

PFAS INVESTIGATION AND MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

SERVICE COURAGE RESPECT INTEGRITY EXCELLENCE

HMAS Albatross

Ongoing Monitoring Report December 2022 - November 2023

Defence undertakes monitoring on and around HMAS Albatross to understand per- and poly-fluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) movement and concentrations in 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 HMAS Albatross in 2019.

What is an Ongoing Monitoring Report?

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

Ongoing Monitoring Report December 2022 - November 2023

This report covers groundwater and surface water sampling conducted between December 2022 and November 2023, from locations on and around HMAS Albatross. The Ongoing Monitoring Report also compares the results of the new sampling to previous results.

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.
- Concentrations of PFAS contamination in groundwater and surface water were consistent with previous results.
- Isolated increases in concentrations were attributed to the heavy rainfall conditions observed between December 2022 to November 2023.

Number of samples collected and analysed (December 2022 – November 2023)

GROUNDWATER



Groundwater is water beneath the earth's surface. It often supplies bores, wells or springs. 27 samples collected from 27 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. 26 samples collected from 13 surface water locations.

Precautionary advice

The New South Wales Environment Protection Authority issued precautionary dietary advice for people who regularly eat fish from the Shoalhaven River and Currambene Creek. For more information please refer to the following websites:

Shoalhaven River:

www.epa.nsw.gov.au/your-

<u>environment/contaminated-land/pfas-investigation-</u> program/pfas-investigation-sites/shoalhaven-river

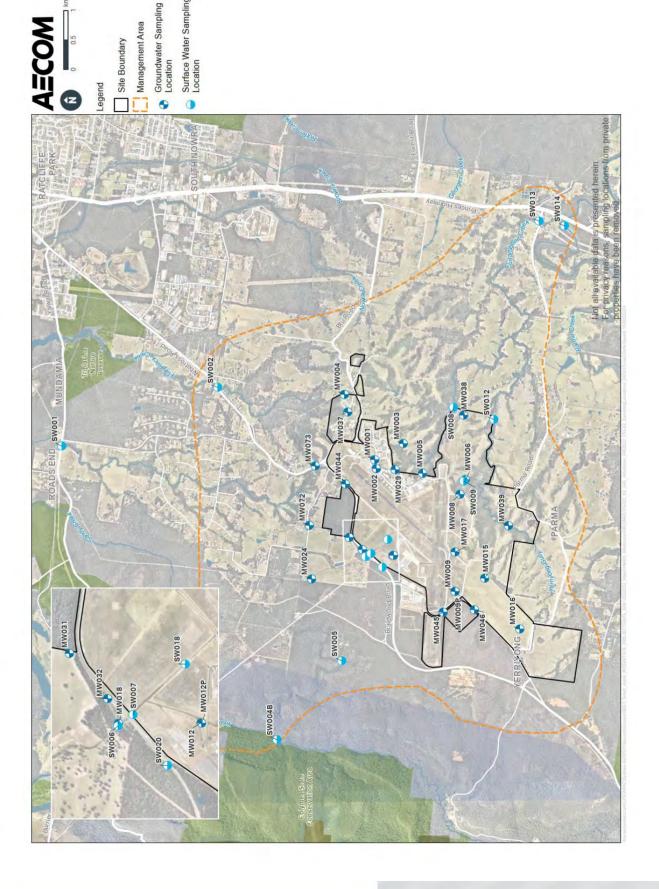
Currambene Creek:

www.epa.nsw.gov.au/your-

<u>environment/contaminated-land/pfas-investigation-program/pfas-investigation-sites/currambene-creek</u>

Next steps

Defence will continue monitoring on and around HMAS Albatross 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 HMAS Albatross are available on the Defence website (see page 3).



HMAS Albatross Monitoring Locations



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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 HMAS Albatross.

Read the full HMAS Albatross Ongoing Monitoring Report



Scan the QR code below:





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

www.defence.gov.au/about/locationsproperty/pfas/pfas-managementsites/hmas-albatross

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 333 362



pfas.enquiry@defence.gov.au

Media enquiries



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