

International and National Designations within 2km of the Scheme Area (<https://sac.jncc.gov.uk>, <https://designatedsites.naturalengland.org.uk>, and Thames Valley Ecological Records Centre (TVERC) citations)

Designated Site	Site description
Oxford Meadows Special Area of Conservation (SAC)	This designation lies 0.8km to the north of the Scheme. This site comprises several Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs), Port Meadow (with Wolvercote Common & Green), Pixey and Yarnton Meads, Wolvercote Meadows, and Cassington Meadows. This internationally designated site qualifies by supporting Annex I lowland hay meadows with meadow foxtail <i>Alopecurus pratensis</i> and great burnet <i>Sanguisorba officinalis</i> and Annex II creeping marshwort <i>Apium repens</i> . Grazing and hay-cutting using traditional management is required to preserve the site's structure and function.
Hurst Hill Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)	This site is approximately 1.9km to the west of the Scheme and has been notified for biological and geological reasons. Hurst Hill is a classic site for the study of mosses and liverworts, the pattern of succession having been closely monitored over the last 50 years. It supports very uncommon habitat types and nationally uncommon species, along with very fine skeletons.
Iffley Meadows SSSI	This site lies immediately adjacent to the Scheme boundary. A group of alluvial flood meadows comprising rich grassland flora including snakeshead fritillaries <i>Fritillaria meleagris</i> . This site is in both favourable and unfavourable – recovering condition (different management units). Berks, Bucks & Oxon Wildlife Trust (BBOWT) manage the site for fritillaries, as Iffley Meadows Nature Reserve.
Littlemore Railway Cutting SSSI	This site has a remarkable deposit of mid-Oxfordian (Jurassic) age of considerable palaeographic and environmental interest. The cutting has exposures of the limestone and clay units of the Littlemore Clay, and is located 1.1km to the south east of the Scheme.
Magdalen Grove SSSI	Situated 1.4 km to the north-east of the Scheme. The sediments at Magdalen Grove are richly fossiliferous, yielding mammal bones, mollusca and pollen.

New Marston Meadows SSSI	This designation is approximately 2.0km to the north east of the Scheme. The site is a series of agriculturally unimproved neutral meadows on the flood plain of the River Cherwell. A range of swamp and grassland types which are of national importance are present.
Port Meadow with Wolvercote Common & Green SSSI	Port Meadow is a classic site for studying the effects of grazing on plant communities and lies approximately 0.8km to the north of the Scheme. It is believed to have been grazed almost continuously for over a millennium. It is especially important because of its proximity to Pixey and Yarnton Meads SSSI, which has received continuous hay management for a comparable period. The site consists of a series of neutral grasslands situated in the Thames floodplain.
Wytham Woods SSSI	An area of ancient woodland, wood pasture, common land and grassland lies approximately 0.5km to the north-west of the Scheme.

Local Designations within 1km of the Scheme Area

Designated Site	Site description
Bagley Wood Local Wildlife Site (LWS)	An ancient woodland site with extensive forestry plantations, both conifer and broadleaved. The broadleaved stands also vary in composition with <i>Quercus robur</i> most Dominant. There is a good variety of age structure, with a dead wood component within the broadleaf stands.
Binsey Green LWS	An area of semi-improved grassland on the Thames floodplain, which holds a substantial population of the very rare and internationally listed creeping marshwort. Some other species of interest are also present such as bristle club-rush <i>Isolepis setacea</i> and round-fruited rush <i>Juncus compressus</i> .
Bypass Swamp LWS	Species-rich tall herb fen with a mixture of reed, greater reedmace, greater pond-sedge and great willowherb with a pond. Cetti's warblers and water voles <i>Arvicola amphibius</i> have been recorded here in the past. Fen is a priority habitat for conservation in the UK.
Chilswell Valley and Copse LWS	A small limestone valley of about 6ha created by spring lines draining from the Corallian

	ridge West of Oxford. The site supports a variety of important habitats.
Egrove Park Meadow LWS	Within the grounds of Egrove park conference centre, on a north-facing slope, this site has unimproved species-rich neutral grassland that includes wet seepages that have damp requiring plants.
Harcourt Hill Scrub (Hinksey Heights) LWS	This steep-sided valley cuts through Corallian beds on the north side of Boars Hill. It contains a good range of wetland habitats including open water, reedbed and wet woodland with species-rich scrub and broadleaved semi-natural woodland on drier ground. The site has a public footpath and nature trail. It is managed by the Hinksey Heights Golf Course as a nature park.
Heyford Hill Lane Pasture LWS	Riverside pasture which is rich in wildflowers and has patches of tall wetland vegetation. This type of wet grassland is a national priority for nature conservation and includes the snakeshead fritillary.
Kennington Pool LWS	The majority of this site is within the Scheme boundary. A site that encompasses Kennington Pit, a priority habitat for its pond plant community, originally dug as a borrow pit for the construction of the railway. It is one of the richest ponds in Oxfordshire for plant life. The very rare glutinous snail <i>Myxas glutinosa</i> has been recorded here but is now believed to be extinct at this location. Notable plant species whorled water-milfoil <i>Myriophyllum verticillatum</i> is found at this site.
Limekiln Copse and Valley LWS	This site is one of a number of valleys that cut into the hills west of Oxford. The valley sides have banks of limestone grassland where pyramidal orchids can be seen. Woodland, encompassing hazel coppice, flushes and wetland wildflowers are found here, with fen habitat recorded in the past.
Longbridges Nature Park Fen LWS	Longbridges Nature Park sits between the River Thames and Weirs Mill stream and is adjacent to Iffley Meadows SSSI. It forms part of a larger wildlife corridor through Oxford City. The site is made up of an area of swamp (fen), associated willow scrub, small areas of rough grassland and an island which is a mix of scrub and tall herb.
Long Meadow LWS	This site was originally selected as a Local Wildlife Site due to the

	presence of lowland meadow habitat, a habitat which has become very rare in Britain because more than 95% of traditional hay meadows have been lost over the last forty years to intensive agriculture. At present the site is not managed and has become rather overgrown with rank grasses and meadowsweet.
Louie Memorial Fields LWS	The site is woodland and scrub with a small pond, areas of fen and rough grassland.
Meadow next to Iffley Meadows LWS	Three small fields surrounded to the north, south and west by the species-rich hay meadows of Iffley Meadows SSSI. The fields show evidence of a species-rich flood hay meadow flora.
Osney Mead (Botley Meadow) LWS	Lies partially within the Scheme boundary. Lowland floodplain meadow bounded by Hinksey and Seacourt Streams supporting a good plant assemblage, particularly Hinksey Meadow which has the nationally-scarce MG4a meadow grassland community and snakeshead fritillary.
Raleigh Park LWS	A 8.6ha of sloping parkland, just outside the city of Oxford. The park is a mix of open grass areas, scrub, woodland and includes a flowing stream and pond.
St. Hilda's College Meadow LWS	This site is a small meadow (0.6 ha) in the grounds of St Hilda's College. The meadow is bounded by the River Cherwell to the north. The main interest of the meadow is the population of snakeshead fritillaries. The meadow is a nice example of a traditional hay meadow, a habitat which is now rare in Britain and a priority for conservation. The meadow is managed for its botanical interest.
Wetland South of Iffley Meadows LWS	This area consists of a variety of swamp habitats and ponds and lies adjacent to Iffley Meadows SSSI. It is predominantly reedbed with areas of scrub and a wooded boundary to the north. It has a network of ditches and includes some small areas of open water.
Willow Walk Meadow LWS	Lies partially within the Scheme boundary. The meadow is a location where the rare plants group have been monitoring creeping marshwort. It was introduced to the site in 1996 using stock from Port meadow. The patch of locally abundant creeping marshwort is located on damper ground along an old section of river channel.

Hinksey Lake proposed LWS (pLWS)	Hinksey Lakes is a valuable site for birds attracting good numbers of wintering wildfowl and also nesting common terns.
Meadow next to Iffley Meadows Proposed Extension pLWS	Support additional areas of tall fen habitat and remnant lowland meadow.
Raleigh Park Proposed Extension pLWS	Supports further areas of wetland and scrub habitat.
Aston's Eyot and The Kidney's Site of Local Importance for Nature Conservation (SLINC)	A 12ha island, previously used as a tip. An interesting mosaic of habitats has now developed which support a good diversity of species for such an urban site.
Bulstake Stream, Botley Park SLINC	Lies partially within the Scheme boundary. Bulstake stream is a wooded watercourse with some open sections to the north.
Cripley Island and Fiddler's Island SLINC	Cripley Island is a long narrow island in the River Thames and a young orchard, mainly with wetland habitat. To the west of Cripley Island is Fiddler's Island that has been colonised by secondary woodland.
Field North of Osney Mead SLINC	A small field to the north of Osney Meadow LWS. It has species-rich rough grassland (with elements of MG4 and encroaching scrub).
Hinksey Pools SLINC	Lies partially within the Scheme boundary at its northern end. A narrow artificial pool, which includes a section of the Hinksey Stream, having been dug out for ballast sometime between the two World Wars.
Longbridges Nature Park SLINC	Longbridges is a 5.1ha site, which encompasses Longbridge Nature Park Fen and part of Iffley Meadows SSSI.
Medley Manor Wood SLINC	This site comprises a small oak, ash and sycamore woodland with an understorey of hazel, elder, hawthorn and occasional guelder rose. A reservoir was created at the southern end of the wood in the 1980s to provide water for irrigation on the farm. The southern end of the wood includes a number of species which are indicators of ancient woodland (i.e. woodlands more than 400 years old).
Oxford Canal SLINC	The Oxford Canal through Oxford supports a variety of flora and fauna associated with the water and the well vegetated, often wooded banks. The site forms a corridor from the wider countryside into the City and species recorded include water vole, for which the Oxford Canal is particularly important, as well as other protected species.
Rivermead Nature Park SLINC	Rivermead Nature Park is a mosaic of lowland mixed deciduous woodland with elements of

	wet woodland, extending out from the drains, rough grassland, scrub and a pond.
Wytham Stream / Seacourt Stream SLINC	Lies partially within the Scheme boundary at its northern end. Most of this site consists of the watercourse known as Wytham or Seacourt Stream and its tributaries. The banks are varied including both open sections with emergent vegetation and densely shaded areas.
Iffley Meadow Nature Reserve	The SSSI name for the reserve is Iffley Meadows. The SSSI is slightly larger than the reserve. These wet meadows crossed by old river channels with willow lined ditches have a rich diversity of wildlife, which include snakeshead fritillaries.
North Hinksey Nature Reserve	A small nature reserve created on land that was once allotments between North Hinksey Lane and Seacourt Stream. Habitats include a stream along one edge, two ponds, a small area of meadow, hedges and a community orchard.
Grandpont Nature Park	An Oxford City Council nature park that has been developed on an old gasworks sites. Most of the site is grassland with areas managed as hay meadow, with woodland.
Hogacre Common Eco Park	A park developed in 2010 to diversify wildlife and ecological habitats in Oxford also lies to the east of the Scheme.
Kendall Copse	Kendall Copse is a 2.3ha community woodland, supported by the Friends of Kendall Copse and local residents from Kennington.
Meadow Lane Nature Park	The 1.8ha site is a mix of open grassland flood plain, mature scrub and trees.
Seacourt Nature Park	The majority of this site lies within the Scheme boundary. A local nature reserve managed by Oxford City Council, this site provides grassland floodplain habitat for Seacourt Stream, and is a wildlife haven surrounded by development land.