

The Openness of Local Government Bodies Regulations 2014 require that officers keep a written record of decisions which are made, either:

- a) under a specific express authorisation, or,
- b) under general delegated authority, where the effect of the decision is to
 - i) grant permission or licence;
 - ii) affect the rights of an individual; or
 - iii) award a contract or incur expenditure which, in either case, materially affects the Authority’s financial position (£50,000 or over).

Lead Director	Steve Ratcliffe, Director of Sustainable Development	
Subject of Decision	SECTION 33 ROAD TRAFFIC ACT 1988 CONSENT – Vintage Sports Car Club – Lakeland Trial, 8 November 2025	
Relevant section of Scheme of Delegation	<p>PART 4 - DELEGATION OF FUNCTIONS TO OFFICERS ANNEX 4 - Functions delegated to Head of Ranger & Strategy Service (and exercisable by the Head of Ranger Service as that post has ceased to exist), and sub-delegated to Ranger Team Leaders.</p> <p>Rights of Way and Access Matters All functions of the Authority under the Highway Acts (whether acting pursuant to its own functions or in pursuance of functions delegated to it by the Highway Authorities) except for the making and confirmation of Definitive Map Modification Orders (Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981) and the decision to refer to the Planning Inspectorate of the confirmation of any orders under the Highway Acts where formal substantive representations have been made. “Substantive representations” are those which explain adequately the nature of the concerns and meet the legal considerations defined by the Highways Acts and the Planning Acts.</p>	
Background	The Lakeland Trial is a one-day time schedule event for up to 110 pre-1941 road cars in the Darling How / Wythop areas of Forestry England land at Whinlatter Forest, at Buttermere, and at Honister Slate Mine. It has been running for many years. A number of public rights of way are used or crossed to reach the trial sites, and one bridleway (220003 at Honister) is used as part of the hill trial. Section 33 consent (Road Traffic Act 1988) is therefore required to authorise a motor vehicle trial to be held on public rights of way.	
Details of Decision	Consent is granted subject to the usual conditions.	
Details of alternative options considered and rejected.	Not granting consent. See explanation and discussion overleaf.	
Where a decision is made under an express authorisation, names of any Member(s) who have declared a conflict of interest	None	
Author and contact details of report	Will Hinchliffe, Rights of Way Officer	
Background Papers	File Reference 1480.013	
Date of Report (letter)	8 October 2025	
Authorising officer(s)	Ranger Team Leader Meeting	
Date	10 October 2025	

VINTAGE SPORTS CAR CLUB – LAKELAND TRIAL

This annual trial is for up to 110 pre-1941 road registered cars, and takes place in Wythop Woods, Darling How (Whinlatter Forest), Honister and near Buttermere and Crummock Water. It is generally well-run and has been held for many years without significant issues arising. The organiser has provided the permissions given by relevant landowners, along with maps of the event route, and other documentation relating to the event (Motorsport UK permit, risk assessment, event safety management plan).

The route for this year's event is the same as that used during previous editions, including last year. Several public rights of way are crossed or used as access, and one bridleway at Honister is used as part of the hill trial.

In 2021 we received a complaint which was closed following the end of the formal process. Various additional / revised conditions have since been included in our Section 33 consent relating to signage and marshalling for the event. The organisers were also reminded that the conditions must be strictly adhered to. Staff then attended the event in 2022 to ensure these conditions were complied with and they were satisfied that monitoring of subsequent events was not required for the time being.

Given the above considerations– I recommend that we give approval authorising the use of the specified public rights of way during this event

Will Hinchliffe, Rights of Way Officer, 8 October 2025



Lake District
National Park

[REDACTED] Tarring

15 October 2025

Dear Mr Tarring

**Vintage Sports Car Club – Lakeland Trial, 8 November 2025
Section 33 Road Traffic Act 1988 Consent.**

Thank you for contacting us about this year's event. I note that the following public paths are affected, as shown on the attached route maps:

As part of the event:

- BW 220003, Honister (Drumhouse)

Crossed or used as access only:

- FP 264002 / 264005 / 264012, Peel Wyke / Wythop
- FP 242017/024, Darling How

For the event planned for 8 November 2025, the National Park Authority grants consent under Section 33 of the Road Traffic Act (1988) for these sections of footpath and bridleway to be used by vehicles taking part in the Vintage Sports Car Club Trial subject to the conditions below.

In addition to the general conditions overleaf – the consent is granted based on the following specific information provided in respect of the Drumhouse section:

- The speed of the cars on the hill climbs is likely to be no more than 20mph;
- Cars will be dispersed throughout the day (9am – 4pm);
- There will be around 20 marshals on the 600 metres of the Drumhouse event route. These marshals will spot and inform any walkers approaching the route from the open access land, and any walkers, cyclists or horse-riders on the bridleways itself.
- Marshals will only allow a car to begin the hill climbs if the bridleway is clear.

- Members of the public using the bridleway will be informed of the event by the marshals. If the public wish to continue along the bridleway, cars will not be allowed to start the climb. Alternatively, it is acceptable for the public to be asked (not demanded) to wait for the car to complete the climb before continuing.

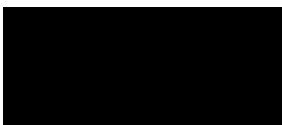
If you have any queries, please don't hesitate to get in touch with Will Hinchliffe, Rights of Way Officer (will.hinchliffe@lakedistrict.gov.uk, 01539 792696).

Conditions of Authorisation

You (the event organisers) shall:

1. Repair any significant damage to the surface of the footpaths and bridleways or to any walls, fences, stiles, bridges, gates or other wayside fixtures caused by the event. If this is not done within a reasonable time after notice has been given, we (the National Park Authority) shall have the right to carry out the work and charge the cost to you.
2. Indemnify us against any legal liability in respect of any claim arising out of this authorisation and any expense to which we may be put in defending any claims.
3. Arrange for marshals to be posted on the rights of way to warn people of the presence of motor vehicles and stop the competitive sections if necessary - at the locations identified on the attached maps for Wythop and Darling How, and mass marshalling at Fleetwith Drumhouse. Marshals should wear high visibility vests or clothing to ensure they're clearly identifiable to participants and rights of way users.
4. Erect warning signs (or substantially to the like effect) at the locations shown on the attached maps, and elsewhere as considered useful.
5. Remove the signs after the event has finished.
6. Remove litter deposited on any affected footpath or bridleway during the event.
7. Report any accidents or near miss incidents involving spectators or public rights of way users to us within 48 hours of any event.

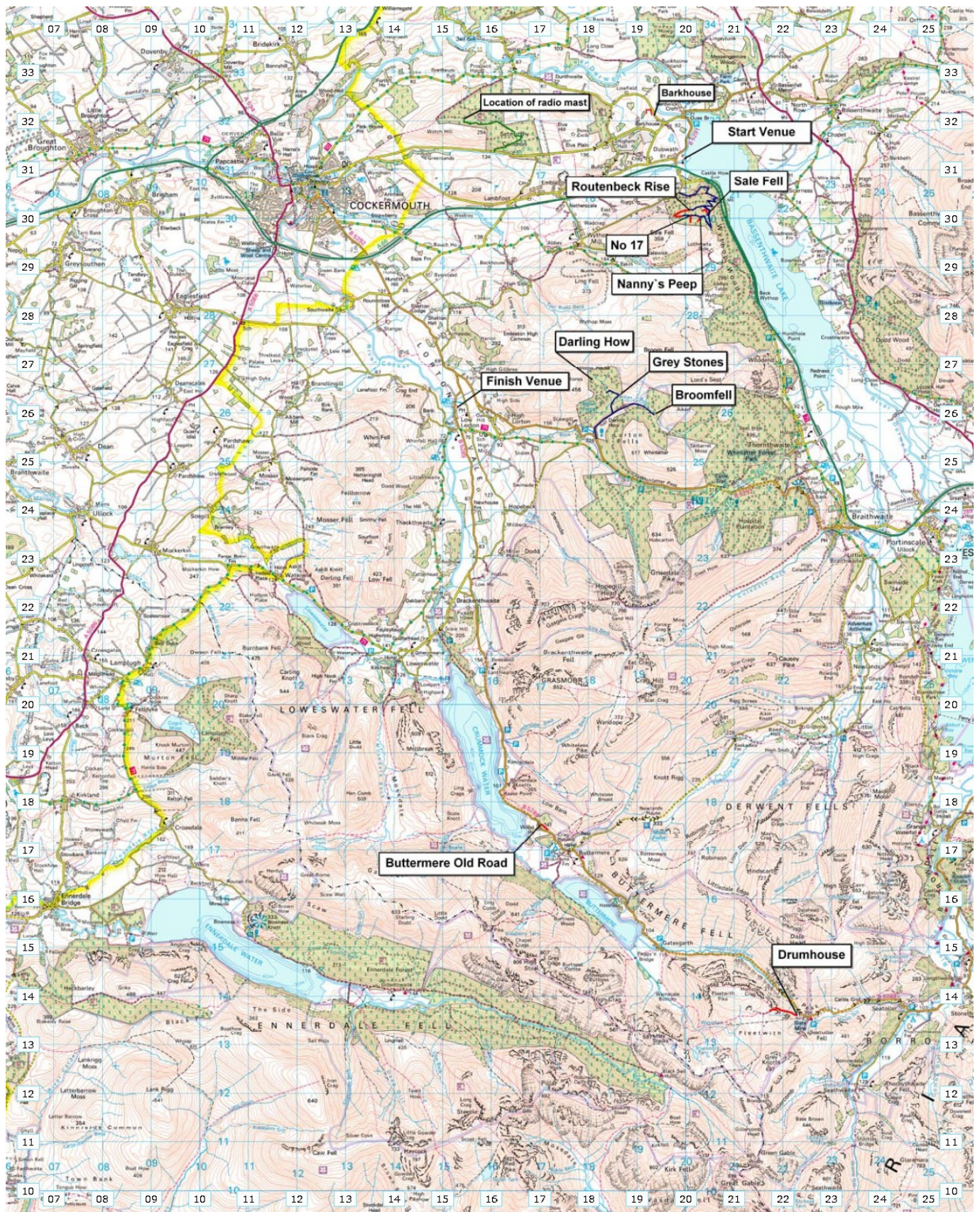
Yours sincerely

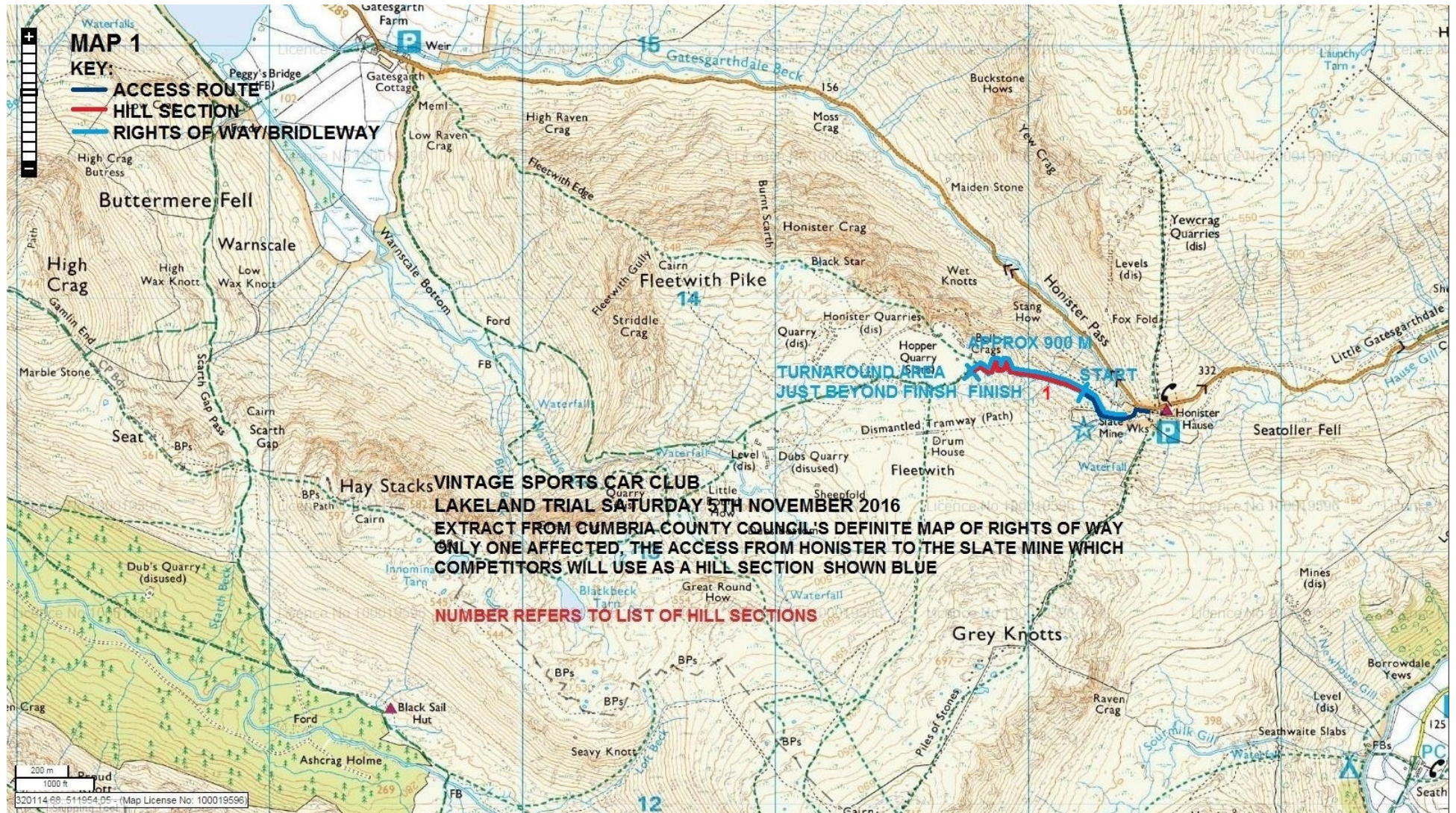


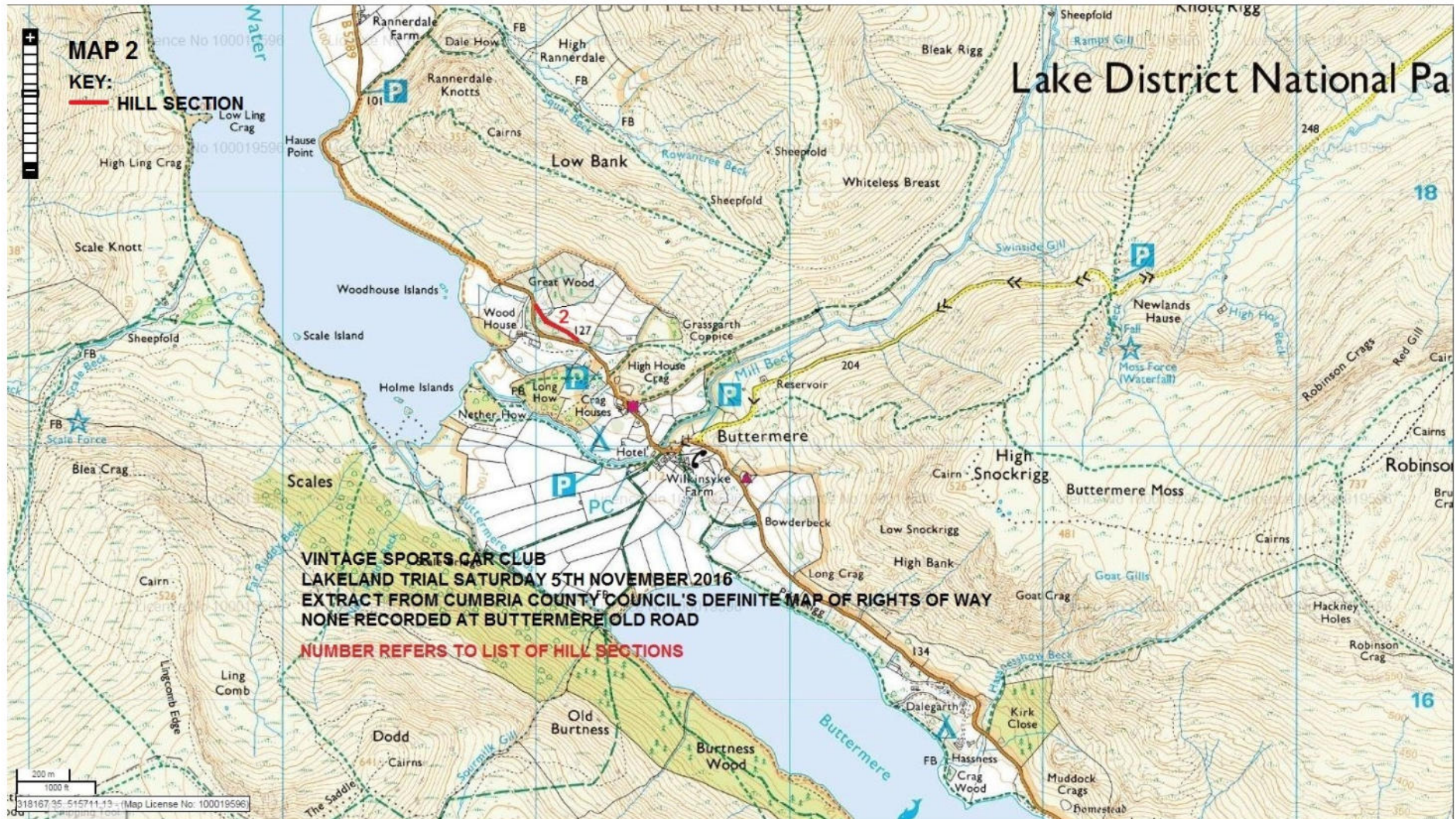
Steve Gaskell, Head of Ranger Service
Direct: 01539 792604

Email: steven.gaskell@lakedistrict.gov.uk

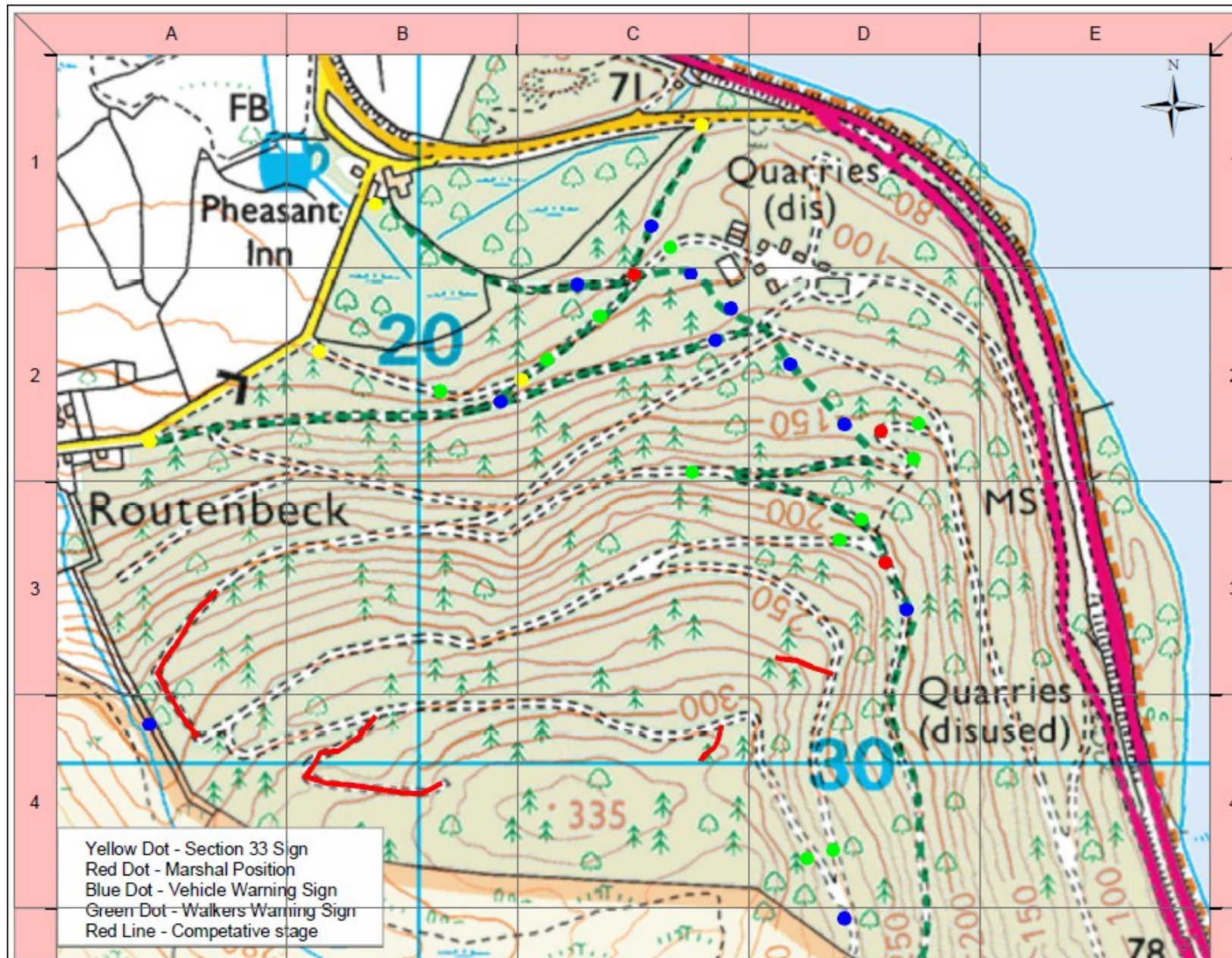
Route Maps (blue = access, red = competitive stage)







Signage and Marshal Location Maps for Wythop



Signage and Marshal Location Maps for Darling How

