

# Oryx

The International Journal of Conservation

The original paper was published in the *Journal of the Society for the Preservation of the Wild Fauna of the Empire* (1903-1925 and 1926-1950) or in *Oryx*, the journal of Fauna and Flora International (from 1951).

The website of the journal is (from 2008):

<http://www.oryxthejournal.org/>

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More information on: <http://www.fauna-flora.org/>

The Society was founded in 1903 as the Society for the Preservation of the Wild Fauna of the Empire, and subsequently named the Fauna and Flora Preservation Society. Fauna & Flora International is conserving the planet's threatened species and ecosystems – with the people and communities who depend on them.

Oryx - The International Journal of Conservation, is now published quarterly by Cambridge University Press on behalf of Fauna & Flora International. It is a leading scientific journal of biodiversity conservation, conservation policy and sustainable use, with a particular interest in material that has the potential to improve conservation management and practice.

The website, <http://www.oryxthejournal.org/>, plays a vital role in the journal's capacity-building work. Amongst the site's many attributes is a compendium of sources of free software for researchers and details of how to access Oryx at reduced rates or for free in developing countries. The website also includes extracts from Oryx issues 10, 25 and 50 years ago, and a gallery of research photographs that provide a fascinating insight into the places, species and people described in the journal.

The [Rhino Resource Center](#) posted this PDF in June 2009. We are grateful for the permission.

fiscated with no difficulty at all. What could be easier than destroying trap lines? But they are left standing. Only the actual capture of men presents any real difficulty, but even they can be chased and disturbed, their shelters destroyed and life made difficult. Throughout the park, only one small area receives some measure of protection. Living at 10,000 ft.—under the southern slopes of Mt. Visoke, Miss Dian Fossey, a courageous American girl, who has been studying mountain gorillas for the past three years, does all within her power to keep the intruders at bay, and she puts the Conservateur and his guards to shame. Fearlessly routing herders and poachers alike, destroying hundreds of snares and scores of shelters, confiscating axes, spears, bows and arrows and anything else left by the men in their hurry to get away, she ensures that the gorillas in her study area are able to live in relative peace and security—but her range is small, and what of the gorilla groups that survive in other sections? In all probability the four animals seen by Mr Woodford are some of the remnants of a group, or groups, hunted and scattered when park guards captured two youngsters for a Zoo in Germany.\* The captures took place early in 1969, and who knows how many animals were hurt and killed when the operation was carried out?

What of the future of mountain gorilla? Obviously, if present conditions continue and become worse, they have no long-term future. The old boundaries of the Parc des Volcans have long since been passed by settlement schemes, and further settlements are planned. Control over the area is so slight there may as well be none. The few gorilla groups that survive are increasingly confined to the final and steepest slopes of the volcanoes, and even there they are not free from disturbance. The slow process of extinction is well on its way.

**Note:** Another serious threat to the gorillas, we learn from another member recently returned from Rwanda, is the decision to excise 10,000 hectares from the national park in order to grow pyrethrum. Settlers have been brought in, roads built, and the wildlife in the area destroyed.—*Editor*

### **Malawi's New Game Warden**

In Malawi Major Bruce Kinloch has been appointed Chief Game Warden, and the staff strengthened by the appointment of a biologist. The Beit Trust has given £4550 for three boreholes and pumps in the Lengwe Game Reserve, which will allow supplies to be maintained in the dry weather of July and August.

### **White Rhinos for Mozambique**

The South African Wildlife Foundation has given R5000 for the removal of 56 white rhinos from the Umfolosi Game Park in Natal to Gorongosa National Park and Maputo Game Reserve in Mozambique.

### **Oil at Sea**

The representatives of 34 nations attending the IMCO (International Maritime Consultative Organisation) in London last October agreed on more stringent rules for controlling the discharge of oil at sea: the discharge of tank washings with more than 100 parts oil per million of water is forbidden in all sea areas; also forbidden is the discharge of oil residues within 50 miles of any shore.

\* See *Oryx* December 1969 page 143