



YOUR TRUSTED DELIVERY PARTNER

PROJECT DETAILS

Client: NOVA NACAP JV

Location:

Royal Australian Air Force Base,
Tindal, Northern Territory

Duration:

September 2022 - Present

Completion:

In Progress

Type:

Detailed civil works
Concrete works
Roads and Utilities
Buried services

Contract Value:

\$27 million

Services Used:

Civil (excavation, subgrade preparation, tank cover)
Concrete (tank base, lid and support buildings)
Ancillary (roads, stormwater, environment controls and buried services)

PROJECT PROFILE

USAF – JET FUEL STORAGE TANKS



NOVA NACAP entrusted Bear Claw with the Civil and Concrete contract components to build two 4,000,000 litre “cut’n’cover” bulk fuel tanks and support infrastructure. This included pump houses, fill stands, utilities, site improvements, heavy duty pavements and other works necessary to provide a complete facility at the RAAF Base in Tindal.

Running simultaneously to the excavation and concrete works of the tank bases was the construction of the building pads and roads, with over 120,000 m³ of general and select fill imported to the site. Bear Claw’s 3 Road Trains completed 2,400 round trips to the Tindal quarry. Our extensive fleet comprised of 2 graders, 2 water trucks, 4x30 tonne excavators, 2 concrete pumps, 3 compactors, 2 front end loaders, and a Moxi (articulated dump truck).

To build the tank bases, the Bear Claw team removed 1,200 m³ of topsoil, excavated and removed 4,000 m³ of material (mostly rock) and placed 578 tonnes of steel reinforcement. Works also included the placement of 1,800 m³ of concrete, working 24-hour shifts, pouring at night to avoid the intense day heat, and remain ahead of the monsoon weather pattern which prevails in northern Australia in December.

Bear Claw responded to the challenge to finish the works ahead of the monsoon season by supplementing its permanent workforce with fly-in fly-out personnel and engaging in a construction acceleration effort comprising around the clock rotating work shifts which completed the excavation and tank concrete base in record time, even after encountering unanticipated differing ground conditions during excavation of the base of one tank, which increased excavation depth from 1.4 to 3.5m, and doubled the quantity of concrete required.

Bear Claw staff worked closely in a “one team” environment with client NOVA NACAP staff, geotechnical, engineers and suppliers without whose cooperation and assistance the completion of the works in record time would not have been possible.