LAND WATCH

HOW TO PROTECT YOUR CATTLE STATION

KEEPING AN EYE ON WHAT'S IMPORTANT



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O1 INTRODUCTION

Your station might be one of the big ones in the top end with the crocs, or maybe it was one of the Kidman properties that has a history that stretches back to settlement.

It might have been in the family for a few generations, or maybe it's the thing that gets you out of the city and into the clean air once in a while. Each station is unique, and each station is worth protecting.

Over the years, we at Land Watch have had the privilege of installing security camera systems across some of the most incredible properties all over the country. Whilst each property is different for sure, there are a few core things to consider.



SECURING YOUR CATTLE STATION

Entry Points: Controlling Access and Record-Keeping

The amount of vehicle traffic coming and going from a working cattle station is relatively low compared to other agricultural properties like a feedlot or dairy.

As operations expand, the volume of traffic also grows, with more staff, contractors, deliveries, and trucks using the roads. In most cases, these vehicles enter through the main access point, typically a grid.

License Plate Recognition (ANPR)

Having an Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR) camera can help maintain records of all vehicles entering and leaving the property.

This can be cross-referenced with visitor records and delivery schedules to ensure accountability.





Biosecurity Monitoring

With so much land to cover, it is essential to monitor who has been on the property in order to prevent and control contamination or unauthorized access.

Shed Security: Equipment and Workplace Safety

Machinery sheds, vehicle sheds and the workshop contain valuable equipment that is used daily in station operations.

Some of this equipment is regularly moved around, while other tools may remain stationary for extended periods.

Preventing Equipment Theft

Monitoring movement within and around the sheds can help deter theft and unauthorized usage of farm machinery.



Workplace Health & Safety (WHS) Compliance

Video records of work areas can provide crucial insights in case of an accident. Ensuring that equipment is being used correctly, and safety protocols are being followed. As well as providing evidence for incident reviews.







Fuel Management: Preventing Loss and Ensuring Fair Use

Fuel is one of the most expensive inputs on a station, and its proper management can save thousands of dollars annually.



Tracking Deliveries

Being able to confirm the fuel was delivered, reduces disputes with suppliers regarding quantity discrepancies.



Monitoring Usage

Ensuring that farm vehicles and machinery are the only ones being refuelled, prevents unauthorized use and potential fuel theft.

Stock Yards: Securing and Monitoring

Keeping an eye on the stock in the yards makes sense considering they are the heart of the operation.

Whether you're storing them overnight while awaiting the truck or ensuring they are loaded onto the correct truck smoothly, eliminating any guesswork is essential.



Loading Ramps

Keep a record of every truck load just in case what they receive on the other end doesn't match what you sent, or vise versa.

Full Time Monitoring

Stock stored in remote yards are like sitting ducks, often waiting to be picked up. Make sure you know who is picking them up and they are happy and healthy during the wait.





3 ADDITIONAL MONITORING

Weather Monitoring: Fire, Rain and Disasters

It is a testament to the size of some properties that the rain fall can vary so much from side to side. Likewise, seeing smoke on the horizon can leave you uncertain whether it's on your land or a neighbor's.

Weather Monitoring

Access to remote cameras across various areas of the property, can help establish what the weather has been doing around the block.

Early Detection

Getting on top of the spread of unwanted fire early, can be the difference between a couple hundred acres or a couple hundred thousand acres burnt.

Water Traps: Safer and Better Trapping

In those hard to muster areas of the property, often the best bet is the water trap. But how do you know when the cattle are comfortable using it, when to add spears, or when enough have gathered to go out and collect them?

Movement Observation

Video monitoring can help identify when the stock are coming and going from the water and allow you to make the call that they are ready to trap.

Management Efficiency

It is always frustrating to make the trip all the way out to the trap only to see it empty. Remotely check on the camera to see how many are in there before sending the truck out.

Water Points: Remote Monitoring for Efficiency

Water availability is critical to livestock health. Ensuring reliable water access reduces stress on both farmers and animals.

Water Level & Condition Monitoring

Remote checks on water points help detect issues early, eliminating unnecessary manual inspections and improving response times in case of shortages.

See below some camera examples:



O4 WI-FI CONNECTIVITY

Wi-Fi Connectivity: Staying Connected, Staying Safe

At each point where cameras are connected, a reliable internet connection is required.

If we are going to the effort of setting up the internet connection at a remote set of yards or down at the workshop, we might as well spread the Wi-Fi as well.

Crush Side Technology

Increasing the equipment we use at the crush, requires an internet connection. The apps, tablets and scanners all say they work well offline and can be synced later, but it is so much more efficient if they are connected all day.

Emergency Call Point

Just like the classic emergency phone on the highway, knowing that simply reaching the yards or that remote water point camera means access to Wi-Fi and the ability to call for help can make all the difference.



05 SECURITY TOP TIPS

When it comes to protecting your property, there's a few tips that we like to remind people of when it comes to security.

DETERENCE IS KEY

While other cameras are focused on catching something, the front entry camera serves a different purpose—it sends a clear message: Do not enter. If we can stop them from coming onto the property in the first place, we'll never have to worry about where the Land Cruiser went—because they never came in.

RIGHT CAMERA FOR THE RIGHT JOB

Take the front entry as an example—if vehicles are passing at 80 km/h, a standard camera won't cut it. It's not designed to capture details at high speed or at night time. To clearly see number plates and other details in this scenario, you would need an Automatic Number Plate Recognition Camera.

ACCURATE ALERTS AND NOTIFICATIONS

Alerts need to be accurate and reliable. If your camera system notifies you every time a tree moves or a shadow passes, it becomes the boy who cried wolf. When a real threat appears, you might ignore it—and we all know how that story ends.

O6 CONCLUSION

A well-monitored cattle station allows for better decision-making, improved security, and enhanced efficiency.

If we can set up cameras across the key areas —including entrances, sheds, fuel storage, and livestock areas—farmers can proactively protect their investment and maintain smooth operations.

Please reach out whenever you want to chat or have questions! We love hearing about your properties and discovering ways in which we might be able to help.

We are easily accessible on Instagram or Facebook, via email or the website and we're more than happy to have a chat over the phone.



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