

SCHEDULE OF QUALIFYING LAND FOR MAPPING OPEN COUNTRY

Ramblers' Association East Yorkshire and Derwent Area	North East Region 5	Sheet 1 of 1
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RA Map	Site References	Name on Map	OS Grid Ref	Area (ha)	Parcels
1		West Heslerton Brow	SE 904 750	14	1
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 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:

West Heslerton Brow is described on the **Country Walks website** (Ref: 006F/8 CPH 48/253/9004) as an extensive area of chalk grassland on the northern edge of the scarp slope of the Yorkshire Wolds where there are excellent views over the Vale of Pickering towards the North York Moors. The topography of the site is complex with undulating terraces formed by stabilised land slippage. The area is reported as holding a wide range of wild flowers and unusually shaped teracetts. The **BioDAT survey** in June 1999 recorded a species-rich chalk grassland on the steeper banks, characterised by a well-grazed downland sward (NVC CG2 and CG7) with 14 grasses, 79 other species of herbs of which 18 were calcicolous indicator species (see Species List).

A **site visit** on 5 October 2002 confirmed this general description. We found no evidence of perennial ryegrass *Lolium perenne* or timothy *Phleum pratense*, but did find cock's-foot *Dactylis glomerata*, common bent *Agrostis capillaris* and downy oat-grass *Helictotrichon pubescens*. We also found the following herbs, cow parsley *Anthriscus sylvestris*, small scabious *Scabiosa columbaria*, harebell *Campanula rotundifolia*, ragwort *Senecio jacobaea*, hop trefoil *Trifolium campestre*, lesser knapweed *Centaurea nigra*, crosswort *Cruciata laevipes*, herb robert *Geranium robertianum* and selfheal *Prunella vulgaris*. A few fully grown forest trees dotted the area and there were saplings of common ash *Fraxinus excelsior* and hawthorn *Crataegus monogyna*. The whole area was undulating and uneven due to the teracetts and there was a considerable amount of gorse *Ulex europaeus*. The site provides a very attractive open space and is easily accessible as it is situated alongside the Wolds Way footpath.

A **second site visit** in May 2003 found the area unchanged from the previous visit and recorded common spotted orchid *Orchis fuchsii*, cowslip *Primula veris* and gentian *Gentianella*.

The evidence presented here suggests that the vegetation type of this area is predominantly unimproved calcareous grassland and should be mapped as open country.

Prepared by:	TKH	Date:	June 2003
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