

International meeting on “Mires and wetlands of the North Calotte”
Vadsø, Norway 2 - 4 October 2019

Protection of mires and wetlands in Arctic Norway

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Wetlands covers > 10 % of Norway (mainland)

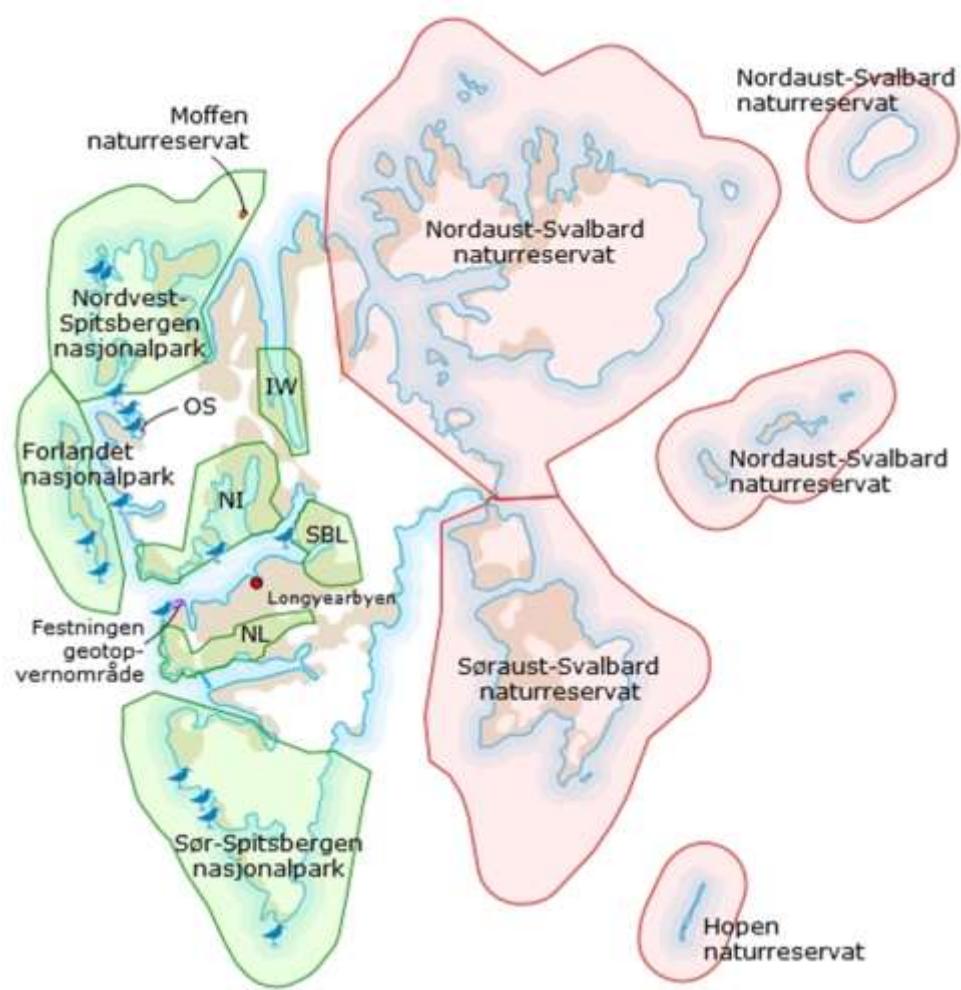
1/3 of the the mire area lost the last 100 years



Protected Areas in Svalbard

- Terrestrial Area: 61.022 [km²](#)
- Protekter areas: 29 - 65,3%
- Protected marine areas - 86,6%

The Svalbard Environmental Protection Act (2002)
(A collection of updated environmental legislation for Svalbard).



IW Indre Wijdefjorden nasjonalpark
NI Nordre Isfjorden nasjonalpark
NL Nordenskiöld Land nasjonalpark
OS Ossian Sars naturreservat
SBL Sassen-Bünsow Land nasjonalpark

100 km © Norsk Polarinstitutt

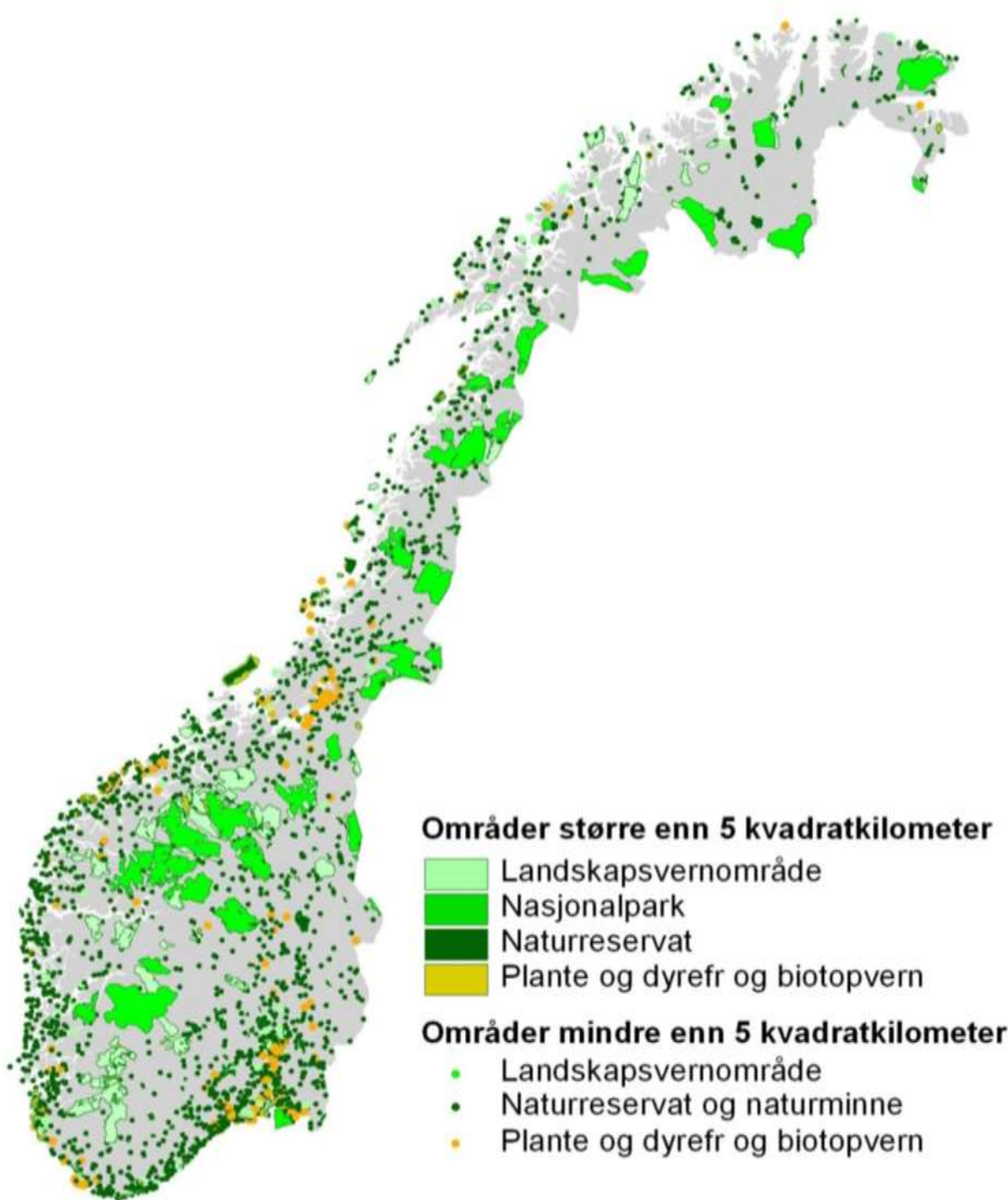
Jan Mayen nature reserve





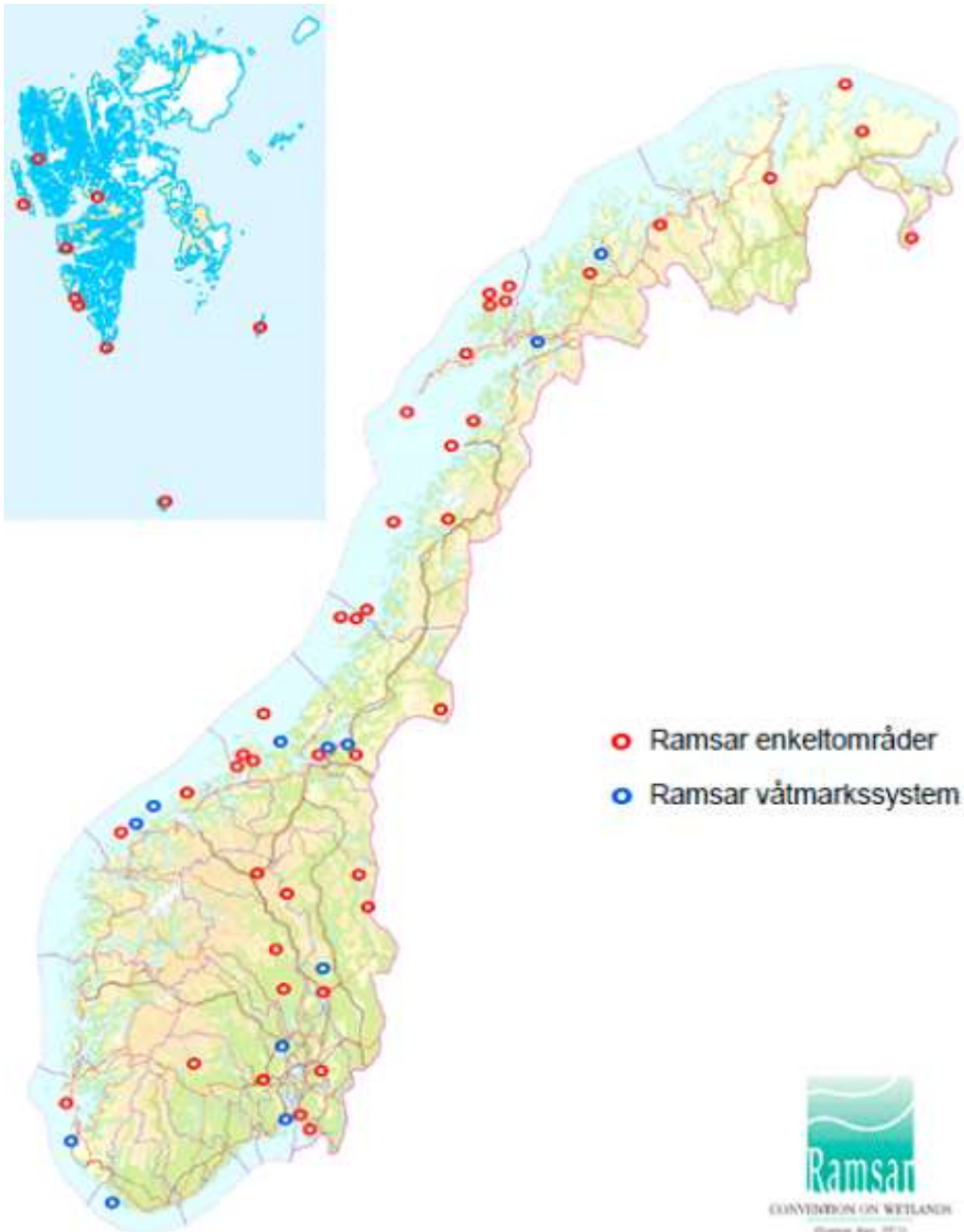
Protected Areas – Norway (Mainland)

- Protected areas: > 3300 - 17,3 %
- Protected marine areas: 3,1 %





Norwegian Ramsar Sites



- 63 Wetland systems
- Good information / description
- All RIS updated 2018



National Red List for Nature Types:

- 10 nature types of mire included**

National Plan for supplementary protection - 2019



> 1300 proposals...

About 600 in the second round

Enough?



Report:
Mires in northern Norway.
Knowledge base and the need for further
studies (NTNU 2016)

Mires in northern Norway – knowledge base and the need for further studies

(NTNU 2016)



- **Knowledge base** on mires in northern Norway is **too poor**.
- Information in “**Naturbase**” (NEA), but the quality varies - unreliable .
- Many studies / good descriptions of individual localities and of the variation in mires within limited parts of northern Norway, but **lack an aggregated overview**.
- Which mire types or areas it is particularly **important to map**, and which areas should be **revisited** due to insufficient data.
- Emphasis given to **raised bogs, oceanic bogs, palsa mires, rich fens and hay fens** as they are mire types that are particularly important for conservation purposes.
- Information about **1000 mire localities in northern Norway identified** (2016) – of which;
 - 627 are recorded as nature type localities in “Naturbase” – partly insufficient descriptions
 - 50 are protected areas where mire is important
 - 321 mire localities are described in various sources, but are not recorded in “Naturbase”
- **Most recorded** localities are rich **fen areas (50 %)**, while coastal mires), palsa mires and hay fens each constitute 5 % of the localities. Only one locality contains typical raised bog as it is commonly defined.

Mires in northern Norway. Knowledge base and the need for further studies

(NTNU 2016)



In northern Norway, there is a special **need for mapping and investigation of ombrotrophic mire** types, in particularly various types of raised bogs and oceanic bogs.

Rich fen is the best-mapped mire type in northern Norway, but still the knowledge base is not good enough.

Mapping of **rich fen** in Nordland north of Bodø, in the inner parts of Troms, and in most of Finnmark should be given **priority**.

Palsa mires seem sufficiently mapped, and the national monitoring programme contributes to increased knowledge of the type.

Systematic mapping of hay fens should be carried out in **all three counties**,

In northern Norway flat fens, sloping fens, string-flark fens and string-flark mires (aapa mires s.l.) cover large areas, and large, almost pristine mire landscapes, but these mire types have so far not been sufficiently ensured.

How to **increase the knowledge** on mires in northern Norway?



A national plan for wetland* restoration in the period 2016 - 2020

The plan will reflect;

- national goals to reduce greenhouse gas emissions,
- promote climate adaptation,
- improve ecological status.

The plan will include;

- review of the latest research on wetland restoration,
- criteria set for choosing the best localities for restoration,
- concrete plan for implementation

* As defined by The Ramsar Convention



Thank you!.....