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From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 24 May 2022 17:17
To: _WEB_Canals Strategy
Subject: Canal Development response
Attachments: Canal Strategy points of interest 14.04.22.pdf; GWT - Stroud Canals Strategy summary response 2022.05.pdf

Categories: Canal Strategy 2022 response

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Canal Strategy: Public Response

I have already written but I wish to add to my previous e mail particularly on the stretch from Chalford to Sapperton.

First of all I find your documents and plans illegible. They are designed NOT for the lay person with complicated terms and drawings and small print. The charts and terminology are written to alienate the lay person and even if one could print out to the full size of A1 they would still be impossible using jargon that may sound good on paper but in my estimation is 'green-washing'. Not many members of the public will have taken the time to read and study these documents and if they had would have been unable to read or understand. I don't see anywhere mention and celebration of the Wildlife rich habitat and the biodiversity enhanced. All acknowledgement of this unique Nature rich area is ignored.

These MUST BE THE KEY DRIVERS to any planning.

It appears to be yet another form of urban development which, in my opinion, is creeping all over the County and Country. And destroying all that we love and makes life worth living.

The planning is written by bureaucrats and people whose only interest seems to be money.

The canal from Brimscombe Port and onto Chalford and Sapperton is rich with a diversity of habitats that encourage wildlife to flourish. Any development would destroy that and destroy what walkers, and people who live there enjoy. Many of the species living there are in decline and close to extinction. A thorough survey MUST be done by experienced ecologists in collaboration with the Glos Wildlife Trust. We are one of the most Nature depleted countries in the world if this should go ahead this will further add to that decline.

Added to the disastrous and unnecessary canal basin disturbance would be access that would be devastating for the countryside around.

I can see that SDC and partners see this as a way to bring money into the area and attract more visitors but I ask that you see that it is a unique place as it exists now – carbon capturing, unspoilt, Nature rich jewel that must be protected. There are other ways to do this I beg you to leave and protect this wonderful stretch of countryside.

I attach 2 supporting documents that outline more clearly my and my families feelings and thoughts.

Thank you

Regards

[REDACTED]