

FIRST RECORD OF GREY HERON IN KALIMANTAN

by

S. (Bas) van Balen

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During a survey along the Tubu river, Bulungan district, northern East Kalimantan, in November–December 1997, a large heron was seen at *ca* 17.00 hrs on 18 November flying to a roosting tree along the Malinau river bank near Parking village. Its generally very pale grey appearance, with distinct black lining along the neck and contrasting pale grey and black wings was diagnostic of the Grey Heron *Ardea cinerea* and excluded any other large heron occurring in the area. On 3 December at 17.30 hrs, probably the same bird was seen standing on the river bank in the same general area. The riverine area is partially agricultural, and lies a considerable distance inland. The town of Malinau, downstream of the mouth of the river of that name, is already 10 km inland.

The Grey Heron is an occasional visitor to Borneo between November and March, e.g. to the wide open plains of the Kelabit uplands (Smythies 1981), 70 to 90 km from the present area. The species is presumed to be migrant, and there is no evidence of breeding. The Grey Heron has not been recorded previously from Kalimantan (Andrew 1992).

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References

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Address.

Tropical Nature Conservation and Vertebrate Ecology, Wageningen Agricultural University, Bomssesteeg 69, 6708 PD Wageningen, The Netherlands.