfall for the autumn period.

The two exceptions to this were the Oodnadatta district and the northern half of the Birdsville Track. Only light rain was recorded in these two parts and river flows were minimal.
Goyder’s Lagoon in the Diamantina floodplain almost always receives at least one if not two flushes into the lagoon per year. For the 2012-13 year only one small river flow reached the lagoon and only made it as far as the beginning of the wetland. No water entered the lagoon itself and this has required a change of management for the lessees there. Traditionally the majority of cattle would be run on the lagoon after flood events however this year no feed was available therefore what cattle were left on the properties required pasturing on the harder tableland country.

RELATIONSHIPS WITH THE NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT BOARDS
Most of the pastoral land in the State is within the SA Arid Lands Natural Resources Management (NRM) region. Relationships with the SA Arid Lands NRM Board were strengthened through joint meetings and partnership arrangements in policy, program and project development and delivery.

The Pastoral Board and SA Arid Lands NRM Board aim to have at least one joint meeting per year to discuss common issues, align policies and actions, share project information and build closer working relationships. The Pastoral Board met with the SA Arid Lands NRM Board on 5th June in Marree.

Pastoral Board support staff from the Pastoral Program, Department of Environment, Water and Natural Resources (DEWNR), collaborated with staff from the SA Arid Lands NRM region on a range of issues, including dingo management, control of large feral herbivores, and the management of rockholes in the Gawler Ranges.

The Pastoral Board is collaborating with the SA Arid Lands NRM Board and the SA Murray Darling Basin NRM Board on the development and alignment of relevant policies that relate to the management of pastoral leasehold land.

STATUTORY AUTHORITY
The Native Vegetation Council has delegated certain powers and functions of the Council to the Pastoral Board in relation to clearance of native vegetation by grazing of domestic stock. Specifically:

- Section 25 of the Native Vegetation Act 1991 in relation to the development of guidelines for the management of native vegetation with respect to clearance of native vegetation by grazing on lands held under a pastoral lease, and
- Division 1 of Part 5 of the Native Vegetation Act 1991 in relation to application to clear native vegetation by grazing on land held under a pastoral lease.

The Pastoral Board applies the delegated powers in relation to the extension of stock water supplies into areas of pastoral country not previously provided with a permanent water supply and any proposals to change the species of grazing animal. In carrying out this responsibility the Board actively consults with the Native Vegetation Council and the SA Arid Lands NRM Board.

REPRESENTATION ON OTHER BODIES
In addition to its involvement with statutory groups, the Board is also represented on the State Kangaroo Management Reference Group. Through its membership the Board also has a close relationship with Primary Producers SA and the Conservation Council of SA.
STRATEGIC PLANNING
For 2012-13 the Board has been focussing on eight strategic priorities, as detailed below.

1. The Board provided advice to DEWNR on progress against SASP Target 70 - By 2020 achieve a 25% improvement in the condition of pastoral land (baseline: 2002-03 and 2005-06 respectively).

2. The SA NRM Plan guiding target seven is “Improve soil and land condition.” The Board discussed how its business can contribute to achieving this target; and also how the Board would report on the target.

3. The Board recognised that various new interests / issues have emerged since the enactment of the Pastoral Land Management and Conservation Act 1989. The Board discussed ways to ensure that it can continue to meet its responsibilities through the mechanisms of the Pastoral Act.

4. Communication with all stakeholders was recognised as a critical issue to the Board. The Board defined who its stakeholders were and determined appropriate methods for communicating with them.

5. The Board entered into a Memorandum of Understanding with the SA Arid Lands NRM Board in response to improving relationships / synergies with other Statutory Boards. The Memorandum of Understanding has formalised a strong working relationship between the two bodies.

6. Public Access Routes were identified as a key issue. The Board may, by notice in the Gazette dedicate delineated routes over pastoral land as public access routes or stock routes. The Board explored its role with the Minister and has had communication with Tourism SA regarding how they work together to communicate with the public around things such as public safety.

7. Pastoral lessees have been reminded of their responsibilities regarding boundary fencing and impacts on neighbours of straying sheep, in light of the increase of farming of alternative breeds of sheep in the rangelands.

8. Indigenous Land Use Agreements (ILUAs) are an important tool to formalise how Aboriginal people can access traditional lands on pastoral country. The Board has discussed with the SA Native Title Unit within the Department of Premier and Cabinet the most efficient ways to support pastoralists in negotiating ILUAs. Furthermore an article was written by Mr Douglas Lillecrapp, board member for the Across the Outback newsletter about negotiating ILUAs from a pastoralist’s perspective.

In planning for next financial year (2013-14) the Board conducted an internal strategic planning exercise at its February 2013 meeting. Through this process the Board identified eight priority areas for the Board to focus on in 2013-14:

- SA Strategic Plan Target 70 / State NRM Plan
- Working within the Pastoral Land Management and Conservation Act 1989
- Over grazing – pest animals and over abundant native species
- Science, Research and Innovation
• Climate Change
• Management of alternative breeds of sheep
• Aboriginal engagement
• Property management planning

This strategic work is in addition to the Pastoral Board’s operational requirements under the *Pastoral Land Management Act 1989* (the Act).

**OPEN FORUM WITH LESSEES**

On Wednesday 10 April 2013 the Pastoral Board held an open forum with pastoralists at the Mud Hut Motel at Coober Pedy. Attending the forum were representatives of Kokatha Station, Billa Kalina, and Bon Bon Station.

The lessees discussed with the Pastoral Board the impact of mining activities on water supplies; the importance of working pro-actively with mining companies and the Department of Manufacturing, Industry, Trade, Resources and Energy in the early stages of mining development on a pastoral lease; the Australian Government’s carbon farming initiative; dog baiting; the Native Vegetation Council’s pastoral water point policy and the Pastoral Board’s role and support from Government in negotiating and finalising Indigenous Land Use Agreements.

On Tuesday 4 June 2013 the Pastoral Board held an open forum with pastoralists at the Marree Hotel. Attending the forum were pastoralists representing Wintabatinya, Depot Springs, North Moolooloo, Motpena, Murnpeowie, Cordillo Downs, Muloorina, Willippa and Mundowna Stations.

The lessees discussed with the Pastoral Board the benefits of assessing stock maximums through Dry Sheep Equivalents (DSEs); Target 70 of the State Strategic Plan (25% improvement in condition of pastoral lands); dog baiting and the importance of working with your neighbours in a coordinated approach to extract the most benefit; kangaroo harvesting; due dates on rent notices; the Native Vegetation Act and water point policy and the impact of dogs (dingoes) on lambing rates (including how it impacts on DSE).

**COMMUNICATIONS**

The Pastoral Board contributes articles to the “Across the Outback” newsletter that is produced every two months by the SA Arid Lands NRM Board.

In 2012-13 the Pastoral Board published articles on the following topics:

• Pastoral lease assessment update (August 2012)
• Australian Rangeland Society Conference (October 2012)
• Pastoral Rent Notices (February 2013)
• ILUA negotiation: a pastoralist perspective (April 2013)
• Supplementary Feeding of Stock (April 2013)
• Pastoral Board meets with station owners in Coober Pedy (April 2013)
• Pastoral Board meets with lessees in Marree (June 2013)

**MONITORING LAND CONDITION**

The Pastoral Board, under section 25 of the Act, is required to assess the condition of the land comprised in each pastoral lease at intervals of not more than 14 years and, given a
satisfactory assessment, restore the lease to a 42 year term with variations to the lease conditions as appropriate. The first round of lease assessments was completed in 2000. The second round assessment program began in 2005 with the aim of completing 212 assessments by 2014. Previous annual reports have identified resourcing as an issue but through reorganisation and introduction of efficiencies, an achievable rate of 27 properties per year will be required to complete the program by 2016 as illustrated through the following graph.

Achieving the target rate of 27 properties per year will require some modifications to existing practices and the possible assistance from SA Arid Lands NRM staff. This is to be discussed in the coming year.

The 2012-13 year has seen the continuation of ‘paperless’ lease assessments, with field data recorded into field tablets. Considerable time savings (approximately 50% for the field component of the lease assessment) and data integrity improvements have been made.

Assessment field work for 17 of the 18 properties in the Eastern Districts was completed in the 2012-13 financial year. These 17 properties consisted of 27 individual pastoral leases. One lease was not assessed due to a death in the pastoralist’s family with this property due to be visited in 2013-14. All 17 reports were written and sent out to pastoralists for their comment. Approximately half of these reports have been returned from which they will be presented to the Pastoral Board for consideration.

**LEASE INSPECTIONS**
Pastoral leases are inspected for compliance with lease conditions and to effectively monitor and address any land management issues on individual leases. The inspection process involves land condition monitoring in conjunction with assessing impacts of the current
grazing practices. Where grazing pressure is assessed to be excessive, inspectors develop strategies with the lessee to address the problem.

During 2012–13, 25 pastoral inspections (encompassing 32 individual pastoral leases) were conducted. These occurred in all districts except for the Eastern Districts (where lease assessments were operating) and the North East pastoral district. To ensure every property is inspected at least once every 7 years, 31 properties per annum are required to be the subject of an inspection. Of these 25 properties visited, two were inspected twice which required additional resources and reduces the overall number of properties completed. Of the two, one was in the Gawler Ranges and the other east of the Flinders Ranges and Lake Frome.

One section 43 notice is in place on one property for the potential land degradation issues that can result from many waterpoints installed less than 5 kilometres apart and without any planning considerations and approvals being obtained for developing lease areas that were previously not considered watered.

PUBLIC ACCESS – NEW GAZETTALS
Section 45 of the Act provides for the establishment of Public Access Routes across lands held under pastoral lease. Public Access Routes provide public access over pastoral lease land to specific places of interest without the need to obtain the permission of the lessee. These routes link with the public road system in the pastoral areas.

No additional Public Access Routes were gazetted during 2012-13.

PUBLIC ACCESS CLOSURES
Section 45 (7) of the Act provides the power to the Board to temporarily close a public access route by notice in the Gazette.

During the 2012-13 year only two public access routes were closed. These two routes, the K1Warburton Crossing and Walkers Crossing had been closed since the summer of 2009-10 due to extensive flooding on both the Warburton and Cooper Creeks. The two routes became unsafe for traffic over the almost three years they were closed as heavy rainfall and flooding continued for an extended period of time. In late 2012 and early 2013 conditions had dried out enough to allow repairs and restoration to both these routes. A local road contractor from Birdsville won the contract to grade and repair the routes with both tracks being open in time for the Anzac Day 2013 traffic. Funding in the vicinity of $140,000 for the repair work was provided by DEWNR. As a matter of course, these two routes are closed annually for the summer season from late December until early March in line with the closing of Witjira National Park and Simpson Desert Reserve.

MINING DEVELOPMENT
The Board has continued to be consulted in the expansion of mining, both exploration and development of actual mine sites, in its statutory role of managing pastoral leases. The Board’s interest in this activity extends into change of land use applications, commenting on specific proposals and ensuring proposed developments do not impair the ability of lessees to conduct their pastoral enterprises. Issues of particular interest to the Board are the impact of developments on local water resources, installation of haul roads and other infrastructure, and working with the Department for Manufacturing, Innovation, Trade, Resources and Energy to ensure that mining companies are acting responsibly in their interactions with pastoral lessees and their managers.
LEASE TRANSACTIONS CONSIDERED
Section 10 and 18 of the Act allow the Minister for Sustainability, Environment and Conservation (the Minister) and the Pastoral Board respectively to delegate a number of their powers under that Act. The power to approve transfers and sub-leases of pastoral leases provided they are being transferred and sub-leased for pastoral or associated purposes has been delegated to the Senior Pastoral Inspector and/or the Senior Scientific Officer, Pastoral Unit, DEWNR.

During 2012-13, the following lease transfers were approved: Clifton Hills, Pt Clifton Hills, Kanowana, Goyders lagoon, Sturt Vale, Fords Lagoon, Holowilena, Holowilena South, Roxby Downs, Andamooka, Purple Downs, Mulgaria, Pt Mulgaria, Stuarts Creek, Lake Eyre, Etadunna, Kirrakirrinna, Peachawarinna, Cannatalkaninna, Canegrass, Mt Seerle, Yarramba, Weekeroo and Wawirra.

During 2012-13, the following sub-leases were approved:

Mt Clarence, Tregalana and Lincoln Park.

PASTORAL RENTS
Under section 22 of the Act the Board is responsible for issuing and sending to lessees annual rent accounts.

Pastoral lease rentals are payable annually in arrears. Rents collected in 2012-13 totalled $1,416,258. Outstanding rents at 30 June 2013 totalled $187,417, and debt recovery processes have been instigated.

DETERMINATION OF RENTS
Under section 23 of the Act, the Valuer-General determines pastoral rents as a percentage of the unimproved value of the land – the percentage to represent an appropriate rate of return relative to the purpose for which the land is used.

Section 23(4) obliges the Valuer-General to determine rents at least every five (5) years and in 2011-12 the Valuer-General provided the Pastoral Board with its determinations for each pastoral lease.

Following a review of available evidence the Valuer-General determined that the annual rate of return on pastoral leases would remain unchanged for the 2012 rental period. The rates of return are:

2.7% (two point seven percent) for leases used for pastoral purposes
2.0% (two percent) for leases used for conservation purposes
0.0% (zero percent) for leases subject to a Heritage Agreement
5.0% (five percent) for leases used for tourism purposes
2.7% (two point seven percent) for mining purposes

The Pastoral Board issued the rent accounts as per section 22 of the Act.

Under section 56 of the Act, lessees dissatisfied with their rent determination can write to the Valuer-General for an informal resolution or, alternatively, can apply to the Valuer-General for a review of the determination by a listed independent valuer. A final right of appeal from
both processes lies with the Land and Valuation Court and the Act allows a lessee to appeal directly to the Land and Valuation Court from the outset if he or she wishes.

In 2012-13 there were nil lodged objections by lessees with the Valuer-General, however the Valuer General’s staff were processing three objections carried over from the previous year.

**RENT RELIEF**
The Board can consider applications for rent relief on a case-by-case basis. As a matter of general policy the Board recognises the joint Federal / State Drought Exceptional Circumstances declaration process and Farm Help as the most appropriate mechanism for Government assistance to pastoralists in hardship due to prolonged drought. The Board will consider applications for rent deferral where Exceptional Circumstances support is not available due to non-viability of the lessee.

No applications were received in 2012-13.

**PASTORAL LAND APPEAL TRIBUNAL**
One lessee filed an action in court for appeal by the Tribunal of an offer of a variation of lease conditions by the Board. Meanwhile the lessee also requested a review of the variation by the Board. Under ideal circumstances the lessee would first seek a review through the “pool of persons” established under Section 25(A) of the Act.

The Pastoral Board undertook a review and a resolution was subsequently reached by both parties. A notice of discontinuance was then lodged by the lessee and the tribunal action was not required.

**ASSISTANCE TO LESEES VIA ‘POOL OF PERSONS’**
Section 25(A) of the Act provides for the establishment of a ‘pool of persons’ available to assist lessees with their dealings with the Board in relation to their lease assessments.

**ROLE, LEGISLATION AND STRUCTURE**
The Pastoral Board of South Australia is established under section 12 of the Pastoral Land Management and Conservation Act 1989.

The Pastoral Board is a statutory body; it is not a corporate entity and has no funds of its own.

**OBJECT OF THE PASTORAL LAND MANAGEMENT AND CONSERVATION ACT 1989**
The Pastoral Board’s overriding goals and objectives are set out in section 4 of the Act. The Board may develop its own strategic planning goals and operational policies, within the framework of resource sustainability outlined in the Act.

The Objects of the Act (section 4) are:

(a) to ensure that all pastoral land in the State is well managed and utilised prudently so that its renewable resources are maintained and its yield sustained; and

(b) to provide for –

(i) the effective monitoring of the condition of pastoral land; and
(ii) the prevention of degradation of the land and its indigenous plant and
animal life; and

(iii) the rehabilitation of the land in cases of damage; and

(c) to provide a form of tenure of Crown land for pastoral purposes that is conducive to the
economic viability of the pastoral industry; and

(d) to recognise the right of Aboriginal persons to follow traditional pursuits on pastoral
land; and

(e) to provide the community with a system of access to and through pastoral land that
finds a proper balance between the interests of the pastoral industry and the interests of
the community in enjoying the unique environment of the land.

ROLE OF THE BOARD
The role of the Board is primarily to ensure that all pastoral land in the State is well managed
and utilised prudently so that its renewable resources are maintained and its yield sustained.

To focus the Board on the coordination of its activities with other statutory groups operating
in the pastoral lands, section 5 of the Act requires the Minister and the Board to act
consistently with, and have regard to, plans and guidelines established by government
agencies, resource conservation authorities and planning authorities. The Board must also
have regard to the terms of any relevant Indigenous Land Use Agreements (ILUA).

FUNCTIONS OF THE BOARD
Section 17(1) of the Act states that the Board is responsible to the Minister for the
administration of the Act, and in discharging that responsibility is subject to the control and
direction of the Minister. Subsection (2) describes the other functions of the Board as:

(a) to advise the Minister on policies that should govern the administration of pastoral
land;
(b) to advise the Minister on other matters referred to the Board by the Minister; and
(c) to perform any other function assigned to the Board by or under this Act by the
Minister.

MEMBERSHIP
The membership of the eighth Pastoral Board appointed for a three-year period expiring on 11
August 2013 is:

Presiding Member
Geoff Mills A person who has, in the opinion of the Minister, wide
experience in administration of pastoral leases, appointed on the
nomination of the Minister.

Members
Vicki Linton A person who has, in the opinion of the Minister for
Environment and Heritage, a wide knowledge of ecology, and
experience in the management, of the pastoral land of this State,
appointed on the nomination of the Minister.

Julie-Ann Mould A person selected by the Minister from a list of 3 persons who
produce sheep on pastoral land inside the dog fence, submitted
by the South Australian Farmers Federation.
Douglas Lillecrapp  A person selected by the Minister from a list of 3 persons who produce beef cattle on pastoral land outside the dog fence, submitted by the South Australian Farmers Federation.

Iris Iwanicki  A person selected by the Minister from a list of 3 persons submitted by the Conservation Council of South Australia Inc.

Roger Wickes  A person who, in the opinion of the Minister for Primary Industries, Natural Resources and Regional Development, has had wide experience in the field of land and soil conservation of pastoral land, appointed on the nomination of the Minister.

**Deputy Members**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Member</th>
<th>Deputy to</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Brenda Anderson</td>
<td>Mills</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lisien Loan</td>
<td>Linton</td>
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<tr>
<td>Helen Lamont</td>
<td>Wickes</td>
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<td>Ann Oldfield</td>
<td>Lillecrapp</td>
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<td>Fraser Vickery</td>
<td>Iwanicki</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jock MacLachlan</td>
<td>Mould</td>
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**MEETINGS: GENERAL AND SPECIAL**

A total of six general Board meetings were held during the 2012-13 financial year.

No special Board meetings were held during 2012-13.

Attendance by appointed members at meetings:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Member</th>
<th>Number of meetings attended</th>
<th>Comments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Geoff Mills</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Apology at December 2012 meeting.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vicki Linton</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Apology at February 2013 meeting.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Julie-Ann Mould</td>
<td>6</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Douglas Lillecrapp</td>
<td>6</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Iris Iwanicki</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Apology at August 2012 and December 2012, February 2013, April 2013 and June 2013 meetings.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roger Wickes</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Apology at October 2012 meeting.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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**Deputy Member**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Deputy Member</th>
<th>Meeting attendance</th>
<th>Comments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Brenda Anderson</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Attended in her own right as invited deputy at August 2012 meeting and attended for Geoff Mills at December 2012 meeting.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lisien Loan</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Attended for Vicki Linton.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Helen Lamont</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Attended for Roger Wickes.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ann Oldfield</td>
<td>Nil</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fraser Vickery</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Attended for Iris Iwanicki</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jock MacLachlan</td>
<td>Nil</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
GOVERNANCE ARRANGEMENTS
The Conservation and Land Management Group, DEWNR provides support to the Pastoral Board by provision of the services of David Hanna, Executive Officer for administration and governance. Reporting on this matter is contained in the DEWNR Annual Report 2012-13.

MANAGEMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES
The Pastoral Board members (other than those that are also government employees) received the following remuneration as determined by his Excellency the Governor in Executive Council:

Chair $258 per 4 hour session + $64.50 per hour for out of session work
Members $206 per 4 hour session + $51.50 per hour for out of session work

EMPLOYEE NUMBERS, GENDER AND STATUS
The Pastoral Board employs no staff and utilises the services of DEWNR. Reporting on this information is included within the DEWNR Annual Report 2012-13.

Executive, administrative and project support were provided to the Pastoral Board from existing DEWNR resources.

Section 12(3) of the Act requires that at least one Member of the Board must be a woman and one a man. The gender balance of the Pastoral Board is three male and three female Board Members and two male and four female Deputy Members.

The following matters are also contained in the DEWNR annual report 2012-2013:

- Superannuation contribution by the Pastoral Board.
- Executives
- Leave Management
- Workforce Diversity
- Voluntary Flexible Working Arrangements
- Performance Development
- Leadership and Management Development
- Accredited Training Packages
- Employment Opportunity Programs
- Work, Health, Safety and Injury Management
- Financial Performance
- Account Payment Performance
- Carers Recognition Act 1993
- Disability Action Plans
- Energy Efficiency Action Plan Report
- Greening of Government Operations Framework

CONTRACTUAL ARRANGEMENTS
The Pastoral Board did not enter into any contractual arrangements during the reporting period.
FRAUD
It is declared that there were no instances of fraud detected in the activities undertaken by the Board in this reporting period. Financial services are provided to the Board by DEWNR. Strategies to detect instances of fraud are reported in the DEWNR Annual Report 2012-13.

CONSULTANTS
The Pastoral Board did not engage any consultants during the reporting period.

OVERSEAS TRAVEL
No members of the Board travelled overseas for Pastoral Board purposes in the reporting period.

URBAN DESIGN CHARTER
No events occurred in 2012-13 that required the Pastoral Board to consider the principles of urban design contained in the South Australian Urban Design Charter.

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION – INFORMATION STATEMENTS
As a DEWNR administered entity, the Pastoral Board participates and abides by the arrangements outlined in the DEWNR Freedom of Information regime. The Freedom of Information statement is published on the Department of Environment and Natural Resources website accessible via the following address www.environment.sa.gov.au

WHISTLEBLOWERS PROTECTION ACT 1993
Reporting requirements against the Whistleblowers Protection Act 1993 require the Board to report on the number of occasions on which public interest information has been disclosed to a Responsible Officer of the agency. There were no disclosures made during 2012-2013.

REGIONAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT STATEMENTS
The Board did not undertake any Regional Impact Assessment Statements in 2012-13.

RECONCILIATION STATEMENT
In carrying out its functions, the Pastoral Board is fully aware of the cultural and natural heritage connections of the many traditional owners of the extensive pastoral lands in which it operates. As a matter of strategic policy the Board strives to achieve positive outcomes whenever addressing issues concerning the aspirations of the traditional owners.

The Board continues to strongly support and participate in processes that lead to the development of Indigenous Land Use Agreements over lands held under pastoral lease, recognising the advantages to all parties of an agreed outcome over protracted and expensive litigation where land is subject to native title claim.