Chapter 7
Recommendations

For the Maasai:

- work hard to enforce within their community, the traditional values of common pool resource land and reinforce traditional authority over the protection of Maasailand as a whole.

- Work together in cooperation rather than as independent villages in the tackling and resolution of common resource problems as outlined in detail for each village in the preliminary findings reports distributed at the preliminary findings meeting.

- Work together to formulate a Development Plan of Action for the area based on the needs of the Maasai community

For NGOs and governmental agencies:

- Whilst a reduction in the area cultivated does not look too feasible, teaching the Maasai the most suitable techniques for the sustainable cultivation of the area might at least reduce the damage to the land.

- The village authority controls the location and the amounts of land cultivated (apart from south of the tar road, where the army acts as an authority restricting cultivation). It would be to the benefit of everyone if a meeting with agricultural experts could be arranged and the dilemma of how to increase yield without increasing the land area cultivated and degrading the land further be discussed. The best locations of fields for minimal environmental impact also need to be investigated and made known.

- The PPPM methodology as outlined in this thesis provides a tool, that is proven to work with the Maasai of this area. It can direct agencies and organisations as to the most important resource issues in the area. The methodology, if used regularly, can also act as monitoring device to measure the success of intervention/assistance.

- When there is a complete locational data set of resources in the area, land use managers and stakeholders should work together to input into the GIS all the information at their disposal. By reassessing the needs and factors of the stakeholders spatially better land management techniques could be developed. The power of the GIS to compute algorithms taking into account distance to nearest hospital, economic status of the household etc and compute cost cover maps should be utilized especially in any decisions regarding resource location. Whilst there was not enough time to develop such a system within the confines of this thesis, it would be strongly recommended that the applications of GIS in the context of the resource and management issues in the southern area of the Burko Hunting Block be utilized.

- The PPPM technique works well with the Maasai in the Burko area. It would be interesting to see whether it worked as effectively with other tribes and people. The potential for it to become a recognised PRA tool is high but more work needs to be done to prove whether it is appropriate in all situations and locations.