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

Available for download from http://www.ramsar.org/ris/key_ris_index.htm.

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

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

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DD MM YY

Designation date | Site Reference Number

2. Date this sheet was completed/updated:

April 2011

3. Country:

Norway

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.

Glomådeltaet

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 ❑

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 boundary is the same as for the existing Glomådeltaet Landscape Protected Area.

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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.

66°25’ N, 13°56’ 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.

The site is situated in Rana municipality in Nordland county, the nearest town being Mo i Rana 13 km southeast of the site, with approx. 25 000 inhabitants.

10. Elevation: (in metres: average and/or maximum & minimum)
45-58 m.a.s.l

11. Area: (in hectares)

606 ha (260 ha terrestrial)

12. General overview of the site:
Provide a short paragraph giving a summary description of the principal ecological characteristics and importance of the wetland.

The delta is made from the continuous support of glacial river deposits, and the delta is still developing. The southernmost part of the delta consists of newly developed sand islands with hardly any vegetation, and with elements of gravel and sand deposition with varying vegetation development. The islands are split by numerous river branches and surrounded by lush deciduous forests.

The area has a rich and varied bird life. It is an important breeding site for waterbirds, and also plays a key role for migrating birds, especially as staging area during spring migration.

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
☑	☑	☑	☑	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

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 shows the species`status on the Norwegian Red List)

Criterion 1: Deltas are among the most threatened nature types in Norway. This delta is almost unaffected by human activities, and natural dynamics are shaping the area. It is rated as the most valuable delta in Nordland county, and amongst the most important deltas in Norway.

Criterion 2: In 1999, 2 endangered and 4 vulnerable bird species are registered in the protected landscape. (more details, see 22). We also find Eurasian Otter *Lutra lutra (VU)* and Lynx *Lynx lynx* (VU) inside the Ramsarsite

Criterion 3
The delta is of regional and national importance for waterfowl. This is one of the most important inland breeding places in Helgeland, and it also plays a key role as a resting area during the spring migration. The numerous river branches are particularly important for ducks. The swamp- and mire areas are most important for waders, but also the sand banks are an important and necessary biotope. In 1999, 150 different bird species were registered here

Criterion 4: It is an important breeding site for Horned Grebe *Podiceps auritus* (LC), Spotted crake *Porzana porzana* (EN), Black-throated diver *Gavia arctica* (NT), Greater scaup *Aythya marila* (VU), Goshawk *Accipiter*

gentilis (NT) and Water rail *Rallus aquaticus* (VU). In addition, the delta plays a key role for many bird species as resting area during the spring migration.

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, slightly oceanic section (Mb – O1)
2. Alpine

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

1. Moen, A. 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	The bedrock consists of garnet mica schist and quartzite.
Geomorphology	A delta with small lakes, mires, old river courses, channels between dry areas and transitions to vegetation free, unstable banks and river courses.
Substrate / soil type	The quaternary deposits are dominated of glacial river deposits, with some marshes occasionally.
Water depth / fluctuations	Generally, the water is shallow although there are some deeper areas (2-3 m). The water is affected by the large glaciers in the catchment area, which gives a oligotrophic, good quality water with some reduced sight. Due to the large amount of glaciers, the water level depends both on the temperature and precipitation; the water level will rise also on dry, warm days.
Climate	The climate is slightly oceanic, with an annual precipitation of 800-1500 mm.

17. Physical features of the catchment area:
Describe the surface area, general geology and geomorphological features, general soil types, and climate (including climate type).

The catchment area is approximately 385 km². The bedrock consists of garnet mica schist, quartzite, marble (limestone), amphibolite and granite. Unique for this area is the large amount of caves and other quaternary geologic forms related to the marble bedrock.

The catchment area has large areas with glaciers and bare rock. The lower parts are dominated by deciduous forests, including some areas with coniferous forests. The quaternary deposits are dominated by glacial river deposits, with some marshes occasionally. There are some small areas with agricultural land, but the major areas are natural.

The climate is slightly oceanic.

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

This is an area with, due to all caves and underground rivers, a complex groundwater recharge. Except for this, no special hydrological values are known for the site.

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.

L – M – Tp – Xp – Xf – U – W – N - Ts

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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.

This is a complex "bird-foot-delta" in the northwestern part of the lake Langvatnet. This type of delta is characterized by a branched delta front (looks like a birds foot) with high riverbanks along the branch(es). The delta is still developing due to the continuously supply of fine-grained particles such as sand, silt and clay with the river.

The delta is a mosaic of different habitats. The delta has developed for centuries, and the older parts have small lakes, mires, old river courses, channels between dry areas and transitions to vegetation free, unstable banks and river courses.

The vegetation in the area is diverse, from sandbanks with pioneer vegetation, mire areas, wet and flooded alder forests, and sloughs with reed vegetation to deciduous and coniferous forests. There are also smaller areas with agricultural land inside the proposed Ramsar site.

The delta is of regional and national importance for waterfowl. This is one of the most important inland breeding places in Helgeland, and it also plays a key role as a resting area during the spring migration. The numerous river branches are particularly important for ducks. The swamp- and mire areas are most important for waders, but also the sand banks are an important and necessary biotope. In 1999, 150 different bird species were registered her, 31 of them were on the Norwegian Red List (4 EN, 8 VU, 18 NT and 1 DD).

Just under 20 species of mammals are registered in the area (rodents are registered as a group in the report from 1999). The most common species are: Moose *Alces alces*, Red fox *Vulpes vulpes*, Hare *Lepus timidus*, American mink *Mustela vison* and Stoat *Mustela ermine*. But we also find redlisted species as Eurasian otter (VU) and Lynx (VU). Eurasian otter is considered as VU in the national red list and NT in the IUCN red list. In the nearby area we also find Wolverine *gulo gulo* (EN), from time to time Wolverine probably passes the Ramsarsite.

The whole protected landscape consists of the threatened nature type delta, one of the most threatened nature types in Norway. Depending on size, representativeness, biological diversity, threatened species and how intact the location is, the locations are characterized as A (very important for biological diversity) according to scheme developed by the Directorate for nature management. (DN-handbook nr 13).

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*.

The delta consists of many different vegetation types. The most important are:

- Rich and extreme rich lawn (carpet and mud-bottom)
- Large water horsetail-sedge swamp areas with equisetum, *carex* and cottontail vegetation

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*.

The delta is a key area for breeding and resting waterfowl in the area. There are registered 150 bird species her, 30 of them are on the Norwegian red list:

- The Horned Grebe *Podiceps auritus* (LC), Spotted Crake *Porzana porzana* (EN), Eagle owl *Bubo bubo* (EN) and the Dwarf Woodpecker *Dendrocopos minor* (LC).
- The Black-throated diver *Gavia arctica* (NT), Whooper Swan *Cygnus cygnus* (LC), Greater Scaup *Aythyla marila* (VU), Goshawk *Accipiter gentilis* (NT), Water Rail *Rallus aquaticus* (VU), Common Scouter *Melanitta nigra* (NT), Velvet Scouter *Melanitta Fusca* (NT), Northern Lapwing *Vanellus vanellus* (NT), Ruff *Philomachus pugnax* (VU), Great Snipe *Gallinago media* (NT), Eurasian Collared-Dove *Streptopelia decaocto* (VU), Common Tern *Sterna hirundo* VU) and Pine Grosbeak *Pinicola enucleator* (NT).

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:

The watercourse and the surrounding area are used for recreation; sports fishing, birdwatching, canoeing and hunting.

There are agricultural areas within the protected area, and some simple roads for farming purposes.

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?

None known.

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:

Private and state (a minor part).

b) in the surrounding area:

Private and state (a minor part).

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25. Current land (including water) use:
a) within the Ramsar site:

A small part of the site is used for agricultural purposes; 2.7 percent is cultivated land where grass is harvested. Small parts of the area are used for grazing by livestock, but there mainly is no land-use.

b) in the surroundings/catchment:

Most of the catchment area is not in use, but there are some agricultural activity and forestry near the site. The lake Langvatnet (south of the protected landscape) is a reservoir for a hydroelectric power plant.

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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 known

b) in the surrounding area:

None known

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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.

Glomådeltaet Protected Landscape was established December 19th 1997. The boundary for the Ramsar site is the same as for the Landscape Protected Area.

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 has been given high priority by the management authority.

d) Describe any other current management practices:

The Glomåga River is protected against the building of hydropower and other physical interventions in or related to the river.

28. Conservation measures proposed but not yet implemented:
e.g. management plan in preparation; official proposal as a legally protected area, etc.

The site is identified as one of the protected areas where it is necessary to get a management plan.

29. Current scientific research and facilities:
e.g., details of current research projects, including biodiversity monitoring; existence of a field research station, etc.

Local bird-watchers register bird species every year, otherwise no activity.

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.

Poster with information about the protected area, ecological and biological facts and information on the regulations of activities in the site has been put up.
Link:
http://nordland.miljostatus.no/dm_documents/Informasjonsplakat_Glom%c3%a5deltaet_landskapsvernomr%c3%a5de_IDAYM.pdf

31. Current recreation and tourism:
State if the wetland is used for recreation/tourism; indicate type(s) and their frequency/intensity.

The site is only in a minor degree used by residents and tourists.

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

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 Nordland, which is under the instruction of DN.
Address: County Governor of Nordland, Molovn. 10, 8002 Bodø. Phone: + 47 75 53 15 80. E-mail: postmottak@fmno.no

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

Directorate for Nature Management 2007. Kartlegging av naturtyper – Verdisetting av biologisk mangfold.
Link: http://www.dirnat.no/publikasjoner/handbok_13/

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

Moen, A. 1998. *National Atlas of Norway: Vegetation*. Norwegian Mapping Authoroty, Hønefoss

Note from Rana museum regarding birds and mammals in the delta. Kjell A. Meyer, 1999.

Elvedeltabasen, http://www.elvedelta.no/

Naturbasen, www.naturbase.no

http://nordland.miljostatus.no/msf_themepage.aspx?m=1578#8430

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