

about their biology and folklore. This often verges on the sensational, and no opportunity is missed to recite documented evidence of monsters and man-eaters. When relating the results of published research, Steel adopts the technique of bringing the names of the authors into the text, noting the approximate date of publication, but then fails to incorporate references to the publications in the extremely sparse bibliography. This reduces the value of the book to the serious student, and suggests it is directed at a school or popular readership. A final chapter presents the obligatory case for conservation, noting the impact of the effects of the uncontrolled skin-hunting of former times, with an account of some of the success of crocodile management that have been achieved more recently.
Richard Luxmoore.

Raptors in the Modern World

Edited by B.-U. Meyburg and R. D. Chancellor
World Working Group on Birds of Prey and Owls, Berlin, London and Paris, 1989, 611 pp., HB? £25.00 (\$45.00, DM75.00). Available from WWGBP, 15b Bolton Gardens, London SW5 6AL, UK (post free)

This important publication is the proceedings of the Third World Conference on Birds of Prey and Owls held in 1987 at Eliat, Israel, and contains 611 pages of specialist papers on raptor migration, population biology, conservation, pollution, habitat analysis, promotion of legislation and education in raptor conservation.

While it is good to read of the efforts to restore nesting bald eagle populations into the

south-eastern United States of America or of the reintroduction of the bearded vulture into the Alps, there is far too much bad news. Depressingly, these magnificent but sensitive predators still fly the gauntlet of poisoning, trapping and shooting in some of the most civilized countries, while in a number of developing countries they are still the victims of the too liberal use of organochlorine pesticides. Enforceable international legislation seems a long way off.
Bruce Coleman.

International Wildlife Trade: Whose Business is it?

Sarah Fitzgerald
World Wildlife Fund, 1989, 459 pp., PB \$25.00, HB \$40.00, plus \$2.00 p. &p. from WWF, PO Box 4866, Hampden Post Office, Baltimore, Maryland 21211, USA

International Trade in Endangered Species: A Guide to CITES.

David S. Favre
Martinus Nijhoff Publishers, 1989, 415 pp., HB £75.00 (\$129.00, DM235.00)

Sarah Fitzgerald's book is a non-technical overview of international trade in wildlife. It explains CITES and discusses the problems that still beset this 15-year-old treaty, with particular reference to the 1987 meeting of the Conference of the Parties in Ottawa.

The bulk of the book is devoted to key issues involving groups of wildlife: Part II (Land Mammals) has chapters on Bears, Big cats, Small cats, Elephants, Kangaroos and other macropods, Musk deer, Primates, Rhinoceroses and Vicunas, Part III (Aquatic Animals) considers otters, seals, walruses and cetaceans, Part IV is devoted to birds, Part

V to reptiles and Part VI to other animals, from butterflies and spiders to ornamental fish and corals. Part VII covers plants and the comparative brevity of this section reflects the lack of attention CITES has paid to date to the world's threatened flora species. Nearly every chapter has a box containing suggestions for citizen action. The Appendices include a useful reading list, full references to the text and a detailed glossary. The list of species in the Appendices needs updating since the Lausanne meeting occurred after the book was published but this does not detract from a thoroughly readable and useful book.

While Sarah Fitzgerald's book is aimed at giving law enforcers, traders, travel agents and the general public a readable review of CITES, David Favre's is designed to help the reader understand the detail of the legal and bureaucratic environment in which this complex treaty operates.

The structure of the book follows the structure of the treaty, with the first 11 chapters dealing with Articles I-XI and chapters 12-15 covering Articles XII-XXV. Each chapter is divided into four parts: text of the Article concerned; a general discussion of the Article; a historical note on the development of the treaty language; and a series of notes dealing with the various topics or issues concerned with the Article. The logical structure makes it an ideal reference for either a complete explanation of CITES or a means of checking on specific issues.

The appendices include the full text of CITES, the list of species on the appendices (as of 1987), a list of Parties, and the full wording of selected important Resolutions.
Editor.