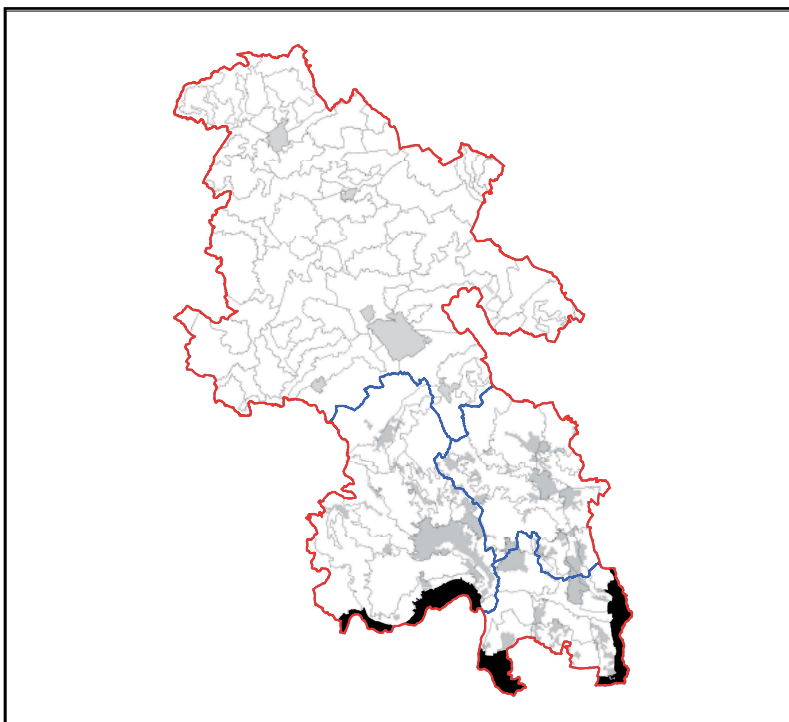


LCT 26 FLOODPLAIN

Constituent LCAs

- | | |
|----------|--------------|
| LCA 26.1 | Thames |
| LCA 26.2 | Dorney |
| LCA 26.3 | Colne Valley |



KEY CHARACTERISTICS

- Flat, low lying floodplain landscape, with slight local topographic variation, typically underlain with alluvium, Head deposits and gravels.
- Mixed farmland, predominately arable cultivation, pasture and rough grazing. Divided by wooden post fencing and hedgerows, with scattered trees along these boundaries.
- A network of rivers, streams, ponds and lakes, often associated with former mineral/gravel extraction. Attractive and ecologically valuable landscape associated with these water bodies.
- Tree cover is often sparse, with scattered trees and small pockets of woodland widely dispersed. Trees are commonly associated with water bodies and along field boundaries.
- Settlement is dispersed, with a strong historic character in some villages/towns. Elsewhere settlement density is low, comprising isolated farmsteads and occasional small nucleated hamlets. More recent residential development is interspersed.
- A mixed field pattern with enclosures from irregular pre 18th century (regular, irregular and co-axial) through regular parliamentary enclosures to 20th century extended fields and horse paddocks.
- Numerous historic and archaeological features, including occasional historic parkland.
- Often cut by busy transport corridors, which have a strong visual and audible influence. Elsewhere roads are small and winding.
- Low-lying, flat and open landscape allows for some long views and panoramic vistas. Views are intermittently disrupted by development such as settlement and roads.
- Recreational opportunities often associated with areas of water, including well established networks of public rights of way, water sports and marinas, fishing and bird watching.