

## Project Update: January 2011

From 6<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup> December 2010 and 17<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup> January 2011, the project team along with students from the University of Mzuzu, Department of Plant & Animal Science, started carrying out a vegetation/botanical inventory/survey to assess the distribution and abundance of IAPs in KWR. The results of the survey have shown that *Pinus patula*, and *Lantana camara* including some ferns to be identified later are other key causes of loss of indigenous plants and/or wildlife in KWR which is hindering ecotourism in this potential protected area. Further, the size of areas covered by these harmful plants are well demarcated using GPS to enable the project team to strategise their work on the eradication of the plants. The project team is also pleased to report that local chiefs and communities have pledged their support towards the eradication of these harmful plants in KWR.

