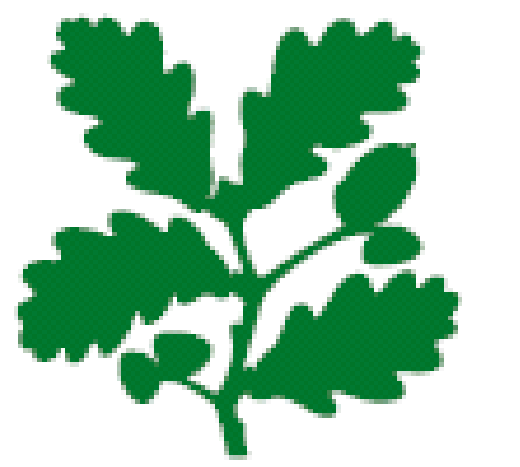


**Simon Barker - FMP ambassador for:
Herefordshire, Long Meadow, Warwickshire**
simon.barker@nationaltrust.org.uk



? About me:

Simon is an adviser on nature conservation for the National Trust, based in the west Midlands. He has worked as an ecologist for over 30 years, in the voluntary, public and private sectors.

? About the site:

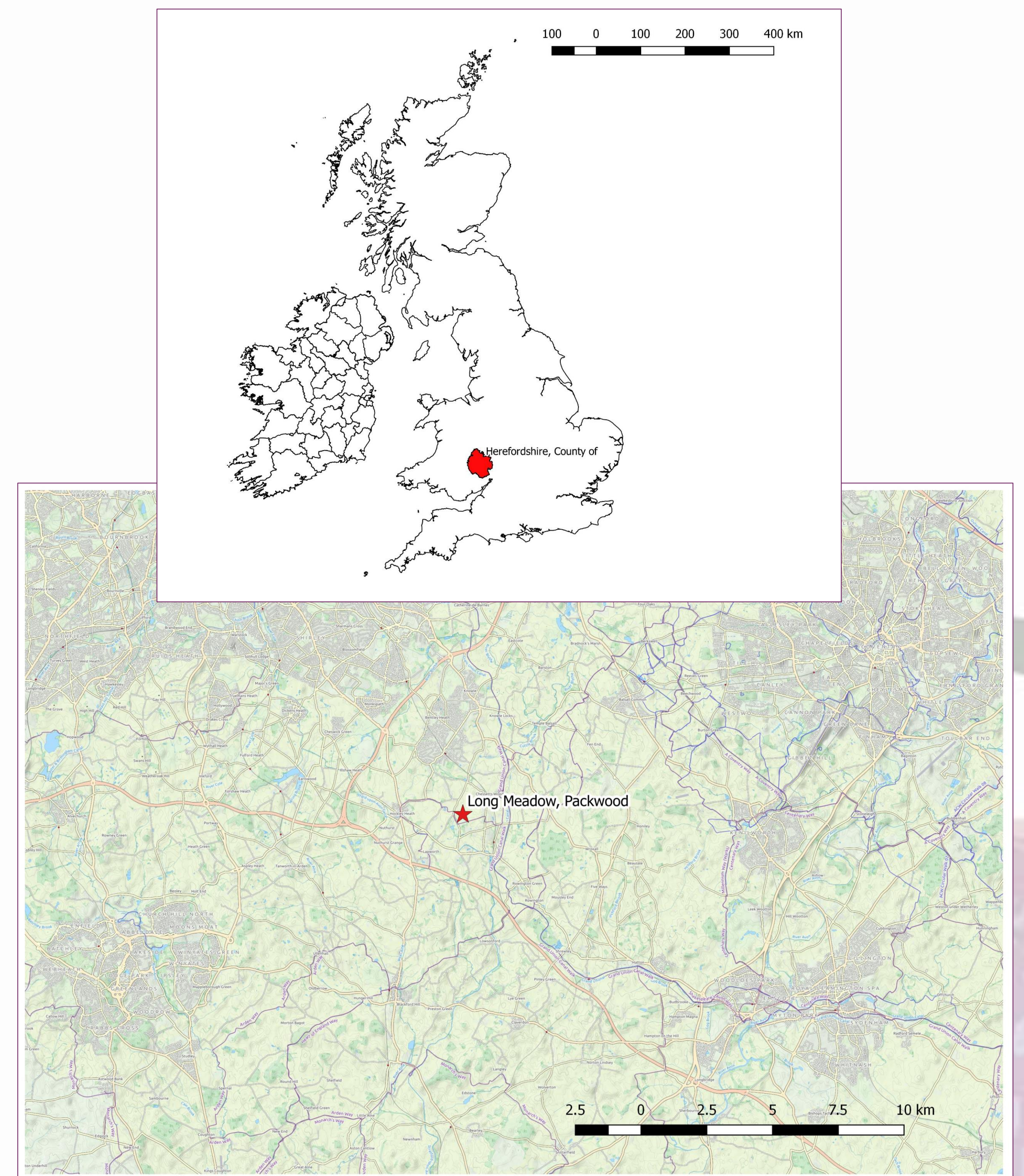
Long Meadow was acquired by the National Trust in 2006, to protect the setting of Packwood House. It extends to 4.1ha and is bisected by a small watercourse, which drains to the River Blythe SSSI. The meadow is botanically rich, primarily MG4 grassland with M23 rush-pasture in the wettest areas.



? Site monitoring:

I am undertaking botanical and hydrological monitoring. I have installed two dipwells which are read at least once a month – one was saturated throughout December – February. To date botanical monitoring has involved recording quadrats along a transect. I also monitor site management, such as the timing of hay cutting.

? Site location:



? My ambassadorial role:

Although my study site is in Warwickshire, Herefordshire is the county which will be my focus as an Ambassador. The Lugg Meadows are justly celebrated as extensive examples of traditionally managed floodplain meadows, but elsewhere in the county there have been huge losses of permanent grassland within river floodplains and I see my priority as helping to promote floodplain meadow restoration.

