

SCHEDULE OF QUALIFYING LAND FOR MAPPING OPEN COUNTRY

Ramblers' Association East Yorkshire and Derwent Area	North East Region 5	Sheet 1 of 4
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RA Map	Site references	Name on Map	OS Grid Ref	Area (ha)	Parcels
14	A	Burdale : Fairy Dale including Burdale Quarry	SE 871 633	38	3
Qualifying type	Vegetation Type	Justification for inclusion			
Mountain	Heather Moor	Predominance of qualifying type (M, M, H, D)			
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 shown as open country on the Draft Map.

Comments supporting vegetation type and justification for inclusion:

Fairy Dale is north of Burdale House Farm. It consists of a steep-sided, crescent-shaped valley (A), which is in the Grasslands Inventory (Burdale NY/SE86/B03). A disused railway runs through its lower half and a road along its western boundary. A disused quarry occupies the eastern half of the southern tip of the crescent. The **NLT** attributes for the dale are RLE and it is part of a **Countryside Stewardship Agreement** (Chalk and Limestone). It is in the Grasslands Inventory (ID 6050). It is shown on the Draft Map as open country.

In the **Phase I Habitat** Survey, the target note for **location 7** (SE 873635) at the upper end of the site, lists the following grasses: false oat-grass *Arrhenatherum elatius*, sweet vernal-grass *Anthoxanthum odoratum*, downy oat-grass *Helictotrichon (Avenula) pubescens*, tor-grass *Brachypodium pinnatum*, quaking-grass *Briza media*, crested dog's-tail *Cynosurus cristatus*, cock's-foot *Dactylis glomerata*, Yorkshire fog *Holcus lanatus*, crested hair-grass *Koeleria macrantha*, smaller cat's-tail *Phleum bertolonii* and the calcicolous indicator herb salad burnet *Sanguisorba minor*. The target note for **location 5** (SE 870627), an E-facing ungrazed bank at the lower end of the site, describes it as steeply sloping calcareous grassland and lists the following species: false oat-grass, tor-grass, quaking-grass, cock's-foot, tufted hair-grass *Deschampsia cespitosa*, Yorkshire fog, smaller cat's-tail and yellow oat-grass *Trisetum flavescens*. The quarry is shown as calcareous grassland and there is a target note 6 in the files.

The subsequent **Phase II Habitat** survey in August 1982 recorded 12 grasses and 55 other herbs, of which 19 were calcicolous indicator species. Analysis of the data showed that the composition of the swards corresponded to the NVC sub-communities CG4c and CG7a (see Species List). The most abundant grasses recorded were sheep's fescue *Festuca ovina*, red fescue *F. rubra*. Among the calcicolous indicator species were: clustered bell-flower *Campanula glomerata*, lady's bedstraw *Galium verum*, rough hawkbit *Leontodon hispidus*, purging flax *Linum catharticum* and wild thyme *Thymus praecox*.

Fairy Dale and Burdale Quarry were surveyed in late July 1999 as a **Site of Importance for Nature Conservation**. The survey found that the quarry contains species-rich grassland with salad burnet *Sanguisorba minor*, wild thyme *Thymus praecox*, carline thistle *Carlina vulgaris*, tor-grass, quaking-grass and sheep's fescue. The area of Burdale Warren adjoining the quarry appeared to be set-aside and had been recolonised by cowslip, autumn gentian, woolly thistle *Cirsium eriophorum* and tor-grass. A total of 82 herbs, of which 14 were grasses and 13 were calcicolous indicator species, were recorded (see Species List), including all the species recorded in 1982. The sward was classified as partly CG2.

The Wolds Ways runs close to the northern boundary of the site.

Recent surveys, including **visits to the site** in August 2002 and May 2003 and inspection of an **aerial photograph** taken in the year 2000, show 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 area mapped is predominantly unimproved calcareous grassland and is correctly mapped on the Draft Map as open country.

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