

OPERATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PLAN
Proposed Free-Range Egg Farm
66 Chintapee Road, Bringo WA

1. Purpose of this Management Plan

This Operational Environmental Management Plan has been prepared in support of a Development Application for a proposed small-scale free-range egg farming operation consisting of approximately 500 laying hens at 66 Chintapee Road, Bringo.

The purpose of this document is to outline how potential environmental and amenity impacts associated with the operation will be appropriately managed, including:

- nutrient and waste management,
- noise management,
- odour management, and
- dust management.

The proposal is intended to operate in a manner that is consistent with the rural character of the locality and minimises impacts on surrounding landowners.

2. Overview of Proposed Operation

The proposal consists of:

- approximately 500 free-range laying hens,
- mobile poultry housing in fitted caravans,
- rotational electric fencing to allow pasture rotation,
- feed storage in an 8 tonne silo,
- egg collection and packaging on-site, and
- small-scale supply to local markets, farm gate sales and local hospitality businesses.

The operation will be owner-operated with no employees proposed.

3. Nutrient and Waste Management

The proposal is considered low-scale relative to the property size of approximately 16.85 hectares.

The hens will be managed using rotational free-range grazing areas through movable electric fencing which will:

- distribute manure naturally across varying areas of the property,
- minimise nutrient concentration in any one location,
- reduce ground degradation,
- maintain pasture health, and
- reduce odour and fly build-up.

The low stocking density relative to the land size is expected to ensure nutrient levels entering the soil remain manageable and consistent with normal rural agricultural practices.

Additional management measures include:

- regular cleaning and relocation of poultry housing areas,
- maintaining dry bedding material where required,
- preventing excessive manure accumulation,
- appropriate feed storage to minimise vermin attraction, and
- ongoing monitoring of ground conditions.

Dead animals, if any occur, will be removed promptly and disposed of appropriately in accordance with relevant local and biosecurity requirements.

Unwanted or damaged eggs will be disposed of responsibly in a manner that does not create odour, vermin or environmental impacts.

4. Noise Management

The proposal is not expected to generate significant noise impacts due to:

- the relatively small scale of the operation,
- large separation distances from neighbouring dwellings,
- the rural nature of the locality, and
- the absence of heavy industrial machinery.

Noise sources are expected to be limited to:

- general poultry sounds,
- occasional vehicle movements,
- feed deliveries, and
- normal rural farming activities.

No industrial processing equipment is proposed.

Operations will generally occur during daytime hours only.

5. Dust Management

Dust generation associated with the proposal is expected to be minimal.

Management measures include:

- maintaining vegetated free-range areas,
- rotational grazing practices to prevent bare ground,
- limiting vehicle movements where practical,
- maintaining access areas appropriately, and
- monitoring ground conditions during dry periods.

The proposal's low stocking intensity and rotational management practices are expected to significantly reduce the likelihood of dust impacts.

6. Odour Management

Odour impacts are expected to be minimal due to:

- the free-range nature of the operation,
- low stocking density,
- rotational grazing management,
- large land area,
- regular cleaning practices, and
- separation distances from neighbouring properties.

The operation will not involve intensive poultry sheds or industrial waste storage.

Measures to minimise odour include:

- regular relocation of fencing and grazing areas,
- prompt removal of waste materials where required,
- maintaining clean water sources and feed areas, and
- ongoing monitoring of poultry housing conditions.

7. Water and Animal Welfare

The property contains existing dams, mature trees and natural shade suitable for free-range poultry welfare.

Fresh water will be available to poultry at all times through trough systems and dam-supported farm water infrastructure.

The rotational grazing approach is intended to support:

- animal welfare,
- pasture regeneration,
- land sustainability, and
- reduced environmental impacts.

8. Conclusion

The proposed operation is considered a low-impact rural agricultural activity that is appropriate for the size and rural nature of the property.

The management practices outlined in this document are intended to minimise environmental and amenity impacts while supporting sustainable small-scale food production within the Geraldton region.