

# PFAS and Biosolids

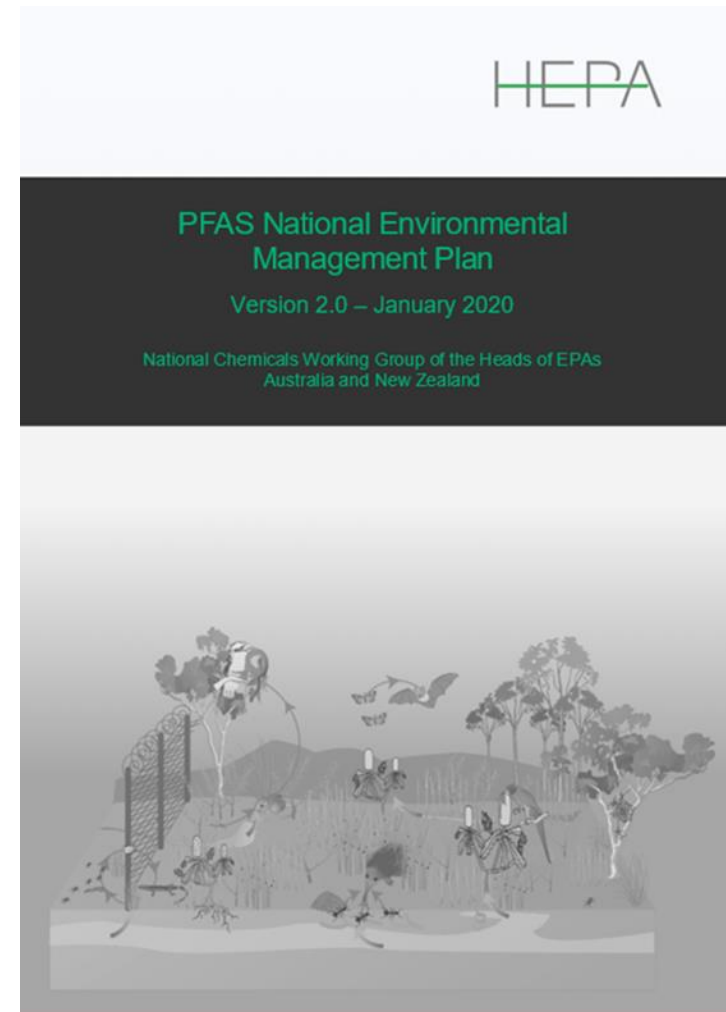
**Work program to update the PFAS National Environment Management Plan (PFAS NEMP)**

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# The PFAS NEMP

- The PFAS NEMP has been prepared by the Heads of EPAs Australia (HEPA)
- First published in 2018 with updated version (PFAS NEMP 2.0) released in May 2020.
- Provides guidance to all parties how to assess and manage risks from PFAS contaminated materials



# PFAS NEMP 2.0

- Provided updated advice to water utilities on assessing and minimising risks from PFAS on WWTPs
    - Focus on understanding sources in catchments
    - Managing / minimising these where possible (Trade Waste)
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# PFAS NEMP 3.0

- Work is underway looking at providing updated advice to water utilities
  - Focus is on developing criteria for PFAS in biosolids
    - Beneficial re-use of biosolids as soil amendment
    - Looking to take a risk based approach to developing criteria
    - Able to be picked up by all jurisdictions for incorporation into current biosolids guidance
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# Stakeholder Engagement

Early engagement on this work has been occurring recently

- National associations (ANZBP, WSAA, WRA)
  - Each Jurisdiction also engaging with a number of stakeholders locally
  - Looking at a range of questions:
    - Knowledge of PFAS in biosolids – can data / case studies be shared?
    - How is PFAS currently measured in biosolids and soils?
    - What are the objectives / needs when managing biosolids?
    - What are the current approaches?
    - What are the key gaps?
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# Next Steps

- Drafting of updated guidance (including PFAS criteria for biosolids) to be completed this year
  - Submitted to Environment Ministers for approval to consult
  - PFAS NEMP 3.0 will be released for consultation in first half of 2022
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**Thank you**

