

6.6 Dale Head 6

Images from the walk to the waymarker tree.



The waymarker larch, a lone survivor in an unstable landscape. Movement and slippage occurs on sloping/shifting substrates (on grades on or above the 'angle of repose') – where loose materials continuously (albeit slowly, often unnoticeably) slide downwards due to the ever-present influences of water and gravity. Incidentally, look for the 'father and mother of all boulders' seen below at lower-right, lying by Newlands Beck.



A risky place to live out a long life, directly in the line of fall below Eel Crag.



At no more than 10 metres high, the larch is 'hunkered down' – adaptively shaped low and wide, spread across the slope, to accommodate the pressures of relentless wind – and still waymarking the path indicated by AW.