

SCHEDULE OF QUALIFYING LAND FOR MAPPING OPEN COUNTRY

Ramblers' Association East Yorkshire and Derwent Area	North East Region 5	Sheet 2 of 3
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RA Map	Site references	Name on Map	OS Grid Ref	Area (ha)	Parcels
23	G, J, K	Brubberdale : Cow Dale	SE 858 603	23	3
Qualifying type	Vegetation Type		Justification for inclusion		
Mountain		Heather Moor	Predominance of qualifying type (M, M, H, D)		80 %
Moor		Rough acid grassland	Contiguous to large parcel of open country		
Heath		Calcareous grassland	√	Contiguous to existing access land or common land	
Down	√	Scattered trees or scrub	Provides clearer physical boundary to larger area		
		Bracken	Local value of small parcel (view, feature, accessible, PRoW etc)		
		Rock outcrops	Provides means of access to other access land		
			Steep sided		√

This submission supports the inclusion of the area show as open country on the Draft Map and seeks extend the boundaries of open country as shown.

Comments supporting vegetation type and justification for inclusion:

Brubberdale is a complex of valleys that form an arc west of Fridaythorpe Village. The county boundary runs along the spine of this complex so that the western valleys and valley sides lie in Mapping Region 5. The NLT attributes for the area are RLE. Most of the area is part of a **Countryside Stewardship Agreement** (Chalk and Limestone).

On the western side of the middle section of the dale, south of the Thixendale Road, there are two side-valleys: Cow Dale (**J**) and an un-named valley leading to Gill's Farm. These areas are connected by a parcel (**K**) on the E-facing side of the main valley. In the **Phase II survey**, carried out in July 1982, the plant community in the middle of Gill's Farm valley (**G**) was classified as CG2d. 5 grasses and 34 other herbs, including 13 calcicolous indicator species were recorded. The characteristic chalkland herbs: autumn gentian *Gentianella amarella*, clustered bell-flower *Campanula glomerata*, rock rose *Helianthemum nummularium*, lady's bedstraw *Galium verum*, glaucous sedge *Carex flacca*, small scabious *Scabiosa columbaria*, rough hawkbit *Leontodon hispidus*, fairy flax *Linum catharticum*, salad burnet *Sanguisorba minor*, lesser (hairy) hawkbit *Leontodon taraxacoides*, bulbous buttercup *Ranunculus bulbosus*, burnet saxifrage *Pimpinella saxifraga* and wild thyme *Thymus praecox* were components of a sward dominated by sheep's fescue *Festuca ovina* (see Species List). From **aerial photographs** taken in 2000, Cow Dale, **area J**, looks similar to area G and for this reason it is included.

The Wolds Way crosses area G.

A recent survey, including **visual inspection** of most areas from a distance in August 2002 and May 2003 and inspecting aerial photographs, shows that the site appears as described in 1980s, and that it has not received any recent agricultural improvement.

The evidence presented here suggests that the areas outlined on the map, including that shown on the Draft Map, are predominantly unimproved calcareous grassland and should be mapped as open country.

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