

# **PFAS** INVESTIGATION AND MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

SERVICE COURAGE RESPECT INTEGRITY EXCELLENCE

# **RAAF Base Pearce**

2023 Ongoing Monitoring Report (October 2021 – September 2023)

Defence monitors on and around RAAF Base Pearce to understand per- and poly-fluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) movement and concentrations in groundwater, surface water, sediment and tap water. Monitoring requirements are set out in an Ongoing Monitoring Plan, and monitoring results inform PFAS management activities.

Defence started ongoing monitoring on and around RAAF Base Pearce in November 2017.

### What is an Ongoing Monitoring Report?

An Ongoing Monitoring Report collates and interprets PFAS sampling results from the ongoing monitoring events.

### **Ongoing Monitoring Report (2021-2023)**

This report covers groundwater, surface water, sediment and tap water sampling conducted between October 2021 and September 2023, from locations on and around RAAF Base Pearce.

The report compares these results with historical data.

# What does the Ongoing Monitoring Report tell us?

Sampling data indicates the levels of PFAS in groundwater, surface water, tap water and sediment were consistent with historical results.

These monitoring results do not suggest a change in the potential exposure risks to the community. Alternative drinking water supplies will continue to be provided to properties impacted by PFAS.

Defence will continue to monitor groundwater, surface water, sediment and tap water to identify any changes that may appear over time.

# Number of samples collected and analysed October 2021 – September 2023

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GROUNDWATER	Groundwater is water beneath the earth's surface. It often supplies bores, wells or springs.	216 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.	127 samples collected from 40 surface water locations.
TAP WATER	Tap water collected for this monitoring report is from taps or pumps which may have been or currently are connected to groundwater.	160 samples collected from 41 taps and private bores.
SEDIMENT	Sediment is made of broken down remains of rocks, minerals, plants and animals that is moved and deposited to a new location.	98 samples collected from 27 sediment locations.

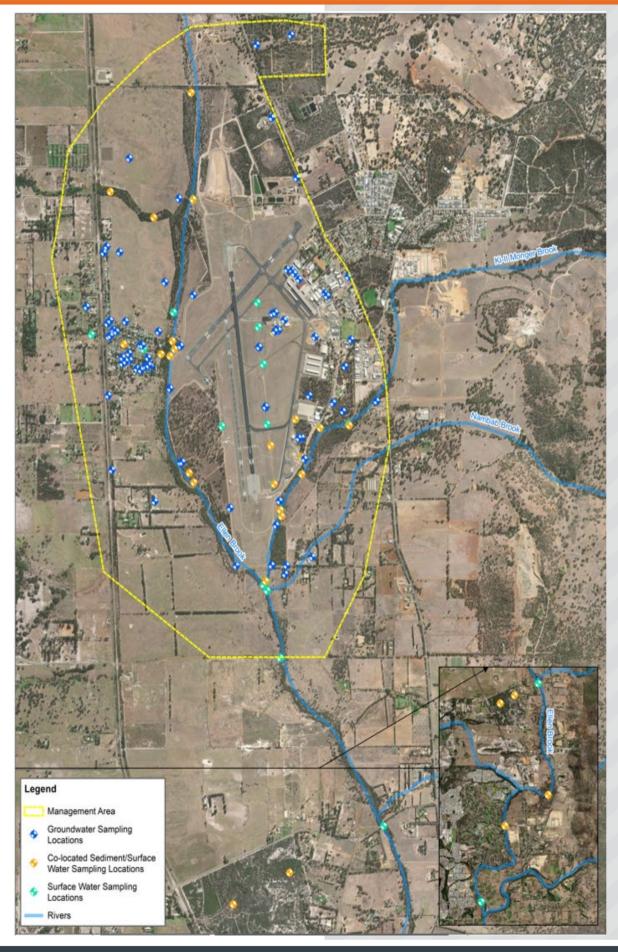
The report findings do not suggest a change in any potential exposure risks outlined in the RAAF Base Pearce PFAS Management Area Plan.

Refer to the map of the RAAF Base Pearce PFAS Management Area below, showing groundwater, sediment and surface water sampling locations.

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# RAAF Base Pearce PFAS Management Area

Groundwater, surface water and sediment monitoring locations





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### **Next steps**

Defence has continued to monitor groundwater, surface water, sediment and tap water on and around RAAF Base Pearce. Data from the 2023-2025 monitoring period will be summarised in the 2025 Ongoing Monitoring Report, expected to be released early 2026. Defence will continue monitoring to understand any changes in PFAS concentrations that may appear over time.

# Read the full RAAF Base Pearce 2023 Ongoing Monitoring Report

Scan the QR code below to access the report via the RAAF Base Pearce webpage:







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

www.defence.gov.au/about/locationsproperty/pfas/pfas-management-sites/raafbase-pearce-bullsbrook

# 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:

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

# **Keeping you informed**

Defence will continue to keep the community informed about the management and ongoing monitoring of PFAS on and around RAAF Base Pearce

# Looking for more information?



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

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



# Alternatively, you can contact:



1800 987 614



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# **Media enquiries**



Media enquiries should be directed to Defence Media via email at: media@defence.gov.au