

Books received

Alexander Gillespie, *Whaling Diplomacy – Defining Issues in International Environmental Law*, Edward Elgar, 2005, 544 pages, hardback, ISBN 1 84542 107 8 (£95).

This text by Alexander Gillespie, Professor of Law at the University of Waikato, New Zealand, is a valuable study of whaling issues and represents a high standard of academic research. The book should be of interest to academics, practitioners and environmentalists. The content includes identification of the stock numbers and threats to cetaceans, the philosophy of international environmental law applicable to whaling and matters regarding the harvesting of whales. Considerations of aborigine subsistence whaling are noted. The protection mechanisms, that include sanctuaries and restraints imposed through the International Whaling Commission, are assessed and the politics influencing the Commission explored. Conclusions are drawn as to the future and the new threats to and issues confronting the Commission are highlighted.

Ben Boer and Graeme Wiffen, *Heritage Law in Australia*, Oxford University Press, 2005, 334 pages, soft cover, ISBN 0 19 551641 9.

With heritage becoming better recognised in the antipodes, this publication is timely and fills a gap in the broader environmental arena. The text provides a comprehensive introduction to international heritage law and identifies the particular covenants that have relevance in Australia. Commonwealth heritage law is outlined, together with relevant cases. State and territorial heritage law are covered and other heritage conservation schemes are also analysed. A particular chapter is devoted to indigenous heritage law. The conclusion seeks a consistent approach to the recognition and implementation of heritage objectives. Ben Boer is a Professor in Environmental Law at the University of Sydney and Graeme Wiffen is a senior lecturer at Macquarie University. The systematic analysis of law should be of value to lawyers, members of public bodies, environmentalists and students from many disciplines.

Derek Nolan ed, *Environmental and Resource Management Law*, LexisNexis, 2005, 1223 pages, soft cover, ISBN 0 408 71678 9 (price approx \$150+ GST).

This text is the third edition of the former book, D A R Williams ed, *Environmental and Resource Management Law*, 1997. The new text includes an expansion of chapters from 14 to 18. The new chapters comprise the coastal environment, new organisms, Maori and environment law, and heritage. The text includes a wealth of information in respect of the Resource Management Act 1991 and other environmental statutes. The amendments promulgated under the Resource Management Amendment Act 2005 are also included. The text will constitute an essential reference and practice manual for persons involved in environmental and resource management matters in New Zealand. The team of fifteen specialist authors underlines the pervasive scope of law, regulation and practice that applies at the national, regional, and district levels, and extends beyond the foreshore and seabed.

Bennion, Brown, Thomas, Toomey, *New Zealand Land Law*, Thomson/Brookers, 2005, 1240 pages, soft cover, ISBN 0 86472 507 8.

This text is an updated and expanded version of an earlier edition. The above-named authors are joined by Robert Muir, Registrar General of Land, and Kenneth Palmer of the University of Auckland, who respectively contribute new chapters on “Landonline – The Automated Register” and “Compulsory Acquisition and Compensation”. The principal chapters cover, in a comprehensive, academic and practical manner, the systems of land law applicable in New Zealand. In particular, the land transfer procedure, caveats, Maori land, co-ownership, licences, leases, mortgages, easements, cross leases, unit titles and contracts of sale are covered in detail. Under a chapter on legislation restricting private land use, an introduction is given to the systems available under the Resource Management Act 1991. Overall, the text will be of significant value to both students and practitioners of law. The various chapters all contribute to the expansion of knowledge in an area of practice fundamental to much daily legal work.

Kenneth Palmer
Editor