



RAAF Base Williamtown

Ongoing Monitoring Report July 2021 - December 2023

Defence monitors on and around RAAF Base Williamtown to understand per- and poly-fluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) movement and concentrations in soil, groundwater, surface water, sediment, and aquatic animals (such as fish and crustaceans). Monitoring takes place in accordance with the Ongoing Monitoring Plan for Williamtown.

Defence uses the monitoring results to inform PFAS management and remediation activities.

What is an Ongoing Monitoring Report?

An Ongoing Monitoring Report collates and interprets PFAS sampling activities as outlined in the Ongoing Monitoring Plan, and compares the results of each location with previous sampling and monitoring data.

Ongoing Monitoring Report

This report covers sampling for PFAS conducted between July 2021 to December 2023, from locations on and around RAAF Base Williamtown. The ongoing monitoring report also compares the results of the new sampling to previous results to see if there are any significant changes to the extent and levels of PFAS in the Management Area and on the base.

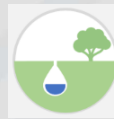
What does the Ongoing Monitoring Report tell us?

The findings from the Ongoing Monitoring Report do not suggest a change in any potential exposure risks for the community between 2021 and 2023.

Based on the samples collected on and around RAAF Base Williamtown, the levels of PFAS are consistent with historical results. The extent of the groundwater plumes are largely unchanged. PFAS concentrations have decreased in remediated source areas, and the northeastern extent of the groundwater plume towards Salt Ash.

Number of samples collected and analysed July 2021 – December 2023)

GROUNDWATER



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

546 samples collected from 157 groundwater monitoring locations.

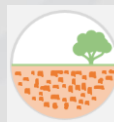
SURFACE WATER



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

105 samples collected from 23 surface water locations.

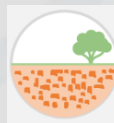
SEDIMENT



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

121 samples collected from 26 sediment locations.

SOIL



Soil consists of inorganic particles and organic matter. Samples are taken from the soil surface.

48 samples collected from 12 soil locations.

BIOTA



Biota is all living things in the environment including plants and animals.

12 samples collected.

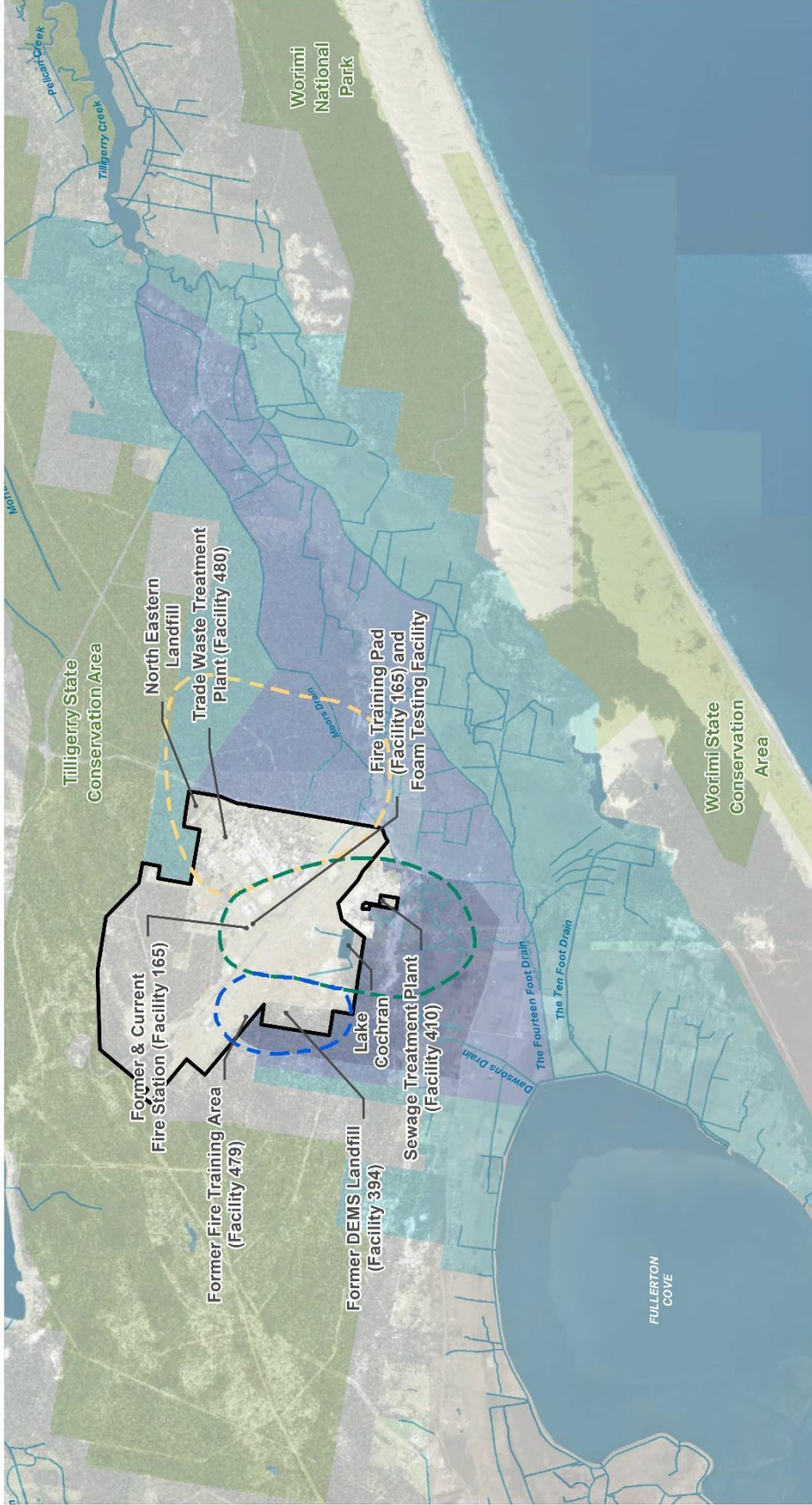
Precautionary advice

The NSW Environment Protection Authority (EPA) has issued precautionary advice for the area surrounding RAAF Base Williamtown. For further information, please refer to the NSW EPA website.

www.epa.nsw.gov.au/working-together/community-engagement/updates-on-issues/raaf-williamtown-contamination/williamtown-precautionary-advice

Next steps

Defence's PFAS monitoring, remediation and management activities are ongoing. This Ongoing Monitoring Report and all other reports and factsheets prepared for RAAF Base Williamtown are available on the Defence website (see on page 3).



RAAF Base Williamtown PFAS Management and Monitoring Area



Keeping you informed

Defence will continue to keep the community informed about the management and ongoing monitoring of PFAS. The Ongoing Monitoring Report and all other historical reports and factsheets prepared for RAAF Base Williamtown are available on the Defence website.

Read the full RAAF Base Williamtown Ongoing Monitoring Report



Scan the QR code below:



Or, use the link below to access the
Ongoing Monitoring Report:

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

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: www.tisnational.gov.au

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

Looking for more information?



Scan the QR code below to find out more about Defence's PFAS Investigation and Management program, or visit the website:

www.defence.gov.au/about/locations-property/pfas



Alternatively, you can contact:



1800 011 443



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Media enquiries



Media enquiries should be directed to Defence Media via email at: media@defence.gov.au