



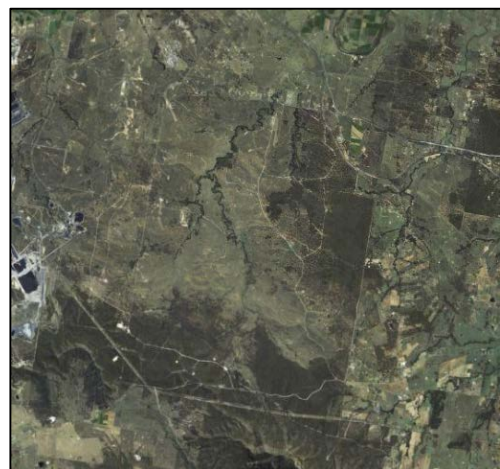
SINGLETON MILITARY AREA (LONE PINE BARRACKS), NEW SOUTH WALES

Base Address	Singleton, New South Wales
Base Established	1940
Region	Northern New South Wales
Date of Last Data Review	May 2016



Description

The Singleton Military Area is located in the Hunter Valley, approximately 130 kilometres north of Sydney. The property is 14,375 hectares, divided into two main areas including: the Lone Pine Barracks and the Singleton Army Training Area. Lone Pine Barracks is located approximately 8 kilometres south of the township of Singleton and houses the School of Infantry, Special Forces Training Centre and other regular support services. The Singleton Army Training Area is a 14,000 hectare firing range located between Brokenback Range, the Hunter Vineyards, Lone Pine Barracks and the Mount Thorley Mine area.



The primary use of the property is for military training. But the property also contains habitat for significant flora and fauna species and areas of heritage value.

Base Activities

Activities include the use of several firing and weapons ranges, explosives testing, as well as no-firing training facilities for all units of the Australian Defence Force and other government agencies including the police.

Other activities at the base include vehicle maintenance, wash-down of vehicles and weapons, storage and distribution of fuel from underground storage tanks, and storage of other chemicals in above ground storage tanks (waste oil, engine coolant, chlorine hydroxide).

The base contains several hazardous materials storage compounds, which are used for the storage of a wide range of chemicals, including solvents, paints, cleaning chemicals, thinners, battery acids, welding gases, chlorine, etc.

Historical activities in some areas of the property have included the use of landfills to dispose of waste materials from demolition works, historical base operations, and in some cases domestic waste.





Contamination Information

Known Contamination

Known contamination around the base includes elevated levels of heavy metals and explosives residues around some of the firing and weapons ranges. Elevated levels of heavy metals, petroleum related compounds, nutrients, and phosphorous have also been found in soil, in some of the surrounding surface water bodies and in groundwater.

Asbestos containing materials and elevated levels of heavy metals, hydrocarbons and pesticides in soils, and elevated levels of heavy metals in surface water and groundwater are identified in landfill areas.

Risk Assessment

Potential risks from known contamination have been identified on the property. These risks are actively managed by Defence to ensure that impacts to human health and the environment is minimised.

Current Status

Stage 1 desktop and Stage 2 investigations to assess the soil, sediments, surface water and groundwater quality around some areas of concern have been undertaken. In addition Defence has undertaken targeted remediation works to remove some underground fuel storage tanks from the area.

A current base-wide groundwater monitoring program is in place to assess groundwater quality for a range of heavy metals, hydrocarbons and other contaminants.

Defence will conduct further investigations and remediation works to assess the quality of soil and groundwater around the property and to identify the extent of known areas of contamination as required.

Other Information

For further information, contact Department of Defence at yourcustomer.service@defence.gov.au.

