

SCHEDULE OF QUALIFYING LAND FOR MAPPING OPEN COUNTRY

Ramblers' Association East Yorkshire and Derwent Area	North East Region 5	Sheet 3 of 4
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RA Map	Site references	Name on Map		OS Grid Ref	Area (ha)	Parcels
14	C	Burdale : Whay Dale		SE 880 624	30	2
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 shown as open country on the Draft Map.

Comments supporting vegetation type and justification for inclusion:

Whay Dale is east of Burdale House Farm. The NLT attributes for the area are RLE and both dales part of a Countryside Stewardship Agreement (Chalk and Limestone). The dale is mapped as open country on the Draft Map.

In the **Phase I Habitat** Survey, the target note for **location 12** (SE881625) describes Whay Dale as a steep-sided valley dominated by soft brome *Bromus hordeaceus*. Other species recorded were: false oat-grass *Arrhenatherum elatius*, tor-grass *Brachypodium pinnatum*, quaking grass *Briza media*, sterile brome *Anisantha (Bromus) sterilis*, crested dog's tail *Cynosurus cristatus*, cock's-foot *Dactylis glomerata* and Yorkshire fog *Holcus lanatus*. Target note for **location 11** (SE880620) describes the vegetation as similar to location 12.

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 that it is correctly mapped as open country on the Draft Map.

Prepared by:	JJS, MB, TKH	Date:	June 2003
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