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20 April 2022 11:52 _WEB_Canals Strategy Fwd:

Categories:

Canal Strategy 2022 response

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From: Date: 20 April 2022 at 11:47:22 BST To: canals.strategy@stroud.gov.uk

Dear Canal Strategy Group

Apologies that I have missed yesterday's deadline for commends on the Canal Strategy.

If I'm not too late, I would like to add the below:

I have lived in Frampton Mansell and walked in the valley for many, many years. It is a place of ecological magic, proof that nature can recover from our industrial past. It is so special for wildlife that I was able to bring BBC's Springwatch to film for a week during its 2020 lockdown series. Otters have returned after decades of decline, buzzards soar overhead, wood ants build nests of unimaginable proportions and in every season, it is a refuge for all species, including humans. We have moved on a long way from the industrial revolution when hard edged canals were a necessary part of the economy. When we know better, we do better.

I work with Gloucestershire Wildlife Trust and support their view that the navigable canal from Brimscombe Port eastwards, should not be restored to its form during the era of heavy industry. We need nature now more than ever. Please visit this special place.

With warmest wishes

