



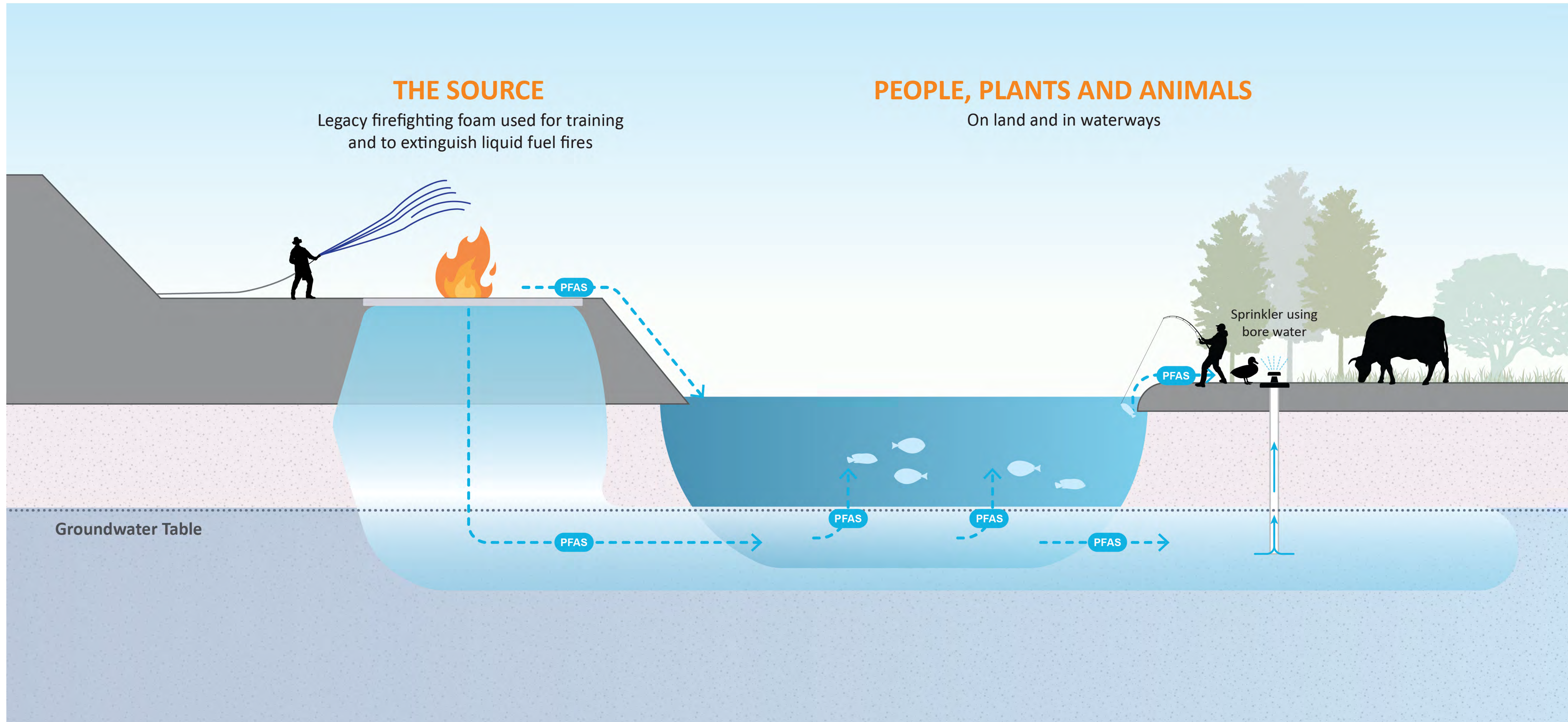
## How PFAS moves in the environment

### THE SOURCE

Legacy firefighting foam used for training and to extinguish liquid fuel fires

### PEOPLE, PLANTS AND ANIMALS

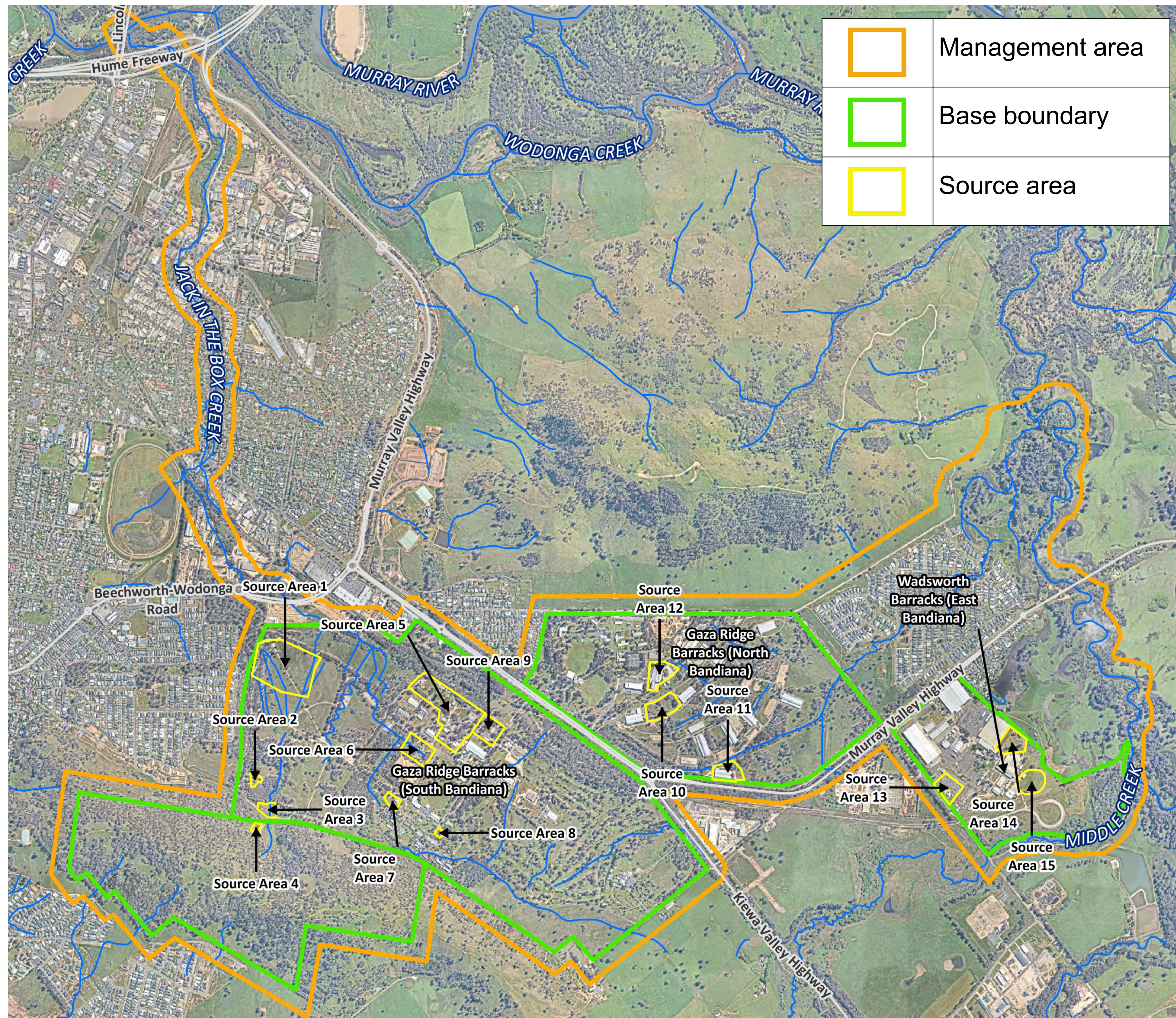
On land and in waterways







## Bandiana Military Area – management area and source areas



### Identifying key source areas for remediation

- PFAS in soil and groundwater is mostly concentrated in areas where firefighting foams were disposed of, previously used or stored. These are commonly referred to as source areas.
- Defence's priority is to reduce people's exposure to PFAS by remediating source areas with high concentrations, and manage the amount of PFAS leaving the site..
- Defence's investigations initially identified 15 potential source areas with further investigations identifying two key source areas.
- The two key sources areas are the former fire training area (source area 6) and current fire training area (source area 13).





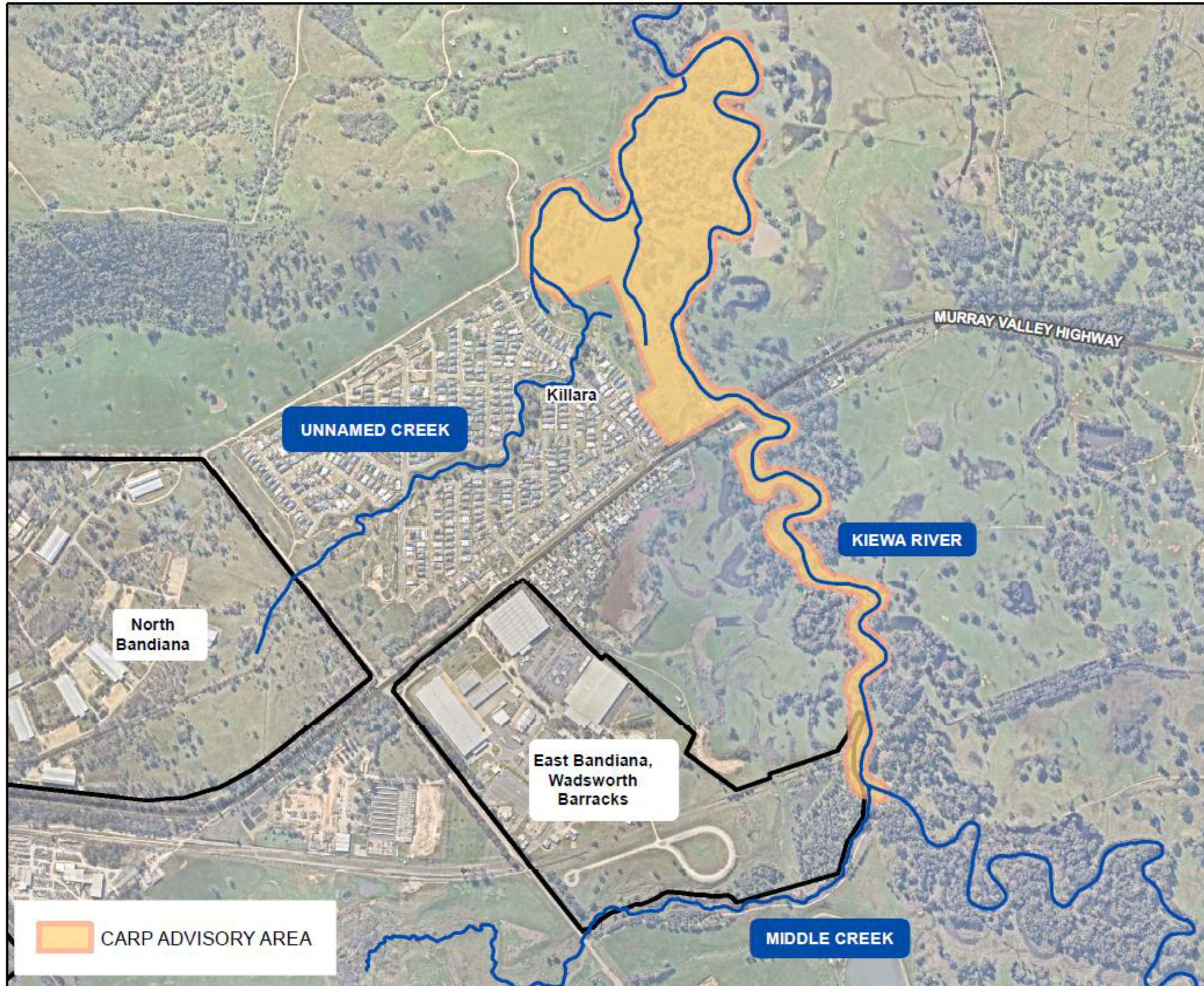
## Bandiana Military Area program timeline







## Precautionary advice for carp consumption



- EPA Victoria has issued precautionary advice regarding carp consumption from the Kiewa River.
- Defence has installed signs along the river to keep the community informed about the consumption advice.

### CAUTION

This area has been tested for PFAS contamination. EPA Victoria recommends you do not eat carp caught in this location.

This advice is only relevant to carp and does not include other fish species.



For further information, please contact  
[www.defence.gov.au/environment/pfas/Bandiana/](http://www.defence.gov.au/environment/pfas/Bandiana/) or  
phone 1800 531 615







## Remediation planning

- Defence is developing a remediation action plan for the key source areas on the base.
- The aim of remediation is to manage source areas and minimise PFAS leaving the base.
- Over time, this will reduce PFAS on and around the Bandiana Military Area.
- For the Gaza Ridge Barracks, remediation activities will focus on PFAS in the soil to reduce the amount of PFAS moving through surface water.
- For the Wadsworth barracks, remediation will focus on managing PFAS movement through groundwater.



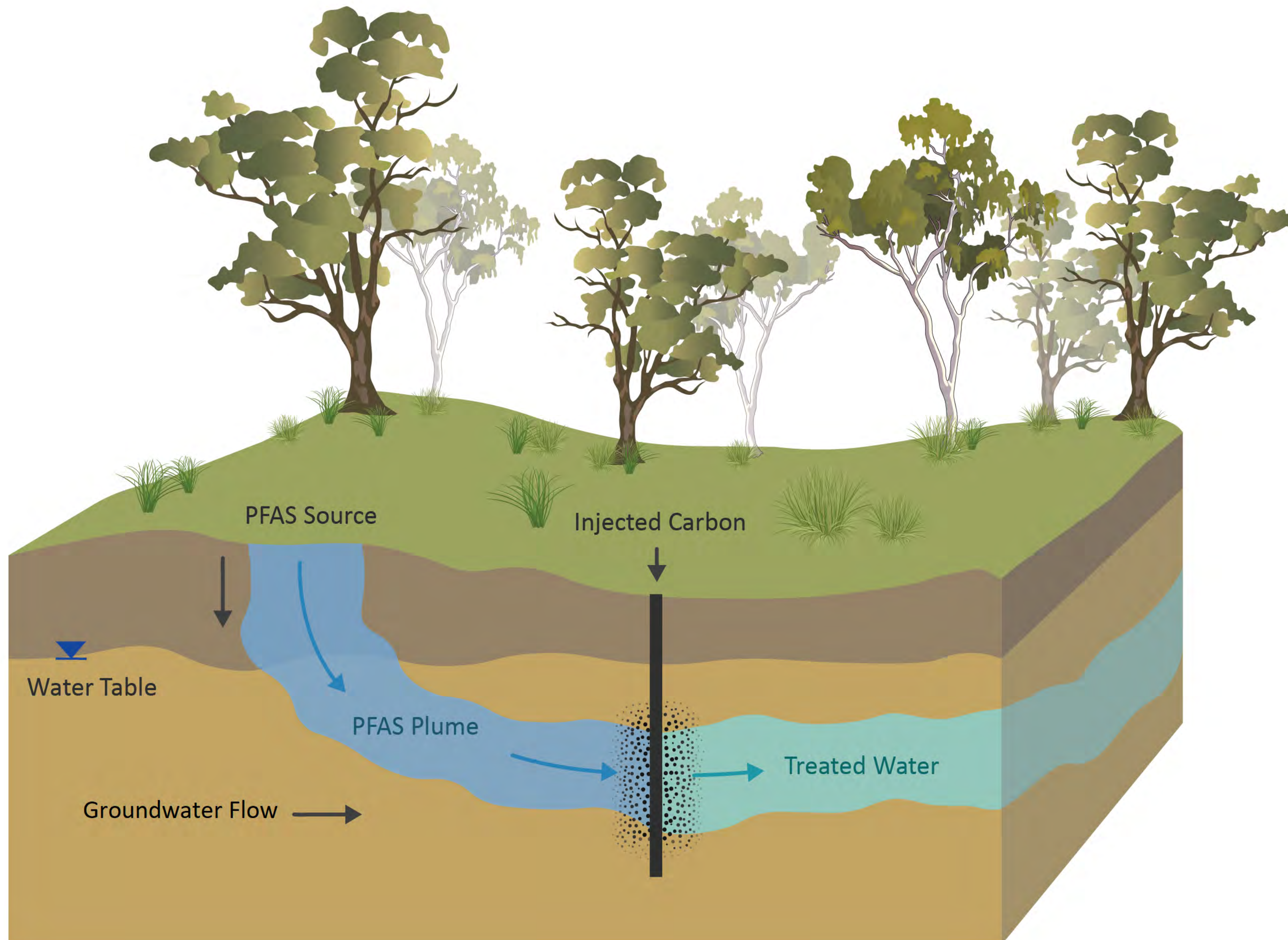
*Top: the former fire training area on Gaza Ridge Barracks.*

*Bottom: the current fire station on Wadsworth Barracks.*





## Remediation planning at Wadsworth Barracks, east Bandiana



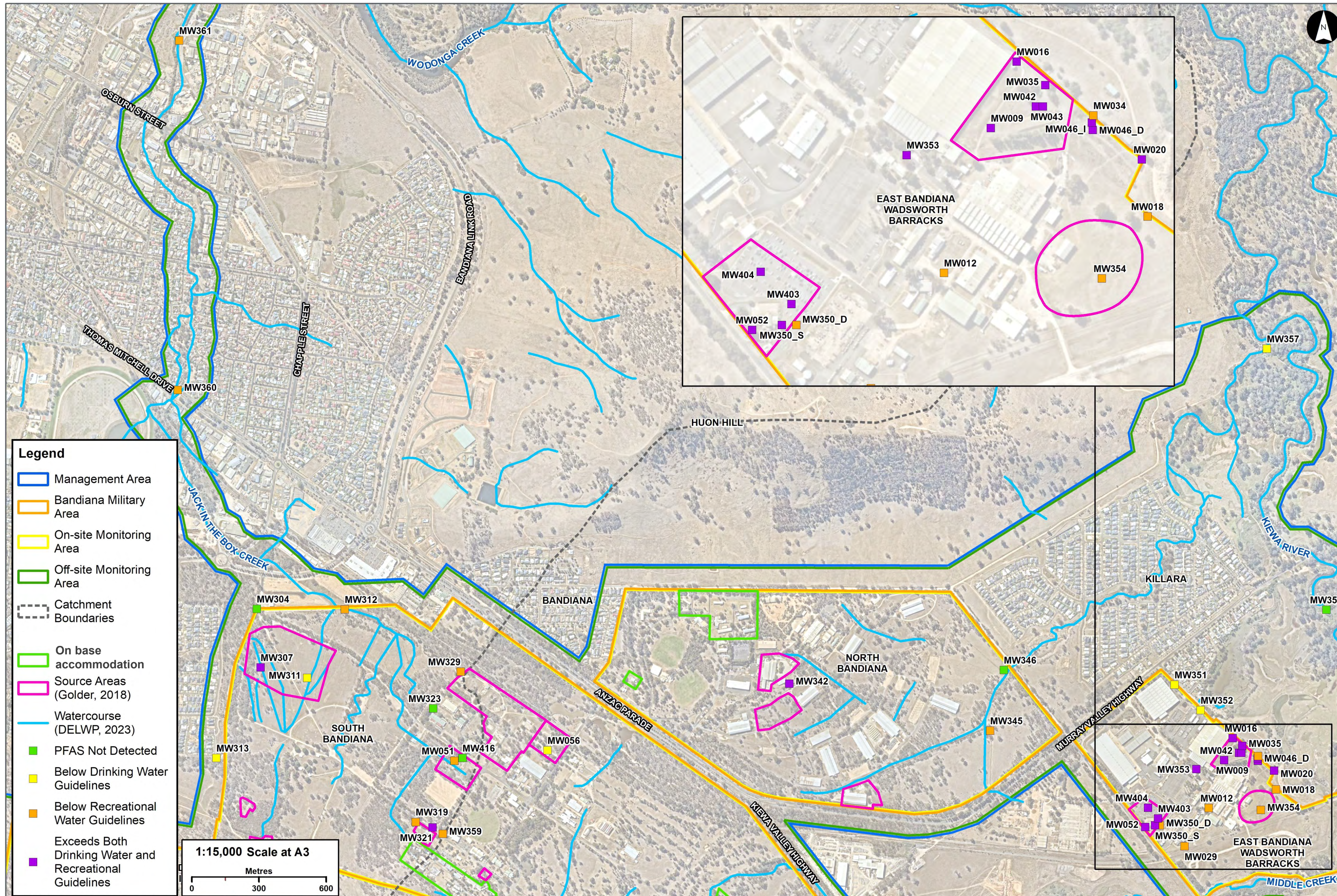
### Remediating PFAS using activated carbon

- Defence is planning to install remedial measures to capture PFAS in groundwater at the base boundary of Wadsworth Barracks, east Bandiana.
- These measures include a passive groundwater barrier of injected carbon that captures the PFAS as water flows through it.





## Groundwater sampling locations and latest results



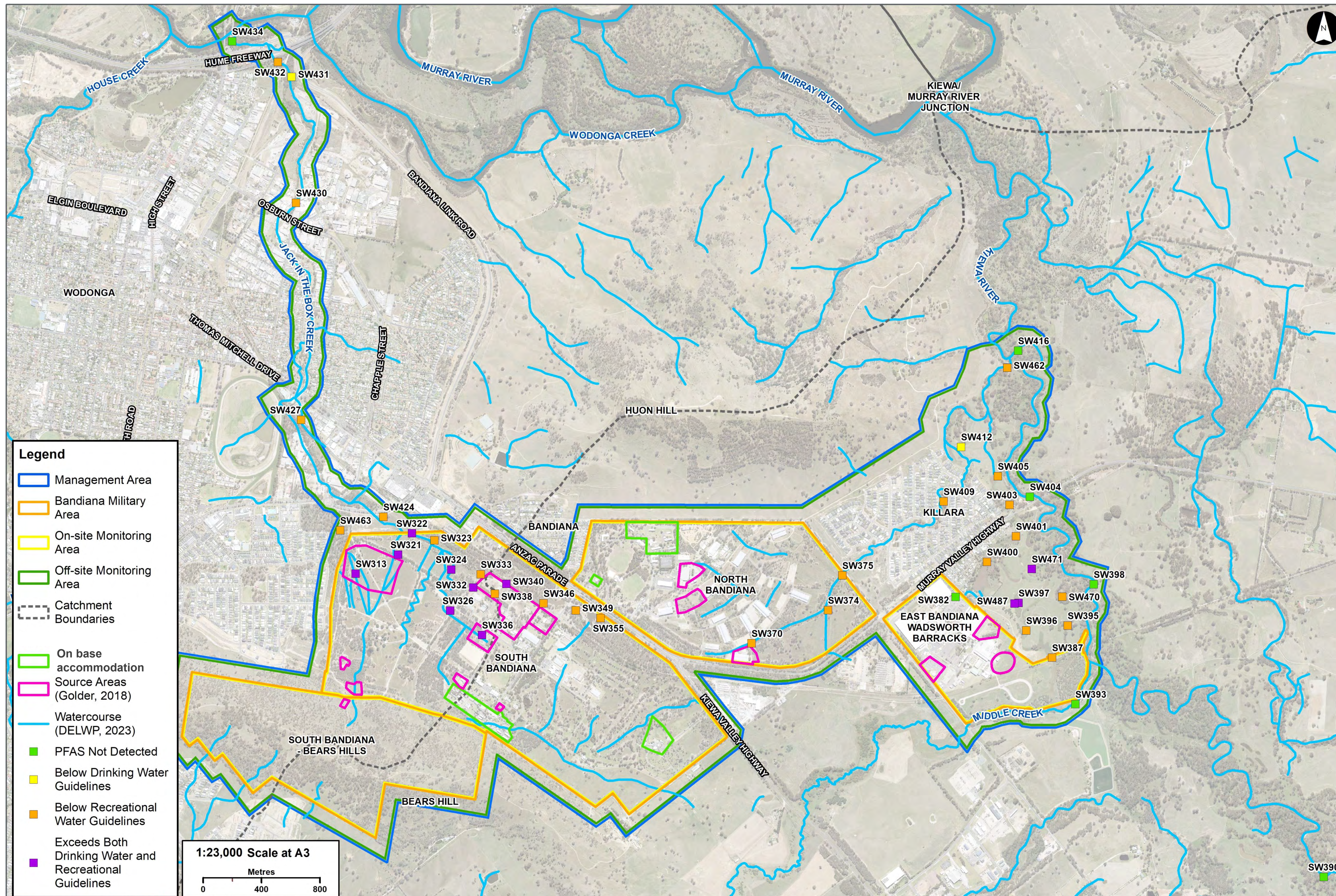
### Monitoring information

- Defence samples groundwater every May and October.
- During both 2023 sampling rounds, 73 samples were collected from groundwater monitoring locations.





## Surface water sampling locations and latest results



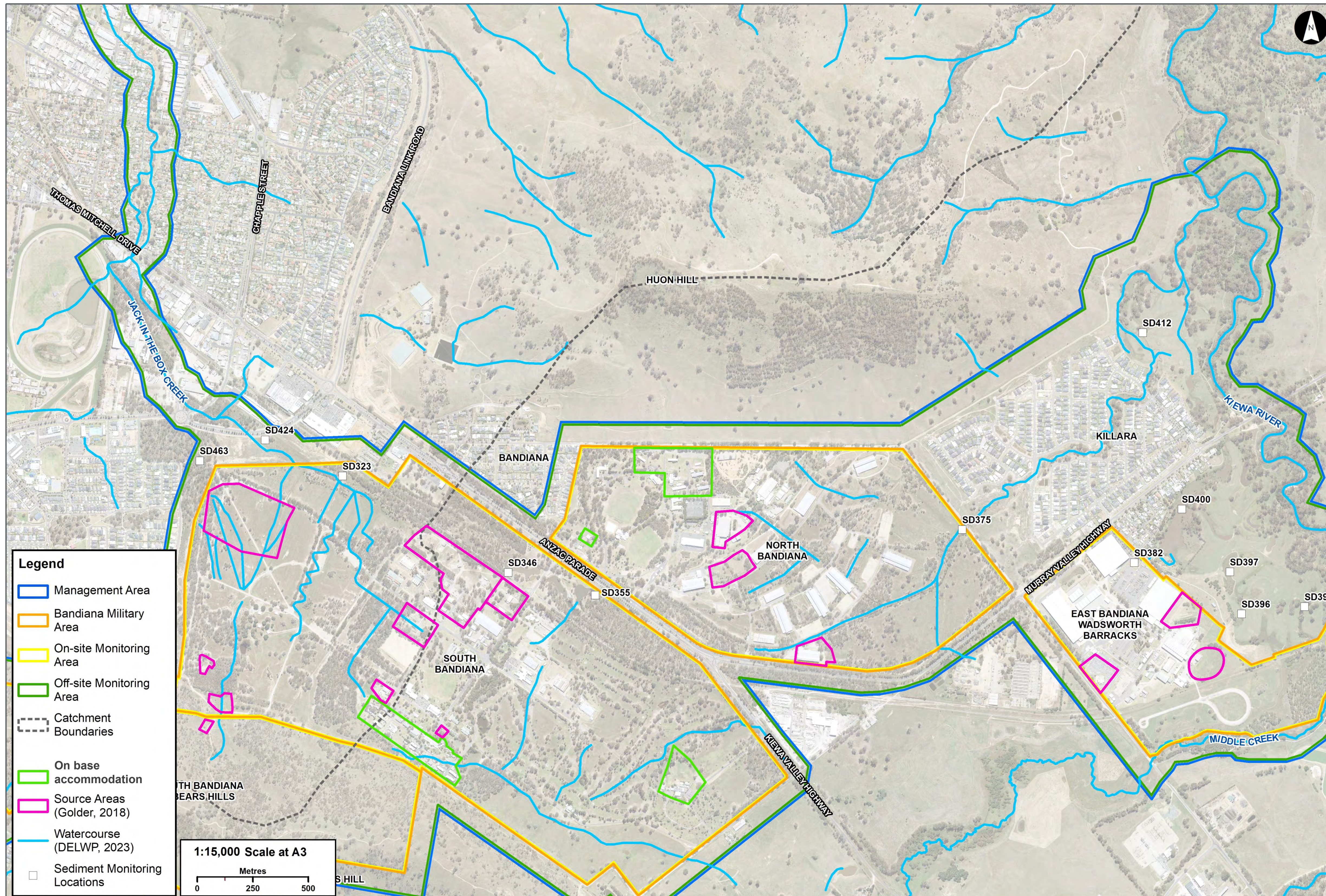
### Monitoring information

- Surface water sampling is undertaken every May and October.
- During both 2023 sampling rounds, 93 samples were collected from surface water locations.





## Sediment sampling locations



### Monitoring information

- Sediment sampling is undertaken every May and October.
- During both 2023 sampling rounds, 12 samples were collected from sediment locations.





## 2023 Ongoing monitoring key findings

Sampling	Findings
<b>Groundwater</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Groundwater flow direction consistent with previous monitoring rounds.</li> <li>• Depth to groundwater levels were generally higher (i.e. closer to the surface), than previous monitoring results. This is likely caused by above average rainfall during the sampling months.</li> <li>• New maximum concentrations were reported at five on-base groundwater monitoring locations.</li> <li>• These new maximum concentrations are likely due to the movement of PFAS as a result of above average rainfall.</li> <li>• Otherwise, concentrations of PFAS in groundwater were consistent with historical results.</li> </ul>
<b>Surface water</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• One new maximum concentration reported in an off base sampling location on a residential property. Defence is working with the resident to reduce further PFAS moving onto their property.</li> <li>• Otherwise, concentrations of PFAS in surface water were within historical ranges</li> </ul>
<b>Sediment</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Concentrations of PFAS in sediment were generally consistent with historical results.</li> </ul>

- There has been no change to the ways that people, plants, animals are exposed to PFAS from the base.
- Health studies completed in 2020 found the exposure risk from PFAS to community members was low. The latest monitoring results indicate there is no change in risk to community members.
- The risk to plants and animals in the management area, also remains unchanged.
- Community members are encouraged to continue following EPA Victoria's precautionary advice for the consumption of carp.