

NEXT ICONIC WALK PROJECT

December 2023

Project Update



Background

The Next Iconic Walk project is a \$40 million Tasmanian Liberal Government election commitment to develop a new multi-day hut-based bushwalk to enhance Tasmania's reputation as one of the great walking destinations in Australia, if not the world.

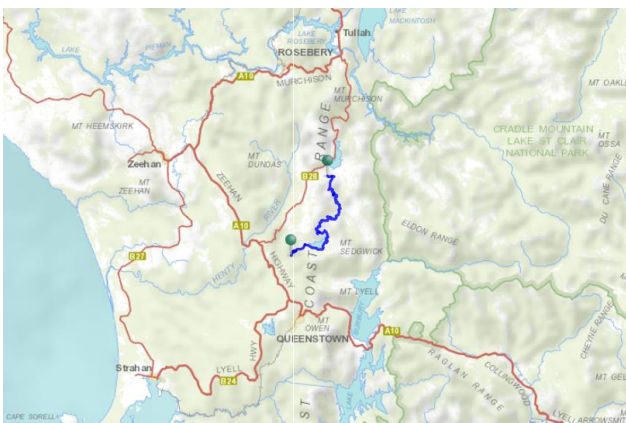
Location and Feasibility

Tasmania Parks and Wildlife Service (PWS) reviewed 35 possible locations across Tasmania, including 24 identified through public submissions, and selected the Tyndall Range on the West Coast (between Queenstown and Tullah), as the preferred location for the Next Iconic Walk.



Lake Margaret with the Tyndall Range in the background

A detailed feasibility study tested and explored over 50 track route options and the recommended option was a three-day, two-night, hut-based walking experience between Lake Plimsoll in the north and Lake Margaret Power Station in the south.



Approximate alignment of proposed track route

Design Team & Investigations

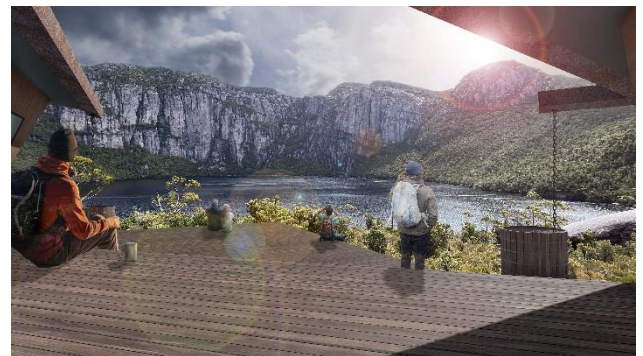
PWS has engaged a team of consultants to assist in the design, planning and approvals for the project. JAWS Architects leads the design team, ERA Planning and Environment leads the planning team, and Charlie Bravo Design leads the interpretation team. Mtn. Trails was engaged to identify a suitable track alignment and identify key opportunities for interpretation and on track infrastructure (e.g. lookouts, shelters, rest stops, etc).

Various specialists and sub-consultants have undertaken site surveys and investigations to assess the site conditions, values and constraints to inform the design and approvals including Aboriginal and cultural heritage, European historic heritage, threatened species and ecological values, visual impacts and geology. Initial investigations have not highlighted any areas of concern in terms of hut or track locations.

ERA are currently preparing a bushfire hazard management report with the Tasmania Fire Service and a team of engineers are assessing the services requirements and options for the huts (i.e. power, water, waste water).

Concept Designs

JAWS Architects has developed concept plans for the two hut sites that were signed off by the project Steering Committee in October 2023. The images below provide an impression of how the overnight nodes will appear in the landscape.



Artist impression of the view from Hut 1



Artist impression of the view from Hut 2

It is important to note that these timelines are indicative only and subject to change as the project moves through the design and approvals stage. Once the designs are finalised, construction commences and the influence of weather and local site conditions is better understood, a more accurate timetable for completion will be established.

Further Information

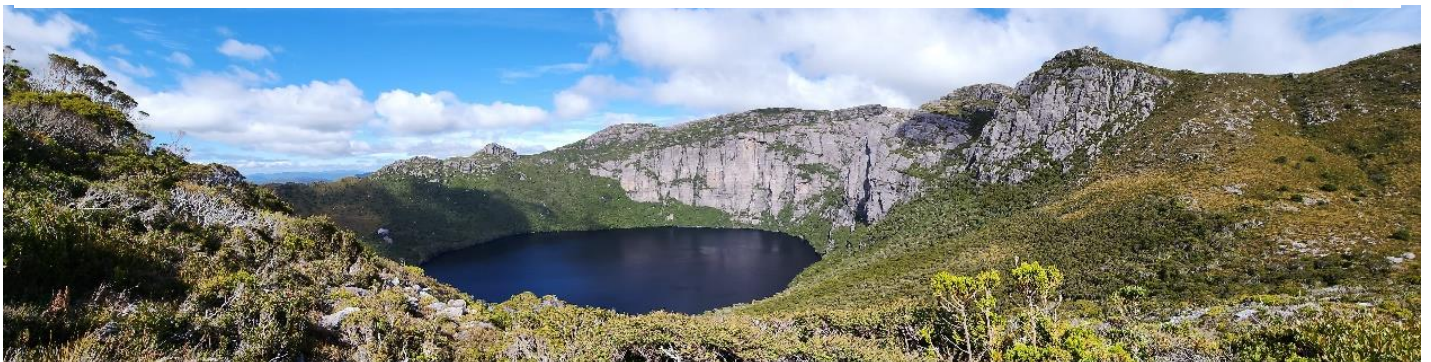
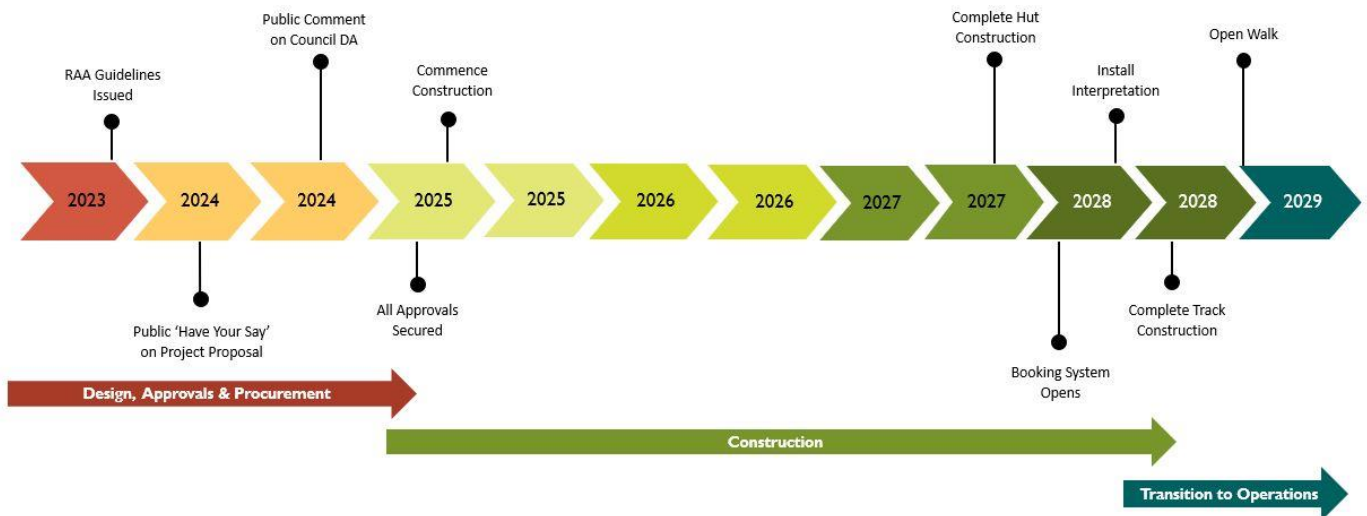
Further information and answers to [Frequently Asked Questions](#) can be found on the Next Iconic Walk Project page on the PWS website www.parks.tas.gov.au/be-involved/projects-and-programs.

Timelines and Current Status

The first stage of the Reserve Activity Assessment (RAA) process has commenced. It is expected the final RAA will be released for public comment after easter 2024. Following the finalisation of the RAA a Development Application will be lodged with the West Coast Council. Both of these approval processes will provide an opportunity for the public to review and comment on the plans for the project. Applications for building and plumbing permits will follow in late 2024 / early 2025. Subject to completion of the detailed design, securing all approvals, and engaging contractors, construction of the walk is expected to commence in 2025 and be complete in 2029. The diagram below shows the current project timeline.



Artist impression of the view from the campground



Lake Huntley

