

**From:** Pastoral Lands Board  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 8 September 2021 3:02 PM  
**Subject:** Update from PLB Chairperson

Dear Pastoralists

With the end of 2021 fast approaching, I write to provide an update on the activities of the Pastoral Lands Board (PLB) over the past few months.

### **Regional meeting held in Mount Magnet**

The PLB held its April meeting in Mount Magnet. As we were unable to hold regional events in 2020 due to COVID-19 restrictions, it was a welcome opportunity to meet with the Southern Rangelands Pastoral Alliance (SRPA) and join their field day to view regeneration and land management projects.

A convoy drove to Yoweragabbie Station to view land management techniques aiming to prevent flooding and land degradation. The next stop was Boogardie Station to see pest management mitigations, including a dog-proof fence.

The PLB hosted the Minister for Lands, Hon Dr Tony Buti MLA and the Minister for Regional Development, Agriculture and Food, Hydrogen Industry, Hon Alannah MacTiernan MLC at an event for over 70 people at Boogardie Station. Both Ministers outlined their plans to support new economic opportunities and diversification in our regions. The trip concluded with a visit to Challa Station to view the results of techniques used to regenerate vegetation.

The visit not only highlighted the challenges being faced by Murchison pastoralists, but demonstrated some of the innovative land management techniques they are using to improve the rangelands. I would like to thank everyone who made the event a success, in particular Jorgen Jensen at Yoweragabbie, the Jones family at Boogardie, the Dowden family at Challa, the SRPA who hosted us, Yulella Aboriginal Corporation for the catering, the Shire of Mount Magnet for allowing us the use of the Council Chambers for the PLB meeting, and everyone who attended the event.

### **Read our Statement of Strategic Intent 2021-23 and other policies**

The PLB has continued to focus on the development of policies for the pastoral estate as an objective of our [Statement of Strategic Intent 2021-2023](#). The newly released Policy Structure ensures a coordinated and consistent approach to policy development.

The PLB is committed to ensuring the [Pastoral Purposes Framework](#) responds to industry needs, with the most recent update relating to abattoirs.

An updated [Rangeland Management Compliance Policy](#) was also recently published which aligns with the PLB's commitment to working cooperatively with pastoralists and government to achieve improved land management and economic outcomes.

The PLB is guided in this work by a number of documents and report, including The [Status of the Western Australian pastoral rangelands 2020](#), the annual report from the Commissioner of Soil and Land Conservation to the PLB. I encourage you to read this report, as it makes interesting reading.

## **What's next?**

Going forward, the PLB will focus on working with Minister Buti and the government more broadly on reforms aimed at improving land condition and land management. The PLB is progressing a number of policies and procedures, including growing non-indigenous plant species on pastoral land, and clarifying pastoralist's rights and responsibilities in relation to native vegetation clearing.

## **We Need Your Help with Policy Development**

Policy development benefits from practical input from a wide variety of stakeholders, especially pastoralists themselves. The PLB is developing a register of people to contribute to its policy development — if you are happy to be called on to provide feedback on various policy issues as the need arises, please contact Birra-Li Cunningham on [plb@plb.wa.gov.au](mailto:plb@plb.wa.gov.au).

Engagement with land managers and other stakeholders remains a high priority for the PLB. In April 2022 the PLB plans to hold a regional meeting in Kununurra – keep an eye on your inbox for details. As always, feel free to contact me at [plb@plb.wa.gov.au](mailto:plb@plb.wa.gov.au).

Tim Shackleton  
PLB Chairperson