
Strategic Plan

Pastoral Board of South Australia

2017 - 2019

Strategic Plan 2017-2019 - Pastoral Board of South Australia

Adopted by the Pastoral Board on 31 August 2017

Prepared by the Pastoral Board of SA with assistance from Natural Resources SA Arid Lands, Department of Environment, Water and Natural Resources.

www.naturalresources.sa.gov.au/aridlands/about-us/pastoral-board

Abbreviations

Board	The Pastoral Board of South Australia
DEWNR	Department of Environment, Water and Natural Resources
Members	Pastoral Board members including deputies
Minister	Minister for Sustainability, Environment and Conservation
NR SAAL	Natural Resources SA Arid Lands, DEWNR
PLMC Act	<i>Pastoral Land Management and Conservation Act 1989</i>

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1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Establishment and role of the Board

The Pastoral Board of South Australia is currently established under section 12(1) of the *Pastoral Land Management and Conservation Act 1989* (PLMC Act) but has been in operation since 1895. It is one of the longest serving statutory bodies in Australia.

The current membership of the Pastoral Board consist of six members appointed for a three year term. Members come from a range of backgrounds, together possess an extensive knowledge of the administrative, environmental and economic pastoral issues faced in the South Australian Rangelands.

Member	Deputy
Geoff Mills (Presiding Member)	Vicki Linton
Ann Barclay	Leah Feuerherdt
Andrea Tschirner	Trevor Naismith
Mark Fennell	Ann Oldfield
Keith Slade	Jenny Treloar
Kathryn Bellette	Greg Johnston

The primary functions of the Board are stated in section 17 of the PLMC Act:

Section 17 - Functions of Board

(1) The Board is responsible to the Minister for the administration of this Act and, in carrying out that function, is subject to the control and direction of the Minister.

(2) The other functions of the Board are as follows:

(a) to advise the Minister on the policies that should govern the administration of pastoral land;

(b) to advise the Minister on any other matter referred to the Board by the Minister;

(c) to perform the other functions assigned to the Board by or under this Act or another Act or by the Minister.

Pastoral Land Management and Conservation Act 1989

The primary duties of the Board are stated in section 5 of the PLMC Act:

Section 5 - Duty of the Minister and the Board

The Minister and the Board, in administering this Act and in exercising any other power or discharging any other function in relation to pastoral leases -

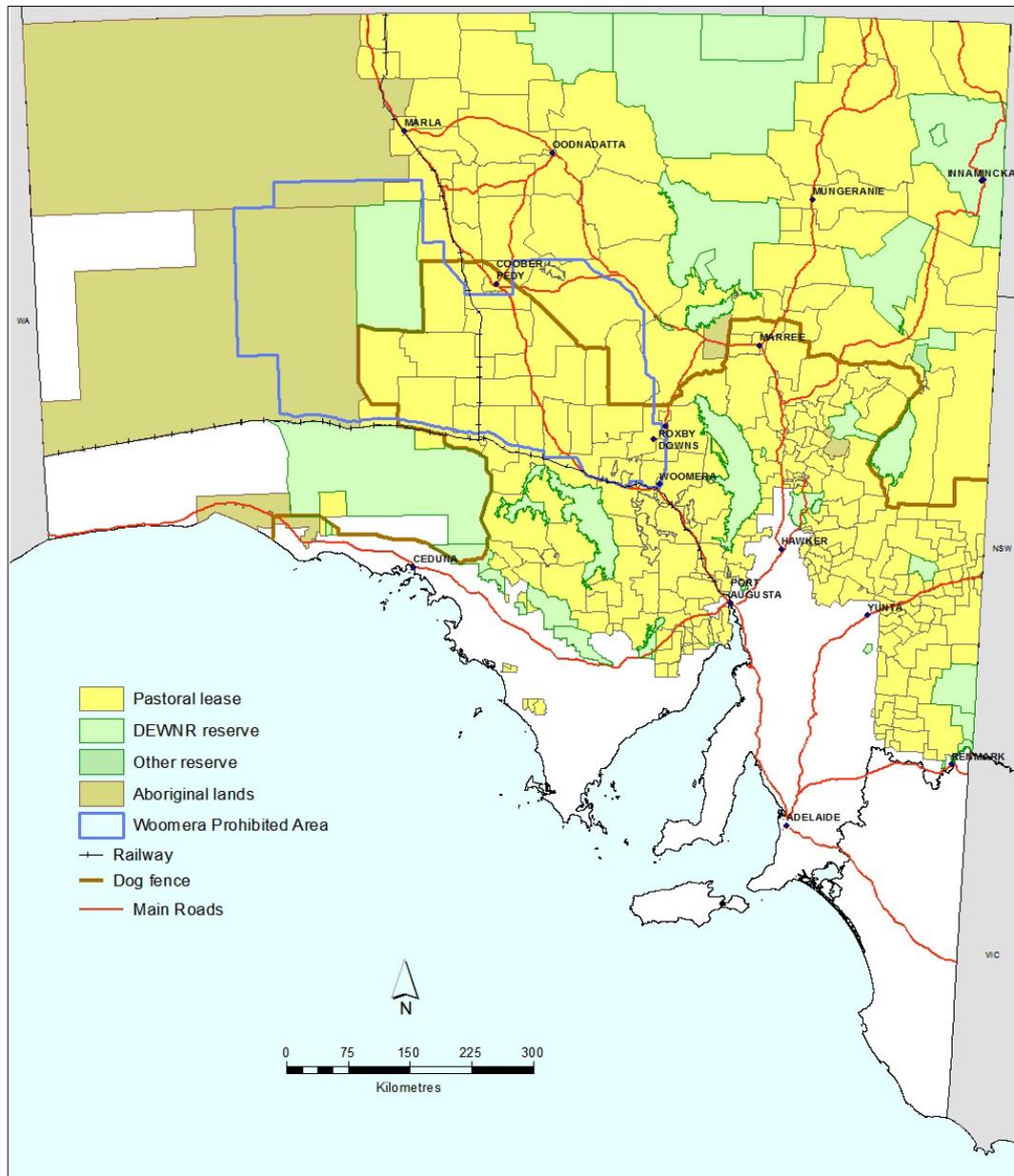
(a) must act consistently with and seek to further the objects of this Act; and

(b) must have regard to plans or guidelines established by Government agencies, regional NRM boards and planning authorities that are applicable to pastoral land; and

(c) must have regard to the relevant terms of any ILUA.

Pastoral Land Management and Conservation Act 1989

The Pastoral Board administers pastoral leasehold tenure over approximately 505,000 km² stretching across the north of the State. The pastoral region is made up of cattle and sheep properties, separated by the Dog Fence (with cattle north and sheep south of the fence). There are currently 324 pastoral leases in South Australia administered by the Pastoral Board and the Minister.



Pastoral lease tenure in South Australia

1.2 Purpose and operation of the Strategic Plan

The Pastoral Board's Strategic Plan establishes directions and priorities for the Board to meet its legislative responsibilities, and community and industry expectations. It creates opportunities for other stakeholders to identify prospects to partner with the Board in the management of our pastoral regions. The Plan also provides guidance for the DEWNR Pastoral Unit to support the operation of the Board.

The Board's work in achieving the Strategic Plan is supported by a 'good governance' operating principle as described in the Board's Governance Charter 2017: www.naturalresources.sa.gov.au/aridlands/about-us/pastoral-board

This Strategic Plan sets direction and actions under three priority areas:

1. Relationships and Communications
2. Contemporary Land Management and Monitoring
3. Governance and Policy

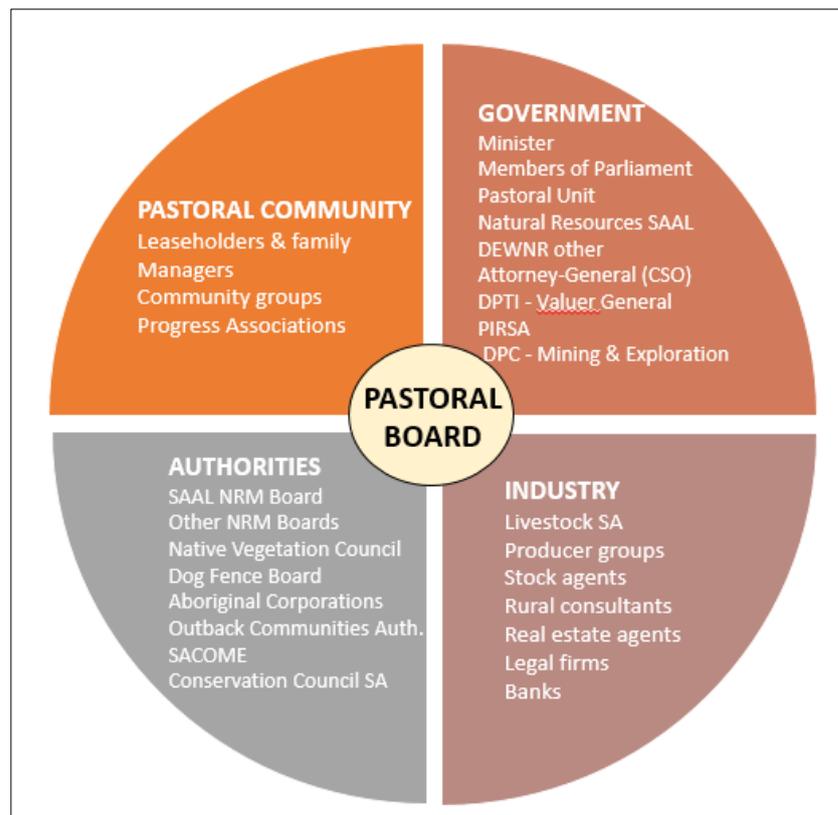
The Board will apply ongoing prioritisation to Strategic Plan actions. This implementation process will be directed by the Board through discussion at the Strategic Plan standing agenda item at every meeting.

1.3 Strategic Plan term and reviews

- The Strategic Plan will be operational from the date of adoption by the Board.
- The Strategic Plan will be updated and reviewed as required by the Board.

1.4 Stakeholders and relationships

The Pastoral Board has a range of stakeholders within the pastoral community, industry sectors, and government and non-government agencies. A strong focus of this Strategic Plan is to strengthen existing and further develop new relationships, and to create collaborative partnerships to sustainably manage our pastoral landscape.



Pastoral Board stakeholders

2 BOARD VISION AND MISSION

The **Vision** of the Pastoral Board is that the South Australian pastoral lands are sustainably managed for current and future generations.

The Board's **Mission** is that the Board will achieve the vision through:

- Monitoring land condition.
- Working with communities.
- Utilising research, data and best practice.
- Having a strong compliance framework and application.
- Provide for maintaining landscape function and biodiversity, including through rehabilitation work.
- Communicating and engaging with pastoralists and other stakeholders effectively.
- Working in partnership with lessees to promote the objects of the PLMC Act.

3 PRIORITY DIRECTIONS AND ACTIONS

3.1 Priority Direction 1: Relationships and Communications

1. RELATIONSHIPS AND COMMUNICATIONS	
<p>Outcomes sought: The pastoral community and other key partners, have a clear understanding of the role and functions of the Board and are actively engaged in conversation and consultation with the Board.</p>	
Priority Areas	Actions
<p>1.1 Strengthen connectivity and presence of the Board with key partners and stakeholders</p>	<p>1.1.1 Conduct an annual forum on key issues and opportunities with stakeholders.</p> <p>1.1.2 Nominate Board members as key 'go-to' contacts for issues and stakeholder groups.</p> <p>1.1.3 Establish and/or update collaborative agreements between the Board and other statutory authorities or industry groups as required.</p> <p>1.1.4 Increase online and social media presence.</p>
<p>1.2 Increase understanding of the Board's roles and responsibilities</p>	<p>1.2.1 Develop a fact sheet on the role of the Board.</p> <p>1.2.2 Publish the Board's communique every two months.</p> <p>1.2.3 Develop 'introductory pack' for new pastoralists.</p>
<p>1.3 Deliver effective and targeted communication</p>	<p>1.3.1 Develop a Stakeholder Engagement and Communication Plan.</p> <p>1.3.2 Develop communication statements for the Board on priority topics.</p> <p>1.3.3 Develop a series of fact sheets on issues pertinent to lessees (e.g. lease assessment process).</p> <p>1.3.4 Partner with key Aboriginal groups to enhance engagement with Aboriginal communities.</p>
<p>1.4 Creating platforms to lead discussion and decision-making</p>	<p>1.4.1 Maintain two meetings and/or public forums per year in the region.</p> <p>1.4.2 Board member and Pastoral Unit staff conduct regional visits for direct engagement on local issues.</p> <p>1.4.3 Undertake consultation sessions on key topics with identified stakeholders.</p>
<p>Measures of Success:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Maintenance of existing partnerships. The development of new relationships with stakeholders. The role and operation of the Board is understood. The provision of timely, effective and regular communication and information. The enhancement of the Pastoral Board's profile. The generation of positive publicity (including media articles) in the public domain. Community accesses the Board as a credible source of advice and assistance. 	

3.2 Priority Direction 2: Contemporary Land Management and Monitoring

2. CONTEMPORARY LAND MANAGEMENT AND MONITORING	
Outcomes sought: Utilising an evidence based approach which incorporates contemporary science and management practices with new technologies, to underpin the management and monitoring of the pastoral regions.	
Priority Areas	Actions
2.1 Develop a contemporary monitoring, evaluation and compliance framework	<p>2.1.1 Develop a contemporary land condition monitoring and evaluation process.</p> <p>2.1.2 Develop a revised method for pastoral lease assessments.</p> <p>2.1.3 Review the measurement unit for livestock on pastoral leases.</p> <p>2.1.4 Establish a clear and transparent compliance approach for administering the PLMC Act.</p> <p>2.1.5 Identify opportunities to utilise remote sensing technologies.</p> <p>2.1.6 Review of existing methodologies used nationally and internationally.</p>
2.2 Establish research partnerships	<p>2.2.1 Develop a research prospectus for the Board.</p> <p>2.2.2 Identify opportunities to partner with others utilising new technologies for monitoring, evaluation and compliance.</p> <p>2.2.3 Establish membership and/or affiliations with relevant networks or bodies.</p>
2.3 Encourage the application of best practice pastoral management	<p>2.3.1 Promote the application of sustainable property planning and management tools (e.g. Spatial Hub).</p> <p>2.3.2 Promote best practice case studies and distribute to stakeholders.</p>
Measures of Success:	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Increased efficiencies in our monitoring and compliance. 2. Increase in the understanding of the Board's approach to compliance. 3. Increased effectiveness of the assessment process. 4. The incorporation of contemporary techniques and tools in the assessment process. 5. Increase affiliation with research bodies. 6. Increased promotion of best practice tools. 7. The role of lease assessments is understood by lessees. 	

3.3 Priority Direction 3: Governance and Policy

3. GOVERNANCE AND POLICY	
Outcomes sought: Decision making is clear, consistent, transparent, efficient and is underpinned by fit for purpose policies.	
Priority Areas	Actions
3.1 Continuous improvement of Board governance and operations	3.1.1 Make public the Governance Charter. 3.1.2 Regularly seek Ministerial and DEWNR CE feedback on key issues and priorities. 3.1.3 Undertake annual Board performance reviews. 3.1.4 Develop an induction process and handbook for Board members.
3.2 Ensuring policies and procedures underpin decision-making	3.2.1 Undertake a policy library review. 3.2.2 Amending existing policies and develop new policies as required. 3.2.3 Establish and maintain a review schedule for all Board policies. 3.2.4 Develop administrative procedures to underpin legislative delegated functions. 3.2.5 Collaborate with key partners on policy development.
3.3 Continuously build and review skills for effective administration of the act	3.3.1 Develop register of Board skills and experience. 3.3.2 Review required skills for staff to support the Board. 3.3.3 Conduct tailored training and development for Board and staff as required.
Measures of Success:	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Annual Board performance reviews are conducted. 2. A comprehensive suite of policies that support the Act and respond to emerging trends. 3. A mix and blend of skills on the Board. 	