



HMAS *Stirling*

Ongoing Monitoring Report (October 2022 – September 2023)

Defence monitors HMAS *Stirling* to understand per- and poly-fluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) movement and concentrations in groundwater, surface water, pore water and sediment. Monitoring requirements are set out in an Ongoing Monitoring Plan, and monitoring results inform PFAS management activities. Defence started ongoing monitoring at HMAS *Stirling* 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 (2023)

This report covers groundwater, surface water, pore water and sediment sampling conducted between October 2022 and September 2023, from locations on HMAS *Stirling*. The report compares the results of the new sampling data with historical data.

What does the Ongoing Monitoring Report tell us?

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

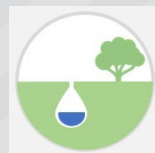
Results suggest PFAS is likely to be slowly moving towards the coastline and being diluted with the coastal tides.

Defence is continuing to monitor in this area to identify any changes over time.

The report findings do not suggest a change in any potential exposure risks outlined in the HMAS *Stirling* PFAS Management Area Plan.

Number of samples collected and analysed October 2022 – September 2023

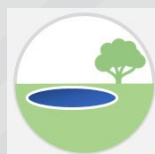
GROUNDWATER



Groundwater is water beneath the earth's surface. It often supplies bores, wells or springs.

238 samples collected from 62 groundwater monitoring locations.

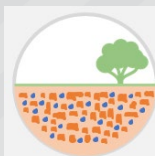
SURFACE WATER



Surface water is water that collects on the ground and can be in the form of creeks, rivers, lakes, wetlands, oceans and more.

111 samples collected from 28 surface water locations.

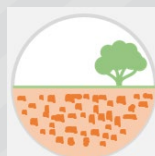
PORE WATER



Pore water is water that is present between individual grains of sand in the ground.

156 samples collected from 39 pore water locations.

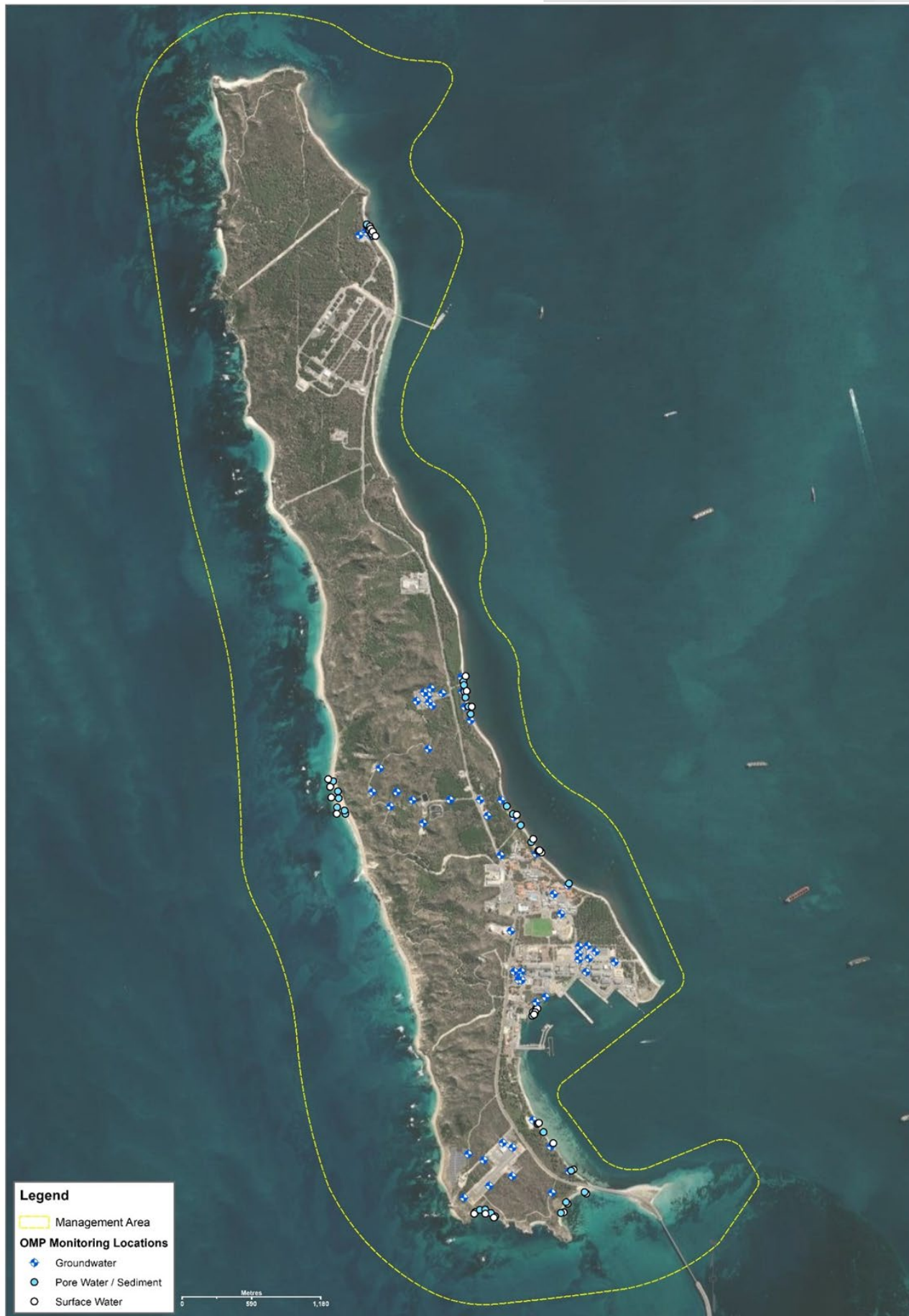
SEDIMENT



Sediment is made of broken down remains of rocks, minerals, plants and animals that is moved and deposited to a new location.

156 samples collected from 39 sediment locations.

Refer to the map of the HMAS *Stirling* PFAS Management Area below, showing groundwater, surface water, pore water and sediment sampling locations.



HMAS Stirling PFAS Management Area

Groundwater, surface water, pore water and sediment monitoring locations



Australian Government
Defence

PFAS INVESTIGATION AND MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

SERVICE
COURAGE
RESPECT
INTEGRITY
EXCELLENCE

Next steps

Defence will continue monitoring groundwater, surface water, pore water and sediment on HMAS *Stirling* to understand any changes in PFAS concentrations that may appear over time.

Read the full HMAS *Stirling* 2023 Ongoing Monitoring Report

Scan the QR code below to access the report via the HMAS *Stirling* webpage:



Or, use the link below to access the Ongoing Monitoring Report:
www.defence.gov.au/about/locations-property/pfas/pfas-management-sites/hmas-stirling-garden-island



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For more information contact 131 450 or visit: www.tisnational.gov.au

*Calls from mobile phones may attract a higher rate.

Keeping you informed

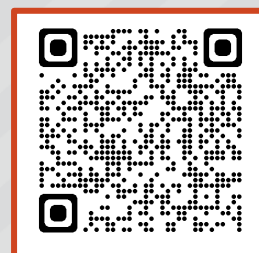
Defence will continue to keep the community informed about the management and ongoing monitoring of PFAS on and around HMAS *Stirling*.

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/location-s-property/pfas/defence-approach>



Alternatively, you can contact:



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Media enquiries



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