

Glomma river basin district

The Glomma River basin district is located southeast in Norway, with water crossing the border into Sweden. The district includes both freshwater and coastal water. The water is affected by many pressures. We collaborate with politicians, authorities, researchers, and organizations to achieve the environmental objectives for the waterbodies.

The Glomma River basin district is an international district in southeastern Norway. It includes watercourses in mountainous areas, forest and agricultural landscapes, as well as urban areas. Parts of the Oslofjord are also within the district. Both rivers and coastal waters cross the border between Norway and Sweden.

The water in the Glomma River basin district is affected by several different pressures. These include hydropower, sewage, agricultural runoff, polluted stormwater from roads and impermeable surfaces, industry, abandoned mines, and introduced species and diseases.

Østfold County Council is the River basin district authority in the Glomma River basin district. The county council is responsible for leading and coordinating the work in the district. In this work, we collaborate with many different authorities and organizations.



Foto: Helene Gabestad

The River basin district covers areas in eight counties and approximately 100 municipalities. Politicians from five counties participate in a political committee. The municipalities cooperate within sub districts. There are 14 sub districts in the Glomma River basin district.

The following national authorities participate in the River basin district committee: County Governors, Norwegian Environment Agency, Norwegian Water Resources and Energy Directorate, Norwegian Public Roads Administration, Norwegian Food Safety Authority, Norwegian Coastal Administration, and Directorate of Fisheries.

We also cooperate with the River basin district authority in Västerhavet's River basin district in Sweden.

Several organizations representing various interests participate in the River basin district's reference group. This includes, among others, energy, agriculture, industry, outdoor recreation, and nature.

We are in contact with the following research institutions in various projects: NIVA, NINA, NIBIO, UiO, and NMBU.



There are many different interests related to the use of water in district. The water is used for energy production, agricultural irrigation for food production, water extraction for industry and other businesses, drinking water, bathing water, and recreation. Clean water is also important for attractive residential areas and good public health.

Climate adaptation is particularly relevant as an overarching approach to address several measures needed to improve the condition of the water. Too much water, too little water, and water pollution are all important issues for societal safety and preparedness, and climate adaptation plays a key role in this.

Size of the water body categories in the River basin district:

| Water body category | Size |
|---------------------|----------------------|
| Rivers | 56 km |
| Lakes | 1624 km ² |
| Coastal water | 1133 km ² |

The Glomma River basin district authority can be a relevant partner in many different projects, due to the wide range of stakeholders in the district and the many diverse challenges facing the aquatic environment.

We are particularly interested in gaining more knowledge about how to address the challenges of polluted stormwater from roads and impermeable surfaces. Migration barriers in watercourses, riparian zones along watercourses, and restoration in coastal waters are other interesting topics.

