



RAAF Base Wagga Investigation Community Newsletter

PFAS Investigation and Management Program

Investigation update

Defence is undertaking an environmental investigation to better understand the nature and extent of per- and poly- fluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) contamination on and around RAAF Base Wagga.

The Detailed Site Investigation (DSI) commenced in September 2017 and involved an extensive sampling program of soil, sediment, surface water and groundwater within the Study Area.

The original sampling program period was extended to ensure all the necessary sampling work was completed. We appreciate your patience and understanding while these field samples were being completed.

The DSI sampling involved testing at over 350 locations in the Study Area between September 2017 and February 2018, including approximately:

- **386** soil samples
- **48** groundwater samples from existing groundwater boreholes
- **29** groundwater samples from new groundwater boreholes
- **80+** surface water and sediment samples.

The sampling for the DSI is now complete and a detailed report, including the sampling results, is currently being prepared. This report will be finalised and provided to relevant government agencies, regulatory bodies and the community in June 2018.



Example of field sampling.

- Preliminary Site Investigation
May 2017 – August 2017
- Community Water Use Survey
July 2017 – August 2017
- Community Walk-in Session
August 2017
- Detailed Site Investigation (DSI)
September 2017 – Mid 2018
- DSI Community Walk-in Session
7 June 2018
- Human Health and Ecological Risk Assessment (HHERA)
Mid 2018 – Third Quarter 2018
- HHERA Community Walk-in Session
Third Quarter 2018
- PFAS Management Area Plan (PMAP)
Late 2018
- PMAP Community Walk-in Session
Late 2018

*Dates may be subject to rescheduling

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What happens next?

As part of the investigation process, a Human Health and Ecological Risk Assessment (HHERA) is being undertaken to understand any potential exposure to people and the environment.

Additional targeted sampling is now underway to obtain data to support the HHERA. A groundwater model is also being developed to understand potential movement of PFAS in groundwater and potential future exposure.

The HHERA process and preliminary findings will be discussed at the next Community Walk-in Session, in June 2018, in addition to the findings of the DSI Report.





Community Walk-in Session

RAAF Base Wagga

PFAS Investigation and Management Program

The Department of Defence is holding a Community Walk-in Session at the Forest Hill Public School Hall to provide information on the environmental investigation into PFAS at RAAF Base Wagga and nearby areas.

The Community Walk-in Session will include discussions on the findings of the Detailed Site Investigations and the next steps in the environmental investigation. There will also be an opportunity for the community to ask questions one-on-one about the environmental investigation with Defence, contracted experts and other government agencies.

Session Details:

Date: Thursday 7 June 2018

Venue: Forest Hill Public School Hall, Forest Hill NSW 2651

Time: 1pm – 6pm (drop in any time)
Presentations will be held at 2pm and 5pm

RSVP: By email at wagga.defence@jacobs.com, or by calling 1800 931 700

Key Contacts

PFAS Project Team:

www.defence.gov.au/environment/pfas/wagga/wagga.defence@jacobs.com
1800 931 700

Media Enquiries

(02) 6127 1999
media@defence.gov.au

New South Wales Environment Protection Authority (NSW EPA):

www.epa.nsw.gov.au/your-environment/contaminated-land/pfas-investigation-program

Department of Health PFAS

Defence recognises that it is not an authority on public health. For health information please contact the Department of Health:
www.health.gov.au/pfas
1800 941 180

