



DIREKTORATET FOR
NATURFORVALTNING

Norwegian national protected area network

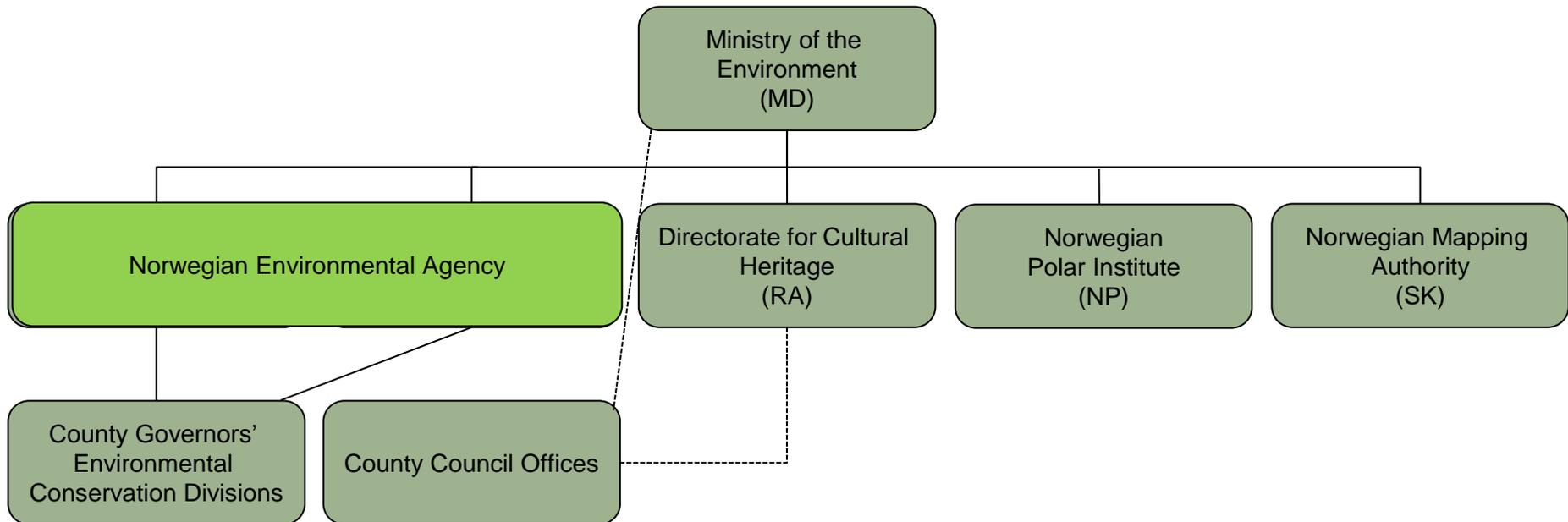


Head of section
Knut Fossum
Helsinki
19 March 2013

Environmental management in Norway



DIREKTORATET FOR
NATURFORVALTNING



Our functions and roles



DIREKTORATET FOR
NATURFORVALTNING

The Directorate for Nature Management

- Is an advisory and executive government body under the Ministry of the Environment
- Main tasks are biodiversity and outdoor recreation
- Combines protection and sustainable use of nature



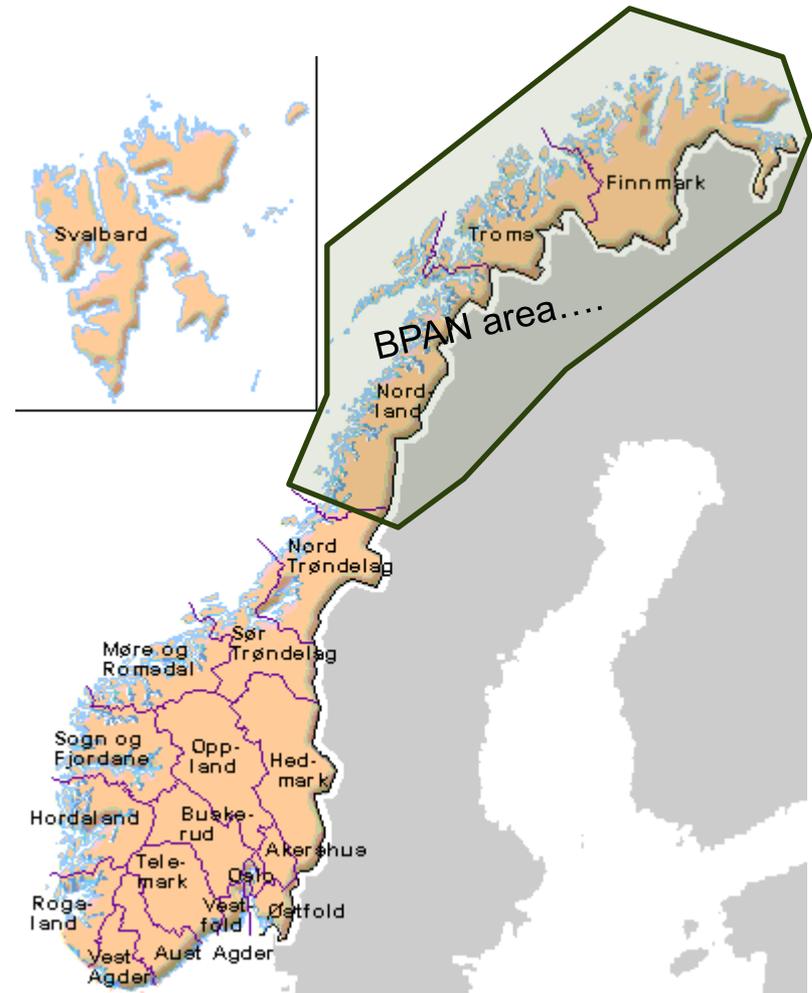
Enjoying Moutmarka. Photo: Kim Abel, Naturarkivet.no

Facts about Norway



DIREKTORATET FOR
NATURFORVALTNING

- **Population:**
As of 1.1.2013: **5,05 mill.**
- **Area: 385 199 km²**
 - Mainland 323.802 km²
 - Svalbard 61 020 km²
 - Jan Mayen 377 km²
- **Density:**
 - mainland population 15 person per km²
- **Administration:**
 - 19 counties + Svalbard
 - 430 municipalities



Protective areas – goals



DIREKTORATET FOR
NATURFORVALTNING

- to secure a selection of areas which constitute **a representative sample** of the diversity of Norwegian nature
 - to protect areas which have an **ecological key function**
 - habitats upon which **endangered species** depend
-



- habitat protection as **nature reserves** through systematic protection plans
 - wetlands
 - seabird-colonies
 - mires and bogs
 - deciduous (broad-leafed) forests
 - coniferous forests
 - marine areas
 - large remaining wilderness areas as **national parks and landscape protected areas**
-

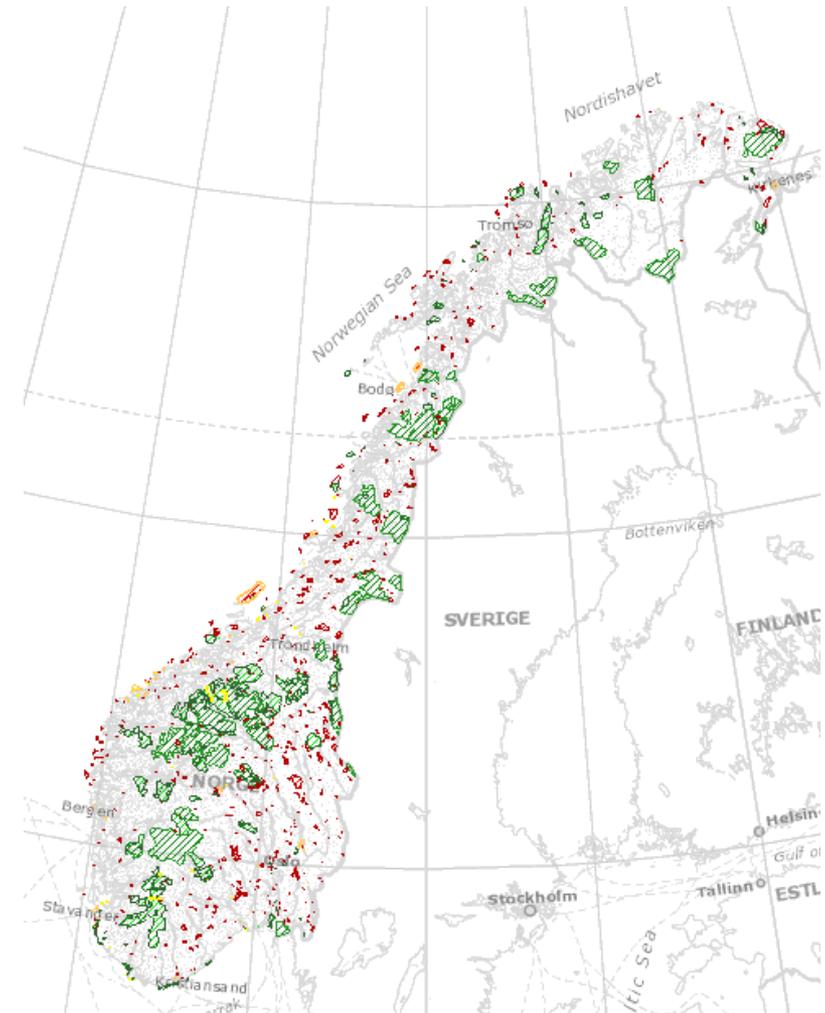
Protected areas - status



DIREKTORATET FOR
NATURFORVALTNING

- As of 01.01.2012
- All figures represents land area

	Num	%	km ²
National Parks (IUCN II)	34	9,6	31.059
Landscape protected Areas (IUCN V)	203	5,4	17.334
Nature Reserves (IUCN Ia and Ib)	2045	1,7	5.606
Other PA (IUCN III and IV)	477	0,1	429
Totalt	2759	16,8	54.428

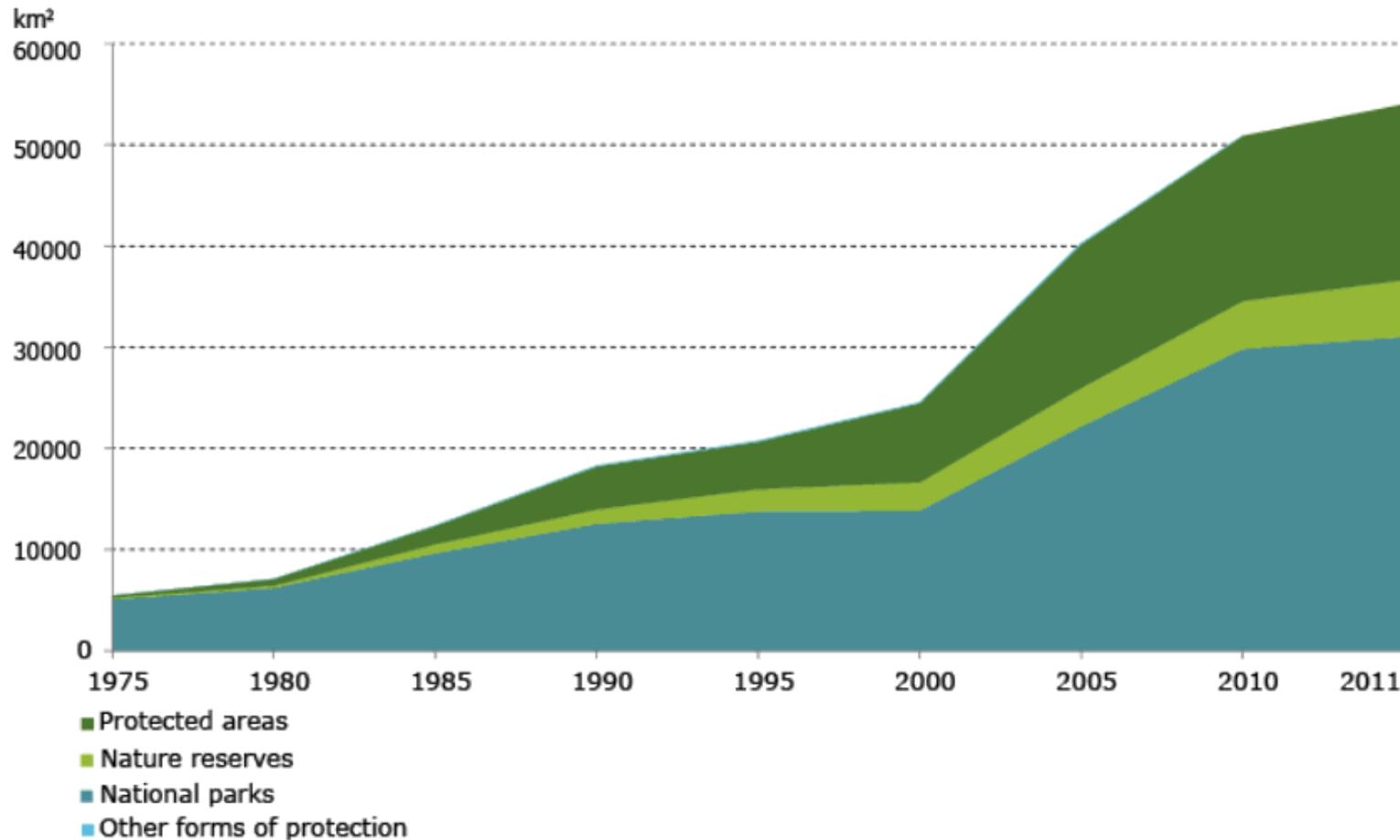


Protected areas - progress



DIREKTORATET FOR
NATURFORVALTNING

→ Protected areas



SOURCE: Directorate for Nature Management, 2012 / environment.no



Management Authority

- DN has the overall responsibility for the management of the protected areas in Norway
 - For most of the protected areas, the County Governor is the management authority
 - For National Parks and large Protected Landscape Areas a locally based board is the management authority
 - Some municipalities have management authority for smaller protected areas
 - The Norwegian Nature Inspectorate (SNO) is responsible for regulation compliance in all protected areas.
-

Framework for work with PA



DIREKTORATET FOR
NATURFORVALTNING

The Norwegian Parliament and Government has over the last years given special priority to the management of PAs:

- Focus on management plans for PAs
- Focus on maintaining or restoring the qualities of PAs
- Establishment of a monitoring system for PAs
- Development of databases (Naturbase) for storage of PA data
- Giving authority to local communities and indigenous people in the management of PAs.

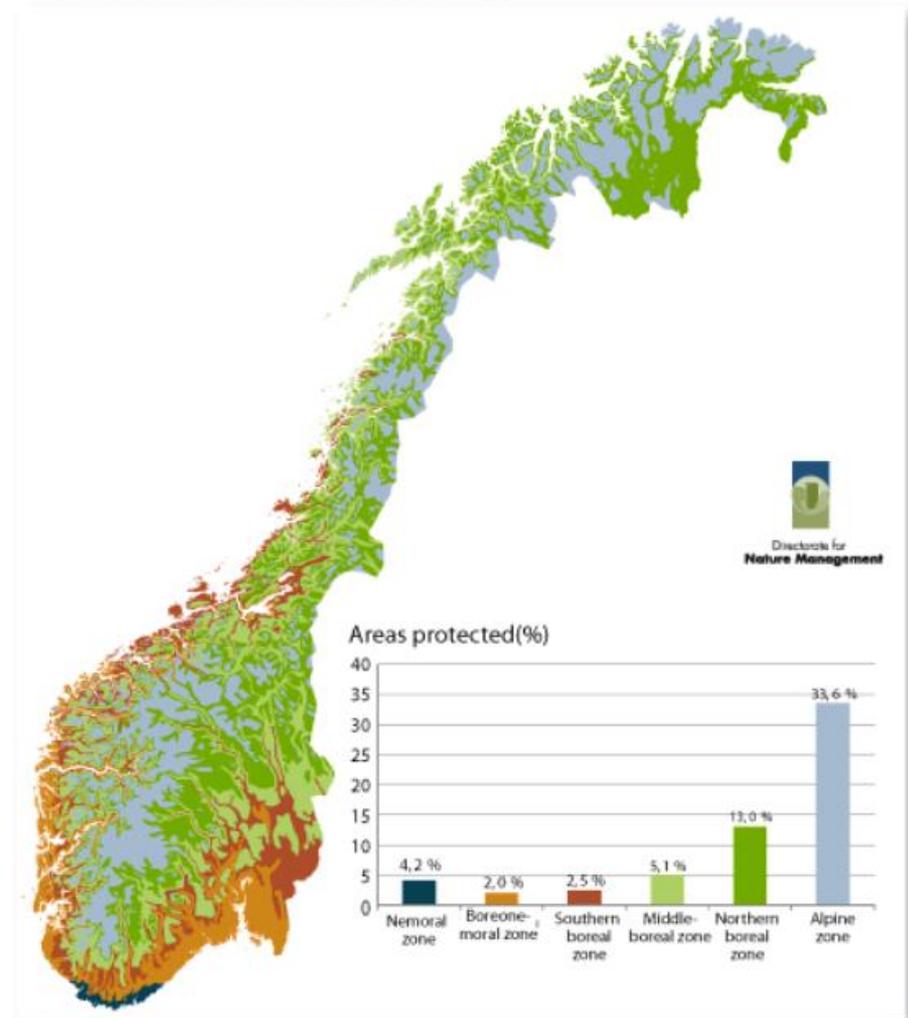
Protected areas - assessment



DIREKTORATET FOR
NATURFORVALTNING

- Report from April 2010 (NINA Rapport 535)
- GAP analysis and strategy for better coverage based on an assessment of PAs according to:
 - General nature variation (height, climate zone etc.)
 - Ecological networks
 - Important habitats
 - Important species
 - Fulfilment of international obligations on biodiversity

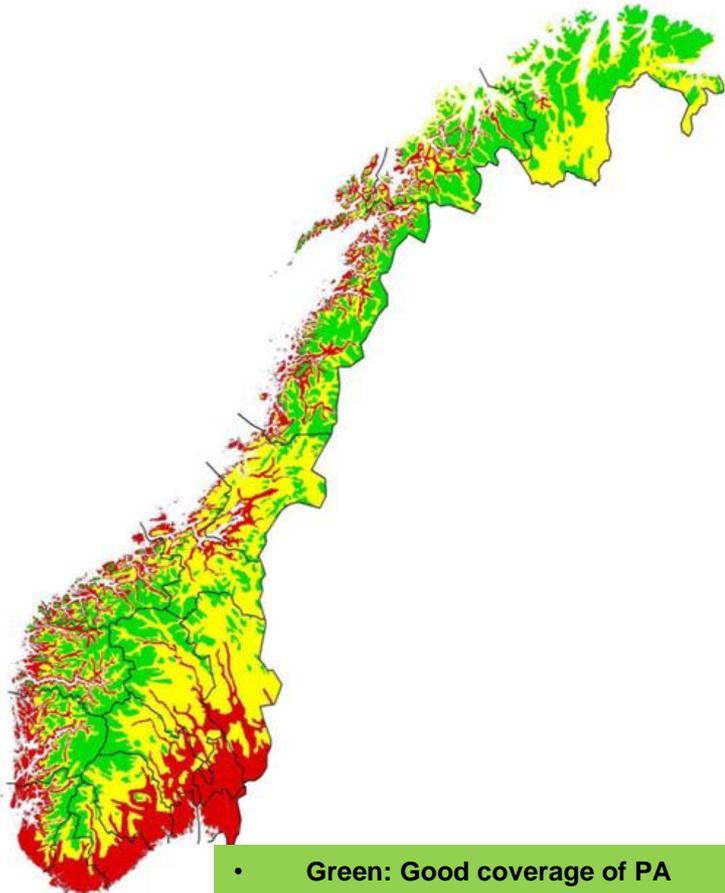
Areas protected by vegetation zone



Protected areas - assessment



DIREKTORATET FOR
NATURFORVALTNING



- **Green: Good coverage of PA**
- **Yellow: Medium coverage of PA**
- **Red: Poor coverage of PA**

NINA-report 535

- The protected area is extensive with an overall balance in its cover of the natural variation.
- Some gaps with inadequate coverage of lowland areas and productive forest, as well as several important nature types and living areas for threatened and protected species.
- Gaps in protected area coverage is especially pronounced for:
 - land below 300 m asl,
 - 'warm' vegetation zones,
 - productive forest; coniferous forest and mire forest
- A large proportion of small areas:
 - Of the 2688 assessed protected areas, 351 have a total area of at least 10 km², of these, 75 have an area of 100-1000 km² and 16 are larger than 1000 km².
 - 1648 protected areas (61%) have less than 1 km² total area, and 652 of these have less than 0.1 km².

Future work on the PA network



DIREKTORATET FOR
NATURFORVALTNING

- The plan for national parks and protection plans for mires, wetlands, seabird colonies and deciduous forests are (nearly) completed.
- Establishment of new protected areas in forests and marine areas has been the main tasks over the last years.
- The Ministry for the Environment is now working on a strategy for biological diversity. How to fill the gaps in the PA network will be discussed as a part of this strategy.