



17 March 2022

Craig Wilkins  
Chief Executive  
**Conservation SA**

Peter Owen  
Director  
**The Wilderness  
Society (SA)**

Natasha Davis  
Chair  
**SA Nature Alliance**

Darren Peacock  
Chief Executive Officer  
**National Trust (SA)**

Patrick O'Connor  
President  
**Nature Conservation  
Society (SA)**

Daniel Bennett  
President  
**Australian Institute of  
Landscape Architects (SA)**

Steven Langley  
President  
**Birds SA**

Sent via email: [craig.wilkins@conservationsa.org.au](mailto:craig.wilkins@conservationsa.org.au)

Dear Craig, Peter, Natasha, Darren, Patrick, Daniel and Steven,

SA Labor has made the following commitments in response to *'South Australia: Our Future – Actions to Protect People, Places & Wildlife'*:

#### CLIMATE LEADERSHIP

##### **Q2**

Substantially strengthen SA's legislated short term climate targets by: Introducing a reduction target based on the best available science (at least a 75% reduction in carbon emissions on 2005 levels by 2030 and net zero by 2035)

Other (please specify):

Under successive Labor governments, South Australia became a world leader in carbon emission reduction, including the introduction of the Climate Change and Greenhouse Emissions Reduction Act 2007, which has resulted in a reduction in greenhouse gas emissions of 32% to 2018. Labor will update the climate legislation to reflect short-term targets and in drafting the revised Act will consider carbon budgets and government adaptation plans.

##### **Q3**

Substantially strengthen SA's legislated short term climate targets by: Introducing mandatory carbon budgets into SA's Climate Change Act to provide a clearer carbon reduction pathway.

See answer to question 2

**Q4**

Substantially strengthen the response to climate change, water and biodiversity sensitive design in the Planning & Design Code and other key planning policy.

Other (please specify):

A Malinauskas Labor Government will commission an implementation review of the Planning, Development and Infrastructure Act and the Planning and Design Code, with the aid of an expert panel. The review will address the key concerns identified in our consultations with industry groups and local communities, including ensuring greater tree canopy coverage, green open space and ensuring the code is sensitive to biodiversity and future water needs.

**Q5**

Provide clear market signals for the development industry, including: Emphasising the shift away from methane gas by banning all incentives for new gas connections for residential and commercial properties

Other (please specify):

Yes - Labor opposes mandatory gas connection for new developments. Labor supported a bill to this effect late in 2021.

**Q6**

Provide clear market signals for the development industry, including: Mandating light coloured roofing to reflect heat.

Other (please specify):

Labor will re-examine the energy efficiency standards for new housing and point-of-sale disclosure, including but not limited to roof fabric.

**Q7**

Make SA a world leader in Natural Climate Solutions (conservation, restoration and improved land management actions that increase carbon storage or avoid greenhouse gas emissions in landscapes and wetlands), whilst ensuring any infrastructure for renewable energy avoids all areas of conservation value – for example, no further clearance of native vegetation for solar farms.

Other (please specify):

Labor will invest heavily in land management on private and public land, including \$6m for heritage agreements on private land, \$1m for Landcare SA, \$1m for the Pastoral Board to undertake land condition assessments and \$3m for Friends of Parks groups for restoration activities.

KEEP GAS IN THE GROUND

**Q8**

No new gas, coal and oil activity approvals in South Australia, including: An immediate stop to the release of all fossil fuel exploration acreage (including offshore), an end to all gas, coal and oil exploration and the retirement of exploration licences and leases at point of renewal (no further extensions of any kind to be granted).

Other (please specify):

Labor will seek World Heritage status for the Great Australian Bight

**Q9**

No new gas, coal and oil activity approvals in South Australia, including: An end to all state government subsidies for gas, coal and oil-related activity, including carbon capture & storage.

**No**

**Q10**

No new gas, coal and oil activity approvals in South Australia, including: A ban on the use of Underground Coal Gasification.

**No**

**Q11**

Require all hydrogen energy and production systems to be sourced from 100% renewable energy

Other (please specify):

A global transformation of the energy sector is underway. South Australia's unique coincidence of wind and solar resources provides us with an unprecedented opportunity to lead in this transition. Not only could a hydrogen plant provide ongoing benefits to our state by preserving precious resource, but it would also allow us to set up a future generation of prosperity through the creation of thousands of secure, well-paid jobs for South Australians. Labor's Hydrogen Jobs Plan will power new jobs and industry through the build of a 250MWe hydrogen electrolyser facility, and a 200MW hydrogen power station – both amongst the world's biggest. We will also build a 3600tonnes hydrogen storage facility and establish Hydrogen Power SA to offer a firming service to renewable generation facilities. This plan will be operational by 2025 and will: -deliver lower electricity prices for business and industry in South Australia - unlock the development of \$20 billion pipeline of renewable energy projects in our state - minimise the need for household solar panels to be switched off by energy provides during periods of excess renewable energy production- deliver thousands of new jobs for South Australians- continue South Australia's world leadership in clean energy transition by incentivising the next generation of innovative energy storage and grid reliability solutions through the use of green hydrogen.

**Q12**

No further extensions to be granted for Petroleum Exploration Leases currently held by Tri-Star within and adjacent to the Munga-Thirri Simpson Desert National Park and the immediate retirement of the leases if/when Tri-Star withdraws.

**Yes**

PRIORITISE CLEANER TRANSPORT

**Q13**

Scrap the Torrens to Darlington phase of the North-South Corridor and commit to re-directing the proposed \$10bn+spend towards upgrading South Australia's public and active transport systems.

**No**

**Q14**

Commit to diverting freight away from the SE freeway via a road and rail corridor behind the Adelaide Hills as an alternative to directing interstate trucks down Cross Road.

Other (please specify):

Labor will undertake a detailed analysis of the freight options and public transport solutions to alleviate traffic congestion on the south-eastern freeway.

**Q15**

Require peer-reviewed, publicly shared Cost-Benefit ratios and analysis that give appropriate weighting to social, climate and environmental factors to be used for all road projects above \$10m.

Other (please specify):

Labor commits that in Government all road and rail infrastructure programs must have an eye to design regarding "connectivity" of the communities the project is constructed. All rail and road infrastructure projects will attempt to minimise acquisition of green and open space and all efforts will be made to replace any lost community assets in the immediate vicinity of the area in which it was acquired. Green canopy must also be considered when constructing any road or rail infrastructure project and that canopy must be maintained or rejuvenated as best as practicable.

**Q16**

Urgently transition the state bus fleet to 100% electric and fast track the electrification of the SA rail network, including the Belair line.

Other (please specify):

Labor will monitor existing trials of electric buses and their ability and rate they can integrate into the existing bus fleet.

**Q17**

Commit to acquiring the land and progressing infrastructure development for passenger rail extensions to Aldinga, Virginia and Two Wells.

Other (please specify):

Land is available for some of these projects but these extensions are not currently planned.

**Q18**

Increase funding for core bus services to expand frequency of services, particularly to outer suburbs, and interconnectors (e.g. Route 100/300).

Other (please specify):

Labor fought hard to force the Marshall government to a backflip on their plans to cut bus services. Labor will always be the party of better access to public transport. We will bring back our trains and trams into public hands and provide free transport 24/7 to concession card holders.

**Q19**

Conduct a detailed feasibility study to explore the option of extending the metro rail network to Mt Barker and Murray Bridge and other public transport solutions for the Adelaide Hills.

Other (please specify):

Yes, Labor will undertake a detailed analysis of the freight options and public transport solutions to alleviate traffic congestion on the south-eastern freeway.

**Q20**

Commit at least \$20M (per annum) to the State Bicycle Fund for low-stress local bike routes and remove cap on spending: i.e. fully fund rather than require 50% Local Government top-up.

Other (please specify):

Labor will develop a Pedestrian, Cyclist, Green space and Connectivity Guide for all road or rail infrastructure projects developed in Adelaide. All infrastructure projects must include reference to meeting the objectives of this guide. The guide will be developed with a reference group made up of the SA Government, Walking SA, and other relevant community interest groups. This guide will be put out for consultation and be finalised by 2022/23.

**Q21**

Construct a cycling and walking track across the River Torrens to link the Royal Adelaide Hospital with North Adelaide.

**No**

**Q22**

Complete the Greenways (cycling / shared-use paths) currently under construction and provide allocated funding to further expand the Greenways network.

Other (please specify):

Labor will continue to invest in biking and walking trails across the state.

**Q23**

Fund the full implementation of the State Walking Strategy, including increased funding for the Safe Streets to School

Other (please specify):

See answer to question 20.

**Q24**

Massively increase incentives to encourage electric vehicle uptake by: Removing stamp duty from EVs under \$78,000 purchased from April 1 2022 and from all other EVs and plug-in hybrids from 1 July 2027 or when EVs make up at least 30% of new car sales, at which time a road user charge will be introduced.

Other (please specify):

Labor will scrap the EV tax while keeping current incentives in place.

**Q25**

Massively increase incentives to encourage electric vehicle uptake, by: Providing subsidies for installing a smart home charger.

**No**

**Q26**

Massively increase incentives to encourage electric vehicle uptake, by: Providing a minimum \$6,000 subsidy available from April 1 2022 for the first 10,000 battery-electric vehicles purchased in South Australia.

Other (please specify):

Labor will scrap the EV tax while keeping current incentives in place.

## ENERGY TRANSFORMATION

### Q27

Ensure all South Australians are empowered through the energy transformation, by: Funding the creation of solar 'farms' or 'gardens' to enable renters and apartment dwellers to access the benefits of solar.

Other (please specify):

Labor will investigate mechanisms to increase community renewable energy systems. It was under Labor that the Virtual Power Plant was first introduced into South Australia's energy mix and a Malinauskas Labor government will ensure South Australia continues to be a leader in household and community energy solutions.

### Q28

Ensure all South Australians are empowered through the energy transformation, by: Working with Indigenous communities to co-design and fund an Aboriginal Renewables Program.

Other (please specify):

Labor will investigate mechanisms to increase community renewable energy systems. It was under Labor that the Virtual Power Plant was first introduced into South Australia's energy mix and a Malinauskas Labor government will ensure South Australia continues to be a leader in household and community energy solutions.

### Q29

Ensure all South Australians are empowered through the energy transformation, by: Facilitating peer to peer trading of household solar energy.

Other (please specify):

Labor will investigate mechanisms to increase community renewable energy systems. It was under Labor that the Virtual Power Plant was first introduced into South Australia's energy mix and a Malinauskas Labor government will ensure South Australia continues to be a leader in household and community energy solutions.

### Q30

Ensure all South Australians are empowered through the energy transformation, by: Implementing minimum energy efficiency standards for private and public rental properties, and mandatory disclosure of energy efficiency ratings for all rental properties in South Australia.

No

### Q31

Committing additional funding of \$64 million over four years for Housing SA and other community-based organisations to deliver a targeted energy efficiency program for public and community housing tenants.

Other (please specify):

Labor will use upgrades of housing trust properties to increase energy efficiency.

**Q32**

Create a workforce plan by 2023 to support workers in the fossil fuel industry to retrain and be re-employed in other sectors, and to equip new workers in the renewables sector to enable a rapid and fair community transition

Other (please specify):

Labor has always supported workers transitioning from sectors facing downturns to growing sectors. This was particularly evident following the closure of the Holden factory in Elizabeth, when thousands of workers were retrained to work in other manufacturing jobs, the horticulture industry and health roles amongst others. Labor will always be the party which supports workers to have the skills and training needed to face an ever-changing world.

Page 8: PROTECT BIG TREES

**Q33**

Commit to law reform to protect urban tree canopy as outlined in the Call to Action, and Comparison of Australia's Tree Laws reports including: Bringing South Australia into line with similar jurisdictions in Victoria and New South Wales by changing the definition of a Regulated tree to one that: - has a trunk circumference of 1m or more measured 1m above the ground, or - has a height of 6m or more, or - has canopy of over 9sqm.

**Yes**

**Q34**

Commit to law reform to protect urban tree canopy as outlined in the Call to Action, and Comparison of Australia's Tree Laws reports including: Removing the series of exemptions to planning regulations introduced in 2011 that allow the removal of mature trees without approval, including the 10m rule and the 20m rule.

Other (please specify):

Urban trees play an important role in reducing heat around the city, counteracting rising temperatures and the heat retained in cities due to increased hard surfaces. Large trees with a sprawling canopy reduce heat trapped in our streets, improve our health and wellbeing and increase desirability in the property market. Labor understands the importance of urban greening and will work with developers, councils and Green Adelaide to reverse the loss of greenspace and tree canopy across our suburbs. Labor will address the loss of trees that has seen us become one of the capital cities with the least green canopy by undertaking serious urban forest management. That means having Australian best practice for tree removal regulations and a targeted plan, with Green Adelaide, for new plantings so everyone benefits from access to green space near them.

**Q35**

Commit to law reform to protect urban tree canopy as outlined in the Call to Action, and Comparison of Australia's Tree Laws reports including: Restoring the requirement for the Department of Infrastructure and Transport and the Department for Education to conduct consultation and planning approval before the removal of regulated and significant trees.

Other (please specify):

Urban trees play an important role in reducing heat around the city, counteracting rising temperatures and the heat retained in cities due to increased hard surfaces. Large trees with a sprawling canopy reduce heat trapped in our streets, improve our health and wellbeing and increase desirability in the property market. Labor understands the importance of urban greening and will work with developers, councils and Green Adelaide to reverse the loss of greenspace and tree canopy across our suburbs. Labor will address the loss of trees that has seen us become one of the capital cities with the least green canopy by undertaking serious

urban forest management. That means having Australian best practice for tree removal regulations and a targeted plan, with Green Adelaide, for new plantings so everyone benefits from access to green space near them.

### **Q36**

Commit to law reform to protect urban tree canopy as outlined in the Call to Action, and Comparison of Australia's Tree Laws reports including: Increasing offset scheme fees to match the costs that are consequently passed on to Councils to plant, establish and maintain replacement trees.

Other (please specify):

Urban trees play an important role in reducing heat around the city, counteracting rising temperatures and the heat retained in cities due to increased hard surfaces. Large trees with a sprawling canopy reduce heat trapped in our streets, improve our health and wellbeing and increase desirability in the property market. Labor understands the importance of urban greening and will work with developers, councils and Green Adelaide to reverse the loss of greenspace and tree canopy across our suburbs. Labor will address the loss of trees that has seen us become one of the capital cities with the least green canopy by undertaking serious urban forest management. That means having Australian best practice for tree removal regulations and a targeted plan, with Green Adelaide, for new plantings so everyone benefits from access to green space near them.

### **Q37**

Commit to law reform to protect urban tree canopy as outlined in the Call to Action, and Comparison of Australia's Tree Laws reports including: Increasing the number and size of trees required by the Planning and Design Code to be planted in new developments.

Other (please specify):

Urban trees play an important role in reducing heat around the city, counteracting rising temperatures and the heat retained in cities due to increased hard surfaces. Large trees with a sprawling canopy reduce heat trapped in our streets, improve our health and wellbeing and increase desirability in the property market. Labor understands the importance of urban greening and will work with developers, councils and Green Adelaide to reverse the loss of greenspace and tree canopy across our suburbs. Labor will address the loss of trees that has seen us become one of the capital cities with the least green canopy by undertaking serious urban forest management. That means having Australian best practice for tree removal regulations and a targeted plan, with Green Adelaide, for new plantings so everyone benefits from access to green space near them.

Page 9: WELLBEING ECONOMY

### **Q38**

Follow New Zealand's lead and introduce a 'Wellbeing Budget' that better considers economic, environmental and social objectives together through: Breaking down agency silos and requiring across-government work Focusing on outcomes that meet the needs of present generations at the same time as thinking about the long term impacts for future generations, and Tracking progress with broader measures of success, including the health of people, communities, the environment and public finances.

**No**

### **Q39**

Join the Wellbeing Economy Governments (WEGo) Partnership – a collaboration of national and regional governments promoting sharing of expertise and transferrable policy practices, with the aim to deepen their

understanding and advance their shared ambition of building Wellbeing Economies (currently comprises Scotland, New Zealand, Iceland, Wales, and Finland).

**No**

**Q40**

Develop a set of Environmental-Economic accounts for South Australia, based on United Nation's SEEA Framework, to integrate economic, environmental and social data into a single, coherent framework for holistic decision-making.

**No**

Page 10: CLEAN STATE, NO WASTE

**Q41**

Actively oppose the Federal Government's attempt to impose a temporary intermediate level nuclear waste facility in SA.

Other (please specify):

The South Australian Labor Party's position is unchanged on this issue – the Barngarla people should have a right of veto over this proposal. We clearly have an obligation to manage our domestic nuclear waste in a responsible way for the long term however, SA Labor believes the site selection process has been deeply flawed from the beginning resulting in fractures within the local community over the proposal. SA Labor's preference is for the current proposal to be abandoned and a thoughtful and considered process for the long-term management of Australia's nuclear material be initiated.

**Q42**

Publicly advocate for intermediate level radioactive waste (which needs to be kept safe from humans for 10,000years) to continue to be stored in situ at Lucas Heights until a comprehensive, permanent (deep geological) solution is in place for the disposal of Australia's long lived radioactive waste.

Other (please specify):

The South Australian Labor Party's position is unchanged on this issue – the Barngarla people should have a right of veto over this proposal. We clearly have an obligation to manage our domestic nuclear waste in a responsible way for the long term however, SA Labor believes the site selection process has been deeply flawed from the beginning resulting in fractures within the local community over the proposal. SA Labor's preference is for the current proposal to be abandoned and a thoughtful and considered process for the long-term management of Australia's nuclear material be initiated.

**Q43**

Commit to expanding the successful and popular Container Deposit Legislation scheme to all glass (including wine and spirit) bottles, and plastic milk bottles.

Other (please specify):

Labor will finalise the review of the Container Deposit Scheme which has dragged on under this government for over three years. Changes made to the scheme will reflect the feedback from the waste management industry, environment organisations and industries affected by changes.

**Q44**

Commit to the diversion of 90% of municipal solid waste (MSW) from landfill by 2023, including state-wide comprehensive organics and food waste recycling.

Other (please specify):

In government, Labor will review the current waste diversion targets to ensure they are ambitious and reflect the changing technology and community expectations.

**Q45**

Push nationally for an urgent phase-out of plastic waste in packaging through extended producer responsibility and a ban on the sale of products containing micro-plastics/micro-beads.

Other (please specify):

Labor will increase the number of plastic items to be considered in the first review of the current single-use plastic prohibited items legislation.

Page 12: PROTECT IMPORTANT AREAS

**Q46**

A clear, legislated ban by the end of 2022 on all mining and other industrial development within South Australia's protected area estate (land and sea).

**No**

**Q47**

Carry out a wilderness assessment to determine the extent of the state's remaining large intact ecosystems and a climate refugia assessment to inform an expansion of the protected area estate and the creation of wildlife corridors that allow species to move and adapt to climate change.

**Yes**

**Q48**

Ensure fire management strategies in wilderness areas are based on the best available science and not on vegetation mosaics and the construction of fire access tracks.

Other (please specify):

The Department for Environment and Water through the National Parks and Wildlife Service plays an important role in fire prevention, encouraging biodiversity and triggering natural processes in our public parks. If elected, Labor will ensure that the Department for Environment and Water use best practice to ensure the prescribed burn program adequately addresses community safety concerns while being based on best practice and available science.

**Q49**

Commit to working with First Nations communities in SA to care for country, by: Expanding and securing initiatives such as Indigenous Rangers and Establishing a First Nations Advisory Group to provide advice directly to the Minister for Environment on matters including the protection of Aboriginal heritage and cultural sites.

**Yes**

**Q50**

Support World Heritage protection for the Great Australian Bight.

**Yes**

**Q51**

Investigate the possibility of World Heritage protection for the terrestrial freshwater ecosystems of the Lake Eyre Basin catchment.

**Yes**

**Q52**

Investigate the possibility of a UNESCO Biosphere Reserve for Kangaroo Island.

**Yes**

**Q53**

Protect ecologically important areas of the outback, including through proclamations under the Wilderness Protection Act 1992, such as Goyder Lagoon, the Kallakoopah Creek region and Coongie Lakes Ramsar site.

Other (please specify):

South Australian Labor has a proud history of protecting our environment – in parks, on Aboriginal lands, and on private landholders’ properties. In government, Labor was responsible for the greatest growth in national parks and is the only party in South Australia to create state-wide systems of wilderness protection areas and marine parks. As a result, South Australia has an excellent system of protection for much of our important biodiversity, but the job isn’t done yet. A Malinauskas Labor Government will commission an update of the wilderness inventory to ensure iconic intact nature is protected, and a review of South Australia’s performance in delivering comprehensive, adequate and representative protection of ecosystems in order to strategically increase protection of our bioregions. Labor will investigate further protections for important biodiversity hotspots in the Lake Eyre Basin, including Goyder Lagoon, the Kallakoopah Creek region and Coongie Lakes Ramsar site.

**Q54**

Safeguard South Australia's biodiversity by ensuring 30% of all land ecosystems and 30% of all marine ecosystems are fully protected by 2030.

Other (please specify):

A Malinauskas Labor Government will commission an update of the wilderness inventory to ensure iconic intact nature is protected, and a review of South Australia’s performance in delivering comprehensive, adequate and representative protection of ecosystems in order to strategically increase protection of our bioregions.

**Q55**

Expand the protected area estate with active revegetation/restoration, targeting the types of ecosystems that have been most cleared in South Australia, like wetlands and woodlands.

Other (please specify):

A Malinauskas Labor Government will commission an update of the wilderness inventory to ensure iconic intact nature is protected, and a review of South Australia’s performance in delivering comprehensive, adequate and representative protection of ecosystems in order to strategically increase protection of our bioregions.

Page 13: BEAUTIFUL COASTS AND MARINE

**Q56**

Develop and fund a long-term plan to restore the damaged St Kilda samphire, salt marsh and mangroves, including: the removal of damaging salt from the leaking ponds to the South of St Kilda Road, and in partnership with the community, develop a closure/rehabilitation plan for the salt ponds and the surrounding tidal wetlands.

Other (please specify):

Labor will continue to work closely with locals and the Save St Kilda Mangroves coalition to develop a restoration plan for the damaged areas of mangrove forest and samphire marsh in the St. Kilda area. Labor will also ensure the investigation into the cause of the die-off is completed as soon as possible to ensure any future incidents are avoided and ensure those responsible are held accountable for their actions.

**Q57**

Create a specific Whale Nursery Protection Area at Encounter Bay, in line with equivalent protections at Fowlers Bay and Warrnambool.

Other (please specify):

Labor will explore establishing Whale Nursery Protection Areas where whales come close to shore with their young.

**Q58**

Resource a comprehensive management plan led by a government, industry, science and community taskforce to respond to the recent listing of the Australian Sea Lion as endangered.

Other (please specify):

Labor will ensure the Department for Environment and Waterworks closely with all relevant stakeholders to ensure appropriate protections are in place for vulnerable populations of Australian Sea Lions.

**Q59**

Develop a long-term vision for a sustainable 'Living Shorelines' strategy to protect our coastal communities and beaches from storm surges and sea level rise.

Other (please specify):

- Labor will legislate for environmental impact assessment (including social and economic impact) of major coastal works and establish a scientific review of all options for sand management which will include full community input and transparency and analysis of climate change impact. Labor will also establish as the goals of any sand management program to minimise disruption for all communities, avoid environmental harm and maximise sand staying on beaches.

**Q60**

Reinstitute the fishing ban in the Upper Spencer Gulf of the Giant Australian Cuttlefish during its spawning aggregation season.

**Yes**

**Q61**

Fund the creation of additional oyster reefs and further seagrass restoration, including funding for a new reef in the Brighton/Seacliff/Hallett Cove region

Other (please specify):

Seagrasses hold sand together and minimise storm damage to beaches. Tragically, Adelaide's seagrass beds have been damaged over the last fifty years. Over the last half century, around one third of seagrass along the Adelaide metropolitan coast has been lost. As part of Labor's review of South Australia's coastline management, we will investigate seagrass restoration along Adelaide's coastline.

**Q62**

Increase protections in the Adelaide Dolphin Sanctuary, including banning the use of heavy fishing gear & permanent reduction of boat speeds.

Other (please specify):

An elected Labor government will re-establish the Adelaide Dolphin Sanctuary Advisory Board. The role of the board will be to advise the minister on the effectiveness of the ADS Management Plan in achieving the objects and objectives of this Act, collate data and report on the health of the ADS and provide advice to the minister on actions available to achieve the objects and objectives of the Act. Labor will also ensure the Act in its current form is adequately protecting dolphins and their habitat.

**Q63**

Institute a moratorium on new finfish aquaculture approvals until Water Quality Guidelines for SA have been updated and zone plans reviewed.

**No**

**Q64**

Guarantee adequate resourcing for monitoring and compliance of marine parks, for example vessels, staffing and an annual research program.

Other (please specify):

Labor will ensure the allocation of resources by the Department for Environment and Water and PIRSA, as well as other enforcement agencies, is adequate to enforce the relevant legislation in parks and for on water activities.

Page 14: INVEST IN NATURE

**Q65**

A commitment to invest an additional \$1billion over 4 years to protect, restore and enhance nature and biodiversity in SA.

Other (please specify):

– Labor will take a comprehensive environment policy to the March election. Details of Labor's commitments are contained within this document and within the policy website at <https://www.petermalinauskas.com.au/news/policies>

**Q66**

Commitment to a minimum of three-year government and landscape board contracts for partnership work with the NGO sector, to enable longer-term gains.

**Yes**

**Q67**

Grow capacity in the for-purpose sector through increased funding, Inc. peak body funding to the Conservation Council of SA.

**Yes**

**Q68**

A significant increase in funding for the recovery of South Australia's threatened wildlife, distributed according to cost-effectiveness prioritisation.

Other (please specify):

A Malinauskas Labor government will take biodiversity protection and restoration seriously by increasing funding to non-government organisations, supporting community led science projects and creating a new

unit within the Department for Environment and Water. Labor will also introduce a new Biodiversity Act, adding legislative teeth to biodiversity conservation across the state. The plan includes:- A \$2 million Citizen Science Fund to harness the power of South Australians who contribute to the knowledge we collectively have about environmental conditions, as well as encouraging and valuing people's engagement with their local environment.- Establishing a \$3 million Biodiversity Coordination Unit in the Department for Environment and Water to work with university researchers on management of the environmental impact of pests, weeds and abundant species.

#### **Q69**

A commitment to continue and increase the funding of the Revitalising Private Conservation program to \$18 million over three years (a collaboration between environment and agricultural organisations that provides technical and financial assistance to current and aspiring native vegetation Heritage Agreement owners across the state).

Other (please specify):

A Labor Government will fund heritage agreements on privately managed properties by an additional \$6m. Heritage agreements ensure parts of private property actively protected and can be used as off-sets for clearing and in carbon markets. This funding will support signing up new heritage agreements and grants for on-ground works to support improved biodiversity outcomes.

Page 15: PROTECT OUR RANGELANDS

#### **Q70**

Ensure a clear legal pathway for voluntary conservation agreements, including Heritage Agreements, on pastoral leasehold land, and ensure all leaseholders who currently manage land for the primary purpose of conservation can continue to do so.

Other (please specify):

Labor will review heritage agreements to confirm they are structured in a way that best facilitates conservation outcomes and enable landholders to generate income from biodiversity and carbon farming.

#### **Q71**

Retain safeguards which ensure the sustainable management of the rangelands including stock maximums and a duty for leaseholders to prevent degradation and recognise the need for the rangelands to be managed for climate change.

**Yes**

#### **Q72**

Retain rolling 42-year lease terms.

**Yes**

#### **Q73**

Increase the annual resourcing of the Pastoral Land Board and PIRSA to at least \$5 million per year to enable them to undertake management, monitoring and enforcement of lease conditions in a timely and effective manner.

Other (please specify):

A Malinauskas Labor Government will increase funding to the Pastoral Board by \$1m to get through the land condition assessments needed to give certainty to leaseholders in the pastoral lands. The decline in

assessments in recent years is unacceptable. Labor will bring the pastoral team back to the environment portfolio and ensure it is properly funded to do its job.

**Q74**

Create a balanced, independent Pastoral Board with ongoing representation from the Conservation Council of SA, a credible rangelands ecologist and an independent Chair.

Other (please specify):

Labor will ensure the Pastoral Board is balanced and represented by all relevant sectors in accordance with the requirements of the Pastoral Land Management and Conservation Act, including a representative from the Conservation Council of SA.

Page 16: DRIEST STATE, DRIEST CONTINENT

**Q75**

Provide strong State Government led advocacy to ensure that the Murray Darling Basin Plan returns the equivalent of 3200 GL to the environment by the 2024 reconciliation date, including a clear, public commitment to voluntary buybacks prior to 2024 to ensure the water is returned in full.

Other (please specify):

Yes, or A Malinauskas Labor Government will appoint a Commissioner for the River Murray and prepare for High Court action to defend our state's water rights against upstream states' greed. This is part of a six-point action plan for the River Murray, which also includes: - Acting on every recommendation of the Murray-Darling Royal Commission. - Reversing the Marshall Liberal government's endorsement of complex criteria restricting the funding of water efficiency projects up-river. - Engaging with Traditional Owners on cultural flows. - Presenting a series of demands to the Australian government and the Murray-Darling Basin Authority to ensure the health of the river, including that a South Australian be appointed to the Murray Darling Basin Authority Board.

**Q76**

Investigate the possibility of a 'Super Park' within the Coorong & Lakes Alexandrina and Albert Ramsar site, including the Coorong National Park and the Lawari Conservation Park at the Murray Mouth to better protect and help showcase this vital river habitat.

**Yes**

**Q77**

Create an urban water security plan that ensures: The reinstatement of requirements in the State Building Code to connect rainwater tanks for internal household use

Other (please specify):

Labor will include this issue as part of our broader planning review.

**Q78**

Create an urban water security plan that ensures: A comprehensive review of the Planning & Design Code to ensure greater prominence and protection of Water Sensitive Urban Design.

Other (please specify):

Labor will include this issue as part of our broader planning review.

**Q79**

Create an urban water security plan that ensures: Governance structures are addressed to enable Government, Councils and other agencies and authorities to deliver true integrated water management and stop treating recycled, stormwater and mains water in isolation.

**Yes**

**Q80**

Work with landholders to create 1000 hectares of 'regional recharge farms' in agricultural regions of the state by 2025.

Other (please specify):

Labor will investigate regional recharge farms in agricultural regions.

**Q81**

Prohibit exploration and mining activities that have the potential to impact groundwater resources including the Great Artesian Basin.

Other (please specify):

Labor will ensure mining companies comply with all environmental regulations when undertaking activities in areas with groundwater resources.

Page 17: LOOKING AFTER NATURE

**Q82**

In 2022, institute the Legislative Review Committee recommendation to "establish an independent review of the Planning, Development and Infrastructure Act 2016 and the implementation of the Planning and Design Code to determine its impacts on community rights, sustainability and protection of the environment."

Other (please specify):

Labor will include this issue as part of our broader planning review.

**Q83**

Increase the legislative protection and funding for assessment, monitoring and compliance of the Native Vegetation Act, including: A commitment to reduce the number and extent of exemptions in the Act & Regulations which limit effective protection.

Other (please specify):

- A Malinauskas Labor Government will repeal the regulations imposed by the Marshall Liberal Government that exempted private tourism developments in Flinders Chase National Park from standard processes for planning approval and the protection of native vegetation.

**Q84**

Increase the legislative protection and funding for assessment, monitoring and compliance of the Native Vegetation Act, including: Ruling out any reduction in the level of legislative protection for native vegetation and biodiversity.

**Yes**

**Q85**

Prevent activities, such as off-road vehicle driving, that damage coastal beaches and dunes.

Other (please specify):

Labor will review recommendations contained in a report of the Natural Resources Committee from June 2020 relating to vehicle access to sensitive environments, including beaches, which have yet to be acted on by the current government.

**Q86**

Ban the hunting of ducks and quails.

Other (please specify):

Labor will review the practice of hunting for native birds which are not overabundant pests. Labor will also update the Animal Welfare Act to ensure it reflects community expectations to protect animals.

**Q87**

Commit to eradicate feral cats on Kangaroo Island and expand cat-control programs in Northern SA.

Other (please specify):

Labor will ensure the Kangaroo Island Landscape Board works with local organisations to continue the current efforts to eradicate cats from Kangaroo Island.

**Q88**

Manage dingoes in a manner that recognises the vital role of the dingo as a valuable apex predator in South Australia's ecosystems, including: Instituting science-based measures and triggers for control underpinned by rigorous, long-term monitoring and evaluation programs that are adequately resourced before baiting is authorised north of the fence

**Yes**

**Q89**

Manage dingoes in a manner that recognises the vital role of the dingo as a valuable apex predator in South Australia's ecosystems, including: A shift towards a user-pays approach to apportioning the cost of the dingo fence and other pastoral-focused dingo management.

**No**

**Q90**

Introduce legislation to strengthen the legal protection of the democratic rights of people and communities to peacefully protest or prevent environmentally destructive activities and other such actions taken in the public interest.

Other (please specify):

-

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Susan Close". The signature is stylized with a large, looping 'S' and a cursive 'Close'.

Susan Close MP  
SA Labor Deputy Leader