
RECORD OF WHITE-WINGED WOOD DUCK IN ACEH PROVINCE, SUMATRA

by

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In the framework of the Asian Wetland Bureau Sumatra Wetland Project, a short ornithological survey was conducted of the peat swamp forests north-west of Singkil in the province of Aceh, Sumatra.

On 27 September 1991, at 07.10 hrs, while visiting the forest clearing immediately west of the village of Runding (97°51'E, 2°20'N, in Simpang Kiri district, Aceh Selatan), two White-winged Wood Duck *Cairina scutulata* flew up noisily from a small pool along the edge of this clearing and disappeared into the surrounding logged forest. Their honking "hoa-OAAH" and thin, whistling "heeeeh" suggested a male and female. The heads were more or less entirely white, the bodies black, the wings black and white.

This observation is the first for Aceh (Van Marle & Voous 1988), the northernmost province of Sumatra. The Singkil peat swamp forest is located not far from where D.A. Holmes (1990) saw White-winged Wood Duck in the province of North Sumatra, and continuous with the wetland area north of Barus where the same author obtained local information of the presence of the species.

A nature reserve of 65,000 ha is proposed for the Singkil Barat peat swamp, which is one of the priority sites for the regional wetland conservation programme (Scott & Poole 1989).

References

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- Scott, D.A. & C.M. Poole. 1989. *A status overview of Asian wetlands*. Asian Wetland Bureau.

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