

SUBMISSION NO.1 FROM MECKERING LANDOWNER – RECEIVED 14 JUNE 2024 VIA EMAIL

Dear Stuart,

Please find our submission objecting to the planning proposal No.4079 Goomalling-Meckering Road, Meckering.

The reasons for the objections are:

The area bound by Goomalling-Meckering Road, Wilson Street and Dowerin-Meckering Roads forms part of the Avon Catchment Area and is in close proximity to the Mortlock River. All the properties within this area are not suitable for hooved animals as confirmed at various times by the Soil Commissioner. The land in this area is of clay soil, it is reactive soil and there is salt infection on the majority of the properties and ground water is close to the surface especially in winter months, waterlogging and erosion issues are also impacting properties in the area.

Allowing up to 15 Alpacas on one property in this area with damaged clay soils, waterlogging, erosion issues and salt issues will not just impact Lot 205 but will impact surrounding properties and also the Native Reserve located on Hackett Street which is almost across from the property listed in the proposal. Nutrient runoff, excess flies, damage to already fragile land including erosion damage and possible contamination of ground water are all issues that are of concern.

The land currently has been cleared of all native vegetation and grasses, the animals are currently occupying boundary areas and have not been setback as per the small animal holding guidelines. This creates less areas for the holding of the animals to be housed in a sustainable manner. Any runoff from this property will end up in the floodplain and riparian vegetation along the Goomalling-Meckering Road then directed to the Mortlock River. There is also a house, vehicles and other setback areas that would need to be complied with which reduces the total land available to house animals making it less than 2 hectares (5 acres). **link to the stocking rate guidelines [viewcontent.cgi \(dpird.wa.gov.au\)](http://viewcontent.cgi(dpird.wa.gov.au))**

It is also my understanding that a few Alpacas died during the summer months, this should also be investigated as this could imply there is already an overstocking issue on the property.

I have included the following from the Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development:

Paddock essentials

Alpacas require similar fencing to sheep, preferably without barbed wire and shade in each paddock.

It is important to have a suitable yard or catch pen for welfare checks, to administer injections or to catch animals for shearing.

Fenced laneways between paddocks will help facilitate the movement of animals with minimum stress for animal and owner.

When breeding alpacas landholders need to have quarantine and nursery paddocks.

Nursery paddocks should be situated in a sheltered location, preferably near the house. This will facilitate the monitoring of females as they go into labour.

The quarantine paddock should be either on the boundary of the property or near key animal handling facilities. It should also have wash down facilities.

New or sick animals should be held in the quarantine paddock until they improve or have been vet checked and have excreted any weed seeds they may have brought from their place of origin.

Link to the above [Basics of alpaca keeping | Agriculture and Food](#)

I am not confident that there is enough land to provide the correct paddocks and yards to house 15 Alpacas sustainably.

There are several other properties within the area housing animals and these properties are also damaged and been stripped of their native vegetation, for example a combination of donkeys and alpacas (6 in total) are being kept on 10 acres of total land and the land is now in bad condition. This should be enough proof that the area is not suitable for any hooved animals.

ATTACHMENT 2

SUBMISSION NO.2 FROM MECKERING LANDOWNER – RECEIVED 17 JUNE 2024 VIA EMAIL

To Whom it May Concern,

As neighbours to the above location we are very impressed by the management of their alpaca herd and fully support them in continuing to run them next door to us.

We previously ran a large herd of these animals on our property & adjoining properties with no problem from other residents in the area.

We only became aware of the necessity of this communication from reading of the Cunderdin Shire Snippets as we are currently with family in the Kimberly but wholeheartedly support the retention of this industry in our area.