

Natural England Commissioned Report NECR036c

Countryside and Rights of Way (CROW) Act 2000 (Part 1): National Open Access Visitor Survey (2006-2008)

Access Management Report

First published 12 September 2011

www.naturalengland.org.uk



Foreword

Natural England commission a range of reports from external contractors to provide evidence and advice to assist us in delivering our duties. The views in this report are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent those of Natural England.

Background

The Countryside and Rights of Way (CROW) Act 2000 (Part 1) came into effect across England and Wales between 2004 and 2005. The Act provides a new right of open access allowing people to walk freely over areas of mapped open country (mountain, moor, heath, down) and registered common land.

The National Open Access Monitoring Programme was set up to evaluate the long-term impact of implementing the new access rights by identifying the level of awareness, uptake, use, economic and biodiversity impacts from the introduction of the Open Access rights across England.

The National Open Access Visitor Survey (NOAVS) 2006 - 2008 represents one of the largest elements of the monitoring programme. It was set up to provide site specific and spatial use data of actual users of Access Land. The monitoring techniques developed and tested are to be used to guide the development of standard on-site visitor monitoring approaches and the findings guide integrated access management best practice that can be used to deliver wider Access & Engagement outcomes.

The findings have already been used to inform the reassessment of restrictions on specific sites of biodiversity and land management concern to understand whether positive access management or statutory restrictions are proving effective in protecting sensitive habitats and species to access. The findings are to also inform future Open Access regulation, communication activity and integrated access delivery. The implementation of the Coastal

Access programme and the development of its evaluation and monitoring framework will also be informed.

This Commissioned Report is the main **Access Management Report** outlining the detailed findings of the NOAVS designed to inform the effectiveness of management across access land implemented via the Access Management Grant Scheme (AMGS). It covers the full three year survey and draws comparisons across the three year period.

This report is being published as part of a package of reports relating to monitoring the impacts of (CROW) Act 2000 (Part 1). These include:

- Executive Summary, Communications and Access Management Commissioned Reports of the NOAVS (2006 to 2008) published in three parts NECR036a, NECR036b and NECR036c;
- Breeding Bird Survey (BBS) Pilot Study (2006) NECR040; and
- Upland Breeding Bird Survey (UBBS) (2007) NECR041.

This report should be cited as:

Johnson, C., Taylor, K., Houldin, C., Race, H. & Birtles, J. 2009. *Countryside and Rights of Way (CROW) Act 2000 (Part 1): National Open Access Visitor Survey (2006-2008) - Access Management Report*. Natural England Commissioned Report, Number NECR036c.

Natural England Project Manager - Rob Keane, 3rd Floor, Bridgewater House, 60 Whitworth Street, Manchester, M1 6LT rob.keane@naturalengland.org.uk

Contractor - Christine Johnson of AECOM, 1 New York Street, Manchester, Lancashire, M1 4HD and Ken Taylor of Asken Ltd, 17 Hayfell Rise, Kendal, Cumbria, LA9 7JP

Keywords - Visitor monitoring, modelling, access, assessment, landscape, upland breeding birds, survey, open access, access management, restrictions, uptake, awareness, CROW ACT 2000, impact long-term, biodiversity, on-site, toolkit, visitor use, levels and patterns, observations, questionnaire, interview, national sample, habitat regulations 2010

Further information

This report can be downloaded from the Natural England website: www.naturalengland.org.uk. For information on Natural England publications contact the Natural England Enquiry Service on 0845 600 3078 or e-mail enquiries@naturalengland.org.uk.

You may reproduce as many individual copies of this report as you like, provided this is not for commercial purposes, and such copies stipulate that copyright remains with Natural England, 1 East Parade, Sheffield, S1 2ET

ISSN 2040-5545

© Natural England and other parties 2011



Canford Heath



Bowland Fell



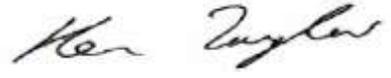
High Cup Nick Cumbria



**CROW Monitoring
Access Management Report: Three Year Monitoring Surveys at Open Access Land (2006-2008)**

Natural England
May 2009

Prepared by: 
Christine Johnson and
Associate Director

Approved by: 
Ken Taylor
Director (Asken)

**CROW Monitoring
Access Management Report: Three Year Monitoring Surveys at Open Access Land (2006-2008)**

Rev No	Comments	Date
1	Draft	20.03.09
2	Revised Draft	30.04.09
3	Third Draft	28.05.09
4	Final Report	01.06.09

Lynfield House, Church Street, Altrincham, Cheshire, WA14 4DZ
Telephone: 0161 927 8200 Fax: 0161 927 8499 Website: <http://www.fabermaunsell.com>

Job No 48218

Reference

Date Created May 2009

This document has been prepared by Faber Maunsell Limited ("Faber Maunsell") for the sole use of our client (the "Client") and in accordance with generally accepted consultancy principles, the budget for fees and the terms of reference agreed between Faber Maunsell and the Client. Any information provided by third parties and referred to herein has not been checked or verified by Faber Maunsell, unless otherwise expressly stated in the document.

No third party may rely upon this document without the prior and express written agreement of Faber Maunsell.

Table of Contents

1	Introduction	5
1.1	Background.....	5
1.2	Objectives	5
1.3	Site Selection.....	6
1.4	Fieldwork Summary	12
1.5	Weighting of Data	13
1.6	Report Structure.....	13
2	Visits to Open Access Land.....	16
2.1	Introduction	16
2.2	Visitor Profile.....	16
2.3	Visitor Demographics.....	16
2.4	Visitor Characteristics	20
2.5	Visitor Patterns.....	22
2.6	Visitor Activities.....	28
2.7	Summary.....	35
3	Using Open Access Land.....	38
3.1	Introduction	38
3.2	Open Access Awareness.....	38
3.3	Usage of Sites.....	44
3.4	Use of Open Access Land – National Sample	44
4	Visitors with Dogs.....	55
4.1	Introduction	55
4.2	Spatial analysis of Dogs on site from Observation Data – within/outside of dog restriction period	66
5	Other Activities on Open Access Land.....	69
5.1	Background.....	69
6	Patterns of Use.....	72
6.1	Background.....	72
6.2	National Sample Sites	72
6.3	Other Sites	78
6.4	South Pennine Moors	78
6.5	North Pennines Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB)	80
6.6	Bowland Fell	83
6.7	Sunbiggin Tarn.....	85
6.8	Dorset Heaths	86
6.9	North Norfolk Coast	93
6.10	Lancashire	94
6.11	Cumbria	95
6.12	Shropshire.....	96
6.13	Suffolk	97
6.14	Dorset Downlands.....	99
6.15	Visitor Numbers	100
6.16	Entry Points.....	103
7	Summary and Conclusions.....	105
7.1	Introduction	105
7.2	Summary of Findings: National Sample of Sites	105
7.3	Implications for Access Management.....	108
7.4	Comparison of findings from National Sample Survey and Lake District Sample.....	109
7.5	Overall Conclusions	109

7.6	Recommendations	111
Annex 1	.....	114
	Table 1: Key to Local Monitoring Sites shown in Figure 1.3	114
	Details of the survey periods – Interviews Recorded	116
	Questionnaires	117
	2006 – National Monitoring Survey	117
	Observation Survey Form 2006	128
	2007 – National Monitoring Survey	130
	2008 – National Monitoring Survey	144
	Observation record.....	156
	2007 – Local Monitoring Survey.....	159
	2008 – Local Monitoring Survey.....	167
	Weighting of Data	175
	Estimate of Number of Trips per year	180
	Visitor Numbers.....	181
	Spatial Analysis.....	183
	Dataset Interaction	184
	Production of Plots	184
	Analysis of Walking Routes.....	185
	Access to Each Site	185
	Entry and Exit Point Analysis	185
	Dog Behaviour.....	186
Annex 2	.....	188
	Lake District National Park Local Monitoring Survey	188
	Table 1.1 Site Types Included in the Survey	11
	Table 1.2 Sample for 2006-2008 Survey.....	12
	Table 2.1 Percentage of Male Respondents by Site Type	17
	Table 2.2 Age Group Visitors Interviewed.....	17
	Table 2.3 Employment status of visitors interviewed	18
	Table 2.4 Ethnic Group of Visitors Interviewed	19
	Table 2.5 Group Size of Visitors Interviewed	20
	Table 2.6 Average group size by site type	20
	Table 2.7 Dog in group	21
	Table 2.8 Percentage of respondents accompanied by dogs by site type.....	21
	Table 2.9 Frequency of visiting site.....	22
	Table 2.10 Frequency of visiting site, by site characteristics	23
	Table 2.11 Estimated annual trips from survey respondents	24
	Table 2.12 How did you become aware of the Area of Land?	24
	Table 2.13 Where have you travelled from to Site?	25
	Table 2.14 Proportion Visiting Site while on holiday/away from home by Site Type	25
	Table 2.15 Distances travelled to Site.....	26
	Table 2.16 Average mileages to site, by site type.....	26
	Table 2.17 Mode of transport used to Site?	27
	Table 2.18 Mode to site by site type – all years	27
	Table 2.19 Activities participated in at site (all)	28
	Table 2.20 Main reason for being at Site	29
	Table 2.21 Main activity at site by site type.....	30
	Table 2.22 Reasons for Visiting Site	31
	Table 2.23 Did the need to get exercise feature in your decision to visit the countryside today?	31
	Table 2.24 Reasons by Site Type (2006-2008 inclusive).....	32
	Table 2.25 Duration of Visit to Site	33
	Table 2.26 Average time spent at site by site type (hours) (NM Sites only)	33
	Table 2.27 Visitor Spend at Site	34
	Table 2.28 Average Spend at site by Site Type (£) (NM Sites only).....	35
	Table 3.1 Proportion of Visitors Recognising Symbol (NM Sites only)	39
	Table 3.2 Where Sign has been seen	39
	Table 3.3 Proportion of Visitors Seeing Sign at the Site being visited (NM Sites only)	40
	Table 3.4 What does the symbol represent?	40
	Table 3.5 Awareness of Open Access and Right to Roam	41

Table 3.6 Proportion of Visitors Seeing Sign at the Site being visited (NM Sites only)	43
Table 3.7 Walks on Site, by Year (National Sample only)	44
Table 3.8 Walks on Site, by Main Activity (National Sample only).....	45
Table 3.9 Proportions of walk on PROW and OAL by site type	48
Table 3.10 Distance band of walk (km).....	50
Table 3.11 Walks at Site by Visitor Type.....	50
Table 3.12 Walks at Site by Visitor Awareness.....	51
Table 3.13 Reasons for Staying on PROW	51
Table 3.14 What influenced your decision to go off Public Rights of Way/off paths?	52
Table 4.1 How long have you been bringing your dog to this area of land for walking?	56
Table 4.2 Timing of Visit by Site Type.....	57
Table 4.3 What aspects about this area of land make it good for bringing a dog here?	58
Table 4.4 Proportion saying “to let dog off lead” by site type	59
Table 4.5 Proportion saying “no restrictions on dogs” by site type	60
Table 4.6 Propensity to keep dog(s) on a lead on this site	60
Table 4.7 Propensity to keep dog(s) on a lead on this site by time of visit, AMGS sites	61
Table 4.8 Under what circumstances do you keep your dog(s) on a lead on this site? (NM) – unprompted responses	61
Table 4.9 Under what circumstances do you keep your dog(s) on a lead, to heel off the lead or free roaming off the lead on this site? (LM – response to ‘On Lead’)	62
Table 4.10 Reasons Given for not keeping dog on lead	63
Table 4.11 What would you say are issues to be aware of when walking with a dog in the countryside?	63
Table 4.12 Issues mentioned by site type (2006-2008 inclusive)	64
Table 4.13 Usage of Open Access Land by People With Dog.....	65
Table 4.14 Usage of Open Access Land by People With Dog.....	65
Table 4.15 Observed Usage of Site - Dogs’ Location on site	66
Table 4.16 Observed Usage of Site – Dogs on PROW	66
Table 4.17 Observed Usage of Site - Dogs’ Location on site National Sample.....	67
Table 6.1 CROW Impact Assessment National Sample Sites.....	73
Table 6.2 CROW Impact Assessment South Pennine Moors.....	78
Table 6.3 CROW Impact Assessment at Sites in North Pennines AONB	80
Table 6.4 CROW Impact Assessment at Bowland Fell.....	83
Table 6.5 CROW Impact Assessment at Sunbiggin Tarn.....	85
Table 6.6 CROW Impact Assessment at Dorset Heaths	86
Table 6.7 CROW Impact Assessment North Norfolk Coast.....	93
Table 6.8 CROW Impact Assessment Lancashire.....	94
Table 6.9 CROW Impact Assessment Cumbria (outside of National Park and North Pennines AONB).....	95
Table 6.10 CROW Impact Assessment at Shropshire	96
Table 6.11 CROW Impact Assessment at Suffolk	97
Table 6.12 CROW Impact Assessment at Dorset Downlands	99
Table 6.13 Visitor and Dog Indices	101
Table 6.14 Visitor Indices	101
Table 6.15 Dog Indices.....	102
Table 6.16 Visitor and dog indices by site type.....	103
Visitor and Dog Indices.....	182
Figure 1.1 National Sample Sites.....	8
Figure 1.2 National NCA Sites.	9
Figure 1.3 National NCA Sites.	10
Figure 2.1 Gender of Visitors Interviewed.....	16
Figure 2.2 Health status of visitors interviewed “Any longstanding illness or disability that impaired their work or things they do”	18
Figure 2.3 Proportion of Visitors Accompanied by Dogs.....	22
Figure 2.4 Main reason for being at site, by sample type	29
Figure 2.5 Visitor spend by trip origin.....	34
Figure 3.1 Open Access Symbol Recognition.....	38
Figure 3.2 Are you aware that this area of land is Open Access Land?	42
Figure 3.3 Proportion of walk on Open Access Land (off PROW)	46
Figure 3.4 Respondents’ Estimate of Proportion of Walk on Open Access Land (off PROW) ..	47
Figure 3.5 Proportion of visitors observed on Open Access Land.....	47

Figure 3.6 Patterns of usage of Open Access Land	48
Figure 3.7 Average Walk Lengths on Open Access Land (km)	49
Figure 4.1 Proportion of Visitors Interviewed who were Accompanied by Dogs.....	55
Figure 4.2 Proportion of Visitors with Dogs by Time of year	56
Interviewing at Open Access Land	5
Visitors at Malvern Hills	19
Dog Walking – Severn Ham	22
Heather – Canford Heath	30
Climbing – South Pennine Moors	30
Moorland (North Pennines)	36
Urban Site.....	36
Open Access Symbol	38
Dog off lead, on path, Canford Heath.....	57



1 Introduction

1 Introduction

1.1

Background

The implementation of the Countryside and Rights of Way (CROW) Act 2000 (Part I) created a new right of public access across England and Wales to areas mapped as Open Access Land. The new right of access, known as 'Open Access', is being monitored in England by Natural England outside of National Parks¹ by the carrying out of a monitoring programme to identify the uptake and impacts from implementation of the legislation. As part of this programme, a three year 'on site monitoring survey' has been undertaken to establish public use of the new right across a selection of representative sites, gathering key customer information on understanding and awareness of the new right, and the level and pattern of recreational use of Open Access Land.

In 2005 the Countryside Agency (CA) commissioned ASK for Research to carry out an on-site monitoring pilot survey to help inform the approach for a further three-year full scale monitoring contract. Consultants Faber Maunsell in partnership with Asken Ltd were commissioned in June 2006 to undertake the three years of on-site monitoring at a number of Open Access Land sites. The monitoring surveys involved undertaking interviews with, and making observations on, visitors to those sites. Natural England superseded the CA in October 2006 to take the contract forward.

This report presents the findings from the three year study, and examines trends emerging from comparisons of surveys conducted each year since 2006.

1.2

Objectives

The three-year study builds on the pilot survey, to provide information to Natural England that will enable it to:

- Capture baseline figures of public use of the new right of access across a selection of sites;
- Establish levels of public awareness and understanding of their new rights and responsibilities;
- Profile visitors;
- Understand visitor behaviour;
- Monitor visitor satisfaction;
- Establish trends and changes in visitor levels and patterns of use;
- Collate information on levels and patterns of use to enable the future validation of the predictive model;
- Identify potential impacts on sites with biodiversity value;
- Identify the effectiveness of different forms of statutory restriction; and
- Identify the effectiveness of the Access Management Grant Scheme (AMGS).



Interviewing at Open Access Land

¹ Open Access Land within National Parks falls under the Park Authorities' management and is being monitored at their own discretion.

Nature Conservation Assessment (NCA)

A Nature Conservation Assessment (NCA) and Review Process was developed and implemented by the Countryside Agency and English Nature (now Natural England) prior to the commencement of CROW to assess the potential impacts of the new rights of access on biodiversity.

The aim was to identify sites thought to be sensitive to the possible effects of public access and, where such effects were considered likely, implement the least restrictive option that would give such sites appropriate protection. This process has enabled the relevant authority to decide on the cases where some type of legal restriction of the CROW access rights or positive access management is necessary in order to protect important wildlife or habitats.

In its role as CROW relevant authority for all England outside the national parks, Natural England is reviewing the decisions taken during that original process in order to ensure that the restrictions or positive access management in place are still appropriate and adequate and that any additional need to amend restrictions or management is addressed.

The report also provides evidence to inform decisions about management of Open Access Land, including:

- The degree to which sites with differing characteristics are visited;
- The degree to which visitors utilise Open Access Land and other marked tracks as opposed to staying on Public Rights of Way (PROW);
- The activities people undertake on Open Access Land, including behaviour not included in the rights conferred by the CROW Act, such as cycling;
- Dog behaviour and control at Open Access Land sites; and
- The need for restrictions and understanding whether current restrictions are appropriate.

Statutory Restrictions

Access rights are subject to a range of national conditions of use, for example, those under CROW Schedule 2. These are usually referred to as general restrictions.

Certain areas also have local exclusions or restrictions for nature conservation, land management, fire prevention, public safety or other reasons. Some of these can be applied at the discretion of those with an interest in the land; others as a result of action by the authorities.

There is significantly less CROW access land available for people with dogs, for whom discretionary restrictions are more wide ranging. The great majority are on grouse moors, where people with dogs are typically excluded all year round under CROW section 23.

However, these restrictions do not apply to Public Rights of Way (PROW) or to mapped Open Access Land that is subject to statutory rights of public access that existed before CROW (known as section 15 land)

1.3

Site Selection

A large number of sites² have been included in the survey. These can effectively be considered as three different samples:

- National Sample Sites;
- National NCA Sites; and
- Local Monitoring Sites.

² The term 'site' is used to signify an area of land mapped as Open Access Land. Large sites may include more than one 'location' at which surveys were undertaken. For example, surveys were conducted at several locations around the Canford Heath site to provide a wider appreciation of the usage.

1.3.1

National Sample Sites

At the start of the project, a sample of 26 sites was selected following a stratified random sampling procedure, from a database of Open Access Land sites in England outside of National Parks³. Each of these sites has been surveyed in 2006, 2007 and 2008. The distribution of the sites is shown in Figure 1.1.

The sample includes:

- A range of large, medium and small sites;
- Sites close to urban locations and more remote sites; and
- Moors/ heaths and lowland/upland sites.

A range of secondary variables, were applied to provide a sample of sites broadly representative of Open Access Land mapped in England outside of National Parks including:

- Government Office Region;
- Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) designation; and
- Section 15 land (s15).

The locations within the sites at which surveys were conducted were identified through pre-survey visits as being those with the optimum potential to record interviews with visitors to the site.

Information from the surveys at these 26 sites will enable trends of usage of Open Access Land in general to be monitored.

³ Further information on the sampling strategy can be found in the Fieldwork Report 2006.

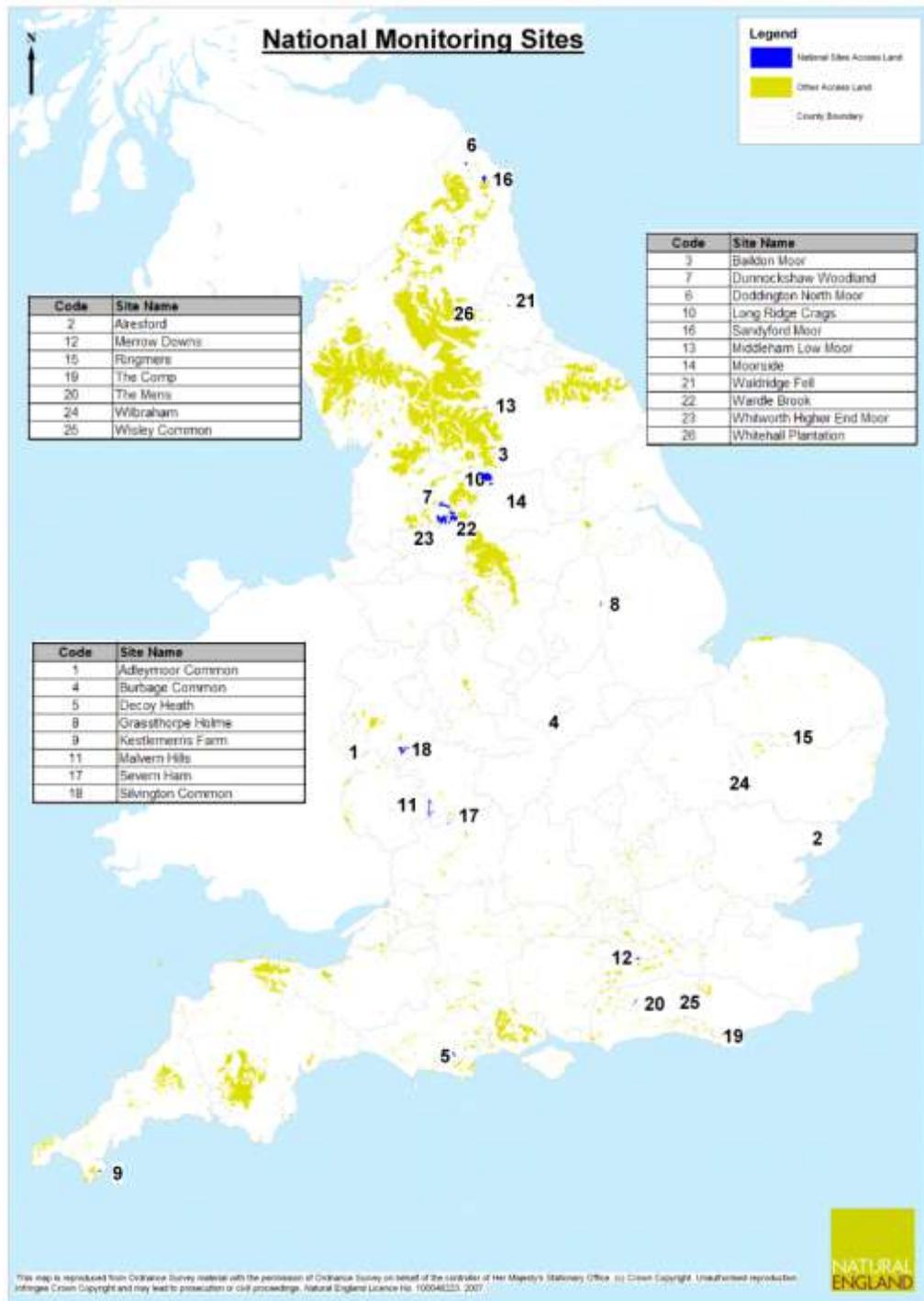


Figure 1.1 National Sample Sites

1.3.2

National NCA Sites

For the 2006 survey, six sites of Open Access Land were selected in association with Natural England. These were selected because of the presence of nature conservation and land management concerns at each site. As the opening up of land to the public has the potential to have greater impacts to such areas, their inclusion has provided added value to the study. As for the National Sample the locations within the areas at which surveys were conducted were identified through pre-survey visits as being those with the optimum potential to record interviews with visitors to the area. In 2007 additional sites were surveyed at four of the National NCA areas. The 2008 surveys were conducted as for 2007.

While these sites cannot be considered as representative of Open Access Land in general the data collected provides information on specific usage at sensitive sites. These include one

coastal area, which may be of special value in light of the potential future improvement of access to the English coast within an access corridor being developed by the Coastal Access project by Natural England. The distribution of the sites is shown in Figure 1.2.

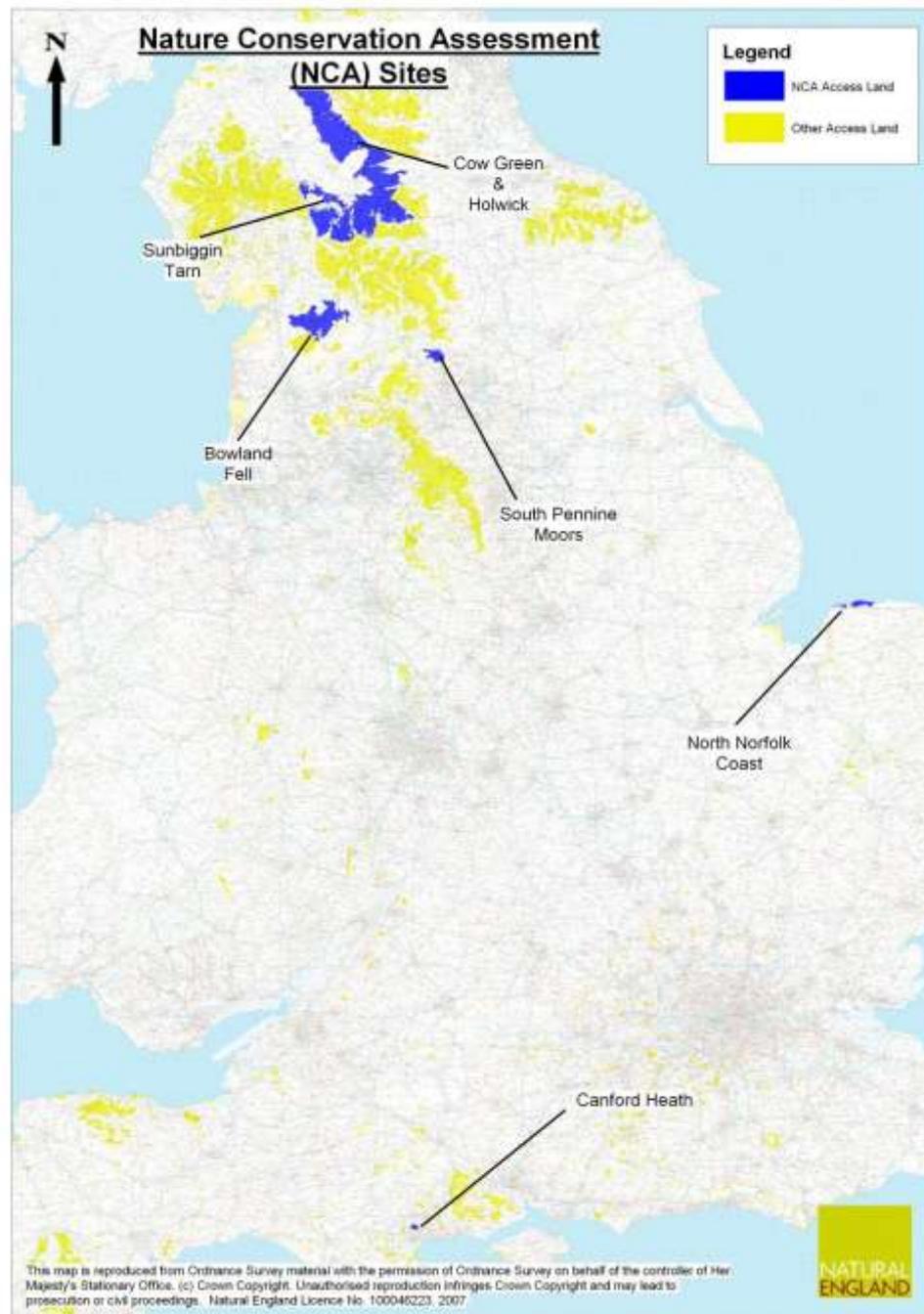


Figure 1.2 National NCA Sites.

1.3.3

Local Monitoring Sites

In 2007, supplementary data was collected outside of the national survey, at a number of sites via Local Monitoring (LM). A total of 52 sites were included in this Local Monitoring Survey. This involved access authorities⁴ carrying out their own data collection at sites identified locally, to a modified version of the national survey methodology using the Local Visitor Monitoring Toolkit and funded through the Access Management Grant Scheme (AMGS), by Natural

⁴ Access authorities are the local highway authorities (generally county and unitary authorities) and, in National Parks, the National Park Authorities.

England. Training and guidance was provided to all access authorities involved in using the Toolkit to ensure consistency of approach. Local monitoring was also conducted in 2008, and included many of the same sites surveyed in 2007. This data has been integrated with that from the National Survey where practical to supplement the information on visitors to Open Access Land and lend greater confidence in some of the findings.

Some of these sites are in close proximity to the National NCA sites and where practical the data has been combined with the National NCA data to analyse patterns of use over a larger area than would be possible with data from one source only. For example, those National NCA sites at Upper Teesdale have been combined with sites elsewhere in the North Pennines Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB). The distribution of the sites is shown in Figure 1.3. For key to site names see Annex 1.

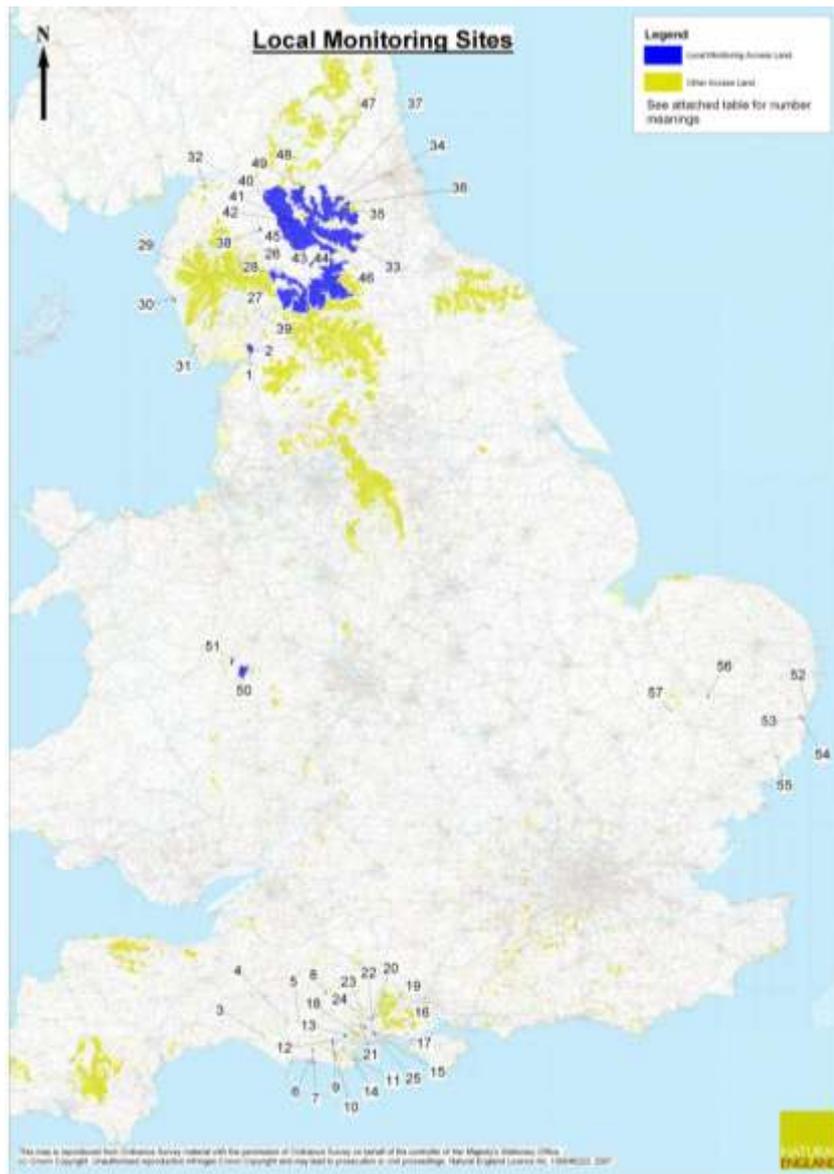


Figure 1.3 National NCA Sites.

Access Management Grant Scheme (AMGS)

Access authorities (but not National Park Authorities) may apply for funding through the Access Management Grant Scheme (AMGS), which was designed as an incentive for authorities to use their new powers to manage access. This includes funding for on-site management and infrastructure such as signage, fencing, gates, volunteer costs and vegetation cutting. Money was also made available to fund monitoring work, where this was considered valuable.

1.3.4

Site Characteristics

Table 1.1 shows a range of site characteristics for all the 86 sites included in the survey over the three years where interviews were recorded⁵. Around two fifths of the sites are moorland sites and three quarters of sites include areas with biodiversity designations (SSSI, SPA or SAC). This indicates the importance of access land for biodiversity value and the need to ensure the most sensitive wildlife areas are protected from the effects of disturbance by people, through the use of Positive Access Management (PAM) and statutory restrictions. One of the focuses of this report will be on understanding the effectiveness of nature conservation restrictions and PAM implemented by Natural England to protect such sites.

Around half of the sites are Registered Common Land (RCL) and a quarter of the sites are s15 land⁶. This indicates the importance of s15 land, as this had existing access rights prior to CROW and potentially will have an effect on the degree of change in use occurring on new access land. The effect of s15 land on change in use is to be considered later on in the report.

Table 1.1 Site Types Included in the Survey

Site Type	2006	2007	2008	Total Sites	Split
Moorland Sites	12	31	35	35	41%
Not Moorland Sites	19	48	46	51	59%
Biodiversity Designated Sites ⁷	16	59	61	66	77%
Non Designated Sites	15	20	20	20	23%
Urban ⁸	9	15	17	17	20%
Not Urban	22	64	64	69	80%
Common Land	16	36	39	39	45%
Not Common Land Site	15	43	42	47	55%
Section 15	11	17	18	18	21%
Not Section 15 Land	20	62	63	68	79%
Other Sites ⁹	6	54	56	61	71%
National Sample Sites	25	25	25	25	29%
Sites with AMGS	14	55	54	58	67%
Sites without AMGS	17	24	27	28	33%
TOTAL	31	79	81	86	

The National Sample represents Open Access Land in general while the selected (Other) sites are over represented in the following characteristics:

- 44% are Moorland Sites - (32% in National Sample);
- 92% are Biodiversity Designated Sites - (40% in National Sample); and
- 82% are Sites with Access Management Grant Scheme (AMGS) - 32% in National Sample

The selected (Other) sites are underrepresented in the following characteristics:

- 43% are Common Land - 52% in National Sample;
- 15% are Section 15 - 36% in National Sample; and
- 16% are Urban Sites - 28% in National Sample

⁵ That is, the site profile reflects the Interview Survey data included in this report

⁶ Section 15 land is land which already had a right of area-wide public access pre-CROW, through various other pieces of legislation.

⁷ Designated Sites include those with SSSI, SPA or SAC.

⁸ Urban sites defined as those with more than 20,000 people within 2km of the site boundary

⁹ LM and NCA Sites.

In this report the results for the National Sample Sites are shown separately alongside those for all sites, to enable comparisons to be made. However, when comparing findings by site characteristics the National Sample data is pooled together with that from the NCA and LM sites.

1.4

Fieldwork Summary

Surveys at National Monitoring (NM) sites (the National Sample Sites and the National NCA Sites) were carried out largely over the summer months of June to September to maximise the potential to intercept visitors, while surveys at the Local Monitoring sites were conducted throughout the year. Details of the survey periods can be found in Annex 1, which also provides further background to the fieldwork, including the survey instruments used each year.

The total quantity of data collected for each site type by year is shown in Table 1.2 below. This provides a sample of 4,554 interview records for analysis. In addition to the interview data, visitor activity was recorded regularly throughout the survey day (either hourly or half-hourly); a total of 15,300 visitors were observed across all surveys. A typical survey day covered 6 to 7 hours, for example 10am to 4pm.

Table 1.2 Sample for 2006-2008 Survey

	National Sample Sites	National NCA Sites	Local Monitoring Sites	Total
2006				
Locations	26	6	n/a	32
Survey Days	79	21	n/a	100
Questionnaire Surveys	310	177	n/a	487
Visitors Observed	1367	328	n/a	1695
2007				
Locations	26	10	48	82
Survey Days	94	38	100	232
Questionnaire Surveys	451	305	1081	1837
Visitors Observed	2394	2211	1459	6064
2008				
Locations	26	10	53	87
Survey Days	94	38	140	271
Questionnaire Surveys	509	348	1373	2230
Visitors Observed	2248	3093	2200	7541
All Years				
Locations	26	10	53	92
Survey Days	267	97	240	604
Questionnaire Surveys	1270	830	2454	4554
Visitors Observed	6009	5632	3659	15300

Note: Both LM and NM surveys conducted at Sunbiggin Tarn and Canford Heath, hence total number of sites does not equal sum of sample types. No interviews recorded at some sites, but observations may have been recorded.

In accordance with the findings from pre-survey visits the majority of survey days in the national survey were at weekends over the summer in order to maximise the chances of conducting interviews with visitors. Observations of activity at the site were carried out at approximately 60 minute intervals (priority was given to interviews) throughout the survey day, although in 2006, observations were done half-hourly at some sites, and interviews were recorded with as many visitors as possible.

The observation survey recorded a snapshot (at the time taken) of:

- Numbers of visitors and dogs visible and their position across the site; and
- Activities being undertaken and whereabouts.

The questionnaire survey recorded:

- Information about the visitor;
- Details of the visit;
- Where visitors go and their patterns of use across the site;
- Visitor awareness and understanding of the implications of CROW access;
- Visitor behaviour on site;
- Customer profile information; and
- Visitor satisfaction and experience of use.

Copies of the questionnaires used for both the two national and local surveys (Toolkit) can be found in Annex 1.

It should be noted that the surveys were conducted at one location at most of the sites, identified during site reconnaissance on the basis of having greatest potential to intercept and observe visitors. In most cases this was close to a main entry point, such as a car park or visitor centre. At some larger sites more than one interview location was used on a 'rolling' basis. Observations were limited by the extent of the site that was visible from the chosen location. Where visitors used other entry points or did not pass in close proximity to the surveyors (or, indeed, visited before or after interviewing took place), they were not available to be intercepted or observed.

1.5 Weighting of Data

As described above, the number of survey days in the national monitor increased in 2007 from that in 2006, and the extent of the Local Monitoring surveys differed between 2007 and 2008. The number of survey days at a site ranged from 3 to 7 at the NM sites (average 3.7), and from 1 to 7 at the LM sites (average 2.8). In simply combining the data from the different sources and years, those sites where more survey days were conducted could skew the results. Therefore the interview survey data has been weighted, by site and by year, to represent an equivalent number of days per site. The weighting procedure and weighting factors applied to the data are shown in Annex 1.

1.6 Report Structure

In this report, National Sample Sites and the National NCA Sites were surveyed using the same survey instruments and are jointly referred to as National Monitoring sites to distinguish these from the Local Monitoring sites (at which different survey instruments were used). Since data is drawn from both the National Monitoring and Local Monitoring surveys, where the former is referred to the abbreviation NM is used, and LM for the latter. Note that in referring to Open Access Land and Open Access Land sites, any such land within National Parks is not included¹⁰.

The results are shown for all sites combined, by year, as this maximises the amount of data available, to identify whether any trends have developed. Alongside these results, the findings for just the National Sample Sites are shown. The sample size for this data over three years is sufficiently large, at around 1200 records to provide confidence in the findings to within around 2-3%. Further analysis is presented by the key site characteristics; this includes all sites.

In this report where results are stated to be 'significantly different' this refers to the 0.05 significance level for comparisons of column proportions (z-tests) and column means (t-tests). In tables the convention "-" denotes no data and "*" where a percentage is less than 0.5 but greater than 0. Occasionally where the numbers of respondents is very small and percentages would not be meaningful, the format "n=" is used to denote the actual number of people giving a response.

It should be noted that in the tables and charts presented in the report the number of records on which the analysis is based is presented and this shows the number of valid records. Although

¹⁰ The Lake District National Park Authority conducted its own Local Monitoring Surveys at ten sites in 2008 using the Toolkit, the results of which are reported in a separate report. A summary of the findings are included at Annex 2, which highlights any similarities or differences from those in this report.

the total number of interviews is 4,554, the number of cases is usually less than this due to missing/incomplete responses, or that different variants of the questionnaire were used at different times. The data from each source have been integrated where possible; for some questions the data are presented separately where it is not appropriate to combine them. For questions asked in NM but not LM the number of cases will not exceed 2100.

Following this introduction, the report is structured as follows:

- Chapter 2 Visits to Open Access Land
 - How sites are used, broken down by key site characteristics, by year
- Chapter 3 Visitors with Dogs
 - How sites are used, broken down by key site characteristics, by year
- Chapter 4 Inappropriate Use of Open Access Land
 - How sites are used, broken down by key site characteristics, by year
 - Restrictions Observance
 - Patterns of use for those sites where restrictions are in place
- Chapter 5 Patterns of Use
 - Summary of Site Usage of Open Access Land
 - Implications for Access Management.
- Chapter 6 Summary and Conclusions

A series of Site Group reports are also available which should be referred to for further detail on a site by site basis.

A separate report, the Communications Team Report details results from the survey relating to publicity and awareness. Annex 1 includes further technical information and copies of the Survey Instruments.



2 Visits to Open Access Land

2 Visits to Open Access Land

2.1 Introduction

In this section the pattern of visits to sites is described, by the site characteristics. This includes data from both the NM and LM sites where available. The data is weighted as described in Annex 1.¹¹

2.2 Visitor Profile

The profile of visitors to Open Access Land sites is described in terms of their:

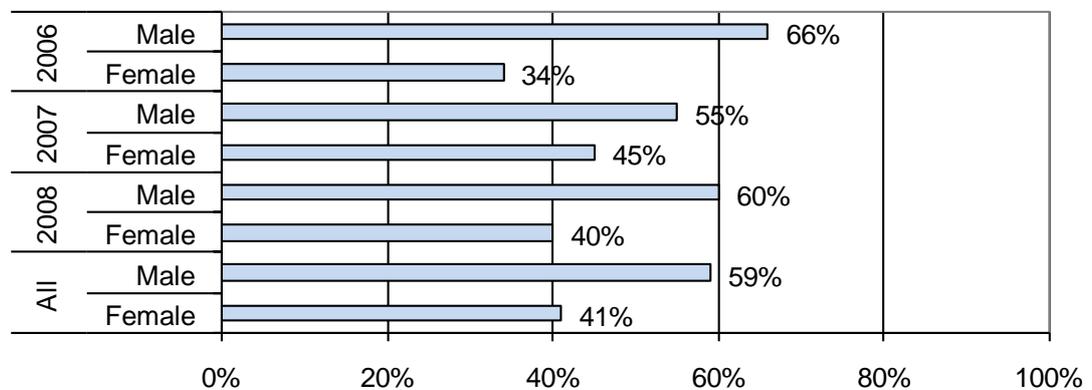
- Gender;
- Age Group;
- Employment Status;
- Health Status; and
- Ethnic Group.

2.3 Visitor Demographics

2.3.1 Gender

Figure 2.1 shows the gender profile of visitors to Open Access land and shows that males are over represented, forming 59% of the sample. This male dominance has been the case for all years, although the 2007 sample included a higher proportion of females, 45%, compared with the other years.

Figure 2.1 Gender of Visitors Interviewed



Base: All Data, 2006 430, 2007 1679, 2008 2109 All years 4219
 Weighted to equivalent numbers of days per site and retaining overall totals

Table 2.1 shows how the gender split differs by site type. Some site types attract higher proportions of males, as follows:

- Moorland - 69%; and
- Sites that were common land pre CROW - 61%.

However, higher than average proportions of females were found at urban sites, 47%.

¹¹ Note: In this and subsequent analyses (unless otherwise stated), no attempt has been made to adjust for frequency of visits. For example, it may be the case that females at urban sites are often walking a dog and do so every day, whereas a male at a moorland site may visit only once a year. In this analysis, each counts as one visit only.

National Sample Sites

- Males - 62%, Females - 38%,

The proportion of males interviewed at National Sample Sites is significantly higher than at other sites.

Table 2.1 Percentage of Male Respondents by Site Type

Site Type	2006 %	2007 %	2008 %	All %	Base
Moorland Sites	68	69	70	69	1149
Not Moorland Sites	65	51	56	55	3070
Biodiversity Designated Sites	68	55	60	59	3475
Non Designated Sites	62	57	61	60	743
Urban	61	53	56	56	1441
Not Urban	70	57	62	60	2778
Common Land	66	58	61	61	1901
Not Common Land Site	66	54	59	57	2318
Section 15	63	60	64	62	1095
Not Section 15 Land	69	54	59	58	3124
Other Sites	65	55	60	58	3252
National Sample Sites	66	58	61	62	966
Sites with AMGS	65	56	61	59	3323
Sites without AMGS	66	54	58	58	896
TOTAL	66	55	60	59	4219
BASE	430	1679	2109	4219	

Weighted to equivalent numbers of days per site and retaining overall totals

2.3.2

Age Group

Table 2.2 shows the age group profile of visitors to Open Access land and shows that around 7 in 10 visitors are aged 45 or over. There are no variations in the age profile by year or by site characteristics.

Table 2.2 Age Group Visitors Interviewed

	2006 %	2007 %	2008 %	All %	National Sample %
Under 24	3	3	4	3	3
25-34	12	8	8	8	10
35-44	19	18	19	19	19
45+	66	72	69	70	68
Base	438	1769	2174	4381	972

Weighted to equivalent numbers of days per site and retaining overall totals

National Sample Sites

The age profile of interviewees at National Sample Sites is the same as the whole sample.

2.3.3

Employment Status

The employment status of visitors was recorded in the interview and the results are shown in Table 2.3. Three in five visitors are employed and a third of visitors are retired. The 2007 sample included a slightly higher proportion of retired people but there are no trends by year. Retired visitors are less likely to visit moorland sites, 28%.

Table 2.3 Employment status of visitors interviewed

	2006 %	2007 %	2008 %	All %	National Sample %
Employed	68	59	60	60	66
Not Working	3	4	5	5	4
Student	1	2	2	2	1
Retired	28	35	33	33	29
Base	428	1792	2192	4412	958

Weighted to equivalent numbers of days per site and retaining overall totals

National Sample Sites

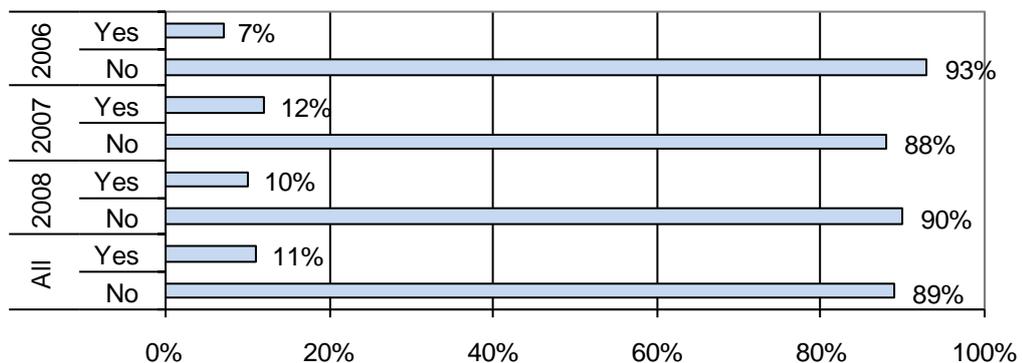
There are slightly more respondents who are employed in the National Sample and fewer retired people compared with the whole sample.

2.3.4

Health Status

Respondents were asked whether they had any longstanding illness or disability that impaired their work or the things they did. The majority, 89%, had not. The percentage was slightly higher in 2006 but there is no trend. There are no differences due to site characteristics in the proportions.

Figure 2.2 Health status of visitors interviewed “Any longstanding illness or disability that impaired their work or things they do”



Base 2006 417, 2007, 1417, 2008, 2090, All, 3924

Weighted to equivalent numbers of days per site and retaining overall totals

National Sample Sites

- Impaired 10%, no impairment 90%,

The proportion of respondents with any health impairment is the same in the National Sample Sites as at other sites.

2.3.5

Ethnic Origin

Table 2.4 shows the ethnic groupings of visitors to Open Access Land and shows that the vast majority, 96%, are White British and that this has stayed the same over the three years of the survey. There are no significant correlations between the site characteristics and the ethnicity of visitors.

Table 2.4 Ethnic Group of Visitors Interviewed¹²

	2006 %	2007 %	2008 %	All %	National Sample %
White British	97	96	96	96	97
White Other	3	2	3	2	3
Asian	*	*	*	*	*
Mixed	-	*	*	*	*
Black	-	*	-	*	*
Chinese	-	*	-	*	*
Other	-	1	1	1	*
Base	434	1803	2177	4413	967

Weighted to equivalent numbers of days per site and retaining overall totals

National Sample Sites

The ethnic profile of interviewees at National Sample Sites is the same as the whole sample.

Visitors to Open Access Land differ in their demographics from the general population in that they are more likely to be male and white.

The demographic profile of the National Sample of respondents is sufficiently close to that of the sample as a whole to need no further distinction in subsequent analysis.



Visitors at Malvern Hills

¹² “ * “ denotes less than 0.5%, - denotes no responses

2.4 Visitor Characteristics

2.4.1

Group Size

Table 2.5 shows the group size of visitors to Open Access Land and shows that overall, 45% arrive on their own and two fifths in pairs. A small proportion, 1% arrive in groups of 10 or more. The proportion of people arriving alone in 2008 is significantly higher than in other years and those arriving in pairs significantly higher in 2006. The overall average group size is 2.06 people.

Table 2.5 Group Size of Visitors Interviewed

	2006 %	2007 %	2008 %	All %	National Sample %
Individual	30	41	56	45	42
Two people	56	47	28	40	48
Three people	10	8	10	9	7
4-9 people	3	4	5	4	2
More than 10	1	*	1	1	1
Base	455	1608	1423	3486	988
Average Group Size	2.15	2.01	2.06	2.06	1.90

Weighted to equivalent numbers of days per site and retaining overall totals

As shown in Table 2.6, moorland sites appear to attract larger groups, as the average group size recorded at these was 2.3, and only 27% arrived there alone compared with 37% overall. Urban sites have much smaller average group sizes, 1.8 people, and at these sites over half, 53% arrive on their own.

Table 2.6 Average group size by site type

Site Type	2006 %	2007 %	2008 %	All %	Base
Moorland Sites	2.3	2.3	2.4	2.3	1222
Not Moorland Sites	2.1	1.9	2.0	1.9	3331
Biodiversity Designated Sites	2.3	2.1	2.1	2.1	3783
Non Designated Sites	1.9	1.5	1.8	1.7	770
Urban	2.2	1.8	1.6	1.8	1554
Not Urban	2.1	2.1	2.3	2.2	2999
Common Land	2.2	2.1	2.1	2.1	2033
Not Common Land Site	2.0	1.9	2.0	2.0	2520
Section 15	2.2	2.0	1.9	2.0	1161
Not Section 15 Land	2.1	2.0	2.2	2.1	3392
Other Sites	2.3	2.1	2.1	2.1	3520
National Sample Sites	2.1	1.7	1.9	1.9	1033
Sites with AMGS	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1	3593
Sites without AMGS	2.2	1.7	1.9	1.9	960
TOTAL	2.1	2.0	2.1	2.1	4553
BASE	455	1608	1423	3486	

Weighted to equivalent numbers of days per site and retaining overall totals

National Sample Sites

The group size at National Sample Sites is slightly lower than for the whole sample. This is related to the purpose of visit, as shown later.

2.4.2

Visitors Accompanied by Dogs

Table 2.7 shows the proportion of interviewees who were accompanied by dogs, and this shows that almost half of visitors to Open Access Land sites were. This was much higher in 2007 than other years, significantly so compared with 2006, but there does not appear to be a year on year trend.

Table 2.7 Dog in group

	2006 %	2007 %	2008 %	All %	National Sample %
Dog in Group	44	51	48	49	52
No Dog in Group	56	49	52	51	48
Base	487	1837	2219	4543	1033

Weighted to equivalent numbers of days per site and retaining overall totals

Propensity to bring dogs to site does appear to be related to site characteristics, with the following site types attracting significantly higher than average proportions of visitors with dogs:

- Lowland sites 57%
- Sites without biodiversity designations 64%
- Urban sites 59%
- Non-Common land sites 55%
- Not S15 land sites 52%

Table 2.8 Percentage of respondents accompanied by dogs by site type

Site Type	2006 %	2007 %	2008 %	All %	Base
Moorland Sites	27	28	28	28	1222
Not Moorland Sites	53	58	56	57	3321
Biodiversity Designated Sites	36	48	45	46	3773
Non Designated Sites	59	68	64	64	770
Urban	47	59	63	59	1544
Not Urban	42	47	41	44	2999
Common Land	40	39	42	41	2023
Not Common Land Site	51	58	53	55	2520
Section 15	41	39	42	41	1151
Not Section 15 Land	48	54	50	52	3392
Other Sites	35	50	48	48	3510
National Sample Sites	50	57	49	52	1033
Sites with AMGS	46	50	49	49	3583
Sites without AMGS	42	54	47	48	960
TOTAL	44	51	48	49	4543
BASE	487	1837	2219	4543	

Weighted to equivalent numbers of days per site and retaining overall totals

National Sample Sites

The proportion of visitors with dogs, 52%, is significantly higher at National Sample Sites than for the whole sample.



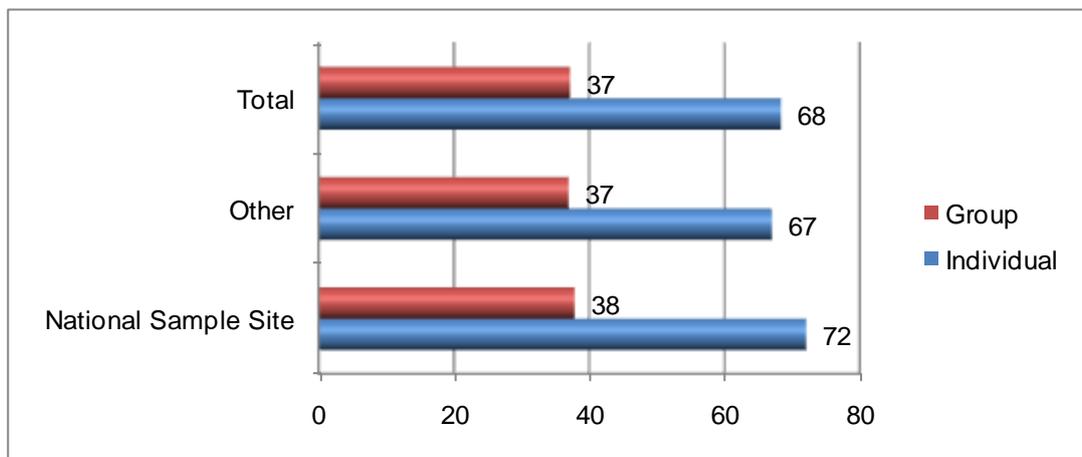
Dog Walking – Severn Ham

2.4.3

Group Size of Visitors Accompanied by Dogs

Although 49% of visitors overall were accompanied by dogs, this proportion is much higher for those at the site alone, see Figure 2.3, which shows that at the National Sample sites, 72% of those alone had one or more dogs with them, and this proportion was also high at other sites, 67%.

Figure 2.3 Proportion of Visitors Accompanied by Dogs



Base NS 1031 Other 3294

Weighted to equivalent numbers of days per site and retaining overall totals

2.5

Visitor Patterns

How visitors use Open Access Land is now described in terms of

- Frequency of visit;
- Awareness of site; and
- Access to site.

2.5.1

Frequency of Visit

Table 2.9 shows how often people visit the site at which they were interviewed. Overall, one in five visitors is a daily visitor and around one in eight is a first time visitor. The proportion of first time visitors appears to have fallen since the survey started, from 18% in 2006 to 12% in 2008, and in 2007 there was a higher proportion of daily visitors. There is no overall pattern by year.

Table 2.9 Frequency of visiting site

	2006 %	2007 %	2008 %	All %	National Sample %
Daily	15	23	19	20	23
Regularly – more than once a week	16	16	16	16	17
Often – more than monthly	20	24	22	23	25
Infrequently – less than monthly	31	24	31	28	24
First Visit on Survey Day	18	14	12	13	11
Base	471	1456	2155	4082	1020

Weighted to equivalent numbers of days per site and retaining overall totals

National Sample Sites

For just the National Sample, the proportion of first time visitors is significantly different to other sites, being only 11%, and the proportion of respondents who visit daily is higher, at 23%. For the National Sample, there has been no trend by year.

Table 2.10 shows the frequency of visits by site type for all years combined. This shows that different sites are more likely to attract first time visitors; at moorland sites 22% are first time visitors and only 7% are daily visitors. Only 7% of visitors to urban sites are first time visitors and a quarter visit daily.

Table 2.10 Frequency of visiting site, by site characteristics

Site Type	Daily Row %	Regularly Row %	Often Row %	Infrequently Row %	First Time Row %
Moorland Sites	7	9	21	41	22
Not Moorland Sites	24	19	23	24	10
Biodiversity Designated Sites	17	15	22	30	15
Non Designated Sites	33	20	23	18	6
Urban	26	21	28	18	7
Not Urban	16	13	19	34	17
Common Land	15	14	23	33	16
Not Common Land Site	24	18	22	24	11
Section 15	17	14	26	30	14
Not Section 15 Land	21	17	21	28	13
Other Sites	19	16	22	30	14
National Sample Sites	23	17	25	24	11
Sites with AMGS	19	16	23	29	13
Sites without AMGS	22	17	22	25	13
TOTAL	20	16	23	28	13
BASE	808	658	920	1153	544

Weighted to equivalent numbers of days per site and retaining overall totals

An estimate of the number of trips made per year by visitors has been made (see Annex 1) whereby daily visits equal 365 per year, monthly visits as 12 per year etc, to provide a comparison of the relative numbers visiting sites with differing characteristics, as shown in Table 2.11. Note that this estimate does not represent total visits, as it is only based on those people interviewed. It does not include group size. This shows that lowland sites attract almost three times as many visitors per year as moorland sites, with an average of 47 per year. It would appear that the number of visits per year to moorland sites has increased by year, but the differences are small and are not significant.

Other site characteristics that appear to influence the number of visits are presence of biodiversity designations at the site, where fewer visits are made annually, and proximity to urban populations, where almost twice as many visits are made, 134, compared with rural/remote sites, 87. The inclusion of AMGS at a site does not appear to influence visitor numbers.

National Sample Sites

The average number of trips made per year increased from 2006 to 2007 but was lower in 2008, with this pattern occurring at both the National Sample of sites and other sites.

Table 2.11 Estimated annual trips from survey respondents

Site Type	2006	2007	2008	All	Base
Moorland Sites	42	44	50	47	1084
Not Moorland Sites	107	142	118	126	2998
Biodiversity Designated Sites	62	103	90	92	3322
Non Designated Sites	128	181	157	158	761
Urban	88	140	143	134	1540
Not Urban	83	100	78	87	2542
Common Land	79	76	87	82	1829
Not Common Land Site	95	141	113	123	2253
Section 15	83	88	97	91	1078
Not Section 15 Land	87	124	103	109	3004
Other Sites	44	110	98	100	3062
National Sample Sites	107	137	113	118	1020
Sites with AMGS	76	113	97	101	3135
Sites without AMGS	100	124	117	116	948
TOTAL	85	116	101	105	4082
BASE	471	1456	2155	4082	

Weighted to equivalent numbers of days per site and retaining overall totals

2.5.2

Site Awareness

Respondents were asked how they had first learned of the area of land being visited. Almost two thirds responded that they had always known about the site and a further 14% had been made aware by friends or family. Just 6% had learned of it through some means of promotion and a number of other sources were mentioned, many specific to the site, for example, coming across the site by driving by (see Site Reports for further detail).

Moorland sites were less likely to be known about via local knowledge (i.e. 'always known'); only half gave this means of becoming aware. Conversely 83% at urban sites knew of them through local knowledge.

Table 2.12 How did you become aware of the Area of Land?

	2006 %	2007 %	2008 %	All %	National Sample %
Local knowledge / always known	69	66	64	65	81
Friends /Family	14	14	15	14	9
Promotion / press / website	8	6	6	6	4
Other	9	14	15	14	6
Base	459	1815	2210	4484	1013

Weighted to equivalent numbers of days per site and retaining overall totals

National Sample Sites

The proportion of visitors interviewed at National Sample sites who had been aware through local knowledge was significantly higher than for the sample as a whole, at 81%. There was no trend by year in the proportions for the National Sample (as for the whole sample).

2.5.3

Trip Origins

Over four in five visitors had arrived at the site travelling from home and almost all others from temporary accommodation. These proportions vary considerably for individual sites (see Site Reports) as a quarter of sites draw all their visitors from home addresses.

Table 2.13 Where have you travelled from to Site?

	2006 %	2007 %	2008 %	All %	National Sample %
Home / Live Locally	81	83	81	82	88
On holiday / temporary accommodation	18	17	19	18	11
Other	1	*	*	*	*
Base	466	1828	2211	4505	3491

Weighted to equivalent numbers of days per site and retaining overall totals

National Sample Sites

The proportion of visitors interviewed at National Sample sites who had travelled from home, 88% was significantly higher than at other sites.

By site characteristics, the sites significantly more likely to attract people while on holiday are:

- Moorland sites 24%
- Sites with biodiversity designations 21%.

Urban sites are those least likely to attract people while on holiday, see Table 2.14.

Table 2.14 Proportion Visiting Site while on holiday/away from home by Site Type

Site Type	2006 %	2007 %	2008 %	All %	Base
Moorland Sites	27	22	24	24	1208
Not Moorland Sites	14	15	17	16	3297
Biodiversity Designated Sites	26	19	21	21	3746
Non Designated Sites	3	5	5	5	759
Urban	8	5	5	5	1539
Not Urban	26	23	26	24	2966
Common Land	19	21	21	21	2006
Not Common Land Site	16	14	16	15	2499
Section 15	20	16	13	16	1144
Not Section 15 Land	16	17	20	19	3362
Other Sites	27	18	21	20	3491
National Sample Sites	13	10	10	11	1014
Sites with AMGS	17	18	19	18	3559
Sites without AMGS	21	14	17	17	946
TOTAL	18	17	19	18	4505
BASE	466	1828	2211	4505	

Weighted to equivalent numbers of days per site and retaining overall totals

2.5.4

Distance Travelled to Site

Around a quarter of people travelled less than a mile to visit the site, and two in five travel less than 2 miles. A further fifth travel between 2 and 5 miles. The average distance for all sites for all years is 13 miles, though some 16% travel much further, more than 20 miles.

Table 2.15 Distances travelled to Site

	2006 %	2007 %	2008 %	All %	National Sample %
Up to 1 mile	18	28	27	26	24
1 to 2 miles	18	13	12	13	21
2-5 miles	19	18	19	19	21
5-10 miles	15	14	14	14	14
11-20 miles	11	11	13	12	9
21 -40 miles	10	8	10	9	6
41 -100 miles	8	6	6	6	4
Over 100 miles	1	2	1	1	1
Base	465	1829	2179	4473	1016
Average Distance	13	12	13	13	10

Weighted to equivalent numbers of days per site and retaining overall totals

National Sample Sites

The average distance travelled to site in the National Sample is 10 miles, significantly shorter than to other sites surveyed.

On average people travel about twice as far to visit moorland sites (typically 20 miles) as lowland. Those travelling to urban sites travel half as far as to non urban sites, as might be expected, with the average distance travelled being 7 miles. Similarly, people travel about twice as far to sites with biodiversity designations as to those without.

Table 2.16 Average mileages to site, by site type

Site Type	2006	2007	2008	All	Base
Moorland Sites	18	21	19	20	1211
Not Moorland Sites	11	9	10	10	3262
Biodiversity Designated Sites	17	13	13	14	3720
Non Designated Sites	7	6	7	6	753
Urban	10	6	7	7	1535
Not Urban	16	15	16	15	2938
Common Land	13	15	15	15	2006
Not Common Land Site	14	10	10	10	2467
Section 15	11	15	13	13	1146
Not Section 15 Land	16	12	12	12	3327
Other Sites	20	13	13	13	3457
National Sample Sites	10	8	10	10	1016
Sites with AMGS	13	13	12	12	3531
Sites without AMGS	13	10	14	12	941
TOTAL	13	12	12	12	4473
BASE	465	1829	2179	4473	

Weighted to equivalent numbers of days per site and retaining overall totals

2.5.5

Mode to Site

As might be expected with around a quarter of trips being under a mile, 28% of visitors had arrived at the site on foot. However, car or other motorised private transport is the main mode used with more than two thirds of trips being made this way.

The proportion arriving by public transport is low, at 1% and those on cycles account for only 2% of respondents. Visitors on bikes may have been slightly under-represented because they proved difficult to interview.

Table 2.17 Mode of transport used to Site?

	2006 %	2007 %	2008 %	All %	National Sample %
Car / van / campervan	78	62	69	68	74
Public transport (bus/ coach /rail)	1	1	2	1	1
Walked all the way / on foot	19	35	27	28	22
Cycle	3	2	2	2	3
Horse	*	1	*	*	*
Other	*	-	*	*	*
Base	459	1001	1929	3389	1007

Weighted to equivalent numbers of days per site and retaining overall totals

Note: Mode to site not asked at all LM sites.

National Sample Sites

The proportion of visitors who arrive by car or other motorised personal transport is higher at the National Sample of sites at 74% and the proportion arriving on foot is lower, at 22% compared with the sample as a whole. There are no trends by year for the means of access to site.

Moorland sites attract higher proportions of visitors in cars, (76%) and (3%) on public transport, though only (19%) on foot. Conversely, less than two thirds (62%) arrive at urban sites by car, and a third (34%) arrive on foot.

Table 2.18 Mode to site by site type – all years

Site Type	Car etc Row %	Public Transport %	On Foot %	Other %	Base
Moorland Sites	76	3	19	2	715
Not Moorland Sites	66	1	31	2	2674
Biodiversity Designated Sites	68	1	28	2	2738
Non Designated Sites	67	1	30	2	651
Urban	62	1	34	3	1492
Not Urban	73	2	24	2	1897
Common Land	74	2	22	2	1541
Not Common Land Site	63	1	34	3	1848
Section 15	74	2	23	2	984
Not Section 15 Land	66	1	31	2	2405
Other Sites	65	1	31	2	2382
National Sample Sites	74	1	22	3	1007
Sites with AMGS	69	1	27	2	2637
Sites without AMGS	64	2	32	3	752
TOTAL	68	1	28	2	3389
BASE	2305	46	960	78	

Weighted to equivalent numbers of days per site and retaining overall totals

2.6

Visitor Activities

How visitors use Open Access Land is now described in terms of

- Activities at Site – all and main;
- Site Attractions;
- Need to get exercise;
- Duration of Visit; and
- Visitor Spend.

2.6.1

All Activities

Respondents were asked which activities they had participated in while at the site, and in the NM survey, what had been their main reasons for visiting. Table 2.19 shows the main reasons given. Note that these proportions sum to more than 100 as more than one reason could be given. Dog walking was the most common activity mentioned, by 46%. A third of visitors were taking a short stroll almost one in five were hiking or taking a more serious walk, and 18% said they were there to enjoy the scenery or nature.

Table 2.19 Activities participated in at site (all)

	2006 %	2007 %	2008 %	All %	National Sample %
Short Stroll / ambling	38	35	32	33	39
Serious Walking / Hiking	18	19	20	19	14
Dog Walking	38	48	47	46	49
Enjoying Scenery / nature	11	19	20	18	18
Other	23	17	22	20	21
Base	487	1831	2222	4540	1033

Weighted to equivalent numbers of days per site and retaining overall totals

Note: will sum to more than 100 as multiple responses allowed

National Sample Sites – all activities

The proportion of respondents who visit to take a short stroll is significantly higher at the National Sample sites, 39% and also the proportion of dog walkers is higher, 49%. There is no trend by year in the activities undertaken.

2.6.2

Main Activity

Table 2.20 shows the main reason given for being at the site. Those visiting specifically to walk a dog form 31% of the sample and there are similar proportions, 21% and 22% for amblers and hikers. Enjoying the scenery was the main reason for only 3% of visitors and was most often secondary to the other reasons given.

It should be noted that in the LM survey a main response was not recorded. Where more than one activity was mentioned these have been grouped as 'more than one'.

A range of responses were provided for other reasons, and these tend to be site specific, for example, making sandcastles at Brancaster Beach or abseiling at Ilkley Moor; see Site Reports for further detail¹³.

¹³ The activities undertaken by visitors were also recorded in the observation surveys. In the Site Reports comparisons from observed data with the activities as stated by respondents are shown, and these tend to show that identifying a visitor as an ambler/serious walker/dog walker is difficult to do with precision and hence there are discrepancies.

Table 2.20 Main reason for being at Site

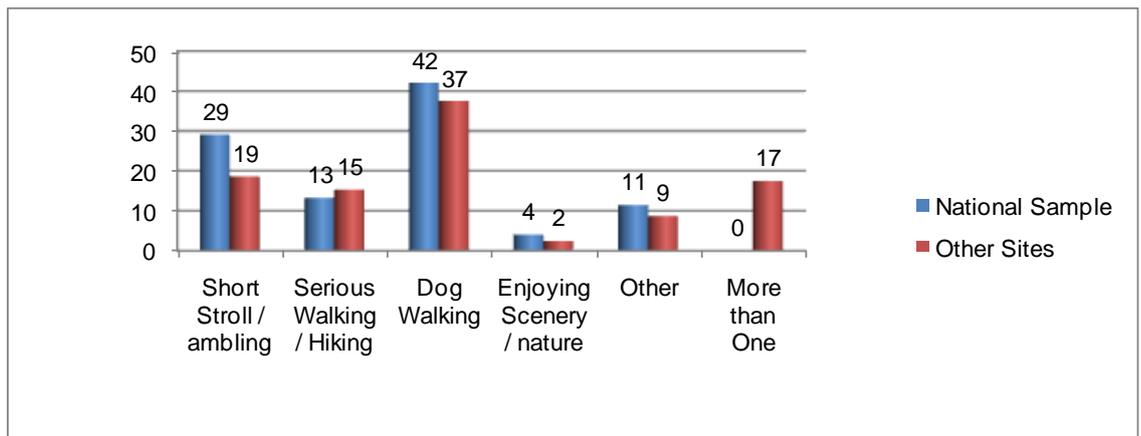
	2006 %	2007 %	2008 %	All %	National Sample %
Short Stroll / ambling	37	20	18	21	29
Serious Walking / Hiking	17	14	30	22	13
Dog Walking	26	46	19	31	42
Enjoying Scenery / nature	3	2	3	3	4
Other	17	7	10	9	11
More than One	-	10	20	13	0
Base	487	1831	2222	4540	1033

Weighted to equivalent numbers of days per site and retaining overall totals
Note: Main activity not recorded in LM survey

National Sample Sites – main activity

The proportion of respondents who visit to take a short stroll is significantly higher at the National Sample sites, 29% and also the proportion of dog walkers is higher, 42%. There is no trend by year in the activities undertaken.

Figure 2.4 Main reason for being at site, by sample type



Base National Sample 1033, Other Sites 3506
Weighted to equivalent numbers of days per site and retaining overall totals

Lowland sites had higher proportions of dog walkers than did moorland sites; 46% compared with 17%, and higher proportions visited moorland sites for more serious walks, 35%, and for ambling, 26%.

Serious walkers are less likely to be found at urban sites (10%) than at more remote sites, (17%).

Significantly higher proportions of dog walkers are found at urban sites, 48%, than rural or remote sites. Also, significantly lower proportions of dog walkers are found at sites with biodiversity designations, 35%, see Table 2.21.

Table 2.21 Main activity at site by site type

Site Type	Ambling Row %	Hiking %	Dog Walking %	Other %	Base
Moorland Sites	26	35	17	22	1218
Not Moorland Sites	19	8	46	27	3322
Biodiversity Designated Sites	21	16	35	27	3770
Non Designated Sites	19	9	54	18	770
Urban	20	10	48	21	1552
Not Urban	22	17	34	28	2987
Common Land	25	22	30	23	2028
Not Common Land Site	18	9	46	28	2511
Section 15	28	23	31	18	1160
Not Section 15 Land	19	12	41	28	3380
Other Sites	19	15	37	29	3506
National Sample Sites	29	13	42	16	1033
Sites with AMGS	20	15	38	28	3582
Sites without AMGS	26	16	40	17	957
TOTAL	21	15	39	26	4540
BASE	953	674	1749	1164	

Weighted to equivalent numbers of days per site and retaining overall totals

2.6.3

Reasons for visiting the site rather than elsewhere

Respondents were asked why they chose to visit the survey site, rather than elsewhere. The analysis is shown here for the three sample types, as the question differed slightly for the LM surveys.

The most common response, for 32% of visitors, was that it was a pleasant area, with attractive scenery or landscape. This reason was given by almost half of National Sample respondents.

Many sites have specific attractions, and are included as 'other' in Table 2.24; for more details refer to the Site Reports.



Heather – Canford Heath



Climbing – South Pennine Moors

Table 2.22 Reasons for Visiting Site

	National Sample %	NCA Sample %	Local Monitoring Sample %	All %
Scenery/ Landscape/ pleasant area	47	38	24	32
Always come here	7	7	40	27
Accessibility/ Proximity of the area of land	44	31	7	19
Remoteness / tranquillity of the area of land	4	4	25	17
Other	-	-	23	14
Exercise	*	-	19	12
Space for dog to run	26	8	4	10
Wildlife/ botany	9	9	2	5
The area of land is not too busy/ overcrowded	8	13	-	4
En route/ part of a longer route	4	10	2	4
Open Access	-	-	5	3
Parking provision at the area of land	5	1	*	2
Challenging walk/ climb/ feature	4	4	*	1
Provision of amenities	-	-	2	1
Cleanliness of the area of land	4	1	*	1
For a Change / Somewhere new, different	*	3	1	1
Mentioned Easy/ Accessible walk	1	2	*	1
For the Horse/ Bike Riding	*	*	*	*
Previous Visit	*	1	*	*
For the Hills	*	*	*	*
No Cars/ Bikes	*	*	*	*
Base	1033	678	2628	4339

Weighted to equivalent numbers of days per site and retaining overall totals

Note: will sum to more than 100 as multiple responses allowed

2.6.4

Getting Exercise

In the NM survey in 2007 and 2008, respondents were asked the extent to which getting exercise featured in their decision to visit the countryside. As shown in Table 2.23 it featured to a large extent for more than half of visitors, and to some extent for a further third of visitors. There are no significant changes by year.

Table 2.23 Did the need to get exercise feature in your decision to visit the countryside today?

	2006 %	2007 %	2008 %	All %	National Sample %
Not at all	n/a	12	15	14	12
To some extent	n/a	36	35	35	33
To a large extent	n/a	52	50	51	55
Base	-	484	705	1189	381

Weighted to equivalent numbers of days per site and retaining overall totals

Not asked in LM

National Sample Sites

Getting exercise is a feature that attracts visitors to National Sample sites to a significantly greater extent than it does to other sites, with 55% saying it did so to a large extent. There are no trends by year.

2.6.5

Site Attractions

Table 2.24 shows the proportions of visitors who mentioned the key attractions for different site characteristics. The characteristics where scenery was a particular attraction are s15 land (42%) and common land (39%). Those respondents at urban sites were much more likely to say they came out of habit (32%). Sites with biodiversity designations attract people by virtue of their remoteness and tranquillity; 19% at such sites mentioned this as a reason. Only 6% of visitors at sites with biodiversity designations mention space for a dog to run as an attraction, but this was mentioned by a quarter of visitors to National Sample sites.

Table 2.24 Reasons by Site Type (2006-2008 inclusive)

Site Type	Scenery %	Always Come %	Accessibility %	Remoteness / tranquillity	Exercise%	Space for Dog %	Other	Base
Moorland Sites	28	17	16	15	13	4	16	1182
Not Moorland Sites	33	31	21	18	11	12	13	3157
Biodiversity Designated Sites	31	30	15	19	13	6	16	3584
Non Designated Sites	37	14	42	6	7	27	4	756
Urban	34	32	28	15	10	13	9	1526
Not Urban	30	25	15	18	12	8	17	2814
Common Land	39	16	29	11	7	13	10	1978
Not Common Land Site	26	36	11	22	15	8	17	2362
Section 15	42	11	37	6	3	18	5	1151
Not Section 15 Land	28	33	13	21	15	7	17	3188
Other Sites	27	33	12	21	15	5	18	3306
National Sample Sites	47	7	44	4	0	26	0	1033
Sites with AMGS	30	30	16	19	13	8	16	3395
Sites without AMGS	38	17	31	9	6	15	7	945
TOTAL	32	27	19	17	12	10	14	4339

Weighted to equivalent numbers of days per site and retaining overall totals

2.6.6

Duration of Visit

In the NM survey, visitors were asked how long they had spent at the site on their visit. Half of visits last for less than 2 hours, with around one in ten visitors being at the site for less than half an hour, see Table 2.25. It is likely that, in some cases, the time quoted by respondents was the time spent on their walk/trip rather than specifically on the Open Access Land site (see also Table 2.39).

Table 2.25 Duration of Visit to Site

	2006 %	2007 %	2008 %	All %	National Sample %
Under half an hour	11	10	6	9	12
30-59 minutes	29	29	30	29	35
1 to 2 hours	28	25	25	26	29
2-3 hours	15	14	14	14	11
3-4 hours	7	8	10	9	6
4-5 hours	3	5	7	5	4
5-6 hours	2	4	3	3	1
6 to 7 hours	1	3	2	2	1
More than 7 hours	3	3	2	2	1
Base	468	500	717	1685	1019

Weighted to equivalent numbers of days per site and retaining overall totals

The average duration of visits is around 2.0 hours. Significantly more time is spent per visit at moorland sites than lowland sites, and also at sites with biodiversity designations, common land sites, sites with AMGS and sites not in the National Sample. Significantly less time is spent at urban sites, typically 1.8 hours.

Further analysis shows that those who visit for a serious walk spend almost twice as long at sites than do other visitor types, at 3.7 hours on average, and dog walkers spend the least time, at just over an hour.

Table 2.26 Average time spent at site by site type (hours) (NM Sites only)

Site Type	2006	2007	2008	All	Base
Moorland Sites	2.4	2.9	3.1	2.8	526
Not Moorland Sites	1.6	1.6	1.8	1.7	1159
Biodiversity Designated Sites	2.1	2.5	2.6	2.4	1104
Non Designated Sites	1.4	1.2	1.3	1.3	580
Urban	1.9	1.9	1.8	1.8	748
Not Urban	1.8	2.2	2.4	2.2	936
Common Land	2.0	2.1	2.2	2.1	1205
Not Common Land Site	1.6	1.9	1.8	1.8	480
Section 15	2.0	2.1	2.1	2.0	906
Not Section 15 Land	1.7	2.0	2.2	2.0	779
Other Sites	2.4	2.9	2.7	2.7	666
National Sample Sites	1.6	1.4	1.7	1.6	1019
Sites with AMGS	2.0	2.3	2.3	2.2	1038
Sites without AMGS	1.6	1.6	1.9	1.7	646
TOTAL	1.9	2.1	2.1	2.0	1685
BASE	468	500	717	1685	

Weighted to equivalent numbers of days per site and retaining overall totals

National Sample Sites

The average spent at site at National Sample sites is 1.6 hours per visit. There has been no change in the duration by year.

2.6.7

Visitor Spend

Also in the NM survey, visitors were asked how much they would spend on their day out. Note that respondents were asked to exclude overnight accommodation costs and petrol/fuel costs, so the figures represent what was spent at the site, as well as locally in connection with the visit to the site.

The most commonly stated amount is zero, with 31% saying there was no opportunity to spend anything and 38% said 'nothing'. Of those who did spend something the amount is usually less than £5, but the overall average of those who spend is £17 per visit. The proportion saying 'no opportunity' was higher in 2006 when almost half gave this response. Including zero, the average spend is £3.40, and this has increased each year, with the amounts in 2007 and 2008 significantly higher than in 2006.

Figure 2.5 shows the visitor spend for those visitors who had travelled from home and those who were away from home. Expenditure is around two and a half times higher for those who are on holiday or away from home while visiting sites.

Table 2.27 Visitor Spend at Site

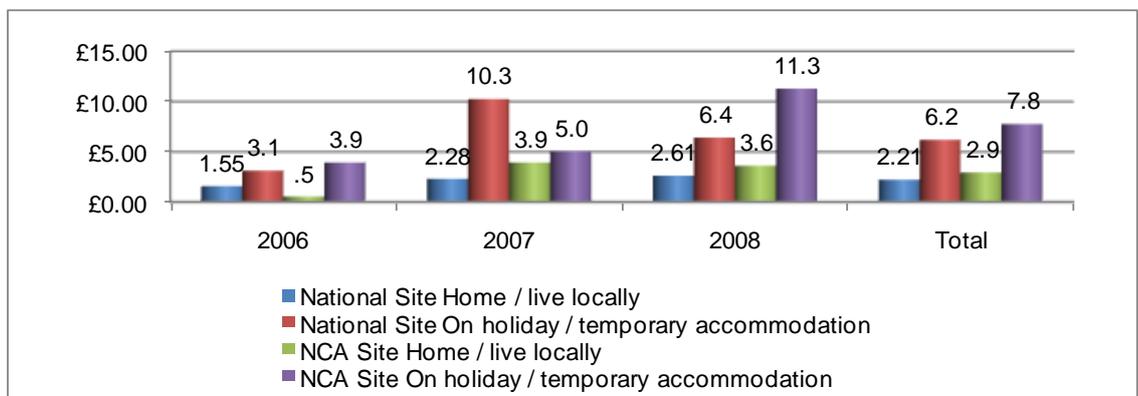
Approximately how much did/ will your party spend as part of your trip out today (including to this area of land)? (Excluding accommodation and fuel costs, including food/drinks, souvenirs etc, during whole day and evening)

	2006 %	2007 %	2008 %	All %	National Sample %
No opportunity	48	27	24	31	25
Nothing	33	40	39	38	47
Up to £5	10	15	15	14	14
£5-£7.50	2	4	3	3	3
£7.50 - £10	3	4	5	4	3
£10 - £20	3	5	7	5	4
£20 -£50	1	1	5	4	2
Over £50	1	1	1	1	*
Unsure / prefer not to say	-	*	*	*	1
Base	454	495	716	1665	1004
Average	£1.70	£3.50	£4.30	£3.40	£2.60
Average of those who spent something	£12.15	£16.46	£18.95	£17.00	£9.73

Weighted to equivalent numbers of days per site and retaining overall totals

Note: NM data only

Figure 2.5 Visitor spend by trip origin



Base: 2006 442, 2207 483, 2008 696 Total 1621

Weighted to equivalent numbers of days per site and retaining overall totals

National Sample Sites

The average spend at National Sample sites is £2.60, for all visits, and £9.73 for those who do spend something. Almost half, 47% spend nothing at all, and a further 25% have no opportunity to spend anything.

The amount spent per visitor increased from £1.80 in 2006 to £3.00 in 2007, but there was no further increase in 2008, as the spend per visitor remained the same, at £3.00.

Table 2.28 shows how the visitor spend varies by site type. Visitors to sites with biodiversity designations spend more than four times as much as those at sites without. Visitor spend at urban sites is less than at rural or remote sites i.e. visitor spend in rural areas is higher, at £3.80 per visit. As previously shown, people tend to travel further to non-urban sites, (about four times as far) and hence their need for refreshments etc. is likely to be higher than for visits close to home, thus contributing in part to the rural economy. However, 42% of visitors to non-urban sites said there was no opportunity to spend anything during their visit.

Table 2.28 Average Spend at site by Site Type (£) (NM Sites only)

Site Type	2006	2007	2008	All	Base
Moorland Sites	1.4	4.2	5.4	3.8	527
Not Moorland Sites	1.9	3.1	3.9	3.1	1128
Biodiversity Designated Sites	2.1	4.9	5.8	4.5	1081
Non Designated Sites	0.9	0.7	1.5	1.1	574
Urban	2.4	2.8	3.0	2.8	737
Not Urban	1.1	4.0	5.5	3.8	918
Common Land	2.4	4.3	5.0	4.2	1192
Not Common Land Site	0.5	1.6	1.8	1.3	463
Section 15	2.6	4.9	4.3	4.0	896
Not Section 15 Land	0.7	2.0	4.2	2.6	759
Other Sites	1.5	4.2	6.2	4.4	659
National Sample Sites	1.8	3.0	3.0	2.6	996
Sites with AMGS	1.0	3.0	4.4	3.0	1020
Sites without AMGS	2.7	4.5	4.2	3.9	635
TOTAL	1.7	3.5	4.3	3.4	1655
BASE	454	490	711	1655	

Weighted to equivalent numbers of days per site and retaining overall totals

Based on all spend, including zero

Note: NM data only

2.7 Summary

There are clear differences in how sites with different characteristics are visited and used. The main distinctions are between moorland and lowland sites, and also between sites that are in proximity to urban areas and other sites.

	Moorland	Non Moorland
first time visitors	22%	10%
average trips per year	47	126
visited while on holiday	24%	16%
distance travelled to site	19.7 miles	9.7 miles
arriving on foot -	19%	31%
with dog	28%	57%
duration of visit	2.8 hours	1.7 hours

Moorland sites are much more likely to attract first time visitors, and are more likely to be visited while people are on holiday than are lowland sites. Visitors are more likely to travel further to get there, but less likely to arrive with a dog than at other sites, and spend longer at the site.

	Urban	Rural/remote sites
daily visitors	26%	16%
average trips per year	134	87
visited from home	94%	75%
distance travelled to site	6.8 miles	15.4 miles
arriving on foot -	34%	24%
with dog	59%	44%
duration of visit	1.8 hours	2.2 hours

Urban sites attract few first time visitors, with more visits likely to be made daily than at other sites. They attract almost twice as many annual visits per year, and the majority of visits originate from home. Visitors travel half as far to urban sites as other sites, are more likely to arrive on foot and are much more likely to arrive with a dog than at other sites, though spend less time at the site.



Moorland (North Pennines)



Urban Site



3 Using Open Access Land

3 Using Open Access Land

3.1 Introduction

In this chapter, awareness and usage of Open Access Land are explored.

3.2 Open Access Awareness

The surveys included a series of questions aimed at identifying the extent to which people understood Open Access, including:

- Recognition of Open Access Symbol
- Where Sign Seen
- What symbol represents



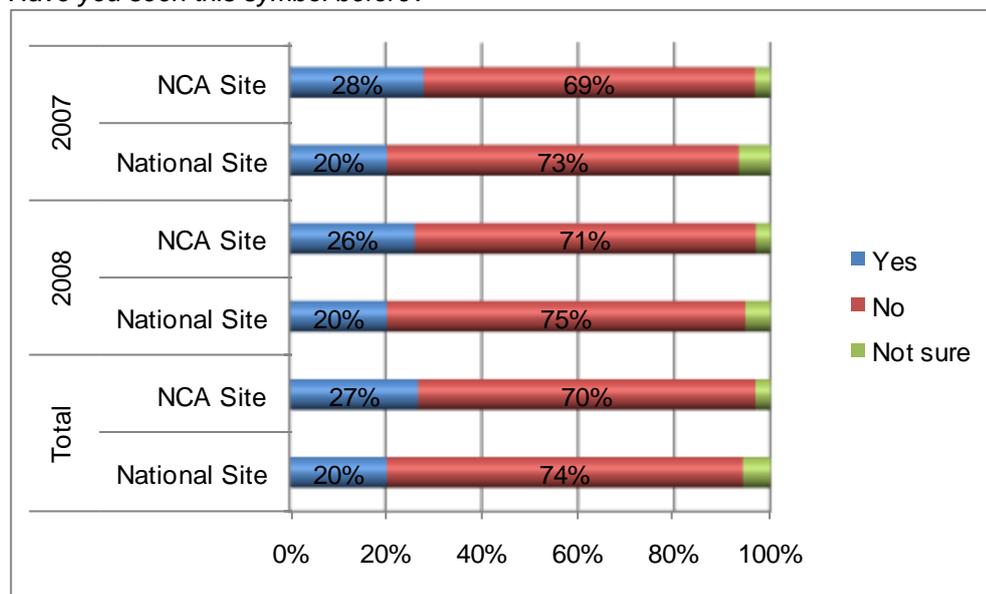
Open Access Symbol

3.2.1 Symbol Recognition

In the NM survey for 2007 and 2008, visitors were shown a picture of the Open Access symbol and asked if they had seen it before. For the National Sample of sites, a fifth of respondents, 20%, said they had. There is no change by year in this proportion.

Figure 3.1 Open Access Symbol Recognition

Have you seen this symbol before?



Base 2007 281 2008 420 All 700
 Weighted to equivalent numbers of days per site and retaining overall totals
 Note: NM data only

The figure was higher at NCA sites, at 27%. As shown in Table 3.1, there are differences in the degree of recognition for different site types. Recognition is significantly higher at:

- Moorland sites 36%
- Sites with biodiversity designations 26%
- Sites with AMGS 25%

Recognition is significantly lower at urban sites (19%).

Table 3.1 Proportion of Visitors Recognising Symbol (NM Sites only)

Site Type	2006 %	2007 %	2008 %	All %	Base
Moorland Sites	n/a	32	40	36	361
Not Moorland Sites	n/a	18	17	17	844
Biodiversity Designated Sites	n/a	25	26	26	800
Non Designated Sites	n/a	20	15	17	405
Urban	n/a	22	18	19	534
Not Urban	n/a	25	27	26	670
Common Land	n/a	26	23	24	913
Not Common Land Site	n/a	18	21	19	291
Section 15	n/a	26	23	24	657
Not Section 15 Land	n/a	20	22	22	548
Other Sites	n/a	28	26	27	504
National Sample Sites	n/a	20	20	20	700
Sites with AMGS	n/a	25	25	25	752
Sites without AMGS	n/a	20	19	20	452
TOTAL	n/a	24	23	23	1205
BASE	0	496	708	1205	

Weighted to equivalent numbers of days per site and retaining overall totals

3.2.2

Seeing the Open Access Symbol

Those who had seen the sign were then asked where they had seen it. Just over a quarter (26%) had seen it at the interview site, fewer than had seen it at other areas of land (34%). Four people mentioned having seen it on maps.

Table 3.2 Where Sign has been seen

If yes, where?

	2006 %	2007 %	2008 %	All %	National Sample %
At this site on signs / notices	n/a	20	30	26	21
On leaflets	n/a	2	4	3	4
In books	n/a	-	4	2	4
At other areas of land	n/a	20	44	34	40
Other	n/a	10	15	13	12
Base	n/a	117	160	277	142

Weighted to equivalent numbers of days per site and retaining overall totals

Note: will sum to more than 100 as multiple responses allowed

National Sample Sites

Only a fifth (21%) had seen the sign at the site being visited, and two fifths had seen the sign on a different site.

The number of cases is too small to infer any findings by year.

Compared with the 26% overall who had seen the sign at the site being visited, significantly more, had seen it at:

- moorland sites, 35%
- sites with biodiversity designations 38%,
- NCA sites 31% and
- AMGS sites, 29%.

Significantly fewer had seen it at s15 sites (20%).

Table 3.3 Proportion of Visitors Seeing Sign at the Site being visited (NM Sites only)

Site Type	2006 %	2007 %	2008 %	All %	Base
Moorland Sites	n/a	21	47	35	130
Not Moorland Sites	n/a	19	16	17	147
Biodiversity Designated Sites	n/a	19	33	27	207
Non Designated Sites	n/a	24	20	22	70
Urban	n/a	8	18	14	103
Not Urban	n/a	26	37	33	174
Common Land	n/a	19	27	24	221
Not Common Land Site	n/a	22	41	33	56
Section 15	n/a	14	23	19	159
Not Section 15 Land	n/a	29	39	35	118
Other Sites	n/a	20	40	31	135
National Sample Sites	n/a	20	21	21	142
Sites with AMGS	n/a	20	36	29	188
Sites without AMGS	n/a	20	17	18	89
TOTAL	n/a	20	30	26	277
BASE	0	117	160	277	

Weighted to equivalent numbers of days per site and retaining overall totals

3.2.3

Sign Representation

Respondents who had seen the sign (or were not sure) were asked what they thought it represented. Open Access was the most common response with almost two in five saying this, with no significant change since 2007, see Table 3.4.

A small proportion thought it meant a public footpath, 3%, and 12% said Right to Roam. Of those who suggested other responses, many did guess that it signified that people were allowed to walk there but did not specifically refer to Open Access. (For further detail on awareness and understanding refer to Communication Report).

Table 3.4 What does the symbol represent?

If yes or not sure symbol been seen

	2006 %	2007 %	2008 %	All %	National Sample %
Right to Roam	n/a	16	9	12	14
Open Access	n/a	38	39	39	32
Don't know	n/a	3	21	13	13
Something Else	n/a	32	7	18	20
Public footpath	n/a	2	4	3	4
Base	n/a	142	190	332	182

Weighted to equivalent numbers of days per site and retaining overall totals

Note: may not sum to 100 as multiple responses allowed

National Sample Sites

Around a third of respondents (32%) who had seen the sign before stated that it represented 'Open Access'.

The number of cases is too small to infer any findings by year.

3.2.4

Awareness of Open Access and Right to Roam

Table 3.5 shows a comparison of the awareness of the terms Open Access and Right to Roam. This is shown for the National Monitoring only as the Right to Roam question was not included in the Local Monitoring survey. Awareness of Right to Roam is higher than Open Access for both samples, and awareness of both terms is higher at NCA sites than at the National Sample sites.

Table 3.5 Awareness of Open Access and Right to Roam

Have you heard of...	2006 %		2007 %		2008 %		All %	
	NCA	NS	NCA	NS	NCA	NS	NCA	NS
Right to Roam - Yes	n/a	n/a	88%	85%	89%	74%	89%	78%
Base	n/a	n/a	215	279	284	426	499	705
Open Access - Yes	71%	63%	77%	72%	73%	68%	74%	68%
Base	158	296	216	280	284	425	658	1001

Weighted to equivalent numbers of days per site and retaining overall totals

National Sample Sites

More people in the National Sample had heard of Right to Roam than had heard of Open Access (78% and 68% respectively).

There have been no trends by year in the proportions.

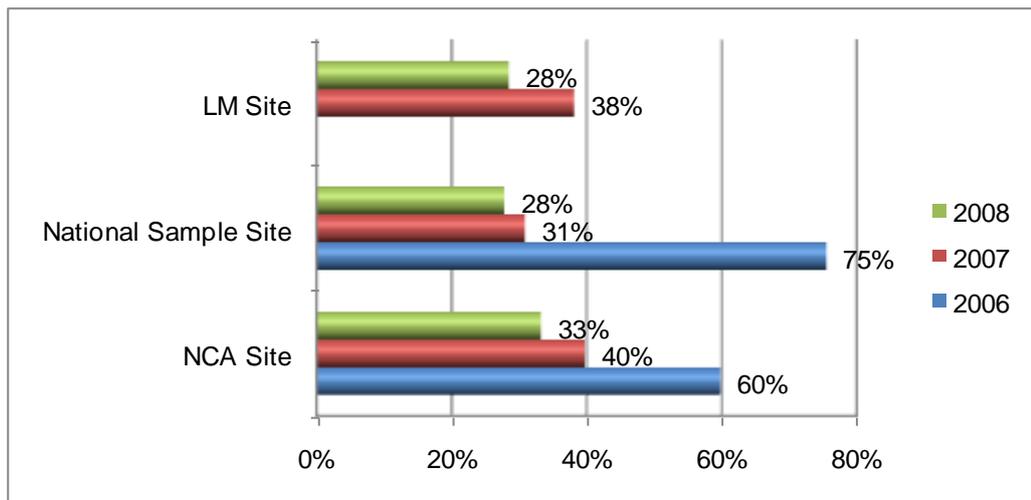
3.2.5

Awareness of Site Designation as Open Access Land

Respondents were asked whether they knew the area of land being visited was Open Access Land, in an effort to discover whether they were aware of changes in the status of access to it. In 2006 the wording was "Are you aware that this area of land is Open Access Land?". However, feedback from the surveyors indicated that people interpreted the question as whether they had been impeded from visiting the site previously, which in the majority of cases they had not. The question was re-worded and made more specific for the 2007 and 2008 surveys to "Are you aware that since 2005 this area of land has been designated as Open Access Land?"

There were different routings applied to the question by year and sample type; however, Figure 3.2 shows comparative proportions, that is the responses for those people who had heard of Open Access Land.

Figure 3.2 Are you aware that this area of land is Open Access Land?



Base 2006 NS, 110, NCA, 183, LM, 0 2007, NS 175, NCA 222, LM 1258 2008, NS 204 NCA, 283, LM 1440

The data shows that the proportion saying they were aware that they were visiting Open Access Land was very different in 2006 from 2007 and 2008, reflecting the difference in the question and so 2006 should be excluded from any trend analysis.

However, the proportion aware has fallen significantly from 37% in 2007 to 29% in 2008, and the figures are similar for each sample type, though awareness is slightly higher at NCA sites. But, given that the valid results extend over two years only, it is not possible to infer any trends.

National Sample Sites

Around 29% of respondents at National Sample sites that were aware of Open Access, were aware of the site’s designation as Open Access Land.

For 2007 and 2008, the overall proportion of visitors aware they were at an Open Access site was 33%. By site characteristics, the types of site significantly more likely to be recognised as Open Access Land are:

- Moorland sites (40%); and
- Non-urban sites (36%).

A higher proportion of visitors at sites with AMGS were aware, 34% compared with 28%, at sites without,

Table 3.6 Proportion of Visitors Seeing Sign at the Site being visited (NM Sites only)

Site Type	2007 %	2008 %	All %	Base
Moorland Sites	47	34	40	992
Not Moorland Sites	34	27	30	2591
Biodiversity Designated Sites	38	29	33	3115
Non Designated Sites	35	26	30	467
Urban	26	24	25	1110
Not Urban	42	31	36	2472
Common Land	36	30	32	1459
Not Common Land Site	38	28	33	2124
Section 15	36	35	35	741
Not Section 15 Land	38	27	32	2842
Other Sites	38	29	33	3077
National Sample Sites	31	28	29	506
Sites with AMGS	38	30	34	2954
Sites without AMGS	33	24	28	628
TOTAL	37	29	33	3583
BASE	1656	1927	3583	

In the three years of the survey, no trends by year regarding awareness of Open Access have emerged from the findings from the National Sample of sites.

Just over two thirds are aware of Open Access, fewer than have heard of Right to Roam.

This suggests that in the first 4 to 5 years after implementation, CROW has had no discernible effects on usage of these sites, and that it will take some time for awareness to be raised.

Further discussion of the awareness and understanding of Open Access can be found in the Communication Report. This also includes information on the usage of signage at Open Access Land.

3.3 Usage of Sites

As part of the interview survey, respondents were asked to describe, with the use of a map, where they had walked (or were going to walk) while at the site. The interviewers marked the route on the map and allocated a reference number to link with the interview data. The routes were subsequently transferred to mapping software (MapInfo) for linking with the interview data and spatial analysis¹⁴. The analysis assumes that each interviewee provided an accurate representation of where they walked (or intended to walk) but this may not have been totally consistent with where they actually went due to errors in transcribing the information.

3.4 Use of Open Access Land – National Sample

One of the aims of conducting surveys at sites selected through random sampling was to identify the probable likely usage of Open Access Land in general. For the 26 sites surveyed, the routes walked by respondents have been mapped and overlaid with PROW data and also with data showing where other tracks that are not PROW are. For each PROW and track, a 20m buffer zone either side was created, such that walks that encroached within the boundary were counted as being on the PROW or track, and any part of the route that did not overlap with a PROW or track was therefore on Open Access Land.

It should be noted that only tracks that were clearly visible on maps were drawn as such in MapInfo for this analysis; there may be paths evident 'on the ground' at sites for which no data is available. This mapping of tracks was only carried out for the National Sample and NCA sites.

This exercise has enabled a calculation to be made of the total walk lengths on PROW, on tracks and on Open Access Land for those respondents for whom a walk was recorded. The walk lengths are in kilometres¹⁵. Note that walks presented as being on Open Access Land, i.e. not on PROW or track may include any activity that is on car parks, picnic areas or other places.

Table 2.34 shows the results for the recorded walks, by year and this shows that the average walk length at all sites was 2.00km, and this appears to have increased year on year, with the 2008 average being significantly higher; the reasons behind this are not known. Many users walked in areas that are not part of the site; these lengths were excluded from the analysis.

Overall, of the distance walked on site, 47% was on PROW, and 34% on Open Access Land with the remainder, 19% being on tracks. This varies widely between sites, as some sites have no PROW and some have no tracks.

Table 3.7 Walks on Site, by Year (National Sample only)

All National Sample Sites	Average Distance Walked on Site			
	2006	2007	2008	Total
Average Walk length on Site (km)	1.44	1.74	2.45	2.00
Average Distance walked on PROW (km)	0.62	0.93	1.12	0.95
Average Distance walked on Tracks (km)	0.20	0.37	0.45	0.37
Average Distance walked on OAL (km)	0.62	0.45	0.88	0.69
Proportion of walk on PROW %	43	53	46	47
Proportion of walk on Tracks %	14	21	18	19
Proportion of walk on Open Access Land %	43	26	36	34
Proportion of Visitors using OAL %	95	82	90	89
Base	219	263	426	908
Respondent's estimate of Walk on OAL %	47	8	5	18

Weighted to equivalent numbers of days per site and retaining overall totals

Note: walk lengths based on analysis in MapInfo.

¹⁴ For more detailed information on the spatial analysis please refer to Annex 1.

¹⁵ Note that in questions relating to access to site the question was asked 'in miles' as this is the measure that most people are familiar with, and in any case is an approximation, not a measurement. The mapping analysis however produces results in km, hence the usage of the two types of measure. If conversion from miles to km is required the factor 8/5 should be applied.

As shown in Table 2.35, almost half the sample comprised dog walkers, 45%, with over a quarter, 28% being amblers and 13% serious walkers. The serious walkers tend to walk much further on average than other visitors, 4.43km, and there was a slightly higher proportion of these in 2008 that may account for some of the increased walk length in 2008.

There is no trend by year as to the proportions on/off Open Access Land, that is, there does not appear to be an increasing tendency to go off PROW and wander across Open Access Land in the period since the implementation of CROW.

Some 89% of visitors went off PROW (used Open Access Land) at some point during their visit. The visitor type most likely to utilise Open Access Land are serious walkers, of who 97% used Open Access Land. However, only 45% of their walk was on Open Access Land compared with 51% for amblers, and 48% for dog walkers. By virtue of the longer walks made by this group however, they walk on average 1.54km per site visit on Open Access Land, around three times as far as do other visitors.

Respondents were asked to give an estimate of their walk that was on Open Access Land, on PROW and on tracks and, as shown in the tables, the estimates were very wide of the mark, with the overall estimate for Open Access Land being only 18%. This shows that people have flawed perceptions of PROW. Somewhat surprisingly, perhaps, serious walkers were the group to show the widest discrepancy but this may be a reflection of the greater length they walked, making estimates more difficult; those walking further may also have included in their estimate the pattern of use when off-site as well as on-site, thus 'contaminating' the data to a small degree.

A very high proportion of visitors went off PROW at some point during their visit; 89% over all years. This is much higher than the proportion of the walk off PROW, which means that many visitors only go off PROW for a short time or distance. This could include time in car parks and picnic areas for example.

Reference should be made to the Site Reports to understand how each site is used in respect of visitors actively using Open Access Land.

Table 3.8 Walks on Site, by Main Activity (National Sample only)

All National Sample Sites PROPORTION BY ACTIVITY	Average Distance Walked on Site				
	Short Stroll / Ambling 28%	Serious walking / rambling / hiking 13%	Dog walking 45%	Enjoying the scenery/ nature/ art 4%	Other 10%
Average Walk length on Site (km)	1.92	4.43	1.42	1.89	1.77
Average Distance walked on PROW (km)	0.97	1.97	0.68	0.89	0.74
Average Distance walked on Tracks (km)	0.33	0.92	0.22	0.4	0.38
Average Distance walked on OAL (km)	0.61	1.54	0.51	0.6	0.64
Proportion of walk on PROW %	51	45	48	47	42
Proportion of walk on Tracks %	17	21	15	21	21
Proportion of walk on Open Access Land %	32	35	36	32	36
Proportion of Visitors using OAL %	88	97	88	88	90
Base	257	116	406	37	92
Respondent's estimate of Walk on OAL %	19	9	18	15	23

Weighted to equivalent numbers of days per site and retaining overall totals

Note: walk lengths based on analysis in MapInfo.

Note: In the spatial analysis, the mapping software assumed a 20m buffer zone around the line of the PROW or track to calculate the lengths of walk on PROW or path, with the rest of the walk length then deemed to be on Open Access Land. The spatial analysis of a walk off PROW or track will include those who are recorded as being just off a path as well as those who are wandering away from paths completely.

Visual analysis of the routes plotted and of the observation data suggests that the estimates of usage of Open Access Land from the spatial analysis are high, that is, the majority of people do actually follow the general alignments of established routes, and the number of people who wander completely away from paths and tracks is actually quite small. The patterns of use on a site by site basis are shown in the Site Reports.

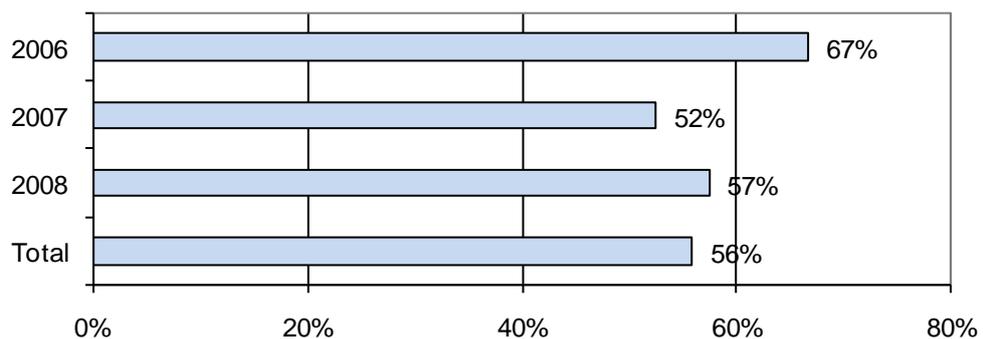
In interpreting the mapping analysis it should be appreciated that there were difficulties on site with accurate recording of routes, for example where respondents were not clear about where they were going. In transcribing routes from paper maps to MapInfo further accuracy may have been lost. In 2006, some interviews were recorded directly onto PDAs (Personal Digital Assistant) carrying mapping software, which at some sites did not allow maps to be displayed at an appropriate scale, and some respondents had difficulty in conveying information about their routes.

However, the same approach has been applied to all sites and for all years and therefore we can have confidence, that although the proportions of respondents using Open Access Land may be slightly exaggerated, the comparative findings are reliable.

For the LM sites there is no 'tracks' layer to distinguish where a walk is, hence usage of the site can only be defined as either on PROW or on Open Access Land from the mapping analysis. In the Site Reports, where the walk on tracks can be identified this is shown and is mentioned in the commentary with reference to plots of patterns of use. In the following section, in order to maximise the data available for analysis, wherever a walk is not on PROW it is deemed to be on Open Access Land, for the National Sample sites as well as all others. However, it should be recognised that in practice there is likely to be use on existing tracks, as indicated by the National Sample.

For all sites, the proportion of the walk off PROW is 56% as shown in Figure 3.3. There are no trends by year.

Figure 3.3 Proportion of walk on Open Access Land (off PROW)



Base 2006 301 2007 1725 2008 2069 All 4096

Weighted to equivalent numbers of days per site and retaining overall totals

Note: based on analysis in MapInfo

3.4.1

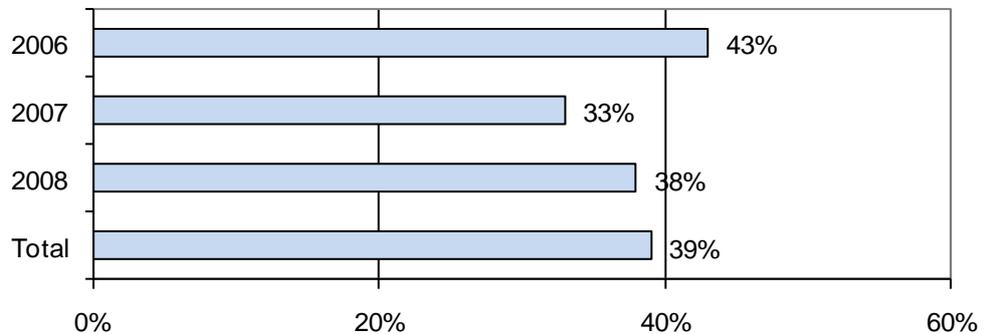
Perceptions of Use of Open Access Land

Respondents were asked to estimate how much of their walk was on Open Access Land. As can be seen in Figure 3.4, over all three years this estimate was 39%, lower than the 55% as analysed by mapping.

This discrepancy will in some part be due to the presence on some sites of tracks and paths that are perceived to be PROW, even though they are not. The position may be further confused in people's minds at sites where there are permissive paths. It may also be that some people might not wish to say they had gone off PROW.

Further detailed information on the use of PROW and Open Access Land can be found in the Site Reports.

Figure 3.4 Respondents' Estimate of Proportion of Walk on Open Access Land (off PROW)



Base 2006 394 2007 1837 2008 1977 All 4209
 Weighted to equivalent numbers of days per site and retaining overall totals

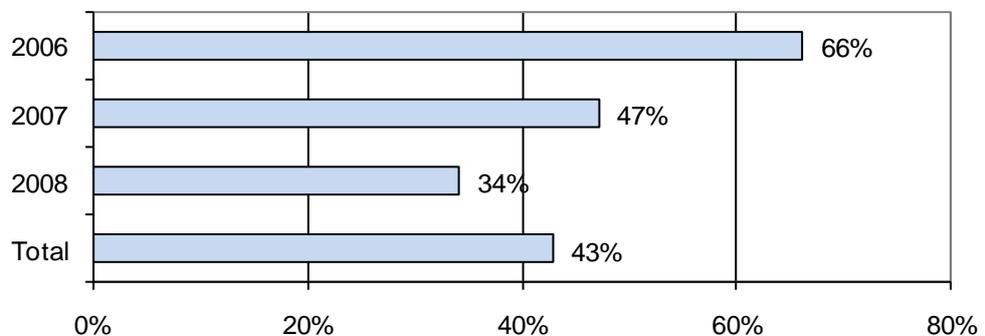
3.4.2

Observed Use of Open Access Land

As well as recording the walks taken by respondents, as part of the observation surveys the locations of visitors to the site were recorded spatially and on the survey forms as on PROW, on tracks or on Open Access Land¹⁶.

The results are shown in Figure 3.5 for each year and show that overall, 43% of respondents were recorded as being on Open Access Land at the time of the observation.

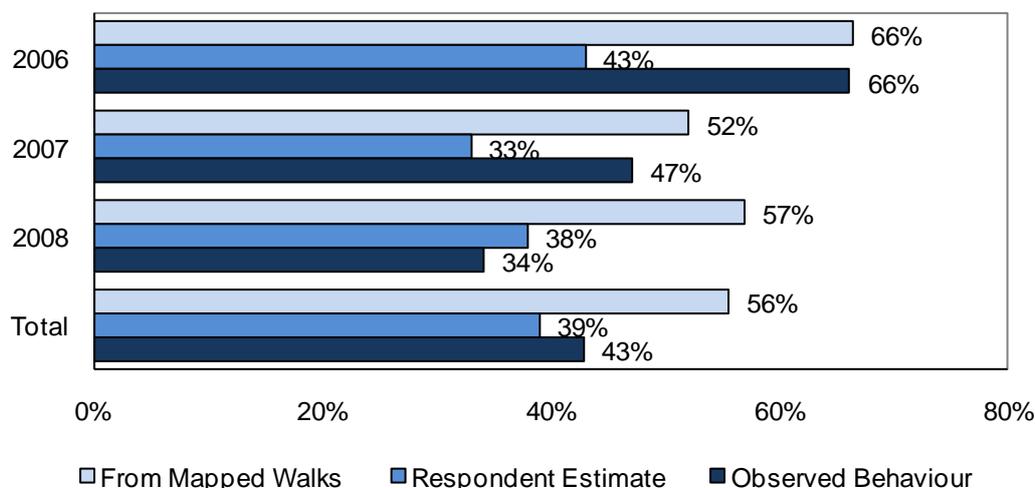
Figure 3.5 Proportion of visitors observed on Open Access Land



Base 2006 1695 2007 6064 2008 7508 All 15267
 Observation Survey Data

The recorded walks, the respondents' estimates and the observed behaviour are combined in Figure 3.6, showing the estimated usage of Open Access Land (i.e. off PROW) over the three years of the survey. In 2006 and 2007 there is broad agreement between the mapped walks and the observed behaviour, but less so in 2008. It is important to note that the interviewed and observed visitors are not necessarily the same people, and there may be situations where observed visitors took routes that meant they were never interviewed.

¹⁶ Note: The observation recording form changed from 2006

Figure 3.6 Patterns of usage of Open Access Land

3.4.3

Use of Open Access Land

Evidence from the Site Reports shows that usage of the area in terms of going off PROW varies considerably from site to site. The aggregated data, however, is useful in understanding whether Open Access Land is more likely to be utilised at particular types of sites, see Table 3.9.

This shows that the sites at which the longest walks are made are moorland sites (average 3.80km), where the average walk is more than twice as long as at lowland sites. Walks at moorland sites are significantly more likely to be on PROW than at lowland sites, 56% compared with 35%. However, as shown in Figure 2.8, the absolute length of walk on Open Access Land is on average more than at other site types, a function of the greater walk length.

Walk lengths are also likely to be longer than average at sites with biodiversity designations, and walks are more likely to be off PROW than on. The site type where Open Access Land is most likely to be used is urban sites, where two thirds of the walk is off PROW; the distances walked at these sites is, however, likely to be relatively short, at 2.19km.

Table 3.9 Proportions of walk on PROW and OAL by site type

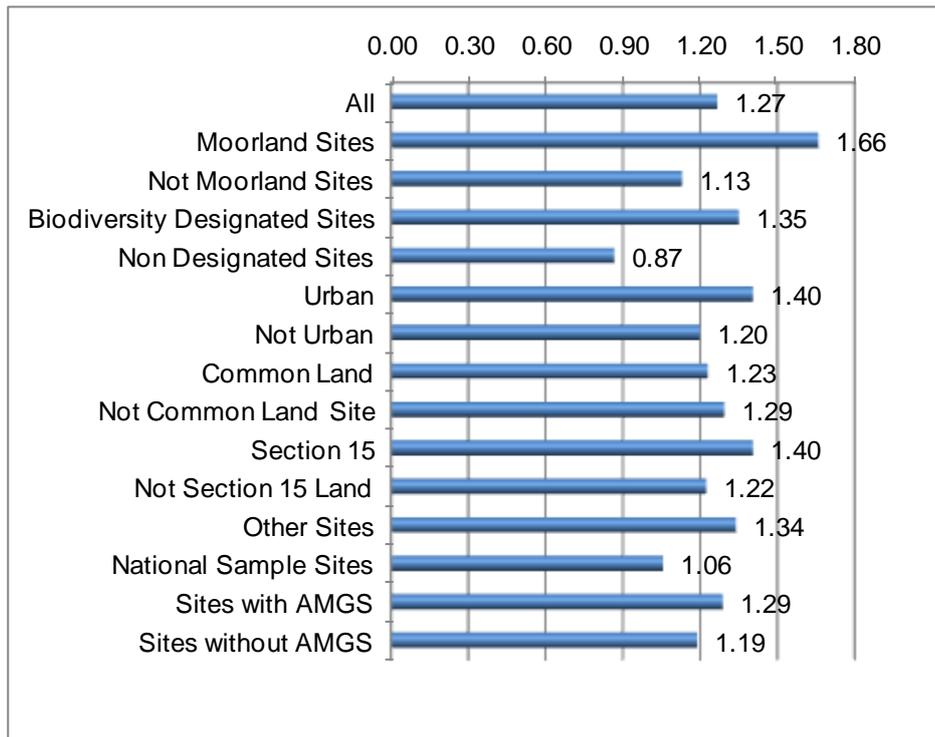
Site Type	Average walk on site (km)	On PROW %	Off PROW %	Base
Moorland Sites	3.79	56	44	1058
Not Moorland Sites	1.75	35	65	3037
Biodiversity Designated Sites	2.46	45	55	3392
Non Designated Sites	1.39	38	62	704
Urban	2.19	36	64	1352
Not Urban	2.32	48	52	2744
Common Land	2.58	52	48	1774
Not Common Land Site	2.05	37	63	2322
Section 15	2.68	48	52	965
Not Section 15 Land	2.15	43	57	3131
Other Sites	2.38	44	56	3187
National Sample Sites	2.00	47	53	908
Sites with AMGS	2.31	44	56	3240
Sites without AMGS	2.15	45	55	856
TOTAL	2.28	44	56	4096

Weighted to equivalent numbers of days per site and retaining overall totals

Figure 3.7 shows the relative walk lengths at each site type, in km that is not on PROW. Note that in the mapping analysis the routes are overlaid with PROW to identify the length on PROW but that no such comparable mapped data exists for tracks and paths that are not PROW for all sites (see earlier for National Sample Sites)¹⁷.

The shortest average walk lengths on Open Access Land occur at sites without biodiversity designations, and at the National Sample of sites. The longest walks on Open Access Land occur at moorland sites, urban sites and those with s15 land.

Figure 3.7 Average Walk Lengths on Open Access Land (km)



*Weighted to equivalent numbers of days per site and retaining overall totals
Routes walked by respondents. Note: walk may be on path or track
Base: NS, NCA and LM sites*

The average walk length when at a site (i.e. within the boundary of an Open Access Land site) is 2.29km. This is often part of a longer walk however, with the total recorded walk length averaging at 3km¹⁸. More than a quarter of walks are less than a km in length, and half are between 1 and 3km. Only 6% are more than 7km (4.3miles).

¹⁷ Note: for the National Sample Sites a mapping layer was created for tracks, but not for the LM sites.

¹⁸ The extent of the walk beyond the site boundary cannot be identified with certainty, as this will depend on the scale of map used in the survey and whether the surveyor recorded only the walk on the site.

Table 3.10 Distance band of walk (km)

	2006 %	2007 %	2008 %	All %	National Sample %
Walk less than 1km	34	31	25	28	32
Walk 1-2.99km	48	48	52	50	51
Walk 3-4.99km	11	13	12	12	9
Walk 5-6.99km	4	4	5	4	3
Walk 7-8.99km	2	3	3	3	2
Walk more than 9km	2	2	3	3	3
Total	301	1725	2069	4096	908

Weighted to equivalent numbers of days per site and retaining overall totals

National Sample Sites

A third of visitors walk for less than a kilometre when at the site, and only 5% of walks are of more than 7km.

As previously noted, there are differences in how sites are visited, for example urban sites are more likely to be frequented by dog walkers than are moorland sites. Table 2.38 shows an analysis of walking behaviour by site type.

Table 3.11 shows how walking patterns vary for different visitor types. As might be expected the serious walkers tend to walk furthest, typically 3.91km, and also walk the longest average distances off PROW, at 1.78km per walk. Dog walkers and those enjoying the scenery spend the highest proportion of their walks off PROW, around 60% and walk on average 1.24km off PROW. The proportion of serious walkers who go off PROW at some point is significantly higher than for amblers.

Table 3.11 Walks at Site by Visitor Type

	Amblers	Serious Walkers	Dog Walkers	Enjoying Scenery	Other
Average Total walk length (km)	2.67	3.91	2.74	2.67	2.87
Average Walk on Site (km)	2.04	3.10	2.06	2.12	2.25
Average Walk on PROW (km)	1.02	1.32	0.82	0.82	0.95
Average Walk on OAL (km)	1.02	1.78	1.24	1.30	1.30
Proportion of walk on PROW	50%	43%	40%	39%	42%
Proportion of walk on OAL	50%	57%	60%	61%	58%
Proportion of Visitors who used Open Access Land at some time on their walk	85%	95%	92%	91%	94%
Base	847	917	1303	113	354

Weighted to equivalent numbers of days per site and retaining overall totals

Note: based on analysis in MapInfo

Table 3.12 shows how walking patterns vary by whether the respondent is aware of Open Access Land or not. The proportion of visitors who go off PROW for some of their visit is no different between groups, but the proportion of the walk on PROW is significantly higher for those who have heard of Open Access. These also walk further on average, and consequently walk further on average off PROW. (This is consistent with the relationship between awareness and serious walkers).

Table 3.12 Walks at Site by Visitor Awareness

	Heard of OA	Not heard of OA	Not Sure	All
Average Total walk length (km)	3.34	2.32	2.43	2.97
Average Walk on Site (km)	2.53	1.87	1.91	2.29
Average Walk on PROW (km)	1.19	0.69	0.7	1.01
Average Walk on OAL (km)	1.34	1.18	1.21	1.28
Proportion of walk on PROW	47%	37%	37%	44%
Proportion of walk on OAL	53%	63%	63%	56%
Proportion of Visitors who used Open Access Land	91%	92%	90%	91%
Base	2492	1168	321	3981

Weighted to equivalent numbers of days per site and retaining overall totals

Note: based on analysis in MapInfo

3.4.4

Non users of Open Access Land

Visitors were asked why they had stayed on PROW and not used Open Access Land. The main responses are shown in Table 3.13 and show that the reason given most often was that it is easier to walk on PROW because of the difficult terrain off PROW (28%). More than one in five found that the PROW went where they wanted to go (this can be a self-fulfilling reason – they decide to go where the PROW takes them, perhaps when following a route in a guidebook, for example). Other reasons given were that it was safer on PROW and that people did not want to disturb wildlife or cattle (8% and 6%) respectively.

Table 3.13 Reasons for Staying on PROW

	All
Easier to walk on a public right of way/ terrain	28%
The public right of way takes me to where I want to be so no need to stray from it	21%
Safer on a public right of way	8%
Did not want to disturb wildlife or cattle	6%
Need more information about Open Access	5%
Anxious about getting lost	5%
Nothing extra to see by going off public right of way	4%
Unsure whether I had permission to stray from the public right of way	4%
Unsure which areas are open access land	2%
Following specific route	2%
Have a dog and assumed dogs are banned from open access	2%
Too Wet	1%
Thought restrictions were in force	1%
Health Reasons	0%
Was unsure if farmer/ landowner was present	0%
Base	2912

Weighted to equivalent numbers of days per site and retaining overall totals

Note: Multiple Response; may not sum to 100%

It is worth considering whether the second most common response (“PROW takes me where I want to go”) is influenced by factors such as:

- As we have shown above, people tend to over-estimate the amount of time they spend on PROW and so may believe PROW take them where they want to go but are actually using routes that aren't PROW;
- There may be an element of self-fulfilment about the use of PROW. When choosing a route from a map, it is more reliable to select a route that runs along a PROW (as there is a very good chance of it providing a usable route) whereas selecting a route across untracked land leaves much scope for uncertainty;

- Where walkers rely on guidebooks, the guidebook writer has, in effect, selected the route for them. So, it is the guidebook writer's reasons that are relevant; it is likely that they would want to provide the users of their guide with a route that is easy to follow.

A large number of other reasons were given and many of these are site specific (for further details, refer to Site Reports). Other common reasons included not wanting to cause erosion or disturb wildlife. Those with bikes and prams found the PROW more suitable for them, and some mentioned not having suitable footwear to leave PROW.

3.4.5

Users of Open Access Land

Visitors were also asked why they had used Open Access Land. The main responses are shown in Table 3.14. The main reason is to utilise other tracks or paths that are not PROW, mentioned by 12% of respondents.

Table 3.14 What influenced your decision to go off Public Rights of Way/off paths?

	All %	National Sample %
There are existing paths/ tracks on the ground off the PROW	12	15
To get to viewpoint/ part of site inaccessible by PROW	8	4
Exercise dog	6	8
More direct route to get where I'm going	5	5
Challenging walk	2	3
I could not easily identify where the Public Rights of Way were on the site	1	1
Wanted to go onto beach	1	1
Utilising my right of access	1	-
Part of set route following	1	1
Avoid path/ area of site due to terrain	1	*
Look at/ Find specific wildlife	1	*
Avoid others	*	1
Habit - routine walk	*	-
Base	1422	

Weighted to equivalent numbers of days per site and retaining overall totals

Note: Multiple Response; may not sum to 100%

Around 8% of people went off paths in order to access particular parts of the site that were not connected by PROW, presumably to get to specific attractions of a site. Those at the site to 'enjoy the scenery' were the most likely to go off PROW to get to a viewpoint or part of the site not accessible by PROW (19%). Only 5% of respondents at moorland sites gave this response compared with 9% at other sites, while one in ten did so at sites with biodiversity designations.

Around one in 20 of those going off paths did so in order to take the most direct route to where they wanted to be. A few went off just because they were lost or were not sure where the PROW was.

Going off PROW to exercise dogs was mentioned at only 3% of those respondents at moorland sites compared with 8% at lowland sites, and by 4% at sites with biodiversity designations compared with 10% at other sites. The activities of dogs and visitors with dogs are explored further in Chapter 3.

National Sample Sites

15% of respondents who went off PROW said that they did so because other paths or tracks were available. Other main reasons were to exercise their dog (8%).

From the range of information recorded in the survey it is evident that people are utilising Open Access Land at the sites surveyed. There are no clear trends in change of use over time, suggesting that more time would need to elapse before changes in behaviour can attributed to CROW.

It appears that CROW has legitimised usage of land off PROW rather than changed usage at this early period in the life of the new CROW rights of access.



4 Visitors with Dogs

4 Visitors with Dogs

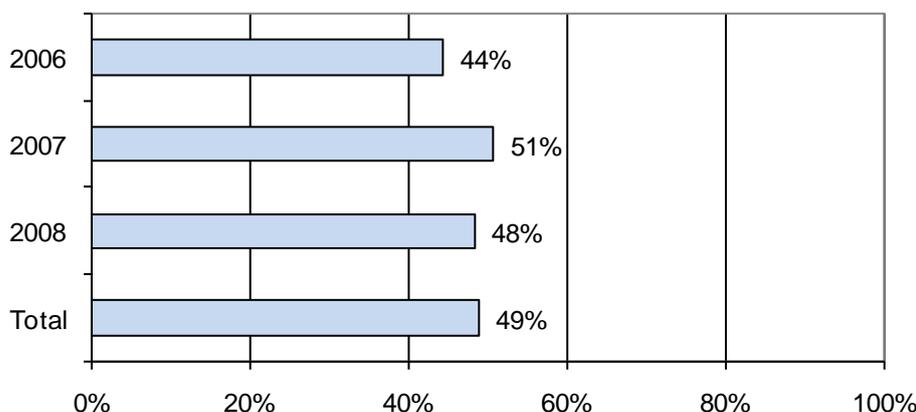
4.1

Introduction

In this chapter we present a discussion on how sites are used by visitors with dogs, broken down by key site characteristics, by year. Further details on how individual sites are used can be found in the Site Reports.

Almost half of visitors interviewed were accompanied by one or more dogs, see Figure 4.1. Visitors were accompanied by dogs at 92% of the sites surveyed. At five sites, every visitor had a dog.

Figure 4.1 Proportion of Visitors Interviewed who were Accompanied by Dogs



Weighted to equivalent numbers of days per site and retaining overall totals
 Base 2006 487 2007 1837 2008 2219 All 4543

National Sample Sites

The proportion of visitors with a dog was 52% over all three years. There was no trend by year.

4.1.1

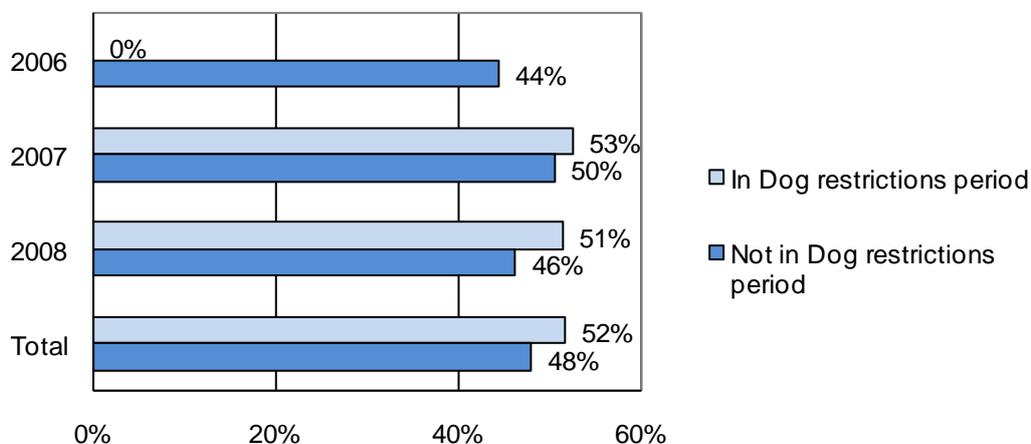
Exclusions

While people can normally walk with dogs on Open Access Land, there may sometimes be an exclusion of people with dogs altogether, or people may need to keep it on a lead. The regulations are that while exercising the new access right with a dog, people must use a fixed lead no more than 2 metres long at all times when in the vicinity of livestock, and from **1st March to 31st July** each year as this is the nesting and lambing season. Dogs may also be excluded completely from grouse moors (for a period of up to 5 years) and from lambing enclosures at lambing times. Restrictions do not however apply to PROW that cross areas where dogs are otherwise excluded, although they must be kept under close control. Further, the CROW restrictions on dogs do not apply to Section 15 land. At some sites, allowing a dog to run free/off lead may have been tolerated by the landowner and become a customary activity, even though no statutory right exists.

Surveys were carried out at some sites during the general period of dog restrictions, as shown in Figure 4.2. In 2006, the surveys did not commence until after the end of July. The propensity to bring a dog to the site is significantly higher each year in the period than outside it (52% compared with 48%). This suggests that dog owners are not deterred from bringing a

dog onto the site by the general restrictions. This finding applies at both s15 sites and other sites.

Figure 4.2 Proportion of Visitors with Dogs by Time of year



Weighted to equivalent numbers of days per site and retaining overall totals
 Base 2006 487 2007 1837 2008 2219 All 4543

National Sample Sites

The proportion of visitors with a dog in the period of general restrictions was 51%, and 52% outside of this period. There was no trend by year.

4.1.2

History of Visiting with Dogs

Around three in five people interviewed said they had been visiting the site for more than five years, that is, pre CROW. Only 7% of people with dogs were first time visitors.

Table 4.1 How long have you been bringing your dog to this area of land for walking?

	2006 %	2007 %	2008 %	All %	National Sample %
Today is my first visit	10	8	6	7	5
Less than 1 year	7	7	7	7	7
More than 1 year and up to 2 years	7	9	9	9	8
More than 2 years and up to 3 years	9	7	8	8	8
More than 3 years and up to 5 years	16	9	9	10	13
More than 5 years	51	61	61	60	58
Base	187	901	1056	2144	501

Weighted to equivalent numbers of days per site and retaining overall totals

National Sample Sites

The proportion of visitors with a dog who had been visiting for more than five years was 58%, with a further 13% doing so for more than 3 years.

Visitors with dogs were significantly more likely to be first time visitors at moorland sites (16%), and less likely to be first time visitors at urban sites (4%) than at rural or remote sites. The pattern for other site characteristics for first time visitors is very similar to that for all visitors, see Table 4.2.

Table 4.2 Timing of Visit by Site Type

Site Type	First Visit %	Less than 2 years %	2-5 years %	More than 5 years %	Base
Moorland Sites	16	10	19	55	323
Not Moorland Sites	5	17	17	61	1821
Biodiversity Designated Sites	8	16	16	60	1682
Non Designated Sites	3	17	21	59	463
Urban	4	18	18	60	877
Not Urban	9	14	17	60	1267
Common Land	8	13	17	62	795
Not Common Land Site	6	18	18	58	1349
Section 15	7	13	18	62	448
Not Section 15 Land	7	17	17	59	1696
Other Sites	8	16	16	60	1643
National Sample Sites	5	15	22	58	501
Sites with AMGS	7	16	16	60	1705
Sites without AMGS	6	14	22	58	440
TOTAL	7	16	17	60	2144
Base	148	340	373	1282	

Weighted to equivalent numbers of days per site and retaining overall totals

4.1.3

Attractions of Site for Dogs

People with dogs were asked what it was about the site that made it good for bringing dogs to. The main reason given was being able to let the dog run off the lead, mentioned by 61% of people with dogs. Further analysis shows that the proportion saying this was significantly lower, 55%, in the general dog restrictions period, compared with 63% outside the period. Similarly, while 21% overall mentioned 'there are no restrictions on dogs here', this proportion was only 12% in the general dog restrictions period compared with 24% at other times.



Dog off lead, on path, Canford Heath

Relatively small proportions felt that there being no need to pick up dog mess was an attraction of the site (2%) and 3% said there were things for the dog to chase at the site.

Table 4.3 What aspects about this area of land make it good for bringing a dog here?

	In Dog restrictions period	Not in Dog restrictions period	All %	National Sample %
Able to let dog run off lead	55	63	61	60
No/ not many other dogs	6	11	9	6
No/ not many other people	11	14	13	10
No restrictions on dogs being here	12	24	21	16
Dogs enjoy it here	37	48	45	37
Don't have to pick up dog mess	1	3	2	2
No livestock	8	8	8	6
Things for dogs to chase	2	4	3	1
Nothing in particular - I like the walk/ convenient for me	20	17	18	7
Good exercise/ open spaces	10	5	6	8
Dogs can swim	3	2	2	1
Safe-no traffic or other hazards	10	7	8	11
Dogs/ owners can socialise	4	3	3	6
Other	12	11	11	7
Base	581	1639	2220	533

Weighted to equivalent numbers of days per site and retaining overall totals

Note: will sum to more than 100 as multiple responses allowed

There are twenty six sites where there was perceived to be no need to pick up dog mess. Nine of these sites are in the National Sample, and three are NCA sites (Canford Heath, Bowland Fells [Jubilee Tower] and Sunbiggin Tarn). The remainder are LM sites: Winfrith Heath in the Dorset Heaths group may be a problem in this regard as 11 people mentioned this here.

Having things for the dog to chase was mentioned at 28 different sites, of which five were National Sites, Canford Heath NCA site and 22 LM sites. Sutton Heath in Suffolk is highlighted as a particularly large number of respondents mentioned it here.

Table 3.4 shows the proportions of people who said the site was good for letting a dog off the lead, by site characteristics and whether interviewed in the period of general dog restrictions.

This shows that at moorland sites, a significantly lower proportion of visitors gave this response (48%) compared with lowland sites (63%), and that at moorland sites the time of year made no difference to the response, whereas at lowland sites people are much more likely to say this when there are no general dog restrictions (65% compared with 57%).

The same proportion of visitors say they visit the site to let the dog off the lead at National Sample sites as at all other sites, 61%, but in the period of general dog restrictions this proportion is higher at National Sample sites, 66%. This suggests that awareness of the restrictions is lower at these sites. This may be related to there being a higher proportion of Section 15 land sites in the National Sample since the pattern is very similar.

At sites with biodiversity designations the proportion, who say they visit to let the dog off the lead is significantly smaller, 50% in the restrictions period compared with both after this period and with sites without such designations.

At sites with AMGS the proportion who say they visit the site to let the dog off the lead is smaller, 51% in the period of general dog restrictions than at other sites. This may suggest that at sites where the AMGS was aimed at dog walkers access management is having some effect, however there is insufficient data at sites where this occurred to verify this.

Table 4.4 Proportion saying “to let dog off lead” by site type

Site Type	In dog restrictions period %	Not in dog restrictions period %	All %	Base
Moorland Sites	47	49	48	342
Not Moorland Sites	57	65	63	1878
Biodiversity Designated Sites	50	63	60	1728
Non Designated Sites	70	63	65	492
Urban	56	64	61	913
Not Urban	54	62	61	1306
Common Land	63	65	64	827
Not Common Land Site	50	62	59	1393
Section 15	67	56	60	471
Not Section 15 Land	50	65	61	1749
Other Sites	50	64	61	1687
National Sample Sites	66	57	61	532
Sites with AMGS	51	65	62	1756
Sites without AMGS	66	53	58	463
TOTAL	55	63	61	2221
BASE	582	1639	2221	

Weighted to equivalent numbers of days per site and retaining overall totals

Table 3.5 shows similar information as above for the proportions of people who said they brought the dog because there were perceived to be no restrictions on dogs. Compared with the overall proportion of 21%, the proportion is significantly lower at moorland sites (12%), and especially in the period of restrictions, 7%.

At sites with biodiversity designations, 11% of people perceived there to be no restrictions on dogs being at the site, when interviewed in the period of general dog restrictions.

The restrictions, however, relate to dogs being under control and on leads, though given the very small proportions who always keep their dogs on leads (see later) it is likely that many dogs are allowed off leads in the general restrictions periods.

Table 4.5 Proportion saying “no restrictions on dogs” by site type

Site Type	In dog restrictions period %	Not in dog restrictions period %	All %	Base
Moorland Sites	7	15	12	342
Not Moorland Sites	14	25	22	1878
Biodiversity Designated Sites	11	25	22	1728
Non Designated Sites	16	18	17	492
Urban	11	26	21	913
Not Urban	14	23	21	1306
Common Land	17	22	20	827
Not Common Land Site	9	25	21	1393
Section 15	15	17	16	471
Not Section 15 Land	11	26	22	1749
Other Sites	11	26	22	1687
National Sample Sites	15	17	16	532
Sites with AMGS	13	25	22	1756
Sites without AMGS	12	18	16	463
TOTAL	12	24	21	2221
BASE	582	1639	2221	

Weighted to equivalent numbers of days per site and retaining overall totals

4.1.4

Dog Control

Respondents were asked whether they keep their dog on a lead when at the site. Slightly more people said ‘Always’ (8%) than said ‘Never’ (7%), but the majority said ‘sometimes’ (85%). Although the proportion saying never has increased from 2006 to 2008 the change by year is not significant.

Table 4.6 Propensity to keep dog(s) on a lead on this site

	2006 %	2007 %	2008 %	All %	National Sample %
Always	7	8	8	8	7
Never	5	6	8	7	10
Sometimes	88	86	84	85	83
Base	216	919	1059	2194	532

Weighted to equivalent numbers of days per site and retaining overall totals

National Sample Sites

The proportion of visitors with a dog who say they never keep their dog on a lead is 10%, with no change by year.

There is a significant difference in the proportion who say ‘never’ who visited in the dog restrictions period, see Table 4.7; 10% said never compared with only 6% visiting at other times. For those visiting outside the period of general dog restrictions significantly more said ‘always’ at sites without AMGS and only 8% said so. There is insufficient information about the AMGS and whether this was related to dog control specifically, to be able to conclude whether the AMGS is a factor here. As shown later, where dogs were always off leads, most respondents felt that they did have control over their dogs.

Table 4.7 Propensity to keep dog(s) on a lead on this site by time of visit, AMGS sites

	In Dog restrictions period			Not in Dog restrictions period			All %
	No AMGS	AMGS	All	No AMGS	AMGS	All	
Always	5	7	7	12	8	9	8
Never	9	10	10	7	6	6	7
Sometimes	85	83	83	82	86	85	84
Base	160	416	576	302	1330	1632	2208

Respondents were asked how they would control their dogs in given circumstances,. The questions were asked differently in the LM and NM surveys so the results are presented separately.

In the NM survey people were first asked if they always or never kept those dogs on leads. Those who did 'sometimes' or 'never', were then asked in what circumstances would they put the dog on a lead. The responses were unprompted, that is unless mentioned spontaneously no response was recorded. As shown in Table 3.8 the circumstance most likely to prompt putting the dog on a lead is when livestock is close by, mentioned by 55%; there are no trends by year.

Other dogs being close by would prompt 44% to put their dog on a lead. There are no significant differences by year in the proportion who said they would respond if wild birds were close by, even though the proportion was much higher in 2006 than in 2007 and 2008 (15% reduced to 9%).

Around one in ten said they would keep their dogs on leads in the nesting season. At the National Sample of sites this proportion is half, 5%. This suggests low awareness of the potential risks to breeding birds.

The findings appear to show that people are more likely to respond to issues that would impact on their dog, rather than on the impact their dog might have.

Table 4.8 Under what circumstances do you keep your dog(s) on a lead on this site? (NM) – unprompted responses

	2006 %	2007 %	2008 %	All %	National Sample %
On access land NOT on a PROW/ when off PROW	3	1	*	1	1
If wild birds are close by	15	8	9	10	8
If signs/ information say to keep on lead	16	7	10	11	10
If other dogs are close by	39	45	46	44	46
If livestock close by	58	47	58	55	55
In nesting season	8	8	12	10	5
In shooting season	5	3	2	3	3
Base (those who sometime keep dog on lead)	190	183	247	619	443

Weighted to equivalent numbers of days per site and retaining overall totals

Note: will sum to more than 100 as multiple responses allowed

In the LM surveys people were asked "Under what circumstances do you keep your dog(s) on a lead, to heel off the lead or free roaming off the lead on this site?" for a list of circumstances.

The proportions who said 'On Lead' are shown in Table 4.9. There is data from two years only so no trends can be inferred. If signs or information are present to say keep on a lead, over three quarters said they would respond, and this is encouraging from an Access Management

perspective, although conversely, a quarter did not say they would, even if asked. A further 9% said they would keep their dog to heel, though not on a lead if asked to do so by signage,

Almost two thirds said they would keep a dog on a lead if livestock were close by and over half said they would do so in the nesting season.

Table 4.9 Under what circumstances do you keep your dog(s) on a lead, to heel off the lead or free roaming off the lead on this site? (LM – response to ‘On Lead’)

	2006	2007	2008	All LM
	%	%	%	%
On access land NOT on a PROW/ when off PROW	0	17	19	18
If wild birds are close by	0	44	51	48
If signs/ information say to keep on lead	0	75	77	76
If other dogs are close by	0	33	33	33
If livestock close by	0	60	68	64
In nesting season	0	48	54	51
In shooting season	0	46	47	47
Base	0	702	759	1461

Weighted to equivalent numbers of days per site and retaining overall totals

Note: will sum to more than 100 as multiple responses allowed

The two sets of responses understandably show different results. The first shows how people think; many would control their dog as they see a need arising, from the presence of livestock or other dogs. They are less likely to consider nesting birds or wildlife unless they have a prior knowledge of their needs, so where awareness of wildlife is low this would need to be raised in order for people to think about controlling their dog.

The second set of responses is interesting in that almost a quarter said they would not put the dog on a lead even if signs or information said to do so, indicating the limits of the potential to change behaviours through signage. It should be remembered that regular visitors are those least likely to look at signs compared with those visiting a site for the first time so raising awareness is likely to be challenging. More innovative positive access management techniques to influence dog walkers' behaviour therefore might need to be developed or greater use of wardening may be required.

Respondents in the NM survey who said they would not put their dogs on leads were asked why this was. Table 4.10 shows the reasons given, with the site they were visiting. Most people who gave reasons felt their dogs were well trained and could be trusted to behave. Some comments suggested that they did not perceive any risks from dogs at the site, and one person felt there should be specific information explaining why.

Table 4.10 Reasons Given for not keeping dog on lead

	Site & Site Characteristics	
Walks through field with cows in but dogs are trained	Baildon Moor	NM
Dog walks to heel and doesn't bother animals	Burbage Common	NM
She stays close when we tell her	Burbage Common	NM
Never entered mind. Dog doesn't chase birds.	Grassthorne Holme	NM
Trained gun dog	Kestlemerris Farm	NM
Don't bring a lead with me	Wilbraham	NM
Only if lambing close by and your dogs are okay near sheep	Langden Brook	NCA
Always under close control and dog wears a transponder	Sunbiggin Tarn	NCA
Don't come with dogs when there is breeding times.	Sunbiggin Tarn	NCA
Dog doesn't take to lead so wouldn't go to land	Canford Heath	NCA
Dog is unlikely to catch birds.	Canford Heath	NCA
Don't see livestock as an issue with our dog	Canford Heath	NCA
She stays on the heel, had gun dog training so never runs off.	Canford Heath	NCA
Well behaved	Canford Heath	NCA
Whenever appropriate	Canford Heath	NCA
would not use areas, do not chase animals.	Canford Heath	NCA
Like to have specific information about what to do with their dogs	Cow Green	NCA

4.1.5

Issues to be Aware of for Walkers with Dogs

Respondents in the National Survey were asked to suggest issues to be aware of when walking with a dog in the countryside. 'Risks to farm animals' was the issue most often mentioned, by 53% of people over all years. Cleaning up and disposing of dog mess was mentioned by 49%, followed by 37% mentioning keeping dogs under control. Almost a third mentioned possible risks to birds or wildlife. Only around one in ten mentioned controlling dogs, either by close control or with leads.

Table 4.11 What would you say are issues to be aware of when walking with a dog in the countryside?

	2006 %	2007 %	2008 %	All %	National Sample %
Risks to farm animals	36	62	59	53	52
Clear up and dispose of any dog mess	50	43	53	49	50
Keeping dogs under control	41	31	38	37	39
Risks to birds/ wildlife	18	40	36	32	26
Dispose of dog mess bags responsibly	11	24	21	19	20
Keeping dog on a lead	8	11	12	11	10
Keeping dogs under CLOSE control	11	10	8	9	10
Risks to dog from farm animals	2	9	11	8	8
None	9	1	2	4	3
Checking for signs/ information on dog control	1	2	4	3	2
Risks to other people/ children	0	9	0	3	3
Risks from other dogs	0	7	0	2	2
Taking water/ drink for the dog	2	2	2	2	1
Base	216	230	300	746	533

Weighted to equivalent numbers of days per site and retaining overall totals

Note: will sum to more than 100 as multiple responses allowed

National Sample Sites

Half of respondents mentioned risks to farm animals from dogs, and a quarter mentioned risks to birds or wildlife.

The issues mentioned most often have been analysed by site type, see Table 3.12. Visitors to moorland sites are significantly more likely to mention risks to farm animals, than visitors to lowland sites (69% and 49% respectively), as are visitors to common land sites (58%).

Clearing up dog mess is significantly less likely to be mentioned at moorland sites (25%) and non-urban sites (45%), and significantly more likely to be mentioned at common land (53%), and Section 15 sites (56%).

Keeping dogs under close control is significantly less likely to be mentioned at moorland sites (27%), and significantly more likely to be mentioned at common land (40%), and sites with AMGS (41%).

Risks to birds and wildlife are significantly more likely to be mentioned at moorland sites than lowland (47% compared with 28%) and at sites with biodiversity designations (40%), and at sites with AMGS (35%).

Table 4.12 Issues mentioned by site type (2006-2008 inclusive)

Site Type	Risks to farm animals %	Clearing up Dog Mess %	Keeping dogs under control %	Risks to birds / wildlife %	Base
Moorland Sites	69	25	27	47	143
Not Moorland Sites	49	54	39	28	604
Biodiversity Designated Sites	53	47	35	40	371
Non Designated Sites	54	50	38	24	376
Urban	57	53	35	31	377
Not Urban	49	45	38	33	369
Common Land	58	53	40	30	495
Not Common Land Site	44	40	31	35	251
Section 15	54	56	38	28	396
Not Section 15 Land	52	41	35	36	350
Other Sites	52	50	39	26	533
National Sample Sites	56	46	31	46	214
Sites with AMGS	56	50	34	35	464
Sites without AMGS	49	47	41	27	282
TOTAL	53	49	37	68	746

Weighted to equivalent numbers of days per site and retaining overall totals

4.1.6

Walk patterns

Table 4.13 shows the average walks at sites by people with dogs. Most of the walk's length, 65%, is off PROW, and almost all, 93% of people with dogs go off PROW at some point during their visit. There are no trends by year in the degree of use, although walk lengths are significantly longer in 2007 and 2008 compared with 2006.

Table 4.13 Usage of Open Access Land by People With Dog

	2006	2007	2008	Total	National Sample %
Average Total walk length (km)	2.16	2.42	2.52	2.45	2.12
Average Walk on Site (km)	1.46	1.81	1.98	1.87	1.51
Average Walk on PROW (km)	0.45	0.65	0.69	0.66	0.72
Average Walk on OAL (km)	1.00	1.16	1.29	1.22	0.79
Proportion of walk on PROW	31%	36%	35%	35%	48%
Proportion of walk on OAL	69%	64%	65%	65%	52%
Proportion of Visitors who used Open Access Land at some time on their walk	95%	91%	95%	93%	88%
Base	144	885	1016	2045	482

Weighted to equivalent numbers of days per site and retaining overall totals

National Sample Sites

Almost half of the walk lengths of people with dogs are on PROW, and half off. There are no trends by year.

Table 4.14 shows the same information for people with dogs in the period of general dog restrictions and outside. Walk lengths are generally longer in the restrictions period, but the proportion spent off PROW is the same. The proportion who use Open Access Land is however significantly higher, at 94% outside the period of restrictions.

Table 4.14 Usage of Open Access Land by People With Dog

	In Dog restrictions period	Not in Dog restrictions period	In Dog restrictions period - NS	Not in Dog restrictions period - NS
Average Total walk length (km)	2.53	2.42	2.18	3.56
Average Walk on Site (km)	2.02	1.82	1.69	3.24
Average Walk on PROW (km)	0.71	0.64	0.84	1.49
Average Walk on OAL (km)	1.31	1.18	0.66	1.76
Proportion of walk on PROW	35%	35%	49%	46%
Proportion of walk on OAL	65%	65%	51%	54%
Proportion of Visitors who used Open Access Land at some time on their walk	91%	94%		
Base	543	1502	181	171

Weighted to equivalent numbers of days per site and retaining overall totals

National Sample Sites

The proportions of walks on and off PROW are no different by time of year, although the average walk lengths are higher outside the periods of general dog restrictions (but note the small sample sizes).

4.2 Spatial analysis of Dogs on site from Observation Data – within/outside of dog restriction period

A total of 15,300 visitors were recorded in the three year observation surveys across all sites. Of these, 3170 were identified as walking with dogs and 2190 dogs were recorded. This proportion of people with dogs, 20% is lower than was found in the interview surveys.

It should be noted that it is not always possible to distinguish a dog walker from a serious walker or ambler when making observations. Dogs may not have been as visible at a distance as people would be, especially where long grass or other vegetation could obscure them from view. In understanding the observation data it should be recognised that the position of dogs is difficult to identify with accuracy given their tendency to move around rather more than the people they are with. The methodology applied may also mean that fewer dog walkers would be recorded, since these visitors only spend on average 1.1 hours on a visit, almost half of the overall average, and hence there is a smaller chance that they will be on site when the observation was made.

Hence, although the ratio of dogs to visitors is lower than the interview data might suggest, it is rational and there is a large pool of information available for analysis. Importantly, the data on dog owner activity is what they actually do, rather than what they say they would do when asked by a surveyor.

The position of dogs on the site as being on PROW, on tracks or on Open Access Land was recorded on the observation forms. Dogs were about as likely to be on PROW as off at the time of observation, as shown in Table 4.15. There is no trend by year. There is no significant difference in the proportion on PROW by the time of year of the survey.

Table 4.15 Observed Usage of Site - Dogs' Location on site

	2006 %	2007 %	2008 %	All %
On PROW	54	38	49	46
On Tracks not PROW	0	0	21	7
On Open Access Land	46	62	30	47
Base	569	899	722	2190

Table 4.16 Observed Usage of Site – Dogs on PROW

	2006 %	2007 %	2008 %	All %
On PROW – in period of restrictions	n/a	52	46	48
On PROW – not in restrictions period	54	34	52	45
Base	569	899	722	2190

No survey in 2006 in restrictions period

Table 4.17 shows the information for dogs observed, in both the period of general dog restrictions and at other times, for the **National Sample** of sites only. This shows that three dogs of the 1075 recorded were on Open Access land where excluded in the period of general dog restrictions, of which two were off lead and roaming and therefore a potential risk. One of these was at Decoy Heath, part of Morden Bog & Hyde Heath SSSI and Dorset Heathlands SPA; the others were at sites with no biodiversity concerns.

There were also three dogs on Open Access land where excluded after the period of general dog restrictions, all of which were off lead and roaming and one was described as uncontrolled.

Thirteen dogs were noted disturbing livestock, though none disturbing wildlife.

Table 4.17 Observed Usage of Site - Dogs' Location on site National Sample

Dogs	In Period of dog restriction							
	Yes				No			
	on PROW %	on Tracks %	on Access Land where Allowed %	on Access Land where Excluded %	on PROW %	on Tracks %	on Access Land where Allowed %	on Access Land where Excluded %
On Lead	34	21	37	0	35	10	26	0
Off Lead to heel	34	33	21	33	39	26	35	0
off Lead roaming	33	46	43	67	26	65	39	100
TOTAL DOGS N	172	48	87	3	397	31	334	3
Controlled	12%	10%	30%	-	1%	3%	100%	-
Uncontrolled	-	-	6%	-	-	-	1%	33%
Disturbing others	-	-	2%	-	-	3%	2%	-
Disturbing livestock	-	2%	-	-	-	-	4%	-
Disturbing wildlife	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other non control	-	-	-	-	-	-	1%	-

Note: may not sum to 100%

Dogs accompany around half of visitors to Open Access Land, and it appears that the period of general dog restrictions does not deter dog owners from visiting, even though the majority visit with the express intention of letting the dog run off the lead, in what is perceived to be a safe environment for the dog, away from traffic.

Only one in fourteen dogs is always kept on a lead, and one in ten are never on leads, though where this is the case owners mostly believe that their dogs pose no risks and are controlled. This is supported by the observation data which showed that the majority of dogs are controlled, and there were relatively few dogs on areas with exclusions. The data suggests that around a quarter of visitors would not put their dogs on leads even if signage requested them to. People with dogs are more likely to perceive risks to their dog that might induce them to put the dog on a lead, rather than that the dog might be a potential risk to birds or other wildlife.

People with dogs are no more likely to stick to PROW than other visitors.



5 Other Activities on Open Access Land

5 Other Activities on Open Access Land

5.1 Background

CROW legislation restricts use of Open Access Land to certain activities. Part I of the CROW Act grants a general right of public access to 'access land' for the purposes of open-air recreation. The rights are for access on foot. Rights to do other activities, such as camping or cycling, horse riding, are not conferred by the CROW Act, although they may be permitted/tolerated locally or through other legislation applying to the land. Another general restriction is 'organised games' but the law is unclear on this point so no attempt has been made to assess whether anyone was engaged in an organised game. Similarly, the law is unclear about what constitutes an activity undertaken primarily for a commercial purpose (another of the general restrictions) and no attempt was made to identify any such activities, if indeed they could be identified at all.

In additions to the general restrictions, there will sometimes be local restrictions on the new rights for reasons such as land management, public safety, nature conservation and heritage preservation.

It should be noted that the activities which members of the public have a right to do may differ when on PROW. As already noted, it is not unlawful for a dog owner to take his or her dog unleashed (but under close control) along a PROW even though the dog may be banned from surrounding areas or be required to be on a lead. Further examples are that there is a right to ride a horse or a bike on bridleway, and there is a right to drive a motorised vehicle on a byway open to all traffic. Another complication is that on some types of Section 15 land (i.e. so-called urban commons), it is lawful to ride a horse anywhere but not to cycle. This aspect is discussed in the Site Reports, where relevant.

5.1.1

Survey Findings

As part of the surveys, behaviour of visitors was recorded as part of the observation survey. However, what may be inappropriate at one site may be legitimate or tolerated at another depending on pre existing rights. For example, one of the NM sites has long been in use as a public park.

The types of behaviour that may be inappropriate, in addition to the dog behaviour discussed in Chapter 3 recorded in the survey were

- picking flowers
- fire risk activity
- walking through restricted areas
- using a motorised vehicle where not permitted
- using a non-motorised vehicle where not permitted
- people disturbing nesting birds.

It should be noted that it was often difficult in the observation surveys to record with certainty whether an activity was inappropriate.

Of the more than 15,000 visitors observed, 43 were observed picking flowers, 17 of whom were doing so on Open Access Land. This was at the following sites:

- The Comp (NM Site)
- Brancaster Beach (North Norfolk Coast).

Nineteen visitors were observed in activities that may pose a fire risk (e.g. having a barbeque), and of these 15 were on Open Access Land. The sites where this occurred were:

- Decoy Heath (NM Site)
- Burbage Common (NM Site)
- Alresford (NM Site)

- Brancaster Beach (North Norfolk Coast)

27 visitors were observed walking in areas with restrictions, 22 of whom were on Open Access Land. The sites where this occurred were:

- Eggardon Hill (Dorset)
- Brancaster Beach (North Norfolk Coast)
- Coldberry (North Pennines AONB)
- Jubilee Tower (Bowland Fell)
- Browns Houses (Lancashire)
- Blanchland (North Pennines AONB)

Driving motorised vehicles appear to be the main type of inappropriate activity recorded. This was noted at 8 sites, with 59 visitors overall using motorised vehicles where not permitted, at the following sites

- Alresford (NM)
- Brancaster Beach (North Norfolk Coast)
- Coldberry (North Pennines AONB)
- Decoy Heath
- Ewefell Mire (Sunbiggin Tarn)
- Middleham Low Moor
- North Walney (Cumbria)
- Whitworth Higher End Moor (NM)

It is important to note that no attempt was made to establish whether the driver had any legal right to be driving on the site. For example, the owner of the land or someone acting with his permission, is entitled to drive on land, as too are people with a lawful purpose or in an emergency. Non Motorised vehicles were seen less often, with fewer incidences recorded; 12 in total of which 7 were on Open Access Land at:

- Decoy Heath (NM)
- Eggardon Hill (Dorset)
- Malvern Hills (NM)

Note that, in law, a bicycle is a non-motorised vehicle, but in this report, the term applies to other non-motorised vehicles, rather than bicycles.

Just one incidence of someone disturbing nesting birds was observed and this was at Bowness Common / Solway Moss (Cumbria).

At some sites, waterbodies could be seen and some were used for fishing; it has been assumed that this was done under appropriate permits and licences. At a number of sites, 'other inappropriate activities' were noted but insufficient details were recorded to enable any meaningful analysis. For further details on inappropriate behaviour please refer to Site Reports.

Whilst inappropriate behaviour cannot be condoned, it is pertinent to note that it was evident in only a very small proportion of total observed activities.

Further, it is important to note that achieving 100% compliance with a particular management measure may not necessarily be a block to achieving site management objectives and may be too costly to achieve.



6 Patterns of Use

6 Patterns of Use

6.1 Background

In this section we present a brief summary of the patterns of use recorded at each of the sites surveyed, together with a commentary on the impacts and implications of CROW. Full information for each site can be found in the site reports.

Tables 6.1 to 6.12 summarise the assessments of the likely impact of CROW, for the following site groups;

- National Sample Sites;
- South Pennine Moors;
- North Pennines AONB;
- Bowland Fells;
- Sunbiggin Tarn;
- Canford Heath and other sites in the Dorset Heathlands;
- North Norfolk Coast;
- Sites in Lancashire;
- Sites in Cumbria (outside of North Pennines);
- Sites in Shropshire;
- Sites in Suffolk; and
- Sites in Dorset outside of the Dorset Heaths SAC.

6.2 National Sample Sites

Table 6.1 shows the assessments of the likely impacts of CROW for the National Sample of 26 sites, together with an indication of how this conclusion was met, and any residual concerns for access management. This assessment has been made on the basis of the information available from the surveys and site data. NE may have access to other information with which to use the interview and spatial data for further analysis. For example, there may be management measures in place that have had the effect of managing impacts, leading to a conclusion that there are no residual concerns (which would mean, by implication, that the measures are being successful). It is also implicit in the assessments that the pattern of use identified during the surveys is assumed to be typical; this may be the case or it may provide an overestimate of use, given that the busiest times and locations were selected for survey.

Of the 26 sites, two thirds (n=17) have no residual concerns. At almost a quarter of sites (n=6) there are concerns over the impact of dogs; roaming dogs may impact on wildlife, or stock, and limiting agricultural use. At one site (Middleham Low Moor) there is the potential for inter-user conflict if use increases. At one site, Waldridge Fell, a residual concern is habitat erosion from heavy use. The high proportion of first time visitors may give rise to concerns at one other site. Further information on the sites with residual concerns is presented below.

Table 6.1 CROW Impact Assessment National Sample Sites

Site Name National Sample Sites	Assessment of likely impact of CROW	¹⁹ Key considerations in arriving at conclusion	Residual concerns
Adleymoor Common	No impact	Existing use, pre-CROW	Increasing use and dogs roaming free in nesting/lambing season
Alresford	Low impact	Most users stay on PROW Sensitive areas are unattractive to users	Roaming dogs may affect wildlife and sheep
Baildon Moor	No impact	Existing use, pre-CROW	None
Burbage Common	No impact	Existing use, pre-CROW	None
Decoy Heath	Low impact	Most users stay on PROW	Roaming dogs may affect wildlife
Doddington North Moor	No impact	Low level of use Most users stay on PROW	None
Dunnockshaw Woodland	Low impact	Evidence suggestive of pre-CROW use Low level of use relative to site size Resilient vegetation type	None
Grassthorpe Holme	No impact	Existing use, pre-CROW	None
Kestlemerris Farm	No impact	Low level of use Existing use, pre-CROW	None
Long Ridge Crags	No impact	Low level of use	None
Malvern Hills	No impact	Existing use, pre-CROW	None
Merrow Downs	Low impact	Existing use, pre-CROW	None
Middleham Low Moor	Low impact	Existing use, pre-CROW	Inter-user conflict if use increases
Moorside	No impact	Existing use, pre-CROW	None
Ringmere Plantation	No impact	Low level of use	None
Sandyford Moor	No impact	Low level of use	None
Severn Ham	No impact	Existing use, pre-CROW	Dogs placing limits on agricultural use and causing nutrient enrichment
Silvinton Common	No impact	Existing use, pre-CROW Most users stay on PROW	None
The Comp	Uncertain but probably low	Evidence of pre-CROW use unclear High proportion of routes on OAL	Roaming dogs may affect wildlife and sheep
The Mens	Low impact	Evidence tends to suggest pre-CROW use Resilient vegetation type	High proportion of first time visitors
Waldridge Fell	No impact	Existing use, pre-CROW	Habitat destruction from heavy use
Wardle Brook	No impact	Low level of use (of the OAL)	None
Whitehall Plantation	No impact	No users	None
Whitworth Higher End Moor	No impact	Existing use, pre-CROW	None
Wilbraham	No impact	Low level of use	None
Wisley Common	Uncertain but probably low	Evidence tends to suggest pre-CROW use	Roaming dogs may affect wildlife

¹⁹ Note – at some sites, the type of vegetation and nature conservation interests means that fire risk could be high in drought conditions. In extreme drought conditions, CROW Act provides access authorities with powers to restrict access. However, such circumstances were not encountered during the survey period so we were unable to observe how visitors behave. So, there is a residual concern about fire risk at some sites but without any evidence to say whether this has been affected by CROW. Consequently, such risks are not considered in the Tables.

6.2.1 *Concerns - National Sample Sites*

In this section we present a brief summary of the patterns of use recorded at those sites where residual concerns are raised, together with a commentary on the impacts and implications of CROW. Full information for each site can be found in the site reports.

Six sites have potential concerns over the impact of roaming dogs on wildlife, stock, and the limits this may place on agricultural use (some aspects of which may be valuable for nature conservation at some sites). These are:

- Adleymoore Common;
- Alresford;
- Decoy Heath;
- Severn Ham;
- The Comp; and
- Wisley Common.

6.2.2 *Patterns of Use: Adleymoore Common*

All those observed were walking dogs; after the 31st July, the route followed was 'there-back' along the track, whilst during the dog restriction period, one interviewee and others seen during observations took a circular routes around the northern half of the site, Although dogs were seen off leads, none were observed that were uncontrolled or caused any disturbance. The southern part of the site appears not to be used at all by visitors.

This is clearly a lightly-used site, with dog walkers being the sole user type (apart from one 'other' user). Half the interviewees (n=2) told us that they have been using this site for this purpose for at least 5 years, whilst the rest had been using the site for between 2 and 5 years. From a land management perspective, the fact that dogs are being brought onto the site and allowed to run off lead, including at times when the general restrictions on dogs off lead apply, could be a cause for concern if there is livestock or ground nesting birds. As it is not nationally designated it is unlikely and the number of visitors would not be a concern at all, and the dogs were observed not to be causing any disturbance and, if our interviewees are typical, most were regular visitors to the site pre-CROW. However, over the three years, the numbers of visitors has increased slightly, though are still low. If usage continued to grow the risks of sheep worrying occurring could grow, if new users appear with their dogs and do not exercise the same degree of control.

It needs to be borne in mind that this area is covered by CROW Section 15; in other words, a right of public access to it existed prior to the introduction of CROW. Therefore, the implications arising from CROW access implementation for land management are considered to be nil.

6.2.3 *Patterns of Use: Alresford*

Observed visitor activity is concentrated around the southern end of Ford Lane. Information gleaned from interviews and observations support the suggestions made earlier – that there is little to tempt visitors away from the public right of way and onto the access land. Where walkers want a longer, circular route, the tendency is to come inland. Without exception, respondents interviewed during the period of general dog restrictions (1st March to 31st July) stayed on public rights of way. In the period after 31st July, there was perhaps a greater tendency to leave public rights of way amongst those visitors not accompanied by dogs. Although only a quarter of dogs were on leads, those off lead were assessed to be controlled and not causing any disturbance.

The site contains features that may be sensitive to the presence of the public – it is part of the Colne Estuary SSSI, which is also a Ramsar site and SPA of value for wintering birds. The site is also grazed by sheep. However, the fact that nearly all visitors (and all dog walkers) stay on the public footpath means that implications for nature conservation interests are likely to be low, provided dogs are kept under control and not allowed to disturb the wintering birds for which the site is valued. This will also be true for any sheep grazing that may take place on the saltmarshes.

Therefore there is unlikely to have been a change in pattern of use post CROW and therefore unlikely to be a significant effect on the designated interest features, wintering and breeding birds or land management of the site from introduction of the new CROW access rights.

6.2.4

Patterns of Use: Decoy Heath

The pattern of public use across the site is quite diffuse and not constrained to the site boundaries. Walks were spread across much of the site but with a concentration in the southern third (and the areas outside the site but contiguous to it). Most visitors kept to the existing tracks and only a few walked on the heathland itself. The boggy nature of the site deters people from going off tracks.

There was a marked difference in the proportion of dog walkers interviewed during the survey season, with them being in the minority during the period of general dog restrictions. Levels of use during this earlier period appears lighter than later, so it may be that dog walkers choose to go elsewhere during the period of restrictions. However, observation data show that a large majority of dogs are let off the lead and a small proportion of these caused disturbance to others (although no stock or wildlife were observed to be disturbed).

The site is part of Morden Bog & Hyde Heath SSSI and Dorset Heathlands SPA. The notification is because of the habitat (which is typical of a habitat that is now reduced to 14% of its former area) and the rare insect and lizard species that this supports. There was a generally high level of awareness of the open access legislation but a poor understanding of some aspects of what this meant (for example, over half were not aware that it was legally allowed to walk off public rights of way on access land). It is uncertain from the data whether this translates into a greater propensity to adhere to the general restrictions which now apply. However, it seems reasonable to conclude from the data obtained that the levels and patterns of people are unlikely to have changed much. Therefore it is unlikely that there has been an impact on the nature conservation features and integrity of the site resulting from the introduction of the new rights, because of the tendency of visitors to stick to existing tracks. Wild fires would be a concern at a site such as this but we are not aware of any heightened risk or actual occurrence of fires during the monitoring period although there was one observation of activities being done which carried an unspecified fire risk (ironically enough, observed near to the Lookout Tower).

The tendency for dogs to be let off leads may be a cause for concern, too. They have already been observed to cause disturbance to other visitors and, if roaming widely across the site – even if their owners do stick to the tracks – there could be occurrences of wildlife disturbance. Over half the interviewees with dogs claim to have been using the site for at least 5 years, so this may not be a new management challenge resulting from CROW.

6.2.5

Patterns of Use: Severn Ham

Watercourses severely constrain access to the site and everyone entered it via one of two entrances – one at the north east corner and one on the eastern boundary of the site. Walks fanned out from these entry points and it appears that visitors carved out a circular route of one form or another. The routes form a 'figure of eight' with routes circling the site boundary but linked across the centre, to one of the main entry points.

Despite the open nature and absence of obstructive vegetation, the majority of the site's visitors stayed on footpaths (70% of people's walks were recorded as being on public rights of way); a minority did leave the public footpaths, including some who walked towards the southern tip of the site, and who crossed open ground between the river and the mill race, presumably to form a small circuit.

Strolling/ambling and dog walking were the most popular activities (48% and 38% respectively of those interviewed) and most of the dogs were not on a lead. Most visits to the site were short (83% of visits were for <1 hour).

The high level of usage, especially the number of people with unleashed dogs, is likely to limit the land's use for agricultural purposes. The nature conservation interest is unlikely to suffer, although nutrient enrichment by dog faeces in the area around the site's most popular entry points may be an issue. However, because access rights existed (both area-wide and public rights of way) before CROW, the impact of CROW implementation on land management is likely to be negligible.

6.2.6

Patterns of Use: The Comp

Chalk downland grazed by sheep offers an attractive surface for walkers, as vegetation does not deter wandering off paths; it is perhaps no coincidence that 81% of walks undertaken by interviewees were off paths and tracks. Within The Comp itself, visitors tend to stick to the narrow strip of access land, although at least two (one dog walker, one not accompanied by a dog) made a circular route by dropping north-eastwards off the escarpment.

There is a greater concentration of walkers around the white horse and associated viewpoint – an easy walk out from the car park.

Usage appears to be mainly by local people.

The usage of the site by visitors could give rise to concerns about erosion (especially on steeper parts of the site which are heavily used), disturbance to any ground-nesting birds (especially by off-leash dogs) and the indirect effects which the public presence may have on decisions over land management (for example, if sheep grazing is a crucial element in the site's management, the public's presence may be an inhibition). The disturbance of livestock noted during the first survey year is a particular cause for concern, if this sort of disturbance recurs, although there were no other observations of disturbance.

It is not clear (from the information available) whether the public use has occurred in response to creation of CROW access rights or whether access existed beforehand, and so it is difficult to determine what impact its implementation is having.

6.2.7

Patterns of Use: Wisley Common

Relatively few of the visitors actually visited the selected site and such use as did occur was along the public footpath. However, the pattern of use should be viewed in the context of the wider block of open access land (i.e. that which lies west of the dual carriageway), not just the part of the site selected. All those interviewed entered over the footbridge over the dual carriageway. From the entry point, a variety of routes were followed. Some of these followed public rights of way; others followed routes across open access land (mainly along the many small tracks that run through the woodland, although this is not possible to ascertain this for certain from the data available). Virtually all areas of the wider site were visited by someone.

The site is notified as a SSSI because of the habitat (which is increasingly rare in the area) and the rare insect species that this supports. The presence of people and dogs roaming off paths may have some implications for these nature conservation interests, and wild fires would be a serious concern in drought conditions. However, the extent to which these possible effects have changed post-CROW is difficult to determine without a better understanding of pre-CROW access; information available from interviewees are indicative of a long history of access use.

6.2.8

Patterns of Use: Middleham Low Moor

The majority of those visiting the site who were interviewed follow the main axis of the site, either along the public rights of way, the track to the north or the upper edge of the slope on the south side (overlooking Pinker Pond). However, observations showed that visitors overall have a high tendency to spend time off the public rights of way (97 out of 109 were seen off PROWs in observations, particularly around Pinker Pond).

Although not previously carrying a right of area-wide public access, evidence suggests that public use pre-dates CROW (either along public rights of way or de facto area-wide access). For example, over 80% of interviewees said they had 'always known' about the site; over half the dog walkers have been visiting the site for more than 3 years, most for more than 5. Furthermore, nearly 60% of those responding said that they either did not know or were not sure that the area had been designated as open country, so CROW is unlikely to have influenced their visiting patterns. In any event, the number of visitors, other than around Pinker Pond, is limited given the size of the site.

There are a variety of different people who want to make use of the Low Moor – horse riders, graziers, local residents and tourists. Managing access to avoid exacerbating any potential conflicts could become a challenge if level of usage increases. However, the site appears to be

large enough, and pattern of visitor distribution such for it not to be a significant issue at present.

6.2.9

Patterns of Use: Waldrige Fell

This is a Country Park and well-used by locals. It is equipped with a number of car parks and these are the starting points for most walks. A small number of visitors approached along Waldrige Road. Routes followed by visitors fan out across almost the entire site – few parts of it escape visitors completely.

On the whole, implementation of CROW will have had little or no impact on this site, given its status as a country park. A possible concern, given the number of visitors, is the risk of routes spreading and reducing the extent of the habitats for which it is valued and which merit SSSI designation. For example, heavy use of Wanister Bog could lead to damage of wetland habitats.

6.2.10

Patterns of Use: The Mens

The survey location is at a car park in the northern part of the site but observations are restricted by the trees. The few visitors seen were off-PROW. Data from interviewees shows that visitors spread throughout the site, including following routes through Hawkhurst College (not Open Access Land). There seems little difference in the routes taken by dog walkers and walkers not accompanied by dogs.

Given the size of the site, observed visitor levels are relatively low. Also, the type of land use (woodland) is often able to absorb visitor pressure more easily than many other habitats, even though it is a nature reserve. Impacts of CROW implementation on land management depends, to a large extent, on what was the access situation beforehand. Firstly, the site appears to have been promoted for public access. However, data from the interviewees is a little equivocal; a lot of those interviewed were visiting for the first time yet a large majority (14 out of 19) had 'always known about the site. Further, amongst the dog walkers, most had been visiting the site for at least 3 years and many for over 5 years. Therefore, it is concluded that, in practice, CROW access will have had negligible impact on the site and its management.

National Sample Sites

At two thirds (n=18) of the National Sample of sites the assessment of the impact of the Introduction of CROW is of 'no impact'; that is, usage and the pattern of use is the same as it was likely to have been before the legislation.

At almost a quarter of the sites (n=6) there is judged to be 'low impact', and at the remaining two sites the impact is uncertain, but probably low.

6.3 Other Sites

For each group of sites, Tables 6.2 to 6.12 shows the assessments of the likely impacts of CROW.

6.4 South Pennine Moors

Two locations were surveyed in the South Pennine Moors.

Table 6.2 CROW Impact Assessment South Pennine Moors

Site Name	Assessment of likely impact of CROW	Key considerations in arriving at conclusion	Residual concerns
Ilkley Moor	No impact	Existing use, pre-CROW Most users stay on PROW in sensitive areas	None
Bingley Moor	No impact	Most users stay on PROW Existing linear use, pre-CROW	Dog owners allowing dogs to roam off-PROW in dog ban area

6.4.1

Ilkley Moor

Although more interviews were conducted after 31st July than before, the earlier period shows a more diffuse pattern of use than the later usage (see Plots B and C). Whilst the heaviest usage is in the area which abuts Ilkley, visitors who were interviewed radiated out along the northern and north eastern edges of the site; whilst there is some trace of this pattern in the later period, it is much less pronounced. Walkers with dogs tended to restrict their walks to the core area adjacent to the town's edge (this is section 15 land and so had area-wide access pre-CROW). A similar pattern of use was evident in the observations of use (see Plots D and E - although the extent of observations is restricted by the local topography). Usage in the north west and north eastern extremities is mainly along PROW, along the line of the Dales Way. One section of non-PROW that attracts a lot of usage is a short section of track in the centre of the site that runs east-west and links the two promoted routes. This follows a ridge line and runs just south of High Lanshaw Dam.

In the heavily used area, evidence from both interviews and observations show that users are much more willing to abandon PROW here than elsewhere, although the PROW still exert a strong pull (the PROW network is fairly dense in this area).

6.4.2

Patterns of Use: Bingley Moor

Bingley Moor lies to the south of Ilkley Moor but still within the same block of Open Access Land that comprises Rombald's Moor. In this part of the Moor, dogs are banned at the landowner's discretion and seasonally for nature conservation reasons (1st March to 31 July) although this ban does not apply to PROW. The moor is more gently angled and remoter from settlements than Ilkley Moor (but Bingley and Riddlesden are close by). Paths and tracks are sparser than on Ilkley Moor, although the site is bisected by the Dales Way Link.

Plots B and C show the pattern of use by walkers, as reported during interviews. It is interesting to contrast the pattern of use here to that on the northern half of the moor. Here, all those interviewed had stayed on the PROW (see Plots B and C), the two PROW running roughly north-south. The western one is the more popular and it is probably not a coincidence that this PROW is a promoted route (the Dales Way Link) and is accessible from a public house, and the southern entry point has information about Open Access Land restrictions. The easterly one is less well-used, and not used at all by people interviewed after 31st July. Although still promoted (as the Millennium Way), it has an entry point with fewer attractions.

It follows from the above that dog walkers also stayed on the PROW and were thus not contravening the specific restriction on bringing dogs onto the Open Access Land. The observation data supports this view, too, as all walkers were observed as being on the PROW (see Plots D and E). The Table below and Plot H, however, show that one walker allowed their dog to roam (presumably off the PROW and therefore in contravention of the exclusion). It was also observed to be disturbing other people.

6.4.3

Implications for Access Management

The site was identified as being sensitive to public access, primarily because of its importance for ground nesting birds (which can be disturbed by walkers and dogs, especially during the time when the birds are prospecting for nest sites, nesting and feeding chicks). Particular concern was shown about four parts of the site:

- The area north west of Addington High Moor;
- Doubler South Allotment;
- South Morton Moor;
- South west around Bingley Moor.

The key concern at these locations, therefore, is the extent to which CROW may have, or may not have, led to greater disturbance of sensitive bird species to access.

The first two areas of concern can be considered to be part of the northern half of the site (Ilkley Moor); and the last two within the southern part (Bingley Moor).

At the northern part of the site, there is a greater tendency for people to make use of their right to wander off paths and tracks. However, the area where this occurs (i.e. close to the main entry points near to Ilkley) was already legally available for area-wide public access pre-CROW (section 15 land). This is the area to which walkers with dogs limit their activity, and most have visited the site for many years. At the fringes, such as across Addingham High Moor, users appear to stay on the PROW (the Dales Way). There was no evidence of any usage in the vicinity of Doubler Stones Allotment. At the north eastern part of the site, usage was also along PROW, with the exception of the link referred to above. Plot B shows this to be within a part of the SSSI with sensitive features but the areas crossed by this link route was not listed as an area of concern; However, this may be because heavy usage of the link was not predicted. Even so, users tend not to wander off the track and the link lies in an area that was accessible pre-CROW. It seems that the implementation of CROW has not led to significant usage by the public of sensitive areas of Ilkley Moor.

On the southern part (Bingley Moor), there was no right of public access pre-CROW, except along the PROW. All the users interviewed and/or observed were concentrated into the south western part of the site and none of those interviewed made use of South Morton Moor. However, people who use the site still limit their use to the PROW, including dog walkers, despite having the right to wander at will (except dog walkers, due to the restrictions). As was noted earlier, a large majority of the walkers with dogs have been using the site for several years. The most significant reasons given for not leaving the PROW is that it was easier and safer. Others stated that the PROW took the user where they wanted to go, so there was no reason to leave it.

Given the above observations, it appears that CROW implementation is unlikely to have brought about any additional adverse impacts on nature conservation interests at this site.

6.5

North Pennines Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB)

Nineteen locations were surveyed in the North Pennines AONB.

Table 6.3 CROW Impact Assessment at Sites in North Pennines AONB

Site Name	Assessment of likely impact of CROW	Key considerations in arriving at conclusion	Residual concerns
Bruthwaite Forest	Low impact	Low level of use Most users stay on PROW/ tracks Tendency to keep dogs on lead	None
Dufton	Low impact	Low level of use Tendency to stay on PROW	Dogs taken into banned areas
Geltsdale	Uncertain but probably low	Evidence of pre-CROW use uncertain	Roaming dogs may affect wildlife
Hartside	No impact	Low level of use Most users stay on PROW	None
Flinty Fell	No impact	Low level of use	None
Rotherhope	No impact	Low level of use Most users stay on PROW/ tracks Few dogs on site	None
Red Carle	No impact	No usage	None
Coldberry	Low impact	Low level of use	Visitors entering restricted areas
Cow Green	Low impact	Most users stay on PROW/ tracks High proportion of dogs on leads	None
Crossthaite Common	Low impact	Low level of use Most users stay on PROW/ tracks	Dogs taken into banned areas
Holwick	Low impact	Most users stay on PROW/ tracks	Dogs taken into banned areas
Mickleton Moor	No impact	Low level of use	None
Blanchland	No impact	Most users stay on PROW/tracks Existing use, pre-CROW Low level of dogs	None
Broad Meadows /Well Hope	Low impact	Low level of use	Dogs taken into banned areas
Coanwood	No impact	Low level of use	None
Knight's Cleugh	No impact	Low level of use	None
Knockshield Moor	No impact	Low level of use	None
Snope Common	No impact	Users stay on marked route Low level of use	None
Whitfield	No impact	Low level of use	None

Of the 19 locations surveyed in the North Pennines, thirteen pose no residual concerns following an assessment of the impacts of CROW. More than half (n=11) are judged to have had no impacts arising from CROW, and at six others the impact is 'low'. Where visitors are entering restricted areas (Coldberry) the level of usage here is low and so there is expected to be low impact, and at Geltsdale where there is a concern that roaming dogs may affect wildlife the impacts of CROW are uncertain but probably low. Those with residual concerns are discussed below.

6.5.1

Patterns of Use: Dufton

As with some of the other sites in the North Pennines, there are relatively few records of people's walks to give confidence in describing patterns of use. Based on the data obtained (both through interviews and observations), it is evident that most walkers stay on the PROW – particularly the Pennine Way. However, one interviewee with a dog had walked a considerable distance over Open Access Land where dogs were not allowed (whether on lead or off lead).

A number of visitors were observed to be engaged in 'other activities' (although the activity is not recorded), one of them off PROW.

6.5.2

Implications for Access Management

The relatively small number of visitors, assuming this to be representative, over such a large area is unlikely to have significant impacts on site management, especially as the majority stay on PROW. There is some cause for concern over the disregarding of the dog ban by at least one dog walker, and this may have implications for enforcement of this restriction.

6.5.1

Patterns of Use: Geltsdale

Interviewees reported a wide variety of different routes followed. Routes used were all in the valley or on its east side – no interviewees had ventured onto Castle Carrick Fell although some had followed the road along its base. The majority of usage was in the hills and valleys west of Castle Carrock – Talkin Fell, Kelty Fell, Simmerson Hill – much of this usage being on PROW but also onto Open Access Land across hillsides.

Those venturing further afield included trips southwards along the breast of the slopes leading to King's Forest of Geltsdale (much of this use was on PROW), some going as far as Lord's Seat and Middle top, and onto Cold Fell and the Tindale Fells. Other groups walked north eastwards towards Tindale Tarn (see Bruthwaite Forest report).

Observations made at the site showed that the vast majority of people visiting the site were staying on public highways (either roads, PROW or UCRs). This was true of both people with or without dogs and whether the walk was within or outside of the period of general dog restrictions. Only one group was observed off highways and they were on a track.

When passing through sensitive areas, people generally stayed on PROW. The only exception was in the group that visited the summit of Cold Fell, which cannot be accessed on PROW.

6.5.2

Implications for Access Management

Compared to many Local Monitoring sites in the North Pennines, this is well-used and visitors make much use of their right to walk on Open Access Land, as well as using PROW. It is not possible to determine to what extent this pattern of behaviour is as a result of CROW implementation or was already well-established before then on existing tracks. However, the number of people going off-PROW, penetrating deep into the hills, and some of them with dogs, may have implications for site management – both for nature conservation and for grouse management. However, the numbers are not large, given the size of the site and so impacts are expected to be low.

6.5.3

Patterns of Use: Coldberry

The few recordings of where visitors to Coldberry walked during their visit show that a number of the visitors walked across the excluded areas. Although some of the walks were on PROW (and so unaffected by restrictions on Open Access Land), many spent at least part of their visit on land over which their right of access had been excluded. Many were attracted to the Hudeshope Beck for picnics and 'other activities', where much of the walking activity was also concentrated – in amongst the spoil heaps and old workings.

Other than that, the only other routes taken by interviewees were through the hush (Coldberry Gutter) (which restrictions do not debar), across Coldberry Moss and on Hardberry Hill, where the triangulation point may act as an attractor.

6.5.4

Implications for Access Management

The relatively small number of visitors, assuming this to be representative, over such a large area is unlikely to have significant impacts on site management. There is cause for concern over the disregarding of the restrictions on public access by a number of visitors, and this may have implications for enforcement, with a number of circular routes developing, and for achieving the objectives for site management.

- 6.5.5 *Patterns of Use: Crossthwaite Common*
Use of the site itself is confined to the PROW (note that the route shown by several interviewees has them following a line that runs alongside the PROW and it is likely that their route actually followed the PROW). However, there was more variation in where people went when not crossing the site. Many followed the Pennine Way for the short distance to Middleton or southwards towards Thringarth. A minority of walkers took alternatives – one group heading up the Tees Valley, and others taking tracks or PROW north westwards and north towards Holwick. All interviewees showed their route to be on a track (Rake Gill) or PROW. One of the groups who used a track across Crossthwaite Common had a dog with them, even though this is an area from which dogs are excluded. Observations were comparatively limited but the evidence available supports the assertion about the tendency to stay on linear routes.
- 6.5.6 *Implications for Access Management*
The comparatively low level of use and the strong tendency to stay on PROW suggest that the implementation of CROW will have caused little change to patterns of use by the public. Consequently, there will have been low impact on land management and nature conservation interests.
- 6.5.7 *Patterns of Use: Holwick*
Most of the visitors to Holwick appeared to be involved in a relatively long walk, choosing from a variety of possibilities which has resulted in no particular concentration of walks in any one area. However, although walks were widely spread, there was a tendency for greater activity along the Tees Valley, following the Pennine Way and routes on the eastern side of the valley. Other routes took the walker south onto the Crossthwaite Common area (see site reports). Much of this activity was along PROW.

Groups with dogs seem to follow similar routes to those without dogs and patterns of use do not appear to alter whether the general dog restrictions are in force or not. However, one group with a dog was observed on an area of Open Access Land from which people with dogs were excluded.

During the survey period, no-one was seen rock climbing, so it is not possible to comment on whether the voluntary restriction agreement is being honoured.
- 6.5.8 *Implications for Access Management*
The strong tendency for users to stay on PROW means that changes of use following the implementation of CROW are likely to be low. As a consequence, the effects on black grouse populations are likely to be low. In general, it seems that there is little to suggest that the voluntarily restricted climbing routes agreed with the BMC for safeguarding the ledge/rock flora interests at this location are not working. However, there were no rock climbers during the surveys and only 10 dogs (half of which were on leads), so it is difficult to draw firm conclusions.
- 6.5.9 *Patterns of Use: Broad Meadows*
There is insufficient data to make any meaningful observations about patterns of use.
- 6.5.10 *Implications for Access Management*
It is dangerous to draw too many conclusions from one interview. It seems reasonable to conclude that use of the site is light and this, in itself, means that implications for site management are likely to be low. It is pertinent to note that the one person interviewed was dog walking in an area from which dogs were banned, suggesting that there would be some concern over the enforcement of the dog ban.

6.6

Bowland Fell

Four locations were surveyed within the Bowland Fells site.

Table 6.4 CROW Impact Assessment at Bowland Fell

Site Name	Assessment of likely impact of CROW	Key considerations in arriving at conclusion	Residual concerns
Jubilee Tower	Little impact	Existing use, pre-CROW	Effectiveness of shooting restrictions
Langden Brook	Little impact	Most users stay on PROW/ targeted desire lines	Need for on-going visitor management
Parlick	No impact	Existing use, pre-CROW Users appear to stay on PROW	Roaming dogs may affect sheep
Whitendale	No impact	Existing use, pre-CROW Users appear to stay on PROW Low level of use	None

Of the four sites surveyed in the Bowland Fells, although CROW was judged to have little or no impact there are nonetheless residual concerns at three sites.

6.6.1

Patterns of Use: Jubilee Tower

The largest number of visitors were observed in the car park adjacent to Jubilee Tower (and roadside verges) and many of these did not venture onto the Open Access Land. For those who did venture beyond the confines of the car park, the most commonly followed route was north easterly up the hillside, following the line of the fence on its left (where there is a faint track). No people were observed to be accompanied by dogs; dogs are banned from this area.

Results from interviewees confirm the popularity of the route alongside the fence as a means of cresting the broad ridge that runs approximately east-west between Clougha and Ward Stone. On reaching this, many walkers turned either left or right along the ridge, returning to the car park by a variety of routes (down through Tarnbrook in the east and via Clougha in the west). Other groups of walkers picked their way along the network of PROW below Jubilee Tower to make a circular route that may or may not include crossing some of the Open Access Land.

Very few dogs were taken onto the Open Access Land. Only one interviewee was recorded to have taken a dog onto the main ridge and they did so following a narrow corridor of land that is covered by an access agreement and so not affected by CROW restrictions. The only other activity considered inappropriate was a group of walkers ignoring temporary closures for game shooting.

6.6.2

Implications for Access Management

Based on the surveys, there is something of an issue to be resolved about the implementation and enforcement of restrictions during shooting days (although the dog restrictions appear to be working). Otherwise, the tendency of visitors to stick to a small number of reasonably well-defined routes (mostly on land which had access prior to CROW) means that impact on land management and nature conservation interests of CROW is low.

6.6.3

Patterns of Use: Langden Brook

Observations show that all observed visitors were seen to be following the PROW up and down the valley. However, when considering the observation data at this site, it is important to note that sightlines are quite limited other than up the valley. Nonetheless, the flanking hillsides are steep and clad in high bracken and heather, so are not likely to induce people away from the path (and nearly half the respondents who stayed wholly on PROW gave "Easier to walk on" as their reason for not leaving the PROW). Interviews, though, reveal more about where people walk whilst beyond the confines of the deeply-incised valley. This confirms the popularity of the

valley route but also shows a significant number of people venturing on to the surrounding high ridges.

The most commonly followed route takes the walker to Langden Castle. For those going beyond the Castle, routes taken mainly go south between Bleadale Nab and Sykes Fell, towards the Cairn at the head of Bleadale Water. By trending east to the shooting lodge on Hareden Fell, it is possible to return via Hareden Brook. Other routes followed continue up Langden Brook beyond the Castle, and further south beyond the cairn at the head of Bleadale Water to exit the area near Parlick, or continuing further west and exiting the area at Hazelhurst. During the period of general dog restrictions, one group reported that they had taken a route north over Grieve Clough and a group with a dog ventured into the pathless area around Within Clough.

6.6.4

Implications for Access Management

On the whole, the pattern of behaviour suggests that the measures used to channel visitors along pre-determined and preferred desire lines is having some success, with very few walkers straying outside the line of a small number of routes. Indeed, the majority stick to the line of the PROW for much of their route through the Langden Valley. As a result, impacts on land management and nature conservation interests are likely to be low. There appears to be some need for on-going visitor management to ensure that the small number of visitors who leave the PROW, especially those with dogs, do not cause unacceptable disturbance to ground nesting birds.

6.6.5

Patterns of Use: Parlick

The ridge formed by Parlick, Blindhurst Fell and Fair Snape Fell form the central core of many people's walking routes, with circular routes formed by turning left or right at Fair Snape. The left hand (westerly) route drops off the Open Access Land and returns via PROWs; the right hand (easterly) route continues over Wolf Fell and Saddle Fell before dropping down to the lower ground and back along PROW. This means that footfall on the open moorland is restricted to very few routes. There are some walkers who do not conform to this general pattern, dog walkers amongst them. For example, one group continued north to Fiensdale Head, another (with dog) continued around Brown Berry Plain and another (also with dog) confined their activities to the eastern slopes of Parlick.

Observations tend to support the data gleaned from interviewees, although the tendency is for observed walkers to be more tightly clustered along the PROW and the slopes of Parlick. All observed dog walkers were on PROW.

6.6.6

Implications for Access Management

Much of this area carried public access rights pre-CROW (through a combination of access agreements, an access order and PROW) and it is likely there has been little change post CROW implementation. Access rights around Parlick itself are new, however evidence suggests that the freedom of access existed pre-CROW, even if not the right. Therefore, although the free-roaming dogs may have implications for sheep grazing, the long-standing pattern of public use of the site for access prior to CROW suggests that CROW implementation has had no significant effect on land management.

6.7 Sunbiggin Tarn

Table 6.5 CROW Impact Assessment at Sunbiggin Tarn

Site Name	Assessment of likely impact of CROW	Key considerations in arriving at conclusion	Residual concerns
Sunbiggin Tarn	Low impact	Most users stay on PROW/promoted route Most users stay on PROW in sensitive areas	Continue promotion of current C2C route Dog walkers in sensitive areas

6.7.1 *Patterns of Use: Sunbiggin Tarn*

The site receives many visitors although due to its size there are still many areas that are relatively ill-frequented. A key feature of the pattern of use is the heavy traffic which flows along the route of the Coast to Coast path, including its variants in this vicinity. This bias increases in the eastern part of the site as it is likely that only walkers of the Coast to Coast route will be captured by a survey undertaken around Sunbiggin Tarn area. Visitor patterns in the western part of the site show rather greater variability although even here, the Coast to Coast route is the most prominent line followed.

North of this line lies the main concentration of limestone pavement, also the site of the NNR, on Great Asby Scar. Visitor patterns here are very sparse, with only a few routes being followed (several of them PROW). Dog walkers are relatively infrequent in this part of the site. In contrast, Little Asby Scar is more popular amongst dog walkers (including during the period when dogs should be kept on leads), who seem to wander here at will, as there are no PROW to follow.

Looking specifically at the sensitive features identified in the access assessment, it does seem that the route to the west and south of Sunbiggin Tarn is now being used reasonably heavily by Coast to Coast users. The passage across Ewefell Mire appears to be limited to the edges of the block, with no-one crossing the Mire itself. It is not possible, with the information available, whether the other sensitive features have been protected from trampling. However, if these are primarily in the limestone pavement areas, then Great Asby Scar seems to be exposed to little risk, whereas Little Asby Scar may be exposed to more significant risk of damage, although in both cases, usage of these areas is not heavy.

6.7.2 *Implications for Access Management*

The Coast to Coast route has long been popular and so the traffic it carries is not a function of CROW. However, it does seem that the change in the marked route on Harveys Map has prompted a re-direction of route followers, showing that those following set routes are responsive to changes. The new route is also shown on on-site signage (maps of Open Access Land in the area – see photo alongside) and this will add further encouragement to stay on the preferred route. Given that this new route was devised to protect sensitive features elsewhere, it appears to have had some success.

Elsewhere, it is clear that other routes are followed which lead off PROW and onto the Open Access Land, some of which may be sensitive to trampling. However, the usage of such areas is not heavy and so any damage that does occur is likely to be limited. Further, much of this access appears to have existed pre-CROW.

It is concluded, therefore, that the implementation of CROW is likely to be having little adverse effect on the management of the land at Sunbiggin Tarn, given that the alternative route remains as the one promoted in literature about the Coast to Coast path.

6.8

Dorset Heaths

Fourteen sites were surveyed in the Dorset Heaths SPA.

Table 6.6 CROW Impact Assessment at Dorset Heaths

Site Name	Assessment of likely impact of CROW	Key considerations in arriving at conclusion	Residual concerns
Canford Heath	Little impact	Existing use, pre-CROW	Roaming dogs may affect wildlife and other users Nutrient enrichment around entry points Stock keeping not feasible
Arne/Coombe Heath	Uncertain but probably minimal	Low level of use by dog walkers Most users stay on tracks	None
Avon Heath	No impact	Existing use, pre-CROW	Nutrient enrichment
Dewlands Common	Uncertain but probably minimal	Evidence of existing use, pre-CROW	Dogs inhibiting maintenance of grazing
Ferndown	Uncertain but probably minimal	Evidence of pre-CROW use unclear but suggests well-established use	Dogs inhibiting re-introduction of grazing
Great Ovens	Uncertain but possibly some exacerbation of existing problems	1/3 rd of dog walkers coming to site for under 5 years High level of awareness that site is Open Access Land	Nutrient enrichment Dogs inhibiting re-introduction of grazing
Lions Hill	No impact	Existing use, pre-CROW Low level of use	Roaming dogs may affect wildlife
Lytchetts	No impact	Existing use, pre-CROW	Urban influences may inhibit introduction of appropriate management
Parley	No impact	Evidence of existing use, pre-CROW	Urban influences may inhibit introduction of appropriate management
Stoborough Heath	Uncertain but probably minimal	Low level of use Evidence of existing use, pre-CROW Most users stay on tracks	Roaming dogs may affect wildlife
Town Common	Little impact	Existing use, pre-CROW	Dogs inhibiting re-introduction of grazing
Turbary Common	No impact	Existing use, pre-CROW	Urban influences may inhibit introduction of appropriate management
Upton Heath	No impact	Existing use, pre-CROW	Illegal activities Roaming dogs may affect wildlife
Winfrith Heath	No impact	Evidence of existing use, pre-CROW	Roaming dogs may affect wildlife and ability to apply appropriate management

Note that the National Sample Site of Decoy Heath borders the site of Great Ovens to the North.

Of the fourteen areas surveyed in the Dorset Heathlands (including Canford Heath), only one is judged to have no residual concerns arising from public access, even though CROW legislation has had little impact on the degree of public access and patterns of use. This is largely because of existing use, pre-CROW.

6.8.1 *Patterns of Use: Canford Heath*

When routes used by interviewees are mapped, it is revealed that virtually every part of the site is visited and that the pattern is quite uniformly dispersed, although there is a tendency for a few routes across the centre and west of the site to receive heavier volumes of visitors. Also, walks tend to fan out from a number of key entry points – opposite the cemetery at the west, from the northeast (by Eastlands Farm) and to a lesser extent from the southeast (and across the golf course). Most of the observed behaviour of dogs being off-lead and roaming is focused near to the entry points, although this may be more a function of the observation method than a bias in behaviour patterns. However, it would correspond with dog walkers taking their dogs out for what is perhaps just a ‘toilet stop’.

6.8.2 *Implications for Access Management*

The level of use, high proportion of people with dogs (and with many dogs off-lead) and the fact that all parts of the site are used by the public suggest that this could have a major impact on land management and nature conservation at the site (in particular ground nesting birds) and nutrient enrichment near the heavily used site entry points due to dog faeces. However, public access to the site has a long history and it is doubtful if the site’s Open Access Land designation has affected usage significantly given that relatively few people are aware of the open access designation.

Therefore it is likely that there has been only a minimal change in levels and patterns of use and that there has not been an adverse significant impact of the sensitive biodiversity features of the site from the introduction of CROW.

This does not mean that there are not existing concerns from long standing access to the site, which have already been mentioned. This site also has fire concerns related to access issues.

6.8.3 *Patterns of Use: Arne/Coombe Heath*

There seems to be something of a ‘standard’ route which visitors to Arne follow: entering the site from the car park/picnic area at the centre, visitors follow the track southwards towards the Met Station, do a loop around Coombe Heath and then return to the car park, staying to the track throughout. There were only two exceptions to this pattern, both involving a slightly different loop around the Heath; one of these variants was on tracks and only one interviewee left the tracks. None of the interviewed or observed visitors ventured onto contiguous areas of Open Access Land – Arne Hill and Grip Heath.

6.8.4 *Implications for Access Management*

The low level of walkers with dogs and the high propensity for people to stay on tracks means that impacts of CROW implementation on the sensitive biodiversity features, in particular ground nesting birds, is likely to be low. Further, it is likely that there has not been a significant change in access use – indications are that public access to this site is well-established. Two out of the 3 dog walkers were observed to keep their dog on a lead providing some evidence to suggest that the general dog restrictions are being observed.

6.8.5 *Patterns of Use: Avon Heath*

At David’s Hill, visitors stayed almost exclusively on existing tracks and the bridleway, and most of the tracks received some visitors. The only areas where people appeared to stray from the tracks is near the Visitor Centre in the south west corner of the site.

At Boundary Lane/Country Park, similar comments apply – all the site receives visitors but access is mostly along existing tracks. In this case, the exception to the ‘stay on track’ rule is in

the northern half of the site, around the car park (this is where the Boundary Lane site appears to lie and, within this area, there are no tracks anyway). This tendency to leave the paths/tracks is more prominent amongst dog walkers.

6.8.6

Implications for Access Management

The results indicate there is likely to have been only a minimal change in access levels and patterns of use across these sites due to the high existing use on a dense network of existing tracks and some PROW prior to CROW, particularly as the site is a Country Park and access within it is encouraged. Therefore, it is reasonable to conclude that CROW has had no significant effect on sensitive biodiversity features from new access across these sites.

This does not mean there are not existing concerns about biodiversity from existing heavy access use and pressure over a long period prior to CROW. Nature conservation interest at the site may be at risk, for example ground nesting birds, from high existing levels and patterns of use, particularly as the majority of people who visit these sites are local dog walkers. The general dogs restriction is therefore appears not to be having an effect on the propensity of visitors to keep dogs on a lead during the breeding season. The results indicate that walkers with dogs tend to keep their dog off the lead and roaming when visiting these sites. However the majority of these dog walkers said they would put their dog on a lead if signage asked them to do so. However, as a large majority of dog walkers had been accessing the site prior to CROW in effect CROW has potentially reduced the rights of walkers with dogs. Dog mess may also be an issue, given the concentration of dogs in a relatively small area.

6.8.7

Patterns of Use: Dewlands Common

As noted above, the site is criss-crossed by paths and tracks and these are used by visitors. In the period of general dog restrictions, none of the visitors strayed off these tracks, whereas during the dog restriction period, some dog walkers did leave the tracks (note that the general restrictions do not require dog walkers to stay on tracks, but simply to keep their dogs on leads of less than 2m). The departures from the tracks were in the central/southern part of the site, not the northern section.

6.8.8

Implications for Access Management

The results strongly indicate there has likely to have been only a minimal change in access levels and patterns of use across the site as visitors are tending to keep to tracks, which are likely to have existed pre-CROW. Further, the majority of people visiting the site have 'always come here'. Therefore CROW is unlikely to have had a significant effect on sensitive biodiversity features from new access across this site. This does not mean there are not existing nature conservation concerns from existing patterns of access use prior to CROW.

Nature conservation interest at the site may be of concern for ground nesting birds from existing and patterns of use, particularly as the majority of people who visit the site are local dog walkers. The results indicate that walkers with dogs tend to keep their dog off the lead and roaming when visiting this site and their main reasons given for bringing dogs to the area was 'the ability to let the dog run off lead'. However if signage or positive access management was developed for the most sensitive wildlife or biodiversity areas then dog walkers indicated they would follow advice. The general dog restriction is therefore not having an effect on the propensity of visitors to keep dogs on a lead during the breeding season, strongly indicating that awareness of the rights, responsibilities and knowledge of restrictions is low across the site.

If the desired management of the site is for it to be grazed in order to maintain or improve the habitat, then this level of walkers with dogs may cause difficulties with grazing regimes and management of livestock. Although level of use is not particularly high, a significant proportion of the people have dogs off leads with them (over 80% of dog walkers).

6.8.9

Patterns of Use: Ferndown Common

Access to the site is most commonly gained from the northern tip or across Great Barrow (in the east of the site). Although visitor numbers are not massive, those that do visit appear to penetrate to all parts of the site, as well as walking into adjoining areas on nearly all sides. Because of the multitude of PROW and tracks, virtually all the walking is done without venturing into the interstices. Where tracks and PROWs are abandoned, this tends to be by dog walkers (whether within or outside the dog restriction period).

6.8.10 *Implications for Access Management*

Like many of the sites in the Dorset Heaths, this is a 'local' site popular with dog walkers and vulnerable to a range of impacts associated with the urban fringe. Consequently, public access is a major factor in site management and may inhibit the introduction of some management measures that would improve its condition (e.g. stock grazing). However, the evidence suggests that none of these difficulties can be attributed to the implementation of CROW, because of the pre-existing situation that probably obtained here.

6.8.11 *Patterns of Use: Great Ovens*

Most visitors confine themselves to the boundaries of the site but a small proportion enter the woodland area to the north, either on public footpaths or along tracks through the woods. A couple of groups (one with a dog outside the dog restriction period and one without a dog within the dog restriction periods) crossed over to the Decoy Heath site and followed tracks there.

6.8.12 *Implications for Access Management*

It appears that this is a popular site amongst nearby residents for dog walking, an activity conducted regularly and frequently throughout the year. The presence of people and their unleashed dogs could have implications for ground-nesting birds and may present a challenge for managing the grazing regime for maintaining habitat conditions. Nutrient enrichment by dog faeces may be evident around the south eastern boundary of the site. Although, two thirds of dog walkers have been bringing their dog onto the site for at least 5 years a third have started bringing their dog here since CROW was implemented. This suggests that there may have been an increase in new visitors to the site. If so, the existing concerns about the impact of people and their dogs may have been exacerbated.

6.8.13 *Patterns of Use: Lions Hill*

It is interesting to note that the southern two thirds of the site, south of the PROW which crosses the site, received no visitors. All activity was concentrated in the northern third. Entry to the site was primarily from along the PROW, entering from the east. Although many walkers followed the PROW and the tracks, many left these to walk across the areas in-between. With the exception of one group not accompanied by a dog, all those straying off PROW and tracks had dogs with them.

6.8.14 *Implications for Access Management*

Usage of this site appears relatively light, given the close proximity of major urban areas. If it is representative of site usage, impacts of public access in the southern part of the site will be minimal. In the northern part, the tendency of dog walkers to stray off PROW and tracks, and to let their dogs run freely, may pose a concern for wildlife at the site. However, there appears to be a long history of public access to the site, with many dog walkers having brought their dogs here for more than 5 years and many visitors (the vast majority of them living locally) claim to have always known about the site. Consequently, it is concluded that CROW implementation has not had a significant effect on biodiversity features of the site as there is likely to have been no significant change in access use.

6.8.15 *Pattern of Use: Lytchetts*

This is a small site of simple shape (rectangular) and patterns of use are correspondingly straightforward. Visitors enter the site from the eastern boundary, walk around the site and then exit (probably by the same point). None of those interviewed went outside the boundaries of the site but visits were made to all parts of it.

6.8.16 *Implications for Access Management*

It is likely that this site has been open to the public for many years on a de facto basis, and CROW designation is likely to have had no effect on usage or site management.

6.8.17 *Pattern of Use: Parley*

Although interviewees' entry to the site was through only two points, walks took them to all parts of the site. Although tracks and PROW were used, there was also a high tendency for people to stray off these into the areas in-between. This tendency was more pronounced amongst dog walkers. It can be reasonably inferred from the observation data that around three quarters of

these dogs were off-lead, despite interviews being undertaken within the period of general dog restrictions (when dogs are meant to be kept on a lead of 2m or less).

6.8.18 *Implications for Access Management*

It is clear that the presence of people living nearby and using this site for recreation has led to a decline in its condition through neglect and lack of management. Grazing appears to be one way of restoring the condition but is likely to be difficult under current circumstances. CROW's implementation is unlikely to have changed the pattern of public access at the site (there is evidence to suggest that this site has been viewed by many of its visitors as an open access area for years before CROW); however, it may add complications to the introduction of measures needed to restore the site.

6.8.19 *Patterns of Use: Stoborough Heath*

There is a strong tendency at this site for visitors to stay on PROW or tracks on the western half of the site. No-one was seen, or was interviewed, who was going/had been on the eastern part (Stoborough Green). The public footpath that bisects the western half of the site was the most travelled, as observed and reported by interviewees, although the track that runs approximately northwest-southeast was also well-used.

The only people to have left the PROW and tracks were dog walkers. Their routes enter into all parts of the site apart from the southern section near Creech Bottom.

6.8.20 *Implications for Access Management*

The data are not conclusive about the pre-CROW access situation but the tendency for visitors to stay on PROW and tracks means that any adverse effects attributable to CROW on biodiversity concerns across the site is likely to be low.

6.8.21 *Patterns of Use: Town Common*

Access to the site is usually gained from points along the south western boundary, where it abuts residential areas. Most of the walking activity is concentrated in the portion of the site close to the urban fringe. This is an area with many tracks and features of historic interest (tumuli, enclosures) as well as more modern infrastructure.

Some walkers went beyond the fringe of the town, but stayed mainly to tracks. None of the interviewees ventured across or even onto the dismantled railway.

The pattern of use does not appear to differ markedly whether dog restrictions are in force or not (although these only apply to non-s15 land).

6.8.22 *Implications for Access Management*

Given that the majority of the site had area-wide access prior to CROW implementation, and that the earlier access regime takes primacy over CROW, there is unlikely to have been any change in access use to that part of the site. On the remaining parts, and as with many of the other urban fringe sites amongst the Dorset Heaths, pre-CROW access was probably prevalent, meaning that (as with the rest of the site) little has changed.

6.8.23 *Patterns of Use: Turbary Common*

This relatively small site, surrounded by urban developments, is entered at many points by visitors. Walks take the visitors to all parts of the site, with particular concentration in the central part and relatively quieter areas in the east.

6.8.24 *Implications for Access Management*

As this is essentially an urban open space with a well-established tradition of public access, albeit part of it a SSSI, designation as Open Access Land can have had only a negligible effect on the sensitive biodiversity features and the site's management.

This does not mean there are not existing access concerns originating prior to CROW implementation, as it is a heavily used site and used by dog walkers with a propensity to let their dog off the lead. This level of use could affect the introduction of grazing needed to maintain the site's biodiversity interest.

6.8.25 *Patterns of Use: Upton Heath*

This is clearly a very busy site, with many visitors interviewed and observed. There are many points of entry used, from all sides of the site, although the most popular ones are from the north (from Hill View and Corfe Mullen) and from the west (from the adjoining area of Beacon Heath).

All parts of the site experience some visits but there does appear to be a pattern of walks (which do not vary with the general dog restrictions). Heavy usage is found:

- Along the dismantled railway;
- In the neck of land at the north of the site, near the car park;
- In the south west corner, adjacent to the disused pits;
- A circular route around the heart of the site; and
- Various paths which link the above features.

Some walkers vary from these standard alignments, mainly walkers with dogs.

6.8.26 *Implications for Access Management*

This appears to be a site with particularly challenging management problems, originating from the public's presence – level of use, high number of off-lead dogs, illegal activities. The extent to which these factors arise from CROW is likely to be negligible, given that many of the visitors are unaware of Open Access, most dog walkers had been visiting the site for more than 5 years and it is reasonable to suppose that perpetrators of illegal activities do not care. Therefore it is likely that there has been only a minimal change in levels and patterns of use and that there has not been an adverse significant impact of the sensitive biodiversity features of the site from the introduction of CROW.

This does not mean that there are not existing concerns from long standing access to the site, which have already been mentioned.

6.8.27 *Patterns of Use: Winfrith Heath*

Interviewees typically entered the site from locations off the minor road that forms the eastern boundary to the site. From the points in the south, walkers tend to funnel themselves along the track that runs north-north-west. The northern part of the site contains a dense network of small tracks and visitors make heavy use of these, as well as parts in-between. Both dog walkers and those without dogs demonstrate this behaviour. A number of walkers follow lines running parallel to the minor road, although there is nothing on the OS base map to suggest there are tracks to follow. Observation data supports the interview data.

No interviewees visited the southern part of the site (to east and west of Blacknoll). A few groups extended their walk beyond the site's confines in the north west, around Tadnoll.

6.8.28 *Implications for Access Management*

As with many of the Dorset Heathland sites, Winfrith Heath is used heavily by local dog walkers and the presence of dogs may pose a risk to the nature conservation value of the site, either directly through disturbance or indirectly due to the adverse effect that this has on decisions about appropriate site management (e.g. whether to graze with livestock or not). However, the evidence also suggests that this has been the situation here since before CROW and that the new access legislation has not altered this significantly.

The risk of erosion caused by horse riders is noted in the SSSI condition assessment but CROW does not confer any right to ride a horse or cycle on Open Access Land, so its implementation cannot be attributed as the cause.

6.8.29 *Dorset Heaths - Summary*

From the analysis of the Dorset Heath sites, the following conclusions can be drawn:

- The majority of sites have been heavily used by visitors prior to the implementation of CROW. The principal user group is local dog walkers, due to their very close proximity to conurbations, who in the main have been visiting for more than 5 years.
- The long history of access means that it is likely that there has not been a significant change in access levels and patterns of use across the Dorset Heaths monitoring sites as a result of CROW implementation. Therefore it is likely there has not been a significant adverse impact on the integrity of these sites and on the features for which they are designated from the implementation of CROW.
- This does not mean there has not been existing long term concerns and issues from existing high levels and patterns of access use. The tendency of dog owner to let their dogs off the lead in the breeding season could be affecting sensitive biodiversity features such as ground nesting birds. Concern comes mostly from dogs being allowed to roam freely across the

more sensitive biodiversity areas of a site where ground nesting birds may be present and attempting to prospect, breed and nest.

- The majority of these sites have existing access management in place or have been recently funded by the AMGS. These monitoring site reports can now be used to understand the effectiveness of existing management and guide potentially a more strategic approach to managing these sites and integrating access, biodiversity and landscape objectives at the SPA level rather than the site level.

6.9

North Norfolk Coast

Two sites were surveyed on the North Norfolk Coast.

Table 6.7 CROW Impact Assessment North Norfolk Coast

Site Name	Assessment of likely impact of CROW	Key considerations in arriving at conclusion	Residual concerns
Brancaster Beach	Low impact	Existing use, pre-CROW	Poor control of dogs
Holme Dunes	Low impact	Existing use, pre-CROW	Poor control of dogs

6.9.1

Patterns of Use: Holme Dunes

At the time of writing (March 2009) a portion of the central part of the site and a thin strip at the south edge were closed to public access, although these are for land management/commercial reasons not because of sensitive wildlife. A small number of visitors strayed into the restricted area. The National Trail runs along the northern edge of this restricted area and carries much of the visitor traffic, as they pass between the western and eastern extremities of the site. In addition, many visitors walk along the foreshore sands north of the National Trail. Some also approached the site along public footpaths which run northwards from the main coastal road, where it passes through Holme next the Sea and Thornham.

6.9.2

Implications for Access Management

It seems that this is a popular site amongst people who are conscious of its wildlife value and the need to avoid disturbance (e.g. bird watching was the main reason for visiting the site for nearly half the visitors interviewed). The wildlife for which the site is valued is at risk of disturbance from people and, in particular, dogs. Many visitors brought dogs with them and a high percentage of these (29%) were off lead and roaming, and many were regarded by the surveyors as being out of control. This suggests that there is reason for concern at the effects on wildlife. Further, there is evidence to show that some visitors are likely to ignore restrictions, whether general restrictions or site-specific ones. However, the extent to which this is a new threat to wildlife is less clear. Only 3 dog walkers were visiting for the first time, compared to 15 who had been visiting the site for 3 years or more. Further, half the people interviewed had 'always known' about the site and 52 interviewees visit at least once a year.

Therefore it is likely that there has been only a minimal change in levels and patterns of use and that there has not been an adverse significant impact of the sensitive biodiversity features of the site from the introduction of CROW. However this does not mean that there are not existing concerns from long standing access to the site, which may need addressing through better access management across the site.

6.9.3

Patterns of Use: Brancaster Beach

The PROW on the site tend to run perpendicular to the road – i.e. they give access to the coast but not along it. However, there is a public footpath which follows the southern (inland) boundary of the site from the car park westwards.

The open access rights have been restricted over a narrow strip of land at the western side of the car park area (on the grounds of them being necessary to protect sensitive wildlife), although these were not in force when the site was visited at the time of writing (March 2009). However, surveyors reported some potentially misleading 'No Access' signs.

The data obtained from interviewees suggest that the majority of visitors to Brancaster Beach are holidaymakers looking to experience a classic day on the beach. Their pattern of behaviour is fairly homogeneous – they drive to the car park, walk to various points on the beach close to the car park and leave after a period of time. Very few extend their walk beyond the section of the site around the car park, although a few walked to the site from Brancaster and others were observed in the complex of channels and saltmarsh that lie between the golf course and Brancaster.

No-one entered the areas shown as being sensitive for nature conservation (at the western end of the site and beyond the channel which forms Brancaster Harbour).

6.9.4 *Implications for Access Management*

Wildlife interests are perhaps less pronounced at this site than Holme Dunes, however, they are still of high biodiversity value in relation to wading birds and where there are sensitive areas here, visitors did not enter them. Whether this is due to the signs or because the sensitive areas are not where people want to go is hard to determine from the data available. Although many people had heard of Open Access and recognised that their right of access could be restricted, two thirds did not know that Brancaster Beach had been designated as Open Access Land. A common response from people who were asked why they left public rights of way was that they believed they'd always had a right to go onto the beach. In other words, designation of the area as Open Access land has made little difference in the minds of people visiting Brancaster Beach.

In numerical terms and percentage terms, dog owners appear to exercise less control over their dogs, and more disturbance (of other visitors) was observed, than at Holme Dunes. This could have implications on wading bird populations, especially as a third of visitors with dogs were on their first visit here. Questioning of dog walkers revealed a similar range of attitudes as those at Holme Dunes. A majority said they never keep their dogs on a lead at this location and few saw risks to wildlife as an important issue here. Only a few would be moved to put their dog on a lead in the bird breeding season or if birds are nearby, although two thirds said they would if signs told them to. As long as they stay out of the sensitive areas (as seems to be the case based on the surveys), then this may not be a cause for greater concern than at present. However, if the high percentage of first time visitors with dogs is indicative of an increase in usage resulting from CROW, and if these new visitors exhibit different patterns of use than long-time visitors, then disturbance may reach new levels and be of concern.

Therefore it is likely that there has been only a minimal change in levels and patterns of use and that there has not been an adverse significant impact of the sensitive biodiversity features of the site from the introduction of CROW. However this does not mean that there are not existing concerns from long standing access to the site, which may need addressing through better access management across the site.

6.10 **Lancashire**

One site was surveyed in Lancashire (other than Bowland Fells), at Jenny Brown's Point/Warton Sands.

Table 6.8 CROW Impact Assessment Lancashire

Site Name	Assessment of likely impact of CROW	Key considerations in arriving at conclusion	Residual concerns
Jenny Brown's /Brown's Houses	No impact	Visitors avoid sensitive areas Most users stay on PROW	None

Few interviewees (particularly at Brown's Houses) were aware of the land's status as Open Access Land but even so they mainly stayed on the 'dry land' of the headland. A few ventured onto the marsh areas, including beyond Quicksand Pool, even though access rights are restricted beyond this on the grounds of preservation of "sensitive wildlife". However, interviews revealed that many people extend their walk well beyond the coastal route. Routes used by walkers fan out south and east towards Warton Crag, Warton village and Millhead, mainly along PROW or minor public roads.

6.10.1 *Implications for Access Management*

Few interviewees (particularly at Brown's Houses) were aware of the land's status as Open Access Land but even so they mainly stayed on the 'dry land' of the headland. A few ventured onto the marsh areas, including beyond Quicksand Pool, even though access rights are restricted beyond this on the grounds of preservation of "sensitive wildlife". However, interviews revealed that many people extend their walk well beyond the coastal route. Routes used by walkers fan out south and east towards Warton Crag, Warton village and Millhead, mainly along public rights of way or minor public roads.

6.10.2 *Implications for Biodiversity and Land Management*

Level of use is not excessive and most people limit their walks to existing highways. The restrictions imposed over sensitive areas are generally respected by visitors. Therefore, it is unlikely that designation of the land as Open Access Land will have had an effect on wildlife or land management.

6.11

Cumbria

Six sites were surveyed in Cumbria (other than in the National Park and North Pennines AONB).

Table 6.9 CROW Impact Assessment Cumbria (outside of National Park and North Pennines AONB)

Site Name	Assessment of likely impact of CROW	Key considerations in arriving at conclusion	Residual concerns
Bowness Common	No impact	Low level of use	None
Drigg Coast	Low impact	Existing use, pre-CROW Relatively low level of use	Roaming dogs may affect wildlife and sheep
High Park/ Whillimoor	No impact	Low level of use	None
North Walney	Low impact	Existing use, pre-CROW Most users stay on tracks	Roaming dogs may affect wildlife
The Helm	No impact	Existing use, pre-CROW	Roaming dogs may affect sheep
Wan Fell	No impact	Low level of use	Dogs inhibiting re-introduction of grazing

At two of the six sites, the impacts of CROW are assessed as nil (at Bowness Common and High Park/Whillimoor Fell) due to their low level of use.

6.11.1

Patterns of Use: Drigg Coast

The car park at the road end is the main launching point for forays onto the coast by Drigg. Walkers typically walk a circuit involving going to the waterline, following it north or south, then coming inland to return on a route parallel to the shore (or vice versa). Some visitors were probably on the Cumbria Coastal Way and followed this route from/to the north and along the Shore road.

It was evident that dog walkers were inclined to walk further out towards the sea and so beyond the site's boundary, wandering freely on the foreshore.

6.11.2

Implications for Access Management

The high proportion of visitors with dogs who let them run freely may be a cause for concern from both a nature conservation and livestock management perspective. In practice, the number of visitors, spread over a large site (including the beach area), may be low enough to mean that the impact is small. Further, this site has probably had open access for many years so the additional impact of CROW is likely to be low.

6.11.3

Patterns of Use: North Walney

The local topography dictates that people have to approach the site from its south west corner. From there, an access corridor is formed by the shoreline on the west and Barrow Airfield on the right; everyone is funnelled along this corridor until the site opens out. From this point, walkers typically continue along the shore line – some actually rounding the end of the spit – although most double back earlier. Most of the routes followed make use of minor tracks and paths (non-PROW). There appears to be no difference between routes followed by people with or without dogs, except perhaps a greater tendency for dog walkers to walk up along the western beach.

6.11.4

Implications for Access Management

The visitor profile is consistent with that of many 'local' sites – used regularly as a resource by local people - and consequently is likely to have been well-established pre-CROW.

If people do generally stay on the tracks in the southern part of the site, then impacts on land management and nature conservation interests are likely to be low. The fact that most dog walkers allow their dogs to roam freely may be a concern. However, none of the access pressure appears to be directly a result of CROW implementation.

6.11.5 *Patterns of Use: The Helm*

Interviews were undertaken at the northern end of the site, at an area where parking is possible on verges. All visitors, walkers and dog walkers alike, find routes to left or right but most either follow the path that climbs up onto the whaleback ridge or one that runs parallel to the minor road that crosses the western side of the Helm. The two routes (one off-site to the west and one off-site to the east) may be used by some to make up a circular walk.

There is little walking outside these four main route lines. Where they are abandoned, this is by dog walkers and they stay on the western slope of the Helm (where there are many sheep tracks and minor paths).

6.11.6 *Implications for Access Management*

Sheep grazing on the western slopes of the Helm may be compromised slightly by the large number of unleashed dogs brought onto the site. However, given the long history of public access to this site, it is unlikely that its designation as Open Access Land has affected the way the land is managed.

6.11.7 *Patterns of Use: Wan Fell*

The small amount of data recorded shows that access was obtained from the B6413, along the quarry road. The walkers did not venture far into the area, although wandered around freely within this part of the site. However, there is insufficient information to suggest that this is a normal pattern of use.

6.11.8 *Implications for Access Management*

This level of use is unlikely to be having any direct effect on nature conservation interests at this site. It is interesting to note that the reason given for one of the SSSI units being in poor condition is undergrazing. Lack of grazing can sometimes arise from a fear that sheep will be worried by dogs brought onto site by visitors and allowed to roam free. While this does happen here, the pressure from visitors' dogs seems unlikely to be sufficient to generate such concern. It is concluded, therefore, that CROW implementation has had no effect on the nature conservation interests and land management of the site.

6.12 **Shropshire**

Two sites were surveyed in Shropshire.

Table 6.10 CROW Impact Assessment at Shropshire

Site Name	Assessment of likely impact of CROW	Key considerations in arriving at conclusion	Residual concerns
Long Mynd	No impact	Existing use, pre-CROW Most users stay on PROW	None
Stiperstones	Some evidence for increased use	A proportion of first time visitors but who stick to PROW	Dogs roaming off PROW

6.12.1 *Patterns of Use: Stiperstones*

Most people observed at the site were on the paths, which are well-defined and plentiful, and the heather (which tends to obscure the underlying loose rocks) deters straying. The observations show that this generalisation applied to both dog walkers and those without dogs. The path that runs along the central spine of the ridge and the bridleway at the eastern side appear to carry the most traffic but with many linking paths used, presumably to allow walkers to complete a circular walk of some kind, rather than a 'there-back' route. Some of the walks extended outside the site boundary.

6.12.2 *Implications for Access Management*

A significant number of people interviewed (30%) were visiting the site for the first time (including 35% of dog walkers), and this may be indicative of an uplift in usage as a result of site promotion. Even so, the vast majority of walks are along PROW, so it seems that promotion prompted by CROW implementation may be having a greater effect on usage than the designation of the land as CROW Access Land per se, and as an NNR that encourages visitors to use the site. This pattern of use suggests that public access post-CROW is likely not to have had a significant impact on land management or nature conservation interests; it is unlikely to have changed due to the existence of a good network of paths. There is limited amount of evidence to suggest that dogs are not being controlled so that they stay on PROW, although this may not be a new problem. Wildfires may be a concern during droughts but again this is not a new danger

6.13 **Suffolk**

Six sites were surveyed in Suffolk.

Table 6.11 CROW Impact Assessment at Suffolk

Site Name	Assessment of likely impact of CROW	Key considerations in arriving at conclusion	Residual concerns
Cavenham Heath	No impact	Walkers stay out of vulnerable areas	People ceasing to adhere to restrictions
Dunwich Heath	No impact	Existing use, pre-CROW Most users stay on PROW	Roaming dogs may affect wildlife
Knettishall	No impact	Existing use, pre-CROW	None
Sutton Heath	No impact	Existing use, pre-CROW	Roaming dogs may affect wildlife
Walberswick	No impact	Existing use, pre-CROW Most users stay on PROW	Roaming dogs may affect wildlife
Westleton Heath	No impact	Existing use, pre-CROW Most users stay on PROW	Roaming dogs may affect wildlife

6.13.1 *Patterns of Use: Dunwich Heath*

Taking an overview of Open Access Land usage in the area, most of the activity is in the northern part; usage may arise from visitors parking further south but it tends to suggest that those parking in the north – alongside Dunwich Heath – tend to limit their walk to this area; whilst those parking further south (i.e. at the nuclear power station visitor centre) limit their walk to the southern part.

Plotting out the routes taken by interviewees reveals the marked tendency for visitors to stay on existing tracks – be they PROW or not. The promoted routes all come in for the heaviest use, as does the track that runs north-south through the centre of the site (and to the west of the Suffolk Coast Path). Walking off paths is confined to relatively few areas – some dog walkers reported that they had wandered off-paths/tracks in the centre of the site, whilst some walkers not accompanied by dogs gone off-path in the part of the site immediately north of Docwra's Ditch. However, nearly all of those interviewed had not wandered off PROW in the sensitive places from which public access is currently excluded, although some had followed a short field boundary on the edge of the woodland in the Westleton Walks area (running east-west). Some of those going into the Westleton Walks area had dogs with them, including those who went off PROW and followed the field boundary.

6.13.2 *Implications for Access Management*

There are two key factors to bear in mind here – the tendency of visitors to stay on paths and tracks and the long history of access to this site – when considering implications of CROW implementation at this site. Both these factors lead to the view that CROW implementation is unlikely to have changed the pattern and level of use of this site. A further factor, given the sensitivity of ground nesting birds at this site, relatively few dogs were brought onto the site and were kept under close control (either on lead or walking to heel). So, we conclude that CROW

has probably not brought about any additional adverse impacts on biodiversity interests or land management at this site.

6.13.3

Patterns of Use: Walberswick Common

The good network of PROW across the site seems to supply visitors with the vast majority of their needs for suitable routes to follow. The disused railway which carries the promoted route seems to act as a psychological barrier and no-one reported venturing north of this line. However, many walked along this route and the PROW fanning off it, with the two bridleways (running roughly in parallel) at the eastern edge of the site being the most popular. The entry point to the west of Heath House was the most commonly used and provides users with a choice of triangular routes along the PROW which many follow.

Off-PROW activity is relatively common in the centre of the Common (including over the 'island' of non-Access land, especially amongst dog walkers, while peripheral areas are more the domain of walkers without dogs.

6.13.4

Implications for Access Management

There seems to be a high tendency to stay on PROW at this site, perhaps a reflection of the health of the heather, its height deterring people from walking through it, and the high number of non-locals who may feel more comfortable following clear routes. In this respect, the mapping of the site as Open Access Land has probably had minimal impact. Dogs are a particular concern at this site and, in the observation survey, two dogs were observed to be roaming (which is taken to mean off PROW) and 80% of people interviewed only keep their dogs on leads some of the time. This pattern of behaviour is unlikely to be attributable to CROW but remains a residual concern.

6.13.5

Patterns of Use Sutton Heath

Analysis of the data from the survey suggest that this is a typical local dog-walking site. Observations show that the majority of dogs were allowed off-lead.

Patterns of use appear to conform to a relatively simple design – people enter from the main entry point in the western extremity of the site, walk around the site and then exit at the same point. Whilst within the site, though, they fan out in all directions and so visit virtually every part of the site (including some areas not designated as Open Access Land). Dog walkers and those without dogs both adhere to this simple approach.

6.13.6

Implications for Access Management

The main concern with public access to this site from a biodiversity perspective is the risk of disturbance of ground-nesting birds by free-roaming dogs. (Fire risk could be a concern in periods of very dry weather but no observations were made of inappropriate behaviour constituting fire risks.) The extent to which these concerns are attributable to CROW depends on how the public's use of the site has changed as a result of it being mapped as Open Access Land. Evidence from the interviews suggests that the pattern of access use (especially by dog walkers) is well-established.

Given the above observations, it appears that CROW implementation is unlikely to have brought about any additional adverse impacts on nature conservation interests at this site. However there remains a residual concern over free-roaming dogs, even though CROW is unlikely to have added to this concern.

6.13.7

Patterns of Use Cavenham Heath

This site is not heavily used but is, according to the justification for its designation as a statutorily protected site, vulnerable to public access. It seems reasonable to infer, therefore, that the vulnerability is more likely to arise from dogs rather than people. It is encouraging to note that no dog walking activity was recorded or observed in the Tuddenham Heath area or on Cavenham Heath north of the Icknield Way Path (also seen to be sensitive for nature conservation). Visitor activity seems to be confined to that part of the site that is least sensitive from a nature conservation perspective).

6.13.8

Implications for Access Management

The main concern (which seems to have arisen as a result of CROW implementation) at this site is the risks to ground-nesting birds, and in particularly the stone-curlew (which is now rare),

from disturbance by people and their dogs. If the interview responses and observations are representative, walkers (neither interviewed or observed) whether with or without dogs are not venturing into the sensitive areas.

Given the above, it appears that CROW restrictions are working and so implementation is unlikely to have brought about any additional adverse impacts on biodiversity interests at this site. The choice of routes taken by dog walkers should remain a concern and so the continuation of the current regime would seem to offer the best way forward.

6.13.9

Patterns of Use: Knettishall Heath

All but one group of people interviewed at this site had entered from the main car park and picnic area in the north east of the site. From here, people spread out across the site, mostly along tracks and PROW. The most commonly followed route was north-south through the centre of the site with people peeling off left and right to explore different parts of the site but, as previously noted, typically along paths and tracks. Dog walkers were the most adventurous – travelling further into the corners of the site and some of the areas in-between the tracks.

Some visitors ventured into the area north of the site following routes along the tracks there and the river bank, even though these routes are neither on Open Access Land or PROW.

6.13.10

Implications for Access Management

Given that the site is a Country Park of long standing, it appears that CROW implementation is unlikely to have brought about any additional adverse impacts on nature conservation interests at this site.

6.14

Dorset Downlands

Six sites were surveyed in Dorset, other than the Dorset Heaths sites.

Table 6.12 CROW Impact Assessment at Dorset Downlands

Site Name	Assessment of likely impact of CROW	Key considerations in arriving at conclusion	Residual concerns
Eggardon Hill	No impact	Existing use, pre-CROW	Erosion leading to damage of SAM
Fontmell Down	No impact	Existing use, pre-CROW Low level of use	Restrictions to safeguard dog walkers from cattle may not be fully ineffective
Hambury Tout / Lulworth	Low impact	Existing use, pre-CROW Most users stay on PROW	Heavy usage
Higher Hill Plush / Nettlescombe	No impact	Low level of use Most users stay on PROW	None
Purbeck Ridge/Godlingston Hill	No impact	Most users stay on PROW	None
The Giant, Cerne Abbas	No impact	Existing use, pre-CROW Most users stay on PROW	If presence of dogs cause sheep grazing to stop, conservation value may be compromised

6.14.1

Patterns of Use: Eggardon Hill

The focus of visitor attention is clearly the hill fort, and many people's walks simply circle the earthworks that surround the fort. However, some people follow the edge of the escarpment and drop down the slope along the bridleway down to North Eggardon Farm; from there, linking to the PROW network to the west or returning up the slope to the fort. A few people also walked north westwards towards Bell Stone.

6.14.2 *Implications for Access Management*

As there was an open access policy across the site prior to CROW there is unlikely to have been a change in access use, particularly as there is an existing network of PROW. Therefore there it is unlikely that the management of the site has been affected.

6.14.3 *Pattern of Use: Fontmell Down*

The pattern of use typically was to enter the site from the car park (in the north east), do a circuit of the woodland in the site's centre (which is not Open Access Land) and return to the car park. Some walkers followed a route that took them north of the site (along minor roads), entering the site on a bridleway in the west of the site. Amongst these people, there was a reasonably high awareness that the area was open access land, although this may be a legacy of the National Trust's policy.

6.14.4 *Implications for Access Management*

The management of the site is unlikely to have been affected by CROW, given the open access policy that obtained beforehand, and the relatively low level of visitor pressure. It would also appear that any dog restrictions are ineffective, which may be a cause for concern if restrictions are intended to be in place to remove the risks to dog walkers from cattle.

6.14.5 *Pattern of Use: The Giant, Cerne Abbas*

Observations show that people tend to walk along the PROW that runs north-south below the Giant, and a few climb up the steep sides of the Giant's enclosure. This is supported by interview data, although this reveals that some walkers go round the southern end of the ridge and north east wards up onto the downland plateau or south east to a minor road. Most enter the site from the village of Cerne Abbas or the parking/picnic area to the west.

6.14.6 *Implications for Access Management*

Free-ranging dogs may be a cause for concern if sheep are grazing but will not significantly affect the nature conservation interests unless optimum grazing management is compromised. Nonetheless, management of the site is unlikely to have been affected by CROW, given the open access policy that obtained beforehand, and the relatively low level of visitor pressure. Plus, most visitors stick to public rights of way anyhow.

6.14.7 *Patterns of Use: Hambury Tout*

By far the majority of use is along the clifftop path that links Lulworth Cove and Durdle Door (which is also the line of the South West Coast Path). A minority of people follow routes inland, typically along public rights of way and tracks. Although cliffs abound, some visitors managed to pick their way along the bottom of the cliffs, both around Lulworth Cove and along the shoreline to Durdle Door.

6.14.8 *Implications for Access Management*

Despite the heavy usage, the indications are that people who visit the site are mainly tourists who tend to stay on PROW and only a few bring dogs with them. As such, they may be more responsive to management measures than regular/local visitors. However, access to this site pre-dates CROW and the acquisition of Open Access Land status is likely to have had little impact on site management and its nature conservation status.

6.15 **Visitor Numbers**

No counts were made as part of the survey. The observation survey recorded periodic counts of people visible on an hourly (half hourly in 2006) basis but no systematic recording of the visitor numbers.

In order to make an assessment as to usage of sites, three values have been combined, which together provide a level of 'busyness'. These are:

- Group size (interview survey);
- Frequency of visiting site (interview survey);
- Number of visitors recorded (observation survey).

As part of the interview survey, people were asked how often they visit the site, and how many people were in their party and from this variable an estimate of the number of trips made annually has been made.

For the observation survey data, the total number of visitors observed is factored down by the number of survey days conducted to give an equal number of days per site. This is then factored up by 260, to give an estimate of the number of visitors per year. (A factor of 365 would produce a high estimate, given that the surveys took place mostly in the summer months. Further details on the approach can be found in Annex 1). The average of the estimates, from the interview and observation surveys are then found. For all sites this produced values in the range 0 to 91303. The 20th, 40th, 60th and 80th percentile values for this range are shown in Table 5.13 below. The same approach was taken for dogs at the site; here the range for all sites is 0 to 9533. Indices are then applied such that 1= results in the lowest group, below 20th percentile, 2= results between the 20th and 40th percentiles etc.

Table 6.13 Visitor and Dog Indices

Percentile	Visitor Numbers	Dogs	Index	Description
0	0	0	1	Very low use
0.2	213	30	2	Low use
0.4	1386	283	3	Average use
0.6	3415	683	4	High use
0.8	5366	1916	5	Very high use

A Visitor Index (VI) of 1 indicates that annual visitors numbers are small, possibly less than 213 people per year, or less than one per day, whereas a site with a VI of 5 is very busy, with more than 5366 visitors annually. The indices have been assessed for each year to assess if any trends in usage can be ascertained, but note that the results are indicative only. As the indices are based on relative averages the figure for all years may not itself be an average of the individual years. Sites not surveyed in any year have no index. Table 6.14 shows the Visitor Indices for the site groups, and shows that Canford Heath has very high use, at value 5, as does the North Norfolk Coast.

Table 6.14 Visitor Indices

	2006	2007	2008	All
National Sample Sites	2.6	2.8	2.9	2.9
North Norfolk Coast	3.0	4.5	5.0	5.0
Canford Heath	4.0	5.0	5.0	5.0
Shropshire		4.0	5.0	4.5
Bowland Fells	3.0	3.5	3.8	4.0
Sunbiggin Tarn	3.0	5.0	4.0	4.0
South Pennine Moors	4.0	4.0	4.0	4.0
Dorset Heaths		3.4	3.4	3.5
Suffolk		2.5	4.0	3.3
Dorset Downs		3.2	2.4	3.0
Lancashire		3.0	3.0	3.0
Cumbria		3.2	2.3	2.8
North Pennines AONB	4.0	2.2	1.9	1.9

National Sample Sites

The average Visitor Index for all the National Sample sites is 2.9, but individual sites range from VI 1 to VI5. The indices appear to show a year on year increase, but there are insufficient sites to say whether these differences are significant.

The North Pennine Sites have the lowest Visitor Indices, with only Cow Green having a Visitor Index of 5, and half of these sites having a Visitor Index of 1.

Table 6.15 shows the Dog Indices for the site groups, and this also shows that Canford Heath has very high use, at value 5. Other sites with high numbers of dogs are the North Norfolk Coast and the Dorset Heaths sites. The North Pennines AONB has the fewest dogs.

Table 6.15 Dog Indices

	2006	2007	2008	All
National Sample Sites	3.0	2.9	3.0	3.0
North Norfolk Coast	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0
Canford Heath	4.0	4.0	4.5	4.5
Shropshire		4.1	4.2	4.3
Bowland Fells		4.0	3.0	4.0
Sunbiggin Tarn	4.0	3.0	3.0	3.5
South Pennine Moors		3.6	2.8	3.3
Dorset Heaths		3.2	3.2	3.3
Suffolk	4.0	4.0	2.0	3.0
Dorset Downs		3.0	2.4	2.8
Lancashire	2.0	2.0	1.8	2.5
Cumbria		2.5	2.5	2.5
North Pennines AONB	3.0	1.8	1.5	1.6

National Sample Sites

The average Dog Index for all the National Sample sites is 3.0, but individual sites range from DI 1 to DI 5. The indices do not show a year on year change.

By site type the following differences in Visitor and Dog Indices are noted, see Table 6.16.

- Moorland sites have both few dogs and fewer visitors than lowland sites;
- Sites with biodiversity designations have more visitors but only slightly more dogs than other sites;
- Urban sites have many more people and particularly more dogs;

Table 6.16 Visitor and dog indices by site type

Site Type	Visitor Index	Dog Index
Moorland Sites	2.3	2.1
Not Moorland Sites	2.9	3.4
Biodiversity Designated Sites	2.9	2.9
Non Designated Sites	2.4	2.8
Urban	3.4	3.7
Not Urban	2.5	2.6
Common Land	2.9	3.0
Not Common Land Site	2.5	2.7
Section 15	3.3	3.2
Not Section 15 Land	2.5	2.7
Sites with AMGS	2.9	3.0
Sites without AMGS	2.4	2.7
TOTAL		

6.16**Entry Points**

Using a similar approach to the indices above, analysis has been carried out of the entry points for each site²⁰. For all sites, mapping analysis identified the number of routes passing through each entry point to the area of Open Access Land. The maximum for any entry point for each was then identified, and hence the average maximum for all sites. This formed the upper range of a five point scale denoting levels of use, as follows:

- Index 5 – 24 or more
- Index 4 – 17-23
- Index 3 – 11-16
- Index 2 – 6-10
- Index 1 - 5 or fewer

This information indicates which parts of the routes are likely to be most heavily used, and can be used in models for predicting patterns of use.

²⁰ As advised by Rob Keane, Nature Conservation & Monitoring Specialist, NE



7 Summary and Conclusions

7 Summary and Conclusions

7.1

Introduction

In this chapter we draw together the key findings of the report and where applicable relate these to the following themes for evidence to support the objectives within Natural England's Strategic Direction (2008-2013):

- Impacts on biodiversity;
- Access management;
- Health and exercise; and
- Sustainable transport.

In the **Strategic Direction 2008 – 2013**, the desired outcomes of what NE want to achieve for the natural environment over the next five years are described. A framework of objectives has been created within which policies can be developed. The measures of success for each objective will help NE to assess the effectiveness in working to secure a healthy and resilient natural environment over the next five years. There are four complementary strategic outcomes which are relevant.

Outcome 1: A healthy natural environment

Our diverse landscapes continue to provide inspiration and enjoyment for people and enable our wildlife to adapt to the challenges of the future.

- Actions to directly conserve and enhance our landscapes and biodiversity, on land and within our seas. Influencing policy frameworks and supporting individuals, organisations, land managers and business to take action to conserve and enhance wildlife and landscapes today.

Outcome 2: People are inspired to value and conserve the natural environment

We need to understand people's motivations and requirements better, especially young people who are increasingly disconnected from the natural world.

- People are inspired to value and conserve the natural environment. Engaging and mobilising people to explore, understand and act for the natural environment. Increasing the opportunities available for people to make the natural environment an enriching part of their everyday lives.

Outcome 3: The use and management of the natural environment is more sustainable

We need to ensure that the way we use and manage our land, freshwaters and seas does not compromise the natural environment and that change and development can occur in a manner that protects and enhances the natural environment.

- Influencing how our land and seas are used and managed today. Developing and promoting sustainable solutions to environmental problems at national, regional and local level and, as a result, increasing the level of social and economic benefits provided by the natural environment.

Outcome 4: Decisions that collectively secure the future of the natural environment

The factors that affect the natural environment are complex and changing rapidly. The choices we make today we will have to live with tomorrow. They affect the places we live in and how we use them for work, relaxation, learning and play, both as individuals and as communities. We need to make choices that are affordable, satisfy the needs of people but do not compromise on the long-term resilience of our environment.

- Bringing together organisations and individuals that influence and shape our environmental future. Developing our vision and identifying opportunities to influence the decisions that will secure the natural environment of tomorrow.

7.2

Summary of Findings: National Sample of Sites

The key findings that relate to the National Sample of sites are summarised below.

7.2.1

Demographics

- The proportion of male visitors is significantly higher than females (62%);
- The demographics of visitors to Open Access Land areas are not representative of the population as a whole, tending to be older, white and more likely to be in employment and less likely to have a disability that impairs their ability to work or the things that they do.

Outcome 2: CROW has had no discernible effect on the diversity of visitors to the natural environment where there is access land, based on the National Sample of sites.

7.2.2

Visitor Patterns

- More than half of visitors are accompanied by dogs;
- Sites with large populations close by have higher proportions of visitors accompanied by dogs than those further away;
- Almost a quarter of people visit an Open Access Land site on a daily basis;
- Almost nine out of ten visits are made from home, with an average of 10 miles being travelled to site;
- Almost three quarters of visits to site are made by car (or other motorised transport): 22% walk all the way to the site, 3% cycle and 1% of visits are made by public transport.

Outcome 3: Although the majority of visits are made by car, the distances travelled are not great. A quarter of trips are made by sustainable means, and there will be health benefits associated with the walking and cycling trips.

7.2.3

Visitor Activities

- More than two fifths of visitors said their main reason for being at the site was to walk a dog; and 13% were there for a 'serious' walk; three in ten are there to take a short stroll;
- The scenery and an attractive landscape are the main reason for choosing a site for almost half of respondents;
- Over half, 55% said that getting exercise featured to a large extent in their decision to visit the countryside, and a further 33% said it did so to some extent;
- Almost half of visits last under an hour, with dog walkers spending about a third as long as do serious walkers.

Health and Exercise: While dog walkers may not walk as far as serious walkers while at sites, they make far more trips, typically daily. Getting exercise, as well as exercising a dog is a positive attraction of the natural environment

7.2.4

Visitor Habits

- The majority of visits to Open Access Land involve no local expenditure; for the quarter of people who do spend anything, the average is just under £10;
- Those who visit sites when on holiday tend to spend around three times as much as those who travel from home.

Support for rural economy: Since most trips are made relatively close to home, and expenditure levels are low there are only a limited number of visits that give rise to a benefit to rural economies from sites typical of the National Sample. Expenditure tends to be higher by people making trips while on holiday, and hence spending may be higher at sites that attract holiday makers. While expenditure is higher at other sites outside the National Sample, there is no evidence to suggest this is any effect of CROW.

7.2.5

Visitor Awareness of Open Access

- One in five visitors said they had seen the Open Access symbol before when shown it;
- Of these, a fifth had seen it while at the site at which they were interviewed, fewer than had seen it at other sites;
- Almost a third who had seen the sign knew that it represented Open Access;
- 68% have heard of Open Access, fewer than have heard of Right to Roam;
- Less than 3 in ten respondents were aware they were at a site designated as Open Access Land;
- Awareness has not increased over the three years of the survey.

Outcome 2: At the current time, early in the life of Open Access, CROW has had limited effect on the way people are experiencing Open Access Land.

7.2.6

Patterns of use

- The average distance walked on Open Access Land sites is 2km;
- Of this, almost half, 47% is on PROW, 19% is on other paths or tracks and the remainder on Open Access Land, although spatial information shows that few wander completely away from paths;
- High proportions, 89% utilise Open Access Land at some point during their visit;
- There are no differences in the proportions of a walk spent on or off PROW by visitor type, but serious walkers walk the longest distance off PROW, by virtue of the longer walks made;
- Respondents tend to under-estimate much of their walk is off PROW, and in many cases do not distinguish between PROW and other tracks;
- Many people find it easier to walk on PROW because of unsuitable terrain;
- The presence of other tracks is the main reason people go off PROW, mentioned by 15% who went off PROW, followed by 8% who do so to exercise their dog;
- There are no trends by year of the survey in the utilisation of Open Access Land.

Outcome 1: Many individuals generally do not understand the basis of the rights they are exercising when on Open Access Land and so are not always able to respond to measures applied to protect the environment. Many thought the routes they were following were PROW when they were tracks across Open Access Land. Even if they were on Open Access Land, the understanding of what this entitled them to do was poor in many cases. Consequently, they are not always likely to be able to respond to measures applied to protect the environment, if these are predicated on the assumption that people know that they are on Open Access Land or on PROW.

Outcome 3: Despite the apparent high utilisation of Open Access Land, the data indicates that there has been no significant change in the levels and patterns of use, and the usage is probably the same as in the Pre - CROW situation.

7.2.7

Visitors with dogs

- There is no discernible difference in the propensity to bring dogs to Open Access land sites in the period of general dog restrictions or at other times;
- Almost three fifths had been bringing dogs to the site for more than five years (i.e. pre CROW);
- Three fifths said being able to let the dog off the lead was the main attraction for a dog at the site;
- One in ten dogs is never put on a lead; 7% are always on leads;
- Dog owners claim that the proximity of livestock would prompt 55% of them who sometimes or never have the dog on lead to use a lead; 46% would do in the presence of other dogs;
- One in ten said they would use leads if requested to by signage;
- Many of those who would not use leads claimed their dog was controllable without one;
- The issues most mentioned regarding dogs and the countryside were risks to farm animals and clearing up dog mess (52% and 50% respectively);
- A quarter of respondents mentioned risks to birds or wildlife from dogs.

Biodiversity: At some sites dogs may pose risks to biodiversity hence the restrictions and positive access management applied to sensitive sites. The data show that for the National Sample, the period of general restrictions makes no difference as to whether dogs are at sites or on leads. There is an inherent conflict between the general restrictions on dogs (i.e. to keep dogs on leads at certain times) and the reasons why many dog owners visit sites (i.e. to let their dog run free, off-lead).

Outcome 1: Dog walkers are most likely to visit sites very often (daily or weekly), are least likely to read signs, and are often not aware of the Open Access Land status of the sites they visit. This means that influencing their behaviour (e.g. by communicating good practice messages to them and providing reasons through positive messages why a person should keep to the general restrictions on dogs) will be difficult. It is likely to require more direct intervention such as wardening, or zoning, and/or innovative thinking, leading to a range of positive access management techniques.

7.3

Implications for Access Management

The potential impacts of the new rights of access on biodiversity were assessed prior to CROW through Nature Conservation Assessments (NCA) carried out on all designated sites in England to identify and implement the least restrictive option that would give such sites appropriate protection. On many sites, measures were introduced to avoid or minimise the possible impacts that a new right of public access might have on biodiversity.

Surveys were conducted at 63 such locations, through the National Monitoring and Local Monitoring programme over three years. The situation at each site was that which obtained after the implementation of CROW; there was no baseline data to allow a 'before and after' comparison to be made. Consequently, it has been necessary to make inferences about pre-CROW use to allow some sort of assessment to be made. In making assessments of the impacts of CROW, the extent of pre-existing use has been judged in relation to a number of bits of data:

- Whether the land carried existing area-wide access rights (i.e. it is section 15 land);
- Whether PROW crossed the site;
- The appearance of tracks and paths across the site, as seen in aerial photography (using Google Earth);
- Answers to specific questions in the survey, notably:
 - Length of time a dog walker had been bringing their dog to the site (particularly if over 5 years, or between 3 and 5 years);
 - Proportion of first time visitors;
 - The proportion of people who had 'always known' about the site;
 - The proportion of people who gave as their reason for coming to the site as being 'always come here'.

This cannot be a precise measure but, where the above indicators show a high degree of corroboration, confidence can be placed in the inference.

Based on this approach to assessing the probable impacts of CROW implementation on site management, a number of conclusions can be drawn. In summary, these are:

- Overall, impacts of CROW implementation is likely to be nil or low at most sites (54 of the 63 sites). At the other nine sites, impacts were uncertain due to lack of corroboration in the evidence used but in most of these cases, the likelihood is that impacts would be minimal. At only two sites (Stiperstones and Great Ovens) was there indications of increased use in recent times that could be attributable to CROW, although these tended to be an exacerbation of existing problems rather than new ones;
- Where designated sites are in poor condition and a reason for this is given in the site condition assessments, factors other than legitimate public access are quoted as the cause in virtually all cases. One exception, identified by inference, is the influence that the presence of the public's dogs might have on selection of management methods where livestock are needed for grazing in order to maintain biodiversity;
- This does not mean that there are not pre existing visitor pressures or residual concerns for land managers that can be attributed to public access, just that CROW implementation is not a direct cause, *per se*. The most common residual concerns are:
 - Control of dogs/management of dog owners
 - Effectiveness of restrictions (on people with and without dogs)
 - Heavy use causing damage to important sensitive features
 - Need for continued visitor management
 - 'urban influences' (e.g. dogs, litter dumping/fly tipping).

The spatial visitor data collected can now be used by Natural England for future assessments or reassessments of sites, as it will provide some of the inputs into predictive computer models and enable the spatial relationship between people levels and patterns of use and position of sensitive biodiversity areas, management points and restrictions to better understand and inform the effectiveness of positive access management and restrictions developed to influence visitor behaviour on the most sensitive sites.

7.4

Comparison of findings from National Sample Survey and Lake District Sample

The surveys conducted in the National Survey included no Open Access Land within a National Park, as such land falls under the Park Authorities' management and is being monitored at their own discretion. The Lake District (LD) National Park Authority undertook Local Monitoring using the Toolkit in 2008. A summary of these sites can be found in Annex 2, and the Lake District Case Study presents reports for each of the 10 sites. An overview of the main differences from the National Sample Survey is presented below:

- Almost two thirds of visitors to the LD sites were holiday makers; 88% of trips to National Sample sites originated from home;
- A quarter of visits in the LD were first time visits compared with 11% at National Sample sites;
- Only 9% of visitors interviewed were at the site alone, compared with the 42% in the National Sample;
- Only 7% were visiting sites in the LD to walk a dog as their main purpose, compared with 42% in the National Sample;

There were no notable differences in the demographics of visitors. There were no differences in the awareness of Open Access Land or in whether respondents knew they were at an area of Open Access Land.

Although there is no directly comparable data from the National Sample, comparing the data with that from the Local Monitoring data from outside National Parks there appears to be a greater propensity to keep dogs on leads for given circumstances in the LD.

Visitors walk longer distances at the Lake District sites, but the usage of land off PROW on areas of Open Access land is very similar.

7.5 Overall Conclusions

The method used to sample the usage of Open Access Land is robust and confidence can be placed in the findings. Visitors to the countryside are not representative of the population as a whole, with older, white, male and employed people without physical impairments being over represented.

There is little evidence to suggest any significant change in the pattern of use of Open Access Land over the three years of the survey.

CROW implementation has been assessed, using information available through the survey, as probably having no or a limited effect on change of use and hence on biodiversity in terms of the levels and patterns of use at most sites. The main reasons for making this assessment are:

- Existing use, pre-CROW, means that any problems are not new ones
- Tendency for people to stay on PROW and tracks
- Low level of use

Where there are residual concerns, the behaviour of dog owners is the most common.

From an access management point of view, dog walkers are perhaps the most challenging type of user. This is because:

- Dog walking is the most common activity undertaken on Open Access Land (note that in addition to those who describe themselves as 'dog walkers', there will be other user types who happen to have dogs with them);
- The dog has potential to cause adverse impacts on wildlife, livestock and, in some circumstances, soil nutrient status. The presence of dogs can also inhibit the introduction of appropriate land management measures;
- A significant proportion of dog walkers visit Open Access Land sites specifically because they can let their dog off the lead, irrespective of whether dog restrictions are in place or not;
- Dog walkers have a higher tendency to walk off-PROW than other types;
- Dog walkers are less influenced by signs and on-site information than other types of user and so are difficult to influence.

However, most dog walkers have an inherent acceptance of the need to keep dogs on leads under some circumstances, as evidenced by the high proportion of dog owners who accepted this when questioned. The challenge is to ensure people understand when those particular circumstances obtain. Standard methods such as signs and leaflets may not achieve the desired results and more direct approaches may be needed (e.g. personal approaches by wardens/rangers).

People's understanding of the rights they are exercising when visiting these sites is poor. Many people knew of Open Access but only in a general way; further, estimates of the proportion of walks completed on PROW or Open Access Land differed significantly from the proportion assessed through mapping. This means that their behaviour is probably best managed 'on-the-ground' rather than via messages linked to 'Open Access Land' and 'public rights of way', and through guidebooks/leaflets. There is little to be gained from promoting good practice that operates along the lines of "when on PROW you can do X" and "when on Open Access Land you can do Y": a more strategic approach is required working at the site level. Clear indications of where people can go and more subtle positive management techniques, such as location of car parks, stiles/gates, and stream crossings are likely to be more effective at influencing where people walk.

The data can be used when looking at the possible effectiveness of a range of positive access management techniques can be used, such as zoning a site into areas of biodiversity or land management sensitivity, e.g. ground nesting bird assemblages, habitat sensitive to erosion. For example, the spatial visitor use data can be overlaid with the sensitivity zoned areas to guide or improve positive access management techniques to be employed across the site or sites at major decision making points (e.g. at junctions in path and PROW networks).

Even so, it is important that wider considerations are not forgotten – people may take routes for reasons not affected by on-the-ground measures (such as if following a self-guided route, or aiming for a particular destination). However, as the results indicate, there is a lack of awareness of the general dog restriction (i.e. the need to keep dogs on a short fixed lead during the breeding season and close proximity to livestock) and long standing visitors and dog walkers may strongly feel that their rights have been reduced by CROW if restrictions are implemented forcibly, as they have always let their dog of the lead and come for a walk to do so. The data can be interrogated to help determine the best approach to be used in devising positive management measures.

Therefore rather than implementing awareness of the general dog restriction across the whole site this could be guided by understanding the spatial relationship between visitors and the zoned sensitivity biodiversity areas.

Some sites could have areas where there is a dog walking area, where dogs are encouraged to be let off the lead, and 'no go' areas, where people are asked not to walk with their dog. An integrated approach would be needed so that published guides allow the user to choose appropriate routes walks and with on-the-ground way marking/ colour coding to reinforce the messages, linked to primary information interpretation boards at major entry points to guide visitors away from the most sensitive biodiversity zoned areas (as used at Canford Heath). All this can be done with positive access management without the need for further restrictions.

The majority of these sites will have existing access management in place or have been recently funded by the Access Management Grant Scheme (AMGS). The monitoring site reports can now be used to understand the effectiveness of existing management and guide potentially a more strategic approach to managing these sites and integrating access, biodiversity and landscape objectives at the SPA level, rather than the site level. Apart from on urban sites, people have a strong tendency to stay on what they believe to be PROW (although they may be just tracks or permissive paths). This is because people find it easier to walk on paths than not and because PROW take them where they want to go. So, by creating a recognisable path to where people may want to go, (e.g. to attractive features like viewpoints), visitors can be channelled along preferred routes and away from sensitive features. Where people go off paths, for example for bird watching rather than to access specific locations these would be harder to manage, and signage may be required.

Walking as a means of exercise, sustaining or leading to better health and well-being, is a motivation (to a greater or lesser extent) for many users. It may be possible to exploit this motivation when considering how land is managed.

Two thirds of respondents had travelled less than 5 miles to reach the site at which they were interviewed. This information may have relevance to NE's proposals for provision of Green Infrastructure and developments of appropriate targets. The reasons given for visiting Open Access Land sites may also have relevance to the design of green infrastructure where built as part of major residential developments (and assessment of the impacts of such developments).

Visual analysis of the routes plotted and of the observation data suggests that estimates of usage of Open Access Land from the spatial analysis are high, that is, the majority of people do actually follow the general alignments of established routes, and the number of people who wander completely away from paths and tracks is actually quite low.

On the whole, uptake of the new CROW rights in the first 4-5 years has been slow, and awareness is generally poor at this stage. How this develops over the longer term could be monitored with future surveys, possibly at five yearly intervals to track levels of awareness and levels of use.

The results indicate that access use has not changed considerably and for most sites there has been little change in patterns of use. This generally indicates that there is unlikely to have been an effect on the nature conservation/sensitive feature/land management of the site and therefore potentially no significant impact on the biodiversity or bird populations of the site or across access land as a whole and designated sites.

The spatial information gathered for each of the sites will provide an excellent evidence base of spatial visitor use, for Natural England to now make sound judgements when reassessing those sites that have Positive Access Management and /or restrictions to protect biodiversity concerns sites and land management sites.

7.6

Recommendations

The information collected through the National and Local monitoring programme has allowed levels and patterns of use to be monitored over time, in the early life of the CROW legislation. Although the findings have shown that to date the effects have been few, the results have established a baseline against which future trends can be measured.

The information collected can be combined with other information from other sources, for example the Upland Breeding Bird Survey, to provide an understanding of whether the introduction of CROW has generally had an impact on sensitive wildlife areas and biodiversity on access land.

The spatial use information collected by the monitoring approach has now been tested on over 80 sites and shown to provide valuable information on patterns of use. This could be applied across NNRS and other types of sensitive landscapes to understand the relationship between people, and especially dogs, and sensitive biodiversity areas across a site.

The survey should be repeated in the future using a survey method as close as possible to the current survey to allow comparisons to be made over time. Ideally, this should be at intervals of (say) 5 years and include the National Parks, so a consistent method is used across all access land.

The datasets created about the use of Open Access Sites around the country are a very valuable resource; some of the data, such as that showing where people walked, are not available elsewhere in similar abundance. Much more intelligence can be gained from the data, should NE want to undertake or commission further detailed analysis. Areas that merit further research include:

- Isolating the data on people with dogs, so that a better understanding is gained as to how their patterns of behaviour differ from others. This may assist in deciding how best to target this user type;
- Coastal sites, as this may have relevance to imminent changes in coastal access arising from implementation of the Marine and Coastal Access Bill;
- On designated sites, the search for any links between condition assessments and public access.

There is scope to investigate further the link between management measures applied at sites (e.g. via AMGS), the pattern of visitor behaviour and the indicators of biodiversity health. An example of this is the report produced recently (Asken 2008) examining the effect of public access on the breeding success of hen harriers in the Bowland Fells (which made use of data from the national monitoring survey collected in 2007) and research paper assessing visitor monitoring and modelling on access land across Rombalds Moor, Ilkley, which also used the National Visitor monitoring data to understand the accuracy of the Predictive Site Use Model and understand the effect of restrictions and positive access management (Keane, 2009).

The outcomes of this survey, and any further detailed analyses undertaken, may hold valuable lessons for NE site managers contemplating whether or not to dedicate for public access areas of National Nature Reserves which do not all currently carry such rights.

When considering applications for built developments that involve its inclusion in residential developments, the preferences of local residents in terms of informal access to green space as expressed in this survey should be taken into account. Similarly, the data may be of value when assessing the impacts of developments that will lead to the loss or major modification of green infrastructure.

The impacts of CROW in terms of biodiversity protection and land management concerns are largely low and on the whole unlikely to have had a significant effect, as the uptake of public access in the first 4 -5 years has been slow and use is not significantly different from the pre CROW situation in the majority of cases.

It is therefore probably too early to evaluate the current restrictions definitively and the recommendation would be to continue to monitor at the most sensitive sites.



Annex 1

Table 1: Key to Local Monitoring Sites shown in Figure 1.3

ID	Site Name
1	Avon Heath – Boundary Lane (Dorset Heaths)
2	Avon Heath – Country Park (Dorset Heaths)
3	Blanchland (North Pennines AONB)
4	Bowness Common / Solway Moss (Cumbria)
5	Broad Meadows/ Well Hope (North Pennines AONB)
6	Browns Houses (Lancashire)
7	Bruthwaite Forest /Hallbankgate Side (North Pennines AONB)
8	Cavenham Heath (Suffolk)
9	Coldberry (North Pennines AONB)
10	Coombe Heath / Arne (Dorset Heaths)
11	Crossthwaite Common (incl South) (North Pennines AONB)
12	David's Hill (Dorset Heaths)
13	Dewlands Common (Dorset Heaths)
14	Drigg Coast (Cumbria)
15	Dufton / High Cup Nick (North Pennines AONB)
16	Dunwich Heath (Suffolk)
17	Eggardon Hill (Dorset)
18	Ferndown Common (Dorset Heaths)
19	Flinty Fell (North Pennines AONB)
20	Fontmell Down (Dorset)
21	Geltsdale (North Pennines AONB)
22	Great Ovens (Dorset Heaths)
23	Hanbury Tout / Lulworth (Dorset Heaths)
24	Hartside North / South (North Pennines AONB)
25	High Park / Whillimoor Fell (Cumbria)
26	Higher Hill Plush / Nettlescombe (Dorset Heaths)
27	Jenny Brown's Point (Lancashire)
28	Knettishall Common (Suffolk)
29	Lions Hill (Dorset Heaths)
30	Lytchetts (Dorset Heaths)
31	Mickleton Moor (North Pennines AONB)
32	Middleton Teesdale
33	North Walney (Cumbria)
34	Parley (Dorset Heaths)
35	Purbeck Ridge / Godlingston Hill (Dorset)
36	Rotherhope Fell (North Pennines AONB)
37	Snope Common (North Pennines AONB)
40	Stiperstones / Shooting Bay / Knolls CP(Shropshire)
41	Stoborough Heath (Dorset Heaths)

42	Sutton Heath (Suffolk)
43	The Giant, Cerne Abbas (Dorset)
44	The Helm (Cumbria)
45	The Long Mynd (Shropshire)
46	Town Common (Dorset Heaths)
47	Turbary Common (Dorset Heaths)
48	Upton Heath (Dorset Heaths)
49	Walberswick Common (Suffolk)
50	Wan Fell (Cumbria)
51	Westleton Heath (Suffolk)
52	Winfrith Heath (Dorset Heaths)
53	Red Carle (North Pennines AONB)
54	Whitfield Moor (North Pennines AONB)
55	Coanwood (North Pennines AONB)
56	Knight's Cleugh (North Pennines AONB)
57	Knockshield Moor (North Pennines AONB)

Details of the survey periods – Interviews Recorded

Sample Type		Survey Year			
		2006	2007	2008	Total
		Count	Count	Count	Count
National Site	June	0	90	121	211
	July	0	112	169	281
	August	197	117	130	444
	September	113	105	89	307
	October	0	27	0	27
	Total	310	451	509	1270
NCA Site	June	0	21	47	68
	July	0	58	113	171
	August	123	59	86	268
	September	54	121	102	277
	October	0	46	0	46
	Total	177	305	348	830
LM Site	January	0	7	32	39
	February	0	0	80	80
	March	0	0	209	209
	April	0	0	7	7
	June	0	0	23	23
	July	0	34	169	203
	August	0	191	285	476
	September	0	249	173	422
	October	0	347	236	583
	November	0	221	133	354
	December	0	32	26	58
	Total	0	1081	1373	2454
	Total	January	0	7	32	39
February		0	0	80	80
March		0	0	209	209
April		0	0	7	7
May		0	0	0	0
June		0	111	191	302
July		0	204	451	655
August		320	367	501	1188
September		167	475	364	1006
October		0	420	236	656
November		0	221	133	354
December		0	32	26	58
Total		487	1837	2230	4554

Questionnaires

**2006 – National Monitoring Survey
Countryside Agency Public Use of Access Land – Visitor Survey**

INDICATE POSITION OF INTERVIEW LOCATION

<input type="checkbox"/> 1 On ProW	Number of Dogs in group:	INPUT SITE CODE:
<input type="checkbox"/> 2 On Access Land – on a path or track	Number of horses in group:	
<input type="checkbox"/> 3 On Access Land – elsewhere	Number of mountain bikes:	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 Individual
Record time	Number of other bikes:	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 Group
and date	Number of other items, eg wheelchairs/pushchairs:	Number in Group
Interviewer:		

Good Morning/afternoon/evening

My name isfrom Faber Maunsell. We are conducting a survey on behalf of the Countryside Agency.

The information you provide will help the Agency in improving and managing public access to the countryside and in providing information about new recreational opportunities to visitors.

*IF GROUP – Could I ask which of your party is the next person to have a birthday?
OR IF GROUP HAS ORGANISER/LEADER – INTERVIEW ORGANISER/LEADER*

Responses should reflect the individual. Random sampling approach should therefore be adopted – No self selection.

If respondent asks how long it will take: Will take around 15 minutes to complete.

The surveys are being conducted under the Market Research Society Code of Conduct and any personal information you provide is fully confidential.

Section 1 –Visit to this area of land

The survey is about **THIS AREA OF LAND** we are currently on, as shown on this map (HAND MAP A) . *Unless otherwise instructed responses are unprompted.*

Q1.1	About how often do you visit this area of land?		✓ one only
	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 First visit today		GO TO Q1.4
	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 Daily	<input type="checkbox"/> 6 Monthly	
	<input type="checkbox"/> 3 Several times a week	<input type="checkbox"/> 7 Several times a year	
	<input type="checkbox"/> 4 Weekly	<input type="checkbox"/> 8 Once a year	
	<input type="checkbox"/> 5 Several times a month	<input type="checkbox"/> 9 Less often	

Q1.2	What days and times do you normally visit this area of land?			✓ all that apply
		Weekdays	Saturdays	Sundays
	Early mornings	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 11	<input type="checkbox"/> 21
	Mid mornings	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 12	<input type="checkbox"/> 22
	Lunchtimes	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 13	<input type="checkbox"/> 23
	Afternoon	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 14	<input type="checkbox"/> 24
	Evenings	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> 15	<input type="checkbox"/> 25

Repeat "Any more?" until respondent has indicated all times applicable

Q1.3 And at what times of year do you normally visit this area of land? ✓ <i>all that apply</i>		
<input type="checkbox"/> 0 All Year		<i>Repeat "Any more?" until respondent has indicated all times applicable</i>
<input type="checkbox"/> 1 Spring	<input type="checkbox"/> 3 Autumn	
<input type="checkbox"/> 2 Summer	<input type="checkbox"/> 4 Winter	
Q1.4 Is your visit to this area of land today...? ✓ <i>one only</i>		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1 En route as part of a longer walk		<i>(not asked parking questions)</i>
<input type="checkbox"/> 2 Specifically to this area of land		
Q1.5 How did you become aware of this particular area of land? ✓ <i>one only</i>		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1 Always known – local knowledge / previous trip		
<input type="checkbox"/> 2 From friends/family		
<input type="checkbox"/> 3 Happened on it by chance		
<input type="checkbox"/> 4 Local promotion, e.g. press/notice board at site/TIC		Q1.5a Please specify? <i>(write in)</i>
<input type="checkbox"/> 5 Leaflet		Q1.5b Please specify? <i>(write in)</i>
<input type="checkbox"/> 6 National promotion, e.g. press		Q1.5c Please specify? <i>(write in)</i>
<input type="checkbox"/> 7 Guidebook		Q1.5d Please specify? <i>(write in)</i>
<input type="checkbox"/> 8 Website		Q1.5e Please specify? <i>(write in)</i>
<input type="checkbox"/> 9 Other walkers		
<input type="checkbox"/> 10 Shown on map		Q1.5e Online <input type="checkbox"/> 1 Paper <input type="checkbox"/> 2
<input type="checkbox"/> 11 Can't remember		
Q1.6 Where have you travelled from today to visit this area of land? ✓ <i>one only</i>		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1 Home		<i>Record town/place name</i>
<input type="checkbox"/> 2 Temporary paid accommodation e.g. hotel, B&B, campsite		
<input type="checkbox"/> 3 Staying with family / friends		
<input type="checkbox"/> 4 Stopped off en route as part of a longer journey		
Q1.7 And approximately how far (one way) have you travelled to get here today? <i>Please ✓ one only</i>		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1 Up to 1 mile	<input type="checkbox"/> 5 10.01 – 20 miles	
<input type="checkbox"/> 2 1.01 – 2 miles	<input type="checkbox"/> 6 20.01 – 40 miles	
<input type="checkbox"/> 3 2.01 – 5 miles	<input type="checkbox"/> 7 40.01 – 100 miles	
<input type="checkbox"/> 4 5.01 – 10 miles	<input type="checkbox"/> 8 Over 100 miles	
Q1.8 What (main) form of transport did you use to get to this area of land today? ✓ <i>one only</i>		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1 Car /van / campervan		GO TO Q1.9
<input type="checkbox"/> 2 Motorbike/scooter		
<input type="checkbox"/> 3 Bicycle/Mountain Bike	<input type="checkbox"/> 6 Walked all the way	GO TO Q1.11
<input type="checkbox"/> 4 Public Bus	<input type="checkbox"/> 7 Horse	
<input type="checkbox"/> 5 Train	<input type="checkbox"/> 8 Other (please write in)	

WHERE CAR USED TO ACCESS SITE ONLY

Q1.9	Where did you park? <i>Please ✓ one only</i>	
	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 Car park by area of land	
	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 Parking spaces away from area of land	
	<input type="checkbox"/> 3 On road	
	<input type="checkbox"/> 4 Off road, not in designated space, e.g. verge, gate, field etc	
	<input type="checkbox"/> 5 Did not park	
	<input type="checkbox"/> 6 Other	

Q1.10	On a scale of 1 to 5, where 1 is very poor and 5 is very good how would you describe parking arrangements for this area of land in terms of.....? SHOWCARD A <i>Please ✓ one for each statement</i>					
		Very Poor	Poor	Neither good nor poor	Good	Very Good
a	Condition of surface	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
b	Danger from passing traffic	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
c	Signage	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
d	Capacity of car park	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
e	Overall parking provision	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5

Q1.11	On a scale of 1 to 5, where 1 is very poor and 5 is very good how would you describe getting on to this area of land in terms of.....? SHOWCARD A ENSURE PEOPLE REFERRING TO LAND SHOWN ON MAP ✓ <i>one for each statement</i>					
		Very Poor	Poor	Neither good nor poor	Good	Very Good
a	Being able to find the area of land	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
b	Being able to find the entry point to the area of land	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
c	Accessing the area of land easily without obstructions	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5

IF Q1.11 (a, b or c) = POOR or VERY POOR:

Q1.12	Which difficulties have you encountered in getting on to this area of land? <i>Please ✓ all that apply</i>	
	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 Overgrown vegetation	
	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 Locked gate	
	<input type="checkbox"/> 3 Difficult wall/ fence to climb over	
	<input type="checkbox"/> 4 Lack of clear signage	
	<input type="checkbox"/> 5 Other (please write in)	

Section 2

Q2.1	What kinds of information about this area of land would you have found useful prior to your visit today? <i>Unprompted</i> <i>if None, GO TO Q2.2</i> <i>Repeat "Any more?" until respondent says no</i>	Not mentioned	Slightly useful	Very Useful
A	Up to date maps - Online	<input type="checkbox"/> 0	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2
B	Up to date maps - Printed	<input type="checkbox"/> 0	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2
C	Information to notify the public that it is open access land	<input type="checkbox"/> 0	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2
D	Where local amenities are	<input type="checkbox"/> 0	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2
E	Information about wildlife in the area	<input type="checkbox"/> 0	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2
F	Extent of Open Access areas	<input type="checkbox"/> 0	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2
G	History of area	<input type="checkbox"/> 0	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2
H	Guides/Routes e.g. climbing, walking distances	<input type="checkbox"/> 0	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2
I	Rules / regulations / restrictions	<input type="checkbox"/> 0	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2
J	Points of interest	<input type="checkbox"/> 0	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2
K	Geography of area	<input type="checkbox"/> 0	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2
L	Travel information / bus times / parking	<input type="checkbox"/> 0	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2
M	Access for people with a disability/people with limited mobility	<input type="checkbox"/> 0	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2
N	Weather forecast	<input type="checkbox"/> 0	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2
O	Other (please write in)	<input type="checkbox"/> 0	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2

Q2.2	What activities are you doing at this area of land today? <i>Please ✓ all that apply</i> <i>Unprompted</i> <i>Repeat "Any more?" until respondent says No</i>		
	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 Short stroll/ambling	<input type="checkbox"/> 7 Rock Climbing	
	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 Serious walking/rambling/hiking	<input type="checkbox"/> 8 Photography/drawing/painting	
	<input type="checkbox"/> 3 Dog walking	<input type="checkbox"/> 9 Bike riding	
	<input type="checkbox"/> 4 Enjoying the scenery/nature	<input type="checkbox"/> 10 Horse riding	
	<input type="checkbox"/> 5 Running/jogging	<input type="checkbox"/> 11 Bird watching/nature watch/botany	
	<input type="checkbox"/> 6 Sitting down/resting/picnics	<input type="checkbox"/> 12 Football/ ball games	
	<input type="checkbox"/> 13 Using my new right of access	<input type="checkbox"/> 14 Other	
		RECORD	

Q2.3	What were your reasons for choosing to visit <u>this area of land today</u> (rather than anywhere else)? Please ✓ all that apply Unprompted. Repeat "Any more?" until respondent says No	Where mentioned as a reason ask the following: On a scale of 1 to 5 where 1 is very dissatisfied and 5 is very satisfied, how satisfied are you with this aspect of your visit to this area of land today? SHOWCARD B					
		Very Dissatisfied				Very Satisfied	
A	Scenery/ landscape/ pleasant area	<input type="checkbox"/> 0	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
B	Wildlife/ botany	<input type="checkbox"/> 0	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
C	Maintenance of the area of land	<input type="checkbox"/> 0	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
D	Cleanliness of the area of land (e.g. free of dog mess and litter)	<input type="checkbox"/> 0	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
E	Parking provision at the area of land	<input type="checkbox"/> 0	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
F	Accessibility / Proximity of the area of land	<input type="checkbox"/> 0	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
G	Signage at the area of land	<input type="checkbox"/> 0	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
H	The area of land is not too busy / overcrowded	<input type="checkbox"/> 0	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
I	Information is available about the area	<input type="checkbox"/> 0	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
J	Space for dog to run	<input type="checkbox"/> 0	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
K	Challenging walk/climb/feature	<input type="checkbox"/> 0	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
L	Provision of amenities at the area of land (cafe, toilets etc)	<input type="checkbox"/> 0	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
M	Specific event	<input type="checkbox"/> 0	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
N	Educational value	<input type="checkbox"/> 0	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
O	Activities available	<input type="checkbox"/> 0	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
P	Can go off rights of way/open access	<input type="checkbox"/> 0	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
Q	Other (please write in)	<input type="checkbox"/> 0	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
R	En route/part of longer route	<input type="checkbox"/> 0					
S	Always come here	<input type="checkbox"/> 0					
T	Nothing/ unsure	<input type="checkbox"/> 0					
U	Children like it	<input type="checkbox"/> 0					

Q2.4	Approximately how long did/will you spend at this area of land today? Please ✓ one only		
	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 Under half an hour	<input type="checkbox"/> 6 Between 4-4:59 hours	
	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 30-59 minutes	<input type="checkbox"/> 7 Between 5-5:59 hours	
	<input type="checkbox"/> 3 Between 1-1:59 hours	<input type="checkbox"/> 8 Between 6-6:59 hours	
	<input type="checkbox"/> 4 Between 2-2:59 hours	<input type="checkbox"/> 9 More than 7 hours	
	<input type="checkbox"/> 5 Between 3-3:59 hours		

Q2.5	Approximately how much did/will your party as part of your visit to this site today? Please ✓ one only		
	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 No opportunity	<input type="checkbox"/> 6 Between £10.01 and £20	
	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 Nothing	<input type="checkbox"/> 7 Between £20.01 and £50	
	<input type="checkbox"/> 3 Up to £5	<input type="checkbox"/> 8 Over £50	
	<input type="checkbox"/> 4 Between £5.01 and £7.50	<input type="checkbox"/> 9 Unsure	
	<input type="checkbox"/> 5 Between £7.51 and £10	<input type="checkbox"/> 10 Prefer not to say	

Q2.6	What facilities did you expect to find at this area of land today? <i>Please ✓ all that apply</i> <i>Unprompted - Repeat "Any more?" until respondent says No</i>		
	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 Toilets	<input type="checkbox"/> 8 Café/ refreshments	
	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 Dog poo bins	<input type="checkbox"/> 9 Picnic tables / seating	
	<input type="checkbox"/> 3 Rubbish bins	<input type="checkbox"/> 10 Bird hides	
	<input type="checkbox"/> 4 Car park	<input type="checkbox"/> 11 Information about where you can and cannot go	
	<input type="checkbox"/> 5 Visitor centre, info boards		
	<input type="checkbox"/> 6 Information about the site and attractions	<input type="checkbox"/> 12 Information about animals and wildlife on the site	
	<input type="checkbox"/> 7 Health and safety information about the site	<input type="checkbox"/> 14 Other (please write in)	

Section 3 - Site Awareness

GIS Mapping

Showing map of area of land to respondent (combination of paper and PDA), record the following information:

- Interview location*
- Interviewee's Entry Point*
- Route taken (by direction)*
- Interviewee's Exit point (if known)*

Q3.1	Have you heard of Open Access? <i>Please ✓ one only</i>	
	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 Yes	
	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 No	GO TO Q3.3
	<input type="checkbox"/> 3 Not sure	

For Q3.1, IF = 1 or 3

Q3.2	Are you aware that this area of land is Open Access Land? <i>Please ✓ one only</i>	
	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 Yes	
	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 No	
	<input type="checkbox"/> 3 Not sure	

Q3.3	To what extent do you believe the following statements about Open Access to be true? SHOWCARD C <i>Please ✓ one per row only</i>				
		Definitely True	Partially true	Definitely False	Don't know
a	All farm land has been opened up to the public	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4
b	All grassland has been opened to the public	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4
c	People can walk across mapped open access land without the need to stick to paths	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4
d	You can go off paths if you don't interfere with wildlife	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4
e	My right of access to open access land may sometimes be restricted for nature conservation/,public safety, and land management reasons	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4

Confirm with respondent, statements C and E are true

Q3.4	Could you estimate the proportion of your walk today that was on access land, i.e, NOT on public rights of way ?	
	Record proportion:%	<input type="checkbox"/> 0 Don't Know

For those using ROW only, ie where Q3.4 is 0%

Q3.5	Why did you/ have you decided not to walk across open access land and stay on the public right of way? <i>Please ✓ all that apply</i> <i>Unprompted, Repeat "Any more?" until respondent says No</i>	
	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 Need more information about Open Access	<input type="checkbox"/> 8 Have a dog and assumed dogs are banned from Open access
	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 Unsure whether I had permission to stray from the public right of way	<input type="checkbox"/> 9 The public Right of Way takes me to where I want to be so no need to stray from it
	<input type="checkbox"/> 3 Unsure which areas are open access land	<input type="checkbox"/> 10 Easier to walk on a public right of way (terrain)
	<input type="checkbox"/> 4 Anxious about getting lost	<input type="checkbox"/> 11 Thought restrictions were in force
	<input type="checkbox"/> 5 Safer on a public right of way	<input type="checkbox"/> 12 Did not want to disturb wildlife or cattle
	<input type="checkbox"/> 6 Nothing extra to see by going off public right of way	<input type="checkbox"/> 13 Other (please write in)
	<input type="checkbox"/> 7 Was unsure if farmer/landowner was present	

ALL RESPONDENTS

Q3.6	A new Countryside Code was launched in August 2005. Which aspects of the Countryside Code are you aware of? <i>DO NOT PROMPT - Please ✓ all that apply</i> <i>Repeat "Any more?" until respondent says No</i>	
	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 Be safe, plan ahead and follow any signs	<input type="checkbox"/> 5 Consider other people
	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 Leave gates and property as you find them	<input type="checkbox"/> 6 None
	<input type="checkbox"/> 3 Protect plants and animals and take your litter home	<input type="checkbox"/> 7 Other (please write in)
	<input type="checkbox"/> 4 Keep dogs under close control	

IF ACCOMPANIED BY DOG COMPLETE Qs 3.7 to 3.12 , otherwise GO TO Q3.13

Q3.7	What would you say are issues to be aware of when walking with a dog in the countryside? <i>DO NOT PROMPT - Please ✓ all that apply</i> <i>Repeat "Any more?" until respondent says No</i>	
	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 Clear up and dispose of any dog mess	<input type="checkbox"/> 7 Keeping dog on a lead
	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 Dispose of dog mess bags responsibly	<input type="checkbox"/> 8 Risks to farm animals
	<input type="checkbox"/> 3 Keeping dogs under control	<input type="checkbox"/> 9 Risks to birds/wildlife
	<input type="checkbox"/> 4 Keeping dogs under CLOSE control	<input type="checkbox"/> 10 Risks to dog from farm animals
	<input type="checkbox"/> 5 Checking for signs/information on dog control	<input type="checkbox"/> 11 None
	<input type="checkbox"/> 6 Taking water/drink for the dog	<input type="checkbox"/> 12 Other (please write in)

Q3.8	For how long, in years, have you been walking your dog(s) on this area of land? <i>Please ✓ one only</i>			
	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 Today is my first visit	<input type="checkbox"/> 4 More than 2 years up to 3 years		
	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 Less than 1 year	<input type="checkbox"/> 5 More than 3 years up to 5 years		
	<input type="checkbox"/> 3 More than 1 year up to 2 years	<input type="checkbox"/> 6 More than 5 years		

Q3.9	What aspects about this area of land make it good for bringing a dog here? <i>DO NOT PROMPT - Please ✓ all that apply</i> <i>Repeat "Any more?" until respondent says No</i>			
	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 able to let dog run off lead	<input type="checkbox"/> 5 dog enjoys it here		
	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 no/not many other dogs	<input type="checkbox"/> 6 don't have to pick up dog mess		
	<input type="checkbox"/> 3 no/not many other people	<input type="checkbox"/> 7 no livestock		
	<input type="checkbox"/> 4 no restrictions on dogs being here	<input type="checkbox"/> 8 things for dogs to chase (eg rabbits, birds)		
	<input type="checkbox"/> 9 nothing in particular - I like the walk/convenient walk for me			
	<input type="checkbox"/> 10 other (specify)			

Q3.1 0	Under what circumstances do you keep your dog(s) on a lead? <i>Unprompted - Repeat "Any more?" until respondent says No</i>			
	At all times	<input type="checkbox"/> 0	Go to Q 3.13	
	Never	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	Go to Q 3.11	
	At all times when off PRoW	<input type="checkbox"/> 2		
	a If wild birds are close by	<input type="checkbox"/> 3		
	b If signs/ information say to keep dogs on a lead	<input type="checkbox"/> 4		
	c If there are other dogs close by	<input type="checkbox"/> 5		
	d If livestock are close by	<input type="checkbox"/> 6		
	e In nesting season	<input type="checkbox"/> 7		
	f In shooting season	<input type="checkbox"/> 8		

ONLY ASK Q3.11 if Q3.10=1 (Never)

Q3.1 1	Would you be happy to keep your dog on a lead ...			
	A If wild birds are close by	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 No	<input type="checkbox"/> 3 Don't Know
	B If additional information explaining why was visible on the site	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 No	<input type="checkbox"/> 3 Don't Know
	D If livestock are close by	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 No	<input type="checkbox"/> 3 Don't Know
	E In nesting season	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 No	<input type="checkbox"/> 3 Don't Know
	F In shooting season	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 No	<input type="checkbox"/> 3 Don't Know

Q3.12 If no to any/all in Q3.11 – Why?

ALL RESPONDENTS

Q3.1 3	Are there any types of information or signage you would find useful at this area of land but that have not been seen? <i>UNPROMPTED</i> <i>Repeat "Any more?" until respondent says No</i>			
	<i>If mentioned,</i> How useful would you find them?	Not mentioned	Slightly useful	Very Useful
a	Footpath signs/ Direction sign posts /Finger posts /Waymarkers	<input type="checkbox"/> 0	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2
b	Map / information board	<input type="checkbox"/> 0	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2
c	Danger signs	<input type="checkbox"/> 0	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2
d	Signs or information relating to Open Access	<input type="checkbox"/> 0	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2
e	Distance markers	<input type="checkbox"/> 0	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2
f	Parking signs	<input type="checkbox"/> 0	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2
g	Access point markers	<input type="checkbox"/> 0	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2
h	Suggested walks	<input type="checkbox"/> 0	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2
i	Other	<input type="checkbox"/> 0	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2

Q3.14	Which of the following sources of publicity would you find most useful in influencing future visits to open access land? SHOWCARD D <i>Please ✓ one only</i>	
a	Local Newspaper	<input type="checkbox"/> 1
b	Parish News Articles	<input type="checkbox"/> 2
c	National Press - Articles	<input type="checkbox"/> 3
d	National TV - programmes	<input type="checkbox"/> 4
e	National Radio - programmes	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
f	Local TV - programmes	<input type="checkbox"/> 6
g	Local Radio - programmes	<input type="checkbox"/> 7
h	TV Adverts	<input type="checkbox"/> 8
i	Billboards	<input type="checkbox"/> 9
j	Other (please specify)	<input type="checkbox"/> 10

Q3.15	Overall, on a scale of 1 to 5 where 1 is very dissatisfied and 5 is very satisfied, how satisfied are you with your visit to this area of land today? SHOWCARD B <i>Please ✓ one only</i>	
	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 Very dissatisfied	
	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 Dissatisfied	
	<input type="checkbox"/> 3 Neither satisfied not dissatisfied	
	<input type="checkbox"/> 4 Satisfied	
	<input type="checkbox"/> 5 Very Satisfied	

Q3.16	Finally, do you have any other comments about your visit to this area of land? <i>Please probe fully (for example any history with the area of land, their experience or expectations etc).</i> <i>Repeat "Any more?" until respondent says No</i>

COLLECT MAP BACK FROM RESPONDENT

Section 4 – Respondent Profile

Finally, so that we can check whether we have a representative sample, please tell me the following. This information will not be used for anything else.

Q4.1	What is your home postcode <i>Please probe for full postcode. If postcode not given probe for street and/or suburb/town.</i>	
	Full postcode	.....
	Street	.....
	Suburb/Town	.....

Q4.2	Record Gender <i>Please ✓ one only</i>	
	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 Male	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 Female

Q4.3	What age group do you belong in? <i>Please ✓ one only</i>	SHOWCARD E
	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 Under 18	<input type="checkbox"/> 5 45 - 54
	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 18 – 24	<input type="checkbox"/> 6 55 - 64
	<input type="checkbox"/> 3 25 – 34	<input type="checkbox"/> 7 65 - 74
	<input type="checkbox"/> 4 35 – 44	<input type="checkbox"/> 8 75 +

Q4.4	How would you describe the profile of the group travelling with you today? <i>Please ✓ one only</i>	SHOWCARD F
	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 Single visitor (under 18)	<input type="checkbox"/> 4 More than 2 adults (18 or over)
	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 Single visitor (18 or over)	<input type="checkbox"/> 5 2 or more children (under 18)
	<input type="checkbox"/> 3 2 adults (18 or over)	<input type="checkbox"/> 6 Adult/s and Child/ren

If Q4.4a = 4 – 6

Q4.5	Would you describe your group’s visit to this area of land today....? <i>Please ✓ one only</i>	
	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 A social/ leisure visit	<input type="checkbox"/> 3 Other (please write in)
	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 As part of a rambling/walking association	
	<input type="checkbox"/> 3 Other organised activity	
	<input type="checkbox"/> 3 To access another area of land	

Q4.6	What is your employment status? <i>Please ✓ one only</i>	SHOWCARD G
	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 Full-time (30+ hrs/week)	<input type="checkbox"/> 7 Don’t work – looking after family/ home
	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 Part-time (<30 hrs/week)	<input type="checkbox"/> 8 Don’t work – long term sick disabled
	<input type="checkbox"/> 3 Self-employed full time	<input type="checkbox"/> 9 Don’t work – some other reason
	<input type="checkbox"/> 4 Self-employed part-time	<input type="checkbox"/> 10 Don’t work - student
	<input type="checkbox"/> 5 Government supported training scheme	<input type="checkbox"/> 11 Retired
	<input type="checkbox"/> 6 Unemployed – looked for work in last 4 weeks or waiting to start new job	

Q4.7	What is the occupation of the Chief Wage earner in your household? <i>Please write in (for SEG classification)</i>

Q4.8	Which of these groups do you belong to?		SHOWCARD H
	<i>Please ✓ one only</i>		
	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 White British		<input type="checkbox"/> 10 Bangladeshi
	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 Irish		<input type="checkbox"/> 11 Other Asian (please write in)
	<input type="checkbox"/> 3 Other White (please write in)		<input type="checkbox"/> 12 Black Caribbean
	<input type="checkbox"/> 4 Mixed White & Black Caribbean		<input type="checkbox"/> 13 Black African
	<input type="checkbox"/> 5 Mixed White & Black African		<input type="checkbox"/> 14 Other Black (please write in)
	<input type="checkbox"/> 6 Mixed White & Asian		<input type="checkbox"/> 15 Chinese
	<input type="checkbox"/> 7 Other Mixed (please write in)		<input type="checkbox"/> 16 Other ethnic group (please write in)
	<input type="checkbox"/> 8 Indian		
<input type="checkbox"/> 9 Pakistani			

Q4.9	Do you have a long-term illness, health problem or disability which limits your daily activities or the work you can do?	
	<i>Please ✓ one only</i>	
	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 Yes	
	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 No	

Thank you

May I take a contact phone number for backchecking purposes? That is, to verify that the interview has been properly conducted – this information will not be used for any other purpose.

The Countryside Agency is keen to monitor understanding and use of Open Access; would you be happy to give your details for the Countryside Agency to contact you should they undertake any future research on Open Access?

If so, sign register:

Details:.....
.....

If you would like any further information on Open Access or the Countryside Code, I have a leaflet you are welcome to take home with you (offer).....

Observation Survey Form 2006

To be completed every hour by each surveyor

Observer Name:	Site Name & Ref No:	OS Ref:
Where applicable, record Restriction number (off website)		Signs – open access yes/no symbol in evidence
Access points - damage/ overgrown/hard to access yes/no	Open Access Information Point yes/no	Repair needed to furniture yes/no
<i>Double check with GPS to confirm that you are where you think you are</i>		
Date:..... 1 Sat 2 Sun 3 Mon (circle one) 4 Tues 5 Wed 6 Thurs 7 Fri		
Time of Observation: :		
Weather at time of survey: (Circle all that apply and write in comments)	Warm Cold Sunny Overcast Clear Raining Misty Thunder/Lightning Dry Windy Still Pleasant Unpleasant	
Mark all key features and details on a map		

Mark on your map where each visitor / group of visitors is at the time of observation and code for the activity being undertaken at the time (see below)

Visitor Activity	Number of visitors on open access land undertaking each activity
Entering Site (E)	
Leaving Site (X)	
Actively using open access land as opposed to sticking to PRoW routes (OA)	
Ambling/walking for pleasure (AW)	
Rambling/Serious walking (RW)	
Dog walker (DW)	
Dog (D)	
Running/Jogging (RJ)	
Enjoying scenery/ bird/ nature watching (SN)	
Bike riding (BR)	
Horse riding (HR)	
Picnics (PN)	
Sitting / Resting (SR)	
Ball games / Other games (G)	
Other	

Indicate number and characteristics of visitors at time of observation:

Visitors aged..			
Under 5 years	18-24 years	35-44 years	55-64 years
5-17 years	25-34 years	45-54 years	65+ years
Visitors who are..		Male	Female
Visitors with prams/pushchairs			
Visitors who are frail/have a disability			
Teenagers without adults -			
Total no. of visitors seen in this observation (including those in groups)			
Total number of visitor groups seen in this observation (more than 2 people together)			

Are any of the visitors behaving inappropriately? (e.g. picking flowers, dropping litter, setting fires, , Not leaving gates as they have found them, participating in an activity not permitted on CROW)

Yes *Mark on map where seen using code (IB)*

If so, what?.....

.....

Dog activity	Number of dogs on PROW	Number of dogs on open access land	Total number of dogs undertaking activity
On lead			
Off lead to heel			
Off lead roaming			

Please detail any inappropriate dog behaviour on the map

Behaviour – for dogs off leads	Number of dogs on open access land
Controlled and well behaved	
Disturbing other visitors/dogs	
Disturbing livestock	
Disturbing birds/wildlife	
Other type of non control	

Where dog restrictions are in force, were signs in place explaining the dog restrictions?

Yes No

Site Observation	Please write in detail and then reference these on the map
Trespassing (if possible to ascertain)	yes/no
Disturbance to nesting birds –e.g. flushing	yes/no
Any livestock present? (sheep, cattle, ponies, other) record all	
Other comments	

**2007 – National Monitoring Survey
Natural England Public Use of Access Land Visitor Survey Year 2 (2007)**

INDICATE POSITION OF INTERVIEW LOCATION ON MAP

<input type="checkbox"/> 1 On Public Right of Way	Number of Dogs in group:	INPUT SITE CODE:
<input type="checkbox"/> 2 On Access Land – on an unofficial path or track	Number of horses in group:	
<input type="checkbox"/> 3 On Access Land – elsewhere	Number of mountain bikes:	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 Individual
Record time:	Number of other bikes:	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 Group
and date:	Number of other items, eg wheelchairs/pushchairs:	Number in Group
Interviewer:	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 On Entry	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 Part way through walk/ visit
		<input type="checkbox"/> 3 On Exit

Good Morning/afternoon/evening

My name isfrom Faber Maunsell. We are conducting a recreation survey on behalf of Natural England at a number of sites. The information you provide will help improve the provision of public access in the countryside.

IF RESPONDENT STATES THEY HAVE ALREADY DONE THE SURVEY LAST YEAR:

Because the survey aims to track changes from year to year, the information you give will be of great importance in monitoring changes over time and of great value to the survey.

RESPONDENT SELECTION

*IF GROUP – Could I ask which of your party, the next person to have a birthday is?
OR IF GROUP HAS ORGANISER/LEADER – INTERVIEW ORGANISER/LEADER*

Responses should reflect the individual. Random sampling approach should therefore be adopted – No self selection.

If respondent asks how long it will take: Will take around 15 minutes to complete.

The surveys are being conducted under the Market Research Society Code of Conduct and any personal information you provide is fully confidential.

Section 1 –Visit to this area of land

To clarify, the survey is about **THIS AREA OF LAND** we are currently on, as shown on this map (*HAND MAP A*). *Unless otherwise instructed responses are unprompted.*

Q1.1	About how often do you visit this area of land? ✓ one only		
	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 First visit today		GO TO Q1.4
	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 Daily	<input type="checkbox"/> 6 Monthly	
	<input type="checkbox"/> 3 Several times a week	<input type="checkbox"/> 7 Several times a year	
	<input type="checkbox"/> 4 Weekly	<input type="checkbox"/> 8 Once a year	
	<input type="checkbox"/> 5 Several times a month	<input type="checkbox"/> 9 Less often	

Q1.2 What days and times do you normally visit this area of land? ✓ <i>all that apply</i>				
	Weekdays	Saturdays	Sundays	<i>Repeat "Any more?" until respondent has indicated all times applicable</i>
Early mornings	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 11	<input type="checkbox"/> 21	
Mid mornings	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 12	<input type="checkbox"/> 22	
Lunchtimes	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 13	<input type="checkbox"/> 23	
Afternoon	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 14	<input type="checkbox"/> 24	
Evenings	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> 15	<input type="checkbox"/> 25	

Q1.3 And at what times of year do you normally visit this area of land? ✓ <i>all that apply</i>		
<input type="checkbox"/> 0 All Year		<i>Repeat "Any more?" until respondent has indicated all times applicable</i>
<input type="checkbox"/> 1 Spring	<input type="checkbox"/> 3 Autumn	
<input type="checkbox"/> 2 Summer	<input type="checkbox"/> 4 Winter	

Q1.4 How did you become aware of this particular area of land? ✓ <i>one only</i>	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1 Always known – local knowledge / previous trip	
<input type="checkbox"/> 2 From friends/family	
<input type="checkbox"/> 3 Happened on it by chance	
<input type="checkbox"/> 4 Local promotion, e.g. press/notice board at site/TIC	Q1.5a Please specify? (<i>write in</i>)
<input type="checkbox"/> 5 Leaflet	Q1.5b Please specify? (<i>write in</i>)
<input type="checkbox"/> 6 National promotion, e.g. press	Q1.5c Please specify? (<i>write in</i>)
<input type="checkbox"/> 7 Guidebook	Q1.5d Please specify? (<i>write in</i>)
<input type="checkbox"/> 8 Website	Q1.5e Please specify? (<i>write in</i>)
<input type="checkbox"/> 9 Other walkers	
<input type="checkbox"/> 10 Shown on map	Q1.5e Online <input type="checkbox"/> 1 Paper <input type="checkbox"/> 2
<input type="checkbox"/> 11 Can't remember	

Q1.5 Where have you travelled from today to visit this area of land? ✓ <i>one only</i>	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1 Home	<i>Record town/place name:</i>
<input type="checkbox"/> 2 Temporary paid accommodation e.g. hotel, B&B, campsite	
<input type="checkbox"/> 3 Staying with family / friends	
<input type="checkbox"/> 4 Stopped off en route as part of a longer journey	

Q1.6 And approximately how far (one way) have you travelled to get here today? <i>Please ✓ one only</i>		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1 Up to 1 mile	<input type="checkbox"/> 5 10.01 – 20 miles	
<input type="checkbox"/> 2 1.01 – 2 miles	<input type="checkbox"/> 6 20.01 – 40 miles	
<input type="checkbox"/> 3 2.01 – 5 miles	<input type="checkbox"/> 7 40.01 – 100 miles	
<input type="checkbox"/> 4 5.01 – 10 miles	<input type="checkbox"/> 8 Over 100 miles	

Q1.7 What (main) form of transport did you use to get to this area of land today? ✓ <i>one only</i>	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1 Car /van / campervan	<input type="checkbox"/> 5 Train
<input type="checkbox"/> 2 Motorbike/scooter	<input type="checkbox"/> 6 Walked all the way
<input type="checkbox"/> 3 Bicycle/Mountain Bike	<input type="checkbox"/> 7 Horse
<input type="checkbox"/> 4 Public Bus	<input type="checkbox"/> 8 Other (please write in)

Q1.8	On a scale of 1 to 5, where 1 is very poor and 5 is very good how would you describe getting on to this area of land in terms of.....? SHOWCARD A ENSURE PEOPLE ARE REFERRING TO LAND SHOWN ON MAP ✓ <i>one for each statement</i>					
		Very Poor	Poor	Neither good nor poor	Good	Very Good
A	Being able to find the area of land	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
B	Being able to find the entry point to the area of land	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
C	Accessing the area of land easily without obstructions	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5

IF Q1.8 (a, b or c) = POOR or VERY POOR:

Q1.9	Which difficulties have you encountered in getting on to this area of land? Please ✓ <i>all that apply</i>
	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 Overgrown vegetation
	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 Locked gate
	<input type="checkbox"/> 3 Difficult wall/ fence to climb over
	<input type="checkbox"/> 4 Lack of clear signage
	<input type="checkbox"/> 5 Other (please write in)

Section 2 General

Q2.1	What kinds of information about this area of land would you have found useful prior to your visit today? Unprompted <i>if None, GO TO Q2.2</i> <i>Repeat "Any more?" until respondent says no</i>	Not mentioned	Slightly useful	Very Useful
A	Up to date maps - Online	<input type="checkbox"/> 0	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2
B	Up to date maps - Printed	<input type="checkbox"/> 0	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2
C	Information to notify the public that it is open access land	<input type="checkbox"/> 0	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2
D	Where local amenities are	<input type="checkbox"/> 0	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2
E	Information about wildlife in the area	<input type="checkbox"/> 0	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2
F	Extent of Open Access areas	<input type="checkbox"/> 0	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2
G	History of area	<input type="checkbox"/> 0	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2
H	Guides/Routes e.g. climbing, walking distances	<input type="checkbox"/> 0	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2
I	Rules / regulations / restrictions	<input type="checkbox"/> 0	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2
J	Points of interest	<input type="checkbox"/> 0	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2
K	Geography of area	<input type="checkbox"/> 0	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2
L	Travel information / bus times / parking	<input type="checkbox"/> 0	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2
M	Access for people with a disability/people with limited mobility	<input type="checkbox"/> 0	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2
N	Weather forecast	<input type="checkbox"/> 0	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2

Q2.2a	What activities are you doing at this area of land today? Please ✓ all that apply in column A Unprompted Repeat "Any more?" until respondent says No		
Q2.2b	Which of these Activities is your MAIN reason for being at this area of land? Please ✓ ONE ONLY in Column B		
		A – All activities	B - Main reason
	Short stroll/ ambling	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 1
	Serious walking/ rambling / hiking	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 2
	Dog walking	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 3
	Enjoying the scenery/ nature	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 4
	Running/ jogging	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
	Sitting down/ resting / picnics	<input type="checkbox"/> 6	<input type="checkbox"/> 6
	Rock Climbing	<input type="checkbox"/> 7	<input type="checkbox"/> 7
	Photography / drawing/ painting	<input type="checkbox"/> 8	<input type="checkbox"/> 8
	Bike riding	<input type="checkbox"/> 9	<input type="checkbox"/> 9
	Horse riding	<input type="checkbox"/> 10	<input type="checkbox"/> 10
	Bird watching/ nature watch / botany	<input type="checkbox"/> 11	<input type="checkbox"/> 11
	Football/ ball games	<input type="checkbox"/> 12	<input type="checkbox"/> 12
	Using my new right of access	<input type="checkbox"/> 13	<input type="checkbox"/> 13
	Other (write in)	<input type="checkbox"/> 14	<input type="checkbox"/> 14

Q2.3a	What were your reasons for choosing to visit this particular area of land today (rather than anywhere else)? Please ✓ all that apply Unprompted. Repeat "Any more?" until respondent says No		<i>Where mentioned as a reason ask the following:</i> On a scale of 1 to 5 where 1 is very dissatisfied and 5 is very satisfied, how satisfied are you with this aspect of your visit to this area of land today? SHOWCARD B				
			Very Dissatisfied		Very Satisfied		
A	Scenery/ landscape/ pleasant area	<input type="checkbox"/> 0	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
B	Accessibility / Proximity of the area of land	<input type="checkbox"/> 0	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
C	Space for dog to run	<input type="checkbox"/> 0	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
D	Wildlife/ botany	<input type="checkbox"/> 0	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
E	The area of land is not too busy / overcrowded	<input type="checkbox"/> 0	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
F	Remoteness of the area of land	<input type="checkbox"/> 0	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
G	En route/part of longer route	<input type="checkbox"/> 0					
H	Always come here	<input type="checkbox"/> 0					
I	Cleanliness of the area of land (e.g. free of dog mess and litter)	<input type="checkbox"/> 0	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
J	Parking provision at the area of land	<input type="checkbox"/> 0	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
K	Challenging walk/climb/feature	<input type="checkbox"/> 0	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
L	Other (please write in)	<input type="checkbox"/> 0	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
M	Other (please write in)	<input type="checkbox"/> 0	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
N	Other (please write in)	<input type="checkbox"/> 0	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5

Q2.4	Approximately how long did/will you spend <u>at this area of land</u> today? <i>Please ✓ one only</i>	
	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 Under half an hour	<input type="checkbox"/> 6 Between 4-4:59 hours
	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 30-59 minutes	<input type="checkbox"/> 7 Between 5-5:59 hours
	<input type="checkbox"/> 3 Between 1-1:59 hours	<input type="checkbox"/> 8 Between 6-6:59 hours
	<input type="checkbox"/> 4 Between 2-2:59 hours	<input type="checkbox"/> 9 More than 7 hours
	<input type="checkbox"/> 5 Between 3-3:59 hours	

Q2.5	Approximately how much did/ will your party spend as part of your trip out today (including to this area of land)? (Excluding accommodation and fuel costs, including food/drinks, souvenirs etc, during whole day and evening) <i>Please ✓ one only SHOWCARD C</i>	
	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 No opportunity	<input type="checkbox"/> 6 Between £10.01 and £20
	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 Nothing	<input type="checkbox"/> 7 Between £20.01 and £50
	<input type="checkbox"/> 3 Up to £5	<input type="checkbox"/> 8 Over £50
	<input type="checkbox"/> 4 Between £5.01 and £7.50	<input type="checkbox"/> 9 Unsure
	<input type="checkbox"/> 5 Between £7.51 and £10	<input type="checkbox"/> 10 Prefer not to say

Q2.6	What facilities would you want to find at this area of land today? <i>Please ✓ all that apply Unprompted - Repeat "Any more?" until respondent says No</i>	
	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 Toilets	<input type="checkbox"/> 8 Café/ refreshments
	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 Dog poo bins	<input type="checkbox"/> 9 Picnic tables / seating
	<input type="checkbox"/> 3 Rubbish bins	<input type="checkbox"/> 10 Bird hides
	<input type="checkbox"/> 4 Car park	<input type="checkbox"/> 11 Information about where you can and cannot go
	<input type="checkbox"/> 5 Visitor centre, info boards	<input type="checkbox"/> 12 Information about animals and wildlife on the site
	<input type="checkbox"/> 6 Information about the site and attractions	<input type="checkbox"/> 13 None
	<input type="checkbox"/> 7 Health and safety information about the site	
	<input type="checkbox"/> 14 Other (please write in)	

Section 3 Visitor Patterns of Use

Can you please show me on this map:
Where you entered this <u>area of land</u>? Mark with E
Where you will leave the <u>area of land</u>? Mark with X
Where you WALKED? Draw SOLID line, <u>clearly indicating whether on or off PROW</u>
Where you CYCLED? Draw DASHED line, <u>clearly indicating whether on or off PROW</u>
Where you RODE A HORSE? Draw a LINE WITH ARROWS, <u>clearly indicating whether on or off PROW</u>
Where you undertook any other activities (e.g. picnics, games, rock climbing) Mark each activity on map, <u>clearly indicating whether on or off PROW</u>
Record on map where interview is taking place with 'I' ENSURE MAP IS FULLY ANNOTATED AND MARKED WITH TIME/DATE OF INTERVIEW

Section 4 Site Awareness

Q4.1	SHOWCARD D Have you seen this symbol before? <i>Please ✓ one only</i>		
	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 Yes	If Yes - Where?	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 On this site on signs/notices
	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 No		<input type="checkbox"/> 2 On leaflets
	<input type="checkbox"/> 3 Not sure	GO TO Q4.3	<input type="checkbox"/> 3 In books
			<input type="checkbox"/> 4 At other areas of land
			<input type="checkbox"/> 5 Other (please write in)

Q4.2	What does the symbol represent? <i>Please ✓ all that apply</i>	
	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 Right to Roam	GO TO Q4.4
	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 Open Access	GO TO Q4.3, THEN Q4.5
	<input type="checkbox"/> 3 Other (please write in)	
	<input type="checkbox"/> 4 Don't know	

Q4.3	Have you heard of Right to Roam? <i>Please ✓ one only</i>		
	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 No	<input type="checkbox"/> 3 Not sure

Q4.4	Have you heard of Open Access? <i>Please ✓ one only</i>	
	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> 3 Not sure
	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 No	IF No Read statement below and then GO to Q4.7

If No: **Since 2005 this area of land has been designated as Open Access Land. This means people can walk across mapped areas of open access land without the need to stick to paths, though their right of access may sometimes be restricted for nature conservation, public safety, and land management reasons. Go TO Q4.7**

Q4.5	Based on your current understanding and awareness of Open Access, do you think each of the following statements are true, false, or don't you know? SHOWCARD E <i>Please ✓ one per row only</i>			
		True	False	Don't know
A	All farm land has been opened up to the public	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3
B	All grassland has been opened to the public	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3
C	People can walk across mapped open access land without the need to stick to paths	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3
D	My right of access to open access land may sometimes be restricted for nature conservation/,public safety, and/or land management reasons	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3

***Confirm with respondent, statements C and D are true**

Q4.6	Are you aware that since 2005 this area of land has been designated as Open Access Land? <i>Please ✓ one only</i>	
	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 No
		<input type="checkbox"/> 3 Not sure

ALL ANSWER:

Q4.7	Can you mention any specific restrictions that may apply to Open Access Land? <i>Write in. Probe fully. Record detailed response.</i>

Q4.8	For your visit to this area of land today, could you estimate the proportion of your walk/visit that was ...
	On a Public Right of Way%
	On other unofficial paths or tracks%
	OFF Public Rights of Way / Paths / Tracks i.e. on access land%
	<input type="checkbox"/> 0 Don't Know

For those using Public Rights of Way only:

Q4.8a	Why have you stayed on Public Rights of Way and not crossed open access land ? <i>Please ✓ all that apply</i> <i>Unprompted, Repeat "Any more?" until respondent says No</i>	
	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 Need more information about Open Access	<input type="checkbox"/> 8 Have a dog and assumed dogs are banned from Open access
	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 Unsure whether I had permission to stray from the public right of way	<input type="checkbox"/> 9 The public Right of Way takes me to where I want to be so no need to stray from it
	<input type="checkbox"/> 3 Unsure which areas are open access land	<input type="checkbox"/> 10 Easier to walk on a public right of way (terrain)
	<input type="checkbox"/> 4 Anxious about getting lost	<input type="checkbox"/> 11 Thought restrictions were in force
	<input type="checkbox"/> 5 Safer on a public right of way	<input type="checkbox"/> 12 Did not want to disturb wildlife or cattle
	<input type="checkbox"/> 6 Nothing extra to see by going off public right of way	<input type="checkbox"/> 13 Other (please write in)
	<input type="checkbox"/> 7 Was unsure if farmer/landowner was present	

For those using Access Land i.e. going OFF Public Rights of Way

Q4.8b	<p>What influenced your decision to go off Public Rights of Way? <i>Please ✓ all that apply</i> <i>Unprompted, Repeat "Any more?" until respondent says No</i></p>
	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 Utilising my right of access
	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 There are existing tracks on the ground off the PROW
	<input type="checkbox"/> 3 Challenging walk
	<input type="checkbox"/> 4 More direct route to get where I'm going
	<input type="checkbox"/> 5 Exercise dog
	<input type="checkbox"/> 6 Avoid path/area of site due to terrain (mud/ incline/ etc)
	<input type="checkbox"/> 7 To get to viewpoint/part of site inaccessible by PROW
	<input type="checkbox"/> 8 I could not easily identify where the Public Rights of Way were on the site
	<input type="checkbox"/> 9 Other (please write in)

IF RESPONDENT ACCOMPANIED BY DOG COMPLETE Qs 4.9 to 4.14, otherwise GO TO Q5

RESPONDENTS WITH DOGS

Q4.9	<p>What would you say are issues to be aware of when walking with a dog in the countryside? <i>DO NOT PROMPT - Please ✓ all that apply Repeat "Any more?" until respondent says No</i></p>												
	<table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/> 1 Clear up and dispose of any dog mess</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> 7 Keeping dog on a lead</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/> 2 Dispose of dog mess bags responsibly</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> 8 Risks to farm animals</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/> 3 Keeping dogs under control</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> 9 Risks to birds/wildlife</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/> 4 Keeping dogs under CLOSE control</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> 10 Risks to dog from farm animals</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/> 5 Checking for signs/information on dog control</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> 11 None</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/> 6 Taking water/drink for the dog</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> 12 Other (please write in) </td> </tr> </table>	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 Clear up and dispose of any dog mess	<input type="checkbox"/> 7 Keeping dog on a lead	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 Dispose of dog mess bags responsibly	<input type="checkbox"/> 8 Risks to farm animals	<input type="checkbox"/> 3 Keeping dogs under control	<input type="checkbox"/> 9 Risks to birds/wildlife	<input type="checkbox"/> 4 Keeping dogs under CLOSE control	<input type="checkbox"/> 10 Risks to dog from farm animals	<input type="checkbox"/> 5 Checking for signs/information on dog control	<input type="checkbox"/> 11 None	<input type="checkbox"/> 6 Taking water/drink for the dog	<input type="checkbox"/> 12 Other (please write in)
<input type="checkbox"/> 1 Clear up and dispose of any dog mess	<input type="checkbox"/> 7 Keeping dog on a lead												
<input type="checkbox"/> 2 Dispose of dog mess bags responsibly	<input type="checkbox"/> 8 Risks to farm animals												
<input type="checkbox"/> 3 Keeping dogs under control	<input type="checkbox"/> 9 Risks to birds/wildlife												
<input type="checkbox"/> 4 Keeping dogs under CLOSE control	<input type="checkbox"/> 10 Risks to dog from farm animals												
<input type="checkbox"/> 5 Checking for signs/information on dog control	<input type="checkbox"/> 11 None												
<input type="checkbox"/> 6 Taking water/drink for the dog	<input type="checkbox"/> 12 Other (please write in)												
Q4.10	<p>For how long, in years, have you been walking your dog(s) on this area of land? <i>Please ✓ one only</i></p>												
	<table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/> 1 Today is my first visit</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> 4 More than 2 years up to 3 years</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/> 2 Less than 1 year</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> 5 More than 3 years up to 5 years</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/> 3 More than 1 year up to 2 years</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> 6 More than 5 years</td> </tr> </table>	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 Today is my first visit	<input type="checkbox"/> 4 More than 2 years up to 3 years	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 Less than 1 year	<input type="checkbox"/> 5 More than 3 years up to 5 years	<input type="checkbox"/> 3 More than 1 year up to 2 years	<input type="checkbox"/> 6 More than 5 years						
<input type="checkbox"/> 1 Today is my first visit	<input type="checkbox"/> 4 More than 2 years up to 3 years												
<input type="checkbox"/> 2 Less than 1 year	<input type="checkbox"/> 5 More than 3 years up to 5 years												
<input type="checkbox"/> 3 More than 1 year up to 2 years	<input type="checkbox"/> 6 More than 5 years												
Q4.11	<p>What aspects about this area of land make it good for bringing a dog here? <i>DO NOT PROMPT - Please ✓ all that apply Repeat "Any more?" until respondent says No</i></p>												
	<table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/> 1 able to let dog run off lead</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> 5 dog enjoys it here</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/> 2 no/not many other dogs</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> 6 don't have to pick up dog mess</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/> 3 no/not many other people</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> 7 no livestock</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/> 4 no restrictions on dogs being here</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> 8 things for dogs to chase (e.g. rabbits, birds)</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2"><input type="checkbox"/> 9 nothing in particular - I like the walk/convenient walk for me</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2"><input type="checkbox"/> 10 other (please write in)</td> </tr> </table>	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 able to let dog run off lead	<input type="checkbox"/> 5 dog enjoys it here	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 no/not many other dogs	<input type="checkbox"/> 6 don't have to pick up dog mess	<input type="checkbox"/> 3 no/not many other people	<input type="checkbox"/> 7 no livestock	<input type="checkbox"/> 4 no restrictions on dogs being here	<input type="checkbox"/> 8 things for dogs to chase (e.g. rabbits, birds)	<input type="checkbox"/> 9 nothing in particular - I like the walk/convenient walk for me		<input type="checkbox"/> 10 other (please write in)	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1 able to let dog run off lead	<input type="checkbox"/> 5 dog enjoys it here												
<input type="checkbox"/> 2 no/not many other dogs	<input type="checkbox"/> 6 don't have to pick up dog mess												
<input type="checkbox"/> 3 no/not many other people	<input type="checkbox"/> 7 no livestock												
<input type="checkbox"/> 4 no restrictions on dogs being here	<input type="checkbox"/> 8 things for dogs to chase (e.g. rabbits, birds)												
<input type="checkbox"/> 9 nothing in particular - I like the walk/convenient walk for me													
<input type="checkbox"/> 10 other (please write in)													

Q4.12	Under what circumstances do you keep your dog(s) on a lead at this site? <i>Unprompted - Repeat "Any more?" until respondent says No</i>		
	At all times	<input type="checkbox"/> 0	Go to Q 5
	Never	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	Go to Q 4.13
	At all times when off PRoW	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	
	If wild birds are close by	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	
	If signs/ information say to keep dogs on a lead	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	
	If there are other dogs close by	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	
	If livestock are close by	<input type="checkbox"/> 6	
	In bird breeding season	<input type="checkbox"/> 7	
	In shooting season	<input type="checkbox"/> 8	

ONLY ASK Q4.13 if Q4.12=1 (Never)

Q4.13	Would you be happy to keep your dog on a lead ...			
A	If wild birds are close by	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 No	<input type="checkbox"/> 3 Don't Know
B	If additional information explaining why was visible on the site	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 No	<input type="checkbox"/> 3 Don't Know
D	If livestock are close by	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 No	<input type="checkbox"/> 3 Don't Know
E	In bird breeding season	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 No	<input type="checkbox"/> 3 Don't Know
F	In shooting season	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 No	<input type="checkbox"/> 3 Don't Know

Q4. 14 If no to any/all in Q4.13 – Why?

Section 5 Information and Signage

ALL RESPONDENTS

Q5	What types of information or signage have you found useful at this area of land today? <i>(tick all that apply)</i>	
	Not seen any signage or information	<input type="checkbox"/> 0
	Footpath signs/ Direction sign posts /Finger posts /Way markers	<input type="checkbox"/> 1
	Map / information board	<input type="checkbox"/> 2
	Danger signs	<input type="checkbox"/> 3
	Signs/information relating to Open Access	<input type="checkbox"/> 4
	Suggested walks	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
	Open Access Symbol	<input type="checkbox"/> 6
	Distance markers	<input type="checkbox"/> 7
	Access point markers	<input type="checkbox"/> 8
	Other information or signage (please write in)	<input type="checkbox"/> 9

Q5.1	Which of the following sources of publicity would you find most useful in influencing future visits to open access land? SHOWCARD E <i>Please ✓ all that apply</i>	
	Publicity	Please specify
A	Local Newspaper <input type="checkbox"/> 1	
B	Parish News Articles <input type="checkbox"/> 2	
C	National Newspapers – Articles <input type="checkbox"/> 3	
D	National TV – programmes <input type="checkbox"/> 4	
E	National Radio – programmes <input type="checkbox"/> 5	
F	Local TV – programmes <input type="checkbox"/> 6	
G	Local Radio – programmes <input type="checkbox"/> 7	
H	TV Adverts <input type="checkbox"/> 8	
I	Billboards <input type="checkbox"/> 9	
J	Internet <input type="checkbox"/> 10	
K	Magazines <input type="checkbox"/> 11	
L	Membership organisations <input type="checkbox"/> 12	
K	Other (please specify) <input type="checkbox"/> 13	

Section 6 Satisfaction

Q6	Overall, on a scale of 1 to 5 where 1 is very dissatisfied and 5 is very satisfied, how satisfied are you with your visit to this area of land today? SHOWCARD B <i>Please ✓ one only</i>	
	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 Very dissatisfied	Ask why dissatisfied – record at Q6.2
	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 Dissatisfied	
	<input type="checkbox"/> 3 Neither satisfied not dissatisfied	
	<input type="checkbox"/> 4 Satisfied	
	<input type="checkbox"/> 5 Very Satisfied	

Q6.1	To what extent did the need to get exercise feature in your decision to visit the countryside today? SHOWCARD F <i>Please ✓ one only</i>		
	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 Not at all	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 To some extent	<input type="checkbox"/> 3 To a large extent

Q6.2	Finally, do you have any other comments about your visit to this area of land? <i>Please probe fully (for example any history with the area of land, their experience or expectations, parking issues etc). Repeat “Any more?” until respondent says No</i>	
	
	
	

COLLECT MAP BACK FROM RESPONDENT

Section 7 – Respondent Profile

Finally, so that we can check whether we have a representative sample, please tell me the following. This information will not be used for anything else.

Q7	What is your home postcode <i>Please probe for full postcode. If postcode not given probe for street and/or suburb/town.</i>	
	Full postcode	.....
	Street	.....
	Suburb/Town	.....

Q7.1	Record Gender <i>Please ✓ one only</i>
	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 Male <input type="checkbox"/> 2 Female

Q7.2	What age group do you belong in? <i>Please ✓ one only</i>	SHOWCARD G
	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 Under 18	<input type="checkbox"/> 5 45 - 54
	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 18 – 24	<input type="checkbox"/> 6 55 - 64
	<input type="checkbox"/> 3 25 – 34	<input type="checkbox"/> 7 65 - 74
	<input type="checkbox"/> 4 35 – 44	<input type="checkbox"/> 8 75 +

Q7.3	How would you describe the profile of the group travelling with you today? <i>Please ✓ one only</i>	SHOWCARD H
	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 Single visitor (under 18)	<input type="checkbox"/> 4 More than 2 adults (18 or over)
	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 Single visitor (18 or over)	<input type="checkbox"/> 5 2 or more children (under 18)
	<input type="checkbox"/> 3 2 adults (18 or over)	<input type="checkbox"/> 6 Adult/s and Child/ren

Q7.4	Would you describe your group's visit to this area of land today....? <i>Please ✓ one only</i>
	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 A social/ leisure visit
	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 As part of a rambling/walking association or other club/group Which one?
	<input type="checkbox"/> 3 Other organised activity: What?
	<input type="checkbox"/> 4 To access another area of land
	<input type="checkbox"/> 5 Other (please write in)

Q7.5	What is your employment status? <i>Please ✓ one only</i>	SHOWCARD I
	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 Full-time (30+ hrs/week)	<input type="checkbox"/> 7 Don't work – looking after family/home
	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 Part-time (<30 hrs/week)	<input type="checkbox"/> 8 Don't work – long term sick disabled
	<input type="checkbox"/> 3 Self-employed full time	<input type="checkbox"/> 9 Don't work – some other reason
	<input type="checkbox"/> 4 Self-employed part-time	<input type="checkbox"/> 10 Don't work - student
	<input type="checkbox"/> 5 Government supported training scheme	<input type="checkbox"/> 11 Retired
	<input type="checkbox"/> 6 Unemployed – looked for work in last 4 weeks or waiting to start new job	

Q7.6	What is the occupation of the Chief Wage earner in your household? <i>Please write in (for SEG classification)</i>

Q7.8	Which of these groups do you belong to?		SHOWCARD J
	<i>Please ✓ one only</i>		
	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 White British		<input type="checkbox"/> 10 Bangladeshi
	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 Irish		<input type="checkbox"/> 11 Other Asian (please write in)
	<input type="checkbox"/> 3 Other White (please write in)		<input type="checkbox"/> 12 Black Caribbean
	<input type="checkbox"/> 4 Mixed White & Black Caribbean		<input type="checkbox"/> 13 Black African
	<input type="checkbox"/> 5 Mixed White & Black African		<input type="checkbox"/> 14 Other Black (please write in)
	<input type="checkbox"/> 6 Mixed White & Asian		<input type="checkbox"/> 15 Chinese
	<input type="checkbox"/> 7 Other Mixed (please write in)		<input type="checkbox"/> 16 Other ethnic group (please write in)
	<input type="checkbox"/> 8 Indian		
<input type="checkbox"/> 9 Pakistani			

Q7.9	Do you have a long-term illness, health problem or disability which limits your daily activities or the work you can do? <i>Please ✓ one only</i>
	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 Yes
	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 No

Thank you, May I take a contact phone number for back checking purposes? That is, to verify that the interview has been properly conducted – this information will not be used for any other purpose. Natural England is keen to monitor understanding and use of Open Access; would you be happy to give your details for Natural England to contact you should they undertake any future research on Open Access?

If so, sign:

Name:

Address:

If you would like any further information on Open Access, I have a leaflet you are welcome to take home with you (offer).....

Observation to be carried out every 60 minutes throughout the observation day, observations to last for 3-5 minutes.

One form to be completed for every separate person/group of people observed during each observation.

1. Observation record

Time of observation	Date of Observation	Observation Location
Site Name	Site reference No	Weather: (circle all that apply or write in) Warm Cold Sunny Overcast Clear Raining Misty Pleasant Thunder/Lighting Dry Windy Still Unpleasant

2. Visitor activity

Please mark the entry point, route taken and exit point on your map for each group of visitors. Please mark the entrance with an “E”, the route with a solid line and the exit with an “X”.

Mark on your map where each visitor / group of visitors is at the time of observation with the code for the activity being undertaken at the time (see below codes highlighted in Bold)

Activity	Number of visitors on PRow if visible	Number of visitors on access land	Total number of visitors
Actively using open access land rather than PRow routes (OA)			
Ambling/walking for pleasure (A/W)			
Rambling/serious walking (R/W)			
Dog walking (D/W)			
Dog on lead (DL)			
Dog off lead (DOF)			
Running/Jogging (R/J)			
Enjoying scenery/ bird/nature watching (S/N)			
Bike riding (B/R)			
Horse Riding (H/R)			
Picnics (P/N)			
Sitting/Resting (S/R)			
Ball Games/ Other Games (G)			
Other (O) write in:			

3. Inappropriate behaviour Please reference these activities on your map (I/B)

Please write in inappropriate behaviour observed	Number of visitors on PRow undertaking activity	Number of visitors on open access land undertaking activity	Total number of visitors undertaking activity
Picking flowers			
Fire risk activity (Cigarette butts/ setting fires/ barbecues/ camp fires)			
Walking through restricted areas			
Using a <u>motorised</u> vehicle where not permitted			

Using a <u>non-motorised</u> vehicle where not permitted			
Disturbing nesting birds (flushing)			
Other			

4. Dog activity and adherence to any restrictions in place

Activity / Behaviour	Number of dogs on Rights of Way undertaking each activity	Number of dogs on open access land <u>where dogs are allowed</u>	Number of dogs on open access land <u>where dogs are excluded</u>	Total number of dogs undertaking activity
On lead				
Off lead to heel				
Off lead roaming				
Controlled and well behaved (i.e. responsive to commands where given)				
Uncontrolled and poorly behaved (i.e. unresponsive to commands where given)				
Disturbing other visitors/dogs				
Disturbing livestock				
Disturbing birds/wildlife				
Other type of non control				

5. Use of Site Signage, Information and Access Infrastructure

Use of Signage and information (visibly stopping to observe or read - please detail on map)	
Open Access Symbol (OA/S)	
Open Access Restrictions notice (OA/R)	
Open Access management information (advisory) (OA/M)	
Open Access information point (OA/IP)	
Other (Please detail)	
Use of Site Access Infrastructure (Please detail on map)	
Stile (S)	
Gate (G)	
Kissing Gate (KG)	
Car Park (CP)	
Other (Please detail)	

6. Total number of Visitors

Number of visitors on Rights of Way	Number of visitors on open access land	Total number of visitors	Visitors on any road/ existing paths and tracks within access land site

**2008 – National Monitoring Survey
Natural England Public Use of Access Land Visitor Survey Year 3 (2008)**

INDICATE POSITION OF INTERVIEW LOCATION ON MAP

<input type="checkbox"/> 1 On Public Right of Way (PRoW) (including roads/official car parks)	Number of Dogs in group:		INPUT SITE CODE:
	Number of horses in group:		
	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 On a track within the area that is not a PRoW	Number of mountain bikes:		☐ 1 Individual
<input type="checkbox"/> 3 On Access Land – i.e. elsewhere	Number of other bikes:		<input type="checkbox"/> 2 Group
Record time: and date:	Number of other items, eg wheelchairs/pushchairs:		Number in Group
	Interviewer:	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 On Entry	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 Part way through walk/ visit
		<input type="checkbox"/> 3 On Exit	

Good Morning/afternoon/evening

My name isfrom Faber Maunsell. We are conducting a recreation survey on behalf of Natural England at a number of sites. The information you provide will help improve the provision of public access in the countryside.

IF RESPONDENT STATES THEY HAVE ALREADY DONE THE SURVEY LAST YEAR:

Because the survey aims to track changes from year to year, the information you give will be of great importance in monitoring changes over time and of great value to the survey.

RESPONDENT SELECTION

IF GROUP – Could I ask which of your party, the next person to have a birthday is?
OR IF GROUP HAS ORGANISER/LEADER – INTERVIEW ORGANISER/LEADER

Responses should reflect the individual. Random sampling approach should therefore be adopted – No self selection.

If respondent asks how long it will take: Will take around 15 minutes to complete.

The surveys are being conducted under the Market Research Society Code of Conduct and any personal information you provide is fully confidential.

Section 1 –Visit to this area of land

To clarify, the survey is about **THIS AREA OF LAND** we are currently on, as shown on this map (*HAND MAP A*). *Unless otherwise instructed responses are unprompted.*

Q1.1	About how often do you visit this area of land? ✓ <i>one only</i>	
	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 First visit today	GO TO Q1.4
	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 Daily	
	<input type="checkbox"/> 3 Several times a week	
	<input type="checkbox"/> 4 Weekly	
	<input type="checkbox"/> 5 Several times a month	
	<input type="checkbox"/> 6 Monthly	
	<input type="checkbox"/> 7 Several times a year	
	<input type="checkbox"/> 8 Once a year	
	<input type="checkbox"/> 9 Less often	

Q1.2	What days and times do you normally visit this area of land? ✓ <i>all that apply</i>				
		Weekdays	Saturdays	Sundays	<i>Repeat “Any more?” until respondent has indicated all times applicable</i>
	Early mornings	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 11	<input type="checkbox"/> 21	
	Mid mornings	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 12	<input type="checkbox"/> 22	
	Lunchtimes	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 13	<input type="checkbox"/> 23	
	Afternoon	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 14	<input type="checkbox"/> 24	
	Evenings	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> 15	<input type="checkbox"/> 25	

Q1.3	And at what times of year do you normally visit this area of land? ✓ <i>all that apply</i>		
	<input type="checkbox"/> 0 All Year		<i>Repeat “Any more?” until respondent has indicated all times applicable</i>
	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 Spring	<input type="checkbox"/> 3 Autumn	
	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 Summer	<input type="checkbox"/> 4 Winter	

Q1.4	How did you become aware of this particular area of land? ✓ <i>one only</i>	
	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 Always known – local knowledge / previous trip	
	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 From friends/family	
	<input type="checkbox"/> 3 Happened on it by chance	
	<input type="checkbox"/> 4 Local promotion, e.g. press/notice board at site/TIC	Q1.4a Please specify? (<i>write in</i>)
	<input type="checkbox"/> 5 Leaflet	Q1.4b Please specify? (<i>write in</i>)
	<input type="checkbox"/> 6 National promotion, e.g. press	Q1.4c Please specify? (<i>write in</i>)
	<input type="checkbox"/> 7 Guidebook	Q1.4d Please specify? (<i>write in</i>)
	<input type="checkbox"/> 8 Website	Q1.4e Please specify? (<i>write in</i>)
	<input type="checkbox"/> 9 Other walkers	
	<input type="checkbox"/> 10 Shown on map	Q1.4f Online <input type="checkbox"/> 1 Paper <input type="checkbox"/> 2
	<input type="checkbox"/> 11 Can't remember	

Q1.5	Where have you travelled from today to visit this area of land? ✓ <i>one only</i>	
	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 Home	<i>Record town/place name:</i>
	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 Temporary paid accommodation e.g. hotel, B&B, campsite	
	<input type="checkbox"/> 3 Staying with family / friends	
	<input type="checkbox"/> 4 Stopped off en route as part of a longer journey	

Q1.6	And approximately how far (one way) have you travelled to get here today? <i>Please ✓ one only</i>		
	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 Up to 1 mile	<input type="checkbox"/> 5 10.01 – 20 miles	
	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 1.01 – 2 miles	<input type="checkbox"/> 6 20.01 – 40 miles	
	<input type="checkbox"/> 3 2.01 – 5 miles	<input type="checkbox"/> 7 40.01 – 100 miles	
	<input type="checkbox"/> 4 5.01 – 10 miles	<input type="checkbox"/> 8 Over 100 miles	

Q1.7	What (main) form of transport did you use to get to this area of land today? ✓ one only	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1 Car /van / campervan	<input type="checkbox"/> 5 Train	
<input type="checkbox"/> 2 Motorbike/scooter	<input type="checkbox"/> 6 Walked all the way	
<input type="checkbox"/> 3 Bicycle/Mountain Bike	<input type="checkbox"/> 7 Horse	
<input type="checkbox"/> 4 Public Bus	<input type="checkbox"/> 8 Other (please write in)	

Q1.8	On a scale of 1 to 5, where 1 is very poor and 5 is very good how would you describe getting on to this area of land in terms of.....? SHOWCARD A ENSURE PEOPLE ARE REFERRING TO LAND SHOWN ON MAP ✓ one for each statement					
		Very Poor	Poor	Neither good nor poor	Good	Very Good
A	Being able to find the area of land	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
B	Being able to find the entry point to the area of land	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
C	Accessing the area of land easily without obstructions	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5

IF Q1.8 (A, B or C) = POOR or VERY POOR:

Q1.9	Which difficulties have you encountered in getting on to this area of land? <i>Please ✓ all that apply</i>	
	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 Overgrown vegetation	
	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 Locked gate	
	<input type="checkbox"/> 3 Difficult wall/ fence to climb over	
	<input type="checkbox"/> 4 Lack of clear signage	
	<input type="checkbox"/> 5 Other (please write in)	

Section 2 General				
Q2.1	What kinds of information about <u>this area of land</u> would you have found useful prior to your visit today? <i>Unprompted</i>			
	<i>if None, GO TO Q2.2</i> <i>Repeat "Any more?" until respondent says no</i>	Not mentioned	Slightly useful	Very Useful
A	Up to date maps - Online	<input type="checkbox"/> 0	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2
B	Up to date maps - Printed	<input type="checkbox"/> 0	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2
C	Information to notify the public that it is open access land	<input type="checkbox"/> 0	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2
D	Where local amenities are	<input type="checkbox"/> 0	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2
E	Information about wildlife in the area	<input type="checkbox"/> 0	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2
F	Extent of Open Access areas	<input type="checkbox"/> 0	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2
G	History of area	<input type="checkbox"/> 0	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2
H	Guides/Routes e.g. climbing, walking distances	<input type="checkbox"/> 0	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2
I	Rules / regulations / restrictions	<input type="checkbox"/> 0	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2
J	Points of interest	<input type="checkbox"/> 0	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2
K	Geography of area	<input type="checkbox"/> 0	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2
L	Travel information / bus times / parking	<input type="checkbox"/> 0	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2
M	Access for people with a disability/people with limited mobility	<input type="checkbox"/> 0	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2
N	Weather forecast	<input type="checkbox"/> 0	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2

Q2.2a	What activities are you doing <u>at this area of land</u> today? <i>Please ✓ all that apply in column A</i> <i>Unprompted</i> <i>Repeat "Any more?" until respondent says No</i>		
Q2.2b	Which of these Activities is your MAIN reason for being at this area of land? <i>Please ✓ ONE ONLY in Column B</i>		
		A – All activities	B - Main reason
	Short stroll/ ambling	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 1
	Serious walking/ rambling / hiking	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 2
	Dog walking	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 3
	Enjoying the scenery/ nature	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 4
	Running/ jogging	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
	Sitting down/ resting / picnics	<input type="checkbox"/> 6	<input type="checkbox"/> 6
	Rock Climbing	<input type="checkbox"/> 7	<input type="checkbox"/> 7
	Photography / drawing/ painting	<input type="checkbox"/> 8	<input type="checkbox"/> 8
	Bike riding	<input type="checkbox"/> 9	<input type="checkbox"/> 9
	Horse riding	<input type="checkbox"/> 10	<input type="checkbox"/> 10
	Bird watching/ nature watch / botany	<input type="checkbox"/> 11	<input type="checkbox"/> 11
	Football/ ball games	<input type="checkbox"/> 12	<input type="checkbox"/> 12
	Using my new right of access	<input type="checkbox"/> 13	<input type="checkbox"/> 13
	Other (write in)	<input type="checkbox"/> 14	<input type="checkbox"/> 14
		

Q2.3 a	What were your reasons for choosing to visit <u>this particular area of land</u> today (rather than anywhere else)? <i>Please ✓ all that apply</i>	<i>Where mentioned as a reason ask the following:</i> On a scale of 1 to 5 where 1 is very dissatisfied and 5 is very satisfied,
-----------	--	--

		<i>Unprompted. Repeat "Any more?" until respondent says No</i>						how satisfied are you with this aspect of your visit to this area of land today? <i>SHOWCARD B</i>					
								Very Dissatisfied			Very Satisfied		
A	Scenery/ landscape/ pleasant area	<input type="checkbox"/> 0	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5						
B	Accessibility / Proximity of the area of land	<input type="checkbox"/> 0	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5						
C	Space for dog to run	<input type="checkbox"/> 0	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5						
D	Wildlife/ botany	<input type="checkbox"/> 0	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5						
E	The area of land is not too busy / overcrowded	<input type="checkbox"/> 0	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5						
F	Remoteness of the area of land	<input type="checkbox"/> 0	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5						
G	En route/part of longer route	<input type="checkbox"/> 0											
H	Always come here	<input type="checkbox"/> 0											
I	Cleanliness of the area of land (e.g. free of dog mess and litter)	<input type="checkbox"/> 0	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5						
J	Parking provision at the area of land	<input type="checkbox"/> 0	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5						
K	Challenging walk/climb/feature	<input type="checkbox"/> 0	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5						
L	Other (please write in)	<input type="checkbox"/> 0	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5						
M	Other (please write in)	<input type="checkbox"/> 0	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5						
N	Other (please write in)	<input type="checkbox"/> 0	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5						

Q2.4	Approximately how long did/will you spend <u>at this area of land</u> today? <i>Please ✓ one only</i>	
	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 Under half an hour	<input type="checkbox"/> 6 Between 4-4:59 hours
	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 30-59 minutes	<input type="checkbox"/> 7 Between 5-5:59 hours
	<input type="checkbox"/> 3 Between 1-1:59 hours	<input type="checkbox"/> 8 Between 6-6:59 hours
	<input type="checkbox"/> 4 Between 2-2:59 hours	<input type="checkbox"/> 9 More than 7 hours
	<input type="checkbox"/> 5 Between 3-3:59 hours	

Q2.5	Approximately how much did/ will your party spend as part of your trip out today (including to this area of land)? (Excluding accommodation and fuel costs, including food/drinks, souvenirs etc, during whole day and evening) <i>Please ✓ one only SHOWCARD C</i>	
	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 No opportunity	<input type="checkbox"/> 6 Between £10.01 and £20
	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 Nothing	<input type="checkbox"/> 7 Between £20.01 and £50
	<input type="checkbox"/> 3 Up to £5	<input type="checkbox"/> 8 Over £50
	<input type="checkbox"/> 4 Between £5.01 and £7.50	<input type="checkbox"/> 9 Unsure
	<input type="checkbox"/> 5 Between £7.51 and £10	<input type="checkbox"/> 10 Prefer not to say

Q2.6	What facilities would you want to find at this area of land today? <i>Please ✓ all that apply</i> <i>Unprompted - Repeat "Any more?" until respondent says No</i>	
	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 Toilets	<input type="checkbox"/> 8 Café/ refreshments
	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 Dog poo bins	<input type="checkbox"/> 9 Picnic tables / seating
	<input type="checkbox"/> 3 Rubbish bins	<input type="checkbox"/> 10 Bird hides
	<input type="checkbox"/> 4 Car park	<input type="checkbox"/> 11 Information about where you can and cannot go
	<input type="checkbox"/> 5 Visitor centre, info boards	<input type="checkbox"/> 12 Information about animals and wildlife on the site
	<input type="checkbox"/> 6 Information about the site and attractions	<input type="checkbox"/> 13 None
	<input type="checkbox"/> 7 Health and safety information about the site	
	<input type="checkbox"/> 14 Other (please write in)	

Section 3 Visitor Patterns of Use

Can you please show me on this map:
Where you entered this <u>area of land</u>? Mark with E
Where you will leave the <u>area of land</u>? Mark with X
Where you WALKED? Draw SOLID line, clearly indicating whether on or off PROW/other paths
Where you CYCLED? Draw DASHED line, clearly indicating whether on or off PROW/other paths
Where you RODE A HORSE? Draw a LINE WITH ARROWS, clearly indicating whether on or off PROW/other paths
Where you undertook any other activities (e.g. picnics, games, rock climbing) Mark each activity on map, clearly indicating whether on or off PROW/other paths
Record on map where interview is taking place with 'I' ENSURE MAP IS FULLY ANNOTATED AND MARKED WITH TIME/DATE OF INTERVIEW

Section 4 Site Awareness

Q4.1	SHOWCARD D Have you seen this symbol before? <i>Please ✓ one only</i>		
	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 Yes	If Yes - Where? <i>Tick all that apply</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 At this site on signs/ notices
			<input type="checkbox"/> 2 On leaflets
			<input type="checkbox"/> 3 In books
			<input type="checkbox"/> 4 At other areas of land
			<input type="checkbox"/> 5 Other (please write in)
	<input type="checkbox"/> 3 Not sure		
	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 No	GO TO Q4.3	

Q4.2	What does the symbol represent? <i>Please ✓ all that apply</i>	
	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 Right to Roam	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 Open Access
	<input type="checkbox"/> 3 Other (please write in)	
	<input type="checkbox"/> 4 Don't know	

Q4.3	Do NOT ask if Q4.2 = 1 Have you heard of Right to Roam? <i>Please ✓ one only</i>		
	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 No	<input type="checkbox"/> 3 Not sure

Q4.4	Do NOT ask if Q4.2 = 2 Have you heard of Open Access? <i>Please ✓ one only</i>	
	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> 3 Not sure
	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 No	

Q4.5	Based on your current understanding and awareness of Open Access, do you think each of the following statements are true, false, or don't you know? SHOWCARD E <i>Please ✓ one per row only</i>			
		True	False	Don't know
A	All farm land has been opened up to the public	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3
B	All grassland has been opened to the public	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3
C	People can walk across mapped open access land without the need to stick to PROW	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3
D	My right of access to open access land may sometimes be restricted for nature conservation/,public safety, and/or land management reasons	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3

***Confirm with respondent, statements C and D are true**

Q4.6	Are you aware that since 2005 this area of land has been designated as Open Access Land? <i>Please ✓ one only</i>		
	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 No	<input type="checkbox"/> 3 Not sure

ALL ANSWER:

Q4.7	Can you mention any specific restrictions that may apply to Open Access Land? <i>Write in. Probe fully. Record detailed response.</i>

If Q4.6=No: Since 2005 this area of land has been designated as Open Access Land. This means people can walk across mapped areas of open access land without the need to stick to public rights of way, though their right of access may sometimes be restricted for nature conservation, public safety, and land management reasons.

Q4.8	Refer to Map For your visit to this area of land today, could you estimate the proportion of your walk/visit that was/will be ...
	On a Public Right of Way, public road or official car park%
	On other tracks within the area that are not PROW%
	OFF Public Rights of Way / Tracks i.e. on open access land%
	<input type="checkbox"/> 0 Don't Know

For those only using Public Rights of Way:

Q4.8a	Why have you stayed on Public Rights of Way and not crossed open access land? <i>Please ✓ all that apply</i> <i>Unprompted, Repeat "Any more?" until respondent says No</i>	
	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 Need more information about Open Access	<input type="checkbox"/> 8 Have a dog and assumed dogs are banned from Open access
	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 Unsure whether I had permission to stray from the public right of way	<input type="checkbox"/> 9 The public Right of Way takes me to where I want to be so no need to stray from it
	<input type="checkbox"/> 3 Unsure which areas are open access land	<input type="checkbox"/> 10 Easier to walk on a public right of way (terrain)
	<input type="checkbox"/> 4 Anxious about getting lost	<input type="checkbox"/> 11 Thought restrictions were in force
	<input type="checkbox"/> 5 Safer on a public right of way	<input type="checkbox"/> 12 Did not want to disturb wildlife or cattle
	<input type="checkbox"/> 6 Nothing extra to see by going off public right of way	<input type="checkbox"/> 13 Other (please write in)
	<input type="checkbox"/> 7 Was unsure if farmer/landowner was present	

For those using Access Land i.e. going OFF Public Rights of Way and other paths/tracks

Q4.8b	What influenced your decision to go off Public Rights of Way/off paths? <i>Please ✓ all that apply</i> <i>Unprompted, Repeat "Any more?" until respondent says No</i>	
	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 Utilising my right of access	<input type="checkbox"/> 6 Avoid path/area of site due to terrain (mud/ incline/ etc)
	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 There are existing paths /tracks on the ground off the PROW	<input type="checkbox"/> 7 To get to viewpoint/part of site inaccessible by PROW
	<input type="checkbox"/> 3 Challenging walk	<input type="checkbox"/> 8 I could not easily identify where the Public Rights of Way were on the site
	<input type="checkbox"/> 4 More direct route to get where I'm going	
	<input type="checkbox"/> 5 Exercise dog	
	<input type="checkbox"/> 9 Other (please write in)	

IF RESPONDENT ACCOMPANIED BY DOG COMPLETE Qs 4.9 to 4.14, otherwise GO TO Q5

RESPONDENTS WITH DOGS

Q4.9	What would you say are issues to be aware of when walking with a dog in the countryside? <i>DO NOT PROMPT - Please ✓ all that apply Repeat "Any more?" until respondent says No</i>	
	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 Clear up and dispose of any dog mess	<input type="checkbox"/> 7 Keeping dog on a lead
	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 Dispose of dog mess bags responsibly	<input type="checkbox"/> 8 Risks to farm animals
	<input type="checkbox"/> 3 Keeping dogs under control	<input type="checkbox"/> 9 Risks to birds/wildlife
	<input type="checkbox"/> 4 Keeping dogs under CLOSE control	<input type="checkbox"/> 10 Risks to dog from farm animals
	<input type="checkbox"/> 5 Checking for signs/information on dog control	<input type="checkbox"/> 11 None
	<input type="checkbox"/> 6 Taking water/drink for the dog	<input type="checkbox"/> 12 Other (please write in)
Q4.10	For how long, in years, have you been walking your dog(s) on this area of land? <i>Please ✓ one only</i>	
	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 Today is my first visit	<input type="checkbox"/> 4 More than 2 years up to 3 years
	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 Less than 1 year	<input type="checkbox"/> 5 More than 3 years up to 5 years
	<input type="checkbox"/> 3 More than 1 year up to 2 years	<input type="checkbox"/> 6 More than 5 years

Q4.11	What aspects about this area of land make it good for bringing a dog here? <i>DO NOT PROMPT - Please ✓ all that apply Repeat "Any more?" until respondent says No</i>	
	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 able to let dog run off lead	<input type="checkbox"/> 5 dog enjoys it here
	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 no/not many other dogs	<input type="checkbox"/> 6 don't have to pick up dog mess
	<input type="checkbox"/> 3 no/not many other people	<input type="checkbox"/> 7 no livestock
	<input type="checkbox"/> 4 no restrictions on dogs being here	<input type="checkbox"/> 8 things for dogs to chase (e.g. rabbits, birds)
	<input type="checkbox"/> 9 nothing in particular - I like the walk/convenient walk for me	
<input type="checkbox"/> 10 other (please write in)		

Q4.12	Under what circumstances do you keep your dog(s) on a lead at this site? <i>Unprompted - Repeat "Any more?" until respondent says No</i>		
	Always	<input type="checkbox"/> 0	Go to Q 5
	Never	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	Go to Q 4.13
	At all times when off PRoW	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	
	If wild birds are close by	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	
	If signs/ information say to keep dogs on a lead	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	
	If there are other dogs close by	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	
	If livestock are close by	<input type="checkbox"/> 6	
	In bird breeding season	<input type="checkbox"/> 7	
	In shooting season	<input type="checkbox"/> 8	

ONLY ASK Q4.13 if Q4.12=1 (Never)

Q4.13	Would you be happy to keep your dog on a lead ...				
	A	If wild birds are close by	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 No	<input type="checkbox"/> 3 Don't Know
	B	If additional information explaining why was visible on the site	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 No	<input type="checkbox"/> 3 Don't Know
	D	If livestock are close by	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 No	<input type="checkbox"/> 3 Don't Know
	E	In bird breeding season	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 No	<input type="checkbox"/> 3 Don't Know
	F	In shooting season	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 No	<input type="checkbox"/> 3 Don't Know

Q4. 14 If no to any/all in Q4.13 – Why would you not keep your on a lead?

Section 5 Information and Signage

ALL RESPONDENTS

Q5	What types of information or signage have you found useful at this area of land today? <i>(tick all that apply)</i>	
	Not seen any signage or information	<input type="checkbox"/> 0
	Footpath signs/ Direction sign posts /Finger posts /Way markers	<input type="checkbox"/> 1
	Map / information board	<input type="checkbox"/> 2
	Danger signs	<input type="checkbox"/> 3
	Signs/information relating to Open Access	<input type="checkbox"/> 4
	Suggested walks	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
	Open Access Symbol	<input type="checkbox"/> 6
	Distance markers	<input type="checkbox"/> 7
	Access point markers	<input type="checkbox"/> 8
Other information or signage (please write in)		<input type="checkbox"/> 9

Q5.1	Which of the following sources of publicity would you find most useful in influencing future visits to open access land? SHOWCARD F <i>Please ✓ all that apply</i>	
	Publicity	Please specify (programme/publication etc)
A	Local Newspaper <input type="checkbox"/> 1	
B	Parish News Articles <input type="checkbox"/> 2	
C	National Newspapers – Articles <input type="checkbox"/> 3	
D	National TV – programmes <input type="checkbox"/> 4	
E	National Radio – programmes <input type="checkbox"/> 5	
F	Local TV – programmes <input type="checkbox"/> 6	
G	Local Radio – programmes <input type="checkbox"/> 7	
H	TV Adverts <input type="checkbox"/> 8	
I	Billboards <input type="checkbox"/> 9	
J	Internet <input type="checkbox"/> 10	
K	Magazines <input type="checkbox"/> 11	
L	Membership organisations <input type="checkbox"/> 12	
K	Other (please specify) <input type="checkbox"/> 13	

Section 6 Satisfaction

Q6	Overall, on a scale of 1 to 5 where 1 is very dissatisfied and 5 is very satisfied, how satisfied are you with your visit to this area of land today? SHOWCARD B <i>Please ✓ one only</i>	
	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 Very dissatisfied	Ask why dissatisfied – record at Q6.2
	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 Dissatisfied	
	<input type="checkbox"/> 3 Neither satisfied not dissatisfied	
	<input type="checkbox"/> 4 Satisfied	
	<input type="checkbox"/> 5 Very Satisfied	

Q6.1	To what extent did the need to get exercise feature in your decision to visit the countryside today? SHOWCARD G <i>Please ✓ one only</i>		
	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 Not at all	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 To some extent	<input type="checkbox"/> 3 To a large extent

Q6.2	Finally, do you have any other comments about your visit to this area of land? <i>Please probe fully (for example any history with the area of land, their experience or expectations, parking issues etc). Repeat “Any more?” until respondent says No</i>

COLLECT MAP BACK FROM RESPONDENT

Section 7 – Respondent Profile

Finally, so that we can check whether we have a representative sample, please tell me the following. This information will not be used for anything else.

Q7	What is your home postcode <i>Please probe for full postcode. If postcode not given probe for street and/or suburb/town.</i>	
	Full postcode	.....
	Street	.....
	Suburb/Town	.....

Q7.1	Record Gender Please ✓ one only	
	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 Male	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 Female

Q7.2	What age group do you belong in? Please ✓ one only	SHOWCARD H
	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 Under 18	<input type="checkbox"/> 5 45 - 54
	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 18 – 24	<input type="checkbox"/> 6 55 - 64
	<input type="checkbox"/> 3 25 – 34	<input type="checkbox"/> 7 65 - 74
	<input type="checkbox"/> 4 35 – 44	<input type="checkbox"/> 8 75 +

Q7.3	How would you describe the profile of the group travelling with you today? Please ✓ one only	
	SHOWCARD I	
	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 Single visitor (under 18)	<input type="checkbox"/> 4 More than 2 adults (18 or over)
	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 Single visitor (18 or over)	<input type="checkbox"/> 5 2 or more children (under 18)
	<input type="checkbox"/> 3 2 adults (18 or over)	<input type="checkbox"/> 6 Adult/s and Child/ren

Q7.4	Would you describe your group's visit to this area of land today....? Please ✓ one only	
	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 A social/ leisure visit	
	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 As part of a rambling/walking association or other club/group Which one?	
	<input type="checkbox"/> 3 Other organised activity: What?	
	<input type="checkbox"/> 4 To access another area of land	
	<input type="checkbox"/> 5 Other (please write in)	

Q7.5	What is your employment status? Please ✓ one only	SHOWCARD J
	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 Full-time (30+ hrs/week)	<input type="checkbox"/> 7 Don't work – looking after family/home
	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 Part-time (<30 hrs/week)	<input type="checkbox"/> 8 Don't work – long term sick disabled
	<input type="checkbox"/> 3 Self-employed full time	<input type="checkbox"/> 9 Don't work – some other reason
	<input type="checkbox"/> 4 Self-employed part-time	<input type="checkbox"/> 10 Don't work - student
	<input type="checkbox"/> 5 Government supported training scheme	<input type="checkbox"/> 11 Retired
	<input type="checkbox"/> 6 Unemployed – looked for work in last 4 weeks or waiting to start new job	

Q7.6	What is the occupation of the Chief Wage earner in your household? Please write in (for SEG classification)

Q7.8	Which of these groups do you belong to? Please ✓ one only	SHOWCARD K
	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 White British	<input type="checkbox"/> 10 Bangladeshi
	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 Irish	<input type="checkbox"/> 11 Other Asian (please write in)
	<input type="checkbox"/> 3 Other White (please write in)	<input type="checkbox"/> 12 Black Caribbean
	<input type="checkbox"/> 4 Mixed White & Black Caribbean	<input type="checkbox"/> 13 Black African
	<input type="checkbox"/> 5 Mixed White & Black African	<input type="checkbox"/> 14 Other Black (please write in)
	<input type="checkbox"/> 6 Mixed White & Asian	<input type="checkbox"/> 15 Chinese
	<input type="checkbox"/> 7 Other Mixed (please write in)	<input type="checkbox"/> 16 Other ethnic group (please write in)

	<input type="checkbox"/> 8 Indian	.....
	<input type="checkbox"/> 9 Pakistani	

Q7.9	Do you have a long-term illness, health problem or disability which limits your daily activities or the work you can do? <i>Please ✓ one only</i>	
	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 Yes	
	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 No	

Thank you, May I take a contact phone number for back checking purposes? That is, to verify that the interview has been properly conducted – this information will not be used for any other purpose. Natural England is keen to monitor understanding and use of Open Access; would you be happy to give your details for Natural England to contact you should they undertake any future research on Open Access?

If so, sign:

Name:

Address:

.....

.....

Observations to be carried out every 60 minutes throughout the observation day. Each observation to cover 5-10 minute period, recording direction of movements of observed visitors, over all visible land within SITE BOUNDARY as shown on map. Check for any site restrictions / closures.

Observation record

Time of observation	Date of Observation	Observation Location
Site Name	Site reference No	Weather: (circle all that apply or write in) Warm Cold Sunny Overcast Clear Raining Misty Pleasant Thunder/Lighting Dry Windy Still Unpleasant

Mark on your map **where each visitor / group of visitors and dogs** is over the time of observation with the code for the activity being undertaken at the time (see below codes highlighted in Bold). Mark entry point with an “E”, the route with a solid line, and the exit with an “X” and the route with a solid line.

Ensure distinction between Public Rights of Way (PROW) and other paths/tracks that are not PROW.

Visitor activity	Number of visitors on PROW/ public roads	Number of visitors on other tracks/ paths	Number of visitors on access land (i.e. wandering, not on or following any visible path)	Total number of visitors
<i>Note: Count each group only once per Observation. If location of activity changes over observation period record the starting position as on PROW/other path/on access land etc.</i>				
Actively using open access land or tracks/paths rather than PROW (OA)				
Ambling/walking for pleasure (A/W)				
Rambling/serious walking (R/W)				
Dog walker (D/W)				
Dog on lead (DL)				
Dog off lead (DOF)				
Running/Jogging (R/J)				
Enjoying scenery/ bird/nature watching (S/N)				
Bike riding (B/R)				
Horse Riding (H/R)				
Picnics (P/N)				
Sitting/Resting (S/R)				
Ball Games/ Other Games (G)				
Other (O) write in:				

Behaviour without statutory rights Reference these activities on your map with codes	Number of visitors on PROW/ public roads	Number of visitors on other tracks/ paths	Number of visitors on access land (i.e. wandering, not on or following any visible path)	Total number of visitors
Picking flowers (P/F)				
Fire risk activity (Dropping cigarette butts/ setting fires/ barbecues/ camp fires) (F/R)				
Walking through restricted areas (W/R)				
Using a <u>motorised</u> vehicle where not permitted (M/V)				
Using a <u>non-motorised</u> vehicle where not permitted (N/V)				
Disturbing nesting birds (flushing) (D/B)				

Other				
-------	--	--	--	--

0. Dog activity and adherence to any restrictions in place <i>Record number of dogs by location and behaviour</i>	Number of dogs on PROW / public roads	Number of Dogs on <u>other tracks/paths</u>	Number of dogs on open access land (i.e. wandering off paths) <u>where dogs</u>		Total number of dogs ...
			<u>allowed</u>	<u>are excluded</u>	
On lead					
Off lead to heel					
Off lead roaming					
Controlled and well behaved (i.e. responsive to commands where given)					
Uncontrolled and poorly behaved (i.e. unresponsive to commands where given)					
Disturbing other visitors/dogs					
Disturbing livestock					
Disturbing birds/wildlife					
Other type of non control					

Use of Signage and information (visibly stopping to observe or read - please detail on map and write in numbers seen over observation period)		
Open Access Symbol (just the symbol) (OAS)		
Open Access Restrictions notice (just about site-specific restrictions) (OAR)		
Open Access management information (advisory) (OAM)		
Open Access information point (OA/IP)		
Other (Please detail)	..... ..... ..... ..... .....

Use of Site Access Infrastructure - Please detail on map and write in numbers seen over observation period)		
Stile (S)		
Gate (G)		
Kissing Gate (KG)		
Car Park (CP)		
Other (Please detail)	..... ..... ..... ..... .....

Summary - Total number of Visitors

Observation Period	Number of visitors on PROW / roads	Number of visitors on <u>other</u> tracks/ paths	Number of visitors on access land (i.e. wandering, not on or following any visible path)	Total number of visitors
At start				
After 5/10 mins				

2007 – Local Monitoring Survey

Visitor Questionnaire number: Date:..... /	Site name: OS REF:	Day: <input type="checkbox"/> 1 Monday <input type="checkbox"/> 2 Tuesday <input type="checkbox"/> 3 Wednesday <input type="checkbox"/> 4 Thursday <input type="checkbox"/> 5 Friday <input type="checkbox"/> 6 Saturday <input type="checkbox"/> 7 Sunday Interview: <input type="checkbox"/> 1 On Entry <input type="checkbox"/> 2 Part way through visit/walk <input type="checkbox"/> 3 On Exit	Interviewer name: Site reference or survey Unit No:	Time: : <input type="checkbox"/> 1 Respondent has dog(s) <input type="checkbox"/> 2 No dog with respondent
--	---	---	--	--

**Good Morning/afternoon/evening,
Can you spare some time to take part in a short survey about your visit today?**

Q1 Do you live locally, are you on a day trip from home or are you on holiday?

1 Live locally

2 Day trip from home

3 On holiday/ staying away from home

Q2 How far did you travel here today from your starting point this morning?

<input type="checkbox"/> 1 Up to 1 mile	<input type="checkbox"/> 5 10.1 -20 miles
<input type="checkbox"/> 2 1.1-2 miles	<input type="checkbox"/> 6 20.1 -40 miles
<input type="checkbox"/> 3 2.1 -5 miles	<input type="checkbox"/> 7 40.1 -100 miles
<input type="checkbox"/> 4 5.1 -10 miles	<input type="checkbox"/> 8 Over 100 miles

Q3 How long have you been visiting this area of land?

1 Today is my first visit

2 Less than 1 year

3 More than 1 year and up to 2 years

4 More than 2 years and up to 3 years

5 More than 3 years and up to 5 years

6 More than 5 years

Q4 About how often do you visit this area of land? (code one)

<input type="checkbox"/> 1 First visit today	<input type="checkbox"/> 6 Monthly
<input type="checkbox"/> 2 Daily	<input type="checkbox"/> 7 Several times a year
<input type="checkbox"/> 3 Several times a week	<input type="checkbox"/> 8 Once a year
<input type="checkbox"/> 4 Weekly	<input type="checkbox"/> 9 Less often
<input type="checkbox"/> 5 Several times a month	

Q5 Could you tell me how you originally became aware of this area of land?

1 Local knowledge/ Always known

2 Friends/family

3 Promotion/press/website/information

4 Other (write in)

.....

Q6 What activities do you plan to do here today? (or have you done while here?)

1 Short stroll/ ambling

2 Dog walking

3 Serious walking/ rambling/ hiking

4 Enjoying the scenery/nature

5 Other (write in)

.....

Q7 Why did you decide to visit this area of land today (rather than anywhere else)? (tick all that apply)

1 Provision of amenities here (café, toilets etc)

2 Attraction of the scenery/landscape

3 Quietness/ remoteness

4 Regularly visit/local

5 Exercise/ health benefits

6 Open Access Land ...GO TO Q9

7 Other (write in)

.....

Q8 Have you heard of Open Access?

1 Yes

2 No

3 Not Sure

Q9 Are you aware that since 2005 this area of land has been designated as Open Access Land?

1 No – not aware of Access Land status **read out:**
Since 2005 this area has been designated as open access land. This means people can walk across mapped areas of open access land without the need to stick to Public Rights of Way, though their right of access may sometimes be restricted for nature conservation, public safety, and land management reasons.
 Now GO TO Q11)

3 Yes – aware of land being Access Land (Go to Q10)

3 Not Sure (Go to Q10)

Q10 Which of the following statements about Open Access would you say are definitely TRUE?

(tick one per row)

	T	F*
a)All farm land has been opened up to the public	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2
b)All grassland has been opened to the public	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2
c)People can walk across mapped open access land without the need to stick to Public Rights of Way	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2
d)My right of access to open access land may sometimes be restricted for nature conservation/public safety, and land management reasons	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2

*False or don't know

CONFIRM WITH RESPONDENT THAT C AND D ARE TRUE

Q11 Did you manage to get onto this area of land without difficulty? (Stiles, gates, vegetation etc)

1 Yes – no difficulty in getting onto site

2 No – describe difficulties (write in)

.....

.....

Q12 What types of information or signage have you found useful at this area of land today? (tick all that apply)

0 Not seen any signage or information

1 Footpath signs/ Direction sign posts /Finger posts /Way markers

2 Map / information board

3 Danger signs

4 Signs/information relating to Open Access

5 Suggested walks

6 Open Access Symbol

7 Distance markers

8 Access point markers

9 Other (please write in)

.....

.....

Q13 Could anything be done to improve your visit today? (tick all that apply)	
<input type="checkbox"/> 0	No – no improvements needed
<input type="checkbox"/> 1	More facilities (picnic areas, toilets)
<input type="checkbox"/> 2	Better parking
<input type="checkbox"/> 3	Easier to get into the site (stiles/gates)
<input type="checkbox"/> 4	Better signage/information
<input type="checkbox"/> 5	Better maintenance/keeping of site
<input type="checkbox"/> 6	Other (please write in)
Q14 For your visit today, please estimate the proportions of your walk on this site that was on:....? <i>SHOW MAP</i>	
Public rights of way	%
Existing tracks and paths that are not public rights of way	%
Open access land with no obvious paths	%

IF 100% on PROW, ASK Q15, otherwise GO TO SECTION 2

Q15 Why did you/ have you decided not to walk across open access land and stay on the public right of way? (tick all that apply)	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1	Need more information about Open Access
<input type="checkbox"/> 2	Unsure whether I had permission to stray from the public right of way
<input type="checkbox"/> 3	Unsure which areas are open access land
<input type="checkbox"/> 4	Anxious about getting lost
<input type="checkbox"/> 5	Safer on a public right of way
<input type="checkbox"/> 6	Nothing extra to see by going off public right of way
<input type="checkbox"/> 7	Was unsure if farmer/landowner was present
<input type="checkbox"/> 8	Have a dog and assumed dogs are banned from Open access
<input type="checkbox"/> 9	The Public Right of Way takes me to where I want to be so no need to stray from it
<input type="checkbox"/> 10	Easier to walk on a public right of way (terrain)
<input type="checkbox"/> 11	Thought restrictions were in force
<input type="checkbox"/> 12	Did not want to disturb wildlife or cattle
<input type="checkbox"/> 13	Other (please write in)

SECTION 2
SHOW MAP OF SITE
Looking at this area shown on the map (POINT OUT BOUNDARY)
Please can you show me on the map where you started your walk or visit today?
And the finish point of your walk (or visit)
 And can you indicate the route taken/likely to be taken while on this area of land?
 Mark entry point with “E”
 Mark route with a solid line 
 Mark exit point with “X”

RESPONDENTS WITH NO DOGS – GO STRAIGHT TO QUESTION 19

RESPONDENTS WITH DOG(S): Q16 onwards

Q16 How long have you been bringing your dog to this area of land for walking?	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1	Today is my first visit
<input type="checkbox"/> 2	Less than 1 year
<input type="checkbox"/> 3	More than 1 year and up to 2 years
<input type="checkbox"/> 4	More than 2 years and up to 3 years
<input type="checkbox"/> 5	More than 3 years and up to 5 years
<input type="checkbox"/> 6	More than 5 years

Q17 What aspects about this area of land make it good for bringing a dog here?	
<i>DO NOT PROMPT - Please ✓ all that apply</i>	
<i>Repeat "Any more?" until respondent says No</i>	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1	able to let dog run off lead
<input type="checkbox"/> 2	no/not many other dogs
<input type="checkbox"/> 3	no/not many other people
<input type="checkbox"/> 4	no restrictions on dogs being here
<input type="checkbox"/> 5	dog enjoys it here
<input type="checkbox"/> 6	don't have to pick up dog mess
<input type="checkbox"/> 7	no livestock
<input type="checkbox"/> 8	things for dogs to chase (eg rabbits, birds)
<input type="checkbox"/> 9	nothing in particular/ I like the walk/ convenient walk for me
<input type="checkbox"/> 10	Other (please write in)

Q18 Under what circumstances do you keep your dog(s) on a lead, to heel off the lead, or free roaming off the lead on this site?	
On a public right of Way	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 On lead
	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 To heel off the lead
	<input type="checkbox"/> 3 Free Roaming
On access land NOT on a PROW	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 On lead
	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 To heel off the lead
	<input type="checkbox"/> 3 Free Roaming
If wild birds are close by	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 On lead
	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 To heel off the lead
	<input type="checkbox"/> 3 Free Roaming
If signs/ information say to keep on lead	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 On lead
	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 To heel off the lead
	<input type="checkbox"/> 3 Free Roaming
If other dogs are close by	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 On lead
	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 To heel off the lead
	<input type="checkbox"/> 3 Free Roaming
If livestock close by	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 On lead
	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 To heel off the lead
	<input type="checkbox"/> 3 Free Roaming
In nesting season	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 On lead
	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 To heel off the lead
	<input type="checkbox"/> 3 Free Roaming
In shooting season	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 On lead
	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 To heel off the lead
	<input type="checkbox"/> 3 Free Roaming

ASK ALL

Finally, so that we can check whether we have a representative sample, please answer the following questions. This information will not be used for anything else.

Q19 Which of these best describes your age group?			
<input type="checkbox"/> 1	0-15	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	35-44
<input type="checkbox"/> 2	16-24	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	45-59
<input type="checkbox"/> 3	25-34	<input type="checkbox"/> 6	60+

Q20 Which of these best describes your employment status?			
<input type="checkbox"/> 1	Employed	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	Student
<input type="checkbox"/> 2	Not working	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	Retired

Q21 Do you have any longstanding illness or disability? (Code one only)	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1 Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 No
Specify (please write in)	
.....	

Q22 Which of these best describes your ethnic grouping?	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1 White British	<input type="checkbox"/> 4 Mixed
<input type="checkbox"/> 2 White other	<input type="checkbox"/> 5 Black
<input type="checkbox"/> 3 Asian	<input type="checkbox"/> 6 Chinese
<input type="checkbox"/> 9 Other – specify	
Q23 Finally, could you give me your home postcode?	

Thank you

SURVEYOR TO COMPLETE FROM OBSERVATION

Record Gender of Respondent	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1	Male
<input type="checkbox"/> 2	Female
Group Record	
Total Number of people in Group	
Number of people in Group with mobility difficulties	
Number of dogs in group	

(One form to be completed by observer once every 60 minutes throughout the observation day)

11. Observation record

Time observation commenced	Date of Observation	Site or Survey Unit reference No
Site Name	Site Location (Grid Reference)	Weather: (circle all that apply or write in) Warm Cold Sunny Overcast Clear Raining Misty Pleasant Thunder/Lighting Dry Windy Still Unpleasant

12. Total number of Visitors. Snapshot at time of observation

At start of observation, count total number of visitors, then assess how many are using access land, PRow or other tracks)

Total number of visitors	Number of visitors on Rights of Way	Number of visitors on open access land	Visitors on any road/ existing paths and tracks within access land site

13. Inappropriate behaviour. Snapshot at time of observation (Please reference these activities on your map (I/B))

Please write in inappropriate behaviour observed	Total number of visitors undertaking activity	Number of visitors on PRow undertaking activity	Number of visitors on open access land undertaking activity
Picking flowers			
Fire risk activity (Cigarette butts/ setting fires/ barbecues/ camp fires)			
Walking through restricted areas			
Using a <u>motorised</u> vehicle where not permitted			
Using a <u>non-motorised</u> vehicle where not permitted			
Disturbing nesting birds (flushing)			
Other – specify			

14. Dog activity and adherence to any restrictions in place. Snapshot at time of observation

Activity / Behaviour	Total number of dogs undertaking activity	Number of dogs on Rights of Way undertaking each activity	Number of dogs on open access land <u>where dogs allowed</u>	Number of dogs on open access land <u>where dogs are excluded</u>
On lead				
Off lead to heel				
Off lead roaming				
Controlled and well behaved (i.e. responsive to commands where given)				
Uncontrolled and poorly behaved (i.e. unresponsive to commands where given)				
Disturbing other visitors/dogs				
Disturbing livestock				
Disturbing birds/wildlife				
Other type of non control				

15. Visitor Activity – Over 3-5 minutes

Mark on your map where each visitor / group of visitors is at the time of observation (snapshot) with the code for the activity being undertaken at the time (see below codes highlighted in Bold)

Then observe activity at the site for up to 5 minutes or enough time to identify routes being used by people. Record the routes on the map, marking the entry point, route taken and exit point on your map for each group of visitors. Please mark the entrance with an "E", the route with a solid line and the exit with an "X".

Activity	Total number of visitors	Number of visitors on PRow if visible	Number of visitors on access land
Actively using open access land rather than PRow routes (OA)			
Ambling/walking for pleasure (A/W)			
Rambling/serious walking (R/W)			
Dog walking (D/W)			
Dog on lead (DL)			
Dog off lead (DOF)			
Running/Jogging (R/J)			
Enjoying scenery/ bird/nature watching (S/N)			
Bike riding (B/R)			
Horse Riding (H/R)			
Picnics (P/N)			

Sitting/Resting (S/R)			
Ball Games/ Other Games (G)			
Other (O) write in:			

16. Use of Site Signage, Information and Access Infrastructure

Use of Signage and information (visibly stopping to observe or read - please detail on map)	
Open Access Symbol (OAS)	
Open Access Restrictions notice (OAR)	
Open Access management information (advisory) (OAM)	
Open Access information point (OA/IP)	
Other (Please detail)	
.....	
.....	
.....	
.....	
.....	
.....	

Use of Site Access Infrastructure (Please detail on map)	
Stile (S)	
Gate (G)	
Kissing Gate (KG)	
Car Park (CP)	
Other (Please detail)	
.....	
.....	
.....	
.....	
.....	

2008 – Local Monitoring Survey

Visitor Questionnaire number: Date:..... /	Site name: OS REF:	Day: <input type="checkbox"/> 1 Monday <input type="checkbox"/> 2 Tuesday <input type="checkbox"/> 3 Wednesday <input type="checkbox"/> 4 Thursday <input type="checkbox"/> 5 Friday <input type="checkbox"/> 6 Saturday <input type="checkbox"/> 7 Sunday Interview: <input type="checkbox"/> 1 On Entry <input type="checkbox"/> 2 Part way through visit/walk <input type="checkbox"/> 3 On Exit	Interviewer name: Site reference or survey Unit No:	Time: : <input type="checkbox"/> 1 Respondent has dog(s) <input type="checkbox"/> 2 No dog with respondent
--	---	---	--	--

**Good Morning/afternoon/evening,
Can you spare some time to take part in a short survey about your visit today?**

Q1 Do you live locally, are you on a day trip from home or are you on holiday?
<input type="checkbox"/> 1 Live locally
<input type="checkbox"/> 2 Day trip from home
<input type="checkbox"/> 3 On holiday/ staying away from home
Q2a How far did you travel here today from your starting point this morning?
Enter approx. mileage
Q2b Which main form of transport was used?
Write in
Q3 How long have you been visiting this area of land?
<input type="checkbox"/> 1 Today is my first visit
<input type="checkbox"/> 2 Less than 1 year
<input type="checkbox"/> 3 More than 1 year and up to 2 years
<input type="checkbox"/> 4 More than 2 years and up to 3 years
<input type="checkbox"/> 5 More than 3 years and up to 5 years
<input type="checkbox"/> 6 More than 5 years
Q4 About how often do you visit this area of land? (code one)
<input type="checkbox"/> 1 First visit today
<input type="checkbox"/> 2 Daily
<input type="checkbox"/> 3 Several times a week
<input type="checkbox"/> 4 Weekly
<input type="checkbox"/> 5 Several times a month
<input type="checkbox"/> 6 Monthly
<input type="checkbox"/> 7 Several times a year
<input type="checkbox"/> 8 Once a year
<input type="checkbox"/> 9 Less often
Q5 Could you tell me how you originally became aware of this area of land?
<input type="checkbox"/> 1 Local knowledge/ Always known
<input type="checkbox"/> 2 Friends/family
<input type="checkbox"/> 3 Promotion/press/website/information
<input type="checkbox"/> 4 Other (write in)
.....

Q6 What activities do you plan to do here today? (or have you done while here?)
<input type="checkbox"/> 1 Short stroll/ ambling
<input type="checkbox"/> 2 Dog walking
<input type="checkbox"/> 3 Serious walking/ rambling/ hiking
<input type="checkbox"/> 4 Enjoying the scenery/nature
<input type="checkbox"/> 5 Other (write in)
.....
Q6a Which is the MAIN activity?
Write in code 1 - 5

Q7 Why did you decide to visit this area of land today (rather than anywhere else)? (tick all that apply)

1 Provision of amenities here (café, toilets)

2 Attraction of the scenery/landscape

3 Quietness/ remoteness

4 Regularly visit/local

5 Exercise/ health benefits

6 Open Access Land ...GO TO Q9

7 Other (write in)

.....

Q8 Have you heard of Open Access?

1 Yes

2 No

3 Not Sure

Q9 Would you say the following statements about Open Access are TRUE or FALSE?
(tick one per row)

	T	F	DK
a)All farm land has been opened up to the public	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3
b)All grassland has been opened to the public	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3
c)People can walk across mapped open access land without the need to stick to Public Rights of Way	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3
d)My right of access to open access land may sometimes be restricted for nature conservation/public safety, and land management reasons	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3

CONFIRM WITH RESPONDENT THAT C AND D ARE TRUE

Q10 Are you aware that since 2005 this area of land has been designated as Open Access Land?

1 Yes

2 No - read statement

3 Not Sure - read statement

If not aware - read out:

Since 2005 this area has been designated as open access land. This means people can walk across mapped areas of open access land without the need to stick to Public Rights of Way, though their right of access may sometimes be restricted for nature conservation, public safety, and land management reasons.

Q11 Did you manage to get onto this area of land without difficulty? (Stiles, gates, vegetation etc)

1 Yes – no difficulty in getting onto site

2 No – describe difficulties (write in)

.....

.....

Q12 What types of information or signage have you found useful at this area of land today? (tick all that apply)

0 Not seen any signage or information

1 Footpath signs/ Direction sign posts /Finger posts /Way markers

2 Map / information board

3 Danger signs

4 Signs/information relating to Open Access

5 Suggested walks

6 Open Access Symbol

7 Distance markers

8 Access point markers

9 Other (please write in)

.....

.....

Q13 Could anything be done to improve your visit today? (tick all that apply)	
<input type="checkbox"/> 0	No – no improvements needed
<input type="checkbox"/> 1	More facilities (picnic areas, toilets)
<input type="checkbox"/> 2	Better parking
<input type="checkbox"/> 3	Easier to get into the site (stiles/gates)
<input type="checkbox"/> 4	Better signage/information
<input type="checkbox"/> 5	Better maintenance/keeping of site
<input type="checkbox"/> 6	Other (please write in)

Q14 For your visit today, please estimate the proportions of your walk on this site that was on:...?	
<i>SHOW MAP</i>	
Public rights of way	%
Existing tracks and paths that are not public rights of way	%
Open access land with no obvious paths	%

IF 100% on PROW, ASK Q15, otherwise GO TO SECTION 2

Q15 Why did you/ have you decided not to walk across open access land and stay on the public right of way? (tick all that apply)	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1	Need more information about Open Access
<input type="checkbox"/> 2	Unsure whether I had permission to stray from the public right of way
<input type="checkbox"/> 3	Unsure which areas are open access land
<input type="checkbox"/> 4	Anxious about getting lost
<input type="checkbox"/> 5	Safer on a public right of way
<input type="checkbox"/> 6	Nothing extra to see by going off public right of way
<input type="checkbox"/> 7	Was unsure if farmer/landowner was present
<input type="checkbox"/> 8	Have a dog and assumed dogs are banned from Open access
<input type="checkbox"/> 9	The Public Right of Way takes me to where I want to be so no need to stray from it
<input type="checkbox"/> 10	Easier to walk on a public right of way (terrain)
<input type="checkbox"/> 11	Thought restrictions were in force
<input type="checkbox"/> 12	Did not want to disturb wildlife or cattle
<input type="checkbox"/> 13	Other (please write in)

SECTION 2
SHOW MAP OF SITE
Looking at this area shown on the map (POINT OUT BOUNDARY)
Please can you show me on the map where you started your walk or visit today?
And the finish point of your walk (or visit)
 And can you indicate the route taken/likely to be taken while on this area of land?
 Mark entry point with “E”
 Mark route with a solid line 
 Mark exit point with “X”

RESPONDENTS WITH NO DOGS – GO STRAIGHT TO QUESTION 19

RESPONDENTS WITH DOG(S): Q16 onwards

Q16 How long have you been bringing your dog to this area of land for walking?	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1	Today is my first visit
<input type="checkbox"/> 2	Less than 1 year
<input type="checkbox"/> 3	More than 1 year and up to 2 years
<input type="checkbox"/> 4	More than 2 years and up to 3 years
<input type="checkbox"/> 5	More than 3 years and up to 5 years
<input type="checkbox"/> 6	More than 5 years

Q17 What aspects about this area of land make it good for bringing a dog here?	
<i>DO NOT PROMPT - Please ✓ all that apply</i>	
<i>Repeat "Any more?" until respondent says No</i>	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1	able to let dog run off lead
<input type="checkbox"/> 2	no/not many other dogs
<input type="checkbox"/> 3	no/not many other people
<input type="checkbox"/> 4	no restrictions on dogs being here
<input type="checkbox"/> 5	dog enjoys it here
<input type="checkbox"/> 6	don't have to pick up dog mess
<input type="checkbox"/> 7	no livestock
<input type="checkbox"/> 8	things for dogs to chase (eg rabbits, birds)
<input type="checkbox"/> 9	nothing in particular/ I like the walk/ convenient walk for me
<input type="checkbox"/> 1	Other (please write in)
0	.....

Q18 Under what circumstances do you keep your dog(s) on a lead, to heel off the lead, or free roaming off the lead on this site?	
On a public right of Way	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 On lead
	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 To heel off the lead
	<input type="checkbox"/> 3 Free Roaming
On access land NOT on a PROW	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 On lead
	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 To heel off the lead
	<input type="checkbox"/> 3 Free Roaming
If wild birds are close by	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 On lead
	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 To heel off the lead
	<input type="checkbox"/> 3 Free Roaming
If signs/ information say to keep on lead	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 On lead
	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 To heel off the lead
	<input type="checkbox"/> 3 Free Roaming
If other dogs are close by	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 On lead
	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 To heel off the lead
	<input type="checkbox"/> 3 Free Roaming
If livestock close by	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 On lead
	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 To heel off the lead
	<input type="checkbox"/> 3 Free Roaming
In nesting season	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 On lead
	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 To heel off the lead
	<input type="checkbox"/> 3 Free Roaming
In shooting season	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 On lead
	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 To heel off the lead
	<input type="checkbox"/> 3 Free Roaming

ASK ALL

Finally, so that we can check whether we have a representative sample, please answer the following questions. This information will not be used for anything else.

Q19 Which of these best describes your age group?	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1 Under 18	<input type="checkbox"/> 5 45 – 54
<input type="checkbox"/> 2 18 - 24	<input type="checkbox"/> 6 55 – 64
<input type="checkbox"/> 3 25 – 34	<input type="checkbox"/> 7 65 – 74
<input type="checkbox"/> 4 35 - 44	<input type="checkbox"/> 8 75+
Q20 Which of these best describes your employment status?	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1 Employed	<input type="checkbox"/> 3 Student
<input type="checkbox"/> 2 Not working	<input type="checkbox"/> 4 Retired
Q21 Do you have any longstanding illness or disability? (Code one only)	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1 Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 No
Specify (please write in)	
.....	

Q22 Which of these best describes your ethnic grouping?	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1 White British	<input type="checkbox"/> 4 Mixed
<input type="checkbox"/> 2 White other	<input type="checkbox"/> 5 Black
<input type="checkbox"/> 3 Asian	<input type="checkbox"/> 6 Chinese
<input type="checkbox"/> 9 Other – specify	
Q23 Finally, could you give me your home postcode?	

Thank you

SURVEYOR TO COMPLETE FROM OBSERVATION

Record Gender of Respondent	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1 Male	
<input type="checkbox"/> 2 Female	
Group Record	
Total Number of people in Group	
Number of people in Group with mobility difficulties	
Number of dogs in group	

(One form to be completed by observer once every 60 minutes throughout the observation day – observation to cover 5-10 minute period, recording direction of movements of observed visitors on all visible land within SITE BOUNDARY as shown on map. Check for any site restrictions / closures)

17. Observation record

Time observation commenced	Date of Observation	Site or Survey Unit reference No
Site Name	Site Location (Grid Reference)	Weather: (circle all that apply or write in) Warm Cold Sunny Overcast Clear Raining Misty Pleasant Thunder/Lighting Dry Windy Still Unpleasant

18. Total number of Visitors. Snapshot at time of observation

At start of observation, count total number of visitors within site boundary then assess how many are using access land, PROW or other tracks) Repeat at end of observation period.

Observation Period	Number of visitors on Rights of Way	Number of Visitors on other tracks / paths within access land site	Number of visitors on open access land (i.e. wandering, not on or following any visible path)	Total number of visitors
At Start				
After 5/10 mins				

Mark on your map where each visitor / group of visitors and dogs is over the time of observation with the code for the activity being undertaken at the time (see below codes highlighted in Bold). Mark entry point with an “E”, the route with a solid line, and the exit with an “X” and the route with a solid line.

Ensure distinction between Public Rights of Way (PROW) and other paths/tracks that are not PROW.

Visitor activity	Number of visitors on PROW/ public roads	Number of visitors on other tracks/ paths	Number of visitors on access land (i.e. wandering, not on or following any visible path)	Total number of visitors
<i>Note: Count each group only once per Observation. If location of activity changes over observation period record the starting position as on PROW/other path/on access land etc.</i>				
Actively using open access land or tracks/paths rather than PROW (OA)				
Ambling/walking for pleasure (A/W)				
Rambling/serious walking (R/W)				
Dog walker (D/W)				
Dog on lead (DL)				
Dog off lead (DOF)				
Running/Jogging (R/J)				
Enjoying scenery/ bird/nature watching (S/N)				
Bike riding (B/R)				
Horse Riding (H/R)				

Picnics (P/N)				
Sitting/Resting (S/R)				
Ball Games/ Other Games (G)				
Other (O) write in:				

J:\TProjects\48218TALT_CROW Monitoring\Reports\All years combined\Final Versions\Access Management Report 2006-2008 CROW Monitoring.doc

Behaviour without statutory rights <i>Reference these activities on your map with codes</i>	Number of visitors on PROW/ public roads	Number of visitors on <u>other</u> tracks/ paths	Number of visitors on access land (i.e. wandering, not on or following any	Total number of visitors
Picking flowers (P/F)				
Fire risk activity (Dropping cigarette butts/ setting fires/ barbecues/ camp fires) (F/R)				
Walking through restricted areas (W/R)				
Using a <u>motorised</u> vehicle where not permitted (M/V)				
Using a <u>non-motorised</u> vehicle where not permitted (N/V)				
Disturbing nesting birds (flushing) (D/B)				
Other				

2. Dog activity and adherence to any restrictions in place <i>Record number of dogs by location and behaviour</i>	Number of dogs on PROW / public roads	Number of Dogs on <u>other</u> tracks/ paths	Number of dogs on open access land (i.e. wandering off paths) <u>where dogs</u>		Total number of dogs ...
			<u>allowed</u>	<u>are excluded</u>	
On lead					
Off lead to heel					
Off lead roaming					
Controlled and well behaved (i.e. responsive to commands where given)					
Uncontrolled and poorly behaved (i.e. unresponsive to commands where given)					
Disturbing other visitors/dogs					
Disturbing livestock					
Disturbing birds/wildlife					
Other type of non control					

Use of Signage and information (visibly stopping to observe or read - please detail on map and write in numbers seen over observation period)	
Open Access Symbol (just the symbol) (OAS)	
Open Access Restrictions notice (just about site-specific restrictions) (OAR)	
Open Access management information (advisory) (OAM)	
Open Access information point (OAIP)	
Other (Please detail)	
.....	
.....	
.....	
.....	

Use of Site Access Infrastructure - Please detail on map and write in numbers seen over observation period)			
Stile (S)		Gate (G)	
Car Park (CP)		Kissing Gate (KG)	
Other (Please detail)			
.....			
.....			
.....			
.....			

Weighting of Data

The number of survey days in the National Monitoring increased in 2007 from that in 2006, and the extent of the Local Monitoring surveys differed between 2007 and 2008. The number of survey days at a site ranged from 3 to 7 at the NM sites (average 3.7), and from 1 to 7 at the LM sites (average 2.8). In simply combining the data from the different sources and years, those sites where more survey days were conducted could skew the results. Therefore the interview survey data has been weighted, by site and by year, to represent an equivalent number of days per site.

The following procedure demonstrates how the survey data has been weighted to an equivalent number of days per site.

In the example, the total number of interviews recorded was 35, at four sites, each from a different number of survey days: 3.5 on average. The interview rates varied from 0.5 per day to 4.67 per day. Had only one day's survey been conducted at each site, 11.07 interviews would have been expected. However the total interviews was 35; the ratio of total interviews to interviews per day is 3.16. The weight to be applied is therefore:

$$3.16 \times (1/Z)$$

where Z= number of survey days at that site

	Survey Days (Z)	Interviews	Interviews per day	1 / survey days	Weight	Weighted Interviews
Site A	2	7	3.50	0.50	1.58	11.07
Site B	3	14	4.67	0.33	1.05	14.76
Site C	4	2	0.50	0.25	0.79	1.58
Site D	5	12	2.40	0.20	0.63	7.59
TOTAL	14	35	11.07			35
			3.16			

So at Site A, where only two survey days were conducted, the weighting factor is greater than 1, whereas at Site 5 it is less than one as more than the average number of days were surveyed.

For the CROW Surveys, the number of interviews by year is:

- 2006 487
- 2007 1837
- 2008 2230

To retain the number of interviews by year the weightings are calculated separately for each year. The weights are shown in the table below.

National Sample Sites	2006			2007			2008		
	Days	Ints	Weight	Days	Ints	Weight	Days	Ints	Weight
1 Adley Moor Common	3	1	1.069	3	1	0.848	3	2	1.119
2 Alresford	3	18	1.069	4	16	0.636	4	12	0.839
3 Baildon Moor	3	8	1.069	3	9	0.848	3	8	1.119
5 Burbage Common	3	56	1.069	3	61	0.848	3	73	1.119
7 Decoy Heath	3	10	1.069	4	27	0.636	4	9	0.839
8 Dunnockshaw Woodland	3	10	1.069	6	26	0.424	6	11	0.559
10 Grassthorpe Holme	3	9	1.069	4	35	0.636	4	35	0.839
11 Kestlemerris Farm	3	10	1.069	4	1	0.636	4	2	0.839
12 Malvern Hills	4	59	0.802	7	134	0.363	7	177	0.479
13 Merrow Downs	3	17	1.069	3	14	0.848	3	66	1.119
14 Middleham Low Moor	3	10	1.069	4	14	0.636	4	5	0.839
15 Moorside	3	21	1.069	3	17	0.848	3	15	1.119
17 Severn Ham	3	21	1.069	3	47	0.848	3	25	1.119
18 Silvington Common	3	4	1.069	3	3	0.848	3	2	1.119
20 The Comp	3	9	1.069	3	0	0.848	3	9	1.119
21 The Mens	3	5	1.069	3	8	0.848	3	11	1.119
23 Waldridge Fell	3	16	1.069	3	14	0.848	3	14	1.119
24 Wardle Brook	3	12	1.069	3	17	0.848	3	18	1.119
25 Whitworth Higher End Moor	3	5	1.069	3	4	0.848	3	2	1.119
26 Wisley Common	3	6	1.069	3	0	0.848	3	13	1.119
32 Wilbraham	3	0	1.069	3	1	0.848	3	0	1.119
33 Doddington North Moor	3	0	1.069	3	2	0.848	3	0	1.119
34 Long Ridge Crag	3	1	1.069	3	0	0.848	3	0	1.119
35 Sandyford Moor	3	1	1.069	6	0	0.424	6	0	0.559
36 Ringmere Plantation	3	1	1.069	3	0	0.848	3	0	1.119
97 Whitehall Plantation	3	0	1.069	3	0	0.848	3	0	1.119

		2006			2007			2008		
		Days	Ints	Weigh t	Days	Ints	Weigh t	Days	Ints	Weigh t
Bowland Fells										
4 Jubilee Tower	N	4	30	0.802	4	10	0.636	4	16	0.839
31 Langden Brook	N	0	0	-	3	37	0.848	3	22	1.119
37 Parlick	L	0	0	-	2	12	1.272	2	27	1.678
38 Whitendale	L	0	0	-	3	32	0.848	2	6	1.678
Sunbiggin Tarn										
9 Sunbiggin Tarn	N	3	36	1.069	4	46	0.636	4	34	0.839
9 Sunbiggin Tarn	L	0	0	-	1	4	2.544	1	4	3.356
North Norfolk Coast										
16 Holme Dunes	N	4	20	0.802	4	8	0.636	4	61	0.839
29 Brancaster Beach	N	0	0	-	4	50	0.636	3	51	0.839
South Pennine Moors										
19 Ilkley Moor	N	4	17	0.802	4	7	0.636	4	14	0.839
28 Bingley Moor	N	0	0	-	3	15	0.848	3	10	1.119
Canford Heath										
6 Canford Heath	N	3	37	1.069	6	61	0.424	6	89	0.559
6 Canford Heath	L	0	0	-	1	49	2.544	4	125	0.839
North Pennines AONB										
22 Cow Green	N	3	37	1.069	3	60	0.848	3	34	1.119
30 Holwick	N	0	0	-	3	11	0.848	3	17	1.119
63 Bruthwaite Forest /Hallbankgate Side	L	0	0	-	2	10	1.272	3	23	1.119
64 Geltsdale	L	0	0	-	2	34	1.272	3	52	1.119
65 Blanchland	L	0	0	-	3	26	0.848	3	20	1.119
66 Hartside North / South	L	0	0	-	2	4	1.272	3	4	1.119
67 Flinty Fell	L	0	0	-	1	0	2.544	2	1	1.678
68 Rotherhope Fell	L	0	0	-	3	8	0.848	1	3	3.356
69 Red Carle	L	0	0	-	3	0	0.848	3	0	1.119
70 Dufton / High Cup Nick	L	0	0	-	1	5	2.544	2	16	1.678
71 Mickleton Moor	L	0	0	-	1	0	2.544	4	2	0.839
72 Coldberry	L	0	0	-	1	2	2.544	4	6	0.839
73 Crossthwaite Common (incl South)	L	0	0	-	4	16	0.636	7	18	0.479
74 Whitfield Moor	L	0	0	-	0			2	0	1.678
86 Broad Meadows/ Well Hope	L	0	0	-	0	0		1	1	3.356
87 Snope Common	L	0	0	-	0	0		1	1	3.356
93 Coanwood	L	0	0	-	0	0		1	0	3.356
94 Knight's Cleugh	L	0	0	-	0	0		1	0	3.356
95 Knockshield Moor	L	0	0	-	0	0		1	0	3.356
96 Middleton Teesdale	L	0	0	-	0	0		1	8	3.356

		2006			2007			2008		
		Days	Ints	Weight	Days	Ints	Weight	Days	Ints	Weight
Cumbria										
39 Drigg Coast	L	0	0		2	26	1.272	1	5	3.356
40 High Park / Whillimoor Fell	L	0	0		4	2	0.636	1	0	3.356
41 North Walney	L	0	0		2	17	1.272	2	16	1.678
42 Bowness Common / Solway Moss	L	0	0		2	1	1.272	1	0	3.356
43 The Helm	L	0	0		2	19	1.272	1	10	3.356
85 Wan Fell	L	0	0		0	0		2	2	1.678
Dorset										
44 Eggardon Hill	L	0	0		3	43	0.848	1	3	3.356
45 Fontmell Down	L	0	0		1	10	2.544	2	16	1.678
46 Purbeck Ridge / Godlingston Hill	L	0	0		1	7	2.544	3	17	1.119
47 The Giant, Cerne Abbas	L	0	0		2	44	1.272	1	11	3.356
54 Higher Hill Plush / Nettlescombe	L	0	0		3	5	0.848	0	0	-
56 Hambury Tout / Lulworth	L	0	0		4	63	0.636	1	15	3.356
Dorset Heaths										
49 David's Hill	L	0	0		2	20	1.272	0	0	-
50 Avon Heath – Boundary Lane	L	0	0		3	47	0.848	0	0	-
51 Avon Heath – Country Park	L	0	0		1	7	2.544	0	0	-
52 Coombe Heath / Arne	L	0	0		2	16	1.272	4	44	0.839
53 Dewlands Common	L	0	0		3	23	0.848	3	16	1.119
55 Great Ovens	L	0	0		1	12	2.544	4	50	0.839
57 Lytchetts	L	0	0		2	7	1.272	4	15	0.839
58 Stoborough Heath	L	0	0		2	1	1.272	4	13	0.839
59 Winfrith Heath	L	0	0		1	14	2.544	5	53	0.671
60 Turbary Common	L	0	0		2	27	1.272	3	35	1.119
61 Upton Heath	L	0	0		2	134	1.272	3	126	1.119
62 Lions Hill	L	0	0		1	0	2.544	4	12	0.839
88 Ferndown Common	L	0	0		0	0		4	40	0.839
89 Parley	L	0	0		0	0		4	34	0.839
92 Town Common	L	0	0		0	0		4	57	0.839
Suffolk										
75 Dunwich Heath	L	0	0		2	36	1.272	4	87	0.839
76 Walberswick Common	L	0	0		2	44	1.272	4	50	0.839
77 Sutton Heath	L	0	0		2	43	1.272	4	105	0.839
78 Cavenham Heath	L	0	0		2	16	1.272	0	0	-
79 Westleton Heath	L	0	0		2	22	1.272	4	64	0.839
80 Knettishall Common	L	0	0		2	36	1.272	4	70	0.839

		2006			2007			2008		
		Days	Ints	Weight	Days	Ints	Weight	Days	Ints	Weight
Lancashire										
81 Browns Houses	L	0	0		2	24	1.272	0	0	-
82 Jenny Brown's Point	L	0	0		2	13	1.272	1	9	3.356
Shropshire										
83 Stiperstones	L	0	0		3	73	0.848	2	35	1.678
84 The Long Mynd	L	0	0		3	27	0.848	3	46	1.119

Estimate of Number of Trips per year

An estimate of the number of trips made per year by visitors has been made whereby daily visits equal 365 per year, monthly visits as 12 per year etc, to provide a comparison of the relative numbers visiting sites. Note that this estimate does not represent total visits, as it is only based on those people interviewed. It does not include group size.

Estimates based on trips per year as follows:

Daily	365
Several Times a week	130
Weekly	52
Several Times a month	25
Monthly	12
Several Times a year	6
Once a year	1
Less Often	0.5

Visitor Numbers

No counts were made as part of the survey. In order to produce a measure by which the relative busyness of a site can be compared with another, a five point scale index has been developed, for both visitor numbers and dog numbers.

It should be recognised that this does not purport to be an accurate representation of visitors or dogs, as it based on a series of other estimates. The observation survey recorded periodic counts of people visible on an hourly (or half hourly) basis but no systematic recording of the visitor numbers. As part of the interview survey, people were asked how often they visit the site and from this variable an estimate of the number of trips made annually has been made. The size of the group was also recorded from which the respondent was selected. Using a combination of these data, an estimate of the 'busyness' of each site can be made.

The technique used is to consider the overall range of data across all sites, over all three years, and identify the 20th, 40th, 60th and 80th percentile values.

Indices are then applied such that 1= results in the lowest group, below 20th percentile, 2= results between the 20th and 40th percentiles etc.

Stage 1

For each site, the number of people interviewed is multiplied by the group size, and the number of trips made per year. This is then factored down by the number of survey days conducted to give an equal number of days per site.

Stage 2

For the observation survey data, the total number of visitors observed is factored down by the number of survey days conducted to give an equal number of days per site. This is then factored up by 260, to give an estimate of the number of visitors per year. The surveys were conducted over summer when 71% of visits are made; hence factoring by 365 would overestimate the visitor numbers. The figure of 260 is derived as follows:

Based on 2100 records where asked time of year visited

	N	%	Days per quarter		
All year	1361	65	Days per quarter		
Spring	1499	71	91.25	65.1	proportion x number of days
Summer	1634	78	91.25	71.0	
Autumn	1489	71	91.25	64.7	
Winter	1386	66	91.25	60.2	
				261	Sum

round to 260

Stage 3

An average is then taken of the annual estimates from the interview survey and the observation survey, for each year individually and then across all years.

Stage 4

Using the ALL YEARS average, the 20th, 40th, 60th and 80th percentiles are found. The index is then applied based on these percentiles, for each year and overall.

The same approach is then applied to the numbers of dogs from the interview and observation surveys.

Where no data exists for a site for any year no index is given.

The following ranges apply for the measures considered, for example, a site with 200 visitors and 100 dogs per day has a Visitor Index of 2 and a Dog Index of 2. All values have been taken on a per day basis to allow for there having been different numbers of surveys conducted at sites and each year.

Visitor and Dog Indices

Percentile	Visitor Numbers	Dogs	Index	Description
0	0	0	1	Very low use
0.2	213	30	2	Low use
0.4	1386	283	3	Average use
0.6	3415	683	4	High use
0.8	5366	1916	5	Very high use

Spatial Analysis

As part of the Interview Survey, respondents were asked to describe, with the aid of a map of the site, where they had walked, or if just arrived, where they intended to walk. In 2006, hand held data capture devices (PDA) were used to record this information at some sites whereas other sites used paper maps and this route information was later transferred to computer. The size of the map screen on PDAs was limiting at larger sites, and there was a tendency to use paper maps in 2007 and 2008.

Observation surveys were undertaken periodically, recording by activity the locations of anyone, and any dog, seen at the site at the time of observations. Again in 2006 some of this recording was carried out using PDAs, and some on paper.

Key outputs from the surveys have been the production of plans and the analysis of spatial information across all the sites. GIS package MapInfo has been used to produce visual plots of the sites and conduct a series of spatial analyses to highlight trends in user behaviour.

The key areas where spatial analysis has been used to isolate behavioural trends include:

- **Dog Walker Behaviour** – establishing the movement patterns of those choosing to use access land to walk dogs;
- **Non-Dog Walker Behaviour** – establishing the movement patterns of those choosing to use access land to walk dogs;
- **Dog Behaviour** – analysis of the observed dog behaviour by location;
- **Inappropriate Behaviour** – highlighting those users on access land who were engaging in behaviour deemed inappropriate under the access land usage rules;
- **Activities** – categorising users of access land by their chosen activity (excluding walking/dog walking);
- **Walking Routes & Lengths** – analysing the total walk lengths that users undertake whilst on access land, including where they choose to walk;
- **Access Mode** – analysing where people have travelled from to access the site and how they choose to travel;
- **Key Interactions with Land Designations** – highlighting any trends of land usage by land type and whether restrictions/designations have influenced peoples movements; and
- **Entry & Exit Points Analysis** – Highlight where people choose to enter/exit access land.

In addition, Faber Maunsell has provided a GIS dataset that comprises the base tables from which all this information was derived. Further analyses of the base data are possible, depending on the aims of any future research. The data has been collected across three years and has been standardised as much as possible.

Database Table

GIS Database	Collection Method	Component Databases
Year One Interviewee Walk Routes	PDA & Interviewer Administered Survey	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Interviews conducted during the dog restriction period (1st March – 31st July) ■ Interviews conducted during the unrestricted dog period (31st July – 1st March)
Year Two Interviewee Walk Routes	Interviewer Administered Survey	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Interviews conducted during the dog restriction period (1st March – 31st July) ■ Interviews conducted during the unrestricted dog period (31st July – 1st March)
Year Three Interviewee Walk Routes	Interviewer Administered Survey	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Interviews conducted during the dog restriction period (1st March – 31st July) ■ Interviews conducted during the unrestricted dog period (31st July – 1st March)
Year One Observations	PDA & Interviewer Administered Survey	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Observations conducted during the dog restriction period (1st March – 31st July) ■ Observations conducted during the unrestricted dog period (31st July – 1st March)
Year Two Observations	Interviewer Administered Survey	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Observations conducted during the dog restriction period (1st March – 31st July)

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Observations conducted during the unrestricted dog period (31st July – 1st March)
Year Three Observations	Interviewer Administered Survey	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Observations conducted during the dog restriction period (1st March – 31st July) ■ Observations conducted during the unrestricted dog period (31st July – 1st March)

Dataset Interaction

The spatial analysis conducted during this research required a number of interactions with existing GIS databases to be isolated. Natural England provided a series of existing datasets that were used in the analysis. The datasets included:

- National Public Rights of Way GIS dataset;
- National Access Land Site Boundaries;
- Area Management Grant System Case Officer Boundaries;
- Landscape Character Type Designations;
- Section 15 Areas;
- Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) Area Boundaries;
- Fire Safety Restrictions;
- Discretionary Restrictions;
- Nature Conservation Restrictions;
- SAC Designations;
- SPA Designations;
- Sites of Specific Scientific Interest (SSSi) Boundaries; and
- Vulnerable Features Boundaries.

In addition, Faber Maunsell created some datasets for use in the analysis that were considered useful, including:

- An 'other tracks' layer – showing those track on each of the National Sample and NCA site that were present but not designated PROW; and
- Additional Local Monitoring Areas boundaries – included based on returns from the Local Authorities.

Note that the tracks layer was not coded for the LM sites. Note also that the PROW layer as supplied was incomplete; that is, some PROW shown on paper copies of OS maps were not present on the GIS layer. For the NM sites these were added to the PROW layer for analysis purposes but there may be instances for LM sites where the PROW layer is incomplete.

Production of Plots

Plots for each site have been produced using the interviewee's route information as follows:

Walk Routes

- Walkers accompanied by Dogs Dataset in General Dog Restriction Period (March to July);
- Walkers unaccompanied by Dogs Dataset in General Dog Restriction Period (March to July);
- Walkers accompanied by Dogs outside General Dog Restriction Period (March to July); and
- Walkers unaccompanied by Dogs Dataset outside Dog Restriction Period.

Appropriate/Inappropriate Behaviour

A range of behaviours that access land users were engaging in were recorded as a key part of the observation survey process. Based on these categorisations, spatial plots of each site were created, showing where Access Land users were located. The recorded behaviours were categorised into two classes:

- Appropriate behaviour: behaviour that users are entitled to engage in on Access Land; and
- Inappropriate behaviour: behaviour the users are not entitled to engage in on Access Land.

These two types of behaviours are shown below. There were a total of eight appropriate behaviours recorded across the survey periods and six inappropriate behaviours.

Appropriate and Inappropriate Behaviours

Appropriate Behaviours	Inappropriate Behaviour
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Ball Games ■ Biking ■ Horse Riding ■ Picnics ■ Running ■ Enjoying Scenery ■ Sitting and Resting ■ Other 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Walking on Restrictions ■ Picking flowers ■ Non-Motorised Vehicle Use ■ Motorised Vehicle Use ■ Fire Risk ■ Other

Analysis of Walking Routes

The walk route data has been used in conjunction with the following datasets:

- Public Rights of Way (PROW) Spatial Data Layer;
- 'Other' Tracks (but not rights of way) Layer; and
- Restrictions/Land Types Layer.

Walk Routes on PROW, 'Other' Tracks and Access Land

The PROW and the 'other' tracks layers were created using the standard line drawing tool. However, in order to account for interviewer recording error, the line based datasets were converted into regions. A 20m buffer was created around both line datasets, so that that line analysis could be conducted on the walk routes datasets.

The data layers were used to identify where participants were walking and how much of their relative journey was on each track, path or access land. For instance, a line length analysis on the walk route dataset, when cross-referenced against the PROW layer and the 'other' tracks layer, would establish how much of that persons journey was on a PROW, an 'other' track and on access land.

Access to Each Site

The interview survey recorded the home postcodes of respondents, and which mode had been used to get to the site (though not for some of the LM Sites). Origin plots of the postcodes and the modes used have been created for each site.

Entry and Exit Point Analysis

Using Mapinfo, a count was made of the number of recorded walk routes intersecting with the site boundary at an access point to produce an entry/exit point count. A buffer was set around the access point of 50m to allow for vagaries of recording.

The counts for each site were analysed, and the maximum identified. The average maximum over all sites was then identified – this was 23. A five point scale is then derived, such that 1= very low, 2= low, 3 = medium, 4 = busy 5= very busy using the figure of 23 as the value at which a site is denoted as very busy, as follows:

Very Low1	0-6
Low 2	6-11
Medium 3	11-17
Busy 4	17-23
Very busy5	+23

Plots show each entry point and the level of entries/exits, both in figures, and colour coded to the thematic scheme above.

Dog Behaviour

Surveyors were asked to record the observed behaviour of dogs that they saw at each site. The number of possible behaviours changes slightly between the three years because the questionnaire was refined over time. These behaviours can be categorised into those involving the owner and those not involving the owner.

Recording of Dog Behaviour Years One to Three

Year One	Year Two	Year Three
<p><i>Involving Owner</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Off-Lead to Heel ■ Off-Lead Roaming ■ On-Lead <p><i>Not Involving Owner</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Controlled ■ Disturbing Birds ■ Disturbing Others ■ Disturbing Livestock ■ Disturbing Visitors 	<p><i>Involving Owner</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Off-Lead to Heel ■ Off-Lead Roaming ■ On-Lead <p><i>Not Involving Owner</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Controlled ■ Disturbing Livestock ■ Disturbing Others ■ Disturbing Wildlife ■ Uncontrolled 	<p><i>Involving Owner</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Off-Lead to Heel ■ Off-Lead Roaming ■ On-Lead <p><i>Not Involving Owner</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Controlled ■ Disturbing Livestock ■ Disturbing Other Dogs ■ Disturbing Others ■ Disturbing Wildlife ■ Uncontrolled



Annex 2

Lake District National Park Local Monitoring Survey

Ten sites were surveyed in 2008 in the Lake District National Park. A total of 538 interviews were recorded over 25 survey days, undertaken between March and November. The Local Monitoring toolkit was applied in the data collection. Weekdays were surveyed as well as weekends. The survey sites together with the number of interviews are shown in Table 1. These results have not been combined with the National Programme, as this expressly excluded land in National Parks. Comparisons for key findings are drawn with the National Sample where appropriate.

A separate Site Report presents findings for each site individually; all the results presented in this summary are at an aggregate level. No weighting of data has been carried out.

Table 1 Sites surveyed in Lake District National Park

Site	Interviews	Days	Average per day
White Moss Common	64	3	21
Buttermere	65	2	33
Fell Barrow	8	1	8
Gummers Howe	65	3	21
Hallin Fell	56	2	28
High Dam	66	3	22
Kentmere	76	3	25
Latrigg	63	3	21
Ulpha Flats	14	2	7
Wasdale Head	61	3	20
Total	538	25	

Visitors to Site

Table 2 shows the demographic profile of the Lake District sample. Compared with the National Sample of sites the sample of respondents is similar by age and gender (65% males compared with 62% in the National Sample). However, there are fewer retired people, and a higher proportion of visitors are in employment, 79%, compared with the 66% in the National Sample. For ethnic group and mobility the sample is the same as for the National Sample.

Table 2 Visitors to Site

		Count	Column N %
What age group do you belong in?	0-15	4	*
	16-24	26	5
	25-34	56	11
	35-44	150	28
	45-59	197	37
	60+	96	18
What is your employment status?	Employed	366	79
	Not Working	14	3
	Student	17	4
	Retired	68	15
Do you have any longstanding illness or disability?	Yes	43	10
	No	381	90
Which of these groups do you belong to?	White British	480	96
	White other	11	2
	Asian	5	1
	Mixed	3	1
	Black	1	*
	Chinese	1	*
Gender	Male	341	65
	Female	181	35
Base	All	538	

Table 3 shows that almost two thirds, 65% of visitors were holiday-makers, and a further 14% were on a day trip from home. These proportions are much higher than for the National Sample, where 88% of trips originated from people living locally. Those travelling on day trips had travelled an average of 52 miles to get to the survey location, with 6% travelling more than 100 miles, and those from holiday accommodation 18 miles on average.

Table 3 Distance Travelled to Site (miles) by Visitor Type

Do you live locally, are you on a day trip from home or are you on holiday?	Mean Distance Travelled to Site (miles)	Valid N	Column N %
Live locally	13.7	113	21
Day trip from home	52.1	77	14
On holiday / staying away from home	18.1	346	65
Total	22.1	536	

A quarter (26%) of visits were being made for the first time for all visitors, see Table 4, but for people who lived locally this proportion was 6%, and for holiday makers, 33%. Over half, 58% said they had been visiting the area for more than 5 years, and this was the case for 79% of those living locally.

Table 4 Visits to Site

How long have you been visiting this area of land?	Do you live locally, are you on a day trip from home or are you on holiday?			
	Live locally %	Day trip from home %	On holiday / staying away from home %	Total %
Today is my first visit	6	24	33	26%
Less than 1 year	2	4	5	4%
More than 1 year and up to 2 years	4	5	4	4%
More than 2 years and up to 3 years	4	4	4	4%
More than 3 years and up to 5 years	4	4	2	3%
More than 5 years	79%	59	51	58
All	113	77	346	536
Row N %	21%	14%	65%	100%

Table 5 shows that more than a third, 36% said they had always known about the site they were visiting; 63% of those living locally. Respondents on a day trip were those most likely to have found out via some means of promotion, 17% compared with 5% of locals and 13% of holiday-makers.

Table 5 Site Promotion

How did you originally become aware of this particular area of land?	Do you live locally, are you on a day trip from home or are you on holiday?				
	Live locally %	Day trip from home %	On holiday / staying away from home %	Total %	
Local knowledge / Always known	63	30	29	36	
Friends / family	16	25	32	27%	
Promotion / Press / website	5	17	13	12%	
Other	16	29	26	24	
All	Count	113	77	346	536
Row N %		21%	14%	65%	100%

There are differences in the pattern of visits by trip origin, see Table 6. Of those who live locally, 7% visit daily and a further 4% more than once a week. This pattern of visits is very different to that for the National Sample where 23% of visits are made daily and 11% are first time visits..

Table 6 Frequency of Visit

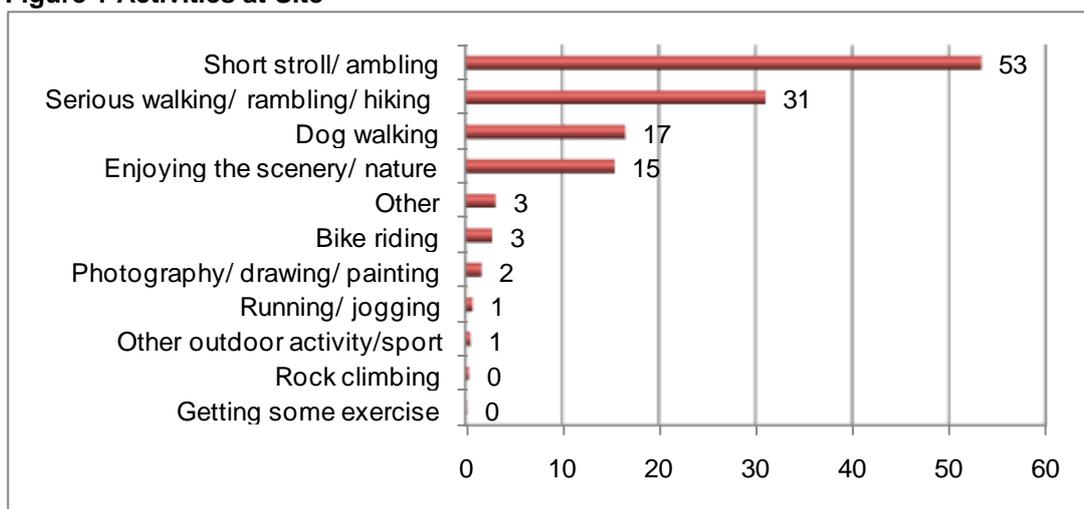
About how often do you visit this area of land?	Do you live locally, are you on a day trip from home or are you on holiday?				
	Live locally %	Day trip from home %	On holiday / staying away from home %	Total %	
Daily	7	0	0	2%	
Regularly – more than once a week	4	0	1	1%	
Often – more than monthly, less than weekly	19	9	4	8	
Infrequently – less than monthly	63	68	60	62	
First time visit today	7%	23	35	27	
All	Count	113	77	346	536
	Row N %	21%	14%	65%	100%

More than half of interviewees (53%) were at the site to take a short stroll, with 31% saying they were there for a serious walk or hike, see Figure 1, showing all the responses given. Almost a third of people gave more than one reason for visiting; just 7% were there purely to walk a dog although 17% mentioned this in total. The scenery was the main reason for being at the site for just 2% though 15% mentioned this overall.

Only 9% of visitors interviewed were at the site alone, compared with the 42% in the National Sample. This reflects the purpose of the visit; far more dog walkers were included in the National Sample (42%), who have a greater tendency to visit alone.

Table 7 shows the activities of visitors recorded in the observation survey. There are fewer dog walkers observed, 6% than suggested by the interview survey, though as these tend to be at the site for less time there is less potential that they will be observed. It is not always possible to identify amblers from ramblers, however, the observed data matches the interview data well.

Figure 1 Activities at Site



All Sites Base 538
Multiple response - may sum to more than 100

Table 7 Activities Observed: Observation Survey

	Visitors Observed	Column %
Ambling	773	49
Rambling	377	24
Dog Walking	88	6
Jogging	4	0
Enjoying scenery/nature	65	4
Bike Riding	27	2
Horse Riding	7	0
Picnics	72	5
Sitting	144	9
Ball or Other Games	11	1
Other Activity	0	0
TOTAL	1568	

The remoteness and tranquillity of the site were the main reasons mentioned for visiting, by 53% of visitors, and a fifth, 21% mentioned the scenery and landscape. One in six people mentioned getting exercise. Other reasons specific to each site were recorded. Nine people specifically mentioned Wainwright as their inspiration,

Table 8 Attractions of Site

	Count	Column %
Remoteness / tranquillity of the area of land	283	53
Scenery/ Landscape/ pleasant area	112	21
Exercise	86	16
Always come here	65	12
Mentioned Easy/ Accessible walk	44	8
Accessibility/ Proximity of the area of land	32	6
En route/ part of a longer route	30	6
Previous Visit	8	1
For the Hills	5	1
For a Change / Somewhere new, different	5	1
Challenging walk/ climb/ feature	4	1
Space for dog to run	3	1
Parking provision at the area of land	3	1
Base	538	

Two thirds, 66% of visitors said they had heard of Open Access. This is a similar proportion as for the National Sample, 68%. By purpose of visit, dog walkers appear to have the greatest awareness, contrasting with the results from the National Sample, but note that here the sample size is very small and this proportion should be treated with caution.

Dogs at Site

Although only 7% of respondents were at the site specifically to walk a dog, 25% of interviewees had a dog with them, see Table 11. This proportion was higher, though not significantly so, between March and July, in the period of general dog restrictions. From the observation survey, 54 dogs were recorded in total; 24 of these in the period of general dog restrictions. No dogs were recorded as being uncontrolled; a third were on leads, a fifth to heel and the remaining roaming. There were 1568 visitors observed, suggesting there are about 30 visitors for every dog.

Table 11 Dogs at Site in Period of Restrictions: Visitor Interview

			Survey in Dog Restrictions Period		
			In Dog restrictions period	Not in Dog restrictions period	Total
Dog in Group	Dog in Group	Count	52	83	135
		Column N %	29%	23%	25%
No Dog in Group	No Dog in Group	Count	129	274	403
		Column N %	71%	77%	75%
Total	Total	Count	181	357	538
		Column N %	100%	100%	100%

Table 12 Dogs at Site in Period of Restrictions: Observation Survey

	In restrictions period		Not in restrictions period		All	
	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%
Dog on lead	6	25%	12	40%	18	33%
Dog off lead to heel	8	33%	3	10%	11	20%
Dog off lead roaming	10	42%	15	50%	25	46%
Dogs (n)	24		30		54	
Controlled	4	17%	4	13%	8	15%
Uncontrolled	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
Disturbing other people	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
Disturbing livestock	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
Disturbing Wildlife	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
Other non control	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%

Dogs were observed at all the sites except Fellbarrow. When asked why the site was good for bringing a dog to, being able to run off the lead was the most usual response, mentioned by 55% of those who responded. The dog's enjoyment was also mentioned by 51% of respondents, see Table 13.

Table 13 Why is site good for bringing a dog

What aspects about this area of land make it good for bringing a dog here?	Count	Column N %
Able to let dog run off lead	65	55
No/ not many other dogs	14	12
No/ not many other people	17	14
No restrictions on dogs being here	45	38
Dogs enjoy it here	61	51
Don't have to pick up dog mess	3	3
No livestock	29	24
Things for dogs to chase	2	2
Nothing in particular - I like the walk/ convenient for me	28	24
Other	3	3
Good exercise/ open spaces	3	3
Dogs can swim	15	13
Safe-no traffic or other hazards	3	3

Multiple response - sum to more than 100%

Almost two fifths, 38% of respondents said they had been walking dogs at the site for more than 5 years, and a further fifth, more than two years. Only one person of the 112 asked said they never had their dog on a lead, and this person had been visiting for more than 5 years.

Table 14 How long have you been

	Count	Column N %
For how long, in years, have you been walking your dog(s) on this area of land?		
Today is my first visit	31	28
Less than 1 year	7	6
More than 1 year up to 2 years	10	9
More than 2 years up to 3 years	13	12
More than 3 years up to 5 years	8	7
More than 5 years	43	38
Total	112	100

Respondents were asked how they would control their dog in given situations: Table 15 shows that 93% said they would put their dog on a lead if signs or information were present asking them to do so. Note: there is no comparable data from the National Sample as this was asked differently. However, this response contrasts with the Local Monitoring survey for the 53 sites surveyed, when 76% gave this answer. For each of the circumstances mentioned, the intention to put the dog on a lead is higher for those interviewed in the Lake District National Park than at other surveyed sites. Almost 90% said they would use a lead when livestock were close by, and three quarters would in the shooting season (even though there is little shooting in the areas of the Lake District surveyed). Almost three fifths would do so if wild birds were close by.

Table 15 Proportion who said they would use a lead if...

	%	Count
On a public right of way	36%	105
On access land NOT on a PROW	46%	96
If wild birds are close by	59%	102
If signs/information say to keep on lead	93%	104
If other dogs are close by	41%	104
If livestock close by	89%	109
In nesting season	66%	101
In shooting season	75%	88

Multiple response - sum to more than 100%

Use of Open Access Land

Respondents were asked to estimate the proportion of their walk that was on public rights of way, on tracks that are not PROW and on Open Access Land with no obvious paths. Almost one in seven, 14% were unable to make a guess at all.

Of those who did make an estimate, almost three quarters, 73% said their entire walk was on PROW, 5% said their entire walk was on tracks and 1% estimated that their entire walk was on land with no obvious tracks.

Analysis of the walk lengths has been conducted, including the total walk recorded in the interview; the length of walk that crossed an area mapped as Open Access Land, and that where PROW were used on the area of Open Access land site.

The average distance recorded by interviewees was 3.14km. Of this, 1.55km was within areas of land mapped as Open Access Land, of which 0.79km was on PROW (51%) and the remaining 0.76km not on PROW. It should be noted that some interview locations were not actually on areas of Open Access land. Also note that walks may be on paths or tracks that are not PROW; no mapping is available to analyse against.

Table 16 Walks at Site

	Dog in Group					
	Dog in Group		No Dog in Group		Total	
	Mean	Valid N	Mean	Valid N	Mean	Valid N
Walk total distance	3.14	128	3.13	378	3.14	506
Walk on site distance	1.49	127	1.57	358	1.55	485
walk on PROW	.82	127	.78	358	.79	485
Walk on OAL	.67	127	.79	358	.76	485
Proportion on PROW	55%		50%		51%	
Proportion on OAL	45%		50%		49%	

Note: walk lengths based on analysis in MapInfo.

The average walk length at National Sample sites was much less, at 2km, although the proportion off PROW was very similar at 53%.

Around 1 in 14 respondents (7%) estimated that none of their walk was on PROW, and 8% judged that half of their walk was on PROW. A high proportion, 95% thought that none of their walk was on Open Access land with no obvious paths,

People were asked why they had stayed on paths or PROW and not used land without paths or PROW. The most often given response was that "The public right of way takes me to where I want to be so no need to stray from it" (28%) and "Easier to walk on a public right of way/ terrain" (28%). Almost a quarter (23%) mentioned that it was safer on a PROW. Almost one in ten (9%) said they needed more information about Open Access, and 7% said they were unsure if they had permission to stray from the path.

Table 17 Why Stay on Paths/PROW

	Dog in Group			Base:
	Dog in Group	No Dog in Group	Total	Those who thought they had not used OAL
	Count	Count	Count	445
Need more information about Open Access	8	31	39	9%
Unsure whether I had permission to stray from the public right of way	10	20	30	7%
Unsure which areas are open access land	8	24	32	7%
Anxious about getting lost	5	30	35	8%
Safer on a public right of way	23	79	102	23%
Nothing extra to see by going off public right of way	9	35	44	10%
Was unsure if farmer/ landowner was present	0	1	1	0%
Have a dog and assumed dogs are banned from open access	3	0	3	1%
The public right of way takes me to where I want to be so no need to stray from it	27	99	126	28%
Easier to walk on a public right of way/ terrain	33	93	126	28%
Did not want to disturb wildlife or cattle	4	7	11	2%
Following specific route	2	9	11	2%
Too Wet	2	5	7	2%

Summary

Respondents at the surveys conducted in the Lake District National Park differ from those at the National Sample sites, in that they are much less likely to have travelled from home, and hence make less frequent visits to the surveyed sites. They are however similar in demographics. There are fewer visits solely for dog walking.

Awareness of Open Access appears to be higher amongst the Lake District respondents, and where visitors are accompanied by dogs, the propensity to control dogs appears to be greater.

Visitors walk longer distances at the Lake District sites, but the usage of land off PROW on areas of Open Access land is very similar.