

SCHEDULE OF QUALIFYING LAND FOR MAPPING OPEN COUNTRY

Ramblers' Association East Yorkshire and Derwent Area	East Region 8	Sheet 1 of 1
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Ref no	Site References	Name on Map		OS Grid Ref	Area (ha)	Parcels
35	A B	Fordham Dale & Wayrham Dale		SE83 57	31	3
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 areas already shown on the draft map. Description of land submitted The complex of valleys south of Thixendale village provides characteristic examples of a range of chalk grassland types found on the Yorkshire Wolds. Most of the complex is in Region 5 and is shown on the draft map for that region. Fordham Dale (A) and Wayrham Dale (B) comprise the extreme SW-tip of the complex nearest to the A166. A PRoW runs through Wayrham Dale from the car park and picnic site and connects with the Wolds Way in Thixen Dale. The dales were not surveyed either in the Phase I or II Habitat surveys. The National Landscape Typology definitive attributes are RLE. Comments supporting vegetation type and justification for inclusion: Our study of aerial photographs taken in 2000 suggests that both dales are unimproved calcareous grassland similar to the more northern part of the Thixendale complex which forms part of an SSSI and was described in detail in the Phase II Habitat survey. On a site visit (12 July 2003) to Wayrham Dale, at location 1 on the east-facing slope, we found 8 grasses: crested dog's -tail <i>Cynosurus cristatus</i>, quaking-grass <i>Briza media</i>, tor-grass <i>Brachypodium pinnatum</i>, rough meadow-grass <i>Poa trivialis</i>, sheep's fescue <i>Festuca ovina</i>, tufted hair-grass <i>Deschampsia cespitosa</i>, yellow oat-grass <i>Trisetum flavescens</i> and Yorkshire fog <i>Holcus lanatus</i> and 4 characteristic calcicolous indicator herbs: lady's bedstraw <i>Galium verum</i>, fairy flax <i>Linum catharticum</i>, cowslip <i>Primula veris</i> and salad burnet <i>Sanguisorba minor</i>. The west-facing slope was less rich floristically and the upper part of the east-facing slope, at location 2, was rank and dominated by tor-grass. Viewed from the track that runs along the eastern edge of Fordham Dale, the valley (B) appeared to be more heavily grazed than Wayrham Dale and exposures of chalk were evident on the steep E-facing slopes. Photographs 1 and 2 taken from location 3, show the general appearance of the dale. 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:	MB & TKH		Date:	Nov 2003