



**Source: Yorkshire Dales National Park, Landscape Character Assessment (2001)**

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# Cumulative Impacts of Vertical Infrastructure

## Appendix 1: Landscape Character Tables

Yorkshire Dales National Park Landscape Character			
Character Area 4: Dentdale and Deepdale			
Overview	Part of the Cumbrian Dales which includes the 32km Dent Fault. Dent Dale is a west facing dale with the River Dee flowing west into the river Lune and on into the Irish Sea. The character area is contained by the coniferous plantations at Mossy Bottom and Hazel Bottom at the head of Dentdale, and partly by the railway to the east.		
Key characteristics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>West facing sinuous, shallow, u-shaped glacial valley located in the north western part of the National Park;</li> <li>Crossed by the Dent Fault in the Gawthrop area, the valley overlies Great Scar limestone to the east, with valley sides formed by Yoredales; to the west the valley overlies grey turbidite sandstones and slates;</li> <li>Shallow, gently undulating valley sides with a predominantly narrow valley floor, except to the west of Dent where it widens out significantly, and the valley becomes broader and more open in character;</li> <li>Outcropping limestone of Combe Scar and associated corrie below form a prominent feature;</li> <li>River has a smooth, platformed bed with steps or ledges, and extensive tree cover on riverbanks;</li> <li>Frequent tributary gills giving valley side a folded, indented appearance, their winding form picked out by abundant tree cover;</li> <li>Lush, green, extremely well-wooded valley with linear lines of hedgerows appearing to tumble down the valley sides to connect with densely wooded river banks;</li> <li>Picturesque, traditional stone-built village of Dent with narrow, cobbled streets. Many houses within Dent, and other farmsteads scattered throughout the dale, have been rendered and painted white;</li> <li>Medium to large sized fields with hay meadows, mainly enclosed by hedgerows and some drystone walls;</li> <li>Two local stone viaducts form dominant features at the head of Dentdale. Visual influence of railway slightly exacerbated by unusual use of sleepers as crude fencing.</li> </ul>		
Sensitivities in relation to vertical structures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To the north west, the hilly outline of the Frostrow Fells forms an attractive skyline feature contrasting with the smoother, gently undulating valley skylines elsewhere;</li> <li>Local detractors within the area, such as electricity poles and old quarries, generally blend in to the abundant vegetation cover.</li> </ul>		
<b>Dentdale &amp; Deepdale Area YDNP-4</b>	Large-scale	Medium-scale	Small-scale
Sensitivity to vertical infrastructure	<b>High</b>	<b>High</b>	<b>Moderate</b>
Magnitude of change	<b>None</b>	<b>Small</b>	<b>None</b>
Significance of effect	<b>-</b>	<b>Intermediate</b>	<b>Not significant</b>
Guidance in relation to vertical structures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The vegetation cover within the area could assist in assimilating vertical structures into the landscape and view and should be considered when siting vertical structures.</li> <li>The impact of any development on the attractive skyline should be carefully</li> </ul>		

Cumulative Impacts of Vertical Infrastructure

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Yorkshire Dales National Park Landscape Character			
Character Area 5: Garsdale			
Overview	Part of the Cumbrian Dales which includes the 32km Dent Fault. Garsdale is a west facing dale with the Clough River and River Rawthey flowing into the River Lune which flows into the Irish Sea. At the head of the valley the landscape is bleak and barren with a very open, exposed character with a strong moorland influence. The overall character of Garsdale is much harsher than the soft lush appearance of Dentdale and Deepdale. The urbanised elements such as the railway, the improved main road and concrete post fencing serve to fragment the valley, reducing its natural harmony.		
Key characteristics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Long, curved, narrow u-shaped glacial valley;</li> <li>• Relatively, broad and flat valley floor with steeply sloping valley sides. Open and exposed dale head and lower reaches with more enclosed central area;</li> <li>• Meandering, visually insignificant river hidden by extensive tree cover and vegetation with shallow, stony channel. Outcropping rock and associated trees located adjacent to river at Garsdale;</li> <li>• Frequent tributary gills on both sides of the valley give an indented, folded appearance to side slopes. Scattered trees and areas of scrub mark gills and waterfalls are numerous;</li> <li>• Vegetation generally quite scattered and scrubby except on valley floor where a more significant, wider woodland belt is associated with the river;</li> <li>• Settlements comprise hamlets and many farmsteads, some dilapidated, and mainly located on the valley floor adjacent to the river;</li> <li>• Field sizes irregular and generally elongated up the valley sides, wall pattern evident and walls generally in good condition;</li> <li>• Overall character of dale compromised by strong suburban elements; railway and associated terraced cottages and bridge, improved fast, wide road with white lining and concrete kerbs, dilapidated farmhouses and occasional concrete post fencing adjacent to road.</li> </ul>		
Sensitivities in relation to vertical structures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The sensitivity of the character area is already compromised by the strong suburban elements.</li> </ul>		
<b>Garsdale Area YDNP-5</b>	Large-scale	Medium-scale	Small-scale
Sensitivity to vertical infrastructure	<b>High</b>	<b>High</b>	<b>High</b>
Magnitude of change	<b>None</b>	<b>Small</b>	<b>None</b>
Significance of effect	<b>-</b>	<b>Intermediate</b>	<b>Intermediate</b>
Guidance in relation to vertical structures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Vegetation cover in the area may assist in screening of views and assimilating developments into the landscape and should be considered when identifying potential sites for vertical structures.</li> </ul>		

Yorkshire Dales National Park Landscape Character			
Character Area 6: Rawthey Valley			
Overview	Part of the Cumbrian Dales which includes the 32km Dent Fault. The River Rawthey flows west into the River Lune which flows into the Irish Sea.		
Key characteristics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wide, broad u-shaped valley. Hummocky valley floor, valley sides shallow becoming steeper and more enclosed towards the head of the dale;</li> <li>• Valley dominated by presence of smooth-flanked and rounded Howgill Fells to the west, contrasting with the eastern valley side crossed by the Dent Fault and rising up to lower elevations of Baugh Fell;</li> <li>• Cautley Craggs are a prominent visual feature situated to the west within the Howgill Fells. Bare rock, scree and erosion contrasts with lush green of the valley;</li> <li>• River is rocky and shallow with boulders within the channel, well screened by associated trees and shrubs;</li> <li>• Frequent tributary gills with associated vegetation on both sides of the valley;</li> <li>• Valley contains many trees and hedgerows with a wide variety of species. Strong parkland character dominates, particularly in the lower reaches of the valley near Sedbergh;</li> <li>• Fields are irregular sized, enclosed mainly by hedgerows and drystone walls;</li> <li>• One main settlement, Sedbergh, a traditional market town with many historical features located at the lower end of the valley adjacent to the river.</li> </ul>		
Sensitivities in relation to vertical structures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Minor detractors include agricultural sheds and overhead electricity poles although these tend to merge into the backdrop of the gently undulating and well-vegetated landscape.</li> </ul>		
<b>Rawthey Valley Area YDNP-6</b>	Large-scale	Medium-scale	Small-scale
Sensitivity to vertical infrastructure	<b>High</b>	<b>High</b>	<b>High</b>
Magnitude of change	<b>None</b>	<b>Small</b>	<b>Small</b>
Significance of effect	<b>-</b>	<b>Intermediate</b>	<b>Intermediate</b>
Guidance in relation to vertical structures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Vegetation cover in the area may assist in screening of views and assimilating developments into the landscape and should be considered when identifying potential sites for vertical structures.</li> </ul>		

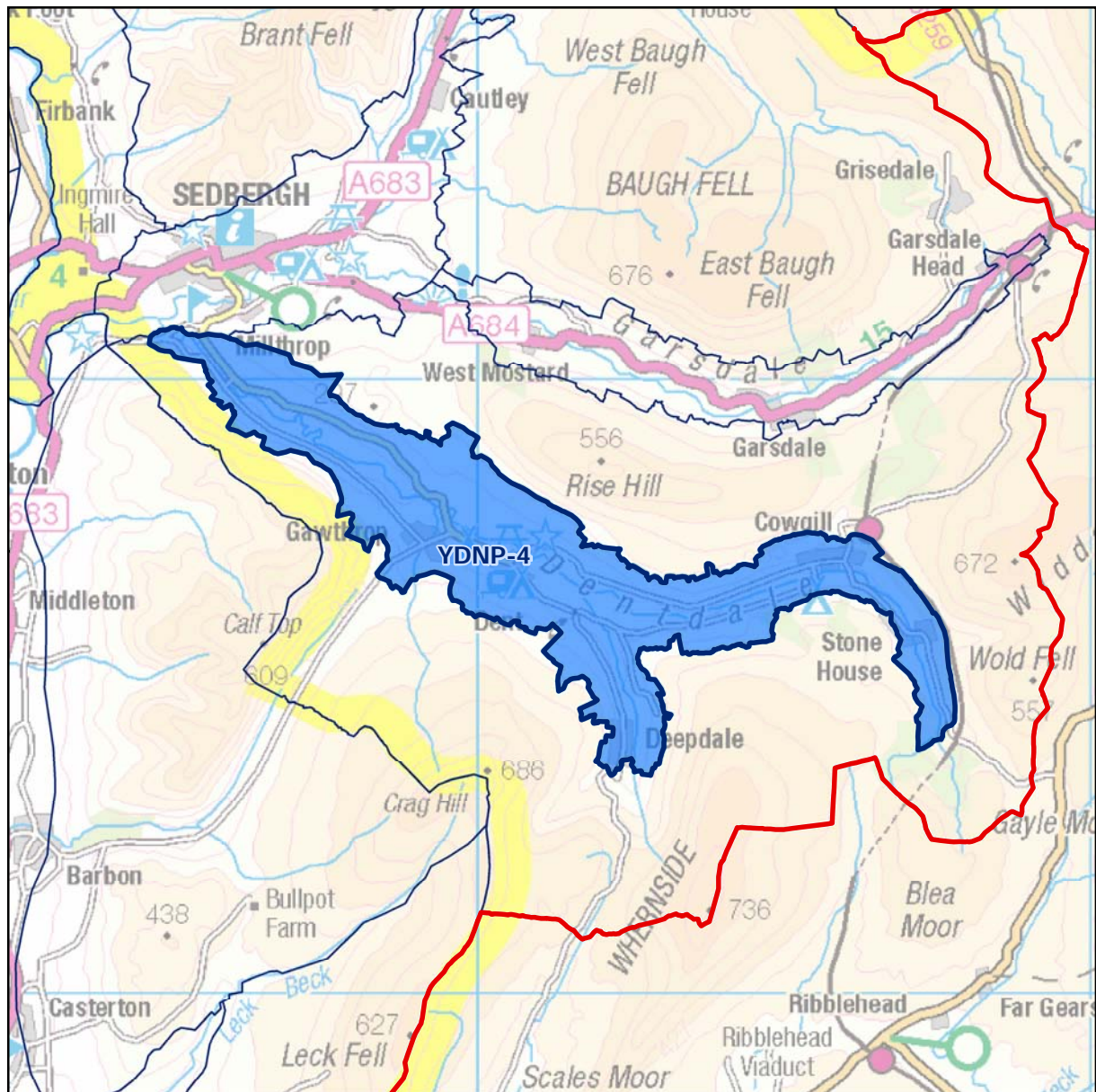
Yorkshire Dales National Park Landscape Character			
Character Area 7: Lune Valley			
Overview	Part of the Cumbrian Dales which includes the 32km Dent Fault. The Lune Valley is a west facing dale with the river Lune flowing west into the Irish Sea.		
Key characteristics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Very broad u-shaped valley with undulating, rolling valley floor, gently sloping valley sides with local enclosure provided by topography and vegetation;</li> <li>• Valley separated from the rest of the Park by the indomitable mass of the Howgill Fells;</li> <li>• The Howgill Fells and their associated features visually dominate the valley;</li> <li>• River Lune is broad and gently meandering with frequent trees on the bank side. It is rocky and cuts through a gorge for much of its length with numerous stones, boulders and rocky platforms within the channel;</li> <li>• Well-developed tributary gills from the east are winding and generally well vegetated contrasting with the smooth outline of the adjacent Howgill Fells;</li> <li>• Valley is extremely lush and green with many trees, woodland copses and hedgerows;</li> <li>• The Roman road, Howgill Lane, runs north to south mid-way up the eastern valley side;</li> <li>• Frequent traditional farmsteads and large manor houses located on the lower valley slopes. No larger settlements within character area;</li> <li>• Detractors include M6 motorway and line of dismantled railway forming dominant visual features situated high up on the western valley side.</li> </ul>		
Sensitivities in relation to vertical structures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The main detractor within the valley is the M6 motorway due to its visual and audible influence;</li> <li>• distant views of wind turbines to the west detract from local views, however, generally these detracting elements do not compromise the overall character of the valley.</li> </ul>		
<b>Lune Valley Area YDNP-7</b>	Large-scale	Medium-scale	Small-scale
Sensitivity to vertical infrastructure	<b>High</b>	<b>High</b>	<b>High</b>
Magnitude of change	<b>None</b>	<b>Small</b>	<b>None</b>
Significance of effect	<b>-</b>	<b>Intermediate</b>	<b>Intermediate</b>
Guidance in relation to vertical structures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• vertical structures that will be viewed alongside the M6 should be avoided to prevent a further concentration of man made features around this detracting element.</li> </ul>		

Yorkshire Dales National Park Landscape Character			
Character Area 35: Southern Howgill Fells			
Overview	Unusually shaped hills of rounded summits with the Dent Fault (32km long) forming a physical division between the smooth flanked Howgills and the horizontal limestone scars of the Yorkshire Dales. The difficult landform has prevented settlement and access has been limited to the river valleys. The fells are recognised for their distinctive character and their quietness and seclusion. Land cover is predominantly grassland and heather, with virtually no tree cover on the fells. Woodland is present on the steep sided gills and conifer plantations occur beyond the character boundary.		
Key characteristics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Massive, wild, open, and inaccessible upland, composed of Silurian rock overlain by moorland vegetation types and rock screes;</li> <li>A series of velvet smooth, distinctive, well defined closely spaced ridges fan out from dome shaped fells to create long, steep sided dales and steep dark rocky gullies with occasional steep, tumbling waterfalls;</li> <li>Many of the gills are steeply incised and cut through the overall smooth form of the fells, creating a sharp contrast in the form of gills and fells;</li> <li>Virtually treeless; where trees occur, they cling to occasional exposed rock edges and rocky valley sides;</li> <li>Expansive and exposed, the moorland provides largely unenclosed grazing for sheep and wild ponies;</li> <li>Almost total absence of roads and settlement;</li> <li>he smooth, deeply folded form of the uplands play host to a pattern of light and shade;</li> <li>Long range views are available from the fell tops to the summits of Helvellyn to Ingleborough, and from Morecambe Bay to Cross Fell.</li> </ul>		
Sensitivities in relation to vertical structures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Development pressures have been relatively low, although some communications masts and power lines have been constructed;</li> <li>A virtually treeless landscape results in little opportunities of screening due to vegetation being available;</li> <li>An exposed moorland absent of roads and settlements results in a sensitivity to the introduction of vertical man made structures;</li> <li>Long range views.</li> </ul>		
<b>Southern Howgill Fells Area YDNP-35</b>	Large-scale	Medium-scale	Small-scale
Sensitivity to vertical infrastructure	<b>Great</b>	<b>Great</b>	<b>Great</b>
Magnitude of change	<b>None</b>	<b>Small</b>	<b>None</b>
Significance of effect	<b>-</b>	<b>Intermediate</b>	<b>Intermediate</b>
Guidance in relation to vertical structures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Any structures are anticipated to be highly visible and the potential impact on long range views should be carefully considered.</li> </ul>		



Yorkshire Dales National Park Landscape Character			
Character Area 37: Three Peaks & Central Moors and Fells			
Overview	The character area is part of the Yorkshire Moors and Fells and consists of a dramatic landscape of peaks and valleys. The moorlands are criss-crossed by a network of ancient trackways evolved gradually from the erratic lines of prehistoric footpaths. Most of the fells and moors continue to be used for sheep grazing. The settlement of uplands is sparse.		
Key characteristics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Elevated stepped hills, often with pronounced flat plateau tops, sub-divided by and overlooking the central dales;</li> <li>Exposed peak sides crags and screes;</li> <li>Isolated pockets of limestone scenery are exposed within the surrounding drift and along valley sides, creating areas of brighter grassland and typical limestone features including pavements, cliffs and screes;</li> <li>Broadleaved tree cover is confined to scattered trees clinging to cliffs and rock outcrops in gulleys or on hillsides, or occasional small woodlands. At lower elevations tree cover increases in gills and along dale heads;</li> <li>Extensive coniferous plantations form dark, alien intrusions across the centre of the area;</li> <li>Moor tops are uninhabited. Occasional upland farms;</li> <li>Drystone walls extend from the dale fringes to enclose rough pasture and sometimes sub-divide wider areas of moorland;</li> <li>Roads and footpaths are isolated in character with panoramic views of the central dales and Three Peaks, the Howgill Fells, Cumbrian Fells, west across the Bowland Fringe, Bowland Fells and north west to the Lake District.</li> </ul>		
Sensitivities in relation to vertical structures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Settlement does not occur on the open moor tops and is very sparse in remaining areas. Evidence of modern day use includes wooden pole overhead telephone and power cables, usually routed along roads, or vehicles parked on the roadside. Jets flying overhead, or moving vehicles occasionally break the tranquillity;</li> <li>The open moorland and lack of existing vegetation and vertical structures, other than the occasional wooden telephone pole, makes this area sensitive to the introduction of other vertical features;</li> </ul>		
<b>Peaks &amp; Central Moors &amp; Fells Area YDNP-37</b>	Large-scale	Medium-scale	Small-scale
Sensitivity to vertical infrastructure	<b>Great</b>	<b>Great</b>	<b>Great</b>
Magnitude of change	<b>None</b>	<b>Small</b>	<b>Small</b>
Significance of effect	<b>-</b>	<b>Intermediate</b>	<b>Intermediate</b>
Guidance in relation to vertical structures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Key long distant views to known landforms and features should be protected;</li> <li>Coniferous plantations should not be relied on for screening purposes due to future anticipated felling regimes.</li> </ul>		

## Yorkshire Dales National Park Landscape Character

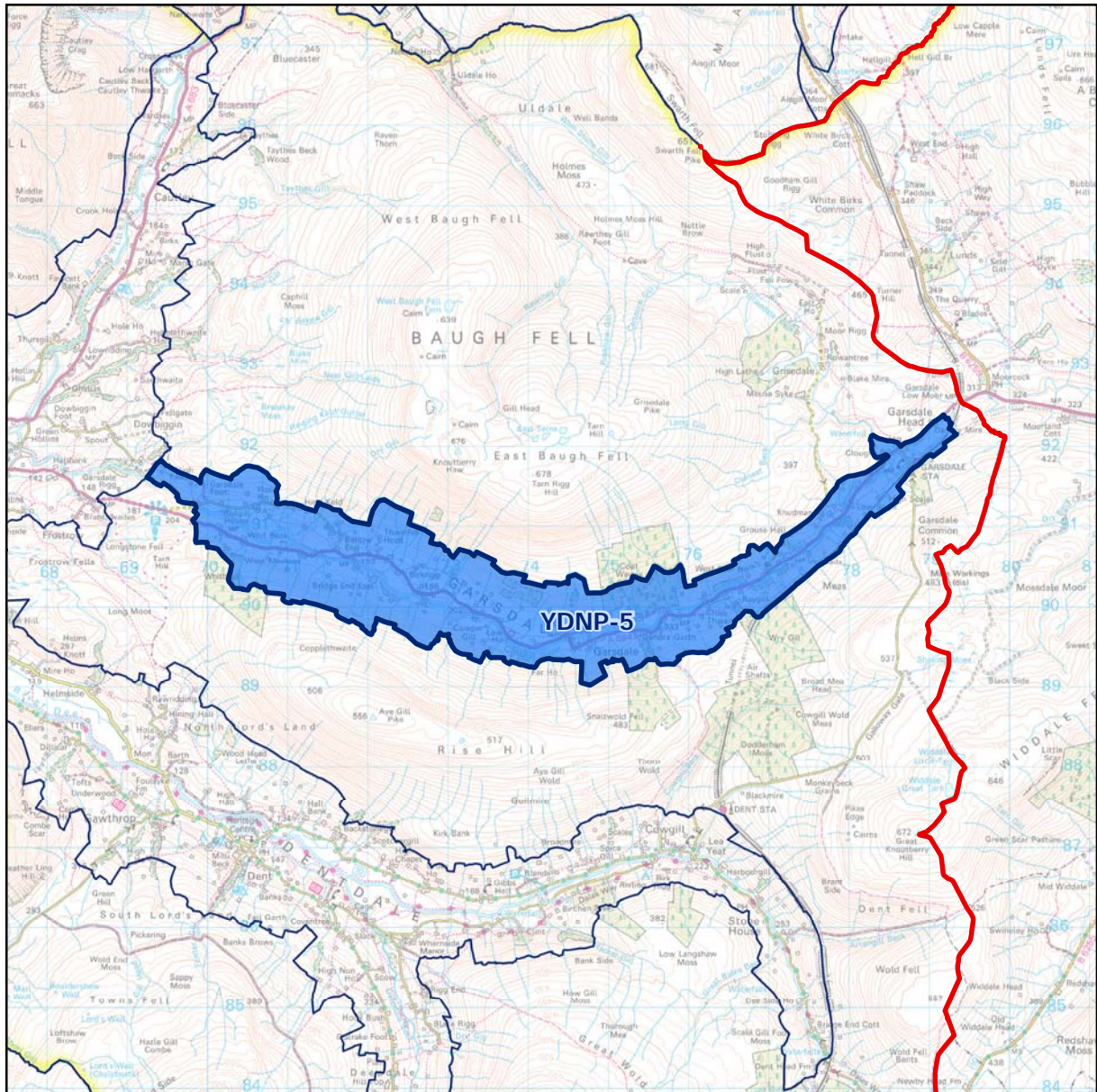


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Dentdale & Deepdale



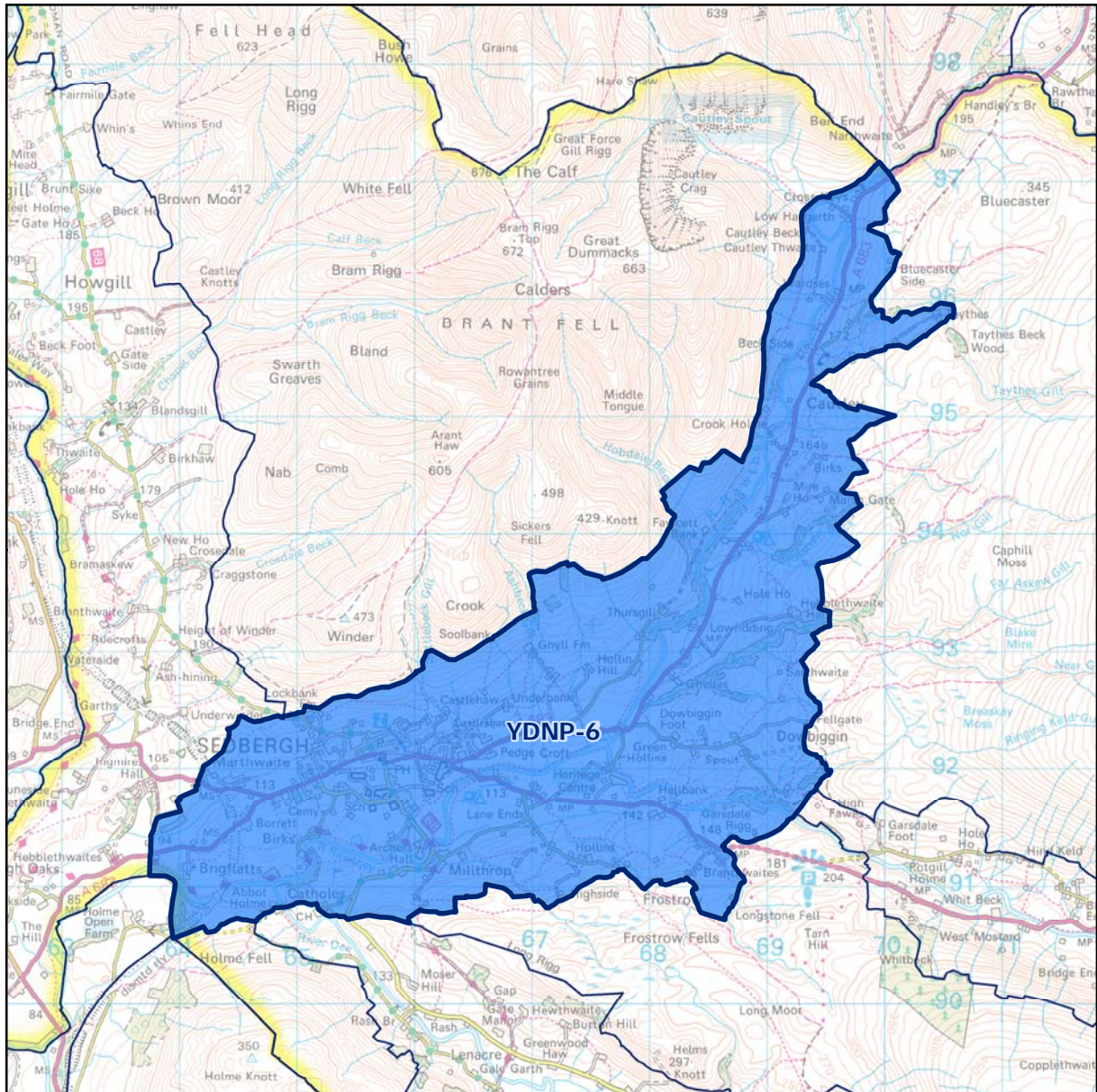
## Yorkshire Dales National Park Landscape Character



5  
Garsdale



## Yorkshire Dales National Park Landscape Character

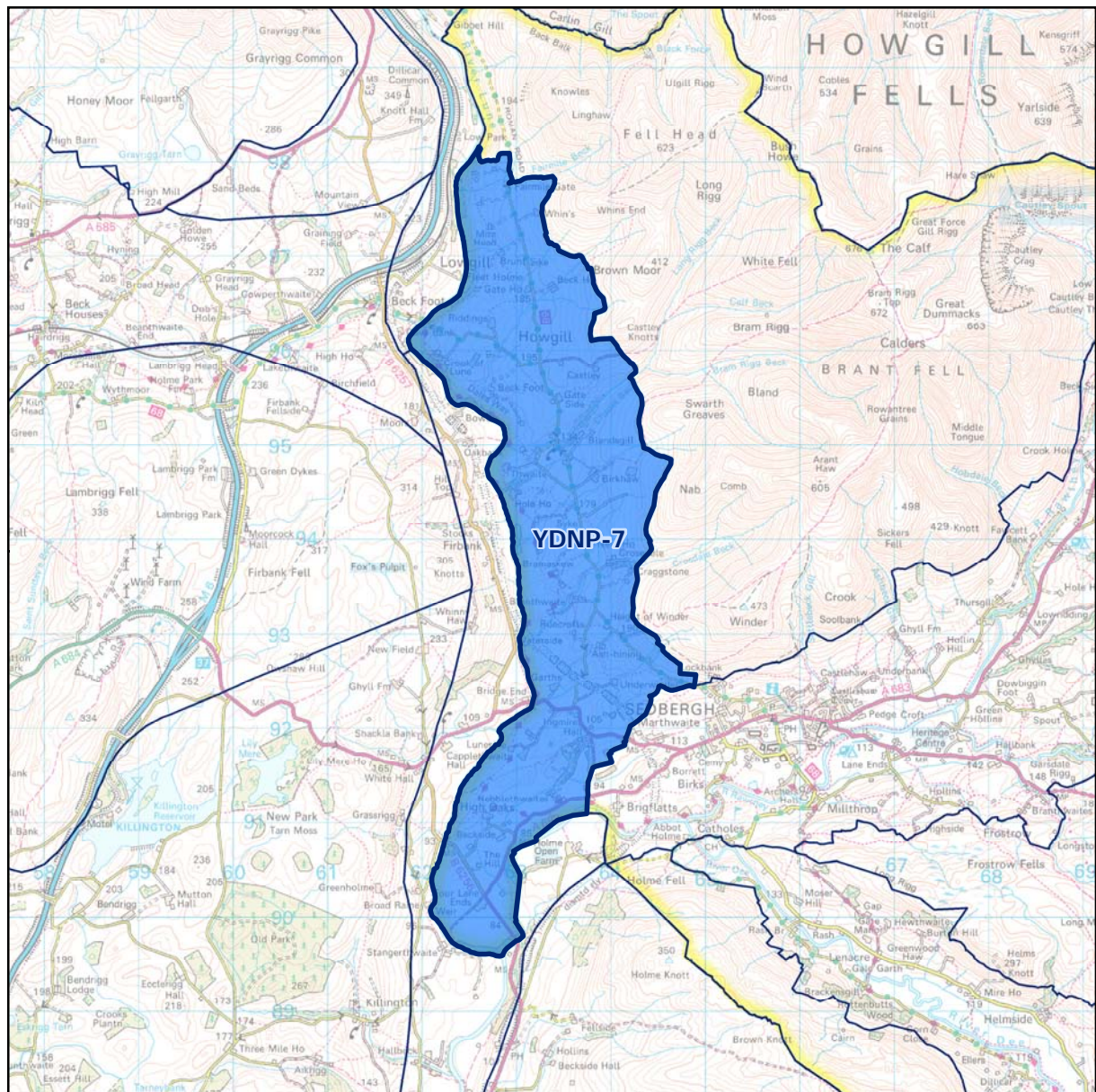


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Rawthey Valley



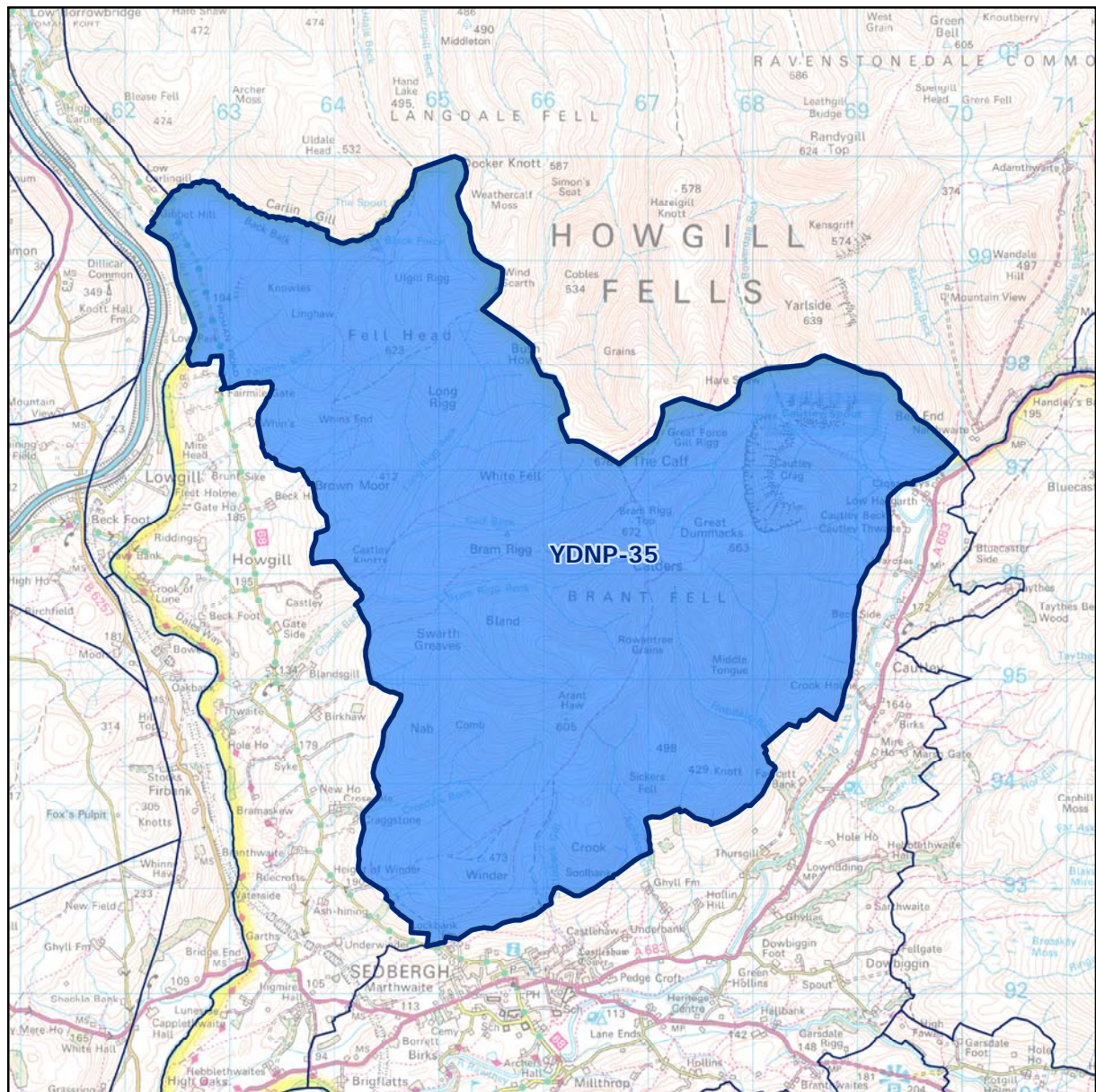
## Yorkshire Dales National Park Landscape Character



7  
Lune Valley



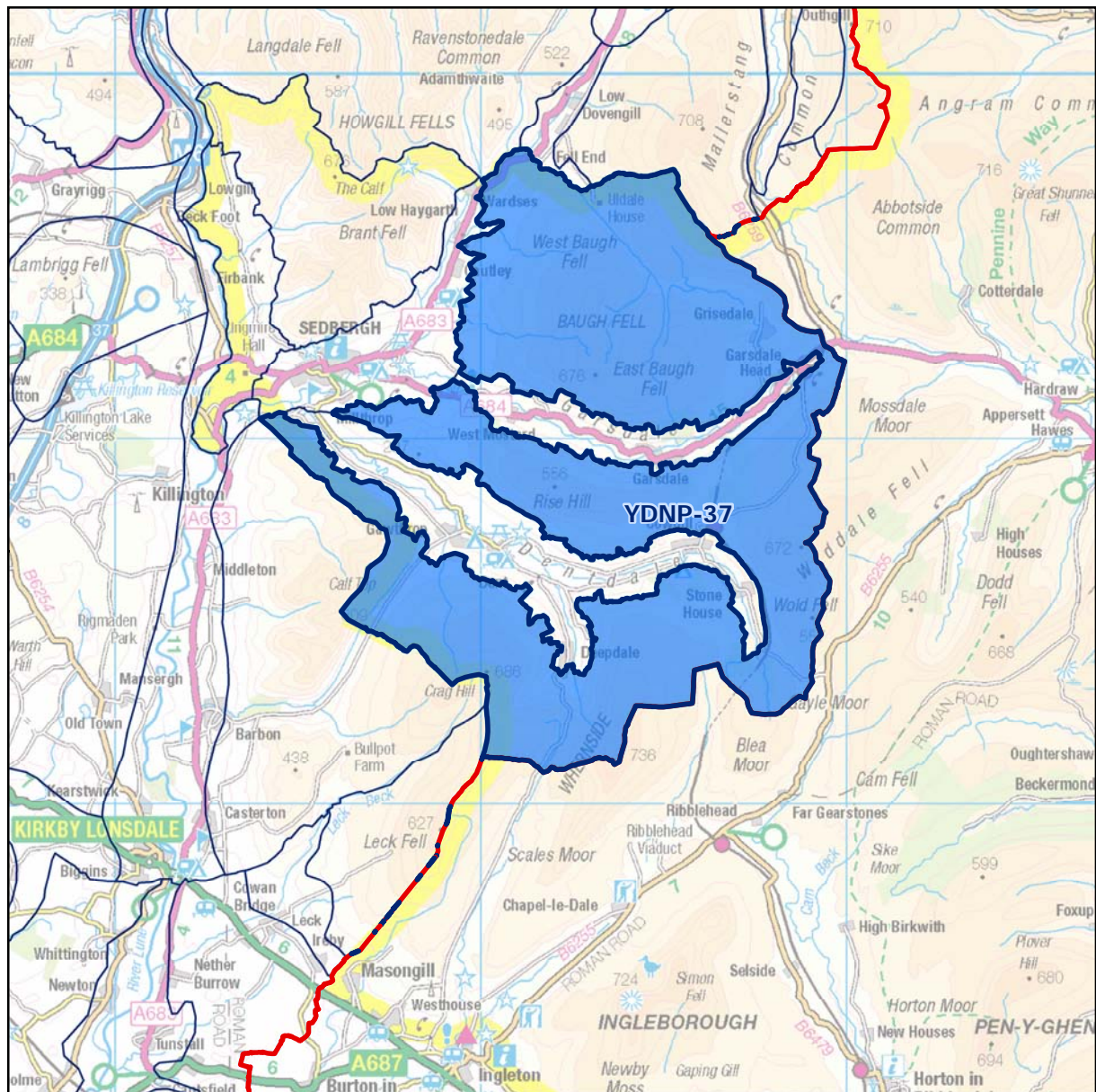
## Yorkshire Dales National Park Landscape Character



**35**  
**Southern Howgill Fells**



## Yorkshire Dales National Park Landscape Character



37

Peaks & Central Moors & Fells