

Editorial

In October 1993, the Neotropical Section of the IUCN/SSC Primate Specialist Group prepared a revision of the IUCN ratings for the South American primates. The results of this revision were reported in *Neotropical Primates* 1(4) (Rylands, A. B., Encarnación, F. and Mittermeier, R. A. 1993b. South American primates and the IUCN Red List of Threatened Animals, pp.1-2, 1993), and the proposal was accepted by IUCN and published in the 1994 *IUCN Red List of Threatened Animals*, compiled by the World Conservation Monitoring Center, Cambridge.

In this supplement of *Neotropical Primates* we report on a further revision of the ratings for the threatened status of the species and subspecies of all New World primates, this time based on the categorization system first proposed by G. M. Mace and R. Lande (Assessing extinction threats: toward a reevaluation of IUCN threatened species categories. *Conservation Biology* 5(2): 148-157, 1991). Following numerous drafts, consultations and revisions, this system was adopted by the World Conservation Union (IUCN) Council and the Species Survival Commission (SSC) in December 1994. The complete text explaining and defining the new IUCN Red List Categories comprises the first article.

A preliminary proposal for the categorization of the threatened status of the platyrrhines following the Mace-Lande system was drawn up by the PSG Chairman, Russell A. Mittermeier, and the Vice Chairmen for the Neotropical Section, Ernesto Rodríguez-Luna and Anthony B. Rylands, during the XV Congress of the International Primatological Society, Bali, Indonesia, in August 1994. Evaluation of the Middle American primates benefited from the concurrent elaboration of the MesoAmerican Primate Action Plan (Rodríguez-Luna, E., *Neotropical Primates* 1(3):11-13, 1993). This proposal was then submitted for review to 86 members of the Neotropical Section of the PSG in October 1994.

The second article in this supplement provides the results of this evaluation based on a listing of 202 species and subspecies, from southern Mexico to northern Argentina. It should be emphasized that taxonomic revisions have been carried out recently for a number of genera, but for others the taxonomies used date back 30 or 40 years. The common name, distribution by country, and the criteria determining threatened status are also given, along with the numbers of species and subspecies in each country, and in seven phytogeographic regions, including analyses of endemism and the taxa which are threatened in each.

We are most grateful to the following PSG members for their collaboration in drawing up this Mace-Lande listing of threatened species and subspecies: José Márcio Ayres, Ibsen de Gusmão Câmara, Ademar F. Coimbra-Filho, Thomas R. Defler, Andrew G. Johns, Devra G. Kleiman, Claudio Valladares-Padua, Gilberto Silva-López, Karen B. Strier, Roland Wirth, A. Hernández Yañez, and Gabriel Zunino.

Finally, we are publishing a list of the current members of the Neotropical section of the IUCN/SSC Primate Specialist Group, which now total 60 representing the non-human primates in 15 countries (Argentina - 4, Belize - 2, Bolivia - 2, Brasil - 19, Colombia - 3, Costa Rica - 1, Ecuador - 4, Guatemala - 1, Mexico - 12, Panama - 1, Paraguay - 1, Peru - 7, Suriname - 1, and Venezuela - 2), along with seven members based in the USA, and 19 members comprising the Special/Captive Breeding Section.

The editors would be most grateful for any comments or corrections regarding the species/subspecies lists for each of the countries. In addition, we emphasize that the *IUCN Red List of Threatened Species* is subject to continuous revision. We encourage any substantiated proposals for changes in the categories ascribed to the species and subspecies. They will be carefully considered and submitted to PSG members.

Russell A. Mittermeier, Chairman IUCN/SSC Primate Specialist Group
Anthony B. Rylands and Ernesto Rodríguez-Luna - Co-Vice Chairmen - Neotropical Section