

Questions:

1. When was the testing of Wreck Bay finalised? And when were the test results released to show positive PFOS and PFOA?
2. Why did it take four months to close the water off from the public?
3. What is the similarity between Williamstown and their water contamination with the case of Wreck Bay?
4. Is there a push to clear the water of these chemicals?

Response:

Defence engaged an independent environmental consultant to conduct the detailed environmental investigation into PFAS at and surrounding the Jervis Bay Range Facility, as per standard practice for PFAS investigations. This investigation is ongoing.

As part of the Preliminary Sampling Program (PSP) conducted in 2016, PFAS was detected in onsite surface water at the Jervis Bay Range Facility. The findings of PSP determined the requirement for a detailed environmental investigation to occur at and around the Jervis Bay Range Facility. The PSP results are available on the [Jervis Bay Investigation website](#).

The Australian Capital Territory (ACT) Chief Health Officer closed Mary Creek in 2016 following PFAS sampling conducted by the ACT. Inquiries on this advice should be directed to the ACT Government.

A direct comparison between two PFAS investigation sites is challenging due to differences in hydrology, geology and the nature of contamination. The RAAF Base Williamstown investigation commenced in 2015 and is further advanced than the investigation at Jervis Bay, which commenced in 2017. Defence has completed a Detailed Site Investigation (DSI) and Human Health Risk Assessment (HHRA) at Williamstown, which provided the information required to implement management and remediation measures. The DSI and HHRA at Jervis Bay are due to be completed by the end of 2018.

Defence implements remediation and management measures that are proportionate to the identified exposure risks. No alternative water is being provided in the vicinity of the Jervis Bay Range Facility as Defence is not aware of residents relying on bore water for drinking purposes. Investigation sampling and analysis confirmed that PFAS was not detectable in the Jervis Bay Territory drinking water supply. This includes supply for the both the Jervis Bay and Wreck Bay communities, visitors to Booderee National Park, the Jervis Bay Range Facility, and HMAS *Creswell*.

Defence is committed to responsible environmental management and being responsible members of the communities of which it is part of. Defence continues to work towards the effective monitoring and management of PFAS contamination on and in the vicinity of affected sites across Australia.