

**Hrvaška / Croatia**

SQUACCO HERON *Ardeola ralloides*

**Čopasta čaplja** – en osebek opazovan dne 18.5.2009 na otoku Olibu (UTM VK81, S Dalmacija); prvi podatek za ta jadranski otok

At 7.00 h on 18 May 2009, one Squacco Heron individual was observed about 1 km SW from the harbour of Olib Island (UTM VK81, N Dalmatia). The bird was in its breeding plumage, and was standing and hunting on the cliffs of the seashore. Upon being approached to a distance of 20–25 m, it took wing and flew about 100–150 m, where it landed again at a similar spot. Then we followed the bird for more than 1 km along the shore, towards Vele Stene. As far as we know, this species had not been observed on Olib before, thus we visited other potential wetland habitats as well, besides the shoreline. Although we did not encounter further Squacco Heron individuals in the following days, we had the chance of observing another heron species on 25 May 2009, near the bay of Južna Slatina (UTM VK80). When we came to the place, two Grey Herons *Ardea cinerea* and about 70 Yellow legged Gulls *Larus michahellis* took wing.

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