



## October 2024 – May 2025 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 2025 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 Health has issued precautionary advice for the consumption of fish in Ipswich waterways. For more information visit website:

<https://www.qld.gov.au/environment/management/environmental/pfas/sites/ipswich>

All website links and contact details in this factsheet were correct at the time of publication but may change over time. For the most up-to-date information, please refer to [www.defence.gov.au/pfas](http://www.defence.gov.au/pfas)

#### Background




The Ongoing Monitoring Report covers groundwater, surface water and sediment sampling undertaken between October 2024 – May 2025, from locations on and around RAAF Base Amberley. The report also compares the results of the new sampling data to past data collected since 2020.

#### What does the Ongoing Monitoring Report tell us?

The distribution of PFAS in the management area has not changed significantly since the previous monitoring period (October 2023 – July 2024). The risk profile to humans, animals and plants within the management area remains unchanged since sampling was last undertaken.

PFAS are mainly leaving the base through surface water runoff from three stormwater catchments capturing water 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.
<b>89 samples collected from 45 groundwater monitoring locations.</b>	<b>100 samples collected from 61 surface water locations.</b>	<b>47 samples collected from 49 locations.</b>

#### 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 April 2026.
- continue to keep the community informed about the management and ongoing monitoring of PFAS on and around RAAF Base Amberley.
- undertake further monitoring of groundwater east of the Bremer River and south of Warrill Creek, in addition to a water use survey, to confirm that groundwater uses within the management area have not significantly changed.

#### Further information

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](http://www.defence.gov.au/about/locations-property/pfas/pfas-management-sites/raaf-base-amberley)

**Legend**

- Watercourse
- RAAF Amberley Approximate Site Boundary
- RAAF Amberley Management Area

**Groundwater Sample Locations**

- Exceeds drinking water guidelines
- PFAS not detected
- Not Sampled

**Surface Water Sample Locations**

- Exceeds drinking water and recreational water guidelines
- Exceeds drinking water guidelines
- Exceeds recreational water guidelines
- PFAS not detected
- Not Sampled

**Sediment Sample Locations**

- PFAS Detected
- PFAS not detected

Note: "PFAS" refers to PFOA, PFHxS, PFBS, PFOS and/or Sum of PFOS + PFHxS (which ever is greater)

