

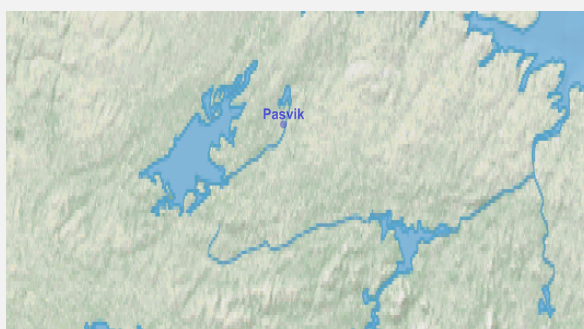


Ramsar Information Sheet

Published on 23 June 2023

Update version, previously published on : 21 December 2017

Norway Pasvik



Designation date	18 March 1996
Site number	810
Coordinates	69°08'39"N 29°13'17"E
Area	1 910,00 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 site is situated along Pasvik river at the Norwegian - Russian border in Finnmark County. It follows the boundaries of the nature reserve with the same name and includes the most intact section of the Pasvik river system, characterized by many bays, islets and shallow waters. The river has rich vegetation, with species such as *Potamogeton* spp., *Sparganium* spp. and *Ranunculus peltatus*. Water horsetail (*Equisetum fluviatile*) occurs in large quantities in some parts of the site (Gjøkbukta). The river is surrounded by pine (*Pinus sylvestris*) forests and extensive mires. The area is the north-western fringe of the Siberian taiga and is the north-western border for many species of plants and animals which are common in Russia but rare in this area. The site is especially important for breeding, resting and migratory wetland species, including several red-listed bird species which are breeding in the area.

2 - Data & location

2.1 - Formal data

2.1.1 - Name and address of the compiler of this RIS

Responsible compiler

Institution/agency

Postal address

National Ramsar Administrative Authority

Postal address

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

From year

To year

2.1.3 - Name of the Ramsar Site

Official name (in English, French or Spanish)

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

(Update) For secretariat only: This update is an extension

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? No

2.2 - Site location

2.2.1 - Defining the Site boundaries

b) Digital map/image

<1 file(s) uploaded>

Former maps

Boundaries description

2.2.2 - General location

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

b) What is the nearest town or population centre?

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):

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

1886.21

2.2.5 - Biogeography

Biogeographic regions

Regionalisation scheme(s)	Biogeographic region
Other scheme (provide name below)	1. Northern boreal zone (NbC1 – slightly continental section)
EU biogeographic regionalization	2. Boreal

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 (In: Moen, A. 1998. Nasjonalatlas for Norge; vegetasjon. Statens kartverk, Hønefoss).
2. Biogeographical regions of Europe, 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

Hydrological services provided	The Wetland has a flood control function, and the mires are important for carbon sequestration.
Other ecosystem services provided	The site and the surrounding area is used as winter pasture for reindeer.
Other reasons	The slow moving and shallow river ecosystem is of high importance as a breeding and staging area for a high diversity of ducks, geese, waders and other water birds.

- Criterion 2 : Rare species and threatened ecological communities

Optional text box to provide further information	The conservation area is important for many species on the Norwegian red-list (NRL), such as Little Bunting (<i>Emberiza pusilla</i> , NRL 2021: VU), Smew (<i>Mergellus albellus</i> , NRL: VU) and Ruff (<i>Calidris pugnax</i> , NRL 2021: VU).
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- Criterion 3 : Biological diversity

Justification	In addition to being a very important area for a great number of wetland bird species, the area is also important for a series of boreal species with limited distribution in Europe, for instance, the northern hawk-owl (<i>Surnia ulula</i>) and the great grey owl (<i>Strix nebulosa</i> , NLR 2021: VU). The area is represented on the list of "Important Bird Areas in Europe" (Heath and Evans 2000). The wetland system found along the Pasvik river system is very rare for rivers draining towards the Barents Sea due to its special richness and variation. The wetland in Øvre Pasvik is considered as one of the richest wetland systems in Scandinavia and is of great importance for the avifauna.
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- Criterion 4 : Support during critical life cycle stage or in adverse conditions

Optional text box to provide further information	The area is particularly important for breeding, resting and migratory wetland species.
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3.2 - Plant species whose presence relates to the international importance of the site

Phylum	Scientific name	Criterion 2	Criterion 3	Criterion 4	IUCN Red List	CITES Appendix I	Other status	Justification
Plantae								
TRACHEOPHYTA/ MAGNOLIOPSIDA	<i>Betula pendula pendula</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>		
TRACHEOPHYTA/ LILIOPSIDA	<i>Carex lapponica</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	National red list status: VU	
TRACHEOPHYTA/ MAGNOLIOPSIDA	<i>Stellaria palustris</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	National red list status: VU	

Referred to the Norwegian Red List 2021.

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

Phylum	Scientific 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								
Others																	
CHORDATA/MAMMALIA	<i>Canis lupus</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National red list status: CR	Criterion 2: This species is less often seen in the area.
CHORDATA/MAMMALIA	<i>Gulo gulo</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National red list status: EN	Criterion 2: This species is less often seen in the area.
CHORDATA/MAMMALIA	<i>Lutra lutra</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				NT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Ann. II Berne Convention	Criterion 4: The area has a breeding population of this species.
CHORDATA/MAMMALIA	<i>Ursus arctos</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National red list status: EN	Criterion 2: The area has a breeding population of Brown bear.
Birds																	
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		Criterion 4: Common breeder in the area.
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Anas acuta</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National red list status: VU	
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Anas clypeata</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National red list status: VU	Criterion 4: The species breeds in small numbers on the site each year.
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Anas penelope</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		Criterion 4: The area is an important staging site for this species.
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Anser fabalis</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National red list status: EN	Criterion 4: Common breeder in the area. The area is an important staging site for this species.
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Aythya marila</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National red list status: EN	Rare visitor in spring and autumn.
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Chroicocephalus ridibundus</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National red list status: CR	Criterion 4: The species breeds in small numbers on the site each year.
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Cygnus cygnus</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		Criterion 4: The area is an important staging site for this species.
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Emberiza pusilla</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National red list status: VU	Criterion 4: Important breeding site for this species.
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Gavia arctica</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		Criterion 4: Important site for this species, mainly as staging site, but breeding occurs.
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Larus canus</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National red list status: VU	Criterion 4: The area has a breeding population of this species.
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Melanitta fusca</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				VU	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National red list status: VU	Staging area for this species.
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Melanitta nigra</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National red list status: VU	Criterion 4: The area is an important staging site for this species. Breed in small numbers.
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Mergellus albellus</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National Red List: Considered as VU	Criterion 4: The species breeds in small numbers on the site each year.
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Mergus merganser</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		Criterion 4: The area is an important staging site for this species.
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Numenius arquata</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				NT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National red list status: EN	Rare migrating and breeding species in the area.
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Emerald Network	This species forage in the area on occasion.

Phylum	Scientific 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								
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Philomachus pugnax</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National Red List: Considered as VU	Criterion 4: The site is a breeding area for this species.
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Phylloscopus borealis</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National red list status: EN	Rare breeding species.
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Sterna hirundo</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National red list status: EN	Criterion 4: The species breeds in small numbers at the site.
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Strix nebulosa</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	National red list status: VU	Criterion 2 & 4: This species is breeding at the site occasionally. Criterion 3: The area is important for a series of boreal species with limited distribution in Europe, for instance this species.
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Surnia ulula</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		Criterion 4: Important breeding site for this species.
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Tringa erythropus</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		Criterion 4: Common breeder in the area.
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Tringa glareola</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		Criterion 4: Common breeder in the area.
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Tringa nebularia</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		Criterion 4: Common breeder in the area.

1) Percentage of the total biogeographic population at the site

Referred to the Norwegian Red List 2021.

A summary of waterfowl counts covering 1996-2020 can be found in Günther et al. 2022

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

Situated in the northern boreal coniferous forest, the surrounding catchment area is covered by pine forest in the lower areas and mountainous birch forest at higher elevations. The forest is characterized by few species of lichen and ericaceous species on dry ground. A typical feature is extensive tracts of mires, dominated by *Carex* spp. stands in minerogenic parts. The river Pasvikelva runs through the site and is characterized by slow flowing waters with a few rapids, many shallow bays with rich water vegetation. Stands of *Potamogeton* spp. dominate in the river, while in more shallow parts species like *Sparganium* spp. and *Ranunculus peltatus* are more common. Water horsetail (*Equisetum fluviatile*) dominates some parts of the sites (Gjøkbukta). Several other interesting water plant species can be found along the shore. Thickets of *Salix* spp. can be found along the river. The ice breaks very early in this area and is thus very important for staging migratory waterfowl.

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

Inland wetlands

Wetland types (code and name)	Local name	Ranking of extent (1: greatest - 4: least)	Area (ha) of wetland type	Justification of Criterion 1
Fresh water > Flowing water >> M: Permanent rivers/ streams/ creeks		1		Representative
Fresh water > Lakes and pools >> O: Permanent freshwater lakes		3		
Fresh water > Marshes on peat soils >> U: Permanent Non-forested peatlands		2		

4.3 - Biological components

4.3.1 - Plant species

Other noteworthy plant species

Phylum	Scientific name	Position in range / endemism / other
TRACHEOPHYTA/LILIOPSIDA	<i>Carex globularis</i>	Geographically interesting area with a number of eastern species like this species.
TRACHEOPHYTA/LILIOPSIDA	<i>Eriophorum chamissonis</i>	Characteristic species for wetland areas in the northern part of Norway.
TRACHEOPHYTA/MAGNOLIOPSIDA	<i>Rhododendron tomentosum</i>	Characteristic species for the area.
TRACHEOPHYTA/LILIOPSIDA	<i>Sagittaria natans</i>	Geographically interesting area with a number of eastern species like this species.

4.3.2 - Animal species

Other noteworthy animal species

Phylum	Scientific name	Pop. size	Period of pop. est.	% occurrence	Position in range /endemism/other
CHORDATA/MAMMALIA	<i>Alces alces</i>				Common species.
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Gallinago gallinago</i>				
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Lagopus lagopus</i>				Common breeding species in the area.
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Lymnocyrtus minimus</i>				This species is relatively common in the area.
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Phalaropus lobatus</i>				Often spotted in the area.
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Limicola falcinellus</i>				The species occurs in the area
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Limosa lapponica</i>				
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Phalaropus lobatus</i>				Species often seen.
CHORDATA/AVES	<i>Vanellus vanelus</i>				National Red List: Considered as NT, rare in the area.

Invasive alien animal species

Phylum	Scientific name	Impacts	Changes at RIS update
CHORDATA/MAMMALIA	<i>Neovison vison</i>	Actual (minor impacts)	No change
CHORDATA/MAMMALIA	<i>Ondatra zibethicus</i>	Potential	unknown

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 continental with long and cold winters and short relatively warm and intense summers. Moderate to low precipitation.

4.4.2 - Geomorphic setting

a) Minimum elevation above sea level (in metres)

a) Maximum elevation above sea level (in metres)

- 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.

Pasvik River (Barents Sea)

4.4.3 - Soil

Mineral

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

Organic

(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)

Soil types consist of organic soil in mires and glacial deposits with sand, gravel and rocks.

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
Water inputs from surface water	<input type="checkbox"/>	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.

The Pasvik River originates from the Enare Lake in Finland. The Pasvik River is regulated by seven electric power stations, this has some influence on the fluctuation of the water level, but in the central part of the nature reserve the river still follows its original course. Due to the physical factors with shallow and protected bays the aquatic flora is particularly well developed. The ice breaks very early in this area and is thus very important for staging migratory waterfowl. The river Pasvik drains an area of 18404 km², with a major part in Finland and constitutes the border river between Norway and Russia. The river is of a high importance as a flood control agent since the volume of water during the spring floods is huge.

4.4.5 - Sediment regime

Significant transportation of sediments occurs on or through the site

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

Sediment regime unknown

Please provide further information on sediment (optional):

The significant transport of sediments and, as a consequence, the continuously shifting estuary is important in maintaining a natural ecosystem in the estuary.

4.4.6 - Water pH

Unknown

4.4.7 - Water salinity

Fresh (<0.5 g/l)

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

Unknown

4.4.8 - Dissolved or suspended nutrients in water

Unknown

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 i) broadly similar ii) significantly different site itself:

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:

Reindeer husbandry, forestry, hunting, fishing and other leisure activities.

4.5 - Ecosystem services

4.5.1 - Ecosystem services/benefits

Provisioning Services

Ecosystem service	Examples	Importance/Extent/Significance
Wetland non-food products	Livestock fodder	Medium

Regulating Services

Ecosystem service	Examples	Importance/Extent/Significance
Erosion protection	Soil, sediment and nutrient retention	Medium
Hazard reduction	Flood control, flood storage	Medium

Cultural Services

Ecosystem service	Examples	Importance/Extent/Significance
Recreation and tourism	Recreational hunting and fishing	Low
Recreation and tourism	Nature observation and nature-based tourism	Low
Spiritual and inspirational	Cultural heritage (historical and archaeological)	High
Scientific and educational	Major scientific study site	Medium
Scientific and educational	Educational activities and opportunities	Medium
Scientific and educational	Long-term monitoring site	Medium

Supporting Services

Ecosystem service	Examples	Importance/Extent/Significance
Nutrient cycling	Carbon storage/sequestration	Medium

Other ecosystem service(s) not included above:

As a flood control agent the river is of high importance since the volume of water during the spring floods is huge. Since the degradation of the wetlands in the northern regions is low, floods rarely occur here. The significant transport of sediments and, as a consequence, the continuously shifting estuary is important in maintaining a natural ecosystem in the estuary.

The research centre at Svanhovd Environmental Center (Bioforsk), approx. 40 km to the north, has been assigned tasks concerning research and monitoring within the conservation area. This is done in close cooperation with the authorities of the Russian zapovednik.

The area is to a low degree used by residents and tourists, mainly for fishing and birdwatching.

Reindeer graze in the area.

See additional material for further information.

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
Local authority, municipality, (sub)district, etc.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Private ownership

Category	Within the Ramsar Site	In the surrounding area
Other types of private/individual owner(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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

Within the Ramsar site: Most of the area falls under Finnmarkseiendommen, a regional authority managing state property in Finnmark county. A minor part is private.

In the surrounding area: Most of the area falls under Finnmarkseiendommen.

5.1.2 - Management authority

Please list the local office / offices of any agency or organization responsible for managing the site:

County Governor of Troms and Finnmark

Postal address:

Statsforvalteren i Troms og Finnmark
Pb 700
9815 Vadsø

E-mail address:

sffpost@statsforvalteren.no

5.2 - Ecological character threats and responses (Management)

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

Water regulation

Factors adversely affecting site	Actual threat	Potential threat	Within the site	Changes	In the surrounding area	Changes
Canalisation and river regulation	Low impact	Low impact	<input type="checkbox"/>	No change	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No change

Biological resource use

Factors adversely affecting site	Actual threat	Potential threat	Within the site	Changes	In the surrounding area	Changes
Logging and wood harvesting	Medium impact	Medium impact	<input type="checkbox"/>	No change	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No change

Human intrusions and disturbance

Factors adversely affecting site	Actual threat	Potential threat	Within the site	Changes	In the surrounding area	Changes
(Para)military activities	Low impact	Medium impact	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No change	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No change

Natural system modifications

Factors adversely affecting site	Actual threat	Potential threat	Within the site	Changes	In the surrounding area	Changes
Dams and water management/use	Medium impact	Medium impact	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No change	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No change

Invasive and other problematic species and genes

Factors adversely affecting site	Actual threat	Potential threat	Within the site	Changes	In the surrounding area	Changes
Invasive non-native/ alien species	Low impact	Medium impact	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No change	<input type="checkbox"/>	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	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No change	<input type="checkbox"/>	No change

Please describe any other threats (optional):

within the Ramsar site:
 The Pasvik river is regulated by two hydro-electric power plants, this has some influence on the fluctuation of the water level. There is also some contamination by air from the industry in Russia.

in the surrounding area:
 Two power plants, that cause some water-fluctuations, are situated outside the Ramsar area. Tracts of forests have been felled in the surrounding area on both sides of the border, but still great areas of old forest remain within and outside of the protected areas and a neighbouring national park.
 Prospecting for minerals has been undertaken in the catchment area, while extraction of a major deposit was rejected with the establishment of the reserve. An old plan for a new highway between Norway and Finland along the river still exists but is strongly opposed due to the unspoiled character of the area.

As the site is situated on the Russian border, there are some military activities associated with border control. The army is aware of the site's value as a nature reserve, and have restrictions regarding patrolling.

5.2.2 - Legal conservation status

Regional (international) legal designations

Designation type	Name of area	Online information url	Overlap with Ramsar Site
Other international designation	EUOPARC Transboundary Parks: Pasvik – Inari Triateral Park		partly

National legal designations

Designation type	Name of area	Online information url	Overlap with Ramsar Site
nature reserve	Pasvik		whole

Non-statutory designations

Designation type	Name of area	Online information url	Overlap with Ramsar Site
Important Bird Area	Øvre Pasvik		partly

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:

Management plan in preparation

5.2.5 - Management planning

Is there a site-specific management plan for the site? Yes

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

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

Approximate 40 km to the north we find a national park centre with an exhibition from nature in the Pasvik valley. There is also possible to stay overnight and get information, transport and so on.

A book on the reserve in Norwegian and Russian was published in 1994. Several posters and a brochure in English, Russian and Norwegian have been produced. A bird watching hide is situated south in the small bay Gjøkbukta. There is also other information about the site on web.

5.2.6 - Planning for restoration

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

5.2.7 - Monitoring implemented or proposed

The research centre at Svanhovd Environmental Center (Bioforsk), approx. 40 km to the North, has been assigned tasks concerning research and monitoring within the conservation area. This is done in close cooperation with the authorities of the Russian zapovednik.

6 - Additional material

6.1 - Additional reports and documents

6.1.1 - Bibliographical references

Biogeographic regionalisation scheme:

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

General:

Günther, M. 2006. Ti år med vannfugltellinger i Pasvik naturreservat. Oppsummering 1996-2005. Bioforsk Rapport 1 (68). 65 s. (List of literature inside) (<http://www.bioforsk.no/ViewPPP.aspx?view=publication&id=8985&viewLanguage=NorwegianBokmaal>)

Günther, M. (Ed.) 2004. Field Guide to Protected Areas in the Barents Region, Svanhovd Environmental Centre, Svanvik. 376 pp.

Wiliam, S., Makarova, O & Aarset, T. 1994. Pasvik. Norsk-russisk naturreservat. Grøndahl-Dreyer. 96 pp. (List of literature inside).

Other:

Birkeland, I. og Arnesen, G. 2011. Fjærevann, Sør-Varanger kommune. EcoFact rapport 122

Fylkesmannen i Finnmark, 2013. Forvaltningsplan for Pasvik naturreservat - Management plan for Pasvik nature reserve.

Heath, M. F. & Evans, M. I. (eds.) 2000. Important Bird Areas in Europe. Priority sites for conservation. 2 vols. Cambridge, UK: BirdLife International. BirdLife Conservation Series No. 8.

Artsdatabanken (2021, 24. november). Norsk rødliste for arter 2021. <https://www.artsdatabanken.no/lister/rodlisteforarter/2021>

Günther, M., Bjørn, T. A., Frantzen, B., Aspholm, P. E., & Hagen, S. (2022). Vannfugltellinger i Pasvik naturreservat-Oppsummering 1996-2020. NIBIO Rapport.

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

<1 file(s) uploaded>

vi. other published literature

<1 file(s) uploaded>

6.1.3 - Photograph(s) of the Site

Please provide at least one photograph of the site:



Pasvik Nature Reserve (County Governor Finnmark, 01-09-2016)



Pasvik Nature Reserve (Jan-Petter H. Hansen, Norwegian Environmental Agency, 02-09-2008)

6.1.4 - Designation letter and related data

Designation letter

<1 file(s) uploaded>

Date of Designation