

## **Thames Radley to Abingdon CTA (Conservation Target Area)**

The riverside land near Radley and Abingdon.

**Joint Character Areas:** Thames and Avon Vales, Midvale Ridge – the whole area is more typical of the former.

**Landscape Type:** River Meadowlands and Alluvial Lowlands.

**Geology:** Alluvium and sand and gravel.

**Topography:** flat riverside land.

**Area of CTA:** 276 hectares

### **Biodiversity:**

- Eutrophic Standing Water: gravel pits at Radley include at least one site that is rich in aquatic plants. Some land has permission for further gravel extraction with nature conservation afteruse.
- Wet Woodland: small areas next to the river include within the Radley Pits Local Wildlife Site. There is also wet woodland at Culham Brake SSSI.
- Fen: Culham Brake which is important for its population of Lodden Lily.
- Other habitat: Infilled gravel pits at Radley have developing grassland and woodland habitats and have great potential.
- Other species: this is an important area for nesting lapwing.

**Access:** Barton Fields is managed for public access and nature conservation.

**Archaeology:** work at Thrupp has uncovered large numbers of Bronze Age finds.

### **Oxfordshire Biodiversity Action Plan Targets associated with this CTA:**

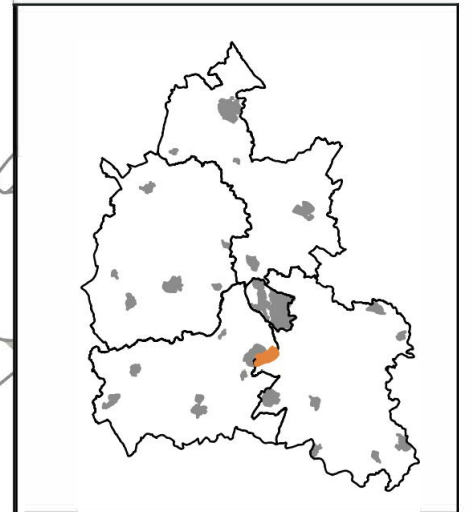
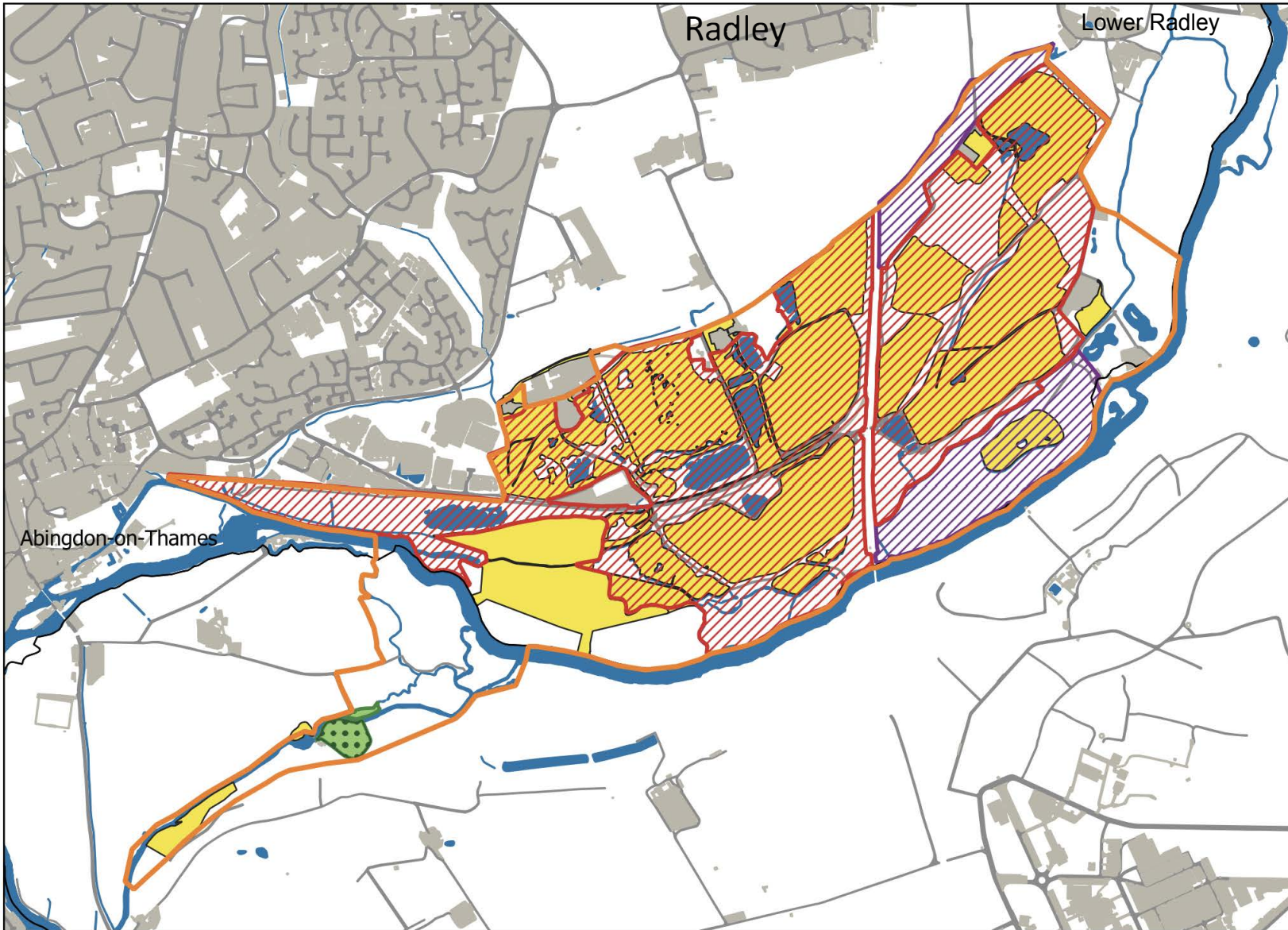
1. Eutrophic standing waters – management<sup>1</sup>.
2. Wet woodland – management.
3. Floodplain grazing marsh – management.

<sup>1</sup> "Management" implies both maintaining the quantity, and maintaining and improving the quality of existing BAP habitat and incorporates the following target definitions: "Maintaining extent" and "Achieving Condition".

Other targets:

Management and restoration of infilled pits. Woodland planting should be avoided.

# Thames Radley to Abingdon Conservation Target Area



- CTA Boundary
- Local Wildlife Sites
- Proposed Local Wildlife Sites
- SSSIs
- Ancient Woodland
- Priority Habitats
- Water
- Other CTAs

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**Area of BAP habitat present in CTA (from TVERC BAP Habitat GIS layer 5/2010)**

<b>Thames Radley to Abingdon CTA</b>	<b>Lowland Calcareous Grassland</b>	<b>Lowland Dry Acid Grassland</b>	<b>Lowland Meadows</b>	<b>Coastal and Floodplain Grazing Marsh</b>	<b>Eutrophic Standing Waters</b>	<b>Lowland Fens</b>	<b>Reedbeds</b>	<b>Lowland Beech and Yew Woodland</b>	<b>Lowland Mixed Deciduous Woodland</b>	<b>Wet Woodland</b>	<b>Wood - Pasture and Parkland</b>	<b>Traditional Orchards</b>
Area of BAP Habitat in CTA (ha)				18.3	0.3					1.4		
% of CTA area				6.6	0.1					0.5		
% of county resource				0.4	0.0					1.0		