

Planície do Pantanal Sul

TERRITORIAL DIAGRAM | CATTLE FARMING REGIONS SERIES

01 | CATTLE FARMING IDENTITY

The Southern Pantanal Floodplain links extensive cow-calf production in the wetlands to stocker and finishing operations along the highland margins. Floods, droughts, and native pastures guide management. Small producers predominate, traditional Pantanal knowledge connects production, conservation, and culture, and intensification is advancing on higher ground.

TERRITORIAL OVERVIEW

The six municipalities lie within the Upper Paraguay River Basin, along the borders with Bolivia and Paraguay. Highway BR-262 connects production to slaughter hubs in Corumbá, Aquidauana, and Campo Grande. Long distances and seasonal flooding limit access, with no established rail or waterway alternatives.

MUNICIPALITIES: Aquidauana, Bodoquena, Corumbá, Ladário, Miranda e Porto Murtinho (MS).



View on
Google Maps



4.24m

head of cattle

• 19.43 cattle per resident



107,406

km² of land area

• 15.7% pastureland
• 82.9% natural land cover



R\$ 4.03bn

Agricultural value

• Estimated regional value

02 | CURRENT SITUATION ASSESSMENT MATRIX

PROBLEM	MAIN CAUSE	EFFECT ON THE REGION
Weak governance and legal certainty	Conflicting interpretations of fire use, rights-of-way, and Rural Land Tax (ITR) are compounded by a lack of ongoing coordination among agencies.	Uncertainty hinders decisions and procedures suited to Pantanal conditions.
Limited rewards for conservation and origin	Payments for environmental services, certification, and traceability have limited reach and generate little market differentiation.	Environmental and regional attributes fail to generate consistent economic returns.
Limited infrastructure and logistics	Critical sections of BR-262 and poor integration with rail and waterways restrict cattle transport options.	Costs rise, and access to slaughter hubs and markets remains limited.
Farm succession and Pantanal knowledge at risk	Labor shortages and young people leaving hinder the transfer of knowledge about water, pastures, fire, and cattle.	A continuidade da atividade e do manejo ativo da planície fica comprometida.
Fragmented basin and climate risk management	Sediment and interventions in the highlands affect the floodplain, without integrated management of the Upper Paraguay River Basin.	Siltation, floods, droughts, and wildfires increase production and environmental vulnerability.
Rural isolation and poor access to services	Long distances and limited access routes, electricity, internet, education, and healthcare isolate farms and communities.	Technology access and quality of life suffer, driving families and workers away.

The future of cattle farming in the Southern Pantanal Floodplain

Transforming cattle farming in the Southern Pantanal Floodplain builds on existing producer-led governance and requires aligned commitments from government and markets.



 PRODUCER COMMITMENTS	 GOVERNMENT COMMITMENTS	 MARKET COMMITMENTS
1 Integrated water, pasture, and fire management Plan herds and pastures around floods and droughts, prevent wildfires, and track production and environmental indicators to combine farming with conservation.	4 Legal certainty and integrated governance Coordinate public agencies, align criteria and rules for preventive fire management, and integrate risk management and interventions across the Upper Paraguay River Basin.	7 Preferential purchasing of Pantanal products Adopt transparent purchasing and payment criteria that reward origin, environmental compliance, and native pasture conservation.
2 Organization for origin and certification Strengthen associations, coordinate supply, and expand origin, traceability, and compliance protocols, building scale to increase product value.	5 Environmental payments and tailored support Implement payments for environmental services and provide credit, insurance, and technical assistance suited to the Pantanal's seasonality and risks.	8 Traceability, certification, and markets Support origin and certification protocols, connecting meatpackers, auction companies, retailers, and buyers to expand markets and increase the value of Pantanal beef.
3 Succession and Pantanal knowledge Include young people in management and decisions, support their training, and pass on knowledge of water, pasture, fire, and livestock management.	6 Rural infrastructure, connectivity, and services Restore highways and access routes, integrate transport modes, and expand electricity, internet, education, and healthcare to cut costs and help people remain in rural areas.	9 Investment in value chain development Invest in processing, logistics, and commercial and technological solutions that reduce bottlenecks, support producer compliance, and create local value.

SOUTHERN PANTANAL FLOODPLAIN | HOW ACTIONS DELIVER RESULTS

How the pact transforms the region

