

addition to plotting occurrence the British maps show relative abundance and, where known, an indication of whether the population is increasing (29 species) or decreasing (8 species). Although collecting is featured, the authors are careful to make sure the reader is warned of the conservation problems. All in all a book which should find a place in the pocket of the keen field naturalist – if he's still got space.

JOHN A. BURTON

The Atlantic Salmon: Its Future, edited by **A.E.J. Went**. Fishing News Books, £19.50.

British Freshwater Fishes – the Story of Their Evolution. By **Len Cacutt**. Croom Helm, £6.95.

The Atlantic salmon is undoubtedly a threatened species. Within the present century its range has shrunk and its numbers have decreased, as is amply borne out by the decline in global catches despite increased fishing effort by some countries. Single countries have attempted to protect their stocks, some like Iceland successfully, others like France and the United Kingdom less effectively, yet overall there is still no efficient means of protecting this one-time valuable fishery resource. Indeed, if anything, progress has been negative, for the one international body which could exercise a limited control of fisheries in the North Atlantic (ICNAF) has been disbanded in favour of a shaky North American fishery policy and the farcical attempts at fisheries management by EEC countries.

The proceedings of the second International Atlantic Salmon Symposium, held in 1978 in Edinburgh, contains a series of eighteen papers by various authorities under sub-headings – Present Situation, Salmon Exploitation, Ecology, Cultivation, and The Future, and as a result it loses the overall cohesive approach to the problems besetting the salmon which a book with fewer authors might attain. The book gives a limited overview of the status of salmon today, with discussions on past and present fishery management of salmon. By far the most valuable part of it are some of the articles on the ecology of the fish with reference to its future conservation.

Len Cacutt writes as an angler with anglers' interests in mind. Despite the promise of the subtitle, there is very little of direct relevance to the evolution of fishes or the origins of the freshwater fishes of these islands. There is, however, a wealth of detail concerning the capture of 'record' or near-record fishes which will interest anglers, and a certain amount on the biology of the species. This is an eminently readable angler's view of our freshwater fishes, written in a racy style and with abundant good humour, but purchasers should be warned that it contains a number of errors.

ALWYNE WHEELER

The Evolutionary Ecology of Animal Migration, by **R.R. Baker**, Hodder, £35.

This is not the sort of book one reads; it is the sort one has. Nicely illustrated, well indexed, impressively broad in scope, and generally readable despite the author's conscientious attempt to be scientifically precise, it is a valuable ecological reference text. This results in two recurrent stylistic flaws: a somewhat ponderous repetitiveness, largely of the definitions from the lexicon the author creates – 'habitat suitability', 'mean expectation of migration' – and the formulation of hyper-rigorous statements, such as 'no matter how long an animal remains in each volume of space occupied by its body'

Part 1 defines migration so generally that constructing a model for it is rather like devising one for digestion or skin. The thesis is that migration is advantageous and will probably occur when things are better elsewhere, but the general form of the model