

# SCHEDULE OF QUALIFYING LAND FOR MAPPING OPEN COUNTRY

Ramblers' Association East Yorkshire and Derwent Area	North East Region 5	Sheet 2 of 2
Yorkshire Wolds :East Heselton		

RA Map	Site references	Name on Map	OS Grid Ref	Area (ha)	Parcels
2		East Heselton Brow	SE 926757	40	4
Qualifying type	Vegetation Type	Justification for inclusion			
Mountain	Heather Moor		Predominance of qualifying type (M, M, H, D)		90%
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		√

## Comments supporting vegetation type and justification for inclusion:

East Heselton Brow lies on the north-facing escarpment of the Yorkshire Wolds. The **National Landscape Typology** definitive attributes are RLE and the underlying rock is Cretaceous chalk. The Phase I Habitat map designates the area as CG. The complex of spurs and small valleys (A) was part of a survey of chalk grassland in Humberside and North Yorkshire (England Field Unit Project No. 30, 1985, Site 71), included in the Grassland Inventory (NY/SE97/E01)), and notified (1954 and 1984) as an SSSI (1002414). In the EFU report, the following types of chalk grassland communities were identified: CG7a, CG7c as well as a small area of mesotrophic type MG5. The site was assessed as being of the highest (Grade 1) botanical value. The SSSI citation, which includes an adjacent parcel to the SW (B), records that the chalk grassland community was dominated by red rescue *Festuca rubra* with abundant downy oat-grass

*Helictotrichon(Avenula) pubescens* and meadow oat-grass *Helictotrichon (Avenula) pratensis* and carnation sedge *Carex flacca*. Many typical herbs were found to occur on the site including rockrose *Helianthemum nummularium*, carline thistle *Carlina vulgaris*, burnet saxifrage *Pimpinella saxifraga*, dropwort *Filipendula vulgaris*, clustered bellflower *Campanula glomerata*, and, notably, purple milk-vetch *Astragalus danicus*. This site was also rich in orchids which include twayblade *Listera ovata*, fragrant *Gymnadenia conopsea*, pyramidal *Anacamptis pyramidalis*, frog *Coeloglossum viride* and bee orchid *Ophrys apifera*.

When the site was walked in July 2002 many grass species were found including: red fescue *Festuca rubra*, downy oat-grass *Helictotrichon(Avenula) pubescens*, meadow oat-grass *Avenula pratensis*, yellow oat-grass *Trisetum flavescens*, crested dogstail *Cynosurus cristatus*, crested hair-grass *Koeleria macrantha* and quaking grass *Briza media*. Timothy grass *Phleum pratense* was found only in small amounts close to the farm track. Herbs found on the site included: Rough hawkbit *Leontodon hispidus*, bird's foot trefoil *Lotus corniculatus*, lady's bedstraw *Galium verum*, mouse-ear hawkweed *Hieracium pilosella*, carline thistle *Carlina vulgaris* and rock rose *Helianthemum nummularium*. The next field to the SW (SE 920753) (C), although more heavily grazed, appeared to have a similar species composition to the adjacent area. The evidence presented here suggests that the vegetation type of this area is unimproved calcareous grassland.

A RoW runs from East Heselton village through the site to link with the Wolds Way, which runs along the S. margin of the site. The site affords good views over the Vale of Pickering towards the North York Moors. Several of fields to the N. of the site, between Manor Farm and access point to the SSSI, are subject to a **Countryside Stewardship Agreement** that provide for public access. The area is close to a holiday caravan site.

Prepared by:	TKH	Date:	October 2002
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