

### Project Update: October 2009

We are pleased to report that another systematic vegetation survey to assess invasive alien plants (IAPs) was carried out from 24th August to 4th September 2009 and also from 28th September to 9th October 2009. The vegetation surveys were carried out in various vegetation communities.

The results have revealed that in Nyika National Park, there are still other IAPs that were not recorded during the previous survey. The new IAPs that have been recently assessed include water hyacinth, water lettuce and *Azolla nilotica* and these occur in water bodies in the park. Other IAPs that has been added to the already documented list include *Lantana camera*. The findings are major milestones in the fight against the occurrence, spread and distribution of these species in the park as areas to target for eradication and restoration will be well known and hence can be cost effective.

