



## RAAF Base Edinburgh

### Annual Interpretive Report (January 2021 – August 2021)

Defence undertakes monitoring on and around RAAF Base Edinburgh to understand per- and poly-fluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) movement and concentrations in water. The monitoring requirements are set out in an Ongoing Monitoring Plan.

The monitoring results inform PFAS management and remediation activities. Defence started ongoing monitoring on and around RAAF Base Edinburgh in 2019.

#### What is an Annual Interpretive Report?

An Annual Interpretive Report collates and interprets PFAS sampling results from the Ongoing Monitoring Plan.

#### Annual Interpretive Report

This report covers surface water and groundwater sampling conducted between January 2021 and August 2021, from locations on and around RAAF Base Edinburgh. The Annual Interpretive Report also compares the results of the new sampling to previous results.

#### What does the Report tell us?

Based on the samples collected on and around RAAF Base Edinburgh, the report identified:

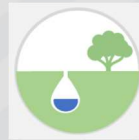
- The levels of PFAS were generally consistent with the previous sampling results.
- The highest PFAS concentrations in groundwater and surface water were located at, or near, known on-base source areas.
- During the monitoring period, on-base groundwater locations reported lower PFAS concentrations compared to previous results.
- Variations in results were recorded at some groundwater locations due to seasonal influence (higher rainfall during wet season).

- Lower levels of PFAS were recorded in off-base groundwater and surface water locations, with levels decreasing with distance from the base.

The findings from the Annual Interpretive Report **do not** suggest a change in any potential exposure risks for the community.

#### Number of samples collected and analysed (January 2021 – August 2021)

##### GROUNDWATER



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

414 samples collected from 105 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.

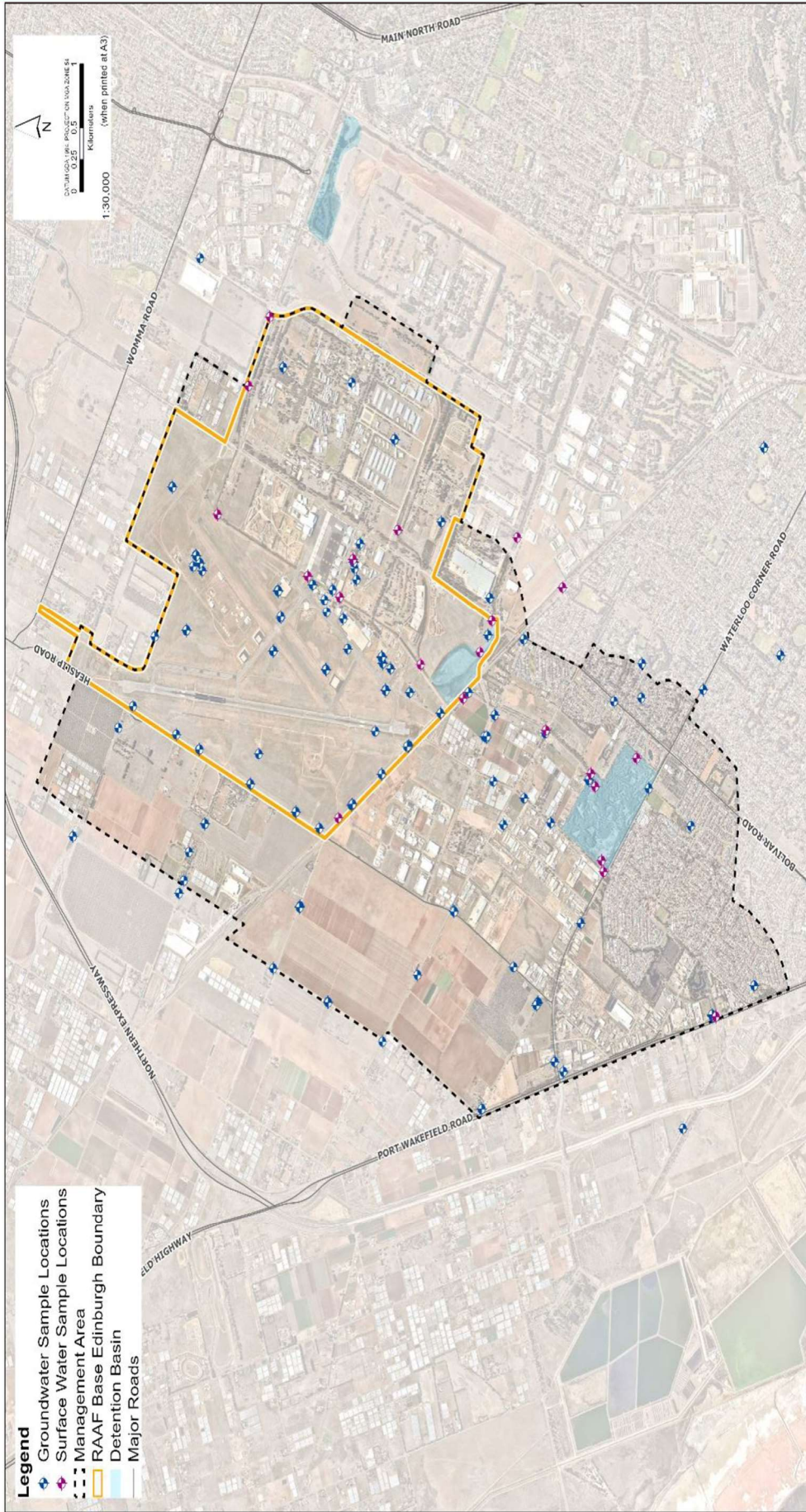
77 samples collected from 21 surface water locations.

#### Precautionary advice

The South Australian Environment Protection Authority (EPA) has established a groundwater prohibition area between the RAAF Base Edinburgh precinct to the Barker Inlet, to prevent residents from accessing contaminated groundwater. The aim of the groundwater prohibition area is to protect current and future residents from accessing contaminated groundwater via a bore on their property. For further information, please refer to the EPA's website by visiting: <https://engage.epa.sa.gov.au/edinburgh>

#### Next steps

Defence will continue monitoring on and around RAAF Base Edinburgh to further understand any changes in PFAS concentrations that may appear over time. This Annual Interpretive Report and all other documents for RAAF Base Edinburgh are available on the Defence website (see page 3).



**Figure 1**  
**RAAF Base Edinburgh Monitoring Locations**



## Keeping you informed

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

### Read the full January 2021 – August 2021 RAAF Base Edinburgh Annual Interpretive Report



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



Or, use the website link below to access  
the Annual Interpretive Report:

<https://www.defence.gov.au/about/locations-property/pfas/pfas-management-sites/raaf-base-edinburgh>

### 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 : <https://www.tisnational.gov.au/>

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

### Looking for more information?



Scan the QR code below for more  
information on how Defence manages  
PFAS contamination, or visit the website:

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



### Alternatively, you can contact:



1800 333 362



[pfas.enquiry@defence.gov.au](mailto:pfas.enquiry@defence.gov.au)

### Media enquiries



Media enquiries should be directed to  
the Defence media centre on  
**(02) 6217 1999** or via email at  
[media@defence.gov.au](mailto:media@defence.gov.au)