



HMAS Cerberus

Ongoing Monitoring Report (November 2020 – May 2023)

Defence samples on and around HMAS Cerberus to monitor per- and poly-fluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) movement and concentrations in groundwater and surface water. The monitoring results inform PFAS management planning. Monitoring requirements are set out in an Ongoing Monitoring Plan and Defence publishes results are published in an Ongoing Monitoring Report. Defence started ongoing monitoring on and around HMAS *Cerberus* in 2019.

What is an Ongoing Monitoring Report?

An Ongoing Monitoring Report collates and interprets PFAS sampling activities as outlined in the Ongoing Monitoring Plan, and compares the results of each location with previous sampling and monitoring data.

Ongoing Monitoring Report

This report covers surface water and groundwater sampling from locations on and around HMAS *Cerberus* conducted between November 2020 to May 2023.

What does the Report tell us?

While low levels of PFAS remain in surface water and groundwater, the findings from the Ongoing Monitoring Report indicate there is **no change in any potential exposure risks** for the community.

Based on analysis of the samples collected, the report found:

- PFAS concentrations in groundwater were similar to previous sampling results from 2017 to 2020.
- PFAS concentrations in surface water were also similar to previous results.
- while some locations reported increasing or decreasing PFAS concentrations over the monitoring period that are not significant at this time, but will continue to be monitored.

Number of samples collected and analysed (November 2020 – May 2023)

GROUNDWATER



Groundwater is water beneath the earth's surface. It often supplies bores, wells or springs.

278 samples collected from 54 groundwater monitoring locations.

SURFACE WATER



Surface water is water that collects on the ground and can be in the form of creeks, rivers, lakes, wetlands, oceans and more.

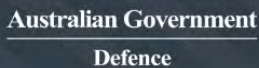
182 samples collected from 33 surface water locations.

Next steps

Defence has completed the remedial works in the HMAS Cerberus PFAS Management Area Plan.

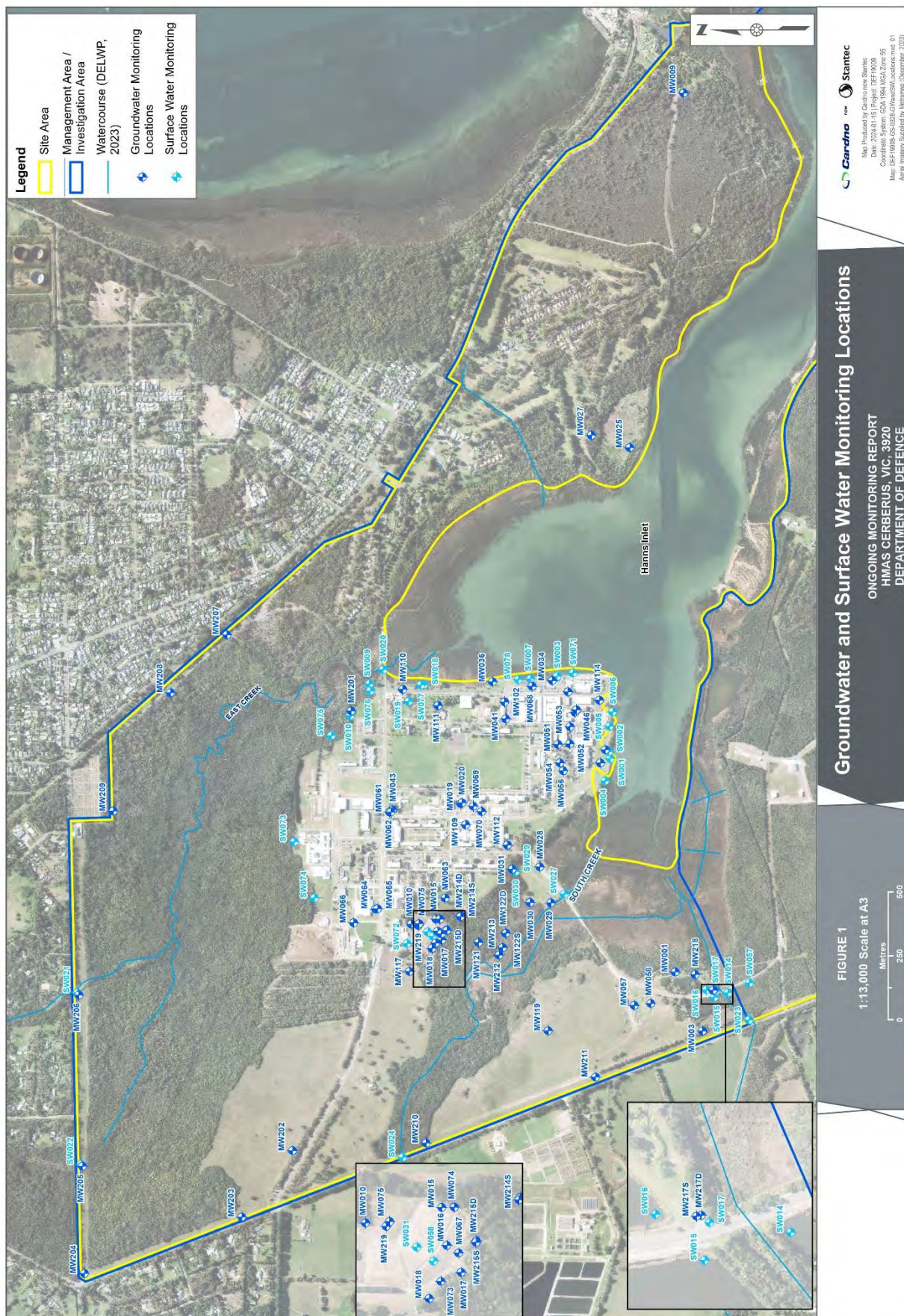
Defence:

- will continue monitoring surface water and groundwater on and around HMAS Cerberus, with the next round of sampling scheduled to occur in November 2024
- will continue publishing monitoring results on the Defence website
- will implement an updated long term management plan that outlines how Defence will continue to manage PFAS on and around the base. The technical advisor will verify this plan and Defence will provide a copy to the Environment Protection Authority Victoria for review.



PFAS INVESTIGATION AND MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

**SERVICE
COURAGE
RESPECT
INTEGRITY
EXCELLENCE**



HMAS Cerberus Monitoring Locations



Keeping you informed

Defence will continue to keep the community informed about the management and ongoing monitoring of PFAS. The Ongoing Monitoring Report and all other historical reports and factsheets prepared for HMAS Cerberus are available on the Defence website.

Read the full HMAS Cerberus Ongoing Monitoring Report



Scan the QR code below:



Or, use the link below to access the Ongoing Monitoring Report:

<https://www.defence.gov.au/about/locations-property/pfas/pfas-management-sites/hmas-cerberus>

Translating and Interpreting Service (TIS National)



For translation assistance, TIS National provides interpreting services 24 hours a day via telephone from anywhere in Australia for the cost of a local call*.

For more information contact 131 450 or visit: www.tisnational.gov.au

**Calls from mobile phones may attract a higher rate.*

Looking for more information?



Scan the QR code below to find out more about Defence's PFAS Investigation and Management program, or visit the website at:

<https://www.defence.gov.au/about/locations-property/pfas>



Alternatively, you can contact:



1800 333 362



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Media enquiries



Media enquiries should be directed to Defence Media via email at:

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