



October 2023 – July 2024 Ongoing Monitoring Report

RAAF Base Amberley

KEY POINTS

- Defence undertakes monitoring on and around RAAF Base Amberley to understand per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) movement and concentrations in groundwater, surface water and sediment.
- Defence started ongoing monitoring in 2020.
- Monitoring results inform PFAS management and remediation activities.
- The Ongoing Monitoring Report is available on the Defence website.
- The risk to human health within the management area remains unchanged since the publication of the 2020 PFAS Management Area Plan.

What is an Ongoing Monitoring Report?

An Ongoing Monitoring Report collates and interprets PFAS sampling results from the Ongoing Monitoring Plan.

The Ongoing Monitoring Plan outlines what Defence is sampling (e.g. soil, water, sediment), where the sampling will take place, and how often.

This ensures Defence maintains an up-to-date understanding of any risk that the community may be exposed to from PFAS coming from the base. This understanding helps us work out the best way to minimise that risk.

Precautionary advice

Queensland (QLD) Health has issued precautionary advice for the consumption of fish in Ipswich waterways. Further precautionary advice about consumption of eggs by children, home-slaughtered beef or offal also remains in place. For more information, visit website:

www.qld.gov.au/environment/management/environmental/pfas/sites/ipswich

Background

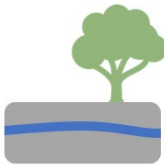


The Ongoing Monitoring Report covers groundwater, surface water and sediment sampling undertaken between October 2023 – July 2024, from locations on and around RAAF Base Amberley. The report also compares the results of the new sampling data to past data collected since 2017.

What does the Ongoing Monitoring Report tell us?

The distribution of PFAS in the management area has not changed significantly across the monitoring period. The risk to human health within the management area remains unchanged since the publication of the 2020 PFAS Management Area Plan (PMAP).

PFAS is leaving the base predominantly through surface water runoff (99%) from three stormwater catchments capturing water on the base from known source areas. For more information, see the Human Health and Ecological Risk Assessment on the Defence website.

Number of samples collected and analysed

Groundwater	Surface water	Sediment
		
Groundwater is water beneath the earth's surface. It often supplies bores, wells or springs.	Surface water is water that collects on the ground and can be in the form of creeks, rivers, lakes, wetlands, oceans and more.	Sediment is made of broken down remains of rocks, minerals, plants and animals that is moved and deposited to a new location.
81 samples collected from 45 locations.	91 samples collected from 49 locations.	96 samples collected from 49 locations.

Next steps

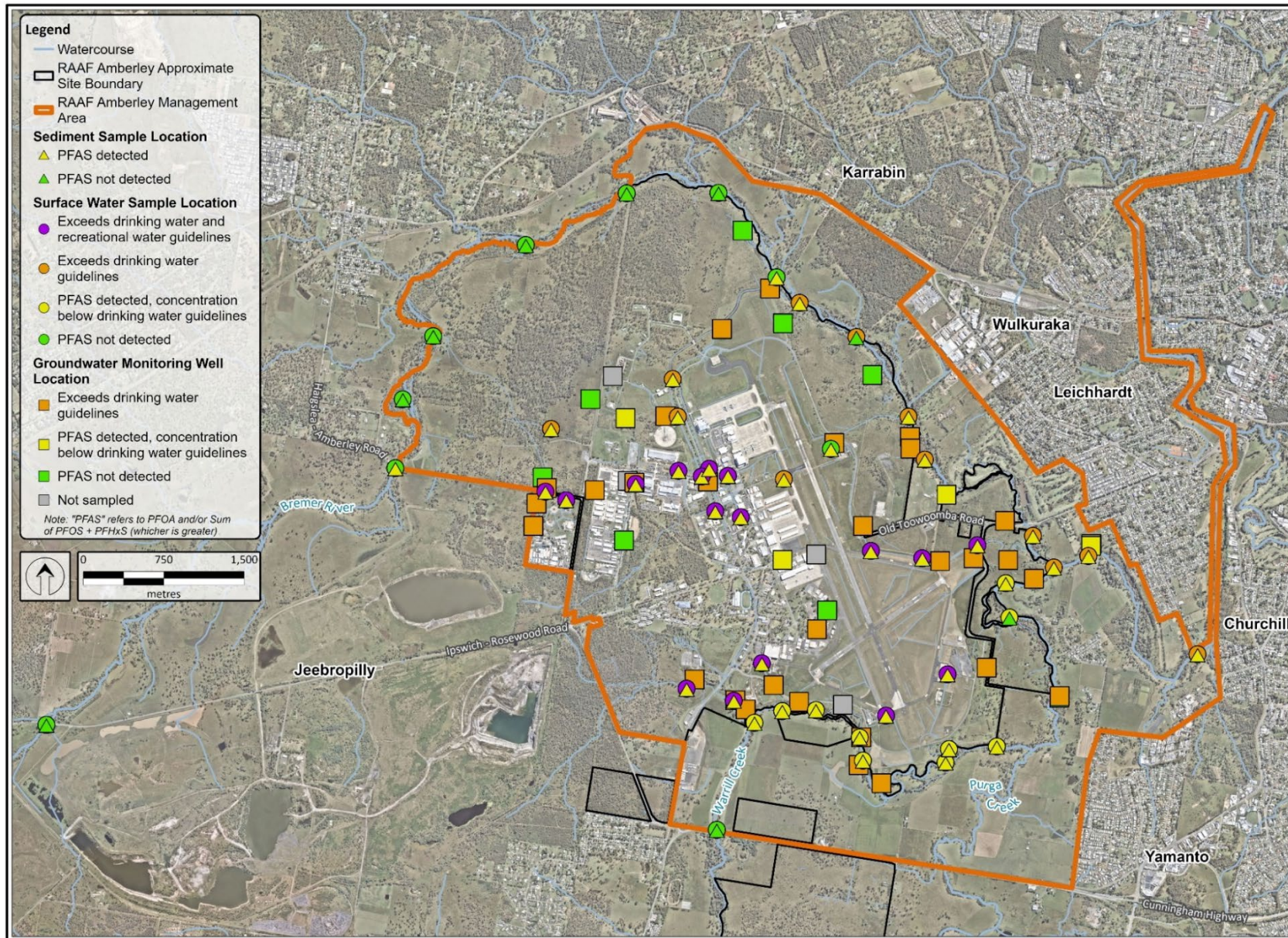
Over the next 12 months Defence will:

- continue monitoring to further understand any changes in PFAS concentrations, with the next sampling scheduled for October 2025
- continue to keep the community informed about the management and ongoing monitoring of PFAS on and around RAAF Base Amberley
- publish the updated 2025 Ongoing Monitoring Plan and 2025 PMAP
- develop remediation action plans for the three catchment areas where PFAS is leaving the site through surface water runoff.

Further information

A full copy of the Ongoing Monitoring Report is available on the Defence website at: www.defence.gov.au/about/locations-property/pfas/pfas-management-sites/raaf-base-amberley.

RAAF Base Amberley 2024 OMR Sampling Results



Contact us



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Scan the QR code to find out more about the PFAS Investigation and Management Program.

