



**Sam Thomas- FMP ambassador for:
Kent, Marden Meadow
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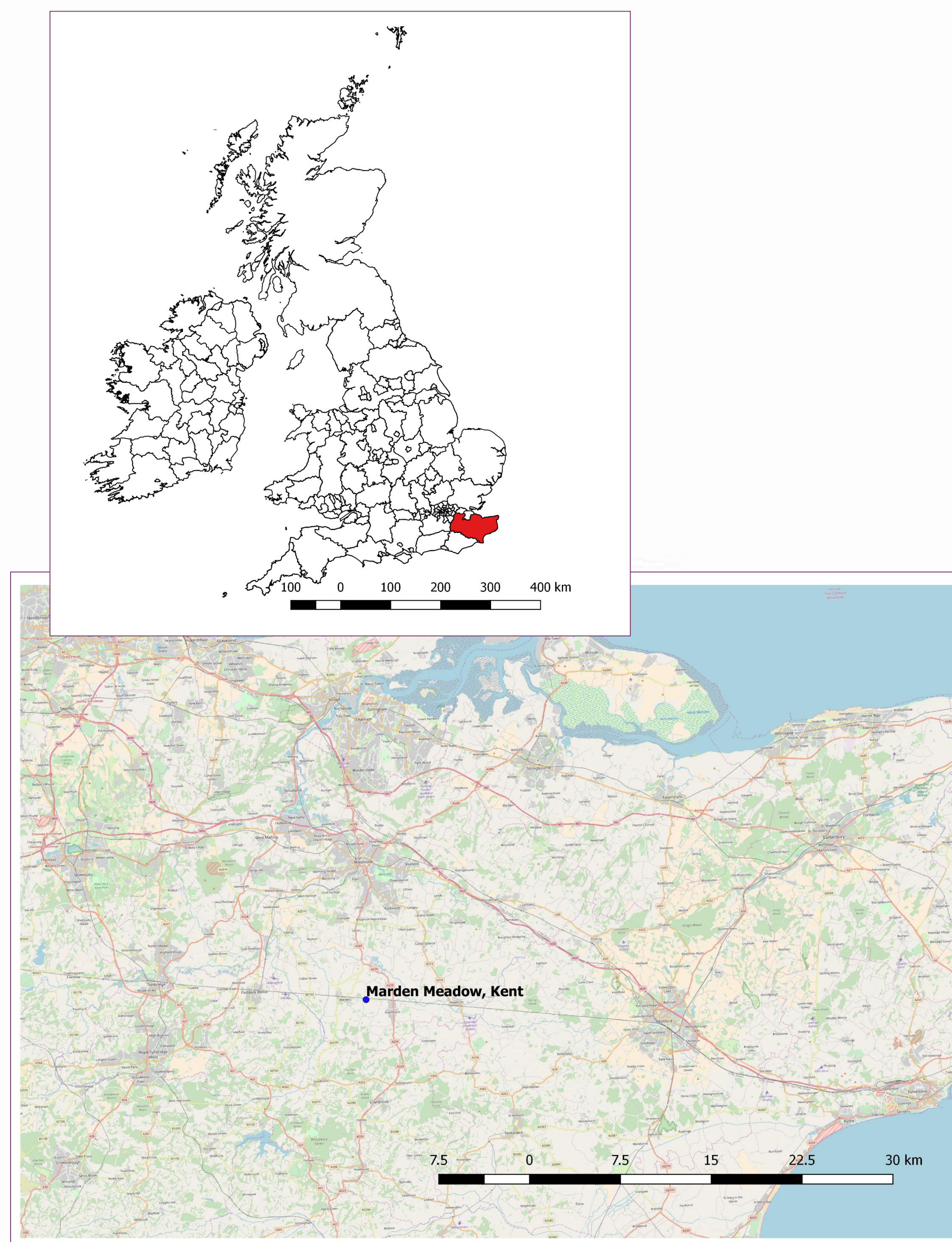


About me:

I started the ambassador programme as a project officer for Kent Wildlife Trust, working with landowners and volunteers to recreate species rich lowland meadows which had almost disappeared from the Kent landscape. I now work as a Biodiversity Technical Officer for the Environment Agency.



Site location:



About the site:

Marden Meadows is a SSSI, Kent Wildlife Trust reserve and Coronation Meadow. Flooding has influenced the north of the site towards more flood tolerant plant communities. My challenge was to understand these trends and recommend management for species rich restoration.



My ambassadorial role:

I hope to influence planning applications for gains in wet lowland meadow habitat in Kent, work with local nature conservation organisations to include meadow creation and restoration in river restoration projects, build meadow creation into flood risk management projects and provide technical advice to nature conservation projects involving meadow management.



Site monitoring:

We installed two dipwells to measure the water table; used a sedimat to measure nutrients deposited during flooding, took soil cores to study the soil profile, soil samples to tell us what nutrient levels are like and carried out botanical monitoring. We have built a picture of the eco-hydrological conditions that influence the site and can decide upon the most suitable management as a result.

