



October 2023 – March 2024 Ongoing Monitoring Report Robertson Barracks

KEY POINTS

- Defence undertakes monitoring on and around Robertson Barracks to understand per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) movement and concentrations in groundwater and surface water.
- Monitoring results inform PFAS management and remediation activities.
- Defence started ongoing monitoring in 2019.
- The Ongoing Monitoring Report is available on the Defence website.
- PFAS risks to people and the environment remain stable and consistent with those identified during the initial detailed investigations conducted in 2018.

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.

Background



The Ongoing Monitoring Report covers groundwater and surface water sampling undertaken between October 2023 – March 2024, from locations on and around Robertson Barracks. The report also compares the results of the new sampling data to past data collected since 2018.

What does the Ongoing Monitoring Report tell us?

The ongoing monitoring report findings do not suggest a change in any potential exposure risks for the community. Based on the samples collected on and around Robertson Barracks, Defence identified that the levels of PFAS contamination were consistent with previous data.

For more information on health risks, see the Human Health and Ecological Risk Assessment on the Defence website.

Number of samples collected and analysed

Groundwater	Surface water
	
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.
35 samples collected from 19 groundwater monitoring locations.	18 samples collected from 9 surface water 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 assess risk and understanding of PFAS movement and distribution
- continue to keep the community informed about the management and ongoing monitoring of PFAS on and around Robertson Barracks.

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/robertson-barracks

Contact us



1800 333 362



pfas.enquiry@defence.gov.au

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



