NASA LEWS - Waterhole Monitoring For Livestock Early Warning

(http://watermon.tamu.edu/)

ADVANTAGES OF NASA LEWS WATER MONITORING SYSTEM

A. Water monitoring tool:

- Perfect tool to monitor changes in waterholes water levels on daily basis.
- Consistency in production of waterholes water levels
- Seasonal trends and anomalies are useful for decision makers
- Applicable for local and regional water resources monitoring
- A potential to contribute to national water resources monitoring capability

B. Early warning tool:

- Provides early warning on the conditions of waterholes in the region.
- Provides early warning for potential herd migration in search of water resources.
- Provides early warning for the potential herd loss due to drought.

C. Resource management tool for pastoral areas:

- Helps to plan migratory movement based on availability of water and pasture.
- Helps in resolution of conflicts between tribes over issues pertaining to water resources.
- Helps in conducting feasibility studies for new waterhole locations.

D. Data on Web

- Easy access waterhole water level information through World Wide Web. (http://watermon.tamu.edu/)

LIMITATIONS

- Difficult to estimate absolute waterhole water levels.
- Difficult to acquire reliable ground truth information for validation and calibration in some locations due to inaccessibility
- Does not monitor groundwater wells directly