

# PFAS Results

November 2024

Testing in November 2024 found PFAS levels in all treated water supplies operated by Snowy Monaro Regional Council are well within the limits set by the new national standards.

Accredited laboratory tests, funded by NSW Health and conducted by Enviro Lab Services, screened for PFAS and PFAS-like substances across all Council water supplies.

Results show all Snowy Monaro water supplies are performing significantly better than both current and proposed Australian Drinking Water Guidelines, with most locations recording levels below detectable limits.

Trained Council staff collected samples from treatment plants in Adaminaby, Berridale, Bombala, Bredbo, Cooma, Dalgety, Delegate, Eucumbene Cove, Kalkite, Jindabyne and Jindabyne East.

The comprehensive testing program undertaken by Council checked for multiple PFAS compounds including PFHxS, PFOS, PFOA and PFBS.

PFAS chemicals (per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances), also known as forever chemicals, have been widely used since the 1900s and are commonly found in surface and ground water around the world.

These substances have been proven to be toxic to humans as they accumulate in the body, and the formulation of these synthetic chemicals means they effectively never break down in nature.

PFAS and PFAS like Substances		Australian Drinking Water Guidelines <sup>(1)</sup>		Location		
Characteristic	Units	Current	Proposed	Adaminaby	Berridale	Bombala
Perfluorohexane sulfonic acid (PFHxS)	µg/L	Sum of PFOS and PFHxS <0.07	<0.03	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001
Perfluorooctane sulfonic acid (PFOS)	µg/L		<0.004	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001
Perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA)	µg/L	<0.560	<0.2	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001
Perfluorobutane sulfonic acid (PFBS)	µg/L	No current guideline value	<1	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001

Table 1. Measure of PFAS compounds identified in treated water supplies; Adaminaby; Berridale and Bombala.

PFAS and PFAS like Substances		Australian Drinking Water Guidelines		Location		
Characteristic	Units	Current	Proposed	Bredbo	Cooma	Dalgety
Perfluorohexane sulfonic acid (PFHxS)	µg/L	Sum of PFOS and PFHxS <0.07	<0.03	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001
Perfluorooctane sulfonic acid (PFOS)	µg/L		<0.004	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001
Perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA)	µg/L	<0.560	<0.2	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001
Perfluorobutane sulfonic acid (PFBS)	µg/L	No current guideline value	<1	<0.001	<0.001	0.01

Table 2. Measure of PFAS compounds identified in treated water supplies; Bredbo, Cooma and Dalgety.

PFAS and PFAS like Substances		Australian Drinking Water Guidelines		Location		
Characteristic	Units	Current	Proposed	Delegate	Eucumbene Cove	Kalkite
Perfluorohexane sulfonic acid (PFHxS)	µg/L	Sum of PFOS and PFHxS <0.07	<0.03	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001
Perfluorooctane sulfonic acid (PFOS)	µg/L		<0.004	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001
Perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA)	µg/L	<0.560	<0.2	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001
Perfluorobutane sulfonic acid (PFBS)	µg/L	No current guideline value	<1	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001

Table 3. Measure of PFAS compounds identified in treated water supplies; Delegate; Eucumbene Cove and Kalkite.

PFAS and PFAS like Substances		Australian Drinking Water Guidelines		Location	
Characteristic	Units	Current	Proposed	Jindabyne <sup>(2)</sup>	Jindabyne East <sup>(3)</sup>
Perfluorohexane sulfonic acid (PFHxS)	µg/L	Sum of PFOS and PFHxS <0.07	<0.03	<0.001	<0.001
Perfluorooctane sulfonic acid (PFOS)	µg/L		<0.004	<0.001	<0.001
Perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA)	µg/L	<0.560	<0.2	<0.001	<0.001
Perfluorobutane sulfonic acid (PFBS)	µg/L	No current guideline value	<1	<0.001	<0.001

Table 4. Measure of PFAS compounds identified in treated water supplies; Jindabyne and Jindabyne East.