

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.

Turkish conservationists say that the scheme is illegal under five Turkish laws, and threaten legal action unless the development is halted and an environmental assessment carried out.

Source: *Birdlife in Europe*, September 1997, 6.

Sustainable harvest for leeches

Medicinal leeches are collected from wetlands in Turkey for use in the pharmaceutical industry. The effects of this large-scale commercial collection are unknown and the Turkish authorities have fixed an export limit that has no scientific basis. A 2-year project to study the harvest of the medicinal leech in Turkey started in May 1997. The results will be used to recommend action to ensure that leeches in Turkey are managed on a sustainable basis.

Source: Harald Martens, Head, Scientific Authority to CITES, Federal Agency for Nature Conservation, 6 August 1997.

SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA

Nigerian elephants decline

Elephant populations in Borno State, Nigeria – one of only a few states in Nigeria with an elephant population – have declined from an estimated 8060 in the 1970s to 200 today. The decline is attributed to habitat fragmentation, poaching and poor problem- animal control, accompanied by lack of political will and funding. The Environmental Protection Agency for Borno is finalizing an action plan for elephant conservation and is reviewing existing environmental laws.

Source: *Pachyderm*, No. 23, 1997.



Painting of a Liwonde rhinoceros (by permission of the artist David Kelly).

Black rhinos breed in Malawi

A pair of black rhinoceros *Diceros bicornis*, reintroduced into Liwonde National Park in October 1993, are now breeding. The rhinoceroses are housed in a 14-sq-km rhino sanctuary within the park, protected by electrified fences and guarded by game scouts. An agreement has been reached to procure two further female rhinoceroses from Mozambique

to increase genetic diversity in the sanctuary.

Source: Wildlife Society of Malawi, August 1997.

Aircraft prevents poaching

A purpose-built antipoaching light aircraft has undergone successful trials in Ghana's Mole National Park, which suffers from large-scale poaching for bushmeat. Since its arrival poaching incidents have decreased by an estimated