



**Dominic Coath - FMP ambassador for:  
Hertfordshire, Purwell Meadows**  
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### About me:

I am a chartered ecologist with over 15 years of experience of working in the public sector. I am particularly interested in ecological restoration and the role wetlands can play in providing multiple benefits for people and wildlife.



### About the site:

Purwell Meadows is an 8 Ha LNR situated in Hitchin. It would once have been part of a much wider complex of water meadows in the Purwell Valley but is currently managed as a pasture. It contains a complex mosaic of wet and dry grassland, fen meadow, rush pasture and scrub communities as well as the in-channel and riparian habitats of the river itself.



### Site monitoring:

Over a two year period from 2015-2017 I undertook NVC botanical surveys for the wet grassland, rush pasture and fen meadow communities, measured fluctuations in water levels using a dipwell, taken soil samples and cores and collected information about site management.



### Site location:



### My ambassadorial role:

I will use the information I have collected to try and improve site management at Purwell Meadows and am looking for any other sites in Hertfordshire where restoration and creations of floodplain meadow communities may be possible. I also have a national role with the partnership as I represent the Environment Agency on its steering group.

