

Annual Site Environmental Report



2014

Oak Ridge Reservation

Annual Site Environmental Report 2014

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Acronyms and Abbreviations

AAS	ambient air (monitoring) station
ABC	aluminum beverage can (recycling)
AC	alternating current
ACHP	Advisory Council on Historic Preservation
ACO	Analytical Chemistry Organization (Y-12 Complex)
ACM	asbestos-containing material
AGL	above ground level
ALARA	as low as reasonably achievable
ANSI	American National Standards Institute
ANSI/HPS	ANSI Health Physics Society (standard)
AOEC	Agent Operations Eastern Command (NNSA OST)
ARAP	Aquatic Resource Alteration Permit
ARRA	American Recovery and Reinvestment Act
ASER	<i>Oak Ridge Reservation Annual Site Environmental Report</i>
AWQC	ambient water quality criterion
B&W Y-12	Babcock & Wilcox Technical Services Y-12, LLC
BCG	biota concentration guide
BMAP	Biological Monitoring and Abatement Program
BRW	bedrock well
C&D	construction and demolition
CAA	Clean Air Act
CAP-88	Clean Air Assessment Package (software)
CAS	condition assessment survey
CCA	chromated copper arsenate (as in CCA Type C pressure-treated wood)
CEI	Compliance Evaluation Inspection (NPDES)
CERCLA	Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act
CFR	<i>Code of Federal Regulations</i>
CFTF	Carbon Fiber Technology Facility
CH	contact-handled
CNF	Central Neutralization Facility
CNS	Consolidated Nuclear Security, LLC
CO ₂ e	CO ₂ equivalent
COC	contaminant of concern
CPU	central processing unit (computer)
CRK	Clinch River kilometer
CROET	Community Reuse Organization of East Tennessee
CRT	cathode-ray tube (also display devices, especially computers, incorporating cathode-ray tubes)

CVSR	Continuously Variable Series Reactor
CWA	Clean Water Act
CWTS	Chromium Water Treatment System (ETTP)
CX	categorical exclusion
CY	calendar year
D&D	decontamination and decommissioning
DAC	derived air concentration
DCA	dichloroethane
DCE	dichloroethene/dichloroethylene
DCG	derived concentration guide
DCS	derived concentration standard
DMR	discharge monitoring report
DNAPL	dense nonaqueous phase liquid
DOE	US Department of Energy
DOE ORO	DOE Oak Ridge Office
DVD	digital video disc
e-RICE	emergency RICE
E85	Ethanol-fuel blend consisting of up to 85% ethanol and 15% gasoline or other hydrocarbon
EC	Environmental Compliance
EC&P	Environmental Compliance and Protection
ECD	Environmental Compliance Department (Y-12 Complex)
ECM	energy conservation measure
ED	effective dose
EDTA	ethylenediaminetetraacetic acid
EFK	East Fork Poplar Creek kilometer
EFPC	East Fork Poplar Creek
EISA	Energy Independence and Security Act
EM	environmental management
EMDF	Environmental Management Disposal Facility
EMMIS	Environmental Monitoring Management Information System (Y-12 Complex)
EMP	environmental monitoring program
EMS	Environmental Management System
EMWMF	Environmental Management Waste Management Facility
EO	executive order
EPA	US Environmental Protection Agency
EPCRA	Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act
EPEAT	Electronic Product Environmental Assessment Tool
EPT	Ephemeroptera, Plecoptera, and Trichoptera (taxa)
EPSD	Environmental Protection Services Division (UT-Battelle)
ES&H	environment, safety, and health
ESPC	Energy Savings Performance Contract

ESS	Environmental Surveillance System (ORNL)
ETTP	East Tennessee Technology Park
FAST	Federal Automotive Statistical Tool
FCK	First Creek kilometer
FFA	Federal Facility Agreement (for the Oak Ridge Reservation)
FFK	Fifth Creek kilometer
FWS	US Fish and Wildlife Service
FY	fiscal year
GET	General Employee Training
GHG	greenhouse gas
GI	green infrastructure
GM	Geiger–Müller tube for detection of ionizing radiation
GWPP	Groundwater Protection Program (Y-12)
HAP	hazardous air pollutant
HEPA	high-efficiency particulate air
HEU	highly enriched uranium
HFIR	High Flux Isotope Reactor
HiPAS	High-Performance Architectural Surface-Selective
HPIC	high-pressure ion chamber
HPSB	high-performance sustainable building
HQ	hazard quotient
HVAC	heating, ventilating, and air-conditioning
IC ₂₅	inhibition concentration (the concentration of effluent that causes a 25% reduction in survival, reproduction, and/or growth of monitored species)
ID	identification (number)
IDMS	Integrated Document Management System (UT-Battelle)
ISMS	Integrated Safety Management System
ISO	International Organization for Standardization
Isotek	Isotek Systems LLC
LCD	liquid crystal display
LID	low impact development
LIMS	Laboratory Information Management System (Y-12 Complex)
LLW	low-level waste
M&E	material and equipment
M&TE	measurement and test equipment
MACT	Maximum Achievable Control Technology
MARSAME	<i>Multi-Agency Radiation Survey and Assessment of Materials and Equipment Manual</i>

MARSSIM	<i>Multi-Agency Radiation Survey and Site Investigation Manual</i>
MCK	McCoy Branch kilometer
MCL	maximum contaminant level
MDA	minimum detectable activity
MDF	Manufacturing Demonstration Facility
MEI	maximally exposed individual
MEK	Melton Branch kilometer
MIK	Mitchell Branch kilometer
MOA	memorandum of agreement
MSRE	Molten Salt Reactor Experiment
MT	meteorological tower (when directly followed by a numeral as in “MT2”)
MTF	Mercury Treatment Facility
NAAQS	National Ambient Air Quality Standards
NEPA	National Environmental Policy Act
NESHAPs	National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants
NHPA	National Historic Preservation Act
NIST	National Institute of Standards and Technology
NNSA	National Nuclear Security Administration
NNSS	Nevada National Security Site
NOV	notice of violation
NO _x	oxides of nitrogen
NPDES	National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System
NPL	National Priorities List (EPA)
NPO	NNSA Production Office
NRHP	National Register of Historic Places
NSF-ISR	NSF International Strategic Registrations, Ltd.
NSPS	New Source Performance Standard
NTRC	National Transportation Research Center
ODS	ozone-depleting substance
OMP	operational monitoring plan
ORAU	Oak Ridge Associated Universities
OREIS	Oak Ridge Environmental Information System (ORNL)
ORGDP	Oak Ridge Gaseous Diffusion Plant
ORISE	Oak Ridge Institute for Science and Education
ORNL	Oak Ridge National Laboratory
ORO	Oak Ridge Office (DOE)
ORPS	Occurrence Reporting and Processing System (Y-12 Complex)
ORR	Oak Ridge Reservation
ORR-PCB-FFCA	Oak Ridge Reservation Polychlorinated Biphenyl Federal Facilities Compliance Agreement
ORSSAB	Oak Ridge Site Specific Advisory Board
ORSTP	Oak Ridge Science and Technology Park

OS	Office of Science (DOE)
OST	Office of Secure Transportation (NNSA)
P2	designation for an on-site ORNL wetland
PAM	perimeter air monitoring (station)
PCB	polychlorinated biphenyl
PCE	tetrachloroethene
PEMS	Predictive Emissions Monitoring System
PM	particulate matter
PM ₁₀	particulate matter with an aerodynamic diameter less than or equal to 10 μm
PM _{2.5}	fine particulate matter with an aerodynamic diameter less than or equal to 2.5 μm
POTW	publicly owned treatment works
PWTC	Process Waste Treatment Complex
QA	quality assurance
QC	quality control
RA	remedial action
R&D	research and development
Rad-NESHAPs	National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants for Radionuclides
RATA	relative accuracy test audit
RCRA	Resource Conservation and Recovery Act
RCW	recirculating cooling water
RESRAD	residual radioactivity
RFITS	Radio Frequency Identification Transportation System
RH	remote-handled
RI	remedial investigation
RI/FS	remedial investigation/feasibility study
RICE	reciprocating internal combustion engine
RMP	risk management plan
ROD	record of decision
RQ	reportable quantity (CERCLA)
RRSTP	Rarity Ridge Sewage Treatment Plant
RSI	Restoration Services, Inc.
RSO	radiation safety officer
S&M	surveillance and maintenance
SAA	satellite accumulation area
SAP	sampling and analysis plan
SARA	Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act
SBMS	Standards-Based Management System (UT-Battelle)
SCP	standards and calibration program
SD	storm water outfall/storm drain

SDWA	Safe Drinking Water Act
SHPO	State Historic Preservation Office (Tennessee)
SIC	Standard Industrial Classification (code)
SNAP	Significant New Alternatives Program (EPA)
SNM	special nuclear material
SNS	Spallation Neutron Source
SODAR	SOnic Detection And Ranging
SOF	sum of fractions
SPCC	spill prevention, control, and countermeasures (plan)
SPMD	semipermeable membrane device
SSP	site sustainability plan
SSPP	Strategic Sustainability Performance Plan (DOE)
STP	sewage treatment plant
SVOC	semivolatile organic compound
SWEIS	sitewide environmental impact statement
SWHISS	Surface Water Hydrological Information Support System (Y-12 Complex)
SWPP	Storm Water Pollution Prevention
SWPPP	Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan
SWSA	solid waste storage area
TCA	trichloroethane
TCE	trichloroethene/trichloroethylene
TDEC	Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation
TDS	total dissolved solids
TEMA	Tennessee Emergency Management Agency
TGSP	Tennessee Green Star Partnership
TMDL	Total Maximum Daily Load
TMSP	Tennessee Stormwater Multi-Sector General Permit
TOA	Tennessee Oversight Agreement
TRI	toxic (chemical) release inventory
TRO	total residual oxidant
TRU	transuranic
TSCA	Toxic Substances Control Act
TSS	total suspended solids
TTO	total toxic organic
TVA	Tennessee Valley Authority
TWA	time-weighted average
TWPC	Transuranic Waste Processing Center
TWRA	Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency
UCOR	URS CH2M Oak Ridge LLC
UMC	Unneeded Materials and Chemicals
UMS	Utilities Management System (Y-12 Complex)
UNW	unconsolidated well

UPF	Uranium Processing Facility (Y-12 Complex)
USACE	US Army Corps of Engineers
USDA	US Department of Agriculture
USGS	US Geological Survey
UST	underground storage tank
UT-Battelle	UT-Battelle, LLC (Partnership between University of Tennessee and Battelle Memorial Institute formed to manage ORNL for DOE)
VOC	volatile organic compound
WAI	Wastren Advantage, Inc.
WCK	WOC kilometer
WEMA	west end mercury-use area (Y-12)
WET	whole effluent toxicity
WETF	West End Treatment Facility
WIPP	Waste Isolation Pilot Plant
WOC	White Oak Creek
WOD	White Oak Dam
WQC	water quality criterion
WQPP	water quality protection plan
WRRP	Water Resources Restoration Program
WSR	waste services representatives
Y-12/Y-12 Complex	Y-12 National Security Complex
ZPR	Zero Power Reactor

Units of Measure and Conversion Factors*

Units of measure and their abbreviations

acre	acre	millicurie	mCi
becquerel	Bq	milligram	mg
British thermal unit	Btu	milliliter	mL
centimeter	cm	millimeter	mm
curie	Ci	million	M
day	day	millirad	mrad
degrees Celsius	°C	millirem	mrem
degrees Fahrenheit	°F	milliroentgen	mR
disintegrations per minute	dpm	millisievert	mSv
foot	ft	minute	min
gallon	gal	nanogram	ng
gallons per minute	gal/min	nephelometric turbidity unit	NTU
gram	g	parts per billion	ppb
gray	Gy	parts per million	ppm
gross square feet	gsf	parts per trillion	ppt
hectare	ha	picocurie	pCi
hour	h	pound	lb
inch	in.	pound mass	lbm
joule	J	pounds per square inch	psi
kilocurie	kCi	pounds per square inch gage	psig
kilogram	kg	quart	qt
kilometer	km	rad	rad
kilowatt	kW	roentgen	R
liter	L	rem	rem
megajoule	MJ	roentgen equivalent man	rem
megawatt	MW	second	s
megawatt-hour	MWh	sievert	Sv
meter	m	standard unit (pH)	SU
microcurie	μCi	ton, short (2,000 lb)	ton
microgram	μg	yard	yd
micrometer	μm	year	year

Quantitative prefixes

exa	$\times 10^{18}$	atto	$\times 10^{-18}$
peta	$\times 10^{15}$	femto	$\times 10^{-15}$
tera	$\times 10^{12}$	pico	$\times 10^{-12}$
giga	$\times 10^9$	nano	$\times 10^{-9}$
mega	$\times 10^6$	micro	$\times 10^{-6}$
kilo	$\times 10^3$	milli	$\times 10^{-3}$
hecto	$\times 10^2$	centi	$\times 10^{-2}$
deka	$\times 10^1$	deci	$\times 10^{-1}$

*Due to differing permit reporting requirements and instrument capabilities, various units of measurement are used in this report. The provided list of units of measure and conversion factors is intended to help readers make approximate conversions to other units as needed for specific calculations and comparisons.

Unit conversions

Unit	Conversion	Equivalent	Unit	Conversion	Equivalent
Length					
in.	× 2.54	cm	cm	× 0.394	in.
ft	× 0.305	m	m	× 3.28	ft
mile	× 1.61	km	km	× 0.621	mile
Area					
acre	× 0.405	ha	ha	× 2.47	acre
ft ²	× 0.093	m ²	m ²	× 10.764	ft ²
mile ²	× 2.59	km ²	km ²	× 0.386	mile ²
Volume					
ft ³	× 0.028	m ³	m ³	× 35.31	ft ³
qt (US liquid)	× 0.946	L	L	× 1.057	qt (US liquid)
gal	× 3.7854118	L	L	× 0.264172051	gal
Concentration					
ppb					ppb
ppm	× 1	mg/L	mg/L	× 1	ppm
Weight					
lb	× 0.4536	kg	kg	× 2.205	lb
lbm	× 0.45356	kg	kg	× 2.2046226	lbm
ton, short	× 907.1847	kg	kg	× 0.00110231131	ton, short
Temperature					
°C	°F = (9/5) °C + 32	°F	°F	°C = (5/9) (F—32)	°C
Activity					
Bq	× 2.7 × 10 ⁻¹¹	Ci	Ci	× 3.7 × 10 ¹⁰	Bq
Bq	× 27	pCi	pCi	× 0.037	Bq
mSv	× 100	mrem	mrem	× 0.01	mSv
Sv	× 100	rem	rem	× 0.01	Sv
nCi	× 1,000	pCi	pCi	× 0.001	nCi
mCi/km ²	× 1	nCi/m ²	nCi/m ²	× 1	mCi/km ²
dpm/L	× 0.45 × 10 ⁹	μCi/cm ³	μCi/cm ³	× 2.22 × 10 ⁹	dpm/L
pCi/L	× 10 ⁻⁹	μCi/mL	μCi/mL	× 10 ⁹	pCi/L
pCi/m ³	× 10 ⁻¹²	μCi/cm ³	μCi/cm ³	× 10 ¹²	pCi/m ³

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Executive Summary

Overview

The US Department of Energy's (DOE's) Oak Ridge Reservation (ORR) is located in Roane and Anderson counties in East Tennessee, about 40 km (25 miles) from Knoxville. ORR is one of DOE's most unique and complex sites. It encompasses three major facilities and thousands of employees that perform every mission in the DOE portfolio—energy research, environmental restoration, national security, nuclear fuel supply, reindustrialization, science education, basic and applied research in areas important to US security, and technology transfer. ORR was established in the early 1940s as part of the Manhattan Project for the purposes of enriching uranium and pioneering methods for producing and separating plutonium. Today, scientists at the Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL), DOE's largest multipurpose national laboratory, conduct world-leading research in advanced materials, alternative fuels, climate change, and supercomputing. The Y-12 National Security Complex (Y-12 or Y-12 Complex) is vital to maintaining the safety, security, and effectiveness of the US nuclear weapons stockpile and reducing the global threat posed by nuclear proliferation and terrorism. The East Tennessee Technology Park (ETTP), a former uranium enrichment complex, is being transitioned to a clean, revitalized industrial park.

DOE has established an integrated safety management system (ISMS) to integrate safety into all aspects of work at its facilities. Safety, as defined in ISMS, encompasses protection of the public, the worker, and the environment and includes all safety, health, and environmental disciplines (i.e., radiation protection, fire protection, nuclear safety, environmental protection, waste management, and environmental management). Several contractors, including UT-Battelle, LLC; Babcock & Wilcox Technical Services Y-12, LLC (B&W Y-12); Consolidated Nuclear Security, LLC (CNS); URS | CH2M Oak Ridge LLC; Wastren Advantage, Inc.; Oak Ridge Associated Universities; and Isotek Systems LLC, are responsible for carrying out the various DOE missions at the three major ORR facilities. (Note: For most of the reporting year, B&W Y-12 was the managing contractor for the Y-12 Complex, with CNS assuming that role under a new contract July 1, 2014.) These contractors manage and implement environmental protection programs through environmental management systems (EMSs) that adhere to International Organization for Standardization standard 14001: 2004, *Environmental Management Systems*, and are integrated with ISMS to provide unified strategies for managing resources. An EMS is a continuous cycle of planning, implementing, evaluating, and improving processes and actions undertaken to achieve environmental missions and goals. Routine, external (independent) audits of contractor-implemented EMSs on the reservation are typically conducted annually and, if applicable, a triennial recertification is also performed. Detailed information on contractor EMSs is provided in Chapters 3, 4, and 5.

DOE operations on ORR have the potential to release a variety of constituents into the environment via atmospheric, surface water, and groundwater pathways. Some of the constituents, such as particles from diesel engines, are common at many types of facilities, while others, such as radionuclides, are unique to specialized research and production activities like those on ORR. Any releases are highly regulated and carefully monitored. DOE is committed to enhancing environmental stewardship and managing the impacts its operations may have on the environment and encourages the public to participate in matters related to ORR's environmental impact on the community by soliciting citizens' input on matters of significant public interest and through various communications. DOE also provides public access to information on all its Oak Ridge environmental, safety, and health activities.

The *Oak Ridge Reservation Annual Site Environmental Report* (ASER) is prepared for DOE according to the requirements of DOE O 231.1 B, *Environment, Safety and Health Reporting*. ASER includes data on the environmental performance of each of the major DOE ORR contractors and describes significant accomplishments in pollution prevention and sustainability programs that serve to reduce all types of waste and pollutant releases to the environment. An environmental report for ORR that provides consolidated data on overall reservation performance and status has been published annually since the mid-1970s. ASER is a key component of the DOE effort to keep the public informed about environmental conditions across DOE/National Nuclear Security Administration sites. The report is prepared for readability, and frequent reference to other sections, chapters, and reports is made throughout the report to avoid redundancy.

2014 Impacts

DOE ORR operations in 2014 continued to result in minimal impact to the public and the environment. Permitted discharges to air and water were well below regulatory standards, and potential radiation doses to the public from activities on the reservation were significantly less than the 100 mrem standard established for DOE sites in DOE O 458.1, *Radiation Protection of the Public and the Environment*.

The maximum radiation dose that a hypothetical off-site individual could have received from DOE activities on ORR in 2014 was estimated to be 0.6 mrem from air pathways 1.1 mrem from water pathways (drinking water, fish consumption, swimming, recreation, and other uses), and 1.1 mrem from consumption of wildlife harvested on ORR. This is about 3% of the DOE 100 mrem standard for all pathways and is significantly less than the 300 mrem annual average dose to people in the United States from natural or background radiation. The 2014 maximum hypothetical dose is consistent with those calculated for the previous 5 years (2009–2013), which have ranged from 3 to 5 mrem.

Environmental Monitoring

Extensive environmental monitoring is conducted across ORR each year. Site-specific environmental protection programs are carried out at ORNL, the Y-12 Complex, and ETTP, and ORR-wide environmental surveillance programs, which include locations and media on and off the reservation, are conducted to enhance and supplement data from site-specific efforts. In 2014, thousands of samples and measurements of air, water, direct radiation, vegetation, fish, and wildlife collected from across the reservation were analyzed for both radioactive and nonradioactive contaminants. Sample media, locations, frequencies, and parameters were selected based on environmental regulations and standards, public and environmental exposure pathways, public concerns, and measurement capabilities. Chapters 2 through 7 of this report provide detailed summaries of the environmental protection and surveillance programs on ORR. These extensive sampling and monitoring efforts demonstrate DOE's commitment to safety; protecting human health; complying with regulations, standards, DOE orders, and "as low as reasonably achievable" principles; reducing the risks associated with past, present, and future operations; and improving cost-effectiveness.

Compliance with Environmental Regulations

Federal, state, and local government agencies, including the US Environmental Protection Agency and the State of Tennessee, monitor ORR and enforce compliance with applicable environmental regulations. These agencies issue permits, review compliance reports, participate in joint monitoring programs, inspect facilities and operations, and/or oversee compliance with regulations. Compliance with environmental regulations and DOE orders related to environmental protection provides assurance that on-site processes do not impact the public or the environment adversely.

During 2014, there were only a few instances of noncompliance with regulations, permits, and DOE orders, which were promptly addressed to ensure that no adverse environmental or public health effects resulted. Noncompliances and notifications made to regulatory agencies during the year are summarized below, and detailed information is provided in Chapters 2–5 of this report.

- During 2014 a Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation (TDEC) inspection at Y-12 identified three alleged violations related to the use of an incorrect checklist, missing labels, and improper labeling. The issues were administrative in nature, with no identified potential for environmental insult, and were immediately corrected.
- Three reportable occurrences related to Y-12 water programs occurred during 2014: (1) an oil sheen was observed on upper East Fork Poplar Creek within the Y-12 Complex, (2) an upset condition led to material from a stack being dispersed onto a building roof and the area adjacent to the building, and (3) minnow-sized dead fish were observed in East Fork Poplar Creek.
- A TDEC inspection at ORNL identified three alleged violations related to (1) an open satellite waste container, (2) an open 90-day accumulation area container, and (3) the location of the 90-day accumulation area in the vicinity of heavy equipment operation. The alleged violations were immediately corrected, and there was no environmental insult associated with these issues.
- A notice of violation was issued to UT-Battelle by TDEC for failure to notify TDEC of the demolition of two small structures (about 300 ft² each). Although the facilities did not contain asbestos, the regulations require that TDEC be notified before any building demolition.

Chapter 2 provides a detailed summary of ORR environmental compliance during 2014, and Chapters 3, 4, and 5 discuss each facility's compliance status for the year.

Pollution Prevention and Site Sustainability

Numerous pollution prevention and sustainability programs across ORR embody efforts to achieve enduring sustainability in facilities, operations, and organizational culture. These programs promote energy and water conservation, building efficiency, sustainable landscaping, green transportation, sustainable acquisition, and waste minimization, which in turn reduce life-cycle costs of programs and projects and reduce risks to the environment. During 2014, ORR contractors were recognized for excellence in pollution prevention and sustainability programs with multiple awards, which are described in Chapters 3, 4, and 5.

Cleanup Operations in 2014

ORR has played key roles in US defense and energy research. However, past waste disposal practices and unintentional releases have left land and facilities contaminated. These contaminants include radioactive elements, mercury, asbestos, PCBs, and industrial wastes. The DOE Environmental Management (EM) program is responsible for cleaning up these sites, and numerous cleanup projects are under way at the reservation's three main facilities.

In 2014, the most notable EM accomplishment on ORR was completion of the K-25 Building Demolition Project at ETTP. This project, DOE's largest ever demolition project, was completed 6 months ahead of schedule, which enabled work on the K-31 Demolition Project to begin earlier than expected. EM also continued planning activities for capital asset projects that will further advance ORR cleanup objectives. These include construction of a mercury treatment facility at Y-12, construction of a new disposal facility that will accept debris from future cleanup at Y-12 and ORNL, and construction of a sludge treatment facility at the Transuranic Waste Processing Center.

1. Introduction to the Oak Ridge Reservation

The Oak Ridge Reservation (ORR) is a 13,302 ha (32,869-acre) federally owned site located in the counties of Anderson and Roane in eastern Tennessee. ORR is home to two major US Department of Energy (DOE) operating components, the Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL) and the Y-12 National Security Complex (Y-12 Complex or Y-12). A number of other facilities are located on ORR, including the East Tennessee Technology Park (ETTP), site of a former gaseous diffusion plant that is undergoing environmental cleanup and transition to a private sector business/industrial park; the Oak Ridge Institute for Science and Education (ORISE) South Campus, which includes training facilities, laboratories, and support facilities; a variety of smaller government-owned, contractor-operated facilities involved in environmental cleanup; and the government-owned, government-operated Agent Operations Eastern Command (AOEC) of the National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) Office of Secure Transportation (OST).

ORR was established in the early 1940s as part of the Manhattan Project for the purposes of enriching uranium and pioneering methods for producing and separating plutonium. ORR missions are continuing to evolve as it adapts to meet the changing basic and applied research and national security needs of the United States.

Due to differing permit reporting requirements and instrument capabilities, various units of measurement are used in this report. The list of units of measure and conversion factors provided on pages xxvii and xxviii is intended to help readers convert numeric values presented here as needed for specific calculations and comparisons.

1.1 Background

The *Oak Ridge Reservation Annual Site Environmental Report* (ASER) is prepared annually and presents summary environmental data to (1) characterize environmental performance, (2) summarize environmental occurrences reported during the year, (3) confirm compliance with environmental standards and requirements, and (4) highlight significant program activities. The report fulfills the requirement contained in DOE O 231.1B, *Environment, Safety and Health Reporting*, (DOE 2012) that an integrated annual site environmental report be prepared.

The results summarized in this report are based on data collected before and continuing through 2014. This report is not intended to, nor does it, present the results of all environmental monitoring associated with ORR. Data collected for other site and regulatory purposes, such as environmental restoration/remedial investigation reports, waste management characterization sampling data, and environmental permit compliance data, are presented in other documents that have been prepared in accordance with applicable DOE guidance and/or laws and are referenced here as appropriate. Appendix A contains a glossary of technical terms that may be useful for understanding the terminology used in this report.

Environmental monitoring on ORR consists primarily of two major activities: effluent monitoring and environmental surveillance. Effluent monitoring involves the collection and analysis of samples or measurements of liquid and gaseous effluents at the points of release to the environment; these measurements allow the quantification and official reporting of contaminant levels, assessment of public exposures to radiation and chemicals, and demonstration of compliance with applicable standards and

permit requirements. Environmental surveillance consists of direct measurements and collection and analysis of samples taken from the site and its environs exclusive of effluents; these activities provide information on contaminant concentrations in air, water, groundwater, soil, foods, biota, and other media. Environmental surveillance data support determinations regarding environmental compliance and, when combined with data from effluent monitoring, support chemical and radiation dose and exposure assessments of the potential effects of ORR operations, if any, on the local environment.

1.2 History of the Oak Ridge Reservation

The ORR area was first occupied by Native Americans more than 10,000 years ago, and members of the Overhill Cherokee tribe still lived in the East Tennessee region when European settlers arrived in the late 1700s. These settlers lived on farms or in four small communities called Elza, Robertsville, Scarboro, and Wheat. All but Elza were founded shortly after the Revolutionary War. In the early 1940s about 1,000 families inhabited the area.

In 1942, the area that was to become ORR was selected for use in the Manhattan Project because the Clinch River provided ample supplies of water, nearby Knoxville was a good source of labor, and the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) could supply the huge amounts of electricity needed. About 3,000 residents received court orders to vacate within weeks the homes and farms that their families had occupied for generations. The site's wartime name was "Clinton Engineering Works."

The workers' city, named Oak Ridge, was established on the reservation's northern edge. The city grew to a population of 75,000 and was the fifth largest in Tennessee; however, it was not shown on any map. At the Y-12 Complex, south of the city, an electromagnetic separation method was used to separate ^{235}U from natural uranium. A gaseous diffusion plant, later known as K-25, was built on the reservation's western edge. Near the reservation's southwest corner, about 16 km (10 miles) from the Y-12 Complex, was a third facility, known as X-10 or Clinton Laboratories, where the Graphite Reactor was built. The X-10 facility was a pilot plant for the larger plutonium production facilities built at Hanford, Washington. Two years after World War II ended, Oak Ridge was shifted to civilian control, under the authority of the US Atomic Energy Commission. In 1959, the city was incorporated and a city manager and city council form of government was adopted by the community.

Since that time, the missions of the three major ORR installations have continued to evolve and operations have adapted to meet the changing defense, energy, and research needs of the United States. Their current missions, as well as the missions of several smaller DOE facilities/activities on ORR, are described in Sect. 1.4 of this document.

1.3 Site Description

1.3.1 Location and Population

ORR lies within the Great Valley of East Tennessee between the Cumberland and Great Smoky Mountains and is bordered by the Clinch River (Fig. 1.1). The Cumberland Mountains are 16 km (10 miles) to the northwest; the Great Smoky Mountains are 51 km (31.6 miles) to the southeast. ORR encompasses about 13,302 ha (32,869 acres) of mostly contiguous land owned by the federal government and under the management of DOE in Anderson and Roane counties (Fig. 1.2). The population of the 10-county region surrounding ORR is about 962,000, with about 2% of its labor force employed on ORR. The population estimate for the official nine-county Knoxville Metropolitan Statistical Area is 850,000. Other municipalities within about 30 km (18.6 miles) of the reservation include Oliver Springs, Clinton, Lake City, Lenoir City, Farragut, Kingston, and Harriman.

Knoxville, the major metropolitan area nearest Oak Ridge, is located about 40 km (25 miles) to the east and has a population of about 181,000. Except for the city of Oak Ridge, the land within 8 km (5 miles) of ORR is semirural and is used primarily for residences, small farms, and cattle pasture. Fishing, hunting, boating, water skiing, and swimming are popular recreational activities in the area.



Fig. 1.1. Location of the Oak Ridge Reservation.

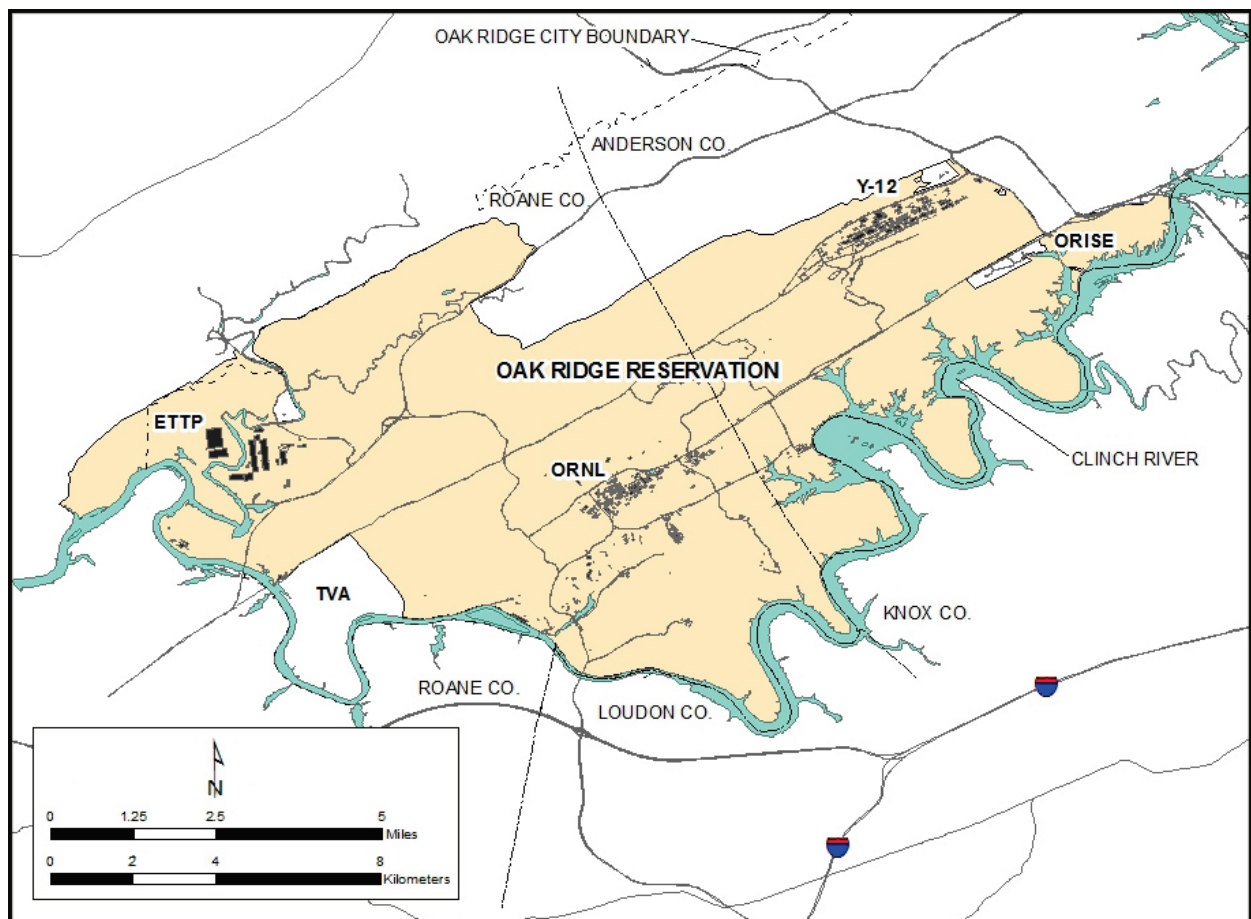


Fig. 1.2. The Oak Ridge Reservation.

1.3.2 Climate

The climate of the Oak Ridge region may be broadly classified as humid subtropical and is characterized by significant temperature changes between summer and winter. The 30-year mean temperature for 1981–2010 was 14.9°C (58.8°F). The average temperature for the Oak Ridge area during 2014 was 14.7°C (58.5°F). The coldest month is usually January, with temperatures averaging about 3.2°C (37.7°F). During 2014, January temperatures were the coldest since 1985, averaging –0.6°C (30.9°F). July tends to be the warmest month, with average temperatures of 25.8°C (78.5°F). However during the 2000s, August temperatures were slightly warmer than July [25.7°C (78.3°F) vs. 25.4°C (77.7°F)]. July 2014 temperatures averaged 24.2°C (75.6°F), near the 30-year average but representing the coolest July average in the last 5 years.

Average annual precipitation in the Oak Ridge area for the 30-year period from 1981 to 2010 was 1,293.5 mm (50.91 in.), including about 21.3 cm (8.4 in.) of snowfall annually (NOAA 2011). Total precipitation during 2014 [measured at the Oak Ridge National Weather Service meteorological tower in Oak Ridge (KOQT)] was 1,338 mm (52.64 in.), just slightly above the 30-year average. Total 2014 snowfall was 25.4 cm (10.0 in.), above the 30-year average. Monthly summaries of precipitation averages, extremes, and 2014 values are provided in Appendix B, Table B.1.

In 2014, wind speeds at ORNL Tower C/D (MT2) measured at 15 m (49 ft) above ground level (AGL) averaged 1.2 m/s (2.8 mph). This value increased to about 2.3 m/s (5.1 mph) for winds at 60 m (198 ft) AGL (slightly below the height of the local ridgetops). The local ridge-and-valley terrain reduces average wind speeds at valley bottoms, resulting in frequent periods of calm or near calm conditions, particularly during clear early morning hours in weak synoptic weather environments. Wind direction frequencies with respect to 2014 precipitation hours for the ORR towers may be reviewed at <http://www.ornl.gov/adm/fo/lp/orrm/page7.htm> under the header “2014 Annual Precipitation Wind Roses—Oak Ridge Reservation.”

More detailed information on the climate of the Oak Ridge area is available in *Oak Ridge Reservation Physical Characteristics and Natural Resources* (Parr and Hughes 2006) and in Appendix B of this document. A detailed analysis of wind patterns for ORR was conducted from 2009 to 2011 and is documented in “Wind Regimes in Complex Terrain in the Great Valley of Eastern Tennessee” (Birdwell, 2011) and may be reviewed online at http://www.ornl.gov/~das/met/MT/KRB_ORNL.pdf.

1.3.3 Regional Air Quality

The US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Office of Air Quality Planning and Standards has set National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) for key principal pollutants, which are called “criteria” pollutants. These pollutants are sulfur dioxide (SO₂), carbon monoxide (CO), nitrogen dioxide (NO₂), lead (Pb), ozone (O₃), particulate matter (PM) with an aerodynamic diameter less than or equal to 10 μm (PM₁₀), and fine PM with an aerodynamic diameter less than or equal to 2.5 μm (PM_{2.5}). EPA evaluates NAAQS based on ambient (outdoor) levels of the criteria pollutants. Areas that satisfy NAAQS are classified as attainment areas, whereas areas that exceed NAAQS for a particular pollutant are classified as nonattainment areas for that pollutant.

ORR is located in Anderson and Roane counties. EPA has designated Anderson County as a basic nonattainment area for the 8-hour (h) O₃ standard as part of the larger Knoxville 8 h basic O₃ nonattainment area, which encompasses several counties. In addition, EPA has designated Anderson, Knox, and Blount counties as a nonattainment area for the 2006 PM_{2.5} air quality standard. EPA also designated the portion of Roane County surrounding the Kingston Steam Plant as a nonattainment area for PM_{2.5}. EPA has established a newer 2012 PM_{2.5} standard. The attainment determination against the

2012 PM_{2.5} standard for the State of Tennessee has been deferred until after May 2015. The greater Knoxville and Oak Ridge area is classified as an NAAQS attainment area for all other criteria pollutants for which EPA has made attainment designations.

1.3.4 Surface Water

ORR lies within the Valley and Ridge Physiographic Province, which is composed of a series of drainage basins or troughs containing many small streams feeding the Clinch River. Surface water on ORR drains into a tributary or series of tributaries, streams, or creeks within different watersheds. Each of these watersheds drains into the Clinch River that, in turn, flows into the Tennessee River.

The largest of the drainage basins is Poplar Creek, which receives drainage from a 352 km² (136-mile²) area, including the northwestern sector of ORR. It flows from northeast to southwest, roughly through the center of ETTP, and discharges directly into the Clinch River.

East Fork Poplar Creek (EFPC), which discharges into Poplar Creek east of ETTP, originates within the Y-12 Complex and flows northeast along the south side of the Y-12 Complex. Bear Creek also originates within the Y-12 Complex but flows southwest. Bear Creek is mostly affected by storm water runoff, groundwater infiltration, and tributaries that drain former waste disposal sites in the Bear Creek Valley Burial Grounds Waste Management Area and the current Environmental Management Waste Management Facility (EMWMF).

Both the Bethel Valley and Melton Valley portions of ORNL are in the White Oak Creek (WOC) drainage basin, which has an area of 16.5 km² (6.4 mile²). WOC headwaters originate on Chestnut Ridge, north of ORNL, near the Spallation Neutron Source (SNS) site. At the ORNL site, the creek flows west along the southern boundary of the developed area and then flows southwesterly through a gap in Haw Ridge to the western portion of Melton Valley, where it forms a confluence with Melton Branch. The headwaters of Melton Branch originate in Melton Valley east of the High Flux Isotope Reactor (HFIR) complex. It has a drainage basin area of about 3.8 km² (1.47 mile²). The waters of WOC enter White Oak Lake, which is an impoundment formed by White Oak Dam (WOD). Water flowing over WOD enters the Clinch River after passing through the WOC embayment area.

1.3.5 Geological Setting

ORR is located in the Tennessee portion of the Valley and Ridge Physiographic Province, which is part of the southern Appalachian fold-and-thrust belt. As a result of thrust faulting and differential erosion rates, a series of parallel valleys and ridges have formed that trend southwest–northeast.

Two geologic units on ORR, designated as the Knox Group and the Maynardville Limestone of the Upper Conasauga Group, consisting of dolostone and limestone, respectively, make up the most significant water-bearing hydrostratigraphic units in the Valley and Ridge Province (Zurawski 1978) and on ORR. Being composed of fairly soluble minerals, these bedrock formations are prone to dissolution as slightly acidic rainwater and percolating recharge water come in contact with the mineral surfaces. This dissolution increases fracture apertures and can form caverns and extensive solution conduit networks under some circumstances. This hydrostratigraphic unit is referred to locally as the “Knox Aquifer.” A combination of fractures and solution conduits in the aquifer control flow over substantial areas, and large quantities of water may move long distances. Active groundwater flow can occur at substantial depths in the Knox Aquifer [91.5 to 122 m (300 to 400 ft) deep]. The Knox Aquifer is the primary source of groundwater for many streams (base flow), and most large springs on ORR receive discharge from the Knox Aquifer. Yields of some wells penetrating larger solution conduits are reported to exceed 3,784 L/min (1,000 gal/min). The high productivity of the Knox Aquifer is attributed to the combination

of its abundant and sometimes large solution conduit systems and frequently thick overburden soils that promote recharge and storage of groundwater.

The remaining geologic units on ORR (the Rome Formation, the Conasauga Group below the Maynardville Limestone, and the Chickamauga Group) are composed predominantly of shales, siltstones, and sandstones with a subordinate and locally variable amount of carbonate bedrock. These formations are predominantly composed of insoluble minerals such as clays and quartz that were derived from ancient continental erosion. Groundwater occurs and moves through fractures in those bedrock units. Groundwater availability in such settings is dependent on the abundance and interconnectedness of fractures and the connection of fractures to sources of recharge such as alluvial soils along streams that can provide some sustained infiltration. The shale and sandstone formations are the poorest aquifers in the Valley and Ridge Province (Zurawski 1978). Well yields are generally low in the Rome, Conasauga, and Chickamauga bedrock formations except in very localized areas where carbonate beds may provide greater groundwater storage than adjacent clastic bedrock. Detailed information on ORR groundwater hydrology and flow is available in *Oak Ridge Reservation Physical Characteristics and Natural Resources* (Parr and Hughes 2006).

1.3.6 Natural, Cultural, and Historic Resources

ORR contains a unique variety of natural, cultural, and historic resources. Ongoing efforts continue to focus on preserving the rich diversity of these resources.

1.3.6.1 Wetlands

About 243 ha (600 acres) of wetlands have been identified on ORR; most are classified as forested palustrine, scrub/shrub, and emergent wetlands. Wetlands occur across ORR at low elevations, primarily in riparian zones of headwater streams and receiving streams and in the Clinch River embayments (Fig. 1.3). Wetlands identified to date range in size from several square meters at small seeps and springs to about 10 ha (25 acres) at White Oak Lake. Surveys of wetland resources presented in *Identification and Characterization of Wetlands in the Bear Creek Watershed* (Rosensteel and Trettin 1993), *Wetland Survey of the X-10 Bethel Valley and Melton Valley Groundwater Operable Units at Oak Ridge National Laboratory, Oak Ridge, Tennessee* (Rosensteel 1996), and *Wetland Survey of Selected Areas in the Oak Ridge Y-12 Plant Area of Responsibility, Oak Ridge, Tennessee* (Rosensteel 1997) serve as references to support wetland assessments for upcoming projects and activities. In addition, wetland maps have been developed for selected areas of ORR in response to project-specific requirements. These are also consulted, and verified by site inspections, when appropriate.

Monitoring restored or created mitigation sites for 5 years is a standard requirement of the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation's (TDEC's) wetland mitigation Aquatic Resource Alteration Permits (ARAPs) required by Section 401 of the Clean Water Act (CWA).

In 2014, as part of the Uranium Processing Facility (UPF) project at the Y-12 Complex, construction of the Bear Creek Road bypass phase II and a haul road extension that modified wetlands on the north side of Bear Creek Road was completed. The work was performed under an approved US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Section 404 permit and an ARAP issued by TDEC. The wetland mitigation work performed under these permits will result in a more than 3 : 1 net increase in total wetland area when the multiyear project is complete. Monitoring mitigation in accordance with the permits has been initiated.

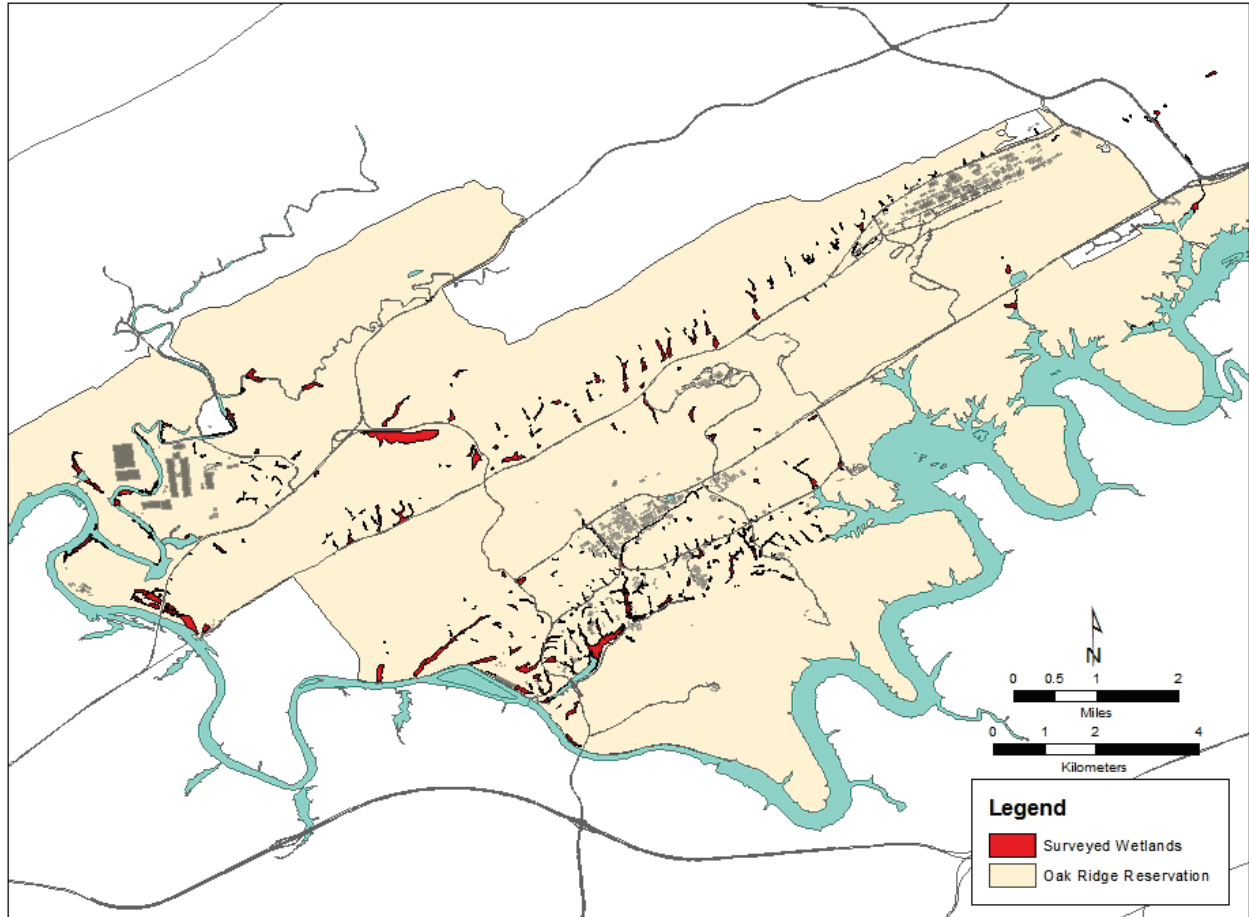


Fig. 1.3. Oak Ridge Reservation wetlands.

1.3.6.2 Wildlife/Endangered Species

Animals listed as species of concern by state, federal, or international organizations and known to have occurred on the reservation (excluding the Clinch River bordering the reservation) are listed along with their status in Table 1.1. Some of these (e.g., anhinga) have been seen only once or a few times; others (e.g., sharp-shinned hawk and southeastern shrew) are comparatively common and widespread on the reservation.

Table 1.1. Animal species of special concern reported on the Oak Ridge Reservation^a

Scientific name	Common name	Status ^b		
		Federal	State	PIF ^c
FISH				
<i>Phoxinus tennesseensis</i>	Tennessee dace		NM	
AMPHIBIANS AND REPTILES				
<i>Cryptobranchus alleganiensis</i>	Hellbender	MC	NM	
<i>Hemidactylium scutatum</i>	Four-toed salamander		NM	
BIRDS				
Darters				
<i>Anhinga anhinga</i>	Anhinga		NM	
Bitterns and Herons				
<i>Ixobrychus exilis</i>	Least bittern	MC	NM	
<i>Ardea alba</i>	Great egret		NM	
<i>Egretta caerulea</i>	Little blue heron	MC	NM	
<i>Egretta thula</i>	Snowy egret	MC	NM	
Kites, Hawks, Eagles, and Allies				
<i>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</i>	Bald eagle	MC ^d	NM	
<i>Circus cyaneus</i>	Northern harrier		NM	
<i>Accipiter striatus</i>	Sharp-shinned hawk	MC	NM	
<i>Buteo lineatus</i>	Red-shouldered hawk			RI
<i>Buteo platypterus</i>	Broad-winged hawk			RI
Falcons				
<i>Falco peregrinus</i>	Peregrine falcon	MC ^e	E	RI
<i>Falco sparverius</i>	American kestrel	MC		RI
Grouse, Turkey, and Quail				
<i>Bonasa umbellus</i>	Ruffed grouse			RI
<i>Colinus virginianus</i>	Northern bobwhite			RI
Rails, Gallinules, and Coots				
<i>Rallus limicola</i>	Virginia rail	MC		
<i>Porzana Carolina</i>	Sora	MC		
<i>Gallinula galeata</i>	Common gallinule		NM	
Owls				
<i>Aegolius acadicus</i>	Northern saw-whet owl	MC	T	RI
<i>Tyto alba</i>	Barn owl		NM	
Goatsuckers				
<i>Caprimulgus carolinensis</i>	Chuck-will's-widow	MC		RI
<i>Caprimulgus vociferus</i>	Eastern whip-poor-will			RI

Table 1.1 (continued)

Scientific name	Common name	Status ^b		
		Federal	State	PIF ^c
Swifts				
<i>Chaetura pelagica</i>	Chimney swift			RI
Kingfishers				
<i>Megaceryle alcyon</i>	Belted kingfisher			RI
Woodpeckers				
<i>Melanerpes erythrocephalus</i>	Red-headed woodpecker	MC		RI
<i>Sphyrapicus varius</i>	Yellow-bellied sapsucker	MC	NM	
<i>Picoides pubescens</i>	Downy woodpecker			RI
<i>Colaptes auratus</i>	Northern flicker			RI
Tyrant Flycatchers				
<i>Contopus cooperi</i>	Olive-sided flycatcher	MC	NM	RI
<i>Contopus virens</i>	Eastern wood-pewee			RI
<i>Empidonax vireescens</i>	Acadian flycatcher			RI
<i>Empidonax trailii</i>	Willow flycatcher			RI
Swallows				
<i>Progne subis</i>	Purple martin			RI
<i>Riparia riparia</i>	Bank swallow			RI
<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	Barn swallow			RI
Titmice and Chickadees				
<i>Poecile atricapillus</i>	Black-capped chickadee	MC	NM	
<i>Poecile carolinensis</i>	Carolina chickadee			RI
Nuthatches				
<i>Sitta pusilla</i>	Brown-headed nuthatch	MC		RI
Wrens				
<i>Troglodytes troglodytes</i>	Winter wren			RI
<i>Thryothorus ludovicianus</i>	Carolina wren			RI
Kinglets, Gnatcatchers, and Thrushes				
<i>Hylocichla mustelina</i>	Wood thrush	MC		RI
Thrashers and Mockingbirds				
<i>Toxostoma rufum</i>	Brown thrasher			RI
Waxwings				
<i>Bombycilla cedrorum</i>	Cedar waxwing			RI
Shrikes				
<i>Lanius ludovicianus</i>	Loggerhead shrike	MC	NM	RI
Vireos				
<i>Vireo flavifrons</i>	Yellow-throated vireo			RI
<i>Vireo solitaries</i>	Blue-headed vireo			RI
<i>Vireo griseus</i>	White-eyed vireo			RI

Table 1.1 (continued)

Scientific name	Common name	Status ^b		
		Federal	State	PIF ^c
Wood Warblers				
<i>Vermivora chrysoptera</i>	Golden-winged warbler	MC	NM	RI
<i>Vermivora cyanoptera</i>	Blue-winged warbler	MC		RI
<i>Setophaga cerulea</i>	Cerulean warbler	MC	NM	RI
<i>Setophaga discolor</i>	Prairie warbler	MC		RI
<i>Setophaga dominica</i>	Yellow-throated warbler			RI
<i>Mniotilta varia</i>	Black-and-white warbler			RI
<i>Helmitheros vermivorum</i>	Worm-eating warbler	MC		RI
<i>Parkesia motacilla</i>	Louisiana waterthrush	MC		RI
<i>Protonotaria citrea</i>	Prothonotary warbler	MC		RI
<i>Geothlypis formosa</i>	Kentucky warbler	MC		RI
<i>Cardellina canadensis</i>	Canada warbler	MC		RI
<i>Setophaga citrina</i>	Hooded warbler			RI
<i>Icteria virens</i>	Yellow-breasted chat			RI
<i>Setophaga pinus</i>	Pine warbler			RI
<i>Cardellina pusilla</i>	Wilson's warbler			RI
<i>Setophaga magnolia</i>	Magnolia warbler			RI
<i>Setophaga fusca</i>	Blackburnian warbler			RI
<i>Setophaga pennsylvanica</i>	Chestnut-sided warbler			RI
<i>Setophaga virens</i>	Black-throated green warbler			RI
Tanagers				
<i>Piranga olivacea</i>	Scarlet tanager			RI
<i>Piranga rubra</i>	Summer tanager			RI
Cardinals, Grosbeaks, and Allies				
<i>Passerina cyanea</i>	Indigo bunting			RI
Towhees, Sparrows, and Allies				
<i>Pipilo erythrophthalmus</i>	Eastern towhee			RI
<i>Spizella pusilla</i>	Field sparrow			RI
<i>Ammodramus savannarum</i>	Grasshopper sparrow			RI
<i>Pooecetes gramineus</i>	Vesper sparrow		NM	
<i>Ammodramus henslowii</i>	Henslow's sparrow	MC	NM	RI
<i>Melospiza Georgiana</i>	Swamp sparrow			RI
Blackbirds and Allies				
<i>Dolichonyx oryzivorus</i>	Bobolink			RI
<i>Sturnella magna</i>	Eastern meadowlark			RI
Finches and Allies				
<i>Spinus tristis</i>	American goldfinch			RI

Table 1.1 (continued)

Scientific name	Common name	Status ^b		
		Federal	State	PIF ^c
<i>MAMMALS</i>				
<i>Myotis grisescens</i>	Gray bat	E	E	
<i>Myotis sodalists</i>	Indiana bat ^f	E	E	
<i>Myotis septentrionalis</i>	Northern long-eared bat	T		
<i>Sorex longirostris</i>	Southeastern shrew		NM	
<i>Sorex cinereus</i>	Masked shrew		NM	
<i>Zapus hudsonius</i>	Meadow jumping mouse		NM	

^aLand and surface waters of the Oak Ridge Reservation (ORR) exclusive of the Clinch River, which borders ORR.

^bStatus codes

E = endangered

T = threatened

PE = proposed endangered

MC = of management concern

NM = in need of management

RI = regional importance

^cPartners in Flight—an international organization devoted to conserving bird populations in the Western Hemisphere.

^dThe bald eagle was federally delisted effective August 8, 2007.

^eThe peregrine falcon was federally delisted effective August 25, 1999.

^fSingle specimen captured in mist net bordering the Clinch River, June 2013.

Birds, fish, and aquatic invertebrates are the most thoroughly surveyed animal groups on ORR. Nevertheless, the only federally listed animal species that have been observed on ORR in recent years have been mammals. Gray bats were observed over the Clinch River bordering ORR in 2003 and over a pond on ORR in 2004. Three gray bats were mist-netted outside a cave on ORR in 2006. Several gray bats and one Indiana bat were also captured in mist nets bordering the Clinch River in June–July 2013. Northern long-eared bats, recently federally listed as threatened, are known to be present on ORR: their calls have been identified in various acoustic surveys of the reservation, and in 2013 their presence was confirmed when a number were captured in mist nets (McCracken 2015).

Two-hundred twenty-nine species of birds have been recorded on ORR and its boundary waters. These are the 228 species documented by Roy et al. (2014) and the cackling goose (*Branta hutchinsii*), which was recorded in [eBird](#) (Sullivan et al. 2009) at the ORNL Swan Pond in November 2014. Most of these species are afforded protection under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act and Executive Order (EO) 13186 (*Responsibilities of Federal Agencies to Protect Migratory Birds*). DOE's 2013 updated memorandum of understanding on migratory birds with the US Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) strengthens migratory bird conservation on ORR through enhanced collaborations between DOE and FWS (DOE-FWS 2013). Breeding bird surveys were conducted at 79 points along nine routes on ORR in 2014 for the Partners in Flight Program. Two public bird walks were held on ORR in 2014 in addition to a third walk for Earth Day that was conducted for employees. ORR work on early succession habitat was selected to represent DOE in the 2015 Presidential Migratory Bird Federal Stewardship Award nominations. All known ORR bird records since 1950, as well as population trends for 32 species of birds, were documented in the technical manuscript *Oak Ridge Reservation Bird Records and Population Trends* (Roy et al. 2014).

Several state-listed bird species such as the anhinga, olive-sided flycatcher, and little blue heron are uncommon migrants or visitors to the reservation. The cerulean warbler, listed by the state as “in need of

management,” has been recorded during the breeding season on ORR but is currently listed as a potential breeding bird on ORR (Roy et al. 2014) as its actual breeding status is still uncertain. The bald eagle (Fig. 1.4), also listed by the state as in need of management, is a year-round resident in Tennessee, though it can be difficult to find on the reservation from September through November. One bald eagle nest was confirmed on the reservation in 2011, and this pair nested again in 2012, 2013, and 2014. A second bald eagle nest, with an eaglet, was discovered in 2013. Observations were made of adult eagles at this nest in 2014, but it is not known whether any young were fledged that year. Other species, such as the northern harrier, great egret, and yellow-bellied sapsucker, are migrants, winter residents, or casual visitors and are not known to nest on the reservation. The golden-winged warbler, listed by the state as in need of management, has been sighted once (May 1998) on the reservation, as has the Lincoln’s sparrow (*Melospiza lincolnii*, May 2014, no listed status). Barn owls have been known to nest on the reservation in the past and are still occasionally seen on the reservation.



Fig. 1.4. Bald eagle nest on the Oak Ridge Reservation. [Source: Jason Richards, ORNL photographer.]

With many northern lakes freezing solid during the winter of 2013–2014, white-winged scoters (*Melanitta fusca*) and red-necked grebes (*Podiceps grisegena*) made rare appearances in East Tennessee in February and March of 2014, though they were only recorded locally on boundary waters of the reservation. Other uncommon birds for the ORR have been recorded in recent years, including several species associated with wetland habitats. The sora, least bittern, and Virginia rail (Fig. 1.5) were all observed at the K1007 P1 pond at ETP in 2013, where high quality wildlife habitat has been established as a result of recent restoration efforts. The sora, seen as recently as December 2013, is considered to be a fairly common migrant throughout Tennessee, but it is seldom seen on ORR. The least bittern, heard in July 2012 and then again in May and July of 2013, is an uncommon migrant and summer resident in Tennessee. The Virginia rail, most recently observed in October 2013, was previously known only from historic (early 1950s) records on the ORR (Roy et al. 2014). All three species (Fig. 1.5) have been listed by FWS as “of management concern,” and the least bittern is also deemed in need of management by the State of Tennessee (Table 1.1).

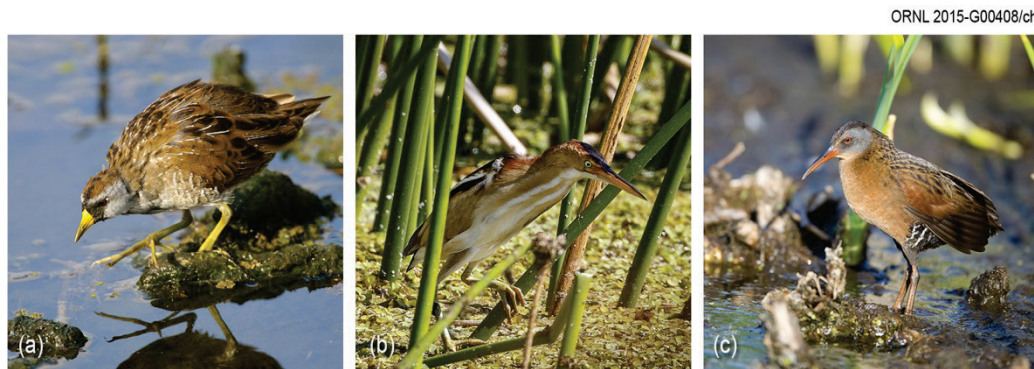


Fig. 1.5. Interesting bird species sighted on the Oak Ridge Reservation in recent years: (a) sora, (b) least bittern, and (c) Virginia rail. [Source: Stock images courtesy of iStock.]

One species of fish, the spotfin chub (*Erimonax monachus*), which is listed as threatened by both the state and the federal government, has been sighted and collected in the city of Oak Ridge and may be present on ORR. The tangerine darter (*Percina aurantiaca*), a species listed by the state as in need of management, has also been recorded in close proximity to ORR. The lake sturgeon (*Acipenser fulvescens*), state-listed as endangered, is known to inhabit the adjacent Clinch River. The Tennessee dace, listed by the state as being in need of management, has been found in the Bear Creek watershed, tributaries to the lower East Fork watershed, and Ish Creek and may occur in some sections of Grassy Creek upstream of Scientific Ecology Group, Inc., and International Technology Corporation at Clinch River kilometer (CRK) 23 (e.g., south of west Bear Creek Road near Grassy Creek sampling point 1.9).

1.3.6.3 Threatened and Endangered Plants

Four species currently known to be on ORR, spreading false foxglove, Appalachian bugbane, tall larkspur, and butternut, have been under review for listing at the federal level and were listed under the formerly used “C2” candidate designation. These species are now informally referred to as “special concern” species by the US Fish and Wildlife Service. (Note: Appalachian bugbane is no longer listed by Tennessee and does not have official federal status; therefore, it does not appear in Table 1.2.)

Seventeen plant species occurring on ORR are listed by the state as endangered, threatened, or of special concern. An additional 10 threatened, endangered, or special concern species are known to occur in the area and although currently unconfirmed on ORR have the potential to be present (Table 1.2). Other plant populations are currently under study on ORR, which may lead to additions to the table below.

The Tennessee Heritage Program scientific advisory committee met in 2012 to revise the state’s Rare Plant List. Those changes are now official. This has reduced the number of state-protected species on ORR by six. The protection of these six species on ORR was a factor in their delisting.

Table 1.2. Vascular plant species listed by state or federal agencies and sighted/reported on or near the Oak Ridge Reservation, 2014

Species	Common name	Habitat on ORR	Status code ^a
<i>Currently known to be or previously reported on ORR</i>			
<i>Aureolaria patula</i>	Spreading false foxglove	River bluff	FSC, S
<i>Berberis canadensis</i>	American barberry	Rocky bluff	S
<i>Bolboschoenus fluviatilis</i>	River bulrush	Wetland	S
<i>Delphinium exaltatum</i>	Tall larkspur	Barrens and woodlands	FSC, E
<i>Diervilla lonicera</i>	Northern bush-honeysuckle	Rocky River bluff	T
<i>Draba ramosissima</i>	Branching whitlow-grass	Limestone cliff	S
<i>Elodea nuttallii</i>	Nuttall waterweed	Pond, embayment	S
<i>Eupatorium godfreyanum</i>	Godfrey's thoroughwort	Dry woods edge	S
<i>Fothergilla major</i>	Mountain witch-alder	Woods	T
<i>Helianthus occidentalis</i>	Naked-stem sunflower	Barrens	S
<i>Juglans cinerea</i>	Butternut	Lake shore	FSC, T
<i>Juncus brachycephalus</i>	Small-head rush	Open wetland	S
<i>Liparis loeselii</i>	Fen orchid	Forested wetland	T
<i>Panax quinquefolius</i>	American ginseng	Rich woods	S-CE
<i>Platanthera flava</i> var. <i>herbiola</i>	Tuberculed rein-orchid	Forested wetland	T
<i>Spiranthes lucida</i>	Shining ladies'-tresses	Boggy wetland	T
<i>Thuja occidentalis</i>	Northern white cedar	Rocky river bluffs	S
<i>Rare plants that occur near and could be present on ORR</i>			
<i>Agalinis auriculata</i>	Earleaf false foxglove	Calcareous barren	FSC, E
<i>Allium burdickii</i> or <i>A. tricoccom</i> ^b	Ramps	Moist woods	S, CE
<i>Lathyrus palustris</i>	Marsh pea	Moist meadows	S
<i>Liatris cylindracea</i>	Slender blazing star	Calcareous barren	T
<i>Lonicera dioica</i>	Mountain honeysuckle	Rocky river bluff	S
<i>Meehanian cordata</i>	Heartleaf meehania	Moist calcareous woods	T
<i>Pedicularis lanceolata</i>	Swamp lousewort	Calcareous wet meadow	S
<i>Pseudognaphalium helleri</i>	Heller's catfoot	Dry woodland edge	S
<i>Pycnanthemum torrei</i>	Torrey's mountain-mint	Calcareous barren edge	S
<i>Solidago ptarmicoides</i>	Prairie goldenrod	Calcareous barren	E

^aStatus codes

CE = Status due to commercial exploitation.

E = Endangered in Tennessee.

FSC = Federal Special Concern; formerly designated as C2. See *Federal Register*, February 28, 1996.

S = Special concern in Tennessee.

T = Threatened in Tennessee.

^bRamps have been reported near ORR, but there is not sufficient information to determine which of the two species is present or whether the occurrence may have been the result of planting. Both species of ramps have the same state status.

Acronyms

ORR = Oak Ridge Reservation

1.3.6.4 Historical and Cultural Resources

Efforts continue to preserve ORR's rich prehistoric and historic cultural resources. The reservation contains more than 45 known prehistoric sites (primarily burial mounds and archeological evidence of former structures), more than 250 historic pre-World War II structures, 32 cemeteries, and several historically significant Manhattan Project-era structures. Seven historic ORR properties are individually listed in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP):

- Freels Bend Cabin,
- Graphite Reactor,
- New Bethel Baptist Church and Cemetery,
- Oak Ridge Turnpike Checking Station,
- George Jones Memorial Baptist Church and Cemetery,
- Bear Creek (Scarboro) Road Checking Station, and
- Bethel Valley Road Checking Station.

Although not yet listed in the NRHP, an area known as the Wheat Community African Burial Grounds was dedicated in June 2000, and a memorial monument was erected.

The DOE Oak Ridge Office (ORO) cultural resource management plan (Souza et al. 2001) was developed to identify, assess, and document historic and cultural resources on ORR and establish a management strategy.

A memorandum of agreement (MOA) for the interpretation of historical properties at ETTP was signed in 2012 by DOE ORO, the State Historic Preservation Officer, the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP), the City of Oak Ridge, and the East Tennessee Preservation Alliance. The MOA is being implemented through planning for a museum that will highlight the historic aspects of ETTP and of the communities that were displaced during the construction of the site. Details are provided in Chapter 3, Sections 3.3.4 and 3.8.2.6.

A sitewide programmatic agreement among DOE ORO, NNSA, Tennessee State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO), and ACHP concerning management of historical and cultural properties at the Y-12 Complex has been enforced since its approval on August 25, 2003.

A sitewide programmatic agreement among DOE ORO, SHPO, and ACHP concerning management of historical and cultural properties at ORNL has been enforced since its approval on February, 23, 2005.

After completing an evaluation of the structural integrity of the K-25 building and interpretative approaches for the site, DOE distributed a preferred mitigation plan in October 2011. The DOE final mitigation plan, addressing comments submitted by consulting parties in November 2011, permitted demolition of the entire K-25 building and called for, among other mitigation measures, the designation of a commemorative area around the building's perimeter from which future surface development would largely be restricted; the retention, if possible, of the entire concrete slab or the demarcation of the building's footprint; the construction of a viewing tower and of a structure for equipment display; and the development of a history center within the ETTP Fire Station. A final MOA was signed in August 2012, finalizing the aspects set forth in the mitigation plan. During 2013, a request for proposal was issued for a "Professional Design Team and Museum Professional" as specified in the MOA. Nine firms were prequalified, and the selection and award were executed April 1, 2014. The procurement process for the K-25 "virtual museum" web design firm was also begun in 2013 and awarded September 2, 2014.

On December 14, 2014, Congress authorized the establishment of the Manhattan Project Historical Park to commemorate the history of the Manhattan Project. It will comprise the three major sites, Los Alamos, New Mexico; Oak Ridge, Tennessee; and Hanford, Washington, that were dedicated to accomplishing the Manhattan Project's mission.

1.4 Oak Ridge Sites

1.4.1 Oak Ridge National Laboratory

ORNL, managed for DOE by UT-Battelle, LLC, a partnership of the University of Tennessee and Battelle Memorial Institute, is the largest science and energy national laboratory in the DOE system (Fig. 1.6), conducting basic and applied research to deliver transformative solutions to compelling problems in energy and security. The laboratory is home to several of the world's top supercomputers and is a leading neutron science and nuclear energy research facility that includes SNS and HFIR. ORNL hosts a DOE leadership computing facility, home of the Titan supercomputer; one of DOE's nanoscience centers, the Center for Nanophase Materials Sciences; one of DOE's energy research centers, the BioEnergy Science Center; and a DOE innovation hub, the Consortium for Advanced Simulation of Light-Water Reactors. UT-Battelle also manages the US ITER project for DOE.



Fig. 1.6. The Oak Ridge National Laboratory.

ORNL was established in 1943 to support the Manhattan Project. From an early focus on chemical technology and reactor development, ORNL's research and development (R&D) portfolio broadened to include programs supporting DOE missions in scientific discovery and innovation, clean energy, and nuclear security. Today there are about 4,400 workers at ORNL, and the laboratory's extensive capabilities for scientific discovery and innovation are applied to the delivery of mission outcomes for DOE and other sponsors.

The Transuranic Waste Processing Center (TWPC) is located on a tract of land about 10.5 ha (26 acres) in size in the Melton Valley area of ORNL about 120 ft west of the existing Melton Valley Storage Tanks. TWPC is managed by Wastren Advantage, Inc. (WAI), for DOE. TWPC's mission is to receive

transuranic (TRU) waste from ORNL for processing, treatment, repackaging, and shipment to designated facilities for final disposal. Processed TRU waste is shipped to the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP) for disposal. Waste that is determined to be non-TRU (e.g., low-level radioactive waste, mixed low-level waste) is shipped to the Nevada National Security Site (NNSS) or another approved facility.

Isotek Systems LLC (Isotek) manages activities at ORNL's Building 3019 complex for DOE and is responsible for activities associated with processing, down-blending, and packaging the DOE inventory of ^{233}U stored in the Building 3019 complex.

URS | CH2M Oak Ridge LLC (UCOR) is the DOE ORR "cleanup contractor." The scope of UCOR activities at ORNL includes long-term surveillance, maintenance, and management of inactive waste disposal sites, structures, and buildings such as former reactors and isotope production facilities. Other activities include groundwater monitoring, TRU waste storage, and operation of the liquid low-level and process waste systems and the off-gas collection and treatment system.

1.4.2 The Y-12 National Security Complex

The original Y-12 Complex was constructed as part of the World War II Manhattan Project and began operations in November 1943. The first site mission was the separation of ^{235}U from natural uranium by an electromagnetic separation process. At its peak in 1945, more than 22,000 workers were employed at the site.

Today, as part of the NNSA Nuclear Security Enterprise, the Y-12 Complex (Fig. 1.7) serves as the nation's only source of enriched uranium nuclear weapons components and provides enriched uranium for the US Navy. The Y-12 Complex is a leader in materials science and precision manufacturing and serves as the main storage facility for enriched uranium. The Y-12 Complex also supports efforts to reduce the risk of nuclear proliferation and performs complementary work for other government agencies. On July 1, 2014, Consolidated Nuclear Security, LLC (CNS), assumed responsibility for management and operation of both the Y-12 Complex, Oak Ridge, Tennessee, and the Pantex Plant, Amarillo, Texas. CNS replaces Babcock & Wilcox Technical Services Y-12, LLC (B&W Y-12; formerly called BWXT Y-12), which had operated Y-12 since 2000, and B&W Pantex, which had operated Pantex since 2000. The contract includes a total annual operating budget of \$1.5 billion and employment of about 8,000 in Tennessee and Texas. CNS is a partnership of Bechtel National, Inc.; Lockheed Martin Services, Inc.; ATK Launch Systems, Inc.; and SOC LLC, with Booz Allen Hamilton, Inc., as a teaming subcontractor.

Oversight of the new contract is the responsibility of the NNSA Production Office (NPO). In June 2012, the Pantex and Y-12 Site Offices were merged into NPO in anticipation of the award of a single management and operating contract for the operation of both Pantex and Y-12.

ORNL 2012-G00348/chj



Fig. 1.7. Y-12 National Security Complex.

1.4.3 East Tennessee Technology Park

What is now known as ETPP (Fig. 1.8) was originally named the K-25 Site, where the nation's first gaseous diffusion plant for enriching uranium, as part of the Manhattan Project, was located.

In the postwar years, additional uranium enrichment facilities were built adjacent to K-25, forming a complex officially known as the Oak Ridge Gaseous Diffusion Plant. Uranium enrichment operations at the site ceased in 1987, and restoration and decontamination and decommissioning (D&D) activities began soon after in preparation for ultimate conversion of the site to a private-sector industrial park to be called the Heritage Center. Reindustrialization of the site began in 1996 when it was renamed the East Tennessee Technology Park. Restoration of the environment, D&D of facilities, disposition of wastes, and reindustrialization are the major activities at the site. During 2013, ETPP landlord contractor functions and the majority of the ETPP cleanup program actions were managed by UCOR.



Fig. 1.8. East Tennessee Technology Park.

1.4.4 Environmental Management Waste Management Facility

EMWMF is located in eastern Bear Creek Valley near the Y-12 Complex and is managed by UCOR. EMWMF was built for disposal of waste resulting from CERCLA cleanup actions on ORR. The original design was for the construction, operation, and closure of a projected 1.3 million m³ (1.7 million yd³) disposal facility. The approved capacity was subsequently increased to 1.8 million m³ (2.4 million yd³) to maximize use of the footprint designated in a 1999 record of decision (ROD). The facility currently consists of six disposal cells.

EMWMF is an engineered landfill that accepts low-level, mixed low-level, and hazardous wastes from DOE ORR sites that meet specific waste acceptance criteria developed in accordance with agreements with state and federal regulators. Waste types that qualify for disposal include soil, dried sludge and sediment, solidified waste, stabilized waste, building debris, scrap equipment, and secondary waste such as personal protective equipment, all of which must meet land disposal restrictions. In addition to the solid waste disposal facility, EMWMF operates a leachate collection system. The leachate is treated at the ORNL Liquids and Gaseous Treatment Facility, which is operated by UCOR.

1.4.5 Oak Ridge Environmental Research Park

In 1980, DOE established the Oak Ridge Environmental Research Park (Fig. 1.9). The research park serves as an outdoor laboratory to evaluate the environmental consequences of energy use and development and the strategies to mitigate those effects. It contains large blocks of forest and diverse communities of vegetation that offer unparalleled resources for ecosystem-level and large-scale research. Major national and international collaborative research initiatives use it to address issues such as multiple stress interactions, biodiversity, sustainable development, tropospheric air quality, global climate change, innovative power conductors, solar radiation monitoring, ecological recovery, and monitoring and remediation.

Field sites at the research park provide maintenance and support facilities that permit sophisticated and well-instrumented environmental experiments. These facilities include elaborate monitoring systems that enable users to precisely and accurately measure environmental factors for extended periods of time. Because the park is under the jurisdiction of the federal government, public access is restricted and experimental sites and associated equipment are, therefore, not disturbed.

National recognition of the value of the research park has led to its use as a component of both regional- and continental-scale research projects. Various research park sites offer opportunities for aquatic and terrestrial ecosystem analyses of topics such as biogeochemical cycling of pollutants resulting from energy production, landscape alterations, ecosystem restoration, wetland mitigation, and forest and wildlife management.

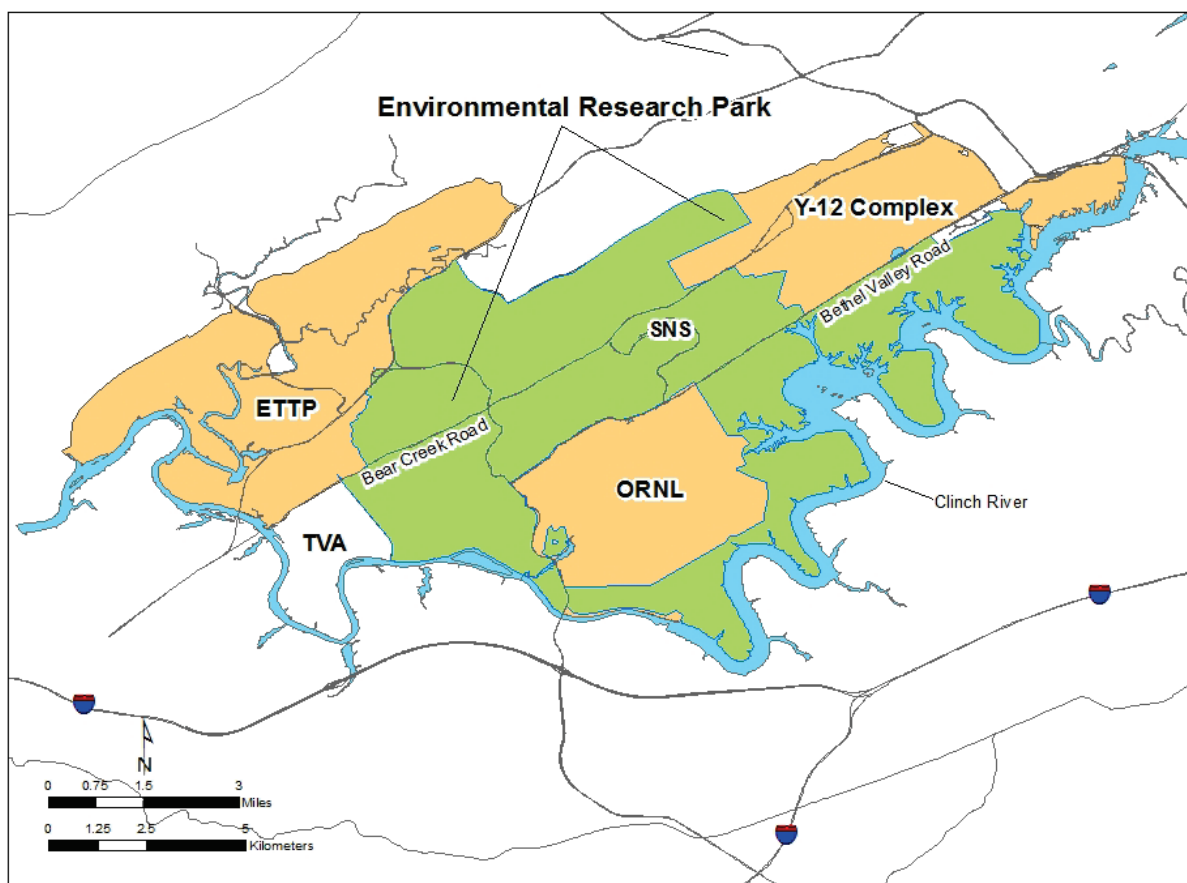


Fig. 1.9. The Oak Ridge Environmental Research Park.

1.4.6 Oak Ridge Institute for Science and Education

ORISE is a DOE institute managed by Oak Ridge Associated Universities (ORAU). ORISE addresses national needs in assessing and analyzing environmental and health effects of radiation, beryllium, and other hazardous materials; developing and operating medical and national security radiation emergency management and response capabilities; and managing education programs to help ensure a robust supply of scientists, engineers, and technicians to meet future science and technology needs. ORISE creates opportunities for collaboration through partnerships with other DOE facilities, federal agencies, academia, and industry in a manner consistent with DOE objectives and the ORISE mission.

ORISE is located on an area on the southeastern border of ORR that from the late 1940s to the mid-1980s was part of an agricultural experiment station owned by the federal government and, until 1981, operated by the University of Tennessee. The site houses offices, laboratories, and storage areas for the ORISE program offices and support departments.

1.4.7 The National Nuclear Security Administration Office of Secure Transportation, Agent Operations Eastern Command

Since 1947, DOE and its predecessor agencies have moved nuclear weapons, weapons components, special nuclear materials (SNMs), and other important national security assets by commercial and government transportation modes. In the late 1960s, worldwide terrorism and acts of violence prompted a review of procedures for safeguarding these materials. As a result, a comprehensive new series of regulations and equipment was developed to enhance the safety and security of these materials in transit. Thus, modified and redesigned transport equipment was created to incorporate features that more effectively enhance self-protection and that deny unauthorized access to the materials. Also during this time, the use of commercial transportation systems was abandoned, and a totally federal operation was implemented. The organization within DOE NNSA responsible for this mission is OST.

The NNSA OST AOEC Secure Transportation Center and Training Facility is located on ORR. NNSA OST AOEC is situated on about 723 ha (1,786 acres) of ORR and operates under a user permit agreement with DOE ORO. NNSA OST AOEC implements its assigned mission transportation operations, maintains applicable fleet and escort vehicles, and continues extensive training activities for its federal agents.

1.5 References

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2. Compliance Summary and Community Involvement

DOE operations on ORR are required to be in conformance with environmental standards established by a number of federal and state statutes and regulations, EOs, DOE orders, contract-based standards, and compliance and settlement agreements. Principal among the regulating agencies are EPA and TDEC. These agencies issue permits, review compliance reports, participate in joint monitoring programs, inspect facilities and operations, and oversee compliance with applicable regulations.

When environmental concerns or problems are identified during routine operations or during ongoing self-assessments of compliance status, the issues are typically discussed with the regulatory agencies. The following sections summarize the major environmental statutes and 2014 status for DOE operations on ORR. Several facilities at ETTP and the Oak Ridge Science and Technology Park sites have been leased to private entities over the past several years through the DOE Reindustrialization Program. The compliance status of these lessee operations is not discussed in this report.

Because of different permit reporting requirements and instrument capabilities, various units of measure are used in this report. The list of units of measure and conversion factors provided on pages xxvii and xxviii is intended to help readers convert numeric values presented in this document as needed for specific calculations and comparisons.

2.1 Laws and Regulations

Table 2.1 summarizes the principal environmental standards applicable to DOE activities on the reservation, the 2014 status, and references to the report sections that provide more detailed information.

2.2 External Oversight and Assessments

Inspections of ORR environmental activities conducted by regulatory agencies during 2014 are summarized in Table 2.2. This table does not include internal DOE or DOE contractor assessments, audits, or evaluations.

The State of Tennessee also conducts a program of independent monitoring and oversight of DOE activities on ORR through the Tennessee Oversight Agreement (TOA). TOA is a voluntary agreement between DOE and the State of Tennessee and is designed to assure the citizens of Tennessee that their health, safety, and environment are being protected through existing programs and substantial new commitments by DOE. More information on TOA and reporting of monitoring conducted under TOA is available at <http://www.tennessee.gov/environment/section/remediation>.

Table 2.1. Applicable environmental laws/regulations and 2014 status

Regulatory program description	2014 status	Report sections
CAA and Tennessee environmental conservation laws regulate the release of air pollutants through permits and air quality limits. Emissions of airborne radionuclides are regulated by EPA via NESHAPs authorizations. Greenhouse gas emissions inventory tracking and reporting are regulated by EPA.	In 2014, all activities on ORR were conducted in accordance with CAA requirements. One NOV was issued to UT-Battelle, LLC, by TDEC for failure to notify TDEC of the demolition of two small structures (each about 300 ft ²). Although the facilities did not contain asbestos, the regulations require TDEC be notified before any building demolition.	3.3.5 4.3.3 5.3.3
CERCLA provides a regulatory framework for remediation of the release or threat of release of hazardous substances from past practices on ORR.	ORR has been on the EPA NPL since 1989. The ORR FFA, initiated in 1992 among EPA, TDEC, and DOE, establishes the framework and schedule for developing, implementing, and monitoring remedial actions on ORR. No NOV's were issued for CERCLA-related ORR actions during 2014.	3.3.11 4.3.7 5.3.8
CWA seeks to protect and improve surface water quality by establishing standards and a system of permits. Wastewater discharges are regulated by NPDES permits issued by TDEC.	Discharges to surface water at each of the three major ORR sites are governed by NPDES permits. A compliance rate of 100% was achieved by all three major ORR sites in 2014.	3.3.6 4.3.4 5.3.4
EISA § 438 establishes requirements for federal agencies to reduce storm water runoff from development projects to protect water resources.	To comply with EISA a variety of storm water management techniques, referred to as GI or LID practices, have been implemented on ORR. The site sustainability plans and associated reporting provide data on sustainability projects and support EISA § 438 compliance.	4.2.6.8 5.2.1.4.2
EPCRA, also referred to as SARA Title III, requires reporting emergency planning information, hazardous chemical inventories, and environmental releases of certain toxic chemicals to federal, state, and local authorities.	In 2014, DOE facilities on ORR were operated in accordance with emergency planning and reporting requirements.	3.3.14 4.3.9 5.3.10
NEPA requires consideration of how federal actions may impact the environment and an examination of alternatives to the actions. NEPA also requires that decisions include public input and involvement through scoping and review of NEPA documents.	During 2014, DOE activities on ORR were conducted in accordance with NEPA requirements.	3.3.4 4.3.2 5.3.2
NHPA provides protection for the nation's historical resources by establishing a comprehensive national historic preservation policy.	ORR has several facilities eligible for inclusion in the NRHP. Proposed activities are reviewed to determine potential adverse effects on these properties, and methods to avoid or minimize harm are identified. During 2014, activities on ORR were in compliance with NHPA requirements.	3.3.4 4.3.2 5.3.2

Table 2.1 (continued)

Regulatory program description	2014 status	Report sections
ORR Floodplain Management Programs are established to avoid, to the extent possible, adverse impacts associated with the occupancy and modification of floodplains and to avoid direct or indirect support of floodplain development wherever there is a practicable alternative.	ORR floodplain management programs incorporate management and protection goals into planning, regulatory, and decision-making processes through each site's NEPA program. Goals include flood-loss reduction, minimization of the impact of floods, and restoration and preservation of ORR floodplains. Floodplain management on ORR is conducted in accordance with 10 CFR 1022 and EO 11988, <i>Floodplain Management</i> .	3.3.4 4.3.2 5.3.2
ORR Protection of Wetlands Programs are implemented to minimize the destruction, loss, or degradation of ORR wetlands and to preserve and enhance their beneficial value.	Surveys for the presence of wetlands are conducted on a project or program as-needed basis through NEPA and other reviews. Wetland protection on ORR is conducted in accordance with 10 CFR 1022 and EO 11990, <i>Protection of Wetlands</i> .	1.3.6.1 3.3.4 4.3.2 5.3.12
RCRA governs the generation, storage, handling, and disposal of hazardous wastes. RCRA also regulates USTs containing petroleum and hazardous substances, universal waste, and recyclable used oil.	The Y-12 Complex, ORNL, and ETTP are defined as large-quantity generators of hazardous waste because each generates more than 1,000 kg of hazardous waste per month. Each site is also regulated as a handler of universal waste. In addition, several permits have been issued for hazardous waste management units on ORR. During 2014 a TDEC inspection at Y-12 identified three alleged violations related to the use of an incorrect checklist, missing labels, and improper labeling. A 2014 inspection at ORNL also identified three alleged violations, which were related to an open satellite waste container, an open 90-day accumulation area container, and the locating of this 90-day accumulation area in the vicinity of heavy equipment operation. The alleged issues identified at Y-12 and ORNL were immediately corrected, and there was no environmental insult associated with these issues. No RCRA violations or concerns were cited for ETTP operations in 2014.	3.3.9 4.3.6 5.3.7
SDWA establishes minimum drinking water standards and monitoring requirements.	The City of Oak Ridge supplies potable water to the facilities on ORR and meets all regulatory requirements for drinking water.	3.3.8 4.3.5 5.3.5
TSCA regulates the manufacture, use, and distribution of all chemicals.	ORR facilities manage TSCA-regulated materials, including PCBs. The ORR PCB FFCA between EPA and DOE continues to provide a mechanism to address legacy PCB-use issues across ORR. The agreement specifically addresses the unauthorized use of PCBs, storage and disposal of PCB waste, PCB spill cleanup and/or decontamination, PCBs mixed with radioactive materials, PCB research and development, and records and reporting requirements for ORR. EPA is updated annually on the status of DOE actions with regard to management and disposition of PCBs covered under the ORR PCB FFCA. In 2014, there were no TSCA-related NOV's issued for ORR activities.	3.3.13 4.3.8 5.3.9

Table 2.1 (continued)

Regulatory program description	2014 status	Report sections
Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (16 U.S.C. 668-668d) protects bald and golden eagles by prohibiting, except under certain specified conditions, the taking or possession of and commerce in such birds. The act imposes criminal and civil penalties for any such actions.	Bald eagles are known to frequent ORR year-round. Currently there are two active bald eagle nests on ORR that are protected in accordance with this act.	1.3.6.2
Endangered Species Act prohibits activities that would jeopardize the continued existence of an endangered or threatened species or cause adverse modification to a critical habitat.	ORR is host to several plant and animal species that are categorized as endangered, threatened, or of special concern and that are protected in accordance with this act.	1.3.6.2
Migratory Bird Treaty Act protects migratory birds by governing the taking, killing, possession, transportation, and importation of such birds, including their eggs, parts, and nests and any product, manufactured or not, from such items.	ORR hosts numerous migratory birds that are protected under this act.	1.3.6.2
DOE O 231.1B, Environment, Safety and Health Reporting , ensures timely collection, reporting, analysis, and dissemination of information on environment, safety, and health issues.	The <i>Oak Ridge Reservation Annual Site Environmental Report for 2014</i> summarizes ORR environmental activities during 2014 and characterizes environmental performance.	All chapters
DOE O 435.1, Change 1, Radioactive Waste Management , is implemented to ensure that all DOE radioactive waste is managed in a manner that protects workers, public health and safety, and the environment.	Waste certification programs that are protective of workers, the public, and the environment have been implemented for all activities on ORR to ensure compliance with this DOE order.	3.8.1 4.8.5 5.8.5
DOE O 436.1, Department Sustainability , provides requirements and responsibilities for managing sustainability within DOE to ensure the department carries out its missions in a sustainable manner that addresses national energy security and global environmental challenges and advances sustainable, efficient, and reliable energy for the future.	DOE contractors on ORR have developed SSPs and have implemented EMSs that are incorporated with the contractors' ISMSs to promote sound stewardship practices and to ensure compliance with this DOE order.	3.2 4.2 5.2

Table 2.1 (continued)

Regulatory program description	2014 status	Report sections
<p>DOE O 458.1, <i>Radiation Protection of the Public and the Environment</i>, issued in June 2011, canceled DOE O 5400.5 and was established to protect members of the public and the environment against undue risk from radiation. This order established standards and requirements for operations of DOE and DOE contractors.</p>	<p>In 2014 DOE O 458.1 was the primary contractual obligation for radiation protection programs for UT-Battelle, LLC; B&W Y-12; and CNS. (In July 2014, CNS assumed responsibility for management and operation of the Y-12 Complex, replacing B&W Y-12.) In 2014, DOE O 458.1 was added to the UCOR contract for non-CERCLA activities while DOE 5400.5 remains the primary contractual obligation for CERCLA activities. A dose assessment, performed to ensure that the total dose to members of the public from all DOE ORR pathways did not exceed the 100 mrem annual limit established by this order, estimated the maximum 2014 dose to a hypothetically exposed member of the public from all ORR potential exposure pathways combined would be about 3 mrem. Clearance of property from ORNL and the Y-12 Complex was conducted in accordance with approved procedures that comply with DOE O 458.1.</p>	<p>4.3.13 5.3.13 Chap. 7</p>
<p>DOE O 5400.5, <i>Radiation Protection</i>, was established to protect members of the public and the environment against undue risk from radiation. This order established standards and requirements for operations of DOE and DOE contractors. This order has been substantially canceled by DOE O 458.1 but remained a contractual obligation for UCOR in 2014.</p>	<p>DOE O 5400.5 is the primary radiological ARAR for most CERCLA activities across ORR and is expected to remain in force until the CERCLA decision documents are reissued or revised. In addition, DOE O 5400.5 continues to be a contractual obligation under the current UCOR contract. A dose assessment, performed to ensure that the total dose to members of the public from all DOE ORR pathways did not exceed the 100 mrem annual limit established by this order, estimated the maximum 2014 dose to a hypothetically exposed member of the public from all ORR potential exposure pathways combined would be about 3 mrem.</p>	<p>Chap. 7</p>
<p>EO 13186, <i>Responsibilities of Federal Agencies to Protect Migratory Birds</i>, identifies the responsibilities of federal agencies to promote the conservation of migratory bird populations.</p>	<p>An MOU was entered into by DOE and FWS that meets the requirements under Section 3 of EO 13186. ORR hosts numerous migratory birds that are present either seasonally or year-round. This MOU, which was updated in September 2013, strengthens migratory bird conservation on ORR through enhanced collaboration between DOE and FWS.</p>	<p>1.3.6.2</p>

Table 2.1 (continued)

Regulatory program description	2014 status	Report sections
<p>EO 13423, <i>Strengthening Federal Environmental, Energy, and Transportation Management</i>, instructs federal agencies to conduct their environmental, transportation, and energy-related activities under the law in support of their respective missions in an environmentally, economically, and fiscally sound; integrated; continuously improving; efficient; and sustainable manner.</p>	<p>In 2014 “site sustainability plans” addressed the requirements of EOs 13423 and 13514 and DOE’s <i>Strategic Sustainability Performance Plan</i>.^a Progress toward achieving DOE sustainability goals is summarized in this report. ORR activities complied with the planning and reporting requirements of these executive orders in 2014.</p>	<p>3.2.4 4.2.6.3 5.2.1.4</p>
<p>EO 13514, <i>Federal Leadership in Environmental, Energy, and Economic Performance</i>, expands on the energy reduction and environmental performance requirements for federal agencies identified in EO 13423 and establishes an integrated strategy toward sustainability in the federal government to make reduction of greenhouse gas emissions a priority for federal agencies.</p>		

^aDOE. 2014. *2014 Strategic Sustainability Performance Plan*. US Department of Energy, Washington, DC.

Acronyms

ARAR = applicable, relevant, and appropriate requirement
 B&W Y-12 = Babcock & Wilcox Technical Services Y-12, LLC
 CAA = Clean Air Act
 CERCLA = Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act
 CNS = Consolidated Nuclear Security, LLC
 CWA = Clean Water Act
 DOE = US Department of Energy
 EISA = Energy Independence and Security Act
 EMS = environmental management system
 EO = executive order
 EPA = US Environmental Protection Agency
 EPCRA = Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act
 ETTP = East Tennessee Technology Park
 FFA = Federal Facility Agreement
 FFCA = Federal Facilities Compliance Agreement
 FWS = US Fish and Wildlife Service
 GI = green infrastructure
 ISMS = integrated safety management system
 LID = low impact development

MOU = memorandum of understanding
 NEPA = National Environmental Policy Act
 NESHAPs = National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants
 NHPA = National Historic Preservation Act
 NOV = notice of violation
 NPDES = National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System
 NPL = National Priorities List
 NRHP = National Register of Historic Places
 ORNL = Oak Ridge National Laboratory
 ORR = Oak Ridge Reservation
 PCB = polychlorinated biphenyl
 RCRA = Resource Conservation and Recovery Act
 SARA = Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act
 SDWA = Safe Drinking Water Act
 SSP = site sustainability plan
 TDEC = Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation
 TSCA = Toxic Substances Control Act
 UCOR = URS | CH2M Oak Ridge LLC
 UST = underground storage tank
 Y-12 Complex = Y-12 National Security Complex

Table 2.2. Summary of regulatory environmental evaluations, audits, inspections, and assessments conducted at Oak Ridge Reservation, 2014

Date	Reviewer	Subject	Issues
ORNL (including UT-Battelle, LLC; UCOR; Isotek; and WAI activities)			
March 19	COR	CFTF Wastewater Inspection	0
April 30	TDEC	UST Compliance Inspection	0
May 12–13	TDEC	Annual RCRA Inspection for ORNL	3
May 12–13	TDEC	Annual RCRA Inspection of UCOR Areas at ORNL	0
June 19	TDEC	Annual CAA Inspection for ORNL and CFTF	0
June 19	TDEC	Annual CAA Title V Inspection of UCOR Sources at ORNL	0
July 16	TDEC	Follow-Up Inspection from the FY 2013 Compliance Evaluation Inspection of CWA/NPDES Programs	0
September 23	COR	CFTF Wastewater Inspection	0
November 13	TDEC	Annual TWPC CAA Inspection	0
October 21–22	TDEC	Annual RCRA Inspection of ORNL at Y-12 Facilities	0
December 16	Knox County	Annual CAA Inspection for NTRC	0
ETTP			
January 23	TDEC	K-1423-A, B, and E Dikes Closure Inspection	0
February 24	TDEC	Annual RCRA Compliance Inspection	0
April 21	TDEC	Container Processing Facility Closure Inspection	0
May 14	EPA	Rad-NESHAPs site visit (⁹⁹ Tc)	0
September 24	TDEC	Inspection of ETTP USTs	0
Y-12 Complex			
March 20	COR	Semiannual Industrial Pretreatment Compliance Inspection	0
June 10	TDEC	Process Waste Treatment Complex Inspection	0
July 15–16	TDEC	Annual CAA Inspection	0
August 19– September 11	TDEC	NPDES Compliance Evaluation Inspection	0
September 30	COR	Semiannual Industrial Pretreatment Compliance Inspection	0
October 13	TDEC	ORR Landfills Inspection	
October 21–22	TDEC	Annual RCRA Inspection	3
October 22–23	TDEC	Annual RCRA Inspection of UCOR Areas at Y-12	0
November 17	TDEC	Follow-up RCRA Inspection	0
December 18	USACE and TDEC	UPF Wetland and Stream Mitigation Activities	0

Acronyms

CAA = Clean Air Act	RCRA = Resource Conservation and Recovery Act
CWA = Clean Water Act	TDEC = Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation
CFTF = Carbon Fiber Technology Facility	TWPC = Transuranic Waste Processing Center
COR = City of Oak Ridge	UCOR = URS CH2M Oak Ridge LLC
EPA = US Environmental Protection Agency	UPF = Uranium Processing Facility
ETTP = East Tennessee Technology Park	USACE = US Army Corps of Engineers
Isotek = Isotek Systems LLC	UST = underground storage tank
NPDES = National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System	WAI = Wastren Advantage, Inc.
NTRC = National Transportation Research Center	Y-12 Complex = Y-12 National Security Complex
ORNL = Oak Ridge National Laboratory	
Rad-NESHAPs = National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants for Radionuclides	

2.3 Reporting of Oak Ridge Reservation Spills and Releases

Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) hazardous substances are substances that are considered to be severely harmful to human health and the environment. Many are commonly used substances that are harmless in their normal uses but are quite dangerous when released. CERCLA establishes a corresponding reportable quantity (RQ) for each hazardous substance. Any hazardous substance release exceeding an RQ triggers reports to the National Response Center, the State Emergency Response Center, and community coordinators. Discharges of oil must be reported if they “cause a film or sheen upon or discoloration of the surface of the water or adjoining shorelines or cause a sludge or emulsion to be deposited beneath the surface of the water or upon adjoining shorelines” [40 CFR 110.3(b)].

During CY 2014 there were no releases of hazardous substances exceeding an RQ at Y-12, ETTP, or ORNL and no reported fish kills or oil sheens at ETTP or ORNL. There were three reportable occurrences related to Y-12 water programs (Section 4.5.1): (1) an oil sheen was observed on upper EFPC within the Y-12 Complex, (2) an upset condition led to material from a stack being dispersed onto a building roof and the area adjacent to the building, and (3) minnow-sized dead fish were observed in EFPC.

2.4 Notices of Violations and Penalties

TDEC conducted an annual RCRA inspection of operations at ORNL on May 12–13, 2014. Three alleged violations were observed during the inspection. The three issues identified were an open satellite waste container, an open 90-day accumulation area waste container, and locating the 90-day accumulation area in the vicinity of heavy equipment operation. All issues were immediately corrected and were verified to be corrected by the TDEC inspector. There was no environmental insult associated with these issues.

In addition, an NOV was issued to UT-Battelle by TDEC on December, 11, 2014, for failure to notify TDEC of the demolition of two small structures (each about 300 ft²). Although the facilities did not contain asbestos, the regulations require TDEC to be notified before any building demolition.

TDEC conducted its annual hazardous waste compliance inspection at the Y-12 Complex October 21–22, 2014. Three alleged violations were observed during the inspection. The three issues identified were using an incorrect checklist, not having labels visible on containers in a RCRA waste storage area, and having unlabeled containers in a RCRA waste storage area. There was no potential for environmental insult as a result of these issues. All issues were immediately corrected; use of the correct form was implemented and labeling was corrected. A follow-up inspection to confirm all issues were resolved was conducted by TDEC on November 17, 2014.

No other environmental NOVs, penalties, or consent orders were issued on the reservation during 2014.

2.5 Community Involvement

2.5.1 Public Comments Solicited

To keep the public informed of comment periods and other matters related to cleanup activities on ORR, DOE publishes online notices (<http://energy.gov/orem/services/community-engagement>), conducts public meetings, and issues notices in local newspapers as appropriate. A construction permit for a steam plant boiler replacement project was posted for public comment by TDEC on October 15, 2014. As part of the ETTP storm water NPDES permit renewal process, a public notice (Public Notice MMXIV-022) on the final draft copy of the permit was posted from December 15, 2014, to January 19, 2015, to advise the

public of proposed permit actions and to solicit comments and information necessary to evaluate the potential impact of the proposed activities.

On January 29, 2014, a public meeting was held at the DOE Information Center, Oak Ridge, to solicit public comments on the ETTP part B permit renewal application for the hazardous waste permit (TNHW-117) and the hazardous waste corrective action document renewal (TNHW-121), which encompasses the entire ORR. A presentation was given to explain the permitting process and describe the permitted units. In addition, information on the hazardous waste corrective action document was provided that covered the ORR CERCLA areas of concern and solid waste management units. A community impact statement that gave greater detail on how hazardous waste will be characterized, stored, and treated was also provided.

2.5.2 Oak Ridge Site Specific Advisory Board

The Oak Ridge Site Specific Advisory Board (ORSSAB) is a federally appointed citizens' panel that provides independent advice and recommendations to the DOE Oak Ridge Environmental Management (EM) Program. The board was formed in 1995 and is composed of up to 22 members chosen to reflect the diversity of gender, race, occupation, views, and interests of persons living near the DOE ORR. Members are appointed by DOE and serve on a voluntary basis without compensation.

Information on recommendations the board has made since its establishment, minutes of board and committee meetings, and other information are available on the ORSSAB website at <http://www.energy.gov/ORSSAB>.

Videos of the first hour of recent board meetings are posted on YouTube at <http://www.youtube.com/user/ORSSAB>.

Additional information may be obtained by calling 865-241-4583 or 865-241-4584.

2.5.3 DOE Information Center

The DOE Information Center, located at 1 Science.Gov Way, Oak Ridge, Tennessee, is a one-stop information facility that maintains a collection of more than 40,000 documents describing environmental activities in Oak Ridge. The center is open Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. An online catalog that can be used to search for DOE documents by author, title, date, and other fields is available at <http://www.oakridge.doe.gov/external/Home/PublicActivities/DOEInformationCenter/tabid/126/Default.aspx>.

2.5.3.1 Telephone Contacts

- Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry: 1-800-232-4636
- DOE Information Center: 865-241-4780; toll free 1-800-382-6938 (option 6)
- DOE Public Affairs Office: 865-576-0885
- DOE ORO Public Information Line: 1-800-382-6938
- EPA Region 4: 1-800-241-1754
- ORSSAB: 865-241-4583, 865-241-4584, 1-800-382-6938 (option 4)
- TDEC, DOE Oversight Division: 865-481-0995

2.5.3.2 Internet Sites

- Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry: <http://www.atsdr.cdc.gov>
- American Recovery and Reinvestment Act: <http://www.energy.gov/recovery-act>
- DOE Main Website: <http://www.energy.gov>
- DOE ORO EM Program: <http://www.oakridge.doe.gov/external/Programs/EnvironmentalManagement/tabid/42/Default.aspx>
- DOE Information Center: <http://www.oakridge.doe.gov/external/Home/PublicActivities/DOEInformationCenter/tabid/126/Default.aspx>
- EPA Region 4: <http://www.epa.gov/region4>
- ETPP: <http://www.ettpreuse.com/default.htm>
- ORNL: <https://www.ornl.gov/>
- ORSSAB: <http://www.energy.gov/ORSSAB>
- TDEC: <http://www.tennessee.gov/environment/>
- TDEC, DOE Oversight Division: http://www.tn.gov/environment/remediation_energy-oversight.shtml
- Y-12 National Security Complex: <http://www.y12.doe.gov/>

2.6 References

DOE. 2014. *2014 Strategic Sustainability Performance Plan*. US Department of Energy, Washington, DC.

3. East Tennessee Technology Park

ETTP was originally built during World War II as part of the Manhattan Project. Known as the K-25 Site, its primary mission was to enrich uranium for use in atomic weapons. After the war, the mission was changed to include the enrichment of uranium for nuclear reactor fuel elements and recycling of uranium recovered from spent fuel, and the name was changed to the “Oak Ridge Gaseous Diffusion Plant.” In the 1980s, a reduction in the demand for nuclear fuel resulted in the shutdown of the enrichment process, and production ceased. The emphasis of the mission then changed to environmental management and restoration operations, and the name was changed to the “East Tennessee Technology Park.” Environmental management and remediation operations consist of operations such as waste management, the cleanup of outdoor storage and disposal areas, the demolition and/or cleanup of the facilities, land restoration, and environmental monitoring. Proper disposal of the huge quantities of waste that were generated over the course of production operations is also a major task. Beginning in the 1990s, reindustrialization (the conversion of underused government facilities for use by the private sector) also became a major mission at ETTP. Reindustrialization allows private industry to lease underused facilities, thus providing both jobs and a new use for facilities that otherwise would have to be demolished. State and federally mandated effluent monitoring and environmental surveillance at ETTP involve the collection and analysis of samples of air, water, soil, sediment, and vegetation from ETTP and the surrounding area. Monitoring results are used to assess exposures to members of the public and the environment, to assess the performance of treatment systems, to help identify areas of concern, to plan remediation efforts, and to evaluate the efficacy of remediation efforts. In 2014, there was 100% compliance with permit standards for emissions/discharges from ETTP operations.

3.1 Description of Site and Operations

Construction of ETTP (Fig. 3.1), originally known as the K-25 Site, began in 1943 as part of the World War II Manhattan Project. The plant’s original mission was the production of enriched uranium for nuclear weapons. Enrichment was initially carried out in the S-50 thermal diffusion process facility, which operated for 1 year, and the K-25 and K-27 gaseous diffusion process buildings. Later, the K-29, K-31, and K-33 buildings were built to increase the production capacity of the original facilities by raising the assay of the feed material entering K-27. Following the war years, the site became officially known as the “Oak Ridge Gaseous Diffusion Plant” (ORGDP).

After military production of highly enriched uranium (HEU) was concluded in 1964, the two original process buildings were shut down. For the next 20 years, the plant’s primary missions were the production of only low enriched uranium to be fabricated into fuel elements for nuclear reactors. Other missions during the latter part of this 20-year period included developing and testing the gas centrifuge method of uranium enrichment and laser isotope separation R&D.

By 1985, the demand for enriched uranium had declined, and the gaseous diffusion cascades at ORGDP were placed in standby mode. That same year, the gas centrifuge program was canceled. The decision to permanently shut down the diffusion cascades was announced in late 1987, and actions necessary to implement that decision were initiated soon thereafter. Because of the termination of the original and primary missions, ORGDP was renamed the “Oak Ridge K-25 Site” in 1990. Figure 3.2 shows the ETTP site areas before the start of D&D activities. In 1997, the K-25 Site was renamed the “East Tennessee

Technology Park” to reflect its new mission. Fig. 3.3 shows the ETTP areas designated for D&D activities through 2014.



Fig. 3.1. East Tennessee Technology Park.

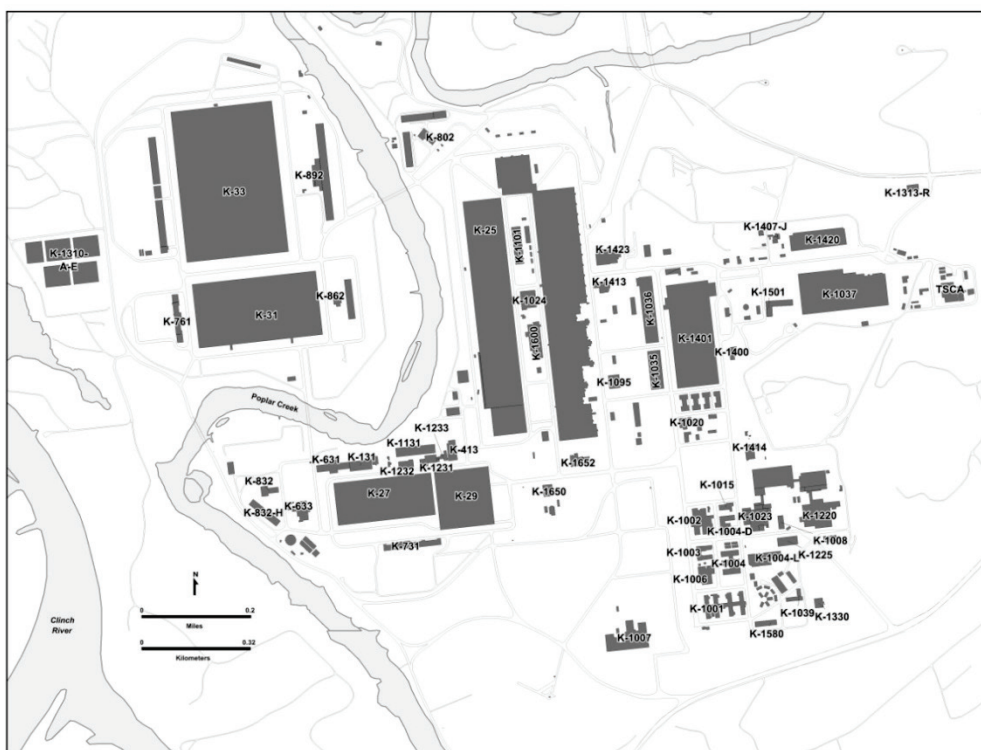


Fig. 3.2. East Tennessee Technology Park before the start of decontamination and decommissioning activities in 1991.

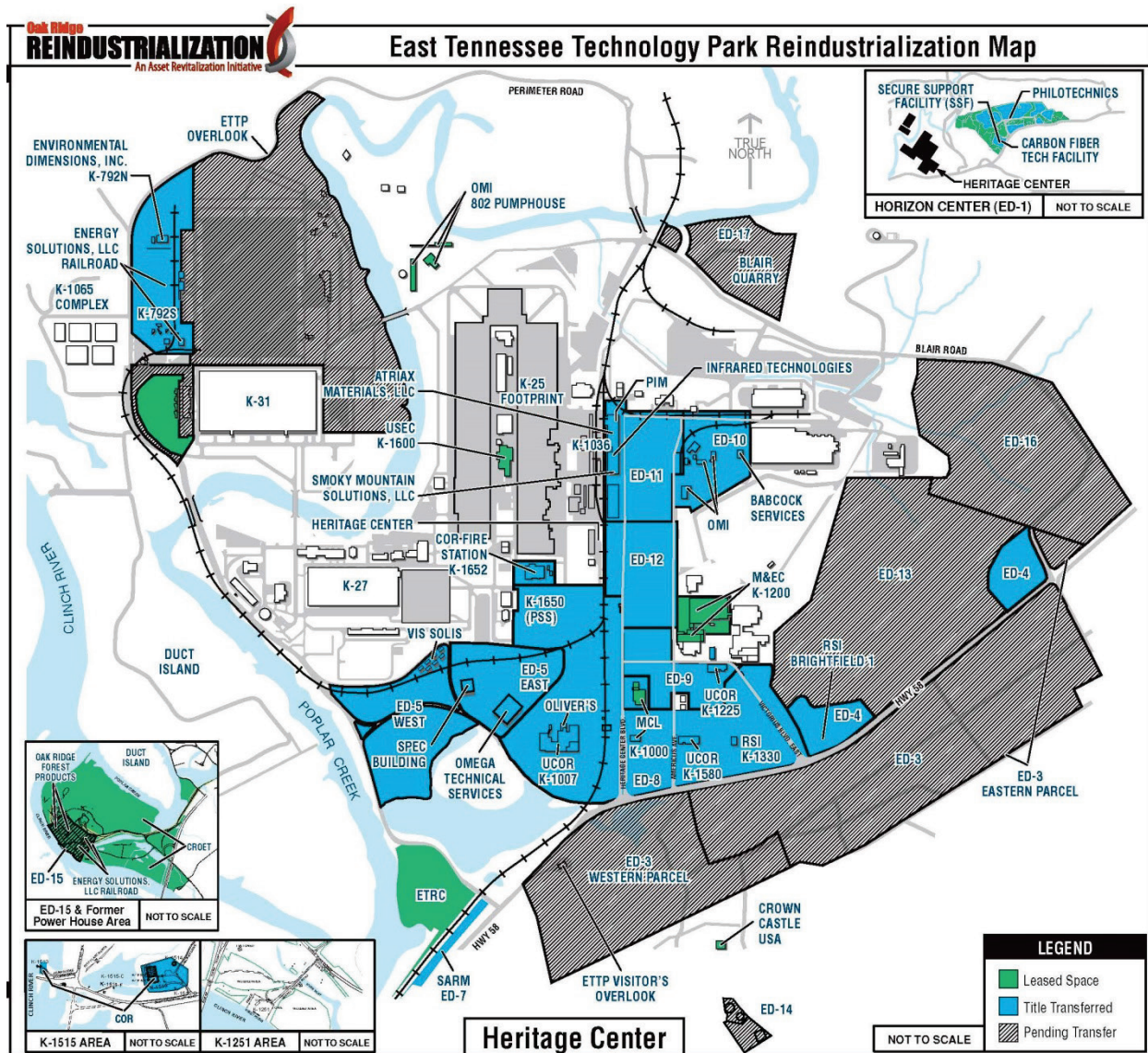


Fig. 3.3. East Tennessee Technology Park in 2014, showing progress in reindustrialization.

The ETPP mission is to reindustrialize and reuse site assets through leasing or transferring excess or underutilized land and facilities and through incorporating commercial industrial organizations as partners in the ongoing environmental restoration, D&D, and waste treatment and disposal.

DOE's long-term goal for ETPP is to convert as much of the site as possible into a private business and industrial park. The site is undergoing environmental cleanup of its land as well as D&D of most of its buildings. The reuse of key facilities through title transfer is part of the site's closure plan. The cleanup approach makes land and various types of buildings (e.g., office, manufacturing) suitable for private industrial use and for title transfer to the Community Reuse Organization of East Tennessee (CROET) or other entities such as the City of Oak Ridge. The facilities may then be subleased or sold, with the goal of stimulating private industry and recruiting business to the area.

UCOR, the environmental management contractor for ETTP, supports DOE in the reindustrialization program as part of the continuing effort to transform ETTP into a private-sector industrial park. Unless otherwise noted, information on non-DOE entities located on the ETTP site is not provided in this document.

3.2 Environmental Management System

The UCOR Environmental Management System (EMS) is integrated with the UCOR Integrated Safety Management System (ISMS). UCOR's EMS is based on a graded approach for a closure and remediation contract and reflects the elements and framework contained in International Organization for Standardization (ISO) standard 14001:2004 (ISO 2004), *Environmental management systems—Requirements with guidance for use*. UCOR is committed to incorporating sound environmental management, protection, and sustainability practices in all work processes and activities that are part of the DOE EM program in Oak Ridge, Tennessee. UCOR's environmental policy states in part, "Our commitment to protect and sustain human, natural, and cultural resources is inherent in our mission to complete environmental cleanup safely with reduced risks to the public, workers, and the environment." To achieve this, UCOR's environmental policy adheres to the following principles.

- **Management Commitment**—Integrate responsible environmental practices into project operations.
- **Environmental Compliance and Protection (EC&P)**—Comply with all environmental regulations and standards.
- **Sustainable Environmental Stewardship**—Minimize the effects of our operations on the environment through a combination of source reduction, recycling, and reuse; sound waste management practices; and pollution prevention.
- **Partnership/Stakeholder Involvement**—Maintain partnerships through effective two-way communications with our customer and other stakeholders.

3.2.1 Environmental Stewardship Scorecard

The Environmental Stewardship Scorecard is used to track and measure site-level EMS performance. During 2014, UCOR received "green scores" for EMS performance. As an example, Fig. 3.4 presents information on UCOR's 2014 pollution prevention recycling activities related to solid waste reduction at ETTP. UCOR recycles office and mixed paper, cardboard, phone books, newspapers, magazines, aluminum cans, antifreeze, engine oils, batteries (lead acid, universal waste, and alkaline), universal waste bulbs, plastic bottles, all types of #1 and #2 plastics, and surplus electronic assets such as computers (CPUs and laptops) and monitors (CRTs and LCDs). Other recycling opportunities include unique structural steel, stainless steel structural members, transformers, and electrical breakers.

UCOR's electronic stewardship is award winning. In 2014 UCOR received a DOE sustainability award in the category of Exceptional Service/Sustainability Champion for implementation of managed print services.

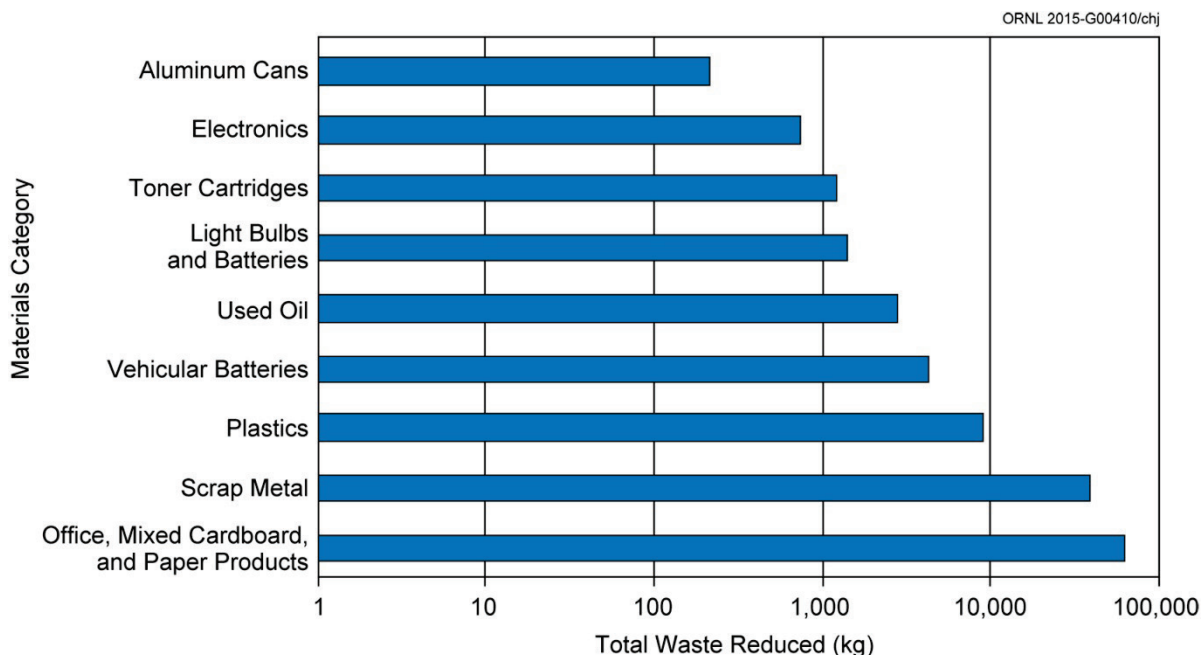


Fig. 3.4. Pollution prevention recycling activities related to solid waste reduction at East Tennessee Technology Park in CY 2014.

Additionally, UCOR internally recognized six projects for their pollution prevention/waste minimization accomplishments during the year. This included reuse of on-site construction debris, which avoided acquisition of more than 2,000 tons of virgin construction material, and reuse of more than 50,000 lb of metal and equipment at a total cost savings from all nominated projects of more than \$2 million. In the area of alternative energy, Restoration Services, Inc. (RSI), in concert with UCOR, continued operation of ETTP's first solar farm on the east end of the plant property. Brightfield 1 (Fig. 3.5), as it is known, is a 200 kW solar array located at ETTP and built by RSI as part of the UCOR commitment to the revitalization of the former K-25 Site. The 0.405 ha (1-acre) tract was purchased from CROET.



Fig. 3.5. Brightfield 1 Solar Farm.

RSI self-financed the project, used solar panels manufactured in Tennessee, and partnered with other local small businesses for the installation. Power generated from Brightfield 1 is being sold to TVA through the City of Oak Ridge Electric Department using a TVA Generation Partners contract. The completed project was commissioned in April of 2012 and is part of RSI's brownfield to brightfield initiative that works to develop restricted use properties into solar farms. Brightfield 1 energy production in its first year was 110% more than projected, with no downtime due to maintenance issues. In CY 2014 Brightfield 1 produced 272,500 kWh of energy. UCOR also continued to use green products whenever possible and evaluated large quantity purchases for less toxic alternatives. In addition, UCOR maintained its extensive recycling program and benefitted the local community through donations of proceeds to local charities from its aluminum beverage can (ABC) recycling efforts.

3.2.2 Environmental Compliance

UCOR maintains various layers of oversight to ensure compliance with legal and other requirements. The methods of evaluation include independent assessments by outside parties, management assessments conducted by functional or project organizations, and routine field walkdowns conducted by a variety of functional and project personnel. Management and independent assessments are performed in accordance with *Management Assessment*, PROC-PQ-1420, and *Independent Assessment*, PROC-PQ-1401. Assessments are scheduled on the UCOR Assessments SharePoint Site in accordance with PROC-PQ-1420. Records are maintained for all formal assessments and audits. Issues identified in assessments are handled as required by ISO 14001, Section 4.5.3, "Nonconformity, Corrective Action, and Preventive Action" (ISO 2004).

3.2.3 Environmental Aspects/Impacts

Using a graded approach appropriate for EMS includes an environmental policy that provides a unified strategy for the management, conservation, and protection of natural resources; the control and attenuation of risks; and the establishment and attainment of all environment, safety, and health (ES&H) goals. UCOR works continuously to improve EMS to reduce impacts from activities and associated effects on the environment (i.e., environmental aspects) and to communicate and reinforce this policy to its internal and external stakeholders.

3.2.4 Environmental Performance Objectives and Targets

UCOR conserves and protects environmental resources by incorporating environmental protection and the elements of an enabling EMS into the daily conduct of business; fostering a spirit of cooperation with federal, state, and local regulatory agencies; and using appropriate waste management, treatment, storage, and disposal methods. The environmental performance objectives are to achieve zero unpermitted discharges to the environment; comply with all conditions of environmental permits, laws, regulations, and DOE orders; integrate EMS and environmental considerations as part of ISMS; and, to the extent practicable, reduce waste generation, prevent pollution, maximize recycle and reuse potential, and encourage environmentally preferable procurement of materials with recycled and biobased content.

UCOR has established a set of core EMS objectives that remain relatively unchanged from year to year. These objectives are generally applicable to all operations and activities throughout UCOR's work scope. The core environmental objectives are based on complying with applicable legal requirements and sustainable environmental practices contained in DOE O 436.1, *Departmental Sustainability* (DOE 2011), and include the following:

- comply with all environmental regulations, permits, and regulatory agreements;
- reduce or eliminate the acquisition, use, storage, generation, and/or release of toxic, hazardous, and radioactive materials; waste; and greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions through acquisition of environmentally preferable products, conduct of operations, waste shipment, and pollution prevention and waste minimization practices; and
- reduce degradation and depletion of environmental resources through postconsumer material recycling; energy, fuel, and water conservation efforts; and use or promotion of renewable energy.

3.2.5 Implementation and Operations

UCOR protects the safety and health of workers and the public by identifying, analyzing, and mitigating aspects, hazards, and impacts from ETTP operations and by implementing sound work practices. All UCOR employees and subcontractors are held responsible for complying with all ES&H requirements during all work activities and are expected to correct noncompliant conditions immediately. UCOR internal management assessments also provide a measure of how well EMS attributes are integrated into work activities through ISMS. UCOR has embodied its program for EC&P of natural resources in a companywide environmental management and protection policy. The policy is UCOR's fundamental commitment to incorporating sound environmental management practices into all work processes and activities.

3.2.6 Pollution Prevention/Waste Minimization

UCOR's work control process requires that all waste-generating activities be evaluated for source reduction and that product substitution be used to produce a less toxic waste when possible. The reuse or recycling of building debris or other wastes generated is evaluated in all cases.

ETTP continues to operate its nationally recognized RFITS, an electronic waste management tracking system that uses paperless and otherwise enhanced transportation logistics to track and monitor on-site waste shipments to EMWMF. An electronic tracking station is shown in Fig. 3.6. The system eliminated errors associated with manual data entry, improved cycle times by 25 min per truck shipment (i.e., saving large quantities of fuel and paper that significantly reduces GHG emissions), improved performance of vehicle searches at truck stations when exiting controlled areas, and centralized logistics for all shipments to EMWMF. The overall project cost savings of \$15.6 million from using RFITS is shown in Table 3.1.



Fig. 3.6. Truck carrying a waste shipment passing through an electronic tracking station, part of the Radio Frequency Identification Transportation System, en route to the Environmental Management Waste Management Facility.

Table 3.1. Radio Frequency Identification Transportation System sustainable results

Sustainable factor	Results
Diesel fuel use avoidance	289,050 (0.33 gal/shipment)
CO ₂ emissions avoidance	870 tons (2.01 lb/shipment)
NO _x emissions avoidance	31.8 tons (0.073 lb/shipment)
Paper and trees saved	867,150 sheets of paper; 100 trees

3.2.7 Competence, Training, and Awareness

The UCOR training and qualification process ensures that needed skills for the workforce are identified and developed. The process also documents knowledge, experience, abilities, and competencies of the workforce for key positions requiring qualification. This process is described in PROC-TC-0702, Training Program. Completion and documentation of training, including required reading, are managed by the Local Education Administration Requirements Network.

3.2.8 Communication

UCOR communicates externally regarding environmental aspects through the UCOR public website, which includes a link to its environmental policy statement, POL-UCOR-007; a list of environmental aspects; and a link to the ISMS Description, PPD-EH-1400. A number of other documents and reports that address environmental aspects and cleanup progress are also published and made available to the public [e.g., ASER and the annual cleanup progress report (UCOR 2014)]. UCOR participates in a number of public meetings related to environmental activities at the site (e.g., ORSSAB meetings, permit review public meetings, and CERCLA decision document public meetings). Written communications from external parties are tracked using the weekly Open Action Report.

3.2.9 Benefits and Successes of Environmental Management System Implementation

UCOR uses EMS objectives and targets, an internal pollution prevention recognition program, environmentally preferable purchasing, work control processes, and a recycle program to meet sustainability and stewardship goals and requirements. The approach is outlined in UCOR's *Pollution Prevention and Waste Minimization Program Plan for the East Tennessee Technology Park, Oak Ridge, Tennessee* (UCOR 2013). In 2012 the UCOR EMS program underwent the independent program verification required triennially by EO 13423 (CEQ 2007), which resulted in zero findings and five opportunities for improvement (mostly related to documentation). Further, the report noted several practices worthy of benchmarking. In 2014 UCOR conducted an internal management review of the EMS program that resulted in one finding and three opportunities for improvement, all of which were closed. In addition, two proficiencies were identified.

3.2.10 Management Review

Senior management review of EMS is performed at several layers and frequencies. A formal review/presentation with UCOR senior management that addresses the requirement elements contained in this section is conducted at least once per year. At least two of the senior managers are present for management reviews. The ISMS description is updated annually to address improvements and lessons

learned and to update objectives and targets as necessary and signed by the UCOR president. The environmental policy is also reviewed during the management review annually and revised as necessary.

3.3 Compliance Programs and Status

During 2014, ETPP operations were conducted in compliance with contractual and regulatory environmental requirements, and there were no NPDES permit or Clean Air Act (CAA) noncompliances. Figure 3.7 shows the trend of NPDES compliance at ETPP since 1999. No environmental notices of violation (NOVs) or penalties were issued to ETPP operations in 2014. The following sections provide more detail on each compliance program and the related activities in 2014.

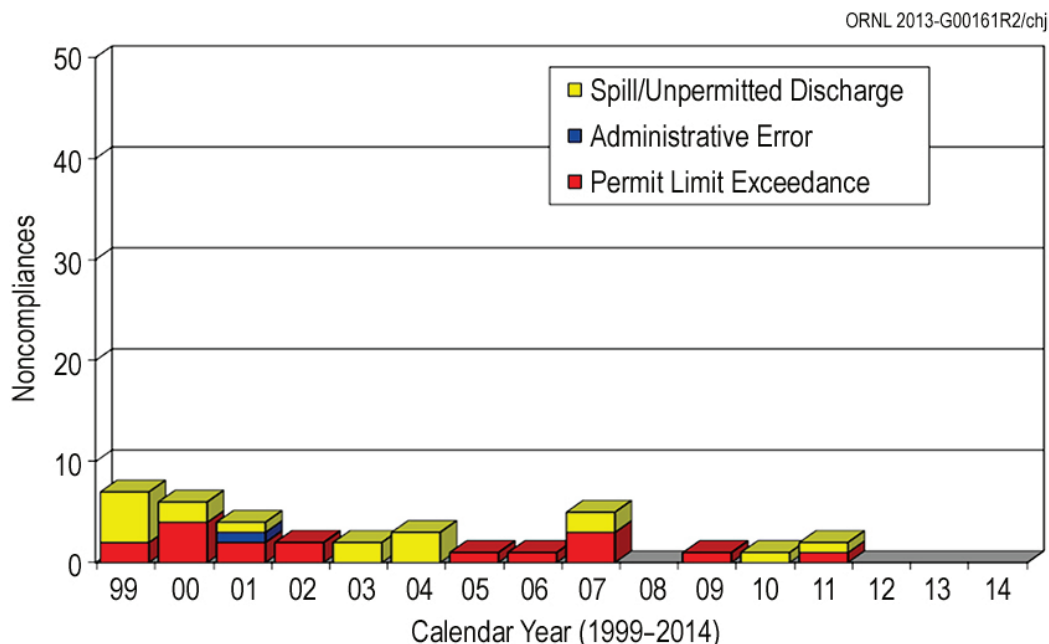


Fig. 3.7. East Tennessee Technology Park National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit compliance since 1999.

3.3.1 Environmental Permits

Table 3.2 contains a list of environmental permits that were in effect at ETPP in 2014.

3.3.2 Notices of Violation and Penalties

ETPP did not receive any environmental NOVs or penalties from regulators in 2014.

3.3.3 Audits and Oversight

Table 3.3 presents a summary of environmental audits and oversight visits conducted at ETPP in 2014.

Table 3.2. East Tennessee Technology Park Environmental Permits, 2014

Regulatory driver	Permit title/description	Permit number	Issue date	Expiration date	Owner	Operator	Responsible contractor
CAA	State permit to construct or modify an air contaminant source—internal combustion engine-powered emergency generators and fire water pump	967220P	08-22-2013 Amended 07-26-2014	08-23-2015	DOE	UCOR	UCOR
CWA	NPDES permit for storm water discharges	TN0002950	02-26-10	12-31-13 ^a	DOE	UCOR	UCOR
CWA	State operating permit—waste transportation project; Blair Road and Portal 6 sewage pump and haul permit	SOP-05068	07-01-14	02-28-19	DOE	TFE	TFE
CWA	State operating permit—ETTP holding tank/haul system for domestic wastewater	SOP-99033	04-30-10	04-30-15	UCOR	UCOR	UCOR
UST	Authorized/certified USTs at K-1414 Garage	Customer ID 30166 Facility ID 073008	03-20-89	Ongoing	DOE	UCOR	UCOR
RCRA	ETTP container storage and treatment units	TNHW-117 ^b	09-30-04	09-30-14	DOE	UCOR	UCOR
RCRA	Hazardous waste corrective action document (encompasses entire ORR)	TNHW-121 ^b	09-28-04	09-28-14	DOE	DOE/All ^c	DOE/All ^c

^aAn NPDES permit renewal application has been submitted in a timely manner. In cases where permit renewal applications have been submitted to regulatory agencies in a timely manner, but a new permit has not been issued, permission is granted by regulators to continue operating under the terms of the existing but expired permit. The new NPDES permit was issued in 2015.

^bOperating under timely submittal of renewal permit.

^cDOE and all ORR co-operators of hazardous waste permits.

Acronyms

CAA = Clean Air Act
 CWA = Clean Water Act
 DOE = US Department of Energy
 ETTP = East Tennessee Technology Park
 ID = identification (number)
 NPDES = National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System
 ORR = Oak Ridge Reservation

RCRA = Resource Conservation and Recovery Act
 SOP = state operating permit
 TFE = Technical and Field Engineering, Inc.
 UCOR = URS | CH2M Oak Ridge LLC
 UST = underground storage tank

Table 3.3. Regulatory oversight, assessments, inspections, and site visits at East Tennessee Technology Park, 2014

Date	Reviewer	Subject	Issues
January 23	TDEC	K-1423-A, B, and E Dikes Closure Inspection	0
February 24	TDEC	Annual RCRA Compliance Inspection	0
April 21	TDEC	Container Processing Facility Closure Inspection	0
May 14	EPA	Rad-NESHAPs Site Visit (⁹⁹ Tc)	0
September 24	TDEC	Inspection of ETTP USTs	0

Acronyms

EPA = Environmental Protection Agency

ETTP = East Tennessee Technology Park

Rad-NESHAPs = National Emissions Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants for Radionuclides

RCRA = Resource Conservation and Recovery Act

TDEC = Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation

UST = underground storage tank

3.3.4 National Environmental Policy Act/National Historic Preservation Act

The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) provides a means to evaluate the potential environmental impact of proposed federal activities and to examine alternatives to those actions. ETTP maintains compliance with NEPA through the use of site-level procedures and program descriptions that establish effective and responsive communications with program managers and project engineers to ensure NEPA is a key consideration in the formative stages of project planning. Many of the current operations at ETTP are conducted under CERCLA. NEPA reviews are part of the CERCLA planning process to ensure that NEPA values are incorporated into CERCLA projects and documentation.

During 2014, ETTP continued to operate under site-level, site-specific procedures that provide requirements for project reviews and NEPA compliance. These procedures call for a review of each proposed project, activity, or facility to determine the potential for impacts to the environment. To streamline the NEPA review and documentation process, DOE ORO has approved generic categorical exclusion (CX) determinations that cover certain proposed activities (i.e., maintenance activities, facilities upgrades, personnel safety enhancements). A CX is one of a category of actions defined in 40 CFR 1508.4 that does not individually or cumulatively have a significant effect on the human environment and for which neither an environmental assessment nor an environmental impact statement is normally required. UCOR activities on ORR are in full compliance with NEPA requirements, and procedures for implementing NEPA requirements have been fully developed and implemented. At ETTP, a checklist incorporating NEPA and EMS requirements has been developed as an aid for project planners. For routine, recurring activities, DOE generic CX determinations are used. During 2014, no new CX determinations for activities at ETTP were issued by DOE.

Compliance with the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) at ETTP is achieved and maintained in conjunction with NEPA compliance. The scope of proposed actions is reviewed in accordance with the ORR cultural resource management plan (Souza et al. 2001). At ETTP there were 135 facilities eligible for inclusion on the NRHP, as well as numerous facilities that were not eligible for inclusion on the NRHP. To date, more than 220 facilities have been demolished. Artifacts of historical and/or cultural significance are identified before demolition and are cataloged in a database to aid in historic interpretation of ETTP.

Consultation for the development of an MOA for D&D of the K-25 and K-27 buildings started in 2001; the document, approved in 2003, required a third-party analysis of the preservation and interpretive strategies for those two buildings. In 2005 DOE, the Tennessee SHPO, and ACHP entered into an MOA that included the retention of the north end tower (also known as north wing, north end, north tower) of the K-25 building and Portal 4 (K-1028-45), among other features, as the “best and most cost-effective mitigation to permanently commemorate, interpret, and preserve the significance” of ETTP. Another series of consultation meetings ensued in 2009, and DOE advised that prohibitive costs and safety considerations precluded fulfillment of three stipulations in the 2005 MOA, including the preservation of the north end tower. The parties offered a wide array of potential mitigation measures and, in the absence of consensus on how best to commemorate Building K-25, DOE, SHPO, and ACHP entered into a bridge MOA until the parties could reach a final agreement. After completing an evaluation of the structural integrity of the K-25 building and interpretative approaches for the site, DOE distributed a preferred mitigation plan to the consulting parties in October 2011. The DOE final mitigation plan, addressing comments submitted by consulting parties in November 2011, permitted demolition of the entire K-25 building and called for, among other mitigation measures, the designation of a commemorative area around the building’s perimeter from which future surface development would largely be restricted; the retention, if possible, of the entire concrete slab or the demarcation of the building’s footprint; the construction of a viewing tower and of a structure for equipment display; and the development of a history center within the ETTP Fire Station. A final MOA was signed in August 2012 finalizing the aspects set forth in the mitigation plan. During 2013, a request for proposal was issued for a “Professional Design Team and Museum Professional” as specified in the MOA. Nine firms were prequalified, and the selection and award were executed April 1, 2014. The procurement process for the K-25 “virtual museum” web design firm was also begun in 2013 and awarded September 2, 2014.

On December 14, 2014, Congress authorized the establishment of the Manhattan Project Historical Park to commemorate the history of the Manhattan Project. It will comprise the three major sites; Los Alamos, New Mexico; Oak Ridge, Tennessee; and Hanford, Washington, that were dedicated to accomplishing the Manhattan Project mission.

3.3.5 Clean Air Act Compliance Status

CAA, passed in 1970 and amended in 1977 and 1990, forms the basis for the national air pollution control effort. This legislation establishes comprehensive federal and state regulations to limit air emissions and includes five major regulatory programs: the National Ambient Air Quality Standards, State Implementation Plans, New Source Performance Standards (NSPSs), Prevention of Significant Deterioration permitting programs, and National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants (NESHAPs). Airborne discharges from DOE Oak Ridge facilities, both radioactive and nonradioactive, are subject to regulation by EPA and the TDEC Division of Air Pollution Control.

Full compliance with CAA regulations and permit conditions was demonstrated for 2014. The ETTP ambient air monitoring program, permitted source operations tracking, and record keeping provided documentation fully supporting a 100% compliance rate.

3.3.6 Clean Water Act Compliance Status

The objective of CWA is to restore, maintain, and protect the integrity of the nation’s waters. This act serves as the basis for comprehensive federal and state programs to protect the waters from pollutants (see Appendix C for water reference standards). One of the strategies developed to achieve the goals of CWA was EPA establishment of limits on specific pollutants allowed to be discharged to US waters by municipal sewage treatment plants (STPs) and industrial facilities. EPA established the NPDES permitting program to regulate compliance with pollutant limitations. The program was designed to

protect surface waters by limiting effluent discharges into streams, reservoirs, wetlands, and other surface waters. EPA has delegated authority for implementation and enforcement of the NPDES program to the State of Tennessee. In 2014, ETTP discharged to the waters of the state of Tennessee under individual NPDES permit TN0002950, which regulates storm water discharges.

In 2014, compliance with ETTP NPDES storm water permit TN0002950 was determined by more than 200 laboratory analyses, field measurements, and flow estimates. The NPDES permit compliance rate for all discharge points for 2014 was 100%.

3.3.7 National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permit Noncompliances

During 2014 ETTP and UCOR operations were conducted in compliance with contractual and regulatory environmental requirements. There were no NPDES permit noncompliances in 2014.

3.3.8 Safe Drinking Water Act Compliance Status

The ETTP water distribution system is designated as a nontransient, noncommunity water system by TDEC's Division of Water Supply. Chapter 0400-45-01 of the Tennessee regulations for public water systems (TDEC 2012) sets limits for biological contaminants and for chemical activities and chemical contaminants. TDEC requires sampling for the following constituents for compliance with state and federal regulations:

- chlorine residual levels,
- bacteriological (total coliform),
- lead and copper, and
- disinfectant by-products (trihalomethanes and haloacetic acids).

On October 1, 2014, the City of Oak Ridge took over operational responsibilities for all the water distribution activities at the ETTP site, and an on-site ETTP intermediate distribution system is no longer needed.

The City of Oak Ridge supplies potable water to the ETTP water distribution system. The water treatment plant, located on ORR southwest of ETTP and owned and operated by the City of Oak Ridge, supplied water to the ETTP site until October 1, 2014. On October 1, 2014, the water treatment plant on the DOE ORR was shut down, and all water at the ETTP site is now supplied by the City of Oak Ridge drinking water plant in Oak Ridge, Tennessee. The City of Oak Ridge water plant is located north of the DOE Y-12 Complex.

3.3.9 Resource Conservation and Recovery Act Compliance Status

ETTP is regulated as a large-quantity generator of hazardous waste because the facility generates more than 1,000 kg of hazardous waste per month. This amount includes hazardous waste generated under permitted activities (including repackaging or treatment residuals). At the end of 2014, ETTP had three generator accumulation areas for hazardous or mixed waste.

In addition, ETTP is permitted to store and treat hazardous and mixed waste under Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) Part B Permit TNHW-117. Hazardous waste may be treated and stored at permitted locations in Building K-1423 and at the K-1065 complex. This hazardous waste permit was scheduled to expire in September 2014. Because a permit renewal application was submitted to TDEC in a timely and sufficient manner in February 2014, the existing permit will not expire until a final determination on issuance is made by the commissioner. On January 29, 2014, a public meeting was held

at the DOE Information Center in Oak Ridge to solicit any comments the public might have on the Part B permit renewal application for hazardous waste permit TNHW-117 for ETTP and the TNHW-121, hazardous waste corrective action document renewal. A presentation was given that explained the permitting process and the ETTP permitted units; information was also provided on the hazardous waste corrective action document, which covers the ORR CERCLA areas of concern and solid waste management units. In addition, a community impact statement was distributed to provide greater detail on how hazardous waste will be characterized, stored, and treated.

There were no RCRA generator or permit noncompliances in 2014.

3.3.10 Resource Conservation and Recovery Act Underground Storage Tanks

Underground storage tanks (USTs) containing petroleum and hazardous substances are regulated under RCRA Subtitle I (40 CFR 280). EPA granted TDEC authority to regulate USTs containing petroleum under TDEC Rule 0400-18-01 *Underground Storage Tank Programs*; however, EPA still regulates hazardous-substance USTs.

3.3.11 Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act Compliance Status

CERCLA, also known as “Superfund,” was passed in 1980 and was amended in 1986 by the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act (SARA). Under CERCLA, a site is investigated and remediated if it poses significant risk to health or the environment. The EPA National Priorities List (NPL) is a comprehensive list of sites and facilities that have been found to pose a sufficient threat to human health and/or the environment to warrant cleanup under CERCLA. ORR is on the NPL.

3.3.12 East Tennessee Technology Park RCRA-CERCLA Coordination

The Federal Facility Agreement for the Oak Ridge Reservation (FFA; DOE 2014b) is intended to coordinate the corrective action processes of RCRA required under the Hazardous and Solid Waste Amendments permit with CERCLA response actions.

3.3.13 Toxic Substances Control Act Compliance Status—Polychlorinated Biphenyls

On April 3, 1990, DOE notified EPA headquarters (as required by 40 CFR 761.205) that ETTP is a generator with on-site storage, a transporter, and an approved disposer of PCB wastes.

PCB waste generation, transportation, disposal, and storage at ETTP are regulated under EPA ID number TN0890090004. In 2014, ETTP operated 9 PCB waste storage areas in ETTP generator buildings, and when longer term storage of PCB/radioactive wastes was necessary, RCRA-permitted storage buildings were used. The continued use of authorized PCBs in electrical systems and/or equipment (e.g., transformers, capacitors, rectifiers) is regulated at ETTP. At this time, no PCB-contaminated electrical equipment is in service at ETTP. Most Toxic Substances Control Act– (TSCA)-regulated equipment at ETTP has been disposed of. However, some ETTP facilities continue to use or store nonelectrical PCB-contaminated equipment for future reuse.

Because of the age of many ETTP facilities and the varied uses for PCBs in gaskets, grease, building materials, and equipment, DOE self-disclosed unauthorized use of PCBs to EPA in the late 1980s. As a result, DOE ORO and EPA Region 4 consummated a major compliance agreement known as the “Oak Ridge Reservation Polychlorinated Biphenyl Federal Facilities Compliance Agreement” (DOE 2012a)

(ORR-PCB-FFCA), which became effective December 16, 1996, and was last revised on May 23, 2012. The modification in 2012 incorporated institutional controls at the Toxic Substances Control Act Incinerator where limited areas of contamination remain in place at the facility after the facility closure actions were completed. The institutional controls will remain in place until future PCB cleanup actions, which will be addressed during CERCLA demolition actions.

The ORR-PCB-FFCA specifically addresses the unauthorized use of PCBs in ventilation ducts and gaskets, lubricants, hydraulic systems, heat transfer systems, and other unauthorized uses; storage for disposal; disposal; cleanup and/or decontamination of PCBs and PCB items including PCBs mixed with radioactive materials; and ORR records and reporting requirements. A major focus of the agreement is the disposal of PCB waste. As a result of that agreement, DOE and UCOR continue to notify EPA when additional unauthorized uses of PCBs, such as PCBs in paint, adhesives, electrical wiring, or floor tile, are identified at ETTP. This notification process is routinely incorporated into the CERCLA documentation for demolition and remedial actions (RAs).

3.3.14 Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act Compliance Status

The Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act (EPCRA) and Title III of SARA require that facilities report inventories and releases of hazardous and toxic chemicals that exceed threshold planning quantities. The reports are submitted to the local emergency planning committee and the state emergency response commission and the local fire department. ETTP complied with these requirements in 2014 through the submittal of reports under EPCRA Sections 302, 303, 311, and 312. ETTP had no releases of extremely hazardous substances, as defined by EPCRA, in 2014.

3.3.14.1 Chemical Inventories (EPCRA Section 312)

Inventories, locations, and associated hazards of hazardous and extremely hazardous chemicals were submitted in an annual report to state and local emergency responders as required by EPCRA Section 312. Of the ORR chemicals identified for 2014, 11 were located at ETTP. These chemicals were nickel metal, lead metal (includes large lead acid batteries), sodium metal, diesel fuel, sulfuric acid (includes large lead acid batteries), Chemical Specialties Ultrapoies, creosote-treated wood, unleaded gasoline, Sakrete Type S or N mortar mix, CCA Type C pressure-treated wood, and New Pig Lite-Dri loose absorbent.

3.3.14.2 Toxic Chemical Release Reporting (EPCRA Section 313)

Section 313 requires facilities to complete and submit a toxic chemical release inventory (TRI) form (Form R) annually. Form R must be submitted for each TRI chemical that is manufactured, processed, or otherwise used in quantities above the applicable threshold quantity. A Form R for each chemical must be submitted by July 1 of each year. DOE electronically submits annual TRI reports to EPA on or before July 1 of each year. The reports address releases of certain toxic chemicals to air, water, and land and waste management, recycling, and pollution prevention activities. Threshold determinations and reports for each of the ORR facilities are made separately. Operations involving TRI chemicals were compared with regulatory thresholds to determine which chemicals exceeded the reporting thresholds based on amounts manufactured, processed, or otherwise used at each facility. After threshold determinations were made, releases and off-site transfers were calculated for each chemical that exceeded the threshold quantity. In 2014, the only chemicals that met the reporting requirements were diisocyanates associated with foaming activity to stabilize deposits in pipes undergoing remediation actions.

3.4 Quality Assurance Program

3.4.1 Integrated Assessment and Oversight Program

Quality assurance (QA) program implementation and procedural and subcontract compliance are verified through the UCOR Integrated Assessment and Oversight Program. The program identifies the processes for planning, conducting, and coordinating assessment and oversight of UCOR activities, including both self-performed and subcontracted activities, resulting in an integrated assessment and oversight process. The program is composed of three key elements: (1) external assessments conducted by organizations external to UCOR, (2) independent assessments conducted by teams independently of the project/function being assessed, and (3) management assessments and surveillances conducted as self-assessments and surveillances by the organization or on behalf of the organization manager.

Self-assessments are performed by the organization/function with primary responsibility for the work, process, or system being assessed. Organizations and functions within the company plan and schedule self-assessments. Self-assessments encompass both formal and informal assessments. The formal self-assessments include management assessments and surveillances and subcontractor oversight. Informal self-assessments include weekly inspections and routine walkthroughs conducted by subcontractor coordinators, ES&H and QA representatives, quality engineers, and line managers.

Conditions adverse to quality identified from internal and external assessments are documented, causal analyses are performed, and corrective actions are developed and tracked to closure. Analyses are conducted periodically to identify trends for management action. Senior management evaluates data from those processes to identify opportunities for improvement.

3.5 Air Quality Program

The State of Tennessee has been relegated authority by EPA to convey the clean air requirements that are applicable to ETTP operations. New projects are governed by construction and operating permit regulatory requirements. The owner or operator of air pollutant emitting sources is responsible for ensuring full compliance with any issued permit or other generally applicable CAA requirement. During 2014, ETTP DOE EM operations were under UCOR responsibility for regulatory compliance

3.5.1 Construction and Operating Permits

During 2014, UCOR ETTP operations became subject to amended CAA regulations and permitting under TDEC Air Pollution Control rules. The regulations were specific to stationary fossil-fueled reciprocating internal combustion engines (RICES) for emergency use. UCOR has responsibility for five RICE units subject to permitting and therefore prepared and submitted permit applications. TDEC issued a Permit to Construct or Modify (967220P) with an effective date of August 22, 2013. The permit covers compliance demonstration requirements for four emergency generators and one fire water pump system. Compliance for all units is demonstrated by following specified maintenance schedules, limiting hours of operations for nonemergencies to 100 h per year, and record keeping. Regulations exempt any operating hours of these units during nonscheduled (emergency) power outages. All other ETTP operations that do emit low levels of air pollutants have been classified as insignificant under TDEC rules. Any planned stationary sources that may emit air pollutants are evaluated and compared against applicable pollutant emission limits to document this classification and pursue permitting if required under TDEC regulations.

3.5.1.1 Generally Applicable Permit Requirements

ETTP is subject to a number of generally applicable requirements that involve management and control. Asbestos, ozone-depleting substances (ODSs), and fugitive particulate emissions are specific examples.

3.5.1.1.1 Control of Asbestos

ETTP's asbestos management program ensures all activities involving demolitions and all other actions impacting asbestos-containing materials (ACMs) are fully compliant with 40 CFR 61, Subpart M. This includes using approved engineering controls and work practices, inspections, and monitoring for proper removal and waste disposal of ACMs. ETTP has numerous buildings and equipment that contain ACMs. Major demolition activities during 2014 involved the abatement of significant quantities of ACMs that were subject to the requirements of 40 CFR 61, Subpart M. Most demolition and ACM abatement activities are governed under CERCLA. Under this act, notifications of asbestos demolition or renovations as specified in 40 CFR 61.145(b) are incorporated into CERCLA document regulatory notifications. All other non-CERCLA planned demolition or renovation activities were individually reviewed for applicability of the TDEC notification requirements of the rule. During 2014, no individual non-CERCLA ETTP activity required a notification submittal. The rule also requires an annual notification for all nonscheduled minor asbestos renovations if the accumulated total amount of regulated or potentially regulated asbestos exceeds stipulated thresholds. For 2014 the total ETTP projected nonscheduled amounts were below thresholds that would require the submittal of an annual notification to TDEC. No releases of reportable quantities of ACMs occurred at ETTP during 2014.

3.5.1.1.2 Stratospheric Ozone Protection

The management of ODSs at ETTP is subject to regulations in 40 CFR Part 82, Subpart F, Recycling and Emissions Reduction; these regulations require preparation of documentation to establish that actions necessary to reduce emissions of Class I and Class II refrigerants to the lowest achievable level have been observed during maintenance activities at ETTP. The applicable actions include, but may not be limited to, the service, maintenance, repair, and disposal of appliances containing Class I and Class II refrigerants, including motor vehicle air-conditioners. In addition, the regulations apply to refrigerant reclamation activities, appliance owners, manufacturers of appliances, and recycling and recovery equipment. Figure 3.8 illustrates the historical on-site ODSs inventory at ETTP.

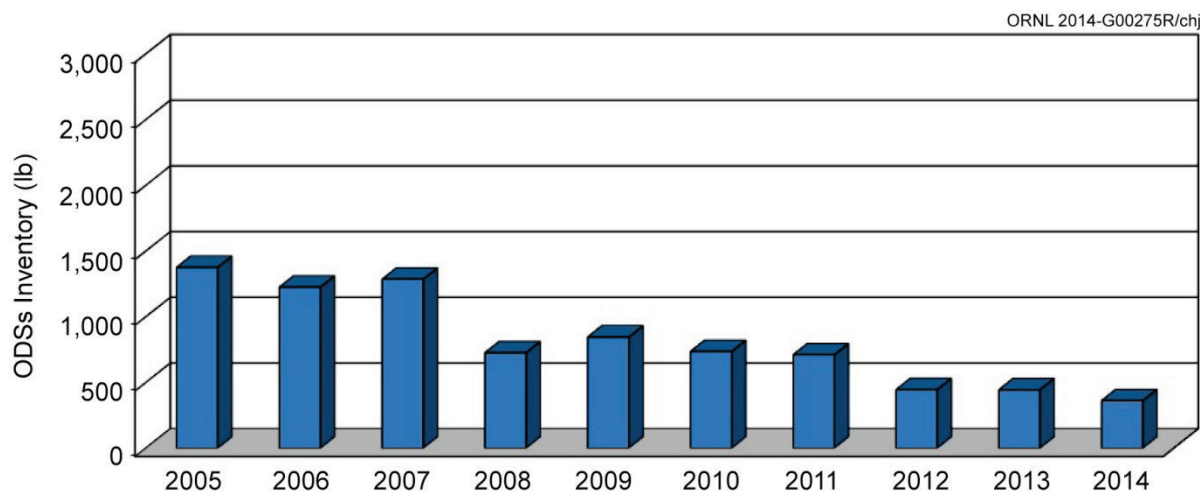


Fig. 3.8. East Tennessee Technology Park total on-site ozone-depleting substances (ODSs) inventory, 10-year history.

3.5.1.2 Fugitive Particulate Emissions

ETTP has been the location of major building demolition activities and waste debris transportation with the potential for the release of fugitive dust. All planned and ongoing activities include the use of dust control measures to minimize the release of visible fugitive dust beyond the project perimeter. This includes the use of specialized demolition equipment and water misters. Gravel roads in and around ETTP that are under DOE control are wetted as needed to minimize airborne dusts caused by vehicle traffic.

3.5.1.3 Radionuclide National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants

Radionuclide airborne emissions from ETTP are regulated under 40 CFR 61, National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants (Rad-NESHAPs). Characterization of the impact on public health of radionuclides released to the atmosphere from ETTP operations was accomplished by conservatively estimating the dose to the maximally exposed member of the public. The dose calculations were performed using the Clean Air Assessment Package (CAP-88) computer codes, which were developed under EPA sponsorship for use in demonstrating compliance with the 10 mrem/year effective dose (ED) Rad-NESHAPs emission standard for the entire DOE ORR. Source emissions used to calculate the dose are determined using EPA-approved methods that can range from continuous sampling systems to conservative estimations based on process and waste characteristics. Continuous sampling systems are required for radionuclide-emitting sources that have a potential dose impact of not less than 0.1 mrem per year to any member of the public. ETTP Rad-NESHAPs sources—the K-1407 Chromium Water Treatment System (CWTS) Volatile Organic Compound (VOC) Air Stripper and K-2500-H Segmentation Shops A, B, C, and D—are considered minor based on emissions evaluations using EPA-approved calculation methods. A minor Rad-NESHAPs source is defined as having a potential dose impact on the public not in excess of 0.1 mrem/year. Figure 3.9 provides a historical dose trend for the most impacted on-site member of the public. The results are based on actual ambient air sampling in a location conservatively representative of the on-site location.

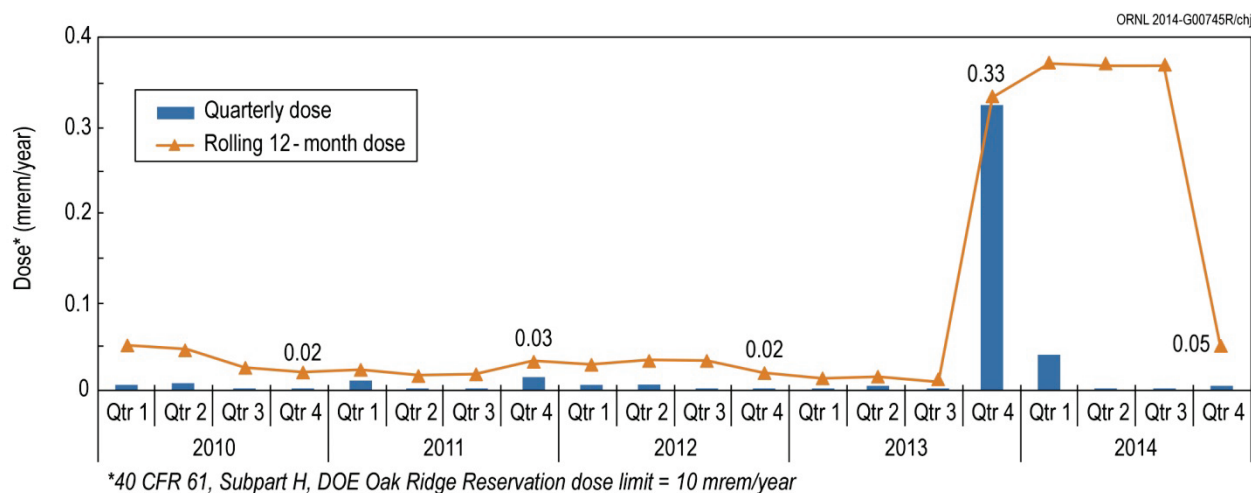


Fig. 3.9. East Tennessee Technology Park ambient air station K11 radionuclide monitoring results: 5-year rolling 12-month dose history up through 2014.

3.5.1.4 Quality Assurance

QA activities for the Rad-NESHAPs program are documented in the *Quality Assurance Program Plan for Compliance with Radionuclide National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants* (UCOR 2012). The plan satisfies the QA requirements in 40 CFR 61, Method 114, for ensuring that the radionuclide air emission measurements from ETTP are representative of known levels of precision and accuracy and that

administrative controls are in place to ensure prompt response when emission measurements indicate an increase over normal radionuclide emissions. The requirements are also referenced in TDEC regulation 1200-3-11-08. The plan ensures the quality of ETTP radionuclide emission measurement data from continuous samplers and minor radionuclide release points. Only EPA preapproved methods are referenced through the *Rad-NESHAP Compliance Plan on the Oak Ridge Reservation* (DOE 2005).

3.5.1.5 Greenhouse Gas Emissions

The EPA rule for mandatory reporting of GHGs (also referred to as the “Greenhouse Gas Reporting Program”) was enacted October 30, 2009, under 40 CFR Part 98. According to the rule in general, the stationary source emissions threshold for reporting is 25,000 metric tons or more of GHGs per year, reported as metric tons of CO₂ equivalent (CO₂e) per year. The rule defines GHGs as

- carbon dioxide (CO₂),
- methane (CH₄),
- nitrous oxide (N₂O),
- hydrofluorocarbons,
- perfluorocarbons, and
- sulfur hexafluoride (SF₆).

A 2014 review was performed of ETTP processes and equipment categorically identified under 40 CFR 98.2 whose emissions must be included as part of a facility annual GHG report starting with the CY 2010 reporting period. Based on total GHG emissions from all ETTP stationary sources during 2014, ETTP did not exceed the annual threshold limit and therefore was not subject to mandatory annual reporting under the GHG rule during this performance period. The total GHG emissions for any continuous 12-month period beginning with CY 2008 have not exceeded 12,390 metric tons of GHGs. The most significant decrease in stationary source emissions was due to the permanent cessation of waste processing at the TSCA Incinerator in 2009 and ongoing facility demolitions. The remaining sources are predominantly small comfort heating systems, hot water systems, and power generators. Figure 3.10 shows the historical trend of ETTP total GHG stationary emissions, including contributions from the TSCA Incinerator. For the 2014 calendar year period, GHG emissions totaled only 201 metric tons.

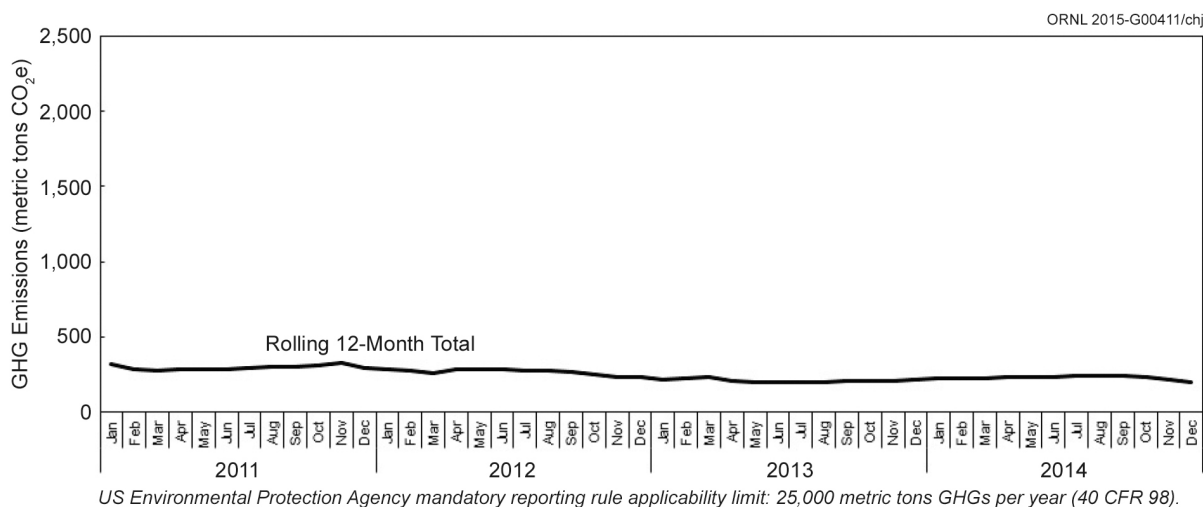
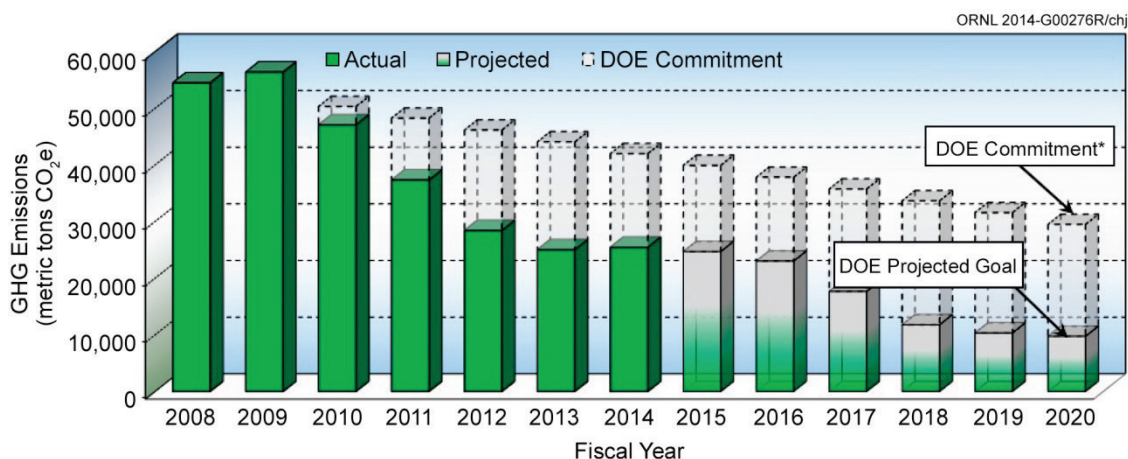


Fig. 3.10. East Tennessee Technology Park stationary source greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions tracking history [in carbon dioxide equivalent (CO₂e)].

EO 13514, *Federal Leadership in Environmental, Energy, and Economic Performance*, was signed by President Obama on October 5, 2009. The purpose of this order is to establish policies for federal facilities that will increase energy efficiency; measure, report, and reduce GHG emissions from direct and indirect activities; conserve and protect water resources through efficiency, reuse, and storm water management; eliminate waste; recycle; and prevent pollution at all such facilities. While the order deals with a number of environmental media, only its applicability to GHG is considered here. The EO defines three distinct scopes for purposes of reporting. Scope 1 is essentially direct GHG emissions from sources that are owned or controlled by a Federal agency; Scope 2 encompasses GHG emissions resulting from the generation of electricity, heat, or steam purchased by a Federal agency; and Scope 3 involves GHG emissions from sources not owned or directly controlled by a Federal agency but related to agency activities such as vendor supply chains, delivery services, and employee business travel and commuting.

The information reported here includes GHG emissions from the industrial landfills at Y-12 that are managed by UCOR. The landfills are not part of the contiguous ETTP site; however, DOE requested that UCOR include landfill GHG emissions with ETTP reporting in the Consolidated Energy Data Report. To be consistent with reporting this information, the landfill emissions are also included with ETTP ASER data. Figure 3.11 shows the trend toward meeting the 28% total Scope 1 and 2 GHG emissions reduction target by FY 2020 as stated in the DOE 2014 *Strategic Sustainability Performance Plan* (SSPP; DOE 2014a). Emissions for FY 2014 totaled 25,468 metric tons CO₂e, roughly 35% below the FY 2020 target level of 39,237 metric tons CO₂e and a 53% reduction to date compared to the 2008 baseline year level of 54,495 metric tons.



*DOE Strategic Sustainability Performance Plan commits to a 28% reduction of Scopes 1 and 2 GHG emissions by FY 2020.
 Note: Data include GHG emissions from the contiguous ETTP site and the Y-12 landfills to be consistent with the 2014 DOE consolidated Energy Data Report.

Fig. 3.11. East Tennessee Technology Park (ETTP) greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions trend and targeted reduction commitment [in metric tons carbon dioxide equivalent (CO₂e)].

Figure 3.12 shows the relative distribution and amounts of all ETTP FY 2014 GHG emissions for Scopes 1, 2, and 3. Total GHG emissions remain well below the levels first reported in the 2008 baseline year as demolition and remediation efforts continue at ETTP. Many of the early reductions were due to lower on-site combustion of fuels (stationary and mobile sources), lower consumption of electricity, and a smaller workforce. The total amount of GHG emissions for FY 2014 was 30,662 tons, a small upswing compared to the 29,944 tons for FY 2013. The upswing was due to small increases in all energy and motor vehicle fuel use categories coincident with major building demolition and debris removal activities.

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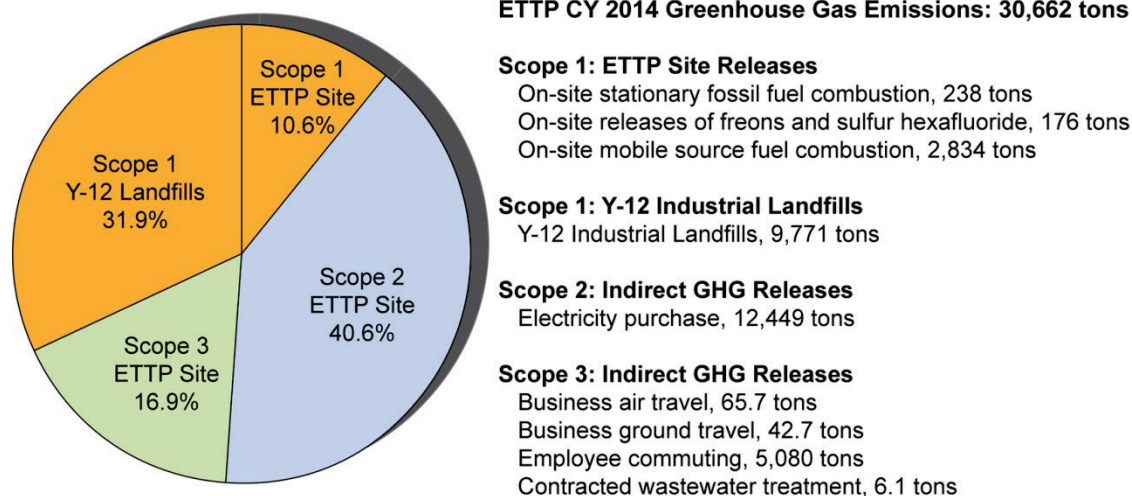


Fig. 3.12. CY 2014 East Tennessee Technology Park (ETTP) greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by scope, as defined in Executive Order 13514.

3.5.1.6 Source-Specific Criteria Pollutants

ETTP operations up until July 1, 2011, included only one functioning stationary source with permit restrictions for any form of criteria air pollutant emissions: the Central Neutralization Facility (CNF) VOC air stripper. This permit was surrendered following an updated potential to emit review that identified air pollutant emissions to be below any regulatory requirement for permitting. During December, 2011, the new CWTS began operations. This unit is equipped with an air stripper to remove VOCs from the effluent stream. All process data records and the calculated potential maximum VOC emission rates for the CWTS air stripper were below levels that would require permitting. The calculated maximum VOC annual emission for CWTS was only 0.0136 ton/year as compared to an emission limit of 5 ton/year. The annual potential emissions for this facility would be well below the 5 ton/year limit assuming it operated at the maximum hourly emission rate continuously for the entire year.

Federal regulations amended in January of 2013 require permitting for existing and new stationary emergency generators powered by RICES (i.e., emergency or e-RICES). These amendments apply only to non-CERCLA e-RICES. TDEC originally issued a construction permit for the five on-site units. Four of the units are emergency generator engines (K-1007, K-1039, K-1095, and K-1652), and the fifth unit is a fire water pump engine (K-1310-RW). The effective date of the permit was August 22, 2013, with an expiration date of August 23, 2014. During this reporting period, a request to extend the current permit for 1 year was submitted to TDEC on June 6, 2014. This activity was to ensure sufficient time to include an additional emergency fire water pump engine (K-802) in the request for an operating permit for all units. TDEC reissued a construction permit that extended the expiration date to August 23, 2015. An application for an operating permit was prepared and submitted to TDEC dated September 26, 2014. TDEC had not initiated any action to process the permit request as of December 31, 2014.

Regulations limit e-RICE nonemergency and maintenance operations to 100 h of operations per 12-month rolling total (i.e., 100 h of running the engines for testing and maintenance purposes per year). Additionally, nonemergency operations are limited to 50 h of the 100 h annual limit. The current permit specifies conditions that must be met to demonstrate compliance. These requirements include performing scheduled maintenance, record keeping, and tracking the runtimes of each of the five permitted units. Copies of all maintenance activities are provided for permit compliance review, and the runtimes are

entered into spreadsheets to track against annual limits. Table 3.4 provides the number of hours of operations for each unit, up through December 31, 2014.

Table 3.4. East Tennessee Technology Park UCOR emergency reciprocating internal combustion engine air permit compliance demonstration, 2014

e-RICE Unit	Permit limits: Total hours/year = 100 Nonemergency hours/year = 50			
	PM Testing (hours/year)	Nonemergency (hours/year)	Total (hours/year)	Emergency (hours/year)
K-802	0.8	0	0.8	0
K-1007	5.7	33.3	39.1	3.6
K-1039	5.9	0.7	6.6	3.8
K-1095	1.2	0.1	1.3	0.0
K-1310-RW	0.7	0.0	0.7	0.0
K-1407 ^a	6.0	2.0	8.0	3.8
K-1652	6.0	0.8	6.8	1.0

^aK-1407 e-RICE operating under CERCLA and exempt from Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation air emission permitting.

Acronyms

e-RICE = emergency reciprocating internal combustion engine

PM = particulate matter

UCOR = URS | CH2M Oak Ridge LLC

ETTP operations released airborne pollutants from a variety of minor pollutant-emitting sources such as stacks, vents, and fugitive and diffuse activities. The emissions from all stacks and vents are evaluated following approved methods to establish their low emissions potential. This is done to verify and document their minor source permit exempt status under all applicable state and federal regulations.

3.5.1.7 Hazardous Air Pollutants (Nonradionuclide)

Unplanned releases of hazardous air pollutants (HAPs) are regulated through the risk management planning regulations under 40 CFR Part 68. To ensure compliance, periodic inventory reviews of ETTP operations were performed that used monthly data obtained through the ECPRA Section 311 reporting program. This program applies to any facility at which a hazardous chemical is present in an amount exceeding a specified threshold. A comparison of the ECPRA 311 monthly Hazardous Materials Inventory System chemical inventories at ETTP with the risk management plan (RMP) threshold quantities listed in 40 CFR 68.130 was conducted. This is an ongoing action that documents the potential applicability for maintaining and distributing an RMP and to ensure threshold quantities are not exceeded.

ETTP personnel have determined that there are no processes or facilities containing inventories of chemicals in quantities exceeding thresholds specified in rules pursuant to CAA, Title III, Sect. 112(r), "Prevention of Accidental Releases." The results of this review indicated that all RMP-listed chemicals were less than 1% of their specific trigger thresholds. Therefore, activities at ETTP are not subject to the rule. Procedures are in place to continually review new processes, process changes, or activities with the rule thresholds.

3.5.2 Ambient Air

Compliance of fugitive and diffuse sources is demonstrated based on environmental measurements. The ETPP Ambient Air Quality Monitoring Program is designed to provide environmental measurements to accomplish the following:

- tracking of long-term trends of airborne concentration levels of selected air contaminant species,
- measurement of the highest concentrations of the selected air contaminant species that occur in the vicinity of ETPP operations, and
- evaluation of the potential impact of air contaminant emissions from ETPP operations on ambient air quality.

The sampling stations in the ETPP area are designated as base, supplemental, or ORR perimeter air monitoring (PAM) stations. Figure 3.13 shows the locations of all ambient air sampling stations in and around ETPP that were active during the 2014 reporting period. Figure 3.14 shows an example of a typical ETPP air monitoring station.

The base program consists of two locations using high-volume ambient air samplers. Supplemental locations are typically temporary project-specific stations that use samplers specific to a particular type of potential emissions. Samplers typically include high-volume systems, depending on the source emission evaluation of the project. All base, supplemental, and PAM samplers operate continuously with exposed filters collected weekly. The radiological monitoring results for samples collected at the two ETPP area PAM stations were provided by UT-Battelle staff and are included in the ETPP network for comparative purposes.

The analytical parameters were chosen with regard to existing and proposed regulations and with respect to activities at ETPP. Supplemental station K11 has been deployed to demonstrate that radiological emissions from demolition and remediation activities are in compliance with DOE dose limits to on-site members of the public. Changes of emissions from ETPP will warrant periodic reevaluation of the parameters being sampled. Ongoing ETPP reindustrialization efforts will also introduce new locations for members of the public that may require adding or relocating monitoring site locations. To ensure understanding of the potential impacts on the public and to establish any required emissions monitoring and emissions controls, a survey of all on-site tenants is reviewed every 6 months.

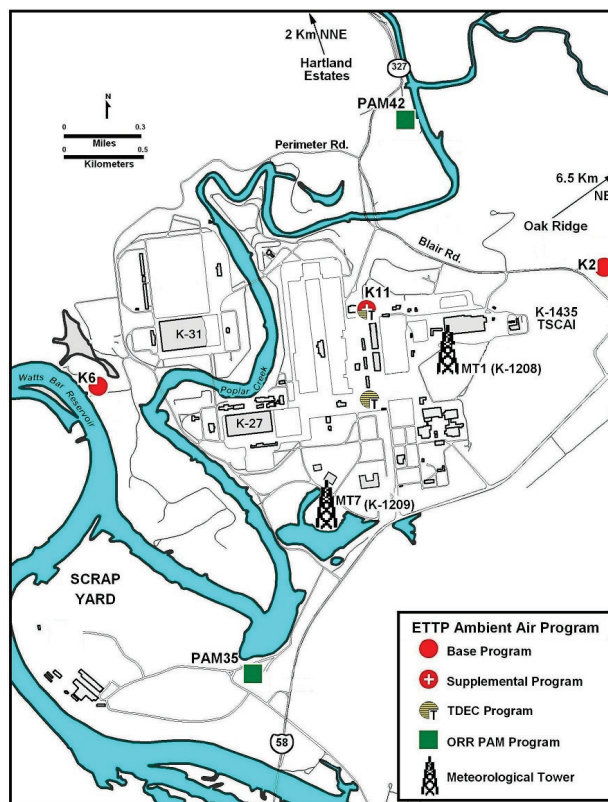


Fig. 3.13. East Tennessee Technology Park ambient air monitoring station locations. (ETPP = East Tennessee Technology Park, MT = meteorological tower, ORR = Oak Ridge Reservation, PAM = perimeter air monitoring, TDEC = Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation, and TSCAI = Toxic Substances Control Act Incinerator.)



Fig. 3.14. East Tennessee Technology Park ambient air monitoring station.

All base and supplemental stations collected continuous samples for radiological and selected metals analyses during 2014. Inorganic analytical techniques were used to test samples for chromium and lead. Radiological analyses of samples from the ETPP stations test for the isotopes ^{99}Tc , ^{234}U , ^{235}U , and ^{238}U ; ORR station sampling results for ^{234}U , ^{235}U , and ^{238}U provided by UT-Battelle are included with ETPP results.

Figures 3.15 and 3.16 illustrate the ambient air concentrations of chromium and lead for the past 5 years based on quarterly composites of weekly continuous samples. All samples were analyzed by the inductively coupled plasma–mass spectrometer analytical technique. The results are compared with applicable air quality standards for each pollutant. The annualized levels of chromium and lead during 2014 were well below the indicated annual standards. Station K11 was in close proximity to major demolition and remediation activities on the site and showed slightly higher annual chromium and lead ambient air concentrations during the first quarter of 2014 as compared to the other sampling locations. The downward trend through 2014 approached typical background levels for these pollutants. K11 sampling results for chromium and lead have historically trended higher and have been more variable compared to the other stations due to its close proximity to major demolition and remediation sites. The locations of stations K2 and K6 are representative of ambient air conditions at the ETPP boundary, with very similar measurement results. All chromium results are compared to the more conservative hexavalent chromium annual risk-specific dose standard.

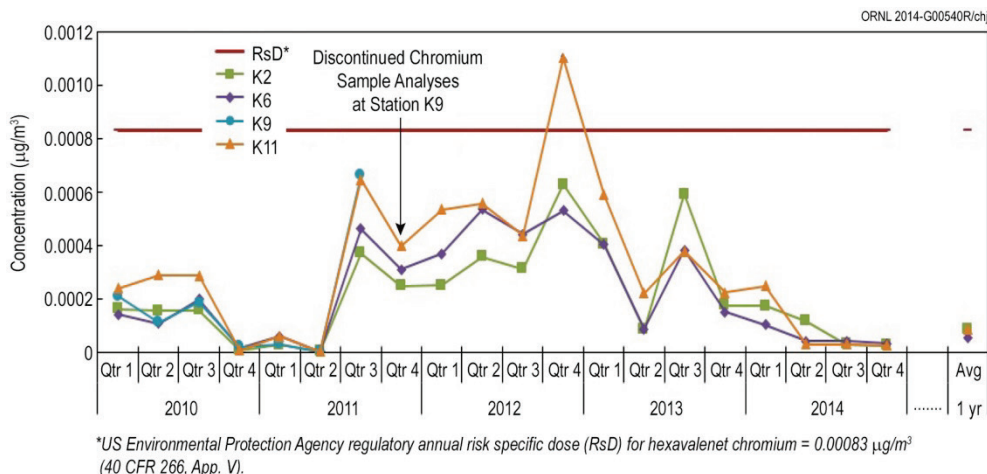


Fig. 3.15. Chromium monitoring results: 5-year history through December 2014.

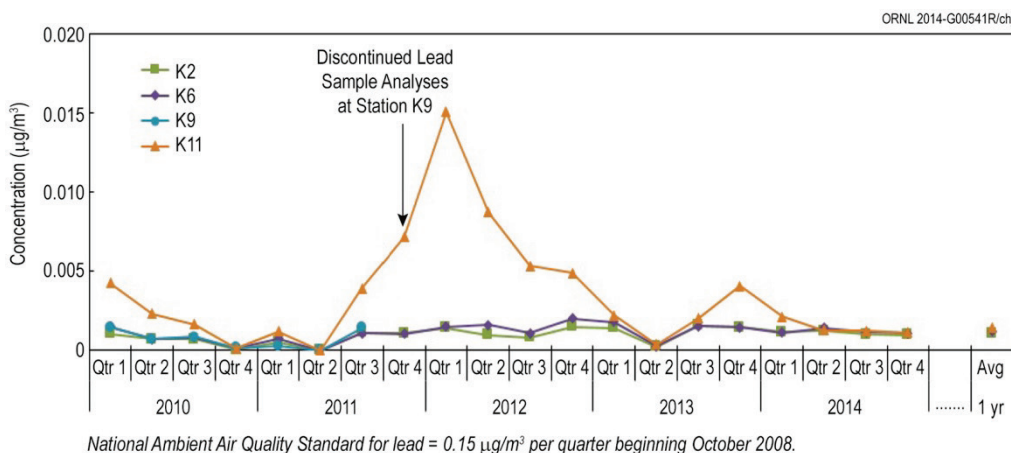


Fig. 3.16. Lead monitoring results: 5-year history through December 2014.

Quarterly radiochemical analyses are performed on composite samples collected at all stations. The selected isotopes of interest were ⁹⁹Tc and isotopic uranium (²³⁴U, ²³⁵U, and ²³⁸U). The concentration and dose results for each of the nuclides are presented in Table 3.5 for the 2014 reporting period.

Table 3.5. Radionuclides in ambient air at East Tennessee Technology Park, January 2014 through December 2014

Station	Concentration (µCi/mL)				Total
	⁹⁹ Tc	²³⁴ U	²³⁵ U	²³⁸ U	
K2	2.80E-16	9.82E-19	4.57E-19	8.83E-19	2.83E-16
K6	2.34E-16	7.91E-18	ND ^a	8.63E-18	2.51E-16
K11	3.18E-15	1.79E-17	ND	4.22E-18	3.20E-15
40 CFR 61, Effective Dose (mrem/year)					
K2	0.008	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001	0.009
K6	0.007	0.001	ND	0.001	0.009
K11 ^b	0.047	0.003	ND	0.001	0.050

^aND = Not detected.

^bOn-site business receptor location.

Figure 3.17 is a historical summary chart of dose calculation results. Each data point represents the accumulated dose over the previous four quarterly sampling periods. The highest potential dose impact for an individual working on the site in the vicinity of Station K11 would only be 0.047 mrem as compared to the annual limit of 10 mrem. The on-site location of Station K11 is in close proximity to major demolition and remediation activities that are impacting radiologically contaminated materials. All data show potential exposures are all well below the 10 mrem annual dose limit.

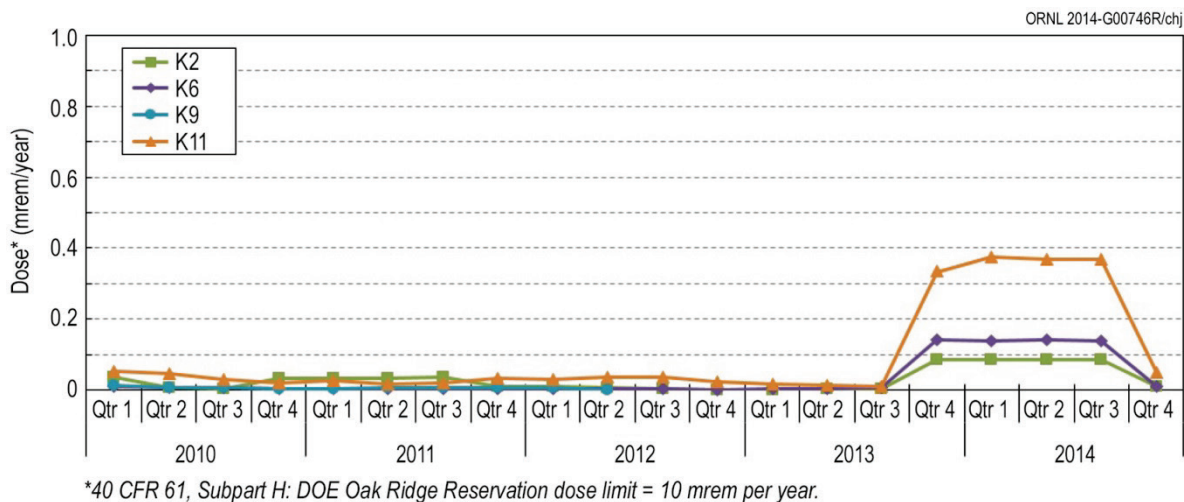


Fig. 3.17. Dose impact results: 5-year history through December 2014.

3.6 Water Quality Program

3.6.1 NPDES Permit Description

Under the permit effective in CY 2014, there were 108 NPDES-permitted storm water outfalls at ETPP. As part of the NPDES permit, these storm water outfalls are listed in two groups based on the types of flows being discharged through the outfalls. A total of 32 storm water outfalls were sampled as being representative of these groups.

The Group I storm water outfalls flow on an intermittent basis. These outfalls receive storm water runoff from minor site industrial operation areas that do not have a significant potential to contain contaminants. They may also receive runoff from minor D&D and RA activities. These areas do not have outside material storage that poses a risk of contaminating runoff. These outfalls also receive storm water runoff from remote areas of the site, including drainage from fields, grassy areas, and forested areas that have not been used for industrial purposes; administration and other nonindustrial operation areas; site roads and railways; employee access roads and parking areas; and internal site transportation routes. These outfalls may also discharge uncontaminated groundwater from infiltration or sumps. In addition, these outfalls may periodically receive sanitary and fire suppression system water from maintenance and testing activities, lawn watering, and routine external wash down of administration buildings without detergent and uncontaminated pavement wash waters without detergent. Effluent from Group I outfalls poses little or no threat of containing significant pollutants.

Many of the Group II storm water outfalls flow on a continuous basis. These outfalls receive storm water runoff from site industrial operations where there is a higher potential for contamination. These areas include soil storage yards, outside radiological areas, and other areas that pose a risk of potential contamination. Group II outfalls may also receive industrial and administrative area roof drainage, cooling tower blowdown, railroad runoff, runoff from areas undergoing D&D and soil remediation

activities, drainage from fields and grassy areas, and fire suppression system water from maintenance and testing activities. Group II outfalls may also discharge potentially contaminated groundwater from infiltration or sumps, burial ground seeps, and cooling tower blowdown. These outfalls may also receive effluents described for Group I storm water outfalls.

3.6.2 East Tennessee Technology Park Storm Water Pollution Prevention Program

The ETP NPDES permit includes a requirement to review and update, if necessary, the Storm Water Pollution Prevention (SWPP) Plan (SWPPP) at least annually. This requirement is met by publishing the ETP SWPP Program Annual Update Report, which includes monitoring results, site inspection summaries, and other information for each fiscal year. Additionally, the SWPP Program baseline document serves as a reference document for implementing and conducting the required elements of the ETP SWPPP. This document will continue to be used as part of the ETP SWPP Program specified in the current ETP NPDES permit. The baseline document is reviewed annually and updated as necessary.

3.6.2.1 Radiological Monitoring of Storm Water Discharges

ETTP conducts radiological monitoring of storm water discharges to determine compliance with applicable dose standards. ETTP also applies the “as low as reasonably achievable” (ALARA) process to minimize potential exposures to the public. Sampling for gross alpha and gross beta radioactivity, as well as specific radionuclides, is conducted as part of the SWPP Program sampling efforts. Analytical results are used to estimate the total discharge of each radionuclide from ETTP via the storm water discharge system.

Radiological monitoring of storm water discharges was planned as part of the FY 2014 and FY 2015 SWPP Program sampling efforts in order to obtain current radiological results for calculating total radiological discharge. Table 3.6 shows the storm water outfalls and parameters sampled during CY 2014. Table 3.7 shows the results of radiological monitoring completed in CY 2014. Table 3.8 shows the total activity of the detected radionuclides released to the surface water through the ETP storm water outfalls during 2014.

Table 3.6. Storm water composite sampling for radiological discharges at East Tennessee Technology Park storm water outfalls, 2014

Storm water outfall	Gross alpha/gross beta (composite sample) ^b	Transuranics ^a (composite sample) ^b	Isotopic uranium (composite sample) ^b	⁹⁹ Tc (composite sample) ^b
158	X	X	X	X
160	X	X	X	X
180	X	X	X	X
190 ^c	X	X	X	X
292	X	X	X	X
380	X	X	X	X

^aIncludes ²³⁷Np, ²³⁸Pu, and ^{239/240}Pu.

^bAll samples must be time-weighted composites collected during the first 60 min of a qualifying storm event discharge.

^cAt outfall 190, two separate Isco composite samplers will be installed and set up identically. Samples will be collected from each composite sampler for all parameters listed in this table. Results from the two composite samples will be compared as a quality check.

Table 3.7. Analytical results for radiological monitoring at East Tennessee Technology Park storm water outfalls, 2014

Parameter	Screening level	Outfall 158	Outfall 160	Outfall 180	Outfall 190	Outfall 292	Outfall 380
Alpha activity (pCi/L)	10	31.5	56	11.9	4.51	92.8	30.35
Beta activity (pCi/L)	30	60.3	54.4	9.06	20.6	40.5	25
Technetium-99 (pCi/L)	1,760	59.8	82.2	4.76 U	55.4	46.2	19.8
Total Uranium (µg/L)	none	29.1	58.4	9.47	2.75	211	32.45
Uranium-233/234 (pCi/L)	28	15.4	28.9	7.46	1.87	102	12.7
Uranium-235/236 (pCi/L)	29	1.37	1.52	0.588	0.185 U	7.75	0.578
Uranium-238 (pCi/L)	30	9.57	19.4	3.09	0.895	69.8	10.8

BOLD indicates screening level exceeded.

U indicates parameter was not detected above detection limit. All results for transuranics were nondetects.

Table 3.8. Radionuclides released to surface waters from the East Tennessee Technology Park storm water system, 2014

Radionuclide	Amount (Ci)
⁹⁹ Tc	8.2E-01
²³⁴ U	3.7E-03
²³⁵ U	3.1E-04
²³⁸ U	1.9E-03

1 Ci = 3.7E+10 Bq.

3.6.2.2 Decontamination and Decommissioning of the K-25 Building

Demolition of the last section of the K-25 building was completed in FY 2014. A portion of the east wing of the K-25 building was contaminated with a slow-decaying radioactive isotope called technetium-99 (⁹⁹Tc). Most of the previous demolition debris was shipped to the on-site EMWMF for disposal, but because of the ⁹⁹Tc contamination, many of the components in this remaining section were not eligible for disposal there. Instead, they were shipped to NNSS.

During demolition, a major concern was the rain or dust control water that fell directly onto the debris pile during the demolition. As runoff water flowed through the debris piles, it could have transported radiological and chemical contaminants, sediments, and other particulates away from the demolition area and into previously uncontaminated areas and/or waters of the state if storm water controls did not function as designed and installed.

Outfalls 210 and 490 and manholes 18102 and 17006 were monitored for contamination associated with the K-25 building demolition and storm water runoff (see Table 3.9). Sampling was conducted following a 1 in. or greater rainfall event. Initial sampling of outfalls 210 and 490 and manholes 18102 and 17006 was conducted on September 21, 2013, to provide baseline data for conditions present before demolition began on the ⁹⁹Tc contaminated portion of the east wing of the K-25 building. To closely monitor the storm water runoff from the building demolition activities, sampling was performed at regular intervals during the demolition process. Monitoring was also performed at these locations during the completion of demolition activities. Additional monitoring was performed at manholes 18102 and 17006 and at outfalls 210 and 490 at the end of demolition waste shipment.

Table 3.9. Storm water sampling for decontamination and decommissioning activities at the K-25 building (east wing of the K-25 building—building units K-309-2 through K-311-1)

Sampling events for all locations	Sampling location	Gross alpha/beta	Isotopic uranium, ⁹⁹ Tc, transuranics ^a	PCBs ^b	Metals ^c /mercury	Asbestos	Pesticides ^d
Before demolition	Outfall 210	X	X	X	X	X	X
	Outfall 490	X	X	X	X	X	X
During demolition activities	Manhole 18102	X	X	X	X	X	X
	Manhole 17006	X	X	X	X	X	X
Through completion of waste shipment	Manhole 18126		⁹⁹ Tc Only				
	Manhole 18112		⁹⁹ Tc Only				
After waste shipment completion	K-1007-P1 pond weir		⁹⁹ Tc Only				

^aTransuranics analysis includes ²³⁷Np, ²³⁸Pu, and ^{239/240}Pu.

^bPCB analysis includes Aroclors 1016, 1221, 1232, 1242, 1248, 1254, 1260, 1262, and 1268.

^cMetals analysis includes Al, Ag, As, Ba, Be, B, Ca, Cd, Co, Cr, Cu, Fe, K, Mg, Mn, Na, Ni, Pb, Sb, Se, Tl, V, and Zn.

^dPesticide analysis includes 4,4'-DDD, 4,4'-DDE, 4,4'-DDT, Aldrin, Chlordane, Dieldrin, Endosulfan I, Endosulfan II, Endosulfan Sulfate, Endrin, Endrin Aldehyde, Heptachlor, Heptachlor Epoxide, Toxaphene, alpha-BHC, beta-BHC, delta-BHC, and gamma-BHC.

Final D&D activities for the K-25 building were completed in July 2014. To assess any ongoing impacts the remaining building slab has on the quality of the storm water runoff, monitoring will be performed on an annual basis (Table 3.10). Runoff samples will be collected at outfall 490 to monitor east wing slab runoff; runoff from outfall 334 will be sampled to monitor west wing slab runoff, and runoff from outfall 230 will be sampled to monitor north-end slab runoff.

The first of the annual post-D&D sampling efforts was completed at outfalls 230, 334, and 490 in November 2014. Analytical results that exceeded screening criteria are shown in Table 3.11.

Table 3.10. Storm water sampling for the K-25 building slab runoff

Sampling events for all locations	Sampling location	Gross alpha/beta	Isotopic uranium, ⁹⁹ Tc ^a	PCBs ^b	Metals ^c /mercury
Annually	West wing (outfall 334)	X	X	X	X
	East wing (outfall 490)	X	X	X	X
	North tower (outfall 230)	X	X	X	X

^aIsotopic uranium analysis includes ^{233/234}U, ^{235/236}U, and ²³⁸U.

^bPCB analysis includes Aroclors 1016, 1221, 1232, 1242, 1248, 1254, 1260, 1262, and 1268.

^cMetals analysis includes Al, Ag, As, Ba, Be, B, Ca, Cd, Co, Cr, Cu, Fe, K, Mg, Mn, Na, Ni, Pb, Sb, Se, Tl, V, and Zn.

For all K-25 D&D sampling activities, sampling was initiated on the next working day following a rainfall event of 1 in. or more. Samples were collected during or immediately following a qualifying storm event. A period of at least 72 h of dry weather (defined in this instance only as having no rain events that exceed 0.1 in.) was required between storm events of 1 in. or more or samples were not collected.

Table 3.11 lists the applicable water quality criteria, the standards for gross alpha and gross beta, the derived concentration guide (DCG) values listed in DOE O 5400.5 (DOE 1990), and the derived concentration standards (DCSs) listed in DOE Standard 1196 (DOE 2011a) for parameters that have exceeded the applicable screening criteria. The DCSs are shown for comparison with the DCG values. The applicable water quality criteria are listed in TDEC Rule 0400-40-03-.03. The reference standards for gross alpha and gross beta are in the National Primary Drinking Water regulations (40 CFR 141).

As shown in Table 3.11, the analytical results from outfalls 210 and 490 during the K-25 building demolition were below TDEC notification levels and DCG values. Table 3.11 shows that some analytical results occasionally exceeded the water quality criteria; however, there were no observed impacts to receiving streams or levels elevated above the ambient water quality criterion (AWQC) in the mixing zone waterways.

On December 5, 2013, water was observed flowing from three electrical duct system manholes at the southwest corner of the Portal 4 parking area. The water from the duct system then flowed across the paved parking area and into a nearby storm water catch basin. The water was then discharged to the K-1007-P1 pond via storm water outfall 490. This flow from the duct system manholes occurred after a significant amount of rainfall.

Discharges from the electrical duct system manholes in the Portal 4 parking area were also noted after heavy rainfall events on at least two additional occasions. Preliminary radiological surveys indicate fixed contamination (attached to asphalt pavement and concrete surrounding the manholes) in the parking lot at the water discharge area. Supplemental sampling within the electrical duct system indicated the presence of elevated levels of ⁹⁹Tc. Access to the parking area where water was discharging was restricted after the discovery of the elevated ⁹⁹Tc levels.

Table 3.11. Analytical data from K-25 building post-decontamination and decommissioning sampling that exceeded screening levels

	Gross alpha (pCi/L)	Gross beta (pCi/L)	⁹⁹ Tc (pCi/L)	Arsenic (µg/L)	Copper (µg/L)	Lead (µg/L)	Mercury (µg/L)	Selenium (µg/L)	Silver (µg/L)	Thallium (µg/L)	Zinc (µg/L)	Endosulfan I (µg/L)	Endrin (µg/L)	4,4'-DDT (µg/L)	Heptachlor (µg/L)	PCB-1254 (µg/L)	PCB-1260 (µg/L)	PCB-1268 (µg/L)
Reference standard	15	50	100000/44000	10	9	2.5	0.051	5	3.2	0.47	100	0.056	0.036	0.001	0.00079	0.00064	0.00064	0.00064
Reference standard source ^a	40 CFR 141	40 CFR 141	DCG/DCS	REC OO	CCC	CCC	REC OO	CCC	CMC	REC OO	Permit	CCC	CCC	CCC	REC OO	REC OO	REC OO	REC OO
Screening level	10	30	1,760	7.5	7	1.8	0.025	3.8	2.4	0.35	75	Detectable	Detectable	Detectable	Detectable	Detectable	Detectable	Detectable
Minimum TDEC notification level ^b				100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
OUTFALL 210																		
9/21/2013					10.8	70.1												
11/18/2013	14.1	57.9				11.5										0.0575		
11/26/2013	13.8	12			8.08	73.3		9.58								0.073		
12/9/2013						36.3										0.0712		
12/23/2013		116													0.0163			
12/30/2013	13.4	86.3		11						8.67				0.024	0.031			
1/13/2014		68				6.25				7.16								
2/3/2014		30.9			8.76	14.3										0.0485		
3/3/2014	11	36.9			12.5	92.9								0.0231		0.26	0.154	0.0522
5/15/2014		200						17.4										
OUTFALL 230																		
11/17/2014								6.23										0.055
OUTFALL 490																		
9/21/2013				13.5		9.27		10.3	2.43									
11/18/2013		6,510	10,600															
11/26/2013		835				5.46												
12/9/2013		36,200	56,900	10		22.5							0.0269					
12/23/2013		39,700	59,200		10.5										0.0699			
12/30/2013		27,500	57,400							6.96								
1/13/2014	423	7,710	11,300			4.26				5.09								
2/3/2014		4,450	6,040															
3/3/2014		3,760	4,560															
3/10/2014		9,220	14,400															
4/7/2014			2,260															
4/30/2014		425		8.44														
5/15/2014		644																
5/19/2014		531																
11/17/2014		171																
MANHOLE 17006																		
9/21/2013		87.7				7.51												
11/18/2013	15	191				5.6			28.6									
11/26/2013		4,800	6,350			11.9		9.38									0.0681	
12/9/2013	17.2	207																
12/23/2013	22.3	334												0.0119	0.0305			
12/30/2013	18.2	370																
1/13/2014		37.3				45.7				6.12	83.3					0.141		

Table 3.11 (continued)

	Gross alpha (pCi/L)	Gross beta (pCi/L)	⁹⁹ Tc (pCi/L)	Arsenic (µg/L)	Copper (µg/L)	Lead (µg/L)	Mercury (µg/L)	Selenium (µg/L)	Silver (µg/L)	Thallium (µg/L)	Zinc (µg/L)	Endosulfan I (µg/L)	Endrin (µg/L)	4,4'-DDT (µg/L)	Heptachlor (µg/L)	PCB-1254 (µg/L)	PCB-1260 (µg/L)	PCB-1268 (µg/L)
Reference standard	15	50	100000/44000	10	9	2.5	0.051	5	3.2	0.47	100	0.056	0.036	0.001	0.00079	0.00064	0.00064	0.00064
Reference standard source ^a	40 CFR 141	40 CFR 141	DCG/DCS	REC OO	CCC	CCC	REC OO	CCC	CMC	REC OO	Permit	CCC	CCC	CCC	REC OO	REC OO	REC OO	REC OO
Screening level	10	30	1,760	7.5	7	1.8	0.025	3.8	2.4	0.35	75	Detectable	Detectable	Detectable	Detectable	Detectable	Detectable	Detectable
Minimum TDEC notification level ^b				100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
MANHOLE 17029																		
2/3/2014		457																
3/3/2014	11.3	220																
5/15/2014	14.8	112		8.65				13.4										
MANHOLE 18102																		
9/21/2013		112				7.16						0.0149						
11/18/2013	33.7	29,100	47,900		10.5	5.4			5.23									
11/26/2013		1,300	2,020			14					81.4	0.0322						
12/9/2013		25,000	42,600			30							0.0476					
12/23/2013		78,700	16,3000		17.5	36.5				7.28								
12/30/2013		69,600	16,3000		11.2	12.6												
1/13/2014		5,450	9,800			6.08				7.39								
1/28/2014			3,720															
2/3/2014		14,400	21,700	9.86	10.3	11.4												
3/3/2014		12,100	14,400			5.55												
5/15/2014		519									133							
MANHOLE 18112																		
1/13/2014	117	19,300	28,700															
1/28/2014			3,160															
2/3/2014		23,700	37,900															
3/3/2014			40,600															
5/15/2014			4,070															
MANHOLE 18126-1																		
2/3/2014		37.2																
K-1007-B																		
11/18/2013		136																
12/9/2013		802																
12/23/2013	23.9	765																
12/30/2013		1,510	2,780															
1/13/2014		319				3.46				5.27								
2/3/2014		135																
4/24/2014		130																
K-1700																		
11/4/2013							0.0297											
2/18/2014		145																
4/29/2014							0.027									0.0401		
5/6/2014		62.1					0.0283				130							
7/14/2014		40					0.03											
10/21/2014							0.0259											

Table 3.11 (continued)

	Gross alpha (pCi/L)	Gross beta (pCi/L)	⁹⁹ Tc (pCi/L)	Arsenic (µg/L)	Copper (µg/L)	Lead (µg/L)	Mercury (µg/L)	Selenium (µg/L)	Silver (µg/L)	Thallium (µg/L)	Zinc (µg/L)	Endosulfan I (µg/L)	Endrin (µg/L)	4,4'-DDT (µg/L)	Heptachlor (µg/L)	PCB-1254 (µg/L)	PCB-1260 (µg/L)	PCB-1268 (µg/L)
Reference standard	<i>15</i>	<i>50</i>	100000/44000	10	9	2.5	0.051	5	3.2	0.47	100	0.056	0.036	0.001	0.00079	0.00064	0.00064	0.00064
Reference standard source ^a	40 CFR 141	40 CFR 141	DCG/DCS	REC OO	CCC	CCC	REC OO	CCC	CMC	REC OO	Permit	CCC	CCC	CCC	REC OO	REC OO	REC OO	REC OO
Screening level	10	30	1,760	7.5	7	1.8	0.025	3.8	2.4	0.35	75	Detectable	Detectable	Detectable	Detectable	Detectable	Detectable	Detectable
Minimum TDEC notification level ^b				100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
K-716																		
	6/3/2013					2.4	<i>0.0771</i>											
	4/29/2014						<i>0.0688</i>											
	5/8/2014						0.03											

NOTES

Only results exceeding screening criteria are shown. Nondetect results are not shown.

Use of italics indicates exceedance of a reference standard for gross alpha or gross beta, exceedance of a DCG value at a location other than a permitted outfall, or exceedance of the TDEC water quality criteria.

BOLD indicates exceedance of a DCG value for a radionuclide at a permitted outfall or exceedance of a notification level for metals, volatile organics, polychlorinated biphenyls, or pesticides at a permitted outfall.

^aReference standard sources are defined as follows.

CMC	TDEC Rule 0400-40-03-.03(3)(g) Criterion Maximum Concentration
CCC	TDEC Rule 0400-40-03-.03(3)(g) Criterion Continuous Concentration
REC OO	TDEC Rule 0400-40-03-.03(4)(j) Organisms Only Criteria
Permit	NPDES Permit TN0002950 Part III
No Criteria	Sources not listed in the TDEC General Water Quality Criteria or NPDES Permit No. TN0002950

DCG values for ingested water [DOE O 5400.5, Chapter III (DOE 1990)] are listed because they remain in effect for certain CERCLA activities. Reference standards for radionuclides equal DCSs for ingested water (DOE 2011a), and screening levels equal 4% of DCS values. Reference standards and screening levels for gross alpha and gross beta measurements correspond to the national primary drinking water standard (40 CFR 141 National Primary Drinking Water Regulations Subparts B and G).

^bActual TDEC notification levels vary by outfall, parameter, and frequency of discharge. If the minimum notification level is exceeded, additional requirements in NPDES Permit No. TN0002950, Part III, may apply.

Acronyms

CERCLA	= Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act
DCG	= derived concentration guide
DCS	= derived concentration standard
NPDES	= National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System
TDEC	= Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation

The electrical duct system manholes in the Portal 4 parking area are part of an underground electrical duct network that once carried electrical power lines from the former powerhouse area to portions of ETTP. A large portion of the electrical duct network was filled with grout in CY 2010; however, the placement of grout into this system was stopped immediately downslope of the Portal 4 parking area manholes where the water discharge was observed. This portion of the duct system remained susceptible to inflow from groundwater and storm water.

It was determined that ^{99}Tc -contaminated storm water from the demolition of the southeastern portion of the K-25 building entered the electrical duct system through cracks or breaks in the concrete structure of the system. The duct system eventually filled with ground water and storm water runoff, and then overflowed during heavy rainfall events.

In January 2014, the remainder of the electrical duct system in the vicinity of the K-25 ^{99}Tc demolition activities was filled with grout. This corrective action eliminated the discharges from the electrical duct system into the storm drain system.

After ^{99}Tc was identified in the electrical duct system, additional investigations were conducted in early 2014 in the adjacent utilities, which included the sanitary sewer system located to the east of the demolition area. Based on the elevated results that were measured, all connections to the sanitary sewer system around the Building K-25 demolition area were isolated, and the sanitary sewer trunk line was plugged. Sampling of the sanitary sewer network confirmed the effectiveness of the plugging action.

As a follow-up to the sanitary sewer network sampling, ^{99}Tc samples were collected from the City of Oak Ridge Rarety Ridge STP (RRSTP) influent, treatment basins, and effluent. These results showed increased values of ^{99}Tc at all locations, but the values in the influent and effluent were below DOE O 5400.5 DCG values (DOE 1990). The sewage plant discharge values were also below the State of Tennessee effluent reference standards.

During the sampling effort, it was observed that ^{99}Tc became concentrated in the digester sludge. DOE has taken responsibility for cleaning up that facility and removing the sludge for off-site disposal. The sludge is removed on a frequency of every 30 to 55 days depending upon the sludge generation rate at the plant. The sludge is incinerated at the Perma-Fix Northwest Incinerator, and the residual ash is sent to the Energy Solutions facility at Clive, Utah, for disposal. The periodic sludge pumping of the sewage plant digester will continue into CY 2015. Because the ^{99}Tc contamination occurred as part of a CERCLA demolition action, this topic for all media was documented in a CERCLA report to TDEC, EPA, and DOE titled *Technetium-99 Removal Site Evaluation at the East Tennessee Technology Park, Oak Ridge, Tennessee* (DOE 2014c). This information was also incorporated into the FY 2015 CERCLA remediation effectiveness report. The conclusions in the removal site evaluation are that measured levels of ^{99}Tc in site surface water releases are in compliance with applicable regulatory requirements and DOE orders and do not pose a threat to human health and the environment.

3.6.2.3 Decontamination and Decommissioning of the K-31 Building

Removal of the transite siding from the exterior of the K-31 building began in April 2014. Demolition of the structure will proceed after the transite removal has been completed. To closely monitor the storm water runoff from the building demolition activities, sampling will be performed at regular intervals during the demolition process. Initial sampling was performed to provide baseline data for conditions present before demolition began. Additional monitoring will be performed at about 3 months and at about 6 months after demolition begins. Table 3.12 contains information on the locations and parameters to be sampled as part of the K-31 D&D monitoring effort.

Table 3.12. Storm water sampling to support decontamination and decommissioning activities at the K-31 building

Sampling location	Sampling frequency	Gross alpha/beta	Isotopic uranium, ⁹⁹ Tc, transuranics ^a	PCBs ^b /Pesticides ^c	Metals ^d /mercury	Hexavalent chromium
SD 510	1. Before demolition					
	2. 3 months after demolition start	X	X	X	X	X
	3. 6 months after demolition start					
SD 560	1. Before demolition					
	2. 3 months after demolition start	X	X	X	X	X
	3. 6 months after demolition start					
SD 610	1. Before demolition					
	2. 3 months after demolition start	X	X	X	X	X
	3. 6 months after demolition start					

^aTransuranics analysis includes ²³⁷Np, ²³⁸Pu, and ^{239/240}Pu.

^bPCB analysis includes Aroclors 1016, 1221, 1232, 1242, 1248, 1254, 1260, 1262, and 1268.

^cPesticide analysis includes 4,4'-DDD, 4,4'-DDE, 4,4'-DDT, Aldrin, Chlordane, Dieldrin, Endosulfan I, Endosulfan II, Endosulfan Sulfate, Endrin, Endrin Aldehyde, Heptachlor, Heptachlor Epoxide, Toxaphene, alpha-BHC, beta-BHC, delta-BHC, and gamma-BHC.

^dMetals analysis includes Al, Ag, As, Ba, Be, B, Ca, Cd, Co, Cr, Cu, Fe, K, Mg, Mn, Na, Ni, Pb, Sb, Se, Tl, V, and Zn.

SD = storm water outfall/storm drain.

The only result from predemolition samples collected in April 2014 at outfalls 510, 560, and 610 that was above screening levels was a copper result at outfall 510 of 8.32 µg/L, which exceeded the screening level of 7 µg/L.

Additional D&D sampling was conducted at outfall 610 in November 2014. This sample was collected after a storm event produced a rainfall of around 1.5 in. over a 2-day period. The results that exceeded screening levels are shown in Table 3.13. Several modifications were made to the sediment control measures that were in place at the K-31 D&D site based on the results from this sampling event.

Table 3.13. Analytical results exceeding screening levels for Building K-31 decontamination and decommissioning monitoring

Parameter	Screening level	Outfall 610
Beta activity (pCi/L)	30	39.2
PCB-1260 (µg/L)	Detectable	0.0469
PCB-1268 (µg/L)	Detectable	0.361
Hexavalent chromium (µg/L)	8	440
Total chromium	75	452
Lead (µg/L)	1.8	8.74
Selenium (µg/L)	3.8	11.2
Copper (µg/L)	7	21
Zinc (µg/L)	75	107

3.6.2.4 SAMPLING OF THE K-761 SWITCH HOUSE BASEMENT SUMP

The K-761 building, also known as the K-31 substation, operated from 1952 through 1985. It transferred electrical power from overhead transmission lines to the K-31 cascade. K-761 is a multistory building that includes a basement, first floor, mezzanine, and second floor. It measures about 306 ft by 57 ft with an 8 ft basement and is made of brick, tile wall, and reinforced concrete. The building has a flat, tar and gravel, built-up roof. Water that collects in the K-761 switch house eventually enters the building's basement sump, which is designated as sump S-068. This sump discharges to Poplar Creek via storm water outfall 510.

Because the building sump's pump has been out of service for some time, the basement of the K-761 building flooded. Initial sampling of the water from the K-761 basement was performed to provide PCB and radiological data to determine whether water that had collected in the K-761 basement could be discharged to the environment. Results of this sampling effort are presented in Table 3.14. Because gross alpha radiation and PCBs were not detected and gross beta radiation was not detected above the reference standard, the water from the K-761 basement was discharged to the environment. The defective sump pump in the basement sump has since been replaced and normal operation of the sump has been restored, which should prevent future flooding of the basement.

Predemolition sampling of the K-761 switch house will be performed in accordance with guidelines presented in the SWPP Program sampling and analysis plan (SAP) for FY 2015.

Table 3.14. Analytical results for K-761 switch house basement sump

Parameter	Reference standard ^a	K-761
Alpha activity (pCi/L)	15	0.638 U
Beta activity (pCi/L)	50	7.37
PCB-1016 (µg/L)	0.00064	0.032 U
PCB-1221 (µg/L)	0.00064	0.032 U
PCB-1232 (µg/L)	0.00064	0.032 U
PCB-1242 (µg/L)	0.00064	0.032 U
PCB-1248 (µg/L)	0.00064	0.032 U
PCB-1254 (µg/L)	0.00064	0.032 U
PCB-1260 (µg/L)	0.00064	0.032 U
PCB-1262 (µg/L)	0.00064	0.032 U
PCB-1268 (µg/L)	0.00064	0.032 U

^aAlpha and beta activity from 40 CFR 141; PCBs from the Tennessee water quality criteria, TDEC Rule 0400-40-03-.03.

U—Indicates compound was analyzed for, but not detected above the reference values, PCB = polychlorinated biphenyl, and TDEC = Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation.

3.6.2.5 Decontamination and Decommissioning of the K-1206-F Fire Water Tank

On August 3, 2013, the 382-ft-tall K-1206-F fire water tank was brought down through a controlled explosive demolition. The water tower was estimated to contain at least 1.5 million pounds of steel, which was disposed at the Y-12 sanitary landfill. The 400,000 gal structure was designed and built by the Chicago Bridge and Iron Company in 1958 to service the site's fire protection system. It operated until June 3, 2013, when the valves were turned off. It was drained, disconnected, and permanently taken out of service on July 15, 2013. With the tower gone, the site will rely on pumping stations to provide the necessary pressure for its fire water system.

Slightly elevated levels of PCBs were noted in interior paint coatings at maximum levels of 24 ppm, which is well below regulatory thresholds of 50 ppm. Additionally, elevated levels of lead were measured in the paint coatings. Any potential soil contamination that remains from the paints will be addressed in the CERCLA Zone 2 soil evaluations.

Table 3.15 contains information on the storm water sampling to be done as part of the D&D activities for the K-1206-F tank.

Table 3.15. Storm water sampling for decontamination and decommissioning activities at the K-1206-F fire water tank

Sampling location	Sampling frequency	Sampling events	PCBs	Metals ^a
SD 560	After demolition activities	1	X	X

^aMetals analysis should include Al, Ag, As, Ba, Be, B, Ca, Cd, Co, Cr, Cu, Fe, K, Mg, Mn, Na, Ni, Pb, Sb, Se, Tl, V, and Zn.

SD = storm water outfall/storm drain.

Runoff from the K-1206-F fire water tank area discharges to Poplar Creek via storm water outfall 560. Post-D&D sampling of the storm water runoff from the K-1206-F fire water tank area was performed at outfall 560 in January 2014. The analytical data from this sampling effort that exceeded screening levels are shown in Table 3.16. No detectable levels of PCBs or lead were noted in the storm water runoff sampling.

Table 3.16. Analytical results greater than screening levels for monitoring at storm water outfall 560

Parameter	Screening level (µg/L)	Outfall 560 (µg/L)
Selenium	3.8	14.3

3.6.2.6 Decontamination and Decommissioning of the K-892 Pump House

The K-892 pump house was constructed in 1954 to pump treated water for the K-33 recirculating cooling water (RCW) system. RCW was used to cool heat transfer systems. The K-892 facility consists of three sections. One section contained water treatment chemical tanks and feed equipment. Another section contained RCW pumps, piping, and valves. Another section contained electrical transformers and chemical storage tanks.

Chromates were known to have been present in some of the chemicals used for water treatment at the K-892 pump house. A zinc-chromate-phosphate treatment was used to prevent scaling in the RCW system. Due to the presence of electrical equipment in the facility, PCBs may also be a potential contaminant of concern (COC) for the K-892 pump house.

Demolition of the K-892 pump house will likely be initiated sometime in 2015 or 2016. Initial sampling has been conducted to provide baseline data for conditions present before demolition began. Additional sampling will be conducted at this facility as demolition activities are undertaken and after demolition has been completed.

Table 3.17 contains information on the locations and parameters to be sampled.

Table 3.17. Storm water sampling for decontamination and decommissioning of the K-892 pump house

Sampling location	Sampling frequency	pH	Gross alpha/beta	Isotopic uranium, ⁹⁹ Tc, transuranics ^a	PCBs ^b	Metals ^c /mercury	Hexavalent chromium
	Before initiation of building demolition activities						
Outfall 690	After each rainfall event of 1 in. or more in a 24 h period	X	X	X	X	X	X
	Upon completion of D&D activities						

^aTransuranics analysis includes Np-237, Pu-238, and Pu-239/240.

^bPCB analysis includes Aroclors 1016, 1221, 1232, 1242, 1248, 1254, 1260, 1262, and 1268.

^cMetals analysis includes Al, Ag, As, Ba, Be, B, Ca, Cd, Co, Cr, Cu, Fe, K, Mg, Mn, Na, Ni, Pb, Sb, Se, Tl, V, and Zn.

Sampling was conducted at outfall 690 in November 2014 to provide the baseline conditions present before the initiation of D&D activities. No contaminants were present in the sample from outfall 690 at levels above the applicable screening criteria.

3.6.2.7 Monitoring Runoff from Oak Ridge Forest Products Area

Oak Ridge Forest Products LLC operates a wood yard and chipping facility at the K-722 site, in the former powerhouse area. The primary operation conducted is the conversion of low-grade forest products (pulpwood) into wood chips. These wood chips are used as a biomass fuel, in paper production, and for mulching and landscaping. Wood from local logging and clearing activities is purchased on-site. The wood is then processed into wood chips by a chipper.

One source of potential impact to storm water runoff from this facility is fuel storage. Double-walled aboveground storage tanks with a total storage capacity of about 2,500 gal have been installed on-site to contain both on-road and off-road diesel fuel. Sufficient containment has been constructed around the tanks to contain any runoff or spillage. Aboveground storage tanks also store water used for fire suppression and equipment cleaning. Portable restrooms are used for handling sanitary waste.

Sampling was performed at the storm water outfalls that receive drainage from this facility to assess any potential impact that the operation of this facility may be having on the quality of the storm water runoff from the area. Guidance on industrial activities found in the Tennessee Stormwater Multi-Sector General Permit (TMSP) was used in choosing the parameters that were sampled as part of this effort. Parameters required to be sampled under the TMSP for Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) code 2411 (log storage and handling areas) and SIC code 2421 (general sawmills and planing mills) were selected to be representative of the storm water discharges that may originate at Oak Ridge Forest Products.

As shown in Table 3.18, storm water runoff from outfalls 780 and 810 was sampled as part of this effort. The analytical results from this sampling effort will be used to determine whether additional sampling of these storm water outfalls will be necessary on a more frequent basis (e.g., quarterly, annually).

Field observations were also made at each of the outfalls when sampling of the storm water runoff from the Oak Ridge Forest Products facility was conducted. The discharge from these outfalls was observed for visible sheen, discoloration, foam, floating materials, suspended materials, and debris. If any debris was noted in the discharge from the outfall that did not appear as if it would fit through a 1 in. diameter round opening, EC&P personnel were contacted.

Table 3.18. Storm water sampling at the Oak Ridge Forest Products facility

Sampling location	Oil and grease	TSS	COD	Metals ^a	pH
Outfall 780	X	X	X	X	X
Outfall 810	X	X	X	X	X
Outfall 820	X	X	X	X	X

^aMetals analysis includes Al, Ag, As, Ba, Be, B, Ca, Cd, Co, Cr, Cu, Fe, K, Mg, Mn, Na, Ni, Pb, Sb, Se, Tl, V, and Zn.

Acronyms

TSS = total suspended solids
COD = chemical oxygen demand

Sampling at outfalls 780 and 810 was completed in December 2014. Sampling at outfall 820 was completed in January 2015. The only result from this sampling effort that was above screening levels was a copper result at outfall 810 of 7.31 µg/L, which exceeded the screening level of 7 µg/L. Additionally, no debris, solids, or oily sheen was noted in the storm water samples from the outfalls that serve this facility. Therefore, it is believed that this facility does not adversely affect the quality of the storm water runoff entering the Clinch River.

3.6.2.8 Sampling to Meet the Requirements of DOE O 458.1

UCOR must conduct activities to ensure that liquid discharges containing radionuclides from DOE activities do not exceed an annual average (at the point of discharge) of either of the following.

- 5 pCi (0.2 Bq) per gram above background of settleable solids for alpha-emitting radionuclides
- 50 pCi (2 Bq) per gram above background of settleable solids for beta-gamma-emitting radionuclides

To determine whether discharges in excess of these criteria are occurring at ETTP, screening criteria were used to determine which permitted storm water outfalls would be sampled for settleable solids during dry weather conditions (no storm water flow). The proposed screening criteria included the following:

- at least one radionuclide in the non-storm-water base flow exceeds 4% of the DCS for ingested water (DOE 2011a) and
- total suspended solids (TSS) in the non-storm-water base flow equal to or greater than 30 mg/L.

Several outfalls flow on a continuous basis and, therefore, have a non-storm-water base flow. The flow that occurs at these outfalls during dry weather conditions is attributable to groundwater infiltration into the storm drainage piping system. As noted in the ETTP SWPP Program baseline document, the outfalls that may flow on a continuous basis include outfalls 100, 142, 170, 180, 190, 230, 382, 430, 490, 710, and 992.

At each of these outfalls, it was determined whether the screening criteria were met before sampling for settleable solids. During dry weather conditions (no storm water flow), samples were collected for gross alpha/beta radiation, isotopic uranium, TRUs, ^{99}Tc , and TSS, as indicated in Table 3.19. If TSS in the non-storm-water base flow was less than 30 mg/L, no additional sampling would be required at that outfall per the screening criteria. However, if TSS was equal to or greater than 30 mg/L and at least one of the radionuclides exceeded 4% of the DCS for ingested water, the outfall would be sampled for settleable solids using the volumetric method. If settleable solids were found to be present in sufficient quantity (>0.1 mg/L), the sample would be filtered and the solid materials from the sample would be analyzed for gross alpha and gross beta/gamma radiation to determine whether the limits stated in DOE O 458.1 (DOE 2011b) had been exceeded.

Water samples taken as part of this investigation were collected as manual grab samples. Manual grab samples were collected according to the guidelines specified in Sections 3.1.2 and 3.3.1 of EPA's *NPDES Storm Water Sampling Guidance Document* (EPA 1992) and applicable procedures that have been developed by the sampling subcontractor. Samples for this portion of the SWPP Program SAP were collected during dry weather conditions. For the purpose of this SWPP Program investigation, a dry weather period was defined as being at least 72 h after a storm event of 0.1 in. or more.

Table 3.19. East Tennessee Technology Park outfalls to be sampled for compliance with DOE O 458.1 (DOE 2011b)

Sampling location	Sampling event	Gross alpha/gross beta radiation (manual grab)	Isotopic uranium (manual grab)	Transuranics ^a (manual grab)	^{99}Tc (manual grab)	TSS (manual grab)
100	Dry weather	X	X	X	X	X
142	Dry weather	X	X	X	X	X
170	Dry weather	X	X	X	X	X
180	Dry weather	X	X	X	X	X
190	Dry weather	X	X	X	X	X
230	Dry weather	X	X	X	X	X
430	Dry weather	X	X	X	X	X
490	Dry weather	X	X	X	X	X
710	Dry weather	X	X	X	X	X
992	Dry weather	X	X	X	X	X

^aTransuranics analysis includes ^{237}Np , ^{238}Pu , and $^{239/240}\text{Pu}$.

TSS = total suspended solids.

As shown in Table 3.20, the data collected as part of this sampling event showed that none of the outfalls sampled contained TSS at levels above the screening criteria of 30 mg/L. None of the radionuclides in the non-storm-water base flow exceeded 4% of the DCS for ingested water except ^{99}Tc at outfall 490.

Technetium-99 was detected at 14,400 pCi/L, which exceeds the screening level of 1,760 pCi/L for this analyte. Gross beta radiation was detected at outfall 490 at 9,220 pCi/L, which exceeds the reference standard of 50 pCi/L for this analyte. Both of these results are likely due to the release of ⁹⁹Tc to the outfall 490 drainage system as part of the demolition of the southeast portion of the K-25 building.

Based on these results, no settleable solids sampling will be required at any of these outfalls to determine whether the limits in DOE O 458.1 (DOE 2011b) have been exceeded.

Table 3.20. Analytical results from sampling performed for compliance with DOE O 458.1^a

Outfall	Suspended solids (mg/L)	Alpha activity (pCi/L)	Beta activity (pCi/L)	²³⁷ Np (pCi/L)	²³⁸ Pu (pCi/L)	^{239/240} Pu (pCi/L)	⁹⁹ Tc (pCi/L)	Total U (µg/L)	^{233/234} U (pCi/L)	^{235/236} U (pCi/L)	²³⁸ U (pCi/L)
100	0.6	-1.04	3.02	0.0112	0.0217	0.0435	0.713	0.313	0.484	0.121	0.0863
142	0.9	4.79	2.2	-0.052	0.0163	-0.0508	22.1	0.831	0.48	0.116	0.261
170	0.57	20.4	48.9	-0.00762	-0.000801	-0.0408	125	15.2	11.6	0.815	4.98
180	0.8	7.46	11.5	-0.0306	0	0.0218	10.7	7.49	5.48	0.29	2.47
190	1	30.5	26.1	0.0168	-0.0179	-0.0179	26.9	16.5	14.2	1.02	5.39
230	0.57	9.03	33.2	0.00409	-0.132	-0.0104	60.6	5.93	5.22	0.616	1.9
430	0.57	2.23	20.1	-0.0377	-0.0369	-0.0184	39.3	1.6	0.77	0.185	0.508
430 (dup)	0.57	1.56	21.6	-0.023	0.0509	0.0677	28.6	0.593	0.675	0.107	0.183
490	1.1	-5.16	9220	-0.0334	-0.0418	-0.063	14400	1.87	1.92	0.097	0.614
710	0.57	0.542	6.85	-0.0621	0.107	-0.116	7.45	2.84	1.21	0.0468	0.947
992	6.9	-0.284	2.91	0.0724	-0.0453	-0.0303	-1.02	0.603	0.234	0.176	0.175

^aDOE. *Radiation Protection of the Public and the Environment*. DOE O 458.1. Approved 2-11-11. US Department of Energy, Washington, DC.

3.6.2.9 Sampling Legacy Chromium Groundwater Plume Discharge

During FY 2007, hexavalent chromium was detected in surface water in Mitchell Branch at levels exceeding the applicable AWQC of 0.011 mg/L for the protection of fish and aquatic life. At Mitchell Branch kilometers (MIKs) 0.71 and 0.79, locations in Mitchell Branch immediately downstream from the storm water outfall/storm drain (SD) 170 discharge point, hexavalent chromium levels were measured at levels as high as 0.78 mg/L. The source of the discharge was determined to be groundwater infiltration into the SD 170 piping as well as seep flows through the storm water outfall/storm drain headwall. Figure 3.18 shows the locations where hexavalent chromium releases to Mitchell Branch were identified.

Because hexavalent chromium has not been used in process operations at ETTP for more than 30 years, the release of hexavalent chromium into Mitchell Branch is a legacy problem and not an ongoing, current operations issue. Therefore, DOE in coordination with EPA and TDEC determined that the appropriate response to this release was a CERCLA time-critical removal action. A *Removal Action Report for the Reduction of Hexavalent Chromium Releases into Mitchell Branch at the East Tennessee Technology Park, Oak Ridge, Tennessee* (DOE 2008) for the time-critical removal action was issued in July 2008. Subsequently a non-time-critical *Action Memorandum for the Long-Term Reduction of Hexavalent Chromium Releases into Mitchell Branch at the East Tennessee Technology Park, Oak Ridge, Tennessee* (DOE 2010) was issued, which led to the construction of CWTS.

Construction of CWTS was initiated in the spring of 2011 with final process installation completed in 2012. CWTS treats chromium- and hexavalent-chromium-contaminated groundwater pumped from a groundwater plume near storm water outfall SD 170 in accordance with the non-time-critical action memorandum mentioned previously (DOE 2010). The chromium collection system wells operated during

100% of the days of CY 2014 with only short duration periods where collection system pumping volumes were limited due to treatment facility operational constraints. The total volume of wastewater that was treated in CY 2014 was about 5.57 million gal.

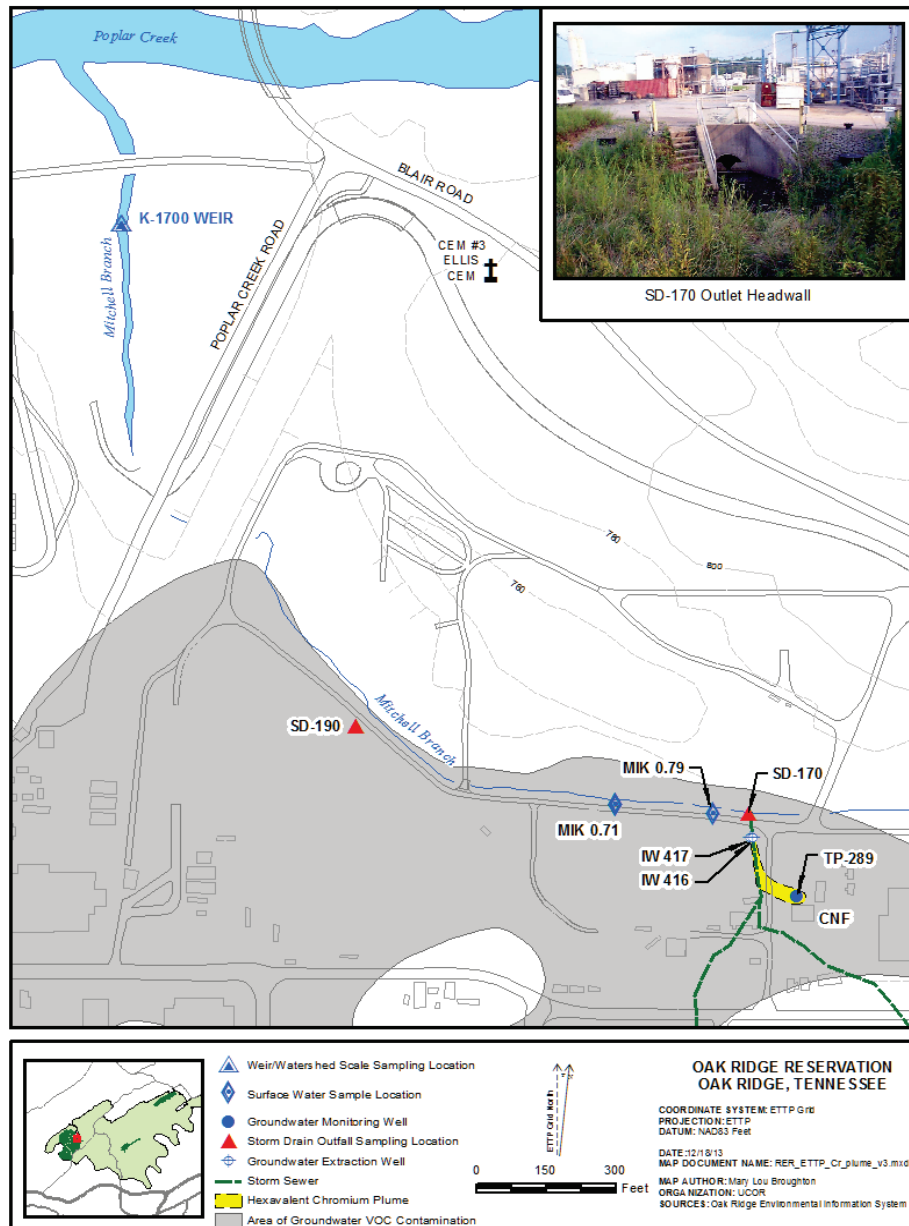


Fig. 3.18. Hexavalent chromium discharges into Mitchell Branch.
(CEM = cemetery, CNF = Central Neutralization Facility, IW = extraction well, MIK = Mitchell Branch kilometer, SD = storm water outfall/storm drain, TP = monitoring well, and VOC = volatile organic compound.)

To monitor both the continued effectiveness of the collection system and the effectiveness of CWTS, periodic monitoring was performed in CY 2014. Samples were collected at monitoring well-289, the chromium collection system wells, SD 170, and MIK 0.79. Samples collected at monitoring well 289 (TP-289) directly monitor the concentrations of chromium in the contaminated groundwater plume. Samples collected from the chromium collection system wells monitor the chromium in the water recovered by the groundwater collection

system. Samples collected at SD 170 monitor the concentrations of the chromium and hexavalent chromium plume being discharged directly to Mitchell Branch. Samples at MIK 0.79 are collected to allow monitoring of chromium and hexavalent chromium concentrations in Mitchell Branch. Requirements for this sampling effort are listed in Table 3.21. Figures 3.19 and 3.20 are graphs of the analytical data from this sampling effort.

The analytical data indicate that chromium levels at all locations have been relatively consistent over the long term.

Table 3.21. Monitoring requirements—Mitchell Branch subwatershed total and hexavalent chromium sampling locations

Location	Parameter	Measurement frequency	Sample type
MIK 0.79	Total chromium	1/quarter	Grab
MIK 0.79	Hexavalent chromium	1/quarter	Grab
Storm drain 170	Total chromium	1/quarter	Grab
Storm drain 170	Hexavalent chromium	1/quarter	Grab
Monitoring well 289 (TP-289)	Total chromium	1/quarter	Grab
TP-289	Hexavalent chromium	1/quarter	Grab
Cr collection system wells	Total chromium	1/quarter	Grab
Cr collection system wells	Hexavalent chromium	1/quarter	Grab

NOTE: Total chromium and hexavalent chromium will be collected during varying weather conditions (for example, samples will be collected during wet weather conditions one quarter and during dry weather conditions the following quarter).

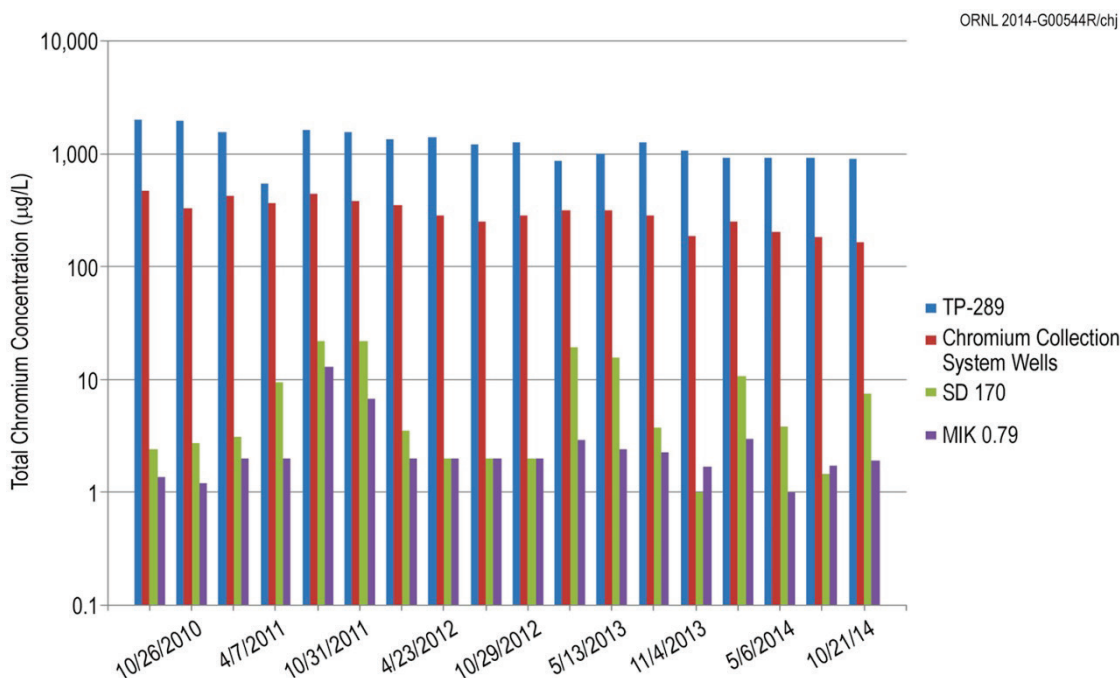


Fig. 3.19. Total chromium sample results for the chromium collection system. (TP = monitoring well, SD = storm water outfall/storm drain, and MIK = Mitchell Branch kilometer.)

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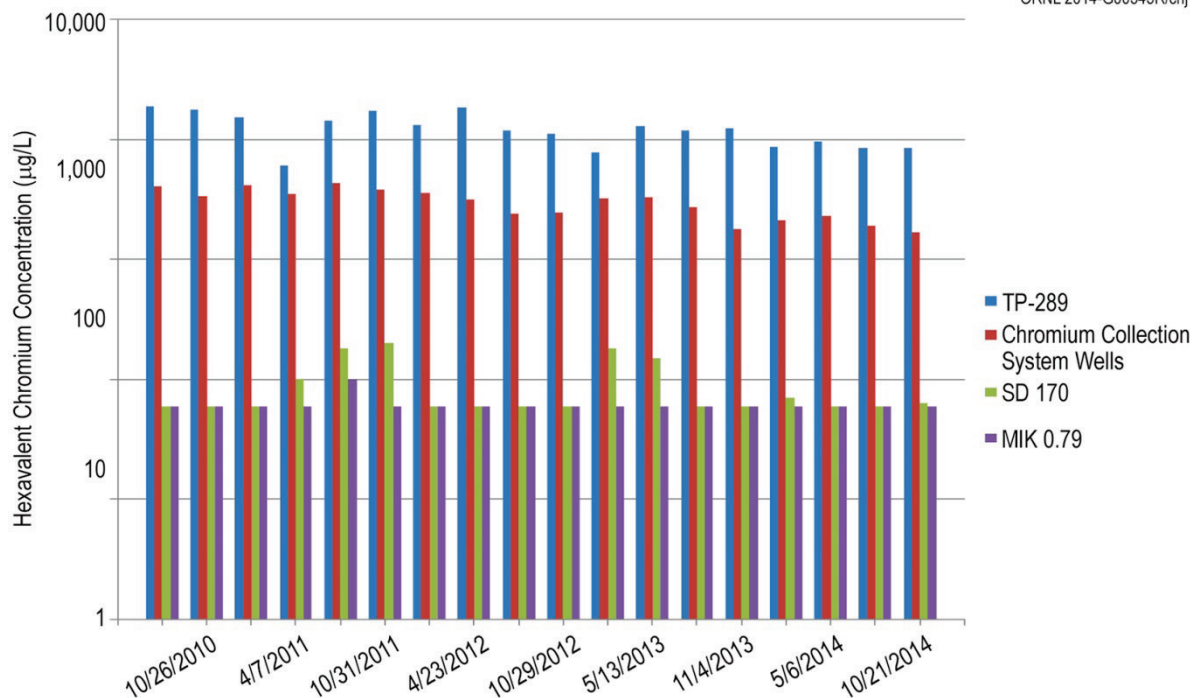


Fig. 3.20. Hexavalent chromium sample results for the chromium collection system.
(TP = monitoring well, SD = storm water outfall/storm drain, and MIK = Mitchell Branch kilometer.)

3.6.3 Investigation of Mercury at East Tennessee Technology Park

3.6.3.1 History of Mercury Use at East Tennessee Technology Park

Legacy mercury activities at ETTP included use, handling, and recovery operations. Mercury use and handling were common in such equipment as manometers, switches, mass spectrometers, mercury diffusion pumps, mercury traps, and laboratory operations. Process buildings contained many of these manometers, thermometers, and switches. Large quantities of mercury-bearing wastes from the on-site gaseous diffusion plant operations and support buildings, ORNL, and Y-12 were processed and stored at ETTP. Mercury from soils and spill cleanups were processed on-site as well. The legacy mercury cleanup actions at the ETTP site are being conducted as CERCLA actions. The information that is generated from the NPDES permitting program is documented in the annual CERCLA remediation effectiveness report (DOE 2014) and the 5-year CERCLA review document (DOE 2012) to help provide information that will support future CERCLA cleanup actions.

3.6.3.2 National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permit Requirements for Mercury Monitoring

The NPDES permit effective in CY 2014 requires quarterly mercury sampling to be performed at storm water outfalls 170, 180, 190, and 05A. These four locations were selected because the permit application information indicated that mercury levels at these outfalls exceeded the AWQC level of 51 ng/L. Outfalls 170, 180, and 190 collect storm water from large areas on the north side of ETTP and discharge to Mitchell Branch. Outfall 05A, which is located on the east side of ETTP, is the discharge point for the former STP drainage basin into Poplar Creek. The quarterly mercury monitoring results as reported to TDEC are shown in Table 3.22.

Table 3.22. Quarterly National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System mercury monitoring results as reported for CY 2014

Sampling location	First quarter (ng/L)	Second quarter (ng/L)	Third quarter (ng/L)	Fourth quarter (ng/L)
Outfall 170	2.22	2.65	3.87	5.17
Outfall 180	1.74	32	45	90
Outfall 190	8.45	15	11	20
Outfall 05A	78	208	238	194

Mercury results for outfall 170 have been well below AWQCs since July 2009. Outfalls 180 and 190 appear to be the primary sources of mercury discharges into Mitchell Branch. Both the outfall 180 network and the outfall 190 network drain areas with historical mercury processes. Potential sources of mercury in the outfall 180 drainage system are from the former K-1401, K-1301, and K-1303 building areas and from the K-1407-B pond area. Potential sources of mercury in the outfall 190 drainage system are from the former K-1035, K-1401, and K-1413 building areas.

The storm water outfall 05A compliance sampling point is the K-1203-10 sump. This sump was the discharge point for the former STP overflow during its years of operation. The STP was piped to the K-1203-10 sump to allow discharge of treated effluent by the lift pumps in the event high water in Poplar Creek prevented gravity discharge. Operations at the STP ceased in 2008. The K-1203-10 sump also serves as a collection sump for storm water. Currently, the K-1203-10 sump receives water influent from storm water flow as well as flow through the existing out of service STP piping. Potential sources of mercury in the discharge from outfall 05A are currently under investigation.

Results for outfalls 170, 180, 190, and 05A are shown in Figs. 3.21 through 3.24. Samples collected for compliance with the current NPDES permit were collected as manual grab samples. The results at outfall 170 are well below the AWQC. The results at outfalls 180 and 190 indicate an overall decreasing trend, with many recent sample results at both outfalls being below the AWQC.

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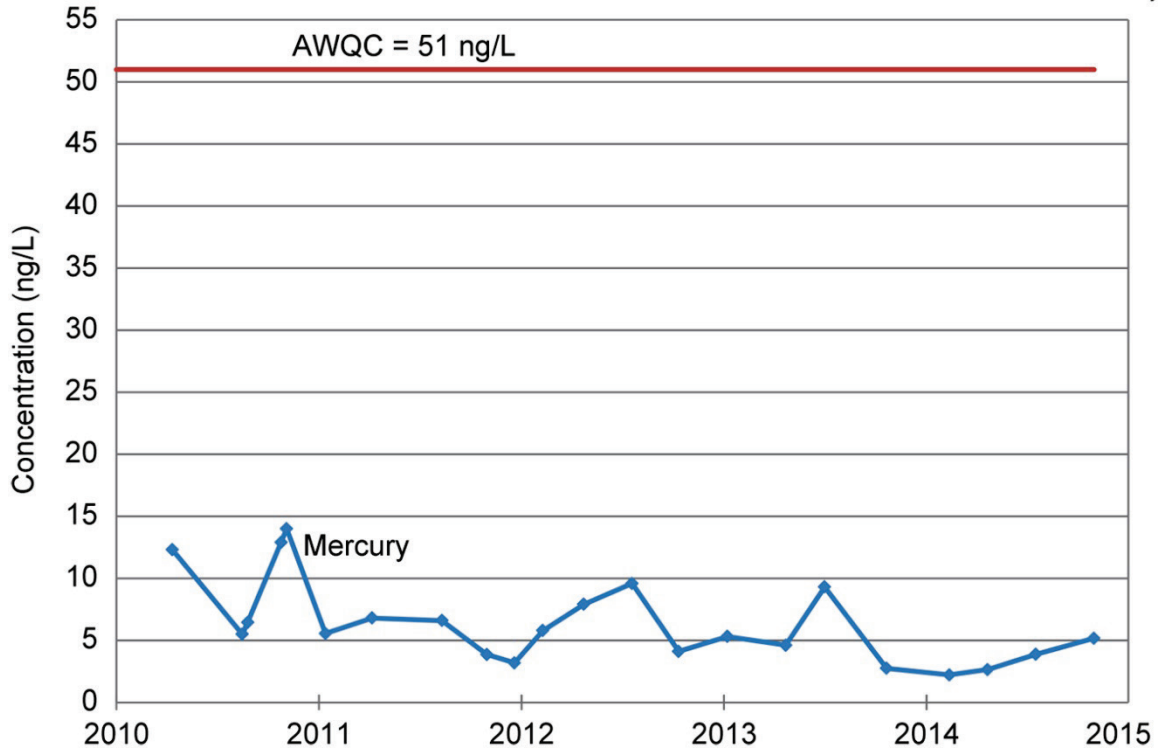


Fig. 3.21. Storm water outfall 170 mercury monitoring results. (AWQC = ambient water quality criterion.)

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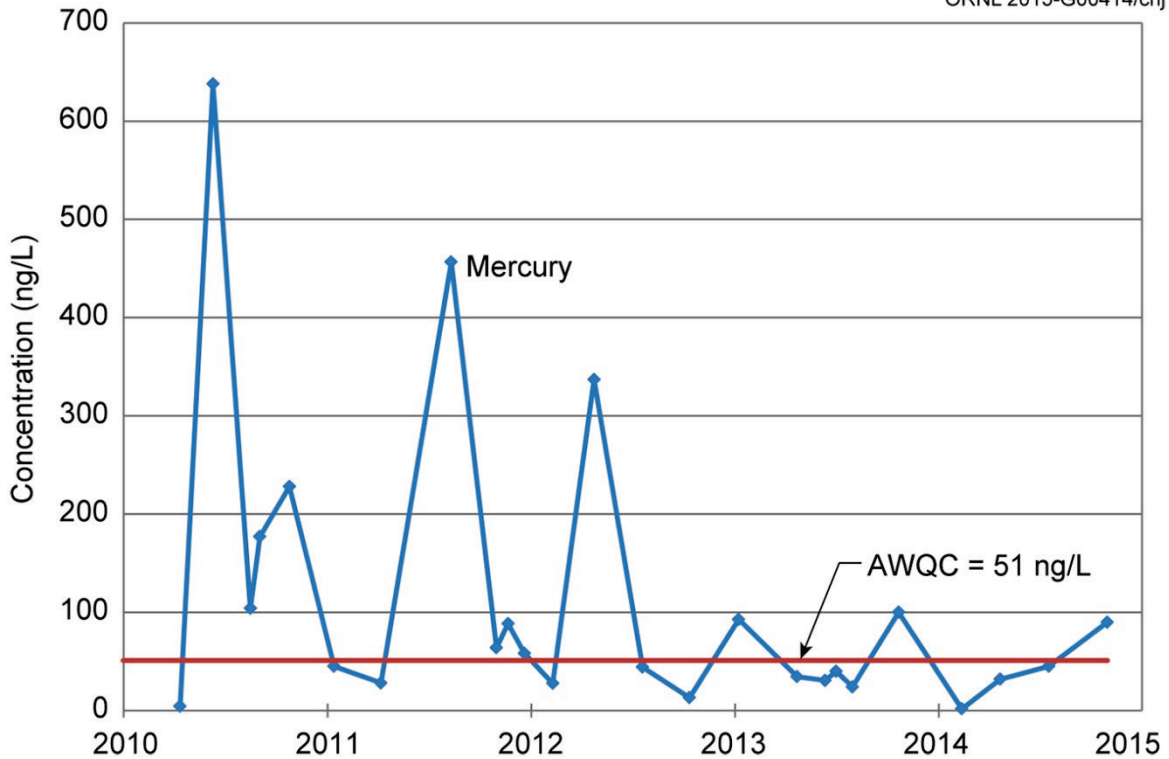


Fig. 3.22. Storm water outfall 180 mercury monitoring results. (AWQC = ambient water quality criterion.)

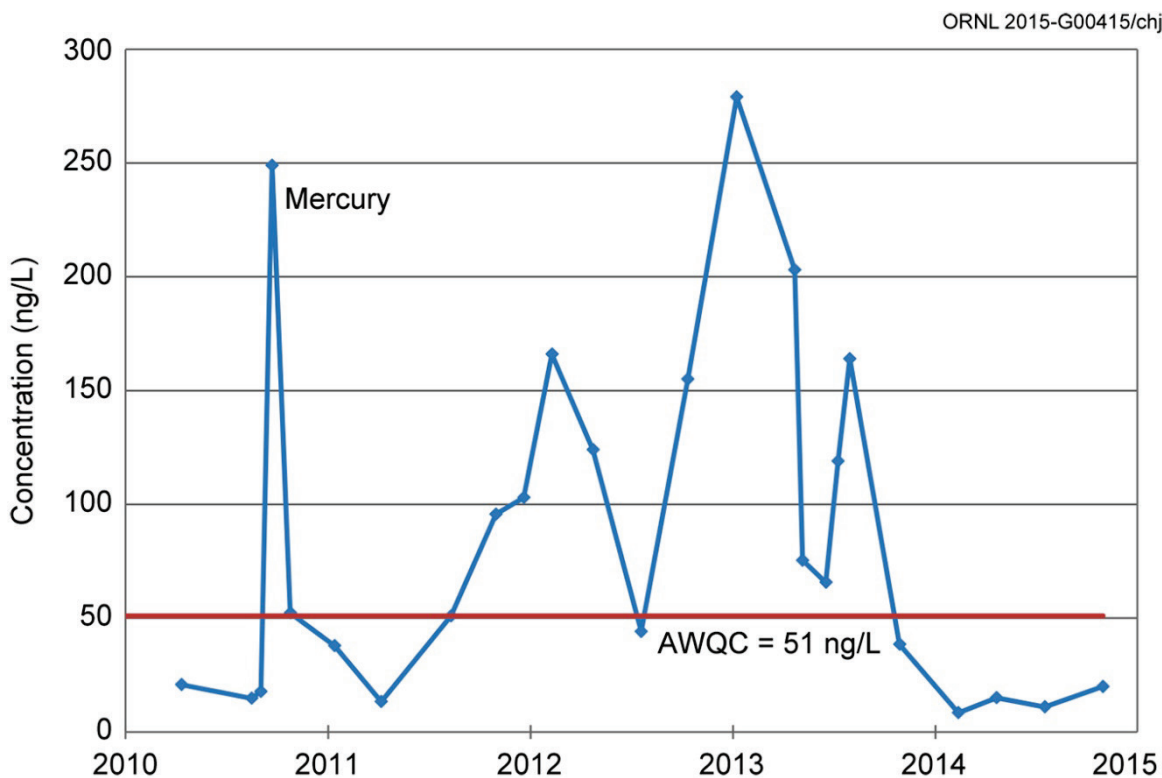


Fig. 3.23. Storm water outfall 190 mercury monitoring results. (AWQC = ambient water quality criterion.)

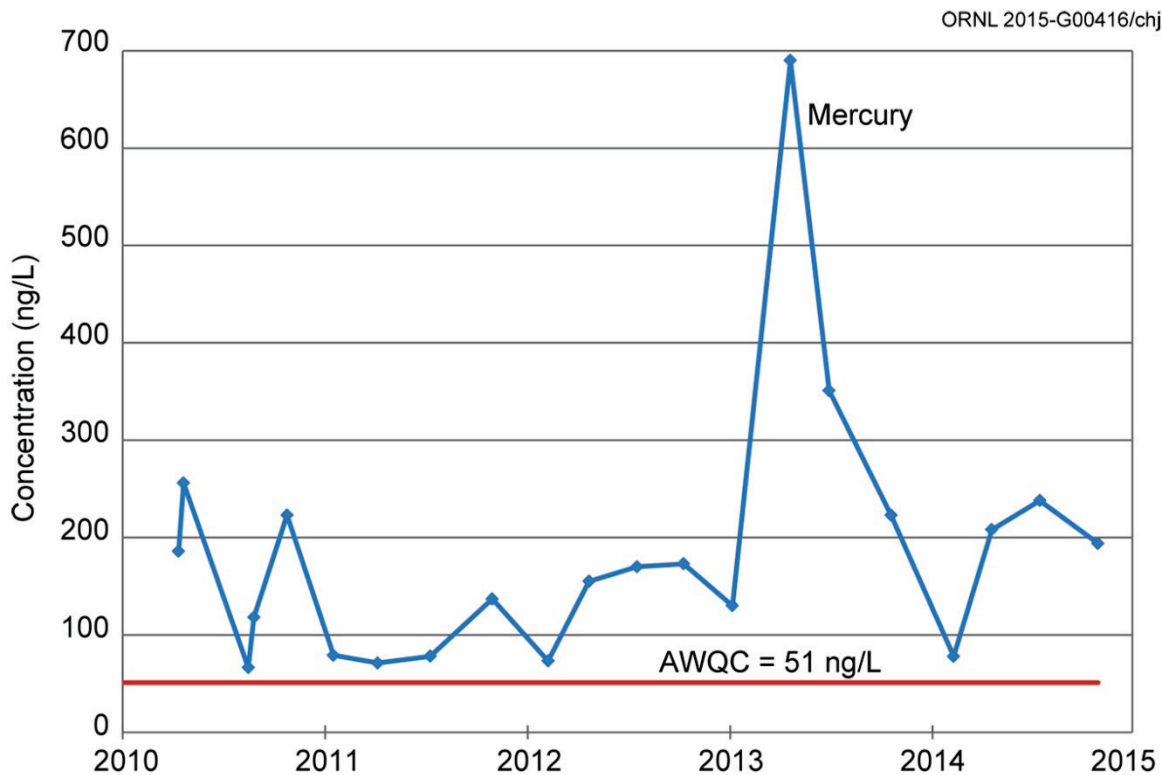


Fig. 3.24. Storm water outfall 05A mercury monitoring results. (AWQC = ambient water quality criterion.)

3.6.3.3 Additional Mercury Monitoring Activities

In an effort to obtain analytical data to identify how the discharges from the storm water outfalls might be affecting the water quality of Mitchell Branch, Poplar Creek, and associated waterways, mercury sampling has been performed at numerous storm water outfalls where mercury activities may have occurred within their watersheds. This information will support the CERCLA cleanup actions for the legacy mercury operations across the site. To identify specific areas of mercury contamination, sampling was performed in the storm water outfall networks in the Mitchell Branch subwatershed.

Mercury at levels above the screening criteria has been identified at multiple outfalls during past sampling events. To evaluate whether the discharge of mercury from these outfalls is part of an ongoing trend or whether it is an isolated occurrence, additional sampling at the outfalls will be conducted in FY 2015 to allow for a sufficient number of data points for trend analysis. Table 3.23 shows the results of this mercury sampling effort conducted in CY 2014.

Table 3.23. Investigative mercury results from wet weather monitoring conducted at outfalls during 2014

Sampling location	Mercury (ng/L)
Outfall 250	89.4

3.6.3.4 Decontamination and Decommissioning of the Technetium-99–Contaminated Portion of the East Wing of Building K-25

In 2014, storm water outfalls affected by the demolition cleanup of the southeast portion of the K-25 building were monitored for ⁹⁹Tc, mercury, and other contaminants. Table 3.24 shows the results of the mercury monitoring at outfall 490; manholes 17006, 17029, and 18102; and the K-1007-B weir at the K-1007-P1 pond. As noted in the table, all the ETTP on-site surface water results were below the AWQC value with the one off-site result in Poplar Creek K-716 at a higher level. The off-site Poplar Creek location is influence by the EFPC discharges.

Table 3.24. Mercury results from storm water sampling activities associated with decontamination and decommissioning activities at the K-25 building

Date	Outfall 490 Hg results (ng/L)	K-1007-B Hg results (ng/L)	Manhole 18102 Hg results (ng/L)	Manhole 17006 Hg results (ng/L)	Manhole 17029 Hg results (ng/L)	K-1700 Hg results (ng/L)	K-716 Hg results (ng/L)
1/13/2014	5.52	5.54	8.29	16.8	NA ^a	NA ^a	NA ^a
2/3/2014	9.15	7.03	9.27	NA ^a	15	NA ^a	NA ^a
3/3/2014	8.27	NA ^a	7.4	NA ^a	11.9	NA ^a	NA ^a
4/29/2014	NA ^a	NA ^a	NA ^a	NA ^a	NA ^a	27	68.8
5/15/2014	10.7	NA ^a	2.9	NA ^a	9.96	NA ^a	NA ^a

^aSamples were not collected for mercury analysis at this location on this date during the sampling period.

3.6.3.5 Post-Demolition Sampling for the K-25 Building

Final D&D activities were completed for the K-25 building in July 2014. To assess any ongoing impacts the remaining building slab has on the quality of the storm water runoff, monitoring will be performed on an annual basis for multiple contaminants, including mercury. Table 3.25, shows the mercury portion of this sampling at outfall 490 (to monitor east wing slab runoff), outfall 334 (to monitor west wing slab runoff), and outfall 230 (to monitor north end slab runoff)—all at levels below AWQC values.

Table 3.25. Mercury results from storm water sampling activities associated with post-demolition monitoring at the K-25 slab

Date	Outfall 490 mercury results (ng/L)	Outfall 334 mercury results (ng/L)	Outfall 230 mercury results (ng/L)
11/17/2014	6.44	4.21	15.6

3.6.3.6 Sampling to Support Decontamination and Decommissioning of the K-31 Building

Demolition of the K-31 building began in 2014. To monitor the storm water runoff from the building demolition activities, sampling was performed during the demolition process. Outfalls 510 and 560, which discharge to the south into Poplar Creek, and outfall 610, which discharges to the east into Poplar Creek, were monitored for multiple contaminants, including mercury. Table 3.26 shows the results of the mercury monitoring portion of this sampling effort, which are at levels below AWQC values.

Table 3.26. Mercury results from storm water sampling activities associated with decontamination and decommissioning activities at the K-31 building

Date	Outfall 510 mercury results (ng/L)	Outfall 560 mercury results (ng/L)	Outfall 610 mercury results (ng/L)
4/7/2014	11.7	9.01	7.47
11/17/2014	NA ^a	NA ^a	15.6

^aSamples were not collected for mercury analysis at this location on this date during the sampling period.

3.6.3.7 Sampling to Support Decontamination and Decommissioning of the K-892 Pump House

Demolition of the K-892 pump house began in 2014. To monitor the storm water runoff from the building demolition activities, sampling was performed during the demolition process. Outfall 690, which discharges to Poplar Creek, was monitored for multiple contaminants, including mercury. Table 3.27 shows the results of the mercury monitoring portion of this sampling effort at levels below AWQC values.

Table 3.27. Mercury results from storm water sampling activities associated with decontamination and decommissioning activities at the K-892 pump house

Date	Outfall 690 mercury results (ng/L)
11/17/2014	5.7

3.6.3.8 Storm Water Outfall Sampling

The mercury investigation scope was broadened to encompass areas that have not been investigated before, have not been sampled recently, and/or warrant additional investigation due to operational history. Table 3.28 lists these mercury storm water sampling results by storm water outfall. These outfalls were selected for sampling because they drain areas where mercury may have been used as part of past site operations or because recent mercury analytical results are not available for them. The only location with levels above AWQC values was at outfall 694. Additional monitoring for mercury will be conducted at this outfall and network as part of future investigations.

Table 3.28. Mercury results from storm water monitoring conducted in CY 2014

Storm water outfall	July (ng/L)	August (ng/L)	September (ng/L)
230	4.49		
100	8.78		
280		19.2	
240		22.3	
694			910
195			10.3

3.6.3.9 Mercury Monitoring Conducted Under the Environmental Monitoring Program

As part of the UCOR environmental monitoring program (EMP), mercury samples are collected at select surface water locations throughout ETP. These mercury results are reported as part of the EMP as well as incorporated into the sitewide mercury investigation. The quarterly Mitchell Branch EMP sample results shown in Table 3.29 were all below AWQC values. The semiannual EMP sample results are shown in Table 3.30 with the only result elevated above AWQC values being at the K-702-A slough location, which is impacted by Poplar Creek mercury levels. Figure 3.25 shows the EMP sampling locations. In addition, sediment samples are collected from EMP monitoring locations about every 5 years. Table 3.31 shows the results of this sampling. For additional information on the EMP, please refer to the surface water monitoring section (Section 3.6.4).

Table 3.29. East Tennessee Technology Park Environmental Monitoring Program quarterly surface water mercury results for CY 2014

Mitchell Branch location	First quarter (ng/L)	Second quarter (ng/L)	Third quarter (ng/L)	Fourth quarter (ng/L)
K-1700 weir	19.5	28.3	30	25.9
MIK 0.45	5.32	8.15	9.54	7.15
MIK 0.59	5.08	4.53	5.28	4.75
MIK 0.71	2.93	2.8	2.96	2.27
MIK 1.4	1.39	1.46	1.38	1.06

MIK values represent distance in Mitchell Branch from the downstream confluence with Poplar Creek.

Acronyms

MIK = Mitchell Branch kilometer

Table 3.30. East Tennessee Technology Park Environmental Monitoring Program semiannual surface water mercury results for CY 2014

Sampling location	January–June (ng/L)	July–December (ng/L)
K-1007-B	12.1	Not Sampled
K-702-A	73.9	49.6
K-901-A	4.58	Not Sampled
K-1710	50.1	4.96
K-716	30	12.6
CRK 16	4.26	1.19
CRK 23	0.796	0.671

Bold indicates results above Tennessee water quality criteria.

Acronyms

CRK = Clinch River kilometer.

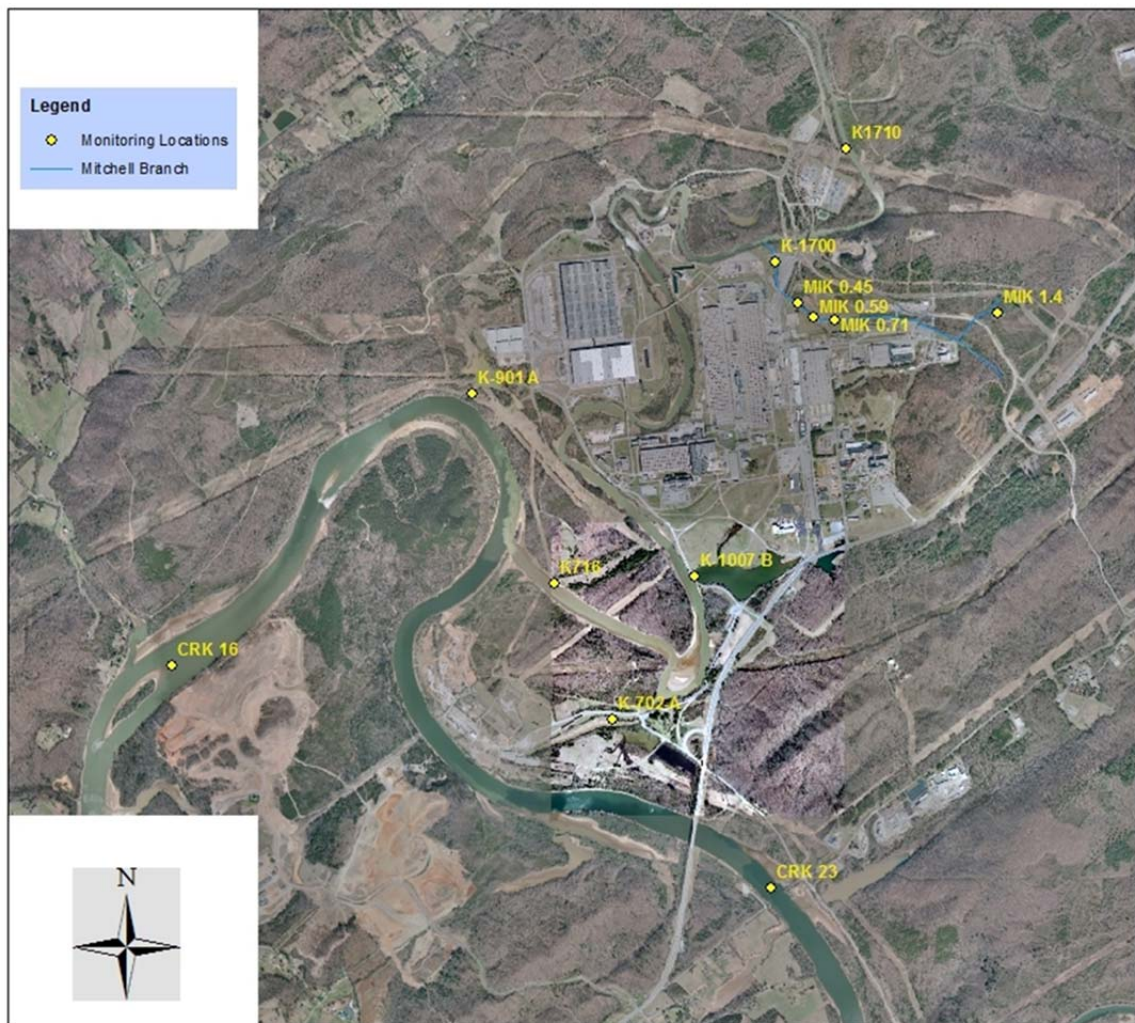


Fig. 3.25. East Tennessee Technology Park Environmental Monitoring Program surface water monitoring locations. (CRK = Clinch River kilometer and MIK = Mitchell Branch kilometer.)

Table 3.31. East Tennessee Technology Park Environmental Monitoring Program periodic sediment and soil sampling mercury results for CY 2014

Sampling location	Date	Results (ng/g)
K-1700 sediment	9/9/2014	2,500
MIK 0.45 sediment	9/9/2014	240
MIK 0.59 sediment	9/9/2014	770
MIK 0.71 sediment	9/9/2014	140
MIK 1.4 sediment	9/9/2014	36
K-901-A sediment	9/11/2014	320
K-1007-B sediment	9/11/2014	530
K-702-A sediment	9/11/2014	7,600
K-11 soil	9/15/2014	40
K-2 soil	9/15/2014	100
K-6 soil	9/15/2014	86

Bold indicates results above Tennessee water quality criteria.

Acronyms

CRK = Clinch River kilometer.

3.6.3.10 Additional Mitchell Branch Instream Sampling

Figure 3.26 shows that Mitchell Branch instream mercury concentrations for the period 2008–2014 increase significantly moving downstream toward the K-1700 weir. Figure 3.27 shows the historic mercury concentrations measured from routine surface water sampling at the K-1700 weir. At the K-1700 weir there was a significant increase in mercury concentrations from December 2009 to March 2010. Near this time frame several activities were under way with the potential to influence the mercury concentrations at the K-1700 weir such as the D&D activity at Building K-25, the remediation of the K-1070-B burial ground, and the D&D activity at Buildings K-1035 and K-1401. Figure 3.27 combines mercury sampling data from the Water Resources Restoration Program (WRRP) sampling events with results from EMP monitoring. In CY 2014, results were all below AWQC values, and going back to 2012, 18 of 21 results were below AWQC values as the general trend continues to improve.

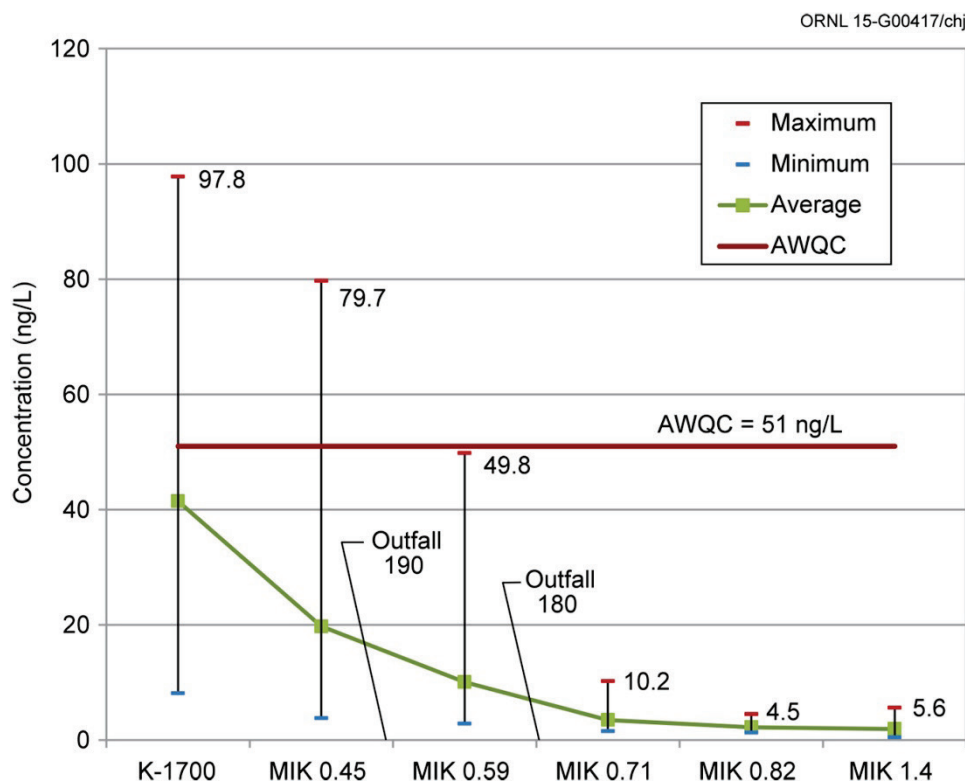


Fig. 3.26. Mitchell Branch instream mercury sampling results, 2008–2014.
(AWQC = ambient water quality criterion, MIK = Mitchell Branch kilometer.)

In 2014, fish and caged clams from various locations at ETTP were analyzed for mercury. For details of this study, please see Section 3.7.

Further monitoring for mercury has been proposed for 2015 as part of the NPDES permit compliance sampling program, SWPP Program, ETTP EMP, groundwater program, and Biological Monitoring and Abatement Program (BMAP).

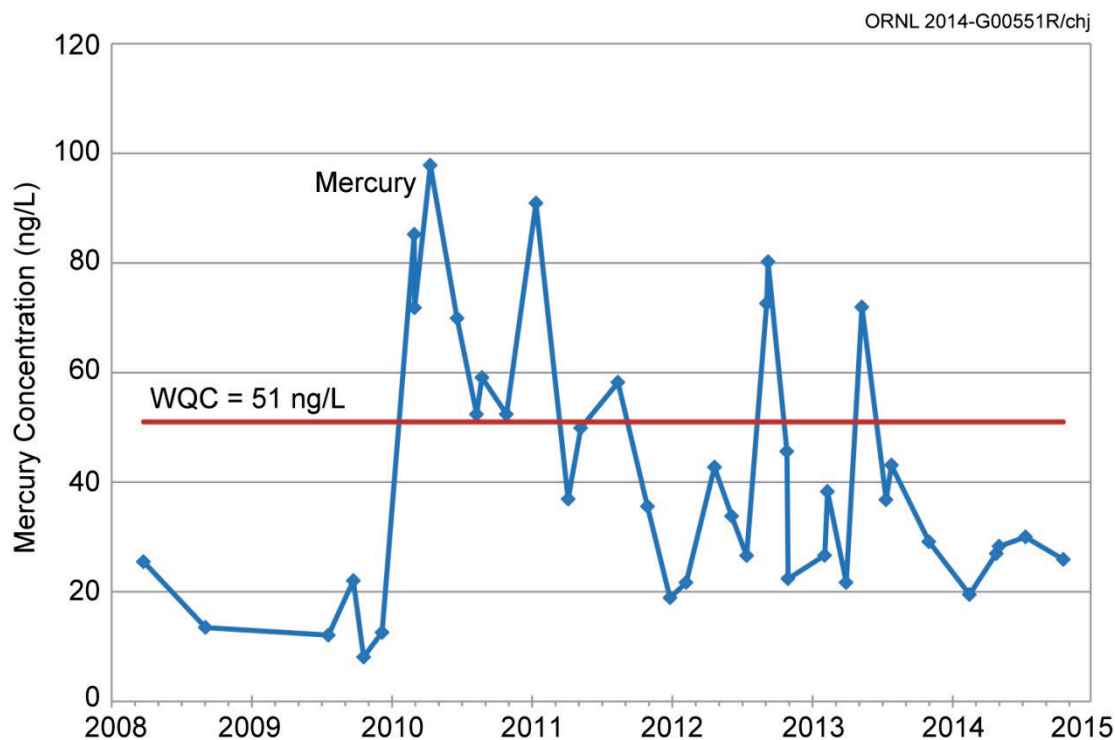


Fig. 3.27. K-1700 weir surface water mercury sampling results, 2008–2014.
(WQC = water quality criterion.)

3.6.3.11 K-1203 Sewage Treatment Plant

The mercury investigation at the K-1203 STP continued in CY 2104. The K-1203 STP was previously used to treat and process all sanitary sewage waste from ETP. Sewage treatment for ETP was transitioned to the City of Oak Ridge, and the K-1203 STP was shut down on May 29, 2008. The City of Oak Ridge expanded RRSTP to include capacity to treat the waste from ETP, and CROET constructed a new ETP lift station and force main to RRSTP. Table 3.32 shows the mercury results from soil and sediment sampling conducted at the K-1203 STP area. Figure 3.28 shows the sampling locations at the K-1203 STP.

Table 3.32. Mercury results from soil and sediment sampling conducted in the K-1203 sewage treatment plant area in 2014

Sampling location	Date	Result (ng/g)
K-1203-2 Imhoff tank—west	8/28/2014	36,500
K-1203-2 Imhoff tank—east	8/28/2014	6,020
K-1203-6 Sludge Drying Bed	8/26/2014	361
K-1203-14 Comminutor	8/25/2014	6,630
K-1203 Holding Tank	8/25/2014	40,100
K-1203 Clarifier	8/25/2014	4,670
K-1203 Aeration Basin	8/25/2014	45,800
K-1203-10 Sump	8/26/2014	267,000

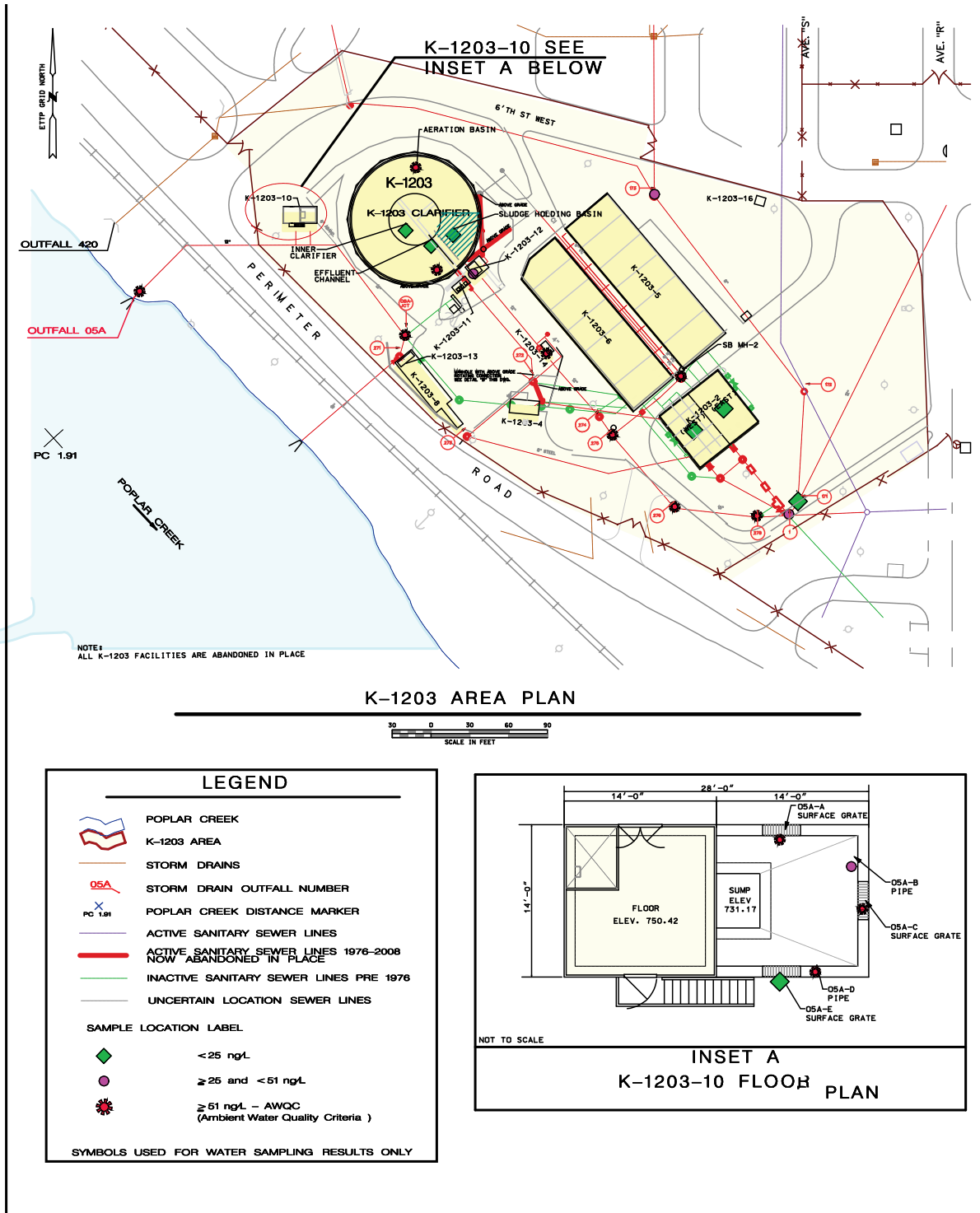


Fig. 3.28. Sampling locations at the K-1203 sewage treatment plant area.

3.6.4 Surface Water Monitoring

During 2014, ETPP EMP personnel conducted environmental surveillance activities at 12 surface water locations (Fig. 3.25) to monitor groundwater and storm water runoff (K-1700, K-1007-B, and K-901-A)

or ambient stream conditions (CRKs 16 and 23; K-1710; K-716; the K-702-A slough; and MIKs 0.45, 0.59, 0.71, and 1.4). As part of monitoring the ambient stream conditions, K-1700 and MIKs 0.45, 0.59, 0.71, and 1.4 were sampled and analyzed quarterly for radionuclides, and CRKs 16 and 23, K-716, and the K-702-A slough were sampled semiannually.

Beginning with the fourth quarter of 2014, at MIKs 0.45, 0.59, and 0.71 quarterly monitoring for ^{99}Tc only was begun. Results of radiological monitoring were compared with the DCS values in DOE Standard 1196 (DOE 2011a). Radiological data are reported as fractions of DCSs for reported radionuclides, and the fractions for all of the isotopes are added together to produce the sum of fractions (SOF) and averaged to produce a rolling 12-month average. The average SOF is recalculated whenever new data become available. If the average SOF for a location exceeds the DCS requirement of remaining below 1.0 (100%) for the year, a source investigation is required. Sources exceeding DCS requirements would need an analysis of the best available technology to reduce the SOF of the radionuclide concentrations to less than 1.0 (100%). At the majority of locations, the monitoring results yielded SOF values of less than 0.01 (1% of the allowable DCS) (Fig. 3.29). The exception was K-1700 with an SOF of 0.012 (1.2% of the allowable DCS).

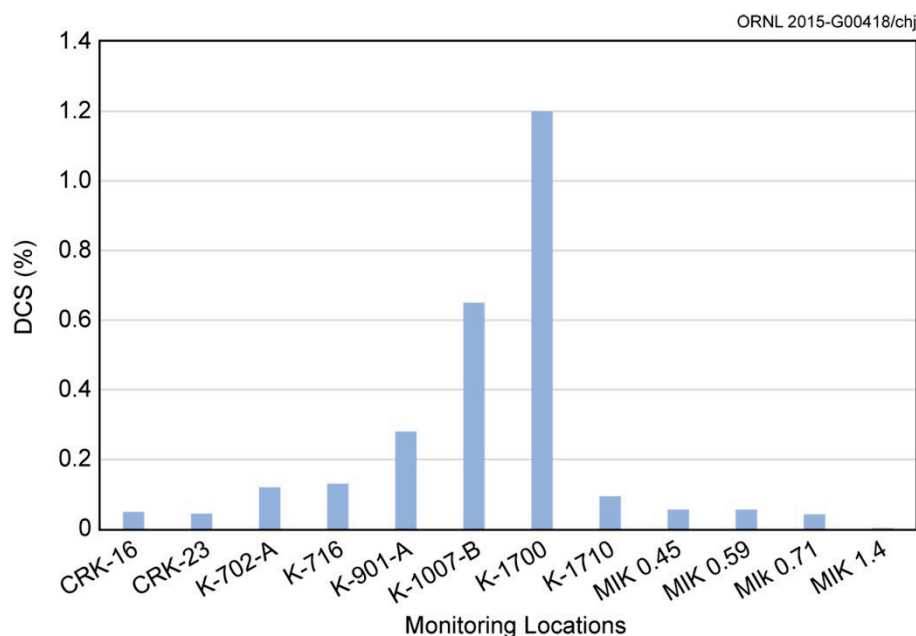


Fig. 3.29. Annual average percentage of derived concentration standards (DCSs) at surface water monitoring locations, 2014. (CRK = Clinch River kilometer; MIK = Mitchell Branch kilometer.)

Depending on the monitoring location, water samples may be analyzed for pH, selected metals, and VOCs. In 2014, results for most of these parameters were well within the appropriate Tennessee state water quality criteria (WQCs). The two exceptions were an exceedance of mercury at K-702-A and a failure to meet the minimum level for dissolved oxygen at K-1700 during the third quarter of 2014. The level of mercury during the second quarter at K-702-A was measured at 79 ng/L, which exceeded the WQC of 51 ng/L. While this level exceeded the WQC, it was within the range of historical results for this location. This location is connected with the Poplar Creek waterway, which impacts these results. The WQC for dissolved oxygen in streams and ponds requires a minimum level of 5 mg/L. On July 14, 2014, dissolved oxygen levels at K-1700 were measured at 4.8 mg/L. Low levels of dissolved oxygen are not uncommon in area streams and are usually associated with higher temperatures, resulting in elevated levels of biological activity, and low rainfall, resulting in low stream flow. Low amounts of rainfall were

recorded at ETTP during the late summer and fall of 2014, and this is suspected to have contributed to the low dissolved oxygen measurement. No obvious signs of distress (e.g., dead fish) were observed to be associated with any of these exceedances in 2014.

Figures 3.30 and 3.31 illustrate the concentrations of TCE (trichloroethene/trichloroethylene) and cis-1,2-dichloroethylene (cis-1,2-DCE) from the K-1700 weir (which is used to monitor Mitchell Branch), the only surface water monitoring location where VOCs are regularly detected. Concentrations of TCE and total 1,2-DCE are below the Tennessee WQCs for recreation, organisms only (300 $\mu\text{g/L}$ for TCE and 10,000 $\mu\text{g/L}$ for trans 1,2-DCE), which are appropriate standards for Mitchell Branch. Moreover, the standards for 1,2-DCE apply only to the “trans” form of 1,2-DCE; almost all of the 1,2-DCE is in the cis-isomer. In addition, vinyl chloride has sometimes been detected in Mitchell Branch water (Fig. 3.32). VOCs have been detected in groundwater in the vicinity of Mitchell Branch and in building sumps discharging into storm water outfalls that discharge into the stream; however, storm drain network monitoring generally has not detected these compounds in the storm water discharges. When detected, the concentrations are lower than in the stream. Therefore, it appears that the primary source of these compounds is contaminated groundwater.

Since CWTS was installed, chromium levels in Mitchell Branch have dropped dramatically, with levels of total chromium being routinely measured at less than 6 $\mu\text{g/L}$ (Fig. 3.33). In 2014, hexavalent chromium levels in Mitchell Branch were all below the detection limit of 6 $\mu\text{g/L}$.

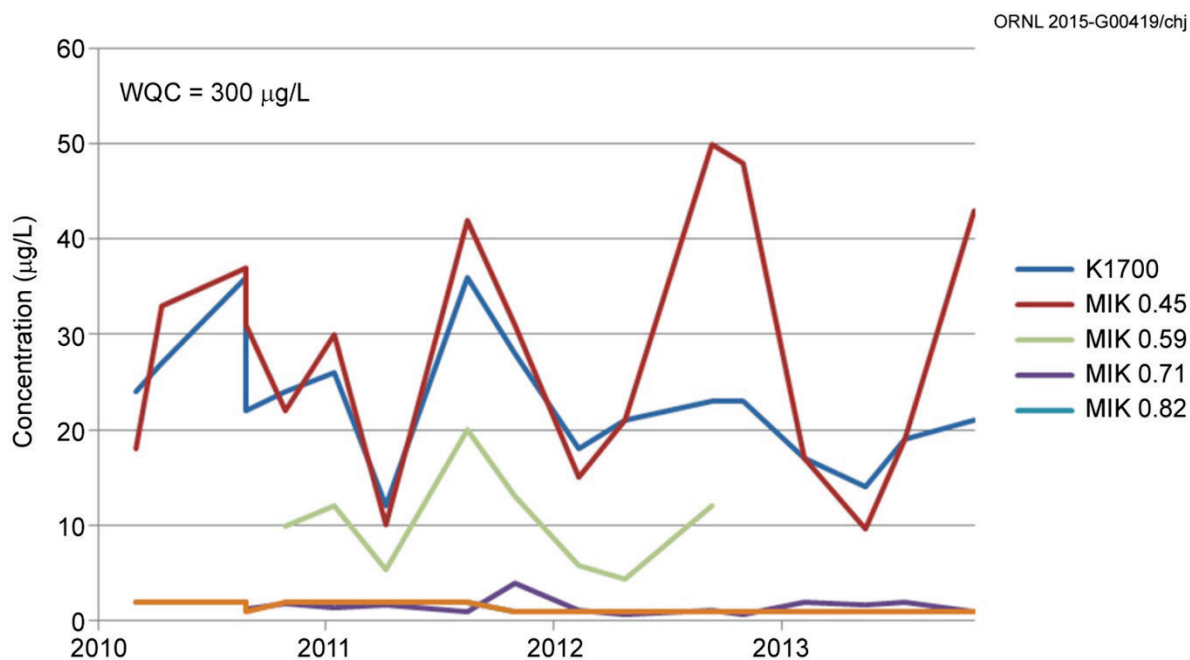


Fig. 3.30. Trichloroethene concentrations in Mitchell Branch. (MIK = Mitchell Branch kilometer and WQC = water quality criterion.)

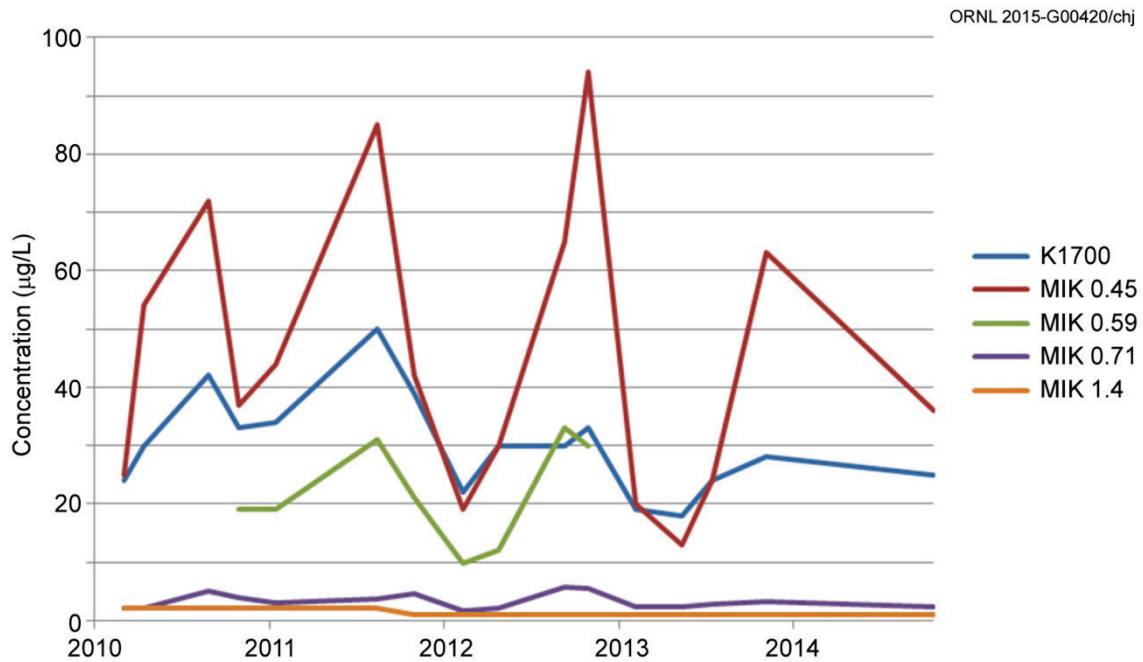


Fig. 3.31. Concentraions of cis-1,2-dichloroethene in Mitchell Branch. (MIK = Mitchell Branch kilometer.)

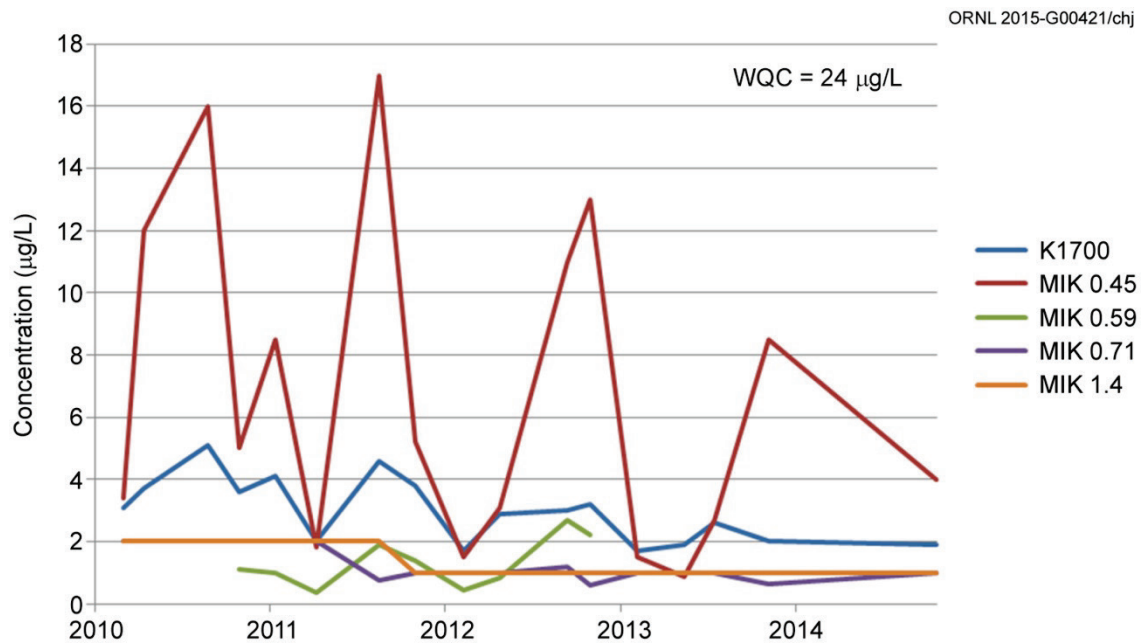


Fig. 3.32. Vinyl chloride concentrations in Mitchell Branch. (MIK = Mitchell Branch kilometer and WQC = water quality criterion.)

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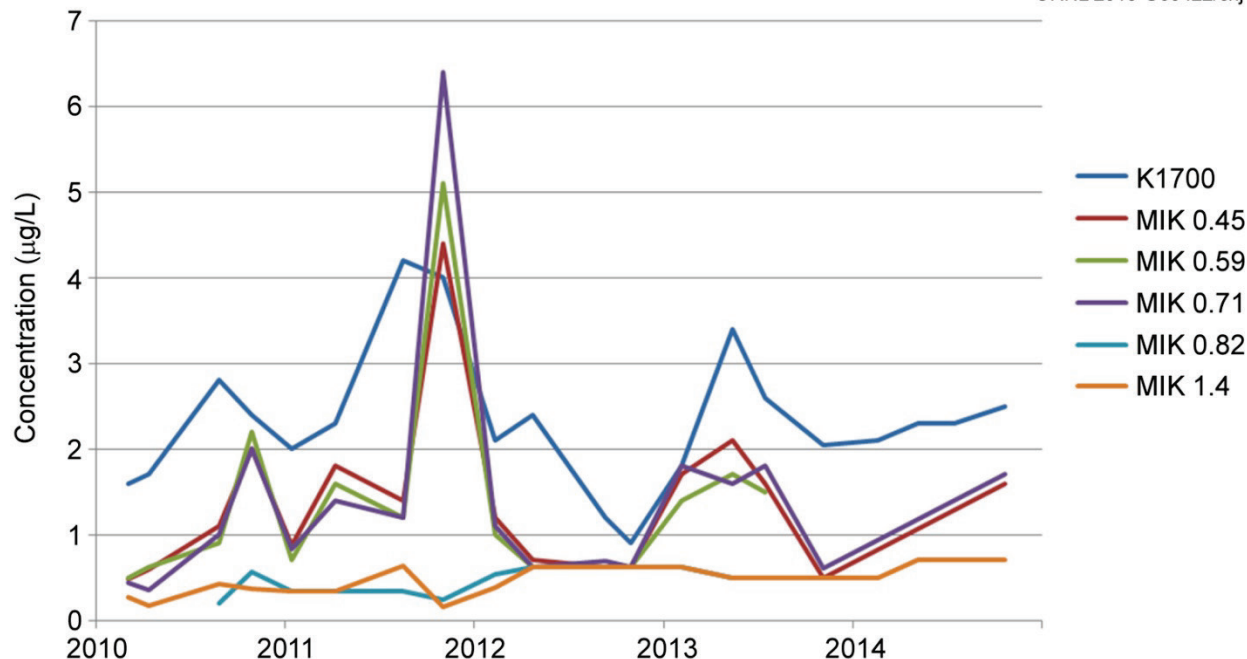


Fig. 3.33. Total chromium concentrations at K-1700. [The water quality criterion for Cr(III), which is hardness dependent, is 74 µg/L, based on a hardness of 100 mg/L. The water quality criterion for Cr(IV) is 11 µg/L. (MIK = Mitchell Branch kilometer.)]

Periodically, soil samples are collected from near the ambient air monitoring stations, and sediment samples are collected from near the surface water surveillance locations. These samples are analyzed for selected metals, radionuclides, and organic compounds. Soil and sediment samples were collected in September of 2014. Results from this monitoring were broadly similar to those from previous monitoring efforts.

3.6.5 Groundwater Monitoring

3.6.5.1 East Tennessee Technology Park Groundwater Monitoring at Major Site Contaminant Plumes

Extensive groundwater monitoring at the ETTP site, using Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) maximum contaminant levels (MCLs) as groundwater screening values, has identified VOCs as the most significant groundwater contaminant on the site. The principal chlorinated hydrocarbon chemicals that were used at ETTP were PCE, TCE, and 1,1,1-TCA (1,1,1-trichloroethane). For purposes of analyzing the groundwater contaminant issues at ETTP, the *Final Site-wide Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study for East Tennessee Technology Park, Oak Ridge, Tennessee* (DOE 2007) subdivided the site into several distinct areas—Mitchell Branch watershed, K-1004 and K-1200 areas, the K-27–K-29 area, and the K-901 area (Figure 3.34). Each of these areas has significant VOC contamination in groundwater.

Figure 3.34 shows the distribution and generalized concentrations of the sum of the primary chlorinated hydrocarbon chemicals and their transformation products, respectively. Specific compounds included in the summation of chlorinated VOCs include chloroethenes (PCE, TCE, cis-1,2-DCE, trans-1,2-DCE, 1,1-DCE, and vinyl chloride), chloroethanes [1,1,1-TCA, 1,1,2-TCA, 1,2-DCA (1,2-dichloroethane), 1,1-DCA, and chloroethane], and chloromethanes (carbon tetrachloride, chloroform, and methylene chloride). Several plume source areas are identified within the regions of the highest VOC concentrations.

In these areas, the primary chlorinated hydrocarbons have been present for decades, and mature contaminant plumes have evolved. The degree of transformation, or degradation, of the primary chlorinated hydrocarbon compounds is highly variable across the site. In the vicinity of the K-1070-C–K-1070-D source, a high degree of degradation has occurred, although a strong source of contamination still remains in the vicinity of the “G-Pit,” where about 9,000 gal of chlorinated hydrocarbon liquids were disposed in an unlined pit. Other areas where transformation is significant include the K-1401 acid line leak site, and the K-1407-B pond area. Transformation processes are weak or inconsistent at the K-1004 and K-1200 areas, K-1035, K-1413, and K-1070-A burial ground, and little transformation of TCE is observed in the K-27–K-29 source and plume area.

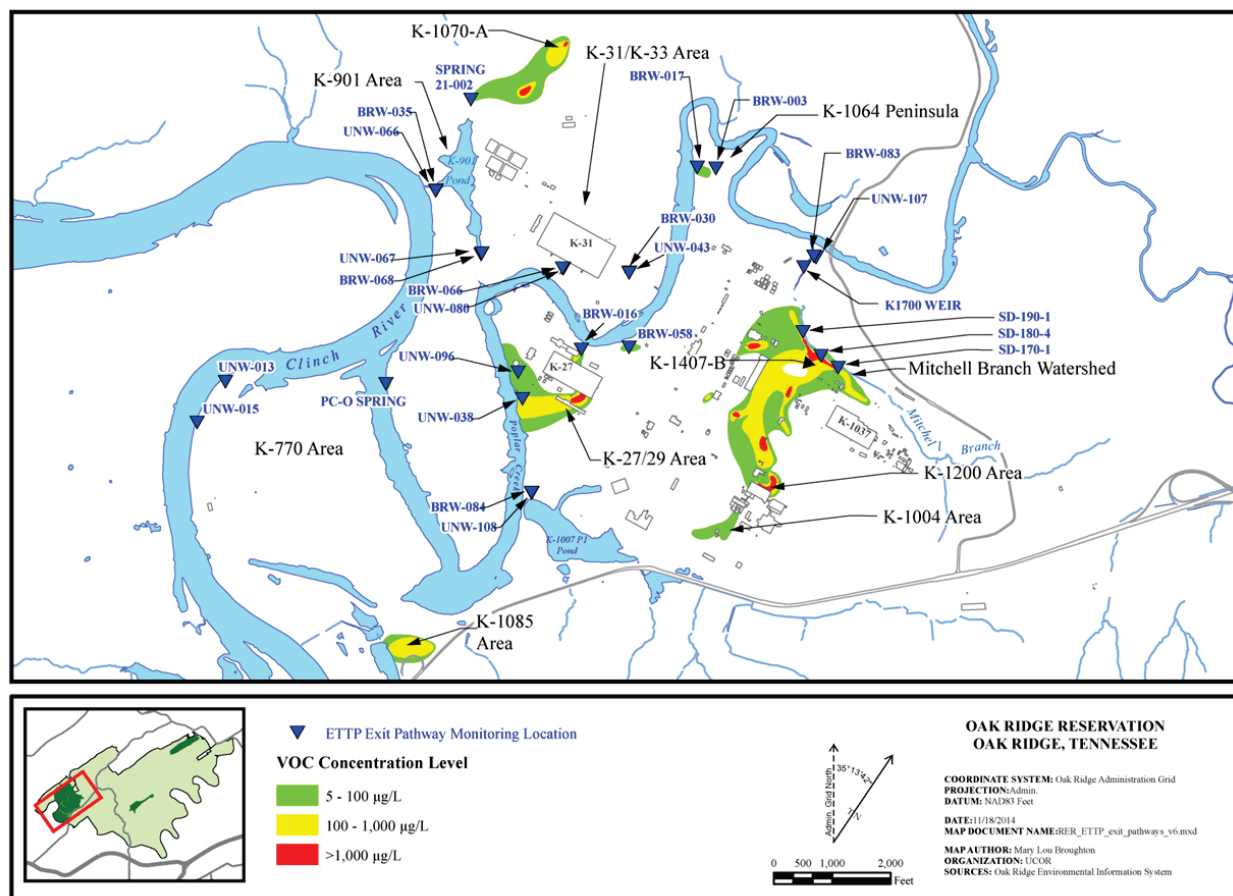


Fig. 3.34. East Tennessee Technology Park (ETTP) exit pathway monitoring locations and associated volatile organic compound (VOC) concentration levels. (BRW = bedrock well, SD = storm water outfall/storm drain, and UNW = unconsolidated well.)

3.6.5.1.1 Technetium-99 in East Tennessee Technology Park Site Groundwater

The environmental fate of some metal contaminants in groundwater is strongly dependent on the pH and redox state of the water. A summary review of the environmental behavior of ^{99}Tc in the environment related to tank wastes at Hanford was published by Pacific Northwest National Laboratory (Deutsch et al. 2005). Background information from that report was used in preparing the following interpretation of potential ^{99}Tc mobility in groundwater at the ETTP site.

Under electrochemically oxidizing conditions technetium forms the negatively charged pertechnetate ion (TcO_4^-) with technetium assuming a valence of 7+. The pertechnetate ion is quite mobile in aqueous

settings as negatively charged ions do not tend to adsorb to soil or rock surfaces, which inherently tend to have negatively charged to neutrally charged surfaces. Under electrochemically reducing conditions the pertechnetate ion is not stable and technetium may assume a 4+ valence. In the 4+ valence state technetium may form ionic combinations with oxygen and hydroxyl groups, which may be amorphous solids with lower solubilities than the pertechnetate ion. In the 4+ valence, in the absence of complexing ligands, technetium may adsorb to mineral and organic matter surfaces and may become bound in low solubility technetium oxyhydroxides. In the 4+ valence technetium may also form soluble complexes with carbonate/bicarbonate ions as well as sulfate. Thermodynamic and directly measured speciation and solubility relationships for technetium carbonate and sulfate complexes have not been established although these complexes may be important to technetium mobility in reducing electrochemical environments.

In addition to standard physical chemical conditions, microbial processes are important as potential mediators that can lead to reduction of technetium from the highly soluble and mobile 7+ valence in the pertechnetate ion to the 4+ valence in the lower solubility forms. Microbial processes often occur in very localized regions in the subsurface, where chemical conditions are favorable. This fact is evident in groundwater at the ETTP site where intrinsic microbial communities are known to slowly degrade chlorinated organic compounds in some areas but not in others. Factors that may favor microbial reduction of dissolved compounds include relatively slow groundwater movement, which limits influx of dissolved oxygen via groundwater recharge; presence of organic carbon that can serve as electron donor material; and presence of microbes capable of affecting the required molecular transformations.

Data from groundwater, springwater, and surface water sampling and analyses conducted at the ETTP site as part of the ETTP Water Quality Program during FY 2014 have been reviewed for parameters pertinent to understanding the potential for ^{99}Tc mobility in site groundwater. During collection of all groundwater samples at ETTP, field measurements of pH and redox potential are made and recorded. The field measurements of pH and redox potential from all groundwater, springwater, and surface water samples collected in FY 2014 have been plotted and superimposed over the technetium Eh-pH diagram excerpted from the Pacific Northwest National Laboratory report (Figure 3.35). Individual data points are posted, and for samples analyzed for ^{99}Tc the detection/nondetection status is indicated by colored symbols. As shown, some of the locations from which ^{99}Tc was detected had Eh-pH conditions that plot below the pertechnetate ion stability field. Review of turbidity data from those sampling events at those locations indicates the presence of turbidity ranging from 1 NTU (spring 21-002) to 307 NTU [unconsolidated piezometer 008 (UNP-008)]. Although filtered samples were not collected and analyzed to verify particle association of ^{99}Tc , the presence of some level of turbidity opens the possibility that at least a portion of the ^{99}Tc was adsorbed to solids in the samples. The data shown in Figure 3.35 suggest that ^{99}Tc is quite mobile in site groundwater.

In addition to physicochemical data, major dissolved anions including bicarbonate, carbonate, and sulfate are measured on a subset of groundwater samples. Bicarbonate concentrations ranged from a low of 5 mg/L in bedrock well (BRW)-118, which monitors groundwater in the siliceous bedrock of the lower Rome Formation near Highway 58, to a high of 290 mg/L in BRW-003, which monitors groundwater in the limestone-rich Chickamauga Group within Zone 2. The bicarbonate concentration in site groundwater samples averaged about 110 mg/L. Sulfate concentrations ranged from a low of not detectable at unconsolidated well (UNW-)121, which monitors groundwater in the soils at the K-1070-A site, to a high of 98 mg/L at BRW-017, which monitors groundwater in bedrock in a portion of the Chickamauga Group. Sulfate concentrations averaged about 16 mg/L in site groundwater. These data indicate that ^{99}Tc could form soluble complexes with bicarbonate and sulfate ions under some conditions that would allow contaminant mobility via groundwater transport.

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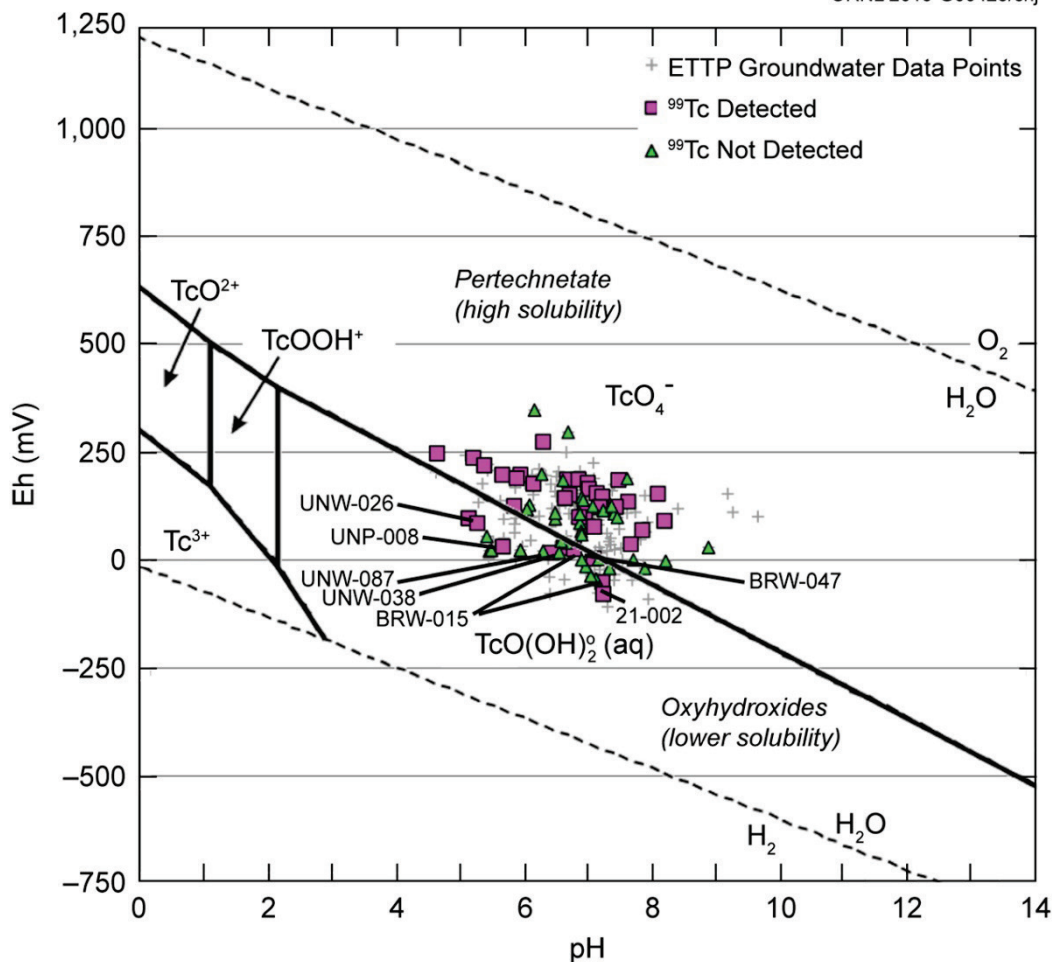


Fig. 3.35. Eh-pH region in which East Tennessee Technology Park (ETTP) groundwater, springwater, and surface water lie in relation to the technetium (^{99}Tc) Eh-pH speciation regions at 25°C and 900 pCi/L ^{99}Tc . (BRW = bedrock well, UNP = unconsolidated piezometer, and UNW = unconsolidated well.)

Much of the ETTP physicochemical data suggests that ^{99}Tc mobility would generally be fairly high. Under this condition dilution and dispersion processes during groundwater transport would be the only concentration reduction processes that would reduce ^{99}Tc activities as adsorption of pertechnetate ion is negligible. Site groundwater chemical and microbial conditions in some areas may provide attenuation processes that will reduce ^{99}Tc geochemical mobility in the groundwater system. If ^{99}Tc is present where these conditions occur, these processes would be additive to dilution and dispersion processes expected to reduce contaminant levels with increasing transport distances.

Technetium-99 has been known to occur in groundwater at the ETTP site for many years. Various phases of remedial investigations (RIs) have sampled and analyzed for ^{99}Tc in groundwater. In the past, the highest ^{99}Tc activity levels (as high as 6,000+ pCi/L) have been observed beneath the K-1070-A burial ground. The area along Mitchell Branch near the former K-1407 ponds has residual ^{99}Tc -contaminated groundwater from the operational era of the ponds, and possibly from K-1420, with much lower activity levels (< 100 pCi/L).

During demolition of the K-25 east wing in the winter of 2014 fugitive dust suppression misting and rainfall carried ^{99}Tc off the work area. Contaminated runoff apparently percolated through soil and into

subsurface utility lines and probably into backfill surrounding the buried utilities. Groundwater sampling for ^{99}Tc was increased in wells in the general vicinity of the east wing and where wells were available along potential groundwater transport pathways. The area where detected ^{99}Tc is highest is in the vicinity of UNP-008, BRW-015, and UNW-026. These wells are located near the K-1413 neutralization pit facility. Before the K-25 east wing demolition ^{99}Tc was not detected in these wells. The conceptual model that explains the elevated ^{99}Tc in this area is that percolation water from the contaminated slab area probably entered the backfill around the electrical duct bank and other utilities that run north–south along the east side of the building. Rapid transport along these utilities must have carried the high concentrations of ^{99}Tc into the vicinity of these wells. Multiple samples from the wells near K-1413 have been collected for ^{99}Tc analysis. At UNW-026 ^{99}Tc was measured at 8,760, 16,200, and 7,860 pCi/L in February, April, and September, respectively. At UNW-027 the ^{99}Tc activities were 17.3, 81, and 10.3 pCi/L in February, April, and September, respectively. UNP-008 was sampled in April and September, with results of 13,900 and 24,000 pCi/L, respectively. BRW-015 was also sampled in April and September, with activities of 105 and 1,580 pCi/L, respectively. These data indicate much lower levels in bedrock than in the groundwater in the base of the unconsolidated zone just above the bedrock surface. The plume trajectory for ^{99}Tc from this area has been evaluated based on hydraulic gradient direction as well as temporal changes in ^{99}Tc activities. The result of this evaluation indicates that the plume trajectory is to the northeast through UNW-089 and on toward UNP-005, which is located very near Mitchell Branch. At UNW-089 the ^{99}Tc activities were nondetect at 9.86 pCi/L in February, with a result of 408 pCi/L in September. At UNP-005 ^{99}Tc was not detected in the March sample but was measured at 12.3 pCi/L in the September sample, suggesting arrival of contamination in that area. As indicated by the piezometric surface, there is a trough in the water table surface that is formed in a now-filled valley that led from the K-1413 area northward toward Mitchell Branch, suggesting a plume trajectory arrow from the contaminated area near K-1413 toward UNP-005. It is also noted that during construction activities in the 1940s and '50s the culverts for the storm drain 190 network were laid in the preexisting valley beneath the contour fill. Infiltration of ^{99}Tc plume water into the SD 190 culvert is expected. Groundwater sampling and analysis for ^{99}Tc in all the wells where it has been detected will continue.

3.6.5.2 Exit Pathway Monitoring

Groundwater exit pathway monitoring sites are shown in Figure 3.34. Groundwater monitoring results for the exit pathways are discussed in the following subsections.

Mitchell Branch—The Mitchell Branch groundwater exit pathway is monitored using surface water data from the K-1700 weir on Mitchell Branch and BRW-083 and UNW-107. Table 3.33 gives the results of the monitoring of VOCs along Mitchell Branch. Section 3.6.4 includes discussion of the detected concentrations of VOCs in Mitchell Branch.

BRW-083 and UNW-107—BRW-083 and UNW-107, located near the mouth of Mitchell Branch (Fig. 3.34), have been monitored since 1994. Table 3.33 shows the history and concentrations of detected VOCs in groundwater. Detection of VOCs in groundwater near the mouth of Mitchell Branch is considered an indication of the migration of the Mitchell Branch VOC plume complex. The intermittent detection of VOCs in this exit pathway is thought to be a reflection of variations in groundwater flowpaths that can fluctuate with seasonal hydraulic head conditions, which are strongly affected by rainfall. No chlorinated VOCs were detected in BRW-083 or UNW-107 during FY 2014.

Table 3.33. Volatile organic compounds detected in groundwater in the Mitchell Branch exit pathway

Well	Date	cis-1,2-DCE	PCE	TCE	VC
BRW-083	8/29/2002	ND	5	28	ND
	3/16/2004	0.69	2.2	9.9	ND
	8/26/2004	2	4.7	20	ND
	3/14/2007	5	9	28	ND
	3/20/2008	ND	ND	ND	ND
	8/21/2008	ND	ND	ND	ND
	3/12/2009	ND	ND	1.31 J	ND
	8/3/2009	ND	2.66	14.2	ND
	3/3/2010	ND	ND	ND	ND
	8/30/2010	3.6	5.1	18	ND
	3/15/2011	2.8	6.7	22	ND
	8/10/2011	ND	ND	ND	ND
	3/1/2012	ND	ND	ND	ND
	8/16/2012	ND	ND	ND	ND
	8/6/2013	ND	ND	ND	ND
	3/13/2013	ND	ND	ND	ND
	3/13/2014	ND	ND	ND	ND
	8/7/2014	ND	ND	ND	ND
UNW-107	8/3/1998	ND	ND	3	ND
	8/26/2004	4.7	ND	3.6	ND
	8/21/2006	3.4	14	2	1.2
	3/13/2007	25	2 J	23	2 ^a
	8/21/2007	17	ND	30	0.3 J
	3/5/2008	ND	ND	ND	ND
	8/18/2008	ND	ND	ND	ND
	3/12/2009	ND	ND	ND	ND
	7/30/2009	ND	ND	ND	ND
	3/4/2010	ND	ND	ND	ND
	7/28/2010	ND	ND	ND	ND
	3/16/2011	ND	ND	ND	ND

^aDetection occurred in a field replicate. Constituent not detected in regular sample.

Bold table entries exceed SDWA MCL screening values (PCE, TCE = 5 µg/L, cis-1,2-DCE = 70 µg/L, VC = 2 µg/L)

All concentrations µg/L.

Acronyms

BRW = bedrock well

DCE = dichloroethene

J = estimated value

MCL = maximum contaminant level

ND = Not Detected

PCE = tetrachloroethene

SDWA = Safe Drinking Water Act

TCE = trichloroethene

UNW = unconsolidated well

VC = vinyl chloride

VOC = volatile organic compound

K-1064 peninsula area—BRW-003 and BRW-017 (Fig. 3.34) monitor groundwater at the K-1064 peninsula burn area. Figure 3.36 shows the history of VOC concentrations in groundwater from FY 1994 through FY 2014. TCE concentrations have declined in both wells over that time period. TCE was present at concentrations less than the MCL during FY 2014 at BRW-017 and was not detected in either sample from BRW-003. Methyl chloroform (1,1,1-TCA) has declined to undetectable concentrations in BRW-003. Dichloroethene (cis-1,2-DCE) was detected at concentrations much less than its MCL in both semiannual samples in BRW-017.

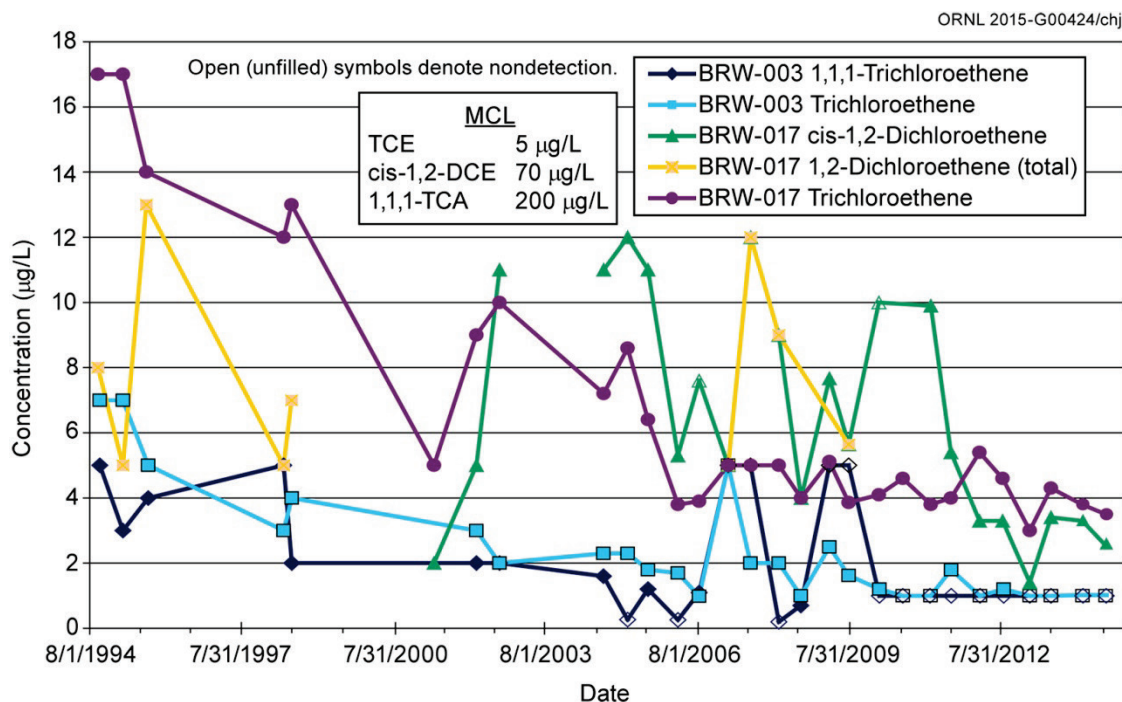


Fig. 3.36. Volatile organic compound concentrations in groundwater at the K-1064 peninsula area. (BRW = bedrock well, DCE = dichloroethene/dichloroethylene, MCL = maximum contaminant level, TCA = trichloroethane, TCE = trichloroethene/trichloroethylene.)

K-31–K-33 area—Groundwater is monitored in four wells that lie between the K-31–K-33 area and Poplar Creek (BRW-066, BRW-030, UNW-080, and UNW-043), as shown on Fig. 3.34. VOCs are not COCs in this area; however, leaks of recirculated cooling water in the past have left residual subsurface chromium contamination. Figure 3.37 shows the history of chromium detection in wells at K-31–K-33. UNW-043 exhibits the highest residual chromium concentrations of any in the area. Chromium concentrations in UNW-043 correlate with the turbidity of samples, and acidification of unfiltered samples that contain suspended solids often causes detection of high metals content because the addition of acid preservative releases metals that are adsorbed to the solid particles at the normal groundwater pH. During FY 2006, an investigation was conducted to determine whether groundwater in the vicinity of the K-31–K-33 buildings contained residual hexavalent chromium from recirculated cooling water leaks. The data indicated the chromium in groundwater near the leak sites was essentially all the less toxic trivalent species. During FY 2008 through FY 2014, field-filtered (i.e., dissolved) and unfiltered samples were collected from UNW-043. Chromium concentrations in the field-filtered samples are consistently much less than the MCL. During FY 2014, both field-filtered and unfiltered samples were collected from BRW-066, UNW-043, and UNW-080. Chromium was a nondetect in all samples from BRW-066 during FY 2014.

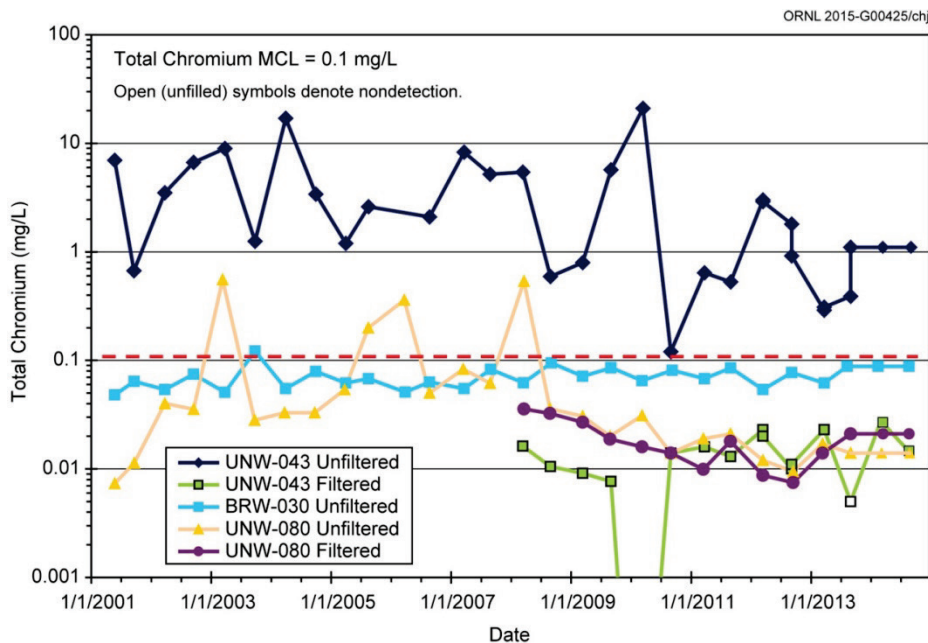


Fig. 3.37. Chromium concentrations in groundwater in the K-31–K-33 area. (BRW = bedrock well, MCL = maximum contaminant level, and UNW = unconsolidated well.)

K-27–K-29 area—Several exit pathway wells are monitored in the K-27–K-29 area, as shown on Fig. 3.34. Figure 3.38 provides concentrations of detected VOCs in wells both north and south of K-27 and K-29 through FY 2014. The source of VOC contamination in BRW-058 is not suspected to be from K-27–K-29 area operations. With the exception of cis-1,2-DCE in BRW-058, which appears stable to slightly increasing but remains less than its MCL, the VOC concentrations in this area show very slowly declining concentrations. TCE levels in UNW-038 fluctuate between 10 to 20 times the MCL and appear to be in a nearly stable fluctuation range since about 2011.

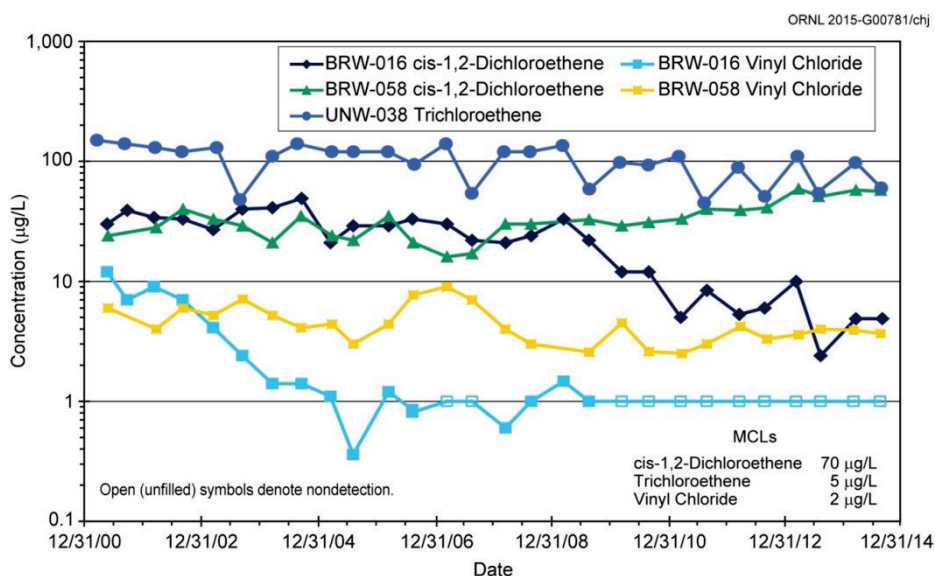


Fig. 3.38. Detected volatile organic compound concentrations in groundwater exit pathway wells near K-27 and K-29. (BRW = bedrock well, MCL = maximum contaminant level, and UNW = unconsolidated well.)

K-1007-P1 holding pond area—BRW-084 and UNW-108 are exit pathway monitoring locations at the northern edge of the K-1007-P1 holding pond (Fig. 3.34). These wells were monitored intermittently from 1994 through 1998 and semiannually from FY 2001 through FY 2014. The first detections of VOCs in these wells occurred during FY 2006 with detection of low (~10 µg/L or less) concentrations of TCE and cis-1,2-DCE. The source area for these VOCs is not known. VOCs were not detected in either of these wells during FY 2014. Metals have been detected in the past, associated with the presence of high turbidity in the samples. Arsenic was not detected in either well during FY 2014. A single detection of cadmium at a concentration below the MCL and the AWQC levels occurred at UNW-108 in the unfiltered aliquot collected in August. Chromium was detected at concentrations below its MCL and AWQC levels in the filtered sample from BRW-084 in March and from the unfiltered samples from both wells collected in August. Aluminum exceeded its secondary MCL in the unfiltered sample from BRW-084 in August and from the unfiltered aliquots from both sample dates at UNW-108. Aluminum was detectable in the filtered aliquot from the March sample from UNW-108 at 0.15 mg/L, which is within the range of the secondary MCL. Iron exceeded its secondary drinking water standard in both of the unfiltered aliquots from UNW-108 but was not detected in the filtered aliquots. Manganese exceeded its secondary drinking water standard in both the filtered and unfiltered samples from UNW-108 in the August sampling event. No other primary or secondary MCLs for metals were exceeded in sample aliquots that were field-filtered before acid preservation during FY 2014. Zinc was detected (21 µg/L) in the unfiltered aliquot from UNW-108 at a concentration far below its secondary drinking water standard (5 mg/L).

K-901-A holding pond area—Exit pathway groundwater in the K-901-A holding pond area (Fig. 3.34) is monitored by four wells (BRW-035, BRW-068, UNW-066, and UNW-067) and two springs (21-002 and PC-0). Very low concentrations (<5 µg/L) of VOCs are occasionally detected in wells adjacent to the K-901-A holding pond. However, these contaminants are not persistent in groundwater west and south of the pond. No VOCs were detected in the K-901-A holding pond exit pathway wells during FY 2014. Alpha activity was detected at about 3 pCi/L in both semiannual samples from UNW-066. Alpha activity was not detected in samples from the other three wells. Beta activity levels were less than the 50 pCi/L screening level, with the highest measured activity (15.8 pCi/L) occurring in BRW-035.

TCE is the most significant groundwater contaminant detected in the springs, and the historic TCE concentrations are shown in Fig. 3.39. Spring PC-0 was added to the sampling program in 2004. During the spring through autumn seasons, spring PC-0 is submerged beneath the Watts Bar lake level. In late winter 2012 DOE installed a sampling pump in the spring mouth to allow year-round sampling. The contaminant source for the PC-0 spring is presumed to be disposed waste at the K-1070-F site. The TCE concentrations in PC-0 have varied between nondetectable levels and 26 µg/L and have decreased from their highest measured value in 2006 to concentrations less than or just slightly greater than the drinking water standard.

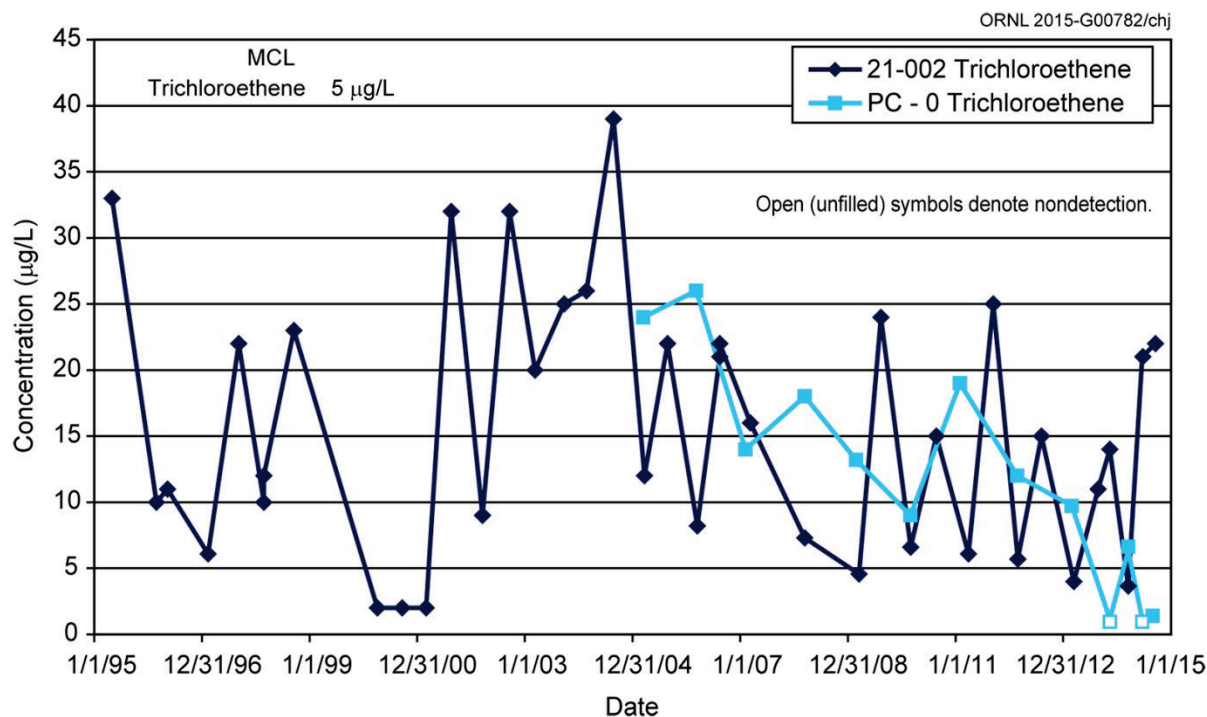


Fig. 3.39. Trichloroethene concentrations in K-901 area springs. (MCL = maximum contaminant level.)

Although TCE is the principal contaminant detected at spring 21-002, 1,1-DCE and carbon tetrachloride were present at concentrations less than 3 and 4 µg/L, respectively. The TCE concentration at spring 21-002 tends to vary between less than 5 and up to 25 µg/L, and this variation appears to be related to variability in rainfall, which affects groundwater discharge from the K-1070-A VOC plume. During FY 2014 TCE was detected below its MCL in the March sample and at about 4 times the MCL in the June and August samples. Arsenic was detected at 7.3 µg/L in the November 2013 sample but was not detected in any of the other three samples collected during FY 2014. Alpha activity was detected at 2.26 pCi/L in the June sample, and the highest detected beta activity was 11.3 pCi/L, measured in the June sample. Technetium-99 was detected in all the samples collected during FY 2014, with the maximum detected activity of 21.4 pCi/L, which is much lower than the 900 pCi/L drinking water standard for this radionuclide. Uranium-234 and Uranium-238 were detected at less than 1 pCi/L.

K-770 area—Exit pathway groundwater monitoring is also conducted at the K-770 area, where UNW-013 and UNW-015 are used to assess radiological groundwater contamination along the Clinch River (Fig. 3.34). Measured alpha and beta activity levels were below screening levels during FY 2014 except the August beta activity in UNW 013, which was 57 pCi/L. Figure 3.40 shows the history of measured alpha and beta activity in this area. Historic analytical results indicate that the alpha activity is largely attributable to uranium isotopes, and UNW-013 historically contained ⁹⁹Tc, which is a strong beta-emitting radionuclide responsible for the elevated beta activity in that well. Much lower alpha and beta activity levels have been measured in UNW-015 since sampling was resumed in FY 2013 following an interruption in sampling during site remediation activities.

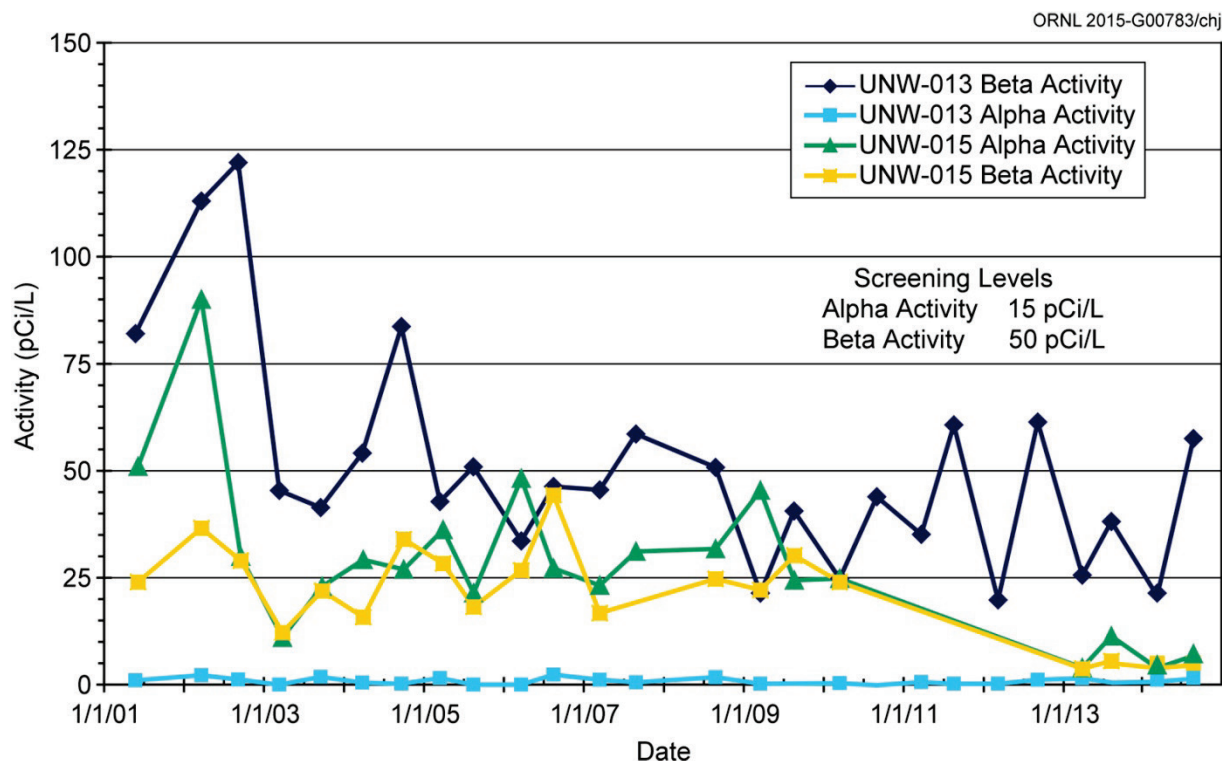


Fig. 3.40. History of measured alpha and beta activity in the K-770 area. (UNW = unconsolidated well.)

3.6.5.3 Performance Monitoring

3.6.5.3.1 Performance Monitoring Goals and Objectives

The objective of the K-1407-B and C ponds remediation was to reduce potential threats to human health and the environment posed by residual metal, radiological, and VOC contamination within the pond soils (DOE 1993).

The *Remedial Action Report for the K-1407-B Holding Pond and the K-1407-C Retention Basin, Oak Ridge, Tennessee* (DOE 1995) proposes semiannual groundwater monitoring for nitrate, metals, and selected radionuclides, including gross alpha and beta activity, ^{99}Tc , ^{90}Sr , ^{137}Cs , $^{230/232}\text{Th}$, and $^{234/238}\text{U}$. Target concentrations for these parameters were not established in the CERCLA documents (DOE 1993, DOE 1995) for use in post-remediation monitoring to evaluate effectiveness. As recommended by EPA, with concurrence from TDEC, performance monitoring is conducted in wells UNW-003, UNW-009, and the Mitchell Branch weir (K-1700 weir), shown on Fig. 3.41.

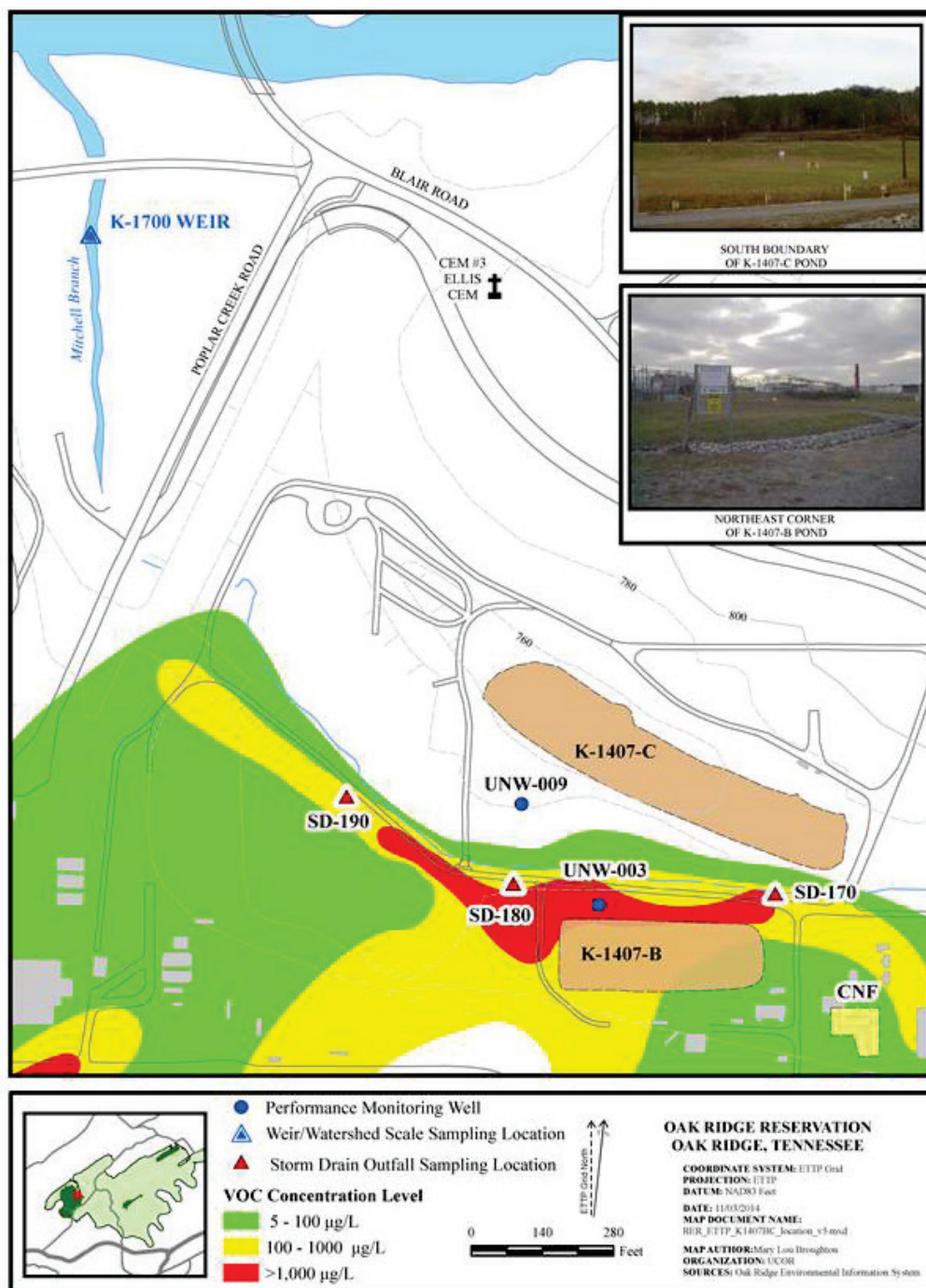


Fig. 3.41. Location of K-1407-B and K-1407-C Ponds. (CEM = cemetery, CNF = Central Neutralization Facility, SD = storm water outfall/storm drain, UNW = unconsolidated well, and VOC = volatile organic compound.)

3.6.5.3.2 Evaluation of Performance Monitoring Data

The primary groundwater contaminants in the K-1407-B and C ponds area are VOCs. VOCs are widespread in this portion of ETPP, including contaminant sources upgradient of the ponds (Fig. 3.41). Groundwater samples were collected at UNW-003 and UNW-009 in March and August/September 2014. VOCs are not detected in shallow groundwater north of Mitchell Branch in UNW-009. VOC

concentration data for UNW-003 for the time span 2001 through 2014 are shown in Fig. 3.42. Monitoring results for FY 2014 at the wells are generally consistent with results from previous years. The detection of VOCs at concentrations well above 1,000 $\mu\text{g/L}$ and the steady concentrations over recent years suggest the presence of dense nonaqueous phase liquids (DNAPLs) in the vicinity of UNW-003. The sitewide ROD will address groundwater contamination present in the area of the former ponds.

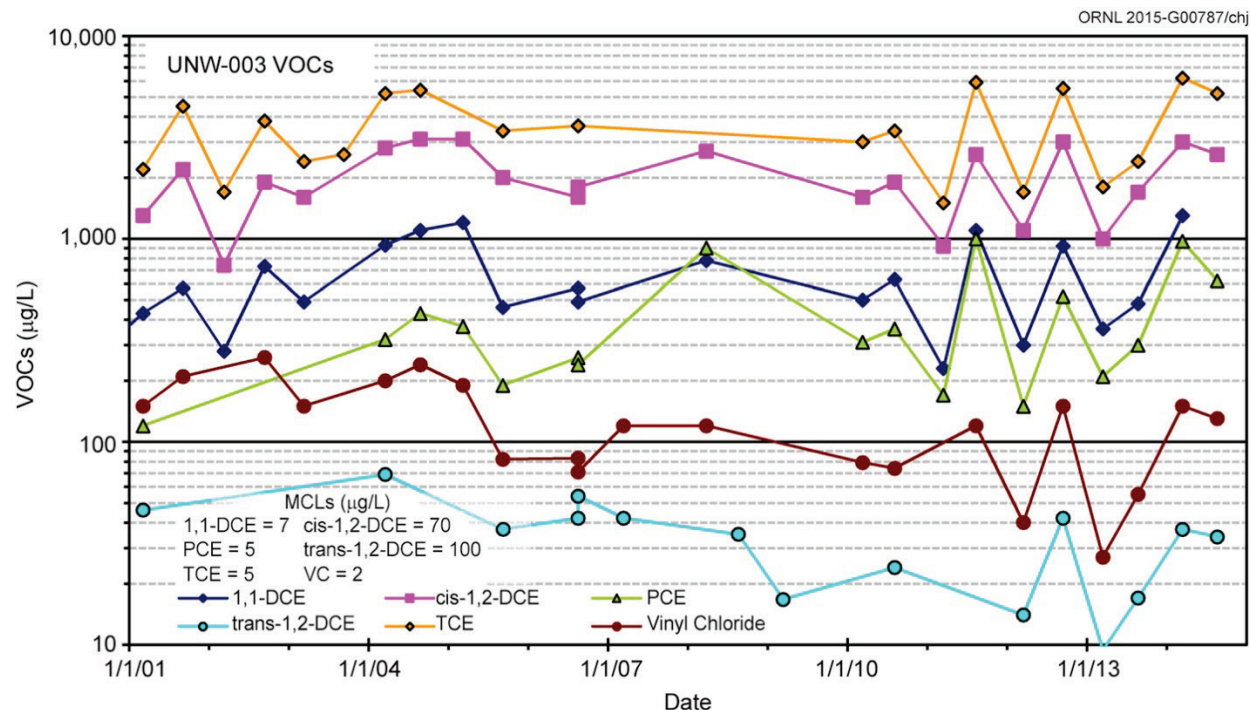


Fig. 3.42. Volatile organic compound (VOC) concentrations in UNW-003, 2001–2014. (DCE = dichloroethene, MCL = maximum contaminant level, PCE = tetrachloroethene, TCE = trichloroethene, and UNW = unconsolidated well.)

3.6.5.4 Groundwater Sampling Summary

Groundwater monitoring results in FY 2014 are generally consistent with the results from previous years. VOC concentrations well above 1,000 $\mu\text{g/L}$ and the steady concentrations over recent years suggest the presence of DNAPLs in the vicinity of UNW-003. None of the metals having primary drinking water standards exceeded those values. Some of the iron and manganese concentrations exceeded secondary drinking water standards, possibly the result of chemical reduction induced by reductive dehalogenation of VOCs.

3.7 Biological Monitoring

The ETP BMAP consists of three tasks designed to evaluate the effects of ETP historical legacy operations on the local environment, identify areas where abatement measures would be most effective, and test the efficacy of the measures. The results from this program will support future CERCLA cleanup actions. These tasks are (1) toxicity monitoring of effluent and ambient waters from several locations within Mitchell Branch, (2) bioaccumulation studies, and (3) instream monitoring of biological communities. Figure 3.43 shows the major water bodies at ETP, and Fig. 3.44 shows the BMAP monitoring locations along Mitchell Branch.

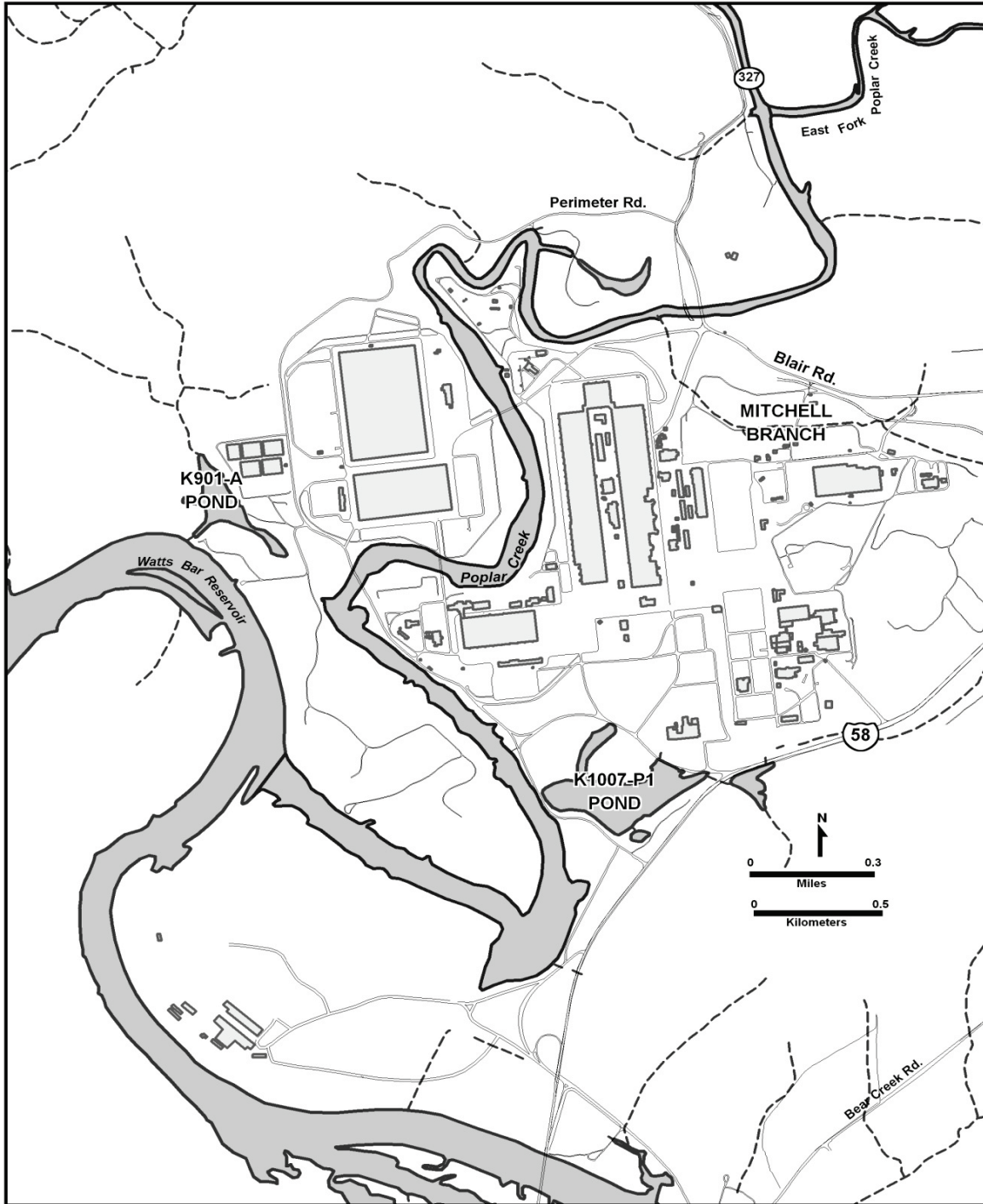


Fig. 3.43. Water bodies at the East Tennessee Technology Park.



Fig. 3.44. Major storm water outfalls and biological monitoring locations on Mitchell Branch. (BMAP = Biological Monitoring and Abatement Program, MIK = Mitchell Branch kilometer, and SD = storm water outfall/storm drain.)

In October, 2014, survival and reproduction toxicity tests using the water flea *Ceriodaphnia dubia* were conducted at five ambient locations in Mitchell Branch. At the same time, survival and reproduction toxicity tests using *C. dubia* were conducted on effluent from storm water outfalls SD 170 and SD 190. In none of the 2014 tests was toxicity demonstrated (Table 3.34). This continues the trend of the last several tests, where toxicity has been greatly reduced or absent entirely.

Table 3.34. Toxicity test results for Mitchell Branch and associated storm water outfalls, 2014 (no-observed-effects concentrations)^a

Test	MIK 1.4	MIK 0.8	SD 170	MIK 0.7	SD 190	MIK 0.4	MIK 0.2
<i>C. dubia</i> survival (%)	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
<i>C. dubia</i> reproduction (%)	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

^aHighest tested concentrations of effluent or stream water that had no effect on either survival or reproduction of *C. dubia* in three-brood static renewal tests (EPA test method 1002.0).

Acronyms

MIK = Mitchell Branch kilometer.
SD = storm water outfall/storm drain.

The bioaccumulation task includes monitoring of caged clams (*Corbicula fluminea*) placed at selected locations around ETTP and the collection and analysis of fish from Mitchell Branch and three major ponds on the site. Both clams and fish from uncontaminated off-site locations are also analyzed as points of reference. While historically the primary COC for the bioaccumulation task at ETTP has been PCBs, in recent years mercury has been added to the list of legacy COCs at selected locations.

In 2014, the clams (Fig. 3.45) were allowed to remain in place for 4 weeks and were then analyzed for total PCBs (Table 3.35 and Fig. 3.46) and, in a subset of clams, for total mercury (Table 3.36 and Fig. 3.47). In 2014, the greatest concentrations of PCBs were found in the clams from storm water outfall SD 190 and downstream of that location in Mitchell Branch.



Fig. 3.45. Asiatic clam (*Corbicula fluminea*).

Table 3.35. Compiled data for polychlorinated biphenyl concentrations in caged Asiatic clams (*Corbicula fluminea*), 2009 to 2014 ($\mu\text{g/g}$, wet weight)

Location	Basket ^a	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
MIK 0.8 (above SD 170)	A	0.09	0.12	0.11	0.04	0.05	0.079
	B	0.11	0.13	0.15	0.04	0.04	0.081
SD 170	A	0.27	0.21	0.16	0.08	0.12	0.121
	B	0.25	0.28	0.16	0.15	0.13	0.16
MIK 0.7 (below SD 170)	A	0.18	0.15	0.13	0.08	0.07	0.081
	B	0.15	0.13	0.17	0.07	0.09	0.088
SD 180	A						0.099
	B						0.096
MIK 0.5 (below SD 180)	A	0.25	0.15	0.13	<i>b</i>	0.09	0.099
	B	0.2	0.17	0.16	<i>b</i>	0.11	0.096
SD 190	A	2.07	1.22	2.36	0.84	2.13	1.329
	B	1.98	1.09	1.7	<i>b</i>	2.51	1.633
MIK 0.4 (below SD 190)	A	0.9	1.28	1.71	0.41	1.7	0.92
	B	0.78	2.69	1.82	0.5	2	0.929
SD 195	A				0.37		
	B				0.31		
MIK 0.3	A		2.93	6.74	2.52	1.8	1.56
	B		3.42	4.56	2.74	2.2	1.43

Table 3.35 (continued)

Location	Basket ^a	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
MIK 027	A			4.42			
	B			4.94			
MIK 0.2	A	2.43	2.15	5.33	0.96	2.2	1.61
	B	2.42	2.13	4.82	1.41	2.4	1.899
K-1700	A					2.1	
	B					2.3	
SD 992	A		2.93				
	B		3.42				
K-1203 sump	A				0.34	0.2	0.148
	B				0.29	0.23	0.149
SD 100 (upper)	A	0.96	0.29	2.25	1.69	0.1	0.181
	B	0.69	0.22	1.75	1.7	0.09	0.136
SD 100 (lower)	A	1.32	0.72	5.95	<i>b</i>	0.42	0.408
	B	1.72	0.8	4.5	1.92	1.35	0.239
SD 120	A	0.34	3.06	0.75	0.11	0.28	0.356
	B	0.57	1.18	0.97	0.16	0.34	0.353
SD 490	A	0.4	0.37	0.39	0.19	0.18	0.191
	B	0.46	0.47	0.46	0.17	0.18	0.181
K-1007-P1 outfall	A	0.91				1.29	1.264
	B	0.85				1.3	1.424
P1	A	0.86	0.99	1.38	1.48		
	B	1.17	0.91	1.68	1.57		
K-901-A outfall	A	0.14	0.06	0.3	0.07	0.11	0.208
	B	0.16	0.05	0.2	0.07	0.16	0.239
SD 710	A						0.282
	B						0.321
Sewee Creek	A	0.02	0.01	0	0.01	0.004	ND
	B	0.02	0.01	0.01	0.003	0.002	ND

^aSample result is the reported concentration in the composited clam sample from each cage, where A and B denote replicates. Data were extracted from tables within the 2009–2014 East Tennessee Technology Park Biological Monitoring and Abatement Program fiscal year reports.

^bInsufficient numbers of clams survived to provide a suitable sample size for analysis.

Acronyms

MIK = Mitchell Branch kilometer.
SD = storm water outfall/storm drain.
ND = nondetect.

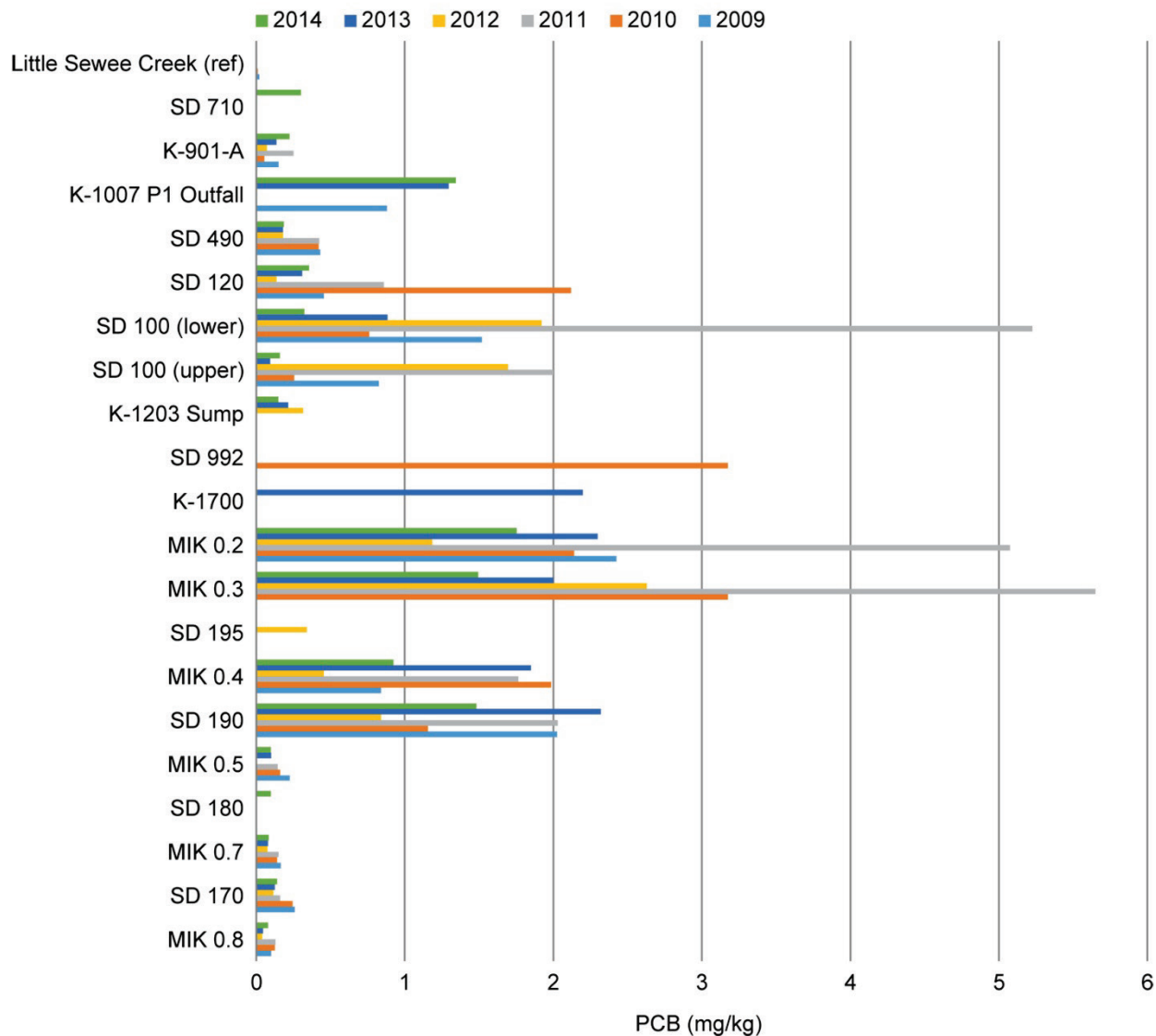


Fig. 3.46. Trend of polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) in caged clams. (MIK = Mitchell Branch kilometer and SD = storm water outfall/storm drain.)

Table 3.36. Compiled data for mercury concentrations in caged Asiatic clams (*Corbicula fluminea*), 2011 to 2014 (ng/g, wet weight)

Location	Basket	2011	2012	2013	2014
MIK 0.8 (above SD 170)	A	37	31.9	33.5	34.4
	B	46.9	32.2	32.1	44.1
SD 170	A	67.2	88.7	34.2	36.5
	B	80.7	62.3	38.9	43.2
MIK 0.7 (below SD 170)	A	37.7	46.2	33.5	34.8
	B	64.8	48.8	33.3	38
MIK 0.5 (below SD 180)	A	97.2	51.4	48.7	
	B	154.8	B	49.6	

Table 3.36 (continued)

Location	Basket	2011	2012	2013	2014
SD 190	A	109.9	127.8	187.8	93.7
	B	80.7	270	210.7	103
MIK 0.4 (below SD 190)	A	114	85	113.1	46.3
	B	102.3	104.8	107.1	56
SD 195	A		88.1		
	B		79.5		
MIK 0.3	A		311.7	116.6	148
	B		322.6	125.8	132
MIK 0.2	A	166.3	115.9	100.1	88.4
	B	187.9	136.6	105.9	83.4
K-1700	A			87.7	
	B			88.3	
K-1203-10 sump	A	—	472.3	298.8	392
	B	—	336.2	337.8	455
P1	A	23	25.6	19	19.5
	B	22.6	14.5	22.4	17
K-901-A outfall	A	33.1	17.4	18.9	16.9
	B	46.4	27.6	25.8	18.5
SD 05A	A		472.3		
	B		336.2		
Little Sewee Creek	A	19.6	25.2	24.4	18.6
	B	27.2	19.1	26.7	17.4

Acronyms

MIK = Mitchell Branch kilometer.

SD = storm water outfall/storm drain.

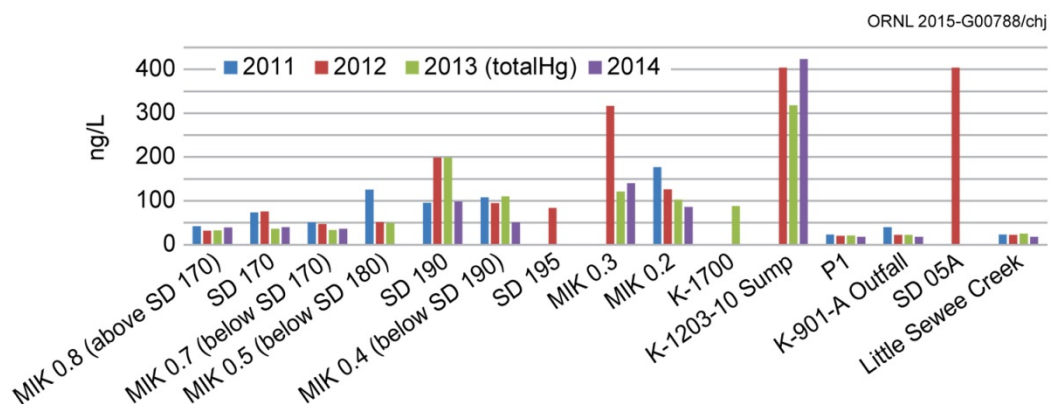


Fig. 3.47. Trend of mercury in caged clams. (MIK = Mitchell Branch kilometer, SD = storm water outfall/storm drain.)

Clams from the Mitchell Branch watershed, the K-901-A and K-1007-P1 ponds, storm water outfall 710, and the sump at the former K-1203 STP were analyzed for mercury (both total mercury and methyl mercury) in 2014. The highest mean total mercury concentrations were found in the clams from the K-1203-10 sump (423.5 ng/g). Clams from the section between K-1700 and storm water outfall SD 190 also had higher levels, with concentrations of total mercury in the caged clam composite samples ranging from a low of 51.2 ng/g to a high of 140.0 ng/g. At other sites mercury concentrations in clams ranged from at or near reference values to twofold higher (~18 to 41 ng/g).

Bioaccumulation monitoring in the K-1007-P1 pond, K-901-A pond, K-720 slough, and Mitchell Branch involves sampling of fish (Fig 3.48) and analyzing the tissues for PCB concentrations (Table 3.37 and Fig. 3.49). Typically, fillets of game fish are used as a monitoring tool to assess human health risks, while whole body composites of forage fish are used to assess ecological risks associated with exposure to PCBs. Target species vary from site to site depending upon the ecological conditions and, thus, the available species. The target species for bioaccumulation monitoring in 2014 in the K-1007-P1 pond was bluegill sunfish (*Lepomis macrochirus*) (Fig. 3.50). In Mitchell Branch, the target species was the redbreast sunfish (*Lepomis auritus*). In the K-901-A pond and the K-720 slough, the target species were the gizzard shad (*Dorosoma cepedianum*) and largemouth bass (*Micropterus salmoides*). As there were not enough largemouth bass, carp (*Cyprinus carpio*) and smallmouth buffalo (*Ictiobus bubalus*) were also collected.



Fig. 3.48. Fish bioaccumulation sampling at K-1007-P1 pond.

Table 3.37. Polychlorinated biphenyl levels in fish samples at East Tennessee Technology Park, 2009 to 2014 (mg/kg)

Fish	Sampling location	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Redbreast sunfish	Mitchell Branch	0.99	1.17	1.12	1.67	1.29	1.54
Largemouth bass	K-901-A Pond	0.48		0.5	0.72	1.4	0.45
Common carp	K-901-A Pond		0.71	2.06	3.08	2.94	1.41
Gizzard shad	K-901-A Pond				4.82	8.86	6.52
Largemouth bass	K-1007-P1 Pond	14.85	0.3				
Bluegill sunfish	K-1007-P1 Pond		2.13	1.85	2.16	0.7	0.62
Bluegill sunfish (whole body composites)	K-1007-P1 Pond				9.25	4.45	3.21
Redbreast sunfish	Hinds Creek	0.0007	0.09	0.06	0.06	0.06	0.03
Largemouth bass	K-720 Slough			0.24	0.22	0.14	0.15
Smallmouth buffalo	K-720 Slough			0.77	0.68	0.44	0.14
Common carp	K-720 Slough			0.96	0.31	0.45	0.27
Gizzard shad (whole body composites)	K-720 Slough					0.57	0.29

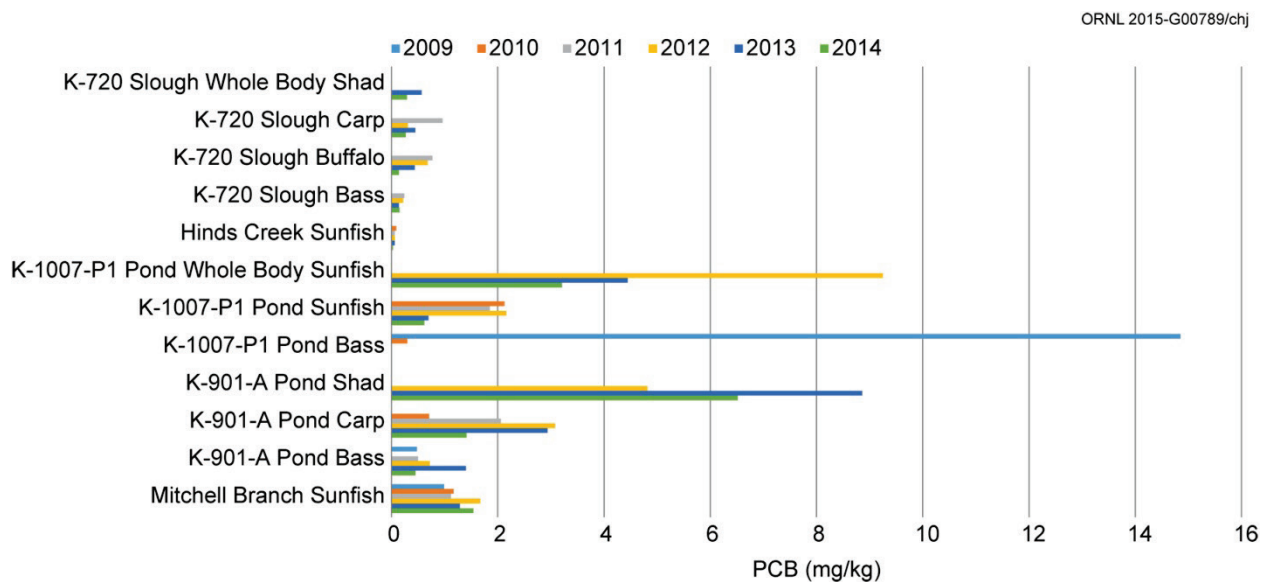


Fig. 3.49. Trend of polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) in fish.



Fig. 3.50. Bluegill sunfish (*Lepomis macrochirus*).

Whole body composites (six composites of 10 bluegill per composite) and fillets from 20 individual bluegill were analyzed for PCBs to assess the ecological and human health risks associated with PCB contamination in the K-1007-P1 pond. Average PCB levels in whole body composites from the K-1007-P1 pond averaged 3.21 $\mu\text{g/g}$, down from 4.45 $\mu\text{g/g}$ in 2013. Fillets averaged 0.62 $\mu\text{g/g}$ total PCBs, a slight decrease compared to levels seen in 2013 (0.7 $\mu\text{g/g}$). Average PCB concentrations in sunfish collected in Mitchell Branch were 1.54 $\mu\text{g/g}$, slightly higher than the levels seen in 2013 (1.29 $\mu\text{g/g}$). The concentrations observed in fillets of largemouth bass from the K-901-A pond (0.45 $\mu\text{g/g}$) and gizzard shad whole body composite samples (6.52 $\mu\text{g/g}$) decreased from the concentrations seen in the 2013 monitoring, 1.4 $\mu\text{g/g}$ and 8.86 $\mu\text{g/g}$, respectively. Levels of PCBs in bass, gizzard shad, and carp from the K-720 slough (0.15 $\mu\text{g/g}$, 0.29 $\mu\text{g/g}$, and 0.27 $\mu\text{g/g}$, respectively) were considerably lower than for the same species from the K-901-A pond.

In addition to being analyzed for PCBs, the sunfish collected from Mitchell Branch (MIK 0.2) were analyzed for total mercury (Table 3.38 and Fig. 3.51). Previous studies have shown that methyl mercury accounts for more than 95% of the total mercury in fish, so a separate analysis for methyl mercury was not conducted. The EPA's recommended limit for mercury in fish fillets is 0.3 $\mu\text{g/g}$. The mean mercury concentration in fish collected at MIK 0.2 was 0.46 $\mu\text{g/g}$ in 2014, slightly lower than 2013 (0.52 $\mu\text{g/g}$).

However, mercury concentrations in fish in Mitchell Branch in recent years have averaged about 0.3 to 0.5 $\mu\text{g/g}$ with about 10%–20% variability within the annual collection (Table 3.38). Consequently, it is not certain there has been a significant change in fish mercury concentrations in 2014, and changes in sampling season (from spring to fall) starting in 2012, as well as fish size differences between years, may also be factors affecting mercury levels. Future monitoring efforts are necessary to evaluate whether the recent indication of higher mercury concentrations is a long-term trend.

Table 3.38. Mercury levels in fish fillets and whole body samples at East Tennessee Technology Park, 2009 to 2014 (mg/kg)

Fish	Sampling location	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Redbreast sunfish	Mitchell Branch	0.49	0.35	0.34	0.37	0.52	0.46
Gizzard shad (whole body)	K-901-A Pond		0.086				
Paddlefish (1 sample)	K-1007-P1 Pond		0.07				
Bluegill sunfish	K-1007-P1 Pond		0.085				
Redbreast sunfish	Hinds Creek		0.08	0.07	0.058	0.07	0.09
Gizzard shad (whole body)	K-720 Slough		0.067				

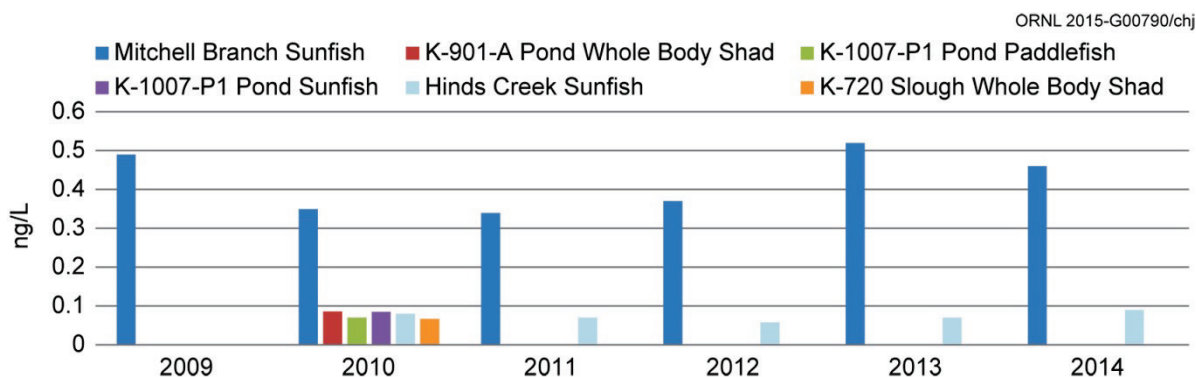


Fig. 3.51. Trend of mercury in fish.

In April and May of 2014, the benthic macroinvertebrate community at four Mitchell Branch locations (MIKs 0.4, 0.7, 0.8, and 1.4) was sampled using standard quantitative techniques (Fig. 3.52); MIK 1.4 was the reference location. Results of monitoring in 2014 using the ORNL protocols show little change at the three uppermost locations (MIKs 1.4, 0.8, and 0.7). The number of pollution intolerant species is highest at MIK 1.4 (Fig. 3.53). The number of pollution tolerant species makes up a much larger percentage of the total fauna at MIK 0.4 than at any of the other locations. Otherwise, results at MIK 0.4 generally mirrored those at MIKs 0.7 and 0.8. In recent years, the benthic macroinvertebrate community at MIK 0.7



Fig. 3.52. Benthic macroinvertebrate sampling using Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation protocols.

and MIK 0.8 has shown no major persistent change in trends of either the mean number of taxa (taxonomic richness of all taxa) or the mean number of pollution-intolerant taxa [i.e., the taxonomic richness of the Ephemeroptera, Plecoptera, and Trichoptera (EPT)]. These results show that the benthic community at MIK 0.4 continues to be negatively impacted while the results for MIKs 0.7 and 0.8 suggest that the macroinvertebrate community at those sites is also impacted but to a lesser degree.

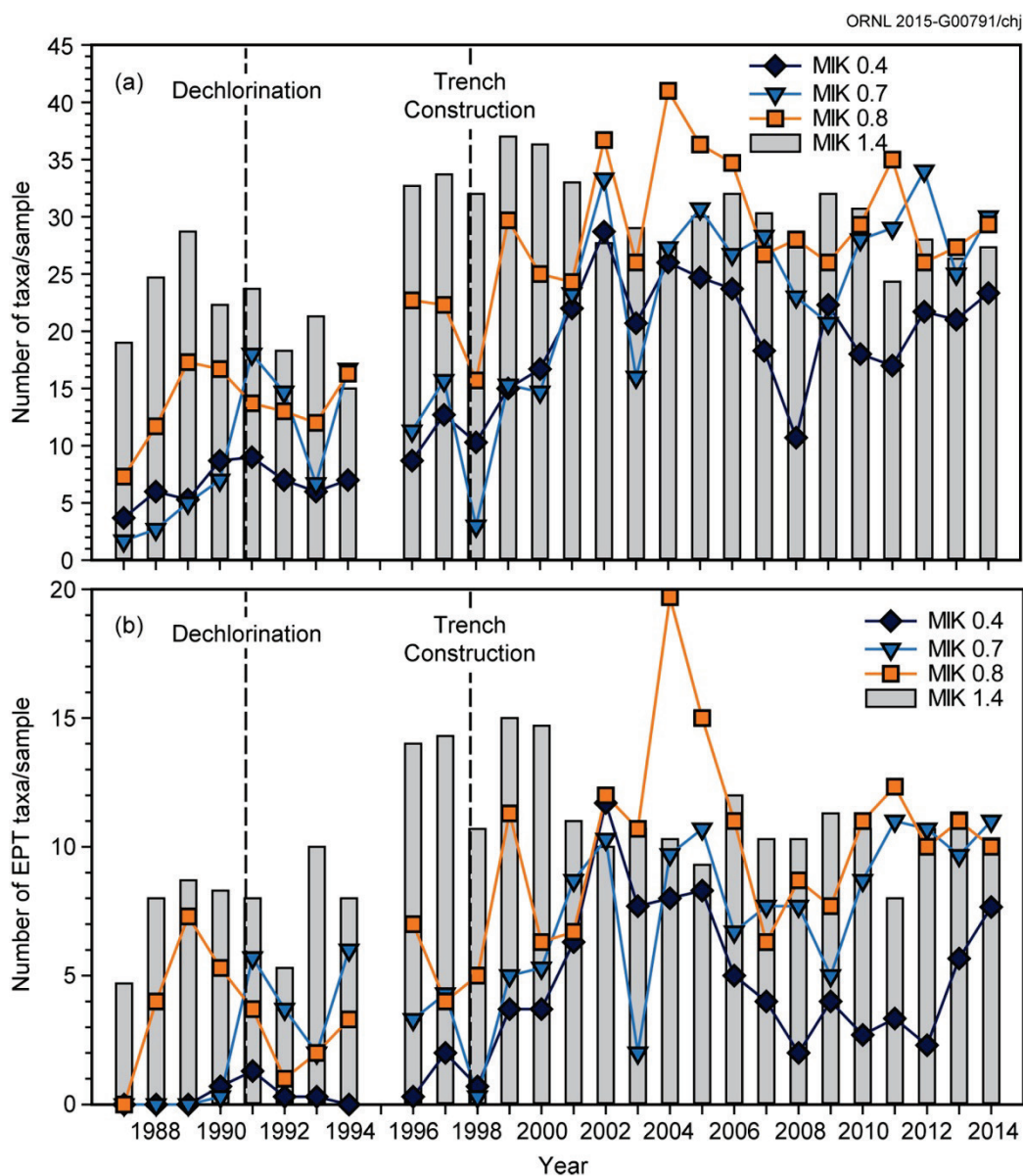


Fig. 3.53. Mean taxonomic richness in Mitchell Branch, 1987–2014: (a) number of all taxa and (b) number of pollution-intolerant Ephemeroptera, Plecoptera, and Trichoptera (mayflies, stoneflies, and caddisflies or EPT) taxa per sample. Samples were not collected in April 1995, as indicated by the gap in the lines. (MIK = Mitchell Branch kilometer.)

Since August 2008, TDEC protocols, which assess both community and habitat characteristics, have also been used at the MIK 0.4, 0.7, and 0.8 monitoring locations. Beginning in August 2009, the use of TDEC protocols was expanded to include MIK 1.4 as well (Fig. 3.54). The biotic index indicated that the

community at MIK 0.4 was slightly impaired, and the communities at MIKs 0.7, 0.8, and 1.4 were unimpaired. The habitat assessment (which primarily considers the physical aspects of the stream to determine its suitability to support biological communities) in 2014 indicated habitat impairment at all four sites. Overall, results using TDEC’s semiquantitative protocols and ORNL’s quantitative protocols since 2008 have been in general agreement that the macroinvertebrate community at MIK 0.4 scores from slightly to severely impaired, and the communities at MIKs 0.7 and 0.8 score from moderately impaired to unimpaired. Habitat shows evidence of some impairment at all sites.

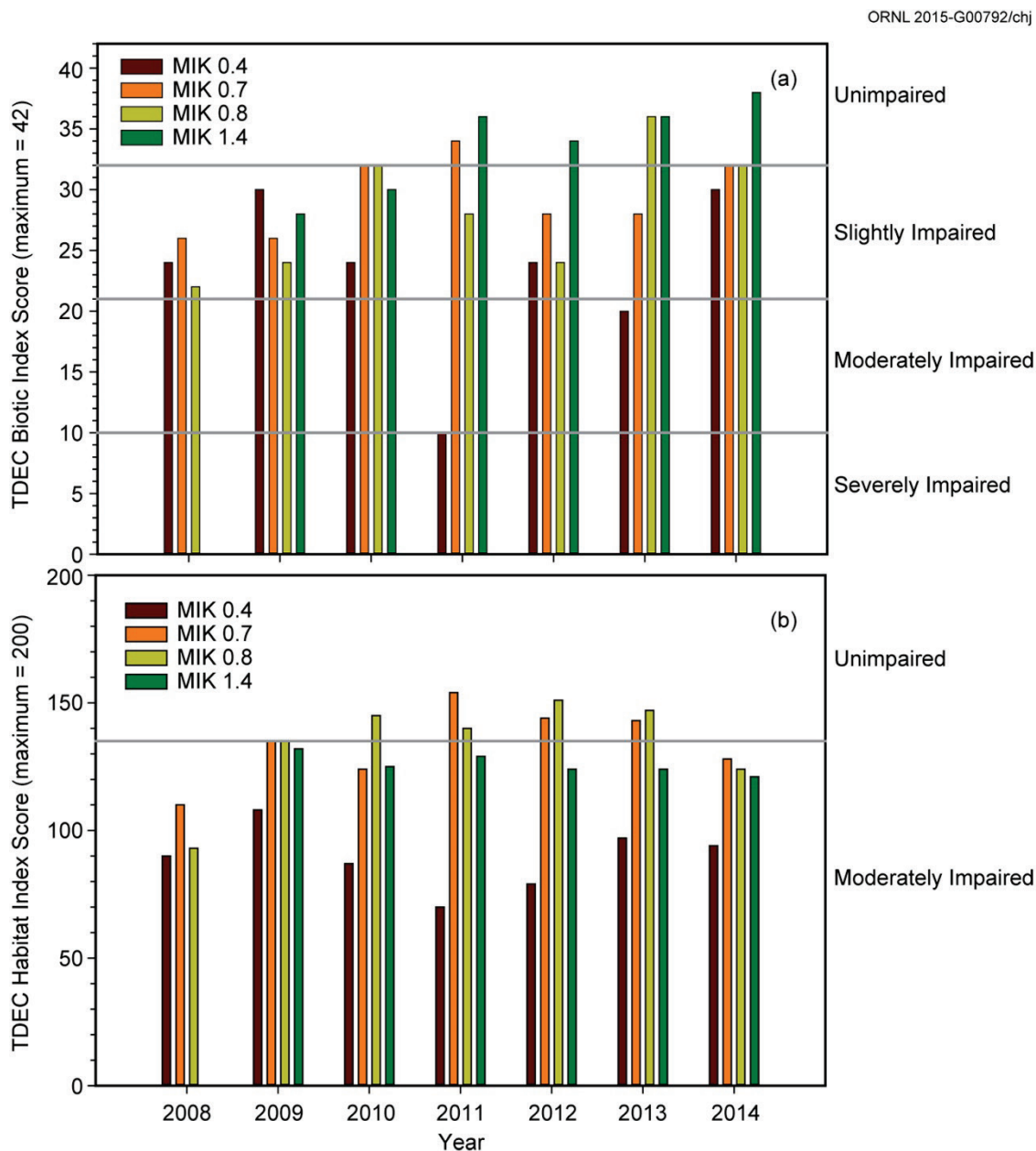


Fig. 3.54. Temporal trends in Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation (TDEC) Benthic Macroinvertebrate Biotic Index (a) and Stream Habitat Index (b) scores for Mitchell Branch, August 2008 to 2014. Horizontal lines in both graphs show the lower thresholds for narrative index ratings; respective narrative ratings for each threshold are shown on the right side of each graph. (MIK = Mitchell Branch kilometer.)

Fish communities in Mitchell Branch (MIKs 0.4 and 0.7) and at local reference sites were sampled in 2014. Species richness, density, (Figs. 3.55 and 3.56), and biomass were examined. Results for 2014 showed changes within the normal range of variation. Most of the species found during the community studies sampling tend to be more tolerant of less than optimal conditions. All three metrics (species richness (Fig. 3.55), density (Fig. 3.56), and biomass decreased slightly at MIK 0.4, although the density of sensitive species increased very slightly. MIK 0.7 had a slight increase in species richness and a decrease in biomass and density from 2013. Variations in these three parameters are typical of streams that have been severely impacted and are still recovering. While the condition of the fish communities over the last several years has been relatively stable, they have yet to reach conditions typical of less impacted streams in the area, and the stream is still dominated by more tolerant fish species. However, during sampling for the bioaccumulation task at MIK 0.2, six species of fish were collected that have not been collected at the two upper fish community sites in Mitchell Branch. These included pollution sensitive species such as snubnose darter (*Etheostoma simoterum*), greenside darter (*E. blennioides*), northern hogsucker (*Hypentelium nigricans*), and banded sculpin (*Cottus carolinae*). This seems to indicate that stream conditions may be able to support additional fish species (at least seasonally) in downstream sections and potentially upstream as well if water quality and habitat conditions improve.

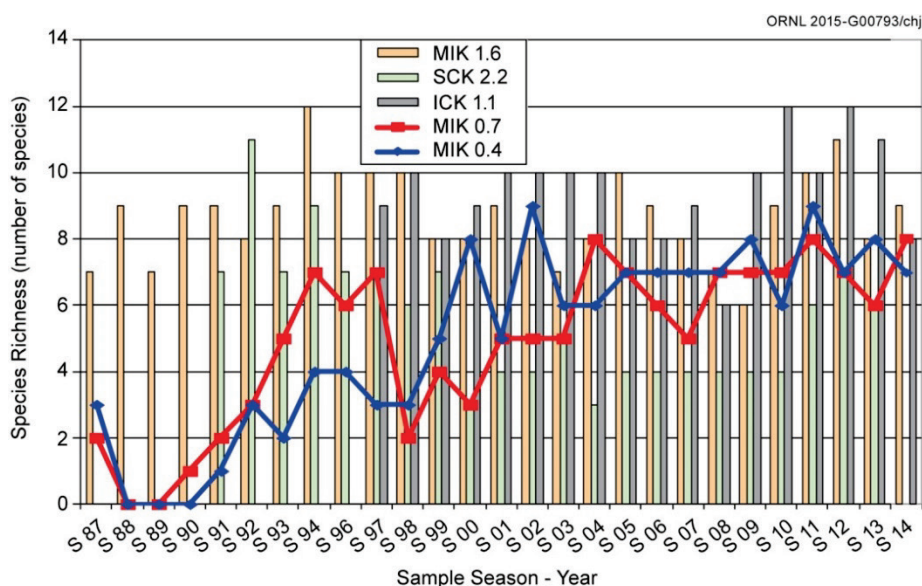


Fig. 3.55. Species richness for fish communities. (ISK = Ish Creek kilometer, MBK = Mill Branch kilometer, MIK = Mitchell Branch kilometer, and SCK = Sewee Creek kilometer.)

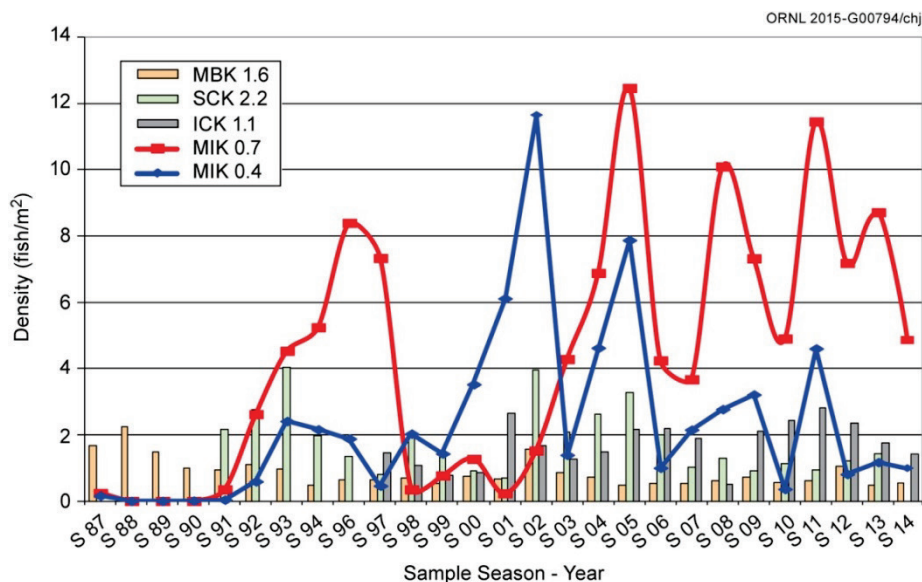


Fig. 3.56. Density for fish communities. (ISK = Ish Creek kilometer, MBK = Mill Branch kilometer, MIK = Mitchell Branch kilometer, and SCK = Sewee Creek kilometer.)

3.8 Environmental Management and Waste Management Activities

3.8.1 Waste Management Activities

Restoration of the environment, D&D of facilities, and management of legacy wastes constitute the major operations at ETPP.

EMWMF, located in Bear Creek Valley west of the Y-12 Complex, is an engineered landfill that accepts waste generated from cleanup activities on ORR. It currently consists of six disposal cells with a total disposal capacity of 2,180,000 yd³. In addition, leachate storage tanks, contact water storage ponds, and contact water storage tanks provide the facility's water management capability. EMWMF accepts low-level radioactive and hazardous wastes that meet specific waste acceptance criteria developed in accordance with agreements with state and federal regulators. Waste types that qualify for disposal include soil, dried sludge and sediment, solidified wastes, stabilized waste, building debris, scrap equipment, and personal protective equipment. During FY 2014, EMWMF operations collected, analyzed, and disposed of about 5.1 million gal of leachate at the ORNL Liquid and Gaseous Waste Operations Facility. An additional 9.8 million gal of contact water was collected, analyzed, and released to the storm water retention basin after it was determined that it met the release criteria. EMWMF received 6,059 truckloads of waste accounting for about 69,198 tons during FY 2014. Projects that have disposed of waste at EMWMF during the year include the following:

- K-25 Building Demolition Project;
- K-31 Building Demolition Project; and
- several smaller demolition projects at ETPP, ORNL, and Y-12.

EMWMF, the existing on-site disposal facility for low-level, mixed, and classified waste, is expected to reach capacity before all ORR cleanup waste has been generated and disposed. Therefore, it is important that planning begin for another landfill so that there is not an interruption of cleanup work once EMWMF is full.

During 2014, EM revised a remedial investigation/feasibility study (RI/FS) to include characterization data for a proposed new Environmental Management Disposal Facility (EMDF). The document, issued in FY 2012, analyzed three alternatives to support cleanup decisions: a no action alternative, an on-site disposal alternative, and an off-site disposal alternative.

Under the no action alternative, no coordinated ORR-wide strategy to manage wastes generated by future CERCLA actions would be implemented. The no action alternative provides a benchmark for comparison with the action alternatives.

The on-site disposal alternative would provide consolidated disposal of future-generated CERCLA waste in a newly constructed engineered facility referred to as the EMDF.

Under the off-site disposal alternative, future CERCLA waste would be transported off the site, primarily by rail, for disposal in approved disposal facilities.

The alternatives document concludes that both the on-site and off-site disposal alternatives would protect human health and the environment long-term by disposing the waste in a landfill designed for site-specific conditions; however, short-term risks are much higher for the off-site disposal alternative because of the significant transportation efforts required to dispose of the waste off-site. However, the off-site disposal alternative has the potential to isolate the wastes more effectively as off-site disposal facilities would be located in arid climates.

While the on-site disposal alternative requires a permanent commitment of additional ORR land for waste disposal and impacts environmental resources, it would be much less costly, would have lower transportation risk, and would provide a greater level of certainty that long-term disposal capacity would be available.

CWTS is a smaller water treatment unit for chromium-contaminated groundwater that sits within the existing CNF footprint. CWTS came online in late 2012 and handles purge water from groundwater monitoring, as well as the chromium collection system water. Effluent from CWTS discharges to the Clinch River through an existing CNF discharge line. In 2014, CWTS treated more than 5.5 million gal of water.

At ORNL, more than 92 million gal of wastewater was treated and released at the Process Waste Treatment Complex (PWTC). In addition, the liquid low-level waste evaporator at ORNL treated 122,200 gal of such waste. A total of 1.6 billion m³ of gaseous waste was treated at the ORNL 3039 Stack Facility.

TWPC characterizes and packages TRU waste from ORR for disposition in underground salt caverns at the DOE WIPP near Carlsbad, New Mexico.

TRU waste contains man-made elements heavier than uranium, such as plutonium, hence the name “trans” or “beyond” uranium. TRU waste material is generally associated with the human manipulation of fissionable material dating back to the Manhattan Project. It consists primarily of clothing, tools, rags, residues, soil, and debris.

Two waste streams—contact-handled (CH) and remote-handled (RH)—are processed at TWPC. CH TRU waste can be safely handled without remote equipment, although workers never actually touch the waste without protective barriers such as special clothing or equipment. Higher energy radioactive TRU waste is processed by remote control equipment in special rooms called “hot cells.” Workers who process RH waste are protected by barriers such as thick concrete walls and leaded glass viewing windows.

In FY 2014, TWPC processed more than 90 yd³ of CH waste, achieving an overall total of about 1,890 yd³ of processed CH waste. In addition, employees at the facility processed about 150 yd³ of RH waste for an overall total of 541 yd³. These values represent about 96% of the legacy CH TRU waste and about 64% of the legacy RH TRU waste.

During the year, employees shipped a total of 245 yd³ of CH TRU inventory, reaching a total of more than 1,500 yd³ disposed. In addition, they shipped 235 yd³ of RH TRU inventory, reaching a total of about 380 yd³ disposed. These values represent about 77% of the legacy CH TRU waste disposed and about 45% of the legacy RH TRU waste disposed.

More than 350,000 gal of radioactively contaminated sludge are stored in tanks at ORNL. The sludge was produced as a result of the collection, treatment, and storage of liquid radioactive waste originating from ORNL radiochemical processing and radioisotope production programs. To eliminate long-term liability, EM will remove the sludge from the tanks and process the material for permanent off-site disposal in a new sludge processing facility. The project includes construction of a test facility to verify the technology associated with the sludge treatment process and support for the design and construction of the future sludge processing facility.

During the year, approval was received to update the project cost range and reaffirm the solidification and stabilization alternative. Solidification and stabilization is one of three alternatives DOE is considering to treat sludge contaminated with TRU constituents. Other alternatives include drying or dewatering the sludge. In FY 2014, progress continued toward acquiring architect and engineering services to design the facility.

These waste treatment activities supported both EM and Office of Science mission activities in a safe and compliant manner during FY 2013. NNSA at the Y-12 Complex treated almost 109 million gal of contaminated ground/sump water at the Groundwater Treatment Facility, Central Mercury Treatment System, Big Spring Water Treatment System, and East End Volatile Organic Compounds Plume Treatment System.

In FY 2014, about 29,661 yd³ of industrial wastes and construction/demolition debris was disposed in the ORR landfills. Operation of ORR landfills generated about 1.6 million gal of leachate that was collected, monitored, and discharged to the Y-12 Complex sanitary sewer system, which discharges to the Oak Ridge sewer system under an industrial sewer user permit.

A total of almost 4,700 yd³ of legacy waste was disposed—consisting of large transformers, shielding, waste containers that were emptied and reused, and various individual items of low-level radioactive waste. The waste came primarily from ETTP, ORNL, and the Fernald site in Ohio. Most of it was disposed in the ORR landfills and NNSS.

DOE's goal is to effectively manage waste from identification through disposal so the waste does not require on-site storage. Before starting waste-generating activities, EM and its cleanup contractors identify a disposition path, and together they make plans to dispose of the waste efficiently and effectively. Legacy waste is managed and disposed on a timetable that is consistent with regulatory requirements, programmatic priorities, and funding availability.

Legacy waste is actively managed by tracking, labeling, posting, and performing routine inspections. Legacy waste is prioritized for disposal based on its risk or an economy of scale associated with volumes, and it is disposed as funding is made available.

3.8.2 Environmental Restoration Activities

EM continued remediation activities to reduce ETTP soil contamination in 2014. The site is divided into two cleanup regions: Zone 1, a 1,400-acre area outside the main plant area, and Zone 2, the 800-acre area that comprises the main plant area.

3.8.2.1 Zone 1

The interim ROD, which documents the cleanup method for the site, required EM to remediate soil to a depth of 10 ft (suitable for the protection of an industrial work force) and remove sources of groundwater contamination. EM prepared an RI/FS to address groundwater, surface water, ecological protection, and final land use controls. EPA and TDEC provided comments on the RI/FS, and the agencies reached an agreement to initiate a Zone 1 final soils ROD and defer Zone 1 surface water and groundwater to a future decision. In FY 2014, TDEC prepared and approved a revised RI/FS. The initial draft of the Zone 1 final soils proposed plan was also prepared and transmitted to EPA and TDEC for review. Upcoming work includes addressing EPA and TDEC comments and finalizing the Zone 1 final soils proposed plan, conducting a public meeting on the proposed plan, and preparing the Zone 1 final soils ROD.

3.8.2.2 Zone 2

Remediating Zone 2 involves removing some contaminated soil so that the site is safe for industrial use and removing sources of groundwater contamination.

In FY 2014, EM initiated characterization of the footprints of Building K-25 and Building K-31. The roughly 40-acre footprint of Building K-25 has been declared the K-25 Preservation Footprint, and it is designated for historical commemoration and interpretation activities. To determine how to preserve this footprint, EM began characterization to determine whether cleanup is required, and it is also conducting a study to evaluate potential end states of the slab.

During predemolition activities on Building K-31, workers also performed characterization of the surrounding land to determine whether it required cleanup to support reindustrialization planning at the site.

3.8.2.3 Building K-25 Demolition

Demolition of the historic K-25 building (Fig.3.57), one of the original Manhattan Project facilities, was completed in December 2013, and workers removed the final debris in June 2014. The K-25 building was constructed in the mid-1940s to produce HEU for the atomic bombs that would end World War II. At 44 acres, the mile-long, U-shaped facility was once the largest building under one roof in the world.

Completing demolition of Building K-25 on schedule required creative solutions to several challenges; however, EM and its cleanup contractor, UCOR, worked together and completed the project 6 months ahead of schedule and nearly \$300 million under its federal baseline budget.

During demolition of the building's west wing, material without a clear disposition path was placed in other parts of the building so that demolition could continue. This material included a collection of process equipment that had been disconnected and placed in the east wing. Enclosures were built around the equipment, the uranium was mined out, and the hulls stayed in place to be disposed as part of the building demolition.



Fig. 3.57. Building K-25 in late 2013.

Completing demolition of Building K-25 required crews to address and move a collection of high risk equipment, including items called monoliths—large blocks of uranium-containing components encased in concrete—and sodium fluoride traps. Sodium fluoride traps were used as part of the uranium separation process. The sodium fluoride pellets were used to trap the uranium, and the traps still contained uranium from when workers conducted operations in the facility. Each sodium fluoride trap was about the size of a household hot water heater and ranged in weight from 1,500 to 2,000 lb.

Employees opened, mined, and repackaged the high-risk equipment to meet disposal criteria. The concrete in the monoliths was chipped away, and the uranium content was mined out of the components in an on-site facility. The sodium fluoride traps, some of the highest risk equipment in the building, were removed before demolition.

Following demolition and debris removal, ^{99}Tc , which is extremely mobile, was found in storm water and underground utilities associated with Building K-25. EM performed an extensive investigation of storm water sewers, underground electrical duct banks, sanitary sewers, and groundwater. Despite levels below regulatory compliance levels for any concern to human health, EM and UCOR worked to capture the material and dispose the waste off the site. A removal site evaluation was prepared that documented the findings.

3.8.2.4 Building K-27 Demolition

Predemolition work continues in Building K-27, one of the last remaining gaseous diffusion buildings at ETPP. The building is one of EM's highest priorities at the site due to its risk and severely deteriorated state. The K-27 building is similar in structure to the already demolished K-25 building. It spans more than 8 acres and is about 900 ft long, 400 ft wide, and 58 ft high.

In 2014, workers completed inventory management and nondestructive assay measurements; characterized process equipment; performed vent, purge, and drain operations on process equipment; and prepared necessary regulatory documents.

Building removal is expected to be completed in 2016. Completing this project will mark the end of all gaseous diffusion buildings at ETTP.

3.8.2.5 Building K-31 Demolition

Demolition of the K-31 building at ETTP began October 8, 2014, after months of preparation. This demolition marks the removal of the fourth of five gaseous diffusion buildings at the former uranium enrichment site.

The two-story building covers 750,000 ft² and spans a 17-acre footprint. The K-31 facility, which began operations in 1951, was used to enrich uranium for defense and power generation purposes until it was shut down in 1985. In 2005, EM removed most of the hazardous materials from the building's interior.

UCOR, EM's cleanup contractor for ETTP, is responsible for demolishing the facility. The company prepared it for demolition in 2014 by conducting asbestos abatement, removing the facility's exterior transite paneling, disconnecting the building's power sources, and completing pollution prevention efforts such as filling interior and exterior storm drains. EM and UCOR worked together to accelerate start-up of the K-31 demolition 5 months ahead of the original proposed baseline schedule. The early start was achieved through UCOR's work and EM's oversight on other projects such as the K-25 Building Demolition Project. EM selected the K-31 project to continue removing former gaseous diffusion facilities at the site and maintain the existing skilled workforce on-site.

Once the K-31 demolition is completed, the 383,000 ft² K-27 building will be the only remaining gaseous diffusion building at ETTP.

3.8.2.6 Commemoration of the K-25 Site

DOE achieved several major milestones in FY 2014 toward meeting the MOA commitment made with historic preservation agencies and interested parties. These measures will preserve the history of the K-25 Site and interpret the significance of ETTP. Milestones achieved in FY 2014 included the following.

- Demolished Building K-25 and removed all of the waste to prepare the slab for evaluation
- Awarded a professional site design team and museum professional design subcontract
- Facilitated inventory and review by a team of subject matter experts, historians, design experts, and historic preservation agencies of the equipment identified for preservation; the team also provided input for the conceptual design of the envisioned facility.
- Awarded a web design services firm the contract to develop and maintain a web-based K-25 virtual museum.

Conceptual design of the equipment building, viewing tower, K-25 history center, and wayside exhibits and K-25 slab delineation are progressing and will be submitted to the historic preservation consulting parties in 2016 for review and comment.

Employees completed numerous field activities in support of the conceptual design, including completing a field inventory of historic equipment and artifacts stored at ETPP. The inventory included inspecting; photographing; conducting radiological surveys; and, where necessary, performing minor decontamination activities to release items for potential use in the professional site design team’s wayside exhibits.

3.8.3 Reindustrialization

DOE successfully completed the transfer of parcels ED-11 and ED-12 to CROET (Fig 3.58) on May 12, 2014. The combined acreage of these two parcels is 28.3 acres and will allow CROET to pursue commercial clients for this centrally located industrial area of the ETPP site. This flat parcel of land, which once housed a machine shop and other support facilities, has undergone environmental cleanup, and EPA and TDEC have approved it for reuse. With this successful property transfer, DOE has transferred a total of 721 acres to CROET for reuse, which increases potential economic development in the local community.

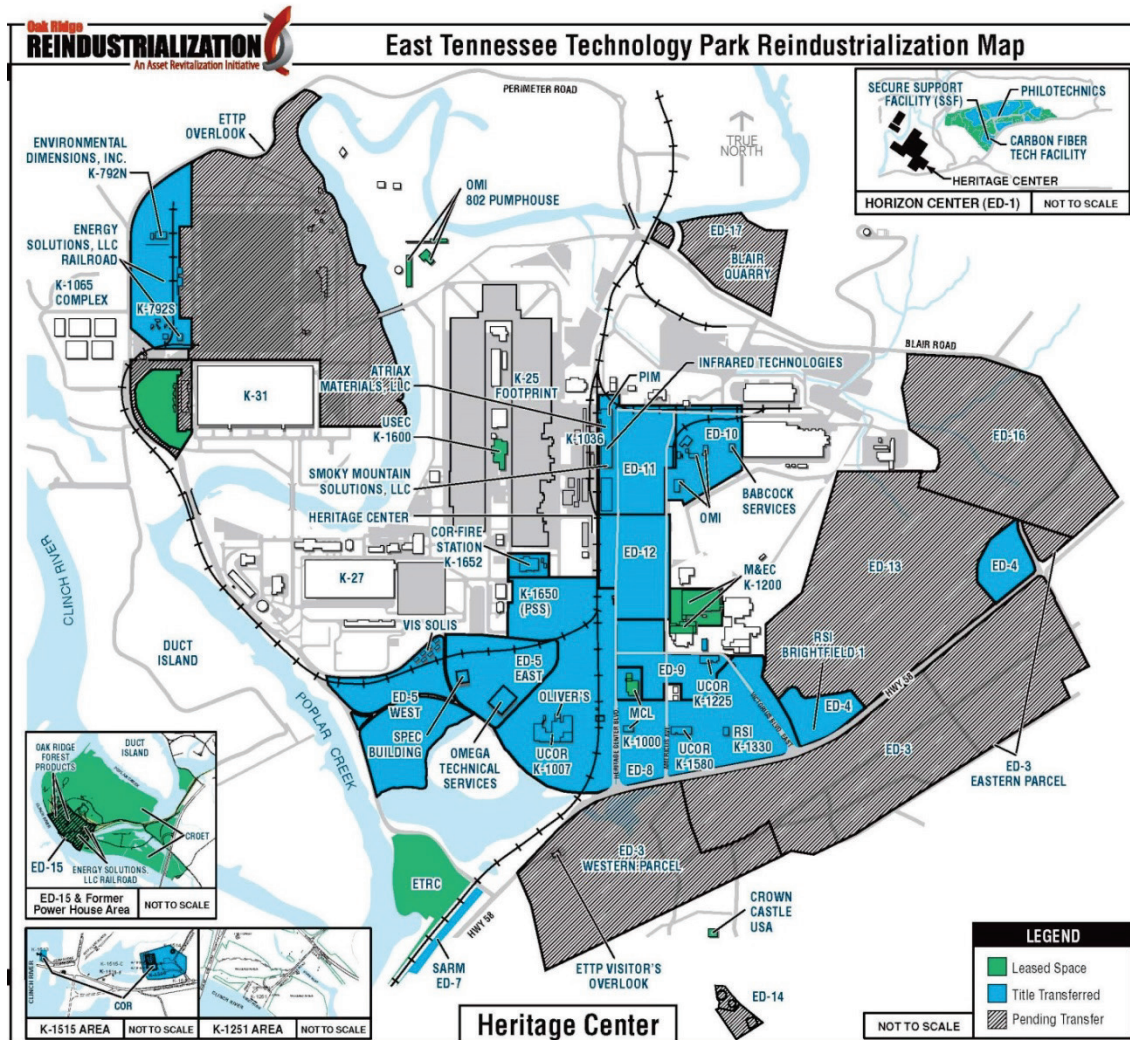


Fig. 3.58. East Tennessee Technology Park reindustrialization status, 2014.

DOE successfully transferred the balance of several thousand feet of the potable drinking water piping system to the City of Oak Ridge in September 2014. DOE facilities, as well as private businesses, are now set up on commercial metered water and sewer billing plans. Additionally, the reindustrialization program provided support to the Powerhouse 6 one-megawatt solar project, which was 80% complete at the end of CY 2014. This is a joint effort of the City of Oak Ridge; RSI; Vis Solis, Incorporated; DOE; CROET; and UCOR that is scheduled to be completed in early CY 2015.

These transfers also reduce maintenance costs for DOE, which frees up additional money for environmental cleanup.

3.8.4 Biosolids Program

Under the Biosolids Program, treated municipal sludge (biosolids) from the City of Oak Ridge (the city) publicly owned treatment works (POTW) is applied to six approved sites on ORR as a soil conditioner and fertilizer. UCOR provides oversight for the program (BJC 2006), which operates under a land license agreement between DOE and the city. The city has applied biosolids on ORR since 1983. After the October 1, 2014, application at the Rogers site, application on ORR was temporarily halted.

3.8.4.1 Biosolids Fields on the Oak Ridge Reservation

The biosolids land application sites are located on ORR in Oak Ridge, Tennessee (Fig. 3.59). Four of the active sites are in the vicinity of Bethel Valley Road, while the remaining active sites, Watson Road 1 and 2, are located on Highway 95 near the Horizon Center. In 2014, biosolids were only applied to three sites, Rogers (7.3 dry tons), Scarboro 1 (14.1 dry tons), and Scarboro 2 (5.5 dry tons).

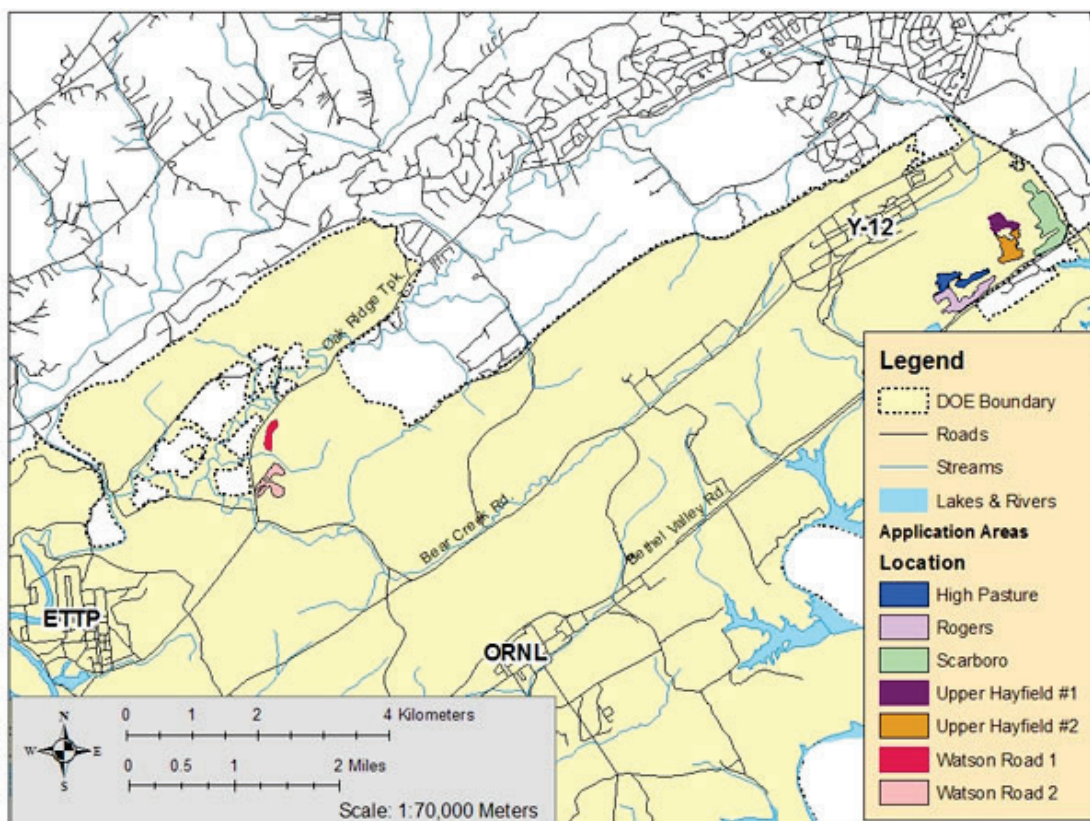


Fig. 3.59. Biosolids application areas on the Oak Ridge Reservation.

3.8.4.2 Current Program

The city POTW near Turtle Park in Oak Ridge, Tennessee, processes about 30 million gal/day of wastewater. The plant receives wastewater from a variety of industrial, commercial, and residential generators in the Anderson County–Roane County area. DOE contributes about 20% of the influent to the POTW directly from the Y-12 Complex. All industrial generators are required by Oak Ridge city ordinance 5-09 to obtain an industrial discharge permit from the city, which prescribes discharge limits and monitoring/reporting requirements.

3.8.4.3 2014 Status

In rulemaking effective June 30, 2013, TDEC enacted legislation governing the land application of Class B biosolids in the state of Tennessee under Chapter 0400-40-15, “Biosolids Management.” Before this legislation, land application programs in Tennessee operated as self-implementing, without EPA permit, under the EPA 40 CFR 503 regulations. The TDEC regulations include all 40 CFR 503 requirements as well as specific agronomic limits and setbacks more protective of surface water and groundwater.

Tables 3.39 through 3.41 present data for each site to which biosolids were applied in 2014, including the percentage of the regulatory limit that was attained.

The site sampling effort was eliminated by DOE EM in favor of preapplication monitoring through analysis of the biosolids. UCOR has provided radiological analyses for biosolids since 2010. The radiological analyses were a feature of the new preapplication monitoring metric.

Table 3.39. Scarboro Field 1

Heavy metal	2014 (kg/ha)	Cumulative loading as of 12/31/2014 (kg/ha)	40 CFR 503 cumulative loading limits (kg/ha)	503 limits attained (%)
As	0.00	0.33	41	0.8
Cd	0.00	0.55	39	1.4
Cr	0.03	8.53	N/A	N/A
Cu	0.72	45.01	1,500	3.0
Pb	0.03	5.06	300	1.7
Hg	0.00	0.95	17	5.6
Mo	0.01	1.08	N/A	N/A
Ni	0.03	4.68	420	1.1
Se	0.01	1.98	100	2.0
Zn	1.12	128.68	2,800	4.6

Table 3.40. Scarboro Field 2

Heavy metal	2014 (kg/ha)	Cumulative loading as of 12/31/2014 (kg/ha)	40 CFR 503 cumulative loading limits (kg/ha)	503 limits attained (%)
As	0.00	0.33	41	0.8
Cd	0.00	0.55	39	1.4
Cr	0.02	8.48	N/A	N/A
Cu	0.34	44.03	1,500	2.9
Pb	0.01	5.03	300	1.7
Hg	0.00	0.95	17	5.6
Mo	0.01	1.07	N/A	N/A
Ni	0.01	4.65	420	1.1
Se	0.01	1.96	100	2.0
Zn	0.52	127.24	2,800	4.5

Table 3.41. Rogers Field

Heavy metal	2014 (kg/ha)	Cumulative loading as of 12/31/2014 (kg/ha)	40 CFR 503 cumulative loading limits (kg/ha)	503 limits attained (%)
As	0.00	0.47	41	1.2
Cd	0.00	1.01	39	2.6
Cr	0.02	22.55	N/A	N/A
Cu	0.36	101.25	1,500	6.7
Pb	0.01	13.91	300	4.6
Hg	0.00	1.97	17	11.6
Mo	0.01	4.29	N/A	N/A
Ni	0.01	10.30	420	2.5
Se	0.01	1.35	100	1.3
Zn	0.56	251.41	2,800	9.0

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4. The Y-12 National Security Complex

The Y-12 Complex, a premier manufacturing facility operated by CNS for NNSA, plays a vital role in DOE's Nuclear Security Enterprise. While drawing on more than 60 years of manufacturing excellence, the Y-12 Complex helps ensure a safe and reliable US nuclear weapons deterrent.

The complex also retrieves and stores nuclear materials, fuels the nation's naval reactors, and performs complementary work for other government and private-sector entities.

Today's environment requires a Y-12 Complex that has a new level of flexibility and versatility. So while continuing its key role, the Y-12 Complex has evolved to become the resource the nation looks to for support in protecting America's future by developing innovative solutions in manufacturing technologies, prototyping, safeguards and security, technical computing, and environmental stewardship.

Because of differing permit reporting requirements and instrument capabilities, various units of measurement are used in this report. The list of units of measure and conversion factors provided on pages xxvii and xxviii is intended to help readers convert numeric values presented here as needed for specific calculations and comparisons.

4.1 Description of Site and Operations

4.1.1 Mission

The Y-12 Complex is a one-of-a-kind manufacturing facility that plays an important role in US national security. The roles of the Y-12 Complex include the following:

- receipt, storage, and protection of SNMs;
- quality evaluation/enhanced surveillance of the nation's nuclear weapons stockpile;
- safe and secure storage of nuclear materials;
- dismantlement of weapon secondaries and disposition of weapon components;
- provision of technical support to the NNSA Defense Nuclear Nonproliferation Program;
- removal of vulnerable HEU worldwide;
- conversion and disposition of HEU for peaceful uses;
- establishment and management of the Nuclear Detection and Sensor Testing Center and the Nuclear Materials Information Program Library;
- provision of nuclear radiological field training and alarm response training;
- provision of fuel for the nation's naval reactors program;
- transfer of technology to private industry;
- maintenance of DOE capabilities; and
- provision of support to DOE, other federal agencies, and other national priorities.

The Y-12 Complex is one of four production facilities in the NNSA Nuclear Security Enterprise. The unique emphasis of the Y-12 Complex is processing and storage of uranium and development of

technologies associated with those activities. Decades of precision machining experience make the Y-12 Complex a production facility with capabilities unequaled nationwide.

Located within the city limits of Oak Ridge, the Y-12 Complex covers more than 328 ha (810 acres) in the Bear Creek Valley, stretching 4.0 km (2.5 miles) in length down the valley and nearly 2.4 km (1.5 miles) in width across it. NNSA-related facilities located off the Y-12 Complex site but in Oak Ridge include the OST AOEC Secure Transportation Center and Training Facility, UPF project offices, Y-12 Shipping and Receiving, and an analytical laboratory. The laboratory is a leased facility providing a wide range of routine and nonroutine analytical services for environmental and hazardous waste programs of NNSA, DOE, and other customers.

On July 1, 2014, Consolidated Nuclear Security, LLC, assumed responsibility for management and operation of both the Y-12 National Security Complex, Oak Ridge, Tennessee, and the Pantex Plant, Amarillo, Texas. CNS replaces B&W Y-12, which had operated Y-12 since 2000, and B&W Pantex, which had operated Pantex, also since 2000. The contract includes a total annual operating budget of \$1.5 billion and employment of about 8,000 in Tennessee and Texas. CNS is a partnership of Bechtel National, Inc., Lockheed Martin Services, Inc., ATK Launch Systems, Inc., and SOC LLC, with Booz Allen Hamilton, Inc., as a teaming subcontractor.

Transition activities included extensive facility walkdowns and reviews of procedures, staffing and benefit plan development, and other transition plans. Oversight of the new contract is the responsibility of NPO. In June 2012, the former Pantex Site Office and Y-12 Site Office were merged into NPO in anticipation of the award of a single management and operating contract for the operation of both Pantex and Y-12.

4.1.2 Modernization

Government-owned facilities and operations are being challenged to become smaller, more efficient, and more responsive to changing national and global challenges. NNSA's vision for a smaller, safer, more secure, and less expensive nuclear weapons complex must leverage the scientific and technical capabilities of its workforce while continuing to meet national security requirements.

Nowhere in the National Security Enterprise is this more important than at the Y-12 Complex.

Most Y-12 Complex mission-critical facilities are more than 70 years old (Fig. 4.1). To address this situation, Y-12 has been consolidating operations, modernizing facilities and infrastructure, and reducing the legacy footprint for more than a decade. These actions are consistent with and supportive of NNSA enterprise transformation planning. Through modernization projects, deferred maintenance reduction, and infrastructure reduction the Y-12 Complex will continue to strive toward becoming a more responsive, sustainable enterprise. As evidenced by the performance achievements presented in this year's ASER, Y-12 continues to meet the challenges of declining budgets through enhanced security measures, enhanced technology, and innovative business practices.

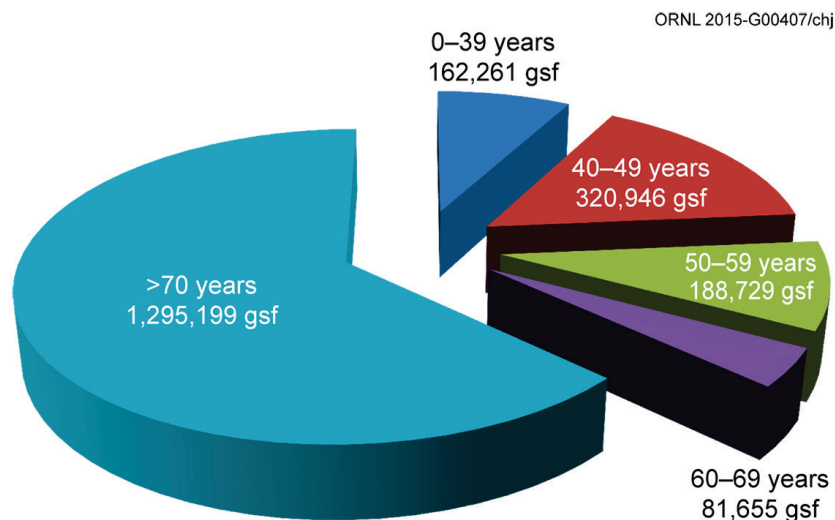


Fig. 4.1. Gross square footage by age of mission-critical facilities at the Y-12 National Security Complex. (gsf = gross square feet.)

Since 2002, Y-12 has demolished more than 1.4 million ft² of excess facilities. The NNSA Facilities Disposition Program is under development and will continue to evaluate excess assets, prioritize their disposition, and propose the budget resources required for their disposition. Without a defined program to eliminate excess facilities, the NNSA sites will continue to use limited resources to safely maintain those facilities that no longer have a mission use.

UPF is an integral part of the Y-12 Complex transformation efforts and a key component of the NNSA Uranium Center of Excellence. UPF will be a modern manufacturing facility designed and constructed for health, safety, security, and operations efficiency. As a result of cost and schedule growth, NNSA requested a red team project peer review in January 2014 (NNSA 2014). This resulted in a modified project execution strategy that will separate the single UPF structure into multiple buildings (ORNL 2014), with each constructed to safety and security requirements appropriate to the building's function. This modified strategy also limits project scope to the transfer of Building 9212 capabilities to UPF and will require the upgrade of several existing Y-12 facilities to maintain exposure-unit operations. Built to today's codes and standards, the new facilities will leverage new technologies and provide life-cycle cost savings. Planning and design continued through 2014.

4.2 Environmental Management System

As part of CNS's commitment to environmentally responsible operations, the Y-12 Complex has implemented an EMS based on the rigorous requirements of the globally recognized ISO 14001:2004 (ISO 2004).

DOE O 436.1, *Departmental Sustainability*, (DOE 2011) provides requirements and responsibilities for managing sustainability within DOE in accordance with EO 13423, its implementing instructions, and EO 13514. The order further requires implementation of an EMS that is either certified to the requirements of ISO 14001:2004 (ISO 2004) by an accredited ISO 14001 registrar or self-declared to be in conformance to the standard in accordance with instructions issued by the Federal Environmental Executive.

The EMS requirements taken from DOE O 436.1 have been incorporated in the Environmental Protection Functional Area of the Y-12 Complex Standards/Requirements Identification Document.

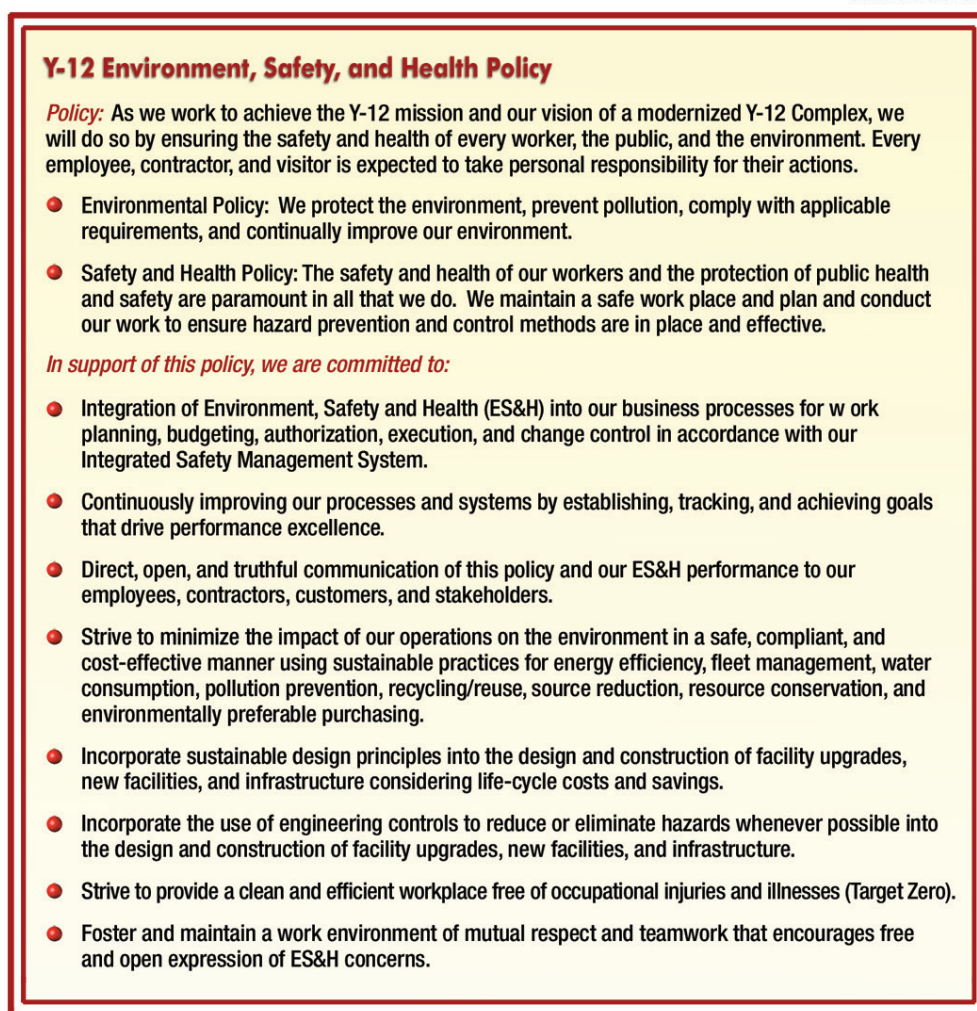
4.2.1 Integration with Integrated Safety Management System

ISMS is the DOE umbrella of ES&H programs and systems that provides the necessary structure for any work activity that could potentially affect the public, a worker, or the environment. At Y-12, the elements of the ISO 14001 EMS are incorporated in ISMS for environmental compliance, pollution prevention, waste minimization, and resource conservation.

4.2.2 Policy

The Y-12 environmental policy and commitment to providing sound environmental stewardship practices through the implementation of an EMS have been defined, are endorsed by top management, and have been made available to the public via company-sponsored forums and public documents such as this one. The Y-12 ES&H policy is presented in Fig. 4.2.

ORNL 2010-G00475/chj



Y-12 Environment, Safety, and Health Policy

Policy: As we work to achieve the Y-12 mission and our vision of a modernized Y-12 Complex, we will do so by ensuring the safety and health of every worker, the public, and the environment. Every employee, contractor, and visitor is expected to take personal responsibility for their actions.

- **Environmental Policy:** We protect the environment, prevent pollution, comply with applicable requirements, and continually improve our environment.
- **Safety and Health Policy:** The safety and health of our workers and the protection of public health and safety are paramount in all that we do. We maintain a safe work place and plan and conduct our work to ensure hazard prevention and control methods are in place and effective.

In support of this policy, we are committed to:

- Integration of Environment, Safety and Health (ES&H) into our business processes for work planning, budgeting, authorization, execution, and change control in accordance with our Integrated Safety Management System.
- Continuously improving our processes and systems by establishing, tracking, and achieving goals that drive performance excellence.
- Direct, open, and truthful communication of this policy and our ES&H performance to our employees, contractors, customers, and stakeholders.
- Strive to minimize the impact of our operations on the environment in a safe, compliant, and cost-effective manner using sustainable practices for energy efficiency, fleet management, water consumption, pollution prevention, recycling/reuse, source reduction, resource conservation, and environmentally preferable purchasing.
- Incorporate sustainable design principles into the design and construction of facility upgrades, new facilities, and infrastructure considering life-cycle costs and savings.
- Incorporate the use of engineering controls to reduce or eliminate hazards whenever possible into the design and construction of facility upgrades, new facilities, and infrastructure.
- Strive to provide a clean and efficient workplace free of occupational injuries and illnesses (Target Zero).
- Foster and maintain a work environment of mutual respect and teamwork that encourages free and open expression of ES&H concerns.

Fig. 4.2. Y-12 National Security Complex environment, safety, and health policy.

This policy has been communicated to all employees; incorporated into General Employee Training (GET) for every employee, guest, and contractor; and made available for viewing on the Y-12 external website and the internal Y 12 Complex website. Y-12 Complex personnel are made aware of the commitments stated in the policies and how the commitments relate to Y-12 Complex work activities.

4.2.3 Planning

4.2.3.1 Environmental Aspects

Environmental aspects may be thought of as potential environmental hazards associated with a facility operation, maintenance job, or work activity. Aspects and impacts are evaluated to ensure that the significant aspects and potential impacts continue to reflect stakeholder concerns and changes in regulatory requirements. The EMS provides the system to ensure that environmental aspects are systematically identified, monitored, and controlled to mitigate or eliminate potential impacts to the environment.

The FY 2014 analysis identified the following as significant environmental aspects.

- Air Emissions
- GHG Emissions (Scopes 1 and 3)
- Wastewater/Groundwater
- Excess Facilities and Unneeded Materials and Chemicals
- Hazardous or Mixed Wastes
- Radiological Waste
- Surface Water and Storm Water
- Aging Infrastructure and Equipment
- Legacy Contamination and Disturbance
- Storage or Use of Chemicals and Radioactive Materials
- Energy Consumption (Scope 2 GHGs)
- Clearing, Grading, or Excavation (nonquarantined soil)

4.2.3.2 Legal and Other Requirements

To implement the compliance commitments of the ES&H policy and to meet legal requirements, systems are in place to review changes in federal, state, or local environmental regulations and to communicate those changes to affected staff. The environmental compliance status is documented each year in this report (see Section 4.3).

4.2.3.3 Objectives, Targets, and Environmental Action Plans

CNS responds to change and pursues sustainability initiatives by establishing and maintaining environmental objectives, targets (goals), and action plans at Y-12. Goals and commitments are established annually; are agreed to by NPO and CNS; and are consistent with the Y-12 Complex's mission, budget guidance, ES&H work scope, site incentive plans, and continuous improvement goals. Targets and action plans are established for broad objectives to pursue improvement in environmental performance in five areas: clean air, energy efficiency, hazardous materials, stewardship of land and water resources, and waste reduction/recycling/buy green. Highlights of the 2014 environmental targets achieved at the Y-12 Complex are presented in Section 4.2.6.1.

4.2.3.4 Programs

NNSA has developed and funded several important programs to integrate environmental stewardship into all facets of Y-12 Complex missions. The programs also address the DOE order requirements for protecting various environmental media, reducing pollution, conserving resources, and helping to promote compliance with all applicable environmental regulatory requirements and permits.

Environmental Compliance

The Y-12 Environmental Compliance Department (ECD) provides environmental technical support services and oversight for Y-12 Complex line organizations to ensure that site operations are conducted in

a manner that is protective of workers, the public, and the environment; in compliance with applicable standards, DOE orders, environmental laws, and regulations; and consistent with CNS environmental policy and Y-12 site procedures. ECD serves as the Y-12 interpretive authority for environmental compliance requirements and as the primary point of contact between Y-12 and external environmental compliance regulatory agencies such as the city of Oak Ridge, TDEC, and EPA. ECD administers compliance programs aligned with the major environmental legislation that affects Y-12 Complex activities. Compliance status and results of monitoring and measurements conducted for these compliance programs are presented in this document.

ECD also maintains and ensures implementation of the Y-12 Complex EMS and spearheads initiatives to proactively address environmental concerns to continually improve environmental performance and go beyond compliance.

Waste Management

CNS waste management programs support the full life cycle of all waste streams within the Y-12 Complex. While ensuring compliance with federal and state regulations, DOE orders, waste acceptance criteria, and Y-12 Complex procedures and policies, the waste management programs provide technical support to generators on waste management, pollution prevention, and recycling issues and waste certification in accordance with DOE orders and NNSA waste acceptance criteria for waste to be shipped to that site for disposition.

Sustainability and Stewardship

The Sustainability and Stewardship Program has two major missions. The first is to establish and maintain companywide programs and services to support sustainable waste management operations. These sustainable operations include pollution prevention and recycling programs, excess materials programs, Generator Services programs, facility destruction and recycling operations, and PrYde. The Y-12 PrYde program incorporates an inspection and rating system related to the cleanliness of facilities, materials, and hazardous/unsafe conditions to help personnel maintain work areas in a clean, safe, environmentally sound, and professional manner.

The second mission is stewardship practices, the programs that manage legacy issues and assist in preventing the development of new problematic issues. Stewardship programs include Clean Sweep and Unneeded Materials and Chemicals (UMC).

Combining these programs under a single umbrella improves overall compliance with EOs, DOE orders, state and federal regulations, and NNSA expectations and eliminates duplication of efforts while providing an overall improved appearance at the Y-12 Complex.

Additionally, the implementation of these programs directly supports EMS objectives and targets to disposition UMC, continually improve recycle programs by adding new recycle streams as applicable, improve sustainable acquisition (i.e., promote the purchase of products made with recycled content and biobased products, including alternative fuels such as E85), meet sustainable design requirements, and adhere to pollution prevention reporting requirements.

Energy Management

Energy management is an ongoing and comprehensive effort with key strategies to reduce consumption of energy, water, and fuel (electricity, coal, natural gas, and gasoline/diesel). As part of Facility Management and programs in Facilities Services, energy management tracks federally mandated conservation

initiatives at the Y-12 Complex and informs personnel about sustainability issues, particularly in relation to energy, water, and fuel conservation and efficiency.

Y-12 energy management and sustainability and stewardship programs support the DOE and NNSA visions for a commitment to energy efficiency and sustainability and achievement of the guiding principles. Specifically, the Y-12 vision is to support the DOE ES&H policy and SSPP (DOE 2014a) while promoting overall sustainability and reduction of GHG emissions. The mission of the Y-12 Energy Management program is to incorporate energy-efficient technologies sitewide and to position Y-12 to meet NNSA energy requirement needs through 2025 and beyond. Sustainability goals, goal performance, and goal achievement are defined in the site sustainability plan (SSP) issued in December 2014 (CNS 2015b).

4.2.4 Implementation and Operation

4.2.4.1 Roles, Responsibility, and Authority

The safe, secure, efficient, and environmentally responsible operation of the Y-12 Complex requires the commitment of all personnel. All personnel share the responsibility for successful day-to-day accomplishment of work and the environmentally responsible operation of the Y-12 Complex. Environmental and Waste Management technical support personnel assist the line organizations with identifying and carrying out their environmental responsibilities. Additionally, an Environmental Officer Program is in place to facilitate communication of environmental regulatory requirements and to promote EMS as a tool to drive continual environmental improvement at the Y-12 Complex. Environmental officers coordinate their organizations' efforts to maintain environmental regulatory compliance and promote other proactive improvement activities.

4.2.4.2 Communication and Community Involvement

The Y-12 Complex is committed to keeping the community informed on operations, environmental concerns, safety, and emergency preparedness. The Community Relations Council, composed of 20 members from a cross section of the community, including environmental advocates, neighborhood residents, Y-12 Complex retirees, and business and government leaders, serves to facilitate communication between Y-12 and the community. The council provides feedback to Y-12 regarding its operations and ways to enhance community and public communications. Y-12 sponsored the Great Smoky Mountains National Park, the East Tennessee Foundation, and the ORAU Science Bowl in 2014.

As part of the Y-12 Complex America Recycles Day activities, four local charities received \$200 donations from funds raised by the Y-12 Complex employee ABC recycling efforts. Since the ABC recycling program began in 1994, more than \$84,000 has been donated to various local charities.

Y-12 hosted the TDEC Tennessee Green Star Partnership (TGSP) program East Tennessee Workshop (Fig. 4.3) on July 16, 2014, at the New Hope Center, which is a Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design–certified facility. The purpose of the workshop was to offer guidance on how to advance through the TGSP levels and to promote membership outreach and mentoring in sustainable practices while providing a forum for benchmarking and networking. The TGSP workshop included presentations on the new TGSP program, the Smart Trips Program, Y-12 history and initiatives, HummingBike products, and various other sustainability topics. The event was hosted at Y-12 as part of our overall goal to promote a more sustainable environment and share various pollution prevention initiatives with other organizations.



Fig. 4.3. Y-12 National Security Complex hosts the Tennessee Green Star Partnership East Tennessee Workshop. [Source: Scott Fraker, Y-12 photographer.]

4.2.4.3 Emergency Preparedness and Response

Local, state, and federal emergency response organizations are fully involved in the Y-12 Complex emergency drill and exercise program. The annual drill and exercise schedule is coordinated with all organizations to ensure maximum possible participation. At a minimum, the Tennessee Emergency Management Agency (TEMA) Duty Office and the DOE headquarters Watch Office participate in all Y-12 Complex emergency response exercises.

Two exercises were conducted at the Y-12 Complex during FY 2014. [Note: Originally three exercises were scheduled, but one (EME14-3) was rescheduled to early FY 2015 (October) due to the DOE headquarters assessment of the Y-12 safeguards and security programs.] The drills and exercises focused on topics such as responding to a hazardous chemical release, natural disaster, radiological release, active shooter event, and severe event (multiple hazards, multiple buildings). Eight building evacuation and accountability drills were also conducted. Additionally, portions of the Y 12 Emergency Response Organization were activated to support the early release of personnel due to inclement weather conditions in February 2014.

Y-12 Complex expertise in emergency management continues to be recognized within DOE. Members of the Emergency Management Program Office staff participated in the DOE Emergency Management Issues Special Interest Group Conference held in Shepherdstown, West Virginia, in April 2014. The Y-12 Complex staff made presentations, participated in steering committee meetings, and distributed Y-12 Complex Emergency Management Program information to other DOE facility emergency management professionals.

4.2.5 Checking

4.2.5.1 Monitoring and Measurement

The Y-12 Complex maintains procedures to monitor overall environmental performance and to monitor and measure key characteristics of its operations and activities that can have a significant environmental impact. Environmental effluent and surveillance monitoring programs are well-established, and the results of the 2014 program activities are reported elsewhere in this document. Progress achieving environmental goals is reported as a monthly metric on the senior management web portal, Performance Track, which consolidates and maintains Y-12 Complex site-level performance measures. Progress is reviewed in periodic meetings with senior management and NPO.

4.2.5.2 Environmental Management System Assessments

To periodically verify that EMS is operating as intended, assessments are conducted as part of the Y-12 Complex internal assessment program. The assessments are designed to ensure that nonconformities with the ISO 14001:2004 standard (ISO 2004) are identified and addressed.

The environmental assessment program comprises several types of assessments, each type serving a distinct but complementary purpose. Assessments range from informal observations of specific activities to rigorous audits of site-level programs.

To self-declare conformance to the ISO 14001:2004 standard in accordance with instructions issued by the Federal Environmental Executive and adhere to DOE O 436.1 (DOE 2011) requirements, EMS must be audited by a qualified party outside of the control or scope of EMS at least every 3 years. To fulfill this requirement, a four-person audit team from the University of Tennessee Center for Industrial Services evaluated the Y-12 EMS April 23–26, 2012. The Y-12 EMS was found to fully conform, and no issues were identified. A final score of 525.5 out of 530.0 or 99.2% was awarded by the audit team. The next external verification audit is scheduled for spring 2015.

4.2.6 Performance

The EMS objectives and targets and other plans, initiatives, and successes that work together to accomplish DOE goals and reduce environmental impacts are discussed in this section. The Y-12 Complex used a number of DOE reporting systems, including the following, to report performance.

- Pollution Prevention Tracking and Reporting System, which collects environmental, sustainable acquisition and product purchases, and best practices data.
- Federal Automotive Statistical Tool (FAST), which collects fleet inventory and fuel use.
- Consolidated Energy Data Report, which collects additional data on metering requirements, water use, renewable energy generation and purchases, training, and sustainable buildings.
- Site Sustainability Plan Performance Reporting, which collects data on site-identified sustainability projects and supports Energy Independence and Security Act (EISA) Section 432 compliance.

The DOE Office of Health, Safety and Security annual environmental progress reports on implementation of EO 13423, *Strengthening Federal Environmental, Energy, and Transportation Management*, and the Office of Management and Budget's Environmental Stewardship Scorecard gave the Y-12 Complex an EMS scorecard rating for FY 2014 of green, indicating full implementation of EO 13423 requirements.

4.2.6.1 Environmental Management System Objectives and Targets

At the end of FY 2014 Y-12 had achieved 5 of 10 targets that had been established. Five of the targets were established with long-term time frames and were carried into future years. Overall, 27 actions were completed through September. Highlights included the following, with additional details and successes presented in other sections of this report.

- Clean Air—Infrastructure updates for Stack 27 and Stack 110/43 were completed as part of the Nuclear Facility Risk Reduction project. These updates improve the reliability and maintainability of the exhaust system and provide a reliable source of ventilation for key processes.

- **Energy Efficiency**—Implementation of five Energy Savings Performance Contract (ESPC) energy conservation measures (ECMs) began in FY 2014 for projects to improve lighting, chilled water, air compressors, and steam. Significant progress was made in many areas including engineering design, and environmental (NEPA/CERCLA) reviews. The schedule for four of the five ECMs was moved to earlier completion dates.
- **Hazardous Materials**—Projects for legacy and excess unneeded material/equipment removal in and around 9201-1 and the line yard were developed and implemented. Completed actions included disposition of 24 pieces of unneeded equipment, 60 utility insulators, and surplus copper and scrap metal. A subcontract for processing gas cylinders was also awarded.
- **Land/Water Conservation**—A project to evaluate the potential impacts of eliminating flow augmentation water to EFPC and providing recommendations to minimize those impacts was completed in March of 2014. Actions to minimize sources of chlorinated water discharges to the creek were implemented by Y-12 Operations personnel.
- **Reduce/Reuse/Recycle/Buy Green**—Cost efficiencies related to purchase of recycled toner cartridges were completed in May 2014 to complete the first step of a target to increase the percentage of recycled toner cartridges purchased. The target completion date was extended into 2015.

4.2.6.2 Sustainability and Stewardship

Numerous efforts at the Y-12 Complex have reduced its impact on the environment. Efforts include increased use of environmentally friendly products and processes and reductions in waste and emissions. During the past few years, these efforts have been recognized by our customers, our community, and other stakeholders (see Section 4.2.7). Pollution prevention efforts at the Y-12 Complex have not only benefited the environment but have also resulted in cost efficiencies (Fig. 4.4).

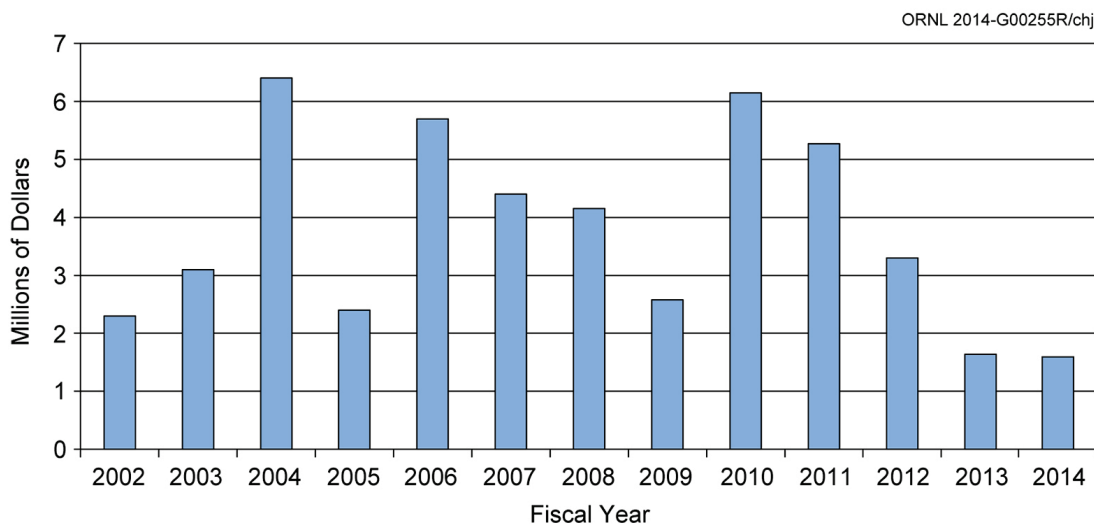


Fig. 4.4. Cost efficiencies from Y-12 National Security Complex pollution prevention activities.

In FY 2014 the Y-12 Complex implemented 90 pollution prevention initiatives (Fig. 4.5), with a reduction of more than 10.8 million kg (23.8 million lb.) of waste and cost efficiencies of more than \$1.6 million. The completed projects include the activities described below.

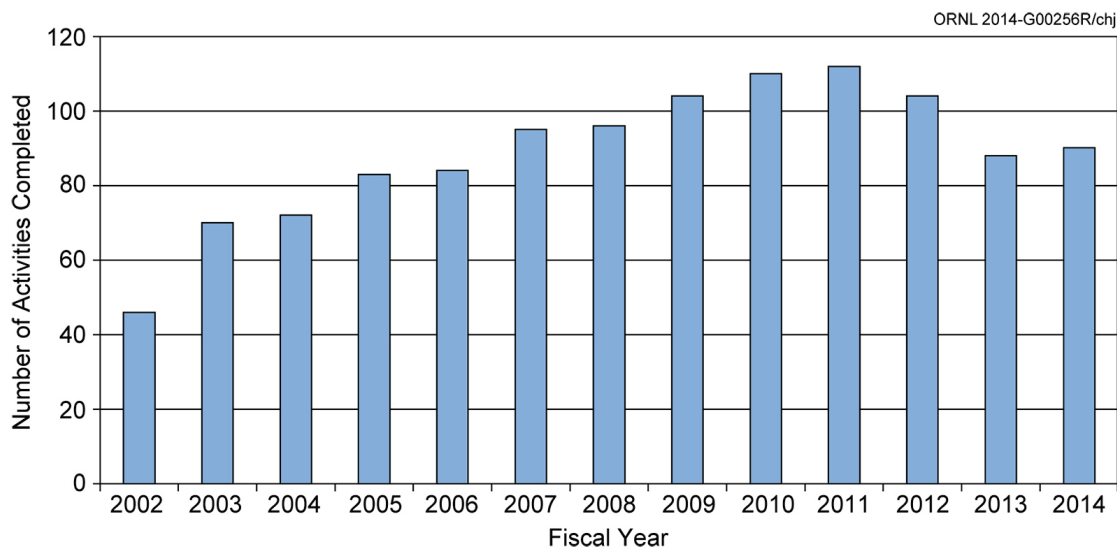


Fig. 4.5. Y-12 National Security Complex pollution prevention initiatives.

Pollution Prevention/Source Reduction. Sustainable initiatives have been embraced across the Y-12 Complex to reduce the impact of pollution on the environment and to increase operational efficiency. Many of the Y-12 Complex sustainable initiatives have pollution prevention benefits or targets eliminating the source of pollution, including the 2014 activities highlighted in this section.

Sustainable Acquisition—Environmentally Preferable Purchasing. Sustainable products, including recycled-content materials, are procured for use across the Y-12 Complex. In 2014, Y-12 procured recycled-content materials valued at more than \$1.6 million for use at the site.

Solid Waste Reduction. Y-12 continues to promote sustainable behaviors for environmental improvements at the site and within the community. As a part of Earth Day activities, LiveWise personnel established a gently used athletic shoe collection program. Employees were asked to donate gently used athletic shoes to support the Modular Organic Regenerative Environments Foundation Group. LiveWise has continued to collect shoes since the Earth Day event and more than 50 pairs of shoes have been shipped to charity (Fig. 4.6). This activity reflects Y-12 employees' commitment to reduce landfill waste and support community outreach.

Hazardous Chemical Minimization. The Y-12 Complex is committed to reducing the use of toxic and hazardous chemicals and minimizing the volume of hazardous waste generated by site operations. The Generator Services group provides a material disposition management service for waste generators at Y-12 that includes technical support for determining whether materials can be reused, excessed, or recycled rather than declared as waste. During 2014, Generator Services personnel supported the cleanout of excess chemicals and supplies from a facility that resulted in the reuse of more than 13,000 lb of materials and chemicals.

Recycling. Y-12 has a well-established recycling program and continues to identify new material streams and expand the types of materials that can be recycled by finding new markets and outlets for the materials. As shown in Fig. 4.7, more than 0.76 million kg (1.68 million lb) of materials was diverted from landfills and into viable recycle processes during 2014. Currently recycled materials range from office-related materials to operations-related materials such as scrap metal, tires, and batteries. Y-12 adds at least one new recycle stream to the Recycle Program each year to continue to increase the waste diversion rate. Consumer plastic items with recycle code numbers one through seven were added in FY 2014.



Fig. 4.6. LiveWise athletic shoe collection for charity.

[Source: Brett Pate, Y-12 photographer.]

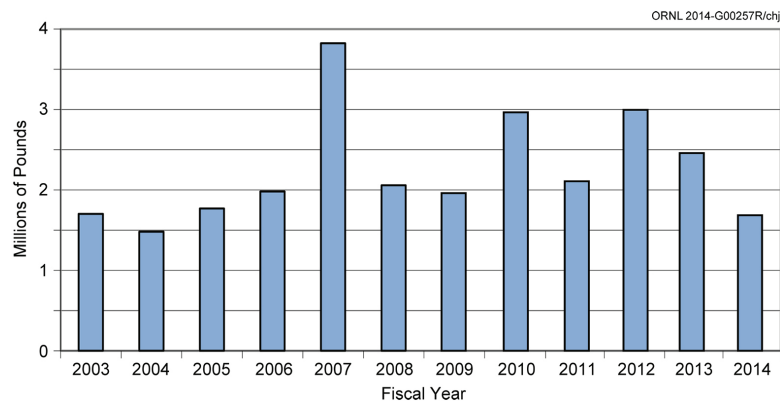


Fig. 4.7. Y-12 National Security Complex recycling results.

4.2.6.3 Energy Management

The Y-12 Energy Management Program identifies improvements in energy efficiency in facilities, coordinates energy-related efforts across the site, and promotes employee awareness of energy conservation programs and opportunities. The program also includes activities related to the accomplishment of the goals of EO 13423, *Strengthening Federal Environmental, Energy, and Transportation Management*; EO 13514, *Federal Leadership in Environmental, Energy, and Economic Performance*; and the DOE Transformational Energy Action Management Initiative.

The Energy Policy Act of 2005 established a goal of reducing building energy intensity 30% by 2015 from an FY 2003 baseline. Based on FY 2014 data, energy use at Y-12 is 1,941,163 MBtu. The square footage is 7,434,000; therefore, the FY 2014 estimated energy intensity is 261,109 Btu/gsf. The site has thus made good progress in implementing energy reduction initiatives, more than meeting the goal ahead of schedule (Fig. 4.8).

Specific initiatives that aided in the reduction of electricity consumption at Y-12 during FY 2014 included

- installing light-emitting diode and T-8 fluorescent lighting;
- improving meter readings via the Utilities Management System (UMS) and employee awareness;
- achieving utility efficiencies including reductions in steam pressure, chilled water production, and condensate return.

Additional energy reductions will be required in numerous areas to fully reduce energy use across the plant. Both facility and utilities management are diligently focusing on improvements to achieve the goal. Efforts that are fully incorporated into planning activities for facilities include the following.

- EISA assessments are included in annual reporting.
- ECMs from both EISA and the ESPC process are included in budgeting reviews.

- Low-cost/no-cost efforts, including component replacements, are incorporated into routine activities.
- EISA assessments and condition assessment surveys (CASs) share resources, including personnel and database support.

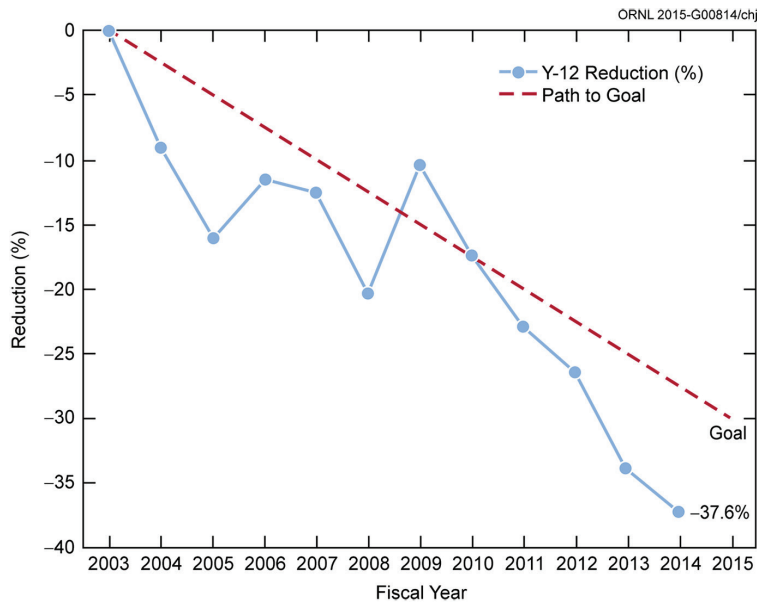


Fig. 4.8. Y-12 has achieved a 37.6% reduction in energy intensity compared to the baseline year, 2003.

As shown in Fig. 4.9, future reductions may be challenging due to a projected increase in the site’s energy intensity. Current projections indicate increases may occur once UPF goes online but will again be reduced when an infrastructure reduction program can demolish the remaining facilities in the site transformation plan.

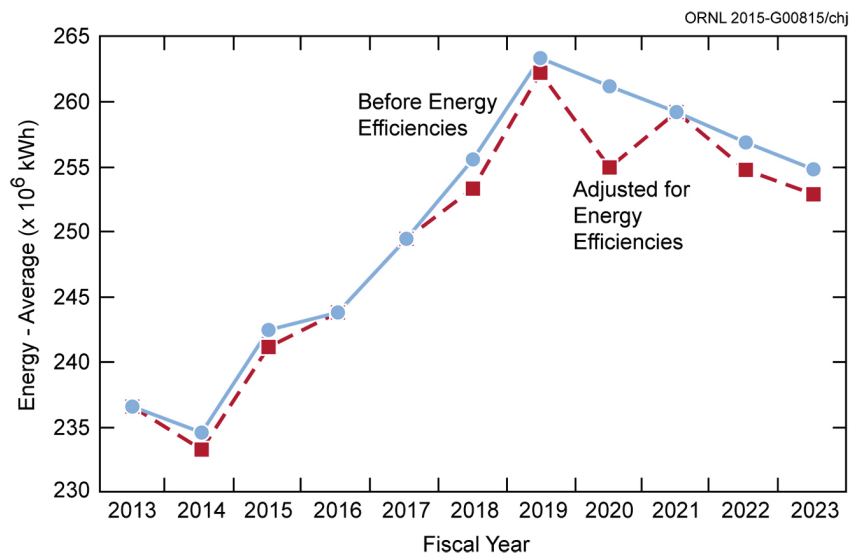


Fig. 4.9. Y-12 National Security Complex electricity load forecast.

The following efforts are planned to ensure continued site success for energy reduction.

- Implement ESPC delivery order 3 (lighting, chilled water, steam, natural gas, compressed air).
- Consolidate data centers, per Office of Management and Budget definition, and install electric meters.
- Continue installation of advanced metering.
- Continue facility upgrades for high-performance sustainable building (HPSB) compliance and implement building retro-commissioning.
- Continue implementation of cool roof applications.
- Encourage energy reduction through tenant awareness, including training and monthly meter reporting.

Energy Monitoring

Comprehensive water and energy audits at Y-12 are performed to meet EISA Section 432. These audits evaluate energy and water use and identify opportunities to reduce use. The audits are performed by a Certified Energy Auditor. The implementation costs for the ECMs are developed using the Condition Assessment Information System database. Based on the requirement to assess 100% of the covered facilities at the site, Y-12 successfully completed the first 4-year assessment cycle and began the second assessment or reassessment cycle in FY 2013, continuing in FY 2014. Additional assessments were completed during FY 2014 as part of the ESPC Inspection Grade Audit for modifications to delivery order 3. The audits are provided to facility and utility management, and ECMs are included in project planning for facilities. ECMs have been prioritized and are implemented as funding is available. Specific examples include heating, ventilating, and air-conditioning (HVAC) replacements and low-flow fixtures. These audits were performed by CAS program staff knowledgeable of facility operations and conditions.

Y-12 currently has numerous standard and advanced electrical meters located on various facilities throughout the plant. Efforts to read meters and monitor commodity information have improved significantly due to the connection of several additional meters to the UMS. The actual electricity costs for the plant are based on total energy consumption as defined by TVA revenue meters in the ELZA 1 substation. Y-12 does not use a space chargeback system, and individual building metering is not currently used for such purposes. The ELZA 1 substation electricity use is monitored to ensure accurate billing from TVA and develop the annual utilities budget.

Btu meters were installed on components of the chilled water system as part of the ESPC project, and these meters, along with newly installed cooling tower meters, have been added to the automatic output from UMS. Natural gas meters are located at the steam plant on each of the boilers.

Recent focus has been on connectivity to UMS. As these connections have progressed, data have been migrated to the energy management module for eventual use in site metrics, data reporting, and ECMs. Meter data are also entered into the EPA Portfolio Manager for benchmarking and reporting purposes.

Minimal funding will be available for dedicated metering during FY 2015. Efforts will continue on establishing communications with the UMS. Metering for HPSB candidates is still a concern for the plant. This issue prevents adequate monitoring of energy for the required 20% reduction. It is also impacting required reporting of power usage effectiveness at the plant data centers. Efforts to identify funding to install electric meters for HPSB candidates and for electric, chilled water, and steam metering for the data centers will continue.

The Y-12 Complex began entering facilities into the EPA Portfolio Manager in FY 2011. During FY 2014, metering data continued to be included in the Portfolio Manager, and as new meter data became available, additional information was added. At present, 107 facilities have been entered and are being tracked for compliance. Y-12 enters and tracks data for both covered and noncovered facilities. Data from the Portfolio Manager are shared with NNSA sustainability contacts and are automatically migrated to DOE's web-based EISA Section 432 Compliance Tracking System for annual reporting in June. Meter data are also entered into Portfolio Manager for benchmarking and reporting purposes.

Energy Savings Performance Contracts

Dedicated funding for energy and water projects is provided via ESPCs. Y-12 has taken advantage of the energy saving opportunities provided by the ESPCs. ESPC delivery order 2 is in the third period of performance at Y-12. This contract included chiller plant improvements, steam condensate return system modifications, steam trap improvements, and demineralized water production facility replacement. Efforts from delivery order 2 have greatly contributed toward both energy reduction and efficiency gains for the projects implemented.

Y-12 entered into its third ESPC contract in September 2013. Delivery order 3 is in the construction phase, which will continue through FY 2016. Delivery order 3 will result in an estimated annual energy and water cost savings of \$2.8 million and estimated energy-related operations and maintenance annual energy and water cost savings of \$2.3 million. The site will continue to work with NNSA for successful accomplishment of these efforts. Delivery order 3 includes the following ECMs.

- Steam System Decentralization
- Chiller Plant Upgrades
- Energy Efficient Lighting Upgrades
- Steam and Condensate System Improvements
- Compressed Air System Upgrades

Site Sustainability Plan

The DOE SSPs are an annual reporting requirement intended to comply with the requirements of EOs 13423 and 13514, DOE O 436.1 (DOE 2011), and the DOE SSPP (DOE 2014a). The FY 2014 Y-12 SSP (CNS 2015b) serves as a deliverable to fulfill the planning and reporting requirements of the EOs and SSPP. The DOE sustainability goals and Y-12 Complex status and plans for these goals are summarized in Table 4.1.

Table 4.1. FY 2014 sustainability goals and status

SSPP goal	DOE SSPP goal description	Performance status	Planned actions and contribution	Risk of nonattainment
<i>Goal 1: GHG reduction and comprehensive GHG inventory</i>				
1.1	28% Scopes 1 and 2 GHG reduction by FY 2020 from an FY 2008 baseline	On track —Scopes 1 and 2 emissions have decreased by 39.2%. It is uncertain whether this goal will be sustainable during UPF construction	Continue to identify methods for reduction of GHGs; further emphasize energy reductions	Medium
1.2	13% Scope 3 GHG reduction by FY 2020 from an FY 2008 baseline	On track —Site Scope 3 emissions have decreased by 10.3%. It is uncertain whether this goal will be sustainable during UPF construction	Continue to promote alternative commuting methods	Medium
<i>Goal 2: Sustainable buildings and regional and local planning</i>				
2.1	30% energy intensity reduction by FY 2015 from an FY 2003 baseline	Goal has been met —The site has achieved a 37.6% reduction from the 2003 baseline	Continue implementation of planned energy reduction initiatives, including ESPC delivery order 3	N/A
2.2	EISA Section 432 energy and water evaluations	Goal has been met —Y-12 completed all EISA-covered assessments during FY 2013	Continue assessments with 25% of EISA-covered facilities for second assessment cycle	N/A
2.3	Individual building or process metering for 90% of electricity by October 1, 2012, and for 90% of steam, natural gas, and chilled water by October 1, 2015	On track —Currently 92.2% of appropriate buildings and 88% of electricity are metered; 100% of natural gas, 15.4% of steam, 100% of chilled water, and 19.4% of potable water at appropriate buildings are metered	Continue procurement and installation of metering as funding is allocated	Electricity: Low Steam: Medium Natural Gas: Low Chilled Water: Medium
2.4	Cool roofs, unless uneconomical, for roof replacements unless project already has CD-2 approval; new roofs must have thermal resistance of at least R-30 ^a	On track —Investments in roofing have increased implementation of cool roof technology at the site	Continue to use cool roofs in future roofing projects where practical	Low
2.5	15% of existing buildings larger than 5,000 gsf are compliant with the HPSB Guiding Principles by FY 2015	At Risk —Y-12 is yellow for gross square feet, with 11% complete but still red for building count with 3% complete	Continue to implement initiatives to meet HPSB compliance as funding and resources allow	High
2.6	All new construction, major renovations, and alterations of buildings greater than 5,000 gsf must comply with the Guiding Principles	On track —LEED Silver certification is being sought for the UPF project	If waiver is granted, project team will review and implement LEED scorecard credit and Guiding Principles by building, where feasible (now six buildings)	Medium

Table 4.1 (continued)

SSPP goal	DOE SSPP goal description	Performance status	Planned actions and contribution	Risk of nonattainment
Goal 3: Fleet management				
3.1	10% annual increase in fleet alternative fuel consumption by FY 2015 relative to an FY 2005 baseline	On Track —Y-12 has achieved a 77.7% increase in alternative fuel consumption	The DOE prime subcontractor was unable to fuel the light-duty patrol vehicles with E-85 in FY 2014 due to the required repairs of a mobile fuel truck; therefore, E-85 was not used	Low
3.2	2% annual reduction in fleet petroleum consumption by FY 2020 relative to an FY 2005 baseline	On Track —Y-12 has achieved the petroleum reduction goal with a 17% reduction	Direct relation to E85 not being available part of the year	Low
3.3	100% of light-duty vehicle purchases must consist of AFVs by FY 2015 and thereafter (75% FY 2000–2015)	Goal has been met —Y-12 purchases consisted of 100% AFVs	Include consideration of AFVs in future vehicle purchases	N/A
3.4	Reduce fleet inventory of non-mission-critical vehicles by 35% by FY 2013 relative to an FY 2005 baseline	Goal has been met —NNSA established a 35% reduction target complexwide	Continue evaluating mission need and use standards to reassess or remove vehicles from fleet	Low
Goal 4: Water use efficiency and management				
4.1	26% water intensity reduction by FY 2020 from an FY 2007 baseline	Goal has been met —The site has achieved a 47.0% reduction from the baseline	Continue to implement water conservation measures as practicable in support of the HPSB initiative	N/A
4.2	20% water consumption reduction for ILA water by FY 2020 from an FY 2010 baseline	No ILA use at Y-12	All water used at Y-12 is potable water and included in the potable water category	N/A
Goal 5: Pollution prevention and waste reduction				
5.1	Divert at least 50% of nonhazardous solid waste, excluding C&D debris, by FY 2015	Goal has been met —Over 58.8% of nonhazardous waste diverted from landfill	At least one new recycle material stream is added to the recycling program each fiscal year to further increase the diversion rate	N/A
5.2	Divert at least 50% of C&D materials and debris by FY 2015	Goal has been met —Over 93.6% of C&D waste diverted from landfill	Continue to use systematic disposition evaluation method for C&D materials to ensure maximum waste diversion is achieved	N/A

Table 4.1 (continued)

SSPP goal	DOE SSPP goal description	Performance status	Planned actions and contribution	Risk of nonattainment
Goal 6: Sustainable acquisition				
6.1	Procurements meet requirements by including necessary provisions and clauses (Sustainable Procurements/ Biobased Procurements)	Goal has been met —The sustainable acquisition clause (48 CFR 952.223-78) was incorporated into Y-12 procurement clauses in FY 2011. The terms and conditions were revised in 2012 to include Federal Acquisition Regulation clause 52.223-15	Y-12 will incorporate additional clauses as requested and will continue to evaluate sustainable products for use at the site	N/A
Goal 7: Electronic stewardship and data centers				
7.1	All data centers are metered to measure monthly PUE (100% by FY 2015)	On Track —9103 and 9117 data centers are planned to be consolidated to 9117 in FY 2015; electric and chill water installations are scheduled for FY 2015 at 9117	Primary data centers are being consolidated. Additional metering will be considered to ensure PUE is effectively measured	Medium
7.2	Maximum annual weighted medium average PUE of 1.4 by FY 2015	At Risk —PUE is currently estimated as lower than 1.4. However, this value is based solely on electricity use and does not account for energy intensity	Chilled water and electrical metering are planned for 9117 in FY 2015. The data generated will allow measurement of PUE	High
7.3	Electronic stewardship—100% of eligible personal computers, laptops, and monitors with power management actively implemented and in use by FY 2012	At Risk —Y-12 has implemented power management to eligible CPUs and laptops; power management features are enabled on all monitors not deemed mission critical	100% implementation is not currently feasible with existing network security features. The site will continue active implementation of power management of computing devices while maintaining security network features	High
7.4	Electronic Stewardship - 95% of eligible electronic acquisitions meet EPEAT standards	Goal has been met —More than 98% (1,892/1,915) of all computer desktops, laptops, monitors, and thin clients purchased or leased during FY 2014 were EPEAT-registered or Energy Star-qualified products	Y-12 has a standard desktop configuration that specifies the procurement of EPEAT-registered and Energy Star-qualified products	N/A
Goal 8: Renewable energy				
8.1	20% of annual electricity consumption from renewable sources by 2020	On track —Y-12 acquired 81% of site electricity in Green-e-certified ^b RECs	Based on DOE decision regarding use of RECs to satisfy this goal; Y-12 will continue to purchase	Without RECs: High With RECs: Low
Goal 9: Climate change adaptation				
9.1	Address DOE Climate Change Adaptation Plan goals	On track —Y-12 is partnering with regional and local entities to exchange information and gain perspective	Continue to partner with ORNL, TVA, and others to remain engaged in this effort	N/A

Table 4.1 (continued)

SSPP goal	DOE SSPP goal description	Performance status	Planned actions and contribution	Risk of nonattainment
<i>Goal 10: Energy Performance Contracts</i>				
10.1	Utilization of Energy Performance Contracts	Goal has been met —Y-12 has taken advantage of the energy saving opportunities provided by the ESPCs. ESPC delivery order 2 is in the third period of performance at Y-12, and delivery order 3 is in the construction phase, which will continue through FY 2016.	Continue to leverage ESPCs to help achieve sustainability goals	N/A

^aThe “R-value” is an insulating material’s resistance to conductive heat flow measured or rated in terms of its thermal resistance; the higher the R-value, the greater the insulating effectiveness.

^bGreen-e is the nation’s leading independent certification and verification program for renewable energy and greenhouse gas emission reductions in the retail market.

Acronyms

AFV = alternative fuel vehicle
 FY = fiscal year
 C&D = construction and demolition
 CD = Critical Design
 CPU = central processing unit
 DOE = US Department of Energy
 E85 = Ethanol fuel blend up to 85% Ethanol
 and 15% gasoline or other hydrocarbon
 EISA = Energy Independence and Security Act

EPEAT = Electronic Product Environmental Assessment Tool
 ESPC = Energy Savings Performance Contract
 ORNL = Oak Ridge National Laboratory
 GHG = greenhouse gas
 gsf = gross square feet
 HPSB = high-performance sustainable building
 ILA = industrial, landscaping, and agricultural
 LEED = Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design
 NNSA = National Nuclear Security Administration

ORNL = Oak Ridge National Laboratory
 PUE = power usage effectiveness
 REC = renewable energy certificate
 SSPP = *Strategic Sustainability Performance Plan* (DOE)
 TVA = Tennessee Valley Authority
 UPF = Uranium Processing Facility
 Y-12 = Y-12 National Security Complex

4.2.6.4 Water Conservation

Y-12 is currently exceeding both the 2016 and the 2026 goals for water conservation. By the end of FY 2014, the site had achieved a 47% reduction in potable water use compared to the baseline year, 2007 (Fig. 4.10). Actions that have contributed to the overall reduction in potable water use include the following:

- steam trap repairs and improvements,
- condensate return repairs and reroutes,
- replacement of once-through air handling units, and
- low-flow fixture installation.

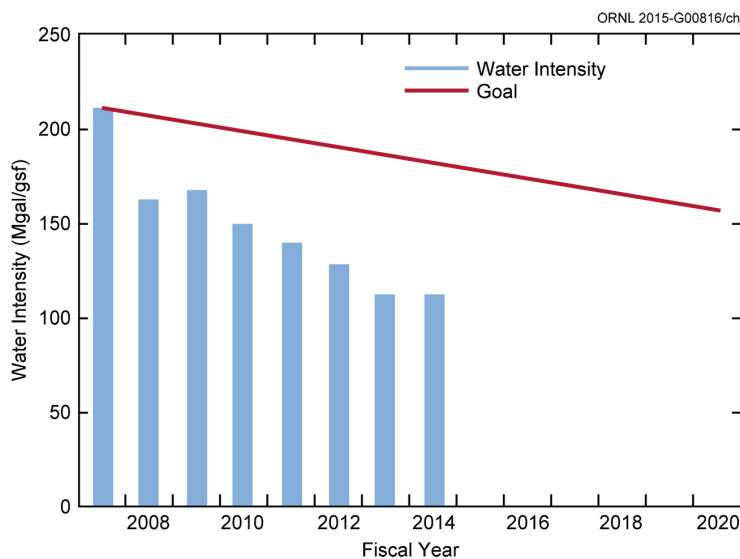


Fig. 4.10. Y-12 National Security Complex water intensity goals. (Mgal = millions of gallons, gsf = gross square foot; red line is the consumption reduction goal.)

Meters are installed on the potable water tanks and on various facilities on the site. A minimal number of meters within the facilities are currently read, and although a verified listing does not exist, Y-12 is working on verifying all locations of water meters. Future metering will include advanced meter installations for all enduring facilities, as applicable, to comply with the 2015 goal. Additionally, new advanced meters will be installed on the potable water tanks because the existing meters are flow meters rather than totalizing meters.

Although Y-12 has made significant progress, future reductions in water consumption can still be achieved through continued improvements within facilities, metering, and replacement of inefficient HVAC units. Continued reductions in water use will be incorporated into ongoing facility repairs and renovations as funding becomes available.

These efforts will include

- upgrading toilets and urinals to low-flow, hands-free units;
- installing flow restrictors on faucets and shower heads;
- repairing condenser loop connections to the cooling towers;

- replacing once-through water-cooled air conditioning systems with air-cooled equivalents;
- installing advanced potable water meters; and
- repairing Building 9212 condensate returns (completed October 2014).

4.2.6.5 Fleet Management

The Y-12 fleet comprises sedans, light duty trucks/vans, medium duty trucks/vans, and heavy duty trucks. Vehicles range from new to 28 years old with the majority (90%) of vehicles between 7 and 24 years old. To achieve the optimum fleet, Fleet Management is coordinating with other departments on-site (e.g., shuttle services) to develop a strategic plan for managing on-site transportation at the Y-12 Complex. Vehicles are used as tools to perform work and support the mission at the Y-12 Complex. Fleet Management is evaluating the current fleet and will focus on efforts to right size the fleet based on mission needs. In addition to the fleet size, petroleum and alternative fuel (E85) use is monitored to ensure EOs are being met. Fleet Management has benchmarked other DOE sites and private industry to allow Y-12 to standardize its fleet and meet federal requirements. Fleet Management goals support EOs associated with petroleum consumption reduction and alternative fuel use.

Y-12 will continue to monitor vehicle use and redistribute or remove vehicles from the fleet as needed. Decisions on replacement vehicle purchases will consider energy use in accordance with sustainable acquisition guidance, and replacement vehicles will be more fuel efficient. Y-12 currently owns and operates four low-speed electric vehicles and a 25-passenger diesel-electric hybrid bus. The contractor for UPF site preparation is using a hybrid excavator (Fig 4.11).



Fig. 4.11. Hybrid excavator used for Uranium Processing Facility site preparation.

As additional guidance becomes available, Y-12 will evaluate the existing fleet to identify further reductions. Additional goals are planned for continued progress in fleet management.

The Y-12 Complex has achieved a 77.7% increase in alternative fuel consumption and a 17% petroleum use reduction. The mobile fuel truck was unavailable due to necessary repairs, so E85 was not used to fuel

the light duty patrol vehicles in FY 2014. This directly impacted alternative fuel consumption and petroleum consumption resulting in lower achievement of fleet management goals in FY 2014.

Data in Table 4.2, pulled from FAST, show the goal will be reached through 2018.

Table 4.2. Summary of petroleum and alternative fuel use over a 9-year period

2005 Baseline (GGE)	2014 Data (GGE)	Increase/Decrease (%)	EO 13423 Goal
<i>Alternative fleet use statistics</i>			
10,700	19,014	77%	10%/year increase
<i>Fleet petroleum reduction statistics</i>			
246,137	147,339	-17%	2%/year decrease

GGE = gasoline gallon equivalent

To track the continued success of fuel-saving measures, the fleet manager monitors fuel consumption by both Y-12 Complex and General Services Administration vehicles and maintains monthly reporting metrics. Future fleet management energy savings will be achieved by continued strict monitoring of vehicle use. Increasing the use of alternative fuels and replacing gasoline-fueled vehicles with E85-fueled vehicles will occur as funding permits.

Y-12 will maintain a questioning attitude toward vehicle requests in FY 2015. Given the unsustainable state of the current fleet and the existing funding constraints, Y-12 Complex Fleet Management is taking a multitiered approach (Fig 4.12) to managing the current fleet while planning for a more sustainable future fleet to meet the mission needs of the site. The ultimate goal is a smaller, more modern, more cost-efficient, and more sustainable fleet.

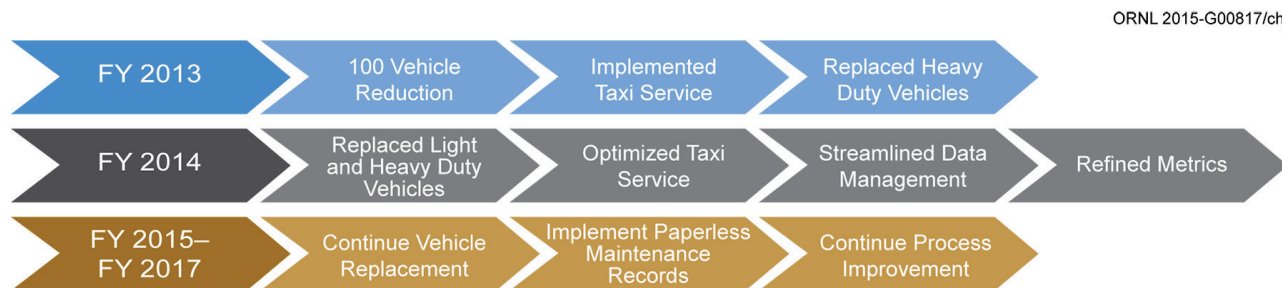


Fig. 4.12. Fleet management roadmap.

4.2.6.6 Electronic Stewardship

Y-12 has implemented a variety of electronic stewardship activities, including server virtualization, virtual desktop infrastructure, procurement of energy-efficient computing equipment, reuse and recycle of computing equipment, replacement of aging computing equipment with more energy-efficient equipment, and reconfiguration of data centers to achieve more energy-efficient operations. More than 98% of all desktop computers, laptops, monitors, and thin clients purchased or leased during FY 2014 were Electronic Product Environmental Assessment Tool- (EPEAT)-registered products. Y-12’s standard desktop configuration specifies the procurement of EPEAT-registered and Energy Star-qualified products.

4.2.6.7 Greenhouse Gases

Table 4.3 provides a summary of Y-12 Complex GHG emissions for FY 2008 (the baseline year as required by EO 13514) and FY 2014. The Y-12 Complex has reduced Scopes 1 and 2 GHG emissions by 39.2% since the 2008 baseline year, primarily due to decreased Scope 1 emissions from steam generation and industrial fugitive emissions and decreased Scope 2 emissions from energy efficiency projects, renewable energy certificate credits from the Pantex Renewable Energy Project, and HPSB improvements. Scope 3 GHG emissions have been reduced by 10.3% since the 2008 baseline year. This reduction is due primarily to renewable energy certificates and reductions in business travel and transmission and distribution losses. Employee commuting GHG emissions account for 65% of the Scope 3 emissions. Y-12's 4/10 work schedule prevented about 3,700 MT CO₂e in Scope 3 commuting emissions in FY 2014. The 4/10 work schedule is critical to Y-12's Scope 3 emissions reduction efforts. It will be difficult for the Y-12 Complex to meet the reduction goal for Scope 3 GHG emissions without the addition of public transit to the Oak Ridge area and/or a telecommuting program. To further reduce employee commuting emissions, the Y-12 Complex will continue to encourage use of the Y-12 Complex carpooling and rideshare programs.

Table 4.3. Y-12 National Security Complex greenhouse gas emissions summary

GHG emission source	FY 2008 baseline (metric ton CO ₂ e/year)	FY 2014 (metric ton CO ₂ e/year)
<i>Scope 1</i>		
Steam (coal, natural gas, fuel oil)	129,021	61,136
Industrial fugitive emissions	22,542	8,461
On-site wastewater treatment	6.9	8.3
Fleet fuels	1,063	1,339
<i>Scope 2</i>		
Renewable energy certificates		(12,324) ^a
Electricity	184,995	146,815
Total Scopes 1 and 2	337,627.9	205,435.3
<i>Scope 3</i>		
T&D losses	12,185.8	9,670.8
Off-site municipal wastewater treatment	25.3	25.8
Employee commute	17,447	18,517.4
Business ground and air travel	2,251	1,226.5
Renewable energy certificates	N/A	(811.8)
Total Scope 3	31,909.1	28,628.7
TOTAL GHG Emissions	369,537	234,064

^aWith the agreement of the NPO for the Y-12 and Pantex sites, the Y-12 Complex GHG inventory was credited with renewable energy produced by the Pantex Renewable Energy Project as part of the Pantex–Y-12 integration effort. This renewable energy strategy was supported by the fact that CNS Pantex meets the DOE renewable energy goal requirement through purchase of renewable energy credits.”

Acronyms

CO₂e = CO₂ equivalent
 FY = fiscal year
 GHG = greenhouse gas
 NPO = National Nuclear Security Administration Production Office
 T&D = transmission and distribution

4.2.6.8 Storm Water Management and the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007

EISA Section 438 requires federal agencies to reduce storm water runoff from development and redevelopment projects to protect water resources. The Y-12 Complex complies with these requirements using a variety of storm water management practices, often referred to as “green infrastructure” or “low impact development” practices. During the last few years several green infrastructure initiatives have been implemented to reduce the size and number of impervious surfaces through the use of sustainable vegetative practices and porous pavements. Actions that have contributed to the overall prevention of storm water runoff during FY 2014 include the following.

- There has not been a significant change (up or down) in green space during the fiscal year due to UPF site readiness activities. The planned paved areas for UPF should be offset by the constructed sediment ponds with the Faircloth skimmers (Fig 4.13) that mitigate the rate of the storm water leaving the area.
- UPF site readiness construction is using a mulcher/chipper (Fig 4.14) to produce mulch that is being used as erosion control along the haul road.
- Asphalt removed by UPF site readiness has been stockpiled for processing and reuse as porous paving material for road maintenance.



Fig. 4.13. Faircloth skimmer previously installed at Sediment Basin 1.



Fig. 4.14. Uranium Processing Facility site readiness construction is using a mulcher/chipper to produce mulch that is being used as erosion control along the haul road.

During 2014 as part of the UPF Project wetland mitigation was performed on 2.44 acres that will function to attenuate storm water surge, reduce sediment loading, and support aquifer recharge.

In all, about 3.5 acres have been added to the green bank to offset future projects within the Y-12 Complex.

4.2.7 Awards and Recognition

Since November 2000, the Y-12 Complex commitment to environmentally responsible operations has been recognized with more than 117 external environmental awards from local, state, and national agencies. The awards received in 2014 are summarized below.

DOE Sustainability Award. The “WhY-12 Must Communicate” activity was selected by DOE headquarters to receive a DOE Sustainability Award. DOE Sustainability Awards recognize innovation and/or excellence in pollution prevention and environmental sustainability stewardship efforts within DOE; recipients are selected by an independent panel.

NNSA Awards. In 2014 the Y-12 Complex received one NNSA Pollution Prevention/Sustainability Best in Class Award and three Environmental Stewardship Award Certificates. This is the 11th consecutive year that the Y-12 Complex has been recognized by NNSA for award-winning activities. These awards recognize innovation and/or excellence in pollution prevention and environmental sustainability stewardship efforts within NNSA and DOE; recipients are selected by an independent panel.

Tennessee Chamber of Commerce and Industry Awards. Y-12 was recognized in two areas at the 32nd Annual Tennessee Chamber of Commerce and Industry Environment and Energy Conference in an awards ceremony on October 2, 2014, in Nashville, Tennessee. Y-12 received the Solid and Hazardous Waste Award for “Sustainable Disposition of Unneeded Materials and Chemicals at Y-12.” Additionally, Y-12 received an achievement certificate in Environmental Excellence for “Y-12 Sweeping It Clean.”

4.3 Compliance Status

4.3.1 Environmental Permits

Table 4.4 lists environmental permits in force at the Y-12 Complex during 2014. More detailed information can be found in the following sections.

Table 4.4. Y-12 National Security Complex environmental permits, 2014

Regulatory driver	Title/description	Permit number	Issue date	Expiration date	Owner	Operator	Responsible contractor
CAA	Title V Major Source Operating Permit	562767	1/8/2012	1/8/2017	DOE	DOE	CNS
CAA	UPF Construction Permit	967550P	3/01/2014	3/01/2015	DOE	DOE	CNS
CWA	Industrial & Commercial User Wastewater Discharge (Sanitary Sewer) Permit	1-91	4/1/2010	3/31/2015	DOE	DOE	CNS
CWA	NPDES Permit	TN0002968	10/31/2011	11/30/2016	DOE	DOE	CNS
CWA	UPF 401 Water Quality Certification/ ARAP Access/Haul Road	NRS10.083	6/10/2010	6/09/2015	DOE	DOE	CNS
CWA	UPF Department of Army Section 404 Clean Water Act Permit	2010-00366	9/02/2010	9/02/2015	DOE	DOE	CNS
CWA	UPF General Storm Water Permit Y-12 Complex (41.7 hectares/103 acres)	TNR 134022	10/27/2011	5/23/2016	DOE	CNS	CNS
RCRA	Hazardous Waste Transporter Permit	TN3890090001	1/17/2014	1/31/2015	DOE	DOE	CNS
RCRA	Hazardous Waste Corrective Action Permit	TNHW-121	9/28/2004	9/28/2014 ^a	DOE	DOE, NNSA, and all ORR co-operators of hazardous waste permits	UCOR
RCRA	Hazardous Waste Container Storage Units	TNHW-122	8/31/2005	8/31/2015	DOE	DOE/CNS	CNS/ Navarro co-operator
RCRA	Hazardous Waste Container Storage and Treatment Units	TNHW-127	10/06/2005	10/06/2015	DOE	DOE/CNS	CNS co-operator

Table 4.4 (continued)

Regulatory driver	Title/description	Permit number	Issue date	Expiration date	Owner	Operator	Responsible contractor
RCRA	RCRA Postclosure Permit for the Chestnut Ridge Hydrogeologic Regime	TNHW-128	9/29/2006	9/29/2016	DOE	DOE/UCOR	UCOR
RCRA	RCRA Postclosure Permit for the Bear Creek Hydrogeologic Regime	TNHW-116	12/10/2003 Permit reapplication submitted to TDEC on 1/31/13	12/10/2013 ^a	DOE	DOE/UCOR	UCOR
RCRA	RCRA Postclosure Permit for the Upper East Fork Poplar Creek Hydrogeologic Regime	TNHW-113	9/23/2003 Permit reapplication submitted to TDEC on 1/31/13	9/23/2013 ^a	DOE	DOE/UCOR	UCOR
Solid Waste	Industrial Landfill IV (Operating, Class II)	IDL-01-103-0075	Permitted in 1988—most recent modification approved 1/13/1994	N/A	DOE	DOE/UCOR	UCOR
Solid Waste	Industrial Landfill V (Operating, Class II)	IDL-01-103-0083	Initial permit 4/26/1993	N/A	DOE	DOE/UCOR	UCOR
Solid Waste	Construction and Demolition Landfill (Overfilled, Class IV subject to CERCLA ROD)	DML-01-103-0012	Initial permit 1/15/1986	N/A	DOE	DOE/UCOR	UCOR
Solid Waste	Construction and Demolition Landfill VI (Postclosure care and maintenance)	DML-01-103-0036	Permit terminated by TDEC 3/15/2007	N/A	DOE	DOE/UCOR	UCOR
Solid Waste	Construction and Demolition Landfill VII (Operating, Class IV)	DML-01-103-0045	Initial permit 12/13/1993	N/A	DOE	DOE/UCOR	UCOR
Solid Waste	Centralized Industrial Landfill II (Postclosure care and maintenance)	IDL-01-103-0189	Most recent modification approved 5/8/1992	N/A	DOE	DOE/UCOR	UCOR

Table 4.4 (continued)

“Continue to operate in compliance pending TDEC action on renewal and reissuance.

Acronyms

ARAP = Aquatic Resource Alteration Permit

CAA = Clean Air Act

CERCLA = Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation,
and Liability Act

CNS = Consolidated Nuclear Security LLC

CWA = Clean Water Act

DOE = US Department of Energy

Navarro = Navarro Research and Engineering, Inc.

NNSA = National Nuclear Security Administration

NPDES = National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System

ORR = Oak Ridge Reservation

RCRA = Resource Conservation and Recovery Act

ROD = record of decision

TDEC = Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation

UCOR = URS | CH2M Oak Ridge LLC

Y-12 Complex = Y-12 National Security Complex

4.3.2 National Environmental Policy Act/National Historic Preservation Act

NNSA adheres to NEPA regulations, which require federal agencies to evaluate the effects of proposed major federal activities on the environment. The prescribed evaluation process ensures that the proper level of environmental review is performed before an irreversible commitment of resources is made.

During 2014, environmental evaluations were completed for 46 proposed actions, all of which were determined to be covered by a CX.

The DOE NEPA implementing procedures, 10 CFR 1021, require a 5-year evaluation of the current Y-12 Complex sitewide environmental impact statement (SWEIS). A new SWEIS was prepared to evaluate the new modernization proposals and to update the analyses presented in the original Y-12 Complex SWEIS (issued in November 2001). The final SWEIS was issued February 2011, and the notice of availability was published March 4, 2011. The final SWEIS (DOE 2011a) is available on the Internet at <http://nnsa.energy.gov/content/y12sweis2011>.

In accordance with NHPA, NNSA is committed to identifying, preserving, enhancing, and protecting its cultural resources. The compliance activities in 2014 included completing NHPA Section 106 reviews and participating in various outreach projects with local organizations and schools.

Forty-six proposed projects were evaluated to determine whether any historic properties eligible for inclusion in the NRHP would be adversely impacted. It was determined that none of the 46 projects would have an adverse effect on historic properties eligible for listing in the NRHP and that no further Section 106 documentation was required. The Y-12 Oral History Program continues efforts to conduct oral interviews of current and former employees to document the knowledge and experience of those who worked at the Y-12 Complex during World War II and the Cold War era. The interviews provide information on day-to-day operations of the Y-12 Complex, the use and operation of significant components and machinery, and how technological innovations occurred over time. Some of the information collected from the interviews will be available in various media, including DVDs shown in the Y-12 History Center.

The Y-12 History Center, located in The New Hope Center, continues to be a work in progress. The Y-12 History Center features many historical photographs and artifacts, a history library, and a video viewing area. More interactive and video-based exhibits are planned for the future. The Y-12 History Center is open to the public Monday through Thursday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and on Fridays by special request. A selection of materials, including documentary DVDs, books, pamphlets, postcards, and fact sheets will continue to be available free to the public.

Outreach activities in 2014 consisted of partnering with the city of Oak Ridge, the Oak Ridge Convention and Visitor's Bureau, and the Arts Council of Oak Ridge, which sponsor the annual Secret City Festival. In June, The Secret City Festival promoted the history of the Manhattan Project by providing information to visitors regarding the History of Y-12 and directions for them to visit the Y-12 History Center.

Y-12 also partnered with the American Museum of Science and Energy by providing guided public tours of the Y-12 History Center from June through September. Other outreach activities included visiting local schools and conducting presentations on the history of the Y-12 Complex and Oak Ridge.

4.3.3 Clean Air Act Compliance Status

Permits issued by the State of Tennessee are the primary vehicle used to convey the clean air requirements that are applicable to the Y-12 Complex. New projects are governed by construction permits, and eventually the requirements are incorporated into the sitewide Title V operating permit. The Y-12 Complex is currently governed by Title V Major Source Operating Permit 562767.

The permit requires annual and semiannual reports. More than 3,000 data points are obtained and reported each year. All reporting requirements were met during CY 2014, and there were no permit violations or exceedances during the report period.

The TDEC-Knoxville Office, Clean Air Compliance, completed the Y-12 annual Clean Air Compliance inspection on July 15 and 16, 2014. This is the 11th consecutive year in which no noncompliance findings were identified.

Ambient air monitoring, while not specifically required by any permit condition, is conducted at the Y-12 Complex to satisfy DOE order requirements, as a best management practice, and/or to provide evidence of sufficient programmatic control of certain emissions. Ambient air monitoring conducted specifically for the Y-12 Complex (i.e., mercury monitoring) is supplemented by additional monitoring conducted for ORR and by both on-site and off-site monitoring conducted by TDEC.

Section 4.4 provides detailed information on 2014 activities conducted at Y-12 in support of CAA.

4.3.4 Clean Water Act Compliance Status

During 2014 the Y-12 Complex continued its excellent record for compliance with the NPDES water discharge permit. Data obtained as part of the NPDES program are provided in a monthly report to TDEC. The percentage of compliance with permit discharge limits for 2014 was 100%.

About 3,400 data points were obtained from sampling required by the NPDES permit; no noncompliances were reported. The Y-12 NPDES permit in effect during 2014 (TN0002968) was issued on October 31, 2011, and became effective on December 1, 2011. A modification was effective on May, 2014. It will expire on November 30, 2016.

The effluent limitations contained in the permit are based on the protection of water quality in the receiving streams. The permit emphasizes biological, toxicological, and radiological monitoring of storm water runoff.

Some of the key requirements and changes incorporated in the modified permit are summarized below.

- The requirement to manage the flow of EFPC such that a minimum of 5 million gal/day (19 million L/day) is guaranteed by adding raw water from the Clinch River to the headwaters of EFPC was removed.
- Flow and mercury monitoring and reporting requirements were removed for outfall 200.
- Monitoring and reporting requirements for Kjeldahl nitrogen and phosphorus at outfall 200 were added.
- Flow and mercury monitoring and reporting requirements were removed for outfall C11.

- Flow and mercury monitoring and reporting requirements were removed for station EFP.
- Requirements for monitoring and reporting of ammonia, phosphorus, and Kjeldahl nitrogen were added for station EFP.

TDEC personnel conducted a periodic NPDES Compliance Evaluation Inspection (CEI) during 2014. They inspected construction areas, creek outfalls, and treatment facilities; interviewed sampling, wastewater treatment, and Environmental Compliance (EC) personnel; and reviewed the Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan, field instrumentation calibration records, and discharge monitoring report (DMR) records. No issues were identified.

4.3.5 Safe Drinking Water Act Compliance Status

The City of Oak Ridge supplies potable water to the Y-12 Complex and meets all federal, state, and local standards for drinking water. The water treatment plant, located north of the Y-12 Complex, is operated by the City of Oak Ridge.

Tennessee Regulations for Public Water Systems and Drinking Water Quality, Chap.0400-45-01, set limits for biological contaminants, chemical activities and chemical contaminants. Sampling for total coliform, chlorine residuals, lead, copper, and disinfectant by-product is conducted by the Y-12 Utilities Management Organization.

In 2014 the Y-12 Complex potable water system retained its approved status for potable water with TDEC. All total coliform samples collected during 2014 were analyzed by the State of Tennessee laboratory, and the results were negative with the exception of one false positive. The site was resampled and received a negative report. Analytical results for disinfectant by-products (total trihalomethanes and haloacetic acids) for Y-12 Complex water systems were below TDEC and SDWA limits. The Y-12 Complex potable water system is currently sampled triennially for lead and copper, and the system sampling was last completed in 2014. These results were below TDEC and SDWA limits and met the established requirements.

4.3.6 Resource Conservation and Recovery Act Compliance Status

RCRA regulates hazardous wastes that, if mismanaged, could present risks to human health or the environment. The regulations are designed to ensure that hazardous wastes are managed from the point of generation to final disposal. In Tennessee, EPA delegates the RCRA program to TDEC, but EPA retains an oversight role. The Y-12 Complex is considered a large-quantity generator because it may generate more than 1,000 kg (2,205 lb) of hazardous waste in a month and because it has RCRA permits to store hazardous wastes for up to 1 year before shipping off the site to licensed treatment and disposal facilities. The Y-12 Complex also has a number of satellite accumulation areas (SAAs) and 90-day waste storage areas.

Mixed wastes are materials that are both hazardous (under RCRA guidelines) and radioactive. The Federal Facilities Compliance Act (1992) requires that DOE work with local regulators to develop a site treatment plan to manage mixed waste. Development of the plan has two purposes: to identify available treatment technologies and disposal facilities (federal or commercial) that are able to manage mixed waste produced at federal facilities and to develop a schedule for treating and disposing of the waste streams.

The ORR site treatment plan is updated annually and submitted to TDEC for review. The current plan (TDEC 2014) documents the mixed-waste inventory and describes efforts undertaken to seek new commercial treatment and disposal outlets for various waste streams. NNSA has developed a disposition

schedule for the mixed waste in storage and will continue to maintain and update the plan as a reporting mechanism as progress is made. The Y-12 Complex has developed new disposition milestones to address its remaining inventory of legacy mixed waste. Disposition milestones for this final inventory are in fiscal years from 2014 through 2018 (see Fig.4.15).

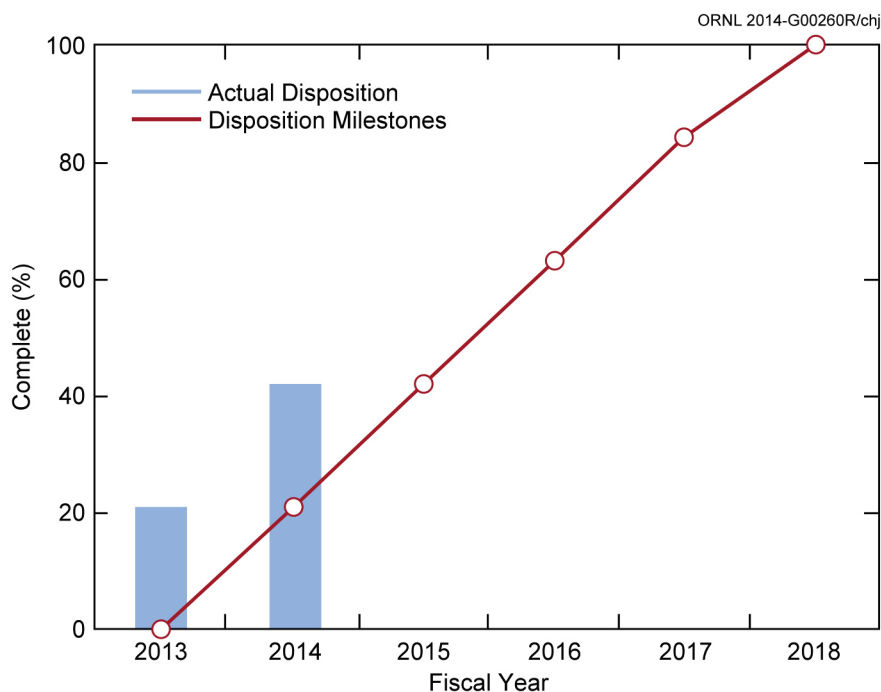


Fig. 4.15. Y-12 National Security Complex path to elimination of its inventory of legacy mixed waste as part of the Oak Ridge Reservation site treatment plan.

The quantity of hazardous and mixed wastes generated by the Y-12 Complex decreased in 2014 (Fig. 4.16). Ninety-six percent of the total hazardous and mixed waste generated in 2014 was generated as contaminated leachate from legacy operations. The Y-12 Complex currently reports waste on 83 active waste streams. The Y-12 Complex is a state-permitted treatment, storage, and disposal facility. Under its permits, the Y-12 Complex received 1,570 kg (3,461 lb) of hazardous and mixed waste from the off-site Union Valley analytical chemistry laboratory in 2014. In addition, 157,054 kg (346,241 lb) of hazardous and mixed waste was shipped to DOE-owned and commercial treatment, storage, and disposal facilities. More than 7 million kg (15 million lb) of hazardous and mixed wastewater was treated at on-site wastewater treatment facilities.

TDEC conducted a comprehensive inspection of the Y-12 Complex hazardous waste program in October 2014, including permitted storage facilities, SAAs, and 90-day accumulation areas. Three alleged violations were observed during the inspection: (1) container inspections for a 90-day area were recorded on an incorrect checklist, (2) hazardous waste labels were not visible on containers in two areas, and (3) accumulation start dates were not visible on containers in two areas. All issues were immediately corrected and were verified to be corrected by the TDEC inspector. These issues were of an administrative nature, and there was no potential for environmental insult.

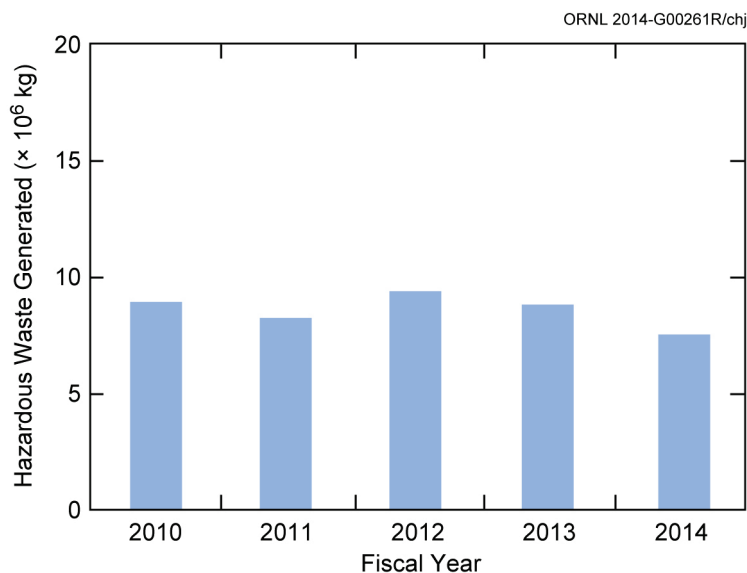


Fig. 4.16. Hazardous waste generation, 2010–2014.

4.3.6.1 Resource Conservation and Recovery Act Underground Storage Tanks

TDEC regulates the active petroleum USTs at the Y-12 Complex. Existing UST systems that are to remain in service at the Y-12 Complex must comply with performance requirements described in TDEC UST regulations (TN 0400-18-01).

Closure and removal of two petroleum USTs at the East End Fuel Station was completed in August 2012. There are no petroleum USTs remaining at Y-12.

4.3.6.2 Resource Conservation and Recovery Act Subtitle D Solid Waste

The ORR landfills operated by the DOE Office of Environmental Management program are located within the boundary of the Y-12 Complex. The facilities include two Class II operating industrial solid waste disposal landfills and one operating Class IV construction demolition landfill. The facilities are permitted by TDEC and accept solid waste from DOE operations on ORR. In addition, one Class IV facility (Spoil Area 1) is overfilled by 8,945 m³ (11,700 yd³) and has been the subject of a CERCLA RI/FS. A CERCLA ROD for Spoil Area 1 was signed in 1997. One Class II facility (Landfill II) has been closed and is subject to postclosure care and maintenance. Associated TDEC permit numbers are noted in Table 4.4. Additional information about the operation of these landfills is addressed in Section 4.8.3, “Waste Management.”

4.3.7 Resource Conservation and Recovery Act—Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act Coordination

The ORR FFA (DOE 2014b) is intended to coordinate the corrective action processes of RCRA required under the Hazardous Waste Corrective Action permit (formerly known as the Hazardous and Solid Waste Amendments permit) with CERCLA response actions.

During CY 2014 several actions were taken to facilitate TDEC’s renewal of TNHW-121 ORR Hazardous Waste Corrective permit. This permit was dated for a period from 2004 through September 28, 2014. The most current solid water management unit/area of concern Table A-1 and A-2 lists were submitted to TDEC on March 12, 2014, with a fee payment of \$600. A public meeting on the renewal of the

TNHW-121 document was held on January 29, 2014, in coordination with a public meeting to discuss the renewal information for the ETPP Site RCRA Part B TNHW-117 Permit. Based on the timely permit renewal meeting and the submittals that met TDEC expectations for the TNHW-121 document, ORR operations continue to operate in compliance with the TNHW-121 document until such time as TDEC initiates the renewal and reissuance of an updated ORR Hazardous Waste Corrective Action Document.

Three RCRA postclosure permits, one for each of the three hydrogeologic regimes at the Y-12 Complex, have been issued to address the eight major closed waste disposal areas at the Y-12 Complex. Because it falls under the jurisdiction of two postclosure permits, the S-3 pond site is described as having two parts, eastern and former S-3 (Table 4.5). Groundwater corrective actions required under the postclosure permits have been deferred to CERCLA. RCRA groundwater monitoring data were reported to TDEC and EPA in the annual groundwater monitoring report for the Y-12 Complex (UCOR 2015).

Periodic updates of proposed C&D activities at the Y-12 Complex (including alternative financing projects) have been provided to managers and project personnel from the TDEC DOE Oversight Division and EPA Region 4. A CERCLA screening process is used to identify proposed C&D projects that warrant CERCLA oversight. The goal is to ensure that modernization efforts do not impact the effectiveness of previously completed CERCLA environmental remediation actions and that they do not adversely impact future CERCLA environmental remediation actions.

Table 4.5. Y-12 National Security Complex Resource Conservation and Recovery Act postclosure status for former treatment, storage, and disposal units on the Oak Ridge Reservation

Unit	Major components of closure	Major postclosure requirements
<i>Upper East Fork Poplar Creek Hydrogeologic Regime (RCRA Postclosure Permit TNHW-113)</i>		
New Hope Pond	Engineered cap, upper East Fork Poplar Creek distribution channel	Cap inspection and maintenance. No current groundwater monitoring requirements in lieu of ongoing CERCLA actions in the eastern portion of Y-12 Complex
Eastern S-3 ponds groundwater plume	None for groundwater plume; see former S-3 Ponds (S-3 Site) for source area closure	Postclosure corrective action monitoring. Inspection and maintenance of monitoring network
<i>Chestnut Ridge Hydrogeologic Regime (RCRA Postclosure Permit TNHW-128)</i>		
Chestnut Ridge security pits	Engineered cap	Cap inspection and maintenance. Postclosure corrective action monitoring. Inspection and maintenance of monitoring network and survey benchmarks
Kerr Hollow Quarry	Waste removal, access controls	Access controls inspection and maintenance. Postclosure detection monitoring. Inspection and maintenance of monitoring network and survey benchmarks
Chestnut Ridge sediment disposal basin	Engineered cap	Cap inspection and maintenance. Postclosure detection monitoring. Inspection and maintenance of monitoring network and survey benchmarks

Table 4.5 (continued)

Unit	Major components of closure	Major postclosure requirements
East Chestnut Ridge Waste Pile	Engineered cap	Cap inspection and maintenance. Postclosure detection monitoring. Inspection and maintenance of monitoring network, leachate collection sump, and survey benchmarks. Management of leachate
<i>Bear Creek Hydrogeologic Regime (RCRA Postclosure Permit TNHW-116)</i>		
Former S-3 ponds (S-3 pond site)	Neutralization and stabilization of wastes, engineered cap, asphalt cover	Cap inspection and maintenance. Postclosure corrective action monitoring. Inspection and maintenance of monitoring network and survey benchmarks
Oil landfarm	Engineered cap	Cap inspection and maintenance. Postclosure corrective action monitoring. Inspection and maintenance of monitoring network and survey benchmarks
Bear Creek Burial Grounds: A-North, A-South, and C-West and the walk-in pits	Engineered cap, leachate collection system specific to the burial grounds	Cap inspection and maintenance. Postclosure corrective action monitoring. Inspection and maintenance of monitoring network and survey benchmarks

Acronyms

CERCLA = Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act

ORR = Oak Ridge Reservation

RCRA = Resource Conservation and Recovery Act

Y-12 Complex = Y-12 National Security Complex

4.3.8 Toxic Substances Control Act Compliance Status

The storage, handling, and use of PCBs are regulated under TSCA. Capacitors manufactured before 1970 that are believed to be oil-filled are handled as though they contained PCBs, even when that cannot be verified from manufacturer records. Certain equipment containing PCBs and PCB waste containers must be inventoried and labeled. The inventory is updated by July 1 of each year and was last submitted June 12, 2014.

Given the widespread historical uses of PCBs at the Y-12 Complex and fissionable material requirements that must be met, an agreement between EPA and DOE was negotiated to assist ORR facilities in becoming compliant with TSCA regulations. This agreement (ORR PCB FFCA), which became effective in 1996, provides a forum with which to address PCB compliance issues that are truly unique to these facilities. Y-12 Complex operations involving TSCA-regulated materials were conducted in accordance with TSCA regulations and ORR PCB FFCA.

The removal of legacy PCB waste, some of which had been stored since 1997, in accordance with the terms of ORR PCB FFCA, was completed in 2011.

4.3.9 Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act Compliance Status

EPCRA requires that facilities report inventories (i.e., Tier II report sent to state and local emergency responders) and releases (i.e., toxic release inventory report submitted to state and federal environmental agencies) of certain chemicals that exceed specified thresholds. The Y-12 Complex submitted reports in 2013 in accordance with requirements under EPCRA Sections 302, 303, 311, 312, and 313.

The Y-12 Complex had no unplanned releases of extremely hazardous substances as defined by EPCRA in 2014. No Section 311 notifications were sent to TEMA and local emergency responders in 2014 because a chemical newly exceeded the reporting threshold. Inventories, locations, and associated hazards of over-threshold hazardous and extremely hazardous chemicals were submitted to TEMA and local emergency responders in the annual Tier II report required by Section 312. Data submittal was through the E-Plan web-based reporting system, as requested by TEMA. Some local emergency responders also accepted data through the E-Plan system, but others still require paper copies of the Tier II reports. Y-12 reported 49 chemicals that were over Section 312 inventory thresholds in 2014.

Y-12 Complex operations are evaluated annually to determine the applicability for submittal of a toxic release inventory report to TEMA and EPA in accordance with EPCRA Section 313 requirements. The amounts of certain chemicals manufactured, processed, or otherwise used are calculated to identify those that exceed reporting thresholds. After threshold determinations are made, releases and off-site transfers are calculated for each chemical that exceeds a threshold. Submittal of the data to TEMA and EPA is made through the TRI-ME (Toxics Release Inventory-Made Easy) web-based reporting system operated by EPA. Total 2014 reportable toxic releases to air, water, and land and waste transferred off-site for treatment, disposal, and recycling were 24,125 kg (53,196 lb). Table 4.6 lists the reported chemicals for the Y-12 Complex for 2013 and 2014 and summarizes releases and off-site waste transfers for those chemicals.

Table 4.6. Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act Section 313 toxic chemical release and off-site transfer summary for the Y-12 National Security Complex, 2013 and 2014

Chemical	Year	Quantity ^a (lb) ^b
Chromium	2013	9,442
	2014	3,312
Copper	2013	31,586
	2014	4,494
Lead compounds	2013	13,313
	2014	19,324
Mercury	2013	6,973
	2014	436
Methanol	2013	23,233
	2014	20,274
Nickel	2013	9,047
	2014	5,356
Total	2013	93,594
	2014	53,196

^aRepresents total releases to air, land, and water and includes off-site waste transfers. Also includes quantities released to the environment as a result of remedial actions, catastrophic events, or one-time events not associated with production processes.

^b1 lb = 0.4536 kg.

4.3.10 Spill Prevention, Control, and Countermeasures

CWA Section 311 regulates the discharge of oils or petroleum products to waters of the United States and requires the development and implementation of spill prevention, control, and countermeasures (SPCC) plans to minimize the potential for oil discharges. The major requirements for SPCC plans are contained

in Title 40 CFR Part 112. These regulations require that SPCC plans be reviewed, evaluated, and amended at least once every 5 years, or earlier if significant changes occur. The SPCC rule includes requirements for oil spill prevention, preparedness, and response to prevent oil discharges to navigable waters and adjoining shorelines. The rule requires specific facilities to prepare, amend, and implement SPCC plans.

The Y-12 Complex SPCC plan (B&W Y-12 2010) was last revised in September 2010 to update general Y-12 Complex spill prevention techniques and changing site infrastructure. This plan presents the SPCC to be implemented by the Y-12 Complex to prevent spills of oil and hazardous constituents and the countermeasures to be invoked should a spill occur. In general, the first response of an individual discovering a spill is to call the plant shift superintendent. Spill response materials and equipment are stored near tanks and drum storage areas and other strategic areas of the Y-12 Complex to facilitate spill response. All Y-12 Complex personnel and subcontractors are required to have initial spill and emergency response training before they can work on the site. This training is received as part of the GET program.

Improvements have been made in training for Y-12 Complex employees that handle or manage oil and liquids that contain oil, allowing for updated information and improved accountability. A new review of the current Y-12 SPCC plan continued through 2014. A revised SPCC plan is scheduled to be issued by end of 2015.

4.3.11 Unplanned Releases

The Y-12 Complex has procedures for notifying off-site authorities for categorized events at the Y-12 Complex. Off-site notifications are required for specified events according to federal statutes, DOE orders, and TOA. As an example, any observable oil sheen on EFPC and any release impacting surface water must be reported to the EPA National Response Center in addition to other reporting requirements. Spills of CERCLA RQ limits must be reported to the EPA National Response Center, DOE, TEMA, and the Anderson County Local Emergency Planning Committee.

In addition, the Y-12 occurrence reporting program provides timely notification to the DOE community of Y-12 Complex events and site conditions that could adversely affect the public or worker health and safety, the environment, national security, DOE safeguards and security interests, functioning of DOE facilities, or the department's reputation.

Y-12 Complex occurrences are categorized and reported through the Occurrence Reporting and Processing System (ORPS). ORPS provides NNSA and the DOE community with a readily accessible database of information about occurrences at DOE facilities, causes of those occurrences, and corrective actions to prevent recurrence of the events. DOE analyzes aggregate occurrence information for generic implications and operational improvements.

During CY 2014 there were no releases of hazardous substances exceeding an RQ. There were three reportable occurrences related to the water program (see Section 4.5.1) and one reportable occurrence that was administrative in nature, requiring notification of DOE as an occurrence, but unrelated to a release (see Section 4.3.12).

- There was a reportable occurrence on July 1, 2014, when dead minnow sized fish were observed in Upper East Fork Poplar Creek (NA--NPO-CNS-Y12NSC-2014-0001).
- On October 20, 2014, an upset condition led to material from stack 47 being dispersed onto the northeast corner of the Building 9212 roof and the area adjacent to the building (NA--NPO-CNS-Y12NSC-2014-0020).

- On December 1, 2014, the site received a hazardous waste inspection report from the TDEC Division of Solid Waste Management that alleged three violations (NA--NPO-CNS-Y12NSC-2014-0027). The inspection occurred October 21–22.
- There was an observed oil sheen on EFPC on December 2, 2014 (NA--NPO-CNS-Y12NSC-2014-0028).

4.3.12 Audits and Oversight

A number of federal, state, and local agencies oversee Y-12 Complex activities. In 2014, the Y-12 Complex was inspected by federal, state, or local regulators on seven occasions. Table 4.7 summarizes the results, and additional details follow.

Table 4.7. Summary of external regulatory audits and reviews, 2014

Date	Reviewer	Subject	Issues
March 20	COR	Semiannual Industrial Pretreatment Compliance Inspection	0
June 10	TDEC	Process Waste Treatment Complex Inspection	0
July 15–16	TDEC	Annual CAA Inspection	0
August 19–Sept 11	TDEC	NPDES Compliance Evaluation Inspection	0
September 30	COR	Semiannual Industrial Pretreatment Compliance Inspection	0
October 13	TDEC	ORR Landfills Inspection	0
October 21–22	TDEC	Annual RCRA Inspection	3
October 22–23	TDEC	Annual RCRA Inspection of UCOR areas at Y-12	0
November 17	TDEC	Follow-up RCRA Inspection	0
December 18	USACE and TDEC	UPF Wetland and Stream Mitigation Activities	0

Acronyms

CAA = Clean Air Act
 COR = City of Oak Ridge
 NPDES = National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System
 ORR = Oak Ridge Reservation
 RCRA = Resource Conservation and Recovery Act
 TDEC = Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation
 UCOR = URS | CH2M Oak Ridge LLC
 UPF = Uranium Processing Facility
 USACE = US Army Corps of Engineers

As part of the City of Oak Ridge’s pretreatment program, city personnel collect samples from the Y-12 monitoring station to conduct compliance monitoring as required by the pretreatment regulations. City personnel also conduct twice yearly compliance inspections. No issues were identified in 2014.

Personnel from the TDEC Knoxville Field Office completed the annual clean air compliance inspection on July 16, 2014. The inspection covered 16 air emission sources (visited 22 emergency generators) and included facility walkthroughs. There were no findings or deficiencies identified as a result of the audit.

TDEC conducted its annual hazardous waste compliance inspection October 21–22. The five-member audit team inspected 37 RCRA permitted storage and accumulation areas in 20 buildings across the site. They examined training records, hazardous waste manifests, the hazardous waste activity report, the RCRA contingency plan, the annual pollution prevention report, the pollution prevention program plan,

and the waste reduction report. Three alleged violations were observed during the inspection. The three issues identified were using an incorrect checklist that omitted a criterion to check for leaking and deterioration of containers in a 90-day hazardous waste storage area, not having labels visible on containers in a RCRA waste storage area, and having unlabeled containers in a RCRA waste storage area. These issues were of an administrative nature and reported as occurrence NA--NPO-CNS-Y12NSC-2014-0027. There was no potential for environmental insult. All issues were immediately corrected; use of the correct form was implemented, and labeling was corrected. A follow-up inspection to confirm all issues were resolved was conducted by TDEC on November 17.

TDEC personnel conducted periodic NPDES CEIs on August 19 and September 9 and 11. They inspected construction areas, creek outfalls, and treatment facilities; interviewed sampling, wastewater treatment, and EC personnel; and reviewed the Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan, field instrumentation calibration records, and DMR records. No issues were identified.

On December 18, representatives of the USACE Lenoir City Office and the TDEC Nashville Office visited Y-12 to inspect wetland and stream mitigation activities associated with the UPF Project. The current status of these permitted activities and related environmental information was discussed with the visitors followed by inspections in the field.

4.3.13 Radiological Release of Property

Clearance of property from the Y-12 Complex is conducted in accordance with approved procedures that comply with DOE O 458.1, *Radiation Protection of the Public and the Environment* (DOE 2011c). Property consists of real property (i.e., land and structures), personal property, and material and equipment (M&E). At the Y-12 Complex there are three paths for releasing property to the public based on the potential for radiological contamination:

- survey and release of property potentially contaminated on the surface (using preapproved authorized limits for releasing property),
- evaluation of materials with a potential to be contaminated in volume (volumetric contamination) to ensure no radioactivity has been added, and
- evaluation using process knowledge (surface and volumetric).

These three release paths are discussed below. Table 4.8 summarizes some examples of the quantities of property released in 2014. During FY 2014, Y-12 recycled more than 1.68 million lb of materials off the site for reuse, including but not limited to computers, electronic office equipment, used oil, scrap metal, tires, batteries, lamps, and pallets.

Table 4.8. Summary of materials released in 2014

Category	Amount released
Real property (land and structures)	None
Computer Recycle	
– towers/laptops	29,278 lb
– mainframe equipment	12,846 lb
– monitors	7,393 lb
– printers and peripherals	31,617 lb
Electronic Office Equipment Recycle ^a	
– used office items	6,501 lb
– telecommunications equipment	925 lb
Recycling Examples	
– Used Oils	3,099 gal
– Used Tires	28,520 lb
– Scrap Metal	726,838 lb
– Lead Acid Batteries	56,061 lb
Public Sales ^b	
– Copper	6,362 lb
– scrap metal	7,720 lb
– miscellaneous furniture	432,704 lb
– vehicles and miscellaneous equipment	482,097 lb
External Transfers ^c	288,371 lb

^aItems such as typewriters, telephones, shredders, calculators, laminators, overhead projectors, etc.

^bSales during FY 2014.

^cVehicles; miscellaneous equipment; and materials transferred to various federal, state, and local agencies for reuse during FY 2014.

Property Potentially Contaminated on the Surface

Property that is potentially contaminated on the surface is subject to a complete survey unless it can be released based on process knowledge or a Multi-Agency Radiation Survey and Site Investigation Manual (MARSSIM)/Multi-Agency Radiation Survey and Assessment of Materials and Equipment Manual (MARSAME)^{*} (NRC 2000, 2009) survey plan that provides survey instructions along with the technical (process knowledge) justification for the survey plan. The surface contamination limits used at the Y-12 Complex to determine whether M&E are suitable for release to the public are provided in Table 4.9.

Y-12 uses an administrative limit for total activity of 2,400 dpm/100 cm² for radionuclides in groups 3 and 4. The use of the more restrictive administrative limits ensures that M&E do not enter into commerce exceeding the 49 CFR 173, Shippers—General Requirements for Shipments and Packagings, definition of “contamination.”

^{*}The *Multi-Agency Radiation Survey and Site Investigation Manual* (MARSSIM) provides guidance on how to demonstrate that a site is in compliance with a radiation dose or risk-based regulation, otherwise known as a release criterion. The *Multi-Agency Radiation Survey and Assessment of Materials and Equipment* manual is a supplement to MARSSIM that provides technical information on approaches for determining proper disposition of materials and equipment.

Table 4.9. DOE O 458.1 preapproved authorized limits^{a,b}

Radionuclide ^c	Average ^{d,e}	Maximum ^{d,e}	Removable ^f
Group 1—Transuranics, ¹²⁵ I, ¹²⁹ I, ²²⁷ Ac, ²²⁶ Ra, ²²⁸ Ra, ²²⁸ Th, ²³⁰ Th, ²³¹ Pa	100	300	20
Group 2—Th-natural, ⁹⁰ Sr, ¹²⁶ I, ¹³¹ I, ¹³³ I, ²²³ Ra, ²²⁴ Ra, ²³² U, ²³² Th	1,000	3,000	200
Group 3—U-Natural, ²³⁵ U, ²³⁸ U, associated decay products, alpha emitters	5,000	15,000	1,000
Group 4—Beta-gamma emitters (radionuclides with decay modes other than alpha emission or spontaneous fission) except ⁹⁰ Sr and others noted above ^g	5,000	15,000	1,000
Tritium (applicable to surface and subsurface) ^h	Not applicable	Not applicable	10,000

^aThe values in this table (except for tritium) apply to radioactive material deposited on but not incorporated into the interior or matrix of the property. No generic concentration guidelines have been approved for release of material that has been contaminated in depth, such as activated material or smelted contaminated metals (e.g., radioactivity per unit volume or per unit mass). Authorized limits for residual radioactive material in volume must be approved separately.

^bAs used in this table, dpm (disintegrations per minute) means the rate of emission by radioactive material as determined by counts per minute measured by an appropriate detector for background, efficiency, and geometric factors associated with the instrumentation.

^cWhere surface contamination by both alpha-emitting and beta-gamma-emitting radionuclides exists, the limits established for alpha-emitting and beta-gamma-emitting radionuclides should apply independently.

^dMeasurements of average contamination should not be averaged over an area of more than 1 m². Where scanning surveys are not sufficient to detect levels in the table, static counting must be used to measure surface activity. Representative sampling (static counts on the areas) may be used to demonstrate by analyses of the static counting data. The maximum contamination level applies to an area of not more than 100 cm².

^eThe average and maximum dose rates associated with surface contamination resulting from beta-gamma emitters should not exceed 0.2 millirad per hour (mrad/h) and 1.0 mrad/h, respectively, at 1 cm.

^fThe amount of removable material per 100 cm² of surface area should be determined by wiping an area of that size with dry filter or soft absorbent paper, applying moderate pressure, and measuring the amount of radioactive material on the wiping with an appropriate instrument of known efficiency. When removable contamination of objects on surfaces of less than 100 cm² is determined, the activity per unit area should be based on the actual area, and the entire surface should be wiped. It is not necessary to use wiping techniques to measure removable contamination levels if direct scan surveys indicate the total residual surface contamination levels are within the limits for removable contamination.

^gThis category of radionuclides includes mixed fission products, including the ⁹⁰Sr that is present in them. It does not apply to ⁹⁰Sr that has been separated from the other fission products or mixtures where the ⁹⁰Sr has been enriched.

^hMeasurement should be conducted by a standard smear measurement but using a damp swipe or material that will readily absorb tritium, such as polystyrene foam. Property recently exposed or decontaminated should have measurements (smears) at regular time intervals to prevent a buildup of contamination over time. Because tritium typically penetrates material it contacts, the surface guidelines in group 4 do not apply to tritium. Measurements demonstrating compliance of the removable fraction of tritium on surfaces with this guideline are acceptable to ensure nonremovable fractions and residual tritium in mass will not cause exposures that exceed DOE dose limits and constraints.

Acronyms

N/A = not applicable

DOE = US Department of Energy

Source: Vázquez 2011.

Property Potentially Contaminated in Volume (Volumetric Contamination)

Materials such as activated materials, smelted contaminated metals, liquids, and powders are subject to volumetric contamination (e.g., radioactivity per unit volume or per unit mass) and are treated separately from surface-contaminated objects. No authorized volumetric contamination limits have been approved for material released from the Y-12 Complex. Materials that are subject to volumetric contamination are evaluated for release by the following three methods.

1. Unopened, Sealed Containers—Material is still in an original commercial manufacturer’s sealed, unopened container. A seal can be a visible manufacturer’s seal (i.e., lock tabs, heat shrink) or a manufacturer’s seal that cannot be seen (e.g., unbroken fluorescent bulbs, sealed capacitors) as long as the container remains unopened once received from the manufacturer.
2. Process Knowledge—If it can be determined that there is no likelihood of contamination being able to enter a system then this is documented and used to justify release; then the basis for release is documented. Often this is accompanied by confirmatory surveys.
3. Analytical—The material is sampled and the analytical results are evaluated against measurement method critical levels or background levels from materials that have not been impacted by Y-12 Complex activities. If the results meet defined criteria, then they are documented and the material released.

Process Knowledge

Process knowledge is used to release property from the Y-12 Complex without monitoring or analytical data and to implement a graded approach (less than 100% monitoring) for monitoring of some M&E (MARSAME Classes II and III). A conservative approach (nearly 100% monitoring) is used to release older M&E for which a complete and accurate history is difficult to compile and verify (MARSAME Class I). The process knowledge evaluation processes are described in Y-12 Complex procedures.

The following M&E are released without monitoring based on process knowledge; this does not preclude conducting verification monitoring, for example, before sale.

- All M&E from buildings evaluated and designated as “RAD-Free Zones”
- Pallets generated from administrative buildings
- Pallets that are returned to shipping during the same delivery trip
- Lamps from administrative buildings
- M&E approved for release from Nonradioactive Material Management Areas
- Porta-potties used in nonradiological areas
- Documents, mail, diskettes, compact disks, and other office media; personal M&E; paper, plastic products, water bottles, ABCs, and toner cartridges; office trash, house-keeping materials, and associated waste; breakroom, cafeteria, and medical wastes; medical and bioassay samples; and medical and bioassay samples/containers generated in nonradiological areas
- Subcontractor/vendor/privately owned vehicles, tools, and equipment used in nonradiological areas
- M&E administratively released
- M&E misdelivered to Stores (e.g., Building 9831) that has not been distributed to other Y-12 Complex locations
- New computer equipment distributed from Building 9103

4.4 Air Quality Program

Sections of the Y-12 Complex Title V permit 562767 contain requirements that are generally applicable to most industrial sites. Examples include requirements associated with asbestos controls, control of stratospheric ozone-depleting chemicals, control of fugitive emissions, and general administration of the permit. The Title V permit also contains a section of specific requirements directly applicable to individual sources of air emissions at the Y-12 Complex. Major requirements in that section include the Rad-NESHAPs (40 CFR 61) requirements and the numerous requirements associated with emissions of criteria pollutants and other HAPs (nonradiological). In addition, a number of sources that are exempt from permitting requirements under state rules but subject to listing on the Title V permit application are documented, and information about them is available upon request from the state.

4.4.1 Construction and Operating Permits

In 2014 the Y-12 Complex had one construction air permit for UPF, issued by TDEC on March 1, 2014. However, minor modifications 1 and 2 to Y-12's Title V Operating Air Permit were issued by TDEC on March 3 and October 29, 2014, respectively. Minor Modification 1 incorporated the emergency engines/generators into the Title V air permit, and Minor Modification 2 incorporated the boiler Maximum Achievable Control Technology (MACT) requirements for the steam plant into the Title V air permit. Minor Modification 2 also removed emission sources in Building 9998 (development source) and 9201-5N (plating shop) from the Title V air permit.

Permit administration fees are paid to TDEC annually in support of the Title V program. CNS has chosen to pay the fees based on a combination of actual emissions (steam plant, methanol, solvent 140 VOC) and allowable emissions (balance of plant). In 2014, emissions categorized as actual emissions totaled 39,799 kg (43.87 tons), and emissions calculated by the allowable method totaled 639,966 kg (705.43 tons). The total emissions fee paid was \$29,021.26.

Demonstrating compliance with the conditions of air permits is a significant effort at the Y-12 Complex. Key elements of maintaining compliance are maintenance and operation of control devices, monitoring, record keeping, and reporting. High-efficiency particulate air (HEPA) filters and scrubbers are control devices used at the Y-12 Complex. HEPA filters are found throughout the complex, and in-place testing of HEPA filters to verify the integrity of the filters is routinely performed. Scrubbers are operated and maintained in accordance with source-specific procedures. Monitoring consists of tasks such as continuous stack sampling, one-time stack sampling, and monitoring the operation of control devices. Examples of continuous stack sampling are the radiological stack monitoring systems on numerous sources throughout the complex.

The Y-12 Complex sitewide permit requires annual and semiannual reports. One report is the overall annual ORR Rad-NESHAPs report (DOE 2015a), which includes specific information regarding Y-12 Complex radiological emissions; the second is an annual Title V compliance certification report indicating compliance status with all conditions of the permit. The third is a Title V semiannual report which covers a 6-month period for some specific emission sources. It consists of monitoring and record-keeping requirements for these sources. Table 4.10 gives the actual emissions versus allowable emissions for the Y-12 Complex Steam Plant.

Table 4.10. Actual versus allowable air emissions from the Y-12 National Security Complex Steam Plant, 2014

Pollutant	Emissions (tons/year) ^a		Percentage of allowable
	Actual	Allowable	
Particulate	3.98	41	9.7
Sulfur dioxide	0.31	39	0.8
Nitrogen oxides ^b	16.76	81	20.7
Volatile organic compounds ^b	2.88	9.4	30.6
Carbon monoxide ^b	44	139	31.6

NOTE: The emissions are based on fuel usage data for January through December 2013. The emissions also included the fuel used during testing.

^a1 ton = 907.2 kg.

^bWhen there is no applicable standard or enforceable permit condition for a pollutant, the allowable emissions are based on the maximum actual emissions calculation as defined in Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation Rule 1200-3-26-.02(2)(d)3 (maximum design capacity for 8,760 h/year). Both actual and allowable emissions were calculated based on the latest US Environmental Protection Agency compilation of air pollutant emission factors (EPA 1995 and 1998).

4.4.1.1 Generally Applicable Permit Requirements

The Y-12 Complex, like many industrial sites, has a number of generally applicable requirements that require management and control. Asbestos, ODSs, and fugitive particulate emissions are notable examples.

4.4.1.1.1 Control of Asbestos

The Y-12 Complex has numerous buildings and equipment that contain asbestos-containing materials. The compliance program for management of removal and disposal of asbestos-containing materials includes demolition and renovation notifications to TDEC and inspections, monitoring, and prescribed work practices for abatement and disposal of asbestos materials. There was no reportable release of asbestos in 2014. There were seven notifications of asbestos demolition or renovation, one revision of notification of asbestos demolition or renovation, three records of oral regulatory communication, one revised annual estimate for calendar year 2014, one annual estimate for calendar year 2015, and one notification of change in the Management and Operating Contractor for the Y-12 Complex submitted to TDEC in 2014 for its review and records.

An internal surveillance of the asbestos NESHAP reporting process was conducted on November 5, 2014. The scope of this surveillance was focused on compliance with applicable state and federal environmental regulations, specifically reporting and record-keeping requirements for on-site demolition and renovation activities for buildings. There were no findings or deficiencies identified as a result of this surveillance.

4.4.1.1.2 Stratospheric Ozone Protection

The *Y-12 Complex Ozone Depleting Substances (ODS) Phase-Out and Management Plan* (B&W Y-12 2009) provides a complete discussion of requirements and compliance activities at the Y-12 Complex. Past ODSs reduction initiatives began in the early 1980s and focused on elimination of Class I ODS use in refrigerants and solvent cleaning operations. In 2012, the last remaining chiller system at the Y-12 Complex with Class I ODSs was taken out of service. The refrigerant from that system was sent to the Defense Logistics Agency.

Y-12 Complex initiatives have also involved elimination of ODS solvents in cleaning processes. Operations personnel developed and implemented changes in one process which eliminated ODS solvent from that process. Evaluation of ODS reduction opportunities continue for another solvent cleaning operation. Future actions related to this process will be dependent on ongoing efforts to identify a safe and viable replacement chemical or to identify practical and cost-effective modifications to process equipment.

All Class I and Class II substitutions are made in accordance with EPA's Significant New Alternatives Program (SNAP). Y-12 Complex personnel are notified as EPA issues regulations detailing SNAP replacement chemicals which may be applicable to Y-12 Complex operations. To prevent ODSs from coming on-site, procurement documents are written to ensure that no additional equipment or processes using Class I ODSs are brought on-site, and Class II ODS usage is limited wherever possible.

Site procedures are in place for disposition of excess refrigerant or refrigerant-containing equipment. Recovered refrigerant is recycled/reused in equipment in the Y-12 Complex whenever feasible. Refrigerant is recovered from refrigerant-containing equipment before disposal of the equipment. Class I ODSs which cannot be used on-site are first made available to the Defense Logistics Agency. Remaining refrigerants, including Class I and Class II ODSs, are sold to refrigerant reclamation facilities or properly disposed.

4.4.1.1.3 Fugitive Particulate Emissions

As modernization and infrastructure reduction efforts increase at the Y-12 Complex, the need also increases for good work practices and controls to minimize fugitive dust emissions from C&D activities. Y-12 Complex personnel continue to use a mature project planning process to review, recommend, and implement appropriate work practices and controls to minimize fugitive dust emissions. Precautions used to prevent particulate matter from becoming airborne include but are not be limited to (1) use, where possible, of water or chemicals for control of dust in demolition of existing buildings or structures, construction operations, grading of roads, or the clearing of land; (2) application of asphalt, oil, water, or suitable chemicals on dirt roads, material stock piles, and other surfaces that can create airborne dusts; and (3) installation and use of hoods, fans, and fabric filters to enclose and vent the handling of dusty materials.

4.4.1.2 National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants for Radionuclides

The release of radiological contaminants, primarily uranium, into the atmosphere at the Y-12 Complex occurs almost exclusively as a result of plant production, maintenance, and waste management activities. The major radionuclide emissions contributing to the dose from the Y-12 Complex are ^{234}U , ^{235}U , ^{236}U , and ^{238}U , which are emitted as particulates. The particle size and solubility class of the emissions are determined based on review of the operations and processes served by the exhaust systems to determine the quantity of uranium handled in the operation or process, the physical form of the uranium, and the nature of the operation or process. The four categories of processes or operations that are considered when calculating the total uranium emissions are

- those that exhaust through monitored stacks;
- unmonitored processes for which calculations are performed per Appendix D of 40 CFR 61;

- processes or operations exhausting through laboratory hoods, also involving Appendix D calculations; and
- emissions from room ventilation exhausts (calculated using radiological control monitoring data from the work area).

Continuous sampling systems are used to monitor emissions from a number of process exhaust stacks at the Y-12 Complex. In addition, a probe-cleaning program is in place, and the results from the probe cleaning at each source are incorporated into the respective emission point source terms. In 2014, 32 process exhaust stacks were continuously monitored, 25 of which were major sources; the remaining 7 were minor sources. The sampling systems on these stacks have been approved by EPA Region 4.

During 2014, unmonitored uranium emissions at the Y-12 Complex occurred from 33 emission points associated with on-site, unmonitored processes and laboratories operated by CNS. Emission estimates for the unmonitored processes and laboratory stacks were made using inventory data with emission factors provided in 40 CFR Part 61, Appendix D. The Y-12 Complex source term includes an estimate of those unmonitored emissions.

The Y-12 Analytical Chemistry Organization operates out of two main laboratories. One is located on the site in Building 9995 and is included in the discussion above. The other is located in a leased facility on Union Valley Road, about 0.3 miles east of the Y-12 Complex, and is not within the ORR boundary. In 2014, there were no emission points (or sources) in the off-site laboratory facility.

Additionally, estimates from room ventilation systems are considered using radiological control data on airborne radioactivity concentrations in the work areas. Where applicable, exhausts from any area where the monthly concentration average exceeds 10% of the derived air concentration (DAC) as defined in the ORR radionuclide compliance plan (DOE 2013) are included in the annual source term. Annual average concentrations and design ventilation rates are used to arrive at the annual emission estimate for those areas. Three emission points from room ventilation exhausts were identified in 2014 where emissions exceeded 10% of DAC. These emission points feed to monitored stacks, and any radionuclide emissions are accounted for as noted for monitored emission points.

The Y-12 Complex Title V Major Source Operating Permits contain a sitewide, streamlined alternate emission limit for enriched and depleted uranium process emission units. A limit of 907 kg (2,000 lb) per year of particulate was set for the sources for the purposes of paying fees. The compliance method requires the annual actual mass emission particulate emissions to be generated using the same monitoring methods required for Rad-NESHAPs compliance. An estimated 0.0113 Ci (0.388 kg) of uranium was released into the atmosphere in 2014 as a result of Y-12 Complex process and operational activities (Figs. 4.17 and 4.18).

A UPF is presently being designed. It is intended that this facility house some of the processes that are currently in existing production buildings. The UPF project was issued a Construction Air Permit, 967550P. The current strategy, with concurrence from the TDEC Air Division, is to include the UPF in the 2017 update of the Y-12 Site Title V Operating Permit and maintain the facility on the permit as inactive until operations commence in about 2025.

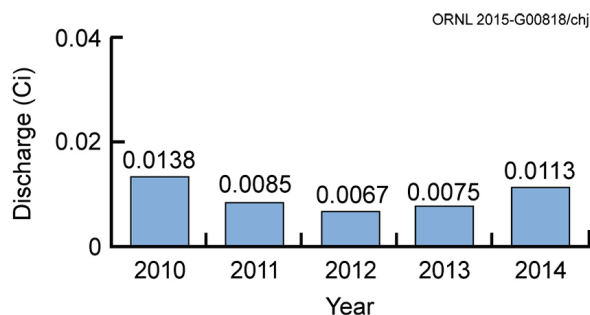


Fig. 4.17. Total curies of uranium discharged from the Y-12 National Security Complex to the atmosphere, 2010–2014.

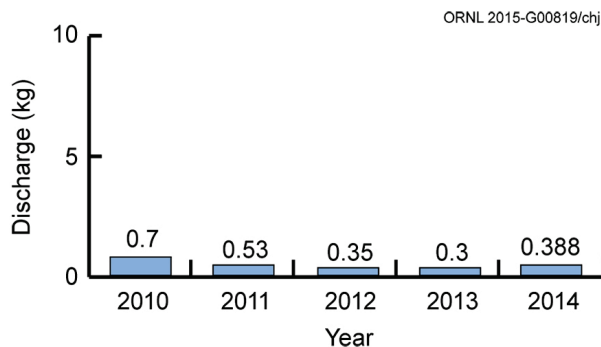


Fig. 4.18. Total kilograms of uranium discharged from the Y-12 National Security Complex to the atmosphere, 2010–2014.

The calculated radiation dose to the maximally exposed off-site individual from airborne radiological release points at the Y-12 Complex during 2014 was 0.17 mrem. This dose is well below the NESHAP standard of 10 mrem and is less than 0.04% of the roughly 300 mrem that the average individual receives from natural sources of radiation. (See Chapter 7, Section 7.1.2, for an explanation of how the airborne radionuclide dose was determined.)

4.4.1.3 Quality Assurance

QA activities for the Rad-NESHAPs program are documented in *Y-12 National Security Complex Quality Assurance Project Plan for National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants (NESHAP) for Radionuclide Emission Measurements* (B&W Y-12 2010a). The plan satisfies the QA requirements in 40 CFR Part 61, Method 114, for ensuring that the radionuclide air emission measurements from the Y-12 Complex are representative to known levels of precision and accuracy and that administrative controls are in place to ensure prompt response when emission measurements indicate an increase over normal radionuclide emissions. The requirements are also referenced in TDEC regulation 1200-3-11-.08. The plan ensures the quality of the Y-12 Complex radionuclide emission measurements data from the continuous samplers, breakthrough monitors, and minor radionuclide release points. It specifies the procedures for management of activities affecting the quality of data. QA objectives for completeness, sensitivity, accuracy, and precision are discussed. Major programmatic elements addressed in the QA plan are the sampling and monitoring program, emissions characterization, analytical program, and minor source emission estimates.

4.4.1.4 Source-Specific Criteria Pollutants

Proper maintenance and operation of a number of control devices (e.g., HEPA filters and scrubbers) are key to controlling emissions of criteria pollutants. The primary source of criteria pollutants at the Y-12 Complex is the steam plant, where only natural gas and Number 2 fuel oil are permitted to be burned. Only natural gas was burned in 2014 at the steam plant. Information regarding actual vs. allowable emissions from the steam plant is provided in Table 4.10.

Particulate emissions from point sources result from many operations throughout the Y-12 Complex. Compliance demonstration is achieved via several activities, including monitoring the operations of control devices, limiting process input materials, and using certified readers to conduct stack-visible emission evaluations.

Use of Solvent 140 and methanol throughout the complex and use of acetonitrile at a single source are primary sources of VOC emissions. Material mass balances and engineering calculations are used to determine annual emissions. The calculated amounts of Solvent 140 and methanol emitted for CY 2014 are 38.08 lb (0.019 tons) and 17,060 lb (8.53 tons), respectively. The highest calculated amount of acetonitrile emitted to the atmosphere for CY 2014 was 4.929 tons, which was less than the permitted value of 9 tons/year.

4.4.1.5 Mandatory Reporting of Greenhouse Gas Emissions under 40 CFR 98

Title 40 of the Code of Federal Regulations Part 98, *Mandatory Greenhouse Gas Reporting*, establishes mandatory GHG reporting requirements for owners and operators of certain facilities that directly emit GHGs and for certain fossil fuel suppliers and industrial GHG suppliers. The purpose of the rule is to collect accurate and timely data on GHG emissions that can be used to inform future policy decisions.

The mandatory reporting of GHGs rule requires reporting of annual emissions of carbon dioxide (CO₂), methane (CH₄), nitrous oxide (N₂O), sulfur hexafluoride (SF₆), hydrofluorocarbons, perfluorochemicals, and other fluorinated gases (e.g., nitrogen trifluoride and hydrofluorinated ethers). These gases are often expressed in metric tons of CO₂e.

The Y-12 Complex is subject only to the Subpart A general provisions and reporting from stationary fuel combustion sources covered in Subpart C, General Stationary Fuel Combustion. Currently the rule does not require control of GHGs; rather, it requires only that sources emitting above the 25,000 CO₂e threshold level monitor and report emissions.

The Y-12 Complex Steam Plant is subjected to this rule. The steam plant consists of four boilers. The maximum heat input capacity of each boiler shall not exceed 99 MM Btu/h. Natural gas is the primary fuel source for these boilers with Number 2 fuel oil as a backup source of fuel. Other limited stationary combustion sources are metal forming operations and production furnaces that use natural gas. In Building 9212, a gas-fired furnace used for drying wet residues and burning solids in a recovery process has a maximum heat input of 700,000 Btu/h. In Building 9215, 10 natural gas torches, each at 300 standard ft³/h, are used to preheat tooling associated with a forging and forming press. In Building 9204-2, natural gas is used to heat two electrolytic cells. The maximum rated heat input to the burners on each cell is 550,000 Btu/h.

All of the combustion units burning natural gas are served through the fuel supply and distribution system and are reported as combined emissions consistent with the provisions of 40 CFR 98.36(c)(3). The Tier 1 Calculation Method was used to calculate GHGs from the Y-12 Complex. The amount of natural gas supplied to the site, along with the fuel usage logs provides the basic information for calculation of the GHG emissions.

The emission report is submitted electronically in a format specified by the EPA administrator. Each report is signed by a designated representative of the owner or operator, certifying under penalty of law that the report has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the rule. The total amount of GHGs, subject to the mandatory reporting rule, emitted from the Y-12 Complex is shown in Table 4.11. The decrease in emissions from 2010 to 2014 is associated with the fact that coal is no longer burned since the natural-gas-fired steam plant came online.

Table 4.11. Greenhouse gas emissions from Y-12 National Security Complex stationary fuel combustion sources

Year	GHG emissions (metric tons CO _{2e})
2010	97,610
2011	70,187
2012	63,177
2013	61,650
2014	58,509

AcronymsCO_{2e} = CO₂ equivalent

GHG = greenhouse gas

4.4.1.6 Hazardous Air Pollutants (Nonradiological)

Beryllium emissions from machine shops are regulated under a state-issued permit and are subject to a limit of 10 g/24 h. Compliance is demonstrated through a one-time stack test and through monitoring of control device operations. Hydrogen fluoride is used at one emission source, and emissions are controlled through the use of scrubber systems. The beryllium control devices and the scrubber systems were monitored during 2014 and found to be operating properly.

Methanol is released as fugitive emissions (e.g., pump and valve leaks) as part of the brine/methanol system. Methanol is subject to state air permit requirements; however, due to the nature of its release (fugitive emissions only), there are no specific emission limits or mandated controls. Mercury is a significant legacy contaminant at the Y-12 Complex, and cleanup is being addressed under the environmental remediation program. Like methanol emissions, mercury air emissions from legacy sources are fugitive in nature and therefore are not subject to specific air emission limits or controls. On-site monitoring of mercury is conducted and is discussed under Section 4.4.2, “Ambient Air.”

In 2007 EPA vacated a proposed MACT standard that was intended to minimize hazardous air pollution emissions. At that time a case-by-case MACT review was conducted as part of the construction permitting process for the Y-12 Complex replacement steam plant. The new natural-gas-fired steam plant came online on April 20, 2010, and coal is no longer combusted. Specific conditions aimed at minimizing HAP emissions from the new steam plant were incorporated into the operating permit issued January 9, 2012 (see Section 4.4.1). In addition, the boiler MACT was revised and reissued on January 31, 2013. TDEC issued a minor modification to the Title V air permit on October 29, 2014, which included the new boiler MACT requirements. The steam plant must comply with the new requirements no later than January 31, 2016. The new requirements (work practice standards) include conducting annual tune-ups and a one-time energy assessment of the boilers to meet these requirements. There are no numeric emission limit requirements for the steam plant.

Unplanned releases of HAPs are regulated through the Risk Management Planning regulations. Y-12 Complex personnel have determined there are no processes or facilities containing inventories of chemicals in quantities exceeding thresholds specified in rules pursuant to CAA, Title III, Sect. 112(r), “Prevention of Accidental Releases.” Therefore, the Y-12 Complex is not subject to that rule. Procedures are in place to continually review new processes and/or process changes against the rule thresholds.

4.4.1.7 Reciprocating Internal Combustion Engine Standards for New Source Performance Standards and National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants

RICEs are stationary reciprocating internal combustion engines that use reciprocating motion to convert heat energy into mechanical work. A number of stationary emergency use engines (generators) are located throughout the Y-12 Complex. The emergency engines/generators are used to provide power for critical systems in the event of electrical power failures/outages at the Y-12 Complex. Emergency RICEs are defined as stationary RICEs whose operations are limited to emergency situations and require testing and maintenance activities to ensure operation during emergencies. A stationary RICE used for peak shaving is not considered an emergency stationary RICE, although such a RICE may be used for periods of emergency demand response, subject to restriction.

EPA has created multiple national air pollution regulations to reduce air emissions from RICEs. Two types of federal air standards are applicable to RICEs: (1) NSPSs (Title 40 CFR Part 60, Subpart IIII) and (2) NESHAPs (Title 40 CFR Part 63, Subpart ZZZZ). The compression ignition engines/generators located at Y-12 are subject to these rules. EPA is concerned about how RICEs are used and also the emissions generated from these engines in the form of both HAPs and criteria pollutants.

All previous stationary emergency engines/generators were listed in the Y-12 Title V air permit application as “insignificant activities.” However, EPA finalized revisions to standards to reduce air pollution from stationary engines that generate electricity and power equipment at sites of major sources of HAPs on January 16, 2013. Regardless of engine size, the rules apply to any existing, new, or reconstructed stationary RICE located at a major source of HAP emissions.

To comply with the rules, the Y-12 Complex prepared a significant permit modification to the Y-12 Major Source (Title V) Operating Air Permit to add numerous stationary, emergency use engines/generators located throughout the Y-12 Complex. The permit application was submitted to TDEC on May 6, 2013, for review and approval. TDEC downgraded the significant modification to a minor modification per EPA’s review and request. In a prior, updated permit application for renewal of the Y-12 Major Source (Title V) Operating Air Permit dated March 9, 2011, Y-12 Complex staff identified Title 40 CFR, Part 60, Subpart IIII, Standards of Performance for Stationary Compression Ignition Internal Combustion Engines, as a requirement applicable to the stationary emergency use engines located at the Y-12 Complex. TDEC issued Y-12 a minor permit modification to the Title V air permit on March 3, 2014, for the emergency engines/generators. Compliance for the engines/generators is determined through monthly records of the operation of the engines/generators that are recorded through a nonresettable hour meter on each engine/generator. Documentation must be maintained of how many hours are spent for (1) emergency operation, (2) maintenance checks and readiness testing, and (3) nonemergency operation. Each engine/generator must use only diesel fuel with low sulfur content (15 ppm) and a cetane index of 40.

4.4.2 Ambient Air

To understand the complete picture of ambient air monitoring in and around the Y-12 Complex, data from on- and off-site monitoring conducted specifically for the Y-12 Complex, DOE reservationwide monitoring, and on- and off-site monitoring conducted by EPA and TDEC personnel must be considered.

No federal regulations, state regulations, or DOE orders require ambient air monitoring within the Y-12 Complex boundary; however, on-site ambient air monitoring for mercury and radionuclides is conducted as a best management practice. With the reduction of plant operations and improved emission and administrative controls, levels of measured pollutants have decreased significantly during the past several years. In addition, major processes that result in emission of enriched and depleted uranium are

equipped with stack samplers that have been reviewed and approved by EPA to meet requirements of the NESHAPs regulations.

4.4.2.1 Mercury

The Y-12 Complex ambient air monitoring program for mercury was established in 1986 as a best management practice. The objectives of the program have been to maintain a database of mercury concentrations in ambient air, to track long-term spatial and temporal trends in ambient mercury vapor, and to demonstrate protection of the environment and human health from releases of mercury to the atmosphere at the Y-12 Complex. Originally four monitoring stations were operated at the Y-12 Complex, including two within WEMA (i.e., the former West End Mercury Area at Y-12). The two atmospheric mercury monitoring stations currently operating at the Y-12 Complex, ambient air station 2 (AAS2) and AAS8, are located near the east and west boundaries of the Y-12 Complex, respectively (Fig. 4.19). Since their establishment in 1986, AAS2 and AAS8 have monitored mercury in ambient air continuously with the exception of short intervals of downtime because of electrical or equipment outages. In addition to the monitoring stations located at the Y-12 Complex, two additional monitoring sites were operated: a reference site (rain gauge 2) was operated on Chestnut Ridge in the Walker Branch Watershed for a 20-month period in 1988 and 1989 to establish a reference concentration and a site was operated at New Hope Pond for a 25-month period from August 1987 to September 1989.

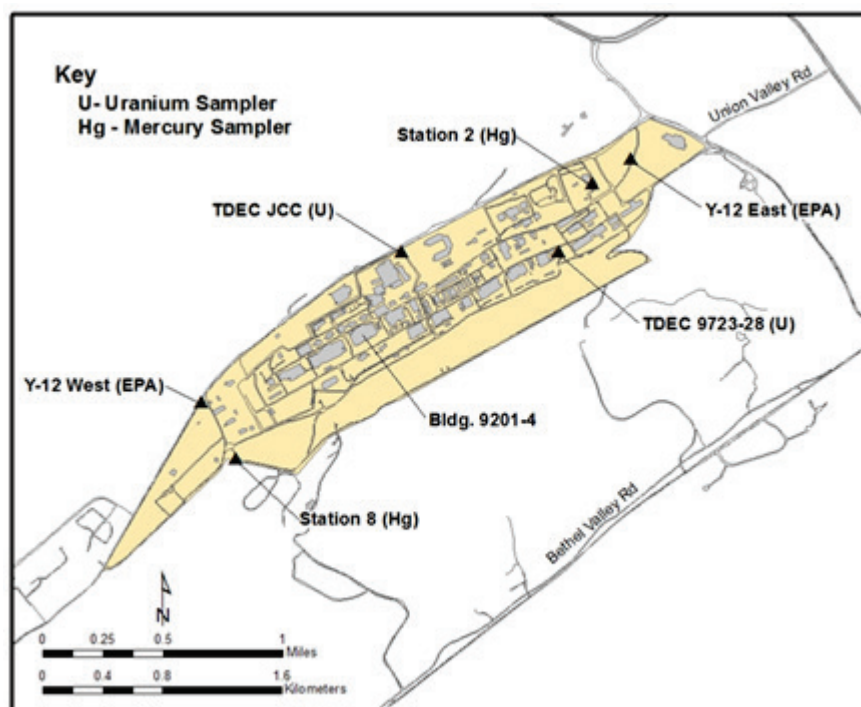


Fig. 4.19. Locations of ambient air monitoring stations at the Y-12 National Security Complex. [EPA = US Environmental Protection Agency (sampler), JCC = Jack Case Center, and TDEC = Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation.]

To determine mercury concentrations in ambient air, airborne mercury vapor is collected by pulling ambient air through a sampling train consisting of a Teflon filter and an iodinated-charcoal sampling trap. A flow-limiting orifice upstream of the sampling trap restricts airflow through the sampling train to ~1 L/min. Actual flows are measured biweekly with a calibrated Gilmont flowmeter in conjunction with

the bi-weekly change-out of the sampling trap. The charcoal in each trap is analyzed for total mercury using cold vapor atomic fluorescence spectrometry after acid digestion. The average concentration of mercury vapor in ambient air for each 14-day sampling period is then calculated by dividing the total mercury per trap by the volume of air pulled through the trap during the corresponding 14-day sampling period.

As reported previously, average mercury concentration at the ambient air monitoring sites has declined significantly since the late 1980s. Recent average annual concentrations at the two boundary stations are comparable to concentrations measured in 1988 and 1989 at the Chestnut Ridge reference site (Table 4.12). Average mercury concentration at the AAS2 site for 2014 is $0.0028 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ ($N = 33$), comparable to averages measured since 2003. After an increase in average concentration at AAS8 for the period 2005 through 2007, thought to be possibly due to increased D&D work on the west end, the average concentration at AAS8 for 2014 was $0.0027 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ ($N = 33$), similar to levels reported for 2008 and the early 2000s. Based on the decreased mercury concentrations, the sampling schedule was changed from weekly to biweekly this year. The sampling schedule will revert back to a weekly basis if the data suggest an increase in ambient air mercury concentrations or if breakthrough of the charcoal traps is observed.

Table 4.12 summarizes the 2014 mercury results with results from the 1986 through 1988 period included for comparison. Figure 4.20 illustrates temporal trends in mercury concentration for the two active mercury monitoring sites for the period since the inception of the program in 1986 through 2014 [parts (a) and (b)] and seasonal trends at AAS8 from 1994 through 2014 [part (c)]. The dashed line superimposed on the plots in Figs. 4.20(a) and (b) is the EPA reference concentration of $0.3 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ for chronic inhalation exposure. The large increase in mercury concentration at AAS8 observed in the late 1980s [part (b)] was thought to be related to disturbances of mercury-contaminated soils and sediments during the Perimeter Intrusion Detection Assessment System installation and storm drain restoration projects under way at that time within WEMA. In 4.21(c), a monthly moving average has been superimposed over the AAS8 data to highlight seasonal trends in mercury at AAS8 from January 1994 through 2014.

The dashed lines superimposed on (a) and (b) represent the EPA reference concentration of $0.3 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ for chronic inhalation exposure. In (c) (note different concentration scale), a monthly moving average has been superimposed over the data to highlight seasonal trends in mercury at AAS8 from January 1993 to January 2015, with higher concentrations generally measured during the warm weather months.

In conclusion, 2014 average mercury concentrations at the two mercury monitoring sites were comparable to reference levels measured for the Chestnut Ridge reference site in 1988 and 1989. More importantly, measured concentrations continue to be well below current environmental and occupational health standards for inhalation exposure to mercury vapor [i.e., the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health recommended exposure limit of $50 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$, time-weighted average (TWA) for up to a 10 h workday, 40 h workweek; the American Conference of Governmental Industrial Hygienists workplace threshold limit value of $25 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ as a TWA for a normal 8 h workday and 40 h workweek; and the current EPA reference concentration of $0.3 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ for elemental mercury for a continuous inhalation exposure to the human population without appreciable risk of harmful effects during a lifetime].

Table 4.12. Summary of data for the Y-12 National Security Complex ambient air monitoring program for mercury for CY 2014

Ambient air monitoring stations	Mercury vapor concentration ($\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$)			
	2014 Minimum	2014 Maximum	2014 Average	1986–1988 ^a Average
AAS2 (east end of the Y-12 Complex)	0.0010	0.0051	0.0028	0.010
AAS8 (west end of the Y-12 Complex)	0.0027	0.0057	0.0027	0.033
Reference site, rain gauge 2 (1988 ^b)	N/A	N/A	N/A	0.006
Reference site, rain gauge 2 (1989 ^c)	N/A	N/A	N/A	0.005

^aPeriod in late '80s with elevated ambient air mercury levels; shown for comparison.

^bData for period from February 9 through December 31, 1988.

^cData for period from January 1 through October 31, 1989.

Acronyms

AAS = ambient air (monitoring) station

CY = calendar year

Y-12 Complex = Y-12 National Security Complex

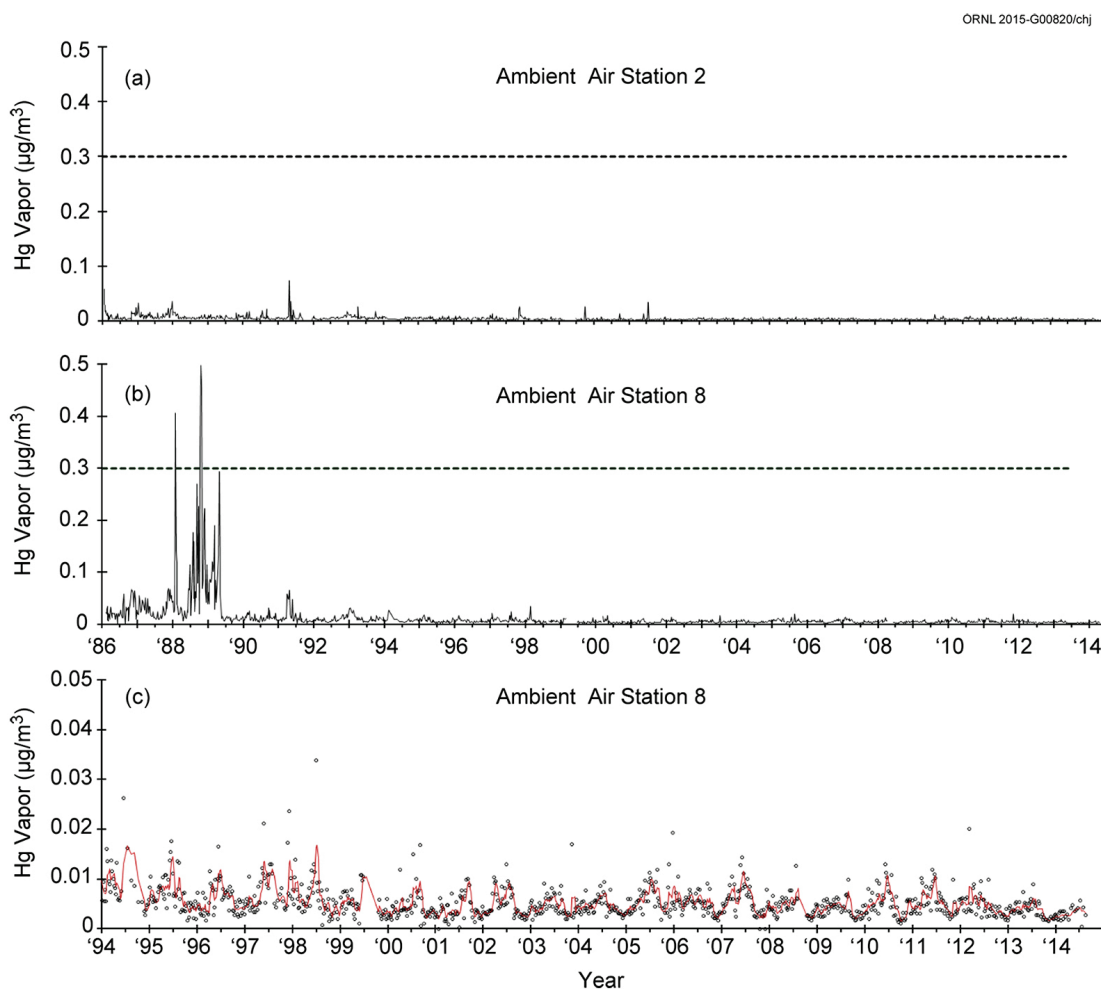


Fig. 4.20. Temporal trends in mercury vapor concentration for the boundary monitoring stations at the Y-12 National Security Complex, July 1986 to January 2014 [ambient air stations 2 (a) and 8 (b)] and January 1994 to January 2014 [ambient air station 8 (c)].

4.4.2.2 Quality Control

A number of QA/quality control (QC) steps are taken to ensure the quality of the data for the Y-12 Complex mercury in ambient air monitoring program.

An hour meter records the actual operating hours between sample changes. This allows for correction of total flow in the event of power outages during the weekly sampling interval.

The Gilmont correlated flowmeter, used for measuring flows through the sampling train, is purchased annually or, if not new, shipped back to the manufacturer annually for calibration in accordance with standards set by the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST).

A minimum of 5% of the samples in each batch submitted to the analytical laboratory are blank samples. The blank sample traps are submitted “blind” to verify trap blank values and to serve as a field blank for diffusion of mercury vapor into used sample traps during storage before analysis.

To verify the absence of mercury breakthrough, 5% to 10% of the field samples have the front (upstream) and back segments of the charcoal sample trap analyzed separately. The absence of mercury above blank values on the back segment confirms the absence of breakthrough.

Chain-of-custody forms track the transfer of sample traps from the field technicians all the way to the analytical laboratory.

A field performance evaluation is conducted annually by the project manager to ensure that proper procedures are followed by the sampling technicians. No issues were identified in the last evaluation conducted, May 29, 2014.

Analytical QA/QC requirements include the following:

- use of prescreened and/or laboratory purified reagents,
- analysis of at least two method blanks per batch,
- analysis of standard reference materials,
- analysis of laboratory duplicates [one per 10 samples; any laboratory duplicates differing by more than 10% at five or more times the detection limit are to be rerun (third duplicate) to resolve the discrepancy], and
- archiving all primary laboratory records for at least 1 year.

4.4.2.3 Ambient Air Monitoring Complementary to the Y-12 Complex Ambient Air Monitoring

Ambient air monitoring is conducted at multiple locations near ORR to measure radiological and other selected parameters directly in the ambient air. These monitors are operated in accordance with DOE orders. Their locations were selected so that areas of potentially high exposure to the public are monitored continuously for parameters of concern. This monitoring provides direct measurement of airborne concentrations of radionuclides and other HAPs, allows facility personnel to determine the relative level of contaminants at the monitoring locations during an emergency, verifies that the contributions of

fugitive and diffuse sources are insignificant, and serves as a check on dose-modeling calculations. As part of the ORR network, an AAS located in the Scarboro Community of Oak Ridge (Station 46) measures off-site impacts of Y-12 Complex operations. This station is located near the theoretical area of maximum public pollutant concentrations as calculated by air-quality modeling. ORR network stations are also located at the east end of the Y-12 Complex (Station 40) and just south of the Country Club Estates neighborhood (Station 37).

In addition to the monitoring described above, the State of Tennessee (TDEC) and EPA perform ambient air monitoring to characterize the region in general and to characterize and monitor DOE operations locally. Specific to Y-12 Complex operations, three uranium ambient air monitors within the Y-12 Complex boundary, used by TDEC since 1999, were phased out of service in 2012. Two additional high volume samplers (Fig. 4.19) are now being used by TDEC to provide isotopic uranium monitoring capability. These are located on the east side of the Jack Case Center and on the south side of the Building 9723-28 change house. EPA performs ambient air monitoring on the east end of the plant near the intersection of Scarboro Road and Bear Creek Road and on the west end of the plant near the intersection of Bear Creek Road and Old Bear Creek Road.

The TDEC DOE Oversight Division air quality monitoring includes several other types of monitoring on ORR, for example

- RADNet air monitoring,
- fugitive radioactive air emission monitoring,
- ambient VOC air monitoring,
- perimeter air monitoring,
- real-time monitoring of gamma radiation,
- ambient gamma radiation monitoring using external dosimetry, and
- program-specific monitoring associated with infrastructure-reduction activities.

Results of these activities are summarized in annual status reports, which are issued by the TDEC DOE Oversight Division.

The State of Tennessee also operates a number of regional monitors to assess ambient concentrations of criteria pollutants such as sulfur dioxide, particulate (various forms), and ozone for comparison against ambient standards. The results are summarized and available through EPA and state reporting mechanisms.

4.5 Water Quality Program

4.5.1 National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permit and Compliance Monitoring

The current Y-12 Complex NPDES permit (TN0002968) requires sampling, analysis, and reporting for about 56 outfalls. Major outfalls are noted in Fig. 4.21. The number is subject to change as outfalls are eliminated or consolidated or if permitted discharges are added. Currently, the Y-12 Complex has outfalls and monitoring points in the following water drainage areas: EFPC, Bear Creek, and several tributaries on the south side of Chestnut Ridge, all of which eventually drain to the Clinch River.

Discharges to surface water allowed under the permit include storm drainage; cooling water; cooling tower blowdown; steam condensate; and treated process wastewaters, including effluents from wastewater treatment facilities. Groundwater inflow into sumps in building basements and infiltration to

the storm drain system are also permitted for discharge to the creek. The monitoring data collected by the sampling and analysis of permitted discharges are compared with NPDES limits where applicable for each parameter. Some parameters, defined as “monitor only,” have no specified limits.

The water quality of surface streams in the vicinity of the Y-12 Complex is affected by current and legacy operations. Discharges from Y-12 Complex processes flow into EFPC before the water exits the Y-12 Complex. EFPC eventually flows through the city of Oak Ridge to Poplar Creek and into the Clinch River. Bear Creek water quality is affected by area source runoff and groundwater discharges. The NPDES permit requires regular monitoring and storm water characterization in Bear Creek and several of its tributaries.

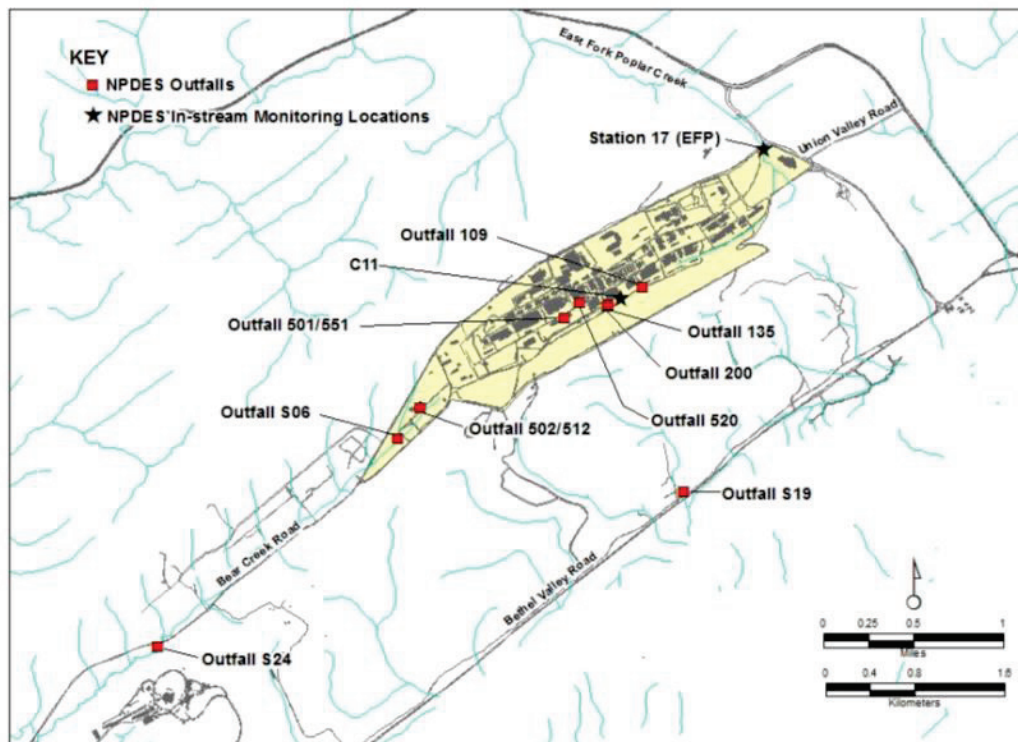


Fig. 4.21. Major Y-12 National Security Complex National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) outfalls and monitoring locations.

Requirements of the NPDES permit for 2014 were satisfied, and monitoring of outfalls and instream locations indicated excellent compliance. Data obtained as part of the NPDES program are provided in a monthly report to TDEC. The percentage of compliance with permit discharge limits for 2014 was 100%.

Other events and observations during 2014 include the following.

On July 1, 2014, chlorine concentrations began to increase in EFPC, and a creek alarm signaled that a response was needed. Personnel discovered that a fish kill had occurred in the outfall 200 area, where the creek first emerges from the storm drain system. A search of operations and activities began for possible releases of potable water or other chlorinated discharges. A total of 552 minnow-sized dead fish were collected by personnel from the Y-12 Complex and ORNL. Aquatic biologists from ORNL determined that the event was short-lived and would not have a long-term ecological impact on the creek or aquatic life. The ORNL biologists stated that less than 1% of the total fish population in EFPC was affected by this event. To date, no specific chlorinated discharge has been identified that can be related to the fish kill.

The event was reported to TDEC on July 1, 2014. A letter was provided to TDEC on July 9 summarizing the event.

The total toxic organic (TTO) result from outfall 502 [West End Treatment Facility (WETF)] was provisional for a sample taken on September 11. The holding time was missed for extracting the sample for only the semivolatile portion of the analyses. The volatile organic, pesticide, and PCB analytical portions were performed successfully. The limit for TTO is 2.13 mg/L. The highest number ever reported from this location is 0.020 mg/L.

On October 20, an upset condition led to material from stack 47 being dispersed onto the northeast corner of the Building 9212 roof and the area adjacent to the building. Samples were obtained of water pooled on the roof. Analyses of these samples showed radionuclides present at levels exceeding the Derived Concentration Technical Standards specified by DOE O 458.1 (DOE 2011c). A collection system was installed to collect storm water runoff from this roof area to be treated.

On December 2, an oil sheen was observed originating from outfall 135. A boom was placed on the creek to collect the oil, and some oil was collected in the oil/water separator on EFPC. Appropriate regulatory notifications were made. There were no adverse impacts to the creek. Table 4.13 lists NPDES compliance monitoring requirements with the 2014 record of compliance.

Table 4.13. National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System compliance monitoring requirements and record for the Y-12 National Security Complex, January through December 2014

Discharge point	Effluent parameter	Daily average (lb)	Daily maximum (lb)	Monthly average (mg/L)	Daily maximum (mg/L)	Percentage of compliance	Number of samples
Outfall 501 (Central Pollution Control)	pH, standard units			<i>a</i>	9.0	<i>b</i>	0
	Total suspended solids			31.0	40.0	<i>b</i>	0
	Total toxic organic				2.13	<i>b</i>	0
	Hexane extractables			10	15	<i>b</i>	0
	Cadmium	0.16	0.4	0.07	0.15	<i>b</i>	0
	Chromium	1.0	1.7	0.5	1.0	<i>b</i>	0
	Copper	1.2	2.0	0.5	1.0	<i>b</i>	0
	Lead	0.26	0.4	0.1	0.2	<i>b</i>	0
	Nickel	1.4	2.4	2.38	3.98	<i>b</i>	0
	Nitrate/Nitrite				100	<i>b</i>	0
	Silver	0.14	0.26	0.05	0.05	<i>b</i>	0
	Zinc	0.9	1.6	1.48	2.0	<i>b</i>	0
	Cyanide	0.4	0.72	0.65	1.2	<i>b</i>	0
	PCB				0.001	<i>b</i>	0
Outfall 502 (West End Treatment Facility)	pH, standard units			<i>a</i>	9.0	100	3
	Total suspended solids		31		40	100	3
	Total toxic organic				2.13	100	3
	Hexane extractables			10	15	100	3
	Cadmium		0.4		0.15	100	3
	Chromium		1.7		1.0	100	3
	Copper		2.0		1.0	100	3

Table 4.13 (continued)

Discharge point	Effluent parameter	Daily average (lb)	Daily maximum (lb)	Monthly average (mg/L)	Daily maximum (mg/L)	Percentage of compliance	Number of samples
	Lead		0.4		0.2	100	3
	Nickel		2.4		3.98	100	3
	Nitrate/Nitrite				100	100	3
	Silver		0.26		0.05	100	3
	Zinc		0.9		1.48	100	3
	Cyanide		0.72		1.20	100	3
	PCB				0.001	100	3
Outfall 512 (Groundwater Treatment Facility)	pH, standard units			<i>a</i>	9.0	100	13
	PCB				0.001	100	1
Outfall 520	pH, standard units			<i>a</i>	9.0	100	0
Outfall 200 (North/South pipes)	pH, standard units			<i>a</i>	9.0	100	53
	Hexane extractables			10	15	100	13
	Cadmium			0.001	0.023	100	15
	IC ₂₅ <i>Ceriodaphnia</i>			37% Minimum		100	1
	IC ₂₅ <i>Pimephales</i>			37% Minimum		100	1
	Total residual chlorine			0.024	0.042	100	12
Outfall 551	pH, standard units			<i>a</i>	9.0	100	52
	Mercury			0.002	0.004	100	52
Outfall C11	pH, standard units			<i>a</i>	9.0	100	13
Outfall 135	pH, standard units			<i>a</i>	9.0	100	12
	IC ₂₅ <i>Ceriodaphnia</i>			9% Minimum		100	1
	IC ₂₅ <i>Pimephales</i>			9% Minimum		100	1
Outfall 109	pH, standard units			<i>a</i>	9.0	100	6
	Total residual chlorine			0.010	0.017	100	4
Outfall S19	pH, standard units			<i>a</i>	9.0	100	1
Outfall S06	pH, standard units			<i>a</i>	9.0	100	2
Outfall S24	pH, standard units			<i>a</i>	9.0	100	1
Outfall EFP	pH, standard units			<i>a</i>	9.0	100	12
Category I outfalls	pH, standard units			<i>a</i>	9.0	100	33
Category II outfalls	pH, standard units			<i>a</i>	9.0	100	16
	Total residual chlorine				0.5	100	21
Category III outfalls	pH, standard units			<i>a</i>	9.0	100	9
	Total residual chlorine				0.5	100	7

^aNot applicable.^bNo discharge.

4.5.2 Mercury Removal from Storm Drain Catch Basins

Mercury tends to collect in low spots in the storm drain system following heavy rains. During 2014, spill response and waste services personnel continued to inspect the Y-12 storm drain system for visible mercury.

During CY 2014, 6.5 lb of mercury was collected from the storm system. See Section 4.8.2 for additional discussion of the DOE EM mercury remediation strategy (DOE 2014d).

4.5.3 Radiological Monitoring Plan and Results

A radiological monitoring plan is in place at the Y-12 Complex to address compliance with DOE orders and NPDES permit TN0002968. The permit requires the Y-12 Complex to submit results from the radiological monitoring plan quarterly as an addendum to the NPDES discharge monitoring report. There were no discharge limits set by the NPDES permit for radionuclides; the requirement is to monitor and report. The radiological monitoring plan was developed based on an analysis of operational history, expected chemical and physical relationships, and historical monitoring results. Under the existing plan, effluent monitoring is conducted at three types of locations: (1) treatment facilities, (2) other point-source and area-source discharges, and (3) instream locations. Operational history and past monitoring results provide a basis for parameters routinely monitored under the plan (Table 4.14). The current radiological monitoring plan for the Y-12 Complex (B&W Y-12 2012) was last revised and reissued in January 2012.

Table 4.14. Radiological parameters monitored at the Y-12 National Security Complex, 2014

Parameters	Specific isotopes	Rationale for monitoring
Uranium isotopes	^{238}U , ^{235}U , ^{234}U , total U, weight % ^{235}U	These parameters reflect the major activity, uranium processing, throughout the history of the Y-12 Complex and are the dominant detectable radiological parameters in surface water
Fission and activation products	^{90}Sr , ^3H , ^{99}Tc , ^{137}Cs	These parameters reflect a minor activity at the Y-12 Complex, processing recycled uranium from reactor fuel elements from the early 1960s to the late 1980s, and will continue to be monitored as tracers for beta and gamma radionuclides, although their concentrations in surface water are low
Transuranium isotopes	^{241}Am , ^{237}Np , ^{238}Pu , $^{239/240}\text{Pu}$	These parameters are related to recycle uranium processing. Monitoring has continued because of their half-lives and presence in groundwater
Other isotopes of interest	^{232}Th , ^{230}Th , ^{228}Th , ^{226}Ra , ^{228}Ra	These parameters reflect historical thorium processing and natural radionuclides necessary to characterize background radioisotopes

Acronyms

Y-12 Complex = Y-12 National Security Complex

Radiological monitoring during storm water events is accomplished as part of the storm water monitoring program. Uranium is monitored at three major EFPC storm water outfalls, two instream monitoring locations, and an outfall on Bear Creek. Results of storm event monitoring during 2014 were reported in the annual storm water report (CNS 2015), issued in January 2015. In addition, the monthly 7-day composite sample for radiological parameters taken at Station 17 on EFPC likely includes rain events.

Radiological monitoring plan locations sampled in 2014 are noted on Fig. 4.22. Table 4.15 identifies the monitored locations, the frequency of monitoring, and the sum of the percentages of the DCSs for radionuclides measured in 2014. Radiological data were well below the allowable DCSs.

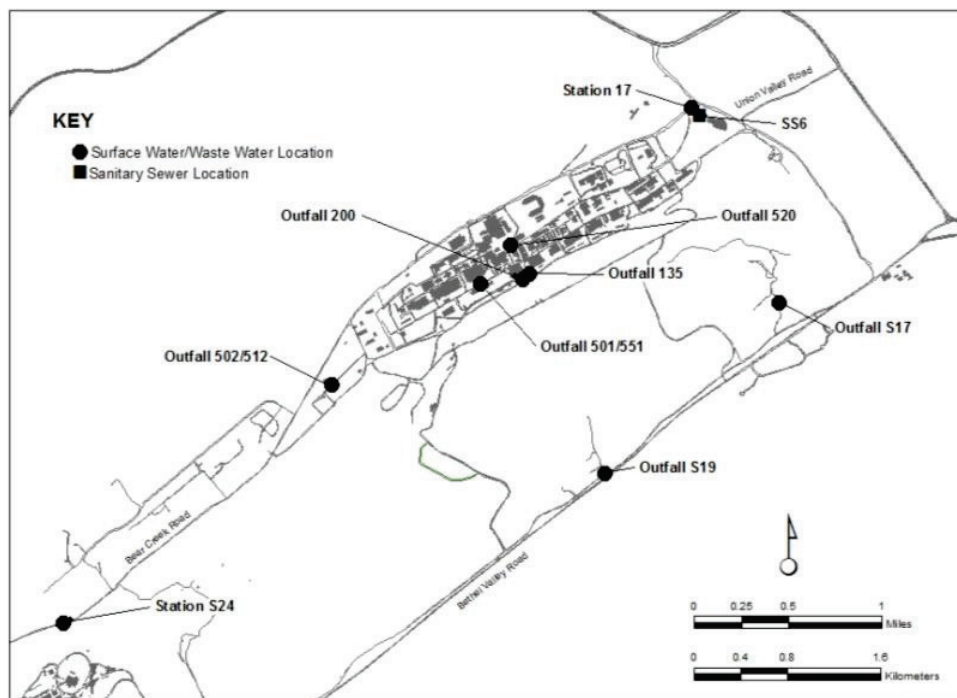


Fig. 4.22. Surface water and sanitary sewer radiological sampling locations at the Y-12 National Security Complex.

Table 4.15. Summary of Y-12 National Security Complex radiological monitoring plan sample requirements and 2014 results

Location	Sample frequency	Sample type	Sum of DCS percentages
<i>Y-12 Complex wastewater treatment facilities</i>			
Central Pollution Control Facility	1/batch	Composite during batch operation	No flow
West End Treatment Facility	1/batch	24 h composite	8.5
Groundwater Treatment Facility	4/year	24 h composite	4.3
Steam condensate	1/year	Grab	No Flow
Central Mercury Treatment Facility	4/year	24 h composite	2.5
<i>Other Y-12 Complex point and area source discharges</i>			
Outfall 135	4/year	24 h composite	3.2
Kerr Hollow Quarry	1/year	24 h composite	1.8
Rogers Quarry	1/year	24 h composite	0
<i>Y-12 Complex instream locations</i>			
Outfall S24	1/year	7-day composite	12
East Fork Poplar Creek, complex exit (east)	1/month	7-day composite	2.2
North/south pipes	1/month	24 h composite	4.0

Table 4.15 (continued)

Location	Sample frequency	Sample type	Sum of DCS percentages
<i>Y-12 Complex Sanitary Sewer</i>			
East End Sanitary Sewer Monitoring Station	1/year	7-day composite	24

Acronyms

DCS = derived concentration standard

Y-12 Complex = Y-12 National Security Complex

In 2014, the total mass of uranium and associated curies released from the Y-12 Complex at the easternmost monitoring station, station 17 on upper EFPC, was 90 kg or 0.061 Ci (Table 4.16). Figure 4.23 illustrates a 5-year trend of these releases. The total release is calculated by multiplying the average concentration (grams per liter) by the average flow (million gallons per day). Converting units and multiplying by 365 days per year yields the calculated discharge.

The Y-12 Complex is permitted to discharge domestic wastewater to the city of Oak Ridge's publicly owned treatment works. Radiological monitoring of the sanitary sewer system discharge is conducted and reported to the city of Oak Ridge, although there are no city-established radiological limits. Alpha and beta levels are measured weekly, and subsequent uranium analyses are performed if the alpha or beta levels are above prescribed levels. Potential sources of radionuclides discharging to the sanitary sewer have been identified in previous studies at the Y-12 Complex as part of an initiative to meet ALARA goals. Results of radiological monitoring were reported to the city of Oak Ridge in 2014 quarterly monitoring reports.

Table 4.16. Release of uranium from the Y-12 National Security Complex to the off-site environment as a liquid effluent, 2010–2014

Year	Quantity released	
	Ci ^a	Kg
<i>Station 17</i>		
2010	0.075	326
2011	0.104	124
2012	0.039	121
2013	0.055	140
2014	0.061	90

^a1 Ci = 3.7E+10 Bq.

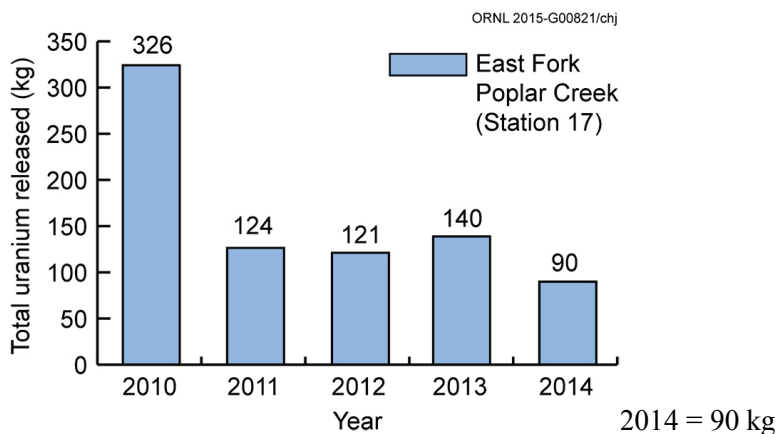


Fig. 4.23. Five-year trend of Y-12 National Security Complex releases of uranium to East Fork Poplar Creek.

4.5.4 Storm Water Pollution Prevention

The SWPPP at the Y-12 Complex is designed to minimize the discharge of pollutants in storm water runoff. The plan identifies areas that can reasonably be expected to contribute contaminants to surface water bodies via storm water runoff and describes the development and implementation of storm water management controls to reduce or eliminate the discharge of such pollutants. This plan requires (1) characterization of storm water by sampling during storm events, (2) implementation of measures to reduce storm water pollution, (3) facility inspections, and (4) employee training.

The Y-12 SWPPP underwent a significant rewrite in September 2012. This was due to issuance of a modified NPDES permit in November 2011. Significant changes included the elimination of two instream monitoring locations (C05 and C08) and the removal of the requirement to perform instream base-load sediment sampling. Other requirements remained essentially the same, with the exception of the lowering of a few benchmark values for certain sector outfalls. The NPDES permit defines the primary function of the Y-12 Complex to be a fabricated metal products industry. However, it also requires that storm water monitoring be conducted for three additional sectors: scrap/waste recycling activities; landfill and land application activities; and discharges associated with treatment, storage, and disposal facilities as they are defined in the Tennessee Storm Water Multi Sector General Permit for Industrial Activities (TNR050000). Each sector has prescribed benchmark values and some have defined sector mean values. The “rationale” portion of the NPDES permit for the Y-12 Complex states “These benchmark values were developed by the EPA and the State of Tennessee and are based on data submitted by similar industries for the development of the multi-sector general storm water permit. The benchmark concentrations are target values and should not be construed to represent permit limits.”

Storm water sampling was conducted in 2014 during rain events that occurred on September 11, October 3, and October 6. Results were published in the annual storm water report (CNS 2015), which was submitted to the TDEC Division of Water Pollution Control in January 2015. Consistent with permit requirements, storm water monitoring is performed each year for sector outfalls, three major outfalls that drain large areas of the Y-12 Complex, and two instream monitoring locations on EFPC (Fig. 4.24). The permit no longer calls for sampling of stream base load sediment that is being transported as a result of the heavy flow.

A significant change from 2013 to 2014 was the elimination of flow augmentation in EFPC. This discharge of raw water into EFPC was discontinued on April 30, 2014; thus, raw water is no longer

required to be sampled. This has reduced the flow in EFPC by about 3.3 million gal per day, a significant amount (about 60%).

In general, the quality of storm water exiting the Y-12 Complex via EFPC remained relatively stable from 2013 to 2014. The one area of concern is the concentration of mercury being measured in the discharge from outfall 014. In 2013, it was measured at 0.00712 mg/L. This outfall is typically sampled on a rotating basis with the other Section AA outfalls. However, due to this unexpected result, it was resampled in 2014 and had a concentration of 0.000892 mg/L. While this is nearly an order of magnitude reduction, the 2014 level is still above what would be expected at this location. This outfall will continue to be sampled on an annual basis.

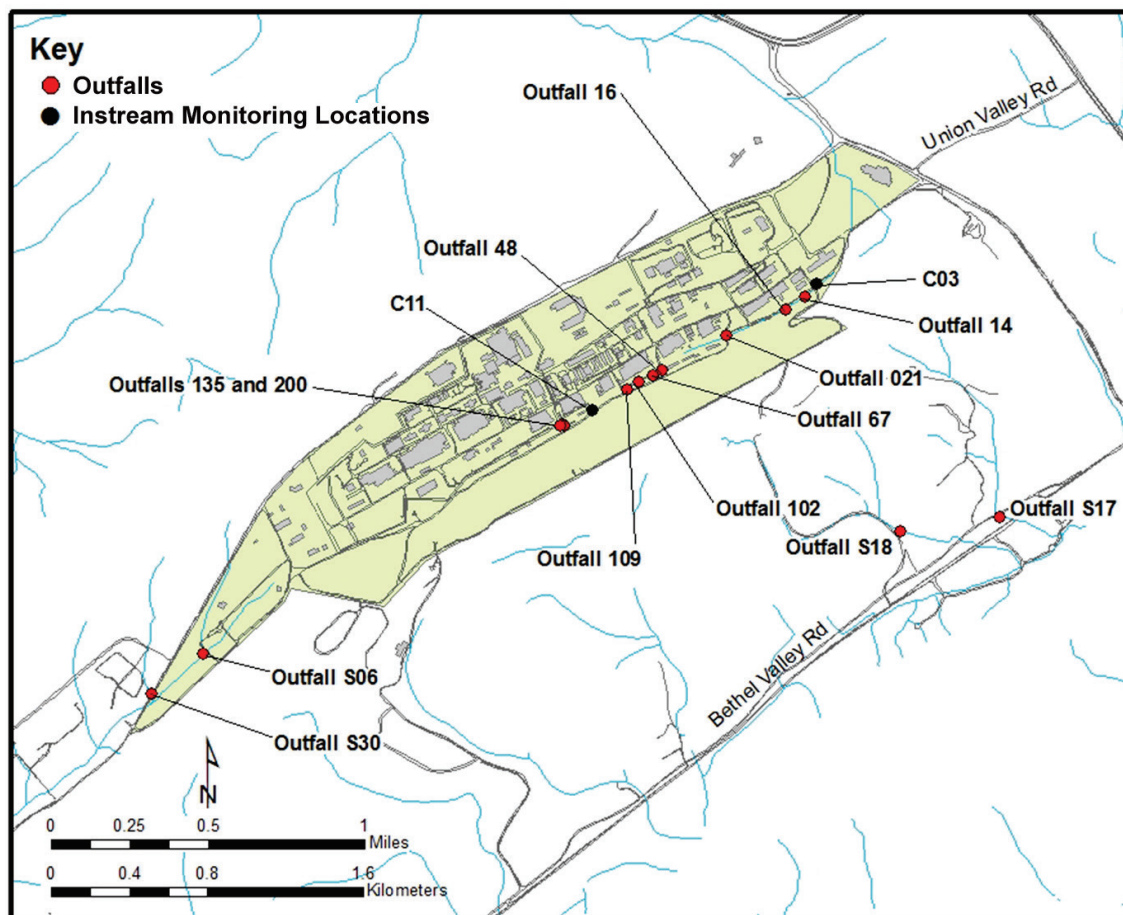


Fig. 4.24. Y-12 National Security Complex storm water monitoring locations.

4.5.5 Flow Management (or Raw Water)

Because of concern about maintaining water quality and stable flow in the upper reach of EFPC, the 2006 NPDES permit required the addition of Clinch River water to the headwaters of EFPC (North/South Pipe—outfall 200 area). The addition of Clinch River water to EFPC decreased instream water temperatures by about 5°C (from about 26°C at the headwaters).

A request to modify the NPDES permit to allow the minimum flow, measured at Station 17, to be reduced to 19 million L/day (5 million gal/day) was made, and on December 30, 2008, TDEC modified the permit. The modified permit required 19 million L (5 million gal) rather than 26 million L (7 million gal)

minimum daily flow as measured at the Station 17 location. In addition to water conservation, this action provided the potential benefit of reducing the transport of mercury from a contaminated section of the streambed.

A new NPDES permit, effective December 1, 2011, required a schedule for relocating the site for addition of raw water to EFPC downstream of the north/south pipe–outfall 200 area. The intent of the relocation was to reduce the potential for mercury being suspended by the higher flow due to raw water addition at the headwaters of EFPC. A schedule for relocation of the site for raw water addition to EFPC was submitted to TDEC, in accordance with the NPDES permit, indicating the raw addition would be relocated and associated water quality studies would be completed in 2015. Subsequently, an engineering report was transmitted to TDEC in December 2012.

In February 2013, TDEC sent a letter to DOE officials that states, in part, “it is our intent to proceed with the NPDES permit modification to eliminate the requirement for continued flow addition. We have learned that DOE-NNSA plans to proceed with the design and construction of proposed modification to the raw water distribution system in the near future. Thus, we recommend DOE-NNSA reevaluate the proposed construction of these modifications. We will place the proposed permit modification on public notice for benefit of review and comments by all stakeholders.” Upon receipt of this letter, the raw water relocation project and the associated water quality study were placed on indefinite hold.

In early 2014, a modified NPDES permit was issued to the Y-12 Complex. The issue date for this modification was April 1, 2014, and the effective date was May 1, 2014. The major change contained in the modified permit was the removal of the requirement to maintain a minimum daily flow of 19 million L (5 million gal) as measured at Station 17. It also no longer contained an authorization for the Y-12 Complex to augment the flow in EFPC via the addition of raw water. Hence, on April 30, 2014, the discharge of raw water into EFPC was turned off and has remained so since that time. This resulted in the average non-rain-event flow in EFPC to drop from about 5.5 million gal per day to about 2.2 million gal per day.

4.5.6 Y-12 Complex Ambient Surface Water Quality

To monitor key indicators of water quality, a network of real-time monitors located at three instream locations along upper EFPC is used. The Surface Water Hydrological Information Support System (SWHISS) is available for real-time water quality measurements such as pH, temperature, dissolved oxygen, conductivity, and chlorine. The locations are shown in Fig. 4.25. The primary function of SWHISS is to provide an indication of potential adverse conditions that could be causing an impact on the quality of water in upper EFPC. It is operated as a best management practice.

Additional sampling of springs and tributaries is conducted in accordance with the Y-12 Groundwater Protection Program (GWPP) to monitor trends throughout the three hydrogeologic regimes (see Section 4.6).

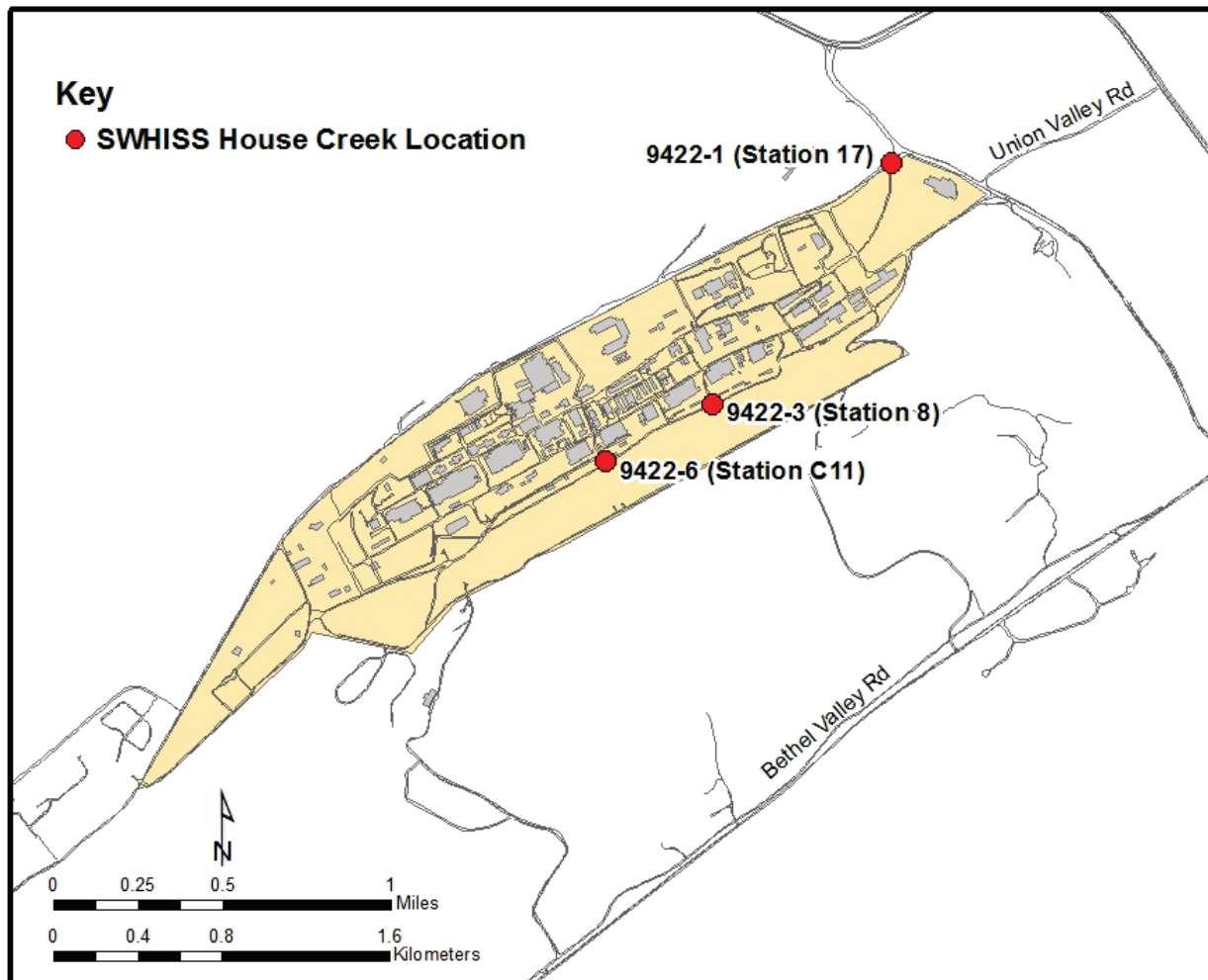


Fig. 4.25. Surface Water Hydrological Information Support System (SWHISS) monitoring locations.

4.5.7 Industrial Wastewater Discharge Permit

The Industrial and Commercial User Wastewater Discharge Permit 1-91 defines requirements for the discharge of wastewaters to the sanitary sewer system as well as prohibitions for certain types of wastewaters. It prescribes requirements for monitoring certain parameters at the East End Sanitary Sewer Monitoring Station. The permit sets limits for most parameters. Samples for gross alpha, gross beta, and uranium are taken in a weekly 24 h composite sample. The sample is analyzed for uranium if the alpha and beta values exceed certain levels. Other parameters (including metals, oil and grease, solids, and biological oxygen demand) are monitored on a monthly basis. Organic parameters are monitored once per quarter. Results of compliance sampling are reported quarterly. Flow is measured 24 h/day at the monitoring station.

As part of the City of Oak Ridge's pretreatment program, city personnel also use the east end monitoring station (also known as SS6, see Fig. 4.22) to conduct compliance monitoring as required by the pretreatment regulations. City personnel also conduct twice yearly compliance inspections. Monitoring results during 2014 (Table 4.17) indicate two exceedances of the permit. These were for two exceedances of the daily maximum limit for mercury that occurred on October 7 and October 28, 2014.

Table 4.17. Y-12 National Security Complex discharge point SS6, sanitary sewer station 6, January through December 2014
(all units are mg/L unless noted otherwise)

Effluent parameter	Number of samples	Average value	Daily maximum (effluent limit) ^a	Monthly average (effluent limit) ^a	Number of limit exceedances
Flow (gal/day)	365	388,033	1,400,000	1,400,000	0
pH (standard units)	12	7.4	9/6 ^b	9/6 ^b	0
Biochemical oxygen demand	12	61.3	300	200	0
Kjeldahl nitrogen	12	17.0	90	45	0
Phenols—total recoverable	12	0.029	0.3	0.15	0
Oil and grease	12	7.1	50	25	0
Suspended solids	62	85	300	200	0
Cyanide	12	0.005	0.062	0.041	0
Arsenic	12	0.003	0.025	0.010	0
Cadmium	12	0.0003	0.005	0.0033	0
Chromium	12	0.003	0.075	0.05	0
Copper	12	0.0252	0.21	0.14	0
Iron	12	0.7048	30	10	0
Lead	12	0.002	0.074	0.049	0
Mercury	62	0.009	0.035	0.023	2
Nickel	12	0.004	0.032	0.021	0
Silver	12	0.002	0.10	0.05	0
Zinc	12	0.134	0.75	0.35	0
Molybdenum	12	0.0478	0.05 ^c	0.05 ^c	Not Applicable
Selenium	12	0.005	0.01 ^c	0.01 ^c	Not Applicable
Toluene	4	0.005U	0.005 ^c	0.005 ^c	Not Applicable
Benzene	4	0.005U	0.005 ^c	0.005 ^c	Not Applicable
1,1,1-trichloroethane	4	0.005U	0.005 ^c	0.005 ^c	Not Applicable
Ethylbenzene	4	0.005U	0.005 ^c	0.005 ^c	Not Applicable
Carbon tetrachloride	4	0.005U	0.005 ^c	0.005 ^c	Not Applicable
Chloroform	4	0.0048	0.005 ^c	0.005 ^c	Not Applicable
Tetrachloroethylene	4	0.004J	0.005 ^c	0.005 ^c	Not Applicable
Trichloroethene	4	0.005U	0.005 ^c	0.005 ^c	Not Applicable
Trans-1,2-dichloroethylene	4	0.005U	0.005 ^c	0.005 ^c	Not Applicable
Methylene chloride	4	0.005U	0.005 ^c	0.005 ^c	Not Applicable

^aIndustrial and commercial users wastewater permit limits.

^bMaximum value/minimum value.

^cThere is not a permit limit for this parameter. This value is the required detection limit.

The two mercury exceedances in October 2014 were the result of a cleaning and lining project conducted near Building 9203. It is suspected the cleaning operation displaced elemental mercury which was in the cracks and low spots in the piping. Once the first exceedance was discovered, an enhanced sampling plan was implemented that required three 24-hour composite and four grab samples to be taken each week. This sampling plan was continued until mercury concentrations returned to historical values.

4.5.8 Quality Assurance/Quality Control

The Environmental Monitoring Management Information System (EMMIS) is used to manage surface water monitoring data. EMMIS uses standard sample definitions to ensure that samples are taken at the correct location at a specified frequency using the correct sampling protocol.

Field sampling QA encompasses many practices that minimize error and evaluate sampling performance. Some key quality practices include the following:

- use of standard operating procedures for sample collection and analysis;
- use of chain-of-custody and sample identification, customized chain-of-custody documents, and sample labels provided by EMMIS;
- instrument standardization, calibration, and verification;
- sample technician training;
- sample preservation, handling, and decontamination; and
- use of QC samples such as field and trip blanks, duplicates, and equipment rinses.

Surface water data are entered directly by the analytical laboratory into the Laboratory Information Management System (LIMS) on the day of approval. EMMIS routinely accesses LIMS electronically to capture pertinent data. Generally, the system will store the data in the form of concentrations.

A number of electronic data management tools enable automatic flagging of data points and allow for monitoring and trending data over time. Field information on all routine samples taken for surface water monitoring is entered in EMMIS, which also retrieves data nightly from the analytical laboratory. The system then performs numerous checks on the data, including comparisons of the individual results against any applicable screening criteria, regulatory thresholds, compliance limits, best management standards, or other water quality indicators, and produces required reports.

4.5.9 Biomonitoring Program

In accordance with the requirements of the NPDES permit effective December 1, 2011, Part III-E, p. 31, two outfalls that discharge to the headwaters of EFPC (outfalls 200 and 135) were evaluated for toxicity during 2014 using fathead minnow (*Pimephales promelas*) larvae and *Ceriodaphnia dubia*. A third discharge, outfall 125, no longer has sufficient base flows for toxicity to be evaluated. Table 4.18 summarizes the results of the 2014 outfall biomonitoring tests in terms of the IC₂₅, the concentration of each outfall effluent that causes a 25% reduction in *C. dubia* survival or reproduction or fathead minnow survival or growth. The lower the value of the IC₂₅, the more toxic the effluent.

Table 4.18. Y-12 National Security Complex Biomonitoring Program summary information for outfalls 200 and 135 in 2014^a

Site	Test start date	Species	IC ₂₅ ^b (%)
Outfall 200	7/08/14	<i>Ceriodaphnia dubia</i>	>100
Outfall 200	7/08/14	Fathead minnow (<i>Pimephales promelas</i>)	>100
Outfall 135	7/08/14	<i>Ceriodaphnia dubia</i>	>36
Outfall 135	7/08/14	Fathead minnow	>36

^aInhibition concentration (IC₂₅) is summarized for the discharge monitoring locations, outfalls 200 and 135.

^bIC₂₅ as a percentage of full-strength effluent from outfalls 200 and 135 diluted with laboratory control water. IC₂₅ is the concentration that causes a 25% reduction in *Ceriodaphnia dubia* survival or reproduction or fathead minnow survival or growth; 36% is the highest concentration of outfall 135 tested.

Acronyms

Y-12 Complex = Y-12 National Security Complex

Effluent from outfall 135 did not reduce fathead minnow survival or growth or *Ceriodaphnia* survival or reproduction by 25% or more at any of the tested concentrations. For both species, the IC₂₅ for survival, growth, or reproduction was therefore >36% (the highest concentration of effluent tested). Toxicity is demonstrated according to the NPDES permit if the IC₂₅ is less than or equal to the permit limit (9% whole effluent).

Effluent from outfall 200 did not reduce fathead minnow survival or growth by 25% or more at any of the tested concentrations. Therefore, the fathead minnow IC₂₅ for survival and growth was >100% (the highest concentration of effluent tested). Effluent from outfall 200 did not reduce *Ceriodaphnia* survival by 25% or more at any of the tested concentrations. However, *Ceriodaphnia* reproduction was reduced by more than 25% in both 100% and 74% effluent concentrations, with the calculated IC₂₅ for *Ceriodaphnia* reproduction being 63.7% effluent. Toxicity is demonstrated according to the NPDES permit if the IC₂₅ is less than or equal to the permit limit (37% whole effluent).

4.5.10 Biological Monitoring and Abatement Programs

The NPDES permit issued for the Y-12 Complex mandates a BMAP with the objective of demonstrating that the effluent limitations established for the facility protect the classified uses of the receiving stream, EFPC. The 2014 BMAP sampling reported here follows the NPDES-required Y-12 BMAP plan (Peterson et al. 2013). BMAP, which has been monitoring the ecological health of EFPC since 1985, currently consists of three major tasks that reflect complementary approaches to evaluating the effects of the Y-12 Complex discharges on the aquatic integrity of EFPC. These tasks include (1) bioaccumulation monitoring, (2) benthic macroinvertebrate community monitoring, and (3) fish community monitoring. Data collected on contaminant bioaccumulation and the composition and abundance of communities of aquatic organisms provide a direct evaluation of the effectiveness of abatement and remedial measures in improving ecological conditions in the stream.

Monitoring is currently being conducted at five primary EFPC sites although sites may be excluded or added depending on the specific objectives of the various tasks. The primary sampling sites include upper EFPC at EFPC kilometers (EFKs) 24.4 and 23.4 (upstream and downstream of Lake Reality, respectively); EFK 18.7 (also EFK 18.2), located off ORR and below an area of intensive commercial and light industrial development; EFK 13.8 and EFK 13.0, located upstream and downstream of the Oak Ridge Wastewater

Treatment Facility; and EFK 6.3, located about 1.4 km downstream of the ORR boundary (Fig. 4.26). Brushy Fork at Brushy Fork kilometer 7.6 is used as a reference stream in two BMAP tasks. Additional sites off ORR are also occasionally used for reference, including Beaver Creek, Bull Run, Cox Creek, Hinds Creek, Paint Rock Creek, and Emory River in the Watts Bar Reservoir (Fig. 4.27).

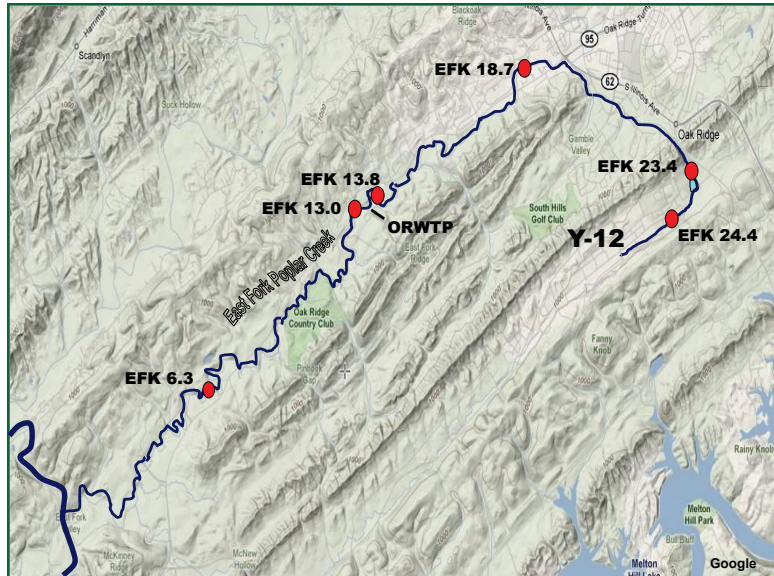


Fig. 4.26. Locations of biological monitoring sites on East Fork Poplar Creek in relation to the Y-12 National Security Complex. (EFK = East Fork Poplar Creek kilometer and ORWTP = Oak Ridge Water Treatment Plant.)

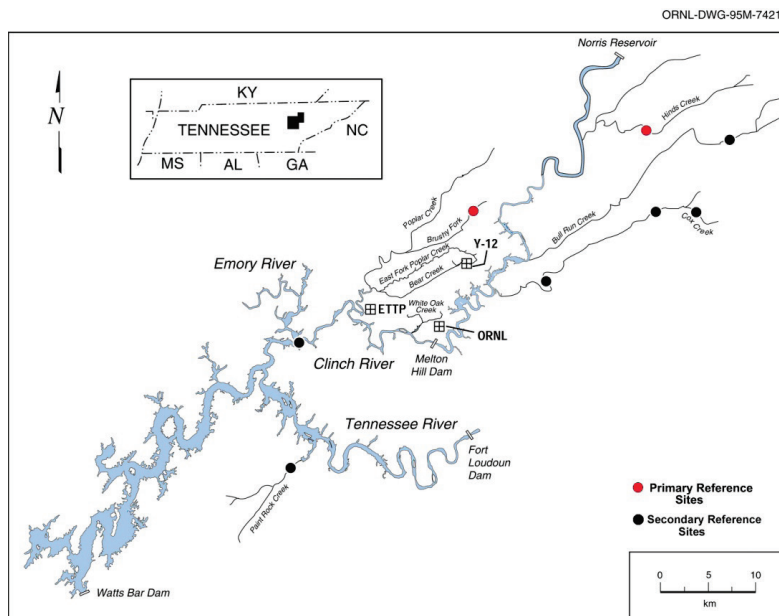


Fig. 4.27. Locations of biological monitoring reference sites in relation to the Y-12 National Security Complex. (ETTP = East Tennessee Technology Park, ORNL = Oak Ridge National Laboratory, and Y-12 = Y-12 National Security Complex.)

Significant increases in the number of invertebrate and fish species in EFPC over the last two decades demonstrate that the overall ecological health of the stream continues to improve. However, the pace of improvement in upper EFPC near the Y-12 Complex has slowed in recent years, and fish and invertebrate communities continue to have fewer species than the corresponding communities in reference streams. The impact on stream ecology of recent remedial and abatement actions to address mercury releases at Y-12, including a major storm drain cleanout in WEMA (2011) and flow augmentation cessation (April 30, 2014), is still uncertain and will be a focus of future monitoring and investigation. The 2015 BMAP data will be especially important for evaluating the ecological impact of the changes in flow in upper EFPC.

4.5.10.1 Bioaccumulation Studies

Historically mercury and PCB levels in fish from EFPC have been elevated relative to fish in uncontaminated reference streams. Fish in EFPC are monitored regularly for mercury and PCBs to assess spatial and temporal trends in bioaccumulation associated with ongoing remedial activities and Y-12 Complex operations.

As part of this monitoring effort, redbreast sunfish (*Lepomis auritus*) and rock bass (*Ambloplites rupestris*) are collected twice a year from five sites throughout the length of EFPC and are analyzed for tissue concentrations of mercury (twice yearly) and PCBs (annually) (Fig. 4.26). A new sampling site was added in 2013 at EFK 13.0, just downstream of the Oak Ridge STP. Mercury concentrations remained higher in fish from EFPC in 2014 than in fish from reference streams. Elevated mercury concentrations in fish from the upper reach of EFPC indicate that the Y-12 Complex remains a continuing source of mercury to fish in the stream.

Figure 4.28 shows temporal trends for mercury concentrations in water collected from EFK 23.4 (Station 17) and in fish collected just upstream of this monitoring station at EFK 24.4. Waterborne mercury concentrations in the upper reach of EFPC have decreased substantially over the years in response to various RAs, first over the 1990s time period and then again in response to the Big Springs Treatment System in 2006 (Fig. 4.28). Although mercury concentrations in fish over time have not decreased commensurate with mercury levels in water in the lower sections of EFPC, mercury concentrations in fish at the uppermost sampling site (EFK 24.4) decreased steadily in the 1990s, consistent with decreased concentrations in water (Fig. 4.28). Significant fluctuations in aqueous mercury concentrations (thought to be the result of storm drain relining and cleanout) have been seen at EFK 23.4 since 2009. Redbreast collected from the EFK 24.2 sampling site, about 1 km upstream of Station 17, appear to have responded to the recent peak and decline in aqueous mercury concentrations. Mean concentrations at EFK 24.2 increased from ~0.6 µg/g in 2011 to above 1 µg/g in 2012 and dropped back down in 2013–2014 (~0.7 µg/g, Fig. 4.28). These concentrations are above the EPA AWQC for mercury (0.3 µg/g mercury as methylmercury in fish fillet). That this species appears to have responded to changes in water mercury concentrations in the upper reaches of the creek is interesting, given it has not responded to decreases in aqueous total mercury concentrations at downstream sites throughout EFPC in the past 20 years. The relationship between aqueous total mercury concentrations and fish tissue concentrations is complex. Aqueous mercury concentrations vary by orders of magnitude throughout the various watersheds across ORR, but fish tissue concentrations tend not to vary greatly (twofold to threefold). The EFK 24.2 site is sampled once a year, so data on mercury in fish after cessation of EFPC flow augmentation are not yet available. Multiple ongoing investigations are being conducted to better understand mercury bioaccumulation dynamics in this creek and to better predict how remedial changes may impact mercury concentrations in fish in the future.

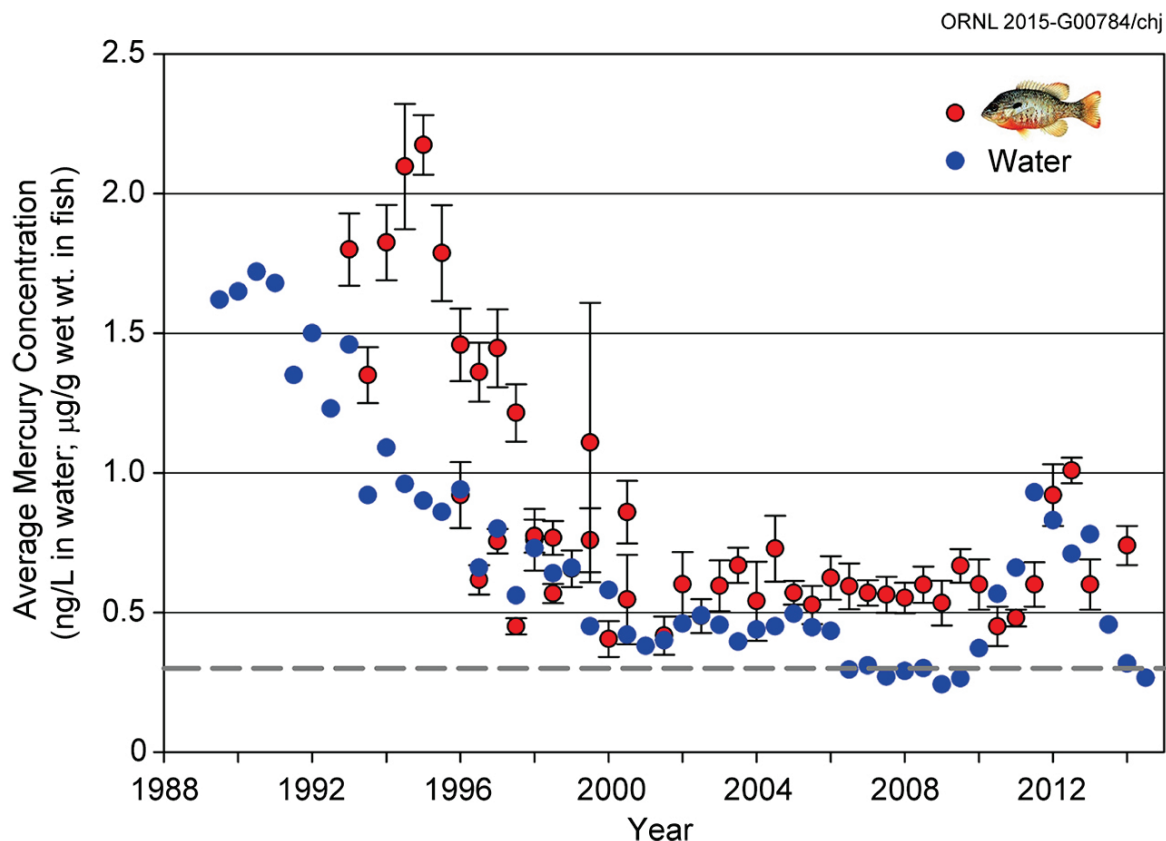


Fig. 4.28. Semiannual average mercury concentration in water from and muscle fillets of redbreast sunfish in East Fork Poplar Creek (EFPC) at EFPC kilometers 23.4 (water) and 24.4 (fish). Dashed grey line represents the ambient water quality criterion for methylmercury in fish fillets (0.3 mg/kg).

The mean total PCB concentration in sunfish fillets at EFK 23.4 was 0.86 µg/g in FY 2014 (before flow augmentation ended), which was the highest recorded concentration since 2002 (Fig. 4.29). Regulatory guidance and human health risk levels have varied widely for PCBs, depending on the regulatory program and the assumptions used in the risk analysis. The Tennessee water quality criteria for individual Aroclors and total PCBs are both 0.00064 µg/L under the recreation designated-use classification and are the targets for PCB-focused Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs), including for local reservoirs (Melton Hill, Watts Bar, and Fort Loudon; TDEC 2010a, b, c). In the state of Tennessee, assessments of impairment for water body segments as well as public fishing advisories are based on fish tissue concentrations. Historically, the US Food and Drug Administration threshold limit of 2 µg/g PCBs in fish fillets was used for advisories, and then for many years an approximate range of 0.8 to 1 µg/g was used, depending on the data available and factors such as the fish species and size. The remediation goal for fish fillets at the ETPP K-1007-P1 pond on ORR is 1 µg/g PCBs. Most recently, the water quality criterion has been used to calculate the fish tissue concentration triggering impairment and a TMDL (TDEC 2007); this concentration is 0.02 mg/kg PCBs in fish fillets (TDEC 2010a, b, and c). The mean fish PCB concentration in upper EFPC, 0.86 µg/g in fish fillets, is well above this concentration.

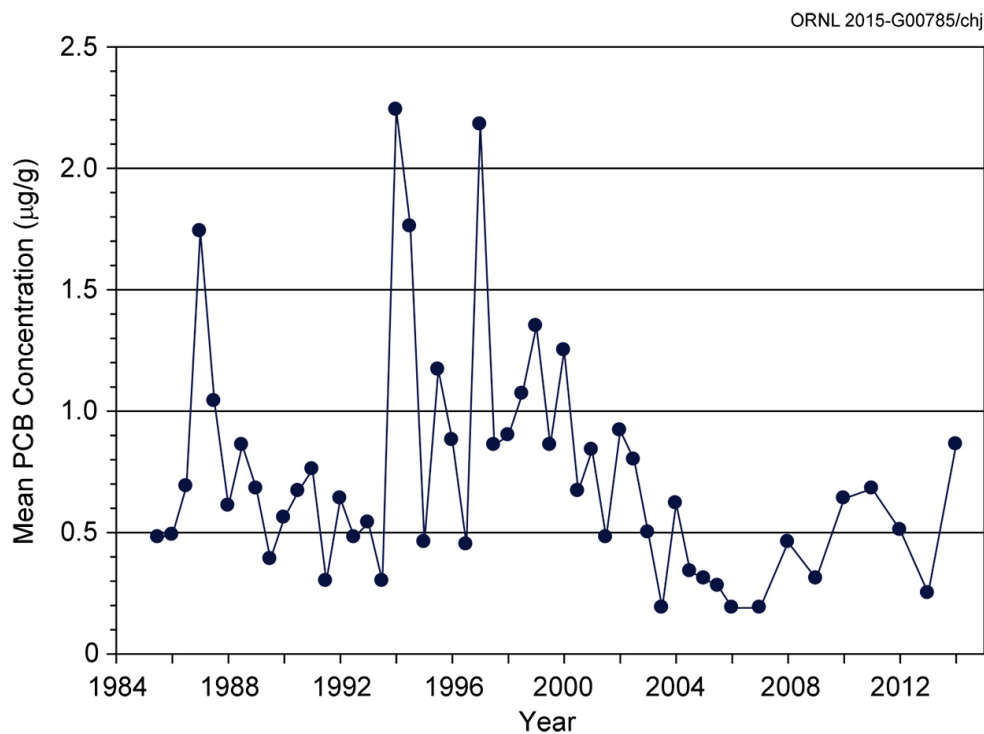


Fig. 4.29. Annual mean concentrations of polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) in rock bass muscle fillets at East Fork Poplar Creek kilometer 23.4.

4.5.10.2 Benthic Invertebrate Surveys

Monitoring of benthic macroinvertebrate communities continued at three sites in EFPC and at two reference streams in the spring of 2014; all samples were collected before flow management ended. Increases in the number of pollution-intolerant taxa at EFK 23.4 and EFK 13.8 were observed for the second consecutive year, although the number of taxa increased at the reference sites as well. As in 2013, the number of pollution-intolerant macroinvertebrate taxa at EFK 23.4 was within the 95% confidence interval for the reference sites; 2014 was only the second year since 1985 that taxa richness of intolerant taxa was within the 95% confidence interval of the reference sites (Fig. 4.30). Increases in the number of pollution-intolerant taxa were observed at the reference sites as well, but unlike EFK 23.4 and EFK 13.8, this pattern of change has occurred regularly at the reference sites. The number of pollution-intolerant taxa at EFK 24.4 also increased for the second consecutive year, but was within the range of values that have been observed since the early 2000s and remained below the lower confidence limit for the reference sites. Thus, EFK 24.4 remains degraded relative to reference sites. Given the extent of annual change that has occurred at EFK 13.8 since monitoring began, it's not clear whether the recent increases in the number of taxa reflect a new stage of recovery or just normal temporal variation. At EFK 23.4, on the other hand, the results appear to suggest that in the years since 2007 additional pollution-intolerant taxa may have become established. However, some groups of pollution-intolerant taxa (e.g., Plecoptera or stoneflies) remain rare or virtually absent from EFK 23.4 and EFK 13.8, thus suggesting that mildly degraded conditions remain at those sites. The next couple of years will provide useful information regarding the potential impact of flow reduction on stream macroinvertebrate communities.

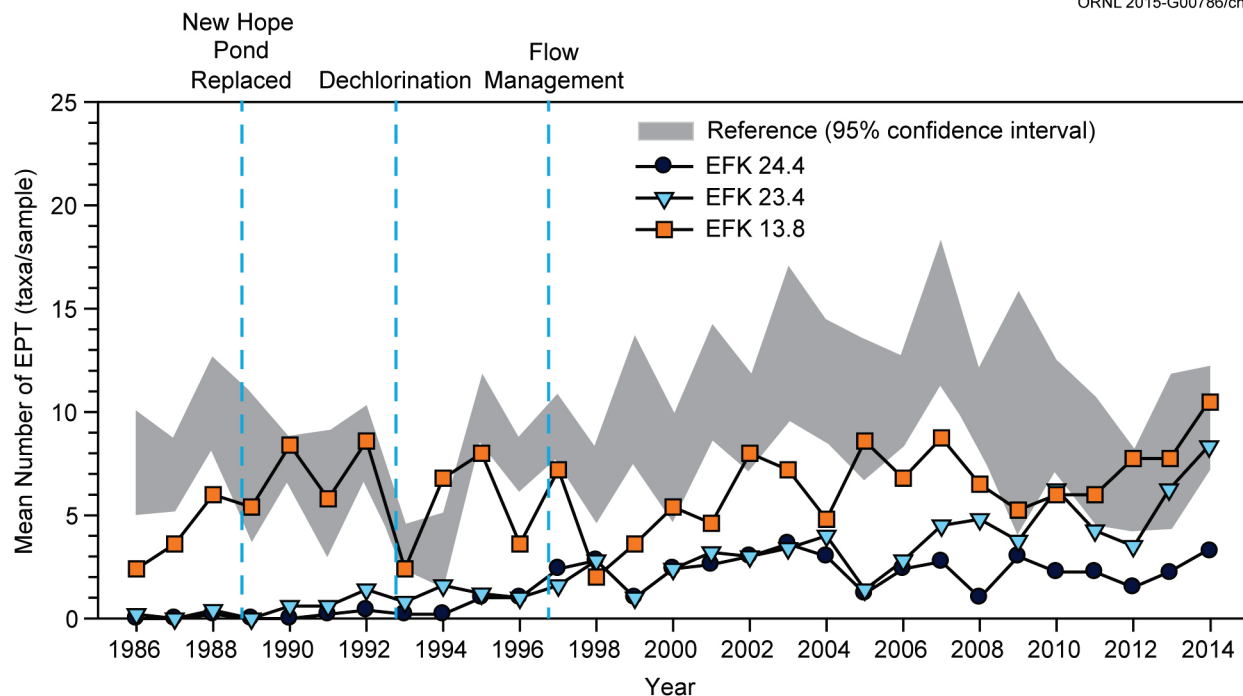


Fig. 4.30. Total taxonomic richness of the Ephemeroptera, Plecoptera, and Trichoptera (EPT) (mean number of EPT taxa/sample) of the benthic macroinvertebrate communities sampled in spring from East Fork Poplar Creek and two nearby reference streams (Brushy Fork and Hinds Creek), 1986–2014. (EFK = East Fork Poplar Creek kilometer.)

4.5.10.3 Fish Community Monitoring

Fish communities were monitored in the spring and fall of 2014 at five sites along EFPC and at a reference stream (Brushy Fork). Over the past two decades, overall species richness, density, biomass, and number of pollution-sensitive fish species have increased at all sampling locations below Lake Reality. The number of sensitive species over time is shown in Fig. 4.31 and dramatically highlights the major improvements in the fish community in the middle to lower sections of EFPC. However, the EFPC fish community continues to lag behind the reference stream community in most important metrics of fish diversity and community structure. This is especially true at the monitoring sites closest to the Y-12 Complex where the sensitive species richness ranges from 0 to 37% of the reference value.

Fish communities in upper EFPC were impacted by a suspected release of chlorinated water at outfall 200 in July of 2014. ORNL Environmental Sciences Division personnel, who were called in to investigate, observed 552 dead fish. The numbers of dead fish are estimated to be a small number of the stream section's fish population, based on BMAP fish community data and previous fish kill history in upper EFPC (Fig. 4.32). The March 2015 fish collection from EFK 24.4 will provide the first indication of whether there are any fish community changes in upper EFPC as a result of the July 2014 fish kill, as well as flow augmentation ending in April 2014.

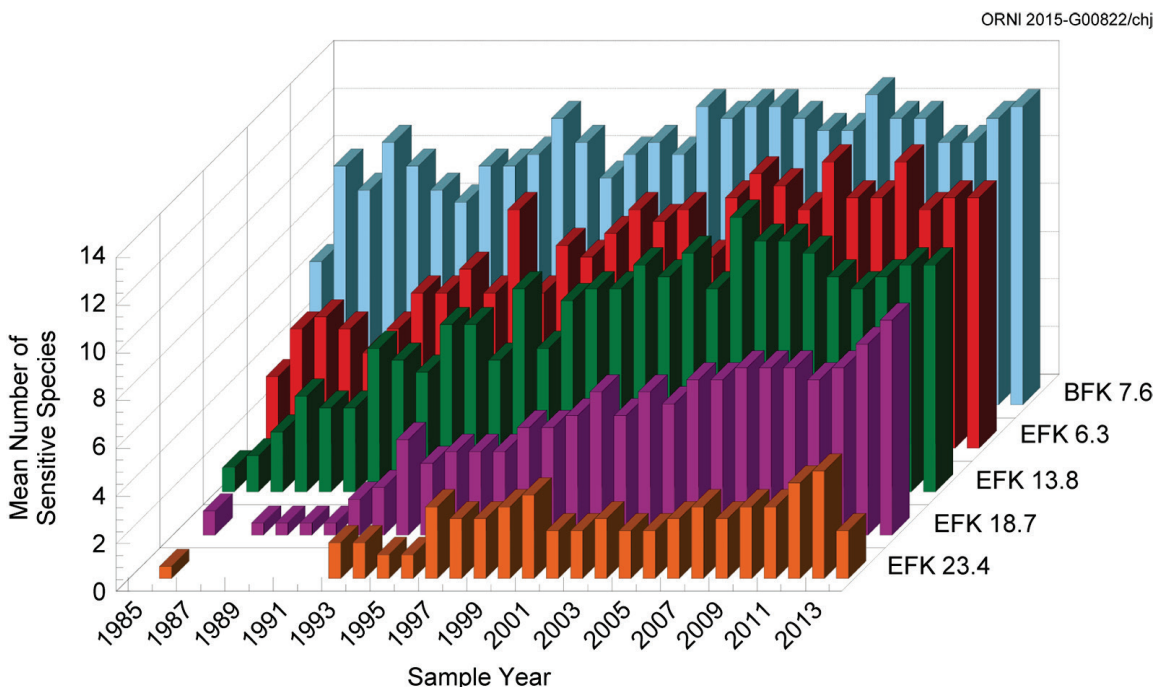


Fig. 4.31. Comparison of mean sensitive species richness (number of species) collected each year from 1985–2014 from four sites in East Fork Poplar Creek and a reference site (Brushy Fork). (BFK = Brushy Fork kilometer and EFK = East Fork Poplar Creek kilometer.)

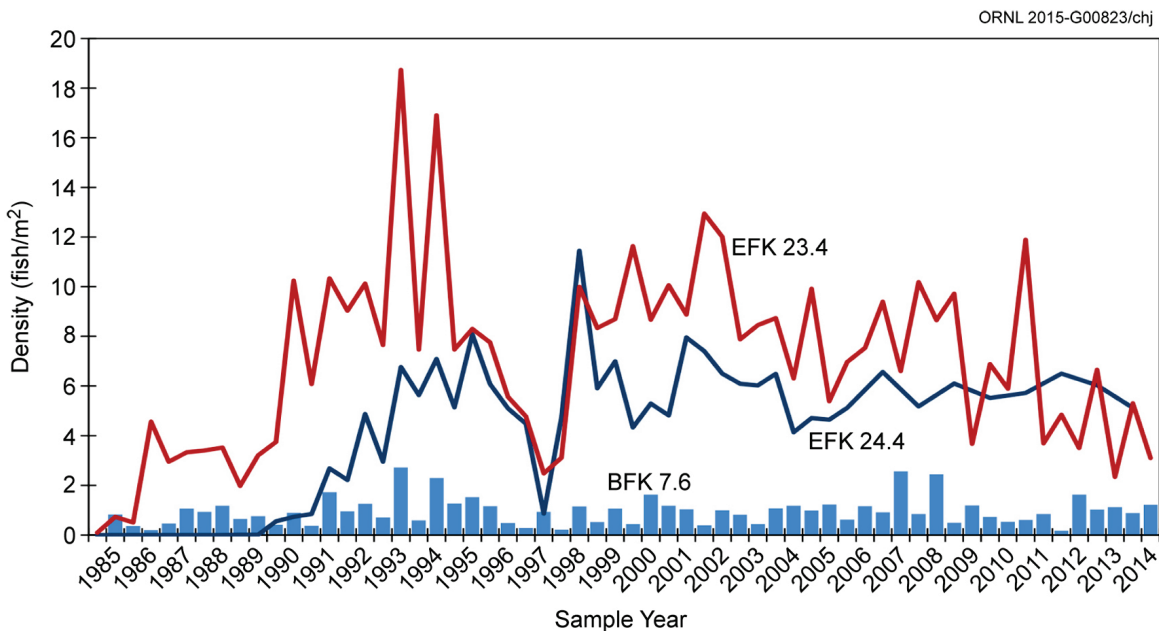


Fig. 4.32. Fish density (number of fish per square meter) for two sites in upper East Fork Poplar Creek and a reference site (Brushy Fork) from 1985–2014. (BFK = Brushy Fork kilometer and EFK = East Fork Poplar Creek kilometer.)

4.6 Groundwater at the Y-12 Complex

Groundwater monitoring at the Y-12 Complex is performed to comply with federal and state requirements and to determine the degree of environmental impact from legacy and current operations. More than 150

known or potential sources of environmental contamination have been identified at the Y-12 Complex, some from plant operations and some from former waste management practices (DOE 2014b). Monitoring provides information on the nature and extent of contamination of groundwater, which is then used to determine what actions must be taken to protect the worker, public, and environment in compliance with regulations and DOE orders. Figure 4.33 depicts the major facilities or areas for which groundwater monitoring was performed during CY 2014.

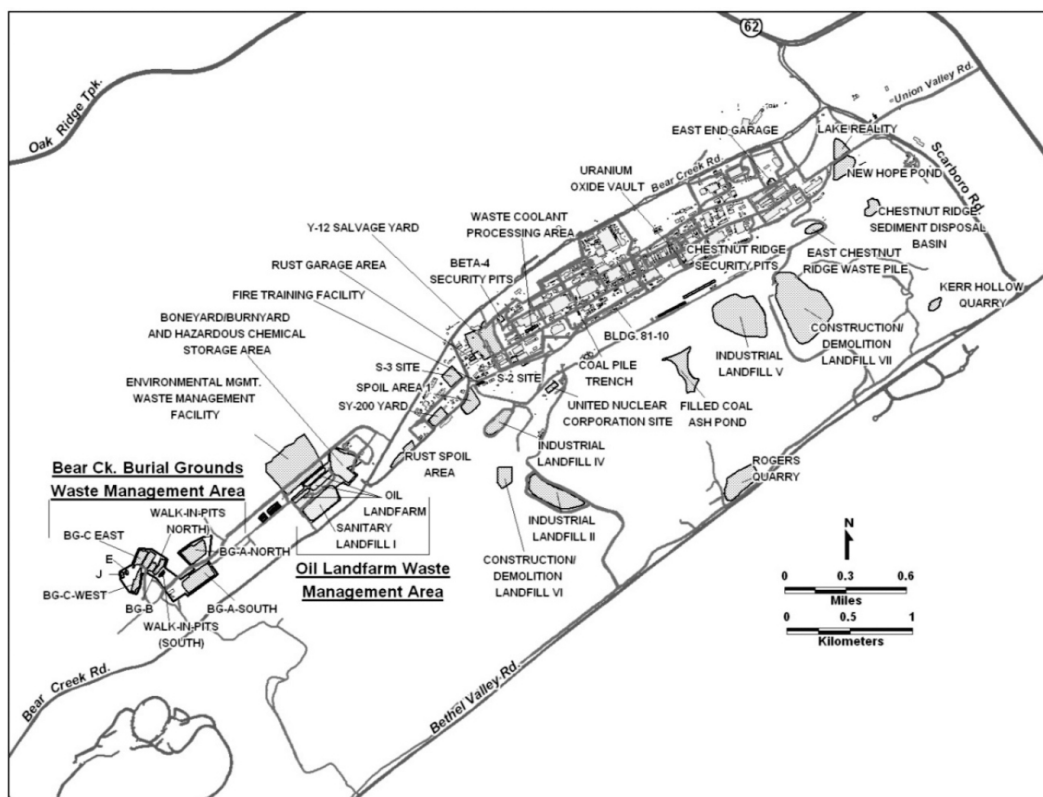


Fig. 4.33. Known or potential contaminant sources for which groundwater monitoring was performed at the Y-12 National Security Complex during CY 2014.

4.6.1 Hydrogeologic Setting

The Y-12 Complex is divided into three hydrogeologic regimes (Bear Creek, upper EFPC, and Chestnut Ridge), which are delineated by surface water drainage patterns, topography, and groundwater flow characteristics (Fig. 4.34). Most of the Bear Creek and upper EFPC regimes are underlain by the shales, siltstones, and sandstones with a subordinate and locally variable amount of carbonate bedrock mentioned in Section 1.3.5 and hydrostratigraphically referred to as aquitards. Aquitards are rock units that contain water but do not readily yield significant water to pumping wells. However, geologic units that are considered aquitards can often yield water in quantities sufficient for domestic or small farm use (Domenico and Schwartz 1990). The southern portion of the two regimes is underlain by the Maynardville Limestone, which is part of the Knox aquifer. The Chestnut Ridge regime is almost entirely underlain by the Knox aquifer. The southernmost portion near Bethel Valley Road consists of the lowest members of the Chickamauga Group. In general, groundwater flow in the water table interval follows the topography. Shallow groundwater flow in the Bear Creek and upper EFPC regimes is divergent from the topographic and groundwater divide located near the western end of the Y-12 Complex that defines the boundary between the two. In addition, flow converges on the primary surface streams (Bear Creek and

upper EFPC) from Pine Ridge and Chestnut Ridge. In the Chestnut Ridge regime, a groundwater divide exists that nearly coincides with the crest of the ridge. Shallow groundwater flow tends to be toward either flank of the ridge, with discharge primarily to surface streams and springs located in Bethel Valley to the south and Bear Creek Valley to the north.

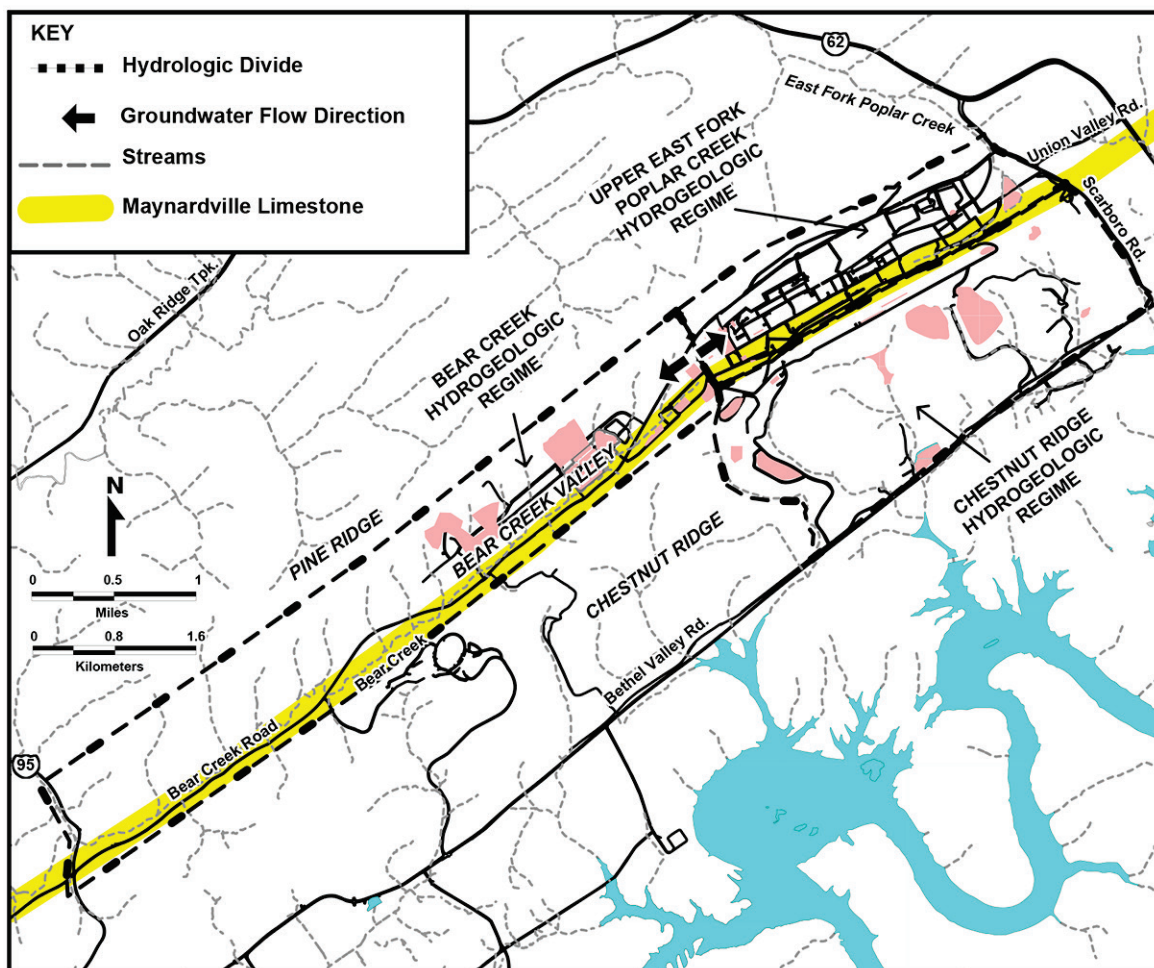


Fig. 4.34. Hydrogeologic regimes at the Y-12 National Security Complex and the position of the Maynardville Limestone in Bear Creek Valley.

In Bear Creek Valley, groundwater in the intermediate and deep intervals moves predominantly through fractures in the aquitard, converging on and then moving through fractures and solution conduits in the Maynardville Limestone (Fig. 4.34). Karst development in the Maynardville Limestone has a significant impact on groundwater flow paths in the water table and intermediate intervals. In general, groundwater flow parallels the valley and geologic strike. Groundwater flow rates in Bear Creek Valley vary widely; they are very slow within the deep interval of the fractured noncarbonate rock (less than 10 ft/year) but can be quite rapid within solution conduits in the Maynardville Limestone (tens to thousands of feet per day). The rate of groundwater flow perpendicular to geologic strike from the aquitard units of the lower Conasauga Group to the Maynardville Limestone is also very slow below the water table interval.

Contaminant migration is primarily advective (contaminants are transported along with flowing groundwater through the pore spaces, fractures, or conduits of the hydrogeologic system). Strike-parallel transport of some contaminants can occur within the aquitard units for significant distances, where they discharge to surface water tributaries or underground utility and storm water distribution systems in

industrial areas. Continuous elevated levels of nitrate (a groundwater contaminant from legacy waste disposals) within the fractured bedrock of the aquitards are known to extend east and west from the S-2 and S-3 sites for thousands of feet. VOCs (e.g., petroleum products, coolants, and solvents) at source units over or in the fractured clastic dominated bedrock can remain close to source areas because they tend to adsorb to the bedrock matrix, diffuse into pore spaces within the matrix, and degrade before migrating to exit pathways where more rapid transport occurs for longer distances. However, extensive VOC contamination from multiple sources is observable throughout the groundwater system in both the Bear Creek and upper EFPC regimes.

Groundwater flow in the Chestnut Ridge regime is through fractures and solution conduits in the Knox Group. Discharge points for intermediate and deep flow are not well known. Groundwater is currently presumed to flow toward Bear Creek Valley to the north and Bethel Valley to the south. Groundwater from intermediate and deep zones may discharge at certain spring locations along the flanks of Chestnut Ridge. Following the crest of the ridge, water table elevations decrease from west to east, demonstrating an overall easterly trend in groundwater flow.

4.6.2 Well Installation and Plugging and Abandonment Activities

A number of monitoring devices have been used for groundwater data collection at the Y-12 Complex. Monitoring wells are permanent devices used for the collection of groundwater samples; they are installed according to established regulatory and industry standards. Figure 4.35 shows a cross section of a typical groundwater monitoring well. Other devices or techniques (e.g., drive points and direct push installations) are sometimes used to gather groundwater data.

In CY 2014, 10 wells were installed in support of characterization activities for the construction of EMDF, proposed to replace EMWMF when it reaches full capacity. The site selected for EMDF is east of EMWMF. The wells range from 5 to 100 ft in depth.

No monitoring wells were plugged and abandoned during the year.

4.6.3 CY 2014 Groundwater Monitoring

Groundwater monitoring in CY 2014 was performed to comply with DOE orders and regulations as part of the Y-12 GWPP, DOE EM programs such as WRRP, and other projects. Compliance requirements

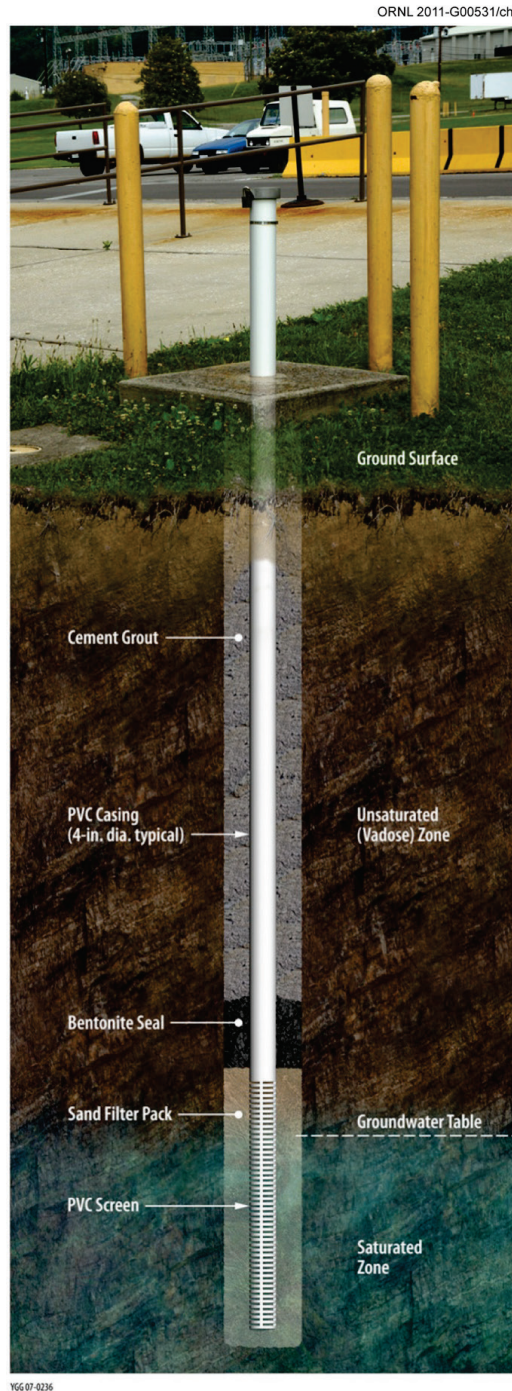


Fig. 4.35. Cross section of a typical groundwater monitoring well.

were met by monitoring 228 wells and 49 surface water locations and springs (Table 4.19). Figure 4.36 shows the locations of Y-12 Complex perimeter/exit pathway groundwater monitoring stations.

Table 4.19. Summary groundwater monitoring at the Y-12 National Security Complex, 2014

	Purpose for which monitoring was performed				Total
	Restoration ^a	Waste management ^b	Surveillance ^c	Other ^d	
Number of active wells	63	32	133	48	276
Number of other monitoring stations (e.g., springs, seeps, surface water)	29	6	14	0	49
Number of samples taken ^e	186	101	152	804	1,279
Number of analyses performed	9,295	15,069	12,664	35,397	72,425
Percentage of analyses that are nondetects	72.6	91.2	82.3	75	79.3
<i>Ranges of results for positive detections, VOCs (µg/L)^f</i>					
Chloroethenes	0.34–2,600	5.34–8.11	2–62,000	NA	
Chloroethanes	0.65–370	8.14–66.4	2–1,200	NA	
Chloromethanes	0.42–960	ND	2–6,000	NA	
Petroleum hydrocarbons	0.54–5,800	ND	1–2,000	NA	
Uranium (mg/L)	0.0051–0.48	0.0043–0.0043	0.00053–0.342	0.1563–59.33	
Nitrates (mg/L)	0.01–6,500	0.513–2.8	0.059–9,619	0.388–18,087	
<i>Ranges of results for positive detections, radiological parameters (pCi/L)^g</i>					
Gross alpha activity	1.79–269	0.64–2.83	4–510	NA	
Gross beta activity	2.13–15,100	2.74–11.1	7.8–14,000	NA	

^aMonitoring to comply with CERCLA requirements and with RCRA postclosure detection and corrective action monitoring.

^bSolid waste landfill detection monitoring and CERCLA landfill detection monitoring.

^cDOE order surveillance monitoring.

^dResearch-related groundwater monitoring associated with activities of the DOE Oak Ridge Field Research Center and Enigma.

^eThe number of unfiltered samples, excluding duplicates, determined for unique location/date combinations.

^fThese ranges reflect concentrations of individual contaminants (not summed VOC concentrations):

- chloroethenes—include tetrachloroethene, trichloroethene, 1,2-dichloroethene (*cis* and *trans*) 1,1-dichloroethene, and vinyl chloride
- chloroethanes—include 1,1,1-trichloroethane, 1,2-dichloroethane, and 1,1-dichloroethane
- chloromethanes—include carbon tetrachloride, chloroform, and methylene chloride
- petroleum hydrocarbons—include benzene, toluene, ethylbenzene, and xylene

^g1 pCi = 3.7×10^2 Bq.

Acronyms

CERCLA = Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act

NA = not analyzed

ND = not detected

RCRA = Resource Conservation and Recovery Act

VOC = volatile organic compound

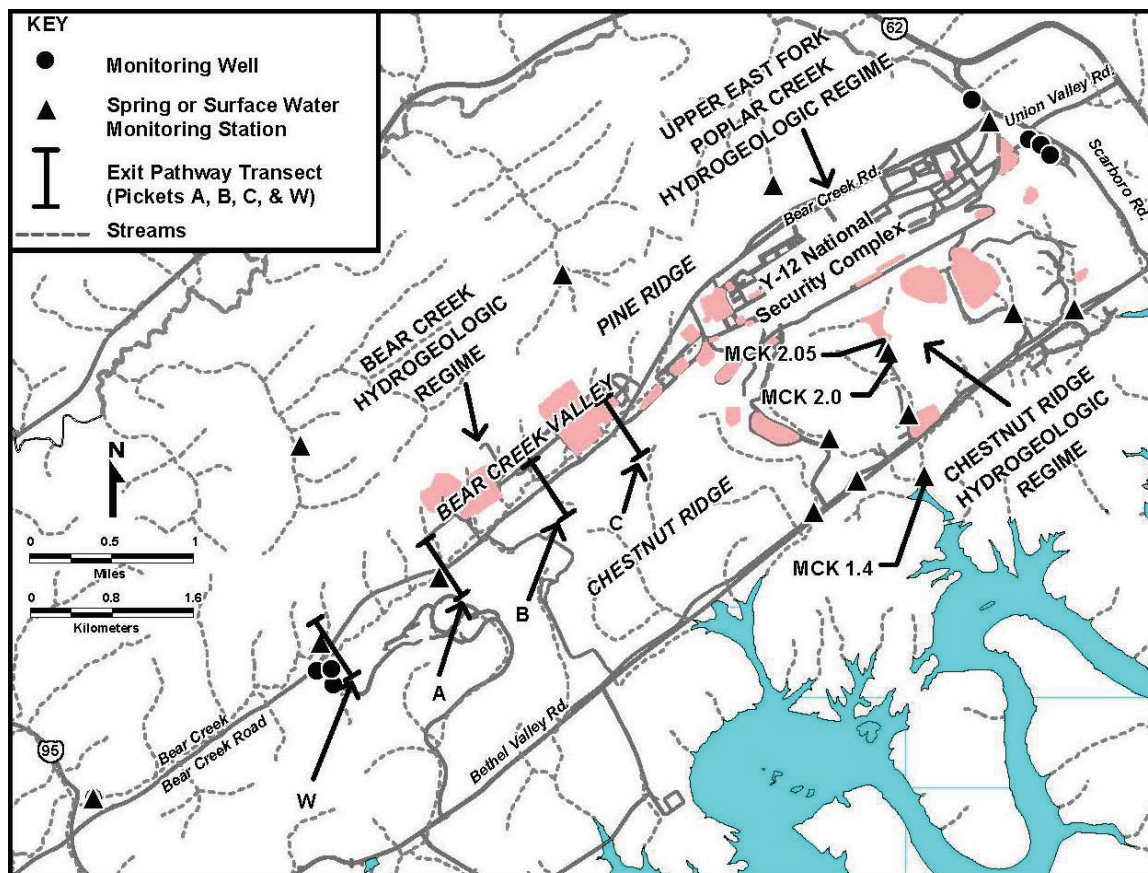


Fig. 4.36. Location of Y-12 National Security Complex perimeter/exit pathway well, spring, and surface water monitoring stations. (MCK = McCoy Branch kilometer.)

Most of the conventional monitoring wells at the Y-12 Complex were sampled using industry standard methods approved by TDEC and EPA (Fig. 4.37).

Comprehensive water quality results of groundwater monitoring activities at the Y-12 Complex in CY 2014 are presented in the *Calendar Year 2014 Groundwater Monitoring Report* (CNS 2015a).

Details of monitoring efforts performed specifically for CERCLA baseline and remediation evaluation are published in the FY 2014 and FY 2015 WRRP sampling and analysis plans (UCOR 2013, 2014c) and the annual CERCLA remediation effectiveness reports (DOE 2015).

Groundwater monitoring compliance reporting to meet RCRA postclosure permit requirements can be found in the annual RCRA groundwater monitoring report (UCOR 2015).



Fig. 4.37. Groundwater monitoring well sampling at the Y-12 National Security Complex. [Source: Kathryn Fahey, Y-12 photographer.]

4.6.4 Y-12 Complex Groundwater Quality

Historical monitoring efforts show that four primary contaminants impact groundwater quality at the Y-12 Complex: nitrate, VOCs, metals, and radionuclides. Of those, VOCs are the most widespread as a result of their common use and disposal at the site. Uranium and ⁹⁹Tc are the radionuclides of greatest concern. Trace metals (e.g., arsenic, barium, cadmium, chromium, mercury), the least extensive groundwater contaminants, generally occur close to source areas because of their generally high adsorption characteristics. Historical data show that plumes from multiple-source units have mixed with one another and that contaminants (other than nitrate and ⁹⁹Tc) are not always easily associated with a single source.

4.6.4.1 Upper East Fork Poplar Creek Hydrogeologic Regime

Among the three hydrogeologic regimes underlying the Y-12 Complex, the upper EFPC regime encompasses most of the known and potential sources of surface water and groundwater contamination. A brief description of waste management sites is given in Table 4.20. Chemical constituents from the S-3 site (primarily nitrate and ⁹⁹Tc) and VOCs from multiple source areas are observed in the groundwater in the western portion of the upper EFPC regime; groundwater in the eastern portion is predominantly contaminated with VOCs.

Table 4.20. Description of waste management units and underground storage tanks included in groundwater monitoring activities, upper East Fork Poplar Creek hydrogeologic regime, 2014

Site	Description
New Hope Pond	Built in 1963 and closed in 1988. Regulated flow of water in upper East Fork Poplar Creek before exiting the Y-12 Complex. Sediments include PCBs, mercury, and uranium but not hazardous according to toxicity characteristic leaching procedure. An oil skimmer basin was built as part of the pond when constructed. This basin collected oil and floating debris from upper East Fork Poplar Creek before discharge into the pond. A minor source of uranium in groundwater, the basin was closed under RCRA in 1990.
Salvage Yard Scrap Metal Storage Area	Used from 1950 to 1999 for scrap metal storage. Some metals contaminated with low levels of uranium. In 2011 a CERCLA action to characterize and remove the scrap was completed. Soil characterization and analysis performed in 2010 and 2011 determined that this facility is not a significant risk to groundwater.
Salvage Yard Oil/Solvent Drum Storage Area	Operated from 1976 to 1989. Primary wastes included waste oils, solvents, uranium, and beryllium. Closed under RCRA with all drums removed. Soil characterization and analysis performed in 2010 and 2011 determined that this facility is not a significant risk to groundwater.
Salvage Yard Oil Storage Tanks	Used from 1978 to 1986. Two tanks used to store PCB-contaminated oil, both within a diked area. Tanks were removed after 1993. Soil characterization and analysis performed in 2010 and 2011 determined that this facility is not a significant risk to groundwater.
Salvage Yard Drum Deheader	Used from 1959 to 1989. Sump tanks 2063-U, 2328-U, and 2329-U received residual drum contents. Tanks removed in 1989. Sump leakage was a likely release mechanism to groundwater. The facility was demolished and removed and the soils beneath this facility were excavated and replaced with clean fill and gravel to remediate the site in 2011.
Building 81-10 Area	Mercury recovery facility operated from 1957 to 1962. Potential historical releases to soil, groundwater and surface water from leaks and spills of liquid wastes or mercury. The building structure was demolished in 1995.
Rust Garage Area	Former vehicle and equipment maintenance area, including four former petroleum USTs. All tanks were removed by 1990. Petroleum product releases to groundwater are documented.

Table 4.20 (continued)

Site	Description
Building 9418-3 Uranium Oxide Vault	Originally contained an oil storage tank. Used from 1960 to 1964 to dispose of nonenriched uranium oxide. Leakage from the vault to groundwater is the likely release mechanism.
Fire Training Facility	Used for hands-on firefighting training. Sources of contamination to soil include flammable liquids and chlorinated solvents. Infiltration is the primary release mechanism to groundwater.
Beta-4 Security Pits	Used from 1968 to 1972 for disposal of classified materials, scrap metals, and liquid wastes. Site is closed and capped. Primary release mechanism to groundwater is infiltration.
S-2 Site	Used from 1945 to 1951. An unlined reservoir received liquid wastes. Infiltration is the primary release mechanism to groundwater.
Waste Coolant Processing Area	Used from 1977 to 1985. Former biodegradation facility used to treat waste coolants from various machining processes. Closed under RCRA in 1988.
East End Garage	Used from 1945 to 1989 as a vehicle fueling station. Five USTs used for petroleum fuel storage were excavated, 1989 to 1993. Petroleum releases to the groundwater are documented.
Coal Pile Trench	Located beneath the former steam plant coal pile. Disposals included solid materials (primarily alloys). Trench leachate is a potential release mechanism to groundwater. In 2011, the coal pile overlying the coal pile trench was removed and the area resurfaced with gravel.

Acronyms

CERCLA = Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act
 PCB = polychlorinated biphenyl
 RCRA = Resource Conservation and Recovery Act
 UST = underground storage tank
 Y-12 Complex = Y-12 National Security Complex

4.6.4.1.1 Plume Delineation

Sources of groundwater contaminants monitored during CY 2014 include the S-2 site, the Fire Training Facility, the S-3 site, the Waste Coolant Processing Facility, former petroleum UST sites, New Hope Pond, the Beta-4 Security Pits, the Salvage Yard, and process/production buildings throughout the Y-12 Complex. Although the S-3 site, now closed under RCRA, is located west of the current hydrologic divide that separates the upper EFPC regime from the Bear Creek regime, it has contributed to groundwater contamination in the western part of the upper EFPC regime. As previously mentioned, contaminant plumes in the upper EFPC regime are elongated in shape as a result of preferential transport of the contaminants parallel to strike (parallel to the valley axis) in both the Knox aquifer and the fractured bedrock of the aquitard units. The plume maps depicted in this section reflect the average concentrations and radioactivity in groundwater between CYs 2008 and 2012.

In CY 2013, the Y-12 GWPP evaluated the extent of current groundwater contamination and updated the plume maps for a number of COCs, including the primary contaminants (B&W Y-12 2013). Plume maps in previous ASERs were developed from those presented in CERCLA RIs that took place in the late 1990s (DOE 1997, 1998). The RI plume maps were determined to be representative of groundwater contamination at Y-12 during the years subsequent to publication and were considered relevant for presentation in the ASERs. The updated maps are based on the more extensive and more recent sampling and analysis results, which include data not available for the RIs (e.g., existing or new wells being sampled subsequent to the RIs). These results were used to capture current groundwater conditions and in some areas reflect substantially different (higher or lower) contaminant concentrations than the data used during the RIs. These changes are due to improved data availability and/or changes within the hydrogeologic system (i.e., plume migration and/or degradation processes) either related to time and

natural processes or as a result of actions taken to mitigate groundwater contamination (i.e., the east end VOC plume capture system, Section 4.6.4.1.4).

4.6.4.1.2 Nitrate

Unlike many groundwater contaminants, nitrate is highly soluble and moves easily with groundwater. Nitrate concentrations in groundwater at the Y-12 Complex exceed the 10 mg/L drinking water standard in part of the western portion of the upper EFPC regime in the aquitard units (a complete list of national drinking water standards is presented in Appendix C) and in the Maynardville Limestone unit of the Knox aquifer. The two primary sources of nitrate contamination are the S-2 and S-3 sites. The extent of the nitrate plume is essentially defined in the unconsolidated and shallow bedrock zones. In CY 2014, groundwater concentrations of nitrate as high as 9,619 mg/L (well GW-109) were observed in the shallow–intermediate bedrock intervals about 31–37 m (103–122 ft) below ground surface and about 305 m (1,000 ft) east of the S-3 site (Fig. 4.38). These results are consistent with results from previous years.

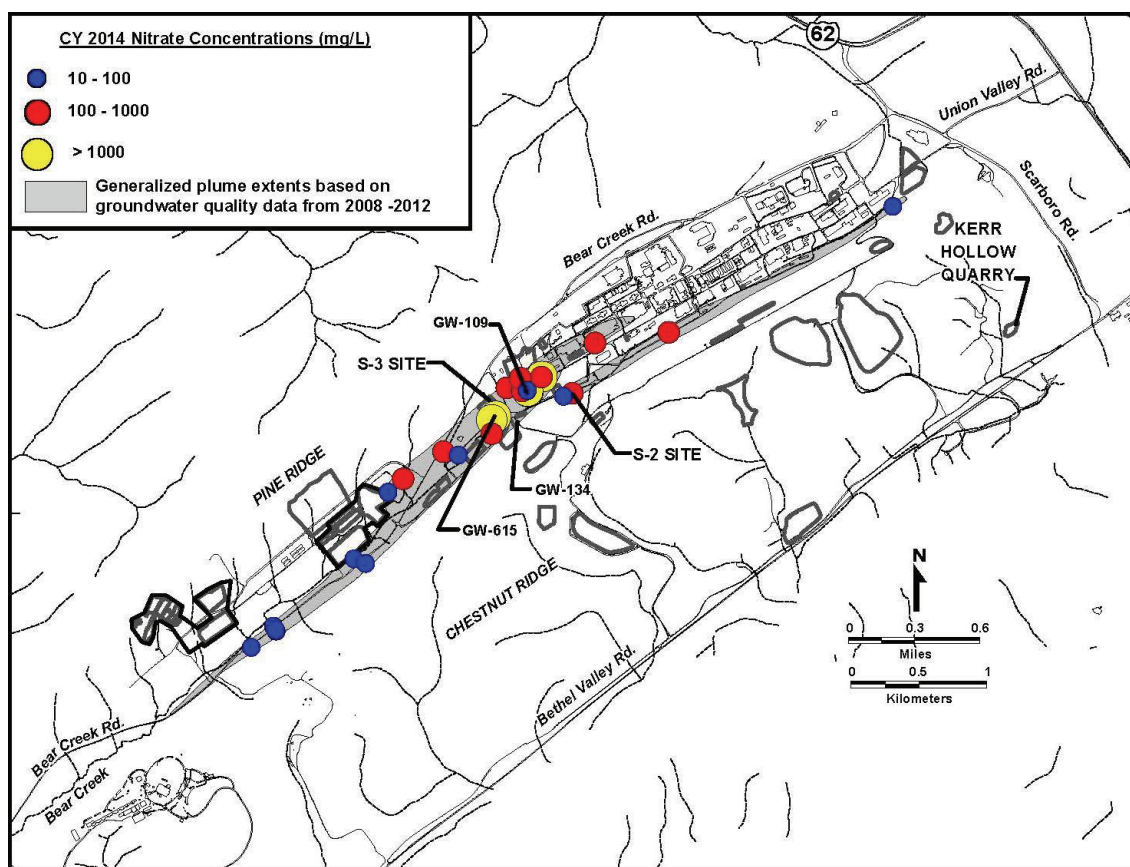


Fig. 4.38. Nitrate observed in groundwater at the Y-12 National Security Complex, 2014.

4.6.4.1.3 Trace Metals

Concentrations of barium, beryllium, cadmium, chromium, copper, lead, nickel, thallium, and uranium exceeded drinking water standards during CY 2014 in samples collected from various groundwater monitoring locations at or downgradient of the S-2 site, the S-3 site, and throughout the complex. Trace metal concentrations above standards tend to occur only adjacent to the source areas due to their low solubility in natural water systems.

Concentrations of uranium exceed the standard (0.03 mg/L) in a number of source areas (e.g., the S-3 site, the Uranium Oxide Vault, production areas, and the former oil skimmer basin) and contribute to the uranium concentration in upper EFPC.

One trace metal absent from the list of those that exceed drinking water standards in groundwater in CY 2014 is mercury. Due to very low solubility in water and a very high affinity for clay-rich soils and bedrock, such as those on ORR, mercury exhibits little tendency for extensive transport in diffuse groundwater plumes. Additionally, the hydrogeologic complexities of the fracture-conduit flow system underlying the Y-12 Complex make it challenging to delineate the vertical and horizontal extents of any groundwater contamination. Elevated mercury concentrations (above the surveillance monitoring analytical detection limits) in groundwater have been consistently observed only near known source areas (Fig. 4.39). In 2014, mercury was detected just above the detection level in GW-222. This well is located in the vicinity of the former oil skimmer basin and New Hope Pond on upper EFPC. The oil skimmer basin was removed when the New Hope Pond was closed and capped in 1988 (see Table 4.20). The New Hope Pond is a secondary source of mercury. In the past, mercury concentrations above the drinking water standard (0.002 mg/L) have been observed in groundwater monitoring wells at the identified source areas presented in Fig. 4.39. This detection at well GW-222 may be due to the hydrologic influences of a plume capture system operating about 335 m (1,100 ft) to the east and downgradient (see Section 4.6.4.1.6).

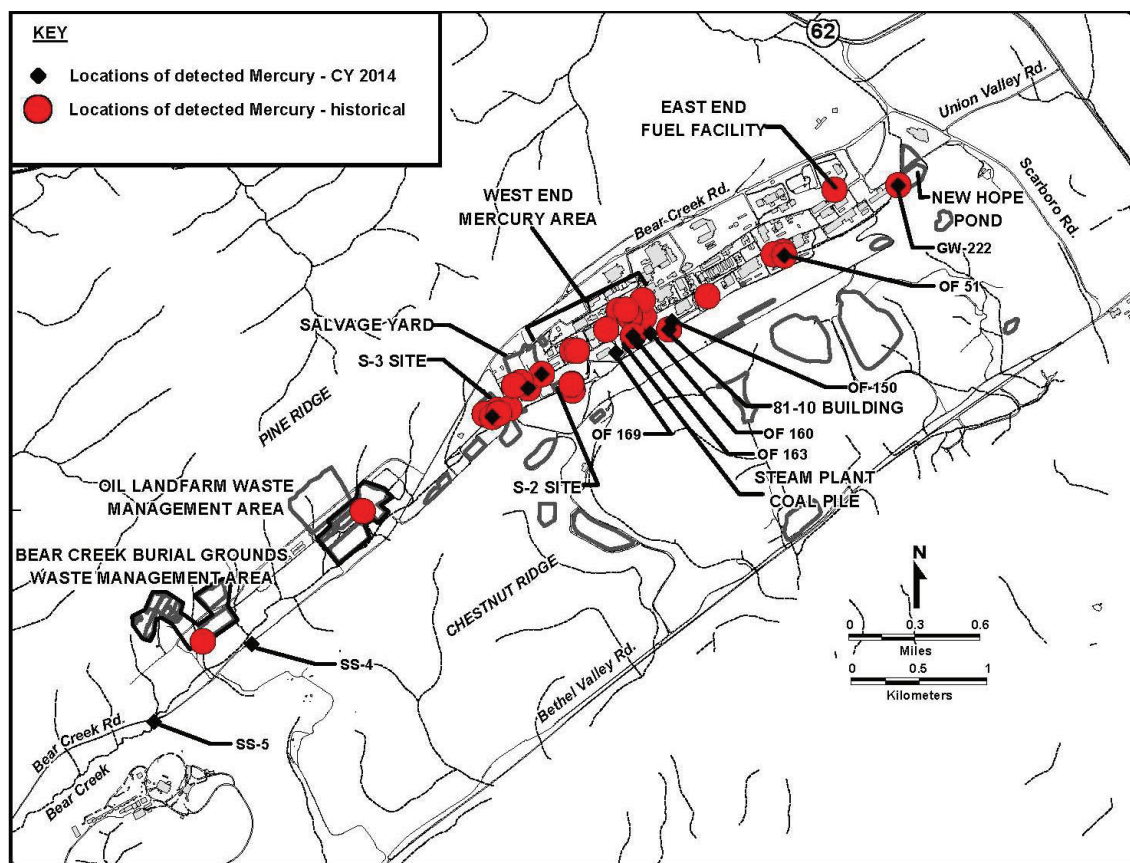


Fig. 4.39. Y-12 National Security Complex groundwater and surface water monitoring stations where mercury has been detected.

Because of past processes and disposal practices, mercury is a legacy contaminant at the Y-12 Complex. It is commonly found in the soils near specific areas where it was used in processes in the 1950s and

1960s. This metal is a COC in surface waters discharging from these areas. However, the transport mechanisms and connections between process buildings, soil contamination, storm drains, shallow groundwater, buried tributaries, and stream channels are not well understood. When mercury is discharged from the storm drain system into the open creek channel, it is rapidly captured by particulate materials, and sediment/particle transport becomes the primary mechanism of mobility. In an attempt to understand the fate and transport of mercury at the Y-12 Complex, researchers have developed a conceptual model integrating known hydrologic, geochemical, and physical data (Peterson et al. 2011).

In tightly fractured shale with high clay content and other noncarbonate bedrock, the natural flow paths are such that significant advective transport of mercury through the groundwater is not likely. This is supported by extensive groundwater surveillance monitoring data. In industrialized areas of the Y-12 Complex where the shallow subsurface has been reworked extensively, some preferential transport along building foundations and underground utilities is apparent from elevated surface water concentrations of mercury. The actual mechanism of transport (e.g., advective, chemically diffusive, colloidal) is uncertain.

Interconnections between the surface water and groundwater systems have been demonstrated by tracer investigations (DOE 2001) and the discharge of elevated concentrations of mercury from a buried spring (i.e., outfall 51) adjacent to EFPC. This discharge is presently captured and treated to remove the mercury at the Big Springs Water Treatment System. Additionally, the regular observation of elemental mercury in storm drains in the western area of the Y-12 Complex has resulted in an increase in monitoring in recent years in several storm drain catch basins [e.g., outfall 169, outfall 163, outfall 160, and outfall 150 (Fig. 4.39)] by WRRP. In recent years, storm drain lines in this area have undergone extensive cleaning and lining. In 2012, mercury traps that were developed and fabricated by Y-12 Complex personnel were installed in an attempt to capture and remove as much mercury as possible from the environment. Collection of mercury and sediment from the storm drain system continued in CY 2014 (see Section 4.8.2).

4.6.4.1.4 Volatile Organic Compounds

Because of the many legacy source areas, VOCs are the most widespread groundwater contaminants in the upper EFPC regime. Dissolved VOCs in the regime primarily consist of chlorinated and petroleum hydrocarbons. In CY 2014, the highest summed concentration of dissolved chlorinated hydrocarbons (71,516 µg/L) was again found in groundwater at well 55-3B in the western portion of the Y-12 Complex adjacent to manufacturing facilities. The highest dissolved concentration of petroleum hydrocarbons (15,363 µg/L) was obtained from well GW-658 at the closed East End Garage.

These monitoring results are consistent with data from the previous years of monitoring. A continuous dissolved plume of VOCs in groundwater in the bedrock zone extends eastward from the S-3 site over the entire length of the regime (Fig. 4.40). The primary sources are the Waste Coolant Processing Facility, fuel facilities (Rust Garage and East End Garage), Salvage Yard, and other waste-disposal and production areas throughout the Y-12 Complex. Chloroethene compounds (PCE, TCE, DCE, and vinyl chloride) tend to dominate the volatile organic plume composition in the western and central portions of the Y-12 Complex. However, PCE is almost ubiquitous throughout the extent of the plume, indicating many source areas. Chloromethane compounds (carbon tetrachloride, chloroform, and methylene chloride) are the predominant VOCs in the eastern portion of the Y-12 Complex.

Variability in concentration trends of chlorinated VOCs near source areas is seen within the upper EFPC regime. As seen in previous years, data from most of the monitoring wells have remained relatively constant (i.e., stable) or have decreased since 1988. Increasing trends have been observed in monitoring wells associated with the Rust Garage, Old Salvage Yard, and S-3 site in the western part of the Y-12 Complex; some legacy sources at production/process facilities in central areas; and the east end VOC plume, indicating that some portions of the plume are still showing activity.

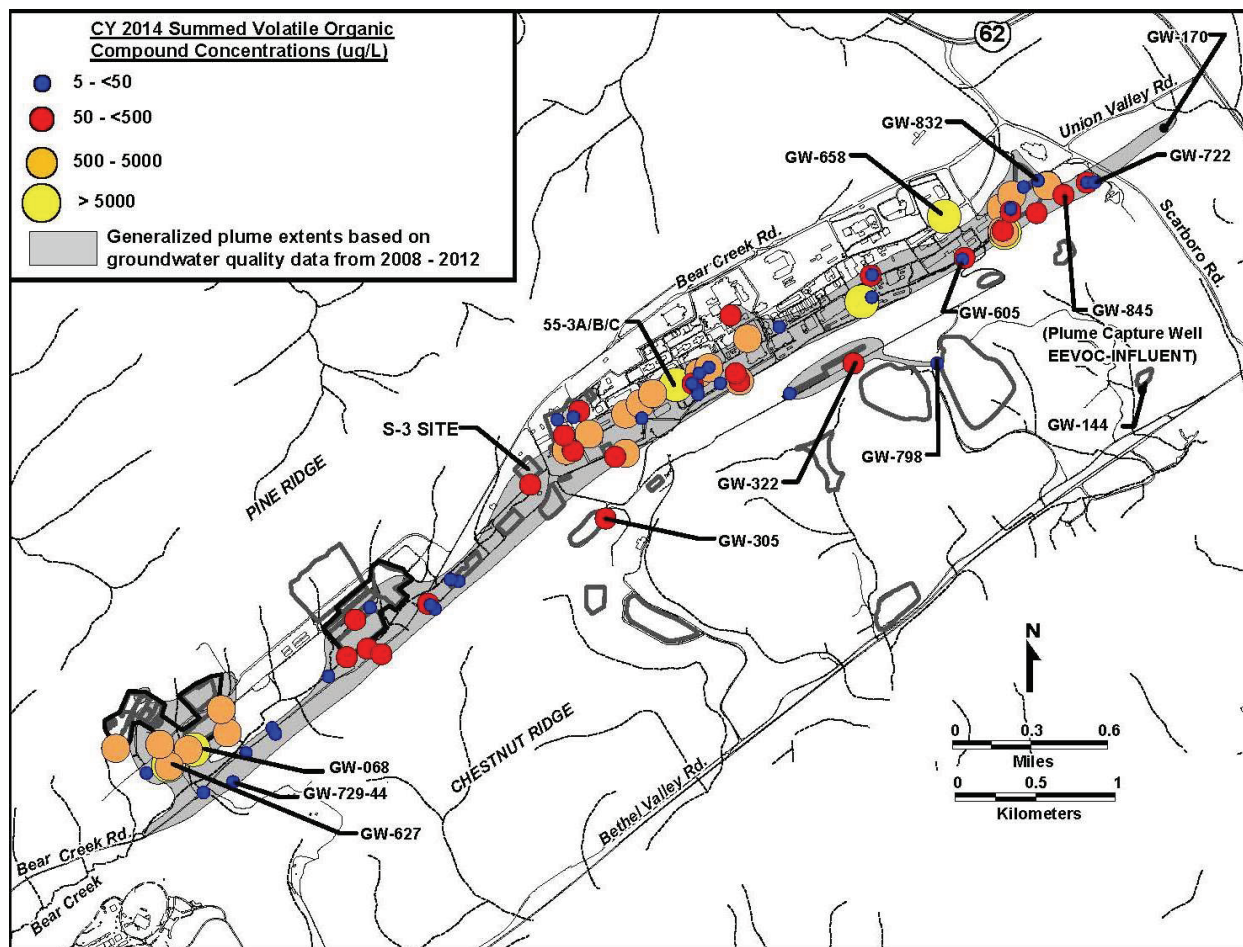


Fig. 4.40. Summed volatile organic compounds observed in groundwater at the Y-12 National Security Complex, 2014. (EEVOC = east end volatile organic compound.)

Within the exit pathway (the Maynardville Limestone underlying EFPC) the general trends are also stable or decreasing. One shallow well (GW-605) exhibits an increasing trend in chloroethenes, indicating active transport in this region of the groundwater plume. This well is west and upgradient of the pumping well (GW-845) operated to capture the east end VOC plume before it migrates off ORR into Union Valley. The pumping well may be influencing plume stability causing mobilization in the region of well GW-605. Other than well GW-605, the trends west of New Hope Pond are indicators that the contaminants from source areas are attenuating due to factors such as (1) dilution by surrounding uncontaminated groundwater, (2) dispersion through a complex network of fractures and conduits, (3) degradation by chemical or biological means, or (4) adsorption by surrounding bedrock and soil media. Wells to the southwest to southeast of New Hope Pond are displaying the effects of pumping well GW-845. Wells east of New Hope Pond and north of well GW-845 exhibit stable to increasing trends in VOC concentrations, indicating that little impact or attenuation from the plume capture system is apparent across lithologic units (perpendicular to strike). However, no subsequent downgradient detection of these compounds is apparent, so either migration is limited or some downgradient across-strike influence by the plume capture system is occurring.

4.6.4.1.5 Radionuclides

The primary alpha-emitting radionuclides found in the upper EFPC regime during CY 2014 are isotopes of uranium. Historical data show that gross alpha activity consistently exceeds the drinking water

standard (15 pCi/L) and that it is most extensive in groundwater in the unconsolidated zone in the western portion of the Y-12 Complex near source areas such as the S-3 site and the Salvage Yard. However, in CY 2014 the highest gross alpha activity in groundwater (269 pCi/L) was observed on the east end of the Y-12 Complex in well GW-154, located at the former oil skimmer basin at the former inlet to the New Hope Pond which is now capped (Fig. 4.41).

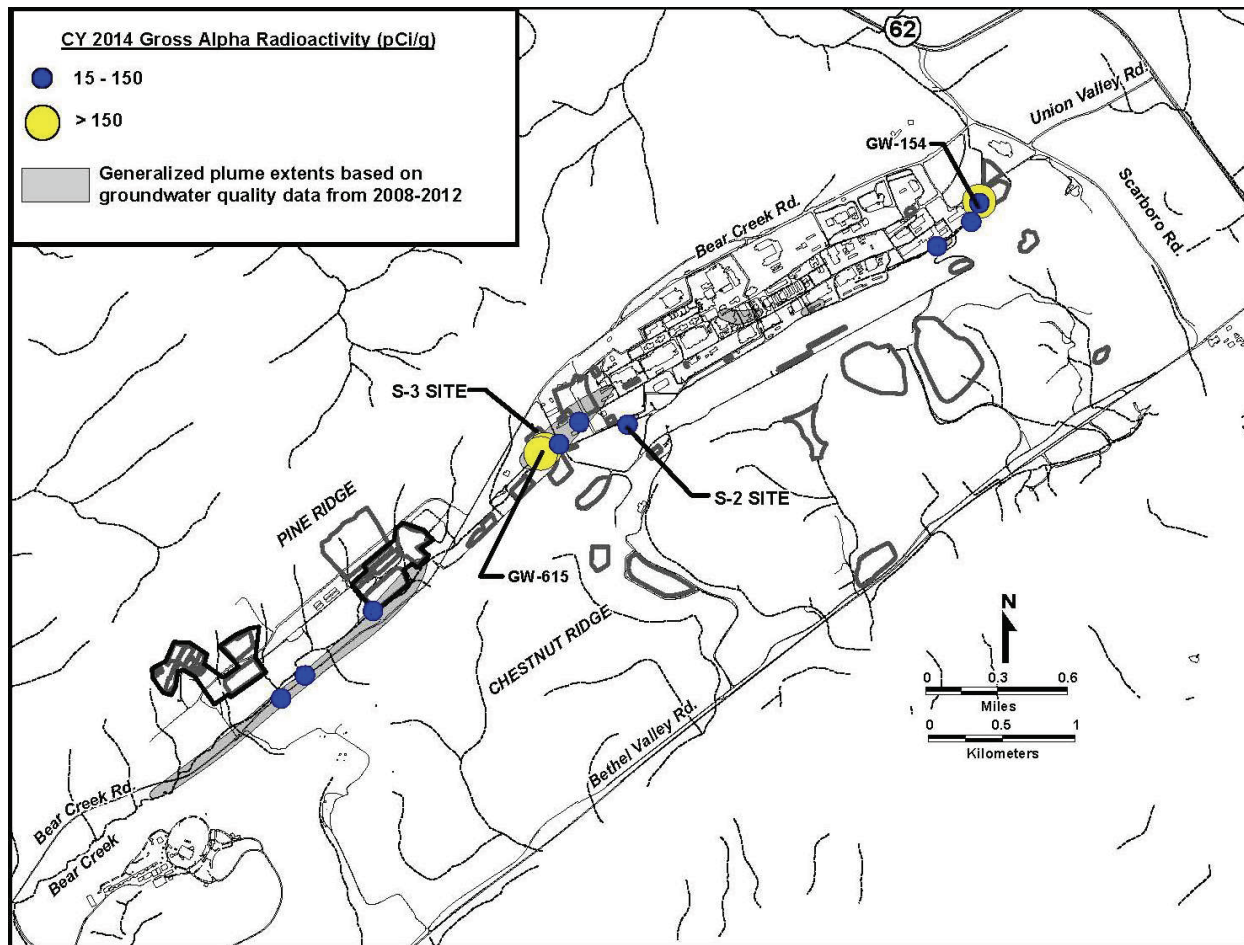


Fig. 4.41. Gross alpha activity observed in groundwater at the Y-12 National Security Complex, 2014.

The primary beta-emitting radionuclides observed in the upper EFPC regime are ^{99}Tc and isotopes of uranium. Elevated gross beta activity in groundwater in the upper EFPC regime shows a pattern similar to that observed for gross alpha activity. Technetium-99 is the primary contaminant exceeding the screening level of 50 pCi/L in groundwater in the western portion of the regime with the source being the S-3 site (Fig. 4.42). The highest gross beta activity in groundwater was observed during CY 2014 from well GW-108 (15,100 pCi/L), east of the S-3 site.

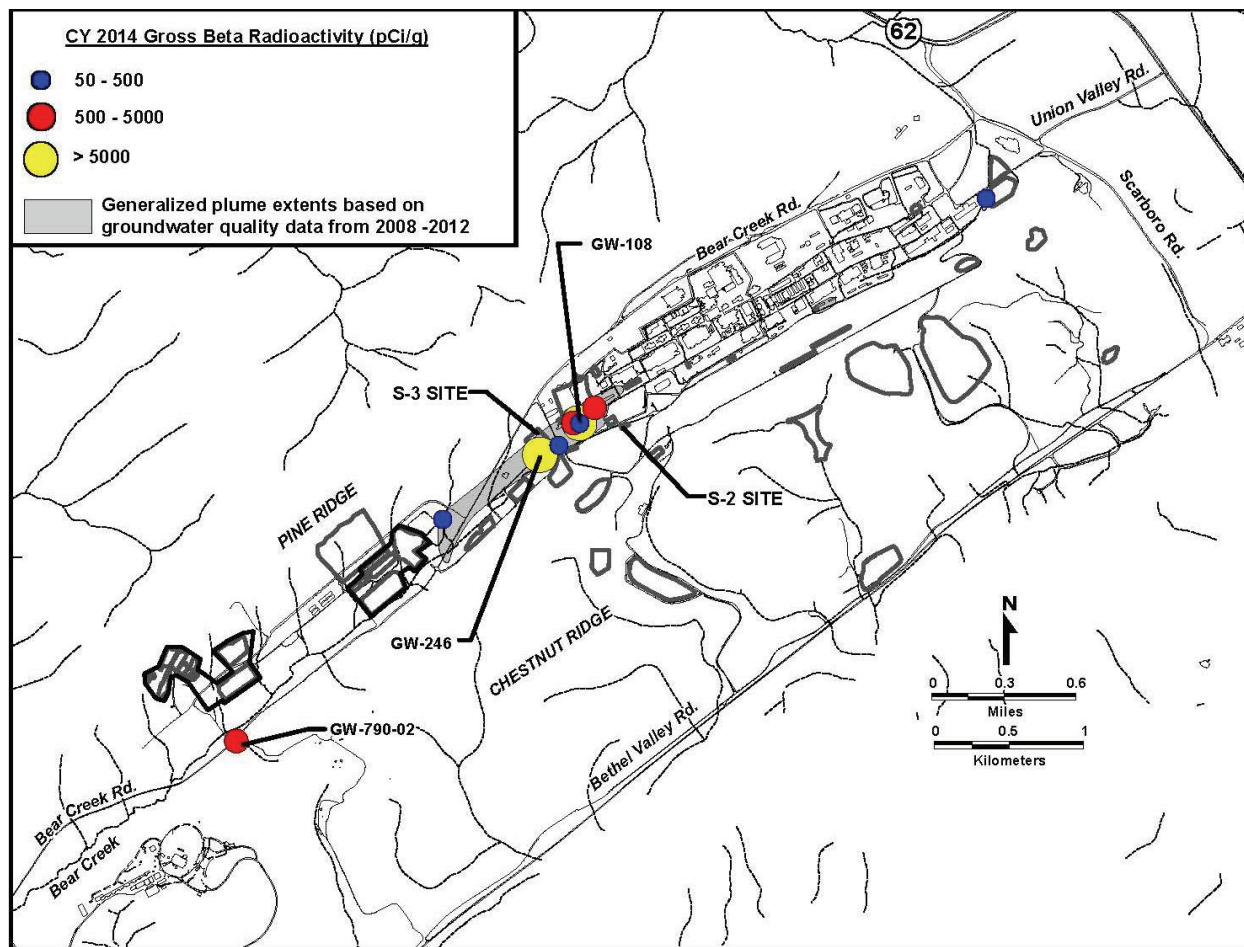


Fig. 4.42. Gross beta activity observed in groundwater at the Y-12 National Security Complex, 2014.

4.6.4.1.6 Exit Pathway and Perimeter Monitoring

Data collected to date indicate that VOCs are the primary class of contaminants migrating through the exit pathways in the upper EFPC regime. Historically, the compounds have been observed at depths of almost 500 ft in the Maynardville Limestone, the primary exit pathway on the east end of the Y-12 Complex. The deep fractures and solution channels that constitute flow paths within the Maynardville Limestone appear to be well connected, resulting in contaminant migration for substantial distances off ORR into Union Valley to the east of the complex.

In addition to the intermediate-to-deep pathways within the Maynardville Limestone, shallow groundwater within the water table interval of that geologic unit near New Hope Pond, Lake Reality, and upper EFPC are also monitored. Historically, VOCs have been observed near Lake Reality from monitoring wells, a dewatering sump, and the New Hope Pond distribution channel underdrain. In that area, shallow groundwater flows north-northeast through the water table interval east of New Hope Pond and Lake Reality, following the path of the distribution channel for upper EFPC.

During CY 2014, the observed concentrations of VOCs at the New Hope Pond distribution channel underdrain (GW-832) remained low (25 µg/L). This may be because the continued operation of the groundwater plume-capture system in well GW-845 southeast of New Hope Pond is effectively reducing the levels of VOCs in the area. The installation of the plume capture system was completed in June 2000.

This system pumps groundwater from the intermediate bedrock 48 to 134 m (157 to 438 ft) below ground surface to mitigate off-site migration of VOCs. Groundwater is continuously pumped from the Maynardville Limestone at about 95 L/min (25 gal/min), passes through a treatment system to remove the VOCs, and then discharges to upper EFPC.

Monitoring wells near well GW-845 continue to show an encouraging response to the pumping activities. The multiport system installed in well GW-722, about 153 m (500 ft) east and downgradient of well GW-845, permits sampling of vertically discrete zones within the Maynardville Limestone between 27 and 130 m (87 and 425 ft) below ground surface (Fig. 4.40). This well has been instrumental in characterizing the vertical extent of the east-end plume of VOCs and is critical in the evaluation of the effectiveness of the plume capture system. Monitoring results from the sampled zones in well GW-722 indicate reductions in VOCs due to groundwater pumping upgradient at well GW-845 [as presented for one of the sample zones, GW-722-17 (385 ft below ground surface), in Fig. 4.43]. Other wells also show decreases that may be attributable to the plume capture system operation. These indicators demonstrate that operation of the plume capture system is decreasing VOCs upgradient and downgradient of well GW-845, minimizing exposure to the public and the environment.

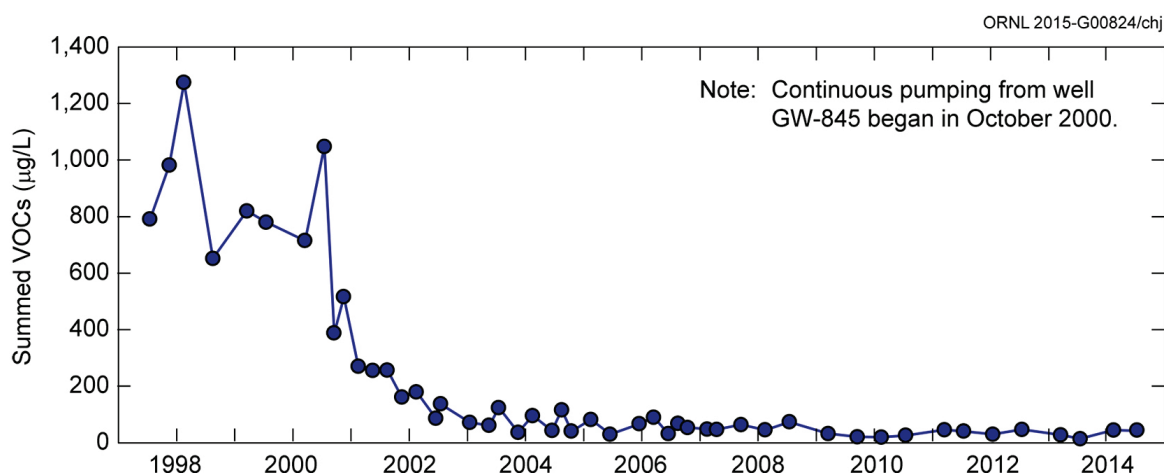


Fig. 4.43. Decreasing summed volatile organic compounds (VOCs) observed in exit pathway well GW-722-17 near the New Hope Pond, 2014.

Upper EFPC flows north from the Y-12 Complex through a large gap in Pine Ridge. Shallow groundwater moves through this exit pathway, and very strong upward vertical flow gradients exist. Continued monitoring of the wells in this pathway gap since about 1990 has shown no indication of any contaminants moving via that exit pathway (Fig. 4.36). One shallow well was monitored in CY 2014, and no groundwater contaminants were observed.

Three sampling locations continue to be monitored north and northwest of the Y-12 Complex to evaluate possible contaminant transport from ORR. Those locations are considered unlikely groundwater or surface water contaminant exit pathways; however, monitoring continues to be performed due to previous public concerns regarding potential health impacts from Y-12 Complex operations to nearby residences. One of the stations monitored a tributary that drains the north slope of Pine Ridge on ORR and discharges into the adjacent Scarboro Community. One location monitors an upper reach of Mill Branch, which discharges into the residential areas along Wiltshire Drive. The remaining location monitors Gum Hollow Branch as it discharges from ORR and flows adjacent to the Country Club Estates community. Samples were obtained and analyzed for metals, inorganic parameters, VOCs, and gross alpha and gross beta activities. No results exceeded a primary drinking water standard nor were there any indications that contaminants were being discharged from ORR into those communities.

4.6.4.1.7 Union Valley Monitoring

Groundwater monitoring data obtained during the early 1990s provided the first strong indication that VOCs were being transported off ORR through the deep Maynardville Limestone exit pathway. The upper EFPC RI (DOE 1998) provided a discussion of the nature and extent of the VOCs.

In CY 2014, monitoring of locations in Union Valley continued, showing overall decreasing or very low concentration stable trends (less than primary drinking water standards) in the individual concentrations of contaminants forming the groundwater contaminant plume in Union Valley.

Under the terms of an interim ROD, administrative controls such as restrictions on potential future groundwater use have been established and maintained. Additionally, the previously discussed plume capture system (well GW-845) was installed, and operations were initiated to mitigate the migration of groundwater contaminated with VOCs into Union Valley (UCOR 2014a).

In July 2006, the Agency for Toxic Substances and Diseases Registry, the principal federal public health agency charged with evaluating the human health effects of exposure to hazardous substances in the environment, published a report in which groundwater contamination across ORR was evaluated (ATSDR 2006). In the report, it was acknowledged that extensive groundwater contamination exists throughout ORR, but the authors concluded that there is no public health hazard from exposure to contaminated groundwater originating on ORR. The Y-12 Complex east end VOC groundwater contaminant plume was acknowledged as the only confirmed off-site contaminant plume migrating across the ORR boundary. The report recognized that the institutional and administrative controls established in the ROD do not provide for reduction in toxicity, mobility, or volume of COCs, but it concluded that the controls are protective of public health to the extent that they limit or prevent community exposure to contaminated groundwater in Union Valley.

4.6.4.2 Bear Creek Hydrogeologic Regime

Located west of the Y-12 Complex in Bear Creek Valley, the Bear Creek regime is bounded to the north by Pine Ridge and to the south by Chestnut Ridge. The regime encompasses the portion of Bear Creek Valley extending from the west end of the Y-12 Complex to State Highway 95. Table 4.21 describes each of the waste management sites within the Bear Creek regime.

Table 4.21. Description of waste management units included in calendar year 2014 groundwater monitoring activities, Bear Creek hydrogeologic regime

Site	Description
S-3 Site	Four unlined surface impoundments constructed in 1951. Received liquid nitric acid/uranium-bearing wastes via the nitric acid pipeline until 1983. Other disposals included ⁹⁹ Tc. Closed and capped under RCRA in 1988. Infiltration was the primary release mechanism to groundwater.
Oil Landfarm	Operated from 1973 to 1982. Received waste oils and coolants tainted with metals and PCBs. Closed and capped under RCRA in 1989. Infiltration was the primary release mechanism to groundwater.

Table 4.21 (continued)

Site	Description
Boneyard	Used from 1943 to 1970. Unlined shallow trenches used to dispose of construction debris and to burn magnesium chips and wood. Excavated and restored in 2002–2003 as part of Boneyard-Burnyard remedial activities.
Burnyard	Used from 1943 to 1968. Wastes, metal shavings, solvents, oils, and laboratory chemicals were burned in two unlined trenches. Excavated and restored in 2002–2003 as part of the Boneyard-Burnyard remedial activities.
Hazardous Chemical Disposal Area	Used from 1975 to 1981. Built over the Burnyard. Handled compressed gas cylinders and reactive chemicals. Residues placed in a small, unlined pit. The northwest portion was excavated and restored in 2002–2003 as part of Boneyard-Burnyard remedial activities.
Sanitary Landfill I	Used from 1968 to 1982. Nonhazardous industrial landfill. May be a source of certain contaminants to groundwater. Closed and capped under TDEC requirements in 1985. Evaluation under CERCLA determined that no further action was need.
Bear Creek Burial Grounds A and C and Walk-In Pits	Burial grounds A and C received waste oils, coolants, beryllium, uranium, various metallic wastes, and asbestos into unlined trenches and standpipes. The walk-in pits received chemical wastes, shock-sensitive reagents, and uranium saw fines. Activities ceased in 1981. Final closure was certified for A (1989), C (1993), and the walk-in pits (1995). Infiltration is the primary release mechanism to groundwater.
Bear Creek Burial Grounds B, D, E, and J and Oil Retention Ponds 1 and 2	Burial grounds B, D, E, and J consisted of unlined trenches. These burial grounds received uranium chip, metal, and oxide wastes and uranium contaminated debris. Ponds 1 and 2, built in 1971 and 1972, respectively, captured waste oils seeping into two Bear Creek tributaries. The ponds were closed and capped under RCRA in 1989. Certification of closure and capping of burial ground B and part of C was granted in February 1995.
Rust Spoil Area	Used from 1975 to 1983 for disposal of construction debris but may have included materials bearing solvents, asbestos, mercury, and uranium. Closed under RCRA in 1984. Site is a source of VOCs to shallow groundwater according to CERCLA remedial investigation and current surveillance monitoring.
Spoil Area I	Used from 1980 to 1988 for disposal of construction debris and other stable, nonradioactive wastes. Permitted under TDEC solid waste management regulations in 1986; closure began shortly thereafter. Soil contamination is of primary concern. CERCLA ROD issued in 1997.
SY-200 Yard	Used from 1950 to 1986 for equipment and materials storage. No documented waste disposal at the site occurred. Leaks, spills, and soil contamination are concerns. CERCLA ROD issued in 1996.
Environmental Management Waste Management Facility	A CERCLA ROD defines the construction, operation, and closure of this on-site facility for disposal of radioactive, hazardous, and mixed wastes generated from CERCLA cleanup projects conducted on ORR and associated sites. The facility began accepting wastes in 2002 with full capacity estimated to be reached in FY 2020.

Acronyms

CERCLA = Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act
ETTP = East Tennessee Technology Park
ORNL = Oak Ridge National Laboratory
PCB = polychlorinated biphenyl
RCRA = Resource Conservation and Recovery Act
ROD = record of decision
TDEC = Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation
VOC = volatile organic compound
Y-12 Complex = Y-12 National Security Complex

4.6.4.2.1 Plume Delineation

The primary groundwater contaminants in the Bear Creek regime are nitrate, trace metals, VOCs, and radionuclides. The S-3 Site is a source of all four contaminants. The Bear Creek Burial Grounds and the Oil Landfarm waste management areas are significant sources of uranium and other trace metals and VOCs. High concentrations of chlorinated hydrocarbons and PCBs have been observed as deep as 82 m (270 ft) below the Bear Creek Burial Grounds (MMES 1990).

Contaminant plume boundaries are essentially defined in the bedrock formations that directly underlie many waste disposal areas in the Bear Creek regime, particularly the Nolichucky Shale. This fractured aquitard unit is positioned north of and adjacent to the exit pathway unit, the Maynardville Limestone. The elongated shape of the contaminant plumes in the Bear Creek regime is the result of preferential transport of the contaminants parallel to strike (parallel to the valley axis) in the Maynardville Limestone and the aquitard units.

The plume maps in this section (Figs. 4.38 and 4.40–4.42) reflect the average concentrations and radioactivity in groundwater at Y-12 from CY 2008–2012. (See Section 4.6.4.1.1 for more details.)

4.6.4.2.2 Nitrate

The limits of the nitrate plume probably define the maximum extent of groundwater contamination in the Bear Creek regime. The horizontal extent of the nitrate plume is essentially defined in groundwater in the upper to intermediate bedrock intervals of the aquitard units and Knox aquifer [less than 92 m (300 ft) below the ground surface].

Data obtained during CY 2014 indicate that nitrate concentrations in groundwater continue to exceed the drinking water standard in an area that extends west from the source area at the S-3 site. The highest nitrate concentration (5,660 mg/L) was observed at well GW-615 adjacent to the S-3 site at a depth of 68 m (223 ft) below ground surface (Fig. 4.38), indicating that high concentrations persist deeper in the subsurface groundwater system. A multiport monitoring well, GW-134, was sampled in CY 2011 and continues to show elevated concentrations of nitrate (1,420 mg/L) as deep as 226 m (740 ft) below ground surface.

4.6.4.2.3 Trace Metals

During CY 2014, arsenic, barium, beryllium, cadmium, chromium, lead, manganese, nickel, and uranium were identified from groundwater monitoring as the trace metal contaminants in the Bear Creek regime that exceeded drinking water standards. Historically, elevated concentrations of many of the trace metals were observed at shallow depths near the S-3 site. In the Bear Creek regime, where natural geochemical conditions prevail, the trace metals may occur sporadically and in close association with source areas because conditions are typically not favorable for dissolution and migration. Disposal of acidic liquid wastes at the S-3 site reduced the pH of the groundwater, which allows the metals to remain in solution longer and migrate further from the source area.

The most prevalent trace metal contaminant observed within the Bear Creek regime is uranium, indicating that geochemical conditions are favorable for its migration. Early characterization indicated that the Boneyard-Burnyard site was the primary source of uranium contamination of surface water and groundwater. Historically, uranium has been observed at concentrations exceeding the drinking water standard of 0.03 mg/L in shallow monitoring wells, springs, and surface water locations downgradient from all of the waste areas. In 2003, the final RAs at the Boneyard-Burnyard were performed with the objective of removing materials contributing to surface water and groundwater contamination to meet

existing ROD goals. About 65,752 m³ (86,000 yd³) of waste materials was excavated and placed in the EMWMF (DOE 2007). There were significant decreases in uranium concentration and flux in the surface water tributary immediately downstream of the Boneyard-Burnyard (NT-3), which indicate that RAs performed from 2002 to 2003 were successful in removing much of a primary source of uranium in Bear Creek Valley. There has been an overall decrease in uranium concentrations since 1990 (Table 4.22); however, in CY 2014 slight increases were observed in the upper reaches of Bear Creek, indicating that this contaminant still presents a significant impact. The slight increases may be due to stream restoration activities that occurred prior to sampling in CY 2014 that may have remobilized S-3 site contaminants previously deposited in the sediments.

Table 4.22. Nitrate and uranium concentrations in Bear Creek

Bear Creek Monitoring Station (distance from S-3 site)	Contaminant	Average concentration ^a (mg/L)					
		1990– 1994	1995– 1999	2000– 2004	2005– 2009	2010– 2013	2014
BCK ^b -11.84 to 11.97 (~0.5 miles downstream)	Nitrate	116	65.7	89.5	43.3	47.7	87
	Uranium	0.203	0.112	0.129	0.112	0.163	0.225
BCK-09.20 to 09.47 (~2 miles downstream)	Nitrate	16.1	7.8	12.1	8.4	3.9	5.7
	Uranium	0.098	0.093	0.135	0.060	0.049	0.057
BCK-04.55 (~5 miles downstream)	Nitrate	4.7	2.3	3.5	1.1	0.8	0.8
	Uranium	0.034	0.030	0.033	0.020	0.016	0.015

^aExcludes results that do not meet data quality objectives.

^bBCK = Bear Creek kilometer

Additional monitoring is ongoing in an attempt to determine uranium inputs to the stream from source areas and the karst groundwater system underlying Bear Creek. Other trace metal contaminants observed in the Bear Creek regime are boron, mercury, selenium, strontium, thallium, and zinc. Concentrations have commonly exceeded background values in groundwater near contaminant source areas.

In recent years some investigators have been applying very sensitive analytical methods for the extremely low level detection of mercury in water samples. These detection limits are below surveillance monitoring detection limits (see Section 4.6.4.1.3). As a result, mercury has been observed at extremely low levels in natural springs SS-4 and SS-5 along Bear Creek. These locations are not near known source areas of mercury contamination. The source of the mercury is uncertain due to these trace levels; however, the source could be from upstream/upgradient locations where mercury is a known legacy contaminant, or other off-site anthropogenic sources (i.e., coal-fired power generation plants) unrelated to DOE operations.

4.6.4.2.4 Volatile Organic Compounds

VOCs are widespread in groundwater in the Bear Creek regime. The primary compounds are PCE, TCE, 1,2-DCE, vinyl chloride, and 1,1-DCA. In most areas, they are dissolved in the groundwater and can occur in bedrock at depths up to 92 m (300 ft) below ground surface. Groundwater in the fractured bedrock of the aquitard units that contain detectable levels of VOCs occurs within about 305 m (1,000 ft) laterally of the source areas. The highest concentrations observed in CY 2014 in the Bear Creek regime occurred in the Nolichucky bedrock at the Bear Creek Burial Ground waste management area, with a maximum summed VOC concentration of 5,120 µg/L in well GW-068 (Fig. 4.40).

High concentrations of VOCs like this and in other near source wells, coupled with increasing trends observed downgradient of the Bear Creek Burial Ground waste management area in the clastic (noncarbonated) dominated fractured bedrock of the aquitard units (Fig. 4.44), indicate that a considerable mass of dense nonaqueous phase organic compounds is still present at a depth below the Bear Creek Burial Grounds, providing a source for dissolved phase migration of VOCs. This migration parallel to the valley axis and toward the exit pathway (Maynardville Limestone) is occurring in both the unconsolidated and bedrock intervals.

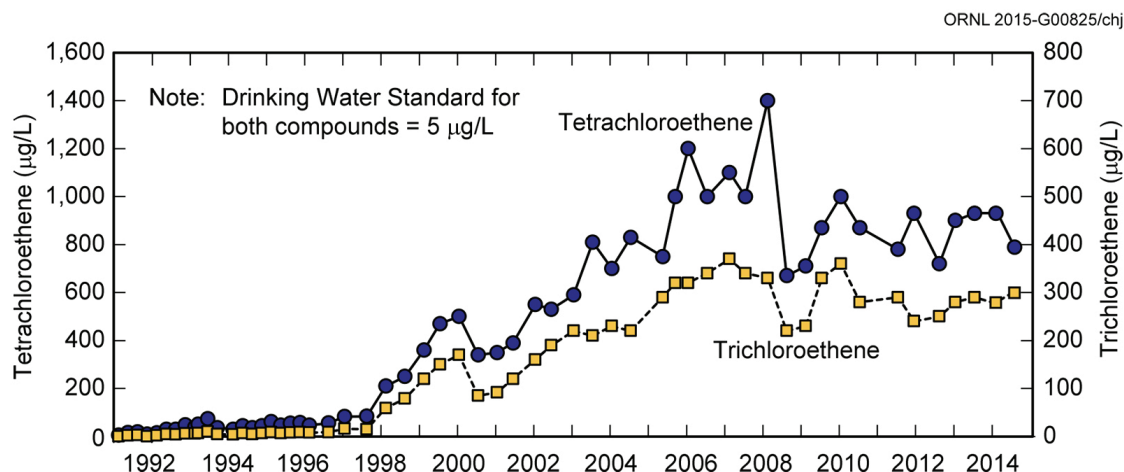


Fig. 4.44. Increasing volatile organic compounds observed in groundwater at well GW-627 west and downgradient of the Bear Creek Burial Grounds, 2014.

Significant transport of VOCs has occurred in the Maynardville Limestone. Data obtained from monitoring well GW-729-44 shows that in the intermediate–deep groundwater interval [98 m (320 ft) below the ground surface], an apparently continuous dissolved plume extends at least 2,591 m (8,500 ft) westward from the S-3 site to just south of the Bear Creek Burial Ground waste management area.

4.6.4.2.5 Radionuclides

The primary radionuclides identified in the Bear Creek regime are isotopes of uranium and ^{99}Tc . Neptunium, americium, radium, strontium, thorium, plutonium, and tritium are secondary and less widespread radionuclides which historically have been observed in groundwater near the S-3 site. Evaluations of the extents of radionuclides in groundwater in the Bear Creek regime during CY 2014 were based primarily on measurements of gross alpha activity and gross beta activity. If the annual average gross alpha activity in groundwater samples from a well exceeded 15 pCi/L (the drinking water standard for gross alpha activity), then one (or more) of the alpha-emitting radionuclides (e.g., uranium) was assumed to be present at elevated levels in the groundwater monitored by the well. A similar rationale was used for annual average gross beta activity that exceeded 50 pCi/L. Technetium-99, a more volatile radionuclide, is qualitatively screened by gross beta activity analysis and, at certain monitoring locations, is evaluated isotopically.

Groundwater with elevated levels of gross alpha activity occurs near the S-3 site and the Oil Landfarm and Bear Creek Burial Grounds waste management areas. In the bedrock interval, gross alpha activity exceeds 15 pCi/L in groundwater in the fractured bedrock of the aquitard units only near source areas (Fig. 4.41). Data obtained from exit pathway monitoring stations during CY 2014 show that gross alpha activity in groundwater in the Maynardville Limestone and in the surface waters of Bear Creek exceeds the drinking water standard for over 2,438 m (8,000 ft) west of the S-3 site. The highest gross

alpha activity observed in groundwater in CY 2014 was 510 pCi/L in well GW-615 located adjacent to the S-3 site.

During CY 2013, the lateral extent of gross beta activity above the drinking water standard diminished dramatically within the exit pathway groundwater interval and surface water. For example, no monitoring locations within the Maynardville Limestone exit pathway exceeded the 50 pCi/L standard for gross beta activity. Gross beta activity exceeded 50 pCi/L within the fractured bedrock of the aquitard units 762 m (2,500 ft) from the S-3 site (Fig. 4.42).

In CY 2014, the highest gross beta activity in groundwater in the Bear Creek regime was 14,000 pCi/L at well GW-246 located adjacent to the S-3 site. Other CY 2014 gross beta activity in groundwater in the Bear Creek regime showed similar trends to those seen in CY 2013 with one exception. A sample from multi-port well GW-790-02 (>5,000 ft west of the gross beta plume edge on Fig. 4.42) showed an anomalous gross beta activity of 1,000 pCi/L. This sample, from a deep zone 314 m (1,031 ft) below the ground surface, contained unusually high total dissolved solids (TDS) (186,000 mg/L). Elevated TDS concentrations have a significant impact on the determination of gross beta activity, and therefore the measurement uncertainty and minimum detectable activity level for this analysis were considerably elevated. Because of this elevated uncertainty and the low permeability and circulation typically encountered at such depths, this detection is considered anomalous. Additional sampling at this location will be performed in CY 2015 to further evaluate this observation.

4.6.4.2.6 Exit Pathway and Perimeter Monitoring

Exit pathway monitoring began in 1990 to provide data on the quality of groundwater and surface water exiting the Bear Creek regime. The Maynardville Limestone is the primary exit pathway for groundwater. Bear Creek, which flows across the Maynardville Limestone in much of the Bear Creek regime, is the principal exit pathway for surface water. Various studies have shown that the surface water in Bear Creek, the springs along the valley floor, and the groundwater in the Maynardville Limestone are hydraulically connected. Surveys have been performed that identify gaining (groundwater discharging into surface waters) and losing (surface water discharging into a groundwater system) reaches of Bear Creek. The western exit pathway well transect (Picket W) serves as the perimeter well location for the Bear Creek regime (Fig. 4.36).

Exit pathway monitoring consists of continued monitoring at four well transects (pickets) and selected springs and surface water stations. Groundwater quality data obtained during CY 2014 from the exit pathway monitoring wells indicate that groundwater is contaminated above drinking water standards in the Maynardville Limestone between Pickets A and B, and trends continue to be generally stable to decreasing (Fig. 4.45).

Surface water samples collected during CY 2014 indicate that water in Bear Creek contains many of the compounds found in the groundwater. Uranium concentrations exceeding the drinking water standard have been observed in surface water west of the burial grounds as far as Picket W. The concentrations in the creek generally decrease with distance downstream of the waste disposal sites; however, an increase in these chemicals has been observed in upper reaches (Table 4.22; see Section 4.6.4.2.3).

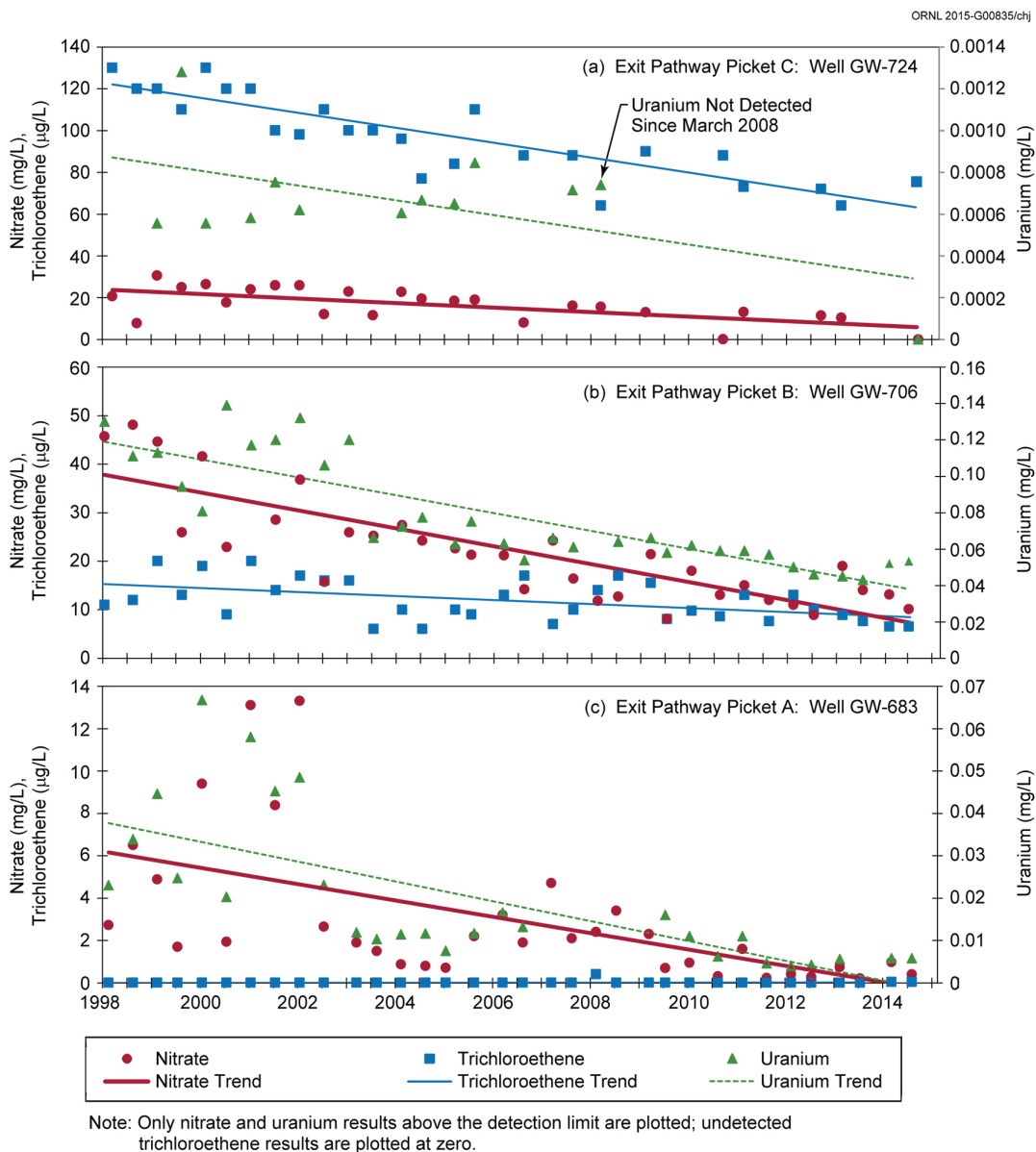


Fig. 4.45. CY 2014 concentrations of selected contaminants in exit pathway monitoring wells in the Bear Creek hydrogeologic regime.

4.6.4.3 Chestnut Ridge Hydrogeologic Regime

The Chestnut Ridge hydrogeologic regime is flanked to the north by Bear Creek Valley and to the south by Bethel Valley Road (Fig. 4.36). The regime encompasses the portion of Chestnut Ridge extending from Scarboro Road, east of the complex, to Dunaway Branch, located just west of Industrial Landfill II.

The Chestnut Ridge Security Pits area is the primary source of groundwater contamination in the regime. Contamination from the security pits is distinct and does not mingle with plumes from other sources. Table 4.23 summarizes the operational history of waste management units in the regime.

Table 4.23. Description of waste management units included in groundwater monitoring activities, Chestnut Ridge hydrogeologic regime, 2014

Site	Description
Chestnut Ridge Sediment Disposal Basin	Operated from 1973 to 1989. Received soil and sediment from New Hope Pond and mercury-contaminated soils from the Y-12 Complex. Site was closed under RCRA in 1989. Not a documented source of groundwater contamination.
Kerr Hollow Quarry	Operated from 1940s to 1988. Used for the disposal of reactive materials, compressed gas cylinders, and various debris. RCRA closure (waste removal) was conducted between 1990 and 1993. Certification of closure with some wastes remaining in place was approved by TDEC February 1995.
Chestnut Ridge Security Pits	Operated from 1973 to 1988. Series of trenches for disposal of classified materials, liquid wastes, thorium, uranium, heavy metals, and various debris. Closed under RCRA in 1989. Infiltration is the primary release mechanism to groundwater.
United Nuclear Corporation Site	Received about 29,000 drums of cement-fixed sludges and soils, demolition materials and low-level radioactive contaminated soils. CERCLA ROD issued in 1991.
Industrial Landfill II	Operated from 1983–1995. During operations this was the central sanitary landfill for ORR. Detection monitoring under postclosure plan has been ongoing since 1996.
Industrial Landfill IV	Opened for operations in 1989. Permitted to receive only nonhazardous industrial solid wastes. Detection monitoring under TDEC solid-waste-management regulations has been ongoing since 1988. Assessment monitoring began in 2008 because of consistent exceedance of a TDEC groundwater protection standard.
Industrial Landfill V	Initiated operations April 1994, replacing Industrial Landfill II. Currently under TDEC solid-waste-management detection monitoring.
Construction/Demolition Landfill VI	Operated from December 1993 to November 2003. The postclosure period ended, and the permit was terminated March 2007.
Construction/Demolition Landfill VII	Facility construction completed in December 1994. TDEC granted approval to operate January 1995. Permit-required detection monitoring per TDEC was temporarily suspended October 1997 pending closure of construction/demolition Landfill VI. Reopened and began waste disposal operations in April 2001.
Filled Coal Ash Pond	Site received Y-12 Steam Plant coal ash slurries from 1955 to 1968. A CERCLA ROD was issued in 1996. Remedial action complete. Monitoring under the ROD is ongoing.
East Chestnut Ridge Waste Pile	Operated from 1987 to 1989 to store contaminated soil and spoil material generated from environmental restoration activities at the Y-12 Complex. Closed under RCRA in 2005 and incorporated into RCRA postclosure permit issued by TDEC in 2006.

Acronyms

CERCLA = Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act
 ORR = Oak Ridge Reservation
 RCRA = Resource Conservation and Recovery Act
 ROD = record of decision
 TDEC = Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation
 Y-12 Complex = Y-12 National Security Complex

4.6.4.3.1 Plume Delineation

Through extensive monitoring of the wells on Chestnut Ridge, the horizontal extent of the VOC plume at the Chestnut Ridge Security Pits seems to be reasonably well defined in the water table and shallow bedrock zones. With two possible exceptions, historical monitoring indicates that the VOC plume from the Chestnut Ridge Security Pits has not migrated very far in any direction [305 m (<1,000 ft)]. Groundwater quality data obtained during CY 2014 indicate that the western lateral extent of the plume of VOCs at the site has not changed significantly from previous years. However, the continued observation of VOC contaminants over the past several years at a well about 458 m (1,500 ft) southeast and

downgradient of the Chestnut Ridge Security Pits (well GW-798; Fig. 4.40) shows that some migration of the eastern plume has occurred. Additionally, dye tracer test results and the intermittent detection of trace concentrations of VOCs (similar to those found in wells adjacent to the Chestnut Ridge Security Pits) at a natural spring about 2,745 m (9,000 ft) to the east and along geologic strike may suggest that Chestnut Ridge Security Pits groundwater contaminants have migrated much further than the monitoring well network indicates.

The plume maps in this section (Figs. 4.38 and 4.40–4.42) reflect the average concentrations and radioactivity in groundwater at Y-12 from CY 2008–2012. (See Section 4.6.4.1.1 for more details.)

4.6.4.3.2 Nitrate

Nitrate concentrations were below the drinking water standard at all monitoring stations in the Chestnut Ridge hydrogeologic regime.

4.6.4.3.3 Trace Metals

Elevated concentrations of arsenic were observed in two surface water monitoring locations downstream from the Filled Coal Ash Pond, which is monitored under a CERCLA ROD (DOE 2015). Under the ROD, migration of contaminated effluent from the Filled Coal Ash Pond is being reduced by a constructed wetland area. During CY 2014, elevated arsenic levels were detected both upgradient [McCoy Branch kilometer (MCK) 2.05] and downgradient (MCK 2.0) of this wetland area (Fig. 4.36). Even though both MCK 2.05 and MCK 2.0 monitoring station concentrations were higher than the drinking water standard for arsenic (0.01 mg/L), the results were 89% and 98% less than the preremediation average concentrations, respectively (DOE 2015). A surface water monitoring location (MCK 1.4) about 1,021 m (3,900 ft) downstream from the Filled Coal Ash Pond was also sampled during CY 2014 with one observed detection of arsenic below the drinking water standard (Fig. 4.36).

4.6.4.3.4 Volatile Organic Compounds

In 2014, the highest summed VOC concentration observed in the Chestnut Ridge hydrogeologic regime was at Chestnut Ridge Security Pits well GW-322 (119 $\mu\text{g/L}$; Fig. 4.40). Monitoring VOCs in groundwater attributable to the Chestnut Ridge Security Pits has been in progress since 1987. A review of historical data indicates that concentrations of VOCs in groundwater at the site have generally decreased since 1988. However, a stable to very shallow increasing trend in VOCs in groundwater samples from monitoring well GW-798 (Fig. 4.40) has been developing since CY 2000. The maximum summed VOC concentration observed at well GW-798 during CY 2014 was 23 $\mu\text{g/L}$. The VOCs detected in well GW-798 continue to be characteristic of the Chestnut Ridge Security Pits plume.

At Industrial Landfill IV, a number of VOCs have been observed since 1992. Monitoring well GW-305, located immediately to the southeast of the facility, has historically displayed concentrations of compounds below applicable drinking water standards, but the concentrations have exhibited a shallow increasing trend. In CY 2014, samples continue to exceed the drinking water standard for 1,1-DCE (7 $\mu\text{g/L}$). This has resulted in an increased level of monitoring to further evaluate the trend.

In CY 2014 a VOC, carbon tetrachloride, was consistently detected at low concentrations in groundwater samples from well GW-144 at Kerr Hollow Quarry (Fig. 4.40). This well is sampled as part of a RCRA postclosure permit with TDEC managed by the DOE EM contractor, UCOR. Three consecutive samples (all below 4 $\mu\text{g/L}$) confirmed the presence of this compound. Additional sampling at this well and at a downgradient surface water location has been implemented to more closely monitor this VOC.

4.6.4.3.5 Radionuclides

In CY 2014, no gross alpha or gross beta activity above the drinking water standard of 15 pCi/L and 50 pCi/L, respectively, was observed in any groundwater samples collected in the Chestnut Ridge hydrogeologic regime.

4.6.4.3.6 Exit Pathway and Perimeter Monitoring

Contaminant and groundwater flow paths in the karst bedrock underlying the Chestnut Ridge regime have not been well characterized by conventional monitoring techniques. A number of tracer studies have been conducted that show groundwater from Chestnut Ridge discharging into Scarboro Creek and other tributaries that feed into Melton Hill Lake. However, no springs or surface streams that represent discharge points for groundwater have been conclusively correlated to a waste management unit or operation at the Y-12 Complex that is a known or potential groundwater contaminant source. Water quality from a spring along Scarboro Creek is monitored quarterly by the TDEC DOE Oversight Office, and trace concentrations of VOCs are intermittently detected. The detected VOCs are suspected to originate from the Chestnut Ridge Security Pits; however, this has not been confirmed.

Monitoring natural groundwater exit pathways is a basic monitoring strategy in a karst regime such as that of Chestnut Ridge. Perimeter springs and surface water tributaries were monitored to determine whether contaminants are exiting the downgradient (southern) side of the regime. Five springs and four surface water monitoring locations were sampled during CY 2014. No contaminants at any of these monitoring stations were detected at levels above drinking water standards.

4.6.5 Quality Assurance

All groundwater monitoring is performed under QCs to ensure that representative samples and analytical results are obtained. Because there are a number of organizations responsible for performing groundwater sampling and analysis activities to meet separate requirements, there may be some minor differences in sampling and analysis procedures and methods, but the final results are comparable and therefore useful for all projects and programs. This permits the integrated use of all groundwater quality data obtained at the Y-12 Complex.

A number of QA measures are performed to ensure accurate, consistent, and comparable groundwater results. These measures are described in sampling and analysis plans and include the following.

- Groundwater sampling is performed across the Y-12 Complex using a number of sampling methods and procedures. The predominant method of sampling monitoring wells is by using a low-flow minimum drawdown method. Using this method, a sample is obtained from a discrete depth interval within the monitoring interval (screened or open borehole) without introducing stagnant water from the well casing. Groundwater is pumped from the well at a flow rate low enough to minimize drawdown of the water level in the well; field readings are also taken to ensure that the sample is representative of the groundwater system and not the water column inside the well casing itself. All sampling methods follow industry/regulator-recognized protocols to ensure that consistent and repeatable samples are obtained.
- QC samples such as field blank, trip blank, duplicate, and equipment rinsate samples are collected.

- All groundwater samples are controlled under chain of custody from their collection in the field to the analytical laboratory that performs the analyses.
- Laboratory analyses are performed using standard methods and protocols within established holding times.

During 2014 all groundwater monitoring and related analytical activities were performed in accordance with the established protocols.

4.7 Quality Assurance Program

The Y-12 Complex Quality Assurance Program establishes a quality policy and requirements for the overall QA program for the Y-12 site. Management requirement Y60-101PD, *Quality Assurance Program Description*, details the methods used to carry out work processes safely and securely and in accordance with established procedures. It also describes mechanisms in place to seek continuous improvements by identifying and correcting findings and preventing recurrences.

Many factors can potentially affect the results of environmental data collection activities, including sampling personnel, methods, and procedures; field conditions; sample handling, preservation, and transport; personnel training; analytical methods; data reporting; and record keeping. QA programs are designed to minimize these sources of variability and to control all phases of the monitoring process.

Field sampling QA encompasses many practices that minimize error and evaluate sampling performance. Some key quality practices include the following:

- use of work control processes and standard operating procedures for sample collection and analysis;
- use of chain-of-custody and sample-identification procedures;
- instrument standardization, calibration, and verification;
- sample technician and laboratory analyst training;
- sample preservation, handling, and decontamination; and
- use of QC samples, such as field and trip blanks, duplicates, and equipment rinses.

Y-12 Environmental Sampling Services performs field sampling, sample preservation and handling, and chain-of-custody and takes field control (QC) samples in accordance with Y-12 Environmental Compliance's internal procedures. Environmental Sampling Services developed a standards and calibration program (SCP) that conforms to ISO/IEC 17025, *General Requirements for Competence of Testing and Calibration Laboratories* (ISO 2005), and provides a process for uniform standardization, calibration, and verification of measurement and test equipment (M&TE). SCP ensures measurements are made using appropriate, documented methods; traceable standards; appropriate M&TE of known accuracy; trained personnel; and technical best practices.

Analytical results may be affected by a large number of factors inherent to the measurement process. Laboratories that support the Y-12 Complex environmental monitoring programs use internal QA/QC programs to ensure the early detection of problems that may arise from contamination, inadequate calibrations, calculation errors, or improper procedure performance. Internal laboratory QA/QC programs include routine calibrations of counting instruments, yield determinations, frequent use of check sources and background counts, replicate and spiked sample analyses, matrix and reagent blanks, and maintenance of control charts to indicate analytical deficiencies. These activities are supported by the use of standard materials or reference materials (e.g., materials of known composition that are used in the calibration of instruments, methods standardization, spike additions for recovery tests, and other practices). Certified standards traceable to NIST, DOE sources, or EPA are used (when available) for such work.

The Y-12 Analytical Chemistry Organization (ACO) Quality Assurance Plan describes QA program elements that are based on the Y-12 Complex Quality Assurance Program; customer-specific requirements; certification program requirements; ISO/IEC 17025, *General Requirements for Competence of Testing and Calibration Laboratories*; federal, state, and local regulations; and waste acceptance criteria. As a government-owned, client-operated laboratory that performs work for DOE, the ACO laboratory operates in accordance with DOE O 414.1D, *Quality Assurance* (DOE 2011b).

Other internal practices used to ensure that laboratory results are representative of actual conditions include training and managing staff; maintaining adequacy of the laboratory environment; safety; controlling the storage, integrity, and identity of samples; record keeping; maintaining and calibrating instruments; and the using technically validated and properly documented methods.

The Y-12 ACO participated in both Mixed Analyte Performance Evaluation Program studies conducted in 2014 for water, soil, and air filter matrices for metals, organics, and radionuclides. The overall acceptability rating from both studies was greater than 97%.

Verification and validation of environmental data are performed as components of the data collection process, which includes planning, sampling, analysis, and data review. Some level of verification and validation of field and analytical data collected for environmental monitoring and restoration programs is necessary to ensure that data conform to applicable regulatory and contractual requirements. Validation of field and analytical data is a technical review performed to compare data with established quality criteria to ensure that data are adequate for the intended use. The extent of project data verification and validation activities is based on project-specific requirements.

For routine environmental effluent monitoring and surveillance monitoring, data verification activities may include processes of checking whether (1) data have been accurately transcribed and recorded, (2) appropriate procedures have been followed, (3) electronic and hard-copy data show one-to-one correspondence, and (4) data are consistent with expected trends. Typically, routine data verification actions alone are sufficient to document the validity and accuracy of environmental reports. For restoration projects, routine verification activities are more contractually oriented and include checks for data completeness, consistency, and compliance with a predetermined standard or contract.

Certain projects may require a more thorough technical validation of the data as mandated by the project's data quality objectives. Sampling and analyses conducted as part of an RI to support the CERCLA process may generate data that are needed to evaluate risk to human health and the environment, to document that no further remediation is necessary, or to support a multimillion-dollar construction activity and treatment alternative. In these cases, the data quality objectives of the project may mandate a thorough technical evaluation of the data against rigorous predetermined criteria. The validation process may result in the identification of data that do not meet predetermined QC criteria or in the ultimate rejection of data for their intended use. Typical criteria evaluated in the validation of contract laboratory program data include the percentage of surrogate recoveries, spike recoveries, method blanks, instrument tuning, instrument calibration, continuing calibration verifications, internal standard response, comparison of duplicate samples, and sample holding times.

4.8 Environmental Management and Waste Management Activities

4.8.1 Mercury Technology Development Activities for Y-12, East Fork Poplar Creek

Mercury remediation in the Oak Ridge area is a high priority for DOE. Releases of mercury during Y-12 operations during the 1950s and early 1960s resulted in contamination of soil and groundwater. Subsequent transport from these sources resulted in off-site contamination of the lower EFPC.

As EM continues its mercury studies, results are revealing that source reduction alone at Y-12 may not achieve mercury regulatory goals in downstream waters (UCOR 2014). Mercury concentration, methylation, and bioaccumulation processes in the creek are complex and are driven by the mass of mercury in the system in addition to physical, chemical, and ecological factors in the receiving stream.

In FY 2014, DOE contracted with UCOR and ORNL to develop a number of mercury remediation technology activities. The UCOR-ORNL technology development studies in the next few years will be timely because they will support evaluations of alternatives by regulators, which are scheduled in the early 2020s. In the years leading to that time, EM will conduct studies in a phased, adaptive approach to reduce uncertainties; to better define and target potential actions or new technology use; and to increase efficiencies in characterization, targeted removal and treatment, and waste disposition.

The mercury remediation technology development scope for FY 2014 includes the following three main areas.

Field and laboratory studies. Through field and laboratory studies ORNL researchers are investigating the use of chemical, physical, and ecological manipulations and management actions in the watershed to decrease mercury concentration and bioaccumulation.

Evaluations of potential mercury research facilities. DOE is conducting preliminary evaluations to determine the feasibility of placing a field research station along lower EFPC. The station will serve as a near-stream research facility for mercury research.

In-depth studies of waste management practices. UCOR is investigating waste management practices to gain a better understanding of mercury-contaminated debris disposal techniques, strategies to reduce the quantity of debris that requires treatment, and the extent of contamination in mercury-contaminated areas at the Y-12 site. The results of these studies will be used in planning future D&D and RA projects within Y-12 mercury contamination zones using the latest cleanup and treatment techniques.

4.8.2 Mercury Remediation Strategy Developed

A final mercury remediation strategy plan (DOE 2014d), incorporating regulator comments and suggestions, was completed and submitted in 2014. EM is proposing a phased adaptive management approach to first address mercury contamination in surface water. A key component of the plan is the proposed construction of a water treatment facility, the Outfall 200 Mercury Treatment Facility (MTF), to reduce the amount of mercury currently in the creek (EFPC) and to prepare for potential future releases during future cleanup at the Y-12 WEMA. Other proposed actions included in the plan will also advance mercury cleanup in the creek and throughout the site, including diverting water sources to avoid contact with contaminated soils and sediments. Technology development efforts, described in the plan and further refined in a recently completed mercury technology development plan (DOE 2014c), will help support future cleanup. For example, gaining an understanding of mercury bioaccumulation and movement in the

environment can help refine and target effective methods for remediation—reducing cost and time investments.

Mercury source removal—building demolition and soil/sediment remediation—is planned to begin in the early 2020s. Because the majority of the waste resulting from these activities will be generated after the existing on-site disposal facility reaches full capacity, the plan calls for disposal of the waste in a proposed future landfill. As outlined in the strategy, evaluations on disposal options, including microencapsulation, are ongoing.

4.8.3 Alpha 4 Roof Repairs

Roof repairs to the 9201-4 building, also known as Alpha 4, were completed in 2014. Cleanup contractor UCOR, along with the Y-12 Project Management and Construction organizations and contractors from the NNSA Roof Asset Management Program, conducted the project. The project included repairs to large areas of the nearly 4-acre roof footprint. The task required the extensive use of hazard controls including personal fall restraint/arrest systems, fall protection carts, and warning lines to ensure worker safety.

This work was completed as part of EM's ongoing Surveillance and Maintenance Program to ensure the building remains in a safe condition. The project is expected to extend Alpha-4's roof life by 7–10 years, and it also decreases the cost of demolition by eliminating safety issues within the building.

4.8.4 Outfall 200 Mercury Treatment Conceptual Design Project

Outfall 200 is the point at which the west end Y-12 storm drain system discharges to upper EFPC. EM initiated a treatability study and conceptual design to evaluate options for a treatment plant to reduce the release of mercury from outfall 200 into upper EFPC.

In 2014, EM completed the Outfall 200 MTF conceptual design report (UCOR 2014b). The recommended treatment configuration includes grit removal, chemical precipitation, and media filtration for flow rates up to 3,000 gal per minute. The Outfall 200 MTF conceptual design incorporates flexibility and expandability of treatment processes and capacities, if required, including if conditions change.

In 2014 work also progressed on the facility's predesign and additional treatability data required for the Outfall 200 MTF design. Teams also searched for opportunities to achieve cost savings and/or operational efficiencies. These studies are scheduled to be performed in 2015, with the results used to support the MTF preliminary and final design.

4.8.5 Waste Management

CERCLA Waste Disposal

Much of the waste generated during FY 2014 cleanup activities was disposed at ORR facilities (UCOR 2014). EMWMF, located in Bear Creek Valley west of the Y-12 Complex, is an engineered landfill that accepts waste generated from CERCLA response actions and cleanup activities on ORR (low-level, mixed, and classified waste). The Oak Ridge Office of Environmental Management manages the contract with UCOR for operation of EMWMF. See Section 3.8.1 for information about EMWMF.

Solid Waste Disposal

DOE also operates solid waste disposal facilities called the "Oak Ridge Reservation Landfills." These landfills, located near the Y-12 Complex, are engineered facilities used to dispose sanitary, industrial,

construction, and demolition waste. In FY 2014, about 29,661 yd³ of industrial wastes and construction/demolition debris were disposed in the landfills.

Operation of the ORR landfills generated about 1.556 million gal of leachate that was collected, monitored, and discharged into the Y-12 Complex sanitary sewer system.

Wastewater Treatment

NNSA at the Y-12 Complex treats wastewater generated from both production activities and environmental cleanup activities. Safe and compliant treatment of more than 116 million gal of wastewater were provided at various facilities during the year.

WETF and the Central Pollution Control Facility at the Y-12 Complex processed 1,300,000 gal of wastewater primarily in support of NNSA operational activities. The Central Pollution Control Facility also downblended more than 36,000 gal of enriched wastewaters using depleted uranium oxides from on the site.

The Big Springs Water Treatment System treated 100 million gal of mercury-contaminated groundwater. The East End Volatile Organic Compounds Treatment System treated 11 million gal of VOC-contaminated groundwater.

The Liquid Storage Facility and Groundwater Treatment Facility treated 2 million gal of leachate from burial grounds and well purge waters from remediation areas.

The Central Mercury Treatment System treated 2.5 million gal of mercury-contaminated sump waters from the Alpha 4 building.

Debris from UPF Haul Road Disposed

UPF is an integral part of the Y-12 Complex transformation efforts and a key component of the NNSA Uranium Center of Excellence. UPF will be a modern manufacturing facility designed and constructed for health, safety, security, and operations efficiency.

A new haul road will support UPF construction by providing separate travel routes for routine traffic on the west end of Y-12 and the heavy vehicle construction traffic required for moving materials and equipment to and from the UPF construction site.

In January 2014, the haul road construction contractor encountered a fill area that contained both uncontaminated and radioactively contaminated debris ranging from wood to metal pipes, concrete, and transite (an asbestos-containing material). The area was on the south slope of Pine Ridge just northeast of the Bear Creek Road–Old Bear Creek Road intersection. The construction work and waste management plan were reevaluated and arrangements were made to properly segregate and dispose the wastes.

In April 2014, the crews encountered the first of several large (roughly 3 ft × 3 ft × 10 ft) concrete pedestals. None of these pedestals exhibited radioactive contamination, but some contained very small beads of mercury. Work and waste management options were reevaluated.

In consultation with regulators, DOE decided to remove, treat, and dispose of the contaminated debris from the road corridor. Uncontaminated debris was disposed of at one of the ORR landfills, and radioactive and mercury-contaminated debris were shipped off site for disposal.

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5. Oak Ridge National Laboratory

ORNL is the largest science and energy national laboratory in the DOE system, conducting basic and applied research to deliver transformative solutions to compelling problems in energy and security. ORNL partners with the State of Tennessee, universities, and industry to solve challenges in energy, advanced materials, manufacturing, security, and physics. The laboratory's science and technology innovations are translated into applications for economic development and global security. The laboratory is home to several of the world's top supercomputers and is a leading neutron science and nuclear energy research facility that includes SNS and HFIR. ORNL hosts a DOE leadership computing facility, home of the Titan supercomputer; one of DOE's nanoscience centers, the Center for Nanophase Materials Sciences; one of DOE's energy research centers, the BioEnergy Science Center; and the Consortium for Advanced Simulation of Light-Water Reactors, a DOE innovation hub. ORNL operates 10 user facilities that draw thousands of research scientists and visitors each year.

- Building Technologies Research and Integration Center
- Carbon Fiber Technology Facility (CFTF)
- Center for Nanophase Materials Sciences
- Center for Structural Molecular Biology
- HFIR
- High Temperature Materials Laboratory
- National Center for Computational Sciences
- National Transportation Research Center (NTRC)
- Shared Research Equipment Collaborative Research Center
- SNS

ORNL is managed by UT-Battelle, LLC, a partnership between the University of Tennessee and Battelle Memorial Institute. During 2014 the ORNL operations of UT-Battelle, WAI, UCOR, and Isotek Systems LLC (Isotek) were conducted in compliance with contractual and regulatory environmental requirements with the exception of three issues identified during a joint TDEC-RCRA inspection. TDEC issued an NOV to UT-Battelle on December, 11, 2014, for failure to notify TDEC of the demolition of two small structures (each about 300 ft²). Although the facilities did not contain asbestos, the regulations require TDEC to be notified before any building demolition. No other environmental NOV's or penalties were issued by the regulatory agencies.

Because of differing permit reporting requirements and instrument capabilities, various units of measurement are used in this report. The list of units of measure and conversion factors provided on pages xxvii and xxviii is intended to help readers convert numeric values presented here as needed for specific calculations and comparisons.

5.1 Description of Site, Mission, and Operations

ORNL, which is managed for DOE by UT-Battelle, LLC, a partnership of the University of Tennessee and Battelle Memorial Institute, lies in the southwest corner of the DOE ORR (Fig. 5.1) and includes facilities in two valleys (Bethel and Melton) and on Chestnut Ridge. ORNL was established in 1943 as

part of the secret Manhattan Project to pioneer a method for producing and separating plutonium. During the 1950s and 1960s, and with the creation of DOE in the 1970s, ORNL became an international center for the study of nuclear energy and related research in the physical and life sciences. By the turn of the century, the laboratory supported the nation with a peacetime science and technology mission that was just as important as, but very different from, the work carried out in the days of the Manhattan Project.



Fig. 5.1. Location of Oak Ridge National Laboratory within the Oak Ridge Reservation and its relationship to other local US Department of Energy facilities.

UT-Battelle also manages several facilities located off the main ORNL campus. These include several buildings and trailers located at the Y-12 Complex, the American Museum of Science and Energy in the city of Oak Ridge, and several other locations around the Oak Ridge vicinity, described below.

The Hardin Valley Campus (HVC) is home to the National Transportation Research Center (NTRC), a user facility dedicated to transportation research and development. HVC is located on a 2.4 ha (6-acre) site that is owned by Pellissippi Investors LLC and leased to UT-Battelle and the University of Tennessee separately. Two highly sophisticated experimental research laboratories, NTRC1 and NTRC2/Manufacturing Demonstration Facility (MDF), are at HVC. NTRC1 (76,500 ft²) is the site of activities that span the entire range of transportation research and advanced power electronics and electric machinery research. NTRC2/MDF (52,200 ft²) houses the Vehicle Systems Integration Laboratory, Battery Manufacturing Facility (DOE's largest open research dry room—cell assembly lab), and DOE's first MDF where additive manufacturing research is being conducted on projects such as the first 3-D printed vehicle, a Shelby Cobra. MDF also serves as the regional home for local high school students to build and analyze robots in conjunction with FIRST Robotics, a program to inspire students to pursue education and career opportunities in science, technology, engineering, and math.

CFTF is a pilot project to develop ways of making lower cost carbon fiber inexpensively using ORNL research (Fig. 5.2). Operations at CFTF, located in the Horizon Center Business Park in Oak Ridge, Tennessee, started up in 2013 and continued in 2014.

URS | CH2M Oak Ridge LLC (UCOR) is the DOE ORR “cleanup contractor.” The scope of UCOR activities at ORNL includes long-term surveillance, maintenance, and management of inactive waste disposal sites, structures, and buildings such as former reactors and isotope production facilities. Other activities include groundwater monitoring, TRU waste storage, and operation of the liquid low-level and process waste systems and the off-gas collection and treatment system.

TWPC, managed by WAI for DOE, is located on the western boundary of ORNL on about 10.5 ha (26 acres) of land adjacent to the Melton Valley Storage Tanks along State Route 95. TWPC’s mission is to receive TRU wastes for processing, treatment, repackaging, and shipment to designated facilities for final disposal. TWPC consists of the waste processing facility, the personnel building, and numerous support buildings and storage areas. TWPC began processing supernatant liquid from the Melton Valley Storage Tanks in 2002, CH debris waste in December 2005, and RH debris waste in May 2008. Based on the definition of TRU waste, some waste being managed as TRU is later determined to be low-level waste (LLW) or mixed LLW.



Fig. 5.2. Production of lower cost carbon fiber at the Carbon Fiber Technology Facility. [Photo by Jason Richards.]

In March 2007, Isotek assumed responsibility for the Building 3019 Complex at ORNL, where the national repository of ^{233}U has been kept since 1962. A letter from the Deputy Secretary of Energy, dated November 24, 2010, directed the conduct of an “alternatives analysis” to determine whether there were more efficient methods available for ^{233}U disposition. In April 2011, the Deputy Secretary of Energy endorsed the recommendations in the final draft ^{233}U alternatives analysis phase I report (DOE 2011). The phase I recommendations included the following: (1) proceed with a direct disposition campaign involving the transfer of Zero Power Reactor (ZPR) plate canisters to NNSA for future reuse and disposal at NNSA and (2) conduct a phase II alternatives analysis to determine the best approach for processing the remaining 50% of the inventory. In December 2011, Isotek initiated transfer of the ZPR plate canisters to the NNSA Critical Safety Program located at the Device Assembly Facility at NNSA. Isotek completed transfer of the ZPR plate canisters in June 2012. In 2013 and 2014, Isotek continued to plan and prepare for future disposition of the remaining ^{233}U inventory.

UT-Battelle provides air and water quality monitoring support for the Building 3019 complex and several UCOR facilities and water quality monitoring for WAI operations at TWPC. TWPC and UCOR stack radiological emission monitoring information is included in the ORR Rad-NESHAPs annual report (DOE 2014). Therefore, the UT-Battelle air and water monitoring discussions in this chapter include results for Isotek, UCOR, and WAI operations at ORNL.

About 5 ha (12 acres) in the central portion of ORNL has been leased to Heritage Center, LLC, a CROET subsidiary, for development into the Oak Ridge Science and Technology Park (ORSTP). ORSTP provides space for private companies doing research at ORNL, partner universities, start-up companies built around ORNL technologies, and ORNL contractors to conduct business within a short distance of ORNL researchers and DOE user facilities such as SNS, the Center for Nanophase Materials Sciences, and HFIR. Construction of the first ORSTP facility, Pro2Serve’s 10,684 m² (115,000 ft²) National Security Engineering Center, was completed in 2009, and the company is now well-established in the building. Current ORSTP tenants include Roane State Community College, which is offering on-site training in the areas of carbon fiber manufacturing and solar energy technology; several consulting firms; and a carbon

fiber manufacturer that is partnering with UT-Battelle for materials research. Expansion of ORSTP will continue as more environmental cleanup in ORNL's central campus is completed. EPA has designated ORSTP lessees as collocated workers because they are located on DOE property and are issued security badges to access the facilities.

5.2 Environmental Management Systems

An important priority for DOE contractors performing management and operations activities at ORNL is the demonstration of environmental excellence through high-level policies that clearly state expectations for continual improvement, pollution prevention, and compliance with regulations and other requirements.

In accordance with DOE O 436.1, *Departmental Sustainability* (DOE 2011a), UT-Battelle, WAI, UCOR and Isotek have implemented EMSs, modeled after ISO 14001:2004 (ISO 2004), to measure, manage, and control environmental impacts. An EMS is a continuing cycle of planning, implementing, evaluating, and improving processes and actions undertaken to achieve environmental goals.

UT-Battelle's EMS was initially registered to the ISO 14001 standard by a third-party registrar in 2004 and was reregistered in July 2013 by NSF International Strategic Registrations, Ltd. (NSF-ISR). No nonconformities were identified during the most recent surveillance audit. Detailed information on the UT-Battelle EMS is provided in Sections 5.2.1 through 5.2.1.6. WAI's EMS for activities at TWPC was registered to the ISO 14001:2004 standard by NSF-ISR in May 2008. NSF-ISR conducted a recertification audit for the WAI EMS program in April 2014, and no nonconformities or issues were identified and several significant practices were noted. Section 5.2.2 describes the WAI EMS and associated implementation activities. In June 2009, DOE conducted an external validation audit and concluded "that Isotek has implemented an Environmental Management System (EMS) that is consistent with the requirements of DOE O 450.1A, *Environmental Protection Program*" (DOE 2008). In May 2012, DOE conducted another validation audit and issued a memorandum documenting that Isotek's EMS for the U-233 Disposition Project conforms to the ISO 14001:2004 standard. (Note: The UCOR EMS is discussed in Section 3.2.)

5.2.1 UT-Battelle Environmental Management System

The UT-Battelle EMS is a fully integrated set of environmental management services for UT-Battelle activities and facilities. Services include pollution prevention, waste management, effluent management, regulatory review, reporting, permitting, and other environmental management programs. Through the UT-Battelle Standards-Based Management System (SBMS), EMS establishes environmental policy and translates environmental laws, applicable DOE orders, and other requirements into laboratory-wide subject area documents (procedures and guidelines). SBMS information is based on an evaluation of external requirements (i.e., directives and federal, state, and local laws), corporate policies, and best management practices that have been determined applicable to UT-Battelle operations and processes. Through environmental protection officers, environmental compliance representatives, and waste services representatives (WSRs), EMS assists the line organizations in identifying and addressing environmental issues in accordance with SBMS requirements.

5.2.1.1 Integration with Integrated Safety Management System

The UT-Battelle EMS and ISMS are integrated to provide a unified strategy for the management of resources, the control and attenuation of risks, and the establishment and achievement of the organization's ES&H goals. ISMS and EMS both strive for continual improvement through "plan-do-check-act" cycles. Under ISMS, the term "safety" also encompasses environmental safety and

health, including pollution prevention, waste minimization, and resource conservation. Therefore, the guiding principles and core functions in ISMS apply both to the protection of the environment and to safety. Figure 5.3 depicts the relationship between EMS and ISMS.

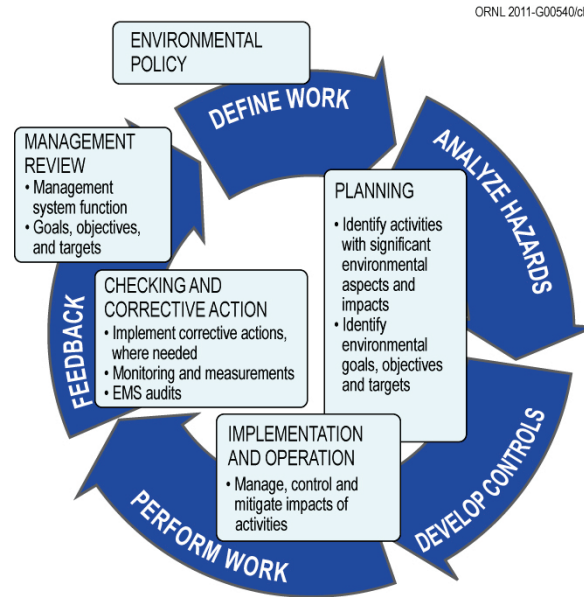


Fig. 5.3. The relationship between the UT-Battelle Environmental Management System and the Integrated Safety Management System.

The UT-Battelle EMS is consistent with ISMS and includes the following elements:

- environmental policy;
- planning;
- legal and other requirements;
- objectives, targets, and programs;
- implementation and operation;
- resources, roles, responsibility, and authority;
- competence, training, and awareness;
- communication;
- documentation;
- control of documents;
- operational control;
- emergency preparedness and response;
- checking;
- monitoring and measurement;
- evaluation of compliance;
- nonconformity, corrective action, and preventative action;
- control of records;
- internal audit; and
- management review.

5.2.1.2 UT-Battelle Policy for Oak Ridge National Laboratory

The UT-Battelle environmental policy statements (Fig. 5.4) are part of the UT-Battelle Policy for ORNL, which is the highest level statement of how UT-Battelle conducts business. By clearly stating expectations, the policy provides the framework for setting and reviewing environmental objectives and targets.

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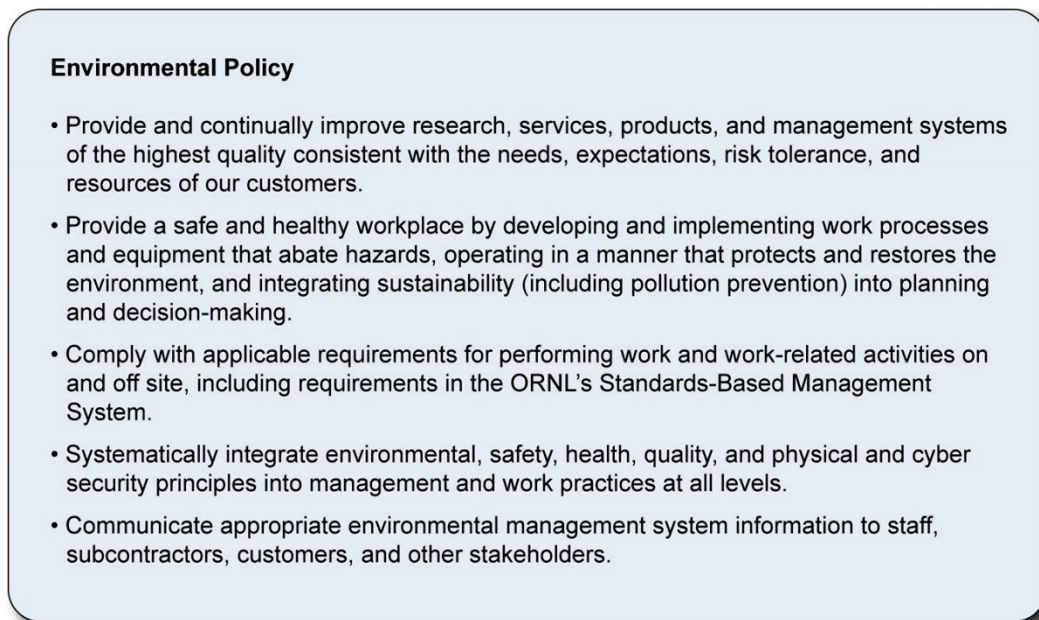


Fig. 5.4. UT-Battelle environmental policy statements.

5.2.1.3 Planning

5.2.1.3.1 *UT-Battelle Environmental Aspects*

Environmental aspects are elements of an organization's activities, products, or services that can interact with the environment. Environmental aspects associated with UT-Battelle activities, products, and services have been identified at both the project and activity level. Activities that are relative to any of these aspects are carefully controlled to minimize or eliminate impacts to the environment. The following aspects have been identified as potentially having significant environmental impacts:

- hazardous waste generation;
- radioactive waste generation;
- mixed waste generation;
- energy use/intensity;
- GHG emissions;
- permitted air emissions;
- regulated liquid discharges; and
- storage, use, or transportation of chemicals or radioactive materials.

5.2.1.3.2 UT-Battelle Legal and Other Requirements

Legal and other requirements that apply to the environmental aspects identified by UT-Battelle include federal, state, and local laws and regulations; environmental permits; applicable DOE orders; UT-Battelle contract clauses; waste acceptance criteria; and voluntary requirements such as ISO 14001:2004.

UT-Battelle has established procedures to ensure that all applicable requirements are reviewed and that changes and updates are communicated to staff and incorporated into work-planning activities.

UT-Battelle's environmental compliance status is discussed in Section 5.3.

5.2.1.3.3 UT-Battelle Objectives and Targets

To improve environmental performance, UT-Battelle has established and implemented objectives, targets, and performance indicators for appropriate functions and activities. In all cases, the objectives, targets, and performance indicators are consistent with the UT-Battelle Policy for ORNL and are supportive of the laboratory mission, and where practical, they are measurable. These objectives and targets are entered into a commitment tracking system and tracked to completion.

5.2.1.3.4 UT-Battelle Programs

UT-Battelle has established an organizational structure to ensure that environmental stewardship practices are integrated into all facets of UT-Battelle's missions at ORNL. This includes programs led by experts in environmental protection and compliance, energy and resource conservation, pollution prevention, and waste management to ensure that laboratory activities are conducted in accordance with the environmental policy outlined in Fig. 5.4. Information on UT-Battelle's 2014 compliance status, activities, and accomplishments is presented in Section 5.3.

The environmental protection staff provides critical support services in the following areas:

- waste management,
- NEPA compliance,
- air quality compliance,
- water quality compliance,
- US Department of Agriculture (USDA) compliance,
- transportation safety,
- environmental sampling and data evaluation, and
- CERCLA interface.

The UT-Battelle staff also includes experts who provide critical waste management, transportation, and disposition support services to research, operations, and support divisions. These include

- pollution prevention staff who manage recycling programs, work with staff to reduce waste generation, and promote sustainable acquisition;
- radiological engineering staff who provide radiological characterization support to generators and WSRs, develop tools to help ensure compliance with facility safety and transportation, and provide packaging support;
- waste acceptance staff who review and approve waste characterization methods, accept waste from generator areas into Transportation and Waste Management Division storage areas, review waste disposal paperwork to ensure compliance with the disposal facility's waste acceptance criteria, and certify waste packages;

- WSRs who work with waste generators to collect and document waste characterization, identify proper disposal paths, complete disposal paperwork to submit for waste acceptance, and arrange and schedule waste removal from generator areas;
- the waste-handling team, which performs waste-packing operations and conducts inspections of waste items, areas, and containers;
- the waste and materials disposition team, which coordinates off-site disposition of UT-Battelle's newly generated waste;
- the transportation management team, which ensures that both the on-site and off-site packaging and transportation activities are performed in an efficient and compliant manner; and
- the hazardous material spill response team, which is the first line of response to hazardous materials spills at ORNL and controls and contains spills until the situation is stabilized.

5.2.1.4 UT-Battelle Sustainable Campus Initiative

The Sustainable Campus Initiative is an ORNL-wide effort that builds upon the laboratory's strength as a premier science and technology organization in integrating energy efficiency, cutting-edge technologies, and operational and business processes to achieve sustainability. The ultimate goal is to achieve benchmark sustainability in campus operation and in the research, development, and deployment of key technologies by 2018.

Table 5.1 summarizes FY 2014 performance and planned actions to achieve future sustainability goals. Detailed information can be found in *The Site Sustainability Plan for the Oak Ridge National Laboratory* (<https://sustainability-ornl.org/Documents/Sustainability-Plans/2014-SSP-ORNL.PDF>).

Table 5.1. Summary of UT-Battelle progress toward attainment of DOE sustainability goals, 2014

SSPP Goal	DOE Goal	Performance Status through FY 2014	Planned Actions and Contributions
Goal 1: Greenhouse Gas Reduction			
1.1	28% Scopes 1 and 2 GHG reduction by FY 2020 from a FY 2008 baseline (2014 target: 19%)	<p>Scope 1 estimate is 63,163 MT CO₂e, a decrease of 30% from FY 2008</p> <p>Scope 2 estimate is 332,462 MT CO₂e, an increase of 33% from FY 2008 after allowances for purchased renewable energy credits (RECs)</p> <p>The combined estimate for Scopes 1 and 2 is 395,625 MT CO₂e, an increase of 17% from the baseline year of FY 2008</p>	<p>Scope 1 reductions are on target due to ECM efforts, ESPC implementation, and SF₆ process reductions</p> <p>Scope 2 reductions represent more of a challenge due to growth in electricity demands for mission critical facilities (HEMSFs)</p>
1.2	13% Scope 3 GHG reduction by FY 2020 from a FY 2008 baseline (2014 target: 5%)	<p>Scope 3 estimate is 43,509 MT CO₂e. Overall, Scope 3 emissions have increased by 6%. All Scope 3 elements are on trend to meet targets with the exception of T&D. Increased electricity consumption and a 33% increase in T&D losses limits the overall performance</p>	<p>Employee engagement focus areas such as responsible business travel and employee commute and telework programs will ensure progress toward Scope 3 reductions. T&D losses will grow along with purchased electricity; however, a new substation coming online in FY 2015 will increase efficiency and reduce the effect of T&D losses</p>
Goal 2: Sustainable Buildings			
2.1	30% energy intensity (Btu/gsf) reduction by FY 2015 from a FY 2003 baseline (2014 target: 27%)	<p>UT-Battelle achieved a reduction of 29.5%, exceeding the FY 2014 goal</p>	<p>Ongoing energy audits in progress will identify additional energy conservation projects to achieve the 30% goal</p>
2.2	EISA Section 432 energy and water evaluations	<p>More than 25% evaluated during this second year of the current 4-year cycle</p>	<p>Continue pace of 25% or more through current cycle (end of FY 2016). Leverage knowledge from previous cycles to conduct focused evaluations</p>

Table 5.1. (continued)

SSPP Goal	DOE Goal	Performance Status through FY 2014	Planned Actions and Contributions
2.3	Individual building metering for 90% of electricity (by October 1, 2012) and for 90% of steam, natural gas, and chilled water (by October 1, 2015) (2014 targets: 90% and 50%, respectively)	UT-Battelle is in compliance with DOE mandates by achieving 91% for electrical use. The balance of the metering is anticipated to be completed by the end of FY 2015. UT-Battelle is progressing toward full compliance for remaining systems	Continued implementation of metering plan will allow progress toward metering of all commodities. Goals have been met with respect to electricity, natural gas, and chilled water
2.4	Cool roofs—all new roofs and roof replacements must meet cool roof standards and have thermal resistance of at least R-30 (unless uneconomical or excluded)	Reroofing projects on two facilities added 23,014 ft ² to the UT-Battelle cool roof inventory	Continue to ensure compliance
2.5	15% of existing buildings greater than 5,000 gsf are compliant with the HPSB GPs by FY 2015 (2014 target: 13%)	Two additional existing buildings achieved HPSB status in FY 2014 for a total of 25. The target goal of 15% (22 buildings) was exceeded in FY 2013, 2 years ahead of schedule	Efforts will continue toward expanding the existing HPSB inventory—planning for three additional buildings in FY 2015
2.6	All new construction, major renovations, and alterations of buildings greater than 5,000 GSF must comply with HPSB GPs	To date, 16 new facilities have been built to LEED and GP standards. One other building has been designed to meet LEED Gold standards and will be completed in 2015	All new construction is designed for LEED Gold as a routine part of the facility development process
Goal 3: Fleet Management			
3.1	10% annual increase in fleet alternative fuel consumption by FY 2015 relative to a FY 2005 baseline (2014 target: 136% cumulative since 2005)	To date, alternative fuel use has increased from the 2005 baseline by 220%, exceeding the target	Continue to use alternative fuels and continue to educate drivers about the importance of using alternative fuels in flex fuel vehicles
3.2	2% annual reduction in fleet petroleum consumption by FY 2020 relative to a FY 2005 baseline (2014 target: 18% cumulative since 2005)	UT-Battelle has achieved a 55% reduction in fleet petroleum consumption compared to the 2005 baseline	Continue to use alternative fuel. Continue to ensure biodiesel quality is maintained
3.3	100% of light duty vehicle purchases must be AFVs by FY 2015 and thereafter	100% of light duty vehicle purchases in FY 2014 were AFVs	Continue to purchase AFVs from GSA schedules as funds and approvals are available

Table 5.1. (continued)

SSPP Goal	DOE Goal	Performance Status through FY 2014	Planned Actions and Contributions
<i>Goal 4: Water Use Efficiency and Management</i>			
4.1	26% potable water intensity (gal/gsf) reduction by FY 2020 from a FY 2007 baseline, (FY 2014 target: 14%)	Water use intensity measured 138 gal/gsf in FY 2014 (a reduction of 22% to date, exceeding the interim goal)	Additional savings are planned that include eliminating once-through cooling and repair of leaks in the water distribution system. However, new facilities to be commissioned in FY 2018 could reverse the trend
4.2	20% reduction of ILA water use by FY 2020 from a FY 2010 baseline	No ILA water use at ORNL	No ILA water use at ORNL
<i>Goal 5: Pollution Prevention and Waste Reduction</i>			
5.1	Divert at least 50% of nonhazardous solid waste, excluding C&D debris, by FY 2015	A 35% diversion rate was achieved in FY 2014. While less than the target, this represents a modest improvement in the past year	Continue mitigation measures and process improvements to close the gap for this goal in FY 2015 and beyond
5.2	Divert at least 50% of C&D materials and debris by FY 2015	UT-Battelle's diversion rate for C&D debris for FY 2014 is 70%	Continue process improvements. Additional focus will be placed on segregation of waste
<i>Goal 6: Sustainable Acquisition</i>			
6.1	Procurements meet requirements by including necessary provisions and clauses in 95% of applicable contracts	100% of all applicable contracts in FY 2014 contained terms and conditions that invoke requirements for sustainable acquisitions	Procurement transactions will continue to include standard terms and conditions containing sustainable acquisition requirements
<i>Goal 7: Electronic Stewardship and Data Centers</i>			
7.1	All core data centers are metered to measure monthly PUE of 100% by FY 2015 (2014 target: 90%)	All data center equipment is metered	Plans are being developed for adding meters in the 5800 chiller plant
7.2	Core data center maximum annual weighted average PUE of 1.4 by FY 2015 (2014 target: 1.5)	The calculated PUE value at the end of FY 2014 is 1.27 for the CSB data center, exceeding the goal	More accurate monthly and annual PUE calculations will facilitate progress toward even better performance
7.3	100% of eligible PCs, laptops, and monitors with power management actively implemented and in use by FY 2012	100% of the eligible PCs, laptops, and monitors are being actively power managed	Continue to actively ensure all eligible computing equipment is power managed
7.4	95% of eligible electronics acquisitions meet EPEAT standards	95% of eligible computers, monitors, and laptops meet EPEAT standards	Continue to actively ensure all computers, monitors, and laptops are meeting EPEAT standards

Table 5.1. (continued)

SSPP Goal	DOE Goal	Performance Status through FY 2014	Planned Actions and Contributions
Goal 8: Renewable Energy			
8.1	20% of annual electricity consumption from renewable sources by FY 2020 (2014 target: 7.5%)	UT-Battelle produced on-site renewable electricity of 0.035% of consumption. Local (TVA) and marketplace REC purchases resulted in a total of 53,716 MWh of renewable attributes, exceeding the FY 2014 goal at 9%	Annual REC purchases will permit UT-Battelle to meet the goal until additional cost-effective on-site generation is implemented
Goal 9: Climate Change Resilience			
9.1	Address DOE Climate Adaptation Plan goals	In FY2014 an ORNL Climate Change Resiliency team was chartered to ensure continued collaboration and focus on climate change between operations and scientific research staff and to increase awareness of climate events that could impact critical missions, operations, and personnel	The CCR team will ensure that appropriate climate change resiliency elements are considered in future planning for ORNL programs and activities
Goal 10: Energy Performance Contracts			
10.1	Use of energy performance contracts	The ESPC with Johnson Controls, Inc., is a primary mechanism for achieving EPAAct-related goals at ORNL	UT-Battelle will continue to consider opportunities to leverage energy performance contracting to make improvements that will aid in realizing sustainability goals

Acronyms

AFV = alternative fuel vehicle	FY = fiscal year	MWh = megawatt-hour
Btu = British thermal unit	GHG = greenhouse gas	ORNL = Oak Ridge National Laboratory
C&D = construction and demolition	GPs = guiding principles	PC = personal computer
CCR = Climate Change Resiliency (team)	GSA = General Services Administration	PUE = power usage effectiveness
CO ₂ e = carbon dioxide equivalent	gsf = gross square feet	REC = renewable energy credit (also, renewable energy certificate)
CSB = Computational Science Building	HEMSF = high-energy, mission-specific facility	SSPP = Strategic Sustainability Performance Plan (DOE)
DOE = US Department of Energy	HPSB = High Performance Sustainable Buildings	T&D = transmission and distribution
ECM = energy conservation measure	ILA = industrial, landscaping, and agricultural	TVA = Tennessee Valley Authority
EISA = Energy Independence and Security Act	LEED = Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design	
EPAAct = Energy Policy Act (2005)		
EPEAT = Electronic Product Environmental Assessment Tool		
ESPC = Energy Savings Performance Contract		

5.2.1.4.1 Pollution Prevention and Waste Reduction

UT-Battelle implemented 48 new pollution prevention projects at ORNL during 2014, eliminating more than 3.5 million kg (about 7.9 million lb) of waste. In total, these projects and ongoing reuse/recycle projects led to cost savings/avoidance of more than \$2.2 million (Fig. 5.5.) Source reduction actions pursued in 2014 included moving toward paperless work processes; resource-efficient supercomputing; and recycling efforts for paper, scrap metal, lead, electronics, and construction and demolition (C&D) debris. Fig 5.6 summarizes recycling results for 2014.



Fig. 5.5. Recycling with the BigBelly Solar System. [Photo by Jason Richards.]

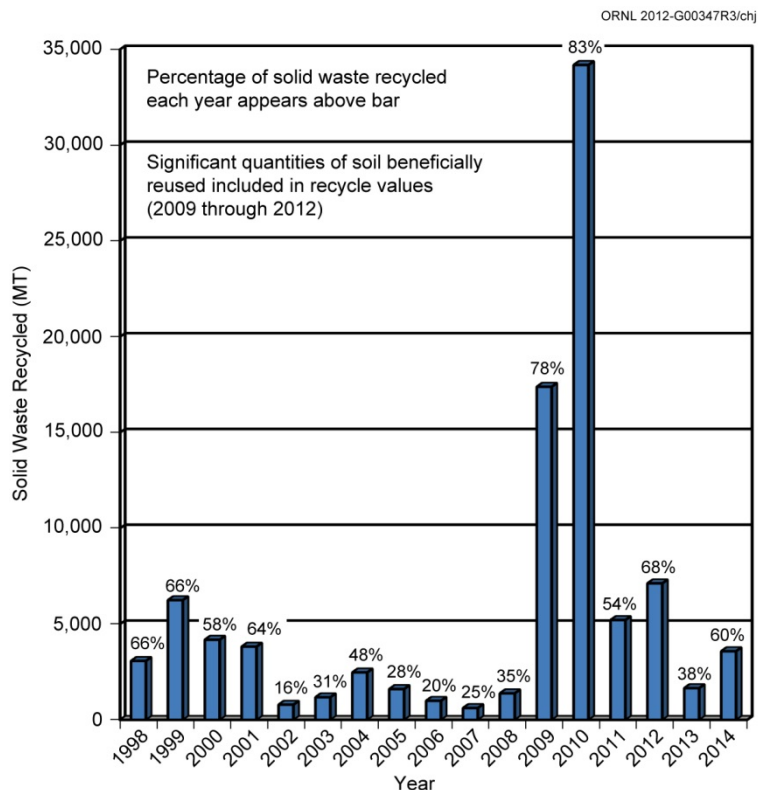


Fig. 5.6. Solid waste recycled at Oak Ridge National Laboratory as a result of recycling programs.

Oak Ridge National Laboratory Pollution Prevention/Sustainability Awards

- 2014 DOE Presidential Migratory Bird Federal Stewardship Award Competition Honorable Mention awarded to ORO and UT-Battelle for the identification of significant migratory bird habitat on ORR.
- 2014 Federal Green Challenge National Award for sustainable electronics stewardship efforts including contracting with a recycler certified to the Responsible Recycling Standard and continuing a transition to the use of zero client servers to replace desktop computers.

- 2014 Tennessee Chamber of Commerce and Industry Solid and Hazardous Waste Management Achievement Certificate for the UT-Battelle recycling program and for teaming with the Michael Dunn Center, a facility that provides services to children and adults with developmental disabilities (Fig. 5.7).
- 2014 DOE Sustainability Award for championing sustainability across ORNL and beyond.



Fig. 5.7. UT-Battelle teamed with the Michael Dunn Center for its award-winning recycling program.

Oak Ridge National Laboratory Awards for Pollution Prevention/Waste Reduction/Sustainability Research

- R&D Magazine R&D 100 Award for the Continuously Variable Series Reactor (CVSR) developed by UT-Battelle, SPX Transformer Solutions Inc., and the University of Tennessee. CVSR is a high power magnetic amplifier that controls power flow in power systems. CVSR's unique design helps to ensure full use of power system assets, increased reliability and efficiency, and effective use of renewable resources.

- R&D Magazine R&D 100 Award for the High Performance Silicon Carbide-Based Plug-in Hybrid Electric Vehicle Battery Charger developed by UT-Battelle, Arkansas Power Electronics International, the University of Arkansas, and Toyota. This onboard battery charger for plug-in hybrid electric vehicles incorporates silicon carbide devices to provide 10 times the power density of current commercial charging systems while delivering more efficient, higher power throughput for faster charging times. In addition, the charger significantly increases the vehicle's range, and the battery pack can be charged from any available single-phase AC power outlet, allowing for cheaper off-peak-hour charging while promoting a decreased dependence on expensive fossil-based fuels.
- R&D Magazine R&D 100 Award for the Ionic Liquid Antiwear Additives for Fuel-Efficient Engine Lubricants developed by UT-Battelle, General Motors Research and Development Center, Shell Global Solutions, and Lubrizol Corporation. The technology uses a group of ionic liquids that can be mixed with common lubricating oils to form a nanostructured protective film on bearing surfaces that effectively reduces friction and wear. This ionic lubricant technology has the potential to save the United States millions of barrels of oil each year.
- R&D Magazine R&D 100 Award for the Portable Aluminum Deposition System developed by UT-Battelle, the University of Mississippi, and United Technologies Research Center. This aluminum plating advance is expected to replace hazardous coatings such as cadmium.
- R&D Magazine R&D 100 Award for the Radio Frequency Diesel Particulate Filter Sensor developed by Filter Sensing Technologies Inc. in collaboration with UT-Battelle and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. This technology provides rapid real-time assessment of soot on diesel particulate filters, which allows greater precision in filter control, thereby reducing fuel consumption and GHG emissions.
- R&D Magazine R&D 100 Award for Super-Hydro-Tunable HiPAS Membranes developed by UT-Battelle. This new class of membrane products can selectively separate molecules in the vapor/gas phase and perform liquid-phase separations, which could be especially useful in reducing the price of bioethanol, ethanol-gasoline blend fuels, and drop-in fuels from bio-oil processing.
- 2014 ORNL Energy and Transportation Science Division Significant Event Award for the world's first dynamic wireless charging system with coils for use in electric vehicles.

5.2.1.4.2 Storm Water Management and the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007

EISA Section 438 stipulates that the sponsor of any development or redevelopment project involving a federal facility with a footprint exceeding 5,000 ft² shall use site planning, design, construction, and maintenance strategies to maintain or restore, to the maximum extent feasible, the predevelopment hydrology of the property. For the purposes of this provision development or redevelopment is defined as "any action that results in the alteration of the landscape during construction of buildings or other infrastructure such as parking lots, roads, etc. (e.g., grading, removal of vegetation, soil compaction) such that the changes affect runoff volumes, rates, temperature, and duration of flow. Examples of projects that would fall under 'redevelopment' include structures or other infrastructure that are being reconstructed or replaced and the landscape is altered. Typical patching or resurfacing of parking lots or other travel areas would not fall under this requirement."

Strategic plans for demolition and renovation of old facilities and construction of new facilities at ORNL incorporate green infrastructure and low impact development (GI/LID) practices to infiltrate, evapotranspire, and/or harvest and use storm water on-site to the maximum extent feasible. GI/LID

approaches and technologies have been used to mimic the natural hydrologic cycle processes of infiltration, evapotranspiration, and use. GI/LID practices that have been incorporated at ORNL include the following.

- Trees and tree boxes
- Rain gardens
- Vegetated swales
- Pocket wetlands
- Infiltration planters
- Porous and permeable pavements
- Vegetated median strips
- Reforestation and revegetation
- Protection of riparian buffers and floodplains
- Retention ponds
- Water reuse (e.g., tanks in restrooms to collect water for reuse in irrigation)

At ORNL, a three step approach is used to evaluate and satisfy the requirements of EISA Section 438. Evaluation occurs

1. within the project boundaries. If the necessary volume of runoff cannot be infiltrated or retained on-site, then
2. on land immediately adjacent to the project boundaries. If the necessary volume of runoff cannot be infiltrated or retained on land immediately adjacent to the project boundaries, then
3. within the same valley or ridge area (e.g., within Bethel Valley if the project is within Bethel Valley; within Melton Valley if the project is within Melton Valley).

In addition to the GI/LID practices mentioned above, the projects may remove impervious areas and reestablish pervious areas to allow infiltration or evapotranspiration to occur.

5.2.1.5 Emergency Preparedness and Response

The Emergency Management System supplies the resources and capabilities to provide emergency preparedness services and, in the event of an accident, emergency response services. Emergency preparedness personnel perform hazard surveys and hazard assessments to identify potential emergency situations. Procedures and plans have been developed to prepare for and respond to a wide variety of potential emergency situations. Training is provided to ensure appropriate response and performance during emergency events. Frequent exercises and drills are scheduled to ensure the effective performance of the procedures and plans. An environmental subject matter expert is a member of the emergency response team and participates in drills and exercises to ensure that environmental requirements are met and that environmental impacts from the event (and the response) are mitigated.

5.2.1.6 Checking

5.2.1.6.1 Monitoring and Measurement

UT-Battelle has developed monitoring and measurement processes for each operation or activity that can have a significant impact on the environment. Several SBMS subject areas include requirements for managers to establish performance objectives, indicators, and targets; conduct performance assessments

to collect data and monitor progress; and evaluate the data to identify strengths and weaknesses in performance and areas for improvement.

5.2.1.6.2 Environmental Management System Assessments

Several methods are used by UT-Battelle to evaluate compliance with legal and other environmental requirements. Most of the compliance evaluation activities are implemented through EMS or are a part of line-organization assessment activities. Should a nonconformance be identified, the ORNL issues management process requires that any regulatory or management system nonconformance be reviewed for cause and corrective and/or preventive actions developed. These actions are then implemented and tracked to completion.

SBMS requires organizations to perform periodic environmental assessments that cover both legal and other requirements and requires management system owners to conduct annual self-assessments of their systems to ensure the systems are effective and are continually improving.

UT-Battelle also uses the results from numerous external compliance inspections conducted by regulators to verify compliance with requirements. In addition to regulatory compliance assessments, there are internal and external EMS assessments performed annually to ensure the UT-Battelle EMS continues to conform to ISO requirements. In 2014, an internal audit and an external surveillance audit were conducted and verified that EMS continued to conform to ISO 14001:2004. In addition to verifying conformance, these management system assessments also identify continual improvement opportunities.

5.2.2 Environmental Management System for the Transuranic Waste Processing Center

The WAI EMS for activities at TWPC was registered to the ISO 14001:2004 Standard by NSF-ISR in May 2008 and is integrated with ISMS to provide a unified strategy for the management of resources, the control and reduction of risks, and the establishment and achievement of the organization's ES&H goals. EMS and ISMS are incorporated into the *Integrated Safety Management System Description* (BJC 2009), and a "plan-do-check-act" cycle is used for continual improvement in both. NSF-ISR conducted a recertification audit in April 2014, and no nonconformances or issues were identified and several significant practices were noted.

The WAI EMS incorporates applicable environmental laws, DOE orders, and other requirements (i.e., directives and federal, state, and local laws) through WAI's requirements management document (WAI 2012) and regulatory management plan (WAI 2012a), which dictate how the various requirements are incorporated into subject area documents (procedures and guidelines). EMS assists line organizations in identifying and addressing environmental issues.

Environmental aspects are elements of an organization's activities, products, or services that can interact with the environment. WAI has identified environmental aspects associated with TWPC activities, products, and services at both the project and activity level and has identified waste management activities, air emissions, storm water contamination, pollution prevention, habitat alteration, and energy consumption as potentially having significant environmental impacts. Activities that are relative to any of those aspects are carefully controlled to minimize or eliminate impacts to the environment.

WAI has established and implemented objectives and measurable performance indicators for the targets associated with the identified significant impacts.

The pollution prevention programs at TWPC involve waste reduction efforts and implementation of sustainable practices that reduce the environmental impacts of the activities conducted at TWPC. The WAI EMS establishes annual goals and targets to reduce the impact of TWPC's environmental aspects.

WAI has a well-established recycling program at TWPC and continues to identify new material-recycling streams and to expand the types of materials included in the program. Currently, recycle streams at TWPC range from office materials such as paper, aluminum cans, plastic drinking bottles, Styrofoam cups, alkaline batteries, and toner cartridges to operations-oriented materials such as scrap metal, cardboard, construction debris, and batteries. WAI has established a "single stream" recycling program that allows the mixing of multiple types of recyclables that increases the population of recyclable items and improves compliance. A construction debris recycling program began in September 2011 and has resulted in about 122 tons being diverted from the landfill to date.

"Environmentally preferable purchasing" is a term used to describe an organization's policy to reduce packaging and to purchase products made with recycled material or biobased materials and other environmentally friendly products. WAI ensures environmentally preferable products are purchased by incorporating the green procurement requirements in WAI procurement procedures.

Several methods are used by WAI to evaluate compliance with legal and other requirements. Most of these compliance evaluation activities are implemented by internal and external environmental and management assessment activities and routine reporting and reviews. WAI also uses the results from numerous external compliance inspections conducted by regulators and contractors to verify compliance with requirements.

5.2.3 Environmental Management System for Isotek

Isotek has developed and implemented an EMS for the U-233 Disposition Project that reflects the elements and framework found in the ISO14001:2004 standard and satisfies the applicable requirements of DOE O 450.1A, *Environmental Protection Program* (DOE 2008). The scope of the Isotek EMS is to achieve and demonstrate environmental excellence by identifying, assessing, and controlling the impact of Isotek activities and facilities on the environment. The EMS is designed to ensure compliance with environmental laws, regulations, and other applicable requirements and to improve effectiveness and efficiency, reduce costs, and earn and retain regulator and community trust. The Isotek EMS and ISMS are fully integrated.

Project procedures provide a systematic approach to integrating environmental considerations into all aspects of Isotek's activities at ORNL. The Isotek EMS includes a procedure for identifying environmental aspects associated with the U-233 Disposition Project and determining whether these aspects can have significant environmental impacts. Radiological air emissions have been identified as the only Isotek environmental aspect with potentially significant environmental impacts, and an environmental management plan with measurable objectives and targets to address this aspect has been developed. Environmental aspects, potential impacts, objectives, targets, and environmental management plans are reviewed at least annually and updated as necessary.

The U-233 Disposition Project has a well-established recycling program that is implemented at all Isotek facilities and includes Buildings 3017 and 3019 at ORNL and an off-site administrative office in Oak Ridge. The materials currently recycled by Isotek include paper, cardboard, aluminum cans, plastic bottles, inkjet and toner cartridges, lamps, batteries, scrap metal, circuit boards, aerosol cans, and used oil.

To evaluate compliance with legal and other requirements, Isotek conducts an EMS audit every 3 years, annual management assessments, and periodic surveillances. Compliance with requirements is also

evaluated through inspections performed by regulatory agencies. The results of these compliance evaluations are used for continual improvement of the EMS.

5.3 Compliance Programs and Status

During 2014 UT-Battelle, UCOR, WAI, and Isotek operations were conducted in compliance with contractual and regulatory environmental requirements. One NOV was issued to UT-Battelle by TDEC in 2014. On December 11, 2014, after self-reporting, ORNL received an NOV from TDEC. The NOV was for failure to notify TDEC of the demolition of two small (about 300 ft² each) structures. Although the facilities did not contain asbestos, the regulations require that TDEC be notified before any building demolition.

Table 5.2 presents a summary of environmental audits conducted at ORNL in 2014.

Table 5.2. Summary of regulatory environmental audits, evaluations, inspections, and assessments conducted at Oak Ridge National Laboratory, 2014

Date	Reviewer	Subject	Issues
March 19	City of Oak Ridge	CFTF Wastewater Inspection	0
April 30	TDEC	UST Compliance Inspection	0
May 12–13	TDEC	Annual RCRA Inspection for ORNL	3
June 19	TDEC	Annual CAA Inspection for ORNL and CFTF	0
July 16	TDEC	Follow-Up Inspection from the FY 2013 Compliance Evaluation Inspection of CWA/NPDES programs	0
September 23	City of Oak Ridge	CFTF Wastewater Inspection	0
November 13	TDEC	Annual TWPC CAA Inspection	0
October 21–22	TDEC	Annual RCRA Inspection of ORNL at Y-12 Facilities	0
December 16	Knox County	Annual CAA Inspection for NTRC	0

Acronyms

CAA = Clean Air Act	ORNL = Oak Ridge National Laboratory
CWA = Clean Water Act	RCRA = Resource Conservation and Recovery Act
CFTF = Carbon Fiber Technology Facility	TDEC = Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation
NPDES = National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System	TWPC = Transuranic Waste Processing Center
NTRC = National Transportation Research Center	UST = underground storage tank

No RCRA Subtitle D disposal facilities are operated at ORNL. Industrial solid waste is sent to the Y-12 Complex industrial solid waste disposal landfills. ORNL complies with the requirements by meeting the waste acceptance criteria at the Y-12 facilities.

The following discussions summarize the major environmental programs and activities carried out at ORNL during 2014 and provide an overview of the compliance status for the year.

5.3.1 Environmental Permits

Table 5.3 contains a list of environmental permits that were in effect in 2014 at ORNL.

Table 5.3. Oak Ridge National Laboratory environmental permits, 2014

Regulatory driver	Permit title/description	Permit number	Issue date	Expiration date	Owner	Operator	Responsible contractor
CAA	Title V Major Source Operating Permit, ORNL	562765	08-16-11	08-15-16	DOE	UT-B	UT-B
CAA	Construction Permit, CFTF facility (located near ETPP)	965013P	03-27-12	11-01-14	DOE	UT-B	UT-B
CAA	Construction Permit, CFTF emergency generator	967180P	03/07/14	03-06-15	DOE	UT-B	UT-B
CAA	Operating Permit, NTRC	0941-05 ^a	10-23-12	Annually ^b	DOE	UT-B	UT-B
CAA	Operating Permit, WAI	063331P	03-07-12	03-01-22	DOE	WAI	WAI
CAA	Operating Permit, WAI emergency generator	068459P	04-14-14	10-01-23	DOE	WAI	WAI
CAA	Title V Major Source Operating Permit, ORNL	562860	07-16-10	07-15-15	DOE	UCOR	UCOR
CAA	Title V Major Source Operating Permit, Isotek	568276	10-06-14	10-05-19	DOE	Isotek	Isotek
CWA	ORNL NPDES Permit (ORNL sitewide wastewater discharge permit)	TN0002941	03-01-14	10-31-18	DOE	DOE	UT-B, UCOR, WAI
CWA	Tennessee General NPDES Permit TNR10-0000, Storm Water Discharges from Construction Activities—Spallation Neutron Source	TNR139975	10-10-00	05-23-16	DOE	DOE	UT-B
CWA	Tennessee General NPDES Permit TNR10-0000, Storm Water Discharges from Construction Activities—7018 Renovations/Additions (2.81 acres)	TNR134552	08-05-14	05-23-16	DOE	DOE	UT-B
CWA	Industrial and Commercial User Waste Water Discharge Permit (CFTF)	1-12	10-15-12	03-31-15	UT-B	UT-B	UT-B
CWA	Tennessee General NPDES Permit TNR10-0000, Storm Water Discharges from Construction Activities—Pro2Serve National Security Engineering Center		10-06	NA	DOE	DOE	CROET
CWA	Tennessee Operating Permit, Holding Tank/Haul System for Domestic Wastewater	SOP-07014	06-01-12	04-30-17	UCOR	UCOR	UCOR
CWA	Tennessee Operating Permit (sewage)	SOP-02056	02-01-13	12-31-17	DOE	WAI	WAI
CWA	Tennessee General NPDES Permit TNR10-0000, Storm Water Discharges from Construction Activity—Site Expansion Project	TNR 133560	08-31-09	NA	DOE	WAI	WAI
CWA	ARAP for ORNL East Campus Pond Replacement	ARAP NR1403.060	05-06-14	06-30-15	DOE	UT-B	UT-B
RCRA	Hazardous Waste Transporter Permit	TN1890090003	01-17-14	01-31-15	DOE	DOE	UT-B, UCOR

Table 5.3 (continued)

Regulatory driver	Permit title/description	Permit number	Issue date	Expiration date	Owner	Operator	Responsible contractor
RCRA	Hazardous Waste Corrective Action Permit	TNHW-121	09-28-04	09-28-14 ^c	DOE	DOE/all ^d	DOE/all
RCRA	Hazardous Waste Container Storage and Treatment Units	TNHW-134	09-26-08	09-26-18	DOE	DOE/UT-B	UT-B
RCRA	Hazardous Waste Container Storage and Treatment Units	TNHW-145	02-03-10	02-03-20	DOE	DOE/ UCOR/WAI	UCOR/WAI

^aPermit issued by Knox County Department of Air Quality Management.

^bContinued construction/operation under an expired permit is allowed under air pollution control regulations when timely renewal or construction permit applications are submitted.

^cTDEC issued completeness determination on 9/5/14 for the Part A and Part B renewal application. Permit is anticipated to be renewed in 2015.

^dDOE and Oak Ridge Reservation contractors are co-operators of hazardous waste permits.

Acronyms

ARAP = Aquatic Resource Alteration Permit

CAA = Clean Air Act

CFTF = Carbon Fiber Technology Facility

CROET = Community Reuse Organization of East Tennessee

CWA = Clean Water Act

DOE = US Department of Energy

ETTP = East Tennessee Technology Park

Isotek = Isotek Systems LLC

NPDES = National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System

NTRC = National Transportation Research Center

ORNL = Oak Ridge National Laboratory

RCRA = Resource Conservation and Recovery Act

UCOR = URS | CH2M Hill Oak Ridge LLC

UT-B = UT-Battelle, LLC

WAI = Wastren Advantage, Inc.

5.3.2 National Environmental Policy Act/National Historic Preservation Act

NEPA provides a means to evaluate the potential environmental impact of proposed federal activities and to examine alternatives to those actions. UT-Battelle, WAI, and Isotek maintain compliance with NEPA through the use of site-level procedures and program descriptions that establish effective and responsive communications with program managers and project engineers to establish NEPA as a key consideration in the formative stages of project planning. Table 5.4 summarizes NEPA activities conducted at ORNL during 2014.

Table 5.4. National Environmental Policy Act activities, 2014

Types of NEPA documentation	Number of instances
<i>Oak Ridge National Laboratory</i>	
Approved under general actions ^a or generic CX determinations	54
Project-specific CX ^b determinations	0
<i>Wastren Advantage, Inc.</i>	
Approved under general actions ^a or generic CX determinations	1

^aProjects that were reviewed and documented through the site NEPA compliance coordinator.

^bProjects that were reviewed and approved through the DOE Site Office and NEPA Compliance Officer.

Acronyms

CX = categorical exclusion

NEPA = National Environmental Policy Act

During 2014, UT-Battelle and WAI continued to operate under site-level procedures that provide requirements for project reviews and NEPA compliance. These procedures call for a review of each proposed project, activity, or facility to determine the potential for impacts to the environment. To streamline the NEPA review and documentation process, the DOE Oak Ridge Office has approved generic CX determinations that cover proposed bench- and pilot-scale research activities and generic CXs that cover proposed nonresearch activities (e.g., maintenance activities, facilities upgrades, personnel safety enhancements). A CX is one of a category of actions defined in 40 CFR 1508.4 that does not individually or cumulatively have a significant effect on the human environment and for which neither an environmental assessment nor an environmental impact statement is normally required.

UT-Battelle uses SBMS as the delivery system to manage and control work at ORNL. NEPA is an integral part of SBMS, and a UT-Battelle NEPA coordinator works with principal investigators, environmental compliance representatives, and environmental protection officers within each UT-Battelle division to determine appropriate NEPA decisions.

Compliance with NHPA at ORNL is achieved and maintained in conjunction with NEPA compliance. The scope of proposed actions is reviewed in accordance with the ORR cultural resource management plan (Souza et al. 2001).

5.3.3 Clean Air Act Compliance Status

CAA, passed in 1970 and amended in 1977 and 1990, forms the basis for the national air pollution control effort. This legislation established comprehensive federal and state regulations to limit air

emissions. It includes four major regulatory programs: the National Ambient Air Quality Standards, State Implementation Plans, NSPSs, and NESHAPs. Airborne discharges from DOE Oak Ridge facilities, both radioactive and nonradioactive, are subject to regulation by EPA and the TDEC Division of Air Pollution Control. The sitewide Title V Major Source Operating Permit, renewed in 2011, was modified three times in 2014 to keep current with the latest UT-Battelle operating status. The Title V Major Source Operating Permit for Isotek operations was renewed in 2014. To demonstrate compliance with the Title V Major Source Operating Permits, more than 1,500 data points are collected and reported every year. In addition, NO_x, a criteria pollutant, is monitored continuously at one location; samples are collected continuously from 9 major radionuclide sources and periodically from 15 minor radionuclide sources; and there are numerous other demonstrations of compliance with generally applicable air quality protection requirements (asbestos, stratospheric ozone, etc.). There are also two off-site CAA permits for facilities maintained and operated by UT-Battelle: a minor source operating permit issued by Knox County Air Quality Management for NTRC and a Title V construction permit issued by TDEC for CFTF. In summary, there was one UT-Battelle CAA violation and no Isotek, UCOR, or WAI CAA violations or exceedances in 2014. The one CAA violation was for failure to provide timely notification to TDEC of the planned demolition of two small structures (about 300 ft² each). Although the facilities did not contain asbestos, the regulations require that TDEC be notified before any building demolition.

Section 5.4 provides detailed information on 2014 activities conducted by UT-Battelle in support of CAA.

5.3.4 Clean Water Act Compliance Status

The objective of CWA is to restore, maintain, and protect the integrity of the nation's waters. This act serves as the basis for comprehensive federal and state programs to protect the nation's waters from pollutants. (See Appendix C for water quality reference standards.) One of the strategies developed to achieve the goals of CWA was EPA's establishment of limits on specific pollutants allowed to be discharged to US waters by municipal STPs and industrial facilities. EPA established the NPDES permitting program to regulate compliance with pollutant limitations. The program was designed to protect surface waters by limiting effluent discharges into streams, reservoirs, wetlands, and other surface waters. EPA has delegated authority for implementation and enforcement of the NPDES program to the State of Tennessee.

In 2014, compliance with the ORNL NPDES permit was determined by about 2,300 laboratory analyses and field measurements. The NPDES permit limit compliance rate for all discharge points for 2014 was 100%, with no measurements exceeding numeric NPDES permit limits. Section 5.5 contains detailed information on the monitoring programs and activities carried out in 2013 by UT-Battelle in support of CWA.

5.3.5 Safe Drinking Water Act Compliance Status

ORNL's water distribution system is designated as a "nontransient, noncommunity" water system by TDEC's Bureau of Environment Division of Water Supply. TDEC's Bureau of Environment Division of Water Supply rules, Chapter 0400-45-01, Public Water Systems (TDEC 2012), sets limits for biological contaminants and for chemical activities and chemical contaminants. TDEC requires sampling for the following constituents for compliance with state and federal regulations:

- residual chlorine,
- bacterial (total coliform),
- disinfectant by-product (trihalomethanes and haloacetic acids), and
- lead and copper (required once every 3 years).

The city of Oak Ridge supplies potable water to the ORNL water distribution system and meets all regulatory requirements for drinking water. The water treatment plant, located on ORR, north of the Y-12 Complex, is owned and operated by the City of Oak Ridge.

In 2014, sampling results for ORNL's water system residual chlorine levels, bacterial constituents, and disinfectant by-products were all within acceptable limits. Sampling for lead and copper was conducted in 2012 and will not be required again until 2015.

5.3.6 Resource Conservation and Recovery Act Compliance Status

The Hazardous Waste Program under RCRA establishes a system for regulating hazardous wastes from the initial point of generation through final disposal. In Tennessee, TDEC has been delegated authority by EPA to implement the Hazardous Waste Program; EPA retains an oversight role. In 2014, DOE and its contractors at ORNL were jointly regulated as a "large-quantity generator of hazardous waste" under EPA ID TN1890090003 because, collectively, they generated more than 1,000 kg (2,205 lb) of hazardous/mixed wastes in at least 1 calendar month during 2014. Mixed wastes are both hazardous (under RCRA regulations) and radioactive. Hazardous/mixed wastes are accumulated in SAAs, less-than-90-day accumulation areas, and are stored and/or treated in RCRA-permitted units. In addition, hazardous/mixed wastes are shipped off-site for treatment and disposal. The RCRA units operate under three permits at ORNL, TNHW-145, TNHW-134, and TNHW-121, as shown in Table 5.5. In 2014, UT-Battelle and UCOR were permitted to transport hazardous wastes under an EPA ID number issued for ORNL activities.

Reporting is required for hazardous waste activities on 42 active waste streams at ORNL, some of which are mixed wastes. The quantity of hazardous/mixed waste generated at ORNL in 2014 was 441,680 kg (486.9 tons), with mixed wastewater accounting for 334,368 kg (368.6 tons). Excluding the wastewater, 2014 hazardous waste generation decreased by about 56%. This reduction is attributed to decreases in debris generated from building cleanout and demolition, a decrease in macroencapsulation of hazardous waste, and decreases in TRU waste generation. ORNL generators treated 3,850.5 kg (4.24 tons) of hazardous/mixed waste by elementary neutralization and silver recovery, and 27 kg (0.03 tons) of hazardous/mixed waste received from UT-Battelle generators at the Union Valley Property Sales facility was stored at ORNL and subsequently shipped off the site for treatment/disposal. The quantity of hazardous/mixed waste treated in RCRA-permitted treatment facilities at ORNL in 2014 was 16,438 kg (18.1 tons). This included waste treated by macroencapsulation, size reduction, and stabilization/solidification. In addition, 334,368 kg (368.6 tons) of mixed waste was treated at an on-site wastewater treatment facility. The amount of hazardous/mixed waste shipped off the site to commercial treatment, storage, and disposal facilities decreased about 50% to 113,206 kg (124.8 tons) in 2014.

In May 2014, TDEC conducted an annual RCRA inspection of ORNL generator areas; battery collection areas; RCRA-permitted treatment, storage, and disposal facilities; and RCRA records. During this inspection, all records were found to be in compliance with RCRA regulations and the RCRA permits; however, TDEC inspectors observed one container of hazardous waste in a satellite accumulation area and one container of hazardous waste in a 90-day accumulation area that were not closed. They also noted that this 90-day accumulation area was in the immediate vicinity of heavy equipment operations. The containers were immediately closed during the inspection, and the heavy equipment was subsequently moved away from the waste accumulation area.

DOE and UT-Battelle operations at NTRC and CFTF were regulated as "conditionally exempt small-quantity generators" in 2014, meaning that less than 100 kg (220.5 lb) of hazardous waste per month was generated.

No hazardous/mixed wastes were generated, accumulated, or shipped by DOE or UT-Battelle at the DOE Office of Scientific and Technical Information, the 1916-T2 warehouse, or the 0800 Area in 2014. The 0800 Area is a location on ORR adjacent to ORNL that has been assigned EPA identification number TNR000019760.

Table 5.5. Oak Ridge National Laboratory Resource Conservation and Recovery Act operating permits, 2014

Permit number	Storage and treatment units/description
<i>Oak Ridge National Laboratory</i>	
TNHW-134	Building 7651 Container Storage Unit Building 7652 Container Storage Unit Building 7653 Container Storage Unit Building 7654 Container Storage Unit Portable Unit 2 Storage and Treatment Unit
TNHW-145	Portable Unit 1 Storage Unit Building 7572 Container Storage Unit Building 7574 Container Storage Unit Building 7823 Container Storage Unit Building 7855 Container Storage Unit Building 7860A Container Storage Unit Building 7879 Container Storage Unit Building 7883 Container Storage Unit Building 7880A TWPC-1 (Contact-Handled Storage Area) Container Storage Unit TWPC-2 (Second Floor WPB) Container Storage Unit TWPC-3 (Drum Aging Criteria) Container Storage Unit TWPC-4 (First Floor WPB) Container Storage Unit TWPC-5 (Container Storage Area) Container Storage Unit TWPC-6 (Contact-Handled Marshaling Building) Container Storage Unit, Building 7880BB TWPC-7 (Drum-Venting Building) Container Storage Unit, Building 7880AA TWPC-8 (Multipurpose Building) Container Storage Unit, Building 7880QQ Macroencapsulation T-1 Treatment Unit Amalgamation T-2a Treatment Unit Solidification/Stabilization T-3a Treatment Unit Groundwater Absorption T-4a Treatment Unit Size Reduction T-5a Treatment Unit Groundwater Filtration T-6
<i>Oak Ridge Reservation</i>	
TNHW-121	Hazardous Waste Corrective Action Permit

^aTreatment operating units within Building 7880.

Acronyms

TWPC = Transuranic Waste Processing Center

WPB = Waste Processing Building

5.3.7 Oak Ridge National Laboratory RCRA-CERCLA Coordination

The ORR FFA (DOE 2014a) is intended to coordinate the corrective action processes of RCRA required under the Hazardous and Solid Waste Amendments permit with CERCLA response actions. Annual updates

for 2014 for ORNL's Solid Waste Management Units and Areas of Concern were consolidated with updates for ETP, the Y-12 Complex, and ORR and were reported to TDEC, DOE, and EPA Region 4 in January 2015.

Periodic updates of proposed C&D activities and facilities at ORNL have been provided to managers and project personnel from the TDEC DOE Oversight Division and EPA Region 4. A CERCLA screening process is used to identify proposed C&D projects and facilities that warrant CERCLA oversight. The goal is to ensure that modernization efforts do not impact the effectiveness of previously completed CERCLA environmental remediation actions and do not adversely impact future CERCLA environmental remediation actions.

The UT-Battelle Environmental Management Program Office performs both direct EM work and an integration function for the DOE EM-funded American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) work at ORNL. Although the completion of EM-related work (i.e., environmental remediation and building decontamination and demolition) is not a UT-Battelle core business function, UT-Battelle effectively participated in the completion of ARRA-funded cleanup work to accelerate ORNL revitalization. Activities during FY 2014 focused on Building 2026 and consisted of completion of legacy material removal projects including cleanout of Hot Cell 3, disposition of low volume/high cost chemical wastes, and cleaning of the window on Hot Cell 6. In addition, infrastructure improvements were initiated in 2015 at Building 2026 to support future down-blending of ^{233}U as part of the de-inventory of Building 3019 including cleanout of room 121 and laboratory 138, replacement of the chiller system and cooling tower, replacement of the fire alarm panel and fire suppression sprinklers, and changeout of facility HEPA filters.

5.3.7.1 Resource Conservation and Recovery Act Underground Storage Tanks

USTs containing petroleum and hazardous substances are regulated under RCRA Subtitle I (40 CFR 280). TDEC has been granted authority by EPA to regulate USTs containing petroleum under TDEC Rule 400-18-01; however, hazardous-substance USTs are still regulated by EPA.

ORNL has four USTs registered with TDEC under Facility ID 0-730089. A summary of the USTs follows.

- Two are in service (petroleum) and meet the current UST standards.
- One has been placed into a “temporary closure” status in accordance with the regulations pending permanent closure in the future.
- One is a wastewater treatment tank that is exempt from regulation. An amended notification was filed with TDEC—UST Section explaining that the tank is regulated under CWA Section 402 and is, therefore, excluded from the UST regulations [refer to 40 CFR 280.10(b)]. The “Tank Owner’s Authorized Representative or Contact” was also changed to UCOR for this particular UST.

5.3.8 Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act Compliance Status

CERCLA, also known as Superfund, was passed in 1980 and was amended in 1986 by SARA. Under CERCLA, a site is investigated and remediated if it poses significant risk to health or the environment. The EPA NPL is a comprehensive list of sites and facilities that have been found to pose a sufficient threat to human health and/or the environment to warrant cleanup under CERCLA.

In 1989, ORR was placed on the EPA NPL. In 1992, the ORR FFA among EPA, TDEC, and DOE became effective and established the framework and schedule for developing, implementing, and monitoring RAs on ORR. The on-site CERCLA EMWMF is operated by UCOR for DOE. Located in

Bear Creek Valley, EMWMF is used for disposal of waste resulting from CERCLA cleanup actions on ORR, including ORNL. EMWMF is an engineered landfill that accepts low-level radioactive, hazardous, asbestos, and PCB wastes and combinations of the aforementioned wastes in accordance with specific waste acceptance criteria under an agreement with state and federal regulators.

5.3.9 Toxic Substances Control Act Compliance Status

PCB waste generation, transportation, and storage at ORNL are regulated under EPA ID TN1890090003. In 2014, UT-Battelle operated 16 PCB waste storage areas in generator buildings. When longer term storage was necessary, PCB/radioactive wastes were stored in RCRA-permitted storage buildings at ORNL. Two PCB waste storage areas were operated at UT-Battelle facilities at the Y-12 Complex. The continued use of authorized PCBs in electrical systems and/or equipment (e.g., transformers, capacitors, rectifiers) is regulated at ORNL. The majority of equipment at ORNL that required regulation under TSCA has been disposed of. However, some of the ORNL facilities at the Y-12 Complex continue to use (or store for future reuse) PCB equipment.

Because of the age of many of the ORNL facilities and the varied uses for PCBs in gaskets, grease, building construction, and equipment, DOE self-disclosed unauthorized use of PCBs to EPA in the late 1980s. As a result, DOE and ORNL contractors negotiated a compliance agreement with EPA (see Table 2.1) to address the compliance issues related to these unauthorized uses and to allow for continued use pending decontamination or disposal. As a result of that agreement, DOE continues to notify EPA when additional unauthorized uses of PCBs, such as PCBs in paint, adhesives, electrical wiring, or floor tile, are found at ORNL. In 2014, one unauthorized use of PCBs was discovered in pipe coating material in the 7900 area.

5.3.10 Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act Compliance Status

EPCRA and Title III of SARA require that facilities report inventories and releases of certain chemicals that exceed specific release thresholds. The reports are submitted to the local emergency planning committee and the state emergency response commission. Table 5.6 describes the main elements of EPCRA. UT-Battelle complied with these requirements in 2014 through the submittal of reports under EPCRA Sections 302, 303, 311, and 312. These reports contain information on all DOE prime contractors and their subcontractors who reported activities at the ORNL site.

ORNL had no releases of extremely hazardous substances, as defined by EPCRA, in 2014.

Table 5.6. Main elements of the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act

Title	Description
Sections 302 and 303, Planning Notification	Requires that local planning committee and state emergency response commission be notified of EPCRA-related planning
Section 304, Extremely Hazardous Substance Release Notification	Addresses reporting to state and local authorities of off-site releases
Sections 311–312, Material Safety Data Sheet/Chemical Inventory	Requires that either safety data sheets or lists of hazardous chemicals for which they are required be provided to state and local authorities for emergency planning. Requires that an inventory of hazardous chemicals maintained in quantities over thresholds be reported annually to EPA
Section 313, Toxic Chemical Release Reporting	Requires that releases of toxic chemicals be reported annually to EPA

Acronyms

EPA = US Environmental Protection Agency

EPCRA = Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act

5.3.10.1 Material Safety Data Sheet/Chemical Inventory (Section 312)

Inventories, locations, and associated hazards of hazardous and extremely hazardous chemicals were submitted in an annual report to state and local emergency responders as required by the EPCRA Section 312 requirements. In 2014, 16 hazardous or extremely hazardous chemicals were located at ORNL in quantities above EPCRA reporting thresholds.

Private-sector lessees associated with the reindustrialization effort were not included in the 2014 submittals. Under the terms of their leases, lessees must evaluate their own inventories of hazardous and extremely hazardous chemicals and must submit information as required by the regulations.

5.3.10.2 Toxic Chemical Release Reporting (EPCRA Section 313)

DOE submits annual toxic release inventory reports to EPA and TDEC on or before July 1 of each year. The reports cover the previous calendar year and address releases of certain toxic chemicals to air, water, and land and waste management, recycling, and pollution prevention activities. Threshold determinations and reports for each of the ORR facilities are made separately. Operations involving toxic release inventory chemicals were compared with regulatory thresholds to determine which chemicals exceeded the reporting thresholds based on amounts manufactured, processed, or otherwise used at each facility. After threshold determinations were made, releases and other waste management activities were calculated for each chemical that exceeded one or more of the thresholds.

For CY 2014, UT-Battelle reported the otherwise use of 28,863 lb of nitric acid and the manufacture of 49,318 lb of nitrate compounds. Of this, 28,736 lb of the nitric acid was used for waste treatment at PWTC and 111 lb was sent off the site for disposition. Nitrate compounds are coincidentally manufactured as by-products of neutralizing nitric acid waste and as by-products of sewage treatment.

5.3.11 US Department of Agriculture/Tennessee Department of Agriculture

USDA, through Animal and Plant Health Inspection Services, issues permits for the import, transit, and controlled release of regulated animals, animal products, veterinary biologics, plants, plant products, pests, organisms, soil, and genetically engineered organisms. The Tennessee Department of Agriculture issues agreements and jointly regulates domestic soil. In 2014, UT-Battelle personnel had a combined 28 permits and agreements for the receipt, movement, or controlled release of regulated articles.

5.3.12 Wetlands

Vegetation parameters were measured at the ORNL parking structure wetland (P2) about 3 years after mitigation. Percent cover by species was measured for each plot. Information was also taken on any fauna present at the time of the survey. Fourth year data showed excellent overall vegetation coverage, providing good quality habitat. Vegetation growing in the wetland included both planted and volunteer plant species. A good variety of fauna was noted in and around the wetland, including birds, frogs, and benthic macroinvertebrates (Fig. 5.8).



Fig. 5.8. Oak Ridge Reservation wetlands.
[Photo by Jason Richards.]

Stream habitat assessments were conducted at both First Creek and WOC reaches using Habitat Assessment Data Sheets found in the Tennessee Mitigation Guidelines. Metrics evaluated at both sites included epifaunal substrate, embeddedness (amount of silt, etc. between rocks), velocity/depth regime, sediment deposition, channel flow, frequency of riffles, bank stability, and vegetative cover. These parameters were measured using rapid bioassessment protocols for use in wadeable streams and rivers (Barbour et al. 1999).

First Creek mitigation activities had already been completed before the first habitat assessment, which was conducted in 2011. The 2014 survey represented the fourth formal assessment of post-mitigation conditions. Pre-mitigation conditions for First Creek are discussed qualitatively based on information contained in previous reports. The 2014 WOC habitat assessment was based on habitat conditions about 3 years after mitigation.

Riparian zone vegetation surveys were conducted by establishing 10 m by 5 m (32.8 ft by 16.4 ft) plots about 10 m (32.8 ft) apart (First Creek—east bank, WOC—north and south banks). A total of 11 plots were established at First Creek, and 13 plots were established at WOC. For each plot the following parameters were measured: trees (≥ 3 in. diameter at breast height)—measured, shrub stems (< 3 in. diameter at breast height)—counted, percent groundcover, percent canopy cover, canopy height, vegetation overhang (in centimeters) for each stream bank.

Fish and benthic community monitoring results were evaluated as an indicator of whether or not the stream sections were functioning as suitable habitat for instream organisms. Benthic macroinvertebrate community data were gathered at First Creek (July 11, 2014) and WOC (July 11, 2014) using an EPA-approved rapid qualitative assessment technique. At each site seven aquatic habitats were identified and sampled for aquatic macroinvertebrates, riffles, leaf packs, woody debris, rocks, root wads, aquatic vegetation, and instream sediment deposition. These habitats were located within 100 m (328 ft) upstream and downstream of the sampling site established along each reach. Habitats missing from the site were not sampled. After all habitats were sampled, a tally of each insect family was completed to determine the number of families represented by EPT. BMAP fish survey data used for evaluation of First Creek were from close proximity to the subject reach. The fish community data used for evaluation of the WOC site were from data taken during routine BMAP surveys within the subject reach. The fish communities within these reaches were monitored using a multiple pass removal estimate method (Ryon 2011). The sample sites were isolated by block nets, multiple passes were made using backpack or barge electrofishers, and all stunned fish were collected. Fish were identified by species, measured for length and weight, and returned to the site.

The results of habitat measurements conducted along the First Creek reach in 2014 showed that the creek continued to provide good overall habitat and remained in an unimpaired state. The relatively linear condition of the creek was evidence of past channelization with the development of the area. Relatively narrow riparian zones are a weakness of the site from the perspective of providing good quality habitat. However, riparian zones in this area are restricted by paved and landscaped areas because the creek runs through a developed area. Mitigation plantings on the east side of the creek have improved habitat quality in that area over original habitat conditions that included large mowed turf grass areas and a high number of invasive plant species. The riparian zone on the west side is highly restricted because of the close proximity of landscaped and parking areas associated with a building complex. Cover is maintained to the maximum extent possible in this narrow zone. The presence of invasive plants such as winter creeper in these zones is a potential concern. However, overall, invasive plants were not found to be a major concern on the site, and the percentage of these plants actually decreased slightly from the 2013 survey.

The survival rates of east side First Creek riparian plantings have been good thus far. In general, planted vegetation appears to be thriving and very little dead plant growth was noted during the 2014 survey.

Dense growths of shrubs previously existing on the site (e.g., silky dogwood, spicebush) provided significant cover along the creek banks, particularly along northern portions of the study area. Canopy cover showed a slight decrease from 2013; however, groundcover increased. Plant species diversity showed an increase from the 2013 survey. Overall conditions at the site related to vegetation growth and success remain very good.

A moderately diverse benthic macroinvertebrate population was recorded at the First Creek site in 2014, although the diversity was lower than that recorded in 2013 and somewhat lower than at some reference sites. This included some less tolerant taxa typically found in clear streams. Fish population densities (sampled upstream and downstream of the site) were within or higher than the ranges of densities observed in certain ORR reference streams. The number of fish species at the downstream sampling location was lower than or the same as numbers observed in reference streams. The number of fish species at the upstream sampling location was lower than numbers observed in reference streams.

The fifth year of post-mitigation monitoring for the First Creek site will be conducted in the summer of 2015.

The results of habitat measurements conducted along the WOC reach showed that the creek provided average to good overall habitat in the post-mitigation condition and remained in an unimpaired state. Epifaunal substrate was somewhat lacking in the presence of logs and snags; however, the creek provided numerous riffles, some undercut banks, a variety of particle sizes, and overhanging branches. One velocity/depth regime (fast-deep) was missing from the reach. Channel alteration from past development of the area was evident along some areas of the reach. Vegetative protection at the banks remained good for 2014. The number of riffles slightly decreased from the 2013 survey. Riparian vegetative zone width for 2014 also remained significantly improved over the 2011 pre-mitigation conditions. Some mortality of mitigation plantings was noted during the 2014 survey, and certain areas will be supplemented with additional plantings where coverage is less than optimal. However, overall survivorship and growth of plantings still remains high, and the percentage of groundcover on the site continues to increase. Plant species diversity showed an increase from the 2013 survey, and the percentage of invasive species significantly decreased from the 2013 survey. Control of winter creeper undertaken following the 2013 survey is believed to be the most significant contributor to this decrease. A moderately diverse benthic macroinvertebrate population was recorded at the WOC site in 2014, with an increase in the number of taxa from that found in 2013. This included some of the more tolerant taxa found in ORR streams. Fish population densities sampled within the reach were lower than found in reference streams on ORR. Overall fish density showed a decrease from the 2013 survey. The number of fish species was higher than one reference stream and lower than the other reference stream for the latest October–December (2013) sampling period. The number of fish species was higher or the same as reference streams for the latest March–May (2014) sampling period. Compared to last year's report, the number of fish species for the October–December sampling period decreased and the number of fish species for the March–May sampling period increased.

The fourth year of post-mitigation monitoring for the WOC site will be conducted in the summer of 2015.

A wetland assessment was conducted for one site at ORNL during 2014 to determine whether jurisdictional wetlands were present in an area adjacent to a proposed project. This site was checked to see whether any areas satisfied the USACE wetland protocols for soils, hydrology, and vegetation. A portion of the site did meet these criteria, and the site is being further evaluated for potential project impacts. A TDEC Hydrologic Determination Field Data sheet was also filled out to determine whether an associated drainage was a stream or wet weather conveyance according to TDEC guidance. The drainage was determined to be a wet weather conveyance.

5.3.13 Radiological Clearance of Property at Oak Ridge National Laboratory

5.3.13.1 General Property Clearance Processes

DOE O 458.1, *Radiation Protection of the Public and the Environment* (DOE 2011b), established standards and requirements for operations of DOE and its contractors with respect to protection of members of the public and the environment against undue risk from radiation. In addition to discharges to the environment, the release of property containing residual radioactive material is a potential contributor to the dose received by the public, and DOE O 458.1 established requirements for clearance of property from DOE control and for public notification of clearance of property.

At ORNL, UT-Battelle uses a graded approach for release of material and equipment for unrestricted public use. Material that may be released to the public has been categorized so that in some cases an administrative release can be accomplished without a radiological survey. Such material originates from nonradiological areas and includes items such as the following:

- documents, mail, diskettes, compact disks, and other office media;
- nonradioactive items or materials received that are immediately (within the same shift) determined to have been misdelivered or damaged;
- personal items or materials;
- paper, plastic products, ABCs, toner cartridges, and other items released for recycling;
- office trash;
- housekeeping materials and associated waste;
- breakroom, cafeteria, and medical wastes;
- medical and bioassay samples; and
- other items with an approved release plan.

Items originating from nonradiological areas within the site's controlled areas not in the listed categories are surveyed before release to the public, or a process knowledge evaluation is conducted to ensure that material has not been exposed to radioactive material or beams of radiation capable of creating radioactive material. In some cases both a radiological survey and a process knowledge evaluation are performed (e.g., a radiological survey is conducted on the outside of the item and a process knowledge form is signed by the custodian for inaccessible surfaces). A similar approach is used for material released to state-permitted landfills on ORR. The only exception is for items that could be internally contaminated; these items are also sampled by laboratory analysis to ensure that landfill permit criteria are met.

When the process knowledge approach is used, the item's custodian is required to sign a statement that specifies the history of the material and confirms that no radioactive material has passed through or contacted the item. This process knowledge certification is more stringent than what is allowed by DOE O 458.1 (DOE 2011b) in that ORNL requires an individual to take personal responsibility and accountability for knowing the complete history of an item before it can be cleared using process knowledge alone. DOE O 458.1 allows use of procedures for evaluating operational records and operating history to make process knowledge release decisions, but UT-Battelle has chosen to continue to require personal certification of the status of an item. This requirement ensures that each individual certifying the

item is aware of the significance of this decision and encourages the individual to obtain a survey of the item if he or she is not 100% confident that the item can be certified as free of contamination.

For large recycling programs or clearance of bulk items with low contamination potential a survey and release plan may be developed to direct the radiological survey process. For such projects, survey and release plans are developed based on guidance from MARSSIM or MARSAME (NRC 2000, 2009). MARSSIM and MARSAME allow for statistically based survey protocols that typically require survey measurements for a representative portion of the items being released. The survey protocols are documented in separate survey and release plans, and the measurements from such surveys are documented in radiological release survey reports.

UT-Battelle continues to use the preapproved authorized limits for surface contamination previously established in Table IV-1 of DOE O 5400.5 and the November 17, 1995, Pelletier memorandum (Pelletier 1995) for TRU alpha contamination. UT-Battelle also continues to follow the requirements of the scrap metal suspension. No scrap metal directly released from radiological areas is being recycled.

In 2014, UT Battelle cleared more than 12,000 items through the excess items and property sales processes. A summary of items requested for release through these processes (including donations, transfers, landfill, reutilization, and sales) is shown in Table 5.7.

Items advertised for public sale via an auction are also surveyed independently on a random basis by State of Tennessee personnel, giving further assurance that contaminated material and equipment are not being inadvertently released.

Table 5.7. Excess items requested for release and/or recycling, calendar year 2014

	Process knowledge	Radiologically surveyed
<i>Release request totals for calendar year 2014</i>		
Computers-for-Learning	66	4
DOE—Donations	0	0
Other donations	1,411	328
LEDP (donations to colleges/universities)	22	0
DOE transfers	516	137
Other federal agency transfers	70	311
Landfill	0	0
Reuse at ORNL	509	83
Sales	6,912	1,769
Totals	9,506	2,632
<i>Recycling request totals for calendar year 2014</i>		
Used oils (gallons)	15,518	
Scrap metal (nonradiological areas) (tons)	376.33	
Used tires (each)	590	
Used auto cores and batteries (pounds)	38,181	

Acronyms

DOE = US Department of Energy
 LEDP = Laboratory Equipment Donation Program
 ORNL = Oak Ridge National Laboratory
 PCB = polychlorinated biphenyl

5.3.13.2 Authorized Limits Clearance Process for Spallation Neutron Source and High Flux Isotope Reactor Neutron Scattering Experiment Samples

The SNS and HFIR facilities provide unique neutron scattering experiment capabilities that allow researchers to explore the properties of various materials by exposing samples to well-characterized neutron beams. Because materials exposed to neutrons can become radioactive, a process has been developed to evaluate and clear samples for release to off-site facilities. DOE regulations and orders governing radiological release of material do not specifically cover items that may have radioactivity distributed throughout the volume of the material. To address sample clearance, activity-based limits were established using the authorized limits process defined in DOE O 458.1 and associated guidance. The sample clearance limits are based on an assessment of potential doses against a threshold of 1 mrem/year to an individual and evaluation of other potentially applicable requirements (i.e., US Nuclear Regulatory Commission licensing regulations). Implementation of the clearance limits involves use of unique instrument screening and sample activity prediction methods to provide an efficient and defensible process to release neutron scattering experiment samples to researchers without further DOE control.

In 2012 the authorized limits process for clearing SNS and HFIR neutron scattering samples was updated and revised to incorporate improvements in the regulatory notification component based on experience gained over about 2 years of implementation.

UT-Battelle initiated an effort to make direct contact with each institution's radiation safety officer (RSO) or health and safety official for the initial authorized limit sample clearance to that institution. The purpose of this approach was to ensure that a responsible official at the institution was informed of and understood the regulatory requirements associated with clearance of samples under the approved authorized limits. This "direct contact" approach proved to be much more effective than the previous approach of relying on use of the official user agreement to ensure that regulatory requirements were understood by the receiving institution. On May 2, 2012, UT-Battelle requested DOE approval of a minor change to the SNS and HFIR sample authorized limits process to replace the user agreement form as the primary regulatory notification tool with initial direct contact with an RSO or other health and safety official at the institution. This change was approved by DOE on May 22, 2012. No changes were made to the sample clearance activity thresholds or to the basic process for evaluating samples for clearance previously approved by DOE.

The approved revised process for notification was continued in 2014. In 2014 ORNL cleared 46 samples from neutron scattering experiments using the SNS and HFIR sample authorized limits process.

5.4 Air Quality Program

5.4.1 Construction and Operating Permits

Permits issued by the State of Tennessee convey the clean air requirements that are applicable to ORNL. New projects are governed by construction permits until converted to operating status. The sitewide Title V Major Source Operating Permits include requirements that are generally applicable to large operations such as national laboratories (e.g., asbestos and stratospheric ozone), as well as specific requirements directly applicable to individual air emission sources. Source-specific requirements include Rad-NESHAPs (see Section 5.4.3), requirements applicable to sources of ambient air criteria pollutants, and requirements applicable to sources of other HAPs (nonradiological). In September 2011 the State of Tennessee issued Title V Major Source Operating Permit 562765 to DOE and UT-Battelle operations at ORNL. In 2013 UT-Battelle applied for permit modifications to incorporate source-specific conditions for the operation of the Biomass Gasification System and approval for alternative monitoring procedures for both the Biomass Gasification System and Boiler 6, located at the ORNL Steam Plant. As a result, TDEC

issued Significant Modification Number 1 to Permit 562765 to DOE and UT-Battelle in March 2013. UT-Battelle also applied for a modification to Title V Major Source Operating Permit 562765 in April 2013 to incorporate 31 emergency-use electrical generators into the permit. The permit modification was issued on February 2, 2014. DOE and UT-Battelle also maintained a valid minor source operating permit with the Knox County Air Quality Management Division for NTRC facilities located Knox County.

In 2012 UT-Battelle applied for and received construction permit number 965103P for the construction of CFTF, located off-site at the Horizon Center Business Park in Oak Ridge, Tennessee. The initial start-up of CFTF occurred in March 2013. In accordance with provisions of the construction permit an emissions test was performed in July 2013 and confirmed the hydrogen cyanide mass emission rate was 0.0024 lb per hour, far less than the maximum hourly emission rate of 0.05 lb established in the permit. The test results were provided to TDEC, and DOE–UT-Battelle applied for a Title V Major Source Operating Permit for CFTF in 2014. A construction permit was also obtained in 2013 for the CFTF emergency generator. The Title V Major Source Operating Permit for the facility and its emergency generator is anticipated to be issued in 2015.

DOE WAI has two Title V Major Source Operating Permits for one emission source and two emergency generators at TWPC. DOE Isotek has a Title V Major Source Operating Permit for the Radiochemical Development Facility (Building 3019 complex). During 2014, no permit limits were exceeded. UCOR also has a Title V Major Source Operating Permit for the 3039 stack and the 3608 air stripper. No permit limits were exceeded for these sources in 2014.

5.4.2 National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants—Asbestos

Numerous facilities, structures, and facility components and various pieces of equipment at ORNL contain ACM. UT-Battelle's Asbestos Management Program manages the compliance of work activities involving the removal and disposal of ACM, which includes notifications to TDEC for all demolition activities and required renovation activities, approval of asbestos work authorization requests, current use of engineering controls and work practices, inspections, air monitoring, and waste tracking of asbestos-contaminated waste material. No releases of reportable quantities of ACM occurred at ORNL during 2014.

On December 11, 2014, ORNL received an NOV from TDEC for failure to notify TDEC before demolition of two small structures (about 300 ft² each). On August 25, 2014, ORNL notified TDEC of the intent to demolish numerous small structures. Two structures were not originally identified for demolition and so were not included in the notification. After further evaluation, the final disposition of the two structures was determined to be demolition. The two structures were demolished before issuance of a revised notification to TDEC. Although the facilities did not contain asbestos, the regulations require that TDEC be notified before any building demolition. Once ORNL identified the failure to provide the proper revised notification, the issue was self-reported to TDEC on October 21, 2014. The original notification was revised on October 29, 2014, and provided to TDEC. No further actions were required.

5.4.3 Oak Ridge National Laboratory Radiological Airborne Effluent Monitoring

Radioactive airborne discharges at ORNL consist primarily of ventilation air from radioactively contaminated or potentially contaminated areas, vents from tanks and processes, and ventilation for hot cell operations and reactor facilities. (See Appendix E, Table E.1, for a list of radionuclides and associated radioactive half-lives.) The airborne emissions are treated and then filtered with high-efficiency particulate air filters and/or charcoal filters before discharge. Radiological airborne emissions from ORNL consist of solid particulates, adsorbable gases (e.g., iodine), tritium, and nonadsorbable gases (e.g., noble gases).

The major radiological emission point sources for ORNL consist of the following six stacks located in Bethel and Melton Valleys and the SNS Central Exhaust Facility stack located on Chestnut Ridge (Fig. 5.9).

- 2026 Radioactive Materials Analytical Laboratory
- 3020 Radiochemical Development Facility
- 3039 central off-gas and scrubber system, which includes the 3500 cell ventilation system, isotope solid-state ventilation system, 3025 area cell ventilation system, 3042 ventilation system, and 3092 central off-gas system
- 7503 Molten Salt Reactor Experiment (MSRE) Facility
- 7880 TWPC
- 7911 Melton Valley complex, which includes HFIR and the Radiochemical Engineering Development Center
- 8915 SNS Central Exhaust Facility stack

In 2014 there were 14 minor point/group sources, and emission calculations/estimates were made for each of them.

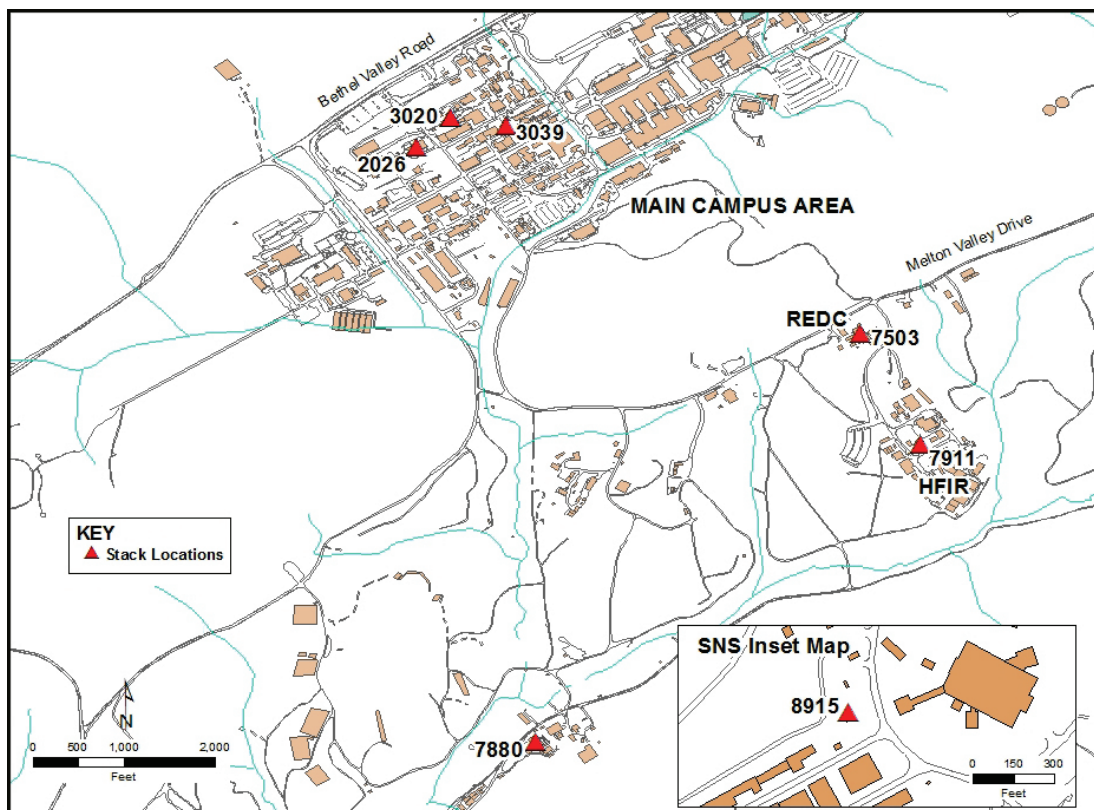


Fig. 5.9. Locations of major radiological emission points at Oak Ridge National Laboratory. (HFIR = High Flux Isotope Reactor, REDC = Radiochemical Engineering Development Center, and SNS = Spallation Neutron Source.)

5.4.3.1 Sample Collection and Analytical Procedure

Four of the major point sources (stacks 2026, 3020, 3039, and 7503) are equipped with in-stack source-sampling systems that comply with criteria in the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) standard ANSI N 13.1-1969R (ANSI 1969). The sampling systems generally consist of a multipoint in-stack sampling probe, a sample transport line, a particulate filter, activated charcoal cartridges, a silica gel cartridge (if required), flow-measurement and totalizing instruments, a sampling pump, and a return line to the stack. The 7911 (Melton Valley complex) and 7880 (TWPC) stacks are equipped with in-stack source-sampling systems that comply with criteria in the ANSI–Health Physics Society standard ANSI/HPS N13.1-1999 (ANSI 1999). The 7911 sampling system has the same components as the ANSI 1969 sampling systems but uses a stainless-steel-shrouded probe instead of a multipoint in-stack sampling probe. The sampling system also consists of a high-purity germanium detector with a NOMAD analyzer, which allows continuous isotopic identification and quantification of radioactive noble gases (e.g., ^{41}Ar) in the effluent stream. The 7880 sampling system consists of a stainless-steel-shrouded probe, an in-line filter-cartridge holder placed at the probe to minimize line losses, a particulate filter, a sample transport line, a rotary vane vacuum pump, and a return line to the stack. The sample probes from both the ANSI 1969 and ANSI 1999 stack sampling systems are removed, inspected, and cleaned annually. The 8915 (SNS Central Exhaust Facility) stack is equipped with an in-stack radiation detector that complies with criteria in ANSI/HPS N13.1-1999. The detector monitors radioactive gases flowing through the exhaust stack and provides a continual readout of detected activity using a scintillator probe. The detector is calibrated to correlate with isotopic emissions.

Velocity profiles are performed quarterly following the criteria in EPA Method 2 (EPA 2010) at major and some minor sources. The profiles provide accurate stack flow data for subsequent emission-rate calculations. An annual leak-check program is carried out to verify the integrity of the sample transport system. For the 7880 stack, an annual comparison between the effluent flow rate totalizer and EPA Method 2 is performed. The stack effluent-flow-rate monitoring system response is checked quarterly against the manufacturer's instrument test procedures. The stack sampler rotameter is calibrated at least quarterly in comparison with a secondary (transfer) standard. Only a certified secondary standard is used for all rotameter tests.

In addition to the major sources, ORNL has a number of minor sources that have the potential to emit radionuclides to the atmosphere. A minor source is defined as any ventilation system or component such as a vent, laboratory hood, room exhaust, or stack that does not meet the approved regulatory criteria for a major source but that is located in or vents from a radiological control area as defined by Radiological Support Services of the UT-Battelle Nuclear and Radiological Protection Division. Various methods are used to determine the emissions from the various minor sources. Methods used for minor source-emission calculations comply with EPA criteria. The minor sources are evaluated on a 1- to 5-year basis. Emissions, major and minor, are compiled annually to determine the overall ORNL source term and associated dose.

The charcoal cartridges, particulate filters, and silica-gel traps are collected weekly to biweekly. The use of charcoal cartridges is a standard method for capturing and quantifying radioactive iodine in airborne emissions. Gamma spectrometric analysis of the charcoal samples quantifies the adsorbable gases. Analyses are performed weekly to biweekly. Particulate filters are held for 8 days before a weekly gross alpha and gross beta analysis to minimize the contribution from short-lived isotopes such as ^{220}Rn and its daughter products. At stack 7911, a weekly gamma scan is conducted to better detect short-lived gamma isotopes. The filters are then composited quarterly or semiannually and are analyzed for alpha-, beta-, and gamma-emitting isotopes. At stack 7880, the filters are composited monthly and analyzed for alpha-, beta-, and gamma-emitting isotopes. The sampling system on stack 7880 requires no other type of radionuclide collection media. Compositing provides a better opportunity for quantification of the

low-concentration isotopes. Silica-gel traps are used to capture water vapor that may contain tritium. Analysis is performed weekly to biweekly. At the end of the year, the sample probes for all of the stacks are rinsed, except for 8915 and 7880, and the rinsate is collected and submitted for isotopic analysis identical to that performed on the particulate filters. A probe-cleaning program has been determined unnecessary for 8915 because the sample probe is a scintillator probe used to detect radiation and not to extract a sample of stack exhaust emissions. It is not anticipated that contaminant deposits would collect on the scintillator probe. A probe-cleaning program for 7880 has established that rinse analysis historically showed no detectable contamination. Therefore, the frequency of probe rinse collection and analysis is no more often than every 3 years unless there is an increase in particulate emissions, increase in detectable radionuclides in the sample media, or process modifications.

The data from the charcoal cartridges, silica gel, probe wash, and filter composites are compiled to give the annual emissions for each major source and some minor sources.

5.4.3.2 Results

Annual radioactive airborne emissions for ORNL in 2014 are presented in Table 5.8. All data presented were determined to be statistically different from zero at the 95% confidence level. Any number not statistically different from zero was not included in the emission calculation. Because measuring a radionuclide requires counting random radioactive emissions from a sample, the same result may not be obtained if the sample is analyzed repeatedly. This deviation is referred to as the “counting uncertainty.” Statistical significance at the 95% confidence level means that there is a 5% chance that the results could be erroneous.

Historical trends for ^3H (tritium) and ^{131}I are presented in Figs. 5.10 and 5.11. For 2014, tritium emissions totaled about 534.2 Ci (Fig. 5.10), a slight increase from 2013; ^{131}I emissions totaled 0.11 Ci (Fig. 5.11), a slight decrease but in line with emissions from the past 3 years. The increase in tritium was due to SNS operations. For 2014, the major dose contributors to the off-site dose at ORNL were ^{11}C , ^{212}Pb , ^{237}Np , ^3H , and ^{153}Sm , with dose contributions of about 59%, 14%, 7%, 3%, and 3%, respectively. Emissions of ^{11}C result from SNS operations and research activities. Emissions of ^{212}Pb result from the radiation decay of legacy material stored on-site and contamination areas containing isotopes of ^{228}Th , ^{232}Th , and ^{232}U . Emissions of ^{212}Pb were from the 2026, 3020, 3039, 7503, 7856, 7935, and 7911 stacks; the STP sludge drier; and the 4000 area laboratory hoods. Emissions of ^{237}Np were primarily due to releases from 7000 and 4000 area laboratory hoods. Emissions of ^{153}Sm result from 6000 area laboratory hood releases. For 2014, ^{11}C emissions totaled 12,400 Ci, double that of 2013; ^{212}Pb emissions totaled 2 Ci; ^{237}Np emissions totaled 0.0028 Ci; and ^{138}Cs emissions totaled 123 Ci (Fig. 5.12). Emissions of ^{41}Ar totaled 305 Ci, which was a decrease from 2013.

The calculated radiation dose to the maximally exposed individual (MEI) from all radiological airborne release points at ORR during 2014 was 0.6 mrem. The dose contribution to the MEI from all ORNL radiological airborne release points was 97.5% of the ORR dose. This dose is well below the NESHAPs standard of 10 mrem and is less than 0.2% of the roughly 300 mrem that the average individual receives from natural sources of radiation. (See Section 7.1.2 for an explanation of how the airborne radionuclide dose was determined.)

Table 5.8. Radiological airborne emissions from all sources at Oak Ridge National Laboratory, 2014^a

Isotope	Inhalation Form	Chemical Form	Stack							Total Minor Source	ORNL Total
			X-2026	X-3020	X-3039	X-7503	X-7880	X-7911	X-8915		
²²⁵ Ac	M	unspecified								4.84E-06	4.84E-06
²²⁶ Ac	M	unspecified								6.27E-07	6.27E-07
²²⁷ Ac	M	unspecified								6.67E-09	6.67E-09
²²⁸ Ac	M	unspecified								2.34E-05	2.34E-05
^{108m} Ag	M	unspecified								1.65E-07	1.65E-07
^{110m} Ag	S	unspecified					2.52E-06				2.52E-06
^{110m} Ag	M	unspecified								3.95E-08	3.95E-08
¹¹¹ Ag	M	unspecified								5.48E-06	5.48E-06
²⁴¹ Am	F	unspecified			2.13E-07	3.00E-08	1.57E-06			3.79E-08	1.85E-06
²⁴¹ Am	M	unspecified	5.32E-08	3.42E-07					1.05E-07	9.73E-06	1.02E-05
²⁴³ Am	M	unspecified								7.00E-09	7.00E-09
⁴¹ Ar	G	unspecified						1.87E+02	1.18E+02		3.05E+02
¹³¹ Ba	M	unspecified								3.32E-07	3.32E-07
¹³⁹ Ba	M	unspecified						1.65E-01			1.65E-01
¹⁴⁰ Ba	S	unspecified					3.55E-05				3.55E-05
¹⁴⁰ Ba	M	unspecified						2.79E-04		5.03E-04	7.82E-04
⁷ Be	M	unspecified	2.26E-07	2.31E-07						3.08E-06	3.54E-06
⁷ Be	S	unspecified			5.95E-06					4.15E-07	6.36E-06
²⁰⁶ Bi	M	unspecified								4.03E-08	4.03E-08
²¹¹ Bi	M	unspecified								1.21E-08	1.21E-08
²¹² Bi	M	unspecified								2.00E-07	2.00E-07
²¹⁴ Bi	M	unspecified								1.23E-13	1.23E-13
²⁴⁹ Bk	M	unspecified								7.00E-11	7.00E-11
¹¹ C	M	particulate							1.24E+04		1.24E+04
¹⁴ C	M	particulate								7.28E-11	7.28E-11
⁴⁵ Ca	M	unspecified								7.60E-11	7.60E-11
¹⁰⁹ Cd	M	unspecified								3.86E-07	3.86E-07

Table 5.8 (continued)

Isotope	Inhalation Form	Chemical Form	Stack							Total Minor Source	ORNL Total
			X-2026	X-3020	X-3039	X-7503	X-7880	X-7911	X-8915		
¹¹⁵ Cd	M	unspecified								2.82E-06	2.82E-06
¹³⁹ Ce	M	unspecified								7.61E-08	7.61E-08
¹⁴¹ Ce	M	unspecified						7.65E-07		5.38E-07	1.30E-06
¹⁴⁴ Ce	M	unspecified								9.55E-07	9.55E-07
²⁴⁹ Cf	M	unspecified								2.61E-11	2.61E-11
²⁵⁰ Cf	M	unspecified								4.76E-11	4.76E-11
²⁵¹ Cf	M	unspecified								1.80E-12	1.80E-12
²⁵² Cf ^b	M	unspecified						5.80E-09		1.33E-08	1.91E-08
²⁴² Cm	M	unspecified								4.30E-12	4.30E-12
²⁴³ Cm	F	unspecified			1.69E-08	2.14E-08	7.35E-07			1.77E-09	7.75E-07
²⁴³ Cm	M	unspecified	1.01E-07							3.87E-12	1.01E-07
²⁴⁴ Cm	M	unspecified	1.01E-07	7.35E-09						3.67E-06	3.78E-06
²⁴⁴ Cm	F	unspecified			1.69E-08	2.14E-08	7.35E-07			1.77E-09	7.75E-07
²⁴⁵ Cm	M	unspecified								5.15E-10	5.15E-10
²⁴⁶ Cm	M	unspecified								4.66E-14	4.66E-14
²⁴⁷ Cm	M	unspecified								6.84E-14	6.84E-14
²⁴⁸ Cm ^c	M	unspecified								1.40E-09	1.40E-09
⁵⁷ Co	M	unspecified								4.65E-12	4.65E-12
⁵⁸ Co	M	unspecified								1.09E-12	1.09E-12
⁶⁰ Co	M	unspecified								2.64E-05	2.64E-05
⁶⁰ Co	S	unspecified			5.43E-07		2.87E-06				3.41E-06
⁵¹ Cr	M	unspecified								1.51E-08	1.51E-08
⁵¹ Cr	S	unspecified								8.65E-05	8.65E-05
¹³² Cs	F	unspecified								2.21E-07	2.21E-07
¹³⁴ Cs	S	unspecified					2.35E-06				2.35E-06
¹³⁴ Cs	F	unspecified								3.87E-07	3.87E-07
¹³⁶ Cs	F	unspecified								8.11E-07	8.11E-07
¹³⁷ Cs	F	unspecified	6.55E-07	1.15E-06				4.12E-06		4.84E-04	4.90E-04

Table 5.8 (continued)

Isotope	Inhalation Form	Chemical Form	Stack							Total Minor Source	ORNL Total	
			X-2026	X-3020	X-3039	X-7503	X-7880	X-7911	X-8915			
¹³⁷ Cs	S	unspecified			3.92E-05	2.74E-08	2.76E-06				3.31E-04	3.73E-04
¹³⁸ Cs	F	unspecified							1.23E+02			1.23E+02
¹⁵² Eu	M	unspecified								2.58E-04		2.58E-04
¹⁵² Eu	F	unspecified			6.78E-08							6.78E-08
¹⁵⁴ Eu	M	unspecified								4.87E-05		4.87E-05
¹⁵⁵ Eu	M	unspecified								2.94E-05		2.94E-05
¹⁵⁶ Eu	F	unspecified					4.32E-06					4.32E-06
¹⁵⁶ Eu	M	unspecified								1.20E-07		1.20E-07
⁵⁵ Fe	M	unspecified								9.20E-10		9.20E-10
⁵⁹ Fe	M	unspecified								2.31E-12		2.31E-12
¹⁵³ Gd	M	unspecified								3.91E-10		3.91E-10
³ H	V	vapor	4.14E-02		5.47E+00	8.73E-01		9.33E+01	4.34E+02	5.48E-01		5.34E+02
²⁰³ Hg	M	inorganic								6.12E-14		6.12E-14
^{166m} Ho	M	unspecified								2.00E-04		2.00E-04
¹²⁵ I	F	particulate								2.85E-07		2.85E-07
¹²⁹ I	F	particulate					3.20E-06			2.54E-05		2.86E-05
¹³¹ I	F	particulate			4.94E-03		2.39E-05	1.01E-01		2.12E-06		1.06E-01
¹³² I	F	particulate						1.05E+00				1.05E+00
¹³³ I	F	particulate						6.39E-01		2.68E-06		6.39E-01
¹³⁴ I	F	particulate						1.07E+00				1.07E+00
¹³⁵ I	F	particulate						2.49E+00				2.49E+00
^{114m} In	M	unspecified								8.60E-13		8.60E-13
¹⁹² Ir	M	unspecified								4.50E-12		4.50E-12
⁴⁰ K	M	unspecified								7.99E-05		7.99E-05
⁸⁵ Kr	G	unspecified						1.27E+03				1.27E+03
^{85m} Kr	G	unspecified						1.12E+00				1.12E+00
⁸⁷ Kr	G	unspecified						1.20E+01				1.20E+01
⁸⁸ Kr	G	unspecified						3.63E+01	9.30E+01			1.29E+02

Table 5.8 (continued)

Isotope	Inhalation Form	Chemical Form	Stack							Total Minor Source	ORNL Total
			X-2026	X-3020	X-3039	X-7503	X-7880	X-7911	X-8915		
⁸⁹ Kr ^d	G	unspecified							2.17E+01		2.17E+01
¹⁴⁰ La	M	unspecified							3.74E-03	9.78E-07	3.74E-03
¹⁴⁰ La	S	unspecified					1.74E-05				1.74E-05
⁵⁴ Mn	M	unspecified								1.02E-10	1.02E-10
⁵⁴ Mn	S	unspecified					2.64E-06				2.64E-06
⁹³ Mo	M	unspecified								7.70E-11	7.70E-11
⁹⁹ Mo	M	unspecified								1.94E-06	1.94E-06
¹³ N	G	unspecified							2.72E+02		2.72E+02
^{91m} Nb	M	unspecified								2.32E-11	2.32E-11
^{93m} Nb	M	unspecified								1.98E-10	1.98E-10
⁹⁴ Nb	M	unspecified								5.81E-14	5.81E-14
⁹⁵ Nb	M	unspecified								2.82E-07	2.82E-07
¹⁴⁷ Nd	M	unspecified								6.45E-07	6.45E-07
⁵⁹ Ni	M	particulate								3.36E-11	3.36E-11
⁶³ Ni	M	particulate								7.03E-09	7.03E-09
²³⁷ Np	M	unspecified								2.80E-03	2.80E-03
²³⁹ Np	M	unspecified								1.70E-09	1.70E-09
¹⁹¹ Os	M	unspecified								4.53E-15	4.53E-15
³² P	M	unspecified								1.15E-14	1.15E-14
³³ P	M	unspecified								1.65E-16	1.65E-16
²²⁸ Pa	M	unspecified								6.44E-08	6.44E-08
²³⁰ Pa	M	unspecified								8.03E-07	8.03E-07
²³² Pa	M	unspecified								9.19E-08	9.19E-08
²³³ Pa	M	unspecified								3.18E-06	3.18E-06
²¹⁰ Pb	M	unspecified								2.53E-11	2.53E-11
²¹¹ Pb	M	unspecified								4.26E-08	4.26E-08
²¹² Pb	M	unspecified	4.89E-01	5.26E-01					1.53E-02	1.08E-05	1.03E+00
²¹² Pb	S	unspecified			9.68E-01	1.50E-01				3.03E-02	1.15E+00

Table 5.8 (continued)

Isotope	Inhalation Form	Chemical Form	Stack							Total Minor Source	ORNL Total
			X-2026	X-3020	X-3039	X-7503	X-7880	X-7911	X-8915		
²¹⁴ Pb	M	unspecified								2.50E-13	2.50E-13
^{148m} Pm	M	unspecified								2.28E-07	2.28E-07
²³⁶ Pu	M	unspecified								1.01E-16	1.01E-16
²³⁸ Pu	M	unspecified	2.00E-08	2.78E-07					1.86E-08	2.23E-05	2.26E-05
²³⁸ Pu	F	unspecified			5.15E-08	8.38E-09	1.40E-06			3.40E-08	1.49E-06
²³⁹ Pu	M	unspecified	2.37E-08	3.92E-07					4.75E-09	1.25E-07	5.45E-07
²³⁹ Pu	F	unspecified			2.54E-07	9.65E-09	6.30E-07			7.42E-09	9.01E-07
²⁴⁰ Pu	F	unspecified			2.54E-07	9.65E-09	6.30E-07			7.42E-09	9.01E-07
²⁴⁰ Pu	M	unspecified	2.37E-08						4.75E-09	1.71E-08	4.56E-08
²⁴¹ Pu	M	unspecified								1.10E-10	1.10E-10
²⁴² Pu	M	unspecified								4.53E-09	4.53E-09
²⁴⁴ Pu ^e	M	unspecified								9.96E-24	9.96E-24
²²³ Ra	M	unspecified								3.01E-04	3.01E-04
²²⁴ Ra	M	unspecified								1.45E-06	1.45E-06
²²⁵ Ra	M	unspecified								9.40E-08	9.40E-08
²²⁶ Ra	M	unspecified								1.60E-08	1.60E-08
²²⁸ Ra	M	unspecified								2.44E-05	2.44E-05
²¹⁹ Rn	G	unspecified								2.49E-08	2.49E-08
²²⁰ Rn	G	unspecified								2.00E-07	2.00E-07
¹⁰³ Ru	M	particulate								1.68E-06	1.68E-06
¹⁰⁶ Ru	M	particulate								5.30E-07	5.30E-07
³⁵ S	M	inorganic								5.00E-08	5.00E-08
^{120b} Sb	M	unspecified								1.00E-08	1.00E-08
¹²⁴ Sb	M	unspecified								4.84E-07	4.84E-07
¹²⁵ Sb	S	unspecified			6.71E-07						6.71E-07
¹²⁵ Sb	M	unspecified								2.18E-07	2.18E-07
¹²⁶ Sb	M	unspecified								9.97E-07	9.97E-07
¹²⁷ Sb	M	unspecified								1.25E-06	1.25E-06

Table 5.8 (continued)

Isotope	Inhalation Form	Chemical Form	Stack							Total Minor Source	ORNL Total
			X-2026	X-3020	X-3039	X-7503	X-7880	X-7911	X-8915		
⁴⁶ Sc	M	unspecified								1.44E-10	1.44E-10
⁷⁵ Se	S	unspecified			8.92E-03						8.92E-03
¹⁴⁵ Sm	M	unspecified								2.91E-05	2.91E-05
¹⁵³ Sm	M	unspecified								3.00E+01	3.00E+01
^{117m} Sn	M	unspecified								4.00E-03	4.00E-03
¹²⁵ Sn	M	unspecified								5.96E-07	5.96E-07
⁸⁵ Sr	M	unspecified								4.00E-09	4.00E-09
⁸⁹ Sr	M	unspecified	6.25E-08	2.41E-07					6.10E-06	3.21E-04	3.27E-04
⁸⁹ Sr	S	unspecified			5.15E-06	2.14E-08				3.19E-05	3.70E-05
⁹⁰ Sr	S	unspecified			5.15E-06	2.14E-08	8.82E-05			3.19E-05	1.25E-04
⁹⁰ Sr	M	unspecified	6.25E-08	2.41E-07					6.10E-06	7.42E-03	7.42E-03
¹⁸² Ta	M	unspecified								5.26E-13	5.26E-13
⁹⁹ Tc	M	unspecified								7.05E-07	7.05E-07
⁹⁹ Tc	S	unspecified					1.33E-05			8.98E-06	2.23E-05
^{123m} Te	M	particulate								8.78E-10	8.78E-10
^{129m} Te	M	particulate								1.07E-07	1.07E-07
¹³² Te	M	particulate								7.87E-07	7.87E-07
²²⁷ Th	S	unspecified								2.39E-06	2.39E-06
²²⁸ Th	S	unspecified	1.02E-08	5.73E-09	1.02E-08	4.32E-09			5.35E-09	3.97E-07	4.33E-07
²²⁹ Th	S	unspecified								7.43E-12	7.43E-12
²³⁰ Th	F	unspecified			1.11E-08	3.07E-10				2.75E-09	1.42E-08
²³⁰ Th	S	unspecified	9.95E-10	3.25E-09					8.44E-09	7.06E-08	8.33E-08
²³¹ Th	S	unspecified								1.63E-06	1.63E-06
²³² Th	F	unspecified			8.28E-09					1.44E-09	9.72E-09
²³² Th	S	unspecified	1.15E-09	2.55E-09		6.56E-10			2.95E-09	8.56E-06	8.57E-06
²⁰⁸ Tl	M	unspecified								3.20E-06	3.20E-06
¹⁷⁰ Tm	M	unspecified								1.07E-11	1.07E-11
¹⁷¹ Tm	M	unspecified								4.84E-08	4.84E-08

Table 5.8 (continued)

Isotope	Inhalation Form	Chemical Form	Stack							Total Minor Source	ORNL Total
			X-2026	X-3020	X-3039	X-7503	X-7880	X-7911	X-8915		
²³² U	M	unspecified								2.00E-07	2.00E-07
²³³ U	M	unspecified	3.24E-08						4.55E-08	1.30E-04	1.30E-04
²³³ U	S	unspecified			5.65E-08	1.30E-08	6.15E-07			5.48E-06	6.16E-06
²³⁴ U	M	unspecified	3.24E-08	1.29E-07					4.55E-08	1.42E-04	1.42E-04
²³⁴ U	S	unspecified			5.65E-08	1.30E-08	6.15E-07			5.48E-06	6.16E-06
²³⁵ U	M	unspecified	7.59E-09	1.00E-08					1.32E-08	5.60E-07	5.91E-07
²³⁵ U	S	unspecified			1.57E-08	3.77E-09	1.30E-06			8.67E-07	2.19E-06
²³⁶ U	M	unspecified								1.93E-24	1.93E-24
²³⁶ U	S	unspecified								1.14E-06	1.14E-06
²³⁸ U	S	unspecified			2.43E-08	2.43E-09	1.09E-06			7.40E-07	1.86E-06
²³⁸ U	M	unspecified	5.85E-09	1.04E-08					1.65E-08	5.11E-05	5.12E-05
¹⁸¹ W	M	unspecified								6.89E-10	6.89E-10
¹⁸⁵ W	M	unspecified								1.21E-08	1.21E-08
¹⁸⁸ W	M	unspecified								1.64E-09	1.64E-09
¹²⁷ Xe	G	unspecified							1.63E+01		1.63E+01
^{131m} Xe	G	unspecified							1.66E+02		1.66E+02
¹³³ Xe	G	unspecified							4.20E+00		4.20E+00
^{133m} Xe	G	unspecified							1.89E+01		1.89E+01
¹³⁵ Xe	G	unspecified							5.41E+00		5.41E+00
^{135m} Xe	G	unspecified							8.88E+00		8.88E+00
¹³⁷ Xe ^f	G	unspecified							2.11E+01		2.11E+01
¹³⁸ Xe	G	unspecified							2.45E+01		2.45E+01
⁸⁸ Y	M	unspecified								3.09E-08	3.09E-08
⁸⁸ Y	F	unspecified					3.36E-06				3.36E-06
⁹¹ Y	M	unspecified								7.05E-13	7.05E-13
⁶⁵ Zn	F	unspecified					6.52E-06				6.52E-06
⁶⁵ Zn	M	unspecified								2.75E-10	2.75E-10
⁹⁵ Zr	M	unspecified								8.86E-07	8.86E-07

Table 5.8 (continued)

Isotope	Inhalation Form	Chemical Form	Stack							Total Minor Source	ORNL Total
			X-2026	X-3020	X-3039	X-7503	X-7880	X-7911	X-8915		
⁹⁵ Zr	S	unspecified					5.59E-06				5.59E-06
Totals			5.30E-01	5.26E-01	6.45E+00	1.02E+00	2.24E-04	2.00E+03	1.33E+04	3.06E+01	1.54E+04

^aEmissions given in curies (Ci). 1 Ci = 3.7E+10 Bq.

^bCalifornium-248 surrogate for californium-252.

^cCurium-245 surrogate for curium-248.

^dKrypton-88 surrogate for krypton-89.

^ePlutonium-239 surrogate for plutonium-244.

^fXenon-135 surrogate for xenon-137.

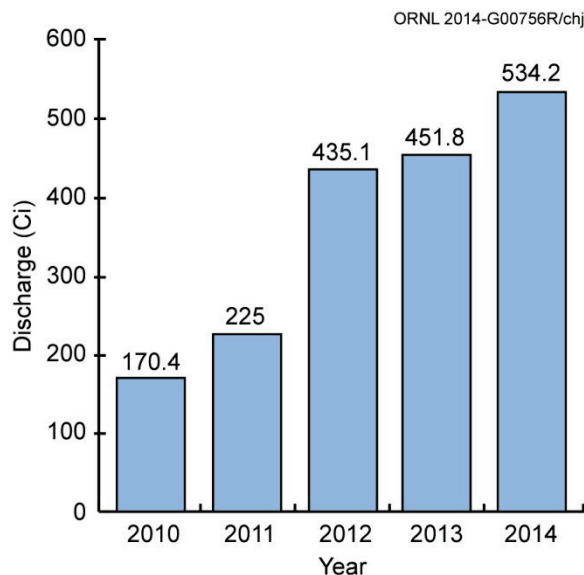


Fig. 5.10. Total curies of tritium discharged from Oak Ridge National Laboratory to the atmosphere, 2010–2014.

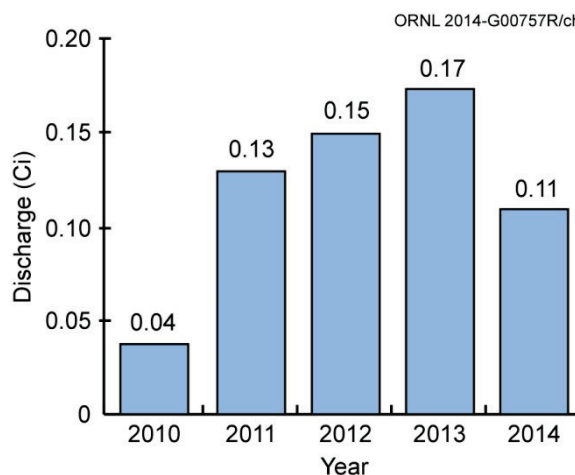


Fig. 5.11. Total curies of ^{131}I discharged from Oak Ridge National Laboratory to the atmosphere, 2010–2014.

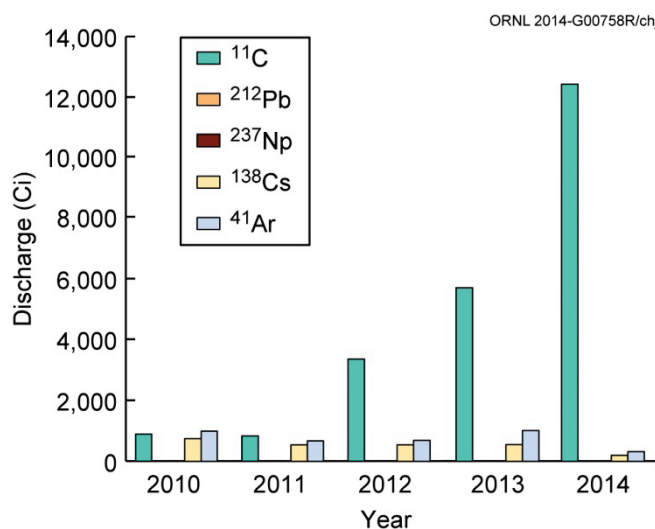


Fig. 5.12. Total discharges of ^{41}Ar , ^{11}C , ^{138}Cs , ^{212}Pb , and ^{237}Np from Oak Ridge National Laboratory to the atmosphere, 2010–2014. (Note: Levels of ^{212}Pb and ^{237}Np discharged were too low to accurately depict on this figure.)

5.4.4 Stratospheric Ozone Protection

As required by the CAA Title VI Amendments of 1990, actions have been implemented to comply with the prohibition against intentionally releasing ODSs during maintenance activities performed on refrigeration equipment. In addition, service requirements for refrigeration systems (including motor vehicle air conditioners), technician certification requirements, and labeling requirements have been implemented. ORNL has implemented a plan to phase out the use of all Class I ODSs. All critical

applications of Class I ODSs have been eliminated, replaced, or retrofitted with other materials. Work is progressing as funding becomes available for noncritical applications.

5.4.5 Ambient Air

The ORNL ambient air monitoring network consists of four stations located in areas most likely to show the impacts of airborne emissions from ORNL (Fig. 5.13). During 2014 sampling was conducted at each station to quantify levels of tritium; uranium; and gross alpha-, beta-, and gamma-emitting radionuclides (Table 5.9).

The sampling system consists of a low-volume air sampler for particulate collection in a 47 mm glass-fiber filter. The filters are collected biweekly, composited annually, then submitted to the laboratory for analysis. A silica-gel column is used for collection of tritium as tritiated water. These samples are typically collected biweekly or weekly, depending on ambient humidity levels, and composited quarterly for tritium analysis.

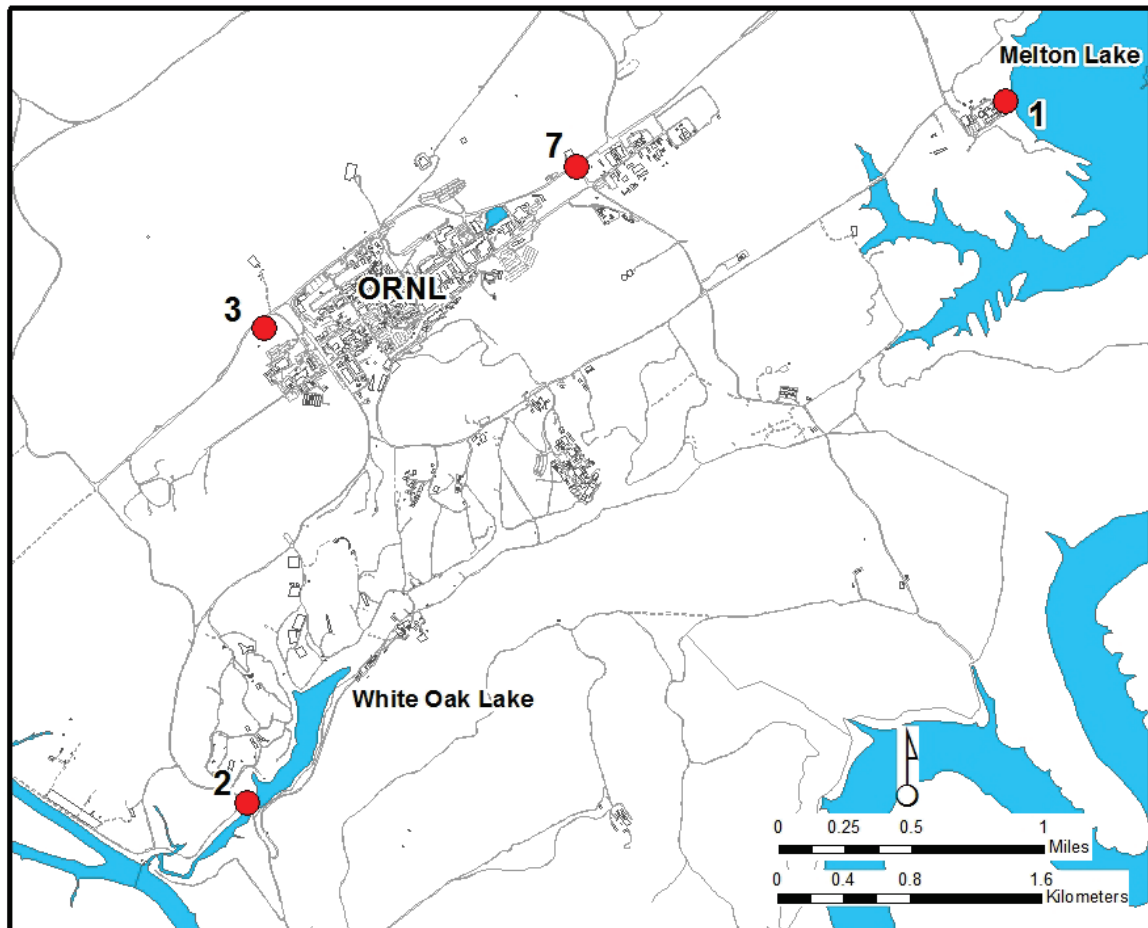


Fig. 5.13. Locations of ambient air monitoring stations at Oak Ridge National Laboratory.

Table 5.9. Radionuclide concentrations (pCi/mL)^a measured at Oak Ridge National Laboratory perimeter air monitoring stations, 2014

Parameter	Number detected/ sampled	Concentration		
		Average	Minimum	Maximum
<i>Station 1</i>				
Alpha	4/4	2.79E-09	2.09E-09	3.15E-09
⁷ Be	4/4	3.28E-08	2.29E-08	4.09E-08
Beta	4/4	9.19E-09	7.88E-09	1.04E-08
⁴⁰ K	0/4	2.31E-09	-4.84E-10	4.32E-09
⁹⁹ Tc	1/2	1.31E-10	6.36E-11	1.99E-10
³ H	4/4	4.92E-06	1.02E-06	8.50E-06
²³⁴ U	4/4	1.98E-12	1.55E-12	2.32E-12
²³⁵ U	3/4	2.92E-13	2.18E-13	3.64E-13
²³⁸ U	4/4	1.98E-12	1.14E-12	2.32E-12
Total U	4/4	4.24E-12	3.03E-12	5.00E-12
<i>Station 2</i>				
Alpha	1/1	1.07E-08	<i>b</i>	<i>b</i>
⁷ Be	1/1	1.69E-08	<i>b</i>	<i>b</i>
Beta	1/1	1.89E-08	<i>b</i>	<i>b</i>
⁴⁰ K	0/1	9.85E-09	<i>b</i>	<i>b</i>
²³⁴ U	1/1	5.75E-12	<i>b</i>	<i>b</i>
²³⁵ U	0/1	3.29E-13	<i>b</i>	<i>b</i>
²³⁸ U	1/1	4.49E-12	<i>b</i>	<i>b</i>
Total U	1/1	1.06E-11	<i>b</i>	<i>b</i>
<i>Station 3</i>				
Alpha	1/1	9.89E-09	<i>b</i>	<i>b</i>
⁷ Be	1/1	1.78E-08	<i>b</i>	<i>b</i>
Beta	1/1	1.86E-08	<i>b</i>	<i>b</i>
⁴⁰ K	0/1	-9.19E-10	<i>b</i>	<i>b</i>
²³⁴ U	1/1	8.08E-12	<i>b</i>	<i>b</i>
²³⁵ U	0/1	-1.67E-13	<i>b</i>	<i>b</i>
²³⁸ U	1/1	4.96E-12	<i>b</i>	<i>b</i>
Total U	1/1	1.29E-11	<i>b</i>	<i>b</i>
<i>Station 7</i>				
Alpha	1/1	9.87E-09	<i>b</i>	<i>b</i>
⁷ Be	1/1	1.85E-08	<i>b</i>	<i>b</i>
Beta	1/1	1.74E-08	<i>b</i>	<i>b</i>
⁴⁰ K	0/1	1.35E-09	<i>b</i>	<i>b</i>
²³⁴ U	1/1	4.47E-12	<i>b</i>	<i>b</i>
²³⁵ U	0/1	0.00E+00	<i>b</i>	<i>b</i>
²³⁸ U	1/1	5.30E-12	<i>b</i>	<i>b</i>
Total U	1/1	9.74E-12	<i>b</i>	<i>b</i>

^a1 pCi = 3.7 × 10⁻² Bq.

^bNot applicable.

5.4.5.1 Results

The ORNL PAM stations are designed to provide data for collectively assessing the specific impact of ORNL operations on local air quality. Sampling data from the ORNL PAM stations (Table 5.9) are compared with DCSs for air established by DOE as guidelines for controlling exposure to members of the public. During 2014, average radionuclide concentrations measured for the ORNL network were less than 1% of the applicable DCS in all cases.

5.5 Oak Ridge National Laboratory Water Quality Program

The NPDES permit issued to DOE for the ORNL site, TN 0002941, was renewed by the State of Tennessee in 2014 and includes requirements for discharging wastewaters from the three ORNL on-site wastewater treatment facilities and for the development and implementation of a water quality protection plan (WQPP). The permit calls for WQPP to “establish better linkages between water quality monitoring and detecting and abating water quality and ecological impact.” Rather than prescribing rigid monitoring schedules, the ORNL WQPP is flexible, allows an annual assessment of all outfalls, and focuses on significant findings. The WQPP goals are to meet the requirements of the NPDES permit, improve the quality of aquatic resources on the ORNL site, prevent further impacts to aquatic resources from current activities, identify the stressors that contribute to impairment of aquatic resources, use available resources efficiently, and communicate outcomes with decision makers and stakeholders.

The ORNL WQPP was developed by UT-Battelle and approved by TDEC in 2008, and WQPP monitoring was initiated in 2009. WQPP incorporated several control plans that were required under the previous NPDES permit, including a BMAP (ORNL 1986), a chlorine control strategy, an SWPPP (ORNL 2007), a non-storm-water best management practices plan (ORNL 1997), and an NPDES radiological monitoring plan (ORNL 2008). WQPP has been reviewed and revised annually and submitted to TDEC for review and comment.

To prioritize the stressors and/or contaminant sources that may be of greatest concern to water quality and to define conceptual models that would guide any special investigations, the WQPP strategy was defined using EPA’s *Stressor Identification Guidance Document* (EPA 2000). Figure 5.14 summarizes this process. The process involves three major steps for identifying the cause of any impairment:

1. list candidate causes of impairment (based on historical data and a working conceptual model),
2. analyze the evidence (using both case study and outside data), and
3. characterize the causes.

The first two steps of the stressor identification process were initiated in 2009, focusing first on mercury impairment (Fig. 5.15) and then on PCBs because mercury and PCB concentrations in fish from WOC are at or near human health risk thresholds (e.g., EPA AWQC and TDEC fish advisory limits). Some of the major sources of mercury to biota in the WOC watershed are known, providing a good basis from which to define an appropriate conceptual model for mercury contamination in WOC. A list of potential causes of PCB contamination was also developed.

After listing potential causes and analyzing the available evidence on mercury and PCB contamination in the WOC watershed, it was clear that additional investigation was needed to complete the third step of the stressor identification process, “characterizing the cause.” Special investigations were designed to identify specific source areas and to revise the conceptual model of the major causes of contamination in the WOC watershed.

At the end of each year, monitoring and investigation data collected under the ORNL WQPP will be analyzed, interpreted, reported, and compared with past results in the WQPP annual report. This information will provide a solid, overall assessment of the status of ORNL's receiving-stream watersheds and the impact of ongoing efforts to protect and restore those watersheds and will guide efforts to improve the water quality in the watershed.

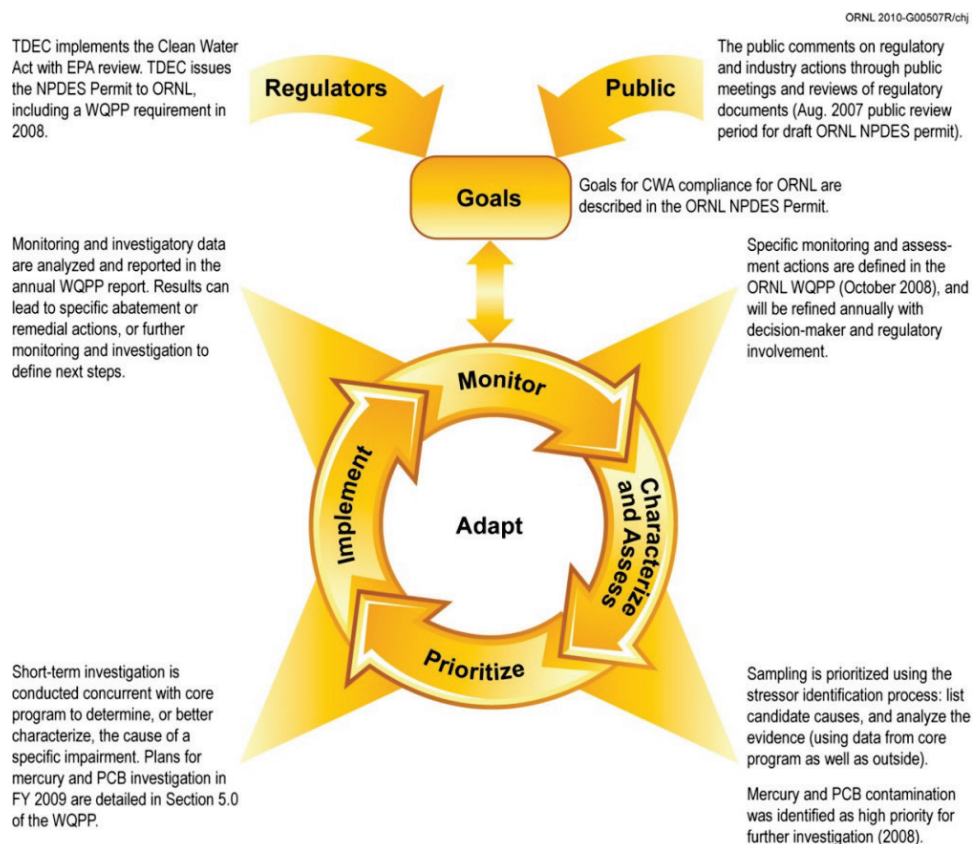


Fig. 5.14. Diagram of the adaptive management framework with step-wise planning specific to the Oak Ridge National Laboratory Water Quality Protection Plan (WQPP). [Adapted from the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) stressor guidance document (EPA 2000). Acronyms: CWA = Clean Water Act, NPDES = National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System, ORNL = Oak Ridge National Laboratory, PCB = polychlorinated biphenyl, TDEC = Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation.]

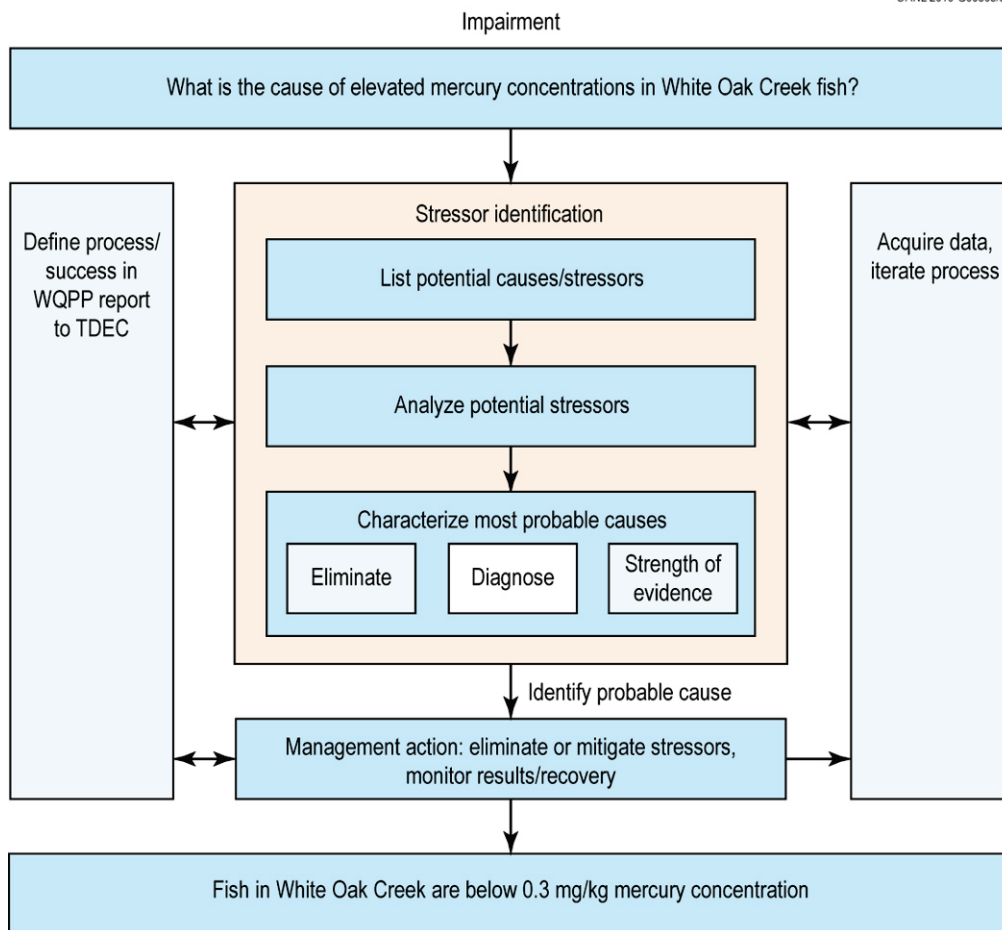


Fig. 5.15. Application of stressor identification guidance to address mercury impairment in the White Oak Creek watershed. [Modified from Figure 1-1 in the US Environmental Protection Agency stressor guidance document (EPA 2000). TDEC = Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation, WQPP = water quality protection plan.]

5.5.1 Treatment Facility Discharges

Two on-site wastewater treatment systems were operated at ORNL in 2014 to provide appropriate treatment of the various R&D, operational, and domestic wastewaters generated by site staff and activities. Both were permitted to discharge treated wastewater and were monitored under NPDES Permit TN0002941, issued to DOE for the ORNL site by TDEC. These are the ORNL STP (outfall X01) and the ORNL Process Waste Treatment Complex (PWTC; outfall X12). The ORNL NPDES permit requirements include monitoring the two ORNL wastewater treatment facility effluents for conventional, water-quality-based, and radiological constituents and for effluent toxicity, with numeric parameter-specific compliance limits established by TDEC as determined to be necessary. The ORNL NPDES permit was renewed by TDEC in March 2014; therefore, Table 5.10 includes data from monitoring conducted under one version of the permit from January through March 2014, and Table 5.11 includes data from monitoring conducted under the renewed version of the permit from April through December 2014.

The results of field measurements and laboratory analyses to assess compliance for the parameters required by the NPDES permit and rates of compliance with numeric limits established in the permit are also provided in Table 5.10. ORNL wastewater treatment facilities achieved 100% compliance with

permit limits and conditions in 2014. The ORNL STP has experienced infrequent instances where the plant goes to partial-treatment mode (disinfection) if the influent handling capacity is exceeded due to heavy rain storms. A project to upgrade the ORNL STP is in design, including increased influent handling capacity. The project is estimated to be completed in 2016.

Table 5.10. National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System compliance at Oak Ridge National Laboratory, January through March 2014
(NPDES permit effective August 1, 2008)

Effluent parameters	Permit limits					Permit compliance		
	Monthly average (lb/day)	Daily max. (lb/day)	Monthly average (mg/L)	Daily max. (mg/L)	Daily min. (mg/L)	Number of noncompliances	Number of samples	Percentage of compliance ^a
<i>Outfall 585 (Melton Valley Steam Plant)</i>								
pH (standard units)				9	6	0	1	100
<i>X01 (ORNL Sewage Treatment Plant)</i>								
LC ₅₀ for <i>Ceriodaphnia</i> (%)					69.4	0	0 ^b	100
LC ₅₀ for fathead minnows (%)					69.4	0	0 ^b	100
Ammonia, as N (summer)	6.26	9.39	2.5	3.75		0	0 ^b	100
Ammonia, as N (winter)	13.14	19.78	5.25	7.9		0	12	100
Carbonaceous biological oxygen demand	19.2	28.8	10	15		0	12	100
Dissolved oxygen					6	0	12	100
<i>Escherichia</i> coliform (col/100 mL)			941	126		0	12	100
IC ₂₅ for <i>Ceriodaphnia</i> (%)					15.5	0	0 ^b	100
IC ₂₅ for fathead minnows (%)					15.5	0	0 ^b	100
Oil and grease	19.2	28.8	10	15		0	3	100
pH (standard units)				9	6	0	12	100
Total suspended solids	57.5	86.3	30	45		0	12	100
<i>X12 (Process Waste Treatment Complex)</i>								
LC ₅₀ for <i>Ceriodaphnia</i> (%)					100	0	0 ^b	100
LC ₅₀ for fathead minnows (%)					100	0	0 ^b	100
Arsenic, total			0.007	0.014		0	2	100
Cadmium, total	1.73	4.60	0.003	0.038		0	2	100
Chromium, total	11.40	18.46	0.22	0.44		0	2	100
Copper, total	13.8	22.53	0.07	0.11		0	2	100
Cyanide, total	4.33	8.00	0.008	0.046		0	1	100

Table 5.10 (continued)

Effluent parameters	Permit limits					Permit compliance		
	Monthly average (lb/day)	Daily max. (lb/day)	Monthly average (mg/L)	Daily max. (mg/L)	Daily min. (mg/L)	Number of noncompliances	Number of samples	Percentage of compliance ^a
Lead, total	2.87	4.60	0.028	0.69		0	2	100
IC ₂₅ for <i>Ceriodaphnia</i> (%)					30.5	0	0 ^b	100
IC ₂₅ for fathead minnows (%)					30.5	0	0 ^b	100
Oil and grease	66.7	100	10	15		0	3	100
pH (standard units)				9.0	6.0	0	12	100
Temperature (°C)				30.5		0	12	100
<i>Instream chlorine monitoring points</i>								
Total residual oxidant			0.011	0.019		0	72	100

^aPercentage of compliance = 100 [(number of noncompliances/number of samples) × 100].

^bNo samples for this parameter collected between January and March.

Acronyms

LC₅₀ = lethal concentration; the concentration (as a percentage of full-strength wastewater) that kills 50% of the test species in 48 h.

IC₂₅ = inhibition concentration; the concentration (as a percentage of full-strength wastewater) that causes 25% reduction in survival, reproduction, or growth of the test organisms.

NPDES = National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System

ORNL = Oak Ridge National Laboratory

Table 5.11. National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System compliance at Oak Ridge National Laboratory, April through December 2014
(NPDES permit effective April 1, 2014)^a

Effluent parameters	Permit limits					Permit compliance		
	Monthly average (lb/day)	Daily max. (lb/day)	Monthly average (mg/L)	Daily max. (mg/L)	Daily min. (mg/L)	Number of noncompliances	Number of samples	Percentage of compliance ^b
<i>X01 (ORNL Sewage Treatment Plant)</i>								
LC ₅₀ for <i>Ceriodaphnia</i> (%)					100	0	1	100
LC ₅₀ for fathead minnows (%)					100	0	1	100
Ammonia, as N (summer)	6.26	9.39	2.5	3.75		0		100
Ammonia, as N (winter)	13.14	19.78	5.25	7.9		0		100
Carbonaceous biological oxygen demand	19.2	28.8	10	15		0	40	100

Table 5.11 (continued)

Effluent parameters	Permit limits					Permit compliance		
	Monthly average (lb/day)	Daily max. (lb/day)	Monthly average (mg/L)	Daily max. (mg/L)	Daily min. (mg/L)	Number of noncompliances	Number of samples	Percentage of compliance ^b
Dissolved oxygen					6	0	40	100
<i>Escherichia coli</i> form (col/100 mL)			941	126		0	40	100
Oil and grease				15		0	1	100
pH (standard units)				9	6	0	40	100
Total suspended solids	57.5	86.3	30	45		0	40	100
<i>X12 (Process Waste Treatment Complex)</i>								
LC ₅₀ for <i>Ceriodaphnia</i> (%)					100	0	1	100
LC ₅₀ for fathead minnows (%)					100	0	1	100
Arsenic, total				0.014		0	3	100
Chromium, total				0.44		0	3	100
Copper, total				0.11		0	4	100
Cyanide, total				0.046		0	1	100
Lead, total				0.69		0	3	100
Oil and grease				15		0	9	100
pH (standard units)				9.0	6.0	0	40	100
Temperature (°C)				30.5		0	40	100
<i>Instream chlorine monitoring points</i>								
Total residual oxidant			0.011	0.019		0	216	100

^aNote: Monitoring at outfall 585 is not required under the renewed NPDES permit, effective April 1, 2014.

^bPercentage compliance = 100 [(number of noncompliances/number of samples) × 100].

Acronyms

LC₅₀ = lethal concentration; the concentration (as a percentage of full-strength wastewater) that kills 50% of the test species in 48 h.

IC₂₅ = inhibition concentration; the concentration (as a percentage of full-strength wastewater) that causes 25% reduction in survival, reproduction, or growth of the test organisms.

NPDES = National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System

ORNL = Oak Ridge National Laboratory

Toxicity testing provides an assessment of any harmful effects that could occur from the total combined constituents in discharges from ORNL wastewater treatment facilities. Effluents from STP have been tested for toxicity to aquatic species under the NPDES permit every year since 1986, and effluents from PWTC have been tested since it went into operation in 1990. Test species have been *Ceriodaphnia dubia* (*C. dubia*), an aquatic invertebrate, and fathead minnow (*Pimephales promelas*) larvae. These have been tested using EPA chronic and acute test protocols at frequencies ranging from two to four times per year.

Test results have been excellent. PWTC effluent has always been shown to be nontoxic. STP has shown isolated indications of effluent toxicity, none recent, but confirmatory tests conducted as required by the permit have shown that either the result of the routine test was an anomaly or that the condition of toxicity that existed at the time of the routine test was temporary and of short duration.

Toxicity test requirements under the current NPDES permit include testing the ORNL STP and PWTC once per year each, using two test species. In 2014, toxicity test results for the ORNL wastewater treatment facilities were once again favorable, with no indication of toxicity in any of the tests that were conducted (Table 5.10).

5.5.2 Residual Bromine and Chlorine Monitoring

Chlorine is added to drinking water as a disinfectant prior to consumption. Chlorine and bromine are added to cooling system water to prevent bacterial growth in the system. When waters are discharged to streams, residual chlorine and bromine can be toxic to fish and other aquatic life. The ORNL NPDES permit controls the discharge of chlorinated and brominated waters, reported as “total residual oxidant” (TRO), by limiting the TRO mass loading from outfalls and the TRO concentration instream. Outfalls with low potential to discharge chlorinated water are generally monitored semiannually; outfalls with known sources that are dechlorinated are monitored more frequently to ensure operational integrity of the dechlorinator. Instream locations are monitored bimonthly.

NPDES permit outfalls are monitored for TRO to ensure effective operation of cooling towers and dechlorination systems and maintenance of waterlines. When the permit action level of 1.2 g/day is exceeded at an outfall, the staff investigates and implements treatment and reduction measures. TRO is also monitored at instream points twice per month to verify that releases are not creating adverse conditions for fish and other aquatic life.

Thirty-two individual outfalls are checked for TRO semiannually, quarterly, monthly, or bimonthly. Flow was detected 259 times. Table 5.12 lists instances in 2014 where TRO levels at outfalls were found to be in excess of the permit action level. One outfall, 265, on Fifth Creek, exceeded the action level during 2014. The source for outfall 265, aging underground water pipes leaking drinking water, was eliminated in 2014.

Table 5.12. Outfalls exceeding total residual oxidant permit action level in 2014^a

Sample date	Outfall	TRO concentration (mg/L)	Flow (gpm)	Load (grams/day)	Receiving stream	Downstream integration point	Instream TRO point
6/2/2014	265	0.60	15	49.1	Fifth Creek	FFK 0.2	X19

^a1.2 g/day

Acronyms

FFK = Fifth Creek kilometer
TRO = total residual oxidant

5.5.3 Cooling Tower Blowdown Whole Effluent Toxicity Monitoring

As part of the WQPP at ORNL, samples of blowdown from three cooling towers/cooling tower systems (5600, 5807, and 4510/4521) were tested for whole effluent toxicity (WET) in August and September 2014. This was done in support of the WQPP investigation to identify the causes of biological community

impairments in the WOC watershed. That investigation is initially focusing on the reach of WOC that encompasses WOC kilometer (WCK) 3.9. These towers have been the focus of WET testing since 2012 because they are believed to be the towers that have the greatest influence on water quality in that stream reach.

In WET testing, standard test organisms are exposed to multiple concentrations of effluent under standard test conditions, and the organisms' responses (e.g., survival, reproduction) are measured. The cooling tower blowdown samples evaluated in 2014 were tested with *C. dubia* using a three-brood survival and reproduction test, which is a chronic toxicity test that has been shown to be more sensitive for testing cooling tower blowdown effluents than are acute tests using fathead minnows (*Pimephales promelas*).

At two of the towers that were tested, blowdown is discharged through outfalls where the blowdown is mixed with other effluents before it reaches the receiving stream. Effluents from those outfalls were also tested concurrently for WET. The outfalls tested were outfall 227, which receives blowdown from the 5600 cooling tower, and outfall 231, which receives blowdown from the 5807 tower. Blowdown from 4510/4521 is discharged through outfall 014, but is not blended with other wastewaters before discharge; therefore, it was not necessary to perform a separate test of outfall 014 effluent.

WET test results from cooling towers and outfalls tested in 2014 are shown in Table 5.13. It should be noted that samples were collected from the basins under the towers instead of directly from the blowdown lines because of difficulty accessing closed blowdown piping systems for sampling with an automatic water sampler.

Table 5.13. Summary results of chronic *Ceriodaphnia dubia* toxicity tests of ORNL cooling towers and outfalls conducted during August and September 2014

Location	NOEC ^a	IC ₂₅ ^b	96-hour LC ₅₀ ^c
Cooling tower 4510/4521	50%	60%	>100%
Cooling tower 5600	25%	34%	>100%
Outfall 227	50%	>100%	>100%
Cooling tower 5807	5%	14%	>100%
Outfall 231	25%	35%	>100%

^aNOEC = No-observed-effect concentration for survival and reproduction.

^bIC₂₅ = Inhibition concentration which would cause a 25% reduction in mean young per female.

^cLC₅₀ = Lethal concentration which would cause a 50% reduction in survival in 96 hours (estimated with this type of chronic test).

The results presented in Table 5.13 indicate that if a population of *C. dubia* was to be continually exposed to a mixture of water composed of roughly 25% or more (and perhaps as low as 5% on occasion) of blowdown from these cooling towers, a negative effect on *C. dubia* reproduction could occur. It has been estimated that in the driest summer conditions in WOC, it is possible for concentrations of blowdown in the receiving stream (instream waste concentration) at some locations to be as high as 30% or 40% on an intermittent basis. Table 5.13 also provides results from WET testing of the two outfalls (227 and 231) that receive these blowdown discharges. Results indicate that after blending with other wastewaters but before mixing with the receiving stream, the effluents from these two outfalls could also potentially cause reproductive effects to *C. dubia*; however, samples from the outfalls did show less toxicity than samples collected directly from the corresponding towers, so blending with other wastewaters did provide a benefit. Some WET testing of water collected directly from the stream below cooling water discharges (samples include a mixture of effluents from cooling towers, other upstream outfalls, and natural

background stream flow) has been conducted and has generally not shown toxicity [based on one WET test of stream water conducted in each of the last two years (2013 and 2014)].

In 2014, as in 2013, tests were conducted on blowdown samples that were exposed in the laboratory to various forms of water treatment. This was done to determine which treatments, if applied to actual discharges of blowdown, might be effective in reducing or eliminating toxicity and to infer what chemical constituents of the blowdown might be causing effluents to be toxic. Samples of full strength blowdown from the 4510-4521 cooling tower system were subjected to metals chelation by addition of ethylenediaminetetraacetic acid (EDTA), particulate removal by filtration through a 1.2 µm filter, and activated carbon treatment. None of these treatments achieved significant reductions in toxicity. Full strength blowdown samples from the 5600 and 5807 towers and outfalls 227 and 231 were also treated with activated carbon. The effects of all treatments have been variable, both spatially (between different towers) and temporally (year-to-year variability within individual towers). In 2014, chelation with EDTA seemed to provide some reduction in toxicity but did not completely eliminate toxicity. Activated carbon sometimes provided partial benefit but in some cases seemed to result in slightly decreased reproduction in test organisms. One potential explanation for the spatial and temporal variability and inconsistency in the effects of treatments is that the series of samples collected for testing may have had variable chemical concentrations due to the temporal variability of the sources being sampled. Some maintenance chemicals used in the cooling towers are added to the towers intermittently (e.g., 2 times per week for the nonoxidizing biocides) and in a batch process. The samples collected for WET testing were 24-hour time-proportional composite samples collected 3 times per week, with collection schedules that most likely varied in relation to the dosing of maintenance chemicals.

The type of nonoxidizing biocide used in the cooling towers to control biological growth was changed between the 2013 and 2014 testing periods. The new biocide was expected to result in blowdown that exhibited a lesser degree of toxicity to test organisms for two reasons. First, the new biocide breaks down rapidly in the cooling towers following dosing (perhaps not complete breakdown prior to blowdown discharge, but residual biocide concentrations in untreated blowdown should be considerably less than with the previous biocide). Second, the treatment that is used at cooling towers to remove chlorine from the blowdown stream should also be effective in eliminating any residual of this new biocide. The WET test results indicate that the benefit was not realized, which could mean that either the breakdown of the biocide or its removal by the treatment system was not as expected or that the nonoxidizing biocides (both the old and new) were not the primary cause of the toxicity that has been measured (Table 5.13).

Questions remain about how closely the WET tests that have been conducted predict the actual impacts of cooling tower blowdown on biological communities in WOC, primarily due to differences between test conditions and actual instream exposure conditions. For example, the WET tests that were performed are chronic tests, which measure impacts to organisms under a continuous exposure scenario lasting several days or longer. In reality, discharges of cooling tower blowdown are intermittent, triggered by a control system that uses measurements of specific conductivity to control opening and closing of the discharge valve. Despite the limitations, WET testing done to date does suggest that measures that could be taken to reduce the toxicity of cooling tower blowdown discharges have a promising potential to improve biological communities in WOC. Additional WET testing will be conducted in the future in an attempt to identify what constituents of tower blowdown are responsible for the toxicity that has been measured and to help select which abatement actions would be most effective.

During the period in which the towers were undergoing WET testing, they were also monitored with grab samples for field parameters (conductivity, dissolved oxygen, pH, and temperature), chemical oxygen demand, TSS, dissolved metals, and total metals. Results of that monitoring are shown in Table 5.14.

Table 5.14. Field parameters and results from laboratory analyses of blowdown from Oak Ridge National Laboratory cooling towers

Parameter	Cooling Tower Sampled ^a		
	4510/4521	5600	5807
Conductivity (mS/cm)	0.837	0.81	0.798
Dissolved oxygen (mg/L)	8.2	7	9.1
pH (standard units)	8.3	8.3	8.1
Temperature (°C)	25.4	23.1	22.4
Chemical oxygen demand (mg/L)	74.2	144	107
Total suspended solids (mg/L)	< 2	3	< 2
Ag, dissolved (mg/L)	< 0.000619	< 0.000619	< 0.000619
Ag, total (mg/L)	< 0.000619	< 0.000619	< 0.000619
As, dissolved (mg/L)	< 0.001	< 0.001	< 0.001
As, total (mg/L)	< 0.001	< 0.001	< 0.001
Be, dissolved (mg/L)	< 0.000686	< 0.000686	< 0.000686
Be, total (mg/L)	< 0.000686	< 0.000686	< 0.000686
Ca, dissolved (mg/L)	105	103	98
Ca, total (mg/L)	127	124	121
Cd, dissolved (mg/L)	< 0.000782	< 0.000782	< 0.000782
Cd, total (mg/L)	< 0.000782	< 0.000782	< 0.000782
Cr, dissolved (mg/L)	< 0.001	< 0.001	< 0.001
Cr, total (mg/L)	< 0.001	< 0.001	< 0.001
Cu, dissolved (mg/L)	0.0909	0.0287	0.119
Cu, total (mg/L)	0.124	0.124	0.407
Fe, dissolved (mg/L)	< 0.0206	< 0.0206	< 0.0206
Fe, total (mg/L)	< 0.0206	< 0.0206	< 0.0206
Mg, dissolved (mg/L)	28.9	30.1	28
Mg, total (mg/L)	36.8	38.6	38.1
Mn, dissolved (mg/L)	0.00229	0.00102	< 0.000953
Mn, total (mg/L)	0.00331	0.00212	0.00155
Mo, dissolved (mg/L)	0.0013	0.00109	0.00104
Mo, total (mg/L)	0.00142	0.00108	0.00107
Ni, dissolved (mg/L)	< 0.00138	< 0.00138	< 0.00138
Ni, total (mg/L)	0.00248	0.00227	0.0019
Pb, dissolved (mg/L)	< 0.001	< 0.001	< 0.001
Pb, total (mg/L)	0.00374	0.00103	< 0.001
Sb, dissolved (mg/L)	0.00174	< 0.00081	< 0.00081
Sb, total (mg/L)	0.00192	< 0.00081	< 0.00081
Se, dissolved (mg/L)	< 0.0406	< 0.0406	< 0.0406
Se, total (mg/L)	< 0.0406	< 0.0406	< 0.0406
Zn, dissolved (mg/L)	0.139	0.103	0.101
Zn, total (mg/L)	0.154	0.16	0.213

^aAll samples were collected on August 25, 2014.

5.5.4 Radiological Monitoring

At ORNL, monitoring of liquid effluents and selected instream locations for radioactivity is conducted under the WQPP. Table 5.15 details the targeted monitoring frequencies and analyses performed on samples collected in 2014 at 2 treatment facility outfalls, 3 instream monitoring locations, and 20 category outfalls (outfalls which are categorized into groups with similar effluent characteristics for the purposes of setting monitoring and reporting requirements in the site NPDES permit). Dry-weather discharges from category outfalls are primarily cooling water, groundwater, and condensate. Low levels of radioactivity can be discharged from category outfalls in areas where groundwater contamination exists and where contaminated groundwater enters category outfall collection systems from building and facility sumps, building footer drains, and direct infiltration. In 2014, dry-weather grab samples were collected at 15 of the 20 category outfalls targeted for sampling. Five category outfalls (080, 203, 205, 241, and 284) were not sampled because there was no discharge present during sampling attempts.

Two ORNL treatment facilities were monitored for radioactivity in 2014: STP (outfall X01) and PWTC (outfall X12). The three instream locations that were monitored were X13 on Melton Branch, X14 on WOC, and X15 at WOD (Fig. 5.16). At each treatment facility and instream monitoring location, monthly flow-proportional composite samples were collected using dedicated automatic water samplers.

Radioisotope specific guideline concentration values are published in DOE directives and are used to evaluate discharges of radioactivity from DOE facilities. DCSs were developed for evaluating effluent discharges and are not intended to be applied to instream values, but these comparisons can provide a useful frame of reference. Four percent of the DCS is roughly equivalent to the 4 mrem dose limit on which the EPA radionuclide drinking water standards are based and is a convenient comparison point. It should be noted that although effluents and instream concentrations are compared to DCSs, neither ORNL effluents nor ambient surface waters are direct sources of drinking water. The annual average concentration of at least one radionuclide exceeded 4% of the relevant DCS concentration in dry-weather discharges from NPDES outfalls 085, 204, 207, 302, 304, X01, and X12 and at instream sampling location X15 (Fig. 5.17).

In 2014, two outfalls had a mean radioactivity concentration greater than 100% of a DCS. Outfalls 207 and 304 both had average total radioactive strontium ($^{89,90}\text{Sr}$) concentrations that exceeded the DCS for ^{90}Sr (it is reasonable, for an ORNL environmental sample, to assume that $^{89,90}\text{Sr}$ activity is comparable to ^{90}Sr activity due to the relatively short half-life of ^{89}Sr —50.55 days). The concentrations of $^{89,90}\text{Sr}$ were 420% and 120% of the DCS at outfalls 207 and 304 respectively. Only one measurement of $^{89,90}\text{Sr}$ was made at outfall 207 in 2014 because $^{89,90}\text{Sr}$ is only measured at that outfall when other levels of radioactivity are elevated enough to exceed screening criteria defined in the monitoring plan. Judging from the gross beta activities measured at outfall 207 during the remaining three quarters of 2014, had $^{89,90}\text{Sr}$ been measured those other times the annual average $^{89,90}\text{Sr}$ activity would have been considerably lower but would have still exceeded 100% of the DCS. Consequently, concentrations of radioactivity in discharges from outfalls 207 and 304 were also greater than DCS levels on a sum-of-fractions (summation of DCS percentages of multiple radiological parameters) basis; the sum-of-fractions were 448% and 135%, respectively.

Table 5.15. Radiological monitoring conducted under the Oak Ridge National Laboratory Water Quality Protection Plan, 2014

Location	Frequency	Gross alpha/beta	Gamma scan	³ H	¹⁴ C	^{89/90} Sr	⁹⁹ Tc	Isotopic uranium	Isotopic plutonium	²⁴¹ Am	^{243/244} Cm
Outfall 001	Annual	X									
Outfall 080 ^a	Monthly										
Outfall 081	Annual	X									
Outfall 085	Quarterly	X	X	X		X					
Outfall 203 ^a	Annual										
Outfall 204	Semiannual	X	X			X					
Outfall 205 ^a	Annual										
Outfall 207	Quarterly	X	X ^b			X ^b		X ^b	X ^b	X ^b	X ^b
Outfall 211	Annual	X									
Outfall 234	Annual	X									
Outfall 241 ^a	Quarterly										
Outfall 265	Annual	X									
Outfall 281	Quarterly	X	X ^b	X							
Outfall 282	Quarterly	X									
Outfall 284 ^a	Annual										
Outfall 302	Monthly	X	X	X		X	X ^b	X ^b	X ^b	X ^b	X ^b
Outfall 304	Monthly	X	X	X		X	X ^b	X ^b	X ^b	X ^b	X ^b
Outfall 365	Semiannual	X									
Outfall 368	Annual	X									
Outfall 383	Annual	X		X							
STP (X01)	Monthly	X	X	X	X	X					
PWTC (X12)	Monthly	X	X	X		X	X ^b	X			
Melton Branch (X13)	Monthly	X	X	X		X					
WOC (X14)	Monthly	X	X	X		X					
WOD (X15)	Monthly	X	X	X		X					

^aThe outfall was included in the monitoring plan, but samples were not collected because no discharge was present during sampling attempts.

^bThe parameter is not a required parameter for this location in the Water Quality Protection Plan and therefore may have been monitored on a frequency less than indicated in the second column of the table. Additional analyses are sometimes performed on samples, the most common reason being that gross alpha and gross beta activities exceeded a screening criteria (as described in the May 2012 update to the Water Quality Protection Plan).

Acronyms

PWTC = Process Waste Treatment Complex

STP = Sewage Treatment Plant

WOC = White Oak Creek

WOD = White Oak Dam

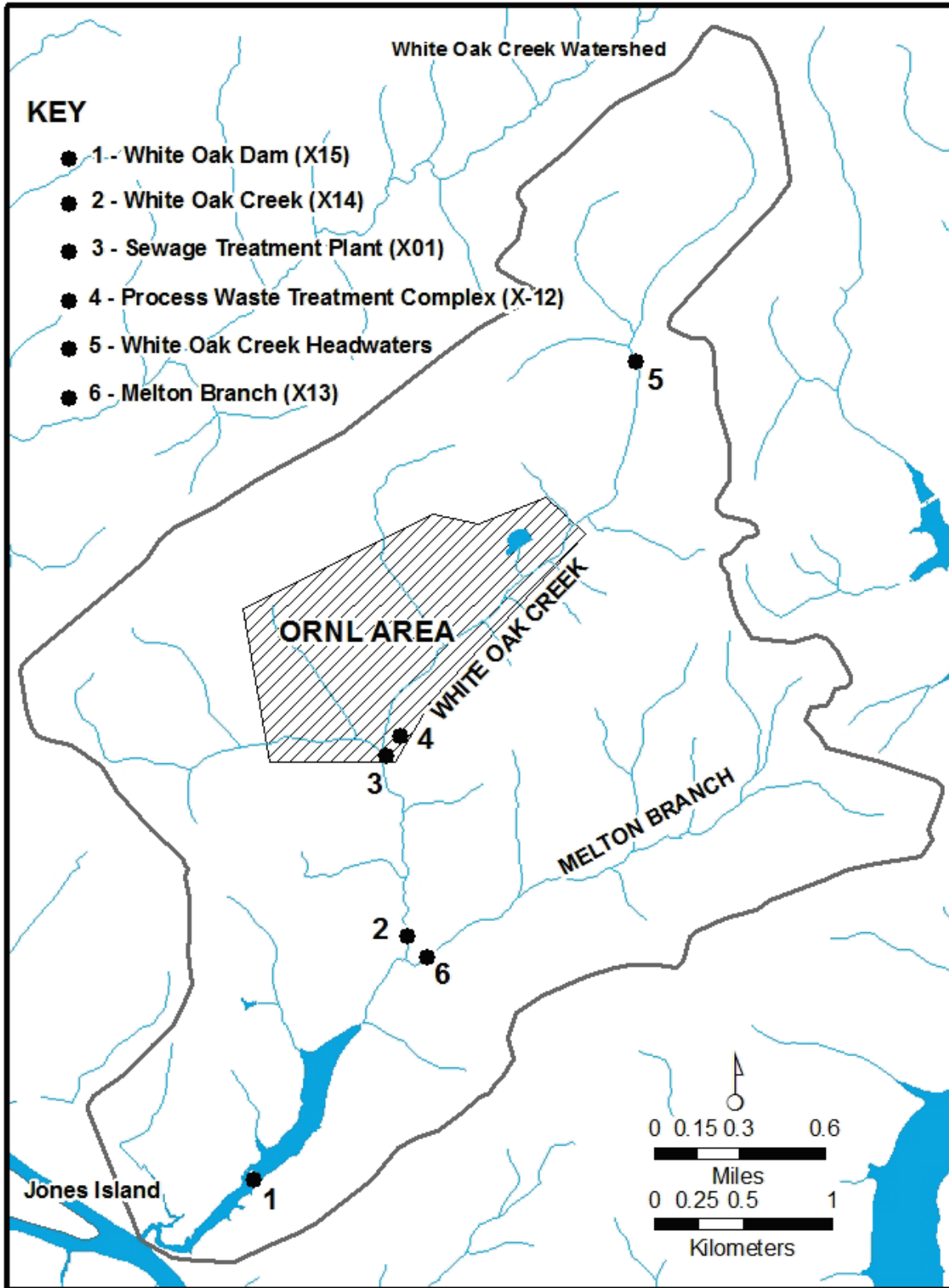


Fig. 5.16. Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL) surface water, National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System, and reference sampling locations.

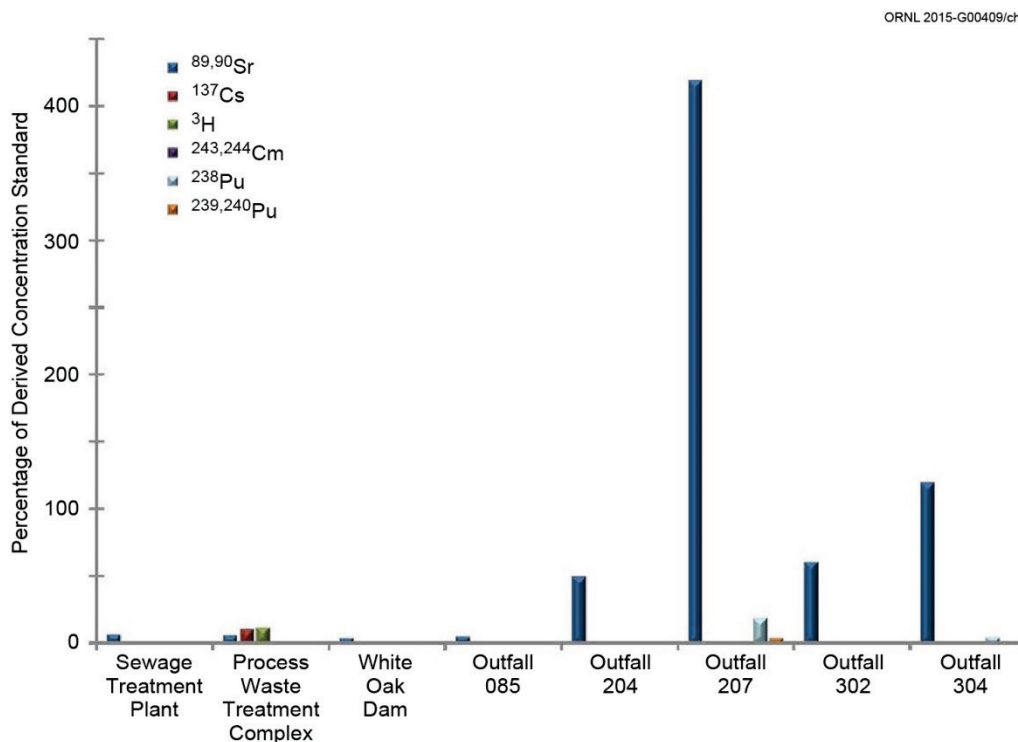


Fig. 5.17. Outfalls at Oak Ridge National Laboratory with average radionuclide concentrations greater than 4% of the relevant derived concentration standards in 2014.

The 2014 increases in radioactivity concentrations at both outfalls were found to have a common cause. The storm water collection networks for both outfalls extend to areas near the EM WOC-9 (WC-9) Low Level Liquid Waste Tank Farm, a CERCLA soil and groundwater contamination area. A dry well with a sump pump at WC-9 collects contaminated groundwater and routes it for treatment. The sump pump failed prior to the observed increase in radioactivity levels at these two outfalls. It is believed that when the sump is operational it acts to suppress groundwater levels, preventing or minimizing leakage of contaminated groundwater into these storm drains from the area around WC-9. After the pump was restored to service, concentrations and fluxes of radioactivity declined at both outfalls.

The total annual discharges (or amounts) of radioactivity measured in stream water at WOD, the final monitoring point on WOC before the stream flow leaves ORNL, were calculated from concentration and flow. Results of those calculations for each of the past 5 years are shown in Figs. 5.18 through 5.22. Because discharges of radioactivity are somewhat correlated to stream flow, annual flow volumes measured at the WOD monitoring station are given in Fig. 5.23. Discharges of radioactivity at WOD in 2014 are similar to recent years, particularly when taking into account differences in annual flow volume, and continue to be generally lower than in the years preceding completion of the waste area caps in Melton Valley (substantially complete by 2006).

Radiological monitoring at category outfalls in 2014 also included monitoring during storm runoff conditions. A total of 10 storm water outfalls were monitored. Storm water samples were analyzed for gross alpha, gross beta, and tritium activities. A gamma scan analysis was also performed. Additional analyses were added when there was sufficient gross alpha and/or gross beta activity in a sample to indicate that levels of radioactivity could exceed DCS levels. In 2014, additional analyses were performed on samples from one outfall, outfall 301.

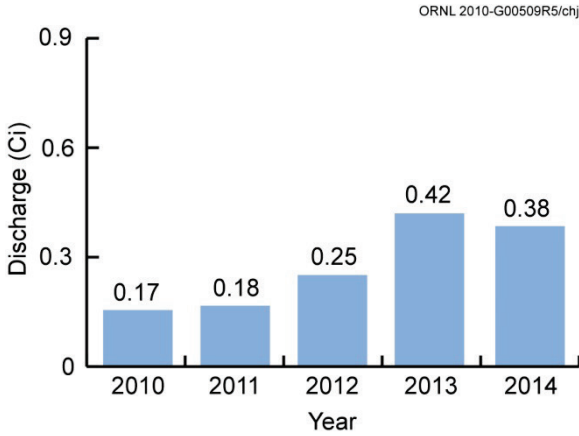


Fig. 5.18. Cesium-137 discharges at White Oak Dam, 2010–2014.

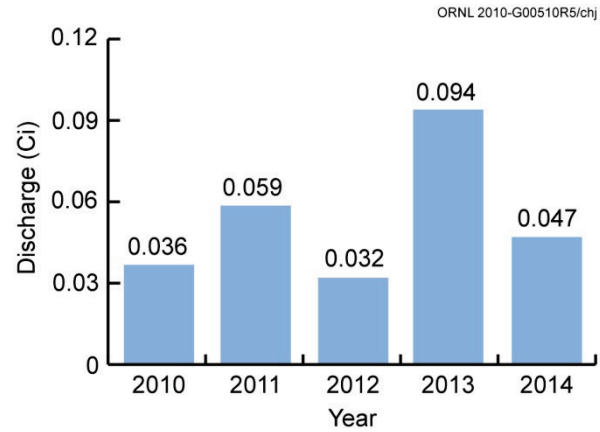


Fig. 5.19. Gross alpha discharges at White Oak Dam, 2010–2014.

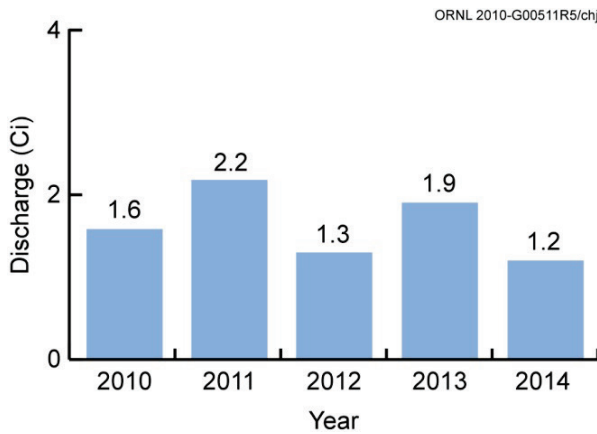


Fig. 5.20. Gross beta discharges at White Oak Dam, 2010–2014.

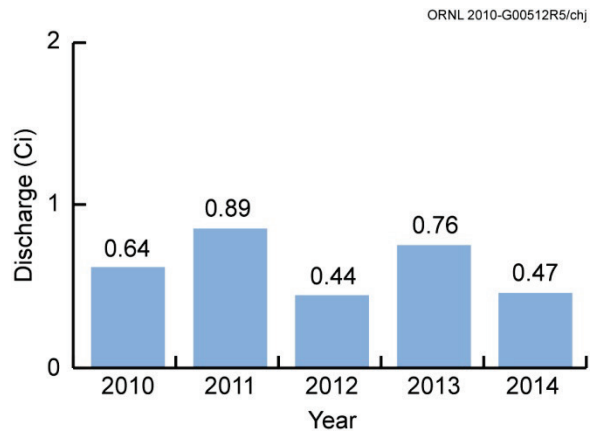


Fig. 5.21. Total radioactive strontium discharges at White Oak Dam, 2010–2014.

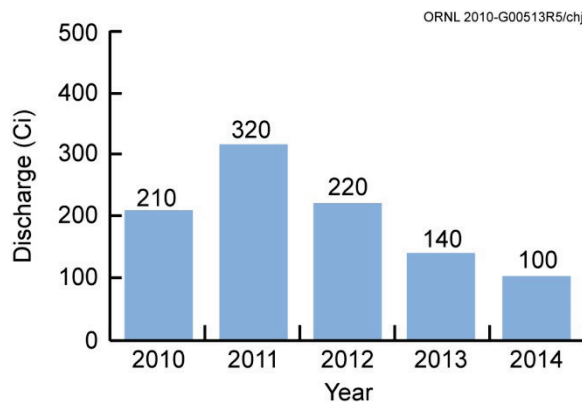


Fig. 5.22. Tritium discharges at White Oak Dam, 2010–2014.

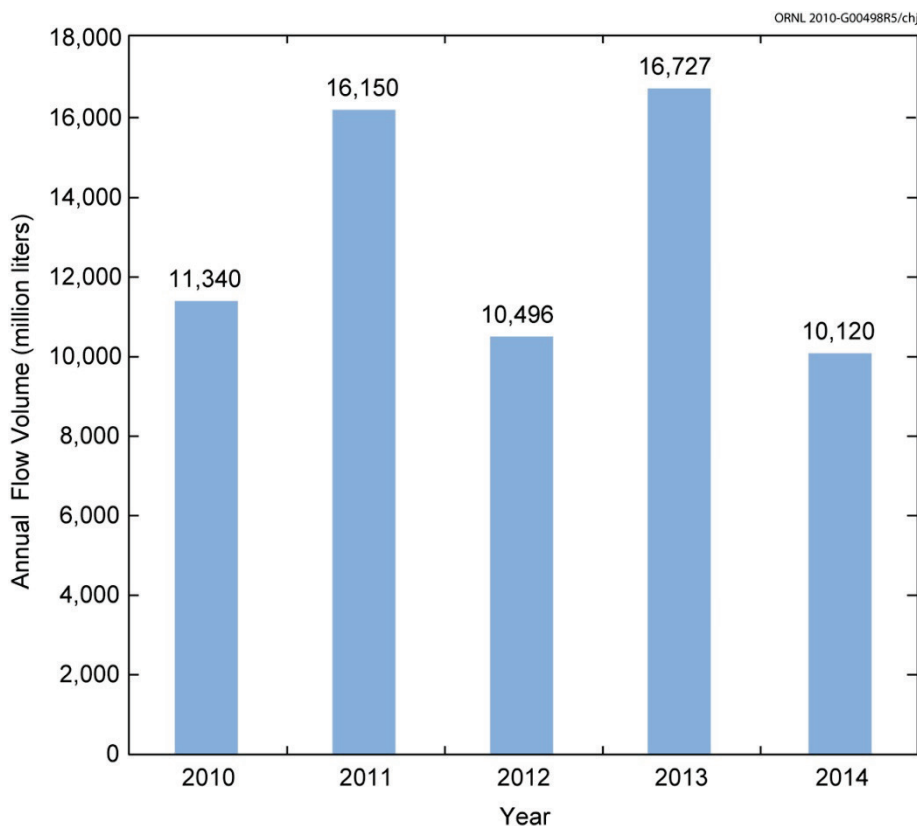


Fig. 5.23. Annual flow volume at White Oak Dam, 2010–2014.

Concentrations of radioactivity in storm water discharges were compared with DCSs if a DCS existed for that parameter (there are no DCSs for gross alpha and gross beta activities) and if the concentration was greater than or equal to the minimum detectable activity level for the measurement. Three outfalls had measurements of radionuclide concentrations in storm water that were greater than 4% of DCS levels: at outfall 204, ^{137}Cs was measured at 14% of the DCS; at outfall 301, ^{137}Cs was measured at 12% of the DCS and $^{89/90}\text{Sr}$ was measured at 29% of the DCS for ^{90}Sr ; and at outfall 582, $^{89/90}\text{Sr}$ was measured at 13% of the DCS for ^{90}Sr .

5.5.5 Mercury in the White Oak Creek Watershed

Legacy mercury environmental contamination exists at ORNL, largely as a result of spills and releases that occurred in the 1950s during isotope separation pilot-scale work in Buildings 3503, 3592, 4501, and 4505. Because of this, mercury is present in soils and groundwater in and around these four facilities. Buildings 3592 and 3503 were taken down and removed under the CERCLA remedial process in 2011 and 2012, respectively. Mercury is also present in Fifth Creek and WOC surface streams that receive surface runoff and groundwater flow from the area of these buildings.

In the past, process wastewater drains and building sumps from Buildings 4501 and 4505, the facilities where most of the ORNL mercury work was conducted, were routed via underground collection-system piping to the ORNL PWTC for treatment to remove constituents, including mercury, before discharge to WOC. Since 2007, three additional groundwater sumps have been redirected to receive treatment for mercury removal, and a mercury pretreatment system was installed on one of these sumps, in Building 4501. These recent actions have significantly diminished the release of legacy mercury contamination from the ORNL site to the WOC watershed (Fig. 5.24).

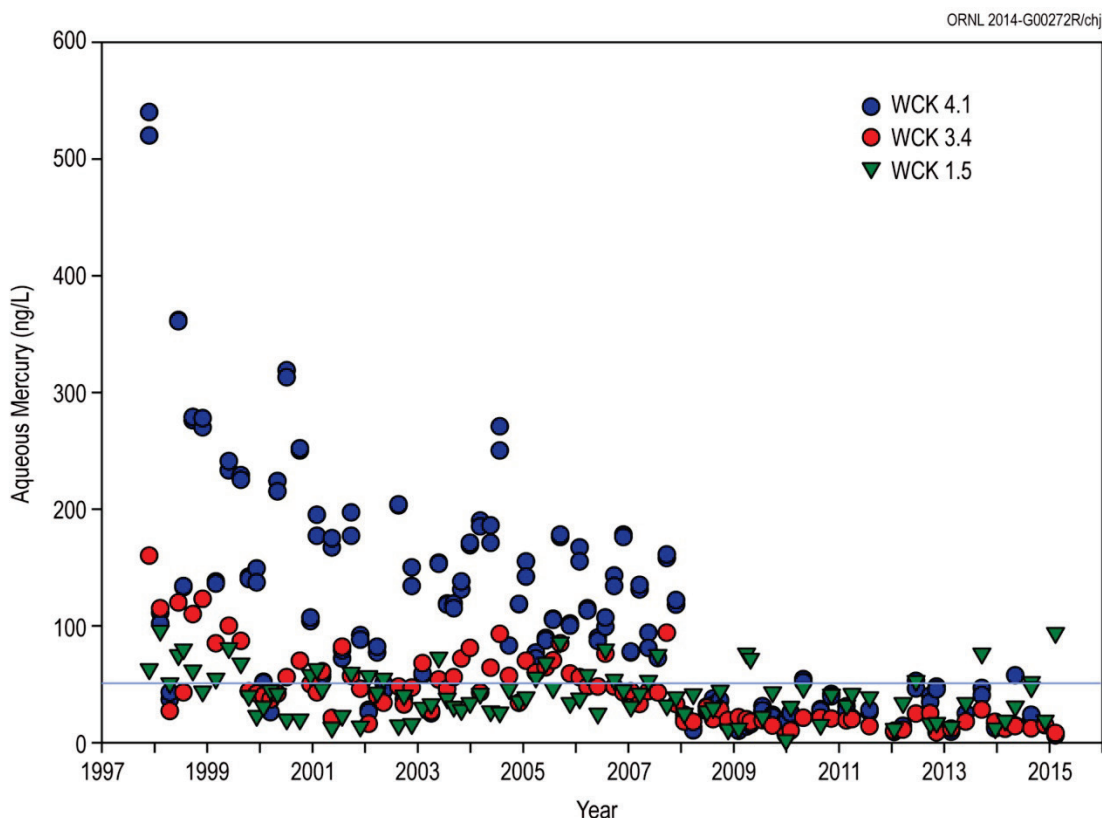


Fig. 5.24. Total aqueous mercury concentrations at sites in White Oak Creek downstream from Oak Ridge National Laboratory, 1998–2014. (AWQC = ambient water quality criterion; WCK = White Oak Creek kilometer.)

For the WQPP mercury-investigation component, effluent sampling at various outfalls and instream reaches is being conducted to help prioritize future abatement actions and to delineate mercury sources.

In 2014, monitoring conducted under WQPP included dry-weather sampling at a number of instream points in the WOC watershed upstream, within, and downstream from ORNL and ORNL NPDES outfalls where previous monitoring or site history has shown the potential for effluent mercury. Flow measurements were made for instream and outfall sampling locations. Concentration and flux values were measured and calculated. Selected results of the 2014 monitoring are shown in Fig. 5.25, and complete mercury monitoring results are available in the Oak Ridge Environmental Information System (OREIS). Access to this system can be requested via email (oreis@ettp.doe.gov) or by telephone (865-574-3257).

Monitoring results for 2014 indicated that Tennessee mercury criteria were met at all instream locations in the WOC watershed with the exception of one water sample that was collected at the lower end of White Oak Lake. As a result of 2011 targeted stream-reach mercury investigations, a storm drain outfall on Fifth Creek, outfall 265, was found to be a more significant source of mercury release than had previously been known. In 2012 this outfall's network of underground piping and catch basins was investigated using a remote video camera to identify sources of water "inleakage," and in 2012–2013 repairs were made to underground water utilities that improved the outfall 265 situation. Investigation continued in 2014, and in September 2014 a nearby underground water-supply pipe that had been found to be leaking was isolated, at which point dry-weather flow from outfall 265 ceased. Subsequent monitoring indicates that outfall 265 is no longer a significant source of mercury flux to WOC.

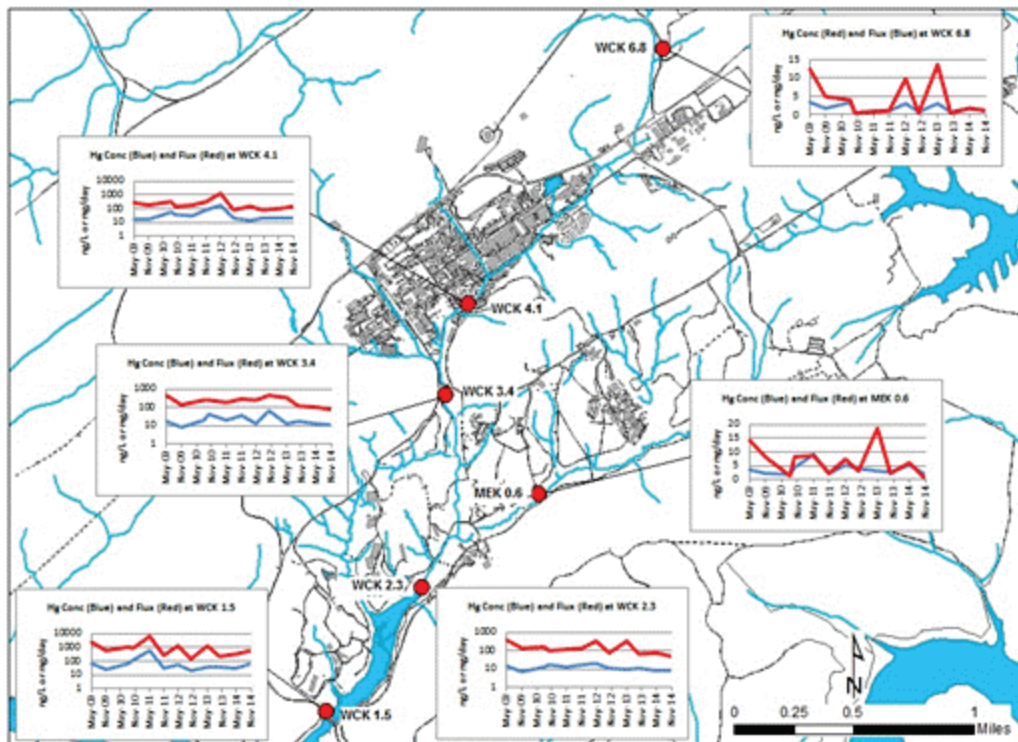


Fig. 5.25. Total mercury concentration and flux at selected Oak Ridge National Laboratory in-stream locations, 2009 through 2014.

Also in 2014, improvements were made at the ORNL PWTC, the wastewater treatment facility where mercury-bearing legacy wastewater is treated before being released to WOC. The PWTC treatment units include granular activated carbon filter columns, and in 2014 the filter media in one of the columns was replaced with sulfur-impregnated carbon that is optimized for mercury removal. PWTC effluent monitoring data collected since the carbon replacement have shown noticeable improvement in the plant's mercury-removal efficiency. An ongoing mercury-characterization monitoring protocol, which has been maintained at various in-stream- and outfall-monitoring locations in the WOC watershed since 2009, will be continued in 2015.

5.5.6 Storm Water Surveillances and Construction Activities

Figure 5.26 depicts the location of construction sites that were active in 2014. (Substantive requirements of the appropriate water pollution control permits are followed for construction areas that are part of CERCLA remediation, but official permit coverage is not required.) Only four sites were considered significant due to footprints close to or greater than 1 acre and/or the need to be covered by a Tennessee construction general permit and were inspected to evaluate overall effectiveness of the best management practices in use. In general, while some short-term impacts to receiving streams were noted, no long-term adverse impacts were observed.

Land use within drainage areas is typical of office/industrial settings with surface features including laboratories, support facilities, paved areas, and grassy lawns. Outdoor material storage is most prevalent in the 7000 area on the east end of the main ORNL facility (where most of the craft and maintenance shops are located), with other smaller outdoor storage areas located throughout the facility in and around loading docks and material delivery areas at laboratory and office buildings. The types of materials stored

outside include metal items (sheeting, pipes, and parts); equipment awaiting use, disposal, or repair; construction material; and deicer product.

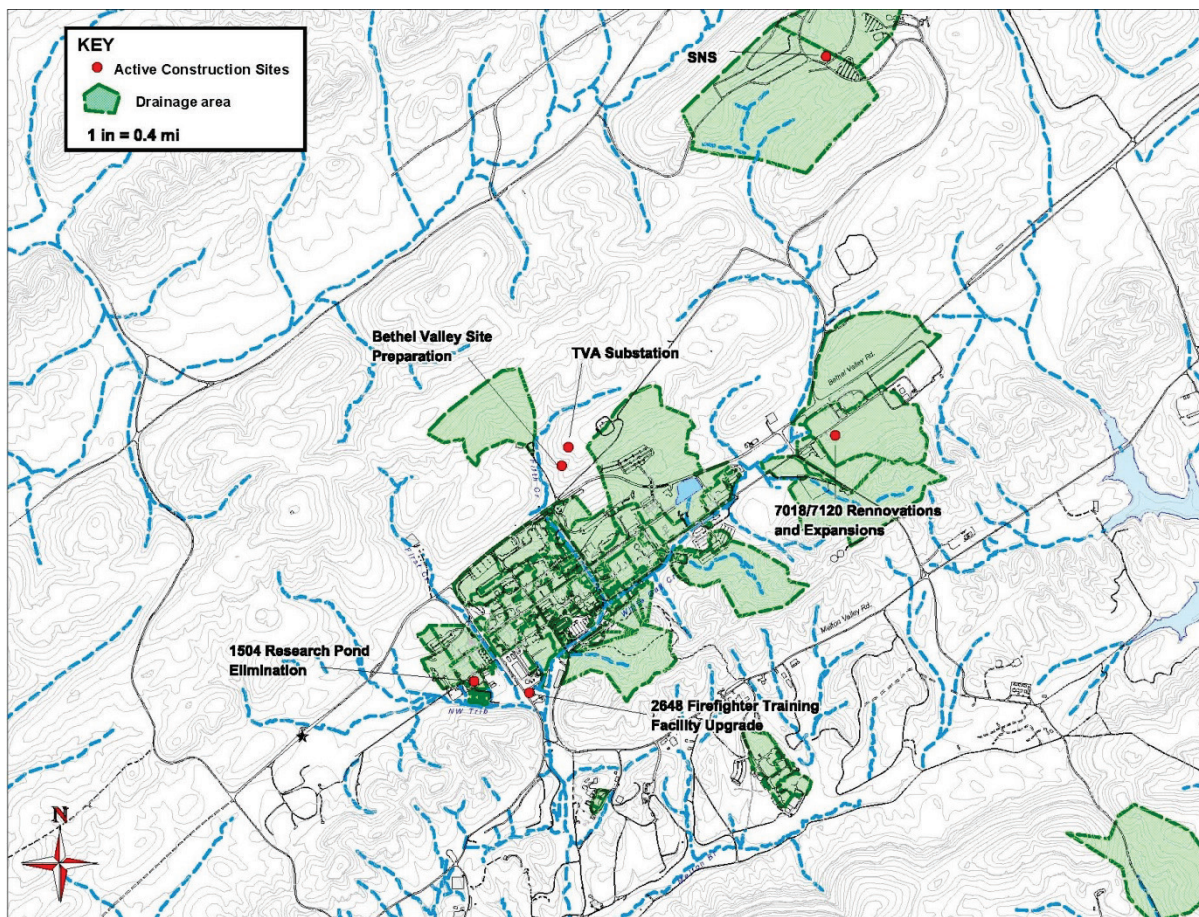


Fig. 5.26. Active construction sites and Oak Ridge National Laboratory Water Quality Protection Plan monitoring locations, 2014. (SNS = Spallation Neutron Source, TVA = Tennessee Valley Authority)

Some construction activities are performed on third-party-funded construction projects under agreement with other local, state, and federal agencies on the DOE reservation. There are mechanisms in place for ensuring effective storm water controls at these third-party sites, one of which includes staff from UT-Battelle acting as points of contact for communication interface on environmental, spill/emergency response, and other key issues.

5.5.7 Biological Monitoring

5.5.7.1 Bioaccumulation Studies

The bioaccumulation task for BMAP addresses two NPDES permit requirements at ORNL: (1) evaluate whether mercury at the site is contributing to a stream at a level that will impact fish and aquatic life or violate the recreational criteria and (2) monitor the status of PCB contamination in fish tissue in the WOC watershed. Concentrations of mercury in fish in the WOC watershed are monitored annually and are evaluated relative to the EPA AWQC of 0.3 mg/g in fish fillets, a concentration considered to be

protective of human health and the environment. Concentrations of PCBs in fish fillets are also monitored annually and are evaluated relative to the TDEC fish advisory limit of 1 $\mu\text{g/g}$.

Mercury in Water. In continuation of a monitoring effort initiated in 1997, bimonthly water samples were collected from WOC at four sites in 2014. Stream conditions were selected to be representative of seasonal base-flow conditions (dry weather, clear flow) based on historical results that indicate higher mercury concentrations under these conditions.

The concentration of mercury in WOC upstream from ORNL was less than 5 ng/L in 2014. Long-term trends in waterborne mercury in the WOC system downstream of ORNL are shown in Fig. 5.24. Waterborne mercury downstream of ORNL declined abruptly in 2008 and remained low through 2014 as a result of rerouting highly contaminated sump water in Building 4501 to PWTC in December 2007. The mean total mercury concentration at WCK 4.1 was 21.3 ± 15.2 ng/L in 2014 compared with 108 ± 33 ng/L in 2007. The decrease was also apparent but less pronounced at WCK 3.4, with mercury averaging 12.2 ± 2.8 ng/L in 2014 versus 49 ± 23 ng/L in 2007. Mercury concentrations at these two sites were significantly lower than levels in 2007. A pretreatment system for the sump water started operation on October 22, 2009, and will remove almost all of the mercury before sending the water to PWTC. This system reduces the mercury concentration in the PWTC influent and effluent. Average aqueous mercury concentration at WOD was 33.74 ± 15.58 ng/L in 2014, a level similar to results reported in recent years.

Bioaccumulation in Fish. In WOC, mercury and PCB concentrations in fish have been at or near human health risk thresholds [e.g., EPA recommended fish-based AWQC (0.3 $\mu\text{g/g}$), TDEC fish advisory limits]. Actions taken in 2007 to treat a mercury-contaminated sump resulted in significant decreases in mercury concentrations in fish throughout WOC, though since 2012 concentrations have been slowly increasing in fish collected from the creek (Fig. 5.27). Mean fillet concentrations increased from 0.20 $\mu\text{g/g}$ in 2013 to 0.24 $\mu\text{g/g}$ in 2014 at WCK 3.9 and from 0.23 $\mu\text{g/g}$ in 2013 to 0.29 $\mu\text{g/g}$ in 2014, approaching the AWQC, at WCK 2.9 (Fig. 5.27). Mercury concentrations in largemouth bass collected from WCK 1.5 (White Oak Lake) have been decreasing in recent years but remained above the guideline in 2014 (0.43 $\mu\text{g/g}$). Mercury concentrations in bluegill collected from WCK 1.5 showed the same decreasing trend as largemouth bass and remained below the recommended guideline. Interestingly, patterns of mercury bioaccumulation in WOC in recent years have been opposite to those seen in White Oak Lake. When mercury concentrations in fish collected from the creek were decreasing from 2007–2012, concentrations in fish from White Oak Lake were increasing, and since 2012, while mercury concentrations in fish collected from the creek have been increasing, concentrations in fish collected from White Oak Lake have been decreasing. The reason for opposite patterns of bioaccumulation in the lower end of the WOC watershed is not known, but differences in sediment or mercury methylation rates within the lake could affect bioaccumulation.

Mean PCB concentrations in redbreast sunfish at WCK 3.9 and WCK 2.9 (0.34 and 0.57 $\mu\text{g/g}$, respectively) were comparable to recent years. Mean PCB concentrations in largemouth bass from WCK 1.5 were near typical concentrations and resulted in a TDEC fish advisory limit in 2014 (i.e., ~ 1 $\mu\text{g/g}$) (Fig. 5.28).

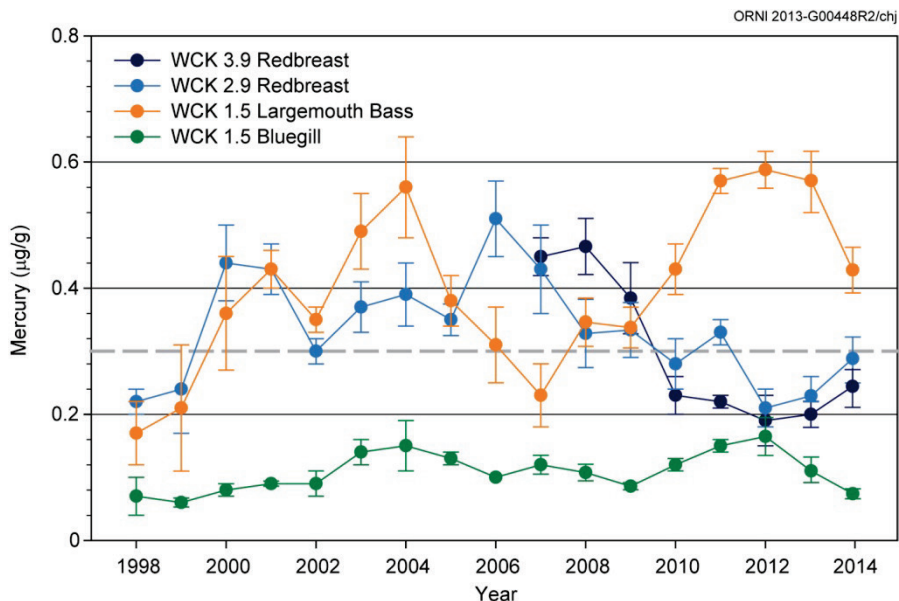


Fig. 5.27. Mean concentrations of mercury (\pm standard error, N = 6) in muscle tissue of sunfish and bass from White Oak Creek [White Oak Creek kilometers (WCKs) 3.9 and 2.9] and White Oak Lake (WCK 1.5), 1998–2014. [Dashed grey line indicates the US Environmental Protection Agency ambient water quality criterion for mercury ($0.3 \mu\text{g/g}$ in fish tissue).]

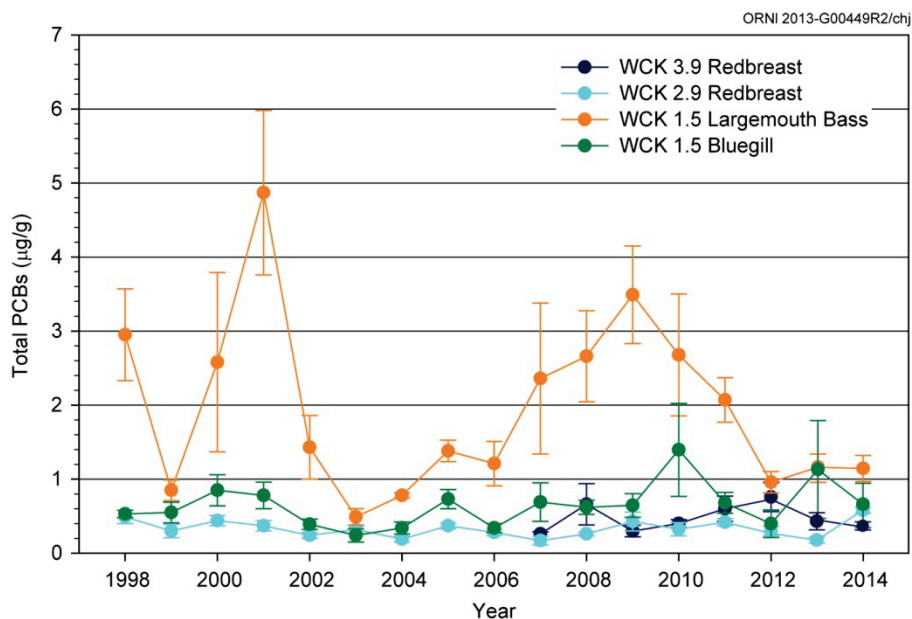


Fig. 5.28. Mean total polychlorinated biphenyl (PCB) concentrations (\pm standard error, N = 6) in fish filets collected from the White Oak Creek watershed, 1998–2014. (WCK = White Oak Creek kilometer.)

5.5.7.2 Benthic Macroinvertebrate Communities

Monitoring of benthic macroinvertebrate communities in WOC, First Creek, and Fifth Creek continued in 2014. Additionally, monitoring of the macroinvertebrate community in lower Melton Branch [Melton Branch kilometer (MEK) 0.6] continued under the EM WRRP. Benthic macroinvertebrate samples are collected once annually following two protocols: protocols developed by ORNL and used since 1986 and TDEC protocols. ORNL protocols provide a continuous long-term record (28 years) of spatial and temporal trends in the invertebrate community from which the effectiveness of pollution abatement and RAs taken at ORNL can be evaluated and verified. The ORNL protocols also provide quantitative results that can be used to statistically evaluate changes in trends relative to historical conditions. TDEC protocols, on the other hand, provide a qualitative estimate of the condition of a macroinvertebrate community relative to a state-defined reference condition. The results from both protocols are used to help assess ORNL compliance with current NPDES permit requirements. This report provides a summary of results from both sets of protocols through 2014.

Compared with the TDEC-derived reference condition, the only site monitored in the WOC watershed that has consistently rated as unimpaired is WCK 6.8, which until construction of SNS had served as the reference site for WOC (Fig. 5.29). The invertebrate community at all other sites except WCK 3.9 was rated as slightly impaired in 2014, while WCK 3.9 was rated as moderately impaired. The benthic macroinvertebrate communities in First Creek, Fifth Creek, and WOC downstream of effluent discharges have recovered significantly since 1987, but community characteristics indicate that ecological impairment remains (Figs. 5.30–5.32). Relative to their respective upstream reference sites, total taxonomic richness (i.e., the mean number of different species per sample) and richness of the pollution-intolerant taxa (i.e., the mean number of different mayfly, stonefly, and caddisfly species per sample or EPT taxa richness) continue to be lower at these downstream sites. After modest increases in the mid-1990s, total taxa richness appears to have generally decreased at First Creek kilometer (FCK) 0.1, and in 2014 the total number of taxa was the lowest it has been since 1989. Similarly, the number of pollution intolerant EPT taxa has decreased in 3 consecutive years, and in 2014 EPT taxa richness was the lowest it has been since the early 1990s. These results suggest a change may have occurred in conditions in lower First Creek. If change has occurred, it is not known whether it is related to a change in chemical conditions (e.g., change in water quality or the possible presence of a toxicant), physical conditions (e.g., unstable substrate, increased frequency of high discharge events), or natural variation. Trends in metrics at Fifth Creek kilometer (FFK) 0.2 since the mid-1990s suggest that a change in conditions at that site occurred between 2007 and 2008. More recent results, however, suggest that improvements have occurred, and the condition of the invertebrate community is now comparable to what it was from the late 1990s through the early 2000s. Metric values for WCK 2.3 and WCK 3.9 continue to remain within the ranges of values found since the early 2000s, although they also continue to be notably lower than those for the reference sites, suggesting that no additional major changes have occurred at those sites for roughly 12 years.

Macroinvertebrate community metrics for lower Melton Branch (MEK 0.6, Fig. 5.33) suggest that conditions at this site continue to be relatively stable, and taxa richness metrics continue to be similar to reference conditions. However, other macroinvertebrate community metrics (not shown here) such as unusually high total densities of some of the most pollution-tolerant species (e.g., Orthoclaadiinae midges and aquatic worms) with corresponding lower densities of some of the pollution-intolerant taxa (e.g., mayflies and stoneflies) continue to suggest the presence of elevated concentrations of nutrients (e.g., phosphorus and/or nitrogen). Potential sources of nutrients in lower Melton Branch may be from direct inputs (e.g., effluent discharges or storm water runoff from developed land surfaces) or indirect inputs (e.g., natural release from freshly disturbed soils or underdeveloped riparian areas).

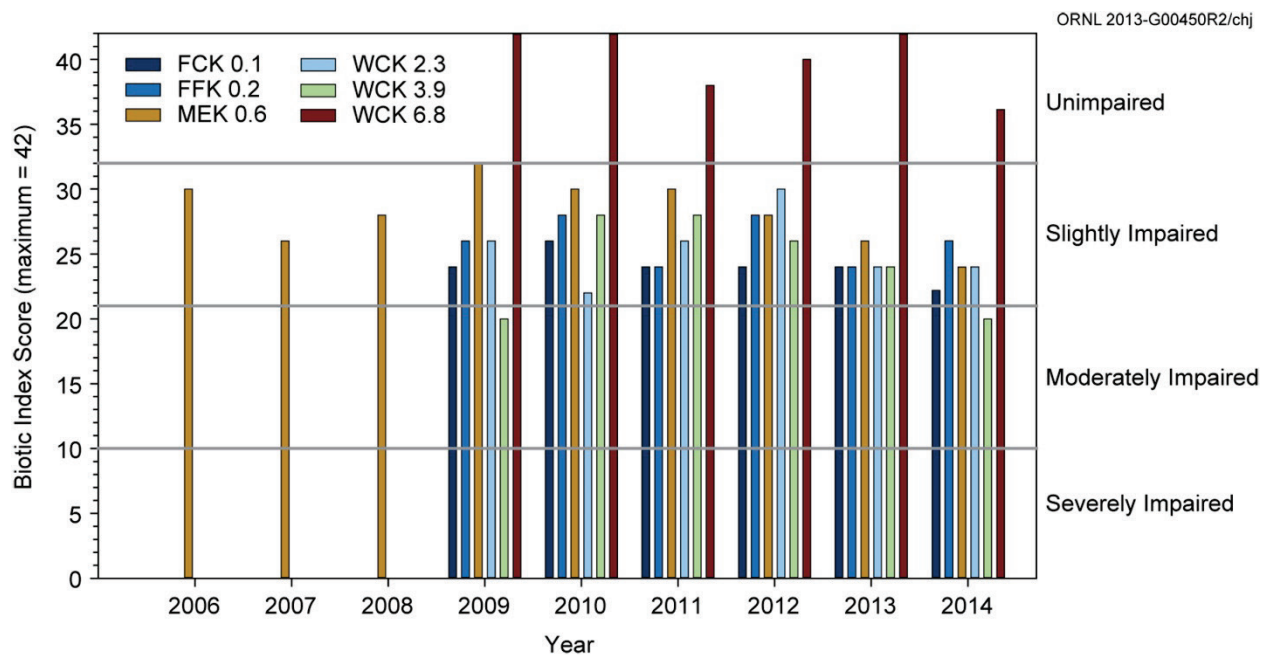


Fig. 5.29. Temporal trends in Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation Biotic Index Scores for White Oak Creek watershed, August 2006–August 2014. Horizontal lines show the lower thresholds for biotic condition ratings for index scores; respective narrative ratings for each threshold are shown at right of graph. (FCK = First Creek kilometer, FFK = Fifth Creek kilometer, MEK = Melton Branch kilometer, and WCK = White Oak Creek kilometer.)

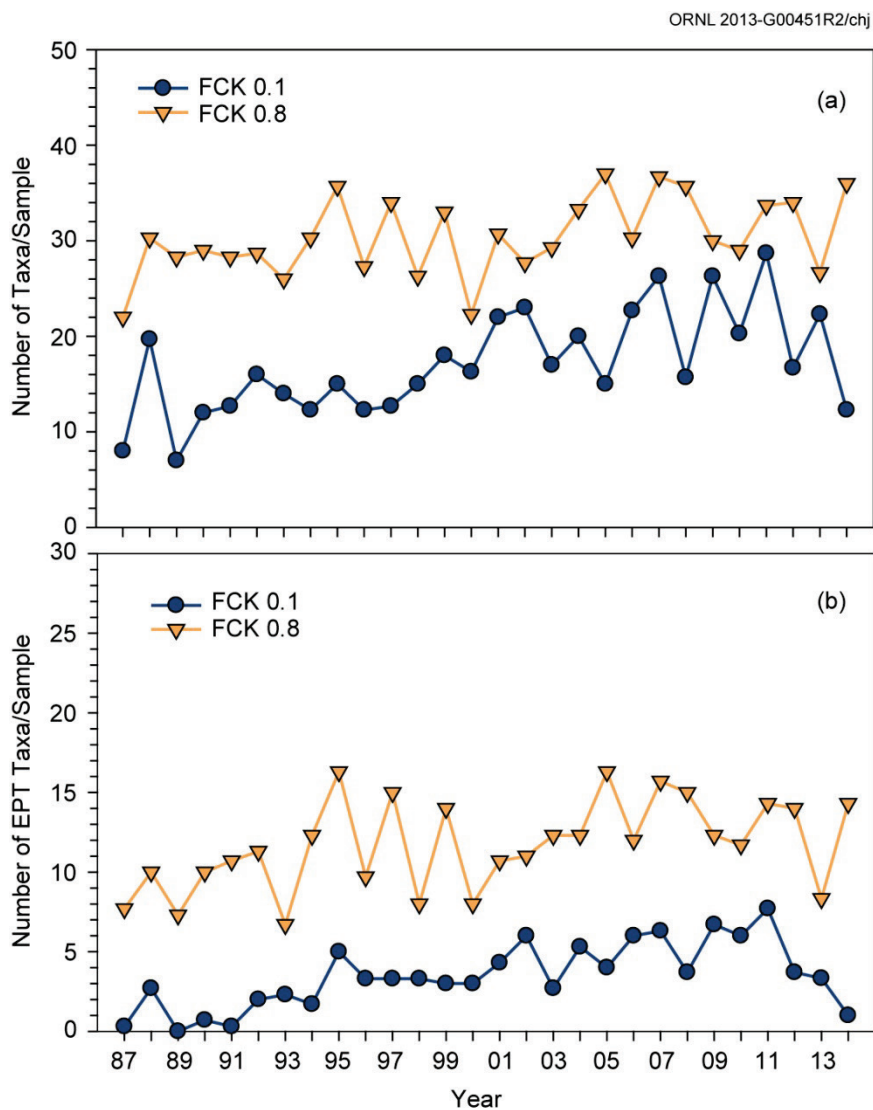


Fig. 5.30. Benthic macroinvertebrate communities in First Creek: (a) total taxonomic richness (mean number of all taxa/sample) and (b) taxonomic richness of the pollution intolerant taxa, Ephemeroptera, Plecoptera, and Trichoptera [(EPT); mean number of EPT taxa/sample], April sampling periods, 1987–2014. (FCK = First Creek kilometer; FCK 0.8 = reference site.)

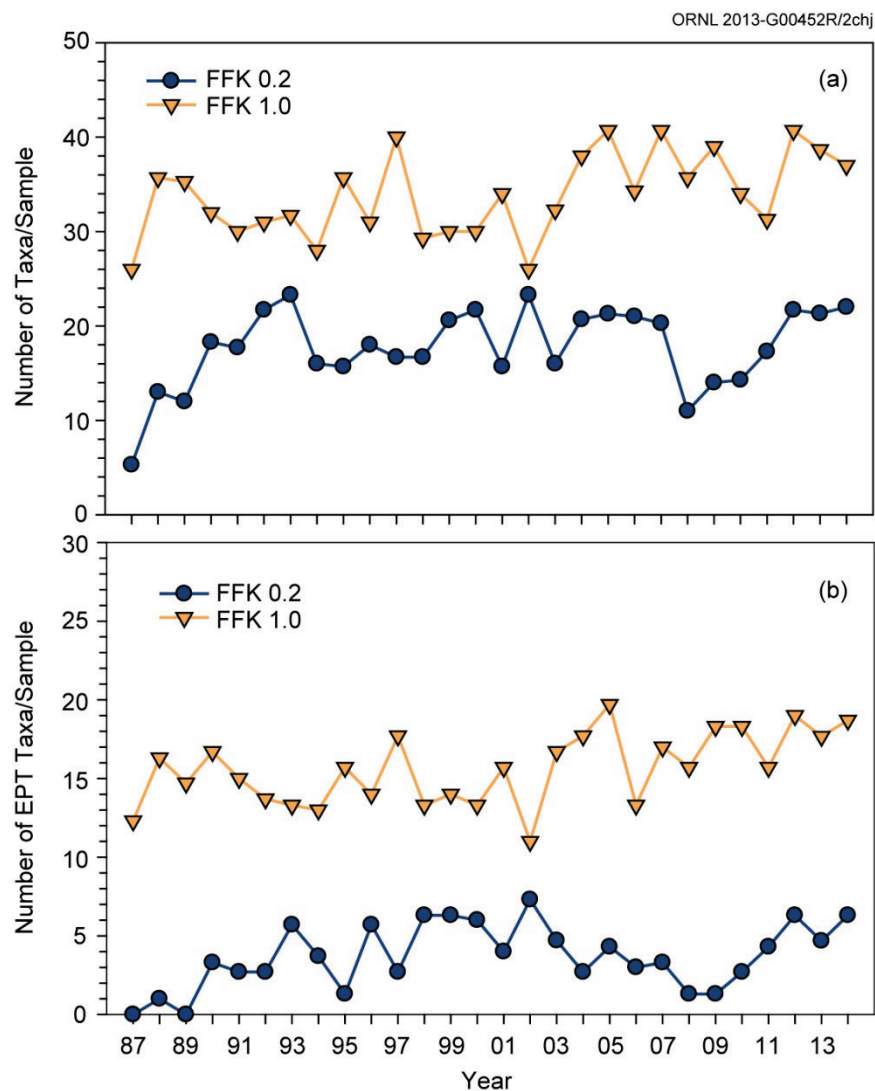


Fig. 5.31. Benthic macroinvertebrate communities in Fifth Creek: (a) total taxonomic richness (mean number of all taxa/sample) and (b) taxonomic richness of the pollution intolerant taxa, Ephemeroptera, Plecoptera, and Trichoptera [(EPT); mean number of EPT taxa/sample], April sampling periods, 1987–2014. (FFK = Fifth Creek kilometer; FFK 1.0 = reference site.)

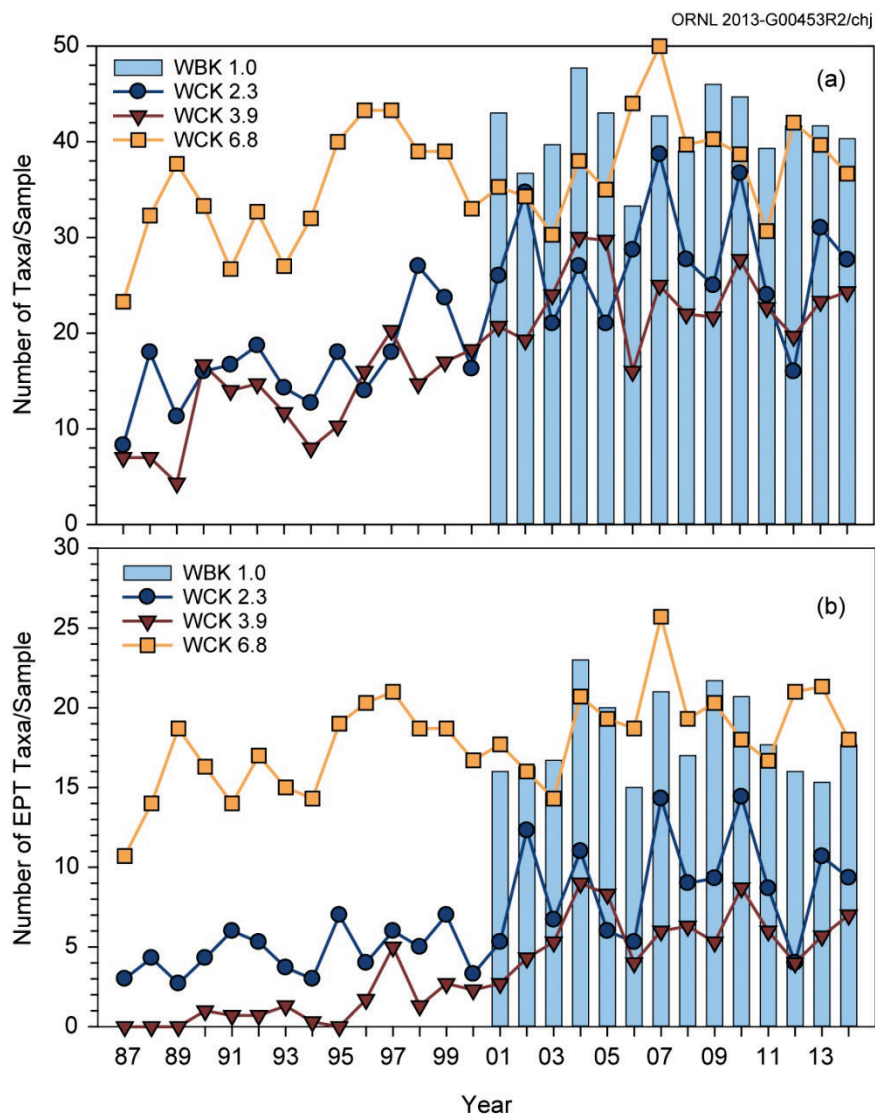


Fig. 5.32. Benthic macroinvertebrate communities in White Oak Creek: (a) total taxonomic richness (mean number of all taxa/sample) and (b) taxonomic richness of the pollution intolerant taxa, Ephemeroptera, Plecoptera, and Trichoptera [(EPT); mean number of EPT taxa/sample], April sampling periods, 1987–2014. (WCK = White Oak Creek kilometer and WBK = Walker Branch kilometer; WBK 1.0 = reference site.)

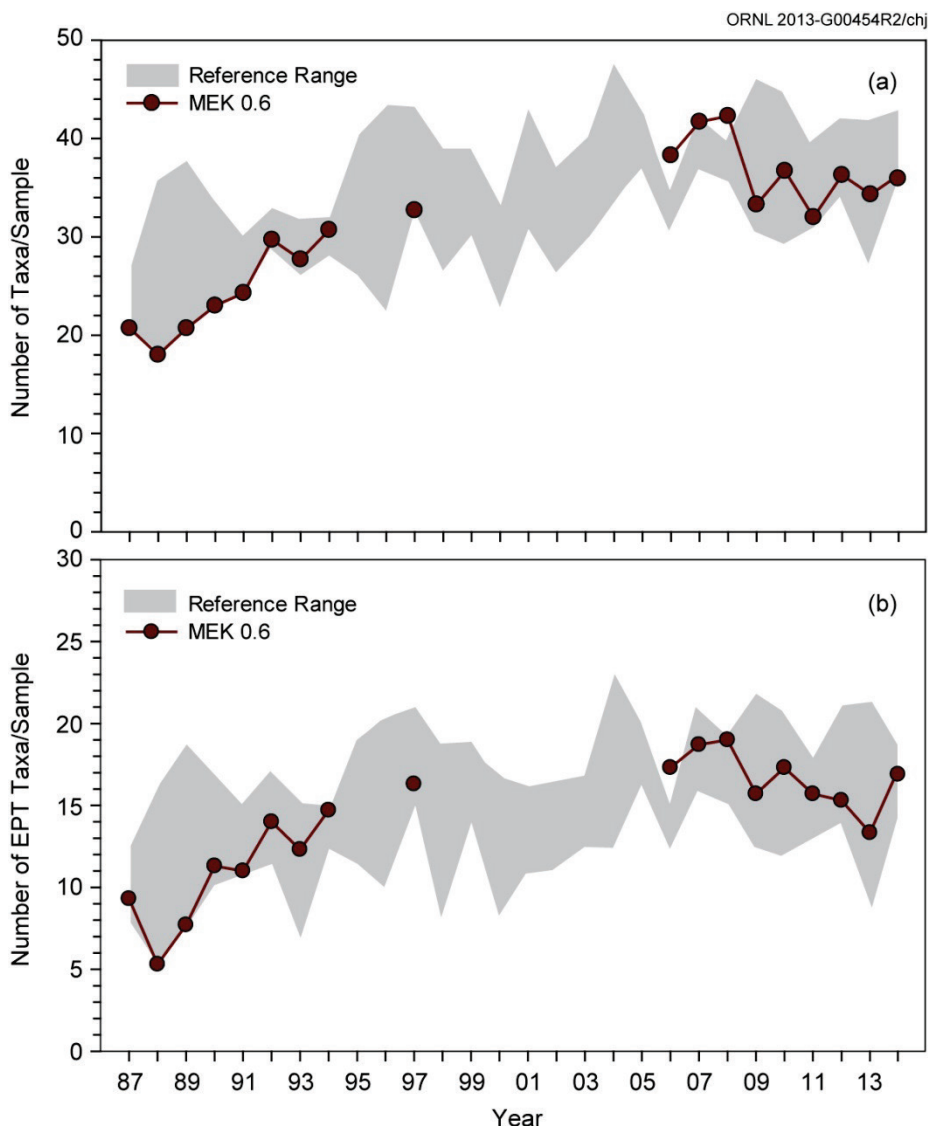


Fig. 5.33. Benthic macroinvertebrate communities in lower Melton Branch: (a) total taxonomic richness (mean number of all taxa/sample) and (b) taxonomic richness of the pollution intolerant taxa, Ephemeroptera, Plecoptera, and Trichoptera [(EPT); mean number of EPT taxa/sample], April sampling periods, 1987–2014. [MEK = Melton Branch kilometer; reference range = minimum and maximum values for Oak Ridge National Laboratory Biological Monitoring and Abatement Program reference sites on upper Melton Branch (1987–1997), First Creek and Fifth Creek (1987–2013), Walker Branch (2001–2013), and White Oak Creek (1987–2000, 2007–2013).]

5.5.7.3 Fish Communities

Monitoring fish communities in WOC and major tributaries continued in 2014. Fish community surveys were conducted at 11 sites in the WOC watershed in the spring and 10 sites in the fall. Streams located near or within the city of Oak Ridge (Mill Branch and Brushy Fork) were also sampled as reference sites each season.

In WOC, the fish community continued to be degraded in 2014 compared with communities in reference streams, with sites closest to outfalls within the ORNL campus having lower species richness (number of species) (Fig. 5.34), fewer pollution-sensitive species, more pollution-tolerant species, and elevated density (number of fish per square meter) of pollution-tolerant species compared with similar-sized reference streams. Generally, the fish communities in tributary sites adjacent to and downstream of ORNL outfalls also remained impacted in 2014 relative to reference streams or upstream sites.

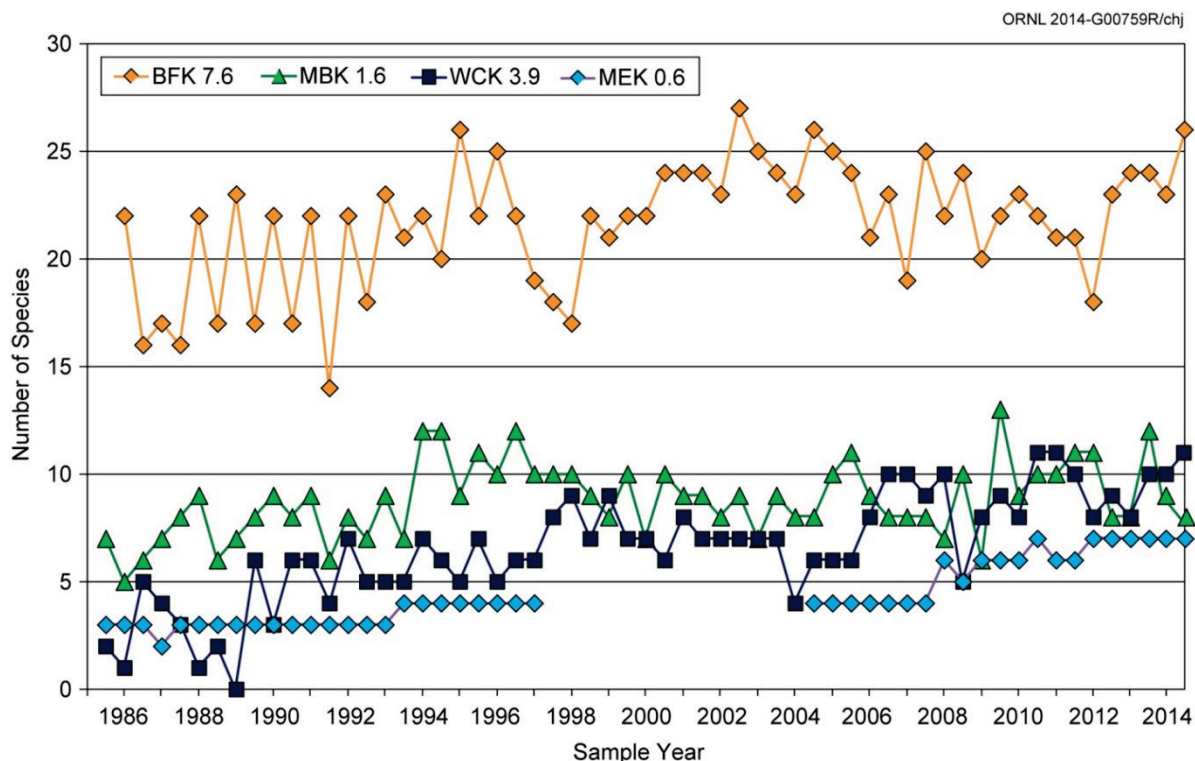


Fig. 5.34. Fish species richness (number of species) in upper White Oak Creek and lower Melton Branch compared with two reference streams (Brushy Fork and Mill Branch). (BFK = Brushy Fork kilometer; MBK = Mill Branch kilometer; MEK = Melton Branch kilometer; and WCK = White Oak Creek kilometer.)

A project to introduce fish species that were not found in the WOC watershed but exist in similar systems on ORR and may have historically existed in WOC was initiated in 2008 by stocking six such native species. Reproduction has been noted for five of the species, and several species have expanded their ranges downstream from initial introduction sites to establish new reproducing populations. In general, introduced species have had more difficulty establishing populations at upstream sites in both WOC and Melton Branch, and as a result, introductions to supplement the small populations of these fish species are continuing at sites on the main ORNL campus. These introductions have enhanced species richness in the watershed and illustrate the capacity of this stream to support increased diversity, which seems to be limited significantly upstream by impassible barriers such as dams, weirs, and culverts.

5.5.8 Polychlorinated Biphenyls in the White Oak Creek Watershed

Past monitoring has shown that while PCBs are present in the watershed, they are not discharged from ORNL outfalls into the WOC watershed at levels detected by standard analytical methods. Results for largemouth bass collected from White Oak Lake show tissue PCB concentrations continue to be higher than those recommended by TDEC and EPA for frequent consumption. While past monitoring efforts

were instrumental in establishing a baseline for PCBs, the focus has historically been on relating PCB levels in fish to safe levels for consumption. These studies were not designed to identify specific stream reaches or sources contributing to PCB bioaccumulation.

The mobility of the fish populations used in traditional bioaccumulation monitoring studies precludes the possibility of source identification. Therefore, the source identification task involved the use of semipermeable membrane devices (SPMDs) to assess the chronic low-level sources of PCBs at critical sites on the reservation. SPMDs are thin plastic sleeves filled with oil in which PCBs are soluble.

Because SPMDs are in contact with water at a given site for 4 weeks and have a high affinity for PCBs, a time-integrated semiquantitative index of the mean PCB concentration in the water column during the deployment period is provided. SPMDs also have advantages over “snapshot” water concentration analyses. The long deployment period enables distinction between the relative PCB inputs at sites whose aqueous PCB concentrations are below detection limits in water.

In 2014, ORNL’s PCB monitoring efforts continued focusing on the First Creek watershed, which was identified previously as a source of PCBs. SPMDs and clams were deployed in First Creek. SPMDs were deployed in pipe networks for outfalls 250 and 341, which contribute to First Creek (Fig. 5.35). The results are summarized in Table 5.16. The outfall 302 pipe was added as an SPMD site in 2014. Outfall 302 had not been monitored with an SPMD in the past, but even though it discharges to WOC, it was added because its drainage area is adjacent to the drainage areas of the First Creek outfalls that were tested.

The SPMD deployed at the reference site upstream of the ORNL campus, FCK 0.9, had background levels of PCBs. The PCB concentration for FCK 0.1 was greater than the background levels at FCK 0.9, confirming that the First Creek watershed is a source of PCBs. The results from the 2014 assessment confirm that the upper parts of the outfall 250 and 341 pipe networks continue to be of primary interest for investigation of legacy PCB sources in the First Creek watershed. Manhole 250-19 results indicate that PCBs remain available in that area despite recent actions to remove PCB-contaminated buildings from the upper part of the 250 watershed. Steam Pit 18 sump water accumulated PCBs on its discharge path to Manhole 341-3, indicating a possible undiscovered PCB source. Results for outfalls 250 and 341 were within the ranges of past monitoring, giving no indication that the nature of PCB movement is changing in those networks. Outfall 302 results were at the low end of measured outfall concentrations in past monitoring on First Creek, indicating that further investigation may not be needed.

The 2014 clam results confirm that sources in the areas drained by outfalls 249 and 250 continue to contain PCBs in amounts that are bioaccumulating above background levels.

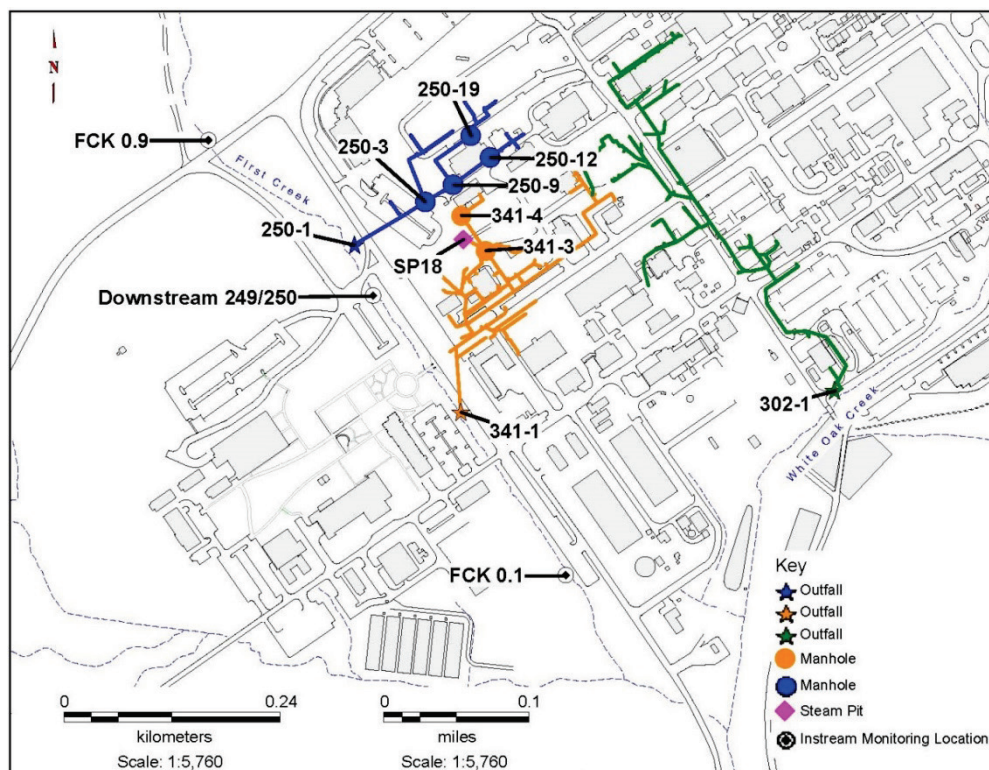


Fig. 5.35. Locations of monitoring points for First Creek source investigation.
(FCK = First Creek kilometer.)

Table 5.16. First Creek PCB source assessment, September 2014
[Total PCBs (parts per billion)]

Sample location	Location type	SPMD	Clams
FCK 0.9	Reference Site	176	<92.9
Manhole 250-19	Inlet/Outlet	53,146	—
Manhole 250-12	East Inlet	1,398	—
Manhole 250-12	Northeast Inlet	148	—
Manhole 250-12	Outlet	2,593	—
Manhole 250-9	East Inlet	6,420	—
Manhole 250-9	North Inlet	7,865	—
Manhole 250-9	Outlet	7,660	—
Manhole 250-3	Inlet	3,253	—
Manhole 250-3	Outlet	7,412	—
Outfall 250	Outfall	7,245	—
Downstream Outfall 249/250	Instream	2,111	1,780
Manhole 341-4	Inlet/Outlet	456	—
Steam Pit 18	Sump	269	—
Manhole 341-3	North Inlet Top from Steam Pit 18 Sump	2,471	—
Manhole 341-3	North Inlet Bottom	708	—
Manhole 341-3	East Inlet	2,121	—

Table 5.16 (continued)

Sample location	Location type	SPMD	Clams
Manhole 341-3	Outlet	2,727	—
Outfall 341	Outfall	10,889	—
FCK 0.1	Instream	5,385	1,530
Outfall 302	Outfall	2,935	—

Acronyms

FCK First Creek kilometer

PCB = polychlorinated biphenyl

SPMD semipermeable membrane device

5.5.9 Oil Pollution Prevention

CWA Section 311 regulates the discharge of oils or petroleum products to waters of the United States and requires the development and implementation of SPCC plans to minimize the potential for oil discharges. These requirements are provided in 40 CFR 112, *Oil Pollution Prevention*. Each ORR facility implements a site-specific SPCC plan. NTRC, which is located off ORR, also has an SPCC plan covering the oil inventory at its location. CFTF is also located off ORR; however, this facility was evaluated and a determination made that an SPCC plan was not required. There were no regulatory or permitting actions related to oil pollution prevention at ORNL or NTRC in 2013. An oil handler training program exists to comply with training requirements in 40 CFR 112.

5.5.10 Surface Water Surveillance Monitoring

The ORNL surface water monitoring program is conducted in conjunction with the ORR surface water monitoring activities discussed in Section 6.4 to enable assessing the impacts of ongoing DOE operations on the quality of local surface water. The sampling locations (Fig. 5.36) are used to monitor conditions upstream of ORNL main plant waste sources (WCK 6.8), within the ORNL campus (FFK 0.1), and downstream of ORNL discharge points (WCK 1.0).

Sampling frequencies and parameters vary by site and are shown in Table 5.17. Radiological monitoring at the discharge point downstream of ORNL, White Oak Lake at WOD, is conducted monthly under the ORNL WQPP (Section 5.5.4) and, therefore, is not duplicated by this program. Radiological monitoring at the discharge point upstream of ORNL is conducted monthly under the ORNL WQPP (Section 5.5.4) and, therefore, is not duplicated by this program. Total radioactive strontium is monitored quarterly by this surveillance program.

Samples are collected and analyzed for general water quality parameters and are screened for radioactivity at all locations (either under this program or under WQPP). Samples are further analyzed for specific radionuclides when general screening levels are exceeded. Samples from White Oak Lake at WOD are also checked for VOCs, PCBs, and mercury. WCK 6.8 and WCK 1.0 are classified by the State of Tennessee for freshwater fish and aquatic life. Tennessee WQCs associated with these classifications are used as references where applicable. The Tennessee WQCs do not include criteria for radionuclides. Four percent of the DOE DCS is used for radionuclide comparison because this value is roughly equivalent to the 4 mrem dose limit from ingestion of drinking water on which the EPA radionuclide drinking water standards are based.

The ORR upstream reference site (CRK 66) may be compared with results from this program as applicable to evaluate potential impacts to area surface water as a result of DOE activities at ORNL (Section 6.4.1). Overall radionuclide results from 2014 surveillance monitoring efforts are consistent with historical data.

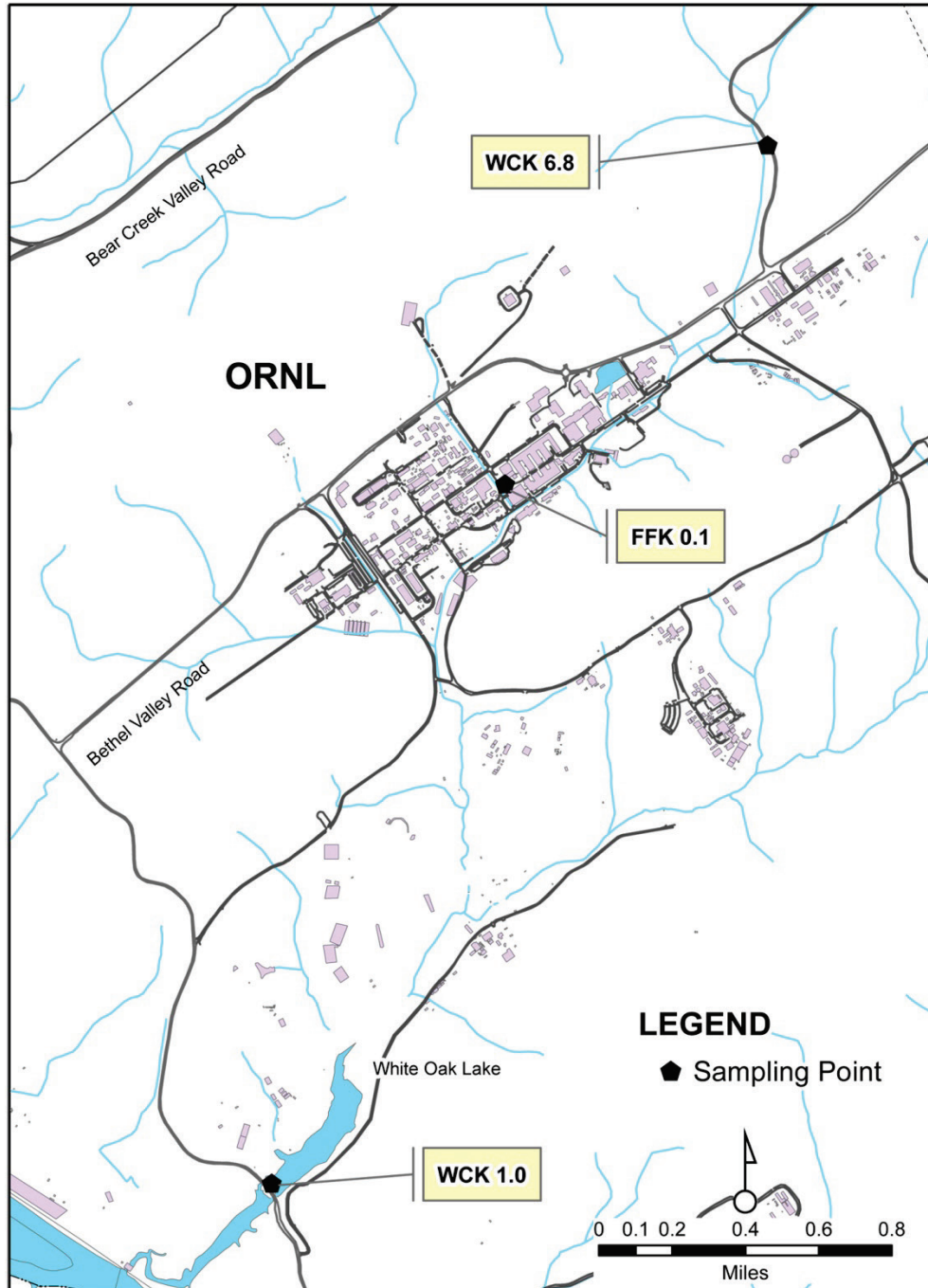


Fig. 5.36. Oak Ridge National Laboratory surface water sampling locations.
(FFK = Fifth Creek kilometer; WCK = White Oak Creek kilometer.)

Table 5.17. Oak Ridge National Laboratory surface water sampling locations, frequencies, and parameters, 2014

Location ^a	Description	Frequency and type	Parameters ^b
WCK 1.0	White Oak Lake at WOD	Quarterly, grab	Volatiles, mercury, PCBs, field measurements
WCK 6.8	WOC upstream from ORNL	Quarterly, grab	Total radioactive strontium, field measurements
FFK 0.1	Fifth Creek just upstream of WOC (ORNL)	Semiannually, grab	Gross alpha, gross beta, total radioactive strontium, gamma scan, tritium, field measurements

^aLocations identify bodies of water and locations on them (e.g., WCK 1.0 is 1 km upstream from the confluence of White Oak Lake and the Clinch River).

^bField measurements consist of dissolved oxygen, pH, and temperature.

Acronyms

FFK = Fifth Creek kilometer
 ORNL = Oak Ridge National Laboratory
 PCB = polychlorinated biphenyl
 WCK = WOC kilometer
 WOC = White Oak Creek
 WOD = White Oak Dam

Radionuclides were detected at the Fifth Creek location (FFK 0.1); however, none were above 4% of the DOE DCS. Radionuclide results from samples collected at WOD (immediately before WOC empties into the Clinch River) are discussed in Section 5.5.4.

Neither mercury nor PCBs were detected during 2014 at WOC at WOD. Other than a couple of PCB detections in 2011 and 2012, PCBs have not been detected since 2001 at WOC at WOD.

5.5.11 Carbon Fiber Technology Facility Waste Water Monitoring

Facility and process waste water from activities at CFTF are discharged to the City of Oak Ridge sanitary sewer system under conditions established in City of Oak Ridge Industrial Waste Water Discharge Permit 1-12. Permit limits, parameters, and 2014 compliance status for this permit are summarized in Table 5.18.

Table 5.18. Industrial and Commercial User Waste Water Discharge Permit compliance at the Oak Ridge National Laboratory Carbon Fiber Technology Facility, 2014
(permit effective October 15, 2012)

Effluent parameters	Permit limits		Permit Compliance		
	Daily max. (mg/L)	Daily min. (mg/L)	Number of noncompliances	Number of samples	Percentage of compliance ^a
<i>Outfall 01 (Underground Quench Water Tank)</i>					
Cyanide		4.2	0	2	100
pH (standard units)	9.0	6.0	0	2	100
<i>Outfall 02 (Electrolytic Bath Tank)</i>					
pH (standard units)	9.0	6.0	0	10	100

Table 5.18 (continued)

Effluent parameters	Permit limits		Permit Compliance		
	Daily max. (mg/L)	Daily min. (mg/L)	Number of noncompliances	Number of samples	Percentage of compliance ^a
<i>Outfall 03 (Sizing Bath Tank)</i>					
Copper		0.87	0	8	100
Zinc		1.24	0	8	100
Total Phenol		4.20	0	8	100
pH (standard units)	9.0	6.0	0	8	100

^aPercentage compliance = 100 [(number of noncompliances/number of samples) × 100].

5.6 Groundwater Monitoring Program

Groundwater monitoring at ORNL was conducted under two sampling programs in 2014: DOE EM monitoring and DOE Office of Science (OS) surveillance monitoring. The DOE EM groundwater monitoring program was performed by UCOR in 2014. The OS groundwater monitoring surveillance program was conducted by UT-Battelle.

5.6.1 DOE Office of Environmental Management Groundwater Monitoring

Monitoring was performed as part of an ongoing comprehensive CERCLA cleanup effort in Bethel and Melton Valleys at ORNL, the two administrative watersheds at the ORNL site. Groundwater monitoring for baseline and trend evaluation in addition to measuring effectiveness of completed CERCLA RAs is conducted as part of WRRP. WRRP is managed by UCOR for the DOE EM program. The results of CERCLA monitoring for ORR for fiscal year 2014, including monitoring at ORNL, are evaluated and reported in the 2015 remediation effectiveness report (DOE 2015) as required by the ORR FFA. The monitoring results and remedial effectiveness evaluations for Bethel and Melton Valley are reported in Sections 2 and 3, respectively, in that report.

Groundwater monitoring conducted as part of the EM program at ORNL includes routine sampling and analysis of groundwater in Bethel Valley to measure performance of several RAs and to continue contaminant and groundwater quality trend monitoring. In Melton Valley, where CERCLA RAs were completed in 2006 for the extensive waste management areas, the groundwater monitoring program includes monitoring groundwater levels to evaluate the effectiveness of hydrologic isolation of buried waste units. Additionally, groundwater is sampled and analyzed for a wide range of general chemical and contaminant parameters in 46 wells within the interior portion of the closed waste management area.

In FY 2010 DOE initiated activities on a groundwater treatability study at the Bethel Valley 7000 Services Area VOC plume. This plume contains TCE and its transformation products cis-1,2-DCE and vinyl chloride, all at concentrations greater than EPA primary drinking water standards. The treatability study is a laboratory and field demonstration that microbes inherent to the existing subsurface microbial population can fully degrade the VOCs to nontoxic end products.

During FY 2014 post-remediation monitoring continued at Solid Waste Storage Area (SWSA) 3 following completion of hydrologic isolation of the area by construction of a multilayer cap and upgradient stormflow/shallow groundwater diversion drain. RAs and monitoring were specified in a CERCLA RA work plan that was developed by DOE and was approved by EPA and TDEC before the project was started.

During FY 2014 the EM monitoring program continued sampling and analysis in the off-site groundwater monitoring well array west of the Clinch River adjacent to Melton Valley. In addition to off-site groundwater quality monitoring near Melton Valley, exit pathway groundwater monitoring in Melton Valley is conducted as part of the EM program, including sampling at six multiport monitoring wells in western Melton Valley (wells 4537, 4538, 4539, 4540, 4541, 4542).

During FY 2014 the EM Groundwater Program staff conducted planning for an ORR off-site groundwater quality assessment and started development of an ORR regional groundwater flow model. The off-site groundwater assessment project is aimed at documenting water quality in selected residential water supply wells and at springs to the west and southwest of ORR. General water chemistry, metals, organic compounds, and radionuclides are included in the suite of analytes to be assessed. For the groundwater flow model task, a technical advisory group including representatives from DOE, EPA, TDEC, the US Geological Survey (USGS), UCOR, and a private consultant was convened to oversee the processes of model selection, testing, and conceptual model formulation.

5.6.1.1 Summary of DOE Office of Environmental Management Groundwater Monitoring

5.6.1.1.1 Bethel Valley

During FY 2011 construction was completed for RAs at two former waste storage sites, SWSA 1 and SWSA 3, which were used for disposal of radioactively contaminated solid wastes between 1944 and 1950. Wastes disposed at SWSA 1 originated from the earliest operations of ORNL while those at SWSA 3 originated from ORNL, Y-12, the K-25 Site (ETTP), and off-site sources. Although most of the disposed waste was solid waste, some containerized liquid wastes were disposed at SWSA 3. Some wastes were encapsulated in concrete after placement in burial trenches while most of the waste was soil-covered. The Bethel Valley ROD (DOE 2002) selected hydrologic isolation using multilayer caps and groundwater diversion trenches as the RA for the waste burial grounds and construction of soil covers over the former contractor's landfill and contaminated soil areas near SWSA 3. The baseline monitoring conducted during FY 2010 included measurement of groundwater levels to obtain baseline data to allow evaluation of post-remediation groundwater-level suppression. Sampling and analysis of groundwater quality and contaminants were also conducted. Post-remediation monitoring was specified for SWSA 3 in the *Phased Construction Completion Report for the Bethel Valley Burial Grounds at the Oak Ridge National Laboratory, Oak Ridge, Tennessee* (DOE 2012). Required monitoring includes quarterly groundwater-level monitoring in 42 wells with continuous water-level monitoring in 8 wells to confirm cap performance. Groundwater samples are collected semiannually at 13 wells for laboratory analyses to evaluate groundwater contaminant concentration trends. During FY 2014 monitoring results showed that the cap was effective although target groundwater elevations were exceeded at three of eight wells. Comparison of pre-remediation to post-remediation groundwater contaminant concentrations showed that evaluated contaminant levels decreased at four locations, were stable at five locations, and exhibited no trend at three locations.

During FY 2014, as part of the DOE EM program, three groundwater monitoring wells in Bethel Valley to the west of Tennessee Highway 95 were monitored to detect and track contamination from the SWSA 3 area. These three wells supplement data being collected from a multiport well (4579) near SWSA 3 for exit pathway groundwater monitoring in western Bethel Valley. Groundwater monitoring near SWSA 3, along with the exit pathway, and groundwater and surface water monitoring at the northwest tributary of WOC and in the headwaters of Raccoon Creek allow integration of data concerning SWSA 3 contaminant releases [presented in the 2015 remediation effectiveness report (DOE 2015)].

Groundwater monitoring continued at the ORNL 7000 Area during FY 2014 to evaluate treatability of the VOC plume at that site. Site characterization testing of the endemic microbial community showed that microbes were present that are capable of fully degrading TCE and its degradation products if sufficient electron donor compounds were present in the subsurface environment. During FY 2011 a mixture of emulsified vegetable oil and a hydrogen releasing compound was injected into four existing monitoring wells in the 7000 area. Monitoring of the stimulation of the endemic microbial community along with concentrations of chlorinated VOCs continued through FY 2014. Results of the monitoring show that the microbial community responded well to the addition of the carbon electron donor, and the VOC concentrations in the treated area have decreased significantly.

The other principal element of the Bethel Valley ROD (DOE 2002) remedy that requires groundwater monitoring is the containment pumping to control and treat discharges from the ORNL Central Campus core hole 8 plume. The original action for this plume was a CERCLA removal action that was implemented in 1995. The remedy had performed well until the latter portion of FY 2008 when conditions changed and ^{90}Sr and $^{233/234}\text{U}$ concentrations in monitoring wells and the groundwater collection system began increasing. Leaking utility waterlines near the source area are suspected to have increased the mass of contaminants feeding the plume. Increased infiltration of plume water into storm drains has allowed increased contaminant flux to First Creek, a tributary of WOC. During FY 2009 the remedy did not meet its performance goal, which is a reduction of ^{90}Sr in WOC. In March 2012 DOE completed refurbishment and enhancement of the groundwater collection system to increase the plume containment effectiveness. Since FY 2013 the remedy has met its performance goal of reducing ^{90}Sr levels in WOC as measured at the 7500 bridge.

5.6.1.1.2 Melton Valley

The Melton Valley ROD (DOE 2000) established goals for a reduction of contaminant levels in surface water, groundwater-level fluctuation reduction goals within hydrologically isolated areas, and minimization of the spread of groundwater contamination. Remedy effectiveness groundwater monitoring in Melton Valley includes groundwater-level monitoring in wells within and adjacent to hydrologically isolated shallow waste burial areas and groundwater quality monitoring in selected wells adjacent to buried waste areas.

Groundwater-level monitoring shows that the hydrologic isolation component of the Melton Valley remedy is effectively minimizing the amount of percolation water contacting buried waste and is reducing contaminated leachate formation. During FY 2014 annual rainfall dipped below the long-term annual average for ORR following a 5-year period of elevated annual rainfall. In a few areas groundwater levels within capped areas continue to respond to groundwater fluctuations imposed from areas outside the caps, but contact of groundwater with buried waste is minimal. Overall the hydrologic isolation systems are performing as designed.

Groundwater quality monitoring in the interior of Melton Valley shows that in general groundwater contaminant concentrations are declining or are stable following RAs. Groundwater quality monitoring substantively equivalent to the former RCRA monitoring continues at SWSA 6. Several VOC substances continue to be detected in wells along the eastern edge of the site.

During the past 10 years of groundwater monitoring in the Melton Valley exit pathway, several site-related contaminants have been detected in groundwater near the Clinch River. Low concentrations of ^{90}Sr , tritium, uranium, and VOCs have been detected intermittently in a number of the multizone sampling locations. Groundwater in the exit pathway wells has high alkalinity and sodium and exhibits elevated pH. During FY 2014 an off-site groundwater monitoring well array west of the Clinch River and adjacent to Melton Valley was monitored as part of the EM program. Monitoring included

groundwater-level monitoring to evaluate potential flowpaths near the river and sampling and analysis for a wide array of metals, anions, radionuclides, and VOCs. Groundwater-level monitoring showed that natural head gradient conditions cause groundwater seepage to converge toward the Clinch River from both the DOE (eastern) and off-site (western) sides of the river. During FY 2014 no site-related radionuclides (tritium, ^{90}Sr , ^{99}Tc) or VOCs were detected in the off-site monitoring wells. The only site-related radionuclide detected in the DOE on-site exit pathway wells near the Clinch River was ^{90}Sr , which was detected in three multipoint well sampling locations at an activity level less than half the derived drinking water limit equivalent level. Monitoring results are summarized in the 2015 remediation effectiveness report (DOE 2015).

5.6.1.1.3 Off-Site Groundwater Monitoring

In 2014, EM conducted groundwater monitoring in off-site wells adjacent to Melton Valley to determine whether contaminants were migrating off ORR. Through its extensive groundwater monitoring efforts, EM has detected certain signature man-made contaminants near former Melton Valley waste disposal areas on DOE property. These contaminants include tritium; ^{90}Sr ; ^{99}Tc ; and chlorinated organic compounds, including TCE, an industrial solvent, and its degradation products. However, despite a growing network of sample locations, none of these signature man-made contaminants were detected in any of the monitored off-site groundwater wells.

5.6.2 DOE Office of Science Groundwater Monitoring

DOE O 458.1 (DOE 2011b) is the primary requirement for a sitewide groundwater protection program at ORNL. As part of the groundwater protection program, and to be consistent with UT-Battelle management objectives, groundwater surveillance monitoring was performed to monitor ORNL groundwater exit pathways and UT-Battelle facilities (“active sites”) potentially posing a risk to groundwater resources at ORNL. Results of the DOE OS groundwater surveillance monitoring program are reported in the following sections.

Exit pathway and active-sites groundwater surveillance monitoring points sampled during 2014 included seep/spring and surface-water monitoring locations in addition to groundwater surveillance monitoring wells. Seep/spring and surface-water monitoring points located in appropriate groundwater discharge areas were used in the absence of monitoring wells.

Groundwater monitoring performed under the exit pathway groundwater surveillance and active-sites monitoring programs is not controlled by federal or state regulations. Consequently, no permit or standards exist for evaluating sampling results. To provide a basis for evaluating analytical results and to assess groundwater quality at locations monitored by UT-Battelle, federal drinking water standards and Tennessee WQCs for domestic water supplies (TDEC 2012) were used as reference standards. If no federal or state standard had been established for a particular radionuclide, 4% of the DCS established by DOE O 458.1 was used to evaluate sampling results. Although drinking water standards and DOE DCSs were used for comparative purposes, it is important to note that no members of the public consume groundwater from ORNL wells, nor do any groundwater wells furnish drinking water to personnel at ORNL.

Results of OS monitoring of groundwater exit pathway discharge areas for radiological and metal contaminants were generally consistent with results reported in past ASERs. Two organic compounds were detected in samples collected from two discharge area sampling locations. Based on the results of the 2014 monitoring effort, there is no indication that current OS operations are significantly impacting groundwater at ORNL.

5.6.2.1 Exit Pathway Monitoring

During 2014, exit pathway groundwater surveillance monitoring was performed in accordance with the exit pathway SAP (Bonine 2012). Groundwater exit pathways at ORNL include areas from watersheds or subwatersheds where groundwater discharges to the Clinch River–Melton Hill Reservoir to the west, south, and east of the ORNL main campus. The exit pathway monitoring points were chosen based on hydrologic features, screened interval depths (for wells), and locations relative to discharge areas proximate to DOE facilities operated by, or under the control of, UT-Battelle. The groundwater exit pathways at ORNL include four discharge zones identified by a data quality objectives process. One of the original exit pathway zones was split into two zones for geographic expediency. The Southern Discharge Area Exit Pathway was carved from the East End Discharge Area Exit Pathway.

The five zones are as follows:

- the WOC Discharge Area Exit Pathway,
- the 7000–Bearden Creek Watershed Discharge Area Exit Pathway,
- the East End Discharge Area Exit Pathway,
- the Northwestern Discharge Area Exit Pathway, and
- the Southern Discharge Area Exit Pathway.

Figure 5.37 shows the locations of the exit pathway monitoring points sampled in 2014.

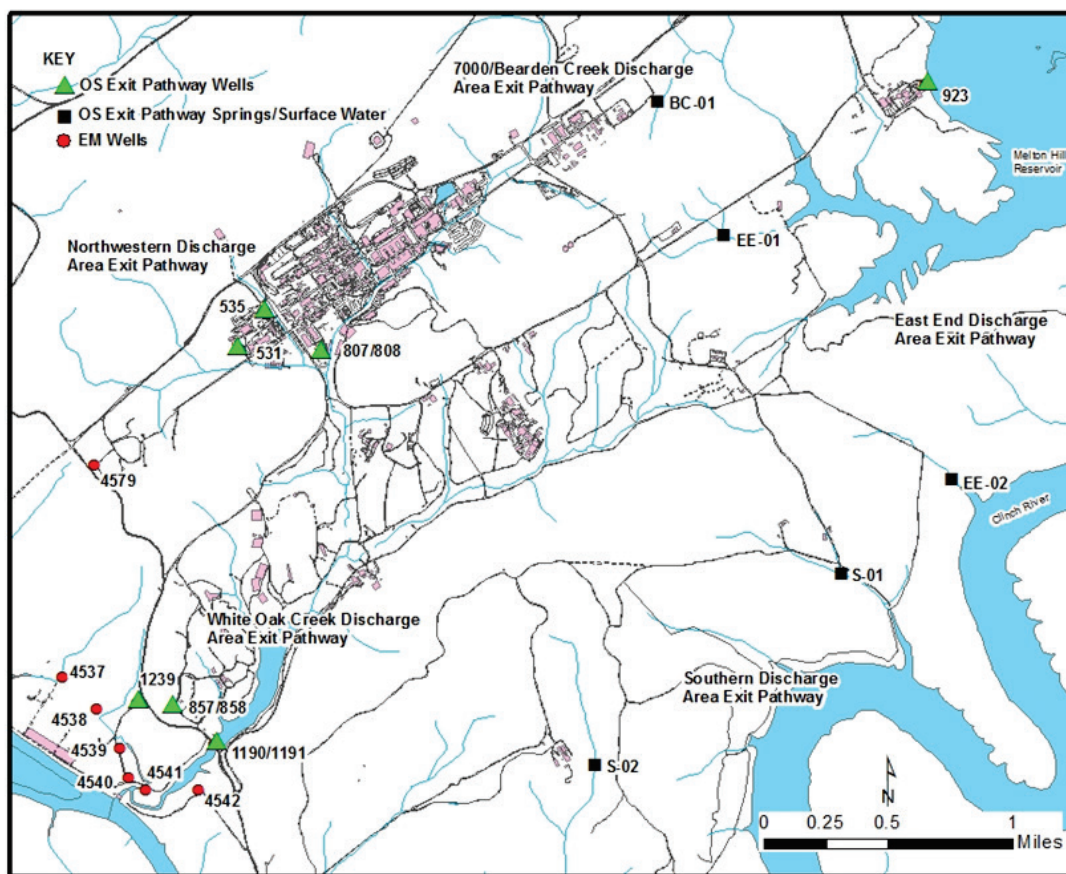


Fig. 5.37. UT-Battelle exit pathway groundwater monitoring locations at Oak Ridge National Laboratory, 2014. [EM = Environmental Management and OS = Office of Science (both Department of Energy).]

The efficacy of the exit pathway monitoring program was reviewed in late 2011. As a result, the groundwater monitoring program was modified through an optimization approach that included frequency analysis of parameters and their concentrations based on an exhaustive review of historical groundwater sampling data. The modification resulted in a 10-year staggered groundwater monitoring schedule and analytical suite selection. This approach was initiated in 2012. The groundwater monitoring program implemented in 2014 is outlined in Table 5.19.

Unfiltered samples were collected from the exit pathway groundwater surveillance monitoring points in 2014. The organic suite was composed of VOCs and semivolatile organic compounds (SVOCs); the metallic suite included aluminum, iron, lead, and mercury; and the radionuclide suite was composed of gross alpha/gross beta activity, gamma emitters, total radioactive strontium, and tritium. Under the monitoring strategy outlined in the exit pathway SAP, samples were collected semiannually during the wet (March) and dry (August) seasons.

Table 5.19. Scheduled 2014 exit pathway groundwater monitoring

Discharge area	Monitoring point	Wet season	Dry season
White Oak Creek	857	Radiological, organic, and metals	Radiological
	858	Radiological	Radiological
	1190	Radiological, organic, and metals	Radiological, organic, and metals
	1191	Radiological, organic, and metals	Radiological, organic, and metals
	1239	Radiological	Radiological
	531	Radiological	Radiological
Northwestern	535	Radiological, organic, and metals	Radiological
	807	Radiological	Radiological
7000–Bearden Creek	808	Radiological	Radiological
	BC-01	Radiological	Radiological
	923	Radiological	Radiological
East End	EE-01	Radiological	Radiological
	EE-02	Radiological	Radiological
Southern	S-01	Radiological, organic, and metals	Radiological
	S-02	Radiological	Radiological

5.6.2.1.1 Exit Pathway Monitoring Results

Statistical trend analyses were performed on 2014 exit pathway monitoring data sets containing data exceeding reference standards. The bases used for the trend analyses were the historical data collected from the late 1980s through 2014. Trend analyses were not performed on data sets where minimum detection limits exceeded reference standards (i.e., the SVOCs atrazine, benzo(a)pyrene, hexachlorobenzene, and pentachlorophenol) and were not performed on parameters for which there are no reference standards or where data densities were insufficient. Parameters that exhibited statistically significant (80% to 99% confidence levels) upward or downward trends are reported. Trend analysis results are summarized in Table 5.20.

Table 5.20. 2014 exit pathway groundwater monitoring—results of trend analyses for parameters exceeding reference standards

Discharge area	Monitoring point	Parameter	Statistically significant trend
White Oak Creek	1190	Iron	Downward
		Manganese	Downward
		Tritium	Downward
	1191	Iron	Downward
		Manganese	Upward
		Gross beta	Downward
		Total radioactive strontium	None detected
Northwestern	535	Tritium	Downward
		Iron	None detected
		Aluminum	None detected
	857	Manganese	None detected
		Iron	None detected
		Aluminum	None detected
Southern	S-01	Lead	Downward
		Iron	None detected
		Aluminum	None detected
		Lead	None detected
		Manganese	None detected

Samples were not collected at S-01 and EE-02 during the dry season due to a lack of water flow at those locations. Samples were collected at all other monitoring points during both the wet and dry seasons. Monitoring results are available in OREIS. Access to this system can be requested via email (oreis@ettp.doe.gov) or by telephone (865-574-3257).

Table 5.21 provides a summary of radiological parameters detected in samples collected from exit pathway monitoring points during 2014. Table 5.22 summarizes organic parameters detected in samples collected from exit pathway monitoring points. Metals are ubiquitous in groundwater exit pathways and so are not summarized here.

Table 5.21. 2014 exit pathway groundwater monitoring results—detected radiological parameters^a

Discharge Area	Monitoring Point	Radiological Parameter	Wet Season	Dry Season
White Oak Creek	857	Gross alpha	1.9	<i>b</i>
		Gross beta	18	<i>b</i>
		²¹⁴ Bi	76	13
		²¹⁴ Pb	79	<i>c</i>
	858	Gross beta	<i>b</i>	3.7
	1190	Gross beta	1.8	11
		²¹⁴ Bi	47	<i>b</i>
		⁶⁰ Co	<i>c</i>	33
		²¹² Pb	6.9	<i>c</i>

Table 5.21 (continued)

Discharge Area	Monitoring Point	Radiological Parameter	Wet Season	Dry Season
		²¹⁴ Pb	53	<i>b</i>
		³ H	19,000	31,000
	1191	Gross alpha	2.1	<i>b</i>
		Gross beta	260	360
		²¹⁴ Bi	11	<i>b</i>
		²¹² Pb	4.7	<i>b</i>
		²¹⁴ Pb	13	<i>b</i>
		^{89/90} Sr	130	170
		³ H	7,500	32,000
	1239	Gross beta	3.1	<i>b</i>
Northwestern	531	Gross beta	<i>b</i>	2.8
	535	²¹⁴ Bi	42	18
		²¹⁴ Pb	41	19
	807	Gross beta	13	5.1
		²¹⁴ Bi	38	49
		²¹⁴ Pb	35	34
		^{89/90} Sr	10	<i>b</i>
		³ H	480	540
	808	Gross beta	1.9	5.3
		^{89/90} Sr	<i>b</i>	2.1
7000-Bearden Creek	BC-01	²¹⁴ Bi	41	<i>c</i>
		²¹² Pb	<i>c</i>	7.9
		²¹⁴ Pb	38	<i>c</i>
East End	EE-01	Gross beta	1.9	<i>b</i>
		²¹⁴ Bi	15	<i>c</i>
		²¹⁴ Pb	12	<i>c</i>
	EE-02	²¹⁴ Bi	77	<i>d</i>
		²¹² Pb	5.2	<i>d</i>
		²¹⁴ Pb	78	<i>d</i>
		²⁰⁸ Tl	3.8	<i>d</i>
	923	²¹⁴ Bi	11	<i>c</i>
		²¹⁴ Pb	13	<i>c</i>
Southern	S-01	²¹⁴ Bi	480	<i>d</i>
		²¹⁴ Pb	52	<i>d</i>
	S-02	Gross alpha	<i>b</i>	2.8
		²¹⁴ Bi	420	<i>c</i>
		²¹⁴ Pb	490	<i>c</i>

^aUnits—pCi/L.^bUndetected.^cNot reported.^dNo sample collected due to dry conditions.

Table 5.22. 2014 exit pathway groundwater monitoring results—detected organic parameters^a

Discharge Area	Monitoring Point	Parameter	Wet Season	Dry Season
White Oak Creek	857	Bis(2-ethyhexyl) phthalate	J8.9	<i>b</i>
Southern	S-01	Acetone	J3.3	<i>b</i>

^aUnits—μg/L.^bNot reported.

Radiological and metal contaminant concentrations observed in groundwater exit pathway discharge areas were generally consistent with observations reported in past ASERs. Tritium, total radioactive strontium, and gross beta activity were the only radiological contaminants exceeding reference standards at any of the discharge areas, and as in past years, these three contaminants were observed at the WOC discharge area in 2014 (in wells 1190 and 1191). Statistical trend analyses show that the concentration trends for these parameters continue downward. No other radiological contaminants exceed reference standards at other discharge areas. Metals were detected in groundwater monitoring locations in all of the exit pathway discharge areas. Four metals (iron, manganese, lead, and aluminum) were detected at concentrations exceeding reference standards. These metals are commonly found in groundwater at ORNL. Two organics, bis(2-ethyhexyl) phthalate and acetone, were detected in samples collected from well 857 and monitoring point S-01 in the WOC and Southern Discharge Area Exit Pathways, respectively. Based on the results of the 2014 monitoring effort, there is no indication that current OS operations are significantly impacting groundwater at ORNL.

5.6.2.2 Active Sites Monitoring

5.6.2.2.1 Active Sites Monitoring—High Flux Isotope Reactor

Outfall pipelines intercepting groundwater are routinely monitored under the ORNL NPDES permit. (See Section 5.5.4 for a discussion of results.)

5.6.2.2.2 Active Sites Monitoring—Spallation Neutron Source

Active sites groundwater surveillance monitoring was performed in 2014 at the SNS site under the SNS operational monitoring plan (OMP) (Bonine et al. 2007) due to the potential for adverse impact on groundwater resources at ORNL should a release occur. Operational monitoring was initiated following a 2-year (2004–2006) baseline monitoring program and will continue throughout the duration of SNS operations.

The SNS site is located atop Chestnut Ridge, northeast of the main ORNL facilities. The site slopes to the north and south, and small stream valleys, populated by springs and seeps, lie on the ridge flanks. Surface water drainage from the site flows into Bear Creek to the north and WOC to the south.

The SNS site is a hydrologic recharge area underlain by geologic formations that form karst geologic features. Groundwater flow directions at the site are based on the generally observed tendency for groundwater to flow parallel to geologic strike (parallel to the orientation of the rock beds) and via karst conduits that break out at the surface in springs and seeps located down gradient of the SNS site. A sizable fraction of infiltrating precipitation (groundwater recharge) flows to springs and seeps via the karst conduits.

SNS operations have the potential for introducing radioactivity (via neutron activation) in the shielding berm surrounding the SNS linac, accumulator ring, and/or beam transport lines. A principal concern is the potential for water infiltrating the berm soils to transport radionuclide contamination generated by neutron activation to saturated groundwater zones. The ability to accurately model the fate and transport of neutron activation products generated by beam interactions with the engineered soil berm is complicated by multiple uncertainties resulting from a variety of factors, including hydraulic conductivity differences in earth materials found at depth, the distribution of water-bearing zones, the fate and transport characteristics of neutron activation products produced, diffusion and advection, and the presence of karst geomorphic features found on the SNS site. These uncertainties led to the initiation of the groundwater surveillance monitoring program at the SNS site. Objectives of the groundwater monitoring program outlined by the OMP include the following: (1) maintain compliance with applicable DOE contract requirements and environmental quality standards and (2) provide uninterrupted monitoring of the SNS site.

A total of seven seeps/springs and surface water sampling points (seeps/springs S-1, S-2, S-3, S-4, S-5, and SP-1 and surface-water point SW-1) were routinely monitored as analogues to, and in lieu of, groundwater monitoring wells. Locations were chosen based on hydrogeological factors and proximity to the beam line. Figure 5.38 shows the locations of the specific monitoring points sampled during 2014.

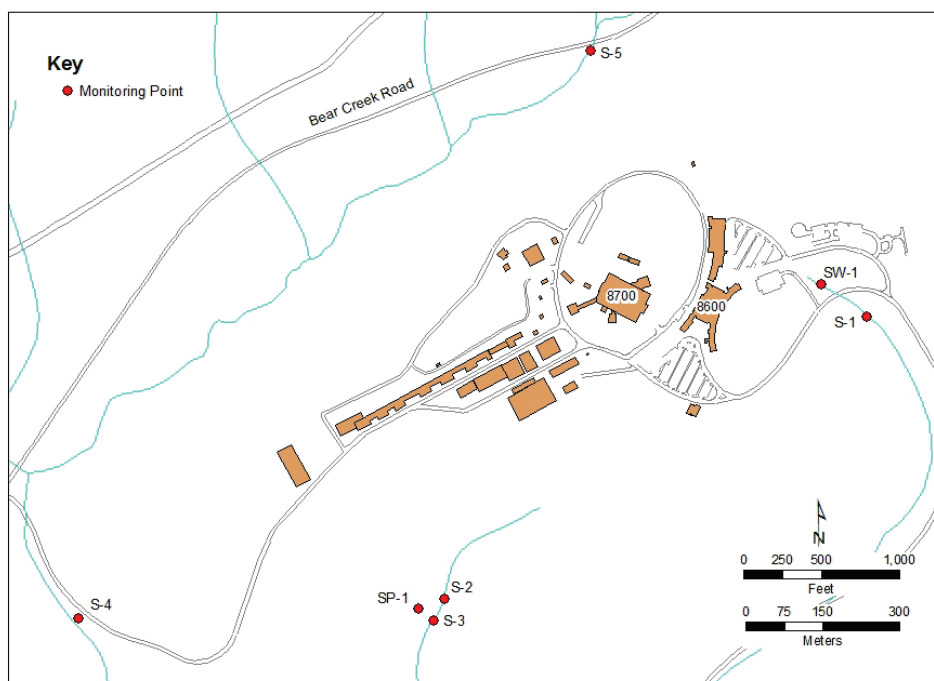


Fig. 5.38. Groundwater monitoring locations at the Spallation Neutron Source, 2014.

In November 2011 the SNS historical tritium data were evaluated to determine whether sampling could be optimized. The influence of flow condition on the proportion of tritium detects and nondetects in water samples collected at SNS from April 2004 through September 2011 was examined. In addition, the effect of seasonality on the proportion of detects and nondetects was examined for the same data set. The results of the analysis indicated that the proportion of detects to nondetects is not related to flow conditions or seasonality. This implies that samples could be collected during any flow condition and season with the expectation that there would be no *statistical* difference in the proportion of tritium detects to nondetects. The results of this statistical analysis of the April 2004–September 2011 data set were the basis for the modified OMP monitoring scheme implemented in 2014.

Taking a conservative approach, quarterly sampling at each monitoring point continued in 2014, allowing the opportunity for wet and dry season monitoring. All sampling performed in 2014 was performed in conjunction with rainfall events, with samples being collected during rising or falling (recession) limb flow conditions (see Fig. 5.39). Table 5.23 shows the sampling and parameter analysis schedule followed in 2014.

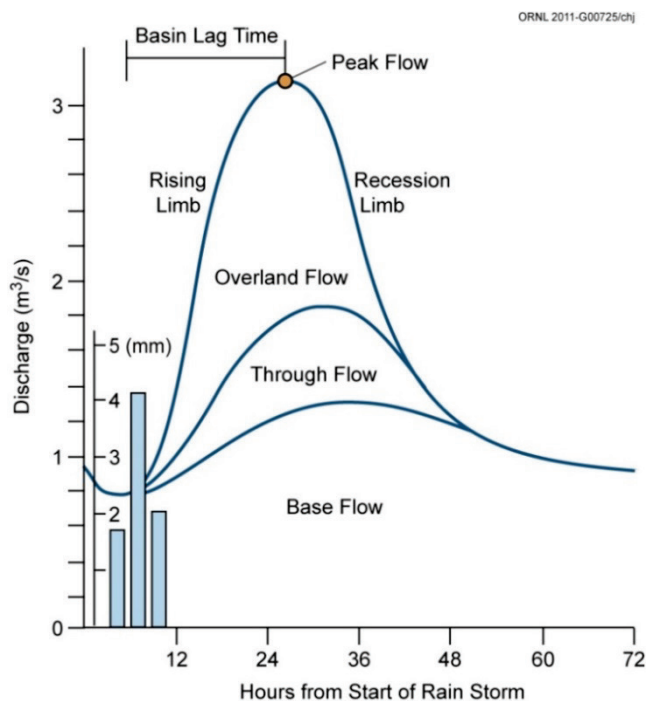


Fig. 5.39. Simple hydrograph of spring discharge vs. time after initiation of rainfall.

Table 5.23. 2014 Spallation Neutron Source monitoring program schedule

Monitoring location	Quarter 1 January–March	Quarter 2 April–June	Quarter 3 July–September	Quarter 4 October–December
SW-1	Tritium	Tritium	Tritium	Tritium and expanded suite ^a
S-1	Tritium	Tritium	Tritium	Tritium and expanded suite
S-2	Tritium and expanded suite	Tritium	Tritium	Tritium
S-3	Tritium and expanded suite	Tritium	Tritium	Tritium
S-4	Tritium	Tritium and expanded suite	Tritium	Tritium
S-5	Tritium	Tritium and expanded suite	Tritium	Tritium
SP-1	Tritium	Tritium	Tritium and expanded suite	Tritium

^aThe expanded suite includes gross alpha and gross beta activity, carbon-14, hydrogen-3, and gamma emitters.

Spallation Neutron Source Site Results

In 2014 sampling at the SNS site occurred during February (quarter 1), June (quarter 2), August (quarter 3), and December (quarter 4). Low concentrations of several radionuclides were detected numerous times during 2014. Table 5.24 provides a summary of the locations for radionuclide detections observed during 2014. The reference standard for tritium was not exceeded at any SNS monitoring location in 2014.

Table 5.24. Analytical results for parameters detected in samples collected at the Spallation Neutron Source during 2014

Location	Quarter	Parameter	Value ^a	Reference Standard ^a
S-2	1	²¹⁴ Bi	40	10,595
S-2	1	²¹⁴ Pb	39.6	8,000
S-2	1	Tritium	368	20,000
S-3	1	²¹⁴ Bi	53.6	10,595
S-3	1	²¹⁴ Pb	65.9	8,000
SW-1	1	Tritium	239	20,000
S-2	2	Tritium	263	20,000
S-5	2	Alpha	16.6	15
S-5	2	Beta	16.4	50
SW-1	2	Tritium	245	20,000
S-1	3	Tritium	1,620	20,000
S-2	3	Tritium	1,810	20,000
SW-1	3	Tritium	1,700	20,000
S-1	4	Tritium	526	20,000
S-2	4	Tritium	872	20,000
SW-1	4	Tritium	1,790	20,000

^aUnits—pCi/L.

Reference standards for ¹⁴Bi and ²¹⁴Pb are 4% of the DOE O 458.1 DCSs. Reference standards for the remainder of the parameters are the National Primary Drinking Water Standards (40 CFR Part 141).

The only radionuclide exceeding a reference standard during 2014 was gross alpha activity (16.6 pCi/L) at S-5 in the second quarter. The reference standard for gross alpha activity is 15 pCi/L. Gross alpha activity detected in S-5 likely originated in the S-3 ponds located upgradient of the SNS site. S-5 is in hydrologic communication with the S-3 pond plume via karst features.

5.7 Quality Assurance Program

UT-Battelle implements the requirements of DOE O 414.1D, *Quality Assurance*, (DOE 2011c) for all programs, projects, and activities and 10 CFR 830 Subpart A, Quality Assurance Requirements, for nuclear facilities, radiological areas, and programs and activities that have the potential to impact nuclear or radiological safety. ORNL has adopted ISO 9001:2008 as the laboratory consensus standard and has been registered to the standard by a third party registrar. Adoption of ISO 9001:2008 provides the level of rigor and flexibility necessary for the wide range of activities UT-Battelle conducts at ORNL. Additional QA requirements or guidance documents are used on a project- or process-specific basis based on potential risk factors and customer requirements. The application of QA/QC programs specifically focused on environmental monitoring activities on ORR is essential for generating data of known and

defensible quality. Each aspect of an environmental monitoring program from sample collection to data management and record keeping must address and meet applicable quality standards. The activities associated with administration, sampling, data management, and reporting for ORNL environmental programs are performed by the UT-Battelle Environmental Protection Services Division (EPSD).

UT-Battelle uses SBMS to provide a systematic approach for integrating QA, environmental, and safety considerations into every aspect of environmental monitoring at ORNL. SBMS is a web-based system that provides a single point of access to all the requirements necessary for staff to safely and effectively perform work. SBMS translates laws, orders, directives, policies, and best-management practices into laboratory-wide subject areas and procedures.

5.7.1 Work/Project Planning and Control

UT-Battelle's work/project planning and control directives establish the processes and requirements for executing work activities at ORNL. All environmental sampling tasks are performed following the four steps required in the work control subject areas:

- define scope of work;
- perform work planning—analyze hazards and define controls;
- execute work; and
- provide feedback.

In addition, EPSD has approved project-specific standard operating procedures for all activities controlled and maintained through the Integrated Document Management System (IDMS).

Environmental sampling standard operating procedures developed for UT-Battelle environmental sampling programs provide detailed instructions on maintaining chain of custody, sample identification, sample collection and handling, sample preservation, equipment decontamination, and collection of quality control samples such as field and trip blanks, duplicates, and equipment rinses.

5.7.2 Personnel Training and Qualifications

The UT-Battelle Training and Qualification Management System provides employees and nonemployee staff of UT-Battelle with the knowledge and skills necessary to perform their jobs safely, effectively, and efficiently with minimal supervision. This capability is accomplished by establishing site-level procedures and guidance for training program implementation with an infrastructure of supporting systems, services, and processes.

Likewise, the WAI Training and Qualification program provides employees with the knowledge and skills necessary to perform their jobs safely, effectively, and efficiently with minimal supervision. This capability is accomplished by establishing site-level procedures and guidance for training program implementation with an infrastructure of supporting systems, services, and processes.

5.7.3 Equipment and Instrumentation

5.7.3.1 Calibration

The UT-Battelle Quality Management System includes subject area directives that require all UT-Battelle staff to use equipment of known accuracy based on appropriate calibration requirements that are traceable to an authority standard. The UT-Battelle Facilities and Operations Instrumentation and Control Services team tracks all equipment used in the environmental monitoring programs conducted by UT-Battelle for

the ORNL site and ORR through a maintenance recall program to ensure that equipment is functioning properly and within defined tolerance ranges. The determination of calibration schedules and frequencies is based on a graded approach at the activity planning level. EPSD environmental monitoring programs follow rigorous calibration schedules to eliminate gross drift and the need for data adjustments. Instrument tolerances, functions, ranges, and calibration frequencies are established based on manufacturer specifications, program requirements, actual operating environment and conditions, and budget considerations.

In addition, a continuous monitor used for CAA compliance monitoring at ORNL boiler 6 is subject to rigorous QA protocols as specified by EPA methods. A relative accuracy test audit (RATA) is performed annually to certify the Predictive Emissions Monitoring System (PEMS) for nitrogen oxides and oxygen. The purpose of RATA is to provide a rigorous QA assessment in accordance with EPA 40 CFR, Performance Specification 16. Three out of four quarters a RATA is performed on PEMS using a second, calibrated system to verify the accuracy of PEMS. The results of these QA tests are provided to TDEC quarterly, semiannually, or annually as applicable.

5.7.3.2 Standardization

The UT-Battelle IDMS provides the necessary functionality and controls to ensure controlled documents are managed, distributed, revised, and maintained in accordance with ORNL document control requirements. EPSD sampling procedures are maintained in IDMS and include requirements and instructions for the proper standardization and use of monitoring equipment. Requirements include the use of traceable standards and measurements; performance of routine, before-use equipment standardizations; and actions to follow when standardization steps do not produce required values. Standard operating procedures for sampling also include instructions for designating nonconforming instruments as “out-of-service” and initiating requests for maintenance.

5.7.3.3 Visual Inspection, Housekeeping, and Grounds Maintenance

EPSD environmental sampling personnel conduct routine visual inspections of all sampling instrumentation and sampling locations. These inspections identify and address any safety, grounds keeping, general maintenance, and housekeeping issues or needs.

5.7.4 Assessment

Independent audits, surveillance, and internal management assessments are performed to verify that requirements have been accurately specified and activities that have been performed conform to expectations and requirements. External assessments are scheduled based on requests from auditing agencies. Table 2.1 presents a list of environmental audits and assessments performed at ORNL in 2014 and information on the number of findings identified, if any. EPSD also conducts internal management assessments of UT-Battelle environmental monitoring procedural compliance, safety performance, and work planning and control. Surveillance results, recommendations, and completion of corrective actions, if required, are also documented and tracked in the UT-Battelle Assessment and Commitment Tracking System.

WAI and Isotek perform independent audits, surveillances, and internal management assessments to verify that requirements have been accurately specified and activities that have been performed conform to expectations and requirements. WAI corrective actions, if required, are documented and tracked in the WAI Issues Management Database or Deficiency Reporting Database, and Isotek corrective actions are tracked in its Assessment and Commitment Tracking System.

5.7.5 Analytical Quality Assurance

The contract laboratories that perform analyses of environmental samples from the UT-Battelle environmental monitoring programs at ORNL and on ORR are required to have documented QA/QC programs, trained and qualified staff, appropriately maintained equipment and facilities, and applicable certifications. Several laboratories are contracted under basic ordering agreements to perform analytical work to characterize UT-Battelle environmental samples. As applicable, these laboratories participate in accreditation, certification, and performance evaluation programs, including the National Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Program, Mixed Analyte Performance Evaluation Program, Discharge Monitoring Report Quality Assurance Study, and DOE Environmental Management Consolidated Audit Program. Any issues of concern identified through accreditation/certification programs or performance evaluation testing are addressed with analytical laboratories and considered when determinations are made on data integrity.

A statement of work for each project specifies any additional QA/QC requirements and includes detailed information on data deliverables, turnaround times, and required methods and detection limits. Blank and duplicate samples are routinely submitted along with ORR environmental samples to provide an additional check on analytical laboratory performance.

5.7.6 Data Management and Reporting

Management of data collected by UT-Battelle in conjunction with ORR and ORNL environmental surveillance programs and with CWA activities at ORNL is accomplished using the Environmental Surveillance System (ESS), a web interface data management tool. A software QA plan for ESS has been developed to document ESS user access rules; verification and validation methods; configuration and change management rules; release history; software registration information; and the employed methods, standards, practices, and tools.

Field measurements and sample information are entered into ESS, and an independent verification is performed on all records to ensure accurate data entry. Sample results and associated information are loaded into ESS from electronic files provided by analytical laboratories. An automated screening is performed to ensure that all required analyses were performed, appropriate analytical methods were used, holding times were met, and specified detection levels were achieved.

Following the screening, a series of checks is performed to determine whether results are consistent with expected outcomes and historical data. QC sample results (i.e., blanks and duplicates) are reviewed to check for potential sample contamination and to confirm repeatability of analytical methods within required limits. More in-depth investigations are conducted to explain results that are questionable or problematic.

ORNL radiological airborne effluent monitoring data are managed using the Rad-NESHAPs Inventory Web Application and the Rad NESHAPs Source Data Application. Field measurements and analytical data inputs along with emission calculations results are independently verified.

5.7.7 Records Management

The UT-Battelle Records Management System provides the requirements for managing all UT-Battelle records. Requirements include creating and identifying record material; scheduling, protecting, and record storage in office areas and the UT-Battelle Inactive Records Center; and destroying records.

WAI and Isotek maintain all records specific to their projects at ORNL, and associated records management programs include the requirements for creating and identifying record material, protecting and storing records in applicable areas, and destroying records.

5.8 Environmental Management and Waste Management Activities at Oak Ridge National Laboratory

ORNL is becoming one of the world's most modern campuses for scientific discovery in materials and chemical sciences, nuclear science, energy research, and super-computing. However, in the midst of all this modern infrastructure are large contaminated areas—the legacy of past operations and waste disposal practices. The DOE EM program has divided ORNL into two major cleanup areas: Bethel Valley and Melton Valley. The Bethel Valley area includes reactors and the principal research facilities, and Melton Valley includes reactors and waste management areas. The following sections summarize some of the 2014 EM activities undertaken at ORNL. More detailed information is available in the 2014 cleanup progress report (UCOR 2014).

5.8.1 Waste Handling Plan Approved for the Molten Salt Reactor Experiment Facility

The MSRE Facility (Fig 5.40) was a graphite-moderated, liquid-fueled test reactor that operated at ORNL from June 1965 until December 1969. Since the reactor's shutdown, EM has performed several studies and removal actions to stabilize the facility, including removal of uranium deposits and defueling of the reactor salts. Routine surveillance and maintenance activities are used to manage the remaining hazards associated with the facility, including periodic removal of reactive gas generated by the defueled salts.



Fig. 5.40. Molten Salt Reactor Experiment Facility.

In 2014, an addendum to the waste handling plan for the facility was approved to address disposition of remaining waste from the earlier actions. The addendum includes a schedule for characterization and disposition of 74 waste items. In 2014 30 waste items were characterized and 20 waste items were disposed. Additional studies and planning were performed to support future removal and disposal of the

defueled salt. A draft report was prepared documenting the completion of defueling and the status of the salt as TRU waste eligible for disposal at WIPP.

5.8.2 Completion Reports Issued for Various ORNL Projects

Buildings 3074 and 3136

In FY 2014, EM submitted a removal action report to EPA and TDEC documenting dismantlement of Buildings 3074 and 3136. Building 3074 was a 3,500 ft² single-story structure built in the early 1950s and used to repair and maintain hot cell manipulators. Building 3136 was a 30-foot-tall structure built in 1994 for use as a mock-up test facility; however, it was most recently used for document storage. Both buildings were dismantled in FY 2009, and the resulting waste was disposed in FY 2012.

Building 3550

During FY 2014, EPA and TDEC approved a completion report documenting the demolition work performed on Building 3550 (Fig 5.41). One of the first facilities constructed at ORNL, Building 3550 once housed the laboratory's chemistry facilities. It is one of 34 buildings recently demolished in the ORNL Central Campus area.



Fig. 5.41. Building 3550 area after being cleared.

Building 3038

During FY 2014, EPA and TDEC approved a report documenting completion of demolition of Building 3038. Building 3038 was a 7,773 ft² nuclear facility located in the ORNL Central Campus area. It was used for packaging, inspecting, and shipping radioisotopes until operations ceased in 1994.

4500 Hot Cells/Duct Stabilization

During FY 2014, EPA and TDEC approved a phased construction completion report outlining finished and future stages of work for 4500 hot cells/duct stabilization. The 4500 area Central Gaseous Waste System provides containment ventilation, off-gas treatment, and discharge of gaseous waste from many ORNL Central Campus facilities.

5.8.3 Groundwater Monitoring

Reservation Groundwater Monitoring Strategy

In 2014 a team of representatives from DOE EM, EPA, TDEC, and USGS developed strategy recommendations for future ORR groundwater characterization and monitoring that included the following.

- Establish a DOE ORR groundwater program to systematically prioritize and investigate groundwater plumes and data gaps.
- Conduct “data quality objectives” workshops to define the type, quality, and quantity of data needed to evaluate off-site groundwater quality and movement. DOE is not aware of any adverse health effects from off-site groundwater. Sampling will be performed in 2015 in accordance with an approved work plan. After sampling and laboratory analysis are complete, results will be evaluated to determine whether any follow-on actions are necessary.
- Initiate efforts to develop an ORR-wide regional flow model. The model will serve as an underlying framework to support future cleanup decisions and actions.

5.8.4 Off-Site Groundwater Monitoring

In 2014, EM conducted groundwater monitoring in off-site wells adjacent to Melton Valley to determine whether contaminants were migrating off ORR. Through its extensive groundwater monitoring efforts, EM has detected certain signature man-made contaminants near former Melton Valley waste disposal areas on DOE property. These contaminants include tritium; ⁹⁰Sr; ⁹⁹Tc; and chlorinated organic compounds, including TCE, an industrial solvent, and its degradation products. However, despite a growing network of sampling locations, none of these signature man-made contaminants were detected in any of the monitored off-site groundwater wells.

5.8.5 Oak Ridge National Laboratory Waste Management

5.8.5.1 Oak Ridge National Laboratory Wastewater Treatment

At ORNL, DOE EM operates PWTC and the Liquid Low-Level Waste Treatment Facility. In 2014 346 million L (91 million gal) of wastewater was treated and released at PWTC. In addition, the liquid LLW evaporator at ORNL treated 335,028 L (88,505 gal) of waste. The waste treatment activities of these facilities support both DOE EM and DOE OS mission activities, ensuring that wastewaters from activities associated with projects of both offices are managed in a safe and compliant manner.

5.8.5.2 Oak Ridge National Laboratory Newly Generated Waste Management

ORNL is the largest, most diverse DOE OS laboratory in the DOE complex. Although much effort is expended to prevent pollution and eliminate waste generation, some waste streams are generated as a by-product of performing research and operational activities and must be managed to ensure that the environment is protected from associated hazards. UT-Battelle, as the prime contractor for the management of ORNL, is responsible for management of most of the wastes generated from R&D activities and wastes generated from operation of the R&D facilities. TRU wastes and waste streams that can be treated by on-site liquid and/or gaseous waste treatment facilities operated by EM are treated via these systems. Other R&D waste streams are generally packaged by UT-Battelle in appropriate shipping containers for off-site transport to commercial waste processing facilities. In CY 2014, ORNL performed

66 waste shipments to off-site hazardous/radiological/mixed waste treatment and/or disposal vendors with no shipment rejections or violations.

5.8.5.3 Transuranic Waste Processing Center

TRU waste-processing activities carried out for DOE in 2014 by WAI addressed CH solids/debris and RH solids/debris and involved processing, treating, repackaging, and off-site transportation and disposal at NNS, WIPP, and other approved off-site facilities. Planning for treating RH sludge continued this year.

During CY 2014, 67.4 m³ (88.2 yd³) of CH waste and 121.6 m³ (159.1 yd³) of RH waste were processed and 51.9 m³ (67.9 yd³) of mixed LLW (TRU waste that dropped out as low level) was shipped off the site.

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6. Oak Ridge Reservation Environmental Monitoring Program

In addition to environmental monitoring conducted at the three major Oak Ridge DOE installations, reservationwide environmental monitoring is performed to measure radiological and nonradiological parameters directly in environmental media adjacent to the facilities. Data from the ORR-wide environmental monitoring program are analyzed to assess the environmental impact of DOE operations on the entire reservation and the surrounding area. Dose assessment information based on data from this program is presented in Chapter 7.

Because of differing permit reporting requirements and instrument capabilities, various units of measurement are used in this report. The list of units of measure and conversion factors provided on pages xxvii and xxviii is intended to help readers convert numeric values presented herein as needed for specific calculations and comparisons.

6.1 Meteorological Monitoring

Nine meteorological towers provide data on meteorological conditions and on the transport and diffusion qualities of the atmosphere on the ORR. Data collected at the towers are used in routine dispersion modeling to predict impacts from facility operations and as input to emergency-response atmospheric models, which are used for simulated and potential accidental releases from a facility. Data from the towers are also used to support various research and engineering projects.

6.1.1 Description

The nine meteorological towers on ORR are described in Table 6.1 and depicted in Fig. 6.1. In this document, the individual ORR-managed towers are designated by “MT” followed by a numeral; however, other commonly used names for the sites are provided in Table 6.1. Meteorological data are collected at different levels above the ground (2, 10, 15, 30, 33, 35, 60, and 100 m) to assess the vertical structure of the atmosphere, particularly with respect to wind shear and stability. Stable boundary layers and significant wind shear zones (associated with the local ridge-and-valley terrain as well as the Great Valley of Eastern Tennessee; see Appendix B) can significantly affect the movement of a plume after a facility release (Bowen et al. 2000). Data are collected at the 10 m level at most towers, but the lowest wind measurement height is 15 m for MT2, MT3, and MT9, and 25 m for MT11. Additionally, data are collected at selected towers at the 30, 33, 35, and 60 m levels. At each measurement level except 2 m, temperature, wind speed, and wind direction are measured. Atmospheric stability (a measure of vertical mixing properties of the atmosphere) is measured at most towers; however, measurements involving vertical temperature profiles (SRDT method) limit accurate determination of nighttime stability to those towers that are 60 m in height. Since May 2014, measurement of stability using the sigma phi method is now being conducted at Tower MT2 (“D”), which does not require dependence on vertical temperature profile measurements. Barometric pressure is measured at one or more of the towers at each ORR plant (MT1, MT2, MT4, MT6, MT7, and MT9). Precipitation is measured at MT6 and MT9 at Y-12, at MT1 and MT7 at ETTP, and at MT2 and MT4 at ORNL. Solar radiation is measured at MT6 and MT9 at Y-12, at MT1 and MT7 at ETTP, and at MT2 at ORNL. Data are collected at 1 second intervals and averaged for 1, 15, and 60 min intervals. Calibrations of the instruments are managed by UT-Battelle and

B&W Y-12 and were performed every 6 months by an independent auditor (Holian Environmental for ORNL and ETTP and CB&I for Y-12).

In addition to the meteorological towers, SOnic Detection And Ranging (SODAR) devices have been installed at the east end of Y-12 and adjacent to Tower MT2 at ORNL. These devices use acoustic waves to estimate wind direction, wind speed, and turbulence at altitudes higher than the reach of meteorological towers (60–500 m above ground level). Although SODAR measurements are somewhat less accurate than measurements made on the meteorological towers, SODAR devices provide useful information regarding stability, upper air winds, and mixing depth. Mixing depth represents the thickness of the air layer adjacent to the ground over which an emitted or entrained inert nonbuoyant tracer would be mixed by turbulence within 1 h or less.

Table 6.1. Oak Ridge Reservation meteorological towers

Tower	Alternate tower names	Location (latitude, longitude)	Altitude (m MSL)	Measurement heights (m)
<i>ETTP</i>				
MT1	“K,” 1208	35.93317N, -84.38833W	263	10, 60
MT7	“L,” 1209	35.92522N, -84.39414W	233	10, 30
<i>ORNL</i>				
MT2	“D”*, 1047	35.92559N, -84.32379W	261	2, 15, 35, 60
MT3	“B,” 6555	35.93273N, -84.30254W	256	15, 30
MT4	“A,” 7571	35.92185N, -84.30470W	266	10, 30
MT10	“M,” 208A	35.90947N, -84.38796W	244	10
<i>Y-12</i>				
MT6	“W,” West	35.98058N, -84.27358W	326	2, 10, 30, 60
MT9	“Y,” PSS Tower	35.98745N, -84.25363W	290	2, 15, 33
MT11	“S,” South Tower	35.98190 N, -84.25504W	352	25

Acronyms

ETTP = East Tennessee Technology Park

MSL = mean sea level

ORNL = Oak Ridge National Laboratory

PSS = Plant Shift Superintendent

Y-12 = Y-12 National Security Complex

*Tower “C” before May 2014 with measurement heights of 10, 30, and 100 m.

Data are collected in real time for 1 min, 15 min, and hourly average intervals for emergency-response purposes, including dispersion modeling at the ORNL and Y-12 Emergency Operations Centers.

Annual dose estimates are calculated from the archived hourly data. Data quality is checked continuously against predetermined data constraints, and out-of-range parameters are marked invalid and are excluded from compliance modeling. Appropriate substitution data is identified when possible. Quality assurance records of missing and erroneous data are routinely kept for the nine DOE-managed towers.

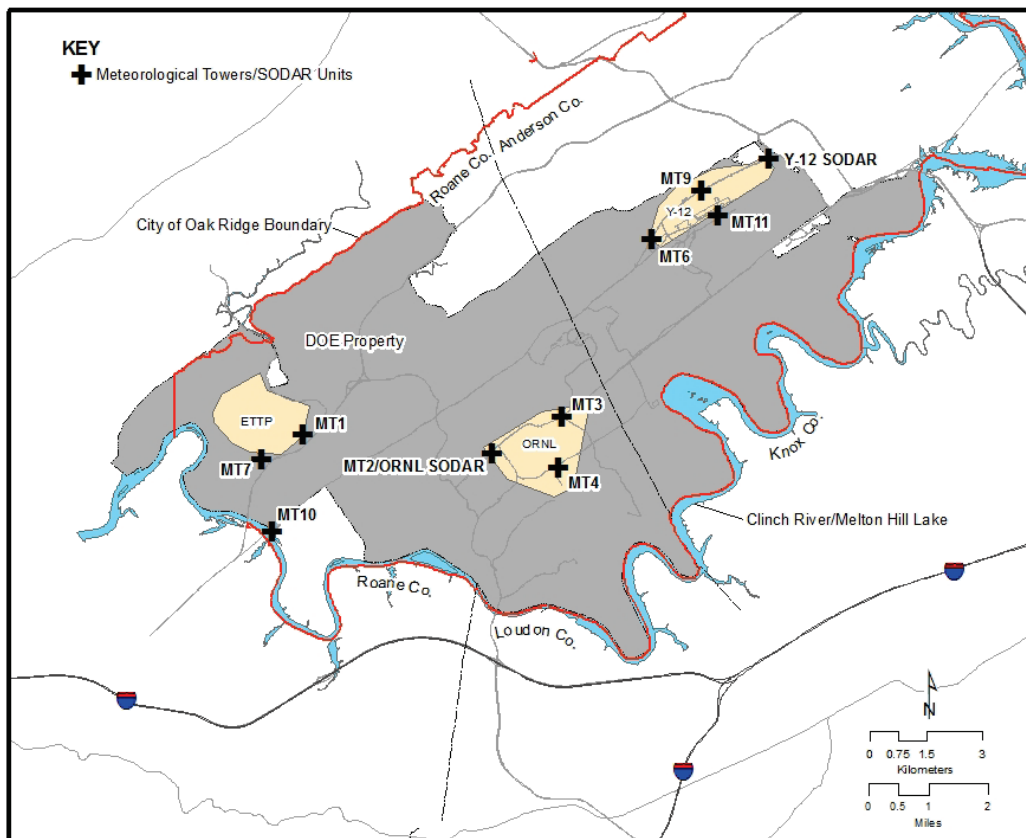


Fig. 6.1. The Oak Ridge Reservation meteorological monitoring network, including SODAR (sonic detection and ranging) devices.

6.1.2 Meteorological Impacts on Modeling Results

Prevailing winds are generally up-valley from the southwest and west-southwest or down-valley from the northeast and east-northeast, a pattern that typically results from channeling effects produced by the ridges flanking the ORR sites. Winds in the valleys tend to follow the ridge axes, limiting cross-ridge flow within local valley bottoms. These conditions dominate over most of ORR, but less so at ETPP, which is located in a less constrained open valley bottom, resulting in greater flow variation.

On the ORR, low-speed winds dominate near the valley surfaces, largely because of the decelerating influence of nearby ridges and mountains. Wind acceleration sometimes is observed at ridge-top level, particularly when flow is not parallel to the ridges (see Appendix B).

The atmosphere over ORR is often dominated by stable conditions at night and for a few hours after sunrise. These conditions, when coupled with low wind speeds and channeling effects in the valleys, result in poor dilution of pollutants emitted from the facilities. However, high roughness values (caused by terrain and obstructions such as trees and buildings) partially mitigate these factors through increased turbulence processes (atmospheric mixing). These features are captured in data input to dispersion models and are reflected in modeling studies conducted for each facility.

Precipitation data from tower MT2 are used in stream-flow modeling and in certain research efforts. The data indicate the variability of regional precipitation: the high winter rainfall resulting from frontal systems and the uneven, but occasionally intense, summer rainfall associated with thunderstorms. The total precipitation in Oak Ridge (townsite) during 2014 (1,338 mm or 52.64 in.) was within 5% of the long-term average of 1,294 mm (50.91 in.).

The average data recovery rates (a measure of acceptable data) across locations used for modeling during 2014 were greater than 97% for wind sensors at the ORNL sites (towers MT2, MT3, MT4, and MT10); however, there were problems with a few sensors at towers MT2 and MT4. Because of structural problems, tower MT2 was replaced in May 2014 because it had been deemed unsafe for climbing. Therefore, some sensors at the 30 and 100 m levels could not be reached for repair during January to April 2014, and the recovery rate for 100 m temperature data was between 75% and 80% for the year 2014 as a whole (acceptable substitution values were available from tower MT1 and other ambient meteorological data). Similarly, the temperature sensors at tower MT4 were affected by electrical problems during the January–April 2014 period, and thus the data recovery rates for temperature at tower MT4 were between 75% and 80%. All other tower MT2 and MT4 instrument recoveries were well above 90% for both quarterly and annual values.

Annual data recovery from ETPP meteorological towers during 2014 ranged from 99% to 100% (towers MT1 and MT7). Y-12 sites (towers MT6, MT9, and MT11) also had recovery rates ranging from 99% to 100% during 2014.

6.2 External Gamma Radiation Monitoring

6.2.1 Data Collection and Analysis

External gamma exposure rates are continuously recorded at six ORR AASs (Fig. 6.2). During 2014, the high-pressure ion chamber (HPIC) detectors, which have been used since the early 1990s, were replaced with dual range Geiger–Müller (GM) tube detectors. HPIC and GM detectors are based on different principles of operation and therefore vary in terms of sensitivity, accuracy, reliability, cost, and portability. In general, HPIC instruments are more accurate, whereas GM-type detectors have greater sensitivity and are more rugged and less expensive. Instrument replacement began at Station 39 in June 2014, and the remaining instruments were installed between July and November 2014. Table 6.2 summarizes the data for each station.

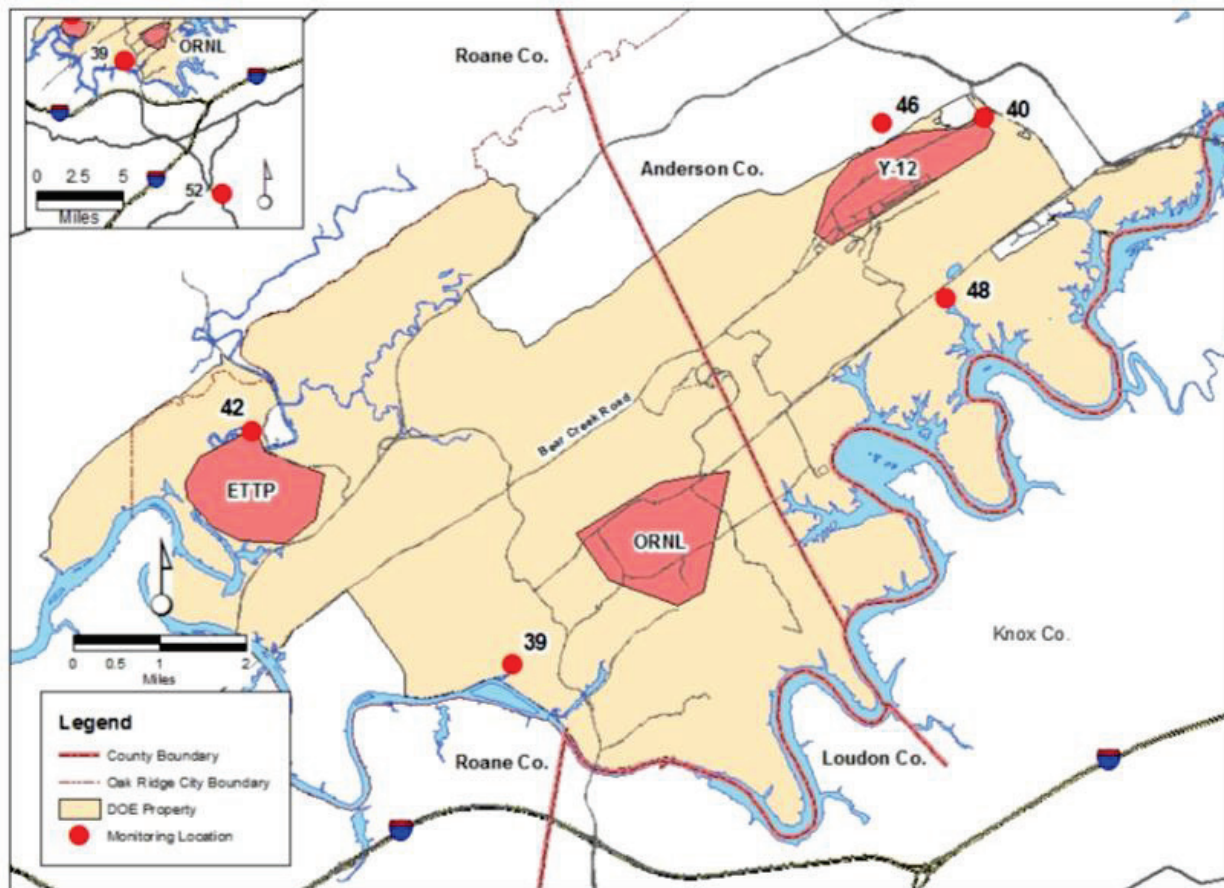


Fig. 6.2. External gamma radiation monitoring locations on the Oak Ridge Reservation.

Table 6.2. External gamma (exposure rate) averages for the Oak Ridge Reservation, 2014

Monitoring location	HPIC detector ($\mu\text{R/h}$)			GM detector ($\mu\text{R/h}$)				
	Number of data points (weekly)	Min	Max	Mean	Number of data points (daily)	Min	Max	Mean
39	23	8.9	9.3	9.1	197	11.1	13.2	11.9
40	28	7.4	8.2	7.9	162	9.7	11.6	10.4
42	37	6.5	8.2	7.4	89	8.9	10.7	9.6
46	27	8.6	8.9	8.7	133	9.5	12.2	11.0
48	26	6.9	8.1	7.2	147	9.4	11.3	9.9
52	43	6.4	7.3	6.9	50	9.0	10.7	9.6

Acronyms

GM = Geiger-Muller (tube for detection of ionizing radiation)

HPIC = high-pressure ion chamber

6.2.2 Results

The mean exposure rate for the reservation network calculated from measurements taken with the HPIC instrumentation in 2014 was 8.1 $\mu\text{R/h}$, and the average at the reference location was 6.9 $\mu\text{R/h}$. The mean exposure rate from measurements taken with the newly installed GM instrumentation was 10.6 $\mu\text{R/h}$, and the average at the reference location was 9.6 $\mu\text{R/h}$. Exposure rates from background sources in Tennessee range from 2.9 to 11 $\mu\text{R/h}$. Since the new instruments were not operational for the entire year and were installed at different times at each location, data analysis to determine the effects of variation in instrument sensitivity and accuracy, and efforts to resolve some questions and issues regarding operating status, are ongoing.

6.3 Ambient Air Monitoring

In addition to exhaust stack monitoring conducted at the DOE Oak Ridge installations, ambient air monitoring is performed to measure radiological parameters directly in the ambient air adjacent to the facilities (Fig. 6.3). Ambient air monitoring provides a means to verify that contributions of fugitive and diffuse sources are insignificant, serves as a check on dose-modeling calculations, and would allow determination of contaminant levels at monitoring locations in the event of an emergency.



Fig. 6.3. Oak Ridge Reservation ambient air station.

Ambient air monitoring conducted by individual site programs is discussed in Chapters 3–5. The ORR ambient air monitoring program complements these individual site programs and permits the impacts of ORR operations to be assessed on an integrated basis. This program is discussed in detail in the following sections.

6.3.1 Oak Ridge Reservation Ambient Air Monitoring

The objectives of the ORR ambient air monitoring program are to perform surveillance of airborne radionuclides at the reservation perimeter and to collect reference data from a location not affected by activities on ORR. The ORR perimeter air monitoring network includes stations 35, 37, 38, 39, 40, 42, 46,

and 48 (Fig. 6.4). Reference samples are collected from Station 52 (Fort Loudoun Dam). Sampling was conducted at each ORR station during 2014 to quantify levels of alpha-, beta-, and gamma-emitting radionuclides.

Atmospheric dispersion modeling was used to select appropriate sampling locations. The locations selected are those likely to be affected most by releases from the Oak Ridge facilities. Therefore, in the event of a release, no residence or business in the vicinity of ORR should receive a radiation dose greater than doses calculated at the sampled locations.

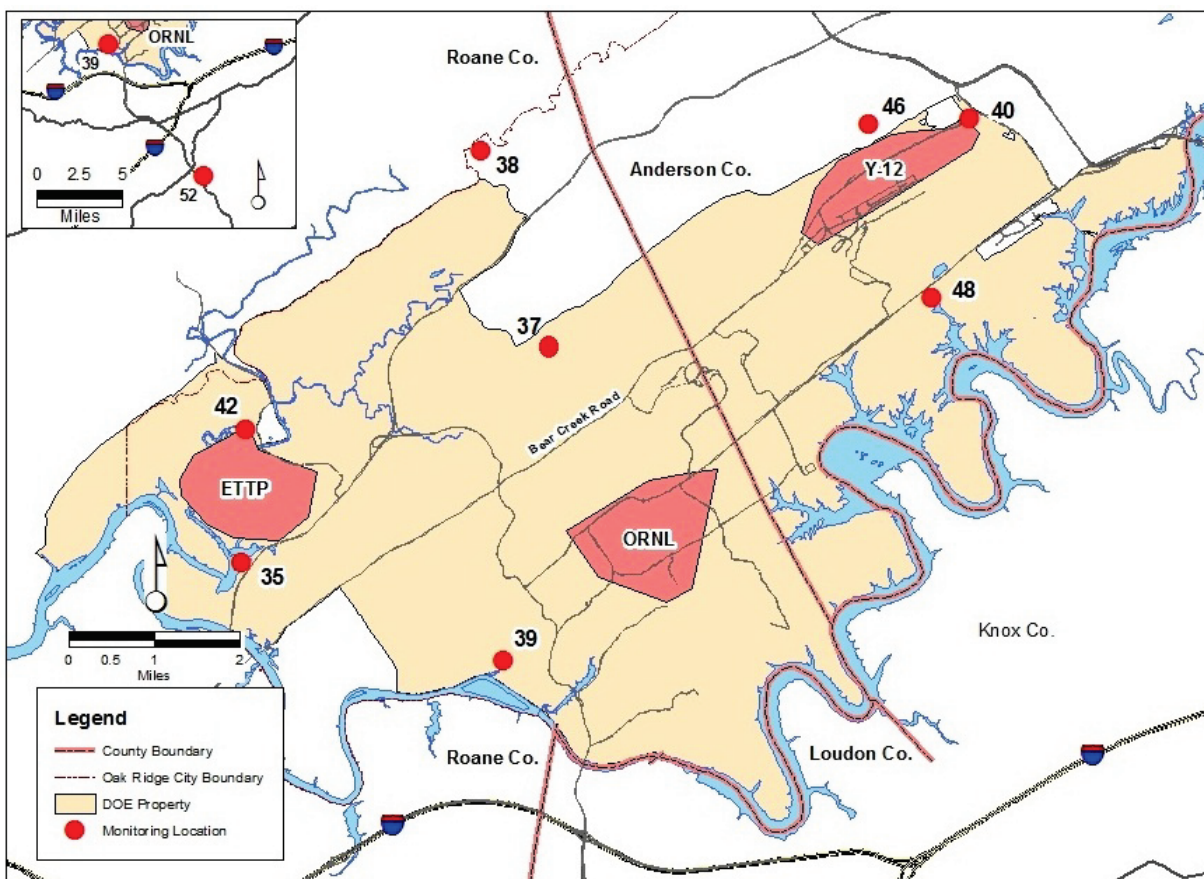


Fig. 6.4. Locations of Oak Ridge Reservation perimeter air monitoring stations.

The sampling system consists of two separate instruments. Particulates are captured by high-volume air samples equipped with glass-fiber filters. The filters are collected weekly, composited quarterly, and then submitted to an analytical laboratory to quantify gross alpha and beta activity and to determine the concentrations of specific isotopes of interest on ORR. The second system is designed to collect tritiated water vapor. The sampler consists of a prefilter followed by an adsorbent trap that contains indicating silica gel. The samples are collected weekly or biweekly, composited quarterly, and then submitted to an analytical laboratory for tritium analysis.

6.3.2 Results

Data from the ORR ambient air network are analyzed to assess the impact of DOE operations on the local air quality. Each measured radionuclide concentration (Table 6.3) is compared with DCSs for air established by DOE as guidelines for controlling exposure to members of the public. All radionuclide

concentrations measured at the ORR AASs during 2014 were less than 1% of applicable DCSs, indicating that activities on the reservation are not adversely affecting local air quality.

Table 6.3. Average radionuclide concentrations at Oak Ridge Reservation perimeter air monitoring stations, 2014

Parameter	N detected/N total	Concentration (pCi/mL)		
		Average	Minimum	Maximum
<i>Station 35</i>				
⁷ Be	4/4	2.27E-08	1.41E-08	2.82E-08
⁴⁰ K	0/4	-2.80E-11	-8.81E-10	2.95E-10
⁹⁹ Tc	1/2	3.20E-10	1.29E-10	5.11E-10
³ H	0/4	2.04E-06	1.35E-07	5.57E-06
²³⁴ U	4/4	2.04E-12	1.05E-12	4.31E-12
²³⁵ U	1/4	1.69E-13	3.99E-14	3.20E-13
²³⁸ U	4/4	1.51E-12	1.00E-12	2.10E-12
<i>Station 37</i>				
⁷ Be	4/4	2.39E-08	2.04E-08	2.88E-08
⁴⁰ K	0/4	3.96E-10	-2.53E-10	1.93E-09
⁹⁹ Tc	2/2	1.70E-10	1.35E-10	2.06E-10
³ H	0/4	3.75E-07	-4.09E-07	1.91E-06
²³⁴ U	4/4	2.06E-12	1.38E-12	3.17E-12
²³⁵ U	1/4	9.59E-14	-6.94E-14	2.87E-13
²³⁸ U	4/4	1.25E-12	7.07E-13	1.95E-12
<i>Station 38</i>				
⁷ Be	4/4	3.39E-08	2.33E-08	5.06E-08
⁴⁰ K	0/4	-1.62E-10	-6.67E-10	2.07E-10
⁹⁹ Tc	2/2	2.03E-10	1.93E-10	2.13E-10
³ H	2/4	4.79E-06	4.30E-07	1.19E-05
²³⁴ U	4/4	1.92E-12	1.44E-12	2.30E-12
²³⁵ U	1/4	1.96E-13	0	4.04E-13
²³⁸ U	4/4	1.81E-12	1.53E-12	2.18E-12
<i>Station 39</i>				
⁷ Be	4/4	3.07E-08	2.26E-08	4.03E-08
⁴⁰ K	0/4	9.22E-10	-4.15E-10	4.60E-09
⁹⁹ Tc	0/2	1.43E-10	1.04E-10	1.81E-10
³ H	0/4	2.61E-06	1.84E-06	3.55E-06
²³⁴ U	4/4	1.67E-12	1.34E-12	2.07E-12
²³⁵ U	1/4	1.10E-13	3.93E-14	2.71E-13
²³⁸ U	4/4	1.29E-12	1.03E-12	1.53E-12
<i>Station 40</i>				
⁷ Be	4/4	3.10E-08	2.09E-08	4.13E-08
⁴⁰ K	0/4	1.55E-10	-2.95E-10	5.43E-10
⁹⁹ Tc	1/2	1.14E-10	2.22E-11	2.06E-10
³ H	0/4	4.15E-06	-7.20E-08	1.12E-05
²³⁴ U	4/4	1.58E-11	6.42E-12	3.59E-11
²³⁵ U	3/4	8.73E-13	3.27E-13	1.67E-12
²³⁸ U	4/4	2.18E-12	1.22E-12	2.87E-12

Table 6.3 (continued)

Parameter	N detected/N total	Concentration (pCi/mL)		
		Average	Minimum	Maximum
<i>Station 42</i>				
⁷ Be	4/4	2.80E-08	2.36E-08	3.71E-08
⁴⁰ K	0/4	9.39E-10	-1.95E-10	3.43E-09
⁹⁹ Tc	1/2	1.52E-10	8.24E-11	2.21E-10
³ H	0/4	2.92E-06	-6.72E-07	8.79E-06
²³⁴ U	4/4	2.34E-12	1.56E-12	4.12E-12
²³⁵ U	1/4	1.36E-13	6.11E-14	1.80E-13
²³⁸ U	4/4	1.45E-12	1.14E-12	1.61E-12
<i>Station 46</i>				
⁷ Be	4/4	2.68E-08	2.08E-08	2.91E-08
⁴⁰ K	0/4	7.37E-11	-2.38E-10	7.54E-10
⁹⁹ Tc	0/2	7.06E-11	1.49E-11	1.26E-10
³ H	1/4	5.28E-06	2.10E-06	8.64E-06
²³⁴ U	4/4	4.40E-12	2.32E-12	7.25E-12
²³⁵ U	1/4	1.66E-13	1.18E-13	2.09E-13
²³⁸ U	4/4	1.68E-12	1.20E-12	2.61E-12
<i>Station 48</i>				
⁷ Be	4/4	3.70E-08	3.08E-08	4.13E-08
²¹⁴ Bi	1/4	5.30E-11	0 ^a	2.12E-10
⁴⁰ K	0/4	-1.26E-10	-4.99E-10	2.04E-10
⁹⁹ Tc	1/2	1.44E-10	4.81E-11	2.39E-10
³ H	1/4	5.24E-06	3.78E-06	6.74E-06
²³⁴ U	4/4	2.83E-12	2.45E-12	3.18E-12
²³⁵ U	1/4	1.50E-13	6.98E-14	2.23E-13
²³⁸ U	4/4	2.39E-12	1.56E-12	3.68E-12
<i>Station 52</i>				
⁷ Be	4/4	2.87E-08	2.40E-08	3.79E-08
⁴⁰ K	0/4	2.60E-11	-1.87E-10	3.03E-10
⁹⁹ Tc	1/2	1.44E-10	-2.57E-11	3.14E-10
³ H	0/4	2.95E-06	1.61E-07	8.76E-06
²³⁴ U	4/4	2.98E-12	2.26E-12	4.10E-12
²³⁵ U	2/4	3.50E-13	1.90E-13	6.27E-13
²³⁸ U	4/4	2.16E-12	1.75E-12	2.87E-12

^aBismuth-214 detected and reported in the fourth quarter of 2014. Bismuth-214 was not detected or reported for other 2015 sampling events.

6.4 Surface Water Monitoring

6.4.1 Oak Ridge Reservation Surface Water Monitoring

The ORR surface water monitoring program consists of sample collection and analysis from five locations on the Clinch River, including public water intakes (Fig. 6.5). This program is conducted in

conjunction with site-specific surface water monitoring activities to enable an assessment of the impacts of past and current DOE operations on the quality of local surface water.

Grab samples are collected quarterly at all five locations and are analyzed for general water quality parameters, screened for radioactivity, and analyzed for mercury and specific radionuclides when appropriate. Table 6.4 lists the specific locations and associated sampling frequencies and parameters.

The sampling locations are classified by the State of Tennessee for recreation and domestic use. Tennessee WQCs associated with these classifications are used as references where applicable (TDEC 2008). The Tennessee WQCs do not include criteria for radionuclides. Four percent of the DOE DCS is used for radionuclide comparison because this value is roughly equivalent to the 4 mrem dose limit from ingestion of drinking water on which the EPA radionuclide drinking water standards are based.

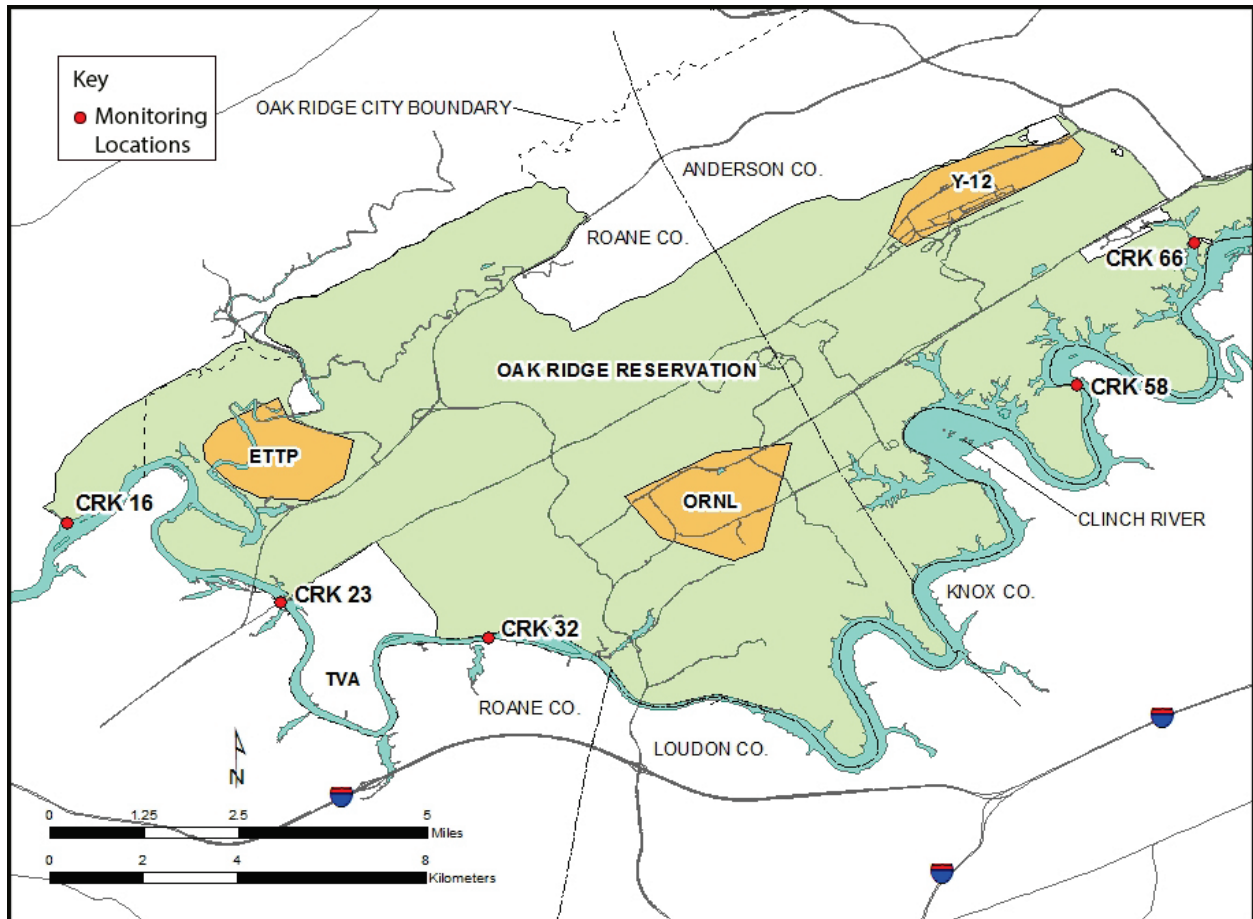


Fig. 6.5. Oak Ridge Reservation surface water surveillance sampling locations.

Table 6.4. Oak Ridge Reservation surface water sampling locations, frequencies, and parameters, 2014

Location ^a	Description	Frequency	Parameters
CRK 16	Clinch River downstream from all DOE ORR inputs	Quarterly	Mercury, gross alpha, gross beta, gamma scan, ³ H, field measurements ^b
CRK 23	Water supply intake for ETTP	Quarterly	Mercury, gross alpha, gross beta, gamma scan, ³ H, field measurements ^b
CRK 32	Clinch River downstream from ORNL	Quarterly	Gross alpha, gross beta, gamma scan, total radioactive strontium, ³ H, field measurements ^b
CRK 58	Water supply intake for Knox County	Quarterly	Gross alpha, gross beta, gamma scan, ³ H, field measurements ^b
CRK 66	Melton Hill Reservoir above city of Oak Ridge water intake	Quarterly	Mercury, gross alpha, gross beta, gamma scan, total radioactive strontium, ³ H, field measurements ^b

^aLocations indicate the water body and distances upstream of the confluence of the Clinch and Tennessee Rivers (e.g., CRK 16 is 16 km upstream from the confluence of the Clinch River with the Tennessee River, Watts Bar Reservoir).

^bField measurements consist of dissolved oxygen, pH, and temperature.

Acronyms

CRK = Clinch River kilometer
 DOE = US Department of Energy
 ETTP = East Tennessee Technology Park
 ORNL = Oak Ridge National Laboratory
 ORR = Oak Ridge Reservation

6.4.2 Results

A comparison of 2014 sampling results for surface water collected upstream of DOE inputs with surface water collected downstream of DOE inputs shows no statistically significant difference for any of the radionuclides. None of the radionuclides at any location were detected above 4% of the respective DCS or the 4 mrem dose limit, which is the MCL for beta and photon emitters in community drinking water systems (40 CFR 141.66, *Maximum Contaminant Levels for Radionuclides*). There were no mercury detections above MCLs at any of the three designated sampling locations.

6.5 Groundwater Monitoring

In 2014, a team of representatives from DOE EM, EPA, TDEC, and US Geological Survey developed strategy recommendations for future ORR groundwater characterization and monitoring that included the following.

- Establishment of a DOE ORR Groundwater Program to systematically prioritize and investigate groundwater plumes and data gaps.
- Data Quality Objectives workshops to define the type, quality, and quantity of data needed to evaluate off-site groundwater quality and movement. DOE is not aware of any adverse health effects from off-site groundwater. Sampling will be performed in 2015 in accordance with an approved work plan. After sampling and laboratory analysis are complete, results will be evaluated to determine if any follow-on actions are necessary.
- Initiation of efforts to develop an ORR-wide regional flow model. The model will serve as an underlying framework to support future cleanup decisions and actions.

6.6 Food

Vegetation samples are collected from areas that could be affected by activities on the reservation. The samples are analyzed to evaluate the potential radiation doses to people who consume local food crops. Food crop monitoring data are also used to monitor trends in environmental contamination and possible long-term accumulation of radionuclides.

6.6.1 Vegetables

Tomatoes, lettuce, and turnips were purchased from farms near ORR. The locations were chosen based on availability and on the likelihood of their being affected by routine releases from the Oak Ridge facilities.

6.6.1.1 Results

Samples were analyzed for gross alpha, gross beta, gamma emitters, and uranium isotopes. No gamma-emitting radionuclides were detected above the minimum detectable activity (MDA), with the exception of the naturally occurring radionuclides ^7Be and ^{40}K . Concentrations of radionuclides detected above MDA are shown in Table 6.5.

Table 6.5. Concentrations of radionuclides detected in vegetables, 2014 (pCi/kg)^a

Location	Gross alpha	Gross beta	^7Be	^{40}K	^{234}U	^{235}U	^{238}U
<i>Lettuce</i>							
East of Y-12, Claxton vicinity	<i>b</i>	0.00353	<i>b</i>	0.00402	0.00000754	<i>b</i>	0.00000651
West of ETPP	<i>b</i>	0.0047	<i>b</i>	0.00541	0.00000562	<i>b</i>	0.0000101
North of Y-12	<i>b</i>	0.00312	<i>b</i>	0.00413	0.00000344	<i>b</i>	0.00000376
South of ORNL	<i>b</i>	0.0035	<i>b</i>	0.00576	0.00000274	<i>b</i>	0.000000856
Southwest of ORNL, Lenoir City	<i>b</i>	0.00213	<i>b</i>	0.00384	<i>b</i>	0.000000879	0.00000149
Reference location, Maryville	<i>b</i>	0.00328	<i>b</i>	0.00455	<i>b</i>	<i>b</i>	<i>b</i>
<i>Tomato</i>							
East of Y-12, Claxton vicinity	<i>b</i>	0.00419	<i>b</i>	0.00109	0.00000302	<i>b</i>	<i>b</i>
West of ETPP	<i>b</i>	0.000812	<i>b</i>	0.00187	0.00000234	<i>b</i>	<i>b</i>
North of Y-12	<i>b</i>	0.000483	<i>b</i>	<i>b</i>	0.00000158	<i>b</i>	<i>b</i>
South of ORNL	<i>b</i>	0.00109	<i>b</i>	0.00153	0.00000215	0.00000126	<i>b</i>
Southwest of ORNL, Lenoir City	<i>b</i>	0.00117	<i>b</i>	0.00151	<i>b</i>	<i>b</i>	<i>b</i>
Reference location, Maryville	<i>b</i>	0.000727	<i>b</i>	0.00188	<i>b</i>	<i>b</i>	0.00000139

Table 6.5 (continued)

Location	Gross alpha	Gross beta	⁷ Be	⁴⁰ K	²³⁴ U	²³⁵ U	²³⁸ U
<i>Turnips</i>							
East of Y-12, Claxton vicinity	<i>b</i>	0.00252	<i>b</i>	0.00292	<i>b</i>	<i>b</i>	<i>b</i>
West of ETPP	<i>b</i>	0.00313	<i>b</i>	0.00228	<i>b</i>	<i>b</i>	<i>b</i>
North of Y-12	<i>b</i>	0.00344	<i>b</i>	0.00297	<i>b</i>	<i>b</i>	<i>b</i>
South of ORNL	<i>b</i>	0.00215	<i>b</i>	0.00315	<i>b</i>	<i>b</i>	<i>b</i>
Southwest of ORNL, Lenoir City	<i>b</i>	0.00203	<i>b</i>	0.00232	<i>b</i>	<i>b</i>	<i>b</i>
Reference location, Maryville	<i>b</i>	0.00261	<i>b</i>	0.00428	<i>b</i>	<i>b</i>	<i>b</i>

^aDetected radionuclides are those at or above minimum detectable activity. 1 pCi = 3.7×10^{-2} Bq.

^bValue was not above minimum detectable activity.

Acronyms

ETTP = East Tennessee Technology Park

ORNL = Oak Ridge National Laboratory

Y-12 = Y-12 National Security Complex

6.6.2 Milk

Radionuclides can be transferred from the environment to people via such food chains as the grass–cow–milk pathway. Milk is a potentially significant source to humans of some radionuclides deposited from airborne emissions because of the relatively large surface area on which a cow can graze daily, the rapid transfer of milk from producer to consumer, and the importance of milk in the diet.

Information from county extension offices in counties where milk production could be impacted by activities on ORR is reviewed periodically to identify local dairy operations that could provide milk samples for this program.

The 2014 milk sampling program consisted of grab samples collected every other month from a dairy in Claxton and one reference location in Maryville (Fig. 6.6). Milk samples are analyzed for gamma emitters and for total radioactive strontium (⁸⁹Sr + ⁹⁰Sr) by chemical separation and low-background beta counting. Liquid scintillation is used to analyze for tritium.

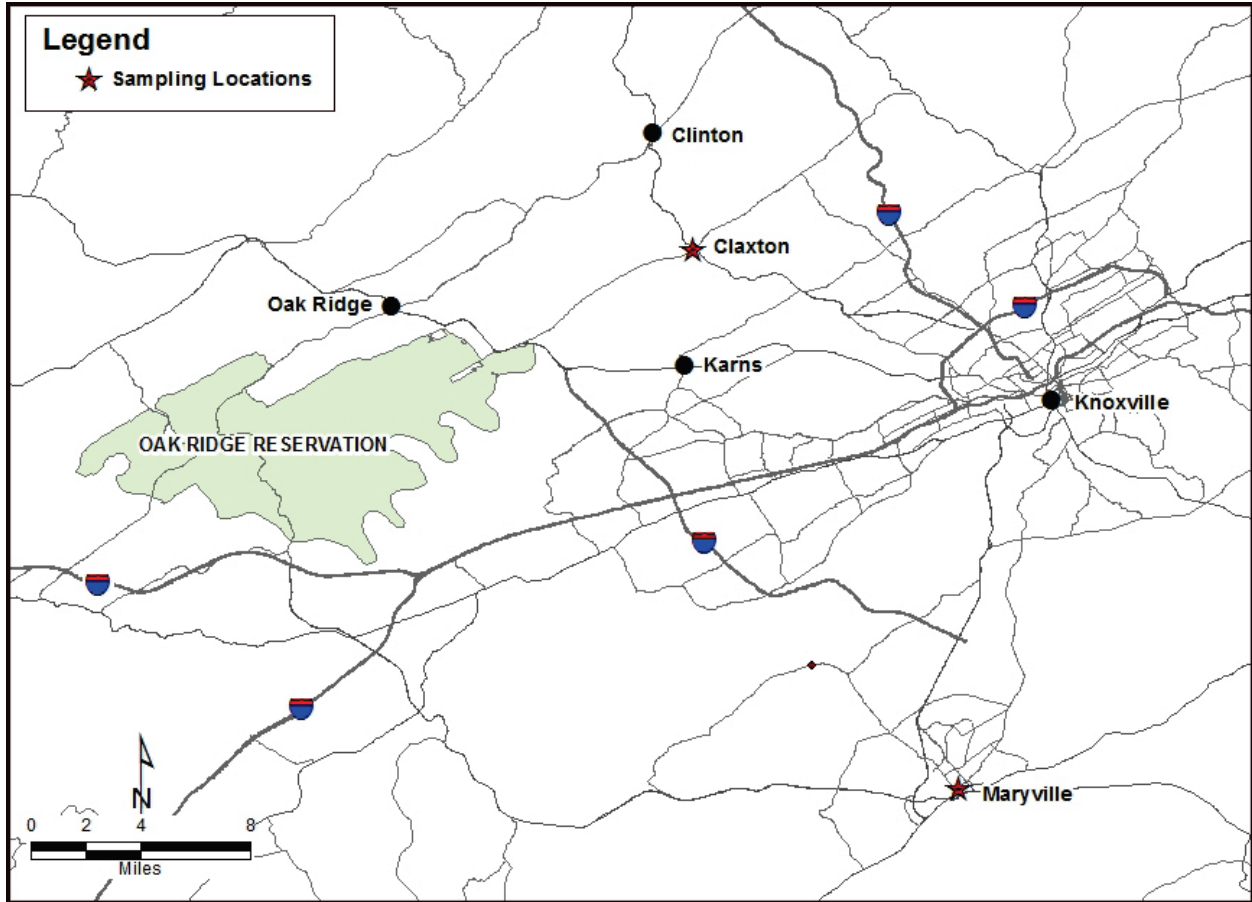


Fig. 6.6. Milk sampling locations in the vicinity of the Oak Ridge Reservation.

6.6.2.1 Results

Concentrations of radionuclides detected above MDA in milk are presented in Table 6.6. Potassium-40 was detected at both locations for each sampling event and total radioactive strontium was detected twice at each location. In the last sampling event of the year, ^{214}Bi was detected in the milk from the Claxton location; it is thought that this sample was exposed to a dusty area at some point. While an animal would consume bismuth (from the grass), it is not thought that it would pass on to the milk production.

Comparing results for milk collected from the Claxton dairy with those for milk collected from the reference location dairy shows no statistical difference for any radionuclide except ^{214}Bi .

Table 6.6. Concentrations of radionuclides detected in raw milk, 2014

Analysis	Number detected/ total number	Detected concentration (pCi/L) ^a			Standard error of mean
		Maximum	Minimum	Average	
<i>Claxton</i>					
²¹⁴ Bi	1/6	J22 ^b	nd ^c	3.6	3.6
⁴⁰ K	6/6	1,400 ^b	1,100 ^b	1,300 ^b	40
<i>Reference location</i>					
⁴⁰ K	6/6	1,400 ^b	1,300 ^b	1,300 ^b	22

^aDetected radionuclides are those above minimum detectable activity. 1 pCi = 3.7 × 10¹² Bq.

^bIndividual and average concentrations significantly greater than zero at the 95% confidence level.

^cNot detected and not reported by the gamma scan in the first five sampling events of the year.

6.7 Fish

Members of the public could be exposed to contaminants originating from DOE ORR activities through consumption of fish caught in area waters. This potential exposure pathway is monitored annually by collecting fish from three locations on the Clinch River and analyzing edible flesh for specific contaminants. The locations are as follows (Fig. 6.7):

- Clinch River upstream from all DOE ORR inputs (CRK 70),
- Clinch River downstream from ORNL (CRK 32), and
- Clinch River downstream from all DOE ORR inputs (CRK 16).

Sunfish (*Lepomis macrochirus*, *L. auritus*, and *Ambloplites rupestris*) and catfish (*Ictalurus punctatus*) are collected from each of the three locations to represent both top-feeding and bottom-feeding-predator species. In 2014, a composite sample of each of these species at each location was analyzed for selected metals, PCBs, tritium, gross alpha, gross beta, gamma-emitting radionuclides, and total radioactive strontium. To accurately estimate exposure levels to consumers, only edible portions of the fish were submitted for analysis.

It should be noted that TDEC issues advisories on consumption of certain fish species caught in specified Tennessee waters. These advisories apply to fish that could contain potentially hazardous contaminants. A “do not consume” advisory has been issued by TDEC for catfish in the Melton Hill Reservoir in its entirety, not just in those areas that could be impacted by ORR activities, because of PCB contamination. Similarly, a precautionary advisory for catfish in the Clinch River arm of Watts Bar Reservoir has been issued because of PCB contamination (TDEC 2008).

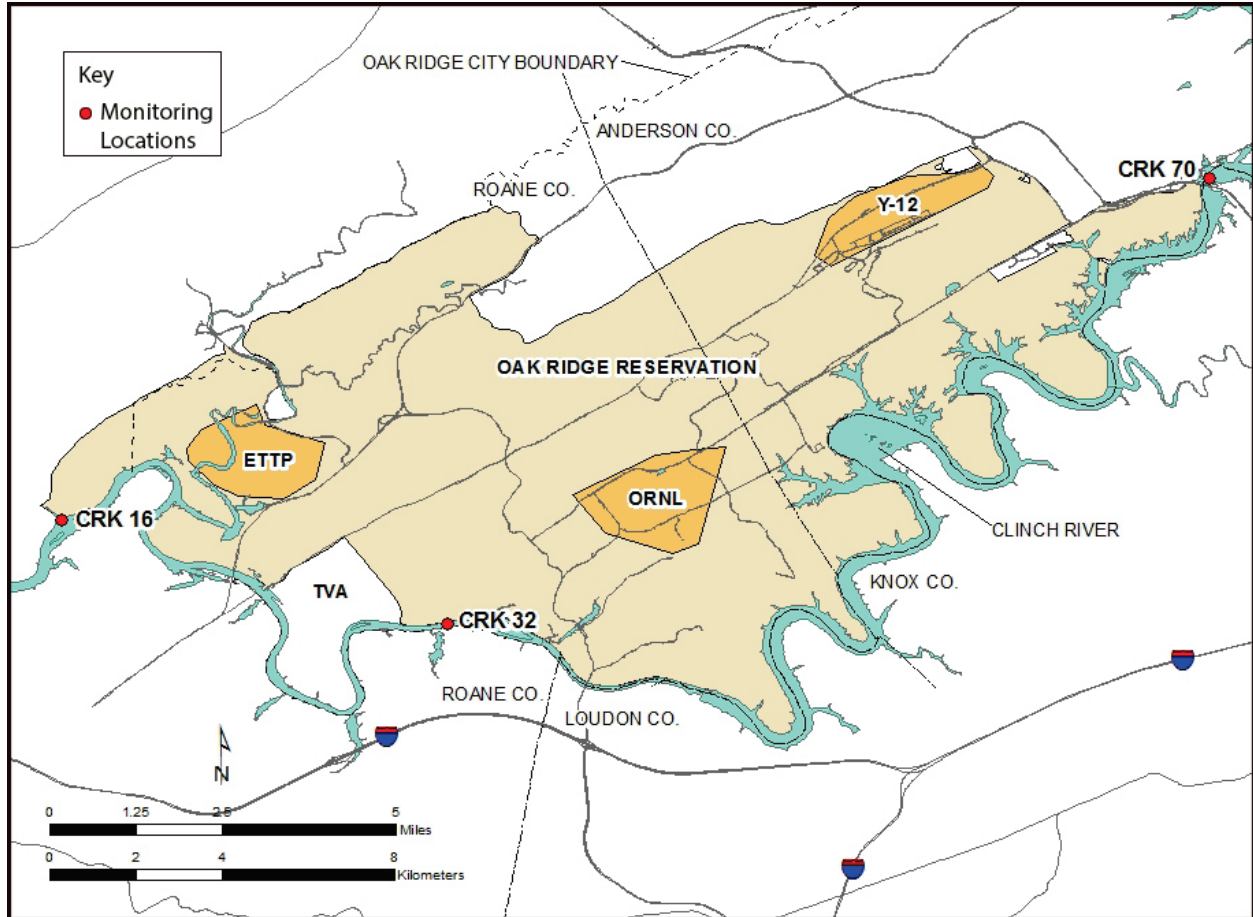


Fig. 6.7. Fish sampling locations for the Oak Ridge Reservation Surveillance Program.

6.7.1 Results

PCBs, specifically Aroclor-1260, and mercury were detected in both sunfish and catfish at all three locations in 2014. These results are consistent with the TDEC advisories discussed above. Detected PCBs, mercury, and radionuclides are shown in Table 6.7.

Radiological analyses for fish tissues sampled in 2014 showed few statistical differences (at the 95% confidence level) between the upstream and downstream locations, indicating that DOE activities on the ORR are not significant contributors to the public radiological dose from fish consumption.

Table 6.7. Tissue concentrations in catfish and sunfish for mercury, detected PCBs, and detected radionuclides, 2014^a

Parameter	Catfish ^b	Sunfish ^b
<i>Clinch River downstream from all DOE ORR inputs (CRK 16)</i>		
Metals (mg/kg)		
Hg	0.18	0.11
Pesticides and PCBs (µg/kg)		
PCB-1260	99	36
Radionuclides (pCi/g) ^b		
Beta activity	3.2 ^c	1.6 ^c
⁴⁰ K	3.4 ^c	3.3 ^c
⁹⁰ Sr	0.38 ^c	0.011 ^c
<i>Clinch River downstream from ORNL (CRK 32)</i>		
Metals (mg/kg)		
Hg	0.39	0.047
Pesticides and PCBs (µg/kg)		
PCB-1260	80	39
Radionuclides (pCi/g) ^b		
Beta activity	3.0 ^c	3.7 ^c
⁴⁰ K	2.9 ^c	2.0 ^c
⁹⁰ Sr	0.13 ^c	0.13 ^c
Tritium	-0.064	2.3 ^c
<i>Clinch River (Solway Bridge) upstream from all DOE ORR inputs (CRK 70)</i>		
Metals (mg/kg)		
Hg	0.091	0.04
Pesticides and PCBs (µg/kg)		
PCB-1260	110	20
Radionuclides (pCi/g) ^b		
Alpha activity	-0.0058	0.092 ^c
Beta activity	3.2 ^c	3.1 ^c
⁴⁰ K	3.3 ^c	4.2 ^c
⁹⁰ Sr	0.14 ^c	0.23 ^c

^aOnly parameters that were detected for at least one species are listed in the table. The sampling and analysis plan contains a complete list of analyses performed.

^bRadiological results are reported after background activity has been subtracted. Negative values are reported when background activity exceeds sample activity.

^cRadionuclide concentrations were significantly greater than zero. Detected radionuclides are at or above the minimum detectable activity.

Acronyms

CRK = Clinch River kilometer
 DOE = US Department of Energy
 ORNL = Oak Ridge National Laboratory
 ORR = Oak Ridge Reservation
 PCB = polychlorinated biphenyl

6.8 White-Tailed Deer

Three deer hunts took place on ORR during the final quarter of 2014. ORNL staff, Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency (TWRA) personnel, and student members of the Wildlife Society (University of Tennessee chapter) performed most of the necessary operations at the checking station.

Shotgun/muzzleloader and archery hunts took place November 1–2, November 15–16, and December 13–14. About 450 shotgun/muzzleloader-permitted hunters and 600 archery-permitted hunters participated per weekend. Areas adjacent to the Tower Shielding facility, Park City Road and Chestnut Ridge, and Poplar Creek Road were opened for an archery-only hunt on the three weekends. The year's total harvest was 416 deer. From the total deer harvest, 252 (60.6%) were bucks, and 164 (39.4%) were does. The heaviest buck had eight antler points and weighed 156 lb. The greatest number of antler points found on one buck was 14. The heaviest doe weighed 115 lb.

Since 1985, 12,237 deer have been harvested. Of these, only 208 (1.7%) have been retained because of potential radiological contamination. The heaviest buck was 218 lb (harvested in 1998); the average weight is 82.0 lb. The oldest deer harvested was estimated to be 12 years old (harvested in 1989); the average age is 2.0 years. For more information, see the ORR hunt information website (<http://web.ornl.gov/sci/rmal/hunts/>).

6.8.1 Results

The wildlife administrative release limits associated with deer, turkey, and geese harvested on ORR are conservative and were established based on ALARA principles to ensure that doses to consumers of wildlife harvested on the reservation are managed and controlled to levels well below regulatory dose thresholds. The ALARA concept is not a dose limit but rather a philosophy that has the objective of maintaining exposures to workers, members of the public, and the environment below regulatory limits. The administrative release limit of 5 pCi/g for ^{137}Cs is based on the assumption that one person consumes all of the meat from a maximum-weight deer, goose, or turkey. This limit ensures that members of the public who harvest wildlife on the reservation will not receive significant radionuclide doses from this consumption pathway. Similarly, the gross beta count administrative limit of 2.5 times background is near the detection limit for field measurements.

Of the 416 deer harvested on ORR during the 2014 hunts, three (0.7%) were retained for exceeding the administrative release limits [1.5 times the background for beta activity in bone (~ 20 pCi/g) or 5 pCi/g of ^{137}Cs in edible tissue]. The retained deer exceeded the limit for beta-particle activity in bone.

6.9 Fowl

6.9.1 Waterfowl Surveys—Canada Geese

The consumption of Canada geese is a potential pathway for exposure of members of the public to radionuclides released from ORR operations because open hunts for Canada geese take place each year on ORR and in counties adjacent to the reservation. To determine concentrations of gamma-emitting radionuclides accumulated by waterfowl that feed and live on ORR, Canada geese are rounded up each summer for noninvasive gross radiological surveys.

6.9.1.1 Results

During the 2014 roundup, 17 geese were subjected to live whole-body gamma scans. The geese were collected from ORNL ($n=14$) and ETTP ($n=3$). Gamma scan results showed all 17 geese to be at least an order of magnitude (0.16–0.43 pCi/g) below the administrative release limit of 5 pCi/g.

The 5 pCi/g administrative release limit for ^{137}Cs discussed for deer is also applied to geese. This limit assumes that one person consumes all of the meat from a maximum-weight goose. The administrative limits were established to keep doses ALARA and to provide consistent standards for releasing harvested wildlife.

6.9.2 Turkey Monitoring

Two wild turkey hunts managed by DOE and TWRA were held on the reservation (April 5–6 and April 12–13, 2014). Hunting was open for both shotguns and archery. Twenty-three turkeys were harvested, of which 3 (13.0%) were juveniles and 20 (87.0%) were adults. The average turkey weight was about 18.9 lb, with the largest weighing 23.6 lb. The longest beard was 11.5 in., and the average was 9.1 in. The longest spur was 1.3 in., and the average was 0.8 in.

6.9.2.1 Results

None of the 23 turkeys harvested in 2014 exceeded the administrative release limits established for radiological contamination. Since 1997, 767 turkeys have been harvested on spring turkey hunts. Five additional turkeys have been harvested (since 2012) by archery hunters during fall deer hunts. Of all turkeys harvested, only three (0.4%) have been retained because of potential radiological contamination. For additional information, see <http://web.ornl.gov/sci/rmal/hunts/>.

The 5 pCi/g administrative release limit for ^{137}Cs that is applied to deer and geese is also applied to turkey. This limit assumes that one person consumes all of the meat from a maximum-weight turkey. The administrative limits were established to keep doses ALARA and to provide consistent standards for releasing harvested wildlife.

6.10 Quality Assurance

The activities associated with administration, sampling, data management, and reporting for the ORR environmental surveillance programs are performed by the UT-Battelle EPSD. Project scope is established by a task team whose members represent DOE, UT-Battelle, CNS, and UCOR. UT-Battelle integrates quality assurance, environmental, and safety considerations into every aspect of ORR environmental monitoring. (See Section 5.7 for a discussion of UT-Battelle quality assurance program elements for environmental monitoring and surveillance activities.)

6.11 References

- Bowen, B. M., J. A. Baars, and G. L. Stone. 2000. "Nocturnal wind shear and its potential impact on pollutant transport." *Journal of Applied Meteorology* **39**(3), 437–45.
- TDEC. 2008. *The Status of Water Quality in Tennessee*. 305b Report. Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation, Division of Water Pollution Control, Nashville, Tennessee.

7. Dose

Activities on ORR have the potential to release small quantities of radionuclides and hazardous chemicals to the environment. These releases could expose members of the public to low concentrations of radionuclides or chemicals. Monitoring of materials released from the reservation and environmental monitoring and surveillance on and around the reservation provide data used to show that doses from released radionuclides and chemicals are in compliance with the law.

In 2014 a hypothetical maximally exposed individual could have received an ED of about 0.6 mrem from radionuclides emitted to the atmosphere from all ORR sources; this is well below the NESHAPs standard of 10 mrem for protection of the public.

A worst-case analysis of exposures to waterborne radionuclides for all pathways combined gives a maximum possible individual ED of about 1 mrem. This dose is based on a person eating 27 kg/year (60 lb/year) of the most contaminated fish accessible, drinking 680 L/year (180 gal/year) of the most contaminated drinking water, and using the shoreline near the most contaminated stretch of water for 60 h/year.

In addition, if a hypothetical person consumed one deer, one turkey, and two geese (containing the maximum ¹³⁷Cs concentration and maximum weights), that person could have received an ED of about 1 mrem. This calculation is conducted to provide an estimated upper-bound ED from consuming wildlife harvested from ORR.

Therefore, the annual dose to a maximally exposed individual from all these potential exposure pathways combined was estimated to be about 3 mrem. There are no known significant doses from discharges of radioactive constituents from ORR other than those reported. DOE O 458.1, *Radiation Protection of the Public and the Environment* (DOE 2011), limits the ED that an individual may receive from all exposure pathways from all radionuclides released from ORR during 1 year to no more than 100 mrem. The 2014 maximum ED was about 3% of the limit given in DOE O 458.1.

The potential doses to aquatic and terrestrial biota from contaminated soil and water were evaluated using a graded approach. Results of the screening calculations indicate that contaminants released from ORR site activities do not have an adverse impact on plants or animal populations.

7.1 Radiation Dose

Small quantities of radionuclides were released to the environment from operations at ORR facilities during 2014. Those releases were described, characterized, and quantified in previous chapters of this report. This chapter presents estimates of potential radiation doses to the public from the releases. The dose estimates were obtained using monitored and estimated release data, environmental monitoring and surveillance data, estimated exposure conditions that tend to maximize the calculated doses, and environmental transport and dosimetry codes that also tend to overestimate the calculated doses. Thus, the presented doses are likely overestimates of the doses received by actual people in the ORR vicinity.

7.1.1 Terminology

Exposures to radiation from nuclides located outside the body are called external exposures; exposures to radiation from nuclides deposited inside the body are called internal exposures. This distinction is important because external exposures occur only when a person is near or in a radionuclide-containing medium, whereas internal exposures continue as long as the radionuclides remain inside a person. Also, external exposures may result in uniform irradiation of the entire body, including all organs, while internal exposures usually result in nonuniform irradiation of the body and organs. When taken into the body, most radionuclides deposit preferentially in specific organs or tissues and thus do not irradiate the body uniformly.

A number of the specialized terms and units used to characterize exposures to ionizing radiation are defined in Appendix E. “Effective dose” or “ED” is an important term to understand. ED is a risk-based equivalent dose that can be used to estimate health effects or risks to exposed persons. It is a weighted sum of dose equivalents to specified organs and is expressed in rems or sieverts (1 rem = 0.01 Sv).

One rem of ED, regardless of radiation type or method of delivery, has the same total radiological (in this case, also biological) risk effect. Because the doses being considered here are very small, EDs are expressed in millirem (mrem), which is one one-thousandth of a rem. (See Appendix E, Sections E.5.1 and E.5.2, for a comparison and description of various dose levels.)

7.1.2 Methods of Evaluation

7.1.2.1 Airborne Radionuclides

The radiological consequences of radionuclides released to the atmosphere from ORR operations during 2014 were characterized by calculating, for each major facility and for the entire ORR, EDs to maximally exposed on- and off-site members of the public, and to the entire population residing within 80 km (50 miles) of the ORR center. The dose calculations were made with the CAP-88PC Version 3 software program (CAP-88) developed under EPA sponsorship to demonstrate compliance with 40 CFR 61, Subpart H, which governs the emissions of radionuclides other than radon from DOE facilities. CAP-88 implements a steady-state Gaussian plume atmospheric dispersion model to calculate concentrations of radionuclides in the air and on the ground and uses food-chain models to calculate radionuclide concentrations in foodstuffs (vegetables, meat, and milk) and subsequent intakes by humans.

CAP-88 PC Version 3 calculates EDs using radionuclide-specific dose coefficients (ED per unit intake) from Federal Guidance Report 13 (Eckerman et al. 1999). The dose coefficients were calculated by use of the methods in Publication 72 of the International Commission on Radiological Protection (ICRP 1995). These coefficients are weighted sums of equivalent doses to 12 specified tissues or organs plus a remainder term that accounts for the rest of the tissues and organs in the body.

A total of 37 emission points on ORR, each of which includes one or more individual sources, were modeled during 2014. The total includes 3 (two combined) points at Y-12, 28 points at ORNL, and 6 points at ETTP. Table 7.1 lists the emission-point parameter values and receptor locations used in the dose calculations.

Meteorological data used in the calculations for 2014 were in the form of joint frequency distributions of wind direction, wind speed class, and atmospheric stability category. (See Table 7.2 for a summary of tower locations used to model the various sources.) During 2014, rainfall, as averaged over the five rain gauges located on ORR, was 1,127 cm (50 in.). The average air temperature was 13.9°C (57.0°F), and the average mixing-layer height for ETTP and ORNL was 885.7 m (2,906 ft) and for Y-12 was 865.2 m (2,839 ft). The mixing height is the depth of the atmosphere adjacent to the surface within which air is mixed.

Table 7.1. Emission point parameters and receptor locations used in the dose calculations

Source	Stack height (m)	Stack diameter (m)	Effective exit gas velocity (m/s)	Distance (m) and direction to the maximally exposed individual ^a			
				Plant maximum		Oak Ridge Reservation maximum	
<i>Oak Ridge National Laboratory</i>							
X-2000 Lab Hoods	15	0.5	0	4,770	SW	4,770	SW
X-3000 Lab Hoods	15	0.5	0	5,100	SW	5,100	SW
X-4000 Lab Hoods	15	0.5	0	5,270	SW	5,270	SW
X-6000 Lab Hoods	15	0.5	0	5850	SW	5,850	SW
X-7000 Lab Hoods	15	0.5	0	5,290	WSW	5,290	WSW
X-2026	22.9	1.05	7.624	4,820	SW	4,820	SW
X-2099	3.66	0.178	21.9	4,810	SW	4,810	SW
X-3018	61	4.11	0.17	5,030	SW	5,030	SW
X-3020	61	1.22	16.526	4,970	SW	4,970	SW
X-3039	76.2	2.44	7.168	5,060	SW	5,060	SW
X-3544	9.53	0.279	14.38	4,810	SW	4,810	SW
X-3608 Air Stripper	10.97	2.44	0.57	4,930	SW	4,930	SW
X-3608 Filter Press	8.99	0.36	9.27	NA ^a		NA ^a	
X-5505M	11	0.305	4.11	NA ^a		NA ^a	
X-5505NS	11	0.96	0	5,550	SW	5,550	SW
X-7503	30.5	0.91	13.07	5,330	SW	5,330	SW
X-7830 Group	4.6	0.248	8.137	3,920	WSW	3,920	WSW
X-7856-CIP	18.29	0.483	11.725	3,970	WSW	3,970	WSW
X-7877	13.9	0.406	13.56	3,890	WSW	3,890	WSW
X-7880	27.7	1.52	14.92	3,970	WSW	3,970	WSW
X-7911	76.2	1.52	13.46	5,240	WSW	5,240	WSW
7935 Building Stack	18.29	0.6096	0	NA ^a		NA ^a	
7935 Glove Box	9.14	0.254	0	NA ^a		NA ^a	
X-7966	6.096	0.292	9.620	5,330	SW	5,330	SW
X-8915	24.38	1.219	6.838	8,070	SW	8,070	SW
X-Decon Areas	15	0.5	0	5,310	SW	5,310	SW
X-STP	7.6	0.203	7.39	4,590	SW	4,590	SW
<i>East Tennessee Technology Park</i>							
K-1200 South Bay	28	0.81	13.7	1,510	N	5,050	SE
K-1407-AL CWTS	2.74	0.15	0	740	NNW	5,710	SSE
K-2500-H-A	8.23	0.61	12.9	850	NE	6,350	SE
K-2500-H-B	8.23	0.61	12.9	820	NE	6,350	SE
K-2500-H-C	8.23	0.61	12.9	810	NE	6,340	SE
L-2500-H-D	8.23	0.61	12.9	800	NE	6,320	SE

Table 7.1 (continued)

Source ID	Stack height (m)	Stack diameter (m)	Effective exit gas velocity (m/s)	Distance (m) and direction to the maximally exposed individual ^a			
				Plant maximum		Oak Ridge Reservation maximum	
<i>Y-12 National Security Complex</i>							
Y-Monitored	20	0.5	0	2,270	NE	13,340	SW
Y-Unmonitored Processes	20	0.5	0	2,270	NE	13,340	SW
Y-Unmonitored Lab Hoods	20	0.5	0	2,270	NE	13,340	SW

Note: Exit gas temperatures are “ambient air” unless noted otherwise.

^aNA: Effective doses were calculated to be zero; therefore, distance and direction to maximally exposed individuals could not be determined.

Acronyms

CIP = Capacity Increase Project
 CWTS = Chromium Water Treatment System
 STP = Sewer Treatment Plant

Table 7.2. Meteorological towers and heights used to model atmospheric dispersion from source emissions

Tower	Height (m)	Source
<i>Y-12 National Security Complex</i>		
MT6 (West Y-12)	30 ^a	All Y-12 sources
	60	Spallation Neutron Source (ORNL)
<i>East Tennessee Technology Park</i>		
MT7 (K1209)	10	K-1407-AL CWTS, K-2500-H- A, B, C, and D
	30	K-1200 South Bay
<i>Oak Ridge National Laboratory</i>		
MT4 (Tow A)	10	X-7830, X-7966, X-7935 Glove Box
	30	X-7503, X-7856-CIP, X-7877, X-7880, X-7911, X-7935, and X-7000 Lab Hoods
MT3 (Tow B)	15	X-6000 Lab Hoods, X-5505
MT2 (Tow D)	15	X-2099, X-3026 D, X-3544, X-3608 FP, X-3608 AS, STP, X-Decon Hoods, X-2000, X-3000, and X-4000 Lab Hoods
	30	X-2026
	60	X-3018, X-3020, and X-3039

^aWind speeds adjusted to match conditions at a height of 30 m.

Acronyms

CIP = Capacity Increase Project
 CWTS = Chromium Water Treatment System
 ORNL = Oak Ridge National Laboratory
 STP = Sewer Treatment Plant

For occupants of residences, the dose calculations assume that the occupant remained at home during the entire year and obtained food according to the rural pattern. This pattern specifies that 70% of the vegetables and produce, 44.2% of the meat, and 39.9% of the milk consumed are produced in the local area (e.g., a home garden). The remaining portion of each food is assumed to be produced within 80 km (50 miles) of ORR. The same assumptions are used for occupants of businesses, but the resulting doses are divided by 2 to compensate for the fact that businesses are occupied for less than half a year and less than half of a worker's food intake occurs at work. For collective ED estimates, production of beef, milk, and crops within 80 km (50 miles) of ORR was calculated using the production rates provided with CAP-88 PC Version 3.

7.1.2.1.1 Results

Calculated EDs from radionuclides emitted to the atmosphere from ORR are listed in Table 7.3 (maximum individual) and Table 7.4 (collective). The hypothetical maximally exposed individual for ORR was located about 13,340 m southwest of the main Y-12 release point, about 5,240 m west-southwest of the 7911 stack at ORNL, and about 5,710 m south-southeast of the K-1407-AL CWTS at ETTP. This individual could have received an ED of about 0.6 mrem, which is well below the NESHAPs standard of 10 mrem and is about 0.2% of the roughly 300 mrem that the average individual receives from natural sources of radiation. Based on the 2010 population census data, the calculated collective ED to the entire population within 80 km (50 miles) of ORR (about 1,172,530 persons) was about 52.8 person-rem, which is about 0.015% of the 363,484 person-rem that this population received from natural sources of radiation (based on an individual dose of about 300 mrem/year).

Table 7.3. Calculated radiation doses to maximally exposed off-site individuals from airborne releases, 2014

Plant	Effective dose, mrem (mSv)	
	At plant maximum	At Oak Ridge Reservation maximum
Oak Ridge National Laboratory	0.58 (0.0058) ^a	0.58 (0.0058)
East Tennessee Technology Park	0.006 (0.00006) ^b	5E-4 (5E-6)
Y-12 National Security Complex	0.17 (0.0017) ^c	0.015 (0.00015)
Entire Oak Ridge Reservation	<i>d</i>	0.6 (0.004) ^e

^aThe maximally exposed individual was located 5,060 m SW of X-3039 and 5,240 m WSW of X-7911.

^bThe maximally exposed individual was located 460 m W of K-1407-AL Chromium Water Treatment System.

^cThe maximally exposed individual was located 2,270 m NE of the Y-12 National Security Complex release point.

^dNot applicable.

^eThe maximally exposed individual for the entire Oak Ridge Reservation is also the Oak Ridge National Laboratory maximally exposed individual.

Table 7.4. Calculated collective effective doses from airborne releases, 2014

Plant	Collective effective dose ^a	
	Person-rem	Person-Sv
Oak Ridge National Laboratory	43.8	0.438
East Tennessee Technology Park	0.045	4.5E-4
Y-12 National Security Complex	1.5	0.015
Entire Oak Ridge Reservation	52.8	0.53

^aCollective effective dose to the 1,172,530 persons residing within 80 km (50 miles) of the Oak Ridge Reservation (based on 2010 census data).

The maximally exposed individual for the Y-12 Complex was located at a residence about 2,270 m (1.4 miles) northeast of the main Y-12 release point. This individual could have received an ED of about 0.17 mrem from Y-12 emissions. Inhalation and ingestion of uranium radioisotopes (i.e., ^{233}U , ^{234}U , ^{235}U , ^{236}U , and ^{238}U) accounted for about 99% and technetium-99 (^{99}Tc) accounted for about 0.9% of the dose (Fig. 7.1). The contribution of Y-12 emissions to the 50-year committed collective ED to the population residing within 80 km (50 miles) of ORR was calculated to be about 8.9 person-rem, which is about 17% of the collective ED for ORR.

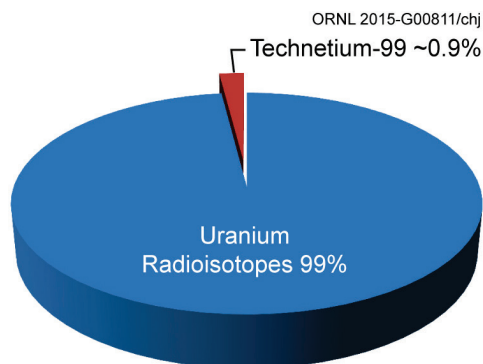


Fig. 7.1. Nuclides contributing to the effective dose at the Y-12 National Security Complex.

The maximally exposed individual for ORNL was located at a residence about 5,060 m (3.2 miles) southwest of the 3039 stack and 5,240 m (3.3 miles) west-southwest of the 7911 stack. This individual could have received an ED of about 0.58 mrem from ORNL emissions. Radionuclides contributing 5% or more to the dose include ^{11}C (59%), ^{212}Pb (14%), and ^{237}Np (7%) (Fig. 7.2). The contribution of ORNL emissions to the collective ED to the population residing within 80 km (50 miles) of ORR was calculated to be about 43.8 person-rem, about 83% of the collective ED for ORR.

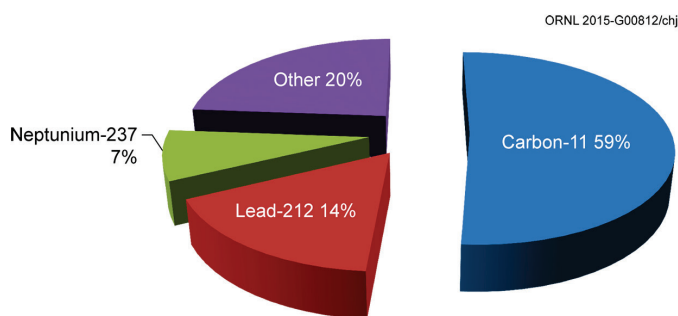


Fig. 7.2. Nuclides contributing to effective dose at Oak Ridge National Laboratory.

The maximally exposed individual for ETTP was located at a business about 800 m (0.5 miles) northeast of the K-2500-H-D. The ED received by this individual was calculated to be about 0.006 mrem. About 90% of the dose is from uranium radioisotopes (^{234}U , ^{235}U , ^{236}U , and ^{238}U) and 10% of the dose is from ^{99}Tc (Fig. 7.3). The contribution of ETTP emissions to the collective ED to the population residing within 80 km (50 miles) of ORR was calculated to be about 0.0045 person-rem, or about 0.09% of the collective ED for the reservation.

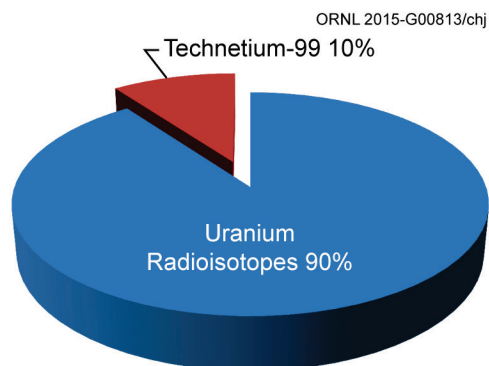


Fig. 7.3. Nuclides contributing to effective dose at East Tennessee Technology Park.

The reasonableness of the estimated doses can be inferred by comparing EDs calculated at the ORR PAM stations from measured air concentrations of radionuclides, excluding naturally occurring ^7Be and ^{40}K , with air concentrations calculated using CAP-88PC Version 3 and emissions data (Table 7.5). Based on measured air concentrations, hypothetical individuals assumed to reside at the PAM stations could have received EDs between 0.003 and 0.03 mrem/year. Based on calculated air concentrations using CAP-88PC Version 3, the above individuals could have received EDs between 0.09 and 0.8 mrem/year. As shown in Table 7.5, EDs calculated using CAP-88PC Version 3 and emissions data tend to be higher than or equivalent to EDs calculated using measured air concentrations.

Table 7.5. Hypothetical effective doses from living at the Oak Ridge Reservation and the East Tennessee Technology Park ambient air monitoring stations, 2014

Station	Calculated effective doses			
	Using air monitor data		Using CAP-88 ^a and emission data	
	mrem/year	mSv/year	mrem/year	mSv/year
35	0.01	0.0001	0.2	0.002
37	0.006	0.00006	0.3	0.003
38	0.03	0.0003	0.09	0.0009
39	0.003	0.00003	0.5	0.005
40	0.006	0.00006	0.6	0.006
42	0.005	0.00005	0.1	0.001
46	0.03	0.0003	0.5	0.005
48	0.03	0.0003	0.8	0.008
52	0.005	0.00005	0.04	0.0004
K2	0.009	0.00009	0.2	0.002
K6	0.009	0.00009	0.1	0.001
K11	0.1	0.001	0.1	0.001

^aCAP-88PC Version 3 software, developed under US Environmental Protection Agency sponsorship to demonstrate compliance with 40 CFR 61, Subpart H.

Station 52, located remotely from the ORR, gives an indication of potential EDs from background sources. Based on measured air concentrations, the ED was estimated to be 0.005 mrem/year (the isotopes ^7Be and ^{40}K also were not included in the background air monitoring station calculation), whereas the

estimated ED based on calculated air concentrations using CAP-88PC Version 3 was estimated to be 0.04 mrem/year. It should be noted that measured air concentrations of ^7Be were similar at the PAM stations and at the background air monitoring station.

Of particular interest is a comparison of EDs calculated using measured air concentrations of radionuclides at PAM stations located near the maximally exposed individuals for each plant and EDs calculated for those individuals using CAP-88PC Version 3 calculated air concentrations and emissions data. PAM station 46 is located near the maximally exposed individual for the Y-12 Complex. The ED calculated with measured air concentrations was 0.03 mrem/year, which is less than the ED of 0.5 mrem/year estimated using CAP-88PC Version 3 calculated air concentrations and emissions data. This year the maximally exposed individual location for ORR/ORNL was located off-site near the PAM station 39 air monitoring location; the ED calculated with measured air concentrations was 0.003 mrem/year, which was considerably less than the 0.5 mrem/year calculated using CAP-88PC Version 3 and emissions data.

7.1.2.2 Waterborne Radionuclides

Radionuclides discharged to surface waters from ORR enter the Tennessee River system by way of the Clinch River (see Section 1.3.4 for the surface water setting of ORR). Discharges from Y-12 enter the Clinch River via Bear Creek and EFPC, both of which enter Poplar Creek before it enters the Clinch River, and by discharges from Rogers Quarry into McCoy Branch and then into Melton Hill Lake. Discharges from ORNL enter the Clinch River via WOC and enter Melton Hill Lake via some small drainage creeks. Discharges from ETTP enter the Clinch River either directly or via Poplar Creek. This section discusses the potential radiological impacts of these discharges to persons who drink water; eat fish; and swim, boat, and use the shoreline at various locations along the Clinch and Tennessee Rivers.

For assessment purposes, surface waters potentially affected by ORR are divided into seven segments: (1) Melton Hill Lake above all possible ORR inputs, (2) Melton Hill Lake, (3) Upper Clinch River (from Melton Hill Dam to confluence with Poplar Creek), (4) Lower Clinch River (from confluence with Poplar Creek to confluence with the Tennessee River), (5) Upper Watts Bar Lake (from near the confluence of the Clinch and Tennessee rivers to below Kingston), (6) the lower system (the remainder of Watts Bar Lake and Chickamauga Lake to Chattanooga), and (7) Poplar Creek (including the confluence of EFPC).

Two methods are used to estimate potential radiation doses to the public. The first method uses radionuclide concentrations in the medium of interest (i.e., in water and fish) determined by laboratory analyses of water and fish samples (see Sections 6.4, 6.5, and 6.7). The second method calculates possible radionuclide concentrations in water and fish from measured radionuclide discharges and known or estimated stream flows. In both methods, reported concentrations of radionuclides were used if the reported value was statistically significant. The advantage of the first method is the use of radionuclide concentrations measured in water and fish; disadvantages are the inclusion of naturally occurring radionuclides (e.g., ^{40}K , uranium and its progeny, thorium and its progeny, and unidentified alpha and beta activities), the possible inclusion of radionuclides discharged from sources not part of ORR, and the possibility that some radionuclides of ORR origin might be present in quantities too low to be measured. The advantages of the second method are that most radionuclides discharged from ORR will be quantified and that naturally occurring radionuclides may not be considered or may be accounted for separately; the disadvantage is the use of models to estimate the concentrations of the radionuclides in water and fish. Both methods use the same models (Hamby 1991) to estimate radionuclide concentrations in media and at locations other than those that are sampled (e.g., downstream). However, combining the two methods allows the potential radiation doses to be bounded.

7.1.2.2.1 Drinking Water Consumption

Surface Water

Several water treatment plants that draw water from the Clinch and Tennessee river systems could be affected by discharges from ORR. No in-plant radionuclide concentration data are available for these plants; all of the dose estimates given below likely are high because they are based on radionuclide concentrations in water before it enters a processing plant. Based on a nationwide food consumption survey (EPA 2011) and weighted based on the combined population of Anderson, Knox, Loudon, and Roane counties, the drinking water consumption rate for the maximally exposed individual is 680 L/year (180 gal/year) and the drinking water consumption rate for the average person is 330 L/year (87 gal/year). The average drinking water consumption rate is used to estimate the collective ED. At all locations in 2014, estimated maximum EDs to a person drinking water were calculated using both measured radionuclide concentrations in and measured radionuclide discharges to off-site surface water, excluding naturally occurring radionuclides such as ^{40}K .

Upper Melton Hill Lake above all possible ORR inputs. Based on samples from Melton Hill Lake above possible ORR inputs [at Clinch River kilometer (CRK) 66], a maximally exposed individual drinking water at this location could have received an ED of about 0 mrem. The collective ED to the 46,676 persons who drink water from the city of Oak Ridge water plant would also be 0 person-rem.

Melton Hill Lake. The only water treatment plant located on Melton Hill Lake that could be affected by discharges from ORR is a Knox County plant. This plant is located near surface water sampling location CRK 58. A maximally exposed individual could have received an ED of about 5×10^{-9} mrem; the collective dose to the 62,812 persons who drink water from this plant could have been 2×10^{-7} person-rem.

Upper Clinch River. The ETPP (Gallaher) water plant draws water from the Clinch River near CRK 23. For assessment purposes, it is assumed that workers obtain half their annual water [340 L (90 gal)] intake at work. Such a worker could have received an ED of about 0.02 mrem; the collective dose to the 750 workers who drink water from this plant could have been about 0.008 person-rem.

Lower Clinch River. There are no known drinking water intakes in this river segment (from the confluence of Poplar Creek to the confluence of the Tennessee River).

Upper Watts Bar Lake. The Kingston and Rockwood municipal water plants draw water from the Tennessee River not very far from its confluence with the Clinch River. A maximally exposed individual could have received an ED of about 0.007 mrem; the collective dose to the 28,633 persons who drink water from these plants could have been about 0.1 person-rem.

Lower system. Several water treatment plants are located on tributaries of Watts Bar Lake and Chickamauga Lake. Persons drinking water from these plants could not have received EDs greater than the 0.006 mrem calculated for drinking Kingston and Rockwood water. The collective dose to the 294,591 persons who drink water within the lower system could have been about 0.7 person-rem.

Poplar Creek/Lower East Fork Poplar Creek. No drinking water intakes are located on Poplar Creek or lower EFPC.

Groundwater

In 2004, six groundwater monitoring wells were installed in the western end of Melton Valley as sentinel wells to detect site-related contaminants that might seep toward the Clinch River. In FY 2010, off-site

monitoring was initiated west of the Clinch River across from the Melton Valley waste management areas. This action was taken in response to detection of site-related contaminants in some of the on-site sentinel well monitoring zones in FY 2007 through FY 2009. As a precaution, DOE funded installation of potable water lines to the residential area near Jones Road on the west side of the Clinch River to provide utility water to residents in the area. Sampling of the off-site wells occurred semiannually from FY 2010 through FY 2014. During FY 2014, EPA drinking water MCLs for alpha activity (15 pCi/L) were exceeded in two off-site wells (both of which produce highly saline groundwater samples, and high dissolved solids samples are known to cause high bias in the analytical result). The MCL for total radium alpha activity (5 pCi/L) was exceeded in one deep off-site well. Beta activity exceeded the 50 pCi/L screening level during FY 2014 in one deep off-site well. Similar to alpha activity, high dissolved solids content in the saline zone contributed to elevated beta analysis in the analyses. Strontium-90 was not detected in any of the off-site monitoring wells in FY 2014. Although ^{99}Tc was detected in one off-site well early in the monitoring program, it was not detected in any of the on-site sentinel wells or in the off-site monitoring wells during FY 2012 through FY 2014. Currently no water is consumed from these groundwater wells. A revised sampling was agreed upon in FY 2013 by DOE, EPA, and TDEC (DOE 2015).

7.1.2.2.2 Fish Consumption

Fishing is quite common on the Clinch and Tennessee River systems. Based on a nationwide food consumption survey (EPA 2011) and weighted based on the combined population of Anderson, Knox, Loudon, and Roane counties, it was assumed that avid fish consumers would have eaten 27 kg (60 lb) of fish during 2014. For the average person used for collective dose calculations, it was assumed that 11 kg (24 lb) of fish was consumed in 2014. The estimated maximum ED will be based on either the first method, measured radionuclide concentrations in fish, or by the second method, which calculates possible radionuclide concentrations in fish from measured radionuclide discharges and known or estimated stream flows. The EDs estimated by both methods, in each of the surface water segments, are provided in Appendix E. The number of individuals who could have eaten fish is based on lake creel surveys conducted annually by TWRA. The 2012 Melton Hill and Chickamauga creel surveys and 2013 Watts Bar creel survey data (creel survey data for Melton Hill and Chickamauga were not collected in 2013) are used to estimate the numbers of individuals who harvested fish from these water bodies.

Upper Melton Hill Lake above All Possible ORR Inputs. For reference purposes, a hypothetical avid fish consumer who ate fish caught at CRK 66, which is above all possible ORR inputs, could have received an ED of about 0.7 mrem. This dose was estimated from a composite fish sample collected near CRK 70 and ^{90}Sr was the primary dose contributor. The collective ED to the 28 persons who could have eaten such fish was about 0.008 person-mrem.

Melton Hill Lake. An avid fish consumer who ate fish from Melton Hill Lake could have received an ED of about 3×10^{-9} mrem. The collective ED to the 248 persons who could have eaten such fish could be about 3×10^{-10} person-rem.

Upper Clinch River. An avid fish consumer who ate fish from the upper Clinch River could have received an ED of about 0.4 mrem. This dose was estimated from a composite fish sample collected near CRK 32 and ^{90}Sr was the primary dose contributor. The collective ED to the 124 persons who could have eaten such fish could have been about 0.02 person-rem.

Lower Clinch River. An avid fish consumer who ate fish from the lower Clinch River (CRK 16) could have received an ED of about 1.2 mrem. The collective ED to the 290 persons who could have eaten such fish could have been about 0.1 person-rem.

Upper Watts Bar Lake. An avid fish consumer who ate fish from upper Watts Bar Lake could have received an ED of about 0.003 mrem. The collective ED to the 827 persons who could have eaten such fish could be about 0.001 person-rem.

Lower System. An avid fish consumer who ate fish from the lower system could have received an ED of about 0.003 mrem. The collective ED to the 40,437 persons who could have eaten such fish could have been about 0.03 person-rem.

Poplar Creek/Lower East Fork Poplar Creek. An avid fish consumer who ate fish from lower EFPC above its confluence with Poplar Creek could have received an ED of about 0.4 mrem. Assuming that 100 people could have eaten fish from lower EFPC and 100 from Poplar Creek, the collective ED could have been about 0.02 person-rem.

7.1.2.2.3 Other Uses

Other uses of ORR area waterways include swimming or wading, boating, and use of the shoreline. A highly exposed “other user” was assumed to swim or wade for 30 h/year, boat for 63 h/year, and use the shoreline for 60 h/year. The average individual, who is used for collective dose estimates, was assumed to swim or wade for 10 h/year, boat for 21 h/year, and use the shoreline for 20 h/year. Measured and calculated concentrations of radionuclides in water and equations used in the LADTAP XL code (Hamby 1991) were used to estimate potential EDs from these activities. At all locations in 2014, the estimated maximally exposed individual EDs were based on measured off-site surface water radionuclide concentrations and excluded naturally occurring radionuclides such as ^7Be and ^{40}K .

The number of individuals who could have been other users is different for each section of water because the data sources differ. For Watts Bar parts (upper Clinch River through lower Watts Bar), the assumption for other users is five times the number of people who harvest fish. For Chickamauga and Melton Hill, the number for other users is based on surveys conducted by TVA.

Upper Melton Hill Lake Above All Possible ORR Inputs. A hypothetical maximally exposed other user of upper Melton Hill Lake above possible ORR inputs (CRK 66) could have received an ED of about 0 mrem. The collective ED to the 10,412 other users could have been 0 person-rem.

Melton Hill Lake. An individual other user of Melton Hill Lake could have received an ED of about 8×10^{-11} mrem. The collective ED to the 24,294 other users could have been about 5×10^{-10} person-rem.

Upper Clinch River. An individual other user of the upper Clinch River could have received an ED of about 5×10^{-4} mrem. The collective ED to the 866 other users could have been about 8×10^{-5} person-rem.

Lower Clinch River. An individual other user of the lower Clinch River could have received an ED of about 3×10^{-4} mrem. The collective ED to the 2,026 other users could have been about 2×10^{-4} person-rem.

Upper Watts Bar Lake. An individual other user of upper Watts Bar Lake could have received an ED of about 1×10^{-5} mrem. The collective ED to the 5,778 other users could have been about 2×10^{-5} person-rem.

Lower system. An individual other user of the lower system could have received an ED of about 8×10^{-6} mrem. The collective ED to the 286,737 other users could have been about 4×10^{-4} person-rem.

Poplar Creek/Lower East Fork Poplar Creek. An individual other user of Lower East Fork Poplar Creek, above its confluence with Poplar Creek, could have received an ED of about 0.01 mrem. The

collective ED to the 200 other users of Poplar Creek and Lower East Fork Poplar Creek could have been about 4×10^{-4} person-rem.

7.1.2.2.4 Summary

Table 7.6 is a summary of potential EDs from identified waterborne radionuclides around ORR. Adding worst-case EDs for all pathways in a water-body segment gives a maximum individual ED of about 2 mrem to a person obtaining his or her full annual complement of fish from, and participating in other water uses on, Lower East Fork Poplar Creek. The maximum collective ED to the 80 km (50 miles) population could be as high as 6 person-rem. These are small percentages of individual and collective doses attributable to natural background radiation, about 0.7% of the average individual background dose of roughly 300 mrem/year and 0.002% of the 363,484 person-rem that this population received from natural sources of radiation.

7.1.2.2.5 Irrigation

Although there are no known locations that used water from water bodies around ORR to irrigate food or feed crops, it was decided to determine whether irrigation could contribute to radiation doses to one or more members of the public. To make this determination, the method described by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC 1977) was used. As shown in Table 7.6, the water body associated with the highest individual dose from waterborne radionuclides was CRK 16. Based on measured and calculated concentrations of radionuclides at that location the maximum potential dose to an individual ranged from 0 to 0.1 mrem in 2014. The individual was assumed to consume 24 kg of leafy vegetables, 90 kg of produce, 321 L of milk and 671 kg of meat (beef) during the year.

Table 7.6. Summary of annual maximum individual (mrem) and collective (person-rem) effective doses (EDs) from waterborne radionuclides, 2014^{a,b}

	Drinking water	Eating fish	Other uses	Total ^c
Upstream of all Oak Ridge Reservation discharge locations (CRK 66, City of Oak Ridge Water Plant)				
Individual ED	0	0.7	0	0.7
Collective ED	0	0.008	0	0.008
Melton Hill Lake (CRK 58, Knox County Water Plant)				
Individual ED	5E-9	3E-9	8E-11	9E-9
Collective ED	2E-7	3E-10	5E-10	2E-7
Upper Clinch River (CRK 23, Gallaher Water Plant, CRK 32)				
Individual ED	0.02	0.4	5E-4	0.4
Collective ED	0.008	0.02	8E-5	0.03
Lower Clinch River (CRK 16)				
Individual ED	NA ^d	1.2	3E-4	1.2
Collective ED	NA ^d	0.1	2E-4	0.1
Upper Watts Bar Lake, Kingston Municipal Water Plant				
Individual ED	0.007	0.003	1E-5	0.01
Collective ED	0.1	0.001	2E-5	0.1

Table 7.6 (continued)

	Drinking water	Eating fish	Other uses	Total ^c
Lower system (Lower Watts Bar Lake and Chickamauga Lake)				
Individual ED	0.006	0.003	8E-6	0.009
Collective ED	0.7	0.03	4E-4	0.8
Lower East Fork Poplar Creek and Poplar Creek				
Individual ED	NA ^d	0.4	0.01	0.4
Collective ED	NA ^d	0.02	0.0004	0.02

^a1 mrem = 0.01 mSv.

^bDoses based on measured radionuclide concentrations in water or estimated from measured discharges and known or estimated stream flows.

^cTotal doses and apparent sums over individual pathway doses may differ because of rounding.

^dNot at or near drinking water supply locations.

Acronyms

CRK = Clinch River kilometer.

7.1.2.3 Radionuclides in Other Environmental Media

The CAP-88 computer codes are used to calculate radiation doses from ingestion of meat, milk, and vegetables that contain radionuclides released to the atmosphere. These doses are included in the dose calculations for airborne radionuclides. However, some environmental media, including milk and vegetables, are sampled as part of the surveillance program. The following dose estimates are based on environmental sampling results and may include contributions from radionuclides occurring in the natural environment, released from ORR, or both.

7.1.2.3.1 Milk

During 2014, milk samples were collected from a nearby dairy, and milk samples were composited from several reference locations. Based on a nationwide food consumption survey (EPA 2011), a hypothetical person (weighted based on the combined population of Anderson, Knox, Loudon, and Roane counties) who drank milk was assumed to have consumed a maximum of about 321 L (85 gal) of milk annually. Statistically significant concentrations of ⁴⁰K, tritium and radioactive strontium were detected in all samples from both the nearby dairy and the composite of several reference locations. Potential EDs attributable to ⁴⁰K at both “locations” were about 5 mrem/year. Excluding ⁴⁰K, a naturally occurring radionuclide, the doses associated with tritium and strontium were estimated to be 0.03 mrem for the Claxton dairy and 0.02 mrem for the composite of several reference locations.

7.1.2.3.2 Food Crops

The food-crop sampling program is described in Section 6.6. Samples of tomatoes, lettuce, and turnips were obtained from six gardens, five local and one distant. These vegetables represent fruit-bearing, leafy, and root vegetables. All radionuclides detected in the food crops are found in the natural environment and in commercial fertilizers, and all but ⁷Be and ⁴⁰K also are emitted from ORR. Dose estimates are based on hypothetical consumption rates of vegetables that contain statistically significant amounts of detected radionuclides that could have come from ORR. Based on a nationwide food consumption survey (EPA 2011), a hypothetical home gardener (weighted based on the combined population of Anderson, Knox, Loudon, and Roane counties) was assumed to have eaten a maximum of about 72 kg (158 lb) of homegrown tomatoes, 24 kg (53 lb) of homegrown lettuce, and 90 kg (198 lb) of homegrown turnips. The hypothetical gardener could have received a 50-year committed ED of between 0.05 and 0.2 mrem, depending on garden location. Of this total, between 0 and 0.06 mrem could have come from eating

tomatoes, between 0.02 and 0.08 mrem from eating lettuce, and between 0 and 0.06mrem from eating turnips. The highest dose to a gardener could have been about 0.2 mrem from consuming all three types of homegrown vegetables. A person eating food from the distant (background) garden also could have received a committed ED of 0.1 mrem from consumption of all three vegetables.

An example of a naturally occurring and fertilizer-introduced radionuclide is ^{40}K , which is specifically identified in the samples and accounts for most of the beta activity found in them. The presence of ^{40}K in the samples adds, on average, about 14 mrem to the hypothetical home gardener's ED. In 2014, each gardener was asked about water sources and fertilizers used. One gardener (background location) irrigated via Little River and the other five reported that they did not use fertilizers and did not irrigate. It is believed ^{40}K and most of the excess unidentified alpha activities are due to naturally occurring or fertilizer-introduced radionuclides, not radionuclides discharged from ORR.

7.1.2.3.3 White-Tailed Deer

TWRA conducted two 3-day deer hunts during 2014 on the Oak Ridge Wildlife Management Area, which is part of ORR (see Section 6.8). During the hunts, 416 deer were harvested and were brought to the TWRA checking station. At the station, a bone sample and a tissue sample were taken from each deer; these samples were field counted for radioactivity to ensure that the deer met wildlife release criteria (less than 20 pCi/g of beta-particle activity in bone or 5 pCi/g of ^{137}Cs in edible tissue). Three deer exceeded the limit for beta-particle activity in bone and were retained. The remaining 413 deer were released to the hunters.

The average ^{137}Cs concentration in tissue of the 413 released deer, as determined by field counting, was 0.46 pCi/g; the maximum ^{137}Cs concentration in a released deer was 0.68 pCi/g. Most of the ^{137}Cs concentrations were less than minimum detectable levels. Of the released deer, the average weight was about 40 kg (89 lb) and the maximum weight was 71 kg (156 lb). The EDs attributed to field-measured ^{137}Cs concentrations and actual field weights of the released deer ranged from about 0 to 1.1 mrem, with an average of 0.5 mrem.

Potential doses attributed to deer that might have moved off ORR and been harvested elsewhere were also evaluated. In this scenario, an individual who consumed one hypothetical average-weight 40 kg (89 lb) deer (assuming 55% field weight is edible meat) containing the 2014 average field-measured concentration of ^{137}Cs (0.46 pCi/g) could have received an ED of about 0.5 mrem. The maximum field-measured ^{137}Cs concentration was 0.68 pCi/g, and the maximum deer weight was 71 kg (156 lb). A hunter who consumed a hypothetical deer of maximum weight and ^{137}Cs content could have received an ED of about 1 mrem.

Tissue samples collected in 2014 from 15 deer (12 released and 3 retained) were subjected to laboratory analysis. Requested radioisotopic analyses included ^{137}Cs , ^{90}Sr , and ^{40}K radionuclides. Comparison of the released deer field results to analytical ^{137}Cs concentrations found that the field concentrations were all greater than the analytical results and all were less than the administrative limit of 5 pCi/g. Using analytically measured ^{137}Cs and ^{90}Sr and excluding ^{40}K (a naturally occurring radionuclide) and actual deer weights, the estimated doses for the 15 deer (both retained and released) ranged between less than 0 and 0.5 mrem.

The maximum ED to individual consuming venison from two or three deer was also evaluated. About 48 hunters each harvested two deer (one hunter harvested three) from ORR. Based on ^{137}Cs concentrations determined by field counting and actual field weight, the ED range to a hunter who consumed two or more harvested deer was estimated to be between 0.05 and 1.4 mrem.

The collective ED from eating all the harvested venison from ORR with a 2014 average field-derived ^{137}Cs concentration of 0.46 pCi/g and an average weight of 40 kg (89 lb) is estimated to be about 0.2 person-rem.

7.1.2.3.4 Canada Geese

During the 2014 goose roundup, 17 geese were weighed and subjected to whole-body gamma scans. The geese were field counted for radioactivity to ensure that they met wildlife release criteria (<5 pCi/g of ^{137}Cs in tissue). The average ^{137}Cs concentration was 0.3 pCi/g, with a maximum ^{137}Cs concentration in the released geese of 0.4 pCi/g. All of the ^{137}Cs concentrations were below MDA levels. The average weight of the geese screened during the roundup was about 3.2 kg (7 lb), and the maximum weight was about 4.9 kg (10.7 lb).

The EDs attributed to field-measured ^{137}Cs concentrations and actual field weights of the geese ranged from 0.01 to 0.02 mrem. However, for bounding purposes, if a person consumed a released goose with an average weight of 3.2 kg (7 lb) and an average ^{137}Cs concentration of 0.3 pCi/g, the estimated ED would be about 0.02 mrem. It is assumed that about half the weight of a Canada goose is edible. The maximum estimated ED to an individual who consumed a hypothetical released goose with the maximum ^{137}Cs concentration of 0.4 pCi/g and the maximum weight of 4.9 kg (10.7 lb) was about 0.05 mrem.

It is possible that a person could eat more than one goose that spent time on ORR. The average seasonal goose bag per active hunter from Tennessee in the Mississippi Flyway has ranged from 1.9 to 3.0 geese per hunting season between 1999 and 2010 (TWRA 2010). If one person consumed two hypothetical geese of maximum weight with the highest measured concentration of ^{137}Cs , that person could have received an ED of about 0.1 mrem.

Between 2000 and 2009, 22 geese tissue samples were analyzed. An evaluation of potential doses was made based on laboratory-determined concentrations of the following radionuclides: ^{40}K , ^{137}Cs , ^{90}Sr , thorium (^{228}Th , ^{230}Th , ^{232}Th), uranium ($^{233/234}\text{U}$, ^{235}U , ^{238}U), and TRUs (^{241}Am , $^{243/244}\text{Cm}$, ^{238}Pu , $^{239/240}\text{Pu}$). The total dose, less the contribution of ^{40}K , ranged from 0.01 to 0.5 mrem, with an average of 0.2 mrem (EP&WSD 2010).

7.1.2.3.5 Eastern Wild Turkey

Participating hunters are allowed to harvest one turkey from the reservation in a given season unless a harvested turkey is retained, in which case, the hunter is allowed to hunt for another turkey. Two wild turkey hunts took place on the reservation in 2014: April 5–6 and April 12–13. In addition, one turkey harvested during the 2014 fall hunt season was brought in to the checking station on November 1. Twenty-four birds were harvested (including the off-site turkey), and none were retained. The average ^{137}Cs concentration measured in the released turkeys was 0.09 pCi/g, and the maximum ^{137}Cs concentration was 0.15 pCi/g. The average weight of the turkeys released was about 8.6 kg (18.9 lb). The maximum turkey weight was about 10.7 kg (23.6 lb).

The EDs attributed to the field-measured ^{137}Cs concentrations and the actual field weights of the released turkeys ranged from about 0.004 to 0.02 mrem with an average dose of 0.02 mrem. Potential doses were also evaluated for turkeys that might have moved off ORR and were then harvested elsewhere. In this scenario, if a person consumed a wild turkey with an average weight of 8.6 kg (18.9 lb) and an average ^{137}Cs concentration of 0.09 pCi/g, the estimated ED would be about 0.02 mrem. The maximum estimated ED to an individual who consumed a hypothetical released turkey with the maximum ^{137}Cs concentration of 0.15 pCi/g and the maximum weight of 10.7 kg (23.6 lb) was about 0.04 mrem. It is assumed that approximately half the weight of a wild turkey is edible. No tissue samples were analyzed in 2014.

The collective ED from consuming all the harvested wild turkey meat (24 birds) with an average field-derived ^{137}Cs concentration of 0.09 pCi/g and average weight of 8.6 kg (18.9 lb) is estimated to be about 0.0005 person-rem.

Earlier evaluations of doses based on laboratory-determined concentrations of radionuclides included ^{40}K , ^{137}Cs , ^{90}Sr , ^{230}Th , ^3H , ^{234}U , ^{235}U , ^{238}U , and TRUs (^{241}Am , ^{244}Cm , ^{237}Np , ^{239}Pu). The total dose, less the contribution of ^{40}K , ranged from 0.06 to 0.2 mrem (EP&WSD 2010).

7.1.2.3.6 Direct Radiation

The principal sources of natural external exposure are the penetrating gamma radiations emitted by ^{40}K and the series originating from ^{238}U and ^{232}Th (NCRP 2009). External exposure rates due to natural external background sources in the state of Tennessee average about 6.4 $\mu\text{R}/\text{h}$ and range from 2.9 to 11 $\mu\text{R}/\text{h}$ (Myrick 1981). These exposure rates correspond to ED rates between 18 and 69 mrem/year, with an average of 40 mrem/year.

External radiation exposure rates are measured at numerous locations on and off ORR. During 2014, HPIC detectors, which have been used since the early 1990s to measure external radiation exposure rates, were replaced with GM-based detectors. Exposure rates measured with the HPICs at five PAM stations around ORR during 2014 averaged about 8.2 $\mu\text{R}/\text{h}$ and ranged from 7.2 to 9.1 $\mu\text{R}/\text{h}$. These exposure rates correspond to an annual average ED of about 49 mrem and a range of 44 to 56 mrem. Exposure rates measured by the new GM-type detectors, in 2014 averaged about 10.9 $\mu\text{R}/\text{h}$ and ranged from 9.6 to 11.9 $\mu\text{R}/\text{h}$. These exposure rates correspond to an annual average ED of about 65 mrem and a range of 59 to 73 mrem. The variation in exposure rates and therefore doses between the two systems are due primarily to different detector and efficiencies. At the remote PAM station, the exposure rate, measured with the HPIC, averaged 6.9 $\mu\text{R}/\text{h}$ (annual ED of 42 mrem). With the new GM instrument, the exposure rate measured at the remote PAM station averaged about 9.6 $\mu\text{R}/\text{h}$ (annual ED of 59 mrem). All measured exposure rates at or near the ORR boundaries fall within the range of statewide background levels.

7.1.3 Current-Year Summary

A summary of the maximum EDs to individuals by pathway of exposure is given in Table 7.7. In the unlikely event that any person was irradiated by all of those sources and pathways for the duration of 2014, that person could have received a total ED of about 3 mrem. Of that total, 0.6 mrem would have come from airborne emissions and 1 mrem from waterborne emissions (0.02 mrem from drinking water, 1 mrem from consuming fish along the lower Clinch River and 0.01 mrem from other water uses along Lower East Fork Popular Creek), and no appreciable dose above background from external radiation. There are no known significant doses from discharges of radioactive constituents from ORR other than those reported.

The dose of 3 mrem is about 1% of the annual dose (roughly 300 mrem) from background radiation. The ED of 3 mrem includes the person who received the highest EDs from eating wildlife harvested on ORR. If the maximally exposed individual did not consume wildlife harvested from ORR, the estimated dose would be about 2 mrem.

DOE O 458.1 limits the ED that an individual may receive from all exposure pathways from all radionuclides released from ORR during 1 year to no more than 100 mrem. The 2014 maximum ED should not have exceeded about 3 mrem, or about 3% of the limit given in DOE O 458.1. (For further information, see Sections E.5.1 and E.5.2 in Appendix E, which summarize dose levels associated with a wide range of activities.)

The total collective ED to the population living within an 80 km (50-mile) radius of ORR was estimated to be about 53 person-rem. This dose is about 0.01% of the 363,484 person-rem that this population received from natural sources during 2014.

Table 7.7. Summary of maximum estimated effective doses to an adult by exposure pathway

Pathway	Dose to maximally exposed individual		Percentage of DOE mrem/year limit (%)	Estimated population dose		Population within 80 km	Estimated background radiation population dose (person-rem) ^a
	Mrem	mSv		person-rem	person-Sv		
<i>Airborne effluents</i>							
All pathways	0.6	0.006	0.6	52.8	0.53	1,172,530 ^b	
<i>Liquid effluents</i>							
Drinking water	0.02	0.0002	0.02	0.008	0.00008	433,462 ^c	
Eating fish	1	0.01	1	0.1	0.001	42,154 ^d	
Other activities	0.01	0.0001	0.01	0.0004	0.000004	330,313 ^d	
Irrigation	0.1	0.1	0.1				
<i>Other Pathways</i>							
Eating deer	1 ^e	0.01	1	0.2	0.002	413	
Eating geese	0.1 ^f	0.001	0.1	^g	^g		
Eating turkey	0.04 ^h	0.0004	0.04	0.0005	0.000005	24	
Direct radiation	NA ⁱ	NA					
All pathways	3	0.003	3	53	0.53	1,172,530	363,484

^aEstimated background population dose is based on the roughly 300 mrem/year individual dose and the population within 80 km (50 miles) of the Oak Ridge Reservation.

^bPopulation based on 2010 census data.

^cPopulation estimates based on community and non-community drinking water supply data from the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation, Division of Water.

^dPopulation estimates based on population within 80 km (50 miles) and fraction of fish harvested from Melton Hill, Watts Bar, and Chickamauga reservoirs. Melton Hill and Chickamauga recreational use information was obtained from the Tennessee Valley Authority (Stephens et al. 2006 and Stephens et al. 2007).

^eFrom consuming one hypothetical worst-case deer, a combination of the heaviest deer harvested and the highest measured concentrations of ¹³⁷Cs in released deer on ORR; population dose based on number of hunters that harvested deer.

^fFrom consuming two hypothetical worst-case geese, each a combination of the heaviest goose harvested and the highest measured concentrations of ¹³⁷Cs in released geese.

^gPopulation doses were not estimated for the consumption of geese since no geese were brought to the checking station during the goose hunt.

^hFrom consuming one hypothetical worst-case turkey, a combination of the heaviest turkey harvested and the highest measured concentrations of ¹³⁷Cs in released turkey. The population dose is based on the number of hunters who harvested turkey.

ⁱDirect radiation dose estimates were conducted, although exposure rates near the Clinch River were near background levels. In addition, direct radiation monitoring is no longer conducted for locations that were formerly the UF₆ cylinder storage yards and the K-770 Scrap Yard. Direct dose measurements have been taken and have confirmed that there is no longer a source of potential dose to the public above the background levels.

7.1.4 Five-Year Trends

EDs associated with selected exposure pathways for the years 2010 to 2014 are given in Table 7.8. In 2014, the air pathway dose increased primarily due to an increase in SNS power. In addition, the dose from fish consumption was less than the dose in 2013 though greater than doses from 2010 through 2012.

This increase was due to a composite fish sample collected at CRK 16 in which ^{90}Sr was a primary dose contributor. In 2013, an increase in the dose from fish consumption was observed as compared to earlier years and this increase in dose was because of a composite fish sample collected near CRK 32 in which ^{137}Cs was the primary dose contributor. Recent measurements along the Clinch River indicate doses near background levels. There was a decrease in drinking water dose in 2014. Doses from consumption of wildlife have been similar the last 5 years.

Table 7.8. Trends in effective dose (mrem)^a for selected pathways

Pathway	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Air pathway (all routes)	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.6
Surface water pathway					
Fish consumption (Clinch River)	0.3	0.3	0.08	1.5	1.2
Drinking water (Kingston)	0.03	0.02	0.02	0.01	0.003
Direct radiation pathway					
Clinch River	NA ^b	NA ^b	NA ^b	NA ^b	NA ^b
Wildlife					
Deer	2	2	2	2	2
Geese	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Turkey	0.05	0.1	0.06	0.08	0.04

^a1 mrem = 0.01 mSv.

^bDirect radiation dose estimates were conducted, although exposure rates near the Clinch River were near background levels.

7.1.5 Potential Contributions from Non-DOE Sources

DOE O 458.1 requires that if the DOE-related annual dose is greater than 25 mrem, the dose to members of the public must include major non-DOE sources of exposure as well as doses from DOE-related sources. In 2014, the DOE-related source doses were considerably below the 25 mrem criteria. However, DOE requested information from non-DOE facilities pertaining to potential radiation doses to members of the public. There are several non-DOE facilities on or near ORR that could contribute radiation doses to the public. These facilities submit annual reports to demonstrate compliance with NESHAPs regulations and the terms of their operating licenses. Nine facilities responded to the DOE request. Three facilities, using the COMPLY screening tool for evaluating radiation exposure from atmospheric releases of radionuclides, reported annual doses from airborne emissions ranging from 8×10^{-6} mrem to 0.2 mrem and one facility reported <10 mrem (COMPLY, level 1). Non-DOE facility doses from water discharges ranged from zero emissions to sewer discharges less than the sum of ratios. Doses from direct radiation ranged from none to an annual dose of 45 mrem based on area monitors location within one of the facilities. Therefore, annual doses from air and water emissions and external radiation from both non-DOE and DOE sources should be less than the DOE O 458.1 requirement of 100 mrem.

7.1.6 Doses to Aquatic and Terrestrial Biota

7.1.6.1 Aquatic Biota

DOE O 458.1 sets an absorbed dose rate limit of 1 rad/day to native aquatic organisms from exposure to radioactive material in liquid wastes discharged to natural waterways (see Appendix E for definitions of absorbed dose and rad). To demonstrate compliance with this limit, the aquatic organism assessment was

conducted using the RESRAD-Biota code (1.5), a companion tool for implementing the DOE technical standard, *A Graded Approach for Evaluating Radiation Doses to Aquatic and Terrestrial Biota* (DOE 2002). The code serves as DOE's biota dose evaluation tool and uses the screening [i.e., biota concentration guides (BCGs)] and analysis methods in the technical standard. The BCG is the limiting concentration of a radionuclide in sediment or water that would not cause dose limits for protection of aquatic biota populations to be exceeded.

The intent of the graded approach is to protect populations of aquatic organisms from the effects of exposure to anthropogenic ionizing radiation. Certain organisms are more sensitive to ionizing radiation than others. Therefore, it is generally assumed that protecting the more-sensitive organisms will adequately protect other less-sensitive organisms. Depending on the radionuclide, either aquatic organisms (e.g., crustaceans) or riparian organisms (e.g., raccoons) may be considered to be the more sensitive and are typically the limiting organisms for the general screening phase of the graded approach for aquatic organisms.

At ORNL, doses to aquatic organisms are based on surface water concentrations at the following 11 different instream sampling locations.

- Melton Branch [Melton Branch Weir and Melton Branch (X13)]
- WOC [White Oak headwaters (X14) and WOD (X15) First Creek]
- Fifth Creek
- Northwest Tributary
- Clinch River (CRK 23, CRK 32, and CRK 66)

All locations, except WOC (X14) and WOD (X15), passed the general screening phase (comparison of maximum radionuclide water concentrations to default BCGs). Both WOC (X14) and WOD (X15) passed when comparing average radionuclide water concentrations to default BCGs. This resulted in absorbed dose rates to aquatic organisms below the DOE aquatic dose limit of 1 rad/day at all 11 sampling locations.

At Y-12, doses to aquatic organisms were estimated from surface water concentrations at the following four different instream sampling locations.

- Surface Water Hydrological Information Support System Station 9422-1 (also known as station 17)
- Discharge Point S24, Bear Creek at Bear Creek kilometer 9.4
- Discharge Point S17 (unnamed tributary to the Clinch River)
- Discharge Point S19 (Rogers Quarry)

All locations passed the general screening phase (maximum water concentrations and default parameters for BCGs). This resulted in absorbed dose rates to aquatic organisms below the DOE aquatic dose limit of 1 rad/day at all four Y-12 locations.

At ETTP, doses to aquatic organisms were estimated from surface water concentrations at the following 13 different instream sampling locations.

- Mitchell Branch at K1700; MIKs 0.45, 0.59, 0.71, 0.82, and 1.4 (upstream location)
- Poplar Creek at K-716 (downstream)
- K1007-B and K-1710 (upstream location)
- K-702A and K901-A (downstream of ETTP operations)
- Clinch River (CRK 16 and CRK 23)

All of these locations passed the initial general screening (using maximum concentrations and default parameters for BCGs). This resulted in absorbed dose rates to aquatic organisms below the DOE aquatic dose limit of 1 rad/day at all 13 sampling locations.

7.1.6.2 Terrestrial Biota

To evaluate impacts on biota, in accordance with requirements in DOE O 458.1, a terrestrial organism assessment was conducted. An absorbed dose rate of 0.1 rad/day is recommended as the limit for terrestrial animal exposure to radioactive material in soils. As for aquatic and riparian biota, certain terrestrial organisms are more sensitive to ionizing radiation than others, and it is generally assumed that protecting the more sensitive organisms will adequately protect other less-sensitive organisms. Initial soil sampling for terrestrial dose assessment was initiated in 2007 and reassessed in 2014. This biota sampling strategy was developed by taking into account guidance provided in *A Graded Approach for Evaluating Radiation Doses to Aquatic and Terrestrial Biota* (DOE 2002) and existing radiological information on the concentrations and distribution of radiological contaminants on ORR. As in 2007, the soil sampling focused on unremediated areas, such as floodplains and some upland areas. Floodplains are often downstream of contaminant source areas and are dynamic systems where soils are eroding in some places and being deposited in others. Soil sampling locations are identified as follows.

- WOC floodplain and upland location
- Bear Creek Valley floodplain
- Mitchell Branch floodplain
- Two background locations: Gum Hollow and near Bearden Creek

The soil samples were collected in similar locations as in 2007. With the exception of samples collected on the WOC floodplain (collected on the WOC floodplain upstream from WOD), samples taken at all other soil sampling locations passed either the initial-level screening (comparison of maximum radionuclide soil concentrations to default BCGs) or second-level screening, for which BCG default parameters and average soil concentrations were used. Cesium-137 is the primary dose contributor in the soil samples collected on the WOC floodplain.

Biota sampling in the WOC floodplain was conducted in 2009. White-footed mice (*Peromyscus leucopus*), deer mice (*Peromyscus maniculatus*), and hispid cotton rats (*Sigmodon hispidus*) were selected for sampling because they live and forage in these areas, are food for other mammals, and have relatively small home ranges. The biota sampling locations were at the confluence of Melton Branch and WOC and in the floodplain upstream of White Oak Lake. Based on the current measured concentrations in soil and tissue concentrations collected, the absorbed doses to the terrestrial organisms collected along the confluence of Melton Branch and WOC and in the floodplain upstream of White Oak Lake were less than 0.1 rad/day.

The next evaluation of exposure to terrestrial organisms would be within the next 5 years or if an abnormal event occurs that could have adverse impacts on terrestrial organisms.

7.2 Chemical Dose

7.2.1 Drinking Water Consumption

Surface Water

To evaluate the drinking water pathway, hazard quotients (HQs) were estimated downstream of ORNL and downstream of ORR discharge points (Table 7.9). The HQ is a ratio that compares the estimated

exposure dose or intake to the reference dose. (See Appendix F for a detailed description of the chemical dose methodology.) Based on a nationwide food consumption survey (EPA 2011) and weighted based on the combined population of Anderson, Knox, Loudon, and Roane counties, it was assumed that the drinking water consumption rate for the maximally exposed individual is 680 L/year (180 gal/year). This is the same drinking water consumption rate used in the estimation of the maximum exposed radiological dose from consumption of drinking water. Chemical analytes were measured in surface water samples collected at CRK 23 and CRK 16. CRK 23 is located near the water intake for ETTP; CRK 16 is located downstream of all DOE discharge points. As shown in Table 7.9, HQs were less than 1 for detected chemical analytes for which there are reference doses or maximum contaminant levels.

Acceptable risk levels for carcinogens typically range in magnitude from 10^{-4} to 10^{-6} . A risk value slightly greater than or equal to 10^{-5} was calculated for the intake of arsenic in water collected at both locations.

Table 7.9. Chemical hazard quotients and estimated risks for drinking water, 2014

Chemical	Hazard quotient	
	CRK 23 ^a	CRK 16 ^b
Arsenic	0.08	0.05
Mercury	0.00009	0.0003
Nickel	0.004	
Uranium	0.002	0.003
Zinc	0.005	
Risk for carcinogens		
Arsenic	3×10^{-5}	1×10^{-5}

^aClinch River near the water intake for East Tennessee Technology Park.

^bClinch River downstream of all US Department of Energy inputs.

Acronyms

CRK = Clinch River kilometer.

Groundwater

As mentioned in Section 7.1.2.2.1, a series of off-site monitoring wells was installed across the Clinch River from ORNL west of the Melton Valley waste management areas in 2010. Sampling of the off-site wells occurred semiannually during FY 2012 and FY 2013, and results were compared to EPA maximum contaminant levels (DOE 2015). A trend evaluation of monitoring data from two off-site monitoring wells (2012 through 2013) indicates that fluoride and barium concentrations were increasing, antimony levels were decreasing, and arsenic concentrations were stable (DOE 2015). Reviews of shallow groundwater monitoring data near the Melton Valley waste disposal areas do not show fluoride plumes emanating from the buried waste. Fluoride has natural and potential human-made sources in Melton Valley. Barium is a common constituent of geologic brines (DOE 2014). VOCs have not been detected in off-site wells since September 2010 (DOE 2015). Currently, no water is consumed from these off-site groundwater wells.

7.2.2 Fish Consumption

Chemicals in water can be accumulated by aquatic organisms that may be consumed by humans. To evaluate the potential health effects from the fish consumption pathway, HQs were estimated for the consumption of noncarcinogens, and risk values were estimated for the consumption of carcinogens

detected in sunfish and catfish collected both upstream and downstream of the ORR discharge points. Based on a nationwide food consumption survey (EPA 2011) and weighted based on the combined population of Anderson, Knox, Loudon, and Roane counties, it was assumed that avid fish consumers would have eaten 27 kg (60 lb) of fish during 2014. This fish consumption rate of 74 g/day (27 kg/year) is assumed for both the noncarcinogenic and carcinogenic pollutants. This is the same fish consumption rate used in the estimation of the radiological dose from consumption of fish. (See Appendix F for a detailed description of the chemical dose methodology.)

As shown in Table 7.10, for consumption of sunfish and catfish, HQ values of less than 1 were calculated for all detected analytes except for Aroclor-1260 (which are PCBs, also referred to as PCB-1260) and for mercury for catfish at CRK 32. An HQ greater than 1 for Aroclor-1260 was estimated in sunfish and catfish at all three locations (CRKs 16, 32, and 70).

For carcinogens, risk values at or greater than 10^{-5} were calculated for the intake of Aroclor-1260 in sunfish and catfish collected at all three locations. TDEC has issued a fish advisory that states that catfish should not be consumed from Melton Hill Reservoir (in its entirety) because of PCB contamination and has issued a precautionary fish consumption advisory for catfish in the Clinch River arm of Watts Bar Reservoir (TWRA 2012). The risk values for Aroclor-1260 for sunfish and catfish were similar to risk values estimated in 2012 and roughly an order of magnitude less than the values estimated in 2013.

Table 7.10. Chemical hazard quotients and estimated risks for carcinogens in fish, 2014^a

Carcinogen	Sunfish			Catfish		
	CRK 70 ^b	CRK 32 ^c	CRK 16 ^d	CRK 70 ^b	CRK 32 ^c	CRK 16 ^d
<i>Hazard quotients for metals</i>						
Antimony			0.3	0.2		0.3
Arsenic		0.3				
Barium	0.002	0.003	0.002	0.00004	0.00007	0.0005
Cadmium				0.2		
Chromium	0.09	0.05	0.05	0.02	0.02	0.03
Copper	0.008	0.01	0.01	0.006	0.007	0.009
Manganese	0.01	0.03	0.02	0.001	0.001	0.003
Mercury	0.1	0.2	0.4	0.3	1.3	0.6
Nickel				0.002		0.001
Selenium	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
Strontium	0.004	0.006	0.005	0.00007	0.00008	0.0005
Thallium	0.1	0.1	0.09	0.04	0.2	0.08
Uranium	0.0003		0.0004			
Vanadium	0.003					
Zinc	0.04	0.05	0.05	0.1	0.02	0.02
<i>Hazard quotients for pesticides and Aroclors</i>						
Aroclor-1260	1	2	2	6	4	5

Table 7.10 (continued)

Carcinogen	Sunfish			Catfish		
	CRK 70 ^b	CRK 32 ^c	CRK 16 ^d	CRK 70 ^b	CRK 32 ^c	CRK 16 ^d
<i>Risks for carcinogens</i>						
Arsenic		5E-5				
Aroclor-1260	2E-5	3E-5	3E-5	1E-4	7E-5	9E-5
PCBs (mixed) ^e	2E-5	3E-5	3E-5	1E-4	7E-5	9E-5

^aA blank space for a particular location indicates that the parameter was undetected.

^bMelton Hill Reservoir, above the city of Oak Ridge Water Plant.

^cClinch River downstream of Oak Ridge National Laboratory.

^dClinch River downstream of all US Department of Energy inputs.

^eMixed polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) consist of the summation of Aroclors detected or estimated.

Acronyms

CRK = Clinch River kilometer

7.3 References

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Appendix A. Glossary

Appendix A. Glossary

accuracy—The closeness of the result of a measurement to the true value of the quantity.

aliquot—The quantity of a sample being used for analysis.

alkalinity—The capacity of an aqueous solution to neutralize an acid. Alkalinity measurements are important in determining the sensitivity of a body of water to acid inputs such as acidic pollution from rainfall or wastewater.

alpha particle—A positively charged particle emitted from the nucleus of an atom; it has the same charge and mass as that of a helium nucleus (two protons and two neutrons).

ambient air—The surrounding atmosphere as it exists around people, plants, and structures.

analyte—A constituent or parameter that is being analyzed.

analytical detection limit—The lowest reasonably accurate concentration of an analyte that can be detected; this value varies depending on the method, instrument, and dilution used.

anion—A negatively charged ion.

aquifer—A saturated, permeable geologic unit that can transmit significant quantities of water under ordinary hydraulic gradients.

aquitard—A geologic unit that inhibits the flow of water.

beta particle—A negatively charged particle emitted from the nucleus of an atom. It has a mass and charge equal to those of an electron.

biota—The animal and plant life of a particular region considered as a total ecological entity.

blank—A control sample that is identical, in principle, to the sample of interest, except that the substance being analyzed is absent. In such cases, the measured value or signal for the substance being analyzed is believed to be a result of artifacts. Under certain circumstances, that value may be subtracted from the measured value to give a net result reflecting the amount of the substance in the sample. The US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) does not permit the subtraction of blank results in EPA-regulated analyses.

calibration—Determination of variance from a standard of accuracy of a measuring instrument to ascertain necessary correction factors.

CERCLA-reportable release—A release to the environment that exceeds reportable quantities as defined by the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA).

chemical oxygen demand—Indicates the quantity of oxidizable materials present in water and varies with water composition, concentrations of reagent, temperature, period of contact, and other factors.

closure—Specifically, closure of a hazardous waste management facility under Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) requirements.

compliance—Fulfillment of applicable requirements of a plan or schedule ordered or approved by government authority.

concentration—The amount of a substance contained in a unit volume or mass of a sample.

conductivity—A measure of water's capacity to convey an electric current. This property is related to the total concentration of the ionized substances in water and the temperature at which the measurement is made.

confluence—The point at which two or more streams meet; the point where a tributary joins the main stream.

contamination—Deposition of unwanted material on the surfaces of structures, areas, objects, or personnel.

cosmic radiation—Ionizing radiation with very high energies, originating outside the earth's atmosphere. Cosmic radiation is one source contributing to natural background radiation.

count—A measure of the radiation from an object or device; the signal that announces an ionization event within a counter.

curie (Ci)—A unit of radioactivity. One curie is defined as 3.7×10^{10} (37 billion) disintegrations per second. Several fractions and multiples of the curie are commonly used:

kilocurie (kCi)— 10^3 Ci, one thousand curies; 3.7×10^{13} disintegrations per second.

millicurie (mCi)— 10^{-3} Ci, one-thousandth of a curie; 3.7×10^7 disintegrations per second.

microcurie (μ Ci)— 10^{-6} Ci, one-millionth of a curie; 3.7×10^4 disintegrations per second.

picocurie (pCi)— 10^{-12} Ci, one-trillionth of a curie; 0.037 disintegrations per second.

daughter—A nuclide formed by the radioactive decay of a parent nuclide.

decay, radioactive—The spontaneous transformation of one radionuclide into a different radioactive or nonradioactive nuclide, or into a different energy state of the same radionuclide.

dense nonaqueous phase liquid (DNAPL)—The liquid phase of chlorinated organic solvents. These liquids are denser than water and include commonly used industrial compounds such as tetrachloroethene and trichloroethene.

derived concentration guide (DCG)—The concentration of a radionuclide in air or water that, under conditions of continuous exposure for 1 year by one exposure mode (i.e., ingestion of water, submersion in air, or inhalation), would result in either an effective dose equivalent of 0.1 rem (1 mSv) or a dose equivalent of 5 rem (50 mSv) to any tissue, including skin and lens of the eye. The guides for radionuclides in air and water are given in DOE O 5400.5.

derived concentration standard (DCS)—Quantities used in the design and conduct of radiological environmental protection programs at US Department of Energy facilities and sites. These quantities represent the concentration of a given radionuclide in either water or air that results in a member of the public receiving a 1 mSv (100 mrem) effective dose following continuous exposure for 1 year for each of the following pathways: ingestion of water, submersion in air, and inhalation.

disintegration, nuclear—A spontaneous nuclear transformation (radioactivity) characterized by the emission of energy and/or mass from the nucleus of an atom.

dissolved oxygen—A measurement of the amount of gaseous oxygen in an aqueous solution. Adequate dissolved oxygen is necessary for good water quality.

dose—A general term for absorbed dose, equivalent dose, effective dose, committed equivalent dose, committed effective dose, or total effective dose.

absorbed dose—The average energy imparted by ionizing radiation to the matter in a volume element per unit mass of irradiated material. The absorbed dose is expressed in units of rad (or gray) (1 rad = 0.01 gray).

collective dose/collective effective dose—The sum of the total effective dose to all persons in a specified population received in a specified period of time. It can be approximated by the sum of the average effective dose for a given subgroup i , and N_i is the number of individuals in this subgroup. Collective dose is expressed in units of person-rem (or person-sievert).

committed effective dose—The sum of the products of the committed organ or tissue equivalent doses and the appropriate tissue weighting factors in the years following the intake of a radionuclide into the body. The commitment period is taken to be 50 years for adults. Committed effective dose is expressed in units of rem (or sievert).

committed equivalent dose (HT,50)—The equivalent dose calculated to be received by a tissue or organ over a 50-year period after the intake of a radionuclide into the body. It does not include contributions from radiation sources external to the body. Committed equivalent dose is expressed in units of rems (or sieverts).

effective dose (E or ED)—The summation of the products of the equivalent dose (HT) received by specified tissues or organs of the body and the appropriate tissue weighting factor (wT). It includes the dose from radiation sources internal and/or external to the body. The effective dose is expressed in units of rems (or sieverts).

equivalent dose (HT)—The product of average absorbed dose (DT,R) in rad (or gray) in a tissue or organ (T) and a radiation (R) weighting factor (wR).

total effective dose (TED)—Sum of the effective dose (for external exposures) and the committed effective dose.

dosimetry—Measurement and calculation of radiation doses from exposure to ionizing radiation.

drinking water standard (DWS)—Federal primary drinking water standards, both proposed and final, as set forth by the US Environmental Protection Agency.

duplicate samples—Two or more samples collected simultaneously into separate containers.

effluent—A liquid or gaseous waste discharge to the environment.

effluent monitoring—The collection and analysis of samples or measurements of liquid and gaseous effluents for purposes of characterizing and quantifying the release of contaminants, assessing radiation exposures of members of the public, and demonstrating compliance with applicable standards.

energy intensity—Energy consumption per square foot of building space, including industrial or laboratory facilities [EO 13514, Section 19(f)].

Environmental Management—A US Department of Energy program that directs the assessment and cleanup of its sites (remediation) and facilities contaminated with waste as a result of nuclear-related activities.

exposure (radiation)—The incidence of radiation on living or inanimate material by accident or intent. Background exposure is the exposure to natural background ionizing radiation. Occupational exposure is the exposure to ionizing radiation that takes place during a person's working hours. Population exposure is the exposure to the total number of persons who inhabit an area.

external radiation—Exposure to ionizing radiation when the radiation source is located outside the body.

flux—A flow or discharge of a substance (in units of mass, radioactivity, etc.) per unit of time.

gamma ray—High-energy, short-wavelength electromagnetic radiation emitted from the nucleus of an excited atom. Gamma rays are identical to x-rays except for the source of the emission.

gamma spectrometry—A system consisting of a detector, associated electronics, and a multichannel analyzer that is used to analyze samples for gamma-emitting radionuclides.

grab sample—A sample collected instantaneously with a glass or plastic bottle placed below the water surface to collect surface water samples (also called dip samples).

greenhouse gas (GHG)—Gas that traps heat in the atmosphere. The four major greenhouse gases are carbon dioxide, methane, nitrous oxide, and fluorinated gases.

groundwater—The water located beneath the earth's surface in soil pore spaces and in the fractures of rock formations.

hardness—Water hardness is caused by polyvalent metallic ions dissolved in water. In fresh water, these are mainly calcium and magnesium, although other metals such as iron, strontium, and manganese may contribute to hardness.

hectare—A metric unit of area equal to 10,000 square meters or 2.47 acres.

hydrogeology—Hydrologic aspects of site geology.

hydrology—The science dealing with the properties, distribution, and circulation of natural water systems.

internal radiation—Internal radiation occurs when radionuclides enter the body by ingestion of foods, milk, and water, and by inhalation. Radon is the major contributor to the annual dose equivalent for internal radionuclides.

ion—An atom or compound that carries an electrical charge.

irradiation—Exposure to radiation.

isotopes—Forms of an element having the same number of protons in their nuclei but differing in the number of neutrons.

Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED)—A suite of rating systems for the design, construction, operation, and maintenance of green buildings, homes, and neighborhoods. LEED is intended to help building owners and operators find and implement ways to be environmentally responsible and resource-efficient.

maximally exposed individual (MEI)—A hypothetical individual who, because of proximity, activities, or living habits, could potentially receive the maximum possible dose of radiation from a given event or process.

microbes—Microscopic organisms.

migration—The transfer or movement of a material through the air, soil, or groundwater.

millirem (mrem)—The dose equivalent that is one one-thousandth of a rem.

milliroentgen (mR)—A measure of x-ray or gamma radiation. The unit is one-thousandth of a roentgen.

minimum detectable activity (MDA)—The smallest activity of a radionuclide that can be distinguished in a sample by a given measurement system at a preselected counting time and at a given confidence level.

monitoring—A process whereby the quantity and quality of factors that can affect the environment and/or human health are measured periodically to regulate and control potential impacts.

natural radiation—Radiation arising from cosmic and other naturally occurring radionuclide sources (such as radon) present in the environment.

nuclide—An atom specified by its atomic weight, atomic number, and energy state. A radionuclide is a radioactive nuclide.

outfall—The point of conveyance (e.g., drain or pipe) of wastewater or other effluents into a ditch, pond, or river.

ozone—A gas made up of three oxygen atoms that occurs both in earth's upper atmosphere and at ground level. Ozone can be "good" or "bad" for human health and the environment, depending on its location in the atmosphere. Ozone acts as a protective layer high above the earth, but it can be harmful to breathe.

parts per billion (ppb)—A unit measure of concentration equivalent to the weight/volume ratio expressed as micrograms per liter or nanograms per milliliter.

parts per million (ppm)—A unit measure of concentration equivalent to the weight/volume ratio expressed as milligrams per liter.

person-rem—Collective dose to a population group. For example, a dose of 1 rem to 10 individuals results in a collective dose of 10 person-rem.

pH—A measure of the hydrogen ion concentration in an aqueous solution. Acidic solutions have a pH from 0 through 6, basic solutions have a pH > 7, and neutral solutions have a pH = 7.

precision—The degree to which repeated measurements under unchanged conditions show the same results (also called reproducibility or repeatability).

quality assurance (QA)—Any action in environmental monitoring to ensure the reliability of monitoring and measurement data.

quality control (QC)—The routine application of procedures within environmental monitoring to obtain the required standards of performance in monitoring and measurement processes.

rad—The unit of absorbed dose deposited in a volume of material.

radioactivity—The spontaneous emission of radiation, generally alpha or beta particles or gamma rays, from the nucleus of an unstable isotope.

radioisotopes—Radioactive isotopes.

radionuclide—An unstable nuclide capable of spontaneous transformation into other nuclides by changing its nuclear configuration or energy level. This transformation is accompanied by the emission of photons or particles.

reclamation—Recovery of wasteland, desert, etc., by ditching, filling, draining, or planting.

reference material—A material or substance with one or more properties that is sufficiently well established and used to calibrate an apparatus, to assess a measurement method, or to assign values to materials.

release—Any discharge to the environment. “Environment” is broadly defined as any water, land, or ambient air.

rem—The unit of dose equivalent (absorbed dose in rads \times the radiation quality factor). Dose equivalent is frequently reported in units of millirem (mrem), which is one one-thousandth of a rem.

remediation—The correction of a problem. On the Oak Ridge Reservation remediation efforts focus on the safe cleanup of the environmental legacy resulting from research activities and weapons production over the past 5 decades.

remedial investigation/feasibility study (RI/FS)—An in-depth study designed to gather data needed to determine the nature and extent of contamination at a Superfund site; establish site cleanup criteria; identify preliminary alternatives for remedial action; and support technical and cost analyses of alternatives. The remedial investigation is usually done with the feasibility study. Together they are usually referred to as the “RI/FS.”

roentgen—A unit of radiation exposure equal to the quantity of ionizing radiation that will produce one electrostatic unit of electricity in one cubic centimeter of dry air at 0°C and standard atmospheric pressure. One roentgen equals 2.58×10^{-4} coulombs per kilogram of air. [Note: A coulomb is a unit of electric charge—the SI (International System of Units) unit of electric charge equal to the amount of charge transported by a current of one ampere in one second.]

self-absorption—Absorption of radiation by the sample itself, preventing detection by the counting instrument.

sensitivity—The capability of a methodology or an instrument to discriminate among samples with differing concentrations or containing varying amounts of analyte.

settleable solids—Material settling out of suspension within a defined period.

settling basin—A temporary holding basin (excavation) that receives wastewater, which is subsequently discharged.

sievert (Sv)—The SI (International System of Units) unit of dose equivalent, 1 Sv = 100 rem.

spike—The addition of a known amount of reference material containing the analyte of interest to a blank sample.

spiked sample—A sample to which a known amount of some substance has been added.

stable—Not radioactive or not easily decomposed or otherwise modified chemically.

stack—A vertical pipe or flue designed to exhaust airborne gases and suspended particulate matter.

standard deviation—An indication of the dispersion of a set of results around their average.

standard reference material (SRM)—A reference material distributed and certified by the National Institute of Standards and Technology.

statistical significance testing—A procedure for decision making and data evaluation based on mathematical probability that provides a consistent, scientific methodology for collecting, analyzing, and presenting data. Statistical significance testing reflects the mathematical likelihood of certain outcomes but says nothing about its environmental significance.

storm water runoff—Surface streams that appear after precipitation.

stratospheric ozone—The stratosphere or “good” ozone layer extends upward from about 6 to 30 miles above the earth’s surface and protects the earth from the sun’s harmful ultraviolet rays.

substrate—The substance, base, surface, or medium in which an organism lives and grows.

Superfund—The Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act amended the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) in 1986. CERCLA, the federal government’s program to clean up the nation’s uncontrolled hazardous waste, is now commonly known as Superfund.

surface water—All water on the surface of the earth, as distinguished from groundwater.

terrestrial radiation—Ionizing radiation emitted from radioactive materials, primarily potassium-40, thorium, and uranium, in the earth’s soils. Terrestrial radiation contributes to natural background radiation.

total activity—The total number of atoms of a radioactive substance that decay per unit of time.

total dissolved solids—Dissolved solids and total dissolved solids are terms generally associated with freshwater systems; they consist of inorganic salts, small amounts of organic matter, and dissolved materials.

transect—A line across an area being studied. The line is composed of points where specific measurements or samples are taken.

transmissive zone—A zone of sediments sufficiently porous and permeable to allow the flow of groundwater through the zone.

transuranic (or transuranium)—Of or relating to elements with higher atomic weights than uranium; all 13 known transuranic elements are radioactive and are produced artificially.

transuranic waste—Solid radioactive waste containing primarily alpha-emitting elements heavier than uranium.

trip blank—A sample container of deionized water that is transported to a sampling location, treated as a sample, and sent to the laboratory for analysis; trip blanks are used to check for contamination resulting from transport, shipping, and site conditions.

turbidity—A measure of the concentration of sediment or suspended particles in solution.

unconsolidated zone—Soil zone located above the water table.

volatile organic compounds—Organic chemicals that have a high vapor pressure at ordinary conditions. They include both human and naturally occurring chemical compounds and are used in many industrial processes. Common examples include trichloroethane, tetrachloroethene, and trichloroethene.

watershed—The region draining into a river, river system, or body of water.

wetlands—Lowland areas, such as a marshes or swamps, inundated or saturated by surface water or groundwater sufficiently to support aquatic vegetation or plants adapted for life in saturated soils.

wind rose—A diagram in which statistical information concerning direction and speed of the wind at a location is summarized.

Appendix B. Climate Overview of the Oak Ridge Area

Appendix B. Climate Overview of the Oak Ridge Area

B.1 Regional Climate

The climate of the Oak Ridge area and its surroundings may be broadly classified as humid subtropical. The term “humid” indicates that the region receives an overall surplus of precipitation compared to the level of evapotranspiration that is normally experienced throughout the year. The “subtropical” designation indicates that the region experiences a wide range of seasonal temperatures. Such areas are typified by significant differences in temperature between summer and winter.

Oak Ridge winters are characterized by synoptic weather systems that produce significant precipitation events every 3 to 5 days. These wet periods are occasionally followed by arctic air outbreaks. Although snow and ice are not associated with many of these systems, occasional snowfall does occur. Winter cloud cover tends to be enhanced by the regional terrain (due to cold air wedging and moisture trapping).

Severe thunderstorms are most frequent during spring, very infrequent during winter, but can occur at any time of the year. The Cumberland Mountains and Cumberland Plateau often inhibit the intensity of severe systems that traverse the region, especially those moving from west to east, due to the downward momentum created as the storms move off higher terrain into the Great Valley. Summers are characterized by very warm, humid conditions. Occasional frontal systems may produce organized lines of thunderstorms (and rare damaging tornados). More frequently, however, summer precipitation results from “air mass” thundershowers that form as a consequence of daytime heating, rising humid air, and local terrain features. Although adequate precipitation usually occurs during the fall, the months of August through October represent the driest period of the year. The occurrence of precipitation during the fall tends to be less cyclical than for other seasons but is occasionally enhanced by decaying tropical cyclones moving north from the Gulf of Mexico. During November, winter-type cyclones again begin to dominate the weather and may continue their dominance until April or May.

Decadal-scale climate change has recently affected the East Tennessee region. Most of these changes appear to be related to the hemispheric effects caused by the frequency and phase of the El Niño–Southern Oscillation (ENSO), the Pacific Decadal Oscillation (PDO), and the Atlantic Multidecadal Oscillation (AMO). The ENSO and PDO patterns, with cycles of 3 to 7 years and about 40 years, respectively, affect Pacific Ocean sea surface temperatures. The AMO, with a cycle of 30–70 years, affects Atlantic sea surface temperature. All of these patterns collectively modulate long-term regional temperature and precipitation trends in eastern Tennessee. The AMO shifted from a cold to a warm sea surface temperature phase in the mid-1990s and could continue in its present state for another decade or so. The PDO entered a cool sea surface temperature phase around 2000. The ENSO pattern had frequently brought about warmer eastern Pacific sea surface temperatures during the 1990s, but this phenomenon has subsided somewhat in the 2000s and 2010s. Additionally, some evidence exists that human-induced climate change may be producing some effects (via an assembly of first-order influences such as well-mixed greenhouse gases (GHGs), land cover change, carbon soot, and aerosols). Solar influences on the jet stream, via changes to the stratospheric temperature gradient with respect to the 11-year solar cycle, also play a role in inter-annual climate variability (Ineson et al. 2011). Largely due to the effects of the AMO and ENSO, the Oak Ridge climate warmed about 1.1°C from the 1980s to the 1990s but has stabilized just above the 1990s values during the 2000s (a further warming of 0.2°C was observed). The recent warming appears to have lengthened the growing season [i.e., the period with temperatures above

0°C (32°F)] by about 2 to 3 weeks over the last 30 years. This warming has primarily affected minimum temperature over the last 30 years, the effect being presumably related to changes in the interaction of the surface boundary layer with GHGs and/or aerosol concentration changes. Temperature averages for individual years can vary fairly significantly, as noted by the recent greater than 1°C contrast between 2012 (15.9°C average) and 2013 (14.8°C average).

B.2 Winds

Five major terrain-related wind regimes regularly affect the Great Valley of eastern Tennessee: pressure-driven channeling, downward-momentum transport or vertically coupled flow, forced channeling, along-valley and mountain-valley thermal circulations, and down sloping. Pressure-driven channeling and vertically coupled flow affect winds on scales comparable to those of the Great Valley (hundreds of kilometers). Forced channeling occurs on similar scales but is also quite important at small spatial scales, such as those characterizing the ridge-and-valley terrain on the Oak Ridge Reservation (ORR) (Birdwell 2011). Along-valley and mountain-valley circulations are thermally driven and occur within a large range of spatial scales. Thermally driven flows are more prevalent under conditions of clear skies and low humidity, favoring summer and fall months.

Forced channeling is defined as the direct deflection of wind by terrain. This form of channeling necessitates some degree of vertical motion transfer, implying that the mechanism is less pronounced during strong temperature-inversion conditions. Although forced channeling may result from interactions between large valleys and mountain ranges (such as the Great Valley and the surrounding mountains), the mechanism is especially important in narrow, small valleys such as those on ORR (Kossman and Sturman 2002).

Forced channeling within the Central Great Valley represents the most dominant large-scale wind mechanism, influencing 50%–60% of all winds observed in the area. For up-valley flow cases, these winds are frequently associated with large wind shifts when they initiate or terminate (45°–90°). At small scales, ridge-and-valley terrain usually produces forced-channeled local flow (>90% of cases). Most forced-channeled winds prefer weak-to-moderate synoptic pressure gradients of less than 0.010 mb/km (Birdwell 2011).

Large-scale forced channeling occurs regularly within the Great Valley when northwest to north winds (perpendicular to the axis of the central Great Valley) coincide with vertically coupled flow. The phenomenon sometimes results in a split-flow pattern (winds southwest of Knoxville moving down-valley and those east of Knoxville moving up-valley). The causes of such a flow pattern may include the shape characteristics of the Great Valley (Kossman and Sturman 2002) but also may be associated with the specific location of the Cumberland and Smoky Mountains relative to upper level wind flow (Eckman 1998). The convex shape of the Great Valley with respect to a northwest wind flow may lead to a divergent wind flow pattern in the Knoxville area. This results in downward air motion. Additionally, horizontal flow is reduced by the windward mountain range (Cumberland Mountains), which increases buoyancy and Coriolis effects (also known as Froude and Rossby ratios). Consequently, the leeward mountain range (Smoky Mountains) becomes more effective at blocking or redirecting the winds.

Vertically coupled winds tend to occur when the atmosphere is unstably or neutrally buoyant. When a strong horizontal wind component is present, as in conditions behind a winter cold front or during strong cold air advection, winds tend to override the terrain, flowing roughly in the same direction as the winds aloft. This phenomenon is a consequence of the horizontal transport and momentum aloft being transferred to the surface. However, Coriolis effects may turn the winds by up to 40° to the left (Birdwell 1996).

In the Central Valley, vertically coupled winds dominate about 25% to 35% of the time; however, most such winds are turned toward an up-valley or down-valley direction when small-scale ridge-and-valley terrain is present. Wintertime vertically coupled flow is typically dominated by strong large-scale pressure forces, whereas the summertime cases tend to be more associated with deep mixing depths (>500 m). Most vertically coupled flows are associated with major wind shifts (90°–135°) when such flow patterns begin or terminate (Birdwell 2011).

Pressure-driven channeling, in essence, is the redirection of synoptically induced wind flow through a valley channel. The direction of wind flow through the valley is determined by the pressure gradient superimposed on a valley axis (Whiteman 2000). The process is affected by Coriolis forces, a leftward deflection of winds in the Northern Hemisphere. Eckman (1998) suggested that pressure-driven channeling plays a significant role in the Great Valley. Winds driven purely by such a process shift from up-valley to down-valley flow or conversely as large-scale pressure systems induce flow shifts across the axis of the Great Valley. Since the processes involved in pressure-driven flow primarily affect the horizontal motion of air, the presence of a temperature inversion enhances this pattern significantly. Weak vertical air motion and momentum associated with such inversions allow different layers of air to slide over each other (Monti et al. 2002).

Within the Central Great Valley, especially ORR, winds dominated by down-valley pressure-driven channeling range in frequency from 2% to 10%, with the lowest values in summer and the highest in winter. Up-valley pressure-driven channeling usually does not dominate winds in the Central Great Valley, but co-occurs with forced-channeled winds 50% of the time. Winds dominated by pressure driven channeling often result in large wind shifts (90°–180°) before and after the occurrence of the wind pattern. These wind shifts occur about twice as frequently within and near ORR when compared to other parts of the Great Valley (Birdwell 2011). Most pressure-driven channeled winds occurred in association with moderate synoptic pressure gradients (0.006–0.016 mb/km).

Thermally driven winds are common in areas of significant complex terrain. These winds occur as a result of pressure and temperature differences caused by varied surface-air energy exchange at similar altitudes along a valley's axis, sidewalls, and/or slopes. Thermal flows operate most effectively when synoptic winds are light and when thermal differences are exacerbated by clear skies and low humidity (Whiteman 2000). Ridge-and-valley terrain may be responsible for enhancing or inhibiting such flow, depending on ambient weather conditions. Large-scale thermally driven wind frequency varies from 2% to 20% with respect to season in the Central Great Valley. Frequencies are highest during summer and fall when intense surface heating and/or low humidity help drive flow patterns (Birdwell 2011).

Annual wind roses have been compiled for 2014 for each of the nine DOE-managed ORR meteorological towers (towers MT1, MT2, MT3, MT4, MT6, MT7, MT9, MT10, and MT11). These, along with other annual wind rose data, may be viewed online at <http://web.ornl.gov/adm/fo/lp/orrm/page7.htm>. The wind roses represent large-scale trends and should be used with caution for estimates involving short-term variations.

A wind rose depicts the typical distribution of wind speed and direction for a given location. The winds are represented in terms of the direction from which they originate. The rays emanating from the center correspond to points of the compass. The length of each ray is related to the frequency at which winds blow from the given direction. The concentric circles represent increasing frequencies from the center outward, given in percentages. Precipitation wind roses display similar information except that wind speed frequencies are replaced with data associated with the rate of hourly precipitation. Likewise, wind direction stability and wind direction mixing height roses replace wind speeds with data on stability class and mixing height respectively. Wind direction peak gust roses reflect the frequency of peak 1-second wind gusts for various wind directions. All of these roses can be found at <http://web.ornl.gov/adm/fo/lp/orrm/page7.htm>.

B.3 Temperature and Precipitation

Temperature and precipitation normals (1981–2010) and extremes (1948–2014) and their durations for the city of Oak Ridge are summarized in Table B.1. Decadal temperature and precipitation averages for the four decades of the 1970s to 2000s are provided in Table B.2. Hourly freeze data (1985–March 2015) are given in Table B.3. Overall, 2014 was exactly normal with regard to temperatures compared to the 1981–2010 base period, and precipitation was just slightly above normal but within 5% of the 1981–2010 mean.

B.3.1 Recent Climate Change with Respect to Temperature and Precipitation

Table B.2 presents a decadal analysis of temperature patterns for the decades of the 1970s to the 2010s (through 2014). In general, temperatures in Oak Ridge rose until the 1990s but have leveled off near the 1990s level in the 2000s and 2010s. Based on these average decadal temperatures, temperatures have risen 1.4°C between the decades of the 1970s and the 2000s from 13.8°C to 15.2°C (56.8°F to 59.3°F). More detailed analysis reveals that these temperature increases have been neither linear nor equal throughout the months or seasons.

January and February average temperatures have seen increases of 2.1°C and 1.9°C (3.8°F and 3.4°F), respectively. This significant increase is probably dominated by the effects of AMO, though this climate response may include both natural and anthropogenic effects. The Arctic has seen the largest increase in temperatures of anywhere in the Northern Hemisphere over the last 30 years, though this also could be partially associated with multi-decadal AMO and thermohaline ocean current effects.

During the months of January and February, much of the air entering eastern Tennessee comes from the Arctic. As a result, Oak Ridge temperatures have warmed more dramatically during these months from the 1970s and 1980s to the 2000s. However, this trend has noticeably stalled or reversed during the 2010s thus far. Spring temperatures (March–April) have risen by about 1.4°C (2.5°F). Summer and fall temperatures have exhibited lesser temperature rises of 1.1°C and 0.9°C (2°F and 1.6°F), respectively. September and December temperatures changed little (0.0°C and +0.1°C, respectively). Fall temperatures have also leveled off or fallen slightly in the 2010s vs. the 2000s. Most of the warming that has occurred overall has been driven by significant increases in minimum daily temperatures, a change likely resulting from the redistribution of heat in the boundary layer because of the increased presence of GHGs and aerosols near the surface. More GHGs and aerosols act to weaken the strength of nighttime surface temperature inversions. Overall, annual minimum temperatures seem to have increased more dramatically [1.7°C (3.06°F)] than maximum temperatures [1.1°C (1.98°F)]. For the most recent full decade (2000s), August average temperatures were slightly warmer than those of July.

Decadal precipitation averages suggest some important changes in precipitation patterns in Oak Ridge over the period of the 1970s to 2000s. Although overall precipitation has remained within a window of about 48 to 60 in. (1,220 to 1,525 mm) annually, there have been some recent decadal shifts in the patterns of rainfall on a monthly or seasonal scale. In particular, precipitation has tended to increase during midwinter but decrease during late winter and late spring. Fall and early winter (September through December) have also been characterized by a slight drying (see Table B.2). Overall, annual precipitation during the 2000s is consistent with the 30-year average [around 132 cm (52 in.)]. The year 2007 was the driest year on record in Oak Ridge (91.1 cm or 35.87 in.), which represented the core of a 4-year period of below-average precipitation (2005–2008). However, the calendar year of 2013 yielded precipitation totals around 32% above the 30-year mean, with a total of 67.37 in. (1,711.2 mm). (The statistics presented here encompass the period from 1948 to 2014.)

Table B.1. Climate normals (1981–2010) and extremes (1948–2014) for Oak Ridge, Tennessee (townsite), with 2014 comparisons

Monthly variables	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	Annual
<i>Temperature, °C (°F)</i>													
30-Year Average Max	8.3 (46.9)	11.2 (52.1)	16.4 (61.6)	21.6 (70.8)	25.9 (78.6)	29.8 (85.7)	31.4 (88.5)	31.2 (88.1)	27.7 (81.9)	22.0 (71.6)	15.7 (60.2)	9.4 (49.0)	20.9 (69.6)
2014 Average Max	5.3 (41.6)	10.9 (51.7)	15.8 (60.5)	23.2 (73.8)	27.4 (81.3)	30.0 (86.0)	29.9 (85.8)	30.7 (87.2)	28.4 (83.1)	21.8 (71.3)	12.4 (54.3)	10.8 (51.4)	20.6 (69.0)
66-Year Record Max	25 (77)	26 (79)	30 (86)	33 (92)	35 (95)	41 (105)	41 (105)	39 (103)	39 (102)	32 (90)	28 (83)	26 (78)	41 (105)
30-Year Average Min	-2.2 (28.0)	-0.6 (30.9)	3.1 (37.5)	7.4 (45.4)	12.6 (54.7)	17.3 (63.1)	19.7 (67.5)	19.2 (66.6)	15.2 (59.3)	8.4 (47.2)	3.1 (37.6)	-0.9 (30.4)	8.5 (47.4)
2014 Average Min	-6.6 (20.1)	-0.3 (31.4)	2.3 (36.1)	9.3 (48.8)	13.8 (56.9)	19.3 (66.7)	18.5 (65.3)	19.7 (67.5)	17.7 (63.8)	10.1 (50.1)	1.0 (33.8)	2.3 (36.2)	8.9 (48.1)
66-Year Record Min	-27 (-17)	-25 (-13)	-17 (1)	-7 (20)	-1 (30)	4 (39)	9 (49)	10 (50)	1 (33)	-6 (21)	-16 (3)	-22 (-7)	-27 (-17)
30-Year Average	3.1 (37.5)	5.3 (41.5)	9.8 (49.6)	14.6 (58.3)	19.3 (66.7)	23.6 (74.5)	25.6 (78.1)	25.2 (77.4)	21.5 (70.7)	15.2 (59.4)	9.4 (48.9)	4.3 (39.7)	14.8 (58.5)
2014 Average	-0.6 (30.9)	5.3 (41.6)	9.1 (48.3)	16.3 (61.3)	20.6 (69.1)	24.6 (76.3)	24.2 (75.6)	25.2 (77.4)	23.0 (73.4)	15.9 (60.7)	6.7 (44.1)	6.6 (43.8)	14.8 (58.5)
2014 Departure from Average	-3.7 (-6.6)	0.1 (0.1)	-0.7 (-1.3)	1.7 (3.0)	1.3 (2.4)	1.0 (1.8)	-1.4 (-2.5)	0.0 (0.0)	1.5 (2.7)	0.7 (1.3)	-2.7 (-4.8)	2.3 (4.1)	0.0 (0.0)
<i>30-year average heating degree days, °C (°F)^a</i>													
	471 (847)	365 (657)	264 (476)	126(226)	35(63)	2 (3)	0	0	13 (24)	111 (199)	266 (479)	432 (778)	2084 (3752)
<i>30-year average cooling degree days, °C (°F)^a</i>													
	0	0	2 (4)	16 (29)	68 (122)	164 (296)	228 (410)	217 (390)	108 (194)	18 (32)	1 (2)	0	822 (1479)
<i>Precipitation, mm (in.)</i>													
30-Year Average	115.4 (4.54)	116.1 (4.57)	128.6 (5.06)	106.2 (4.18)	109.0 (4.29)	108.7 (4.28)	133.9 (5.27)	70.1 (2.76)	93.8 (3.69)	74.2 (2.92)	114.1 (4.49)	123.5 (4.86)	1294 (50.91)
2014 Totals	72.9 (2.87)	128.8 (5.07)	95.0 (3.74)	112.8 (4.44)	62.8 (2.47)	142.0 (5.59)	202.2 (7.96)	79.5 (3.13)	64.0 (2.52)	160.1 (6.30)	60.0 (2.36)	149.1 (5.87)	1329.3 (52.32)
2014 Departure from Average	-42.5 (1.67)	12.7 (0.50)	-33.6 (-1.32)	6.6 (0.26)	-46.2 (-1.82)	33.3 (1.31)	66.3 (2.69)	9.4 (0.37)	-29.8 (-1.17)	85.9 (3.38)	-54.1 (-2.13)	25.6 (1.01)	+35.7 (+1.41)
67-Year Max Monthly	337.2 (13.27)	324.7 (12.78)	311.0 (12.24)	356.5 (14.03)	271.9 (10.70)	283.0 (11.14)	489.6 (19.27)	265.8 (10.46)	257.4 (10.14)	176.6 (6.95)	310.5 (12.22)	321.2 (12.64)	1939 (76.33)
67-Year Max 24-hr	108.0 (4.25)	131.6 (5.18)	120.4 (4.74)	158.5 (6.24)	112.0 (4.41)	94.0 (3.70)	124.8 (4.91)	190.1 (7.48)	160.1 (6.30)	67.6 (2.66)	130.1 (5.12)	130.1 (5.12)	190.1 (7.48)
67-Year Min Monthly	23.6 (0.93)	21.3 (0.84)	54.1 (2.13)	46.2 (1.82)	20.3 (0.80)	13.5 (0.53)	31.3 (1.23)	13.7 (0.54)	Trace	Trace	34.8 (1.37)	17.0 (0.67)	911.4 (35.87)
<i>Snowfall, cm (in.)</i>													
30-Year Average	7.4 (2.9)	6.6 (2.6)	2.5 (1.0)	7.6 (0.3)	0	0	0	0	0	0	Trace	4.1 (1.6)	21.3 (8.4)
2014 Totals	6.6 (2.6)	18.8 (7.4)	Trace	Trace	0	0	0	0	0	0	Trace	0	25.4 (10.0)
67-Year Max Monthly	24.4 (9.6)	43.7 (17.2)	53.4 (21.0)	15.0 (5.9)	Trace	0	0	0	0	Trace	16.5 (6.5)	53.4 (21.0)	105.2 (41.4)
67-Year Max 24-hr	21.1 (8.3)	28.7 (11.3)	30.5 (12.0)	13.7 (5.4)	Trace	0	0	0	0	Trace	16.5 (6.5)	30.5 (12.0)	30.5 (12.0)
<i>Days w/temp</i>													
30-Year Max ≥ 32°C	0	0	0	0.1	0.3	5.9	11.3	10.4	2.9	0	0	0	30.9
2014 Max ≥ 32°C	0	0	0	0	1	8	8	10	3	0	0	0	30
30-Year Min ≤ 0°C	20.8	15.0	6.5	1.3	0	0	0	0	0	1.5	8.2	17.7	71.0
2014 Min ≤ 0°C	25	18	11	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	13	14	82
30-Year Max ≤ °C	2.8	0.5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.8	4.1
2014 Max ≤ 0°C	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7
<i>Days w/precipitation</i>													
30-Year Avg ≥ 0.01 in.	10.9	10.1	11.2	10.4	11.9	10.8	13.0	8.9	8.4	8.3	9.3	11.3	124.5
2014 Days ≥ 0.01 in.	10	13	8	13	9	15	9	9	6	13	7	17	129
30-Year Avg ≥ 1.00 in.	1.4	1.1	1.2	0.9	1.4	0.8	1.5	0.5	1.3	0.7	1.5	1.4	13.7
2014 Days ≥ 1.00 in.	1	1	1	1	1	1	3	3	1	2	1	2	18

Table B.2. Decadal climate change (1970–2014) for Oak Ridge, Tennessee, with 2014 comparisons

Monthly variables	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	Annual
<i>Temperature, °C (°F)</i>													
1970–1979 Avg Max	6.6 (43.8)	9.7 (49.5)	15.6 (60.1)	21.4 (70.6)	24.8 (76.7)	28.5 (83.3)	30.0 (85.9)	29.7 (85.5)	26.8 (80.2)	20.8 (69.4)	14.5 (58.2)	10.0 (49.9)	19.9 (67.8)
1980–1989 Avg Max	6.9 (44.4)	10.2 (50.3)	15.9 (60.7)	21.0 (69.8)	25.6 (78.1)	29.8 (85.7)	31.6 (88.8)	30.7 (87.3)	27.1 (80.8)	21.3 (70.3)	15.6 (60.2)	8.6 (47.5)	20.3 (68.6)
1990–1999 Avg Max	9.4 (48.8)	12.3 (54.1)	16.2 (61.2)	21.9 (71.3)	26.2 (79.1)	29.7 (85.5)	32.1 (89.8)	31.4 (88.6)	28.4 (83.2)	22.6 (72.8)	15.2 (59.4)	10.4 (50.8)	21.3 (70.4)
2000–2009 Avg Max	8.8 (47.9)	11.2 (52.1)	17.1 (62.7)	21.4 (70.6)	25.8 (78.4)	29.8 (85.6)	30.8 (87.5)	31.4 (88.5)	27.6 (81.8)	21.8 (71.2)	15.9 (60.6)	9.8 (49.6)	21.0 (69.7)
2010–2014 Avg Max	7.8 (46.0)	10.8 (51.4)	16.3 (61.3)	23.2 (73.8)	26.8 (80.3)	30.8 (87.4)	31.6 (88.8)	31.3 (88.4)	27.8 (82.0)	21.6 (70.8)	14.8 (58.7)	10.1 (50.1)	21.1 (69.9)
1980s vs. 2010s	0.9 (1.6)	0.6 (1.1)	0.3 (0.6)	2.2 (4.0)	1.2 (2.2)	0.9 (1.7)	0.0 (0.0)	0.6 (1.1)	0.7 (1.2)	0.3 (0.5)	-0.8 (-1.5)	1.4 (2.6)	0.7 (1.3)
2000s vs. 2010s	-1.1 (-1.9)	-0.4 (-0.7)	-0.8 (-1.4)	1.8 (3.2)	1.1 (1.9)	1.0 (1.8)	0.7 (1.3)	-0.1 (-0.1)	0.1 (0.2)	-0.2 (-0.4)	-1.1 (-1.9)	0.3 (0.5)	0.1 (0.2)
2014 Avg Max	5.3 (41.6)	10.8 (51.7)	11.9 (53.5)	23.2 (73.8)	27.3 (81.3)	30.0 (86.0)	29.9 (85.8)	30.7 (87.2)	28.4 (83.1)	21.8 (71.3)	12.4 (54.3)	10.8 (51.4)	20.6 (69.0)
1970–1979 Avg Min	-3.4 (25.8)	-2.4 (27.6)	3.0 (37.4)	6.7 (44.1)	11.6 (52.8)	15.7 (60.2)	18.3 (64.9)	18.1 (64.6)	15.5 (59.9)	7.5 (45.5)	2.6 (36.8)	-0.8 (30.5)	7.7 (45.8)
1980–1989 Avg Min	-4.1 (24.7)	-2.1 (28.3)	1.7 (35.0)	6.1 (42.9)	11.4 (52.4)	16.2 (61.2)	19.0 (66.2)	18.4 (65.1)	14.4 (57.9)	7.5 (45.4)	3.1 (37.5)	-2.3 (27.8)	7.4 (45.4)
1990–1999 Avg Min	-0.9 (30.3)	0.0 (32.0)	2.9 (37.1)	7.2 (45.0)	12.5 (54.5)	17.2 (63.0)	20.0 (67.9)	18.9 (66.1)	15.1 (59.2)	8.2 (46.8)	2.2 (36.0)	0.1 (32.2)	8.6 (47.6)
2000–2009 Avg Min	-1.4 (29.5)	0.0 (32.0)	4.4 (39.9)	8.6 (47.5)	13.6 (56.4)	18.0 (64.3)	20.0 (67.9)	20.0 (68.0)	16.1 (61.0)	9.5 (49.0)	3.9 (39.0)	-0.4 (31.4)	9.3 (48.8)
2010–2014 Avg Min	-2.2 (28.1)	0.1 (32.2)	4.4 (40.0)	9.2 (48.5)	14.4 (57.9)	19.2 (66.5)	20.7 (69.3)	19.7 (67.5)	16.1 (61.0)	8.9 (48.1)	2.3 (36.1)	0.7 (33.3)	9.5 (49.1)
1980s vs. 2010s	1.9 (3.4)	2.2 (3.9)	2.8 (5.0)	3.1 (5.6)	3.1 (5.5)	2.9 (5.3)	1.7 (3.1)	1.3 (2.4)	1.7 (3.1)	1.5 (2.7)	-0.8 (-1.4)	3.1 (5.5)	2.0 (3.7)
2000s vs. 2010s	-0.8 (-1.4)	0.1 (0.2)	0.1 (0.1)	0.6 (1.0)	0.8 (1.5)	1.2 (2.2)	0.8 (1.4)	-0.3 (-0.5)	0.0 (0.0)	-0.5 (-0.9)	-1.6 (-2.9)	1.1 (1.9)	0.1 (0.2)
2014 Avg Min	-6.6 (20.1)	-0.3 (31.4)	2.3 (36.1)	9.3 (48.8)	13.8 (56.9)	19.2 (66.7)	18.5 (65.3)	19.7 (67.5)	17.7 (63.8)	10.1 (50.1)	1.0 (33.8)	2.3 (36.2)	9.0 (48.1)
1970–1979 Avg	1.6 (34.9)	3.7 (38.6)	9.3 (48.8)	14.1 (57.4)	18.1 (64.7)	22.1 (71.8)	24.1 (75.4)	23.9 (75.0)	21.1 (70.0)	14.2 (57.5)	8.6 (47.5)	4.6 (40.3)	13.8 (56.8)
1980–1989 Avg	1.4 (34.6)	4.1 (39.3)	8.8 (47.9)	13.5 (56.4)	18.5 (65.3)	23.0 (73.4)	25.3 (77.5)	24.6 (76.2)	20.8 (69.4)	14.4 (57.9)	9.3 (48.8)	3.2 (37.7)	13.9 (57.0)
1990–1999 Avg	4.2 (39.6)	6.2 (43.1)	9.6 (49.2)	14.5 (58.2)	19.4 (66.8)	23.5 (74.3)	26.0 (78.9)	25.2 (77.4)	21.9 (71.4)	15.5 (59.8)	8.8 (47.8)	5.3 (41.5)	15.0 (59.0)
2000–2009 Avg	3.7 (38.7)	5.6 (42.1)	10.7 (51.3)	15.3 (59.6)	19.7 (67.5)	23.9 (75.1)	25.4 (77.7)	25.7 (78.3)	21.9 (71.4)	15.6 (60.1)	9.9 (49.8)	4.7 (40.5)	15.2 (59.3)
2010–2014 Avg	2.8 (37.1)	5.4 (41.8)	10.6 (51.0)	16.2 (61.1)	20.6 (69.1)	25.0 (77.0)	26.2 (79.1)	25.6 (78.1)	21.9 (71.5)	15.3 (59.5)	8.6 (47.4)	5.4 (41.7)	15.3 (59.5)
1980s vs. 2010s	1.4 (2.5)	1.4 (2.5)	1.7 (3.1)	2.6 (4.7)	2.1 (3.8)	2.0 (3.6)	0.9 (1.6)	1.1 (1.9)	1.2 (2.1)	0.9 (1.6)	-0.8 (-1.4)	2.2 (4.0)	1.4 (2.5)
2000s vs. 2010s	-0.9 (-1.6)	-0.2 (-0.3)	-0.2 (-0.3)	0.8 (1.5)	0.9 (1.6)	1.1 (1.9)	0.8 (1.4)	-0.1 (-0.2)	0.1 (0.1)	-0.3 (-0.6)	-1.3 (-2.4)	0.7 (1.2)	0.1 (0.2)
2014 Avg	-0.7 (30.9)	5.3 (41.6)	9.1 (48.3)	16.3 (61.3)	0.7 (69.1)	24.6 (76.3)	24.2 (75.6)	25.2 (77.4)	23.5 (73.4)	15.9 (60.7)	6.7 (44.1)	6.6 (43.8)	14.7 (58.5)
<i>Precipitation, mm (in.)</i>													
1970–1979 Avg	143.4 (5.65)	94.6 (3.72)	169.4 (6.67)	118.3 (4.66)	149.8 (5.89)	120.5 (4.74)	130.4 (5.13)	109.8 (4.32)	107.2 (4.22)	99.8 (3.93)	129.6 (5.10)	145.3 (5.72)	1518.1 (59.75)
1980–1989 Avg	100.4 (3.95)	109.1 (4.29)	112.6 (4.43)	88.8 (3.49)	110.6 (4.35)	84.1 (3.31)	120.4 (4.74)	82.6 (3.25)	108.9 (4.29)	79.8 (3.14)	128.0 (5.04)	107.6 (4.23)	1232.5 (48.51)
1990–1999 Avg	141.5 (5.57)	136.5 (5.37)	149.0 (5.86)	126.3 (4.97)	113.4 (4.47)	110.0 (4.33)	134.8 (5.31)	83.6 (3.29)	71.9 (2.83)	67.3 (2.65)	109.8 (4.32)	161.0 (6.34)	1405.3 (55.31)
2000–2009 Avg	116.9 (4.60)	121.8 (4.80)	115.6 (4.55)	125.0 (4.92)	117.8 (4.64)	95.2 (3.75)	138.9 (5.47)	78.4 (3.09)	108.8 (4.28)	74.0 (2.91)	121.4 (4.78)	124.4 (4.90)	1338.7 (52.69)
2010–2014 Avg	161.3 (6.35)	103.9 (4.09)	128.3 (5.05)	132.1 (5.20)	95.8 (3.77)	128.3 (5.05)	165.7 (6.52)	72.9 (2.87)	143.8 (5.66)	86.9 (3.42)	133.4 (5.25)	139.7 (5.50)	1492.2 (58.73)
1980s vs. 2010s	61.0 (2.40)	-5.1 (-0.20)	15.8 (0.62)	43.4 (1.71)	-14.7 (-0.58)	44.2 (1.74)	45.2 (1.78)	-9.7 (-0.38)	34.8 (1.37)	7.1 (0.28)	5.3 (0.21)	32.3 (1.27)	259.7 (10.22)
2000s vs. 2010s	44.5 (1.75)	-18.0 (-0.71)	12.7 (0.50)	7.1 (0.28)	-22.1 (-0.87)	33.0 (1.30)	26.7 (1.05)	-5.6 (-0.22)	35.1 (1.38)	13.0 (0.51)	11.9 (0.47)	15.2 (0.60)	153.5 (6.04)
2014 Totals	72.9 (2.87)	128.8 (5.07)	95.0 (3.74)	112.8 (4.44)	62.8 (2.47)	142.0 (5.59)	202.2 (7.96)	79.5 (3.13)	64.0 (2.52)	160.1 (6.30)	60.0 (2.36)	149.1 (5.87)	1329.3 (52.32)
<i>Snowfall, cm (in.)</i>													
1970–1979 Avg	11.1 (4.4)	12.5 (4.9)	4.2 (1.7)	0.2 (0.1)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.5 (0.2)	4.4 (1.8)	33.3 (13.1)
1980–1989 Avg	11.3 (4.5)	8.8 (3.5)	2.2 (0.9)	2.2 (0.9)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7.5 (3.0)	32.5 (12.8)
1990–1999 Avg	6.8 (2.7)	7.8 (3.1)	8.1 (3.2)	Trace	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.3 (0.1)	3.1 (1.2)	26.2 (10.3)
2000–2009 Avg	2.1 (0.8)	4.5 (1.8)	Trace	Trace	0	0	0	0	0	0	Trace	1.7 (0.7)	8.4 (3.3)
2010–2014 Avg	6.1 (2.4)	6.9 (2.7)	0.8 (0.3)	0.0 (0.0)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.5 (0.2)	3.1 (1.2)	17.3 (6.8)
1980s vs. 2010s	-5.2 (-2.1)	-1.9 (-0.8)	-1.4 (-0.6)	-2.2 (-0.9)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.5 (0.2)	-4.4 (-1.8)	-15.2 (-6.0)
2000s vs. 2010s	4.0 (1.6)	2.4 (0.9)	0.8 (0.3)	0.0 (0.0)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.5 (0.2)	1.4 (0.5)	8.9 (3.5)
2014 Totals	6.6 (2.6)	18.8 (7.4)	Trace	Trace	0	0	0	0	0	0	Trace	0.0 (0.0)	25.4 (10.0)

Table B.3. Hourly subfreezing temperature data for Oak Ridge, Tennessee, January 1985–March 2015^a
(Hours at or below 0, -5, -10, and -15°C^a)

Year	January				February				March			April		May		October			November				December				Annual			
	≤0	<-5	<-10	<-15	≤0	<-5	<-10	<-15	≤0	<-5	<-10	≤0	<-5	≤0	<-5	≤0	<-5	<-10	≤0	<-5	<-10	<-15	≤0	<-5	<-10	<-15	≤0	<-5	<-10	<-15
1985	467	195	103	39	331	127	26	0	105	6	0	43	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	431	201	66	2	1399	532	195	41	
1986	308	125	38	10	161	29	3	0	124	28	0	17	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	232	34	0	0	874	226	41	10	
1987	302	53	7	0	111	19	3	0	95	0	0	55	4	0	0	0	36	0	0	0	0	151	16	0	0	853	110	10	0	
1988	385	182	43	0	294	102	19	0	97	9	0	6	0	0	0	0	45	0	0	0	0	301	55	0	0	1190	351	62	0	
1989	163	27	0	0	190	66	10	0	35	0	0	18	0	3	0	7	0	0	0	0	0	421	188	71	30	962	295	81	30	
1990	142	13	0	0	115	5	0	0	35	0	0	35	0	0	0	0	19	0	0	0	0	172	43	5	0	580	62	5	0	
1991	186	44	0	0	158	47	15	0	49	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	192	38	0	0	737	145	15	0	
1992	230	65	8	0	116	22	0	0	116	4	0	27	2	0	0	7	0	0	0	0	0	166	9	0	0	762	102	8	0	
1993	125	11	0	0	245	47	8	0	124	32	9	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	223	44	0	0	872	136	17	0	
1994	337	191	85	26	196	46	3	0	66	0	0	18	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	142	0	0	0	812	238	88	26	
1995	240	45	6	0	217	84	18	0	37	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	288	84	10	0	924	216	34	0	
1996	301	91	0	0	225	110	62	27	182	49	6	23	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	194	40	4	0	1029	290	72	27	
1997	254	101	24	0	67	0	0	0	25	0	0	6	0	0	0	6	0	0	0	0	0	232	14	0	0	686	125	24	0	
1998	97	10	7	0	25	0	0	0	74	20	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	132	4	0	0	366	34	7	0	
1999	181	68	0	0	113	14	0	0	62	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	177	23	0	0	578	105	0	0	
2000	273	62	5	0	127	30	0	0	18	0	0	8	0	0	0	0	0	11	0	0	0	345	124	7	0	876	227	12	0	
2001	281	60	5	0	79	9	0	0	53	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	18	0	0	0	137	35	0	0	598	104	5	0	
2002	185	28	0	0	121	16	0	0	91	17	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	82	6	0	0	522	67	0	0	
2003	345	123	26	0	117	12	0	0	19	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	102	9	0	0	620	144	26	0	
2004	285	50	2	0	76	0	0	0	18	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	247	41	4	0	635	91	6	0	
2005	151	65	6	0	52	1	0	0	81	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	176	28	0	0	516	95	6	0	
2006	70	0	0	0	169	19	0	0	44	0	0	0	0	0	0	15	0	0	0	0	0	126	41	1	0	461	60	1	0	
2007	189	30	5	0	283	70	0	0	29	0	0	32	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	83	8	0	0	673	111	5	0	
2008	242	86	11	0	114	7	0	0	69	6	0	0	0	0	0	15	0	0	0	0	0	157	34	5	0	686	151	16	0	
2009	238	93	29	0	178	64	5	0	55	15	0	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	178	22	0	0	662	194	34	0	
2010	384	181	14	0	289	32	0	0	40	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	364	109	11	0	1123	324	25	0	
2011	300	61	0	0	108	14	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	0	0	0	0	0	91	0	0	0	535	75	0	0	
2012	169	27	0	0	78	19	0	0	9	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	76	0	0	0	379	46	0	0	
2013	245	49	0	0	120	12	0	0	95	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	11	0	0	0	173	6	0	0	765	74	0	0	
2014	371	208	76	12	109	5	0	0	68	0	0	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	94	1	0	0	769	224	76	12	
2015 ^b	228	52	16	0	371	120	31	6	46	15	0																			
Avg.	248	78	17	3	153	34	6	1	63	7	1	10	0	0	0	7	0	0	0	0	0	200	43	6	1	740	165	29	5	

^aSource: 1985–2015 National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Atmospheric Turbulence and Diffusion Division, KOQT Station, Automated Surface Observing System.

^b2015 values through March 24, 2015.

The previously discussed increase in winter temperatures has affected monthly and annual snowfall amounts until recently. During the 1970s and 1980s, snowfall averaged about 25.4–28 cm (10–11 in.) annually in Oak Ridge. However, during the most recent full decade (2000s), snowfall has averaged only 6.6 cm (2.6 in.). This decrease seems to have occurred largely since the mid-1990s. The slight cooling of winter temperatures in the 2010s thus far has reversed the decrease in snowfall, with annual averages of 16.8 cm (6.6 in.) for January 2010 through March 2015. Concurrent with the overall decrease in snowfall, the annual number of hours of subfreezing weather has generally declined since the 1980s (Table B.3). However, the number of subfreezing hours during 2010 (1,123) was the highest recorded since 1988, and January 2014 was the coldest January since 1985, with 371 subfreezing hours. Similarly, February 2015 was the coldest since 1978, with 371 subfreezing hours.

Select wind roses for the ORR towers that show wind direction for hours with precipitation and other relevant meteorological parameters have been compiled for 2014 and may be reviewed at <http://web.ornl.gov/adm/fo/lp/orrm/page7.htm>.

Hourly values of subfreezing temperatures in Oak Ridge are presented in Table B.3 for January 1985 to March 24, 2015. During the middle-to-late 1980s, a typical year experienced about 900–1,000 h of subfreezing temperatures. In recent years, the value has fallen to about 500–700 h, though higher values have occurred recently (2010 at 1,123 h). Other statistics on winter precipitation may be found at <http://web.ornl.gov/adm/fo/lp/orrm/page5.htm>.

B.4 Moisture

ORR's humid environment results in frequent saturation of the surface layer, especially at night. Average annual humidity at Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL) is 73.5% (1998–2013). In terms of absolute humidity (g/m^3), the average annual humidity for ORR is $10.24 \text{ g}/\text{m}^3$. This value varies greatly throughout the annual cycle, ranging from a monthly minimum of about $4.9 \text{ g}/\text{m}^3$ during winter to a maximum of about $17.2 \text{ g}/\text{m}^3$ in summer. These data are summarized for absolute and relative humidity and dew point at <http://web.ornl.gov/adm/fo/lp/orrm/page5.htm>.

B.5 Severe Weather

On average, thunderstorms and associated lightning occur in the Oak Ridge area at a rate of 49 days/year, with a monthly maximum between 10 and 11 occurring in July. About 44 of these thunderstorm days occur during a 7-month period from April through October, with the remainder spread evenly throughout the late fall and winter. Monthly and annual average numbers of thunderstorm days for ORNL and Knoxville McGhee-Tyson Airport, respectively, during 2001–2014 can be viewed at <http://web.ornl.gov/adm/fo/lp/orrm/page5.htm>. The highest number of thunderstorm days at ORNL was observed during 2012 (65) and the lowest during 2007 (34).

Hailstorms are infrequent on ORR but typically occur in association with severe thunderstorms. The phenomenon usually occurs as a result of high altitude thunderstorm updrafts, which propel water droplets above the freezing level. Some hail events have been known to occur in association with non-thunder rain showers in association with low freezing levels (particularly during winter or spring). Most hailstorm occurrences (77%) do not result in hailstones larger than 2 cm (0.79 in.). During 1961–1990, about six hail events having hailstones larger than about 2 cm were documented to have occurred at locations within 40 km (25 miles) of ORNL. Virtually all of these events occurred during the summer and fall seasons. During the 2011 significant tornado outbreak in East Tennessee, large hail greater than 2 cm was observed in Farragut, Tennessee, about 15 km (9 miles) southeast of ORNL.

Although greater tornado frequencies occur in Middle and West Tennessee, East Tennessee experiences infrequent tornado outbreaks (once every 3 to 6 years on average). Tornado indices from the National Weather Service in Morristown, Tennessee, show that since 1950, three tornadoes have been documented within 10 km (6 miles) of ORNL, represented by two F0 (Fujita Scale) tornadoes and one F3 tornado. A moderately strong F3 tornado occurred in February 1993 and moved through Bear Creek Valley near the Y-12 National Security Complex (Y-12), with winds damaging the roofs of several buildings along Union Valley Road. To date, the February 1993 tornado has been the only documented tornado to occur within ORR.

An additional nine tornadoes have been documented since 1950 at distances within 20 km (12 miles) of ORNL, ranging in intensity from F0/EF0 (Enhanced Fujita Scale) to F2/EF2 in intensity. The most recent of these were three EF0–EF1 tornadoes that occurred during the April 27, 2011, tornado outbreak and an EF0 tornado near Kingston, Tennessee, on June 10, 2014. The storm system that produced this latter tornado brought a squall line through ORNL that produced high winds and some minor damage. The remaining group of tornadoes that were within 20 km of ORNL affected eastern Roane County to the south and the Edgemoor Road area to the northeast of ORR. Another 10 tornadoes, ranging from F0/EF0 to F3/EF3 in intensity, have occurred within 35 km (22 miles) of ORNL since 1950. Most of these occurred to the east and south of ORR in Knox and Roane Counties; however, a few of these occurred in the Lake City and Norris areas. Tornado statistics relevant to ORR are provided for Anderson, Knox, Loudon, and Roane Counties at <http://web.ornl.gov/adm/fo/lp/orrm/page5.htm>.

The annual probability that a tornado will strike any location in a grid square may be estimated by multiplying the number of tornadoes per year per square kilometer (in that particular grid square) by the path area of a tornado. The result of such a calculation is seen to be greatly affected by the assumption of the size of the path area of a tornado. In total, about 22 tornadoes have been documented within 35 km (22 miles) of ORNL since 1950. This represents a surface area of 3,848 km² (1,485 miles²) and yields a probability of about 0.006 tornadoes per square kilometer per 50-year period.

B.6 Stability

The local ridge-and-valley terrain plays a role in the development of stable surface air under certain conditions and influences the dynamics of air flow. Although ridge-and-valley terrain creates identifiable patterns of association during unstable conditions as well, strong vertical mixing and momentum tend to reduce these effects. “Stability” describes the tendency of the atmosphere to mix (especially vertically) or overturn. Consequently, dispersion parameters are influenced by the stability characteristics of the atmosphere. Stability classes range from “A” (very unstable) to “G” (very stable), with “D” being a neutral state.

The suppression of vertical motions during stable conditions increases the effect of local terrain on air motion. Conversely, stable conditions isolate wind flows within the ridge-and-valley terrain from the effects of more distant terrain features and from winds aloft. These effects are particularly significant with respect to mountain waves. Deep stable layers of air tend to reduce the vertical space available for oscillating vertical air motions caused by local mountain ranges (Smith et al. 2002). This effect on mountain wave formation may be important with regard to the impact that the nearby Cumberland Mountains may have on local air flow.

A second factor that may decouple large-scale wind flow effects from local ones (and thus produce stable surface layers) occurs with overcast sky conditions. Clouds overlying the Great Valley may warm due to direct insolation on the cloud tops. Warming may also occur within the clouds as latent energy, which is released due to the condensation of moisture. Surface air underlying the clouds may remain relatively cool as the layer remains cut off from direct exposure to the sun. Consequently, the vertical temperature gradient

associated with the air mass becomes more stable (Lewellen and Lewellen 2002). Long wave cooling of fog decks has also been observed to help modify stability in the surface layer (Whiteman et al. 2001).

Stable boundary layers typically form as a result of radiational cooling processes near the ground (Van De Weil et al. 2002); however, they are also influenced by the mechanical energy supplied by horizontal wind motion, which is in turn influenced by the synoptic-scale “weather”-related pressure gradient. Ridge-and-valley terrain may have significant ability to block such winds and their associated mechanical energy (Carlson and Stull 1986). Consequently, radiational cooling at the surface is enhanced since there is less wind energy available to remove chilled air.

Stable boundary layers also exhibit intermittent turbulence, which has been associated with a number of the above factors. The process results from “give-and-take” between the effects of friction and radiational cooling. As a stable surface layer intensifies via a radiation cooling process, it tends to decouple from air aloft, thereby reducing the effects of surface friction. The upper air layer responds with an acceleration in wind speed. Increased wind speed aloft results in an increase in mechanical turbulence and wind shear at the boundary with the stable surface layer. Eventually, the turbulence works into the surface layer and weakens it. As the inversion weakens, friction again increases, reducing winds aloft. The reduced wind speeds aloft allow enhanced radiation cooling at the surface, which reintensifies the inversion and allows the process to start again. Van De Weil et al. (2002) have shown that cyclical temperature oscillations up to 4°C (7°F) may result from these processes. Since these intermittent processes are driven primarily by large-scale horizontal wind flow and radiational cooling of the surface, ridge-and-valley terrain significantly affect these oscillations.

Wind roses for stability and mixing depth have been compiled for all of the ORR tower sites for 2014. These may be viewed at <http://web.ornl.gov/adm/fo/lp/orrm/page7.htm>. Stability values for ORNL during 2014 were primarily calculated with the Sigma Phi method (using the standard deviation of the elevation angle of the vertical wind direction), while those for Y-12 and the East Tennessee Technology Park were calculated using the SRDT method (based on solar radiation, wind speed, and delta temperature inputs). The wind roses in general reveal that both unstable conditions and/or deep mixing depths are associated with less channeling of winds, while stable conditions and/or shallow mixing depths tend to promote channeled flow. Associated mixing height tables can be accessed at <http://web.ornl.gov/adm/fo/lp/orrm/page5.htm>.

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Appendix C. Reference Standards and Data for Water

Appendix C. Reference Standards and Data for Water

Table C.1. Reference standards for radionuclides in water

Parameter ^a	National primary drinking water standard ^b	DCS ^c
²⁴¹ Am		170
²¹⁴ Bi		260,000
¹⁰⁹ Cd		16,000
¹⁴³ Ce		26,000
⁶⁰ Co		7,200
⁵¹ Cr		790,000
¹³⁷ Cs		3,000
¹⁵⁵ Eu		87,000
Gross alpha ^d	15	
Gross beta (mrem/year)	4	
³ H	20,000 ^e	1,900,000
¹³¹ I		1,300
⁴⁰ K		4,800
²³⁷ Np		320
^{234m} Pa		71,000
²³⁸ Pu		150
^{239/240} Pu		140
²²⁶ Ra	5 ^f	87
²²⁸ Ra	5 ^f	25
¹⁰⁶ Ru		4,100
⁹⁰ Sr	8 ^e	1,100
⁹⁹ Tc		44,000
²²⁸ Th		340
²³⁰ Th		160
²³² Th		140
²³⁴ Th		8,400
Thorium, natural		140
²³⁴ U		680
²³⁵ U		720
²³⁶ U		720
²³⁸ U		750
Uranium, natural		750
Uranium, total ^g (µg/L)	30	680

Table C.1 (continued)

^aOnly the radionuclides included in the Oak Ridge Reservation monitoring programs are listed. Unless labeled otherwise, units are pCi/L.

^b40 CFR Part 141, *National Primary Drinking Water Regulations*, Subparts B and G. The drinking water standards are presented strictly for reference purposes and have regulatory applicability only for public water supplies.

^cDOE. “*Derived Concentration Technical Standard, DOE-STD-1196-2011, April 2011.*”

^dExcludes radon and uranium.

^eThese values are not maximum contaminant levels but are concentrations that result in the effective dose equivalent of the maximum contaminant level for gross beta emissions, which is 4 mrem/year.

^fApplies to combined ²²⁶Ra and ²²⁸Ra.

^gMinimum of uranium isotopes.

Table C.2. TDEC and EPA nonradiological water quality standards and criteria (µg/L)

Chemical	TDEC and EPA Drinking Water Standards ^a	TDEC Fish and Aquatic Life Criteria		TDEC recreation criteria water + organisms, organisms only ^b
		Maximum	Continuous	
Acenaphthene				670, 990
Acrolein				190,290
Acrylonitrile (c)				0.51, 2.5
Alachlor	2 (E1, T)			
Aldrin (c)		3.0	–	0.00049, 0.00050
Aldicarb	3 (E1)			
Aldicarb sulfoxide	4 (E1)			
Aldicarb sulfone	2 (E1)			
Aluminum	50 – 200 (E2)			
Anthracene				8300, 40,000
Antimony	6 (E1, T)			5.6, 640
Arsenic (c)	10 (E1, T)			10.0, 10.0
Arsenic(III) ^c		340 ^c	150 ^c	
Asbestos	7 million fibers/L (MFL) (E1)			
Atrazine	3 (E1, T)			
Barium	2000 (E1, T)			
Benzene (c)	5 (E1, T)			22, 510
Benzidine (c)				0.00086, 0.0020
Benzo(a)anthracene (c)				0.038, 0.18
Benzo(a)pyrene (c)	0.2 (E1, T)			0.038, 0.18
Benzo(b)fluoranthene (c)				0.038, 0.18
Benzo(k)fluoranthene (c)				0.038, 0.18
Beryllium	4 (E1, T)			
a-BHC (c)				0.026, 0.049
b-BHC (c)				0.091, 0.17
g-BHC (Lindane)	0.2 (E1, T)	0.95	–	0.98, 1.8
Bis(2-chloroethyl)ether (c)				0.30, 5.3
Bis(2-chloro-isopropyl)ether				1400, 65,000
Bis(2-ethylhexyl)phthalate (c)				12, 22
Bromate	10 (E1)			
Bromoform (c)				43, 1400
Butylbenzyl phthalate				1500, 1900
Cadmium	5 (E1, T)	2.0 ^d	0.25 ^d	

Table C.2 (continued)

Chemical	TDEC and EPA Drinking Water Standards ^a	TDEC Fish and Aquatic Life Criteria		TDEC recreation criteria water + organisms, organisms only ^b
		Maximum	Continuous	
Carbofuran	40 (E1, T)			
Carbon tetrachloride (c)	5 (E1, T)			2.3, 16
Chlordane (c)	2 (E1, T)	2.4	0.0043	0.0080, 0.0081
Chloride	250,000 (E2)			
Chlorine (TRC)	4000 (E1)	19	11	
Chlorite	1000 (E1)			
Chlorobenzene				130, 1600
Chlorodibromomethane (c)				4.0, 130
Chloroform (c)				57, 4700
Chloromines (as Cl ₂)	4000 (E1)			
Chlorine dioxide (as Cl ₂)	800 (E1)			
2-Chloronaphthalene				1000, 1600
2-Chlorophenol				81, 150
Chromium (total)	100 (E1, T)			
Chromium(III)		570 ^d	74 ^d	
Chromium(VI) ^c		16 ^c	11 ^c	
Chrysene (c)				0.038, 0.18
Coliforms	630/100 mL, <i>E. coli</i> , geometric mean (T); no more than 5% of samples per month can be positive for total coliforms (E1)	2880/100 mL, <i>E. coli</i> (single sample)	630/100 mL, <i>E. coli</i> (geometric mean)	126/100 mL, geometric mean, <i>E. coli</i> 487, maximum lakes/reservoirs, <i>E. coli</i> 941, maximum, other water bodies, <i>E. coli</i>
Color	15 color units (E2)			
Copper	1000 (E2) 1300 (E1 "Action Level")	13 ^d	9.0 ^d	
Cyanide (as free cyanide)	200 (E1, T)	22	5.2	140, 140
2,4-D (Dichlorophenoxyacetic acid)	70 (E1, T)			
4,4'-DDT (c)		1.1	0.001	0.0022, 0.0022
4,4'-DDE (c)				0.0022, 0.0022
4,4'-DDD (c)				0.0031, 0.0031
Dalapon	200 (E1, T)			
Demeton			0.1	
Diazinon		0.1	0.1	
Dibenz(a,h)anthracene (c)				0.038, 0.18
1,2-dibromo-3-chloropropane (DBCP)	0.2 (E1, T)			
1,2-Dichlorobenzene (<i>ortho</i> -)	600 (E1, T)			420, 1300
1,3-Dichlorobenzene (<i>meta</i> -)				320, 960
1,4-Dichlorobenzene (<i>para</i> -)	75 (E1, T)			63, 190
3,3-Dichlorobenzidine (c)				0.21, 0.28
Dichlorobromomethane (c)				5.5, 170
1,2-Dichloroethane (c)	5 (E1, T)			3.8, 370
1,1-Dichloroethylene	7 (E1, T)			330, 7100
Cis-1,2-Dichloroethylene	70 (E1, T)			
trans 1,2-Dichloroethylene	100 (E1, T)			140, 10,000
Dichloromethane	5 (E1, T)			
2,4-Dichlorophenol				77, 290

Table C.2 (continued)

Chemical	TDEC and EPA Drinking Water Standards ^a	TDEC Fish and Aquatic Life Criteria		TDEC recreation criteria water + organisms, organisms only ^b
		Maximum	Continuous	
1,2-Dichloropropane (c)	5 (E1, T)			5.0, 150
1,3-Dichloropropene (c)				3.4, 210
Dieldrin (c)		0.24	0.056	0.00052, 0.00054
Diethyl phthalate				17,000, 44,000
Di (2-ethylhexyl) adipate	400 (E1, T)			
Di (2-ethylhexyl) phthalate	6 (E1, T)			
Dinoseb	7 (E1, T)			
Dimethyl phthalate				270,000, 1,100,000
2,4-Dimethylphenol				380, 850
Di-n-butyl phthalate				2000, 4500
2,4-Dinitrophenol				69, 5300
2,4-Dinitrotoluene (c)				1.1, 34
Dioxin (2,3,7,8-TCDD) (c)	3 E-5 (E1, T)			0.000001, 0.000001
Diquat	20 (E1, T)			
1,2-Diphenylhydrazine (c)				0.36, 2.0
a-Endosulfan		0.22	0.056	62, 89
b-Endosulfan		0.22	0.056	62, 89
Endosulfan sulfate				62, 89
Endothall	100 (E1, T)			
Endrin	2 (E1, T)	0.086	0.036	0.059, 0.06
Endrin aldehyde				0.29, 0.30
Ethylbenzene	700 (E1, T)			530, 2100
Ethylene dibromide	0.05 (E1, T)			
Fluoranthene				130, 140
Fluorene				1100, 5300
Fluoride	2000 (E2) 4000 (E1)			
Foaming agents	500 (E2)			
Glyphosate	700 (E1, T)			
Guthion			0.01	
Haloacetic acids (five)	60 (E1)			
Heptachlor (c)	0.4 (E1, T)	0.52	0.0038	0.00079, 0.00079
Heptachlor epoxide (c)	0.2 (E1, T)	0.52	0.0038	0.00039, 0.00039
Hexachlorobenzene (c)	1 (E1, T)			0.0028, 0.0029
Hexachlorobutadiene (c)				4.4, 180
Hexachlorocyclopentadiene	50 (E1, T)			40, 1100
Hexachloroethane (c)				14, 33
Ideno(1,2,3-cd)pyrene (c)				0.038, 0.18
Iron	300 (E2)			
Isophorone (c)				350, 9600
Lead	5 (T) 15 (E1 "Action Level")	65 ^d	2.5 ^d	
Malathion			0.1	
Manganese	50 (E2)			
Mercury (inorganic) ^c	2 (E1, T)	1.4 ^c	0.77 ^c	0.05, 0.051
Methoxychlor	40 (E1, T)		0.03	
Methyl bromide				47, 1500
2-Methyl-4,6-dinitrophenol				13, 280

Table C.2 (continued)

Chemical	TDEC and EPA Drinking Water Standards ^a	TDEC Fish and Aquatic Life Criteria		TDEC recreation criteria water + organisms, organisms only ^b
		Maximum	Continuous	
Methylene chloride (Dichloromethane) (c)				46, 5900
Mirex			0.001	
Monochlorobenzene	100 (E1, T)			
Nickel	100 (T)	470 ^d	52 ^d	610, 4600
Nitrate as N	10,000 (E1)			
Nitrite as N	1000 (E1, T)			
Nitrobenzene				17, 690
N-Nitrosodimethylamine (c)				0.0069, 30
N-Nitrosodi-n-propylamine (c)				0.05, 5.1
N-Nitrosodiphenylamine (c)				33, 60
Nonylphenol		28.0	6.6	
Odor	3 threshold odor number (E2)			
Oxamyl (Vydate)	200 (E1, T)			
Parathion		0.065	0.013	
Pentachlorophenol (c)	1 (E1, T)	19 ^e	15 ^e	2.7, 30
pH	6.5 to 8.5 units (E2) 6.0 to 9.0 units (T)		6.0 to 9.0 units, wade-able streams 6.5 to 9.0 units, larger rivers, lakes, etc	6.0 to 9.0 units
Phenol				21,000, 1,700,000
Picloram	500 (E1, T)			
PCBs, total (c)	0.5 (E1, T)	–	0.014	0.00064, 0.00064
Pyrene				830, 4000
Selenium	50 (E1, T)	20	5	
Silver	100 (E2)	3.2 ^d	–	
Simazine	4 (E1, T)			
Styrene	100 (E1, T)			
Sulfate	250,000 (E2)			
1,1,2,2-Tetrachloroethane (c)				1.7, 40
Tetrachloroethylene (c)	5 (E1, T)			6.9, 33
Thallium	2 (E1, T)			0.24, 0.47
Toluene	1000 (E1, T)			1300, 15,000
Total dissolved solids	500,000 (E2)			
Total Nitrate and Nitrite	10,000 as N (E1)			
Total trihalomethanes	80 (E1)			
Toxaphene (c)	3 (E1, T)	0.73	0.0002	0.0028, 0.0028
2,4,5-TP (Silvex)	50 (E1, T)			
Tributyltin (TBT)		0.46	0.072	
1,2,4-Trichlorobenzene	70 (E1, T)			35, 70
1,1,1-Trichloroethane	200 (E1, T)			
1,1,2-Trichloroethane (c)	5 (E1, T)			5.9, 160
Trichloroethylene (c)	5 (E1, T)			25, 300
2,4,6-Trichlorophenol (c)				14, 24

Table C.2 (continued)

Chemical	TDEC and EPA Drinking Water Standards ^a	TDEC Fish and Aquatic Life Criteria		TDEC recreation criteria water + organisms, organisms only ^b
		Maximum	Continuous	
Vinyl chloride (c)	2 (E1, T)			0.25, 24
Xylenes (total)	10,000 (E1, T)			
Zinc	5000 (E2)	120 ^d	120 ^d	

^aE1 = EPA Primary Drinking Water Standards; E2 = EPA Secondary Drinking Water Standards; T = TDEC domestic water supply criteria.

^bFor each parameter, the first recreational criterion is for “water and organisms” and is applicable on the Oak Ridge Reservation (ORR) only to the Clinch River because the Clinch is the only stream on ORR that is classified for both domestic water supply and for recreation. The second criterion is for “organisms only” and is applicable to the other streams on ORR. TDEC uses a 10⁻⁵ risk level for recreational criteria for all carcinogenic pollutants (designated with “(c)” under “Chemical” column). Recreational criteria for noncarcinogenic chemicals are set using a 10⁻⁶ risk level. (Note: All federal recreational criteria are set at a 10⁻⁶ risk level.)

^cCriteria are expressed as dissolved.

^dCriteria are expressed as dissolved and are a function of total hardness (mg/L). Criteria displayed correspond to a total hardness of 100 mg/L.

^eCriteria are expressed as a function of pH; values shown correspond to a pH of 7.8.

Abbreviations

TDEC = Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation

EPA = US Environmental Protection Agency

**Appendix D. National Pollutant Discharge
Elimination System Noncompliance
Summaries for 2014**

Appendix D. National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Noncompliance Summaries for 2014

D.1 Y-12 National Security Complex

The Y-12 complex was in full compliance with the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit in 2014. About 3,400 data points were obtained from sampling required by the NPDES permit. Compliance with permit discharge limits for 2014 was 100%.

The Industrial and Commercial User Wastewater Discharge Permit defines requirements for the discharge of wastewaters to the sanitary sewer system and prohibitions for certain types of wastewaters. It prescribes requirements for monitoring certain parameters at the East End Sanitary Sewer Monitoring Station. Monitoring results during 2014 indicate two exceedances of the permit for mercury during October 2014. The exceedances were the result of a cleaning and lining project conducted near Building 9203. It is suspected the cleaning operation displaced elemental mercury that was lying in the cracks and low spots in the piping. Once the first exceedance was discovered, an enhanced sampling plan was implemented that required three 24-hour composite and four grab samples to be taken each week. This sampling plan was continued until mercury concentrations returned to historical levels.

D.2 East Tennessee Technology Park

The East Tennessee Technology Park was in full compliance with the NPDES Permit in 2014 based on 148 laboratory analyses and 161 field measurements and flow estimates. There were no instances of NPDES Permit nonconformances.

D.3 Oak Ridge National Laboratory

Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL) was in full compliance with the NPDES Permit in 2014 based on 3,195 laboratory analyses and 2,839 field measurements and flow estimates. There were no instances of NPDES Permit nonconformances.

The ORNL Sewage Treatment Plant (STP) has experienced several instances in past years where the rate of influent after heavy rain storms overwhelms the existing pump system and results in partial treatment (disinfection) before discharge to White Oak Creek. A project is in progress to upgrade the ORNL STP, which includes increased influent handling capacity and improved storm water drainage. The project is estimated to be completed in 2016.

Appendix E. Radiation

Appendix E. Radiation

This appendix presents basic information about radiation. The information is intended to be a basis for understanding the potential doses associated with releases of radionuclides from the Oak Ridge Reservation (ORR), not as a comprehensive discussion of radiation and its effects on the environment and biological systems.

Radiation comes from natural and human-made sources. People are exposed to naturally occurring radiation constantly. For example, cosmic radiation; radon in air; potassium in food and water; and uranium, thorium, and radium in the earth's crust are all sources of radiation. The following discussion describes important aspects of radiation, types, sources, and pathways of radiation; radiation measurement; and dose information.

E.1 Atoms and Isotopes

All matter is made up of atoms. An atom is “a unit of matter consisting of a single nucleus surrounded by a number of electrons equal to the number of protons in the nucleus” (Alter 1986). The number of protons in the nucleus determines an element's atomic number or chemical identity. With the exception of hydrogen, the nucleus of each type of atom also contains at least one neutron. Unlike protons, the neutrons may vary in number among atoms of the same element. The number of neutrons and protons determines the atomic weight. Atoms of the same element that have different numbers of neutrons are called isotopes. In other words, isotopes have the same chemical properties but different atomic weights (Fig. E.1).

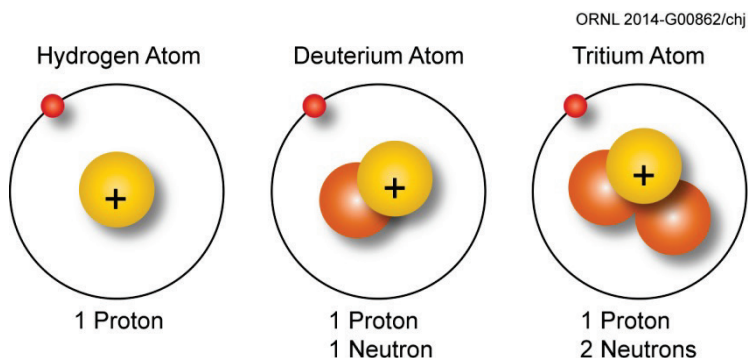


Fig. E.1. The hydrogen atom and its isotopes.

For example, the element uranium has 92 protons. All isotopes of uranium, therefore, have 92 protons. However, each uranium isotope has a different number of neutrons:

- uranium-238 has 92 protons and 146 neutrons,
- uranium-235 has 92 protons and 143 neutrons, and
- uranium-234 has 92 protons and 142 neutrons.

Some isotopes are stable, or nonradioactive; some are radioactive. Radioactive isotopes are called “radionuclides” or “radioisotopes.” In an attempt to become stable, radionuclides emit rays or particles. This emission of rays and particles is known as radioactive decay. Each radioisotope has a “radioactive half-life,” which is the average time required for half of a specified number of atoms to decay. Half-lives can be very short (fractions of a second) or very long (millions of years), depending on the isotope (Table E.1).

Table E.1. Selected radionuclide half-lives

Radionuclide	Symbol	Half-life (years unless otherwise noted)	Radionuclide	Symbol	Half-life (years unless otherwise noted)
Americium-241	²⁴¹ Am	432.2	Plutonium-238	²³⁸ Pu	87.74
Americium-243	²⁴³ Am	7.37E+3	Plutonium-239	²³⁹ Pu	2.411E+4
Argon-41	⁴¹ Ar	1.827 hours	Plutonium-240	²⁴⁰ Pu	6.564E+3
Beryllium-7	⁷ Be	53.22 days	Potassium-40	⁴⁰ K	1.251E+9
Californium-252	²⁵² Cf	2.645	Radium-226	²²⁶ Ra	1.6E+3
Carbon-11	¹¹ C	20.39 minutes	Radium-228	²²⁸ Ra	5.75
Carbon-14	¹⁴ C	5.70E+3	Ruthenium-103	¹⁰³ Ru	39.26 days
Cerium-141	¹⁴¹ Ce	32.508 days	Samarium-153	¹⁵³ Sm	46.5 hours
Cerium-144	¹⁴⁴ Ce	284.91 days	Strontium-89	⁸⁹ Sr	50.53 days
Cesium-134	¹³⁴ Cs	2.0648	Strontium-90	⁹⁰ Sr	28.79
Cesium-137	¹³⁷ Cs	30.167	Technetium-99	⁹⁹ Tc	2.111E+5
Cesium-138	¹³⁸ Cs	32.41 minutes	Thorium-228	²²⁸ Th	1.9116
Cobalt-58	⁵⁸ Co	70.86 days	Thorium-230	²³⁰ Th	7.538E+4
Cobalt-60	⁶⁰ Co	5.271	Thorium-232	²³² Th	1.405E+10
Curium-242	²⁴² Cm	162.8 days	Thorium-234	²³⁴ Th	24.1 days
Curium-244	²⁴⁴ Cm	18.1	Tritium	³ H	12.32
Iodine-129	¹²⁹ I	157E+7	Uranium-234	²³⁴ U	2.455E+5
Iodine-131	¹³¹ I	8.02 days	Uranium-235	²³⁵ U	7.04E+8
Krypton-85	⁸⁵ Kr	10.756	Uranium-236	²³⁶ U	2.342E+7
Krypton-88	⁸⁸ Kr	2.84 hours	Uranium-238	²³⁸ U	4.468E+9
Lead-212	²¹² Pb	10.64 hours	Xenon-133	¹³³ Xe	5.243 days
Manganese-54	⁵⁴ Mn	312.12 days	Xenon-135	¹³⁵ Xe	9.14 hours
Neptunium-237	²³⁷ Np	2.144E+6	Yttrium-90	⁹⁰ Y	64.1 hours
Niobium-95	⁹⁵ Nb	34.991 days	Zirconium-95	⁹⁵ Zr	64.032 days

Source: ICRP 2008.

E.2 Radiation

Radiation, or radiant energy, is energy in the form of waves or particles moving through space. Visible light, heat, radio waves, and alpha particles are examples of radiation. When people feel warmth from sunlight, they are actually absorbing the radiant energy emitted by the sun.

Electromagnetic radiation is radiation in the form of electromagnetic waves. Examples include gamma rays, ultraviolet light, and radio waves. Particulate radiation is radiation in the form of particles. Examples include alpha and beta particles. Radiation also is characterized as ionizing or nonionizing because of the way in which it interacts with matter.

E.2.1 Ionizing Radiation

Normally, an atom has an equal number of protons and electrons; however, atoms can lose or gain electrons in a process known as ionization. Some forms of radiation (called ionizing radiation) can ionize atoms by “knocking” electrons off atoms. Examples of ionizing radiation include alpha, beta, and gamma radiation.

Ionizing radiation is capable of changing the chemical state of matter and subsequently causing biological damage. By this mechanism, it is potentially harmful to human health.

E.2.2 Nonionizing Radiation

Nonionizing radiation is described as a series of energy waves composed of oscillating electric and magnetic fields traveling at the speed of light. Nonionizing radiation includes the spectrum of ultraviolet (UV), visible light, infrared (IR), microwave, radio frequency (RF), and extremely low frequency. Lasers commonly operate in the UV, visible, and IR frequencies. Microwave radiation is absorbed near the skin, while RF radiation may be absorbed throughout the body. At high enough intensities, both will damage tissue through heating. Excessive visible radiation can damage the eyes and skin (Department of Labor, OSHA *Safety and Health Topics* online). However in the discussion that follows, the term “radiation” is used to describe ionizing radiation.

E.3 Measuring Radiation

To determine the possible effects of radiation on the health of the environment and the public, the radiation must be measured. More precisely, its potential to cause damage must be ascertained.

E.3.1 Activity

To determine radiation in the environment, the rate of radioactive decay or activity is measured. The rate of decay varies widely among various radioisotopes. For that reason, 1 g of a radioactive substance may contain the same amount of activity as several tons of another material. This activity is expressed in a unit of measure known as a curie (Ci). More specifically, 1 Ci equals 3.7×10^{10} (37,000,000,000) atomic disintegrations per second (dps). In the International System of Units, 1 dps equals 1 becquerel (Bq).

E.3.2 Absorbed Dose

The total amount of energy absorbed per unit mass of the exposed material as a result of exposure to radiation is expressed in a unit of measure known as a rad. The effect of the absorbed energy (the biological damage that occurs) is important, not the actual amount. In the International System of Units, 100 rad equals 1 gray (Gy).

E.3.3 Effective Dose

The measure of potential biological damage to the body caused by exposure to and subsequent absorption of radiation is expressed in a unit of measure known as a rem. For radiation protection purposes, 1 rem of any type of radiation has the same damaging effect. Because a rem represents a fairly large dose, it is usually expressed as millirem (mrem), which is 1/1000 of a rem. In the International System of Units, 1 sievert (Sv) equals 100 rem; 1 millisievert (mSv) equals 100 mrem. The effective dose (ED) is the weighted sum of equivalent dose over specified tissues or organs. The ED is based on tissue-weighting factors for 12 specific tissues or organs plus a weight factor for the remainder organs and tissues. In addition, the ED is based on the recent lung model, gastrointestinal absorption fractions, and biokinetic models used for selected elements. Specific types of EDs are defined as follows:

- Committed ED—the weighted sum of the committed ED in specified tissues in the human body during the 50-year period following intake and
- Collective ED—the product of the mean ED for a population and the number of persons in the population.

E.4 Radiation Exposure Pathways

People can be exposed to radionuclides in the environment through a number of routes (Fig. E.2). Potential routes for internal and/or external exposure are referred to as pathways. For example, radionuclides in air could be inhaled directly or fall on grass in a pasture. If the grass were then consumed by cows, it would be possible for the radionuclides to impact the cow's milk, and people drinking the milk would be exposed to this radiation. Similarly, radionuclides in water could be ingested by fish, and fishermen or other consumers could then ingest the radionuclides in the fish tissue. People swimming in the water also would be exposed. Exposure to ionizing radiation varies significantly with geographic location, diet, drinking water source, and building construction.



Fig. E.2. Examples of radiation pathways.

E.5 Radiation Sources and Doses

Basically, radioactive decay, or activity, generates radiant energy. People absorb some of the energy to which they are exposed, either from external or internal radiation. The effect of this absorbed energy is responsible for an individual's dose. Whether radiation is natural or human-made, it has the same effect on people.

There are five broad categories for radiation exposure to the US population (NCRP 2009):

- exposure to ubiquitous background radiation, including radon in homes;
- exposure to patients from medical procedures;
- exposure from consumer products or activities involving radiation sources;
- exposure from industrial, security, medical, educational and research radiation sources; and
- exposure for workers that results from their occupations.

Figure E.3 gives the 2006 percent contributions of various sources of exposure to total collective dose for the US population. As shown, the major sources are radon and thoron (37%), computed tomography (24%), and nuclear medicine (12%) (NCRP 2009). Consumer, occupational, and industrial sources contribute about 2% to the total US collective dose.

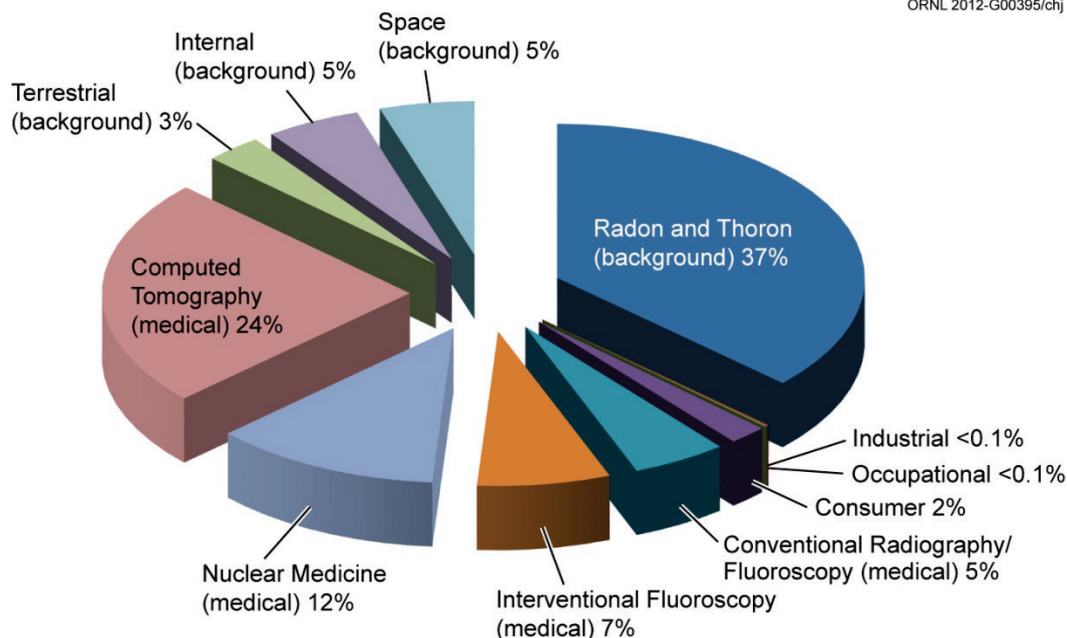


Fig. E.3. All exposure categories for collective effective dose for 2006 (NCRP 2009).

E.5.1 Background Radiation

Naturally occurring radiation is the major source of radiation in the environment. Sources of background radiation exposure include

- external exposure from space or cosmic radiation;
- external exposure from terrestrial radiation;
- internal exposure from inhalation of radon, thoron, and their progeny; and
- internal exposure from radionuclides in the body.

E.5.1.1 External Exposures

Space or Cosmic Radiation

Energetically charged particles from outer space continuously hit the earth's atmosphere. These particles and the secondary particles and photons they create are called cosmic radiation. Because the atmosphere provides some shielding against cosmic radiation, the intensity of this radiation increases with altitude above sea level. For example, a person in Denver is exposed to more cosmic radiation than a person in New Orleans.

The average annual effective dose to people in the United States from cosmic radiation is about 33 mrem (0.33 mSv) (NCRP 2009). Effective dose rates from cosmic radiation depend on geomagnetic latitude and elevation above sea level.

Terrestrial Radiation

Terrestrial radiation refers to radiation emitted from radioactive materials in the earth's rocks, soils, and minerals. Radon (Rn), radon progeny (the relatively short-lived decay products from the decay of the

radon isotope (^{222}Rn), potassium (^{40}K), isotopes of thorium (Th), and isotopes of uranium (U) are the elements responsible for most terrestrial radiation.

The average annual dose from terrestrial gamma radiation is about 21 mrem (0.21 mSv) in the United States but varies geographically across the country (NCRP 2009). Typical reported values are about 23 mrem (0.23 mSv) on the Atlantic and Gulf coastal plains, about 90 mrem (0.9 mSv) on the eastern slopes of the Rocky Mountains, and elsewhere about 46 mrem (0.46 mSv) (EPA 2014).

E.5.1.2 Internal Exposures

Radionuclides in the environment enter the body with the air people breathe and the foods they eat. They also can enter through an open wound. Natural radionuclides that can be inhaled and ingested include isotopes of uranium and its progeny, especially radon (^{222}Rn) and its progeny, thoron (^{220}Rn) and its progeny, potassium (^{40}K), rubidium (^{87}Rb), and carbon (^{14}C). Radionuclides contained in the body are dominated by ^{40}K and polonium (^{210}Po); others include ^{87}Rb and ^{14}C (NCRP 1987).

Radon and Thoron and Decay Products

The major contributors to the annual effective dose from background radiation sources are radon and thoron and their short-lived decay products. As shown in Fig. E.3, 37% of the dose from all exposure categories is from radon and thoron and decay products, which contribute an average dose of about 228 mrem (2.28 mSv) per year (NCRP 2009). Radon is an inert gas and a small fraction is retained in the body; however, the dose to the lung comes from the short-lived radon decay products. Radon levels vary widely across the United States. Elevated levels are most commonly found in the Appalachians, the upper Midwest, and the Rocky Mountain states (NCRP 2009).

Other Internal Radiation Sources

Other sources of internal radiation include ^{40}K and ^{232}Th and ^{238}U series. The primary source of ^{40}K in body tissues is food, and comes primarily from fruits and vegetables. The sources of radionuclides from ^{232}Th and ^{238}U series are food and water (NCRP 2009). The average dose from these other internal radionuclides is about 29 mrem (0.29 mSv) per year. This dose is attributed predominantly to the naturally occurring radioactive isotope of potassium, ^{40}K .

E.5.2 Human-Made Radiation

In addition to background radiation, there are human-made sources of radiation to which most people are exposed. Examples include consumer products, medical sources, fallout from atmospheric atomic bomb tests, and industrial by-products. No atmospheric testing of atomic weapons has occurred since 1980 (NCRP 1987).

E.5.2.1 Consumer Products

Some consumer products are sources of radiation. The radiation in these products, such as smoke detectors, radioluminous products (e.g., self-illuminating exit signs in commercial buildings), and airport x-ray baggage inspection systems, is essential to the performance of the device. In other products, such as tobacco products and building materials, the radiation occurs incidentally to the product's function (NCRP 1987, NCRP 2009).

The US average annual dose to an individual from consumer products and activities is about 13 mrem (0.13 mSv), ranging between 0.1 and 40 mrem (0.001 and 0.4 mSv). Cigarette smoking accounts for

about 35% of this dose. Other important sources are building materials (27%), commercial air travel (26%), mining and agriculture (6%), miscellaneous consumer-oriented products (3%), combustion of fossil fuels (2%), highway and road construction materials (0.6%), and glass and ceramics (<0.003%). Television and video, sewage sludge and ash, and self-illuminating signs all contribute negligible doses (NCRP 2009).

E.5.2.2 Medical Sources

Radiation is an important tool of diagnostic medicine and treatment, which are the main sources of exposure to the public from human-made radiation. Exposure is deliberate and directly beneficial to the patients exposed. In general, medical exposures from diagnostic or therapeutic x-rays result from beams directed to specific areas of the body. Thus, not all body organs are irradiated uniformly. Nuclear medicine examinations and treatments involve the internal administration of radioactive compounds, or radiopharmaceuticals, by injection, inhalation, consumption, or insertion. Even then, radionuclides are not distributed uniformly throughout the body. Radiation and radioactive materials also are used in the preparation of medical instruments, including the sterilization of heat-sensitive products such as plastic heart valves.

Nuclear medicine examinations, which involve internal administration of radiopharmaceuticals, generally account for the largest portion of dose from human-made sources. However, the radionuclides used for specific tests are not distributed uniformly throughout the body. In these cases, the concept of ED, which relates the significance of exposures of organs or body parts to the effect on the entire body, is useful in making comparisons. The average annual ED from medical examinations is roughly 300 mrem (3 mSv), including 147 mrem (1.47 mSv) from computed tomography scans, 77 mrem (0.77 mSv) from nuclear medicine procedures, 43 mrem (0.43 mSv) from interventional fluoroscopy, and 33 mrem (0.33 mSv) from conventional radiography and fluoroscopy (NCRP 2009). Not everyone receives such exams each year.

E.5.2.3 Other Sources

Other sources of radiation include emissions of radioactive materials from nuclear facilities such as uranium mines, fuel-processing plants, and nuclear power plants; transportation of radioactive materials; and emissions from mineral-extraction facilities. The dose to the general public from nuclear fuel cycle facilities, such as uranium mines, mills, fuel-processing plants, nuclear power plants, and transportation routes, has been estimated at less than 1 mrem (0.01 mSv) per year (NCRP 1987).

Small doses to individuals occur because of radioactive fallout from atmospheric atomic bomb tests, emissions of radioactive materials from nuclear facilities, emissions from certain mineral extraction facilities, and transportation of radioactive materials. The combination of these sources contributes less than 1 mrem (0.01 mSv) per year to an individual's average dose (NCRP 1987).

E.6 References

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Appendix F. Chemicals

Appendix F. Chemicals

This appendix presents basic information about chemicals. The information is intended to be a basis for understanding the dose or relative toxicity assessment associated with possible releases from the Oak Ridge Reservation (ORR), not a comprehensive discussion of chemicals and their effects on the environment and biological systems.

F.1 Perspective on Chemicals

The lives of modern humans have been greatly improved by the development of chemicals such as pharmaceuticals, building materials, housewares, pesticides, and industrial chemicals. Through the use of chemicals, we can increase food production, cure diseases, build more efficient houses, and send people to the moon. At the same time, we must be cautious to ensure that our own existence is not endangered by uncontrolled and overexpanded use of chemicals (Chan et al. 1982).

Just as all humans are exposed to radiation in the normal daily routine, humans are also exposed to chemicals. Some potentially hazardous chemicals exist in the natural environment. In many areas of the country, soils contain naturally elevated concentrations of metals such as selenium, arsenic, or molybdenum, which may be hazardous to humans or animals. Even some of the foods we eat contain natural toxins. Aflatoxin is a known toxin found in peanuts, and cyanide is found in apple seeds. However, exposures to many more hazardous chemicals result from the direct or indirect actions of humans. Building materials used for the construction of homes may contain chemicals such as formaldehyde (in some insulation materials), asbestos (formerly used in insulations and ceiling tiles), and lead (formerly used in paints and gasoline). Some chemicals are present as a result of application of pesticides and fertilizers to soil. Other chemicals may have been transported long distances through the atmosphere from industrial sources before being deposited on soil or water.

F.2 Pathways of Chemicals from Oak Ridge Reservation to the Public

“Pathways” refers to the route or way in which a person can come in contact with a chemical substance. Chemicals released to the air may remain suspended for long periods, or they may be rapidly deposited on plants, soil, and water. Chemicals may also be released as liquid wastes, called “effluents,” which can enter streams and rivers.

People are exposed to chemicals by inhalation (breathing air), ingestion (eating exposed plants and animals or drinking water), or direct contact (touching the soil or swimming in water). For example, fish that live in a river that receives effluents may take in some of the chemicals present. People eating the fish and drinking water from the river would then be exposed to the chemicals. The public is not normally exposed to chemicals on ORR because access to the reservation is limited. However, chemicals released as a result of ORR operations can move through the environment to off-site locations, resulting in potential exposure to the public.

F.3 Definitions

F.3.1 Toxicity

Chemicals have varying types of effects. Chemical health effects are divided into two broad categories: adverse or systemic effects (noncarcinogens) and cancer (carcinogens). Sometimes a chemical can have both noncarcinogenic and carcinogenic effects. The toxic effect can be acute (short-term severe health effect) or chronic (longer term persistent health effect). Toxicity is often evident in a shorter length of time than the carcinogenic effect. The potential health effects of noncarcinogens range from skin irritation to fatality. Carcinogens cause or increase the incidence of malignant neoplasms or cancers.

Toxicity refers to an adverse effect of a chemical on human health. Every day we ingest chemicals in food, water, and sometimes medications. Even those chemicals typically considered toxic are usually nontoxic or harmless below a certain concentration.

Concentration limits or advisories are set by government agencies for some chemicals that are known or thought to have adverse effects on human health. These concentration limits can be used to calculate chemical doses that would not harm even individuals who are particularly sensitive to the chemical.

F.3.2 Dose Terms for Noncarcinogens

F.3.2.1 Reference Dose

A reference dose (RfD) is an estimate of a daily exposure level for the human population, including sensitive subpopulations. These reference doses are likely to be without appreciable risk of deleterious effects during a lifetime. Units are expressed as milligrams of chemical per kilogram of an adult's body weight per day (mg/kg-day). These values are given in Table F.1.

Values for reference doses are derived from doses of chemicals that result in no adverse effect or the lowest dose that showed an adverse effect on humans or laboratory animals. Uncertainty factors are typically used in deriving reference doses. Uncertainty adjustments may be made if animal toxicity data are extrapolated to humans, to account for human sensitivity, extrapolated from subchronic to chronic no-observed-adverse-effect levels, extrapolated from lowest-observed-adverse-effect levels to no-observed-adverse-effect levels, and to account for database deficiencies. The use of uncertainty factors in deriving reference doses is thought to protect the sensitive human populations. The US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) maintains the Integrated Risk Information System (IRIS) database, which contains verified reference doses and up-to-date health risk and EPA regulatory information for numerous chemicals.

Table F.1. Chemical reference doses and slope factors used in drinking water and fish intake analysis

Chemical	Factor	Reference ^a	Chemical	Factor	Reference ^a
Antimony	3.0E-4	RfD	Molybdenum	5.0E-03	RfD
Arsenic	3.0E-04	RfD	Nickel ^b	2.0E-02	RfD
	1.5E+00	SF	Selenium	5.0E-3	RfD
Barium	2.0E-01	RfD	Thallium	5.7E-05	<i>c,d</i>
Cadmium	5.0E-04	RfD	Vanadium ^e	9.0E-03	RfD
Cadmium	5.0E-04	RfD	Zinc	3.0E-01	RfD
Copper	4.0E-4	<i>c,f</i>			

Table F.1 (continued)

Chemical	Factor	Reference ^a	Chemical	Factor	Reference ^a
Lead	1.4E-04	<i>c,g</i>	Aroclor-1260	2.0E-05	RfD ^h
Manganese	1.4E-01	RfD	PCBs (mixed)	2.0E+00	SF ⁱ
Mercury	3.0E-04	RfD ^j			

^aRfD: reference dose (mg/kg-day); SF: slope factor (risk per mg/kg-day). Values obtained from US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Integrated Risk Information System.

^bSoluble salts.

^cThe water quality criteria (WQCs) are given in units of micrograms per liter. To convert the concentration to an RfD (mg/kg-day), each was divided by 1,000 (to convert to milligrams per liter), multiplied by the consumption rate (2 L/day), and divided by the mass of a reference man, 70 kg.

^dThis value is based on the 2008 Tennessee WQC (TDEC 2008) for thallium for domestic water supplies, which reflects the maximum contaminant level value (2 µg/L).

^eAs vanadium pentoxide.

^fThis value is based on the 2008 Tennessee WQC (TDEC 2008) for copper for domestic water supplies, which reflects the maximum contaminant level value (1.3 mg/L).

^gThis value is based on the 2008 Tennessee WQC (TDEC 2008) for lead for domestic water supplies which reflects the maximum contaminant level value (5 µg/L).

^hThe RfD for Aroclor-1254 is used for Aroclor-1260.

ⁱThe cancer potency of PCB mixtures is determined using a three-tiered approach. This value is the upper bound slope factor for the High Risk and Persistence Tier.

^jAn EPA-approved oral chronic RfD, SF, or other guideline for elemental mercury in water or aquatic organisms is not available. Most guidelines refer to “recoverable” or inorganic mercury. RfD values exist for several inorganic mercury salts. The EPA oral RfD for soluble mercuric chloride (HgCl₂) is 3.0E-04 mg/kg/day.

F.3.2.2 Primary Maximum Contaminant Levels

For chemicals for which reference doses are not available in IRIS, national primary drinking water maximum contaminant levels, expressed in milligrams of chemical per liter of drinking water, are converted to reference dose values by multiplying by 2 L (the average daily adult water intake) and dividing by 70 kg (the reference adult body weight). The result is a “derived” reference dose expressed in milligrams per kilogram per day (mg/kg-day). These values are given in Table F.1.

F.3.3 Dose Term for Carcinogens

F.3.3.1 Slope Factor

A slope factor is a plausible upper-bound estimate of the probability of a response per unit intake of a chemical during a lifetime. The slope factor is used to estimate an upper-bound probability of an individual developing cancer as a result of a lifetime exposure to a particular level of a potential carcinogen. Units are expressed as risk per dose (mg/kg-day). These values are given in Table F.1.

The slope factor converts the estimated daily intake averaged over a lifetime exposure to the incremental risk of an individual developing cancer. Because it is unknown for most chemicals whether a threshold (a dose below which no adverse effect occurs) exists for carcinogens, units for carcinogens are set in terms of risk factors. Acceptable risk levels for carcinogens range from 10⁻⁴ (risk of developing cancer over a human lifetime of 1 in 10,000) to 10⁻⁶ (risk of developing cancer over a human lifetime is 1 in 1,000,000).

In other words, a certain chemical concentration in food or water could cause a risk of one additional cancer for every 10,000 (10^{-4}) to 1,000,000 (10^{-6}) exposed persons, respectively.

F.4 Measuring Chemicals

Environmental samples are collected in areas surrounding ORR and are analyzed for those chemical constituents most likely to be released from ORR. Typically, chemical concentrations in liquids are expressed in terms of milligrams or micrograms of chemical per liter of water; concentrations in solids (soil and fish tissue) are expressed in terms of milligrams or micrograms of chemical per gram or kilogram of sample material.

The instruments used to measure chemical concentrations are sensitive; however, there are limits below which they cannot detect chemicals of interest. Concentrations detected below the reported analytical detection limits of the instruments are recorded by the laboratory as estimated values, which have a greater uncertainty than those concentrations detected above the detection limits of the instruments. Health effect calculations that use these estimated values are indicated by the less-than symbol (<), which indicates that the value for a parameter was not quantifiable at the analytical detection limit.

F.5 Risk Assessment Methodology

F.5.1 Exposure Assessment

To evaluate an individual's exposure by way of a specific exposure pathway, the intake amount of the chemical must be determined. For example, chemical exposure by drinking water and eating fish from the Clinch River is assessed in the following way. Clinch River surface water and fish samples are analyzed to estimate chemical contaminant concentrations. It is assumed that individuals drink about 2 L (0.5 gal) of water per day directly from the river, which amounts to 680 L (180 gal) per year, and that they eat 0.07 kg (roughly 0.2 lb) of fish per day from the river (27 kg or 60 lb per year). Estimated daily intakes or estimated doses to the public are calculated by multiplying measured (statistically significant) concentrations in water by 2.55 L, or those in fish by 0.07 kg. This intake is first multiplied by the exposure duration (30 years) and exposure frequency (350 days/year) and then divided by an averaging time (30 years for noncarcinogens and 70 years for carcinogens). These assumptions are conservative, and in many cases they result in higher estimated intakes and doses than an individual would actually receive.

F.5.2 Dose Estimate

When the contaminant oral daily intake via exposure pathways has been estimated, the dose is determined. For chemicals, the dose to humans is measured as milligrams per kilogram-day (mg/kg-day). In this case, the "kilogram" refers to the body weight of an adult. When a chemical dose is calculated, the length of time an individual is exposed to a certain concentration is important. To assess off-site doses, it is assumed that the exposure duration occurs over 30 years. Such exposures are called "chronic" in contrast to short-term exposures, which are called "acute."

F.5.3 Calculation Method

Current risk assessment methodologies use the term "hazard quotient" to evaluate noncarcinogenic health effects. Because intakes are calculated in milligrams per kilogram per day in the hazard quotient methodology, they are expressed in terms of dose. Hazard quotient values of less than 1 indicate an unlikely potential for adverse health effects, whereas hazard quotient values greater than 1 indicate a concern for adverse health effects or the need for further study.

To evaluate carcinogenic risk, slope factors are used instead of reference doses.

To estimate the risk of inducing cancers from ingestion of water and fish, the estimated dose or intake (I) is multiplied by the slope factor (risk per mg/kg-day). As mentioned earlier, acceptable risk levels for carcinogens range from 10^{-4} (risk of developing cancer over a human lifetime of 1 in 10,000) to 10^{-6} (risk of developing cancer over a human lifetime is 1 in 1,000,000).

F.6 References

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