

Ramblers' Association East Yorkshire and Derwent Area	East Region 8	Sheet 1 of 1
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RA Map	Site references	Name on Map	OS Grid Ref	Area (ha)	Parcels
8	A B C D E N K	Brubberdale	SE 86 60	**	**
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 the land submitted

Brubberdale is split by the Countryside Agency's mapping regions 5 and 8, we have already submitted our evidence for the northern end of the dale as part of our submission for region 5 (C and D). This submission (A, B, E, N and K) consists of a linked series of dales running south from the fork formed by Cow Dale and the northern end of Brubberdale. Access is provided by the minor road leading to Fridaythorpe, which bisects the dale a quarter of the way along its length. The dale is also crossed by a long distance footpath further south and it reaches another road at its southern end. At present there is no public right of way along the length of the dale so access would open up a very attractive area to walkers, especially if both our submissions are successful as they link to each other.

### Comments supporting vegetation type and justification for inclusion:

**Phase II Habitat survey** for the whole site recorded 19 grasses and 52 other herbs, of which 21 were calcicolous indicator species. Analysis of the data showed that the composition of the swards corresponded to the NVC CG2, CG4 and CG7 communities (see Table).

The northern part of Brubberdale, area B, supports the NVC communities CG2c and CG4c and southern end near Pefham Plantation is CG2d. Sheep's fescue *Festuca ovina* is the most common in Brubberdale and was recorded as abundant whereas the remaining 16 grasses were recorded as sparse. In the area in the south five grasses are recorded, sheep's fescue is abundant with plentiful quaking grass *Briza media*, the remaining grasses are recorded as sparse. Glaucous sedge *Carex flacca* is sparse throughout the dales. The most common herb is salad burnet *Sanguisorba minor* being recorded as abundant in Brubberdale and sparse in the southern area. In addition, clustered bellflower *Campanula glomerata*, rock rose *Helianthemum nummularium*, rough hawkbit *Leontodon hispidus*, devil's-bit scabious *Succisa pratensis* and wild thyme *Thymus praecox* are recorded as plentiful in Brubberdale. The areas E and N support a somewhat smaller variety of species, nevertheless 13 grasses and 31 other herbs, of which 8 are indicator herbs, were recorded.

Our study of **aerial photographs**, taken in 2000, suggests that none of the areas has been improved since the Phase II survey. There are a number of **Countryside Stewardship Agreements**, designated Chalk and Limestone, affecting the site: one runs along the bottom of the valley from SE8656605 to SE869587 including areas (part of) B, E and (part of) N).

### Conclusion

**We think the evidence presented here suggests that the area mapped is predominantly unimproved calcareous grassland and should be mapped as open country.**

Prepared by:	MB SD TKH	Date:	October 2003
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