



2026 Ongoing Monitoring Plan

RAAF Base Williams, Laverton and RAAF Base Point Cook

KEY POINTS

- Defence has updated the PFAS Ongoing Monitoring Plan for RAAF Base Williams, Laverton and RAAF Base Point Cook 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 an accredited site contamination auditor and with the Environment Protection Authority Victoria.
- Sampling of groundwater and surface water will continue twice a year at Point Cook, and once a year at Laverton.
- Monitoring results are published in an Ongoing Monitoring Report.
- All publicly available plans and reports are published on the Defence website.

What is an Ongoing Monitoring Plan?

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

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.

Defence regularly reviews and updates the OMP to make sure what, where, and how often we sample provides us a good understanding of any change in PFAS risks.

Background

Defence has been monitoring per- and poly- fluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) on and around RAAF Base Williams, Laverton since March 2023, and RAAF Base Point Cook since December 2024. This monitoring is part of Defence's PFAS Management Area Plan (PMAP) for each base.

Ongoing Monitoring Plan and Ongoing Monitoring Report

The RAAF Base Williams, Laverton and RAAF Base Point Cook Ongoing Monitoring Plan (OMP) outlines what Defence is sampling, where the sampling will take place, and how often it will occur.

The OMP also sets out what actions Defence will take if the sample results are significantly higher than previous results 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, or the levels of PFAS found. This tells us whether a new action is required.

Defence publishes the results in an Ongoing Monitoring Report (OMR). The latest data for RAAF Williams, Laverton found that the levels of PFAS risk for the community have not changed over the monitoring period. This means that the precautionary advice for the consumption of fish and eels within Skeleton Creek remains in place. For more information, visit the Environment Protection Authority (EPA) Victoria website: www.epa.vic.gov.au/17352-consumption-advice-recreationally-caught-fish

Change to the Ongoing Monitoring Plan

In 2026, Defence combined and updated the OMP for RAAF Base Williams, Laverton and RAAF Base Point Cook, in consultation with an independent site contamination auditor accredited by the EPA Victoria. It is now available to view on the Defence website.

Key changes in the OMP:

- **RAAF Williams, Laverton:** Monitoring frequency was updated to annual from biannual. Ten additional groundwater and four additional surface water sampling locations have been added.
- **RAAF Base Point Cook:** Monitoring network was optimised by removing four groundwater and six surface water sampling locations. Eleven groundwater and four surface water sampling locations that were either unable to be installed, or are inaccessible, have been removed.

Defence made these changes based on existing data and a forward projection of what data would inform future potential PFAS risks to the community.

Next steps

Defence will continue to monitor PFAS on and around RAAF Base Williams, Laverton and RAAF Base Point Cook. The 2026 OMR will be published on the website once finalised.

The updated OMP is available on the Defence website at:

www.defence.gov.au/about/locations-property/pfas/pfas-management-sites/raaf-williams-laverton-raaf-base-point-cook

Contact us



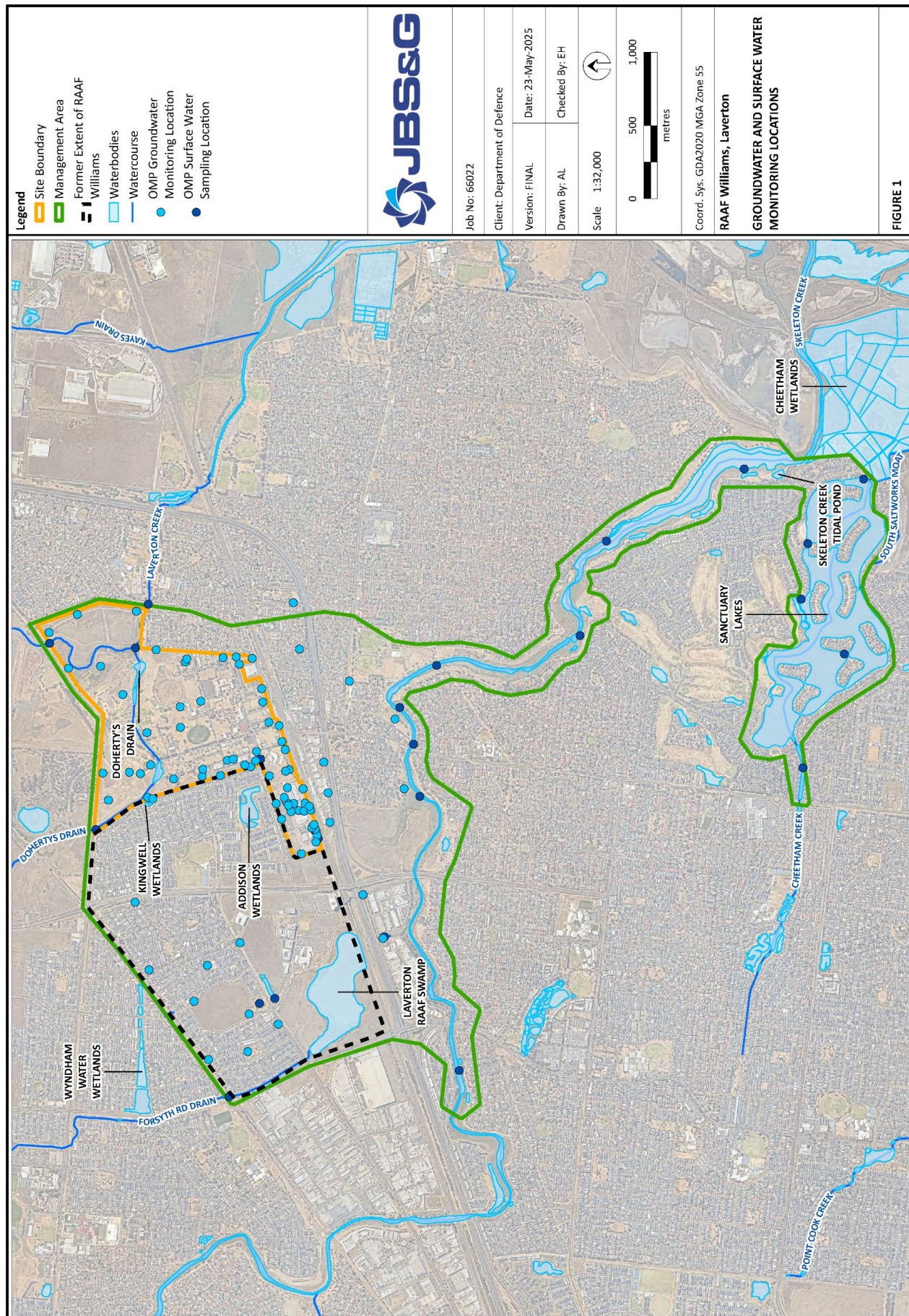
1800 333 362



pfas.enquiry@defence.gov.au

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RAAF Base Williams, Laverton ongoing monitoring locations



RAAF Base Point Cook ongoing monitoring locations