



Australian Government
Department of Defence
Estate and Infrastructure Group

Brigadier M.J. Galton, DSC
Director General
Capital Facilities and Infrastructure
Brindabella Business Park (BP26-1-B100)
PO Box 7925

DGCFI-ID/OUT-2021/BS20298137

Mr Rick Wilson MP

Chair
Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Mr Wilson,

**COMMUNITY CONSULTATION REPORT:
UNITED STATES FORCE POSTURE INITIATIVES NORTHERN TERRITORY
TRAINING AREAS AND RANGES UPGRADES PROJECT**

This letter is to inform the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works of the nature and extent of community consultation undertaken by the Department of Defence as part of the United States Force Posture Initiatives (USFPI) Northern Territory Training Areas and Ranges Upgrades Project (the Project), referred to the Committee on 12 May 2021.

The Project involves works across four existing Defence training areas in the Northern Territory. The aim of the consultation was to ensure the community, residents around the training areas and other stakeholders are:

- well informed about the project's details, and
- provided the opportunity to raise concerns or seek further information such that, wherever feasible, Defence could address these in the Project.

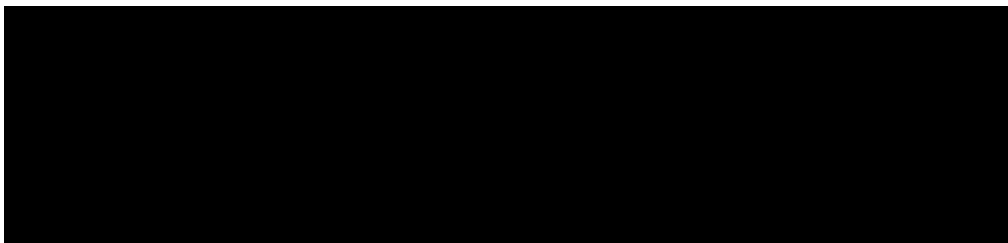
Defence's stakeholder and community consultation activities, listed below, were delivered in accordance with the project's comprehensive community engagement strategy. These included:

- Advertising community information forums in local newspapers. A copy of the advertisement and a list of the media outlets where it was published are at [Annex A](#).
- On 07 May 2021, distributing approximately 115 project brochures via letter box drop to residents within close neighbourhoods around Robertson Barracks. A copy of the brochure and the distribution area are at [Annex B](#).
- On 13 May 2021, the brochure announcing the forums was posted on the Knuckey Lagoon resident's community facebook page to target residents closest to Robertson Barracks who were identified by Australia Post as being in an "undeliverable area" for Australia Post, hence the inability for Defence to complete a letterbox drop in this vicinity. A copy of the Facebook post is at [Annex C](#).

- On 07 May 2021, contacting residents close to Kangaroo Flats Training Area via telephone, and where possible emailing a copy of the brochure announcing the community information forums to residents who do not have residential letterboxes. A copy of the brochure and the contact area are at Annex D.
- Inviting key stakeholders to receive a personal briefing about the Project. This included Territory and Federal Members of Parliament, Territory Departments and Authorities, Aboriginal Areas Protection Authority, Northern Land Council, Local Government representatives and Territory and local industry business associations. A list of these stakeholders and a summary of communications with them is at Annex E. An example of the letter of invitation is at Annex F.
- Conducting five Community Information forums near the four proposed work locations: Berry Springs, Palmerston, Mount Bunday and Timber Creek in the Northern Territory; and Kununurra in Western Australia. Levels of attendance and types of information Defence provided at these forums are at Annexes G and H.
- Attendees were given the opportunity to request further information regarding the Project via email address NTrangesproject@rpsgroup.com.au. A summary of forum attendances, the points raised and responses is included in Annex I.

Defence's consultation activities continue. A number of the invitations for personal briefings await response. The COVID-19 pandemic may continue to restrict travel. Should this turn out to be the case, any remaining briefings will be conducted by videoconferencing or telephone. The outcomes/status of these can be advised at the Hearing.

Defence has not been made aware of any objections to the proposed works at any of the four Training Area locations.



M. J. GALTON, DSC

Brigadier

July 2021

Annexes:

- A. Newspaper advertisement and list of Media Outlets (publication)
- B. Project Brochure and Distribution Zone - Letterbox Drops around Robertson Barracks
- C. Copy of Facebook Post on Knuckey Lagoon Resident's Community Page
- D. Project Brochure and Contact Area around Kangaroo Flats Training Area
- E. Summary of Key Stakeholder Communications
- F. Example of Letter of Invitation sent to Key Stakeholders
- G. Summary of Community Information Forums and Attendance
- H. Community Information Forums Supporting Resources
- I. Summary of Key Questions / Issues Raised during Community Information Forums

NEWSPAPER ADVERTISEMENT AND LIST OF MEDIA OUTLETS (PUBLICATION)

Advertisements for the Community Information Forums were lodged with the following media outlets:

Training Area	Publication / (media outlets)	Delivery Area	Date Published
Robertson Barracks Close Training Area Kangaroo Flats Training Area Mount Bunday Training Area Bradshaw Field Training Area	NT News	Northern Territory	1, 5, 12 and 15 May 2021
Bradshaw Field Training Area	Katherine Times	Local	5, 12 and 19 May 2021
Bradshaw Field Training Area	Kimberley Echo	Local	6 and 13 May 2021

The advertisement content for the NT News, shown on the following page as the example, was the same as for the other newspapers.

COPY OF NEWSPAPER ADVERTISEMENT



Australian Government
Department of Defence

NOTICE OF COMMUNITY INFORMATION FORUMS

The Department of Defence will conduct community information forums to outline the proposed construction works at four existing Training Areas associated with the United States Force Posture Initiatives Northern Territory Training Areas and Ranges Upgrades project.

The works involve construction of new facilities and infrastructure to enhance training outcomes and enable training in line with the Australian Defence Force's evolving requirements. The works will also provide the necessary infrastructure to support the shared use of the training areas by the Australian Defence Force and our partners.

The following existing Training Areas are proposed to be upgraded as part of this project: Robertson Barracks Close Training Area, Kangaroo Flats Training Area, Mount Bunday Training Area and Bradshaw Field Training Area.

Information and displays outlining the proposed works will be available at the forums. Representatives from the Department of Defence will also be available to answer any questions. Please note, these community information forums will not be providing an update or further information on the Invitation to Register Interest previously distributed by Sitzler through ICN Gateway.

Community Information Forum Details

Date:	Time:	Venue:
Monday 17 May 2021	3:00pm – 5:00pm (CST)	Tumbling Waters Holiday Park, Cox Peninsula Rd, Berry Springs
Monday 17 May 2021	6:00pm – 8:00pm (CST)	Palmerston Recreation Centre (Foyer), Palmerston City
Tuesday 18 May 2021	11:00am – 1:00pm (CST)	Mary River Wilderness Retreat, Arnhem Hwy, Annaburroo
Wednesday 19 May 2021	10:30am – 12:30pm (CST)	Timber Creek Hotel, Victoria Hwy, Timber Creek
Wednesday 19 May 2021	4:00pm – 6:00pm (AWST)	Kimberley Grande Resort, Victoria Hwy, Kununurra

If you would like further details on the information forums, please contact the Project Team via email at ntrangesproject@rpsgroup.com.au

Notice in the NT News (repeated in all publications for all project training areas)

**PROJECT BROCHURE AND DISTRIBUTION ZONE
- LETTERBOX DROPS AROUND ROBERTSON BARRACKS**



Notice of Community Information Forums

United States Force Posture Initiatives Northern Territory Training Areas and Ranges Upgrades Project

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Please note, these community information forums will not be providing an update or further information on the Invitation to Register Interest previously distributed by Sitzler through ICN Gateway.

The aim of the Project is to:

- Provide essential upgrades to facilities and infrastructure at four existing Training Areas.
- Enhance the levels of interoperability between the Australian Defence Force and our partners, including with the US military forces, through expanded cooperation and increased opportunities for combined training and exercises.





The Department of Defence is hosting five community information forums on the proposed works at Robertson Barracks Close Training Area, Kangaroo Flats Training Area, Mount Bunday Training Area and Bradshaw Field Training Area.

Community Information Forum Details

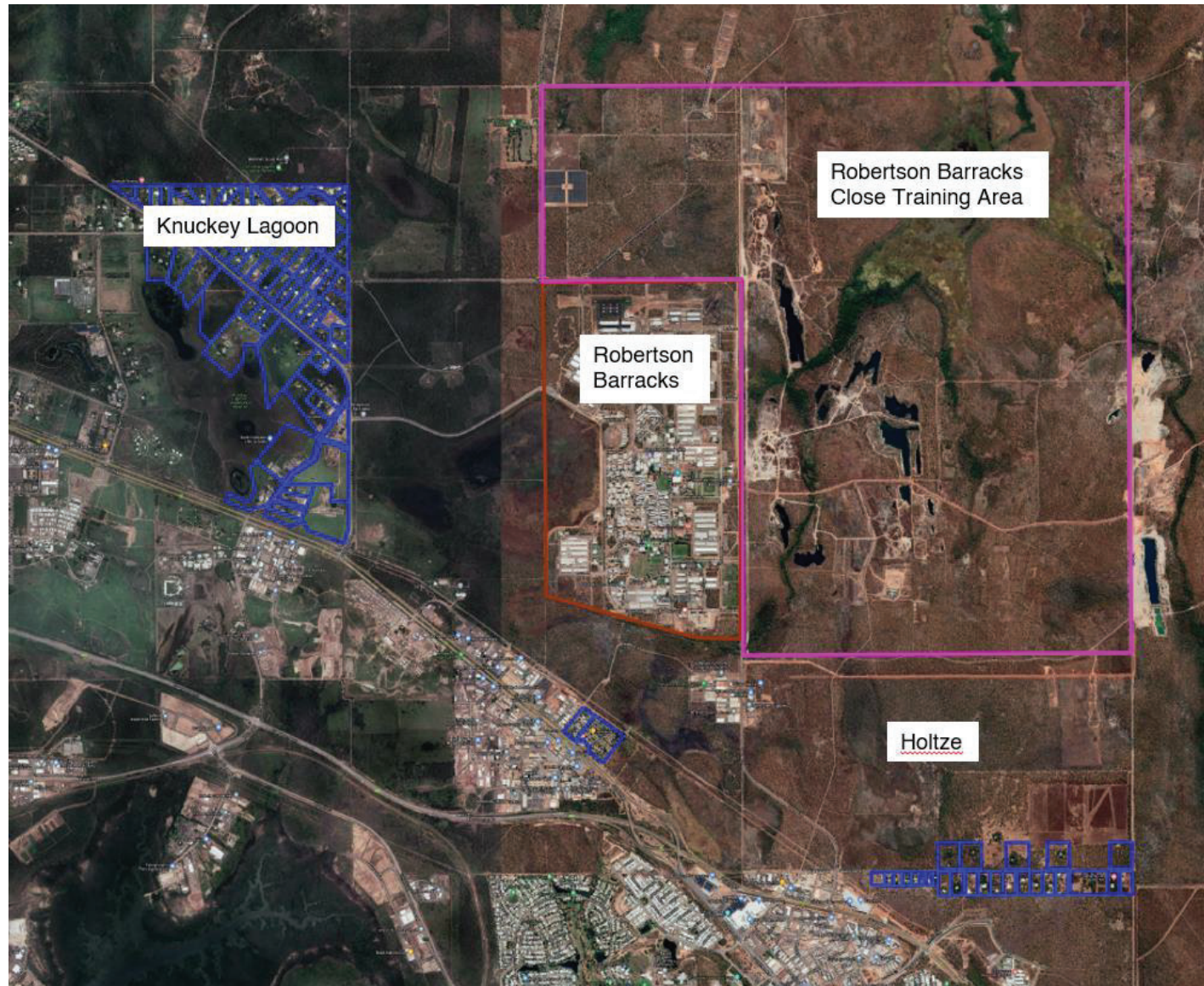
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If you are unable to attend or would like more information, please contact the Project Team via email at: nrangesproject@rpsgroup.com.au or visit the Project website at <https://www.defence.gov.au/id/j0139-nt-tar/>



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LETTERBOX DROP DISTRIBUTION AROUND ROBERTSON BARRACKS



COPY OF FACEBOOK POST ON KNUCKEY LAGOON
RESIDENT'S COMMUNITY PAGE - 13 MAY 2021



I have been contacted by a representative of Department of Defence advising of the upcoming Community Consultation Forums being held for the United States Force Posture Initiatives (USFPI) Northern Territory Training Areas and Ranges Upgrades project. This flyer provides details of the time and location of the Community Forums. Information and displays outlining the proposed works will be available at the forums. Representatives from the Department of Defence will also be available to answer any questions.

Australian Government
Department of Defence

Notice of Community Information Forums

United States Force Posture Initiatives Northern Territory Training Areas and Ranges Upgrades Project

Department of Defence will conduct community information forums to provide information about the proposed construction works at four existing Training Areas associated with the United States Force Posture Initiatives Northern Territory Training Areas and Ranges Upgrades Project.

The proposed construction works involve construction of new facilities and infrastructure to enable training in line with the Australian Defence Force's evolving requirements. The works will also provide the necessary structure to support the shared use of the Training Areas by the Australian Defence Force and our partners.

The following existing Training Areas are proposed to be upgraded as part of the Project: Robertson Barracks Close Training Area, Kangaroo Island Training Area, Mount Bunder Training Area and Bradshaw Field Training Area.

Information and displays outlining the proposed works will be available at the forums.

Representatives from the Department of Defence will also be available to answer any questions.

Please note, these community information forums will not be provided by Sitzer through ICN Gateway.

The aim of the Project is to:

- Provide essential upgrades to facilities and infrastructure at existing Training Areas.
- Enhance the levels of interoperability between the Australian Defence Force and our partners, including with the US military forces, through expanded cooperation and increased opportunities for joint training and exercises.

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Australian Government
Department of Defence

Department of Defence is hosting five community information forums to provide information about the proposed works at Robertson Barracks Close Training Area, Kangaroo Island Training Area, Mount Bunder Training Area and Bradshaw Field Training Area.

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PROJECT BROCHURE AND CONTACT AREA AROUND KANGAROO FLATS TRAINING AREA



Notice of Community Information Forums

United States Force Posture Initiatives Northern Territory Training Areas and Ranges Upgrades Project

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The following existing Training Areas are proposed to be upgraded as part of this Project: Robertson Barracks Close Training Area, Kangaroo Flats Training Area, Mount Bunday Training Area and Bradshaw Field Training Area.

Information and displays outlining the proposed works will be available at the forums.

Representatives from the Department of Defence will also be available to answer any questions.

Please note, these community information forums will not be providing an update or further information on the Invitation to Register Interest previously distributed by Sitzler through ICN Gateway.

The aim of the Project is to:

- Provide essential upgrades to facilities and infrastructure at four existing Training Areas.
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Australian Government
Department of Defence

The Department of Defence is hosting five community information forums on the proposed works at Robertson Barracks Close Training Area, Kangaroo Flats Training Area, Mount Bunday Training Area and Bradshaw Field Training Area.

Community Information Forum Details

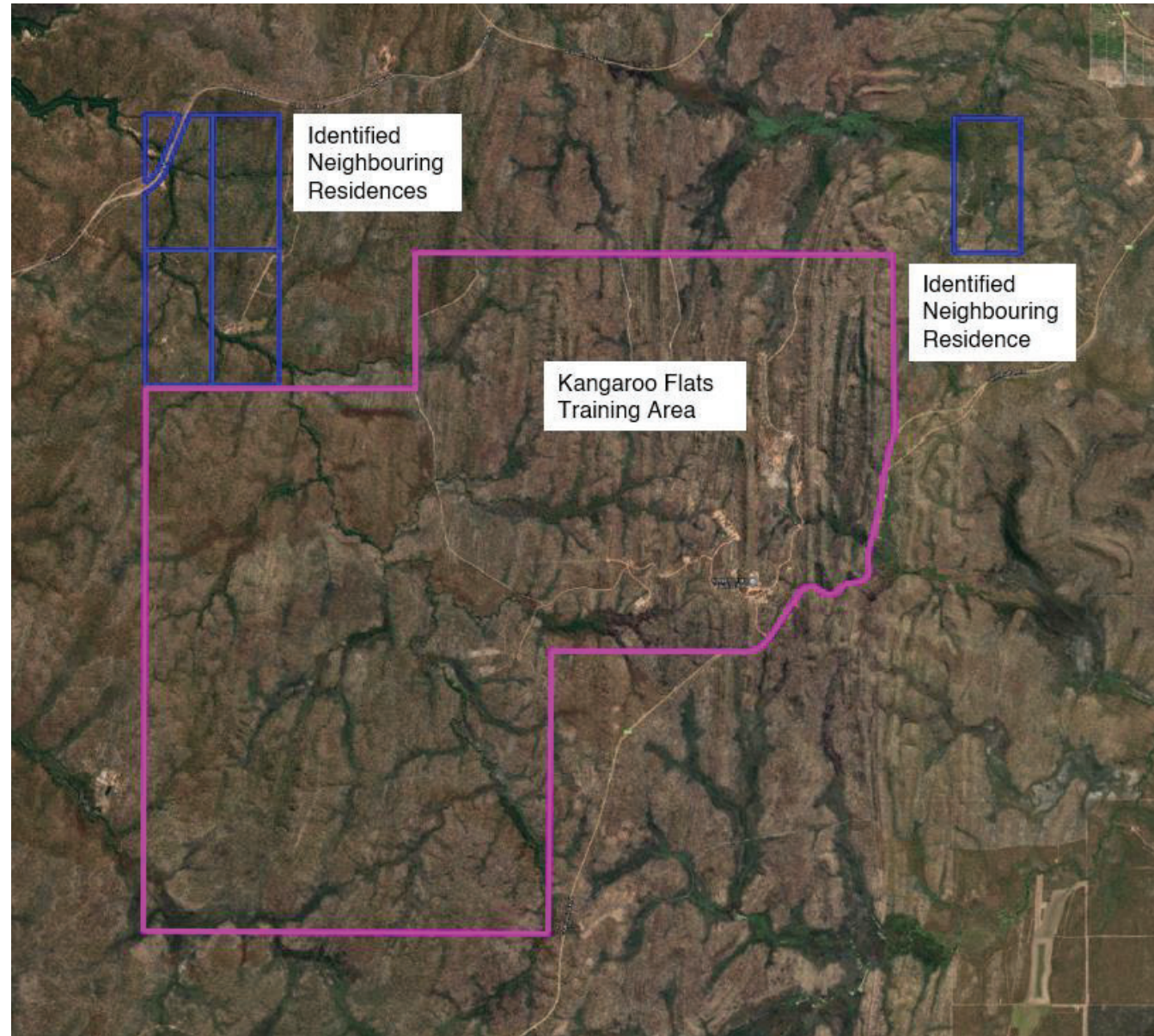
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**CONTACT AREA (VIA TELEPHONE / EMAIL DISTRIBUTION) -
RESIDENTS CLOSE TO THE KANGAROO FLATS TRAINING AREA**



SUMMARY OF KEY STAKEHOLDER COMMUNICATIONS

Name / Organization	Position	Brief Requested	Notes
Mr Luke Gosling OAM MP	Federal Member for Solomon	Yes	<p>06 May 2021: Defence emailed a letter to Mr Gosling, OAM MP, containing detailed project and contact information, the offer of a personal briefing and an invitation to the community information forums.</p> <p>21 May 2021: Defence briefed Mr Gosling at the RPS Darwin office. Defence answered the following questions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What level medical centre was being proposed at Bradshaw Field Training Area? 2. Would it be possible for the new Training Camps to be used for quarantine purposes? 3. Will the section of Thorngate Road next to Robertson Barracks be upgraded as part of this project? 4. What is the Australian and US breakup of the approximately \$2 billion that is noted that Australia and the US have agreed to invest in a range of projects which support USFPI activities in the Northern Territory? Defence took this question on notice and provided a separate response via email on 1 June 2021.
Hon Warren Snowdon MP	Federal Member for Lingiari	Yes	<p>06 May 2021: Defence emailed a letter to Hon Warren Snowdon, MP, containing detailed project and contact information, the offer of a personal briefing and an invitation to the community information forums.</p> <p>25 May 2021: Defence briefed Mr Snowdon at Parliament House, Canberra. Defence answered the following questions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Is this project a re-announcement of previously announced funding plus some additional funding rather than all new funding?

Name / Organization	Position	Brief Requested	Notes
			<p>2. Is the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works intending to attend any of the sites for the Hearing?</p> <p>3. Is this project proposing to seal the airstrip at Bradshaw Field Training Area?</p> <p>4. What level medical centre was being proposed at Bradshaw Field Training Area?</p> <p>5. What is the Australian and US breakup of the approximately \$2 billion that is noted that Australia and the US have agreed to invest in a range of projects which support USFPI activities in the Northern Territory? Defence took this question on notice and provided a separate response via email on 1 June 2021.</p>
Hon Melissa Price MP	Federal Member for Durack; Minister for Defence Industry	No	<p>11 March 2021: Separate to the community consultation process, Ms Price was briefed by Defence on the project.</p> <p>No issues were raised following the briefing.</p> <p>06 May 2021: Defence emailed a letter to Hon Melissa Price MP, containing detailed project and contact information, the offer of a personal briefing and an invitation to the community information forums.</p>
Mr Gerard Maley	<p>Legislative Assembly of the NT - Member for Nelson (electorate includes Robertson Barracks Close Training Area)</p> <p>Deputy Leader of the Opposition; Shadow Minister for Infrastructure, Planning and Logistics; Multicultural Affairs; Defence Industries;</p>	Yes	<p>06 May 2021: Defence emailed a letter to Mr Maley whose electorate includes Robertson Barracks Close Training Area. The letter contained detailed project and contact information, the offer of a personal briefing and an invitation to the community information forums.</p> <p>18 May 2021: Defence briefed Mr Maley at the Nelson Electorate Office in Howard Springs. Defence answered the following questions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How much of the approximately \$2 billion investment associated with USFPI was Australian funded? 2. When will the \$2 billion associated with USFPI be spent?

Name / Organization	Position	Brief Requested	Notes
	Recreational Fishing; Alcohol Policy; National Resilience		<p>3. How much additional accommodation at Robertson Barracks is associated with the USFPI?</p> <p>4. Does the Managing Contractor have experience engaging sub-contractors?</p>
Mr Ian Sloan	Legislative Assembly of the NT - Member for Daly (electorate includes Kangaroo Flats Training Area, Bradshaw Field Training Area) / Shadow Minister for Agribusiness and Aquaculture; Local Government; Arts, Culture and Heritage; Veterans Affairs; Indigenous Essential Services	No	06 May 2021: Defence emailed a letter to Mr Sloan whose electorate includes Kangaroo Flats Training Area and Bradshaw Field Training Area. The letter detailed project and contact information, the offer of a personal briefing and an invitation to the community information forums.
Hon Chanston Paech	Legislative Assembly of the NT - Member for Gwoja (electorate neighbours Bradshaw Field Training Area) / Minister for Local Government; Minister for Central Australian Economic Reconstruction; Minister for Remote Housing and Town Camps; Minister for Indigenous Essential Services; Minister for Arts, Culture and Heritage	No	06 May 2021: Defence emailed a letter to the Hon Chanston Paech whose electorate neighbours the Bradshaw Field Training Area. The letter contained detailed project and contact information, the offer of a personal briefing and an invitation to the community information forums.

Name / Organization	Position	Brief Requested	Notes
Mr Lawrence Costa	Legislative Assembly of the NT - Member for Arafura (electorate neighbours Mount Bunday Training Area)	No	06 May 2021: Defence emailed a letter to Mr Costa whose electorate neighbours the Mount Bunday Training Area. The letter contained detailed project and contact information, the offer of a personal briefing and an invitation to the community information forums.
Ms Kezia Purick	Legislative Assembly of the NT - Member for Goyder (electorate includes Mount Bunday Training Area)	No	<p>17 May 2021: Ms Purick attended the Palmerston Community Information Forum. Defence provided general outline of the project and answered the following questions from Ms Purick:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Whether acoustic modelling had been conducted? 2. The general outline on the environmental assessment process including the Defence Environmental Assessment Report and the <i>EPBC Act</i> review. 3. Whether there would be an increase in traffic after these works are completed? 4. The general outline on the PWC process. 5. Discussion on the contracting opportunities and the expected workforce numbers. <p>Ms Purick advised that she was looking to get a private Member's bill to allow tourists/interested parties to shoot large calibre weapons in the NT and thought that Defence could use it? Defence highlighted the detailed certification and safety requirements for Defence ranges and that it was not something Defence was considering.</p> <p>24 May 2021: Defence emailed a letter to Ms Purick with the offer of a personal briefing.</p> <p>22 June 2021: Ms Purick advised that she was comfortable with the information received at the community information forum at Palmerston, and that she did not require a separate briefing.</p>

Name / Organization	Position	Brief Requested	Notes
Senator Malarndirri McCarthy	Senator for Northern Territory	No	24 May 2021: Defence emailed a letter to Senator McCarthy containing detailed project and contact information and the offer of a personal briefing.
Senator Sam McMahon	Senator for Northern Territory	No	24 May 2021: Defence emailed a letter to Senator McMahon containing detailed project and contact information and the offer of a personal briefing.
Ms Jodie Ryan	Chief Executive Officer Northern Territory Department of the Chief Minister and Cabinet	Yes	<p>06 May 2021: Defence emailed a letter to Ms Ryan containing detailed project and contact information, the offer of a personal briefing and an invitation to the community information forums.</p> <p>21 May 2021: Ms Ryan sent her apologies. Defence briefed a representative of Ms Ryan's, and a representative from the NT Department of Tourism and Trade, at NT House, Darwin. Defence answered the following questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Whether Bradshaw Field Training Area was being digitised to support live, virtual, constructive training? - Was solar power considered for the new facilities? <p>Ms Ryan's representative requested a follow up briefing for some members who were unable to attend this meeting.</p> <p>1 June 2021: Defence followed up the briefing request and was advised that Ms Ryan had been back-briefed and no second briefing was required.</p>
Mr Andrew Kirkman	Chief Executive Officer Northern Territory Department Infrastructure Planning and Logistic (DIPL)s	Yes	<p>06 May 2021: Defence emailed a letter to Mr Kirkman containing detailed project and contact information, the offer of a personal briefing and an invitation to the community information forums.</p> <p>9 June 2021: Defence provided a briefing to the Deputy Chief Executive Officer and another representative at the DIPL office in Darwin (Mr Kirkman was an apology). Defence answered the following questions:</p>

Name / Organization	Position	Brief Requested	Notes
			<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Was any increased traffic expected onto Robertson Barracks as a result of this project? 2. The Deputy CEO noted that during the Yarrowonga intersection upgrade south of Robertson Barracks that there was some community feedback that it wasn't suitable for the amount of Defence traffic. The Deputy CEO also noted if there were any questions about the Yarrowonga intersection upgrade to refer them to DIPL. 3. Was it realistic to expect 98% of the trade packages to go to Northern Australia businesses as there are a lot of projects occurring at the same time that are all looking to maximise of local contractors? 4. Have adjoining pastoral owners been contacted, particularly around Mount Bunday?
Mr Shaun Drabsch	Chief Executive Officer Northern Territory Department of Industry Tourism and Trade	Yes	<p>06 May 2021: Defence emailed a letter to Mr Drabsch, containing detailed project and contact information, the offer of a personal briefing and an invitation to the community information forums.</p> <p>11 May 2021: The Deputy CEO requested a personal briefing on behalf of Mr Drabsch and was invited to the personal briefing with Ms Jodie Ryan on 21 May 2021, and a representative from Mr Drabsch's Office attended. No issues were raised.</p>
Mr Daniel Fletcher	Chief Executive Officer Litchfield Council	No	<p>06 May 2021: Defence emailed a letter to Mr Fletcher containing detailed project and contact information, the offer of a personal briefing and an invitation to the community information forums.</p>
Ms Cathy Winsley	Chief Executive Officer Belyuen Community Government Council	No	<p>06 May 2021: Defence emailed a letter to Ms Winsley containing detailed project and contact information, the offer of a personal briefing and an invitation to the community information forums.</p>

Name / Organization	Position	Brief Requested	Notes
Mr Brian Pedwell	Mayor of Victoria Daly Regional Council	No	06 May 2021: Defence emailed a letter to Mayor Pedwell containing detailed project and contact information, the offer of a personal briefing and an invitation to the community information forums.
Mr Matthew Ryan	Mayor of West Arnhem Regional Council	No	06 May 2021: Defence emailed a letter to Mayor Ryan containing detailed project and contact information, the offer of a personal briefing and an invitation to the community information forums.
Ms Marion Scrymgour	Chief Executive Officer Northern Land Council	No	13 May 2021: Defence emailed a letter to Ms Scrymgour containing detailed project and contact information, the offer of a personal briefing and an invitation to the community information forums.
Dr Ben Scambary	Chief Executive Officer Aboriginal Areas Protection Authority	Yes	<p>13 May 2021: Defence emailed a letter to Dr Scambary containing detailed project and contact information, the offer of a personal briefing and an invitation to the community information forums.</p> <p>9 June 2021: Defence briefed Dr Scambary and the Director of Research and Land Information at the Aboriginal Areas Protection Authority (AAPA) Office in Darwin. The following points were raised:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Dr Scambary and the Director raised how positive it was that Defence is so well organised and engaging well ahead of time in requesting the AAPA certificates for the project. 2. The Director confirmed that the AAPA anthropologist had completed the field work investigations associated with the Bradshaw early works certificate request, and that no “show stoppers” had been identified from the field investigation conducted with the Northern Land Council anthropologist. The report will be compiled and then AAPA will review the mapping and provide the certificate in approximately 4 to 6 weeks’ time.

Name / Organization	Position	Brief Requested	Notes
			<p>3. Defence is to review with the AAPA whether a certificate is required for the works crossing Thorngate Road (situated between Robertson Barracks and Robertson Barracks Close Training Area), and the Project will submit a request to AAPA.</p> <p>4. Defence will work with AAPA, separately to the project, to confirm whether previous certificates are still current in case some may be too old to be relied on.</p>
Mr David Malone	Executive Director Master Builders Association NT	Yes	<p>06 May 2021: Defence emailed a letter to Mr Malone containing detailed project and contact information, the offer of a personal briefing and an invitation to the community information forums.</p> <p>27 May 2021: Defence briefed Mr Malone via video conference, and he queried the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The breakup of the trade cost estimates for each training area. 2. What was the Territory breakup of the Expression of Interest responses? <p>Mr Malone noted that the project was very exciting and thanked Defence for offering the briefing.</p>
Mr Greg Ireland	Chief Executive Officer Northern Territory Chamber of Commerce and Industry	No	<p>06 May 2021: Defence emailed a letter to Mr Ireland containing detailed project and contact information, the offer of a personal briefing and an invitation to the community information forums.</p>
Mr Kevin Peters	Chief Executive Officer Industry Capability Network NT	Yes	<p>06 May 2021: Defence emailed a letter to Mr Peters containing detailed project and contact information, the offer of a personal briefing and an invitation to the community information forums.</p> <p>11 June 2021: Defence briefed Mr Peters and two representatives at the Industry Capability Network Office in Darwin. The following points were discussed:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Defence queried whether there were any key trades that the Network had identified for the project as a risk of not having much interest?

Name / Organization	Position	Brief Requested	Notes
			2. The Network noted that they have mapped potential scope for future NT projects and are working with the NT Government to highlight the possible gaps in the market so that the government and local companies can plan for them.
Mr Jerome Cubillo	Chief Executive Officer NT Indigenous Business Network	No	06 May 2021: Defence emailed a letter to Mr Cubillo containing detailed project and contact information, the offer of a personal briefing and an invitation to the community information forums.
Ms Kerry Smith	Chief Executive Officer Australian Industry and Defence Network	Yes	<p>06 May 2021: Defence emailed a letter to Ms Smith containing detailed project and contact information, the offer of a personal briefing and an invitation to the community information</p> <p>21 May 2021: A briefing was held at the RPS Darwin Office with representatives from the Network. No questions or issues were raised.</p>

**ANNEX F TO
BS20298137
JULY 2021**

EXAMPLE OF LETTER INVITATION SENT TO KEY STAKEHOLDERS

All key stakeholders in Annex E were issued personal letters, per the example below.



Australian Government
Department of Defence
Estate and Infrastructure Group

Chi (Mendy) Smart
Project Director
Capital Facilities and Infrastructure
Brindabella Business Park
PO Box 7925
CANBERRA BC ACT 2610

CFI/OUT/2021/BS19723691

Hon Warren Snowdon MP
Federal Member for Lingiari
PO Box 4007
ALICE SPRINGS NT 0871

email: warren.snowdon.mp@aph.gov.au

Dear Hon Snowdon

**UNITED STATES FORCE POSTURE INITIATIVES (USFPI) NORTHERN
TERRITORY TRAINING AREAS AND RANGES UPGRADES: ROBERTSON
BARRACKS CLOSE TRAINING AREA (RCTA), KANGAROO FLATS TRAINING
AREA (KFTA), MOUNT BUNDEY TRAINING AREA (MBTA) AND BRADSHAW
FIELD TRAINING AREA (BFTA).**

On behalf of the Department of Defence, I would like to inform you of works proposed at four existing Training Areas including RCTA, KFTA, MBTA and BFTA under the USFPI Northern Territory Training Areas and Ranges Upgrades project.

I am writing to you in your capacity as the Federal Member for Lingiari, to offer you a personal briefing on the proposed works within your Electorate.

On Tuesday, 27 April 2021 the National Security Committee (NSC) of Cabinet provided approval of the capital funding for the project however the project is yet to be referred to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works (PWC) for its consideration. The full Statement of Evidence will be uploaded to the PWC's website once referral has occurred and will be available at the following URL:

https://www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary_Business/Committees/Joint/Public_Works

The aim of the project is to provide essential upgrades to facilities and infrastructure at the aforementioned Defence training areas in the Northern Territory to ensure the Australian Defence Force has reliable access to suitable military training areas and weapons ranges to meet military capability. The proposed works will also enhance the levels of interoperability between the Australian Defence Force and our partners, including with the US military forces through expanded cooperation and increased opportunities for combined training and exercises.

The proposed works will be wholly situated on Defence-managed land with the exception of a minor upgrade to the intersection of Paratus Parade and Thorngate Road adjacent to RCTA as well as the construction of 10 kilometres of High Voltage power lines along Litchfield Park Road leading into KFTA. If approved, works will commence in late 2021.

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2

Similar to other major Defence infrastructure projects, the project will generate employment opportunities in the construction sector and related support sectors in the local area.

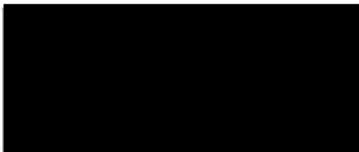
If you or your staff would like to accept this invitation for a personal briefing on the proposed works, please contact me via email at NTrangesproject@rpsgroup.com.au.

The Department of Defence will be holding several community information forums on the works proposed at the Training Areas. The forums will be held as follows:

- Tumbling Waters Holiday Park, Cox Peninsula Rd, Berry Springs on Monday, 17 May 2021 from 3:00pm to 5:00pm
- Palmerston Recreation Centre (Foyer), 11 The Blvd, Palmerston on Monday, 17 May 2021 from 6:00pm to 8:00pm.
- Mary River Wilderness Retreat, Arnhem Hwy, Annaburroo on Tuesday, 18 May 2021 from 11:00am to 1:00pm.
- Timber Creek Hotel Dining Room, 94 Victoria Hwy, Timber Creek on Wednesday, 19 May 2021 from 10:30am to 12:30pm.
- Kimberley Grande Resort, 20 Victoria Hwy, Kununurra on Wednesday, 19 May 2021 from 4:00pm to 6:00pm.

The Department of Defence has been advised that the PWC Public Hearing will most likely be held in June 2021. The PWC Secretariat is yet to confirm the date, time and location of the Public Hearing.

Yours sincerely,



Mrs. Chi (Mendy) Smart
Project Director
Capital Facilities and Infrastructure
06 May 2021

SUMMARY OF COMMUNITY INFORMATION FORUMS AND ATTENDANCE

Defence conducted the following five Community Information Forums. These were conducted near each of the four proposed work locations as summarised in the table below:

Date	Venue	Time	Work Location nearby	Attendees
Monday 17 May 2021	Tumbling Waters Holiday Park, Cox Peninsula Rd, Berry Springs, Northern Territory	3:00pm – 5:00pm (ACST)	Kangaroo Flats Training Area	4
Monday 17 May 2021	Palmerston Recreation Centre (Foyer), Palmerston City, Northern Territory	6:00pm – 8:00pm (ACST)	Robertson Barracks Close Training Area	4
Tuesday 18 May 2021	Mary River Wilderness Retreat, Arnhem Hwy, Annaburroo, Northern Territory	11:00am – 1:00pm (ACST)	Mount Bunday Training Area	2
Wednesday 19 May 2021	Timber Creek Hotel, Victoria Hwy, Timber Creek, Northern Territory	10:30am – 12:30pm (ACST)	Bradshaw Field Training Area	2
Wednesday 19 May 2021	Kimberley Grande Resort, Victoria Hwy, Kununurra, Western Australia	4:00pm – 6:00pm (AWST)	Bradshaw Field Training Area	1

All community information forums were advertised and publicly announced as shown in Annexes A to D.

Featherboards were on display at each forum to depict project details and proposed locations of scope elements. A brochure summarizing the featherboards was also made available to attendees. Copies of the featherboards and the brochure are included in Annex H.

Those that attended included residents near to Kangaroo Flats Training Area and Robertson Barracks Close Training Area, general members of the public, trade sub-contractors and a consultant working with the Victoria Daly Regional Council.

At each information forum, attendees were asked to sign in and provide their suburb if they felt comfortable. There were some questions regarding noise impacts, contamination management and land management of the existing training areas. Queries mainly related to general interest in the scope and opportunities for local companies to complete the works.

Topics discussed at the Community Information Forums are detailed in Annex I.

COMMUNITY INFORMATION FORUMS SUPPORTING RESOURCES

- FEATHERBOARDS AND BROCHURE



United States Force Posture Initiatives Northern Territory Training Areas and Ranges Upgrades Project

This Project aims to provide essential upgrades to facilities and infrastructure at four existing Defence training areas in the Northern Territory to ensure the Australian Defence Force has reliable access to suitable military training areas and weapons ranges to meet military capability.

This investment directly supports implementation of the 2020 Force Structure Plan initiative for enhancements to Defence training areas and facilities, live and simulated, to maintain its world-class training; and contributes to the enhanced development foreshadowed in the 2015 Developing Northern Australia White Paper.

The proposed works will also enhance the levels of interoperability between the Australian Defence Force and our allies, including with the US military forces through expanded cooperation and increased opportunities for combined training and exercises.

Scope of works

The proposed project scope includes:

Administrative and Support Facilities and Infrastructure:

Facilities to allow safe control of the weapons ranges, access and security functions; training camp accommodation and catering services; medical and logistics support; vehicle wash facilities; and civil, communications, electrical and hydraulic infrastructure.

Ranges:

Permanent weapons ranges designed to provide safe and effective weapon training outcomes.

Urban Operations Facilities:

Various scales of urban operations training facilities designed to simulate realistic operational scenarios.

Aviation Facilities:

Infrastructure to enable the safe operation, including arming and refuelling of selected aircraft.

Decommissioning and Remediation:

Decommissioning and removing redundant weapons ranges and facilities, including remediating decommissioned sites.



Sites

The proposed project locations include:

Robertson Barracks Close Training Area, adjacent to Robertson Barracks, located approximately 20 kilometres east of Darwin.

Kangaroo Flats Training Area, located approximately 64 kilometres south of Darwin.

Mount Bunday Training Area, located approximately 134 kilometres southeast of Darwin.

Bradshaw Field Training Area, located approximately 580 kilometres southwest of Darwin.

Program

Subject to Parliamentary approval, works are proposed to commence in late 2021 at Robertson Barracks Close Training Area and Bradshaw Field Training Area. Further works are proposed to commence in the dry season of 2022 at Kangaroo Flats Training Area and in the dry season of 2023 at Mount Bunday Training Area. All works are forecast to be complete by mid-2026.

Training Area	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
RCTA						
KFTA						
MBTA						
BFTA						



Figure H1 – Project Overview Featherboard

Robertson Barracks Close Training Area

Proposed works at Robertson Barracks Close Training Area include construction of new weapon training ranges, urban operations training facilities, range management facilities, a wash point, driver training area, and remediation of existing redundant ranges.

Ranges

Proposed works include:

- Constructing a new weapons training simulation facility. The facility will allow for a range of simulated weapons training scenarios.
- Constructing both a new indoor shooting range and a new outdoor shooting range designed for combat training.

Urban Operations Facilities

Proposed works include:

- Upgrading the existing Urban Operations Training Facility to provide a basic skills training facility for approximately 30 people.
- Constructing a new outdoor range designed for urban assault training.

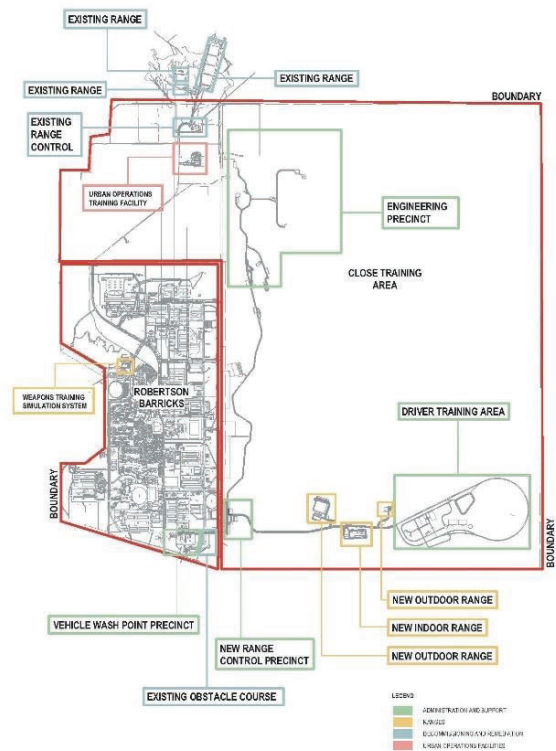


Figure H2 – Robertson Barracks Close Training Area Featherboard

Robertson Barracks Close Training Area

Proposed works at Robertson Barracks Close Training Area include construction of new weapon training ranges, urban operations training facilities, range management facilities, a wash point, driver training area, and remediation of existing redundant ranges.

Administration and Support

Proposed works include:

- Constructing a new range control precinct that includes facilities for range management staff and improved access and safety management arrangements. Proposed works include upgrades for access off Thorngate Road into the training area.
- Expanding the existing vehicle wash point. The vehicle wash point allows for the implementation of environmental regulations and provides increased longevity to the fleet.
- Constructing a driver training area. The training area supports both Australian Defence Force personnel and visiting military partners in the handling of the military fleet of vehicles and familiarisation with some of the challenges in driving in remote areas of the Northern Territory.
- Upgrading some elements of the road network and the engineering services infrastructure.

Decommissioning and Remediation

Proposed works include:

- Decommissioning and removing redundant infrastructure, including three existing weapons ranges made obsolete by this project.

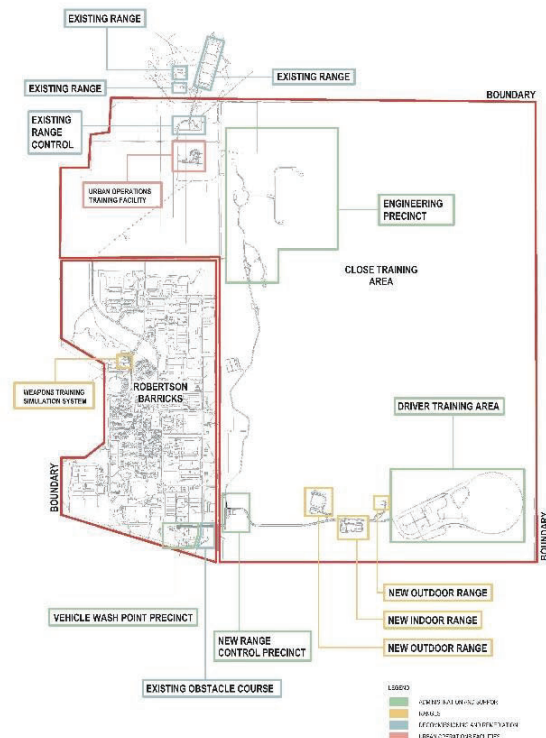


Figure H3 – Robertson Barracks Close Training Area Featherboard

Kangaroo Flats Training Area

Proposed works at Kangaroo Flats Training Area include construction of new weapon training ranges, range management facilities, upgrades to the existing military camp, a light vehicle rinse point, and remediation of existing ranges.

Ranges

Proposed works include:

- Constructing three new outdoor weapons ranges designed for various combat training activities and equipped with technically advanced targetry systems.
- Minor upgrade to the existing demolitions range.

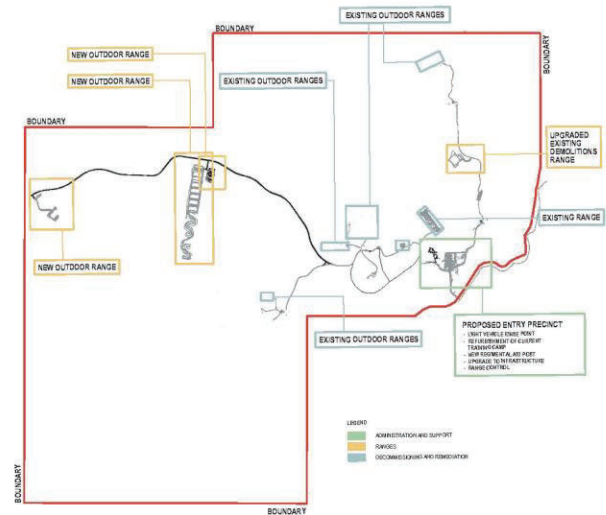


Figure H4 – Kangaroo Flats Training Area Featherboard



Australian Government
Department of Defence

Kangaroo Flats Training Area

Proposed works at Kangaroo Flats Training Area include construction of new weapon training ranges, range management facilities, upgrades to the existing military camp, a light vehicle rinse point, and remediation of existing ranges.

Administration and Support

Proposed works include:

- Constructing a new range control precinct that includes facilities for range management staff and improved access and safety management arrangements.
- Constructing a basic medical facility and refurbishing the existing 250 person training camp and kitchen facility
- Constructing a light vehicle rinse point.
- Upgrading some elements of the road network and engineering services infrastructure, including provision of fixed High Voltage power to the camp and new Range Control facilities.

Decommissioning and Remediation

Proposed works include:

- A variety of basic weapons ranges are made obsolete by this project. These ranges will be decommissioned and remediated.

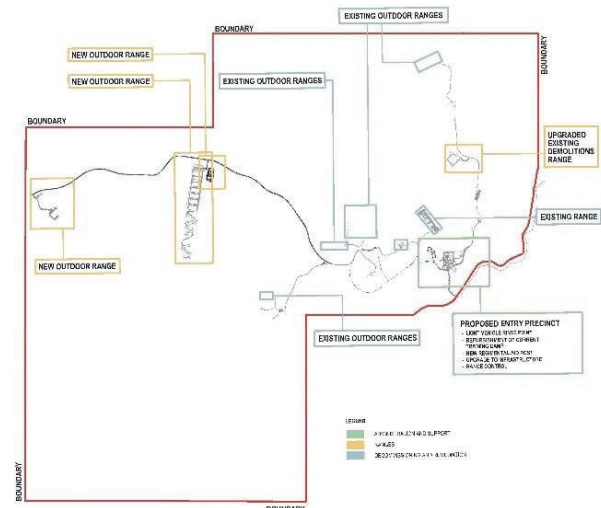


Figure H5 – Kangaroo Flats Training Area Featherboard



Australian Government
Department of Defence

Mount Bunday Training Area

Proposed works at Mount Bunday Training Area include upgrade to the access into the training area, upgrades to the range management facility and 250 person training camp. Proposed works also include the construction of a new range, a helicopter arming and refuelling point, and upgrades to the existing Urban Operations Training Facility.

Ranges

Proposed works include:

- Constructing a new outdoor weapons range designed for weapon proficiency on longer range weapons.

Urban Operations Facilities

Proposed works include:

- Upgrading the existing Urban Operations Training Facility to provide an urban area training facility for up to approximately 120 people.
- Providing communications coverage to support simulation training.

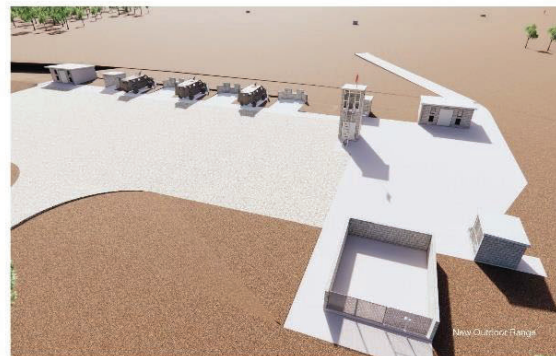
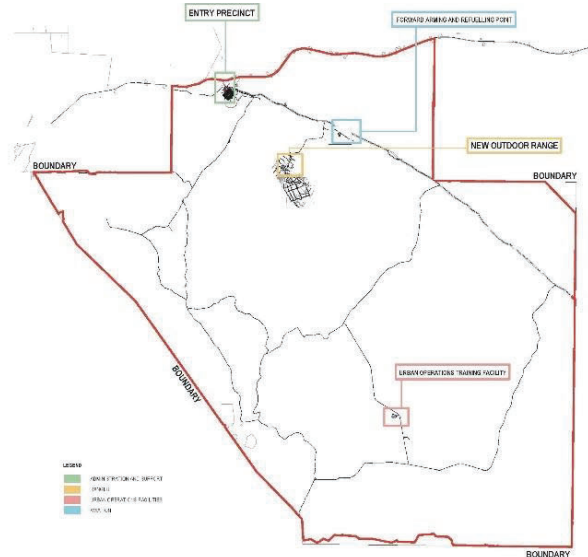


Figure H6 – Mount Bunday Training Area Featherboard

Mount Bunday Training Area

Proposed works at Mount Bunday Training Area include construction of new weapon training ranges, range management facilities, upgrades to the existing military camp, a vehicle rinse point, and remediation of existing ranges.

Administration and Support

Proposed works include:

- A new briefing area to the existing range control facilities.
- Minor upgrades to the existing 250 person tent camp facilities.
- Upgrading the existing vehicle wash point.
- Constructing a waste transfer point.
- Upgrading some elements of the road network and engineering services infrastructure.

Aviation Support Facilities

Proposed works include:

- Constructing a new arming and refuelling point for helicopters.

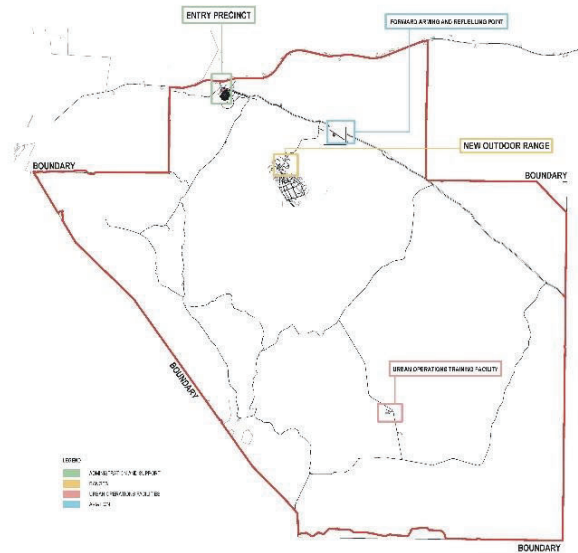


Figure H7 – Mount Bunday Training Area Featherboard



Australian Government
Department of Defence

Bradshaw Field Training Area

Proposed works at Bradshaw Field Training Area includes upgrading the existing training camp to accommodate another 250 personnel and a new 250 person camp in the vicinity of the Bradshaw Homestead. Proposed works also include upgrading the existing vehicle wash point. The Nackeroo Airfield is proposed to be upgraded to improve operational capacity for military aircraft. A new Urban Operations Training Facility is proposed to be constructed.

Administration and Support

Proposed works include:

- Expanding the current training camp to accommodate another 250 personnel and constructing a new training camp in the vicinity of the Bradshaw Homestead for 250 personnel.
- Constructing a new medical facility with helicopter landing site.
- Upgrading the existing vehicle wash point.
- Upgrading some of the existing road network and the engineering services infrastructure.

Aviation Support Facilities

Proposed works include:

- Upgrading the existing Nackeroo Airfield.

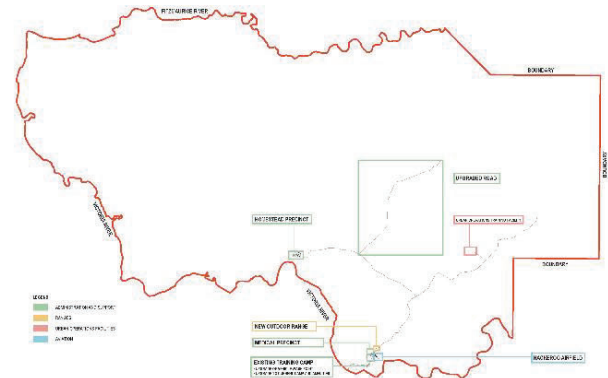


Figure H9 – Bradshaw Field Training Area Featherboard



Australian Government
Department of Defence

United States Force Posture Initiatives Northern Territory Training Areas and Ranges Upgrades Project

This Project aims to provide essential upgrades to facilities and infrastructure at four existing Defence training areas in the Northern Territory to ensure the Australian Defence Force has reliable access to suitable military training areas and weapons ranges to meet military capability.

This investment directly supports implementation of the 2020 Force Structure Plan initiative for enhancements to Defence training areas and facilities, live and simulated, to maintain its world-class training; and contributes to the enhanced development foreshadowed in the 2015 Developing Northern Australia White Paper.

The proposed works will also enhance the levels of interoperability between the Australian Defence Force and our allies, including with the US military forces, through expanded cooperation and increased opportunities for combined training and exercises.

Scope of works

The proposed project scope includes:

Administrative and Support Facilities and Infrastructure:

Facilities to allow safe control of the weapons ranges, access and security functions; training camp accommodation and catering services; medical and logistics support; vehicle wash facilities; and civil, communications, electrical and hydraulic infrastructure.

Ranges:

Permanent weapons ranges designed to provide safe and effective weapon training outcomes.

Urban Operations Facilities:

Various scales of urban operations training facilities designed to simulate realistic operational scenarios.

Aviation Facilities:

Infrastructure to enable the safe operation, including arming and refuelling of selected aircraft.

Decommissioning and Remediation:

Decommissioning and removing redundant weapons ranges and facilities, including remediating decommissioned sites.



Sites

The proposed project locations include:

Robertson Barracks Close Training Area, adjacent to Robertson Barracks, located approximately 20 kilometres east of Darwin.

Kangaroo Flats Training Area, located approximately 64 kilometres south of Darwin.

Mount Bunday Training Area, located approximately 134 kilometres southeast of Darwin.

Bradshaw Field Training Area, located approximately 580 kilometres southwest of Darwin.

Program

Subject to Parliamentary approval, works are proposed to commence in late 2021 at Robertson Barracks Close Training Area and Bradshaw Field Training Area. Further works are proposed to commence in the dry season of 2022 at Kangaroo Flats Training Area and in the dry season of 2023 at Mount Bunday Training Area. All works are forecast to be complete by mid-2026.

Training Area	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
RCTA						
KFTA						
MBTA						
BFTA						

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Figure H10 – Project Brochure



Australian Government
Department of Defence

Robertson Barracks Close Training Area

Proposed works at Robertson Barracks Close Training Area include construction of new weapon training ranges, urban operations training facilities, range management facilities, a vehicle wash point, driver training area, and remediation of existing redundant ranges.



Kangaroo Flats Training Area

Proposed works at Kangaroo Flats Training Area include construction of new weapon training ranges, range management facilities, upgrades to the existing military camp, a light vehicle rinse point, and remediation of existing ranges.



Mount Bunday Training Area

Proposed works at Mount Bunday Training Area include upgrade to the access into the training area, upgrades to the range management facility and 250 person training camp. Proposed works also include the construction of a new range, a helicopter arming and refuelling point, and upgrades to the existing Urban Operations Training Facility.



Bradshaw Field Training Area

Proposed works at Bradshaw Field Training Area include upgrading the existing training camp to accommodate another 250 personnel and a new 250 person camp in the vicinity of the Bradshaw Homestead. Proposed works also include construction of a new vehicle wash point, a new Urban Operations Training Facility, and upgrades to the Nackerroo airfield to improve operational capacity for military aircraft.



For further information, please visit the Project website at
<https://www.defence.gov.au/id/j0139-nt-tar/>

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Figure H11 – Project Brochure

SUMMARY OF KEY QUESTIONS / ISSUES RAISED DURING
COMMUNITY INFORMATION FORUMS

FORUM: TUMBLING WATERS HOLIDAY PARK, BERRY SPRINGS		
ORGANISATION AND NAME	ISSUE/QUESTION	DEFENCE'S RESPONSE
Local Resident (Kangaroo Flats Training Area) and one of the residents contacted by Defence's Project Team as detailed in <u>Annex D</u>	Local resident had recently started a tourist venture on the Charlotte River and was interested to see what proposed development was planned and how the noise would change/impact that.	Referencing the featherboards, the location and orientation of the new weapons ranges was discussed. It was highlighted that the new weapons ranges mainly face south, away from the local resident's property. The resident noted that the local topography would likely provide some shielding for noise to the resident's property. Defence advised that acoustic modelling had been conducted and once the works are delivered, confirmatory noise assessments will be undertaken at certain locations to validate the assessments and treatments provided to minimise noise impacts on users and surrounding areas.
	In the last 12 months, the level of noise from the Training Area has increased, and helicopters have conducted low-flying exercises over the resident's property – resident has no issues with that.	
	Are tanks planned to be used on the Training Area?	It was discussed that no tanks are currently being used at Kangaroo Flats Training Area and the weapons that are currently being used on the Training Area will not change with the project's upgrades.
	Concern was raised about management of potential contaminant run off from the ranges into the Charlotte River.	It was discussed that stormwater outside the new weapon ranges will be diverted around the new weapon ranges and that any water that runs off from the new weapon ranges will be captured on site and treated prior to discharge.
	Were any Training Area fences intended to be upgraded? This local resident has previously undertaken fire break grading on the Training Area for Defence.	Defence advised that Training Area fences were not being upgraded by the Project and any minor upgrades would be considered as part of ongoing maintenance. The local resident advised that unbranded cattle go on and off the Training Area but the majority of fences were in good condition considering they get burnt every year.

FORUM: TUMBLING WATERS HOLIDAY PARK, BERRY SPRINGS		
ORGANISATION AND NAME	ISSUE/QUESTION	DEFENCE'S RESPONSE
	Were any roads outside of the Training Area being upgraded?	The Project is not upgrading any roads outside of the Training Area. The resident commented that Cox Peninsula Road was getting busier with up to 5 road trains per day (not military related) coming from one area. Defence advised that there will be construction traffic using this road when the works are occurring but not planning on large military tanks using the Training Area that require low loaders to transport them.
Local Resident (lives in the general area)	Attended for interest after hearing of some contracts at Robertson Barracks. Nil issues raised or questions asked.	Defence provided an overview of the scope of the Project. Resident didn't raise any issues or ask any questions.
Holiday Park representative	Attendee is very supportive of the Project. Nil issues or questions raised.	Defence provided a general project brief, including advising about the proposed Kangaroo Flats Training Area construction period. The Holiday Park representative advised that helicopters have conducted low-flying exercises over the holiday park, and that no issues have been raised from the park about this.

FORUM: PALMERSTON RECREATION RESERVE		
ORGANISATION AND NAME	ISSUE / QUESTION	DEFENCE'S RESPONSE
Two Local Residents from the same family (Robertson Barracks Close Training Area), and some of the residents contacted by the Project Team as detailed in <u>Annex B</u>	<p>Resident expressed concerns with aircraft flying low over their property. The flight path is over their property and it is ok when aircraft follow that, but the issue is when aircraft go off the flight path.</p>	<p>Robertson Barracks Base Manager (Defence) acknowledged the concern about the low fly over during the Prime Minister's visit.</p>
	<p>Expressed a general concern about the US being in Darwin generally and queried what benefit does the Project provide to the community?</p>	<p>Defence provided a brief on the proposed scope in the project, and particularly noted the new Driver Training Area which will provide improved familiarisation and safety for overseas military personnel driving on NT roads. This was agreed by the resident as good for safety.</p>
	<p>Expressed concerns over PFAS and the impact on the creek to the south of the wash point. Additionally, the risk of contaminants, particularly Chemical Agent Resistant Coating (CARC) from US vehicles and a new paint called TALON from Abrams tanks and other vehicles coming off when being washed and being deposited into the creek.</p>	<p>Defence advised that the majority of Abrams tanks are now stationed in South Australia; however, may visit the NT for exercises. Defence took as an action that they would look at how the wash point managed the potential for CARC and TALON paints coming off.</p>
	<p>The biggest concern for the Resident was with Gamba Grass on Robertson Barracks and the Close Training Area within 15 metres of the boundary and Defence not doing enough to deal with it.</p>	<p>Robertson Barracks Base Manager advised that Defence have a weeds management program to deal with Gamba Grass. The resident highlighted that Gamba Grass has already gone to seed this year and it is now too late to deal with the weeds for this year. Defence advised that the Gamba Grass issue was one that was inherited from the previous mine site, however, was now Defence's issue to manage. Base Manager</p>

FORUM: PALMERSTON RECREATION RESERVE		
ORGANISATION AND NAME	ISSUE / QUESTION	DEFENCE'S RESPONSE
	<p>Expressed concern about fires coming from the Robertson Barracks Close Training Area onto their residential properties.</p> <p>Expressed concerns that people (potentially Defence) have been letting off firecrackers in the area of the haul road leading to the quarry and has caused a small fire in the past.</p> <p>Resident is looking to turn the buffer area between Robertson Barracks Close Training Area and their properties into a land care corridor to join with King's Creek. There will be some rehabilitation required.</p>	<p>Robertson Barracks noted that he was happy to provide the resident with a copy of the weed management plans and bushfire management Plan (which is currently being re-written over the next 3 months), as well as a copy of the scheduled burning program.</p> <p>Defence advised that there is a fire break on both sides of the Robertson Barracks Close Training Area fence which was recently installed.</p> <p>Defence advised that the haul road leading to the quarry adjacent to the Robertson Barracks Close Training Area is no longer Defence land and is Crown land. The resident acknowledged that their property no longer backed onto Defence land.</p> <p>Defence advised that personnel are not allowed to set off crackers on Robertson Barracks. If it is allowed for civilians to do in an area off base it is difficult to stop them.</p> <p>Robertson Barracks Base Manager acknowledged there may be an opportunity for Defence to assist with that and will investigate further with the Brigade Commander. The resident was very happy with that. The resident highlighted that some of the land care corridor is within the Robertson Barracks Close Training Area and this was ok. There are some paperbark trees just on the southern boundary of Robertson Barracks Close Training Area, however, Defence confirmed these are not being disturbed by this project.</p>

FORUM: PALMERSTON RECREATION RESERVE		
ORGANISATION AND NAME	ISSUE / QUESTION	DEFENCE'S RESPONSE
	<p>Residents do not mind the noise and weapon firing but want to be forewarned when there is to be a large bang as this scares the dogs and they have run away before. The Resident noted they have previously received letters warning, however have not received such letters recently.</p> <p>Is there was any aviation scope planned for Robertson Barracks Close Training Area?</p>	<p>Robertson Barracks Base Manager advised that this was probably from blank firing artillery for parades and will investigate to see who organises the letters to local residents.</p> <p>Defence replied not as part of this project; however, there is an unapproved future project for the helicopter replacement which is looking at a helicopter landing area potentially to the north of Robertson Barracks. The resident acknowledged she had no issues as long as it was not on the southern side of Robertson Barracks Close Training Area.</p>
Business representative	<p>General discussion on the supplier's availability, including advising that most are indigenous owned and employ indigenous staff.</p>	<p>Defence advised the business representative of the Industry Capability Network portal which includes opportunities for registering interest to complete either partial work packages or full work packages.</p>

FORUM: MARY RIVER WILDERNESS RETREAT, MOUNT BUNDEY		
ORGANISATION AND NAME	ISSUE/QUESTION	DEFENCE'S RESPONSE
Consultant to Victoria Daly Regional Council	<p>Victoria Daly Regional Council is currently designing an upgrade to the existing Timber Creek landfill and is wondering where construction waste from the Project will be taken as the Timber Creek landfill is only for domestic waste.</p> <p>The current plan for the upgraded Timber Creek landfill is for a new cell to be added which provides 5 years additional capacity but need to know how the Project intends to use it to ensure it has sufficient capacity if needed.</p> <p>Council representative noted that design would be finished in 6 weeks, construction commence in 2 months and the upgrade will be completed in 2 – 3 months after that.</p>	<p>Defence's Managing Contractor's representative noted that the Timber Creek landfill is not certified or licensed and as such, the Project is not intending to use the Timber Creek landfill for construction waste or construction camp waste. There will be a waste management sub-contractor engaged for the construction period who will be required to manage the waste. Waste will be disposed of at an appropriately licensed facility.</p> <p>The council's representative was ok with this plan.</p> <p>The council's representative advised that recent advice from NT Environmental Protection Agency was that they intend to regulate all landfills in the NT; however, there has been no further direction on this.</p>
Local Resident (from Darwin)	Nil issues or questions raised.	Darwin resident was given a general project brief. No questions or concerns were raised.

FORUM: TIMBER CREEK HOTEL, TIMBER CREEK		
ORGANISATION AND NAME	ISSUE/QUESTION	DEFENCE RESPONSE
Northern Land Council and Business Representative	Nil issues or questions raised.	<p>Defence provided a general outline on the scope of the Project (particularly at Bradshaw Field Training Area) and details on how to register interest for work packages on the Industry Capability Network portal.</p> <p>Defence provided a number of flyers to the representative to distribute through the Northern Land Council.</p>
Victoria Daly Regional Council Representative	<p>Is the Project in preparation for war as that is what some of her friends and family had been asking?</p> <p>Expressed support for the Project and the opportunities it would provide for Timber Creek.</p>	<p>The Project has been planned for a long time to upgrade the Training Areas in the NT due to the considerable age of some of the current facilities. The upgrades are necessary to support the increased use by the Australian Defence Force and United States / other partner forces.</p> <p>Defence provided a number of flyers to the Council representative to distribute through the Victoria Daly Regional Council.</p>

FORUM: KIMBERLEY GRANDE RESORT, KUNUNURRA		
ORGANISATION AND NAME	ISSUE/QUESTION	DEFENCE'S RESPONSE
Business representative (plumbing)	Keen to understand employment opportunities, particularly at Bradshaw Field Training Area.	<p>Defence provided a general briefing on the project scope and Industry Capability Network portal details for registering interest in works packages. Defence also provided a general briefing on construction camp setup and management requirements.</p> <p>Defence provided a general briefing on trade packages breakup, and confirmed that there are opportunities for smaller contractors to register interest in completing only partial elements of a larger works package. Expressing interest for the partial works packages will allow their details to be provided to companies that are shortlisted to proceed to the tender stage of a works package.</p>
	What maintenance opportunities will exist following the delivery of the Project?	<p>Maintenance opportunities are not covered under this project, and that once complete and handed over, the facilities will be managed as part of Defence's existing estate maintenance and operations contract.</p>