



## Factsheet series

# Sustainable Rangeland – Wet Areas

### Importance

Springs, gullies, wetlands and river areas provide important watering areas for both livestock and wild animals. These areas can be easily degraded if grazing is not controlled (Figure 1).

### Fact

Controlled grazing in wet areas will store more water, lead to less erosion and provide water for livestock longer in the dry season than degraded wet areas.

### Rules for Wet Areas

1. Bunched herding for controlled entry and exit to wet areas.
2. Livestock should exit as soon as finished drinking.
3. Livestock should never graze permanent 'wet zones' (Figure 1).
4. A buffer zone of at least 20 steps should occur with light grazing allowed. This leads to well managed wet areas (Figure 2).



*Figure 1. A degraded spring area on Enonkishu Conservancy where uncontrolled grazing is occurring.*



*Figure 2. A wetland area where grazing has been controlled and Livestock not allowed to enter the 'wet zone'. These areas will provide important drought grazing areas.*