



Ongoing Monitoring Plan 2025

RAAF Base Richmond

KEY POINTS

- Defence has updated the PFAS Ongoing Monitoring Plan for RAAF Base Richmond and nearby areas.
- The Ongoing Monitoring Plan is regularly updated to reflect the latest sampling data, management actions and environmental settings.
- In updating the Ongoing Monitoring Plan, Defence consults with its Technical Advisor (an accredited Contaminated Site Auditor) and with NSW EPA.
- Sampling of groundwater and surface water will continue twice a year. Sampling of sediment will occur once 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 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 potential 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 Ongoing Monitoring Plan to make sure what, where, and how often we sample provides us a good understanding of any change in potential risk.

Background

Defence has been monitoring PFAS on and around RAAF Base Richmond since 2019. Defence undertakes this as a part of its PFAS Management Area Plan. This was last updated in 2019.

Ongoing Monitoring Plan and Ongoing Monitoring Report

The RAAF Base Richmond Ongoing Monitoring Plan outlines what, where, and how often sampling occurs.

The Ongoing Monitoring Plan also sets out what actions Defence will take if the sample results are significantly higher than previous 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, and the associated levels. 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 February 2025 Ongoing Monitoring Report for RAAF Base Richmond found that the levels of PFAS risk for the community has not changed over the monitoring period (June 2023 to July 2024). This means that the NSW Environment Protection Authority precautionary advice for landowners in the management area remains in place.

Change to the Ongoing Monitoring Plan

In April 2025, Defence updated the Ongoing Monitoring Plan for RAAF Base Richmond, in consultation with Defence Technical Advisor (an accredited Contaminated Site Auditor) and NSW EPA. It is now available to view on the Defence website.

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

The key changes in the OMP include:

- Overall reduction in groundwater sampling locations from 80 to 78, to remove damaged monitoring wells and include new locations to assess PFAS risk.
- Sediment sample frequency has been reduced to once a year, as this is sufficient to assess trends and changes to PFAS risk.
- Additional surface water sampling and flow rate measurements at 2 locations, to assess PFAS trends over time and in periods of rainfall.

Next steps

Defence will continue to monitor PFAS on and around the base, and take action if required. As new remediation actions get underway, monitoring will be undertaken to assess their effectiveness.

The revised Ongoing Monitoring Plan is available on the Defence website at:

www.defence.gov.au/about/locations-property/pfas-management-sites/raaf-base-richmond

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.



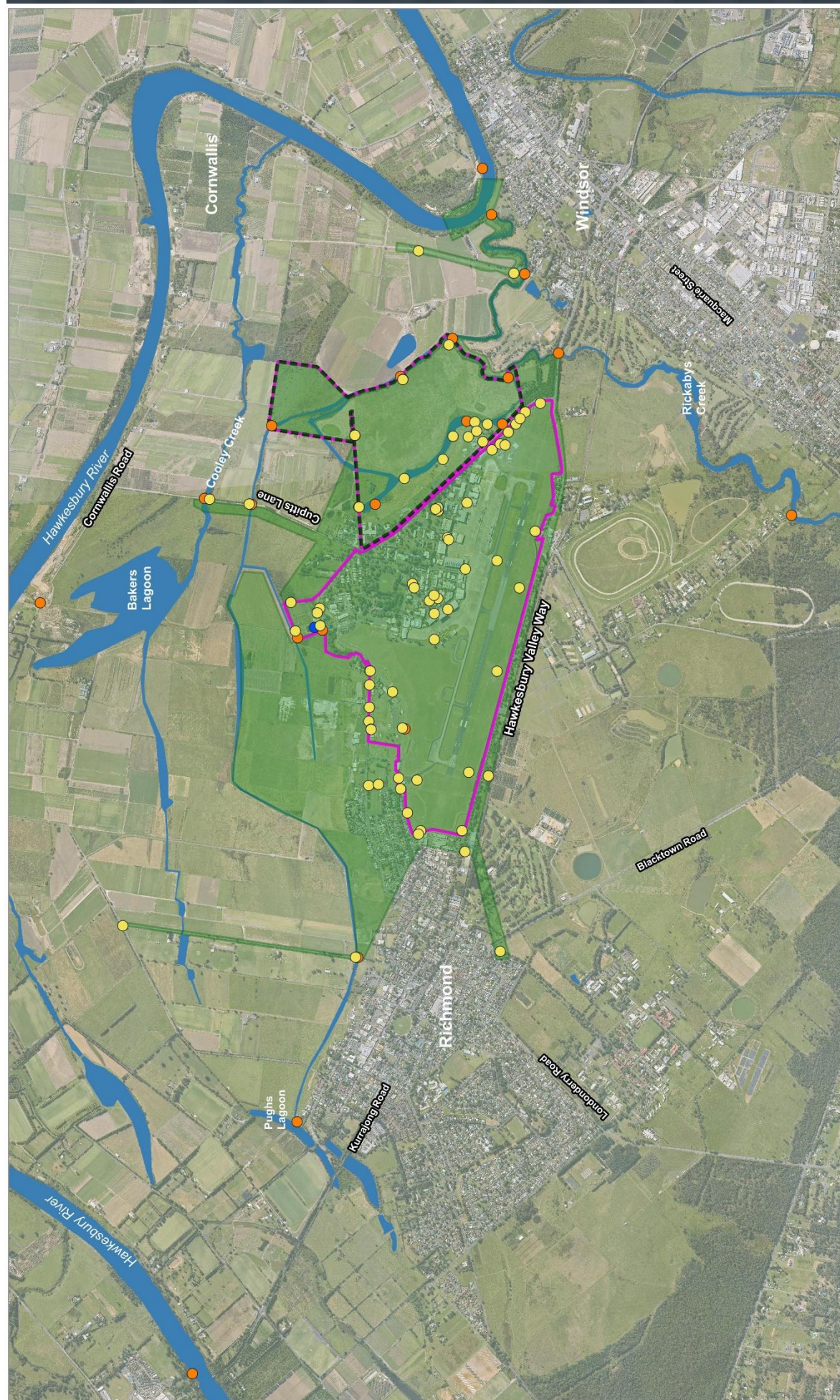


Figure 1: Sampling Locations

**RAAF Base Richmond
Ongoing Monitoring Plan**

COPYRIGHT
All information contained in this document is the property of
RAAF Base Richmond. It is to be controlled and managed as
RAAF Base Richmond information. It is to be controlled and
managed as RAAF Base Richmond information. It is to be
controlled and managed as RAAF Base Richmond information.
Information is to be controlled and managed as RAAF Base
Richmond information. It is to be controlled and managed
as RAAF Base Richmond information. It is to be controlled
and managed as RAAF Base Richmond information.

- Legend**
- Defence Site Boundary
 - Management Area
 - Rickaby's Drop Zone
 - Surface Water
 - Co-located Surface Water and Sediment Sampling Locations
 - Groundwater Sampling Locations
 - Surface Water Sampling Location

DATA SOURCES
Imagery: Landsat, 2024

SCALE 1:25,000

200 200 400 600 m

N

nation
partners

RAAF Base Richmond ongoing monitoring locations