

# Design and Access Statement, Dalby Forest

## Location

Dalby Forest lies on the southern slopes of the North York Moors National Park, and is both a popular visitor attraction and important habitat for wildlife. A £4.3 million investment (2003-2007) has resulted in the remarkable transformation of Dalby forest into a Regional Centre of Excellence for sustainable economic activity. With an attractively refurbished courtyard, a sustainably constructed Visitor Centre, and a vast network of cycle trails, Dalby Forest is proving to be a valuable asset in the region, giving the local economy a much needed boost by drawing in tourists from far and wide.

## Proposed Development

Building on this investment, and the reputation for mountain biking, having held 2 World Cup XC races. We propose to construct a length of moderate (blue grade) trail as part to increase the amount of single track trail within the existing overall moderate grade trail distance currently available. This can be done by constructing a section of single track trail parallel to a forest road currently used as part of the Blue grade trail.

The objectives of this project are to:

- Provide more moderate grade single track to continue the opportunity for riders to progress their skills from beginner to technical rider.
- Allow these visitors to enjoy for the landscape and the health benefits of exercise outdoors..

## Design

It is our intention to create a flowing trail with low bermed corners, small rollers. There will not be any technical features, timber features or rock features.

The trail will be an average of 1.5m wide and constructed of mainly locally available materials; limestone for the sub base and locally quarried limestone for the surface. The design will generally follow the IMBA guidelines for sustainable trail construction, now the industry standard.

Culverts where required will be twin wall plastic.

## Access

During the construction phase, access will be via the adjacent forest road.



## Legislation

Whilst not designed as a DDA trail it will incorporate the ability for users of adaptive bikes at this grade of trail to use it by ensuring the width is at 1.5m and that the entry and exit corals are negotiable by some adaptive off road bikes, such as hand bikes.

## Conclusions

This trail will increase the amount of moderate trail riders have to improve their skills before tackling the more technical trails in Dalby and other forest centres. The smooth flowing nature of this section of trail is designed to blend into the landscape, and future vegetation management will ensure the trail continues to blend into the forest.

