



Pastoral Bulletin

5 November 2012

STOCK THEFT

The Chair, EO and Edgar Richardson attended the most recent meeting of the Livestock Industry Standards Forum. The Chair represented the President.

Imminent changes to the BAM Act regulations will make ear marking and branding voluntary, rather than mandatory. It is the opinion of the WA Police Service that only an accepted identifier will serve as proof of ownership and the forum agreed to write to the Minister presenting this view. Both the President and the Chair have also written to government opposing voluntary ear marking and branding.

To assist in the prevention of livestock theft, the Chair has agreed that the PGA will draft a pastoral industry Code of Practice setting out the moral obligations required to be a good neighbour, and specifically the requirements associated with a boundary muster along fence lines, etc. Members are requested to provide feedback to assist with the drafting.

FIREARMS

Members are reminded that Firearms must be secured according Schedule 4 of the *Firearms Regulations 1974*. Amongst many other things, this says the firearms cabinet or container must be anchored from the inside at 2 points on each of 2 surfaces to 2 immovable structural surfaces with 8mmx75mm masonry fixing bolts, or coach screws, as is appropriate. At each anchor point, the firearms cabinet or container is to be reinforced with a 40mmx40mmx2mm metal plate, or 40mmx2mm metal washers, fitted between the firearms cabinet or container and the head of the bolt or coach screw.

KIMBERLEY NATIONAL HERITAGE LISTING

Following an inquiry via the Chair, it appears that the draft guidelines pertaining to the natural heritage listing of the West Kimberley have been received by pastoralists. The accompanying letter had requested comment by October 15.

The EO has rung the Acting Assistant Director of the Heritage and Wildlife Division of the Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities, Mr Brian Prince and he has agreed that pastoralists could have until the end of the year to submit written comment.

NLIS TAGGING

Following industry complaints, the Chair has tabled the PGA's policy position that there should be a 2% tolerance on cattle RFID tag losses at both the NLIS cattle working group meeting and the Cattle Industry Consultative Group meeting. The PGA's position is that unreadable and lost tags are unavoidable and the cost of rectifying this should not be borne by pastoralists.

KIMBERLEY DIVISION MEETING

A successful meeting of the division was held in Fitzroy Crossing on Wednesday October 24. Long serving Chairman, Jim Motter stood down, and Peter Camp was elected Chairman in a contested election decided by secret ballot. The PGA President was the returning officer and the EO acted as scrutineer. David Stoate was re-elected Vice-Chairman and Mrs. Annette Henwood was re-elected Treasurer. Both were unopposed.

UPCOMING MEETINGS – 2012 / 13

Pastoral - 5 December; Executive - 6 December; Kimberley Division. - 19 April 2013.

1st Floor, Pastoral House, 277 Great Eastern Highway, BELMONT WA 6104

Telephone: (08) 9479 4599

Facsimile: (08) 9277 7311

Web Site: www.pgaofwa.org.au

Pastoral Chairman – Ruth Webb-Smith - 0408 886 086

Executive Officer Ian Randles 9479 4599

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