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**From:** [REDACTED]  
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**Subject:** Chalford canal restoration

**Categories:** Canal Strategy 2022 response

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Hello, I am writing to comment on the proposed restoration of the canal from Chalford to the Sapperton tunnel.

This stretch of canal has been slowly reverting to nature over many years and has become an extraordinarily rich and diverse wildlife habitat and precious tranquil green space for people to enjoy. The thinking on managing the countryside has developed markedly over recent years with the huge importance of rewilding being recognised. In Chalford we are privileged to have our own wilding project, long established, much loved by humans and wildlife alike. I was appalled to hear of the proposal to dig this up and destroy such a precious habitat. The idea of machinery digging up and restoring the locks, clearing the vegetation, and opening up the canal to boat traffic, ie the internal combustion engine, is really shocking.

I have looked at the information on the SDC website but find it opaque and hard to interpret as a lay person. I believe a proper public consultation process is required before such a drastic step is taken. I would like to register my strong objection to this proposed development.

[REDACTED]