

Oryx

The International Journal of Conservation

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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.

National Parks of the World

The original text of the *United Nations List of National Parks and Equivalent Reserves*, edited by Jean-Paul Harroy, and published in French in 1967, has been revised, supplemented and brought up to date in the English translation by Sir Hugh Elliott. In the process it has grown from 550 pages to nearly 700, of which 80 are black-and-white photographs not in the original edition — most of them giving a very good idea of the immense variety of habitat these parks are conserving. Countries are taken in alphabetical order, their national parks and reserves listed in order of size, and information given, in standard form and order, on their status, staff, budget, tourism facilities, fauna, flora and endangered species; a useful feature is the inclusion of reserves that might be expected to be in the list, but are not, together with a brief account of their facilities and the reasons for their exclusion. The ten United Kingdom national parks are an example of these; they do not satisfy the criteria, whereas 22 national nature reserves do. A weighty (2¾lb) and encyclopaedic volume, it is an indispensable reference work for anyone in the conservation field. The FPS office can supply copies (it is published by Hayez, Brussels) price £8 plus 24p postage in the UK.

Animal Imports to the UK

In its fifth annual report, the Advisory Committee on the Animals (Restriction of Importation) Act 1964, whose chairman is FPS Council member Lord Cranbrook, drew attention to the cruelty and wastefulness which can be involved in the capture and transport of many animals, and to the unsatisfactory conditions under which some animals are kept after they arrive in Britain. The Committee is precluded from taking any action on purely humanitarian grounds because its terms of reference confine it to the control of the import of endangered species; it is up to UFAW, the RSPCA and other animal welfare societies to take action to improve a situation which was recently highlighted by the death of a tiger at London Airport. Turning to its main business, the Committee records that during 1969 the United Kingdom imported 12,234 primates (all monkeys except for 437 marmosets and tamarins, 59 apes and 34 lemurs), 31 marsupials, 180,940 tortoises and 1,087 iguanas. The great majority of the monkeys were imported for scientific research, so that if the efforts of FRAME to promote methods of research not involving live animals were crowned with success, the greater part of this unhappy trade would disappear. The great majority of the apes imported (46) were chimpanzees, the rest comprising eight gibbons, four gorillas and one orang-utan.

Indian Rhino in Nepal

The Nepal Government has agreed that the Chitawan Sanctuary, the only sanctuary in Nepal for the great Indian rhinoceros, should be made a national park and all grazing prohibited. This should go a long way to arresting the serious and rapid decline in the rhino population now believed to have sunk to as low as 80 animals, largely due, as the Caughley report showed, to the destruction of the habitat, (see ORYX May 1970, p. 212). The Survival Service Commission has asked Nepal not to permit any more rhino captures, and the world's zoos have been asked not to buy or accept rhinos from Nepal.

The Nepal Government has also banned the shooting of tigers, and the import and export of tiger and leopard skins from March 1, 1971. This is particularly helpful as Nepal was an outlet for poached skins from India.