



Restore Pedder Media Release | 13th December 2022

Coinciding with today's 40th anniversary of the Tasmanian Wilderness World Heritage Area is the United Nations launch of the first restoration flagship projects, and Australia is not included.

“40 years ago, Lake Pedder was included within the World Heritage Area with the intent that it will be restored. In 2023 Minister Plibersek has a once in a generation opportunity to place Australia as a global leader in ecosystem restoration, and Lake Pedder meets every project criteria.” Said **Christine Milne**, convener of Restore Pedder and former Australian Greens leader.

“Restoring the temporarily flooded Lake Pedder can demonstrate, particularly to young people inheriting the climate-biodiversity crisis, the Australian Labor Government's commitment and determination to redress environmental mistakes of the past.” Said Restore Pedder Campaigner, **Tabatha Badger**.

Today at the COP15 United Nations Biodiversity forum, the world's first ten flagship restoration projects have been announced. Australia has missed the first round of flagship projects but Plibersek's decision on Pedder may come in 2023 as she will need to sign off on the costly [Edgar dam strengthening project](#).

“The dam strengthening project cannot guarantee the dams won't fail in an earthquake, but as outlined in the State of the Environment Report, restoring Lake Pedder will be a symbol of hope to the world.” Said **Ms Milne**.

The [case study of restoring Lake Pedder](#) featured in Australia's, otherwise damning, State of the Environment report, outlined the window of opportunity, stating; “*the current United Nations Decade on Ecosystem Restoration 2021–2030, provide an opportunity to closely examine restoration of Lake Pedder, an action that would restore a key geomorphic attribute of Outstanding Universal Value and restore wilderness value, an attribute that underpins the maintenance of the integrity of the values of the Tasmanian Wilderness World Heritage Area.*”

“Tasmania, and all future generations, are greatly indebted to the conservationists who have campaigned for the Wilderness World Heritage Area, across four decades, but the job is yet to be

completed; the integrity of the TWWHA will be marred while its heart, Lake Pedder, remains submerged.” Concluded, **Ms Badger**.

Restore Pedder campaigners will take to Canberra in early 2023 to lobby the Federal Government to restore the original Lake.

For further comment please contact Restore Pedder campaign coordinator Tabatha Badger on 0448812281 or at LakePedder.org@gmail.com.

Please feel free to use any of [these media materials](#), with credit as noted in the file title.

END _____