

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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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.

Dr. E. W. Russell, in his policy document for the Tanzania parks—*Management Policy in the Tanzanian National Parks* (summarised in ORYX, December 1968) wrote: 'A National Park is an area set aside where man can enjoy, as a privileged visitor, the plants and animals that are indigenous to the environment under conditions as little affected by his presence as possible, and the Trustees of a Park hold it in trust for the benefit of future generations as well as for the present'. This must be the basis of research and management plans in the Tsavo, but to implement such a policy, it is necessary to acquire as much scientific knowledge as possible about existing conditions in the park, and the changes taking place in both the habitat and the animal numbers. This requires a research service to keep a continuous check on the changes and to study specific problems related to the park's fauna and flora.

Provision for a research service of this type already exists in Tsavo National Park, but both immediate and long-term financial support is necessary if it is to survive.

White Rhinos for Whipsnade

A breeding herd of 20 white rhinos from the Umfolozi and Hluhluwe Game Reserves in Natal is to be established at Whipsnade, where the Zoological Society of London has set aside thirty acres for them. White rhinos in the Natal parks have now built up to over 1000; in addition about 500 have been taken to other African reserves, and some sent to zoos. The Parks Board has decided that a wise measure would be to establish breeding groups in other parts of the world and the London Zoo has been designated as the agent for distribution in Europe.

Commonsense Prevailed

The State of Alaska, wanting to give a lease for oil exploration and drilling in Tustumena Lake, in the Kenai National Moose Range, contended in the courts that the bottom of the lake had become its property when statehood was granted in 1959. The court however decreed that President Roosevelt in creating the reserve never intended that this semi-aquatic animal should not have the use of the water, 'nor did he envision the (moose) standing on the shores and extending their necks to giraffe-like proportions in order to enjoy the aquatic vegetation so essential to their continued existence'. Commonsense prevailed and the claim was rejected.

Parrot in Danger

The Puerto Rican parrot will be extinct in ten years if the present rate of decline continues, is the conclusion of Dr Cameron B. Kepler, who is making a WWF-financed survey of the parrot in its only habitat in the Luquillo Forest in Puerto Rico. At a favourite spot where 200 could be seen between 1953 and 1956, only 19 appeared in 1968 and 16 in 1969; a forest-wide census produced only 124. Protective measures taken so far include getting military manoeuvres stopped in all the parrot areas.

A quota for the annual catch of harp seals in the Gulf of St Lawrence and on the 'Front', off Labrador and Newfoundland, in 1971 was fixed by the International Commission for the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries at 245,000, the first time a quota has been fixed for these seals.