DOC26/19226-2

Ms Simone Potter
Director
Bush Magic Adventure Therapy

By email: bushmagictherapy@gmail.com

21 January 2026

Dear Ms Potter

Re: Request for Information and Written Advice Regarding Reported Contamination in Mullet Creek, Avondale

Thank you for contacting the Environment Protection Authority (EPA) regarding our recent water sampling of Mullet Creek and Heritage Creek in Avondale.

The reported contamination is not in the location of the Bush Magic Adventure Therapy school program operating at Don's Farm in Avondale.

The EPA has not issued any precautionary advice to areas upstream of the Huntley Waste Emplacement.

The precautionary advice was issued to Mullet Creek surface water users and residents downstream from the Huntley Waste Emplacement to Ena Avenue, after elevated levels of Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS) were detected.

I can provide the following information about the water sampling completed in Mullet Creek and Heritage Creek in November 2025:

- Elevated levels of Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS) were detected in water at and downstream of the Huntley Waste Emplacement site.
- PFAS are a group of manmade chemicals that can be found in landfill leachate. PFOS is one specific type of PFAS.
- Limited water sampling was undertaken around the Don's Farm area for the purposes of understanding the background levels of pollutants (refer to MC-1 location).
- At this location, only pH slightly exceeds the recreational water quality guidelines at 8.6 pH units, whereas the guideline range is 6.5-8.5. All the results are available on the EPA website at: https://www.epa.nsw.gov.au/Working-together/Community-engagement/updates/illawarra-shoalhaven/avondale-water-sampling/results

  Note: The EPAs water assessment should not be considered a comprehensive assessment of water quality as not all potential chemicals were tested.
- All PFAS levels were below recreational water quality guidelines in Mullet Creek.

The EPA is continuing to work with the landfill to improve downstream water quality and will update the website (available at https://www.epa.nsw.gov.au/Working-together/Community-engagement/updates/illawarra-shoalhaven/avondale-water-sampling) as new information becomes

available.

If you wish to discuss these matters further, please contact 02 4224 4132 during business hours.

Yours sincerely

Dr Katelyn Edge
A/Director Operations
NSW Environment Protection Authority