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PFAS INVESTIGATION AND MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

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# 2021 – 2024 Ongoing Monitoring Reports

## Jervis Bay Range Facility and HMAS *Creswell*

## KEY POINTS

- **Defence undertakes monitoring on and around Jervis Bay Range Facility and HMAS *Creswell* to understand per- and poly-fluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) movement and concentrations in groundwater, surface water and sediment.**
- **Monitoring results inform PFAS management and remediation activities.**
- **Defence started ongoing monitoring in 2021.**
- **The Ongoing Monitoring Reports are available on the Defence website.**
- **The PFAS exposure risks to people and the environment on and around Jervis Bay Range Facility and HMAS *Creswell* remains unchanged.**

## What is an Ongoing Monitoring Report?

An Ongoing Monitoring Report collates and interprets PFAS sampling results collected as part of the Ongoing Monitoring Plan.

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

This ensures Defence maintains an up-to-date understanding of risk that the community may be exposed to from PFAS coming from the bases. This understanding helps us work out the best way to minimise that risk.

### 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 2025, and;
- continue to keep the community informed about the management and ongoing monitoring of PFAS on and around JBRF and HMAS *Creswell*.

### Background

The Ongoing Monitoring Reports cover groundwater, surface water, sediment and tank water sampling undertaken between October 2021 – October 2024, from locations on and around Jervis Bay Range Facility (JBRF) and HMAS *Creswell*. The reports also compare the results of recent sampling data to older data collected since 2017.

### What do the Ongoing Monitoring Reports tell us?

- The levels of per- and poly- fluoroalkyl (PFAS) contamination in groundwater, surface water and sediment in creeks, and tank water have been generally consistent.
- Base upgrades at JBRF may have contributed to an increase in PFAS levels in the Flatrock Creek catchment. Erosion and sediment controls were in place to reduce soil and water moving off base.
- Additional sediment testing is required at the Clay Pools located west of JBRF.
- There is no change to the potential exposure risks to people and the environment.

### Precautionary advice

The Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications Sport and the Arts (DITRDCSA) has issued precautionary advice for users of waterways in the Jervis Bay Territory. The precautionary advice is that Mary Creek is closed for all use and that the collection and eating of seafood from Summercloud Creek, Flat Rock Creek and Captains Lagoon should be avoided. For more information on precautionary advice, please refer to the DITRDCSA website: Precautionary signage regarding PFAS | DITRDCSA

### Number of samples collected and analysed

| Groundwater | Surface water | Sediment | Tank 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. | Biota are the animals and plants within an area such as edible fish and crustaceans. | Recycled Training Tank water is water located on Jervis Bay Range Facility associated with sumps and tanks. |
| **2021 – 2023 Monitoring Period** | | | |
| **249 samples collected from 53 groundwater monitoring locations.** | **298 samples collected from 74 surface water locations.** | **259 samples collected from 63 sediment locations.** | **30 samples collected from 6 tanks.** |
| **2024 Monitoring Period** | | | |
| **151 samples from 89 locations.** | **152 samples from 76 locations.** | **126 samples from 64 locations.** | **12 samples from 6 tanks.** |

### Further information

A full copy of the Ongoing Monitoring Reports are available on the Defence website at: www.defence.gov.au/about/locations-property/pfas/pfas-management-sites/jervis-bay-range-facility

### Contact us


1800 987 618

**pfas.enquiry@defence.gov.au**


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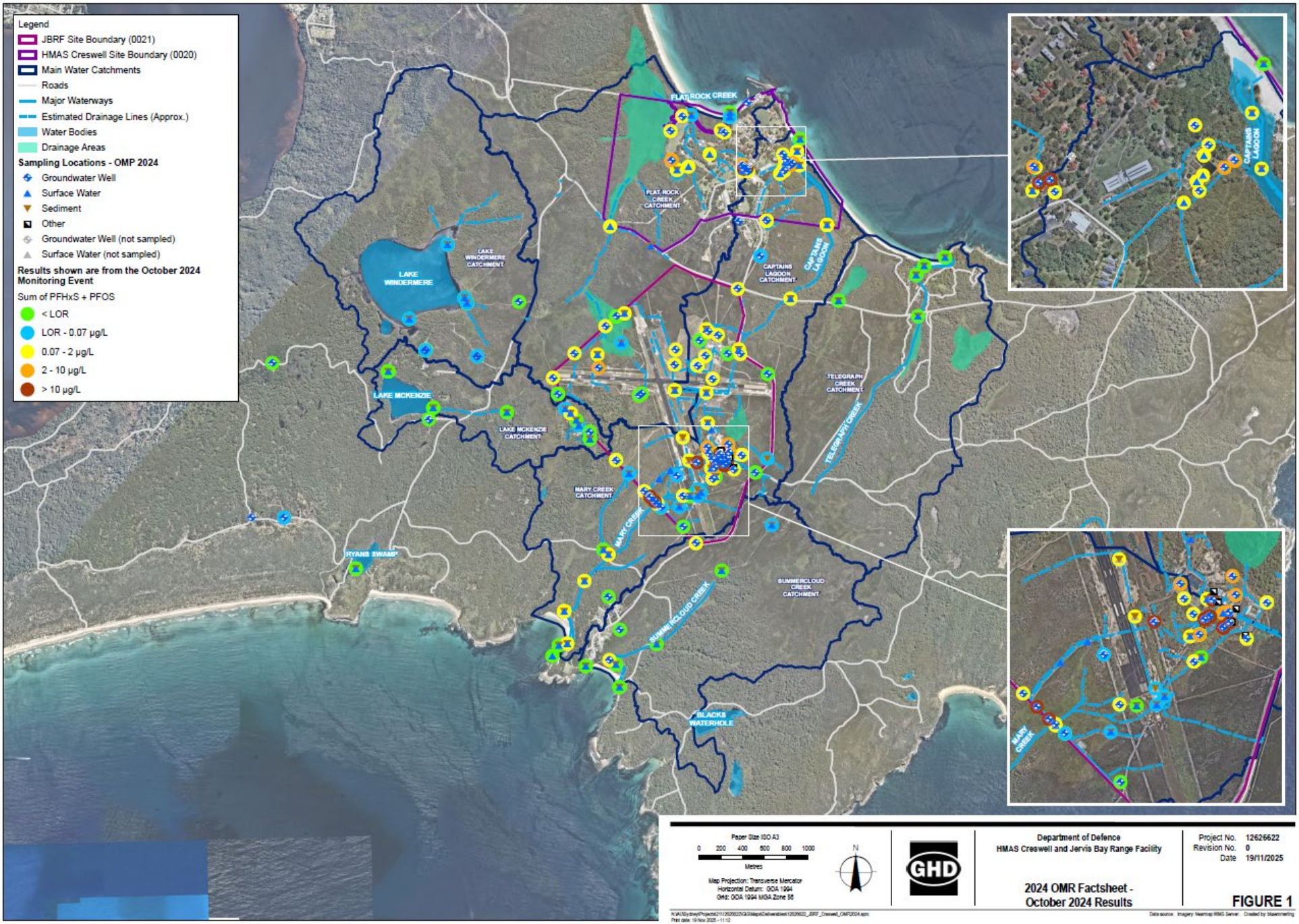


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