# PFAS INVESTIGATION AND MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

SERVICE COURAGE RESPECT INTEGRITY EXCELLENCE

# **Ongoing Monitoring Plan 2025**

Australian Government

## **Robertson Barracks**

### **KEY POINTS**

Defence has updated the PFAS Ongoing Monitoring Plan for Robertson Barracks.

The Ongoing Monitoring Plan is regularly updated to reflect the latest sampling data, management actions and environmental settings.

The Ongoing Monitoring Plan has been reviewed by a technical adviser who is a Northern Territory accredited site auditor.

Sampling of groundwater and surface water will continue twice a year.

Defence will continue to provide property owners with sampling results. Depending on privacy requirements, the results will be published in an Ongoing Monitoring Report.

All plans and reports are published on the Defence website.

#### What is an Ongoing Monitoring Plan?

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

This ensures Defence maintains an upto-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.

Defence regularly reviews and updates the OMP to make sure what, where, and how often we sample provides us a good understanding of any change in PFAS risks.

#### Background

Defence has been monitoring per- and poly-fluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) on and around Robertson Barracks since 2018.

Defence monitors for PFAS on and around Robertson Barracks as a part of its PFAS Management Area Plan.

#### **Ongoing Monitoring Plan and Ongoing Monitoring Report**

The Robertson Barracks Ongoing Monitoring Plan (OMP) outlines what Defence is sampling, where the sampling will take place, and how often.

The OMP also sets out what actions Defence will take if the sample results are significantly higher than previously or are unexpected. These are called triggers.

The results of the sampling are compared with previous results and with the triggers to see if there are any changes to where PFAS are found, or the levels of PFAS found. This tells us whether a new action is required.

Defence provides property owners with sample results. Depending on privacy requirements, the results will be published in an Ongoing Monitoring Report.

The 2021 – 2023 Ongoing Monitoring Report for Robertson Barracks found that the levels of PFAS risk for the community have not changed over the monitoring period.

#### Change to the Ongoing Monitoring Plan

In February 2025, Defence updated the OMP for Robertson Barracks. To update the plan, Defence consulted with its technical adviser, an accredited site auditor. The updated plan is now available to view on the Defence website.

#### The key changes in the OMP include:

- one new groundwater sampling location has been added to monitor if PFAS are moving off the base
- discontinuing monitoring at nine groundwater sampling locations and four surface water sampling locations as results were consistently below laboratory limit of reporting.

Defence made these changes based on the data we already have, and what data we'll need in the future to continue to understand if PFAS risks to the community change.

#### Next steps

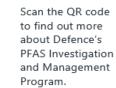
Defence will continue to monitor PFAS in the environment, and take action if required.

#### The updated OMP is available on the Defence website at:

www.defence.gov.au/about/locations-property/pfas/pfas-managementsites/robertson-barracks

#### Contact us

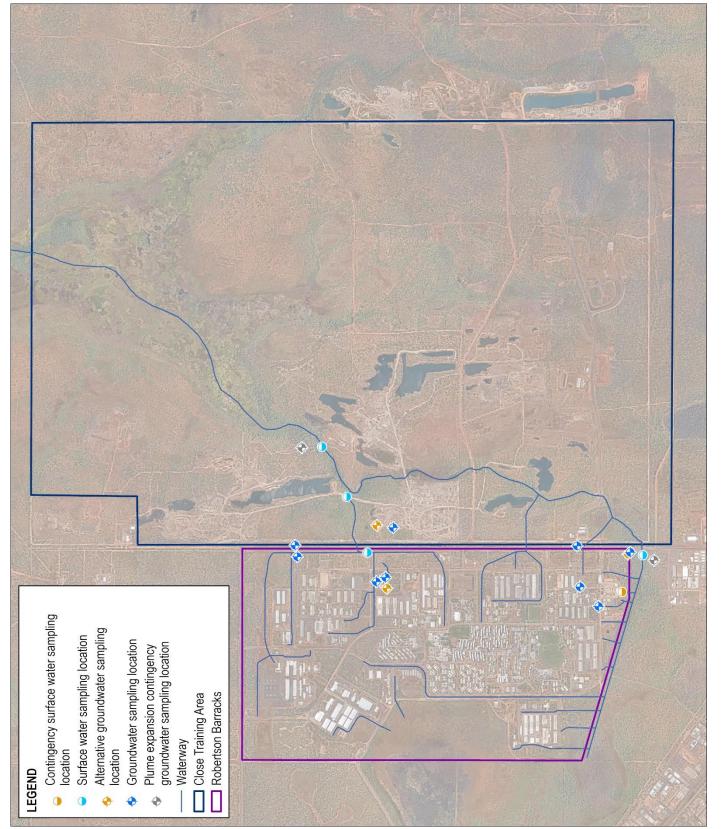
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