Wide Bay Training Area

Ongoing Monitoring Report (January to December 2023)

Defence undertakes monitoring on and around Wide Bay Training Area to understand per- and poly-fluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) movement and its concentrations in soil and water. The monitoring results inform PFAS management and remediation activities. Monitoring requirements are set out in an Ongoing Monitoring Plan. Defence started ongoing monitoring on and around Wide Bay Training Area in 2020.

What is an Ongoing Monitoring Report?

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

Ongoing Monitoring Report 2023

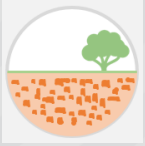
This report covers groundwater, surface water and sediment sampling conducted between January and December 2023, from locations on and around Wide Bay Training Area. The Ongoing Monitoring Report also compares the results of the new sampling to previous results.

What does the Ongoing Monitoring Report tell us?

Based on the samples collected on and around Wide Bay Training Area, the levels of PFAS contamination were similar to previous results. The monitoring identified that the extent of PFAS in groundwater in Camp Kerr is stable and there is no indication that PFAS are migrating in groundwater off-base towards Wallu. PFAS concentrations in surface water in drainage lines, dams, and watercourses near the base were similar to previous results, indicating stable conditions.

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

Number of samples collected and analysed (January– December 2023)

GROUNDWATER 	Groundwater is water beneath the earth's surface. It often supplies bores, wells or springs.	36 samples collected from 18 groundwater monitoring locations.
SURFACE WATER 	Surface water is water that collects on the ground and can be in the form of creeks, rivers, lakes and wetlands.	23 samples collected from 12 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.	14 samples collected from 12 sediment locations.

Next steps

Defence will continue monitoring on and around Wide Bay Training Area to further understand any changes in PFAS concentrations that may appear over time. This Ongoing Monitoring Report and all other reports and factsheets prepared for Wide Bay Training Area are available on the Defence website (see page 3).

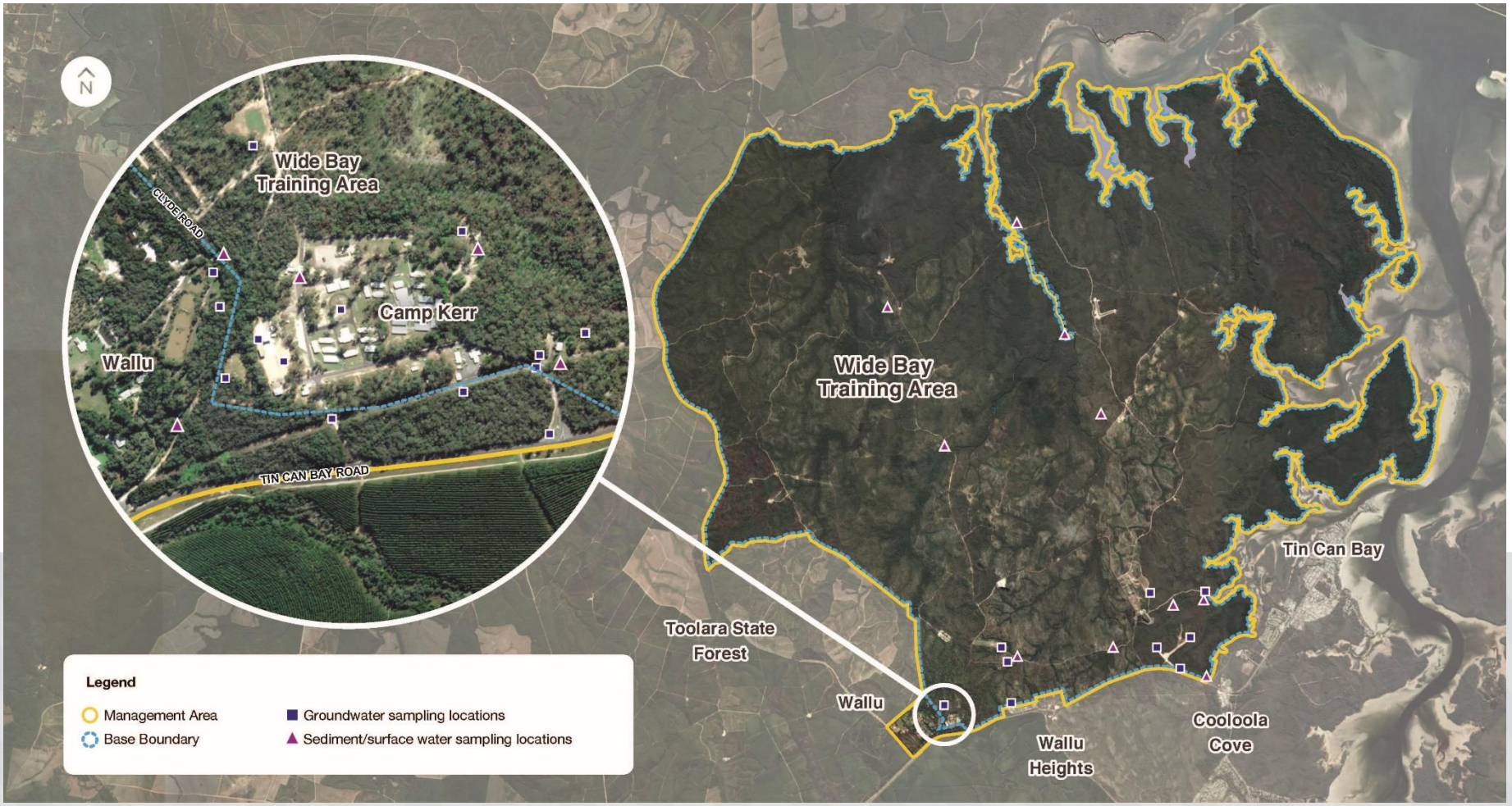


Figure 1

Wide Bay Training Area Monitoring Locations

Australian Government
Defence

PFAS INVESTIGATION AND MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

SERVICE
COURAGE
RESPECT
INTEGRITY
EXCELLENCE

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Defence

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Keeping you informed

Defence will continue to keep the community informed about the management and ongoing monitoring of PFAS on and around Wide Bay Training Area.

Read the full Wide Bay Training Area Ongoing Monitoring Report

Scan the QR code here

Or, use the link below to access the Ongoing Monitoring Report:
https://www.defence.gov.au/about/locations-property/pfas/pfas-management-sites/wide-bay-training-area

Translating and Interpreting Service (TIS National)

For translation assistance, TIS National can supply telephone or on-site interpreting. The service is accessible from anywhere in Australia for the cost of a local and is available 24 hours a day.
https://www.tisnational.gov.au/

Looking for more information?

Scan this QR code for more information on how Defence manages PFAS contamination:

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

Alternatively, you can contact:

1800 333 362

pfas.enquiry@defence.gov.au

Media enquiries

Direct media enquiries to the Defence media centre on **(02) 6217 1999** or **media@defence.gov.au**