

STOCK ROUTES IN THE MARANOA

What you need to know



What is a stock route?

Stock routes are a network of roads, reserves and corridors used for the movement, grazing and management of livestock. They are an important and historic part of Queensland's rural landscape and continue to support agricultural operations today.

Stock routes in Maranoa

The Maranoa region has one of the largest stock route networks in Queensland, covering approximately:

- 3,900 km of stock routes across the region
- Connecting to multiple neighbouring local government areas
- Including primary, secondary and tertiary routes

This extensive network supports local and regional livestock movement and provides critical access during dry seasons and emergencies.

Why do stock routes exist?

The Queensland stock route network has a long and rich history of supporting landholders. Today, it is mainly used for:

- Moving livestock between properties or to market
- Providing pasture for emergency agistment during drought, fire or flood
- Supporting long-term grazing where appropriate

Stock routes are also valued for:

- Native flora and fauna and remnant vegetation
- Indigenous and non-Indigenous cultural heritage
- Essential infrastructure such as water pipelines, power and communication networks

How can stock routes be used?

1. Travelling Stock

Moving livestock on foot along the network (droving).

- ✓ Alternative to trucking
- ✓ Can reduce transport costs and animal stress
- ✓ Requires a permit

2. Grazing (Agistment)

Temporary grazing of stock on stock route reserves.

- ✓ Often used during drought or limited feed availability
- ✓ Helps support producers during challenging conditions
- ✓ Requires a permit

3. Water Use

Using water facilities located on stock routes.

- ✓ Includes bores, tanks and troughs
- ✓ Requires a permit or agreement

4. Recreational Use

Some stock routes may be used for low-impact activities such as:

- Camping
- Bushwalking
- Birdwatching

Recreational users must not interfere with:

- Livestock
- Infrastructure
- Authorised users

Do I need a permit?

Yes. To use the stock route network, you need permits for:

- Travelling stock on foot
- Grazing (agistment) of stock
- Using water facilities

Permits are issued by Council, and conditions apply to ensure fair and sustainable use.

How to apply

To apply for a stock route permit:

1. Complete the [Application for a Stock Route Travel Permit](#)
2. Complete the [Application for a Stock Route Grazing \(Agistment\) Permit](#)
3. Lodge your application with Council at least 7 days before travel is to start
4. Email: land.management@maranoa.qld.gov.au

Pay the applicable application fee

Who manages stock routes?

Stock routes are managed by:

- Maranoa Regional Council – local management, permits and maintenance
- Queensland Government – legislation and overall framework

Why does Council have a Stock Route Management Plan?

Maranoa Regional Council has a Stock Route Management Plan to guide how the network is managed.

The Plan ensures stock routes are:

- Sustainably managed and available for future use
- Maintained in a safe and usable condition
- Protected from overuse and environmental damage
- Managed for weeds, pests and biosecurity risks
- Balanced for multiple uses, including agriculture, environment and infrastructure

Your responsibilities

When using stock routes, you must:

- Hold the correct permit
- Follow permit conditions
- Manage animal welfare
- Prevent the spread of weeds and pests
- Respect other users and neighbouring landholders

For more information, please call Council's Rural Lands Services on
1300 007 662

