Ramsar Information Sheet

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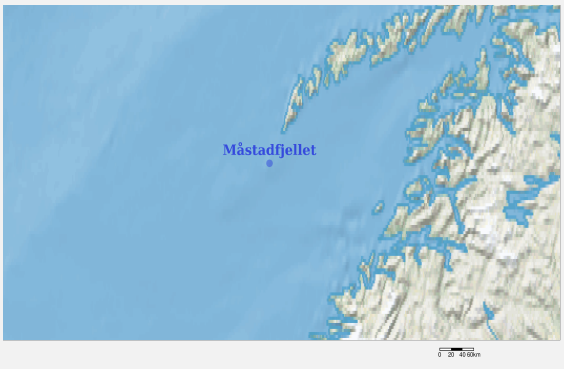
Norway

Måstadfjellet



Designation date	27 May 2013
Site number	2162
Coordinates	67°38'51"N 12°36'03"E
Area	802,00 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

Måstadfjellet is situated in the county Nordland, and consists of the southernmost area of the Verøy Island. The Site is one of the large bird mountains along the Norwegian coast, and has a high value as a breeding site for several bird species such as puffins and black-legged Kittiwakes. The western part of the Site covers a steep area from the sea up to a relatively flat mountain plateau at about 400 m.a.s.l. Both the sides of the mountain and the mountain plateau are grass-covered as a result of fertilizing from the large colonies of seabirds. The eastern part of the Site consists of Måstadvika, an important landing site for seabirds, especially for the puffins in the spring. The Site also contains a characteristic system of sand dunes with unique botanical values. Vital populations of species like the herring gull Larus argentatus, the great black-backed gull Larus marinus, the common gull Larus canus, the northern fulmar Fulmarus glacialis and the Eurasian oystercatcher Haematopus ostralegus are also found in the area.

2 - Data & location

2.1 - Formal data

2.1.1 - Name and address of the compiler of this RIS

Compiler 1

Name	Ellen Haakonsen Karr
Institution/agency	Norwegian Environment Agency
Postal address	P.O. Box 5672 Torgarden, N-7485 Trondheim, Norway
E-mail	post@miljodir.no
Phone	+47 73 58 05 00

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

From year	2009
To year	2017

2.1.3 - Name of the Ramsar Site

Official name (in English, French or Spanish)	Måstadfjellet

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 ○ 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?	Not evaluated

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 Måstadfjellet nature reserve and Måstadfjellet protected landscape area (with zoological protection of species).

2.2.2 - General location

a) In which large administrative region does the site lie?	Nordland
b) What is the nearest town or population centre?	Bodø

2.2.3 - For wetlands on national boundaries only

a) Does the wetland extend onto the territory of one or more other countries?	Yes ○ No ◉
b) Is the site adjacent to another designated Ramsar Site on the territory of another Contracting Party?	Yes ○ No ◉

2.2.4 - Area of the Site

Official area, in hectares (ha):	802

Area, in hectares (ha) as calculated from GIS boundaries: 801

2.2.5 - Biogeography

Biogeographic regions

Regionalisation scheme(s)	Biogeographic region
EU biogeographic regionalization	Arctic

Other biogeographic regionalisation scheme

European Environmental Agency (EEA, 2012):
http://www.eea.europa.eu/data-and-maps/figures/biogeographical-regions-in-europe-1

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

Other ecosystem services provided	Bird cliffs are considered to be important for the nutrient flow between the ocean and land.
Other reasons	Måstadfjellet consists of the sea cliffs at the southern and western part of the Måstadfjellet mountain on Værøy Island. The site constitutes one of a few bird mountains for pelagic seabirds in Norway. The site is unique due to the location close to the birds feeding grounds and due to the steep topography providing necessary protection for nesting.

☑ Criterion 2 : Rare species and threatened ecological communities

☑ Criterion 4 : Support during critical life cycle stage or in adverse conditions

☑ Criterion 5 : >20,000 waterbirds

Overall waterbird numbers	48016 breeding pairs
Start year	1974
Source of data:	SeaPop

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	Species qualifies under criterion				Species contributes under criterion				Pop. Size	Period of pop. Est.	% occurrence 1)	IUCN Red List	CITES Appendix I	CMS Appendix I	Other Status	Justification
			2	4	6	9	3	5	7	8								
Birds																		
CHORDATA / AVES	*Alca torda*	Razorbill	☑	☑	☐	☐	☐	☑	☐	☐	70	2013		NT	☐	☐	National red list: Considered as EN	(70 pairs in 2013) Criterion 4: The bird cliffs are of critical importance for this species during breeding season.
CHORDATA / AVES	*Cepphus grylle*	Black Guillemot	☑	☑	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐				LC	☐	☐	National red list: Considered as VU	Criterion 4: Breeding site for this species.
CHORDATA / AVES	*Falco peregrinus*	Peregrine Falcon	☑	☑	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐				LC	☑	☐	Annex II, Bern Convention	Criterion 4: This species hunts at the site regularly, and breeds in the area.
CHORDATA / AVES	*Fratercula arctica*	Atlantic Puffin	☑	☑	☐	☐	☐	☑	☐	☐	29864	2013		VU	☐	☐	National red list: Considered as VU	29864 (pairs in 2013) The site is a breeding area for this species. Criterion 4: The bird cliffs are of critical importance for this species during breeding season.
CHORDATA / AVES	*Fulmarus glacialis*	Northern Fulmar	☑	☑	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐				LC	☐	☐	National red list: Considered as EN	Criterion 4: Breeding site for this threatened species.
CHORDATA / AVES	*Rissa tridactyla*	Black-legged Kittiwake	☑	☑	☐	☐	☐	☑	☐	☐	1290	2013		VU	☐	☐	National red list: Considered as EN	(1290 pairs in 2013) The site is a breeding area for this species. Criterion 4: The bird cliffs are of critical importance for this species during breeding season.
CHORDATA / AVES	*Uria aalge*	Common guillemot	☑	☑	☐	☐	☐	☑	☐	☐	309	2009		LC	☐	☐	National red list: Considered as CR	(309 pairs in 2009) The site is a breeding area for this species. Criterion 4: The bird cliffs are of critical importance for this species during breeding season.
Others																		
CHORDATA / MAMMALIA	*Lutra lutra*	European Otter	☑	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐				NT	☑	☐	(National red list: Considered as VU)	This species occasionally uses the site.
CHORDATA / MAMMALIA	*Phoca vitulina*	Harbor Seal	☑	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐				LC	☐	☐	(National red list: Considered as VU)	This species occasionally uses the site.

1) Percentage of the total biogeographic population at the site

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

Name of ecological community	Community qualifies under Criterion 2?	Description	Justification
Bird Cliff	☑	Steep Cliffs that are important breeding sites for a number of bird species.	Important for several nationally red-listed birds. The nature type itself is listed as VU in the Norwegian Red List for Ecosystems and Habitat types 2011.

Optional text box to provide further information

Bird Cliff: Along the coast of Norway we find several islands with bird cliffs. These cliffs are of essential importance for the seabird-population in the North Atlantic Ocean. In addition to their importance to the bird populations, the large amount of guano that accumulates around these cliffs create special vegetation types that are adapted to the high level of nutrients that are found here.

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

4.1 - Ecological character

Along the western part of Norway we find several islands with bird cliffs. This bird cliffs are of essential importance for the seabird-populations in the North Atlantic Ocean. They also play a role in the nutrient flow in this kind of ecosystem. The birds are foraging in the sea and bring nutrient to the bird cliffs and surrounding area by guano. This is also the reason for the rich vegetation on the island.

Måstadfjellet is one of the large bird mountains along the Norwegian coast. The site is not as large as the bird mountains outside Røst Island, however, the site holds breeding colonies of several species listed on the national red list (2010), and is an important wintering site for several species. The vegetation at the site is typical “bird mountain vegetation”, and the habitat is considered vulnerable (VU) according to the national red list for ecosystems and habitat types. Typical bird mountain species are nitrogen loving plants such as the common scurvygrass Cochlearia officinalis, the roseroot Rhodiola rosea, the common sorrel Rumex acetosa, and the cow parsley Anthriscus sylvestris.

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		3		
B: Marine subtidal aquatic beds (Underwater vegetation)		2		
D: Rocky marine shores		1		Unique

4.3 - Biological components

4.3.1 - Plant species

Other noteworthy plant species

Scientific name	Common name	Position in range / endemism / other
Anthriscus sylvestris		Typical bird mountain species are nitrogen loving plants like this species.
Cochlearia officinalis		Typical bird mountain species are nitrogen loving plants like this species
Rhodiola rosea		Typical bird mountain species are nitrogen loving plants like this species.
Rumex acetosa		Typical bird mountain species are nitrogen loving plants like this species.

4.3.2 - Animal species

Other noteworthy animal species

Phylum	Scientific name	Common name	Pop. size	Period of pop. est.	%occurrence	Position in range /endemism/other
CHORDATA/AVES	*Haematopus ostralegus*	Eurasian Oystercatcher				Vital populations of this species are found at the site.
CHORDATA/AVES	*Haliaeetus albicilla*	White-tailed Eagle				This species uses the site regularly.
CHORDATA/AVES	*Larus argentatus*	Herring Gull				Vital populations of this species are found at the site.
CHORDATA/AVES	*Larus canus*	Mew Gull				Vital populations of this species are found at the site.
CHORDATA/AVES	*Larus marinus*	Great Black-backed Gull				Vital populations of this species are found at the site.
CHORDATA/MAMMALIA	*Halichoerus grypus*	Gray Seal				(National red list: Considered as NT) This species occasionally uses the site.

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 area has a coastal climate with mild winters and relatively wet and cold summers.

4.4.2 - Geomorphic setting

a) Minimum elevation above sea level (in metres): 0

a) Maximum elevation above sea level (in metres): 439

- Entire river basin ☐
- Upper part of river basin ☐
- Middle part of river basin ☐
- Lower part of river basin ☑
- More than one river basin ☐
- Not in river basin ☐
- Coastal ☑

Please name the river basin 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.

The Norwegian Sea

4.4.3 - Soil

- Mineral ☑

(Update) Changes at RIS update: No change ◉ Increase ○ Decrease ○ Unknown ○

- No available information ☐

Are soil types subject to change as a result of changing hydrological conditions (e.g., increased salinity or acidification)? Yes ○ No ◉

Please provide further information on the soil (optional)

The area consists mainly of rock, without any soil/surficial deposits, covered by a thin layer of grass-covered peat.

4.4.4 - Water regime

Water permanence

Presence?	Changes at RIS update
Usually permanent water present	

Source of water that maintains character of the site

Presence?	Predominant water source	Changes at RIS update
Marine water	☐	No change

Stability of water regime

Presence?	Changes at RIS update
Water levels fluctuating (including tidal)	No change

Please add any comments on the water regime and its determinants (if relevant). Use this box to explain sites with complex hydrology:

Water depth varies between 0-35 meters. The mean annual variation between low tide and high tide measured in Kabelvåg (the closest water level station) is 186 cm.

4.4.5 - Sediment regime

- Sediment regime unknown ☑

4.4.6 - Water pH

- Unknown ☑

4.4.7 - Water salinity

- Mixohaline (brackish)/Mixosaline (0.5-30 g/l) ☑

(Update) Changes at RIS update: No change ◉ Increase ○ Decrease ○ Unknown ○

- Unknown ☐

4.4.8 - Dissolved or suspended nutrients in water

- Unknown ☑

Please provide further information on dissolved or suspended nutrients (optional):

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

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

Please describe whether, and if so how, the landscape and ecological characteristics in the area surrounding the Ramsar Site differ from the site itself: i) broadly similar ○ ii) significantly different ◉

Surrounding area has greater urbanisation or development ☐

Surrounding area has higher human population density ☐

Surrounding area has more intensive agricultural use ☐

Surrounding area has significantly different land cover or habitat types ☐

Please describe other ways in which the surrounding area is different:

The area around the Verøy Island is used for fishing.

4.5 - Ecosystem services

4.5.1 - Ecosystem services/benefits

Provisioning Services

Ecosystem service	Examples	Importance/Extent/Significance
Wetland non-food products	Other	Low

Regulating Services

Ecosystem service	Examples	Importance/Extent/Significance
Hazard reduction	Coastal shoreline and river bank stabilization and storm protection	Medium

Cultural Services

Ecosystem service	Examples	Importance/Extent/Significance
Recreation and tourism	Nature observation and nature-based tourism	High

Supporting Services

Ecosystem service	Examples	Importance/Extent/Significance
Nutrient cycling	Storage, recycling, processing and acquisition of nutrients	High

Other ecosystem service(s) not included above:

Bird cliffs are considered to be important in the nutrient flow between the ocean and land.
The site is also important for tourism.

According to the regulations for Måstadfjellet protected landscape area; 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. Inside the nature reserve collection of eggs or down is not permitted.

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 ☐

iii) the ecological character of the wetland depends on its interaction with local communities or indigenous peoples ☐

iv) 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 ☐

<no data available>

4.6 - Ecological processes

<no data available>

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
Provincial/region/state government	☐	☑

Private ownership

Category	Within the Ramsar Site	In the surrounding area
Other types of private/individual owner(s)	☑	☑

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

within the Ramsar site: Private property.

in the surrounding area: Private (land) and state owned (sea).

5.1.2 - Management authority

Please list the local office / offices of any agency or organization responsible for managing the site: County Governor of Nordland, which is under the instruction of Norwegian Directorate for Nature Management

Postal address: Moloveien 10, N-8002 Bodø

E-mail address: fmnopost@fylkesmannen.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

Pollution

Factors adversely affecting site	Actual threat	Potential threat	Within the site	Changes	In the surrounding area	Changes
Industrial and military effluents	Medium impact	Medium impact	☐	No change	☑	No change

Climate change and severe weather

Factors adversely affecting site	Actual threat	Potential threat	Within the site	Changes	In the surrounding area	Changes
Unspecified	Medium impact	Medium impact	☐	No change	☑	No change

Please describe any other threats (optional):

Reductions in the stocks of the lesser sand eel Ammodytes marinus, the capelin Mallotus villosus, and the herring Clupea harengus as a consequence of natural fluctuations, overfishing and climate change have an impact on the breeding success of the seabirds. The birds are further sensitive towards petrol pollution in their feeding areas.

5.2.2 - Legal conservation status

National legal designations

Designation type	Name of area	Online information url	Overlap with Ramsar Site
Nature Reserve	Måstadfjellet		whole
Protected Landscape	Måstadfjellet		whole

5.2.3 - IUCN protected areas categories (2008)

Ia Strict Nature Reserve ☑

Ib Wilderness Area: protected area managed mainly for wilderness protection ☐

II National Park: protected area managed mainly for ecosystem protection and recreation ☐

III 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 ☐

VI Managed Resource Protected Area: protected area managed mainly for the sustainable use of natural ecosystems ☐

5.2.4 - Key conservation measures

Legal protection

Measures	Status
Legal protection	Implemented

Other:

The site is protected as a nature reserve and a protected landscape area (with zoological protection of species).

5.2.5 - Management planning

Is there a site-specific management plan for the site? No

Has a management effectiveness assessment been undertaken for the site? Yes ○ No ◉

If the site is a formal transboundary site as indicated in section Data and location > Site location, are there shared management planning processes with another Contracting Party? Yes ○ No ◉

5.2.6 - Planning for restoration

Is there a site-specific restoration plan? No need identified

5.2.7 - Monitoring implemented or proposed

Monitoring	Status
Birds	Implemented

6 - Additional material

6.1 - Additional reports and documents

6.1.1 - Bibliographical references

Results from the Norwegian Sea Bird Monitoring and Mapping Programme. SEA POP's webpages. (http://seapop.nina.no/)

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
<no file available>

<no data available>

6.1.3 - Photograph(s) of the Site

Please provide at least one photograph of the site:

The mountain Måstadfjellet seen from path by Storhaugen. (*Mia Husdal, County Governor of Nordland, 01-06-2014*)

Old stone fences on Måstad, Nupen in the background (*Mia Husdal, Cunty Governor of Nordland, 01-06-2014*)

Mountain path. (*Mia Husdal, County Governor of Nordland, 01-06-2014*)

Road my Eidet, mountain Breidfjellet in the background. (*Mia Husdal, County Governor of Nordland, 01-06-2014*)

The bay Måstadvika, with Sanden and Nupen in the background. (*Mia Husdal, County Governor of Nordland, 01-06-2014*)

6.1.4 - Designation letter and related data

Designation letter
<1 file(s) uploaded>

Date of Designation: 2013-05-27