



STATE OF WASHINGTON  
**DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY**

Eastern Region Office

4601 North Monroe St., Spokane, WA 99205-1295 • 509-329-3400

April 17, 2025

## **Water Well Drilling Advisory in the West Plains**

This advisory is about drilling and constructing water wells in the West Plains area of Spokane County where there is known or suspected per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) groundwater contamination. Please see the attached map of the area of known and suspected contamination.

While drilling in this area is not prohibited, property owners and drilling contractors should be aware of the potential for PFAS contamination in any newly, or previously, constructed well. The Spokane Regional Health District (SRHD) and the Department of Ecology will be notifying well drillers about the potential PFAS contamination in this area.

The impacted areas generally lie east and northeast of Fairchild Air Force Base. More specifically, the Spokane River is the eastern boundary, Deep Creek is the northern boundary, and Four Lakes and Medical Lake areas are the southern and western boundaries, respectively. These boundaries are generalized and fluid.

Well drillers must comply with [Washington Administrative Code 173-160](#),<sup>1</sup> which specifies the requirements for preserving natural barriers to groundwater movement between aquifers. Technical questions related to well drilling, or PFAS, should be directed to the Washington Department of Ecology, Water Resources or Toxics Cleanup programs, respectively, by calling 509-329-3400.

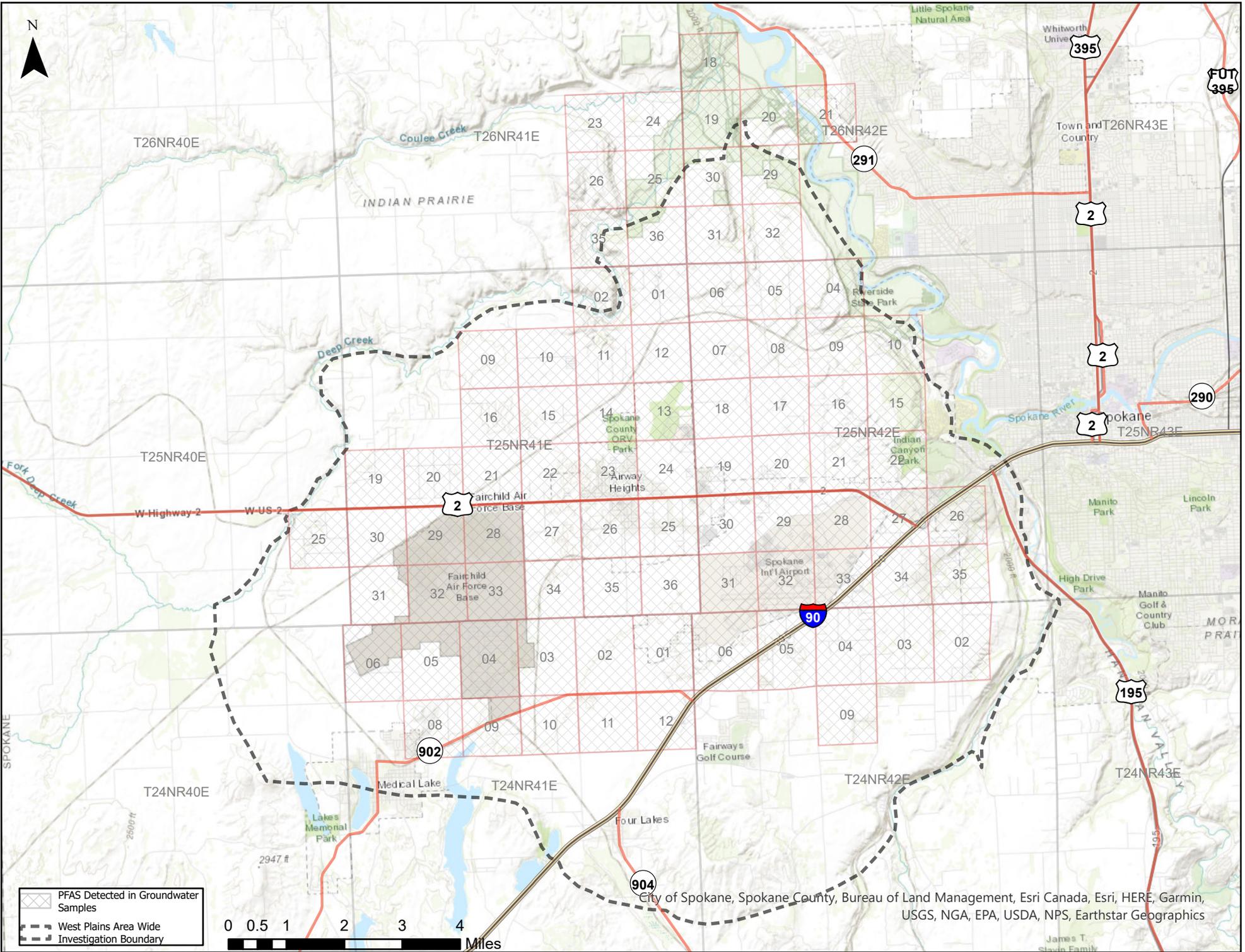
Information on the health effects and filtration of PFAS contaminants can be found at the following websites.

- SRHD - <https://srhd.org/programs-and-services/pfas-per-and-polyfluoroalkyl-substances>
- Washington Department of Health - <https://doh.wa.gov/pfas>
- Ecology - <https://ecology.wa.gov/PFAS>
- Ecology's PFAS in West Plains private wells page - <https://ecology.wa.gov/west-plains>
- Environmental Protection Agency - <https://www.epa.gov/pfas>
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention - <https://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/pfas>

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<sup>1</sup> <https://app.leg.wa.gov/wac/default.aspx?cite=173-160>





City of Spokane, Spokane County, Bureau of Land Management, Esri Canada, Esri, HERE, Garmin, USGS, NGA, EPA, USDA, NPS, Earthstar Geographics

James T. Slavin Family