

Date notified: 5th March 1998

File ref: NY 32/4

County: Cumbria **Site Name:** Thornsgill Beck, Mosedale Beck and Wolf Crag

District: Eden

Status: Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) notified under Section 28 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended).

Local Planning Authority: Lake District National Park Authority

National Grid Reference: NY 355235, NY 381242, NY 381244

Area: 98.3 (ha)

Ordnance Survey Sheet 1:50,000: 90

1:10,000: NY 32 SE

Date Notified (Under 1981 Act): 1998

Other Information:

A Geological Conservation Review (GCR) site.

Description and Reasons for Notification:

Thornsgill Beck, Mosedale Beck and Wolf Crag are situated approximately 10 km east of Keswick, south of the A66 and west of the A5091, on the northern side of Threlkeld common. The area is a key locality for Quaternary studies in north west England.

Sections show strongly weathered pre-Devensian till overlain by Late Devensian till. These deposits, together with a Loch Lomond Stadial moraine at Wolf Crag and meltwater deposits in Mosedale, provide an exceptional geomorphological and sedimentary record in this part of the country. The weathered tills are particularly significant in providing the clearest evidence available of pre-Devensian glaciation in north west England. They are of considerable pedological interest, and their survival raises implications for the timing and efficacy of glacial erosion.