

COUNTRY MUSIC

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World

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Once it's gone... it's gone.
But if it's slipping away
why not try to save it
'till maybe... a better day.

ENDANGERED SPECIES

Jim Ringer. Flying Fish FF 242 (American Import). Roseville Fair / Bugler / Wild Horses ... Wild Women / Dusty Desert Wind / Still Got That Look / Family Tree / Brand New Jole Blon / Linda's Out There On Her Own / Bayou Blues / Whisky And Cocaine.

Apart from the duo album, *Bramble And The Rose*, recorded with wife Mary McCaslin, which appeared in 1978, this is Jim Ringer's first solo recording for four years.

Various members (and ex-members) of the Dillards, Hot Band and Burrito Brothers are much in evidence and as a result there is a more contemporary feel than is normal on Jim's albums. This does not detract from the quality of the LP, however, and Ringer appears to be quite at home in this new setting.

The cover states that it is "an album of songs about people and lifestyles threatened with extinction" and in presenting this concept, Jim avoids any involvement with deeply hidden messages.

Rural life and its closely-knit family ties are the keystones in the theme. The days when a growing boy and his dog could roam the highways and byways unhindered, the herds of wild horses on the plains, are among the themes which are simply explored. Directed at the listener in a lyrically straightforward fashion, the songs get their message over simply, but with tremendous punch • ARTHUR WOOD