From:

 Sent:
 26 May 2022 19:18

 To:
 \_WEB\_Canals Strategy

Cc:

**Subject:** Against Stroud Canals. Comment dated 26 May 2022

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I have wandered the section of canal between Frampton Place and Daneway more times than I can remember over 25 years - drawn back by the sheer tranquility of the place.

The water trickles through the old canal, made crystal-clear by the masses of water plants which in turn host many fragile animals.

I am appalled by the prospect of dredgers ripping apart this wonderful habitat. Furthermore, I take issue with the Stroud Canal promoters who profess to "enhance our environment and local wildlife" and implement "projects for wildlife enhancement and for people to connect with nature". The quiet environment there is perfect for wildlife and connecting with nature there is already perfectly possible.

When I read of the millions of pounds that the re-opened canal might be worth to the local economy my blood runs cold. Once, again it's all about the money. The original canal was a financially motivated assault on the Frome Valley from which Nature has valiantly recovered. Now Stroud District Council is about to sanction the horror all over again.

Hundreds of noisy, smelly canal boats bearing hundreds of people, just churning through to spend their money in Stroud will never justify the destruction of this wild sanctuary, no matter how much mitigation you propose. Horrible, horrible, horrible.

