

# Information Sheet on Ramsar Wetlands (RIS) – 2009-2012 version

Available for download from [http://www.ramsar.org/ris/key\\_ris\\_index.htm](http://www.ramsar.org/ris/key_ris_index.htm).

*Categories approved by Recommendation 4.7 (1990), as amended by Resolution VIII.13 of the 8<sup>th</sup> Conference of the Contracting Parties (2002) and Resolutions IX.1 Annex B, IX.6, IX.21 and IX.22 of the 9<sup>th</sup> Conference of the Contracting Parties (2005).*

## Notes for compilers:

1. The RIS should be completed in accordance with the attached *Explanatory Notes and Guidelines for completing the Information Sheet on Ramsar Wetlands*. Compilers are strongly advised to read this guidance before filling in the RIS.
2. Further information and guidance in support of Ramsar site designations are provided in the *Strategic Framework and guidelines for the future development of the List of Wetlands of International Importance* (Ramsar Wise Use Handbook 14, 3rd edition). A 4th edition of the Handbook is in preparation and will be available in 2009.
3. Once completed, the RIS (and accompanying map(s)) should be submitted to the Ramsar Secretariat. Compilers should provide an electronic (MS Word) copy of the RIS and, where possible, digital copies of all maps.

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### 1. Name and address of the compiler of this form:

Inge Hafstad, County Governor Nord-Trøndelag  
Statens Hus, N-7734 Steinkjer.  
e-mail: [postmottak@fmnt.no](mailto:postmottak@fmnt.no)  
Phone +47 74 16 80 00

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Designation date

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Site Reference Number

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### 2. Date this sheet was completed/updated:

April 2011

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### 3. Country:

Norway

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### 4. Name of the Ramsar site:

The precise name of the designated site in one of the three official languages (English, French or Spanish) of the Convention. Alternative names, including in local language(s), should be given in parentheses after the precise name.  
Sklinna

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### 5. Designation of new Ramsar site or update of existing site:

This RIS is for (tick one box only):

- a) Designation of a new Ramsar site ; or  
b) Updated information on an existing Ramsar site

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### 6. For RIS updates only, changes to the site since its designation or earlier update:

#### a) Site boundary and area

The Ramsar site boundary and site area are unchanged:

or

If the site boundary has changed:

- i) the boundary has been delineated more accurately ; or  
ii) the boundary has been extended ; or

iii) the boundary has been restricted\*\*

and/or

**If the site area has changed:**

i) the area has been measured more accurately ; or

ii) the area has been extended ; or

iii) the area has been reduced\*\*

**\*\* Important note:** If the boundary and/or area of the designated site is being restricted/reduced, the Contracting Party should have followed the procedures established by the Conference of the Parties in the Annex to COP9 Resolution IX.6 and provided a report in line with paragraph 28 of that Annex, prior to the submission of an updated RIS.

**b) Describe briefly any major changes to the ecological character of the Ramsar site, including in the application of the Criteria, since the previous RIS for the site:**

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**7. Map of site:**

Refer to Annex III of the *Explanatory Note and Guidelines*, for detailed guidance on provision of suitable maps, including digital maps.

**a) A map of the site, with clearly delineated boundaries, is included as:**

i) a hard copy (required for inclusion of site in the Ramsar List): ;

ii) an electronic format (e.g. a JPEG or ArcView image) ;

iii) a GIS file providing geo-referenced site boundary vectors and attribute tables .

**b) Describe briefly the type of boundary delineation applied:**

e.g. the boundary is the same as an existing protected area (nature reserve, national park, etc.), or follows a catchment boundary, or follows a geopolitical boundary such as a local government jurisdiction, follows physical boundaries such as roads, follows the shoreline of a waterbody, etc.

The boundaries are the same as for the existing Sklinna Nature Reserve.

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**8. Geographical coordinates** (latitude/longitude, in degrees and minutes):

Provide the coordinates of the approximate centre of the site and/or the limits of the site. If the site is composed of more than one separate area, provide coordinates for each of these areas.

65°12'N 10°59'E

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**9. General location:**

Include in which part of the country and which large administrative region(s) the site lies and the location of the nearest large town.

Sklinna is a small archipelago situated in Leka municipality in Nord-Trøndelag County. The nearest town is Rørvik (approx. 2.600 inhabitants). Rørvik is approx. 41 km east-south-east of the Sklinna.

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**10. Elevation:** (in metres: average and/or maximum & minimum)

0 – 36 m.a.s.l.

**11. Area:** (in hectares)

589.0 ha (106.0 ha terrestrial)

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**12. General overview of the site:**

Provide a short paragraph giving a summary description of the principal ecological characteristics and importance of the wetland.

Sklinna is a small archipelago approximately 30 km north-west of the island Leka. The area consists of several islets and some small islands, divided by shallow water. The main island in the archipelago is Heimøya and is an important site for seabirds.

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### 13. Ramsar Criteria:

Tick the box under each Criterion applied to the designation of the Ramsar site. See Annex II of the *Explanatory Notes and Guidelines* for the Criteria and guidelines for their application (adopted by Resolution VII.11). All Criteria which apply should be ticked.

1 • 2 • 3 • 4 • 5 • 6 • 7 • 8 • 9

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### 14. Justification for the application of each Criterion listed in 13 above:

Provide justification for each Criterion in turn, clearly identifying to which Criterion the justification applies (see Annex II for guidance on acceptable forms of justification).

(Capitalized letters show the species' status on the Norwegian Red List 2010)

#### Criterion 1.

This is a marine archipelago with shallow waters dotted with numerous islets and islands. This kind of archipelago is typical of the North-European coast.

#### Criterion 2.

Breeding area for Common Guillemot *Uria aalge* (CR), Kittiwake *Rissa tridactyla* (EN) and Atlantic Puffin *Fratercula arctica* (VU).

#### Criterion 3.

The area is one of the most important breeding sites for seabirds in mid parts of Norway. It also has a value for wintering seabirds.

#### Criterion 4.

The area is an important breeding site for a number of seabirds, e.g. Great Cormorant *Phalacrocorax carbo*, European Shag *Phalacrocorax aristotelis*, Atlantic Puffin *Fratercula arctica*, Common Guillemot *Uria aalge* and White-tailed Eagle *Haliaeetus albicilla*, all characteristic species for this kind of archipelago in this biogeographic region.

#### Criterion 5.

Sklinna is an important breeding site for seabirds. Including juveniles, the number reaches about 20-25.000 birds in the early summer. The bird species of greatest number is Great Cormorant *Phalacrocorax carbo* - approx. 1100 pairs, European Shag *Phalacrocorax aristotelis* - approx. 3200 pair (probably one of the world largest colonies of European Shag), Atlantic Puffin *Fratercula arctica* - approx. 3500 pairs, Common Guillemot *Uria aalge* - approx. 400 pairs, Black Guillemot *Cepphus grylle* - approx. 400 pairs, Common Eider *Somateria mollissima* - approx. 100 pairs. There are also other birds such as gulls, Northern Fulmar, eagles and petrels.

#### Criterion 6

This site regularly supports more than 1% of the individuals of European Shag *Phalacrocorax aristotelis* - approx. 3200 pair (probably one of the world largest colonies of European Shag) as well as the NW European population of Great Cormorant *Phalacrocorax carbo* - approx. 1100 pairs (Waterbird Population Estimates, 4<sup>th</sup> Edition, Wetlands International).

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### 15. Biogeography (required when Criteria 1 and/or 3 and /or certain applications of Criterion 2 are applied to the designation):

Name the relevant biogeographic region that includes the Ramsar site, and identify the biogeographic regionalisation system that has been applied.

**a) biogeographic region:**

1. Middle boreal vegetation zone (Mb-O2 – clear oceanic section).
2. Atlantic

**b) biogeographic regionalisation scheme** (include reference citation):

1. Zonal division showing the variation in vegetation from south to north and from the lowlands to the mountains, and sectional graduation showing the variation between the coast and inland.  
Moen 1998 *National Atlas of Norway: Vegetation*. Norwegian Mapping Authority, Hønefoss
2. Biogeographical Regions, European Environment Agency, 2005

**16. Physical features of the site:**

Describe, as appropriate, the geology, geomorphology; origins - natural or artificial; hydrology; soil type; water quality; water depth, water permanence; fluctuations in water level; tidal variations; downstream area; general climate, etc.

Geology	Skinna consists of granite formed during the Caledonian orogeny.
Geomorphology	The archipelago is formed by waves from the open ocean
Water depth/ fluctuations	The archipelago is part of a larger shallow area of approximately 12 km <sup>2</sup> where the water depth is between 0-50 m.
Climate	The climate is typical Atlantic with high annual precipitation (>1500 mm and approx. 200 days with precipitation pr. year), wet summer and mild winters.

**17. Physical features of the catchment area:**

Describe the surface area, general geology and geomorphological features, general soil types, and climate (including climate type).

Consists mostly of shallow marine water less than 30 m in depth at low tide. However, some deeper areas occur in the catchment area.

**18. Hydrological values:**

Describe the functions and values of the wetland in groundwater recharge, flood control, sediment trapping, shoreline stabilization, etc.

Due to the fact that most of the shoreline consists of hard granite rocks, erosion is minimal, in spite of a very harsh winter climate.

**19. Wetland Types**

**a) presence:**

Circle or underline the applicable codes for the wetland types of the Ramsar “Classification System for Wetland Type” present in the Ramsar site. Descriptions of each wetland type code are provided in Annex I of the *Explanatory Notes & Guidelines*.

Marine/coastal: A • B • C • D • E • F • G • H • I • J • K • Zk(a)

Inland: L • M • N • O • P • Q • R • Sp • Ss • Tp • Ts • U • Va •  
Vt • W • Xf • Xp • Y • Zg • Zk(b)

Human-made: 1 • 2 • 3 • 4 • 5 • 6 • 7 • 8 • 9 • Zk(c)

**b) dominance:**

List the wetland types identified in a) above in order of their dominance (by area) in the Ramsar site, starting with the wetland type with the largest area.

A, D

**20. General ecological features:**

Provide further description, as appropriate, of the main habitats, vegetation types, plant and animal communities present in the Ramsar site, and the ecosystem services of the site and the benefits derived from them.

The site is a coastal zone with rock and stone dominated shores. The main vegetation on the islands and islets are moors with common heather. The vegetation is at several places influenced by seabird droppings.

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### 21. Noteworthy flora:

Provide additional information on particular species and why they are noteworthy (expanding as necessary on information provided in 14. Justification for the application of the Criteria) indicating, e.g., which species/communities are unique, rare, endangered or biogeographically important, etc. *Do not include here taxonomic lists of species present – these may be supplied as supplementary information to the RIS.*

#### Flora.

Red Campion *Silene dioica* is one of the most common species. However, in the gulls and cormorants colonies the droppings give nitrous substrate which benefits plants such as Common Scurvy Weed *Cochlearia officinalis* and Common Sorrel *Rumex acetosa*.

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### 22. Noteworthy fauna:

Provide additional information on particular species and why they are noteworthy (expanding as necessary on information provided in 14. Justification for the application of the Criteria) indicating, e.g., which species/communities are unique, rare, endangered or biogeographically important, etc., including count data. *Do not include here taxonomic lists of species present – these may be supplied as supplementary information to the RIS.*

#### Mammals

The site is regularly visited by the Grey Seal *Halichoerus grypus* and the Common Seal *Phoca vitulina*. More rarely the False Killer Whale *Pseudorca crassidens* and the Otter *Lutra lutra* (VU) visit the archipelago.

#### Birds

The site has large populations of Great Cormorant *Phalacrocorax carbo* - approx. 1100 pairs, European Shag *Phalacrocorax aristotelis* - approx. 3200 pair, which probably is one of the world largest colony of European Shag, Atlantic Puffin *Fratercula arctica* - approx. 3500 pairs, Common Guillemot *Uria aalge* - approx. 400 pairs, Black Guillemot *Cepphus grylle* - approx. 400 pairs, Common Eider *Somateria mollissima* - approx. 100 pairs, Greylag Goose *Anser anser* - approx. 20 pairs. Among gulls the Herring Gull *Larus argentatus* and Great Black-backed Gull *Larus Marinus* dominate. Rarer species like European Storm-petrel *Hyrdbates pelagicus*, Leach's Storm-petrel *Oceanodroma leucorhoa*, Northern Lesser Black-backed Gull *Larus fuscus fuscus*, Fulmar *Fulmarus glacialis* and White-tailed Eagle *Haliaeetus albicilla* also breeds in the archipelago.

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### 23. Social and cultural values:

a) Describe if the site has any general social and/or cultural values e.g., fisheries production, forestry, religious importance, archaeological sites, social relations with the wetland, etc. Distinguish between historical/archaeological/religious significance and current socio-economic values:

Sklinna has a long history of traditional fishing, and has a historical function as a fishing harbour. Even if the fishing activities have decreased, the archipelago has a function as a fishing harbour today. There are a lighthouse and a house for the lighthouse keeper at the main island Heimøya. Following the establishment of the nature reserve, traditional hunting became forbidden.

b) Is the site considered of international importance for holding, in addition to relevant ecological values, examples of significant cultural values, whether material or non-material, linked to its origin, conservation and/or ecological functioning?

No

If Yes, tick the box  and describe this importance under one or more of the following categories:

i) sites which provide a model of wetland wise use, demonstrating the application of traditional knowledge and methods of management and use that maintain the ecological character of the wetland:

- ii) sites which have exceptional cultural traditions or records of former civilizations that have influenced the ecological character of the wetland:
- iii) sites where the ecological character of the wetland depends on the interaction with local communities or indigenous peoples:
- iv) sites where relevant non-material values such as sacred sites are present and their existence is strongly linked with the maintenance of the ecological character of the wetland:

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**24. Land tenure/ownership:**

- a) within the Ramsar site:  
State owned
- b) in the surrounding area:  
State owned

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**25. Current land (including water) use:**

- a) within the Ramsar site:  
The site is used by scientists and local fishermen.
- b) in the surroundings/catchment:  
The surrounding ocean area is used by fishermen.

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**26. Factors (past, present or potential) adversely affecting the site's ecological character, including changes in land (including water) use and development projects:**

- a) within the Ramsar site:  
None
- b) in the surrounding area:  
None

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**27. Conservation measures taken:**

- a) List national and/or international category and legal status of protected areas, including boundary relationships with the Ramsar site:  
In particular, if the site is partly or wholly a World Heritage Site and/or a UNESCO Biosphere Reserve, please give the names of the site under these designations.

Sklinna was designated as nature reserve 19th December 2003. The boundaries for the Ramsar site are the same as for the Sklinna Nature Reserve.

- b) If appropriate, list the IUCN (1994) protected areas category/ies which apply to the site (tick the box or boxes as appropriate):

Ia ; Ib ; II ; III ; IV ; V ; VI

- c) Does an officially approved management plan exist; and is it being implemented?:  
No management plan exists, but the task will be given high priority by the management authority.

- d) Describe any other current management practices:

The area is by a Royal Resolution given the status as a nature reserve (Norw. Naturreservat), which is the strongest form of nature conservation in Norway. All kind of human activity in the nature reserve is regulated by an official set of detailed regulations specific for nature reserves. The aim of the nature reserve is to conserve a distinctive archipelago situated by the coast of the middle of the Norway. The area is characterised by the botanical, zoological and geological elements both on land and in the ocean.

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**28. Conservation measures proposed but not yet implemented:**

e.g. management plan in preparation; official proposal as a legally protected area, etc.  
See 27 c) above.

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**29. Current scientific research and facilities:**

e.g., details of current research projects, including biodiversity monitoring; existence of a field research station, etc.  
Sklinna was established as a SEAPOP (SEAbird POPulations) key-site in 2007, which is a long-term monitoring and mapping programme for Norwegian seabirds. The archipelago has also been an important site for seabird monitoring since the early 1980s.

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**30. Current communications, education and public awareness (CEPA) activities related to or benefiting the site:**

e.g. visitors' centre, observation hides and nature trails, information booklets, facilities for school visits, etc.  
None

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**31. Current recreation and tourism:**

State if the wetland is used for recreation/tourism; indicate type(s) and their frequency/intensity.  
Some sea rafting activities, as well as small boat tourism

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**32. Jurisdiction:**

Include territorial, e.g. state/region, and functional/sectoral, e.g. Dept of Agriculture/Dept. of Environment, etc.  
Norwegian Directorate for Nature Management (DN), Tungasletta 2, 7485 Trondheim  
Ph +47 73580500  
Fax +47 73580501  
Email: [postmottak@dirnat.no](mailto:postmottak@dirnat.no)

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**33. Management authority:**

Provide the name and address of the local office(s) of the agency(ies) or organisation(s) directly responsible for managing the wetland. Wherever possible provide also the title and/or name of the person or persons in this office with responsibility for the wetland.

The site is managed by the County Governor of Nord-Trøndelag, which is under the instruction of DN.  
Address: County Governor of Nord-Trøndelag, Statens Hus, N-7734 Steinkjer. Phone. +47 74 16 80 00.  
e-mail: [Postmottak@fmnt.no](mailto:Postmottak@fmnt.no)

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**34. Bibliographical references:**

Scientific/technical references only. If biogeographic regionalisation scheme applied (see 15 above), list full reference citation for the scheme.

Kålås, J.A., Viken, Å. og Bakken, T. (red.) 2006. Norsk Rødliste 2006 – 2006 *Norwegian Red List*. Artsdatabanken, Norway

Lorentsen, S.H. & Eriksen, J.M. 2009. SEAPOP Short report 4-2009. Norwegian Institute for Nature Research. Trondheim.

Moen, A. 1998. *Nasjonalatlas for Norge; vegetasjon*. Statens Kartverk, Hønefoss

Nygård, T., Einvik, K. & Røv, N. 2006. (in Norwegian) Sklinna – Fugleøya lengst ut i havet. Fylkesmannen i Nord-Trøndelag, Miljøvernavdelingen. Rapport 6-2009. 44s

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Please return to: **Ramsar Convention Secretariat, Rue Mauverney 28, CH-1196 Gland, Switzerland**  
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