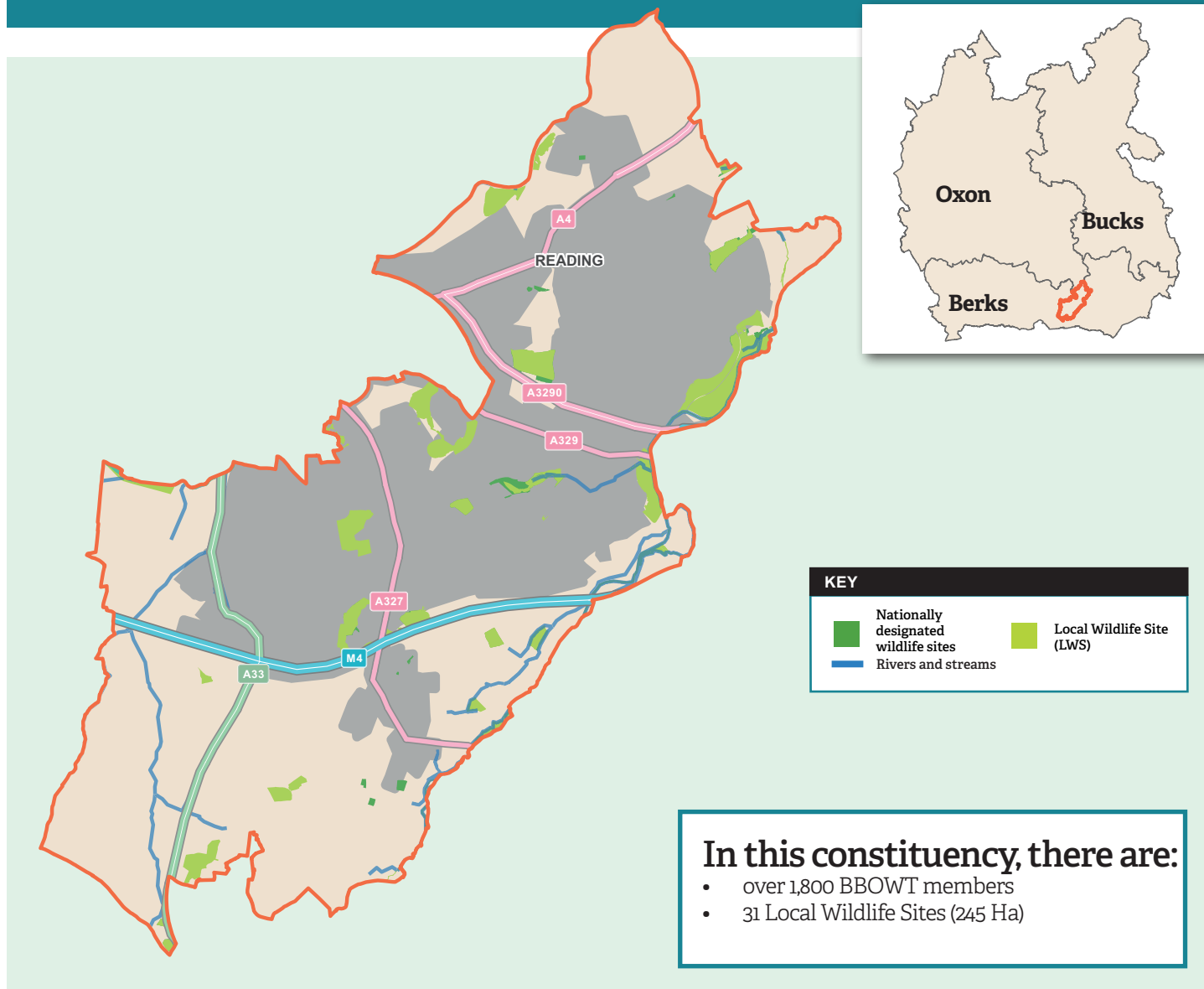


# Earley and Woodley Constituency



**Berkshire  
Buckinghamshire  
& Oxfordshire  
Wildlife Trust**



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## Nature in the constituency

### Life After Gravel

Dinton Pastures Country Park is a major wildlife asset for local residents. The former gravel pits attract wading and wetland birds and are popular with birdwatchers. Woodland and meadows around the gravel pits provide habitats for insects and bats, which contribute to the biodiversity of the Local Wildlife Site in spite of the high numbers of dog walkers and other recreational activities.

### Local Wildlife Sites

In this constituency there are 245 hectares

of Local Wildlife Sites, which recognise the local wildlife value of these areas. They are precious because they provide natural green spaces for people to visit for recreation, and they are havens for wildlife such as insects and mammals. The constituency is also home to Lodge Wood and Sandford Mill, which have been designated as a Sites of Special Scientific Interest consisting of two small wet woodlands bordering the River Loddon.

### Kennet Valley Meadows

The wildlife habitats of the River Kennet,

a rare chalk river, are dominated by wetlands. South of Reading extensive lakes with wet scrubby margins, fens and wet grassland are connected through the wider landscape by the Kennet & Avon Canal as well as the river and Holy Brook. These fragile reedbed, marsh and wet woodland habitats host important diverse populations of birds including nightingales and Cetti's warbler. According to the State of Our Rivers 2024 report, both the Kennet and Holy Brook are not in good ecological health.



There are 46 Wildlife Trusts across the UK working towards nature's recovery. The Wildlife Trusts are a grassroots movement of people from a wide range of backgrounds and all walks of life, who believe that we need nature and nature needs us.

## Working for wildlife



### Local Nature Recovery Strategies (LNRS)

LNRS will set out and map priorities for nature's recovery in each of 48 areas in England. BBOWT is working with local authorities and other organisations on preparing LNRSs across our three counties.

### #teamWILDER

Team Wilder is a rapidly growing movement of people who care about our environment and want to help wildlife thrive. Through Team Wilder we are empowering communities to act for a wilder future.

If 1 in 4 people takes visible action for nature, we will create the social tipping point required to reverse nature's devastating decline. People are stepping forward from every sector of society to lead change in their fields and we welcome farmers, businesses, schools, politicians, and individuals as part of Team Wilder.

### Volunteering

The new constituency of Earley and Woodley is covered by the Berkshire regional group of volunteers. This is a voluntary fundraising group, which raises funds for BBOWT through plant, book and bric-a-brac sales, and the annual Christmas tree and beanpole sales, along with guided walks and talks. They also strive to raise awareness of the work of BBOWT and aim to inspire people about local wildlife.

“Volunteering with BBOWT nourishes the soul and helps maintain a balance in my life”  
BBOWT volunteer

## About BBOWT

BBOWT has a vision of a wilder Berks, Bucks and Oxon, with more nature everywhere, for everyone. Our aim is to create bigger, wilder, connected landscapes, where wildlife can thrive. We want to put nature into recovery, with 30% of land in our three counties well managed for wildlife by 2030.

Our mission is to bring about nature's recovery through local action, empowering more people to connect with their local wildlife and take action to save it.

We work to manage habitats to tackle the nature and climate crisis locally. We also help give nature a voice in major planning or policy decisions that threaten nature's recovery.



## Our five priorities for the next government

- 1. Bring back the UK's lost wildlife** – BBOWT's Water Vole Recovery Project has already helped to increase the local range of water voles by more than 50 per cent over the past 15 years.
- 2. End river pollution and water scarcity** – BBOWT has joined a Wildlife Trusts' campaign calling on Government to create new bespoke legal protections for these habitats.
- 3. Fund wildlife-friendly farming** – BBOWT works with farmers across the three counties who prove that wildlife-friendly farming is possible and profitable.
- 4. Enable healthy communities** – BBOWT works with urban communities in Bicester, Banbury, Slough and Reading to help people and nature thrive together.
- 5. Tackle the climate emergency** – BBOWT's Chimney Meadows nature reserve project will help store more carbon than other habitats.



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All 46 Wildlife Trusts are members of the Royal Society of Wildlife Trusts (Registered charity number 207238. BBOWT registered charity number 204330).