

Ramsar Information Sheet

Published on 9 March 2018 Update version, previously published on : 1 January 2011

Norway Sklinna



Designation date
Site number
12 November 2010
1953
Coordinates
65°12'19"N 10°58'29"E
Area
589,00 ha

Color codes

Fields back-shaded in light blue relate to data and information required only for RIS updates.

Note that some fields concerning aspects of Part 3, the Ecological Character Description of the RIS (tinted in purple), are not expected to be completed as part of a standard RIS, but are included for completeness so as to provide the requested consistency between the RIS and the format of a 'full' Ecological Character Description, as adopted in Resolution X.15 (2008). If a Contracting Party does have information available that is relevant to these fields (for example from a national format Ecological Character Description) it may, if it wishes to, include information in these additional fields.

1 - Summary

Summary

The Sklinna archipelago is situated in the municipality of Leka, approximately 40 km off the mainland coast and 20 km off the Vikna archipelago. Sklinna is located on a shallow plateau in the otherwise deep sea-landscape that surround the archipelago, and consists of a number of low, small islands and islets with mostly sparse vegetation. The main island of the archipelago is Heimøya, which also contains a lighthouse and a few buildings.

The archipelago as a whole is an important site for seabirds, especially in early summer. Sklinna is home to a high breeding populations of European shags. This population normally ranges 2000-2500 pairs, but up to 3200 pairs have been recorded. Common guillemot (1200 pairs) and black guillemots (c. 1000 pairs) can be found breeding on some of the islands as well as razorbills (50-100 pairs), Atlantic puffins (c. 1350 pairs), cormorants (c. 700 pairs), and hundreds of pairs of common eiders, herring gulls and Great black-backed gulls. Low numbers of common gulls, lesser black-backed gulls, northern fulmars and European storm petrels are also found.

The grey seal, which use this area both as breeding- and staging area, is a common mammalian species. Harbour seals are observed less frequently, and sometimes one can also observe harbour porpoise and killer whales.

In terms of flora, red campion is one of the most common species. However, in gull and cormorant colonies the droppings offer nitrous substrate which benefits plants such as common scurvy and common sorrel. On the highest islands one can find different heathers such as the common heather, however, this plant species is extensively used as nest building material by the cormorants.

Seabird monitoring was initiated on Sklinna in the early 1980's. Sklinna was established as a SEAPOP (SEAbird POPulations) site in 2007 and a SEATRACK site in 2014, although GLS loggers have been deployed on European shags since 2008 and common guillemots since 2009. Common eiders, herring gulls, and Atlantic puffins are also instrumented with GLS loggers. Since 2011, after the disappearance of the breeding population in Sklinna, kittiwakes have been monitored and equipped with GLS loggers at the colony in Sør-Gjæslingan, approximately 50 km south of the archipelago.

2 - Data & location

2.1 - Formal data

2	1	1	- Name	and	address	of the	compiler	of this	RIS
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Compiler 1

Name	Pernille Kvernland						
Institution/agency	Norwegian Environment Agency						
Postal address	Post box 5672 Torgarden, N-7485 Trondheim, Norway						
E-mail	post@miljodir.no						
Phone	+47 73580500						

2.1.2 - Period of collection of data and information used to compile the RIS

From year 1970

To year 2011

2.1.3 - Name of the Ramsar Site

Official name (in English, French or Spanish)

Sklinna

2.1.4 - Changes to the boundaries and area of the Site since its designation or earlier update

(Update) A Changes to Site boundary Yes O No

(Update) B. Changes to Site area No change to area

2.1.5 - Changes to the ecological character of the Site

(Update) 6b i. Has the ecological character of the Ramsar Site (including applicable Criteria) changed since the previous RIS?

2.2 - Site location

2.2.1 - Defining the Site boundaries

b) Digital map/image

<1 file(s) uploaded>

Former maps 0

Boundaries description

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

2.2.2 - General location

a) In which large administrative region does the site lie?

Nord-Trøndelag County

b) What is the nearest town or population centre?

Rørvik, approx pop. est. 3 000 (2016)

2.2.3 - For wetlands on national boundaries only

a) Does the wetland extend onto the territory of one or more other countries?

b) Is the site adjacent to another designated Ramsar Site on the territory of another Contracting Party?

2.2.4 - Area of the Site

Official area, in hectares (ha): 589

Area, in hectares (ha) as calculated from 589.03 GIS boundaries

2.2.5 - Biogeography

Biogeographic regions

Regionalisation scheme(s)	Biogeographic region
Other scheme (provide name below)	Middle boreal vegetation zone (Mb-O2 – clear oceanic section).
EU biogeographic regionalization	2. Atlantic

Other biogeographic regionalisation scheme

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

3 - Why is the Site important?

3.1 - Ramsar Criteria and their justification

☑ Criterion 1: Representative, rare or unique natural or near-natural wetland types

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

- ☑ Criterion 2 : Rare species and threatened ecological communities
- ☑ Criterion 3 : Biological diversity

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

- ☑ Criterion 4 : Support during critical life cycle stage or in adverse conditions
- ☑ Criterion 6 : >1% waterbird population
- 3.2 Plant species whose presence relates to the international importance of the site

<no data available>

3.3 - Animal species whose presence relates to the international importance of the site

Phylum	Scientific name	Common name	Specie qualifie under criterio 2 4 6	es c r on	Species contributes under criterion 5 7 8	Pop. Size	% occurrence 1)	IUCN Red List		CMS Appendix I	Other Status	Justification
Birds												
CHORDATA / AVES	ECL.	Razorbill	7			150		NT STEP			National Red List: Considered as EN	Approx. 50-100 pairs (2016). Criterion 4: The area is a breeding site for this species.
AVES	Cepphus grylle	Black Guillemot	7		1000	2000		LC ©			National Red List: Considered as W	Approx 1000 pairs (2017). Criterion 4: The area is an important breeding site for this species.
CHORDATA / AVES	Fratercula arctica	Atlantic Puffin	7			2700		VU ●# ●®			National Red List: Considered as W	approx 1350 pairs (2017). Criterion 4: The area is an important breeding site for this species.
CHORDATA / AVES	Fulmarus glacialis	Northern Fulmar	77			14		LC ©S ©SF			National Red List: Considered as EN	Approx 7 pairs. Criterion 4: Rarer species found to be breeding at this location.
CHORDATA / AVES	Haliaeetus albicilla	White-tailed Eagle	7					LC OSS	V	✓		Criterion 4: The area is an important breeding site for this species.
/	Phalacrocorax aristotelis	European Shag	777			4000	2	LC •#			Ann. Il Berne Convention	approx. 2000 pairs (2017) (probably one of the world largest colonies of European Shag) Criterion 4: The area is an important breeding site for this species. Criterion 6: Biogeographic region: Coastal N Europe
/	Phalacrocorax carbo	Great Cormorant				1790	1.5	LC OS OS				approx 895 pairs (2017). Criterion 4: The area is an important breeding site for this species. Criterion 6: Biogeographic region: North-west Europe
CHORDATA / AVES	Rissa tridactyla	Black-legged Kittiwake	2 00					LC Sign			National red list: Considered as EN	After 2011 the breeding population of kittiwakes disappeared from Sklinna
CHORDATA / AVES	Somateria mollissima	Common Eider				200		NT				Approx 100 pairs (2017.
CHORDATA / AVES	Uria aalge	Common Murre	7			2400		LC or			National red list: Considered as CR	Approx 1200 pairs (2017). Criterion 4: The area is an important breeding site for this species.
Others												
/ MAMMALIA		Gray Seal						LC ●部				Criterion 4: The site is regularly visited by this species, which also use this area as a breeding- and staging area.
CHORDATA / MAMMALIA	SC1	European Otter						NT ●# ●™	V		National Red List: Considered as VU, Ann. II Berne Convention, Emerald Network	On occation this species visits the archipelago.

¹⁾ Percentage of the total biogeographic population at the site

0 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11	
Capitalized letters shows the species' status on the National Red List 2015.	
Capitalized letters shows the species status on the Hattorian Ned Elect 2010.	

3.4 - Ecological communities whose presence relates to the international importance of the site

<no data available>

4 - What is the Site like? (Ecological character description)

4.1 - Ecological character

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. In the gull and cormorant colonies the droppings offer nitrous substrate which benefits plants such as common scurvy and common sorrel. The outer skerries have little to no vegetation, a result of exposure to wind and waves. The bedrock consists of hard and acidic rock. On the highest islands one can find different heathers such as the common heather, however, this species is extensively used as nest building material by the cormorants.

The isolation of the archipelago, and the absence of four-legged predators, provide an environment where the seabird population can develop freely without disturbance.

Sklinna is frequently visited by ornithologists during autumn, when rare migrating species stop by the area.

4.2 - What wetland type(s) are in the site?

Marine or coastal wetlands

Wetland types (code and name)	Local name	Ranking of extent (1: greatest - 4: least)	Area (ha) of wetland type	Justification of Criterion 1
A: Permanent shallow marine waters		1		Representative
D: Rocky marine shores		2		Representative

4.3 - Biological components

4.3.1 - Plant species

Other noteworthy plant species

Scientific name	Common name	Position in range / endemism / other
Cochlearia officinalis	Common Scurvy Weed	In the gulls and cormorants colonies the droppings give nitrous substrate which benefits plants such as this species.
Rumex acetosa	Common Sorrel	In the gulls and cormorants colonies the droppings give nitrous substrate which benefits plants such as this species.
Silene dioica	Red Campion	Red Campion Silene dioica is one of the most common species.

4.3.2 - Animal species

Phylum	Scientific name	Common name	Pop. size	Period of pop. est.	%occurrence	Position in range /endemism/other
CHORDATAVAVES	Anser anser	Greylag Goose				approx 20 pairs.
CHORDATA/AVES	Hydrobates pelagicus	European Storm Petrel;European Storm- Petrel				Rarer species
CHORDATA/AVES	Larus argentatus	Herring Gull				
CHORDATA/AVES	Larus fuscus	Lesser Black-backed Gull				Rarer species
CHORDATA/AVES	Larus marinus	Great Black-backed Gull				
CHORDATA/AVES	Oceanodroma leucorhoa	Leach's Storm- Petrel;Leach's Storm Petrel				Rarer species. National Red List: Considered as NT
RTHROPODAINSECTA	Bombus muscorum	Moss Carder-bee;Large Carder-bee				National Red List: Considered as NT
CHORDATA/MAMMALIA	Phoca vitulina	Harbor Seal				The site is regularly visite by this species.
:HORDATA/MAM/MALIA	Pseudorca crassidens	False Killer Whale				More rarely this species visits the archipelago.

4.4 - Physical components

4.4.1 - Climate

Climatic region	Subregion
D: Moist Mid-Latitude climate with cold winters	Dfc: Subarctic (Severe winter, no dry season, cool summer)

The climate is typical Atlantic with high annual precipitation (>1500 mm and approx. 200 days with precipitation pr. year), wet summer and mild winters.

Characteristic for the coastal climate in this region is heavy precipitation, low temperature difference between summer/winter, and lots of wind. January is usually coldest, while July tends to be warmest. October is the month with most precipitation, with May often being the driest.

4.4.2 - Geomorphic se	tting		
a) Minimum elevation a	bove sea level (in metres)		
a) Maximum elevation a	bove sea level (in		
	metres)		
		tire river basin 🗆	
		rt of river basin	
	•	rt of river basin	
	•	rt of river basin	
		one river basin	
	No	ot in river basin	
		Coastal 🗹	
	n or basins. If the site lies in a	sub-basin, please also name	the larger river basin. For a coastal/marine site, please name the sea or ocean.
Norwegian Sea			
4.4.3 - Soil			
		Mneral ☑	
	(Update) Changes		Increase O Decrease O Unknown O
		ole information	
Are soil types subject to	change as a result of changir	ng hydrological	
conditi	ons (e.g., increased salinity or	acidification)?	
	mation on the soil (optional)		
Sklinna consists of gr orogeny.	ay to slightly reddish gra	nite, partly permeated	oy minerals (quarts, feldspars and mica), formed during the Caledonian
4.4.4.30/-4			
4.4.4 - Water regime			
Water permanence Presence?	Changes at RIS update		
Usually permanent water present			
Source of water that maintain Presence?	Predominant water source	Changes at RIS update	
Marine water		No change	
Water destination			
Presence?	Changes at RIS update		
Marine	No change		
Stability of water regime			
Presence? Water levels fluctuating	Changes at RIS update		
(including tidal)	No change		
Please add any comments	on the water regime and its de	eterminants (if relevant). Use	his box to explain sites with complex hydrology.
The archipelago is pa	ort of a larger shallow are	a of approximately 12	cm2 where the water depth is between 0-50 m. w tide. However, some deeper areas occur in the catchment area.
4.4.5 - Sediment regim	ne		
	Sediment reg	gime unknown 🗖	
<no available="" data=""></no>			
SIIO dala avallable?			
440 111			
4.4.6 - Water pH		_	
		Unknown 🗹	
4.4.7 Water colinits			
4.4.7 - Water salinity			
		Unknown 🗹	
	spended nutrients in wat		

4.4.9 - Features of the surrounding area which may affect the Site

Unknown 🗹

RIS for Site no. 1953, Sklinna, Norway							
Please describe whether, and if so how, the landscape and ecological characteristics in the area surrounding the Ramsar Site differ from the i) broadly similar O ii) significantly different O site itself:							
Surrounding ar	Surrounding area has greater urbanisation or development						
Surrounding	g area has higher human pop	ulation density					
Surround	ing area has more intensive a	gricultural use					
Surrounding area has sig	nificantly different land cover o	or habitat types					
4.5 - Ecosystem s	ervices						
4.5.1 - Ecosystem serv	ices/benefits						
Cultural Services							
Ecosystem service	Examples	Importance/Extent/Significance					
Recreation and tourism	Recreational hunting and fishing	Medium					
Recreation and tourism	Water sports and activities	Medium					
Spiritual and inspirational	Cultural heritage (historical and archaeological)	Medium					
Scientific and educational	Major scientific study site	Medium					
Scientific and educational	Long-term monitoring site	Medium					
Other ecosystem service(s)	not included above:						
Sklinna has a long his the archipelago still fu Heimøya. Following th The site is used by loo Seabird monitoring w 2007, which is a long- 2014. Some sea rafting activ	Other ecosystem service(s) not included above: 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 still functions as a fishing harbour today. There is 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. The site is used by local fishermen and for research purposes. Seabird monitoring was initiated on Sklinna in the early 1980's. Sklinna was established as a SEAPOP (SEAbird POPulations) key-site in 2007, which is a long-term monitoring and mapping programme for Norwegian seabirds. Sklinna was incorporated as a SEATRACK site in 2014. Some sea rafting activities, as well as small boat tourism.						
Have studies or assessme ecosys	Have studies or assessments been made of the economic valuation of ecosystem services provided by this Ramsar Site? Yes ○ No ○ Unknown ●						
4.5.2 - Social and cultural values							
i) the site provides 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) the site has exceptional cultural traditions or records of former civilizations that have influenced the ecological character of the wetland							
	cter of the wetland depends or th local communities or indige						
iv) relevant non-material values such as sacred sites are present and their existence is strongly linked with the maintenance of the ecological							

<no data available>

4.6 - Ecological processes

(ECD) Nutrient cycling The vegetation is at several places influenced by seabird droppings.

5 - How is the Site managed? (Conservation and management)

5.1 - Land tenure and responsibilities (Managers)

5.1.1 - Land tenure/ownership

Public ownership

Category	Within the Ramsar Site	In the surrounding area
National/Federal		
government	(W)	₩.J

Provide further information on the land tenure / ownership regime (optional):

Within the Ramsar site: State owned In the surrounding area: State owned

5.1.2 - Management authority

Please list the local office / offices of any	County Governor of Nord-Trøndelag
agency or organization responsible for	
managing the site:	
Postal address:	Statens Hus, N-7734 Steinkjer.
F-mail address:	postmottak@fmnt.no

5.2 - Ecological character threats and responses (Management)

5.2.1 - Factors (actual or likely) adversely affecting the Site's ecological character

Biological resource use

Factors adversely affecting site	Actual threat	Potential threat	Within the site	Changes	In the surrounding area	Changes
Fishing and harvesting aquatic resources	Medium impact	Medium impact	✓	No change	✓	No change
Human intrusions and disturbance						

	ctors adversely affecting site	Actual threat	Potential threat	Within the site	Changes	In the surrounding area	Changes
Un	specified/others	Medium impact	Medium impact	✓	No change		No change

Pollution

Factors adversely affecting site	Actual threat	Potential threat	Within the site	Changes	In the surrounding area	Changes
Air-borne pollutants	Medium impact	Medium impact	✓	No change	₽	No change

Please describe any other threats (optional):

Within the Ramsar site:

Sklinna is situated relatively close to fishing grounds, and at the end of the 1800s the island had 26 residents. Heimøya contains a lighthouse and some buildings. Following the downsizing of the light house in 2004, there have not been any permanent residents at Sklinna. The harbour is utilized by small fishing boats throughout the year. In recent years there has been some activity in relation to fishing for saithe, which has generated some activity which, during mooring, disturb the seabirds.

From early June to end of July the station is fully operated, usually with 3-4 persons, for research purposes (global monitoring). Seabird eggs collected from Sklinna were analyzed for 201 various inorganic and organic contaminants, of which 149 compounds were detected.

The are no public accommodations on the archipelago, but Sklinna is regularly visited by ornithologists during the autumn migration.

In the surrounding area:

Seaweed trawling in proximity to the Ramsar-area could potentially result in a decline in the local juvenile saithe population which use these kelp forests as nursery grounds. The European shag feed on these juveniles, and a decline from trawling could potentially affect the breeding success of the common shag.

5.2.2 - Legal conservation status

National legal designations

1 40	Designation type	Name of area	Online information url	Overlap with Ramsar Site
1	Nature Reserve	Sklinna		whole

5.2.3 - IL	JCN prot	ected areas	categories	(2008)

la Strict Nature Reserve 🗵
Ib Wilderness Area: protected area managed mainly for wilderness protection
Il National Park: protected area managed mainly for ecosystem protection and recreation
Ill Natural Monument: protected area managed mainly for conservation of specific natural features
IV Habitat/Species Management Area: protected area managed mainly for conservation through management intervention
V Protected Landscape/Seascape: protected area managed mainly for landscape/seascape conservation and recreation
M Managed Resource Protected Area: protected area managed mainly for the sustainable use of natural ecosystems

5.2.4 - Key conservation measures

Legal protection

Logai protoction	
Measures	Status
Legal protection	Implemented

Human Activities

Tiditiditi ballado	
Measures	Status
Regulation/management of recreational activities	Implemented

Other:

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.

5.2.5 - Management planning

Is there a site-specific management plan for the site? In preparation

Has a management effectiveness assessment been undertaken for the site? Yes O No •

If the site is a formal transboundary site as indicated in section Data and location > Site location, are there shared management planning Yes O No

processes with another Contracting Party?

Please indicate if a Ramsar centre, other educational or visitor facility, or an educational or visitor programme is associated with the site:

Ν	o	n	e
1 4	v		┖

5.2.6 - Planning for restoration

Is there a site-specific restoration plan? Please select a value

5.2.7 - Monitoring implemented or proposed

Monitoring	Status
Birds	Implemented
Animal species (please specify)	Implemented

The archipelago has also been an important site for seabird monitoring since the early 1980s. The research activity was particularly carried out in the 1990's and early 2000s, when the Norwegian University of Science and Technology performed several studies in relation to physiology and ecotoxicology.

New research projects was then established when Sklinna became a SEAPOP (SEAbird POPulations) key-site in 2007, which is a long-term monitoring and mapping programme for Norwegian seabirds. In 2014 Sklinna was also implemented as a SEATRACK site, although GLS loggers have been deployed on European shags since 2008 and common guillemots since 2009. Since 2011, after the disappearance of the breeding population in Sklinna, kittiwakes have been monitored and equipped with GLS loggers at the colony in Sør-Gjæslingan approximately 50 km south of the archipelago. Additionally, common eiders, herring gulls and Atlantic puffins are also instrumented with GLS loggers.

The blue mussel is a well established environmental indicator within monitoring and is implemented in both national and international monitoring programmes. Blue mussels are collected from several locations, but also at locations where one can find common eiders, for the possibility to consider biomagnification of environmental pollutants through the food chain. A total of 150 samples are collected from each location that is monitored.

6 - Additional material

6.1 - Additional reports and documents

6.1.1 - Bibliographical references

Henriksen, S., Hilmo, O., 2015. Norsk rødliste for arter 2015 (red). Artsdatabanken, Norge - 2015 Norwegian Red List. Artsdatabanken, Norway

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

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

Leka Kommune - http://www.leka.kommune.no/

SEAPOP - http://www.seapop.no/en/

Miljøprøvebanken - https://miljoprovebanken.no/prover-og-arter/blaskjell/

Trondheimsfjorden våtmarkssenter - http://trondheimsfjordenvatmarkssenter.no/

Lorentsen, S. H., Moe, T., & Stübner, E. (2010). Key-site monitoring in Sklinna in 2009.

Huber, S., Nygård, T., Warner, N. A., Remberger, M., Harju, M., Uggerud, H. T., ... & Hanssen, L. (2014). Kartlegging av miljøgifter i sjøfuglegg fra Sklinna og Røst. Report number OR, 8, 2014.

6.1.2 - Additional reports and documents

i. taxonomic lists of plant and animal species occurring in the site (see section 4.3)

<no file available>

ii. a detailed Ecological Character Description (ECD) (in a national format)

<no file available>

iii. a description of the site in a national or regional wetland inventory

<no file available>

iv. relevant Article 3.2 reports

<no file available>

v. site management plan

<no file available>

vi. other published literature

<4 file(s) uploaded>

6.1.3 - Photograph(s) of the Site

Please provide at least one photograph of the site:



The dock at Sklinna (John Haugen/Norwegian Environment Agency, 13-10-2017)



European shag, one of many seabird species breeding at Sklinna (John Haugen/Norwegian Environment Agency, 13-10-2017)



Beautiful sunset at Sklinna (John Haugen/Norwegian Environment Agency, 13-10-2017)



The lighthouse at Sklinna (John Haugen/Norwegian Environment Agency, 13-10-2017)



The dock at Sklinna (John Haugen/Norwegian Environment Agency, 13-10-2017)



The dock at Sklinna (John Haugen/Norwegian Environment Agency, 13-10-2017)

6.1.4 - Designation letter and related data

Designation letter

<1 file(s) uploaded>

Date of Designation 2010-11-12