

SCHEDULE OF QUALIFYING LAND FOR MAPPING OPEN COUNTRY

Ramblers' Association East Yorkshire and Derwent Area	North East Region 5	Sheet 1 of 3
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RA Map	Site references	Name on Map	OS Grid Ref	Area (ha)	Parcels
23	C, D, H	Brubber Dale : North	SE 865 610	16	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 claims the area described, which did not appear on the Draft Map, should be mapped as open country.

Comments supporting vegetation type and justification for inclusion:

Brubberdale is a complex of valleys that forms an arc west of Fridaythorpe Village. The county boundary runs along the spine of this complex so that only 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).

North of the Thixendale Road the valley (**H**) divides into an eastern branch (**C**) and a western branch (**D**). Parts of the branches are in the **Grasslands Inventory**: Brubberdale C NY/SE86/B02 and Brubberdale D NY/SE86/B02.

The **Phase II Habitat** survey for **area C** in late July 1982, recorded 7 grasses and 30 other herbs, of which 7 were calcicolous indicator species. Analysis of the data showed that the composition of the sward corresponded to CG2c. Kidney vetch *Anthyllis vulneraria*, greater knapweed *Centaurea scabiosa*, field scabious *Knautia arvensis*, glaucous sedge *Carex flacca*, fairy flax *Linum catharticum* and cowslip *Primula veris* were among the characteristic indicator herbs recorded. The most abundant grasses were red fescue *Festuca rubra*, quaking grass *Briza media* and yellow oat-grass *Trisetum flavescens*. Although the area is less than 5 ha, it connects with areas, e.g. **M**, of probable open country that lie in Region 8.

The survey for **area D** recorded 12 grasses and 30 other herbs, of which 11 were indicator species. Indicator herbs included: rock rose *Helianthemum nummularium*, lady's bedstraw *Galium verum*, rough hawkbit *Leontodon hispidus*, fairy flax, common milkwort *Polygala vulgaris*, salad burnet *Sanguisorba minor*, bulbous buttercup *Ranunculus bulbosus* and wild thyme *Thymus praecox*. Sheep's fescue *Festuca ovina* was the dominant grass.

Area H was not in the Phase II survey, but is shown on the 1:25,000 OS map as rough grassland and this is confirmed by the **aerial photograph** taken in 2000.

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 those shown on the Draft map, are predominantly unimproved calcareous grassland and should be mapped as open country.

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