

Ramsar Information Sheet

Published on 7 November 2017 Update version, previously published on : 1 January 2011

Norway Møsvasstangen



Designation date 18 March 1996 Site number 803 Coordinates 59°48'57"N 08°10'55"E

Area 1 440,90 ha

https://rsis.ramsar.org/ris/803 Created by RSIS V.1.6 on - 8 May 2020

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

Møsvasstangen is dominated by large areas of different types of mires that express a continuous change between water, bogs, and dry parts with mountainous birch forest. In the central part of the area there is a small water course with Kulingstjern as the largest lake. The northeastern part of the area constitutes a coherent mire stretch of 8 km. Erosion processes have a negative impact for some of the vegetation. There are not recorded any rare or vulnerable plant species in this area.

The location's value as breeding locality for some water-related species (loons, ducks and waders) appears small, however, the area constitutes the southernmost breeding site for many northern and alpine bird species with special biotopic demands. The area has some value as a staging area during migrations, but is primarily valuable as a highland breeding area. The site is not an important wintering ground, resulting from continuous snow- and ice cover during this time of year. Møsvasstangen is not known as a moulting area for other species than those breeding here.

A total of 103 bird species are registered in Møsvasstangen, 42 of these registered as breeding within the site and 23 possible breeding species. Red listed species breeding here include white-winged scoter (NRL: VU), lapland longspur (NRL: VU) and Northern lapwing (NRL: EN). In sheltered coves and rivers with more extensive vegetation cover one can find some water-related species, such as Eurasian teal, common ringed plover and Northern lapwing (IUCN: NT, NRL: EN). The location is also of importance as feeding grounds for black-throated loon, common merganser and red-breasted merganser. Some fish eating birds and waders also utilize Møsvatn, found just outside of the Ramsar-site.

The whole area constitute living area for reindeer. The regulation of Møsvatn does not appear to have affected the reindeer migration patterns in this particular area.

2 - Data & location

2.1 - Formal data

2.1	1.1	-	Name	and	ado	Iress	of	the	com	piler	of	this	RIS
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Compiler 1

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

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

From year 1976

To year 2016

2.1.3 - Name of the Ramsar Site

Official name (in English, French or Spanish) Møsvasstangen

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

(Update) A Changes to Site boundary Yes O No

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

2.1.5 - Changes to the ecological character of the Site

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

2.2 - Site location

2.2.1 - Defining the Site boundaries

b) Digital map/image

<2 file(s) uploaded>

Former maps 0

Boundaries description

The boundaries are the same as for the Møsvasstangen Landscape Protection Area.

2.2.2 - General location

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

Telemark County

b) What is the nearest town or population centre?

Rjukan, with a pop. est. of 3 400 (2007)

2.2.3 - For wetlands on national boundaries only

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

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

2.2.4 - Area of the Site

Official area, in hectares (ha): 1440.9

Area, in hectares (ha) as calculated from 1436.86 GIS boundaries

2.2.5 - Biogeography

Biogeographic regions

Regionalisation scheme(s)	Biogeographic region
EU biogeographic regionalization	2. Alpine
Other scheme (provide name below)	1. Northern boreal zone (NbOC – transitional section)

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 (ln: Moen, A. 1998. Nasjonalatlas for Norge; vegetasjon. Statens kartverk, Hønefoss). 2. EU Habitat directive 92/43/EEC

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 reasons	A large unspoilt area with a wide variety of mires. Unusually fine formations of string mires, the largest mire system in the county.					
☑ Criterion 2 : Rare species and th	reatened ecological communities					
☑ Criterion 3 : Biological diversity						
Justification	The area constitutes the southernmost breeding site for many northern and alpine bird species					

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

T ' () 1	1 11 ' '	ı '	
I here is not recorded :	anv rare or vulnerable species in t	rnis area	
Thoro to hot rocordou	arry rare or variorable openion in t	a no aroa.	

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

Phylum	Scientific name	Common name	Species qualifies under criterion 2 4 6 9	Species contributes under criterion	Pop. Size	% occurrence	IUCN Red List	CITES Appendix I	CMS Appendix I	Other Status	Justification
Birds											
CHORDATA / AVES	Actitis hypoleucos	Common Sandpiper		2 000			LC				Criterion 4: The area constitutes the southernmost breeding site for many northern and alpine bird species and a total of 103 species have been recorded, e.g. this species.
CHORDATA / AVES	Anas crecca	Eurasian Teal; Green-winged Teal		0000			LC om				Criterion 4: The area constitutes the southernmost breeding site for many northern and alpine bird species and a total of 103 species have been recorded, e.g. this species.
CHORDATA / AVES	Aythya fuligula	Tufted Duck		2 000			LC ●数 ●關				Criterion 4: The area constitutes the southernmost breeding site for many northern and alpine bird species and a total of 103 species have been recorded, e.g. this species.
CHORDATA / AVES	Calcarius Iapponicus	Lapland Longspur	r 🗸 🗸 🗆	0000			LC ●数 ●爾			National Red List: Considered as VU	Criterion 4: The area constitutes the southernmost breeding site for many northern and alpine bird species and a total of 103 species have been recorded, e.g. this species.
CHORDATA / AVES	Calidris alpina	Dunlin		0000			LC ●数 ●關				Criterion 4: The area constitutes the southernmost breeding site for many northern and alpine bird species and a total of 103 species have been recorded, e.g. this species.

Phylum	Scientific name	Common name	Specie qualifie under criterio 2 4 6	es c r on	Species ontribute under criterion	Size Period of pop. Est. occurrence	IUCN e Red / List	CITES Appendix I	CMS Appendix I	Other Status	Justification
	Charadrius hiaticula	Common Ringed Plover					LC • is • is				Criterion 4: The area constitutes the southernmost breeding site for many northern and alpine bird species and a total of 103 species have been recorded, e.g. this species.
CHORDATA / AVES	Gallinago gallinago	Common Snipe					LC				Criterion 4: The area constitutes the southernmost breeding site for many northern and alpine bird species and a total of 103 species have been recorded, e.g. this species.
CHORDATA / AVES	Gavia arctica	Arctic Loon; Black- throated Loon					LC				Criterion 4: The area constitutes the southernmost breeding site for many northern and alpine bird species and a total of 103 species have been recorded, e.g. this species.
CHORDATA / AVES	Grus grus	Common Crane					LC • is • is				Criterion 4: The area constitutes the southernmost breeding site for many northern and alpine bird species and a total of 103 species have been recorded, e.g. this species.
CHORDATA / AVES	Larus canus	Mew Gull					LC ©			National Red List: Considered as NT	Criterion 4: The area constitutes the southernmost breeding site for many northern and alpine bird species and a total of 103 species have been recorded, e.g. this species.
CHORDATA / AVES	Melanitta fusca	White-winged Scoter; Velvet Scoter	770				LC ©ST			National Red List: Considered as VU	Criterion 4: The area constitutes the southernmost breeding site for many northern and alpine bird species and a total of 103 species have been recorded, e.g. this species.
CHORDATA / AVES	Mergus merganser	Common Merganser					LC				Criterion 4: The area constitutes the southernmost breeding site for many northern and alpine bird species and a total of 103 species have been recorded, e.g. this species.
CHORDATA / AVES	Mergus serrator	Red-breasted Merganser					LC				Criterion 4: The area constitutes the southernmost breeding site for many northern and alpine bird species and a total of 103 species have been recorded, e.g. this species.
	Numenius phaeopus	Whimbrel					LC ©#				Criterion 4: The area constitutes the southernmost breeding site for many northern and alpine bird species and a total of 103 species have been recorded, e.g. this species.
	Phalaropus Iobatus	Red-necked Phalarope					LC • is • is				Criterion 4: The area constitutes the southernmost breeding site for many northern and alpine bird species and a total of 103 species have been recorded, e.g. this species.
CHORDATA / AVES	Philomachus pugnax	Ruff	770				LC ©			National Red List: Considered as EN	Criterion 4: The area constitutes the southernmost breeding site for many northern and alpine bird species and a total of 103 species have been recorded, e.g. this species.
CHORDATA / AVES	Tringa glareola	Wood Sandpiper					LC ©				Criterion 4: The area constitutes the southernmost breeding site for many northern and alpine bird species and a total of 103 species have been recorded, e.g. this species.
	Tringa totanus	Common Redshank					LC •\$ •\$				Criterion 4: The area constitutes the southernmost breeding site for many northern and alpine bird species and a total of 103 species have been recorded, e.g. this species.
CHORDATA / AVES	Vanellus vanellus	Northern Lapwing	2 2				NT			National Red List: Considered as EN	Criterion 4: The area constitutes the southernmost breeding site for many northern and alpine bird species and a total of 103 species have been recorded, e.g. this species.

RIS	for	Site	no.	803,	Møsvasstangen,	Norway

1) Percentage of the total biogeographic population at the site

Capitalized letters shows the species' status on the National Red List 2015.

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

<no data available>

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

4.1 - Ecological character

The sloping face of the area has created one of the largest string-mire areas in southern Norway. These large unspoilt mixed string mires are a rare sight in the southern provinces. Different types of mires exist with a gradient from extremely poor to extremely rich. The area is covered with approx. 50% mires, 30% alpine meadow and 20% forest. Møsvasstangen is of special interest as a breeding site for water birds.

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		4		
Fresh water > Lakes and pools >> O: Permanent freshwater lakes		3		
Fresh water > Marshes on peat soils >> U: Permanent Non- forested peatlands		1		Rare
Fresh water > Marshes on inorganic or peat soils >> Va: Montane wetlands		2		Rare

4.3 - Biological components

4.3.1 - Plant species

Other noteworthy plant species

Scientific name	Common name	Position in range / endemism / other		
Betula pubescens pumila	Downy Birch	Downy Birch forms the dominating tree cover.		
Carex rostrata	Bottle Sedge	Floristically the lakes are dominated by stands of Bottle Sedge.		
Equisetum fluviatile	Water Horsetail	Floristically the lakes are dominated by stands of Water Horsetail.		
Kalmia procumbens	Trailing Azalea	On drier parts snow-bed flora dominate with Trailing Azalea.		
Nardus stricta	Mat-grass	On drier parts snow-bed flora dominate with Mat-grass.		
Vaccinium myrtillus	Bilberry	On drier parts snow-bed flora dominate with Bilberry.		

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
CHORDATAVAVES	Cuculus canorus	Common Cuckoo				National Red List: Considered as NT
CHORDATA/AVES	Emberiza schoeniclus	Common Reed Bunting;Common Reed- Bunting;Reed Bunting				National Red List: Considered as NT
CHORDATA/AVES	Lagopus lagopus	Willow Ptarmigan; Willow Grouse				National Red List: Considered as NT
:HORDATA/MAMMALIA	Rangifer tarandus	Caribou				The area is known as an important area for Reindeers Rangifer tarandus in the calving period.

4.4 - Physical components

4.4.1 - Climate

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

The climate is intermediary of an inland climate with relatively warm summers and cold winters. Precipitation is relatively sparse with around 700 mm annually.

4.4.2 - Geomorphic setting	
a) Minimum elevation above sea level (in	7
a) Maximum elayation above sea level (in	_
metres) 988	
Entire riv	ver basin
Upper part of riv	_
Middle part of riv	_
Lower part of riv More than one riv	_
	ver basin
Nothith	Coastal
4.4.3 - Soil	
41.11	Organic 🗹
	IS update No change
No available inf	the lands of
Are soil types subject to change as a result of changing hyd conditions (e.g., increased salinity or acidit	
Please provide further information on the soil (optional)	
	es with several small lakes. Large quaternary deposits created by the movement of ice and es. These well formed quaternary deposits increase the protection value of the area.
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 Ch	nanges at RIS update
Water inputs from surface water	No change
vector:	
Water destination Presence? Changes at RIS update	
To downstream catchment No change	
Stability of water regime	
Presence? Changes at RIS update Water levels largely stable No change	
Disease add any commonts on the customerine and its determine	in outs (if relevant). He athire he use a valeing sites with a covaley by wheelengs
Clear water (< 30 mg Pt/L, TOC 2 - 5 mg/L)	inants (if relevant). Use this box to explain sites with complex hydrology:
4.4.E. Codiment regime	
4.4.5 - Sediment regime	
Sediment regime ((STS < 10 mg/L (inorganic fraction constitute at least 80%))
Clear water ((313 < 10 mg/L (morganic fraction constitute at least 60 %))
4.4.6 - Water pH	
· ·	Unknown ☑
A A 7 Makes a Path	
4.4.7 - Water salinity	(a. p. G.
	(<0.5 g/l) ☑ IS update No change ◎ Increase O Decrease O Unknown O
•	Unknown
4.4.8 - Dissolved or suspended nutrients in water	
U	Unknown ☑
4.4.9 - Features of the surrounding area which may	affect the Site
Please describe whether, and if so how, the landscape and e	
characteristics in the area surrounding the Ramsar Site differ	
Surrounding area has greater urbanisation or deve	elopment 🗆
Surrounding area has higher human populatio	n density ☑

Surrounding area has more intensive agricultural use 🗵

Surrounding area has significantly different land cover or habitat types $\ \square$

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

Cultural Services

Ecosystem service	Examples	Importance/Extent/Significance
Recreation and tourism	Recreational hunting and fishing	Medium
Recreation and tourism	Nature observation and nature-based tourism	Medium
Spiritual and inspirational	Cultural heritage (historical and archaeological)	Medium

Supporting Services

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

Other ecosystem service(s) not included above:

More than 100 sites for iron production from the period from the Viking age to the Middle age is discovered in the area. On these sites there are also remains from the houses that were used in this period, and remains of this type are nationally rare.

Fishing and grazing.

The area is used by residents and some tourists for fishing and bird watching.

Have studies or assessments been made of the economic valuation of Yes O No O Unknown @ ecosystem services provided by this Ramsar Site?

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

Privat	te	OV	me	ers	hi	n

Category	Within the Ramsar Site	In the surrounding area
Other types of private/individual owner(s)	2	2

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

Within the Ramsar site: Private. In the surrounding area: Private.

5.1.2 - Management authority

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

Postal address:

Fylkesmannen i Telemark, miljøvernavdelingen, Statens Hus, N-3708 Skien

E-mail address: postmottak@fmte.no

5.2 - Ecological character threats and responses (Management)

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

Human settlements (non agricultural)

Factors adversely affecting site	Actual threat	Potential threat	Within the site	Changes	In the surrounding area	Changes
Tourism and recreation areas	Medium impact	Medium impact		No change	✓	No change

Biological resource use

Factors adversely affecting site	Actual threat	Potential threat	Within the site	Changes	In the surrounding area	Changes
Hunting and collecting terrestrial animals	Medium impact	Medium impact	2	No change	>	No change
Fishing and harvesting aquatic resources	Medium impact	Medium impact		No change	✓	No change

Human intrusions and disturbance

Factors adversely affecting site	Actual threat	Potential threat	Within the site	Changes	In the surrounding area	Changes
Recreational and tourism activities	Medium impact	Medium impact		No change	✓	No change

Natural system modifications

Tatal o jotal monitorio						
Factors adversely affecting site	Actual threat	Potential threat	Within the site	Changes	In the surrounding area	Changes
Dams and water management/use	Low impact	Low impact		No change	 ✓	No change

Please describe any other threats (optional):

In the surrounding area:

The nearby Lake Møsvatn is heavily regulated for hydropower, but this does not affect the nature protection area other than scenically with naked shores which can be seen from the reserve during parts of the year.

Relatively large impact from tourism and recreational activities in Hardangervidda, especially fishing and hunting. Yarn fishing in Hardangervidda most likely constitute a high impact on diving bird species. Hardangervidda is also extensively used as grazing area for sheep.

5.2.2 - Legal conservation status

Designation type	Name of area	Online information url	Overlap with Ramsar Site
Species management area	Møsvasstangen		whole
landscape protection area	Møsvasstangen		whole

5.2.3 - IUCN	protected	areas	categories	(2008)
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la Strict Nature Reserve
Ib Wilderness Area: protected area managed mainly for wilderness protection
Il National Park: protected area managed mainly for ecosystem protection and recreation
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 Iandscape/seascape conservation and recreation
M Managed Resource Protected Area: protected area managed mainly for the sustainable use of natural ecosystems

5.2.4 - Key conservation measures

Legal protection

Logar protoctor.			
Measures	Status		
Legal protection	Implemented		

Human Activities

Measures	Status		
Regulation/management of recreational activities	Implemented		

Other:

The area was given by a Royal Decree status as a Landscape Protection Area. All kind of exploitation in the conservation area is regulated by an official set of regulations specific for the area. Visiting of the area is prohibited in the period 15th May to 15th July. Organized tourism, camping, photographing, etc. is restricted in the period 1th April to 30th September.

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?

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

processes with another Contracting Party?

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

Information posters have been established.

5.2.6 - Planning for restoration

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

5.2.7 - Monitoring implemented or proposed

<no data available>

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

Others:

Numerous reports (in Norwegian) and studies have been published on the natural and cultural history of the area, including quaternary studies, vegetation ecology, birdlife, archaeology and landscape studies, only a few are mentioned here:

Alvseike, T. 1984. Møsvannstangen. Vurdering av behovet for fuglelivsfredning. 24 s.

Fylkesmannen i Telemark, Miljøvernavdelingen 1986. Forslag om vern av Møsvasstangen. Notat. 9 s.

Jansen, I. J. 1987. Kvartærgeologiske verneverdige områder i Telemark. Telemark - Kvartærgeologi II. Institutt for naturanalyse 1987.

Moen, A. 1978. Registrering av verneverdige myrer i Telemark. Rapport til MD. Universitetet i Trondheim, Det Kgl. Norske Vitenskabers Selskab, Muséet.

Rask Arnesen, M. 1981. Møsvannstangen rapport 1981. Oppdrag fra naturvernkonsulenten i Telemark. 74 s. Solvang, R. 1997. Ornitologiske registreringer i vernede våtmarksområder i Telemark 1997.

Møsvasstangen, Vinje. Fylkesmannen i Telemark, miljøvernavd. Rapport 05/97. 16pp.

Telemark fylkeskommune. 1976. Verneplan for våtmarksområder i Telemark. Førebels oversikt 1976: 34- 36.

Tvemyr, S. 1979. Utkast til verneplan for våtmarksområder i Telemark fylke. Fylkesmannen i Telemark. 70 s.

Kommunestyremøte, TINN KOMMUNE. 2015

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

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

<1 file(s) uploaded>

6.1.3 - Photograph(s) of the Site

Please provide at least one photograph of the site:



Aerial view of Møsvasstangen (Norwegian Environment Agency, 12-10-2017)

6.1.4 - Designation letter and related data

Designation letter

<1 file(s) uploaded>

Date of Designation 1996-03-18