

Wycombe Constituency



**Berkshire
Buckinghamshire
& Oxfordshire
Wildlife Trust**

In this constituency, there are:

- over 2,200 BBOWT members
- 5 BBOWT nature reserves
- 79 Local Wildlife Sites (806 Ha)



Nature in the constituency

The constituency of Wycombe lies within the area of the Chilterns Natural Landscape. The rural areas abound with wildlife-rich habitats, particularly ancient woodlands and chalk grasslands. High Wycombe includes areas of significant habitat that support a rich biodiversity. However, as the State of Nature reports consistently highlight, wildlife across England, including this constituency is in severe decline. The River Wye, which runs through this constituency, is also classified as being in poor ecological condition.

Precious Woodlands

There are over 2,400 ha of ancient woodland within the constituency, such a high concentration is of significant wildlife value. The Chilterns Beechwoods are a precious resource and are protected under international law as a Special Area of Conservation (SAC). There are over 23 ha of Chilterns Beechwoods here.

Wild Flowers

The Trust manages several areas of chalk grassland here for treasured species of flora and fauna. The rare military orchid and

Chiltern gentian at our Homefield Wood nature reserve attract many visitors.

Special Streams

Chalk streams are a precious habitat which supports a huge range of wildlife. Within this area they are fed from groundwater held in the chalk that makes up the Chiltern Hills. The Trust is a partner in the Chilterns Chalk Streams project. Many chalk streams are subject to dangerous levels of pollution, which is why BBOWT is calling for them to receive special legal protection.



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



Building a bird nest box © Evie + Tom photography

Local Nature Recovery Strategies (LNRS)

LNRS will set out priorities for nature's recovery, map the most valuable existing areas for nature and map specific proposals for creating or improving habitat for nature and wider environmental goals in each of 48 areas in England. BBOWT is working with local authorities and other organisations on preparing LNRS 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 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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Contact details

Estelle Bailey
Chief Executive
e publicaffairs@bbowt.org.uk
t 01865 775476
bbowt.org.uk
wildlifetrusts.org

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