

SCHEDULE OF QUALIFYING LAND FOR MAPPING OPEN COUNTRY

Ramblers' Association East Yorkshire and Derwent Area	East Region 8	Sheet 1 of 1
-------------------------------------------------------	---------------	--------------

Ref no	Site References		Name on Map		OS Grid Ref	Area (ha)	Parcels	
41	A B		Big Dale		SE 89 61	16	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 supports the inclusion of the area already shown on the draft map.

Description of land submitted

Big Dale is a steep-sided dry valley running N-S north of the village of Fimber. . The **NLT attributes** for the area are RLE. The dale is part of a **Countryside Stewardship Agreement** (Chalk and Limestone). It contains earthworks.

Comments supporting vegetation type and justification for inclusion:

The **Phase II Habitat** survey for the whole site (named Ling Dale in the survey) recorded 15 grasses and 41 other herbs, of which 15 were calcicolous indicator species. Analysis of the data showed that the composition of the swards corresponded to mosaics of NVC CG2c (A) and CG4d (B) communities (see Table). The most abundant grasses were common bent *Agrostis capillaris*, crested hair-grass *Koeleria macrantha*, crested dog's -tail *Cynosurus cristatus*, red fescue *Festuca rubra* , sheep's fescue *Festuca ovina*, quaking-grass *Briza media*, rough meadow-grass and among the calcicolous indicator herbs were: carnation-grass *Carex flacca*, rock rose *Helianthemum nummularium*, rough hawbit *Leontodon hispidus*, wild thyme *Thymus praecox* and devil's-bit scabious *Succisa pratensis*.

Inspection of **aerial photographs**, shows that the site appears as described in 1985 and that it has not received any recent agricultural improvement.

Conclusion

We think the evidence presented here suggests that the area mapped, which was shown on the draft map, is predominantly unimproved calcareous grassland and should be mapped as open country.

Prepared by:

Date: