

STATEMENT

20 April 2023

Boat removal from the Kennet & Avon Canal

Unfortunately, following a long period of time liaising with the owner of two longstanding unlicensed boats on the Kennet & Avon Canal, the Trust yesterday (19 April) removed one of them. Unless the owner is able to secure a home mooring for the second boat, we will have no other option but to return and remove it.

Taking action to remove a boat from the water is upsetting and is always a last resort. It only happens when a boat owner refuses to follow the rules over a long period of time, during which we have repeatedly tried to resolve the issues and difficulties with them.

We make sure that in all cases any decision to remove a boat that is lived on has first been independently scrutinised by a Judge. We act within the law at all times, with the Judge considering each and every case and confirming that we are acting in accordance with our powers under s.8 of the British Waterways Act 1983.

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For further media requests please contact:

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