

# 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:

Åsmund Andersen,  
County Governor of Nordland,  
Moloveien 10, 8002 Bodø  
Phone: +0047 75531500  
e-mail: [Postmottak@fmno.no](mailto:Postmottak@fmno.no)

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY.

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Designation date

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Site Reference Number

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

May 2013

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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.

Anda

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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 Anda 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.

69°04'N 15°10'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 Øksnes municipality, Nordland county; the nearest town being Sortland (9.819 inhabitants), 41 km to the south.

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

0-40 m.a.s.l

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

52,5 ha of which 35,9 is sea.

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

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

Anda is a small Island holding a bird cliff about 5 km north of the northern tip of the Øksnes peninsula. The island is about 40 m.a.s.l. at its highest point. The upper parts of the Island is grass covered, probably caused by the guano deriving from the large colonies of nesting pelagic sea birds.

**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).

**Criterion 1:** Anda is a small rocky Island. The site constitutes one of a few bird mountains for pelagic seabirds in Norway. The site is unique due to its relatively stable breeding populations of Atlantic puffin. The puffins feed on a local population of Lesser Sand Eel *Ammodytes marinus* in the Andfjorden fjord. The population of Lesser Sand Eel *Ammodytes marinus* has not experienced the large decline in population numbers as Lesser Sand Eel *Ammodytes marinus*, Capelin *Mallotus villosus*, and Herring *Clupea harengus* populations in other locations.

**Criterion 2:** The following red-listed species are breeding in the site: Atlantic puffin *Fratercula arctica* (national red list –VU, IUCN red list - LC), Black-legged kittiwake *Rissa tridactyla* (national red list - EN, IUCN red list - LC) and Black Guillemot *Cephus grylle* (National red list -VU, IUCN red list - LC). Razor Bill *Alca torda* (VU) is also breeding at the site. It is referred to the national red list 2010 and IUCN red list 2012.

**Criterion 4:** The site is an important breeding site pelagic seabirds; especially Atlantic Puffin *Fratercula arctica* and Black-legged Kittiwake *Rissa tridactyla*. See also Criterion 2 and point 22.

**Criterion 5:** The site is yearly used as breeding site for approximate 17.880 pairs of Atlantic puffin *Fratercula arctica* and 1000 pairs of Black-legged Kittiwake *Rissa tridactyla* (number of birds estimated in 2009). See also point 22.

**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:**

Atlantic

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

European Environmental Agency (EEA, 2012):

<http://www.eea.europa.eu/data-and-maps/figures/biogeographical-regions-in-europe-1>

**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 of the site consists of mangeritt.
Geomorphology	Anda is a rocky Island consisting of three partially coherent rocks. The rocks are relatively flat on the top, but the sides plunge steeply into the sea. The highest rock reaches 40 m.a.s.l., while the two smaller reach just above 20 m.a.s.l. On the outside of the Island is Andskjæret rock, only a few meters high. Both Anda Island and Andskjæret rock are situated on the underwater plateau in the extension of the Øksneshalvøyen peninsula.
Substrate/ soil type	Anda consists mainly of bare rocks; however, at higher altitude the Island is covered by a thin layer of grass-covered peat. The peat is present due to the guano from the sea bird colonies.
Water depth/ fluctuations	Water depth varies between 0-35 meters. The mean annual variation between low tide and high tide measured in Andenes (the closest water level station) is 134 cm.
Climate	The area has a coastal climate with mild winters and relatively wet and cold summers.

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

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

Anda is situated on the underwater plateau in the extension of the Øksnes peninsula.  
The ocean west, east and north of the Island is very deep.

**18. Hydrological values:**

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

Bird cliffs are considered to be important in the nutrient flow between the ocean and land.

**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, B, U.

**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.

In the western part of Norway there are several islands with bird cliffs. These islands are of essential importance for the seabird-population in the North Atlantic Ocean. They also play a role in the nutrient flow in these kinds of ecosystems. The birds are foraging in the sea and bring nutrients to the bird cliffs and surrounding area by the spreading of guano. The guano provides nutrient rich growing conditions and results in rich vegetation on the island.

Anda consists mainly of bare rocks, yet at higher altitudes the Island is covered by a thin layer of peat. The seabird species nesting at Anda are mainly pelagic seabirds. The pelagic seabirds feed on a local population of Lesser Sand Eel *Ammodytes marinus* in the Andfjorden fjord. The stable food source results in more constant bird population numbers compared with other populations of pelagic seabirds.

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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.*

The habitat “bird mountain vegetation” is considered a vulnerable (VU) habitat type.

No plant species on the red list are recorded at the site. Typical bird mountain species are nitrogen loving plants like Common Scurvygrass *Cochlearia officinalis*, Roseroot *Rhodiola rosea*, Common Sorrel *Rumex acetosa*, and Cow Parsley *Anthriscus sylvestris*.

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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.*

#### Birds

Anda is an important breeding site for Atlantic puffin *Fratercula arctica* (VU), Black-legged kittiwake *Rissa tridactyla* (VU) and Black Guillemot *Cepphus grylle* (VU). Approximately 1000 pairs of kittiwakes nested on Anda in 2005-09 (annually). Results from The National Monitoring Programme for Seabirds (unpubl. data) suggest that the breeding population of puffins at Anda has declined from an estimated 22,200 breeding pairs in 1981 to 17,880 breeding pairs in 2009, a total decrease of 19.3%. Breeding populations of Common Eider *Somateria mollissima* (app. 50 breeding pair), Razor Bill *Alca torda* (VU), European Shag *Phalacrocorax aristotelis*, Herring Gull *Larus argentatus*, and Great Black-backed Gull *Larus marinus* are recorded. Breeding pairs of White-tailed Eagle *Haliaeetus albicilla* and Peregrine Falcon *Falco peregrines* are also regularly recorded at Anda Island.

#### Mammals

Harbour Seal *Phoca vitulina* (National red list – VU, IUCN red list 2012 -LC) and Otter *Lutra lutra* (National red list – VU, IUCN red list 2012 - NT) occasionally uses the site.

It is referred to the national red list 2010.

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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:

Collection of eggs and down has in the past been practiced at Anda. The lighthouse on the island was the last manned lighthouse built in Norway (1931-1933) and the lighthouse was manned until 1987. The lighthouse and associated buildings are protected under the Cultural Heritage Act.

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?

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:

The largest rock constituting Anda is owned by the Norwegian Coastal Administration. The two smaller rocks are privately owned. Ownership status of Andskjær rock is not recorded in the Norwegian land register.

b) in the surrounding area:

State owned (sea).

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

a) within the Ramsar site:

According to the regulations for the nature reserve collection of eggs and down from some species is permitted. Collection of eggs is still practiced, but in small amounts. Eggs of the following species are collected: Herring Gull *Larus argentatus*, Great Black-backed Gull *Larus marinus* and Common Gull *Larus canus*. The lighthouse is still in use, however automated since 1987.

b) in the surroundings/catchment:

The area around Anda is used for fishing, whaling and different types of boat tourism.

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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:

The largest potential threat on land towards the birds nesting on Anda is the appearance of mink on the Island in the future.

b) in the surrounding area:

Reductions in the stock of Lesser Sand Eel *Ammodytes marinus*, Capelin *Mallotus villosus*, and Herring *Clupea harengus* as a consequence of natural fluctuations, overfishing and climate change has an impact on the breeding success of the sea birds. The birds are further sensitive towards petrol pollution in their feeding areas.

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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.

Anda was designated as a nature reserve December 6th 2002.

The site is also a Birdlife IBA-site known as "NO021 Anda".

**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 plan exist.

**d)** Describe any other current management practices:

None

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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.

None

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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.

The populations of Atlantic puffin and Black-legged Kittiwake are monitored since 1981 under the project "The National Monitoring Programme for Seabirds" and since 2005 as part of the SEAPOP (SEAbird POPulations) program.

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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.

Tourism safaris are organized to the Island. But due to the closure of the Island during the nesting season, the safaris are conducted by boat.

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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 Nordland, which is under the instruction of DN.  
Address:

Åsmund Andersen  
County Governor of Nordland,  
Moloveien 10, N-8002 Bodø  
(phone: +4775531580).

E-mail: [Postmottak@fmno.no](mailto:Postmottak@fmno.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.

Lorentsen, S.-H. & Christensen-Dalsgaard, S. 2009. The national monitoring programme for seabirds. Results up to and including the 2008 breeding season- - NINA Rapport 439. 53 pp.

Seabirds in Norway 2009. Results from the SEAPOPOP program (<http://www.seapop.no/>).  
[http://www.seapop.no/no/files/short-reports/2010/2010\\_05\\_SEAPOPOP\\_Short\\_Report.pdf](http://www.seapop.no/no/files/short-reports/2010/2010_05_SEAPOPOP_Short_Report.pdf)

National red list (2010)

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