

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
25	J H K L M N P Q R S	North Dale	TA 04 76	40	7
Qualifying type	Vegetation Type	Justification for inclusion			
Mountain	Heather Moor		Predominance of qualifying type (M, M, H, D)		75%
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 and seeks to extend the boundaries of open country.

Description of land submitted

North Dale (J K L M N P Q R S) and a north facing bank at the southern end of Lang Dale (H) make up this submission. All the site referenced areas of Lang Dale and North Dale, except J and S, were part of the Phase II Habitat Survey. All areas of North Dale, except areas S, P and R, are part of the SSSI. The bottom of the dale (J) has been included, although it may be considered to be semi-improved grassland, as the whole dale should qualify as predominantly unimproved. **Aerial photographs**, taken in 2000, have been used to confirm this view and to add area S to the submission.

Comments supporting vegetation type and justification for inclusion:

The **Phase II Habitat survey** for areas K and L recorded 12 grasses and 28 other herbs, of which 14 were characteristic calcicolous indicator species. For area M there were recorded 10 grasses, 29 herbs and 2 indicator species; for area N 18 grasses, 50 herbs and 23 indicators; for area P 15 grasses, 40 herbs and 14 indicators; and for area Q 8 grasses, 28 herbs and 15 indicators; and for area R 9 grasses, 29 herbs and 14 indicator species. For area H, which is not shown on the draft map, there were recorded 6 grasses, 21 herbs and 11 indicator species. Species lists for three locations in area H (Q208, Q209 and Q210) are given in the Table) Analysis of the data showed that the composition of the swards corresponded to the NVC CG2c, CG2d and CG3 sub-communities (see Tables).

Sheep's fescue *Festuca ovina* was plentiful to abundant in all areas. Quaking grass *Briza media*, common bent *Agrostis capillaris*, crested hair-grass *Koeleria macrantha*, sweet vernal-grass *Anthoxanthum odoratum* and yellow oat-grass *Trisetum flavescens* were generally plentiful. Upright brome *Bromus erectus* was abundant in area H. Characteristic indicator herbs included rock rose *Helianthemum nummularium*, small scabious *Scabiosa columbaria*, clustered bell-flower *Campanula glomerata*, salad burnet *Sanguisorba minor*, devil's bit scabious *Succisa pratensis*, hairy violet *Viola hirta* and glaucous sedge *Carex flacca*.

These sites, with the exception of areas S, P and R, form a large part of the Fordon Chalk Grasslands SSSI. These, according to the citation, are one of the most varied grassland systems, in terms of their floristic richness, aspect and management regimes, remaining in the Wolds. The citation describes the grassland communities as having heavily-grazed, short-turf areas dominated by sheep's fescue *Festuca ovina* and red fescue *F. rubra*, mixed grasslands with fescues, sweet vernal-grass *Anthoxanthum odoratum*, hairy oat *Avenula pubescens*, quaking grass *Briza media* and crested hair-grass *Koeleria macrantha*, and areas of course grassland with upright brome *Bromus erectus* and cock's-foot *Dactylis glomerata*. Many areas are extremely diverse botanically, with an abundance of characteristic herbs such as clustered bell-flower *Campanula glomerata*, carline thistle *Carlina vulgaris*, woolly thistle *Cirsium eriophorum*, dropwort *Filipendula vulgaris*, rockrose *Helianthemum nummularium*, fairy flax *Linum catharticum*, cowslip *Primula veris*, salad burnet *Sanguisorba minor*, devil's-bit scabious *Succisa pratensis* and thyme *Thymus praecox*. Additionally many less common species occur: pyramidal orchid *Anacamptis pyramidalis*, kidney vetch *Anthyllis vulneraria*, purple milk-vetch *Astragalus danicus*, frog orchid *Coeloglossum viride*, bloody crane's-bill *Geranium sanguineum*, felwort *Gentianella amarella* and saw-wort *Serratula tinctoria*.

Aerial photographs, taken in 2000, and visual inspection using binoculars from Fordon Lane, support the conclusion, to be drawn from the Phase II Habitat data, that area H is unimproved calcareous grassland.

Conclusion

We think that the evidence presented here suggests that the areas mapped, including area H which was not shown on the draft map, are unimproved calcareous grassland and should be mapped as open country.

Prepared by:	MB SD TKH	Date:	10.2003
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