

Book reviews

that among all the obscure vernacular names dug up for the various species, there was no space for the Angolan Portuguese for wattled crane: *panda*.

N.J. Collar
International Council for Bird Preservation

Catalogue of New World Amphibians

Keith A. Harding

Pergamon Press, Oxford, 1983, £44.00

Although this may be of considerable value to museum taxonomists, it is unlikely to be of significant use to most conservation-orientated herpetologists. This is a great pity, since it would have been relatively simple to improve the book by giving some useful information on distribution. As it is, distribution is given by country—and a simple 'Brazil' or 'USA' is not much help. The product of a word-processed listing, there are useful synonymies and cross-referencing by country, which are a slight compensation for lack of distributional detail. At £44, perhaps an expensive luxury.

John A. Burton

The Evolution of National Wildlife Law (revised edition)

Michael Bean

Praeger, New York, 1984, \$12.95

At the meetings of the Parties to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora Michael Bean has been prominent among the US NGOs, and most effective. He is one of the foremost environmental lawyers in the US, and since this book appeared in 1979 it has been the standard reference. Now, the revised edition is a must for any conservationist with an interest in US conservation law or involved in developing conservation legislation in other parts of the world. It is extremely lucid and shows the layman the way

through the jungle of the law and legal phraseology.

John A. Burton

The 1982 International Yearbook; Volume 22

Edited by P.J.S. Olney, Zoological Society of London, 1982,
£23.75 hardback; £18.50 softback

The regular 'Reference Section' of the IZY needs no introduction, nor even a review. It is so much part of the conservation establishment, that one cannot envisage life before it. Lists of breeding successes, and the censuses of rare and endangered species in captivity are the essential tools of practical conservationists, and their importance is evident in the *Red Data Books*, and in many articles in *Oryx*.

Volume 22 is mostly devoted to New World Primates with 20 papers ranging over a wide variety of topics, often with emphasis on conservation. Dr Russell Mittermeier, Chairman of the IUCN/SSC Primate Specialist Group (and a regular contributor to *Oryx*), wrote the introduction and is co-author of several of the papers, notably a succinct survey of 'Conservation of Primates in the Atlantic Forest Region of Eastern Brazil' and 'Conservation of Primates in Brazilian Amazonia', which together with separate accounts of Peruvian Amazonia, Venezuela and Surinam, give an invaluable and reasonably comprehensive review of the situation.

In addition to the sections mentioned above, the regular IZY 'New Developments in the Zoo World' includes several papers relevant to conservationists, including a survey of gorilla breeding success, the effects of inbreeding on leopards and a census of marine mammals in North America.

As ever, the IZY is essential for any library, public or private, which attempts to keep abreast of modern conservation.

John A. Burton