

Oak Ridge Reservation

Annual Site

Environmental Report

2012

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Oak Ridge Reservation
**Annual Site
Environmental
Report 2012**

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Acronyms and Abbreviations

AAS	ambient air station
ABC	aluminum beverage can (recycling—Y-12 Complex)
ACO	Analytical Chemistry Organization (Y-12 Complex)
ACM	asbestos-containing material
AGL	above ground level
ALARA	as low as reasonably achievable
AMAD	activity median aerodynamic diameter
ANSI	American National Standards Institute
ANSI/HPS	ANSI Health Physics Society (standard)
AOEC	Agent Operations Eastern Command (NNSA OST)
ARAP	Aquatic Resource Alteration Permit
ARAR	applicable or relevant and appropriate requirement
ARRA	American Recovery and Reinvestment Act
ASER	Annual Site Environmental Report
ATSDR	Agency for Toxic Substances and Diseases Registry
AWQC	ambient water quality criteria
B&W Y-12	B&W Technical Services Y-12 L.L.C.
BCG	biota concentration guide
BCK	Bear Creek kilometer
BJC	Bechtel Jacobs, Inc., LLC
BMAP	Biological Monitoring and Abatement Program
BRW	bedrock well
CAA	Clean Air Act
CAP-88	Clean Air Assessment Package (software)
CD	Critical Design
CERCLA	Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act
CFR	<i>Code of Federal Regulations</i>
CH	contact-handled
CNF	Central Neutralization Facility (Y-12 Complex)
CO ₂ e	CO ₂ equivalent
COC	contaminant of concern
COD	Chemical oxygen demand
CPU	central processing unit
CRK	Clinch River kilometer
CROET	Community Reuse Organization of East Tennessee
CRT	cathode-ray tube
CSB	Computational Sciences Building (ORNL)
CWA	Clean Water Act
CWTS	Chromium Water Treatment System
CX	categorical exclusion
CY	calendar year

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D&D	decontamination and decommissioning
D ³	deactivation, demolition, and disposition
DAC	derived air concentration
DCA	dichloroethane
DCE	dichloroethene
DCG	derived concentration guide
DCS	derived concentration standard
DNAPL	dense nonaqueous phase liquid
DOE	US Department of Energy
DOE HSS	DOE Office of Health, Safety and Security
DOE ORO	DOE Oak Ridge Office
DRH	Division of Radiological Health (TDEC)
EB	existing building
EC&P	Environmental Compliance and Protection
ECD	Environmental Compliance Department (Y-12 Complex)
ECM	energy conservation measure
ECR	environmental compliance representative
ED	effective dose
EFK	East Fork Poplar Creek kilometer
EFPC	East Fork Poplar Creek
EISA	Energy Independence and Security Act
EM	Office of Environmental Management (DOE)
EMMIS	Environmental Monitoring Management Information System (Y-12 Complex)
EMPO	Emergency Management Program Office (Y-12 Complex)
EMPO	Environmental Management Program Office (ORNL)
EMS	Environmental Management System
EMWMF	Environmental Management Waste Management Facility
EO	executive order
EPA	US Environmental Protection Agency
EPACT	Energy Policy Act
EPCRA	Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act
EPEAT	Electronic Product Environmental Assessment Tool
EPO	environmental protection officer
EPT	<i>Ephemeroptera, Plecoptera, and Trichoptera (taxa)</i>
EP&WSD	Environmental Protection and Waste Services Division
ERO	emergency response organization
ES&H	Environment, safety, and health
ESPC	Energy Savings Performance Contract
ETTP	East Tennessee Technology Park
EU	exposure unit
EV	electronic vehicle
FCK	First Creek kilometer
FEC	Federal Electronics Challenge
FFA	federal facility agreement
FFCA	Federal Facilities Compliance Agreement

FFK	Fifth Creek kilometer
FIRP	Facilities and Infrastructure Recapitalization Program (Y-12 Complex)
FONSI	finding of no significant impact
FSC	Federal Special Concern
FSE	full-scale exercise (Y-12 Complex)
FY	fiscal year
GCK	Grassy Creek kilometer
GET	General Employee Training
GHG	greenhouse gas
GI	green infrastructure
GSA	General Services Administration
GSF	gross square feet
HAP	hazardous air pollutants
HCC	Halcyon Commercialization Center
HEPA	high-efficiency particulate air
HEUMF	Highly Enriched Uranium Materials Facility
HFIR	High Flux Isotope Reactor
HPSB	high-performance sustainable building
HQ	hazard quotient
HSS	Office of Health, Safety and Security (DOE)
HVAC	heating, ventilating, and air-conditioning
I/CATS	Issues and Corrective Action Tracking System (UCOR)
IDMS	Integrated Document Management System (UT-Battelle)
I/I	inflow/infiltration
IC ₂₅	inhibition concentration (the concentration of effluent that causes a 25% reduction in survival, reproduction, and/or growth of monitored species)
ICP	inductively coupled plasma
ICP-MS	inductively coupled plasma–mass spectrometer
ID	identification (number)
IFDP	Integrated Facility Disposition Project
ILA	industrial landscaping and agricultural
ISK	Ish Creek kilometer
ISMS	integrated safety management system
ISO	International Organization for Standardization
Isotek	Isotek Systems LLC
IT	information technology
LCD	liquid crystal display
LED	light-emitting diode
LEED	Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design
LGTF	Liquids and Gaseous Treatment Facility
LI	low impact
LIMS	Laboratory Information Management System (Y-12 Complex)
LLW	low-level waste
MACT	Maximum Achievable Control Technology
MBK	Mill Branch kilometer

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MCK	McCoy Branch kilometer
MCL	maximum contaminant level
MDA	minimum detectable activity
MEI	maximally exposed individual
MEK	Melton Branch kilometer
MGY	million gallons per year
MIK	Mitchell Branch kilometer
MLF	Multiprogram Laboratory Facility
MMES	Martin Marietta Energy Systems
MT	meteorological tower
MVSP	Melton Valley Steam Plant (ORNL)
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
NOAA	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NOV	notice of violation
NPDES	National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System
NPL	National Priorities List (EPA)
NRC	US Nuclear Regulatory Commission
NSF-ISR	NSF International Strategic Registrations, Ltd.
NSPS	New Source Performance Standard
NTRC	National Transportation Research Center
NT-3	Boneyard/Burnyard
NWTK	Northwest Tributary kilometer
ODS	ozone-depleting substances
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 Operations
ORPS	Occurrence Reporting and Processing System (Y-12 Complex)
ORR	Oak Ridge Reservation
ORRL	Oak Ridge Reservation Landfill
ORSSAB	Oak Ridge Site Specific Advisory Board
ORSTP	Oak Ridge Science and Technology Park
OST	Office of Secure Transportation (NNSA)
P2	designation for an on-site ORNL wetland
POA	Poplar Creek Orange
PAM	perimeter air monitoring (station)
PCB	polychlorinated biphenyl

PCCR	phased construction completion report
PCE	tetrachloroethene
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
PSD	Prevention of Significant Deterioration
PUE	power usage effectiveness
PWTC	Process Waste Treatment Complex
QA	quality assurance
QC	quality control
R&D	research and development
RA	remedial action
Rad-NESHAPs	National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants for Radionuclides
RATA	Relative Accuracy Test Audit
RAWP	remedial action work plan
RCK	Raccoon Creek kilometer
RCRA	Resource Conservation and Recovery Act
REC	renewable energy certificate
REDC	Radiochemical Engineering Development Center
RER	remediation effectiveness report
RESRAD	residual radioactivity
RfC	reference concentration
RFID	radio frequency identification
RFITS	Radio Frequency Identification Transportation System
RH	remote-handled
RI/FS	remedial investigation/feasibility study
ROD	record of decision
RQ	reportable quantity (CERCLA)
SAA	satellite accumulation area
SAP	sampling and analysis plan
SARA	Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act
SBMS	Standards-Based Management System (UT-Battelle)
SC	Office of Science
SCK	Scarboro Creek kilometer
SD	storm water outfall
SDWA	Safe Drinking Water Act
SEC	SEC Federal Services Corporation
SME	subject matter expert
SMO	Sample Management Office
SNAP	Significant New Alternatives Program (Y-12 Complex)
SNM	special nuclear material
SNS	Spallation Neutron Source
SODAR	sonic detection and ranging

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SOW	statement of work
SPCC	spill prevention, control, and countermeasures (plan)
SPMD	semipermeable membrane device
SPWTF	Steam Plant Wastewater Treatment Facility
SSP	site sustainability plan
SSPP	Strategic Sustainability Performance Plan (DOE)
STP	sewage treatment plant
SU	standard unit
SVOC	semivolatile organic compound
SWEIS	sitewide environmental impact statement
SWHIS	Surface Water Hydrological Information Support System (Y-12 Complex)
SWP3	Storm Water Pollution Prevention Program
SWSA	solid waste storage area
TAPCR	Tennessee Air Pollution Control Regulations
TCA	trichloroacetic acid
TCC&I	Tennessee Chamber of Commerce and Industry
TCE	trichloroethene/trichloroethylene
TDEC	Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation
TEAM	Transformational Energy Action Management
TEMA	Tennessee Emergency Management Agency
TOA	Tennessee Oversight Agreement
TOC	Total organic carbon
TP3	Tennessee Pollution Prevention Partnership
TRI	toxic release inventory
TRO	total residual oxidant
TRU	transuranic
TSCA	Toxic Substances Control Act
TSS	total suspended solids
TVA	Tennessee Valley Authority
TWA	time-weighted average
TWPC	Transuranic Waste Processing Center
TWRA	Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency
UCOR	URS CH2M Oak Ridge LLC
UEFPC	Upper East Fork Poplar Creek
UMC	unnneeded materials and chemicals
UNW	unconsolidated well
UPF	Uranium Processing Facility
USACE	US Army Corps of Engineers
USDA	US Department of Agriculture
UST	underground storage tank
UT	University of Tennessee
VOC	volatile organic compound
WAI	Wastren Advantage, Inc.
WBK	Walker Branch kilometer
WCK	WOC kilometer

WEMA	West End Mercury Area
WIPP	Waste Isolation Pilot Plant
WOC	White Oak Creek
WOD	White Oak Dam
WQC	water quality criteria
WQPP	water quality protection plan
WRRP	Water Resources Restoration Program
WSR	waste services representative
Y-12 Complex	Y-12 National Security Complex
YSO	Y-12 Site Office
ZPR	Zero Power Reactor

Units of Measure and Conversion Factors*

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

Quantitative prefixes

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 convert numeric values presented here 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					
ppm	× 1	mg/L	mg/L	× 1	ppm
Weight					
lb	× 0.4536	kg	kg	× 2.205	lb
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

Acknowledgments

The ASER technical coordinators and project team wish to thank those who participated in the publication of the *Oak Ridge Reservation Annual Site Environmental Report*. Although we cannot name everyone involved in the environmental monitoring program, we would like to also thank and acknowledge those conducting sampling and analytical support.

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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 Complex) is vital in 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; URS | CH2M Oak Ridge LLC (UCOR); 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. These contractors manage and implement environmental protection programs through Environmental Management Systems (EMSs) that adhere to International Organization for Standardization (ISO) 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 Chapter 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. All 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 ORR Annual Site Environmental Report (ASER) is prepared for DOE according to requirements of DOE O 231.1 B, *Environment, Safety and Health Reporting*. The ORR 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 has been published annually since the mid-1970s and provides consolidated data on overall reservation performance and status. 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.

2012 Impacts

DOE ORR operations in 2012 continued to result in minimal impact to the public and the environment. 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 Environment*.

The maximum radiation dose that a hypothetical off-site individual could have received from DOE activities on ORR in 2012 was estimated to be 0.3 mrem from air pathways, 0.2 mrem from water pathways (drinking water, fish consumption, swimming, recreation, and other uses), and 2.0 mrem from consumption of wildlife harvested on ORR. This is 3% of the DOE 100 mrem standard for all pathways and is significantly less than the 300 mrem natural annual average radiation dose to people in the United States. The 2012 maximum hypothetical dose is consistent with those calculated for the previous 5 years (2007–2011), 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 2012, 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 to 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 (EPA) 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 2012, 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. In 2012, there was one notice of violation (NOV), which was associated with the failure to conduct a preoperational evaluation at a permitted stack emission point; an alleged violation for storage of investigative-derived waste for more than 1 year from date of generation; and an NOV for a past-due line tightness test for an underground storage tank. Compliance with National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permits across ORR was greater than 99% for 2012. Chapter 2 provides a detailed summary of ORR environmental compliance during 2012 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, environmental-preferable purchasing, and waste minimization, which in turn reduce life-cycle costs of programs and projects and reduce risks to the environment. During 2012, ORR contractors were recognized for excellence in pollution prevention and sustainability programs with the following awards.

ETTP Awards

- EPA Federal Electronics Challenge (FEC) Platinum-Level Award for electronic assets-management achievements (DOE EM's first award at this level).
- Six internal (UCOR) awards representing 17.7 million lb of construction debris being diverted from landfills at a cost savings of \$447,000.

Y-12 Complex Awards

- Two DOE Sustainability Awards—one for sustainability outreach and one for excess materials disposition programs.
- Two Tennessee Chamber of Commerce and Industry Awards.
- Three National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) Pollution Prevention/Sustainability Best in Class Awards.
- Tennessee Pollution Prevention Partnership Performer Level status award.
- FEC Gold-Level Award.

ORNL Awards

- DOE Bronze GreenBuy Award.
- Two DOE Sustainability Awards.
- Three Tennessee Chamber of Commerce and Industry Achievement Certificates for air and water quality excellence
- *HPCwire* Readers' Choice Award for best application of green computing in high-performance computing.
- Federal Laboratory Consortium 2012 Award for Excellence in Technology Transfer.

Chapters 3, 4, and 5 discuss major accomplishments associated with pollution prevention and sustainability programs at ETTP, the Y-12 Complex, and ORNL.

Cleanup Operations in 2012

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 major facilities.

In 2012, some of the most notable EM accomplishments in Oak Ridge took place at ETTP. Demolition was completed on most of the K-25 building east wing in FY 2012, and preparations began for the K-27 building demolition. Additionally, removal of the K-33 building and slab were completed, and the 13 ha (32-acre) site has been transformed into green space that is available for new development.

One of EM's greatest achievements this year was the formal completion of a memorandum of agreement between federal, state, and local historic preservation groups that will honor the site's early workers and allow the EM program to continue cleanup operations at the site that have been under way for nearly a decade.

At ORNL, EM continues moving forward with the Uranium-233 Disposition Project, and a plan that reduces the schedule by 10 years and the cost by \$500 million has been developed. EM also removed

Oak Ridge Reservation

Tank W-1A, ORNL's largest source of groundwater contamination, and excavated and disposed the 4,000 gal waste storage tank and surrounding contaminated soil. Finally, EM removed four Building 3026 hot cells on the ORNL Central Campus and continues processing transuranic waste at the site.

At the Y-12 Complex, EM is intently focused on mercury remediation. In FY 2012, engineers began projects that focused on mercury abatement through treatability studies, removing mercury tanks, cleaning storm drains, and designing treatment facilities that will reduce mercury migration into the East Fork of the Poplar Creek.

1. Introduction to the Oak Ridge Reservation

The Oak Ridge Reservation (ORR) is a 13,563 ha (33,515-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). 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.

The *Oak Ridge Reservation Annual Site Environmental Report* is also available at http://www.ornl.gov/sci/env_rpt.

1.1 Background

The *Oak Ridge Reservation Annual Site Environmental Report* 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 2012. 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 13,563 ha (33,515 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 961,095, with less than 2% of its labor force employed on ORR. 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 180,760. 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.

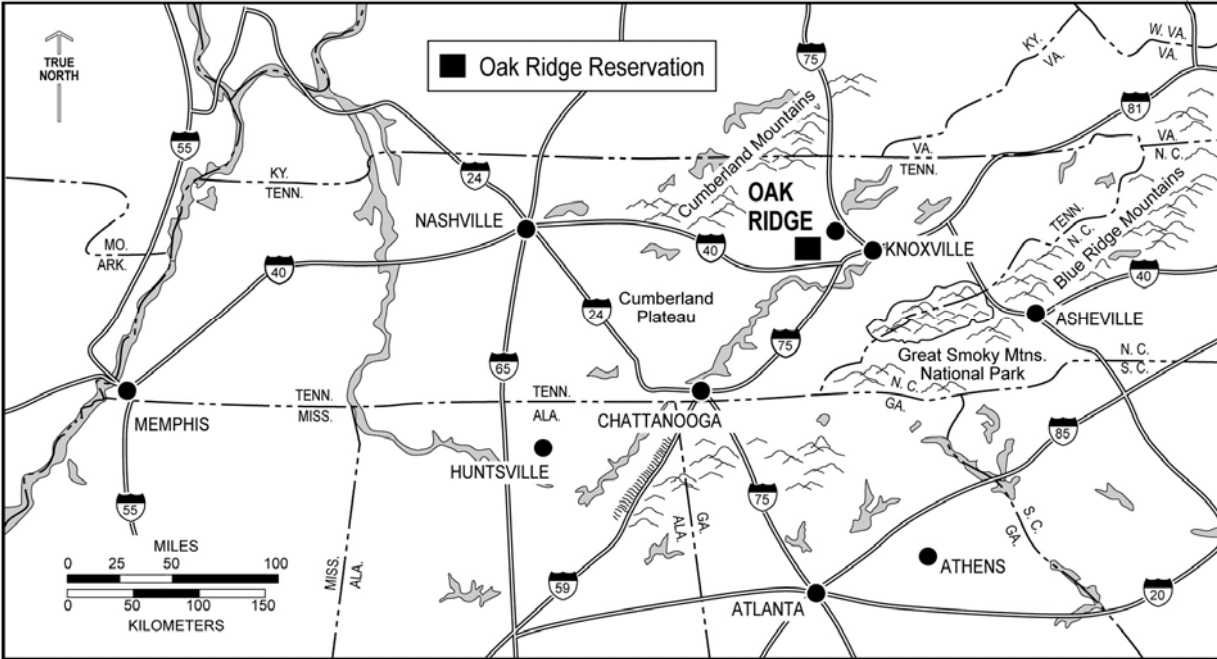


Fig. 1.1. Location of the city of Oak Ridge.

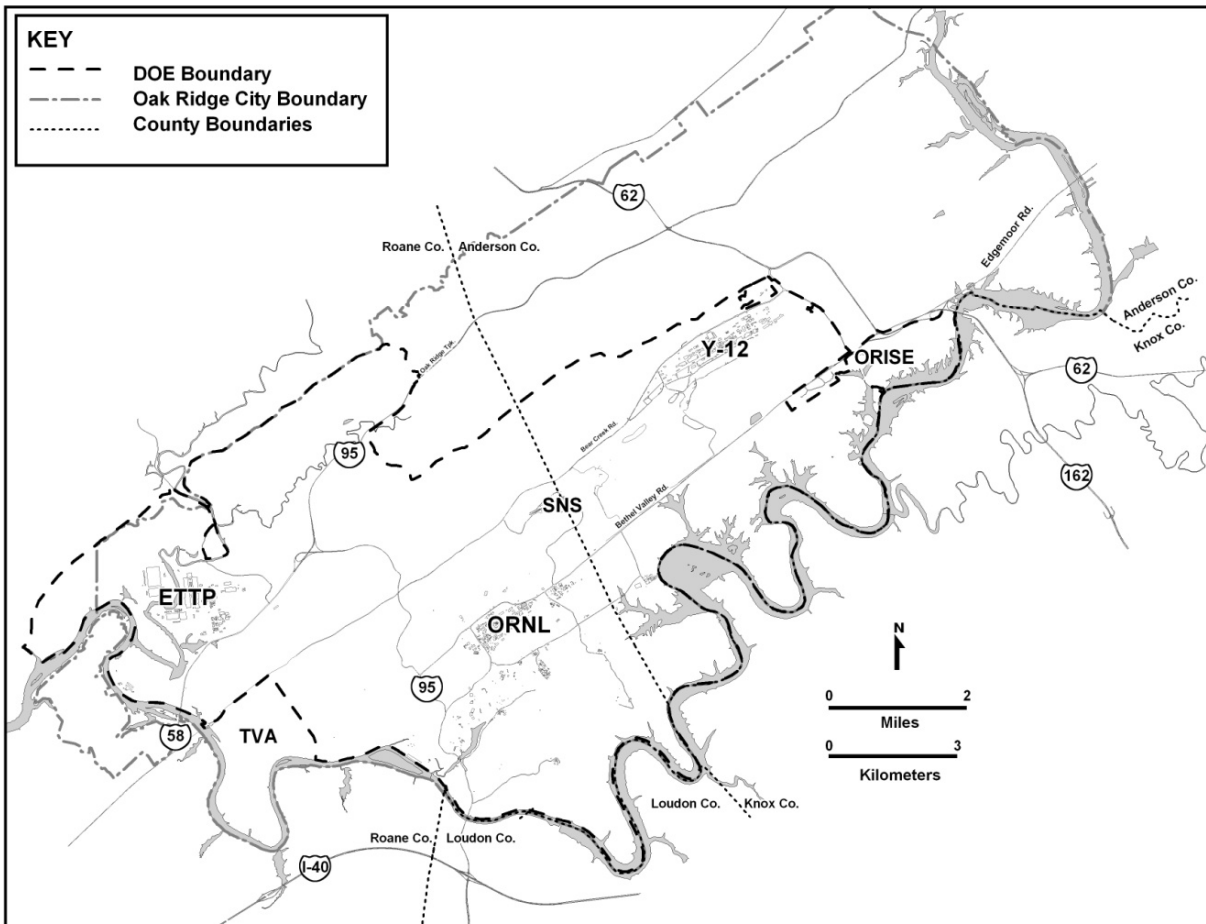


Fig. 1.2. The Oak Ridge Reservation.

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 2012 was 15.9°C (60.7°F). The coldest month is usually January, with temperatures averaging about 3.2°C (37.7°F). During 2012, January temperatures averaged close to normal at 3.1°C (37.5°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 2012 temperatures averaged 27.5°C (81.5°F), significantly above the 30-year average.

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 2012 [measured at the Oak Ridge National Weather Service meteorological tower (MT)] was 1,232 mm (48.49 in.), and total 2012 snowfall was a negligible 0.3 cm (0.1 in.). Precipitation during 2012 was about 5% below the 30-year average, and snowfall was much below average. Monthly summaries of precipitation averages, extremes, and 2012 values are provided in Appendix B, Table B.1.

In 2012, wind speeds at ORNL Tower C (MT2) measured at 10 m (32.8 ft) above ground level (AGL) averaged 1.1 m/s (2.5 mph). This value increased to about 2.8 m/s (6.3 mph) for winds at 100 m (328 ft) AGL (about the height of local ridgetops). The local ridge-and-valley terrain reduces average wind speeds at valley bottoms, resulting in frequent periods of near calm conditions, particularly during clear early morning hours in a weak synoptic weather environment. Wind direction frequencies with respect to 2012 nonprecipitation and precipitation hours for the ORR towers may be reviewed at <http://www.ornl.gov/~das/web/page7.cfm>.

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 may be reviewed online at http://www.ornl.gov/~das/met/MT/KRB_ORNL.pdf (Birdwell 2011).

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), carbon dioxide (CO₂), 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 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}. 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 drainage basin, which has an area of 16.5 km² (6.4 mile²). White Oak Creek 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 White Oak Creek enter White Oak Lake, which is an impoundment formed by White Oak Dam. Water flowing over White Oak Dam enters the Clinch River after passing through the White Oak Creek 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.

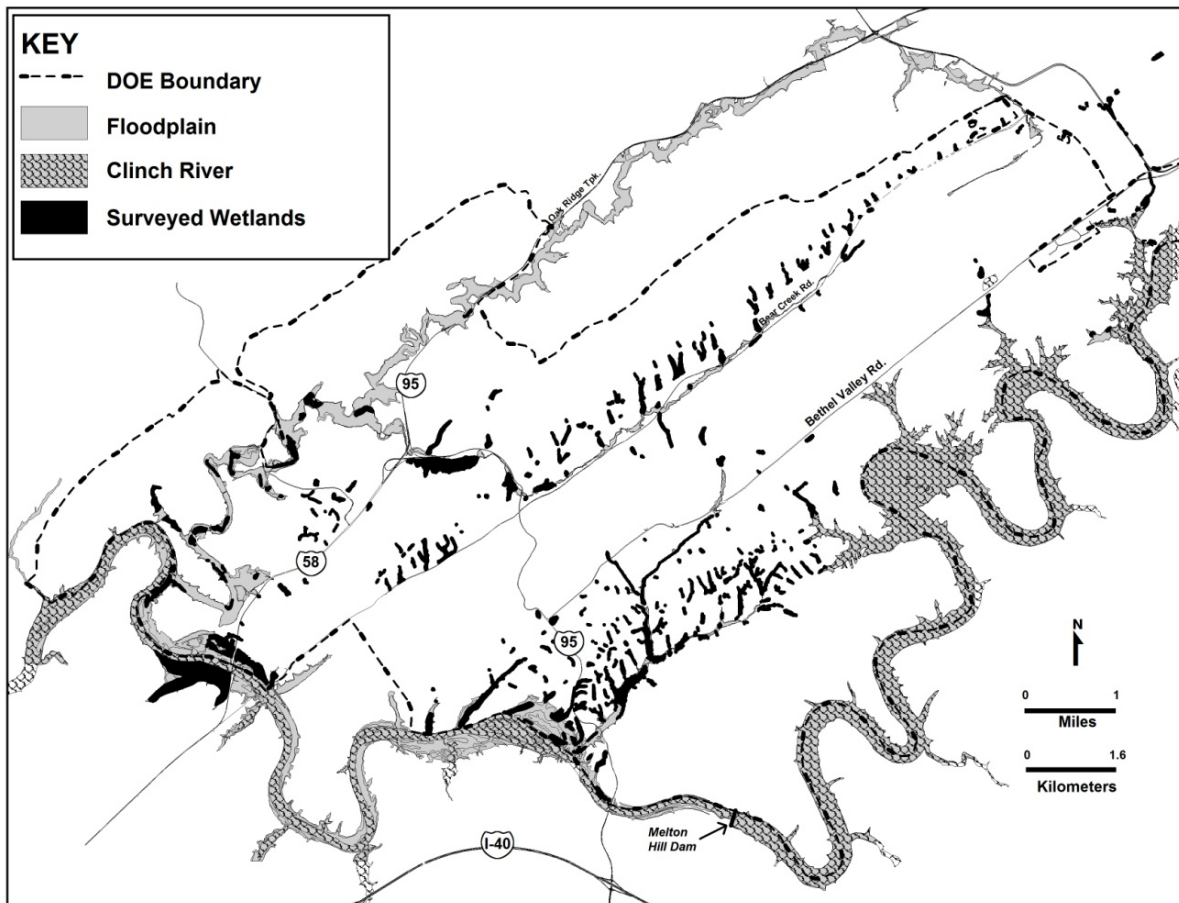


Fig. 1.3. Oak Ridge Reservation wetlands.

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), as required by Section 401 of the Clean Water Act (CWA).

In 2012, the Uranium Processing Facility (UPF) project at the Y-12 Complex performed no field work to impact or mitigate the wetlands evaluated in 2011. However, UPF design evolution and modifications have resulted in the designation of an additional 0.202 ha (0.5 acres) of wetland mitigation area [1.42 ha (3.51 acres) total]. Revision of the existing US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Section 404 and TDEC ARAP to reflect these changes is in process.

1.3.6.2 Wildlife/Endangered Species

Animals listed as species of concern by state, federal, or international organizations and known to be present 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, 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>Ardea alba</i>	Great egret		NM	
<i>Egretta caerulea</i>	Little blue heron		NM	
<i>Egretta thula</i>	Snowy egret		NM	
<i>Ixobrychus exilis</i>	Least bittern		NM	
Kites, Hawks, Eagles, and Allies				
<i>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</i>	Bald eagle ^d		NM	
<i>Circus cyaneus</i>	Northern harrier		NM	
<i>Accipiter striatus</i>	Sharp-shinned hawk		NM	
<i>Accipiter cooperii</i>	Cooper's hawk			RI
<i>Buteo platypterus</i>	Broad-winged hawk			RI
Falcons				
<i>Falco peregrinus</i>	Peregrine falcon ^e		E	RI
<i>Falco sparverius</i>	American kestrel			RI
Grouse, Turkey, and Quail				
<i>Bonasa umbellus</i>	Ruffed grouse			RI
<i>Colinus virginianus</i>	Northern bobwhite			RI
Rails, Gallinules, and Coots				
<i>Gallinula galeata</i>	Common gallinule		NM	
Cuckoos				
<i>Coccyzus americanus</i>	Yellow-billed cuckoo			RI
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			RI
<i>Caprimulgus vociferus</i>	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
Hummingbirds				
<i>Archilochus colubris</i>	Ruby-throated hummingbird			RI
Kingfishers				
<i>Megaceryle alcyon</i>	Belted kingfisher			RI
Woodpeckers				
<i>Melanerpes erythrocephalus</i>	Red-headed woodpecker			RI
<i>Sphyrapicus varius</i>	Yellow-bellied sapsucker	MC	NM	
<i>Picoides pubescens</i>	Downy woodpecker			RI
<i>Colaptes auratus</i>	Northern flicker			RI
<i>Dryocopus pileatus</i>	Pileated woodpecker			RI
Tyrant Flycatchers				
<i>Contopus cooperi</i>	Olive-sided flycatcher		NM	RI
<i>Contopus virens</i>	Eastern wood-pewee			RI
<i>Empidonax virescens</i>	Acadian 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 carolinensis</i>	Carolina chickadee			RI
<i>Baeolophus bicolor</i>	Tufted titmouse			RI
Nuthatches				
<i>Sitta carolinensis</i>	White-breasted nuthatch			RI
Kinglets, Gnatcatchers, and Thrushes				
<i>Hylocichla mustelina</i>	Wood thrush			RI
<i>Sialia sialis</i>	Eastern bluebird			RI
Thrashers & Mockingbirds				
<i>Toxostoma rufum</i>	Brown thrasher			RI
<i>Dumetella carolinensis</i>	Gray catbird			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 olivaceus</i>	Red-eyed vireo			RI
Wood Warblers				
<i>Vermivora chrysoptera</i>	Golden-winged warbler	MC	NM	RI
<i>Vermivora cyanoptera</i>	Blue-winged warbler			RI
<i>Setophaga cerulea</i>	Cerulean warbler		NM	RI
<i>Setophaga discolor</i>	Prairie warbler			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			RI
<i>Limnothlypis swainsonii</i>	Swainson's warbler	MC	NM	
<i>Parkesia motacilla</i>	Louisiana waterthrush			RI
<i>Protonotaria citrea</i>	Prothonotary warbler			RI

Table 1.1. (continued)

Scientific name	Common name	Status ^b		
		Federal	State	PIF ^c
<i>Geophlypis Formosa</i>	Kentucky warbler			RI
<i>Geophlypis trichas</i>	Common yellowthroat			RI
<i>Cardellina canadensis</i>	Canada warbler			RI
<i>Setophaga citrina</i>	Hooded warbler			RI
<i>Icteria virens</i>	Yellow-breasted chat			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>Poocetes gramineus</i>	Vesper sparrow		NM	
<i>Ammodramus henslowii</i>	Henslow's sparrow	MC	NM	RI
<i>Melospiza melodia</i>	Song sparrow			RI
Blackbirds and Allies				
<i>Sturnella magna</i>	Eastern meadowlark			RI
<i>Dolichonyx oryzivorus</i>	Bobolink			RI
MAMMALS				
<i>Myotis grisescens</i>	Gray bat	E	E	
<i>Sorex longirostris</i>	Southeastern 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

MC = species 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.

Birds, fish, and aquatic invertebrates are the most thoroughly surveyed animal groups on ORR. The only federally listed animal species that has been observed on ORR in recent years is the gray bat, which was observed over water bordering ORR (the Clinch River) in 2003 and over a pond on ORR in 2004. Three gray bats were mist-netted outside a cave on ORR in 2006. Several state-listed bird species, such as the anhinga, olive-sided flycatcher, and little blue heron, are uncommon migrants or visitors to the reservation; however, the little blue heron is believed to be increasing in numbers. The cerulean warbler, listed by the state as in need of management, has been recorded during the breeding season; however, this species is not actually known to breed on the reservation. The bald eagle (Fig. 1.4), also listed by the state as in need of management, is increasingly seen at all times of the year. One nest was confirmed on the reservation in 2011, and the pair nested again in 2012. Others, such as the northern harrier, great egret, and yellow-bellied sapsucker, are migrants or winter residents that do not nest on the reservation. The golden-winged warbler, listed by the state as in need of management, has been sighted once on the reservation. Barn owls have been known to nest on the reservation in the past.

Oak Ridge Reservation

Some interesting birds uncommon for ORR were recorded in 2012. A Ross's goose was sighted in a flock of Canada geese in the vicinity of the ORNL campus pond in January 2012 (Fig. 1.5). This species is an uncommon but regular winter visitor to Tennessee; however, it is mainly seen in west Tennessee in the Mississippi River Valley. This is believed to be only the second time this species has been sighted on ORR. Other interesting birds sighted on ORR in 2012 were the horned grebe and least bittern (Fig. 1.6). Both sightings were at the K1007 P1 Pond at ETTP, where high quality wildlife habitat has been established as a result of recent restoration efforts. The horned grebe, seen in March, is considered to be a fairly common migrant and winter resident in Tennessee, but it is not often seen on ORR. The least bittern, heard in June, is an uncommon migrant and summer resident in Tennessee and is on the state "in need of management" list.

ORNL2012-P01070



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

ORNL 2013-G00150/chj



Fig. 1.5. Ross's goose with Canada geese at ORNL. [Source: Neil Giffen.]

ORNL 2013-G00151/chj



Fig. 1.6. Other interesting birds sighted on the Oak Ridge Reservation during 2012: (a) horned grebe and (b) least bittern.

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 Tennessee dace, listed by the state as being in need of management, has been found in Bear Creek watershed, tributaries to 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 or previously reported 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.

Twenty-three 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.

The Tennessee Heritage Program scientific advisory committee met in 2012 to revise the state list of threatened, endangered, or special concern plants, but its changes to the state list are not yet official. The current list of state- or federal-listed plants sighted on or near ORR (Table 1.2) reflects changes made by the state to the scientific names used for plants.

Table 1.2. Vascular plant species listed by state or federal agencies and sighted/reported on or near ORR, 2012

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>Cimicifuga rubifolia</i>	Appalachian bugbane	Forested River slope	FSC, T
<i>Cypripedium acaule</i>	Pink lady’s-slipper	Dry to rich woods	S-CE
<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

Table 1.2. (continued)

Species	Common name	Habitat on ORR	Status code ^a
<i>Fothergilla major</i>	Mountain witch-alder	Woods	T
<i>Helianthus occidentalis</i>	Naked-stem sunflower	Barrens	S
<i>Hydrastis canadensis</i>	Golden seal	Rich woods	S-CE
<i>Juglans cinerea</i>	Butternut	Lake shore	FSC, T
<i>Juncus brachycephalus</i>	Small-head rush	Open wetland	S
<i>Lilium canadense</i>	Canada lily	Moist woods	T
<i>Lilium michiganense</i> ^b	Michigan lily	Moist woods	T
<i>Liparis loeselii</i>	Fen orchid	Forested wetland	E
<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>Viola tripartite</i> var. <i>tripartite</i>	Three-parted violet	Rocky woods	S
Rare plants that occur near and could be present on ORR			
<i>Agalinis auriculata</i>	Earleaf false foxglove	Calcareous barren	FSC, E
<i>Allium burdickii</i> or <i>A. tricoccom</i> ^c	Ramps	Moist woods	S, CE
<i>Pseudognaphalium helleri</i>	Heller's catfoot	Dry woodland edge	S
<i>Lathyrus palustris</i>	A vetch	Moist meadows	S
<i>Liatris cylindracea</i>	Slender blazing star	Calcareous barren	E
<i>Lonicera dioica</i>	Mountain honeysuckle	Rocky river bluff	S
<i>Meehania cordata</i>	Heartleaf meehania	Moist calcareous woods	T
<i>Pedicularis lanceolata</i>	Swamp lousewort	Calcareous wet meadow	T
<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.

^b*Lilium michiganense* is believed to have been extirpated from the Oak Ridge Reservation (ORR) by the impoundment at Melton Hill.

^cRamps 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 introduced by planting. Both species of ramps have the same state status.

Abbreviations

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. Six historic ORR properties are individually listed in the *National Register of Historic Places*:

- Freels Bend Cabin,
- Graphite Reactor,
- New Bethel Baptist Church and Cemetery,
- Oak Ridge Turnpike Checking Station,

- George Jones Memorial Baptist Church and Cemetery, and
- Scarboro Road Checking Station.

Although not yet listed in the *National Register*, 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* (DOE 2001) was developed to identify, assess, and document historic and cultural resources on ORR and establish a management strategy.

A memorandum of agreement was signed in 2012 by DOE ORO, the State Historic Preservation Officer, the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, the City of Oak Ridge, and the East Tennessee Preservation Alliance for the interpretation of historical properties at ETPP.

1.4 DOE Offices and Sites

1.4.1 Oak Ridge National Laboratory

The ORNL mission is to deliver scientific discoveries and technical breakthroughs that will accelerate the development and deployment of solutions in clean energy and global security and in doing so create economic opportunity for the nation. To execute this mission, ORNL integrates and applies distinctive core capabilities that provide signature strengths in neutron scattering, advanced materials, high-performance computing, and nuclear science and engineering. The intended outcome is to produce transformational innovations that will enable a 21st century industrial revolution.

Managed by UT-Battelle, LLC, a partnership of the University of Tennessee and Battelle Memorial Institute, ORNL was established in 1943 to support the Manhattan Project. From an early focus on chemical technology and reactor development, ORNL's R&D portfolio broadened to include programs supporting DOE missions in scientific discovery and innovation, clean energy, and nuclear security. Today, as DOE's largest science and energy laboratory (Fig. 1.7), ORNL is engaged in programs and partnerships that leverage major national investments in critical research infrastructure, including the world's foremost resources for neutron sciences, SNS and HFIR, and the nation's most powerful scientific computing complex. ORNL also manages the US ITER project for DOE. Each year, ORNL hosts thousands of facility users and visiting scientists, many of whom perform work at its 10 user facilities, and supports the development of the next generation of scientific and technical talent. ORNL has a staff of about 4,400 and an annual budget of more than \$1.6 billion. 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.

SEC Federal Services Corporation (SEC) is involved in the decommissioning of ORNL facilities for the DOE Office of Environmental Management (EM) under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA). Historically, these facilities were used in support of reactor area operations and for various laboratory support activities.



Fig. 1.7. The Oak Ridge National Laboratory.

About 5 ha (12 acres) in the central portion of ORNL has been leased to Halcyon, LLC, a subsidiary of the Community Reuse Organization of East Tennessee (CROET), 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 115,000 ft² National Security Engineering Center, was completed in 2009, and the company is now well-established in the building. In addition, the former Building 2033, also leased to Halcyon, LLC, is now known as the Halcyon Commercialization Center (HCC) and continues to attract tenants. HCC's largest tenant is Roane State Community College, which is offering job training classes on-site in the areas of carbon fiber manufacturing and solar energy technology. Other HCC tenants include a construction management firm and a carbon fiber manufacturer that is partnering with ORNL for materials research. There may be potential to expand ORSTP 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.

As of the date of this report, no construction was occurring within ORSTP.

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 ²³⁵U 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. 1.8) 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.

ORNL 2012-G00348/chj



Fig. 1.8. Y-12 National Security Complex.

1.4.3 East Tennessee Technology Park

What is now known as ETTP (Fig. 1.9) 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.

ORNL 2010-G00441/chj



Fig. 1.9. East Tennessee Technology Park.

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 2012, ETTP landlord contractor functions and the majority of the ETTP cleanup program actions were managed by URS | CH2M Oak Ridge LLC (UCOR).

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 (LGTF), which is operated by UCOR.

1.4.5 Oak Ridge Environmental Research Park

In 1980, DOE established the Oak Ridge Environmental Research Park (Fig. 1.10). 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.

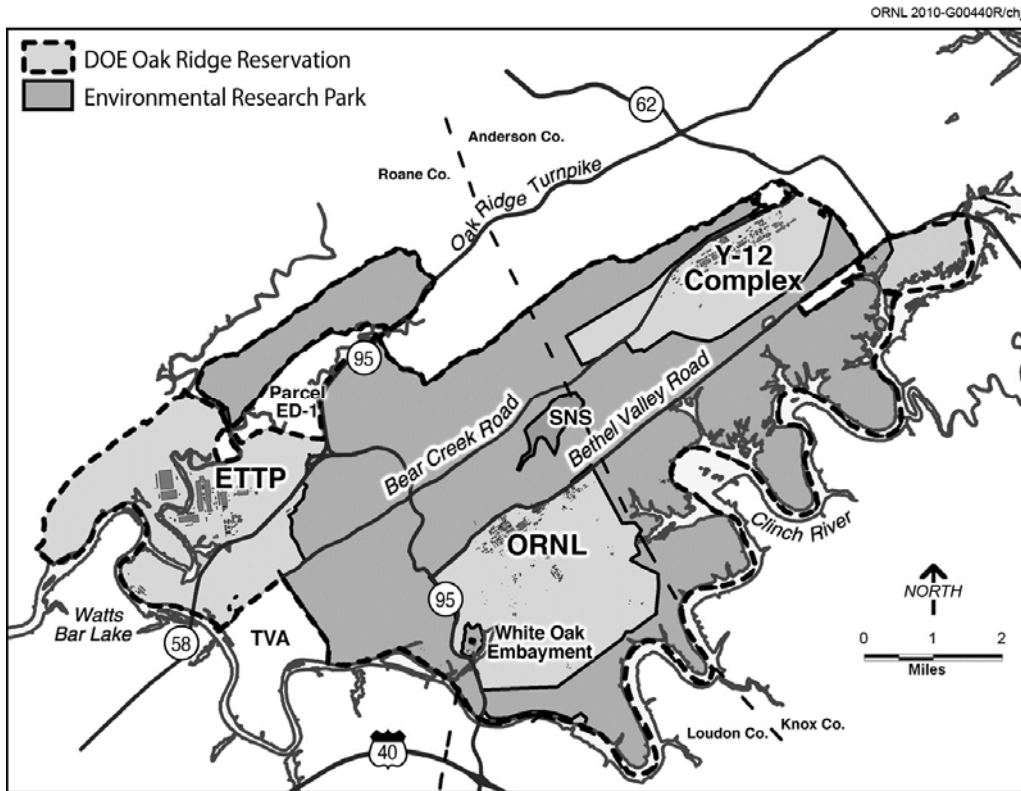


Fig. 1.10. The Oak Ridge Environmental Research Park.

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, 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 485 ha (1,198 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, executive orders (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 2012 status for DOE operations on ORR. A number of facilities at ETTP and ORSTP 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 2012 status, and references to the report sections that provide more detailed information.

2.2 External Oversight and Assessments

Inspections of ORR environmental activities by regulatory agencies were conducted during 2012 and 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.state.tn.us/environment/doeo/>.

Table 2.1. Applicable environmental laws/regulations and 2012 status

Regulatory program description	2012 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 2012, an NOV was issued for failure to conduct an initial VEE for an ORNL permitted stack emission point and for failure to report the missed VEE as a deviation in subsequent semiannual and annual Compliance Certification Reports.	3.3.5 4.3.3 5.3.3
CERCLA provides the regulatory framework for remediation of releases of hazardous substances and of inactive hazardous waste disposal sites.	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. CERCLA §121 requires a review of remedial actions “that result in any hazardous substances, pollutant, or contaminant remaining at the site . . . to assure that human health and the environment are being protected.” Five-year reviews are required for sites that have contamination left in place above unrestricted land use cleanup criteria. The third reservationwide Five-Year Review was conducted in 2011. Twenty-seven actions were evaluated and most were deemed to be protective (or will be protective) of human health and the environment. Two sites, Bear Creek Valley and upper East Fork Poplar Creek, were determined to not be protective of human health and the environment; however, institutional controls are in place to prevent human exposure. There were no NOV’s issued for CERCLA-related ORR actions during 2012.	3.3.10 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 greater than 99% was achieved by all three major ORR sites in 2012.	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 LI development 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 5.2.1.4.10
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 2012, DOE facilities on ORR were operated in accordance with emergency planning and reporting requirements.	3.3.12 4.3.9.2 5.3.10

Table 2.1. (continued)

Regulatory program description	2012 status	Report sections
<p>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.</p>	<p>During 2012, DOE activities on ORR were conducted in accordance with NEPA requirements.</p>	<p>3.3.4 4.3.2 5.3.2</p>
<p>NHPA provides protection for the nation’s historical resources by establishing a comprehensive national historic preservation policy.</p>	<p>ORR has several facilities eligible for inclusion in the <i>National Register of Historic Places</i>. Proposed activities are reviewed to determine potential adverse effects on these properties, and methods to avoid or minimize harm are identified. During 2012, activities on ORR were in compliance with NHPA requirements.</p>	<p>3.3.4 4.3.2 5.3.2</p>
<p>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.</p>	<p>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 the 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>.</p>	<p>3.3.4 4.3.2 5.3.2</p>
<p>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.</p>	<p>Protection of about 243 ha (600.5 acres) of ORR wetlands was implemented through each site’s NEPA program, and surveys for the presence of wetlands are conducted on a project- or program-as-needed basis. Wetland protection on ORR is conducted in accordance with 10 CFR 1022 and EO 11990, <i>Protection of Wetlands</i>.</p>	<p>1.3.6.1 3.3.4 4.3.2</p>
<p>RCRA governs the generation, storage, handling, and disposal of hazardous wastes. RCRA also regulates underground storage tanks containing petroleum and hazardous substances, universal waste, and recyclable used oil.</p>	<p>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 2012 an alleged violation was identified by EPA Region 4 and TDEC during an inspection at the Y-12 Complex for CERCLA project Investigative Derived Waste stored for more than 1 year from the initial date of generation. A TDEC-Knoxville Office UST auditor completed a compliance inspection of the UST system at Y-12. An NOV was received for a past due line tightness test.</p>	<p>3.3.8 4.3.6.1 5.3.7</p>
<p>SDWA establishes minimum drinking water standards and monitoring requirements.</p>	<p>The City of Oak Ridge supplies potable water to the facilities on ORR and meets all regulatory requirements for drinking water.</p>	<p>3.3.7 4.3.5 5.3.5</p>

Table 2.1. (continued)

Regulatory program description	2012 status	Report sections
The 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
TSCA regulates the manufacture, use, and distribution of all chemicals.	The 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 2012, a subcontractor to a former DOE EM prime contractor at ETPP received an NOV for failure to make the initial one-time notification of PCB Waste Activity as required by 40 CFR 761.205(b) for transporters of PCB waste.	3.3.11 4.3.8 5.3.9
DOE O 231.1B, <i>Environment, Safety and Health Reporting</i> , ensures timely collection, reporting, analysis, and dissemination of information on environment, safety, and health issues.	The <i>ORR Annual Site Environmental Report for 2012</i> will summarize ORR environmental activities during 2012 and characterize environmental performance.	All chapters
DOE O 435.1, Change 1, <i>Radioactive Waste Management</i> , 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 4.8.3 5.8.9
DOE O 436.1, <i>Department Sustainability</i> , was approved in May 2011 and cancels DOE O 450.1A, <i>Environmental Protection Program</i> , and DOE O 430.2B, <i>Departmental Energy, Renewable Energy and Transportation Management</i> . DOE O 436.1 requires SSPs that identify a site's contributions toward meeting DOE's sustainability goals and an EMS that conforms to the ISO 14001:2004 standard.	DOE contractors on ORR have developed SSPs and have implemented environmental management systems 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	2012 status	Report sections
DOE O 458.1, <i>Radiation Protection of the Public and the Environment, issued in June 2011</i> , 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.	In 2012 DOE O 458.1 was the primary contractual obligation for radiation protection for UT-Battelle, LLC, and B&W Y-12, and DOE O 5400.5 was the primary contractual obligation for UCOR. 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 2012 dose to a hypothetically exposed member of the public from all ORR sources could have been 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.	4.3.11 5.3.13 Chap. 7
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 2012.	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 2012 dose to a hypothetically exposed member of the public from all ORR sources could have been about 3 mrem.	Chap. 7
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.	In 2012 “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 2012.	3.2.3 4.2.6.3 5.2.1.4
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.		

Table 2.1. (continued)

^aDOE. 2012. *2012 Strategic Sustainability Performance Plan*, Report to the White House Council on Environmental Quality. US Department of Energy, Washington, DC.

Abbreviations

B&W Y-12 = Babcock & Wilcox Technical Services Y-12, LLC
 CAA = Clean Air Act
 CERCLA = Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act
 CWA = Clean Water Act
 DOE = US Department of Energy
 DOE EM = DOE Office of Environmental Management
 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
 GI = green infrastructure
 ISMS = integrated safety management system
 LI = low impact
 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
 ORNL = Oak Ridge National Laboratory
 ORR = Oak Ridge Reservation
 PCBs = polychlorinated biphenyls
 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
 VEE = Visible Emission Evaluation
 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, 2012

Date	Reviewer	Subject	Issues
ORNL (including UT-Battelle, LLC; UCOR; Isotek; and WAI activities)			
January 4	Knox County	Construction Permit Inspection for NTRC	0
February 6	TDEC	Inspection of ORNL Underground Storage Tanks	0
March 22	TDEC	Follow-Up RCRA Inspection	0
May 14	Knox County	Annual CAA Inspection for NTRC	0
July 31	TDEC	Annual CAA Inspection	1
November 13–15	TDEC	Annual RCRA Inspection of UT-Battelle Facilities at Y-12 Complex	0
ETTP			
February 13–14	TDEC	Annual RCRA Compliance Inspection	0
September 25	TDEC-Knoxville	CNF NPDES Compliance Evaluation Inspection	0
October 25	TDEC	TSCA Incinerator—PCB Site Visit	0
Y-12 Complex			
January 31	TDEC-Knoxville	Underground Storage Tank Compliance Inspection	1 ^a
February 28	City of Oak Ridge	Semiannual Industrial Pretreatment Compliance Inspection	0
June 18–21	EPA Region 4 and TDEC	Multimedia Environmental Compliance Audit	0 ^b
August 8–9	TDEC-Knoxville	Annual CAA Compliance Audit	0
September 18	EPA Region 4	SPCC Plan	0 ^c
September 18	City of Oak Ridge	Semiannual Industrial Pretreatment Compliance Inspection	0
November 13–15	TDEC	Annual RCRA Inspection	0

^aThe underground storage tanks have been removed. See Section 4.3.6.1.

^bSee Section 2.4 for information related to an alleged violation related to CERCLA project Investigative Derived Waste.

^cA statement of correction was issued to address alleged SPCC deficiency. See Section 4.3.9.1.

Abbreviations

CAA = Clean Air Act	RCRA = Resource Conservation and Recovery Act
CNF = Central Neutralization Facility	SPCC = Spill Prevention Control and Countermeasures
EPA = Environmental Protection Agency	TDEC = Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation
ETTP = East Tennessee Technology Park	TSCA = Toxic Substances Control Act
Isotek = Isotek Systems LLC	UCOR = URS CH2M Oak Ridge LLC
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	
PCB = polychlorinated biphenyl	

2.3 Reporting of Oak Ridge Reservation Spills and Releases

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 2012 there were no releases of hazardous substances exceeding an RQ or observed oil sheens at the Y-12 Complex, ETTP, or ORNL. There was a reportable occurrence due to a potable water line break that occurred at the Y-12 Complex on September 6, 2012. Chlorinated water from the point of the break entered the storm drain system and resulted in a fish kill (see Section 4.5.1).

2.4 Notices of Violations and Penalties

The TDEC Division of Air Pollution Control issued a notice of violation (NOV) on August 31, 2012, for failure to conduct an initial Visible Emission Evaluation (VEE) at Stack 3039 at ORNL and to report this omission as a deviation in the corresponding Semiannual and Annual Compliance Certification Reports for Permit Number 568860. This permit was originally issued to the previous contractor at Stack 3039 who failed to perform the VEE and to report the missed test as a deviation. However, UCOR was the operator on the permit at the time the deviation was identified. Consequently, upon discovery, a VEE was conducted and UCOR submitted the revised Semiannual and Annual Compliance Certification Reports to the Division of Air Pollution Control. No further enforcement actions were taken.

An NOV in the PCB regulatory area with an associated consent agreement and civil penalty was issued to a subcontractor at ETTP during 2012. On November 19, 2012, a subcontractor to a former DOE ETTP prime contractor received an NOV for failure to make the initial one-time notification of PCB waste activity as required by 40 CFR 761.205(b) for transporters of PCB waste. The issue was identified during an on-site inspection that occurred on June 28, 2011. The NOV was issued to the subcontractor’s commercial hazardous waste transportation identification number and not the DOE ETTP site transportation identification number. On March 6, 2013, EPA issued a consent agreement and final order to the subcontractor with an associated civil penalty of \$2,840.

From June 18 to 21, 2012, EPA Region 4 and TDEC jointly conducted a RCRA Compliance Evaluation Inspection of operations at the Y-12 Complex as a component of a multimedia inspection. During the inspection of a UCOR CERCLA project waste storage area, questions were raised concerning the storage of two 55 gal drums of hazardous waste that had been stored for slightly more than 1 year from the initial date of generation. The drums were containers of investigation-derived waste purge water generated from groundwater sampling in support of Y-12 Complex CERCLA projects. The EPA and TDEC staff noted the containers were being stored in an environmentally protective manner and were provided the pertinent CERCLA project decision documents, which did not include the administrative storage time periods noted in 40 CFR 268.50 as applicable or relevant and appropriate requirements.

Based upon the regulator recommendations at the time of the inspection, the two containers were shipped for disposal at an on-site ORR wastewater treatment facility soon after the inspection dates. As a follow-up to the inspection, TDEC issued an inspection report that identified this issue as an alleged violation, and EPA issued its inspection report identifying this issue as an apparent violation. As previously noted, the waste was disposed soon after the inspection dates and no subsequent enforcement actions were taken.

- No NOVs, penalties, or consent orders were issued to UT-Battelle during 2012.
- No NOVs, penalties, or consent orders were issued to WAI or Isotek during 2012.
- An NOV was received from the TDEC Division of Underground Storage Tanks for deficiencies observed during a January 31, 2012, compliance inspection of the East End Fuel Station at the Y-12 Complex. (See Section 4.3.6.1.)

*The National Response Center (<http://www.nrc.uscg.mil/nrcback.html>) is the sole federal point of contact for reporting oil, chemical, radiological, biological, and etiological releases into the environment anywhere in the United States and its territories.

2.5 Community Involvement

2.5.1 Public Comments Solicited

Public input and comments were solicited on a variety of proposed actions, documents, and plans in 2012 including the following.

- Public comment sought and public meeting held for the proposed termination of hazardous waste permits TNHW-015 and TNHW-133 at ETPP
- Public meeting was held on the reapplication permits for postclosure permits at the Y-12 Complex for the Bear Creek and upper EFPC hydrogeologic regimes

To keep the public informed of comment periods and other matters related to cleanup activities on ORR, DOE publishes a monthly newsletter, *Public Involvement News* (http://www.ucor.com/public_involvement_news.html). DOE also keeps the public informed by publishing notices in local newspapers and conducting public meetings.

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.oakridge.doe.gov/em/ssab/>.

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. The DOE ORO website (www.oakridge.doe.gov) includes a "Public Activities" tab that links to a page with descriptions of DOE ORO program activities for the general public. The "Online Catalog" tab, under the "DOE Information Center" tab on the Public Activities page, can be used to search for DOE documents by author, title, date, and other fields. The "New Documents" tab provides links to recently published documents.

2.5.3.1 Telephone Contacts

- 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
- ORSSAB: (865) 241-4583, (865) 241-4584, 1-800-382-6938
- TDEC, DOE Oversight Division: (865) 481-0995
- EPA Region IV: 1-800-241-1754
- Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry: 1-800-232-4636

2.5.3.2 Internet Sites

- DOE Main Website: www.energy.gov
- DOE ORO Home Page: www.oakridge.doe.gov

- DOE ORO EM Program: <http://www.oakridge.doe.gov/external/Programs/EnvironmentalManagement/tabid/42/Default.aspx>
- ORSSAB: <http://www.oakridge.doe.gov/em/ssab/default.htm>
- ETTP: <http://www.ettpreuse.com/default.htm>
- Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry: www.atsdr.cdc.gov
- EPA: www.epa.gov/region4/
- TDEC: www.state.tn.us/environment/
- TDEC, DOE Oversight Division: <http://www.state.tn.us/environment/doeo/>
- DOE Information Center: www.oakridge.doe.gov/info_cntr
- American Recovery and Reinvestment Act: www.recovery.gov and www.energy.gov/recovery

2.6 Reference

DOE. 2012. *2012 Strategic Sustainability Performance Plan*, Report to the White House Council on Environmental Quality. 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 2012, 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 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 K-25 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. Figure 3.3 shows the ETTP areas designated for D&D activities through 2012.

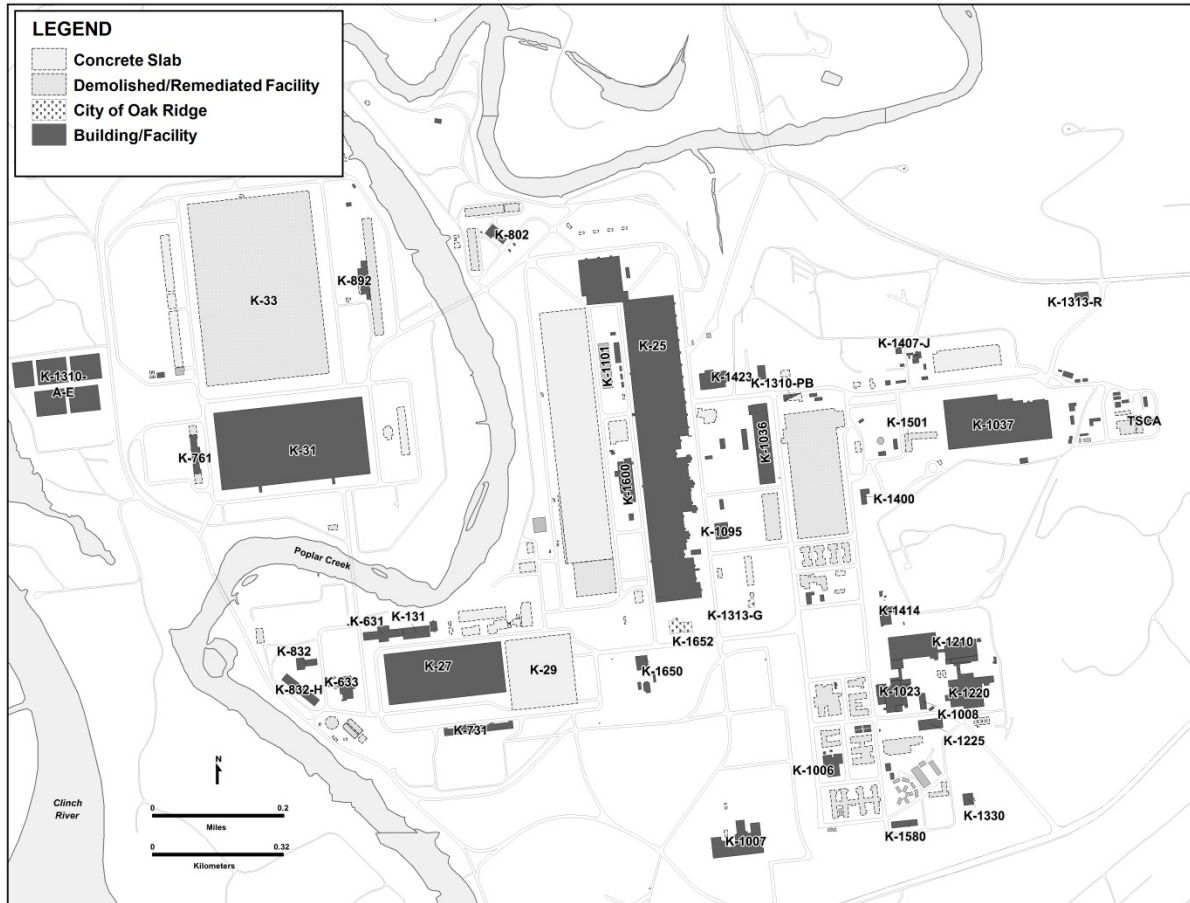


Fig. 3.3. East Tennessee Technology Park in 2012.

The ETTP mission is to reindustrialize and reuse site assets through leasing 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 ETTP is to convert as much as possible of the site into a private mixed-use 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 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 that transferred one land parcel to CROET in 2012 as part of the continuing effort to transform ETTP into a private-sector industrial park. An excellent example of reindustrialization efforts this past year was the construction and commissioning of an array of solar panels at the entrance to Portal 3 (see Section 3.2.1). 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 14001:2004), *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, “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 2012, UCOR received “green scores” for EMS performance. As an example, Fig. 3.4 presents information on UCOR’s pollution prevention recycling activities for 2012. 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 (CRT and LCD). Other recycling opportunities include unique structural steel, stainless steel structural members, transformers, and electrical breakers. Figure 3.4 shows the pollution prevention recycling activities at ETTP related to solid waste reduction.

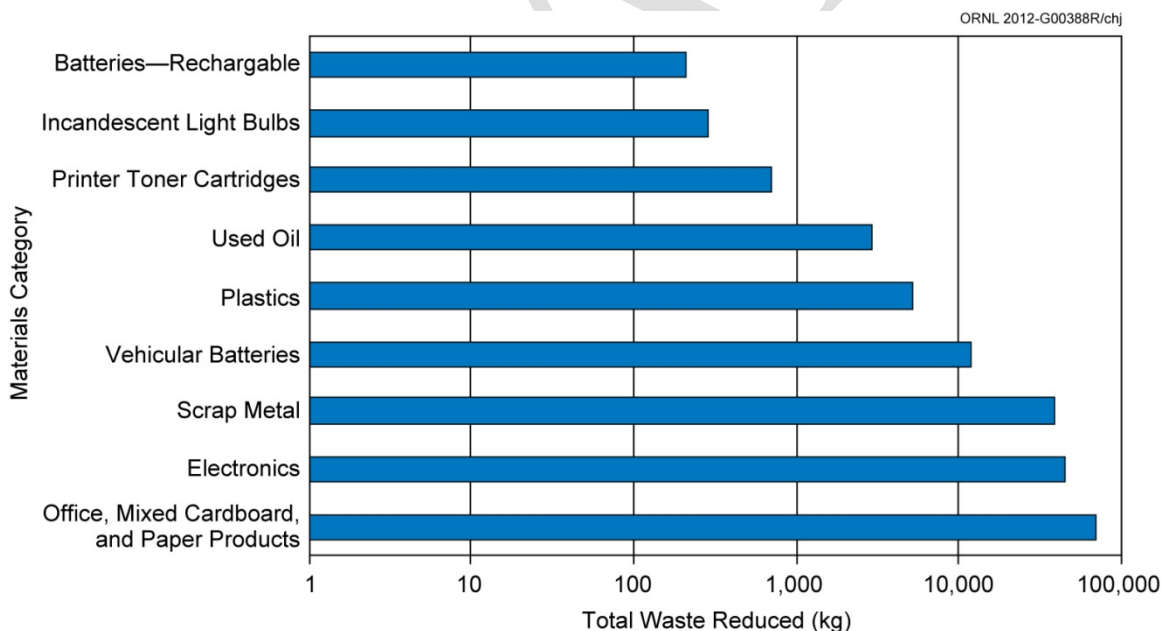


Fig. 3.4. Pollution prevention recycling activities related to solid waste reduction at East Tennessee Technology Park in FY 2012.

UCOR’s electronic stewardship is award winning. For 2012, EPA awarded ETTP with the 2012 Federal Electronics Challenge (FEC) Platinum–Level Award at the White House Conference Center in Washington, DC (Fig. 3.5), for its electronics assets management achievements, including the Radio Frequency Identification Transportation System (RFITS). This award was earned by only 10 sites across the nation, and this was DOE EM’s first award at this level.



Fig. 3.5. 2012 Federal Electronics Challenge Platinum-Level Award.

Additionally, UCOR internally recognized six projects for their pollution prevention/waste minimization accomplishments during the year, representing 17.7 million lb of construction debris being diverted from landfills and a cost savings of \$447,000. In the area of alternative energy, Restoration Services, Inc. (RSI), in concert with UCOR, completed construction of ETTP's first solar farm on the east end of the plant property in April 2012. Brightfield 1 (Fig. 3.6) 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. 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. 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 recycling efforts.



Fig. 3.6. Brightfield 1 Solar Farm.

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 bio-based 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 2011a), 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 post-consumer 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. 3.7. 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. 3.7. A waste shipment passing an electronic tracking station as it prepares to enter the haul road from East Tennessee Technology Park en route to the Environmental Management Waste Management Facility.

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.

Table 3.1. Radio Frequency Identification Transportation System sustainable results

Sustainable Factor	Results
Diesel fuel use avoidance	99,416 L
NO _x and CO ₂ emissions avoidance	4,611 kg and 263,394 kg
Paper and trees saved	11 MT and 73 trees
Electricity saved	112.23 MJ
Water use avoided	120,230 L
Total project cost savings	\$15.6 million

3.2.8 Communication

UCOR has decided to communicate 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., the Annual Site Environmental Report, Annual Cleanup Progress Report). UCOR participates in a number of public meetings related to environmental activities at the site (e.g., Site Specific Advisory Board 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 2012d). In 2012 the UCOR EMS program underwent the independent program verification required triennially by DOE O 436.1 (DOE 2011a). The independent assessment evaluated the EMS program for conformance with the requirements of ISO 14001:2004. The results were zero findings and five opportunities for improvement (mostly related to documentation). Further, the report noted several practices worthy of benchmarking.

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 2012, ETPP operations were conducted in compliance with contractual and regulatory environmental requirements, and there were no National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit noncompliances. Figure 3.8 shows the trend of NPDES compliance at ETPP since 1999. No notices of violation (NOVs) or penalties were issued to ETPP operations in 2012. The following sections provide more detail on each compliance program and the activities in 2012.

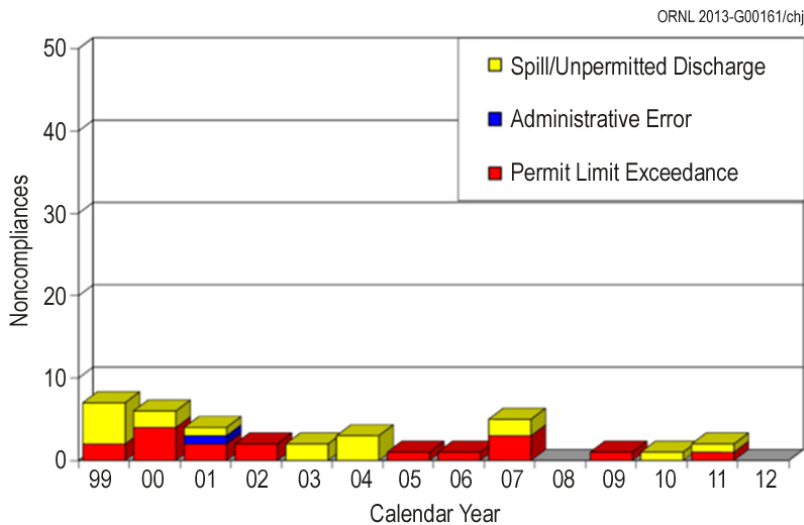


Fig. 3.8. East Tennessee Technology Park National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit compliance since 1999.

3.3.1 Environmental Permits

Table 3.2 contains a list of environmental permits that were effective at ETPP in 2012.

3.3.2 Notices of Violations and Penalties

ETPP did not receive any NOV's or penalties from regulators in 2012.

3.3.3 Audits and Oversight

Table 3.3 presents a summary of environmental audits conducted at ETPP in 2012.

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. ETPP 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.

During 2012, ETPP 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 exclusions (CXs) 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 ETPP, a checklist incorporating NEPA and EMS requirements has been developed as an aid for project planners. For routine operations, generic CXs have been issued. During 2012, no new CXs were issued, and eight review reports (five reindustrialization projects and three maintenance projects) were prepared. A review report is generated when a NEPA review is conducted and the activity is found to fall within one of the DOE ORO generic CXs.

Table 3.2. East Tennessee Technology Park Environmental Permits, 2012^a

Regulatory driver	Permit title/description	Permit number	Issue date	Expiration date	Owner	Operator	Responsible contractor
CWA	NPDES permit for the Central Neutralization Facility Wastewater Treatment System	TN0074225	10-29-10	12-31-13	DOE	UCOR	UCOR
CWA	NPDES permit for storm water discharges	TN0002950	02-26-10	12-31-13	DOE	DOE	UCOR
CWA	State operating permit—Waste Transportation Project; Blair Road and Portal 6 Sewage Pump and Haul Permit	SOP-05068	08-19-11	02-28-14	DOE	TOPS	TOPS
CWA	State operating permit—K-1310-DF and K-1310-HG Trailers	SOP-99033	04-30-10	04-30-15	DOE	UCOR	UCOR
CWA	State operating permit—K-1065 Facility; Trailer K-1310-BS added in March 2009	SOP-01042	11-30-06	Terminated 5-31-11	DOE	UCOR	UCOR
CWA	State operating permit—EMWMF. 5,000 gal holding tank and 1,500 gal holding tank	SOP-01043	07-31-12	08-31-17	DOE	UCOR	UCOR
CWA	Authorized/certified USTs at K-1414 Garage	Customer ID 30166 Facility ID 073008	03-20-89	Ongoing	DOE	UCOR	UCOR
RCRA	K-25 Site TSCA Incinerator	TNHW-015	09-28-87	Terminated 9-21-12	DOE	UCOR	UCOR
RCRA	ETTP Container and Tank Storage and Treatment Units	TNHW-133	09-28-07	Terminated 9-21-12	DOE	UCOR	UCOR

Table 3.2. (continued)

Regulatory driver	Permit title/description	Permit number	Issue date	Expiration date	Owner	Operator	Responsible contractor
RCRA	ETTP Container Storage and Treatment Units	TNHW-117	09-30-04	09-30-14	DOE	UCOR	UCOR
RCRA	Hazardous Waste Corrective Action Document (encompasses the entire ORR)	TNHW-121	09-28-04	09-28-14	DOE	DOE/All ^b	DOE/All ^b
TSCA	TSCA Incinerator PCB treatment authorization	Not applicable	03-20-89	Terminated 6-14-12	DOE	UCOR	UCOR

^aIn 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.

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

Abbreviations

- CWA = Clean Water Act
- DOE = US Department of Energy
- EMWMF = Environmental Management Waste Management Facility
- ETTP = East Tennessee Technology Park
- ID = identification (number)
- NPDES = National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System
- ORR = Oak Ridge Reservation
- PCB = polychlorinated biphenyl
- RCRA = Resource Conservation and Recovery Act
- SOP = state operating permit
- TOPS = Transportation, Operations and Professional Services, Inc.
- TSCA = Toxic Substances Control Act
- 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, 2012

Date	Reviewer	Subject	Issues
February 13–14	TDEC	Annual RCRA Compliance Inspection	0
September 25	TDEC-Knoxville	CNF NPDES Compliance Evaluation Inspection	0
October 25	TDEC	TSCA Incinerator—PCB Site Visit	0

Abbreviations

CAA = Clean Air Act	PCB = polychlorinated biphenyl
CNF = Central Neutralization Facility	RCRA = Resource Conservation and Recovery Act
EPA = US Environmental Protection Agency	TDEC = Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation
NPDES = National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System	TSCA = Toxic Substances Control Act

Compliance with the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) at ETP is achieved and maintained in conjunction with NEPA compliance. The scope of proposed actions is reviewed in accordance with the *Cultural Resource Management Plan* (DOE 2001). At ETP there are 135 facilities eligible for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places. 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 ETP.

Consultation for the development of a memorandum of agreement (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 State Historical Preservation Office (SHPO), and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP) entered into an MOA that included the retention of the north end tower (aka 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 ETP. 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 ETP Fire Station. A final MOA was signed in August 2012 finalizing the aspects set forth in the mitigation plan.

3.3.5 Clean Air Act Compliance Status

The Clean Air Act (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 (PSD) 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.

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's 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. ETTP discharges to the waters of the state of Tennessee under two individual NPDES permits:

- NPDES permit number TN0002950, which regulates storm water discharges, and
- NPDES permit number TN0074225, which regulates industrial discharges from the Central Neutralization Facility (CNF).

In 2012, compliance with ETTP NPDES storm water permit TN0002950 was determined by about 420 laboratory analyses, field measurements, and flow estimates. The NPDES permit compliance rate for all discharge points for 2012 was 100%.

In 2012, compliance with the ETTP NPDES permit for industrial wastewater from CNF was determined by more than 2,000 laboratory analyses and field measurements. The CNF NPDES permit compliance rate for 2012 was 100% with no noncompliances.

3.3.7 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).

The City of Oak Ridge supplies potable water to the ETTP water distribution system. The water treatment plant, located on ORR, southwest of ETTP, is owned and operated by the City of Oak Ridge.

3.3.8 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 2012, ETTP had three generator accumulation areas for hazardous or mixed waste.

3.3.9 Resource Conservation and Recovery Act Underground Storage Tanks

Underground storage tanks (USTs) containing petroleum and hazardous substances are regulated under Subtitle I of the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA, 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.

3.3.10 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.

3.3.10.1 East Tennessee Technology Park RCRA-CERCLA Coordination

The ORR FFA is intended to coordinate the corrective action processes of RCRA required under the Hazardous and Solid Waste Amendments permit with CERCLA response actions.

3.3.11 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 2012, ETTP operated 10 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, there is no PCB-contaminated electrical equipment 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, the DOE Oak Ridge Office and EPA Region 4 consummated a major compliance agreement known as the *Oak Ridge Reservation Polychlorinated Biphenyl Federal Facilities Compliance Agreement* (DOE 2012b), which became effective December 16, 1996, and was last revised on May 23, 2012. The agreement 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.

ETTP is home to the TSCA Incinerator (Fig. 3.9). On December 2, 2009, the TSCA Incinerator ceased operations as a waste incinerator and transitioned to a facility closure and decommissioning mode. The RCRA and PCB closure certification report for the TSCA Incinerator RCRA Permitted Unit areas was submitted to EPA and TDEC on June 10, 2011. A Closure Certification Letter was issued by EPA Region



Fig. 3.9. Toxic Substances Control Act Incinerator.

4 on June 14, 2012, and by TDEC on September 21, 2012. During 2012, the primary focus at the TSCA Incinerator was completing the decontamination of the Permit-by-Rule components of the TSCA Incinerator facility for RCRA and TSCA closure actions. The decontamination steps were completed in 2012, and the Permit-by-Rule components of the facility are no longer active.

During 2013, a postclosure TSCA Incinerator PCB Institutional Control Plan that requires monthly inspections of the facility will continue to be implemented and remain in effect as agreed upon in the closure certification while the facility is in a surveillance and maintenance mode pending demolition.

As described in detail in Section 2.4, an NOV with an associated consent agreement and civil penalty was issued to a subcontractor for a former ETPP contractor for failure to make the initial one-time notification of PCB waste activity as required by 40 CFR 761.205(b) for transporters of PCB waste. On March 6, 2013, EPA issued a consent agreement and final order to the subcontractor with an associated civil penalty of \$2,840.

3.3.12 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 certain chemicals that exceed specific release thresholds. The reports are submitted to the local emergency planning committee and the state emergency response commission. ETPP complied with these requirements in 2012 through the submittal of reports under EPCRA Sections 302, 303, 311, and 312. ETPP had no releases of extremely hazardous substances, as defined by EPCRA, in 2012.

3.3.12.1 Material Safety Data Sheet/Chemical Inventory (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 2012, 11 were located at ETPP. These chemicals were sodium hydroxide, nickel metal, lead metal (includes large lead acid batteries), sodium metal, diesel fuel, sulfuric acid (includes large lead acid batteries), Chemical Specialties Ultrapoles, creosote-treated wood, CCA Type C pressure-treated wood, unleaded gasoline, and Sakrete Type S or N mortar mix.

3.3.12.2 Toxic Chemical Release Reporting (EPCRA Section 313)

DOE submits annual toxic release inventory (TRI) 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 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 one or more of the thresholds. In 2012, the only chemicals that met the reporting requirements were diisocyanates associated with foaming activity to stabilize deposits in pipes undergoing remediation actions.

3.4 Air Quality Program

The State of Tennessee has been relegated authority by EPA to convey the clean air requirements that are applicable to ETPP 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 2012, UCOR was responsible for ETPP DOE EM operations and regulatory compliance.

3.4.1 Construction and Operating Permits

During 2012, no UCOR ETTP operations were subject to permitting under the CAA and TDEC Air Pollution Control Rules. However, for ETTP operations that do emit low levels of air pollutants that are classified as insignificant under TDEC rules, emissions from these sources are evaluated and compared against applicable regulatory limits to document this classification. 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, NSPSs, PSD permitting programs, 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.

3.4.1.1 Generally Applicable Permit Requirements

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

3.4.1.1.1 Control of Asbestos

ETTP's asbestos management program ensures all activities involving demolition 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 2012 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 2012, no individual non-CERCLA 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 2012 the total 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 2012.

3.4.1.1.2 Stratospheric Ozone Protection

The management of ODS 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 are not 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 3.10 illustrates the historical on-site ODS inventory at ETTP.

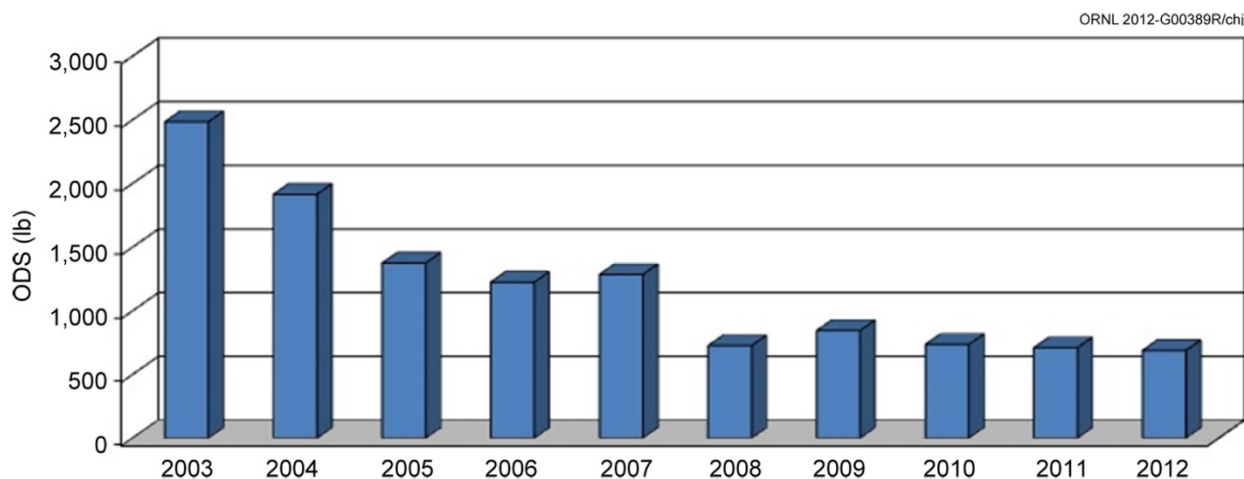


Fig. 3.10. East Tennessee Technology Park total on-site oxygen depleting substances (ODS) inventory 10-year history.

3.4.1.1.3 Fugitive Particulate Emissions

ETTP has been the location of major building demolition and waste debris transportation activities with the potential for 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.

3.4.1.2 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: Department of Energy Facilities (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 the 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 CNF Volatile Organic Compound (VOC) Air Stripper; K-1407 Chromium Water Treatment System (CWTS) VOC Air Stripper; K-2527-BR Grouting Facility; 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 3.11 provides a historical dose trend on the most impacted on-site member of the public. The results are based on actual ambient air sampling at a location conservatively representative of the on-site location.

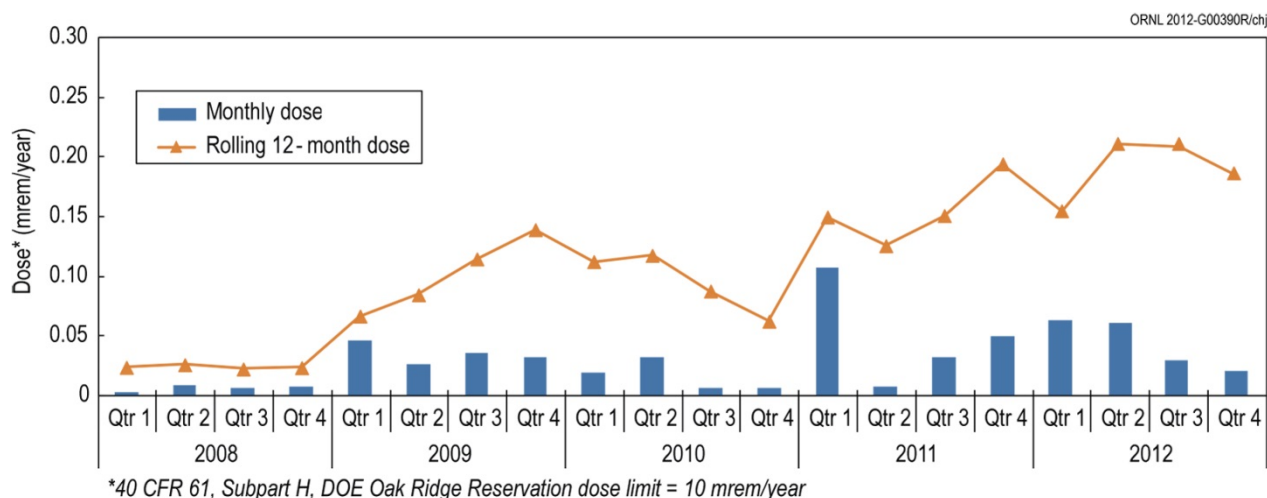


Fig. 3.11. East Tennessee Technology Park ambient air station K11 radionuclide monitoring results: 5-year rolling, 12-month dose history up through 2012.

3.4.1.3 Quality Assurance

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*. 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).

3.4.1.4 Greenhouse Gas Emissions

The EPA Mandatory Reporting of Greenhouse Gases rule was enacted September 30, 2009, under Title 40 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 98.2. According to the rule, in general, the stationary source emissions threshold for reporting requirement is 25,000 metric tons or more of GHGs per year, reported as CO₂ equivalents (CO₂e) per year. The rule defines GHGs as

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

A 2012 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 calendar year 2010 reporting period. Based on total GHG emissions from all ETTP stationary sources during 2012, ETTP did not exceed the annual threshold limit and therefore was not subject to mandatory annual reporting under the GHG rule for the 2012 reporting 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 decrease in stationary source emissions is due to the permanent cessation of waste processing at the TSCA Incinerator in 2009. The remaining sources are predominantly small comfort heating systems, hot water systems, and power generators. Figure 3.12 shows the historical trend of ETTP total GHG

stationary emissions including contributions from the TSCA Incinerator. For the 2012 calendar year period, GHG emissions totaled only 230 metric tons.

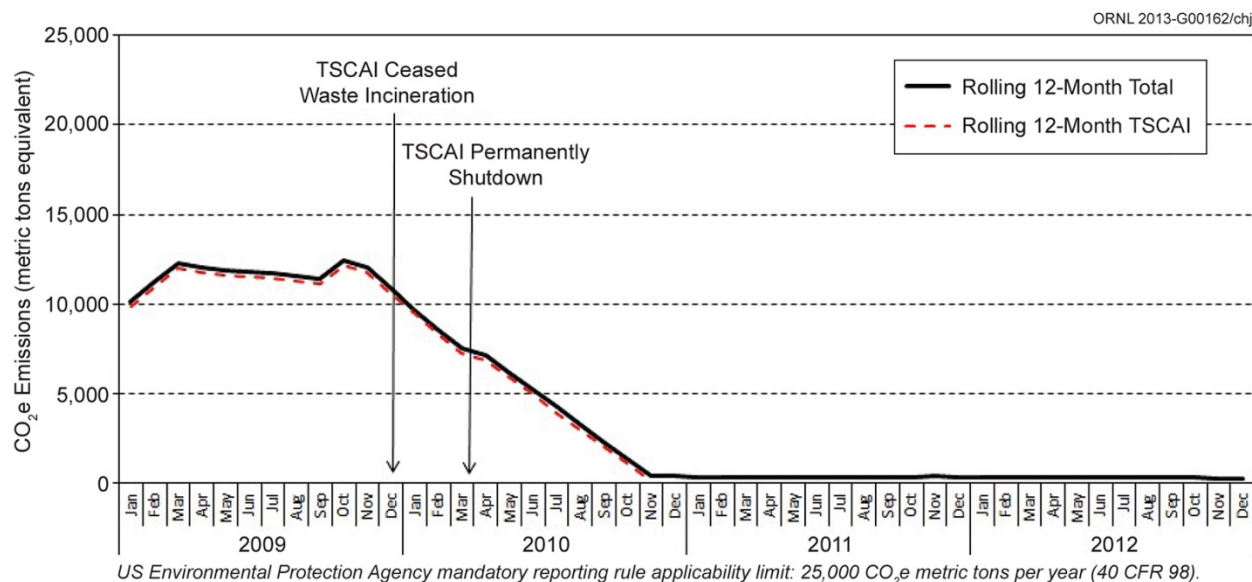
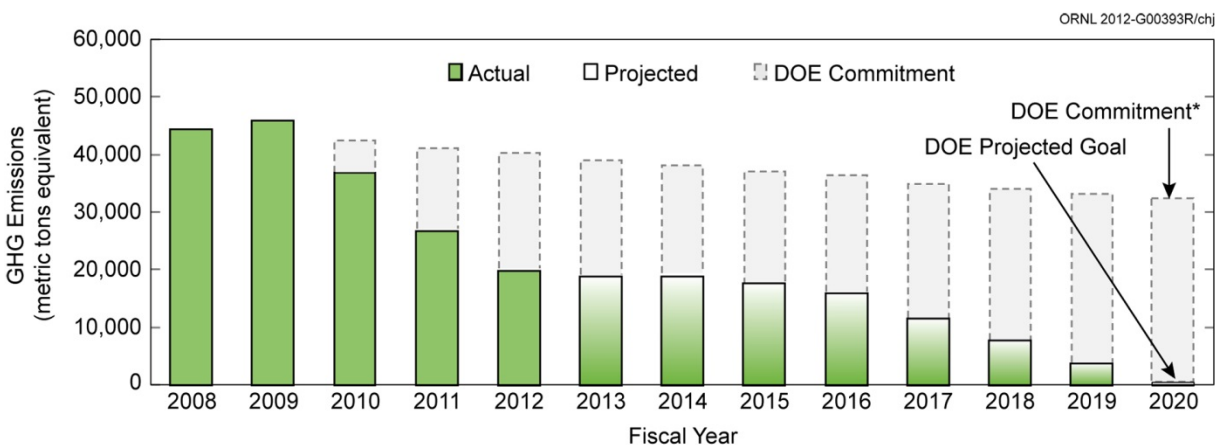


Fig. 3.12. East Tennessee Technology Park stationary source greenhouse gas emissions [in CO₂ equivalents (CO₂e)] tracking history (rolling 12-month total). (TSCAI = Toxic Substances Control Act Incinerator.)

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 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 the 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.

Figure 3.13 displays the trend toward meeting the 28% total Scope 1 and 2 GHG emissions reduction target by FY 2020 as stated in the DOE *Strategic Sustainability Performance Plan* (DOE 2012). For FY 2012 emissions totaled 19,593 metric tons CO₂e, which is a 56% reduction from the 2008 baseline year level of 44,232 metric tons and is roughly 39% below the target level of 31,847 metric tons CO₂e.



*DOE Strategic Sustainability Performance Plan commits to a 28% reduction of Scope 1 and 2 GHG emissions by FY 2020.

Fig. 3.13. East Tennessee Technology Park greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions trend and targeted reduction commitment.

Figure 3.14 shows the relative distribution of ETTP FY 2012 GHG emissions for Scopes 1, 2, and 3. Total GHG emissions continue to decline as demolition and remediation efforts continue at ETTP. Much of the reduction is due to lower on-site combustion of fuels (stationary and mobile sources), a drop in the consumption of electricity, and a smaller workforce.

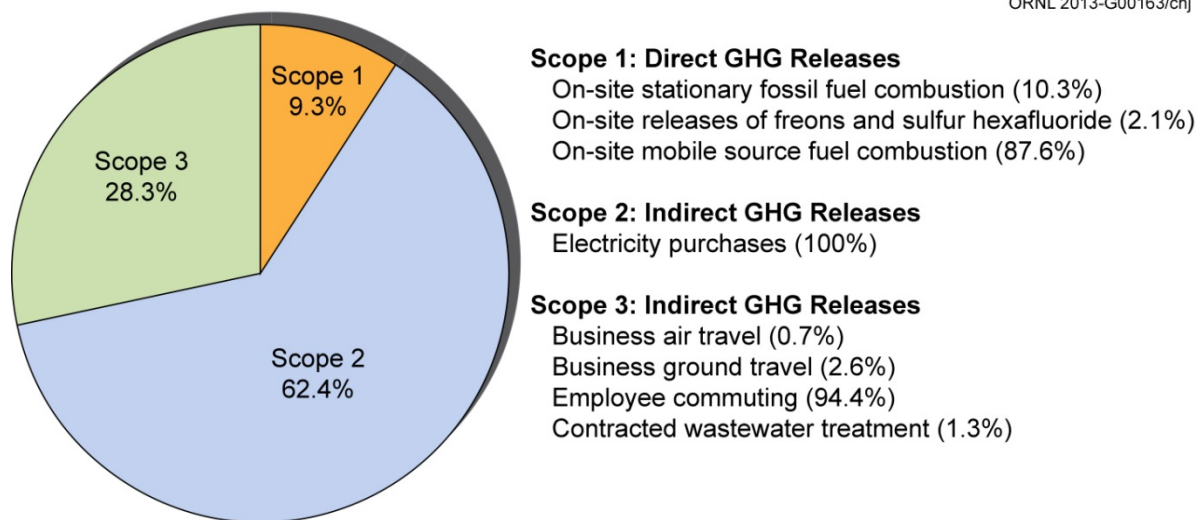


Fig. 3.14. Calendar year 2012 East Tennessee Technology Park greenhouse gas (GHG) percent contribution by scope.

3.4.1.5 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 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 CNF and CWTS air strippers were well below levels that would require permitting. The calculated maximum VOC hourly emission rates for CNF and CWTS were only 0.16 lb/h and 0.01 lb/h, respectively, as compared to an emission limit of 1.0 lb/h. The annual potential emissions for these facilities would also be well below the 5 ton/year limit assuming both operated at the maximum hourly emission rates continuously for the entire

year. All other stationary sources were evaluated and determined to have emissions levels below the levels that require permitting.

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 stack and vent emissions are calculated following approved methods to establish their low emissions potential. This is done to document the verification of their minor source permit exempt status under all applicable state and federal regulations.

3.4.1.6 Hazardous Air Pollutants (Nonradionuclide)

Unplanned releases of hazardous air pollutants (HAPs) are regulated through risk management planning regulations. 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." 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.

3.4.2 Ambient Air

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

- track long-term trends of airborne concentration levels of selected air contaminant species;
- measure the highest concentrations of the selected air contaminant species that occur in the vicinity of ETTP operations; and
- evaluate the impact of air contaminant emissions from ETTP operations on ambient air quality.

The monitoring stations in the ETTP area are designated as base, supplemental, or ORR perimeter air monitoring (PAM) stations. Figure 3.15 shows the locations of all ambient air monitoring stations in and around ETTP that were active during the 2012 reporting period. 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 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 ETTP area PAM stations were provided by UT-Battelle staff and are included in the ETTP network for comparative purposes. Figure 3.16 shows an example of a typical ETTP air monitoring station.



Fig. 3.15. East Tennessee Technology Park ambient air monitoring station locations.

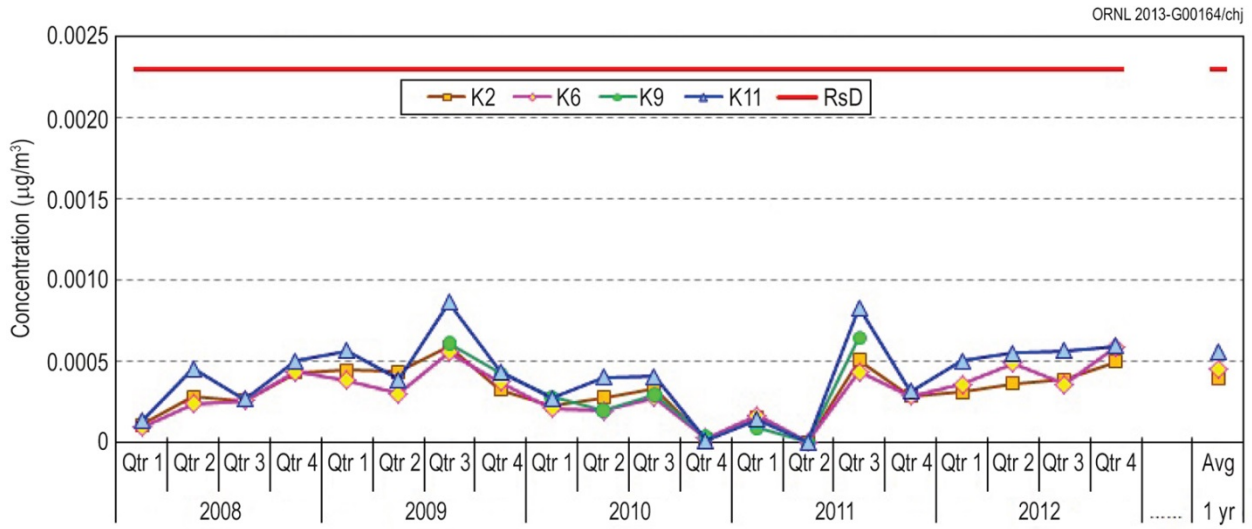
The analytical parameters were selected with regard to existing and proposed regulations and with respect to activities at ETTP. Supplemental station K11 is located to demonstrate compliance with requirements for dose impacts to on-site members of the public from radiological emissions from demolition and remediation activities. Changes of emissions from ETTP will warrant periodic reevaluation of the parameters being sampled. Ongoing ETTP reindustrialization efforts also introduce new locations for members of the public that may require adding or relocating monitoring site locations. To ensure understanding of the potential impact 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.

All base and supplemental stations collect continuous samples for radiological and selected metals analyses. Inorganic analytical techniques are used to test samples for the following nonradiological pollutants and total uranium: As, Be, Cd, Cr, and Pb. Radiological analyses of samples from the ETTP stations test for the isotopes ^{237}Np , ^{238}Pu , ^{239}Pu , ^{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 ETTP results.

Figures 3.17 through 3.21 illustrate the ambient air concentrations of As, Be, Cd, Cr, and Pb for the past 5 years based on quarterly composites of weekly continuous samples. All samples were analyzed by the inductively coupled plasma–mass spectrometer (ICP-MS) analytical technique. The results are compared with applicable air quality standards for each pollutant. The annualized levels of As, Be, Cd, and Pb were well below the indicated annual standards. With the exception of chromium and lead results for monitoring station K11, 2012 annual averages are all generally similar to the data trends during the last two quarters of 2011 at all monitoring stations. Station K11 is in close proximity to major demolition and remediation activities on the site. The K11 sampling results as compared to the results for all other stations showed higher ambient air concentrations. Stations K2 and K6 are representative of ambient air conditions at the ETTP boundary, with very similar measurement results. Variations of chromium data during 2012 follow historical trends that were coincidental to the demolition of large amounts of concrete, which was rubbleized during demolition of ETTP structures. All chromium results are compared to the more conservative hexavalent chromium annual risk-specific dose standard. The large variation of lead concentration levels is coincidental to a large increase in diesel-powered motor vehicles and equipment used in the vicinity of station K11.

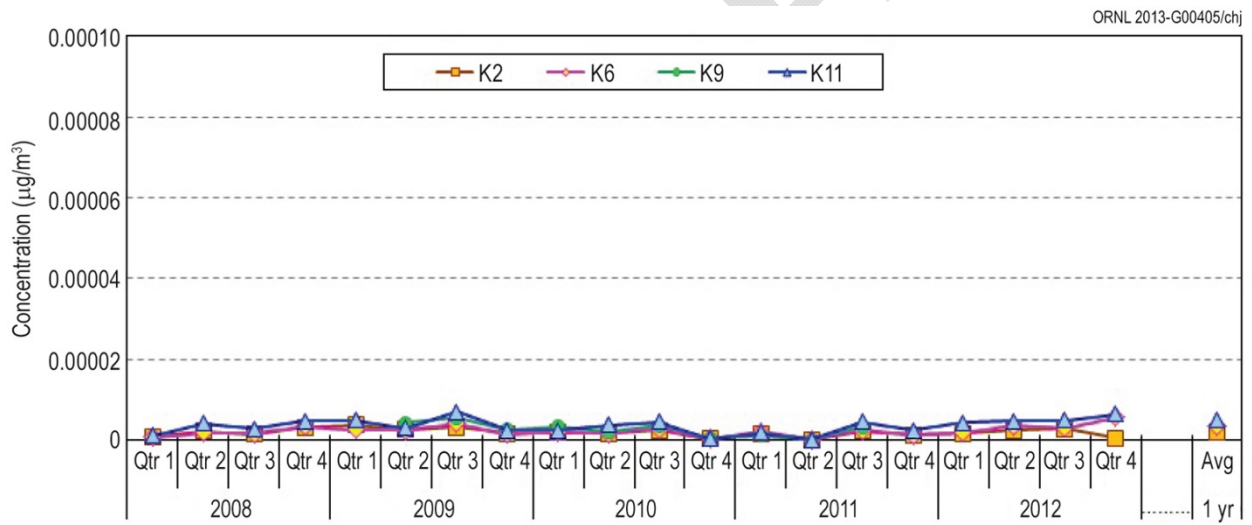


Fig. 3.16. East Tennessee Technology Park ambient air monitoring station.



US Environmental Protection Agency regulatory annual risk specific dose (RsD) for arsenic = 0.0023 µg/m³ (40 CFR 266, App. V).

Fig. 3.17. Ambient air monitoring results for arsenic: 5-year history through December 2012.



US Environmental Protection Agency regulatory annual risk specific dose (RsD) for beryllium = 0.0042 µg/m³ (40 CFR 266, App. V).

Fig. 3.18. Ambient air monitoring results for beryllium: 5-year history through December 2012.

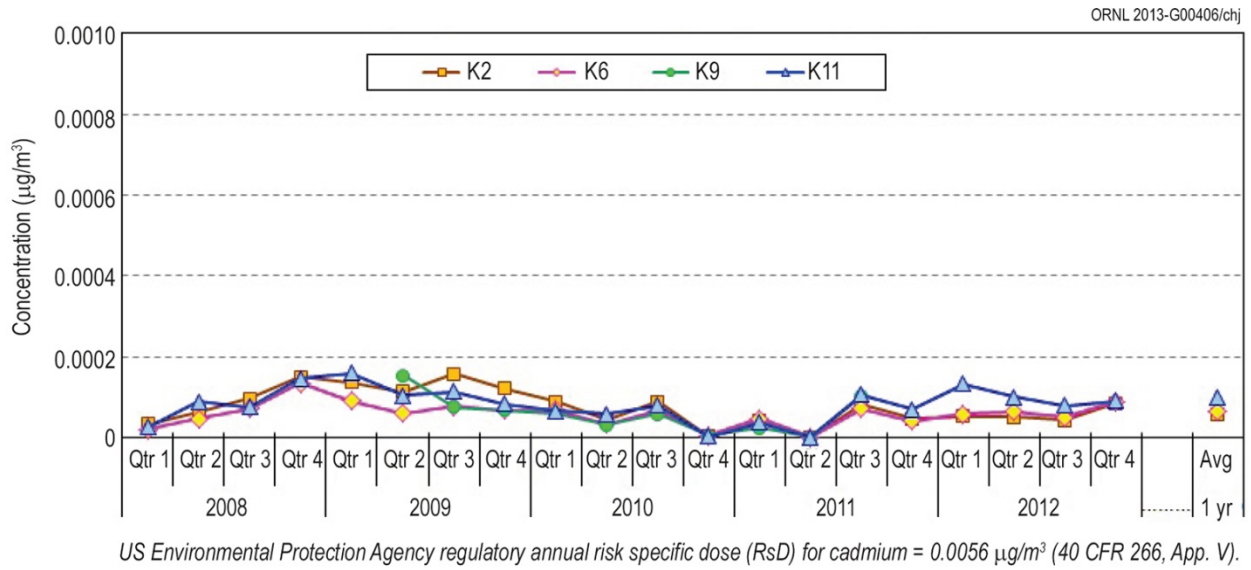


Fig. 3.19. Ambient air monitoring results for cadmium: 5-year history through December 2012.

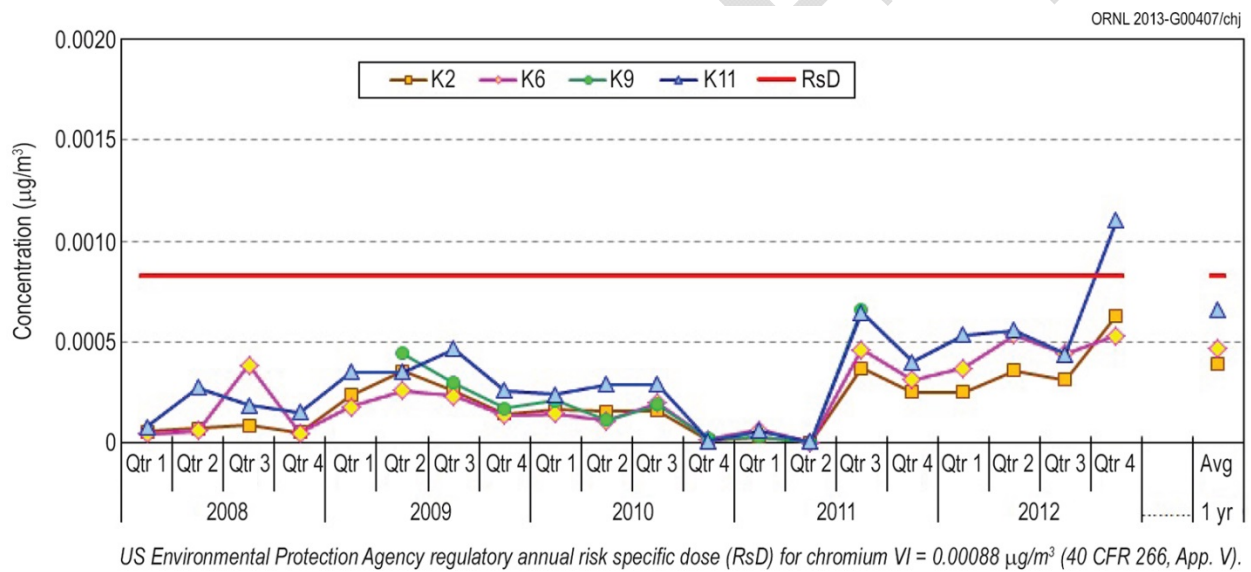


Fig. 3.20. Ambient air monitoring results for chromium: 5-year history through December 2012.

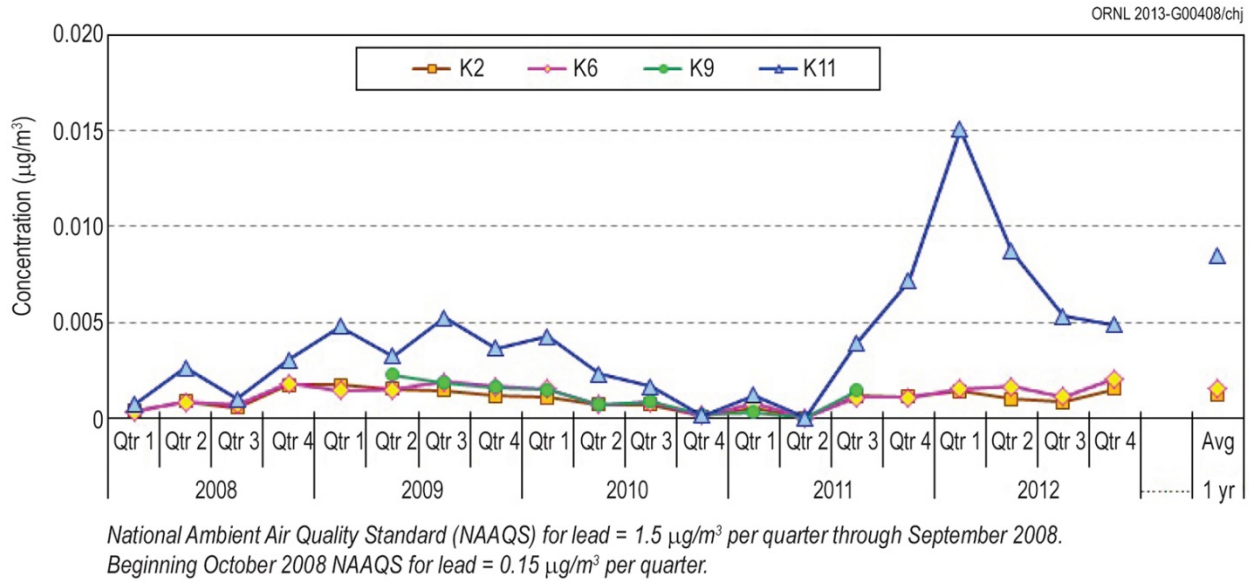


Fig. 3.21. Ambient air monitoring results for lead: 5-year history through December 2012.

Total uranium was measured as a quarterly composite of continuous weekly samples from stations K2, K6, and K11 during 2012. The total uranium mass for each sample was determined by ICP-MS. Sampling at station K9 was discontinued during 2011, but K9 data are included in the historical trend information. The uranium concentration measurements for all sites are presented in Table 3.4. Figure 3.22 illustrates the air concentrations of uranium for the past 5 years based on quarterly composites of weekly continuous samples. The highest 12-month average result (0.000054 µg/m³) was measured at station K11. The location of station K11 is in close proximity to the K-25 gaseous diffusion building, which is being demolished, and the K-1070-B burial ground area, which is undergoing remediation.

Table 3.4. Total uranium in ambient air by ICP-MS analysis at East Tennessee Technology Park

Station	No. of Samples	Concentration ^a				Percentage of DCG ^b	
		(µg/m ³)		(µCi/mL)		(%)	
		Avg	Max ^c	Avg	Max	Avg	Max
K2	4	0.000007	0.000009	4.58E-18	6.05E-18	<0.01	<0.01
K6	4	0.000008	0.000010	5.61E-18	6.89E-18	<0.01	<0.01
K11	4	0.000054	0.000119	3.63E-17	7.96E-17	0.04	0.08
ETTP total	12	0.000023		1.15E-17		0.02	

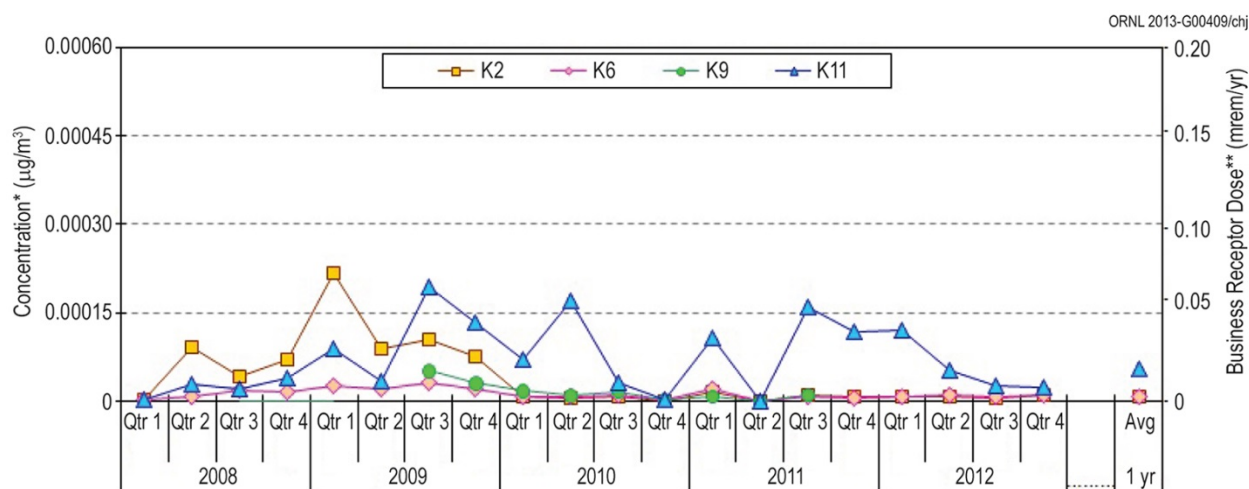
^aMass-to-curie concentration conversions conservatively assume a natural uranium assay of 0.717% ²³⁵U.

^bDOE O 5400.5 DCG for naturally occurring uranium is an annual concentration of 1E-13 µCi/mL, which is equivalent to a 100 mrem annual dose.

^cMaximum individual sample analysis result with dose calculations conservatively assuming the value to be an annual concentration.

Abbreviations

- DCG = derived concentration guide
- ETTP = East Tennessee Technology Park
- ICP-MS = inductively coupled plasma–mass spectrometer



40 CFR 61, Subpart H, dose limit for uranium = 10 mrem per year.
 *Derived concentration guide for natural uranium resulting in 100n mrem/year dose is $1.03E-13 \mu Ci/m^3 = 0.15 \mu g/m^3$.
 **US Environmental Protection Agency approved Oak Ridge Reservation on-site business receptor dose assumed 50% annual occupancy.

Fig. 3.22. Ambient air monitoring results for uranium: 5-year history through December 2012.

Quarterly radiochemical analyses are performed on composite samples collected at all stations. The selected isotopes of interest were ^{237}Np , $^{238,239}\text{Pu}$, ^{99}Tc , and isotopic uranium ($^{234,235,238}\text{U}$). The concentration and dose results for each of the nuclides are presented in Table 3.5 for the 2012 reporting period.

Table 3.5. Radionuclides in ambient air at East Tennessee Technology Park, July 2011 through June 2012

Station	Concentration ($\mu\text{Ci}/\text{mL}$)							Total
	^{237}Np	^{238}Pu	^{239}Pu	^{99}Tc	^{234}U	^{235}U	^{238}U	
K2	ND	ND	ND	1.30E-17	1.68E-17	ND	ND	2.98E-17
K6	ND	ND	ND	9.36E-18	2.10E-17	ND	1.65E-18	3.21E-17
K11	ND	ND	ND	8.60E-17	3.07E-16	2.68E-17	1.96E-17	4.39E-16

Station	40 CFR 61, Effective Dose (mrem/year)							Total
	^{237}Np	^{238}Pu	^{239}Pu	^{99}Tc	^{234}U	^{235}U	^{238}U	
K2	ND	ND	ND	<0.001	0.009	ND	ND	0.009
K6	ND	ND	ND	<0.001	0.011	ND	<0.001	0.012
K11	ND	ND	ND	0.004	0.163	0.013	0.009	0.186

Abbreviations
 ND = Not Detected

Figure 3.23 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-site in the vicinity of station K11 would only be 0.186 mrem, and the annual limit is 10 mrem. Monitoring station K11 is in close proximity to major demolition and remediation activities that are impacting radiologically contaminated materials. All data show potential exposures are well below the 10 mrem annual dose limit.

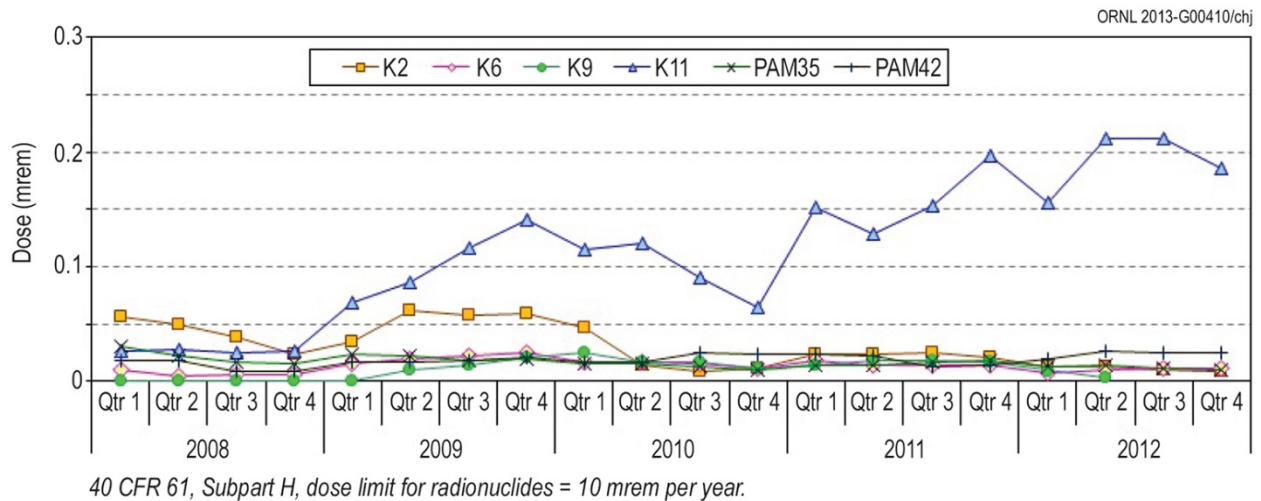


Fig. 3.23. Ambient air monitoring results: 5-year rolling, 12-month dose history through December 2012.

3.5 Water Quality Program

3.5.1 NPDES Permit Description—New NPDES Permit

Currently there are 108 NPDES-permitted storm water outfalls at ETTP. As part of the current 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 are sampled as being representative of these groups.

3.5.2 East Tennessee Technology Park Storm Water Pollution Prevention Program

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

3.5.2.1 Sampling for CY 2013 NPDES Permit Renewal Application

The application for the ETTP NPDES permit renewal is required to be submitted to TDEC by July 4, 2013. The effort is ongoing to collect the analytical data required to complete the EPA 2E and 2F forms that are to be submitted as part of the NPDES permit renewal application.

The status of the NPDES permit renewal sampling effort is shown in Table 3.6. Data collected as part of the SWPP Program Sampling and Analysis Plan will be used in the completion of the EPA 2E and 2F forms. All samples that are bolded in the table were collected in CY 2012.

The sample collection method for each parameter is specified. Parameters that are designated to be collected as composite samples were collected by use of ISCO samplers or by manual grab if they could not be collected by ISCO sampler due to location, volume, or time constraints. Parameters designated to be collected by manual grab only were not collected by ISCO compositor under any circumstances; however, other parameters that are designated as grab samples may have been collected either manually or with ISCO samplers.

Table 3.6. Status of National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit renewal sampling

Outfall	Manual Grab Only (VOCs, SVOCs, TOC, O&G, acetone, acetonitrile, MEK)	Manual Grab or Grab-by- Compositor (KJL, phenol, total phosphorus, nitrate/nitrite, cyanide)	Composite-by-Compositor (Hg, PCBs, TSS, pest/herb, anions, BOD, COD, metals, gross alpha/beta, isotopic U, total U, ⁹⁹ Tc, sulfide)	Field Readings (pH, temperature, TRC)
	Date Sampled ^a	Date Sampled ^a	Date Sampled ^a	Date Sampled ^a
05A	4/20/2010	4/20/2010	6/10/2010	2/22/2012
100	11/23/2010	4/17/2012	2/29/2012	11/23/2010
142	5/3/2011	9/26/2011	9/20/2010	9/26/2011
150	4/27/2011	4/27/2011	4/20/2011	4/27/2011
170	11/15/2010	11/16/2010	11/4/2010	11/15/2010
180	4/20/2010	6/29/2010	6/10/2010	11/21/2011
190	9/22/2010	11/4/2010	9/22/2010	9/22/2010
195	11/23/2010	10/19/2011	10/30/2011	11/23/2010
198	9/26/2011	10/11/2011	9/26/2011	9/26/2011
230	9/22/2010	9/22/2010	8/12/2010	9/22/2010
250	4/27/2011	2/24/2011 and 4/5/2011	2/2/2011	4/27/2011
280	4/27/2011	4/5/2011	2/24/2011	4/27/2011
294	9/26/2011	2/24/2011	2/2/2011	9/26/2011
334	11/12/12	11/12/12	4/26/2012	11/12/12
340	does not flow	does not flow	does not flow	does not flow
350	11/12/12	11/4/2010	10/25/2010	11/12/12
380	1/18/2011	3/12/2010	2/10/2010	1/18/2011
382	3/25/2010	3/25/2010	3/12/2010	
410	3/11/2010	3/12/2010	2/22/2010	11/3/2011
430	2/9/2010	3/12/2010	3/3/2010	10/11/2011
490	10/11/2011	8/14/2012	6/5/2012	10/11/2011
510	11/3/2011	11/28/2011	11/15/2011 and 11/21/11	11/3/2011
560	9/17/2012	9/17/2012	9/17/2012	9/17/2012
660		4/28/2011	4/12/2011	
690	1/18/2011	2/2/2011	1/19/2011	1/18/2011
694	5/3/2011	2/24/2011	11/30/2010	1/18/2011
700	4/27/2011	8/12/2010	8/5/2010	4/27/2011
710	2/9/2010	12/13/2009	12/18/2009	11/3/2011
724	3/25/2010	3/25/2010	3/12/2010	2/16/2012
890 ^b	2/16/2012	2/16/2012	2/16/2012	2/16/2012
930	11/21/2011	11/21/2011	11/15/2011	11/21/2011
992	3/11/2010	3/25/2010	3/12/2010	4/16/2012

^aBolding indicates samples collected in CY 2012.

^bAll samples to be collected by manual grab.

Abbreviations

BOD = biological oxygen demand
 COD = chemical oxygen demand
 KJL = author pls. define this acronym
 MEK = methyl ethyl ketone
 O&G = oil and gas
 PCB = polychlorinated biphenyl

SVOC = semivolatile organic compound
 TOC = total organic carbon
 TRC = total residual chlorine
 TSS = total suspended solids
 VOC = volatile organic compound

All storm water samples were collected from discharges resulting from a storm event greater than 0.1 in. in 24 h or less and which occurred at least 72 h after a discharge from any previous rainfall greater than 0.1 in. in 24 h.

Table 3.7 contains nonradiological results from the FY 2012 SWPP Program sampling effort that exceeded screening levels. Outfalls with results that exceeded screening criteria are incorporated into the SWPP Program for future investigations and follow-up sampling as warranted in future evaluations

Table 3.7. 2012 NPDES permit renewal sampling exceedances from representative outfalls

Sampling location	Copper (µg/L)	Lead (µg/L)	Mercury (µg/L)	Zinc (µg/L)	PCB-1254 (µg/L)	PCB-1260 (µg/L)
SCREENING LEVEL	7	2.5	detectable	75	detectable	detectable
Storm water outfall 100			0.0516	80.3		
Storm water outfall 195			0.102			
Storm water outfall 334		12.4	0.0107			
Storm water outfall 490	11.5	26.1	0.0207	108	0.124	0.11
Storm water outfall 510			0.00704			
Storm water outfall 890			0.0127		0.0948	0.0971
Storm water outfall 930			0.00525			

3.5.2.2 Monitoring Storm Water Runoff from K-25 D&D Activities

D&D of the K-25 building is ongoing and is expected to continue through FY 2013. The demolition of the west wing of the building was completed in FY 2010. Initial demolition activities for the east wing of the K-25 building began in July 2011. To closely monitor the storm water runoff from the building demolition activities on the east side of the K-25 building, sampling was performed at regular intervals during the demolition process. Initial sampling was performed to provide baseline data for conditions present before demolition began. Additional monitoring was performed at about 3 months and 6 months after demolition began. When required, modifications to storm water controls were made based on the results of this sampling effort.

In December 2011, sampling was performed at storm water outfall 210 to provide information on the conditions present at the northern portion of the east wing of Building K-25 before the building was demolished. In addition, sampling was performed at outfall 490, which receives storm water runoff from the southern portion of the east wing of Building K-25. Sampling was performed at these two outfalls again in May 2012, about 6 months after demolition of the east wing of the building had been initiated, to determine the effect of the demolition on the quality of the storm water runoff.

All samples collected as part of this sampling effort were manual grab samples. Manual grab samples were collected according to the guidelines specified in Sections 3.1.2 and 3.3.1 of the *NPDES Storm Water Sampling Guidance Document* (EPA 1992) and applicable procedures that have been developed by the sampling subcontractor.

Table 3.8 contains information on the locations and parameters that were sampled as part of this effort. Table 3.9 contains information on parameters that exceeded screening levels. As shown in Table 3.9, although screening level exceedances existed in the data collected as part of the May 2012 sampling event, overall levels of many of the contaminants of concern (COCs) had dropped considerably since the initial sampling was performed in December 2011, which was before D&D of Building K-25 was initiated.

Table 3.8. Monitoring performed as part of D&D of the east wing of Building K-25

RA or D&D activity	Sampling location	Sampling frequency	Gross alpha/beta	Isotopic U, ⁹⁹ Tc	PCBs	VOCs	Metals/ Mercury
East Wing of Building K-25	Outfall 210	Before demolition of the east wing and 6 months after initiation of demolition	X	X	X		X
	Outfall 490	Before demolition of the east wing and 6 months after initiation of demolition	X	X	X	X	X

Abbreviations

D&D = decontamination and decommissioning
PCB = polychlorinated biphenyl

RA = remedial action
VOC = volatile organic compound

Table 3.9. Analytical results over screening levels for D&D monitoring at the east wing of Building K-25

Sampling location	Copper (µg/L)	Lead (µg/L)	Mercury (µg/L)	PCB-1254 (µg/L)	PCB-1260 (µg/L)	Zinc (µg/L)
SCREENING LEVEL	7	2.5	Detectable	Detectable	Detectable	75
Storm water outfall 210 12/6/11	13.3	171	0.0609	0.37	0.36	105
Storm water outfall 490 12/6/11	—	3.43	0.00809	—	—	—
Storm water outfall 210 5/14/12	16.6	9.16	0.0222	—	—	—
Storm water outfall 490 5/14/12	—	—	0.00645	—	—	—

Abbreviations

D&D = decontamination and decommissioning
PCB = polychlorinated biphenyl

In addition, sampling was performed at outfalls 230 and 240 in November–December 2012 as the north tower portion of Building K-25 was being demolished. Table 3.10 contains information on the locations and parameters that were sampled as part of this effort. Table 3.11 contains information on parameters that exceeded screening levels.

Table 3.10. Monitoring performed as part of D&D of the north tower of Building K-25

RA or D&D activity	Sampling location	Sampling frequency	Gross alpha/beta	Isotopic U, ⁹⁹ Tc	PCBs	VOCs	Metals/ Mercury
North Tower of Building K-25	Outfall 230	During demolition of the north tower	X	X	X	X	X
	Outfall 240	During demolition of the north tower	X	X	X	X	X

Abbreviations

D&D = decontamination and decommissioning
PCB = polychlorinated biphenyl

RA = remedial action
VOC = volatile organic compound

Table 3.11. Analytical results over screening levels for D&D monitoring of the north tower of Building K-25

Sampling location	^{233,234} U (pCi/L)	^{235,236} U (pCi/L)	Lead (µg/L)	Mercury (µg/L)	PCB-1254 (µg/L)	PCB-1260 (µg/L)
SCREENING LEVEL	20	20	2.5	Detectable	Detectable	Detectable
Storm water outfall 230 11/27/12	361	21.8		0.0105		
Storm water outfall 240 12/10/12			8.52	0.0816	0.0754	0.0541

Abbreviations

D&D = decontamination and decommissioning

PCB = polychlorinated biphenyl

At outfall 230, water from the north tower in the K-25 area travels through a small concrete settling basin/oil-water separator before it discharges from outfall 230. While looking for possible sources for the elevated rad results observed at outfall 230, a white substance was observed on the bottom surface of this concrete structure. In tracing the piping system upstream from the concrete basin, a previously unidentified 12 in. diameter pipe was discovered. The pipe did not appear on any of the site drawings or other information available to the project team. All sources of discharge from the north tower of Building K-25 were thought to have been plugged before demolition began. The white substance, which was described as looking somewhat like finely crushed gypsum, appeared to be coming from this pipe. This pipe was plugged with an expandable plug upon discovery. Samples of water and sediment were collected from the concrete basin to determine whether the white powder was the source of the elevated rad results recently obtained. Results from this sampling effort indicated that the powder was, in all likelihood, the source of the contamination noted at outfall 230. The concrete basin was pumped out and the sediment and white powder were removed and disposed. Analytical results from subsequent sampling of the water in the basin showed that there were no parameters that exceeded screening levels in the basin after the white powder was removed.

Discharges from outfall 240 originate from inside the K-25 building area, including portions of the former west wing of Building K-25, the Building K-1030 area, and the Building K-1024 area. The storm water inlets for the entire outfall 240 drainage area were inspected after the screening level exceedances were identified. Demolition debris, including clay, brick, wood and metal, was located in proximity to some of the catch basins. However, no obvious potential sources of mercury such as light bulbs, instrumentation, etc. were observed near the catch basins. Therefore, demolition activities for the facilities in the outfall 240 drainage area were not thought to be the source of the mercury at the outfall. The most likely source of the mercury in the outfall 240 piping system is believed to be operations that were once conducted at the facilities that have been demolished in this drainage area. Building K-1024 was once the site of the instrument maintenance shop before it was moved to K-1035. In addition, a dilution pit for the instrument maintenance shop was also once located in the K-1024 area. It is likely that mercury was used in this instrument shop. Also, mercury may have been used in operations conducted in the west wing of Building K-25. Additional investigation will be required to identify the sources of mercury at outfall 240.

3.5.2.3 Storm Water Outfall 992 Investigation

A total of 5.97 million tons of coal were burned at the K-701 powerhouse during its operation from 1944 to 1962. Bottom ash, coal fines, slag, and other by-products of coal combustion were buried at the K-720 coal ash pile. The K-720 coal ash pile is about 3.65 ha (9 acres) in size. In the mid-1990s, the coal ash pile was spread out, covered with soil, limed, and seeded.

Runoff and leachate from the K-720 coal ash pile have resulted in occasional low pH readings at storm water outfall 992 for several years. A number of violations of the ETTP NPDES permit have occurred as a result of the low pH of the discharge from storm water outfall 992. In addition, elevated

levels of metals that are often found in coal, including arsenic and selenium, have been detected in storm water samples from the area.

The pH readings collected at numerous locations in the storm water outfall 992 watershed in April 2011 and September 2011 indicated that the primary concern with pH at storm water outfall 992 was the channel that receives drainage from the coal ash sluice pond. (Monitoring locations are indicated in Figure 3.24.) This channel also receives drainage from a portion of the coal ash pond that was not completely covered with soil during the remedial actions that were conducted in the mid-1990s.

Several areas were identified where remedial actions were needed. There were several areas along the coal ash sluice channel where the ash had not been adequately covered with soil when the original remediation of the area was performed. Ash had also been pushed into the coal ash sluice channel and was in direct contact with the runoff flowing through the channel.

The following corrective actions were implemented to address these concerns:

- exposed ash was pulled back from the edge of the drainage channel with a backhoe and was spread onto the flat area immediately adjacent to the sluice channel;
- rip-rap was placed along the bank of the coal ash sluice channel to cover the area where the ash was exposed;
- the flat area of the coal ash pile located adjacent to the coal ash sluice channel was covered with clay to limit storm water infiltration into the ash;
- topsoil was placed over the area that was covered with clay; and
- the area adjacent to the coal ash sluice channel was treated with agricultural lime, seeded, and strawed.



Fig. 3.24. K-720 monitoring locations.

A pH profile was conducted in January 2012 in an effort to determine what effect the remedial work at the coal ash area and the ash sluice channel may have had on the pH of the flow in the ash sluice channel. Once again, field readings for pH were collected using the same method that was used in the profile performed in April 2011 and September 2011. The results of the pH profiles conducted in April 2011, September 2011, and January 2012 are shown in Table 3.12.

Table 3.12. Comparison of April 2011, September 2011, and January 2012 pH data from ash sluice channel

Monitoring Location	pH— April 2011	pH— September 2011	pH— January 2012
992-4	5.5	—	7.0
10-75	—	—	6.5
10-50	—	—	6.4
10-25	—	—	6.3
992-10	5.7	6.2	6.8
10+25	5.9	6.2	6.8
10+50	6.0	4.6	6.7
10+75	5.7	6.4	6.9
10+100	6.1	6.4	7.3
10+125	6.2	6.5	7.1
10+150	6.1	6.5	7.1
10+175	6.0	6.6	7.1
10+200	5.6	6.5	—
10+225	6.2	6.6	—
992-8	6.4	—	7.1

As indicated in Table 3.12, the remedial actions may have been successful in raising the pH of the flow in the ash sluice channel. All pH measurements in January 2012 were between 6.3 and 7.1 standard units. In September 2011, all of the pH readings except for one were between 6.2 and 6.6 standard units. The pH readings collected in April 2011 ranged from 5.5 to 6.4 standard units. The water in the ash sluice channel appeared to be clearer and contain less discoloration during the September 2011 and January 2012 profiles than had been observed before the corrective actions were undertaken.

The corrective actions that were performed at the coal ash pile and the ash sluice channel ended immediately upstream of sampling location 992-10. As part of the January 2012 profile, pH readings downstream of 992-10 were between 6.3 and 6.5 standard units. While these measurements are not problematic by themselves, they contrast fairly dramatically with the higher pH readings taken upstream of 992-10. It is possible that a seep with a low pH may have been redirected toward this location by the remedial actions conducted at the ash pile area and the ash sluice channel. Additional monitoring of the ash sluice channel will be conducted in the future to determine the additional impacts of the corrective actions and to determine whether additional corrective actions may be required.

3.5.2.4 pH and Chromium Issues at the K-33 Demolition Area

Building K-33 was more than 1.4 million ft² of concrete and steel. The facility was constructed in 1954 as a uranium enrichment facility and operated from 1954 to 1985. A majority of the D&D was performed as part of a reindustrialization effort that began in 1997. Afterward, however, the remaining facility still contained radiological, chemical, hazardous waste, asbestos, and PCB contamination. In April

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2010, DOE awarded the contract for the demolition and disposition of Building K-33 to LATA-Sharp Remediation Services. Demolition of the building and disposition of the waste materials generated during the demolition activities were completed by March 1, 2012.

Demolition and disposition activities at Building K-33 included

- siding removal,
- building demolition to the slab, and
- packaging and transportation of all associated wastes to on-site waste disposal facilities operated by DOE.

Periodic sampling was initiated in the fall of 2010 and continued into the winter of 2011 to measure discharges from storm water outfalls potentially impacted by the K-33 demolition project activities. The results of this sampling indicated the presence of elevated levels of chromium.

As part of an agreement between DOE and TDEC, hexavalent chromium and total chromium samples were collected twice per month from storm water outfalls 690, 700, and 710, an instream location downstream of outfall 690, the K-901-A pond weir, and the K-1250-4 bridge (see Figure 3.25). This monitoring provided information on the levels of hexavalent and total chromium in discharges from the K-33 pad and how these discharges may be affecting the levels of hexavalent and total chromium in the receiving waters. In September 2011, TDEC granted permission to discontinue sampling at the instream location downstream of outfall 690 because all analytical results for total chromium and hexavalent chromium were below detection levels. In addition, TDEC granted permission to reduce the sampling frequency for these locations from twice per month to once per month. This sampling effort was initiated in April 2011 and was discontinued in April 2012. Total and hexavalent chromium monitoring data for CY 2012 are presented in Table 3.13.

Table 3.13. Hexavalent and total chromium results from K-33 storm water outfalls and receiving waters, CY 2012

	01-09-12	01-09-12	02-02-12	02-02-12	03-25-12	03-25-12	04-26-12	04-26-12
Poplar Creek Locations	Cr(VI) (µg/L)	Total Cr (µg/L)	Cr(VI) (µg/L)	Total Cr (µg/L)	Cr(VI) (µg/L)	Total Cr (µg/L)	Cr(VI) (µg/L)	Total Cr (µg/L)
SD-690	11	18.2	7	11.8	—	—	<6	6.15
Downstream from all storm water outfalls Poplar Creek (bridge K-1250-4)	<6	<2	<6	<2	<6	<2	<6	<2
SD-700	8	12.5	<6	5.96	<6	11.5	<6	12.3
SD-710	10	13.3	6	9.84	<6	4.7	<6	2.27
K-901-A pond	<6	2.64	<6	9.12	<6	5.39	<6	4.91
Rainfall events (inches)	0.34	0.34	0.64	0.64	0.62	0.62	0.53	0.53

Abbreviations

Cr(VI) = hexavalent chromium
SD = storm water outfall

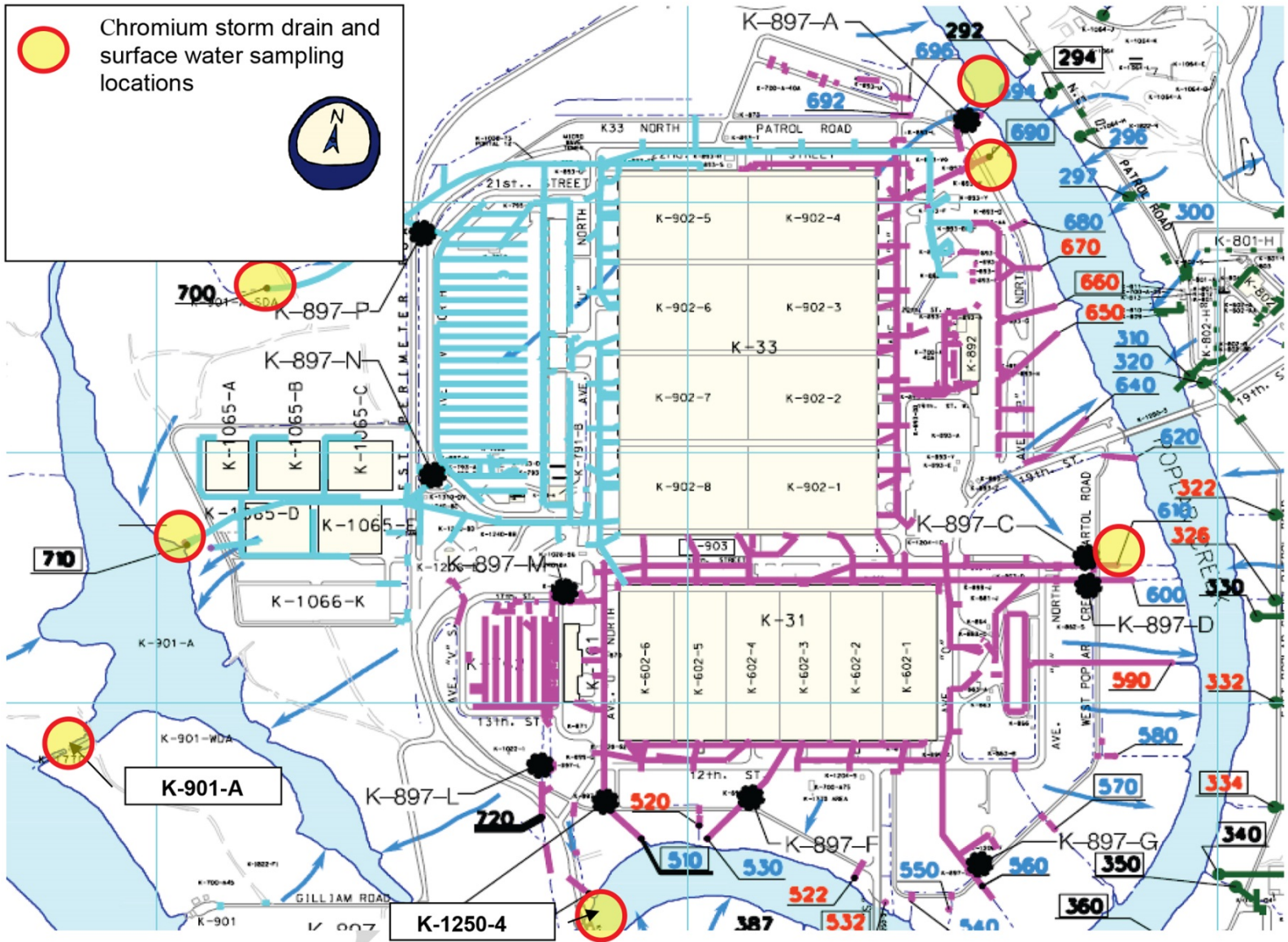


Fig. 3.25. Total and hexavalent chromium sampling locations near Building K-33.

To provide some information on the effects of the remedial action work at K-33 on the storm water runoff from the area, a final set of samples was collected at the K-33 area storm water outfalls in May 2012. All samples collected as part of this SWPP Program sampling effort were manual grab samples. Manual grab samples were collected according to the guidelines specified in Sections 3.1.2 and 3.3.1 of the *NPDES Storm Water Sampling Guidance Document* (EPA 1992) and applicable procedures that have been developed by the sampling subcontractor. These samples were collected during a storm event, but they were not first-flush samples. The parameters and locations that were sampled are indicated in Table 3.14.

Table 3.14. Sampling K-33 area storm water outfalls after remedial actions were completed

Storm water outfall	Gross alpha/gross beta	Metals	PCBs	Mercury
690	X	X	X	
700	X	X	X	
710	X	X	X	
694				X

Abbreviations

PCB = polychlorinated biphenyl

PCBs were identified at detectable levels at each of the three outfalls sampled for PCBs as part of this sampling effort. Table 3.15 shows these analytical results. Storm water passes through oil-water separators at each of these three outfalls before it discharges to the receiving waters. It is possible that storm water flow may have transported PCB contamination from the oil-water separators. Additional monitoring for PCBs will be conducted at these outfalls. No other analytes were detected above screening levels at these outfalls.

Table 3.15. Results exceeding screening levels at K-33 area storm water outfalls

Sampling location	PCB-1242 (µg/L)	PCB-1254 (µg/L)	PCB-1260 (µg/L)
SCREENING LEVEL	Detectable	Detectable	Detectable
690	0.19	0.197	
700		0.194	0.19
710			0.198

Abbreviations

PCB = polychlorinated biphenyl

3.5.2.5 Sampling of Legacy Chromium Groundwater Plume Discharge

The release of hexavalent chromium into Mitchell Branch from the storm drain 170 outfall and from seeps at the headwall of the storm drain 170 discharge point resulted in levels of hexavalent chromium that exceeded State of Tennessee ambient water quality criteria (AWQC). Immediately below storm drain 170, hexavalent chromium levels were measured at levels as high as 0.78 mg/L, which exceeded the State of Tennessee hexavalent chromium water quality chronic criterion of 0.011 mg/L for the protection of fish and aquatic life. The levels of total chromium were at about the same value, indicating that the chromium was almost completely hexavalent chromium at the release point. The fact that the chromium was still in a hexavalent state is surprising because hexavalent chromium has not been used in ETP operations in more than 30 years. On July 20, 2007, TDEC sent an NOV to DOE for the hexavalent chromium release, and DOE responded on August 3, 2007.

Because chromium has not been used at ETTP for more than 30 years, the release of hexavalent chromium into Mitchell Branch was a legacy problem and not an ongoing operations problem. Therefore, DOE determined that the appropriate response to this release was a CERCLA time-critical removal action. On November 5, 2007, DOE notified EPA and TDEC of its intent to conduct a CERCLA time-critical removal action to install a grout barrier wall and groundwater collection system to intercept the chromium-contaminated water discharging from the storm drain 170 outfall and headwall seeps into Mitchell Branch.

The purpose of the *Action Memorandum for Reduction of Hexavalent Chromium Releases into Mitchell Branch at the East Tennessee Technology Park, Oak Ridge, Tennessee*, was to abate an immediate potential threat to public health and the environment from hexavalent chromium releases into Mitchell Branch. The potential for a chronic impact on the fish and aquatic life in Mitchell Branch may have increased in the future if the hexavalent chromium release had been allowed to continue.

The biological monitoring results did not indicate that the chromium had had a significant, acute impact on fish or aquatic life in Mitchell Branch in the time since the elevated levels of chromium had been identified. However, there was a concern that the elevated levels could have had a chronic impact on the fish and aquatic life in Mitchell Branch if the hexavalent chromium releases had not been addressed in a timely manner.

The time-critical removal action was undertaken by DOE, as lead agency, pursuant to CERCLA Section 1049 (a) and the *Federal Facility Agreement for the Oak Ridge Reservation*, Section XIII (DOE 1994). In accordance with 40 *CFR* 300.415(j) and DOE guidance, on-site removal actions conducted under CERCLA are required to meet applicable or relevant and appropriate requirements (ARARs) to the extent practicable considering the exigencies of the situation. The AWQC for hexavalent chromium for the designated uses for Mitchell Branch are ARARs for the limited scope of this action and were included in the action memorandum.

DOE complied with the ARARs and “to-be-considered” guidance, as set forth in the action memorandum, to the extent practicable. The ambient water quality chronic criteria for hexavalent chromium during dry weather base flow periods were not met with the initial action. The action reduced the level of hexavalent chromium in Mitchell Branch by about 98% from 0.78 mg/L to levels as low as 0.014 mg/L during worst-case dry weather base flow periods. During wet weather periods, the level of hexavalent chromium in Mitchell Branch was reduced from 0.025 mg/L to levels that are below method detection thresholds of 0.012 mg/L. The time-critical removal action is documented in the *Removal Action Report for the Reduction of Hexavalent Chromium Releases into Mitchell Branch at the East Tennessee Technology Park, Oak Ridge, Tennessee*.

Traditionally the water from the chromium collection system has been treated at CNF, which has provided adequate treatment to reduce levels of hexavalent chromium in Mitchell Branch to the extent mentioned previously. During 2012 treatment of the chromium collection system water was transitioned to a smaller system, CWTS, that replaced CNF. CWTS was declared operational in August 2012 and consists of bag filters, steel wool for the reduction of hexavalent chromium to trivalent chromium, and an air stripper for the treatment of VOCs. Figure 3.26 is a process flow diagram for CWTS.

Periodic monitoring was performed in CY 2012 to monitor both the continued effectiveness of the collection system and the effectiveness of CWTS. Samples were collected at monitoring well 289, the chromium collection system wells, storm drain 170, and Mitchell Branch kilometer (MIK) 0.79. Samples collected at monitoring well 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 and pumped to CWTS. Samples collected at storm drain 170 monitor the concentrations of chromium being discharged directly to Mitchell Branch. Samples at MIK 0.79 are collected to allow monitoring of chromium concentrations in Mitchell Branch after water discharged from outfall 170 has had a chance to mix with other flow in the branch. Requirements for this sampling effort are listed in Table 3.16.

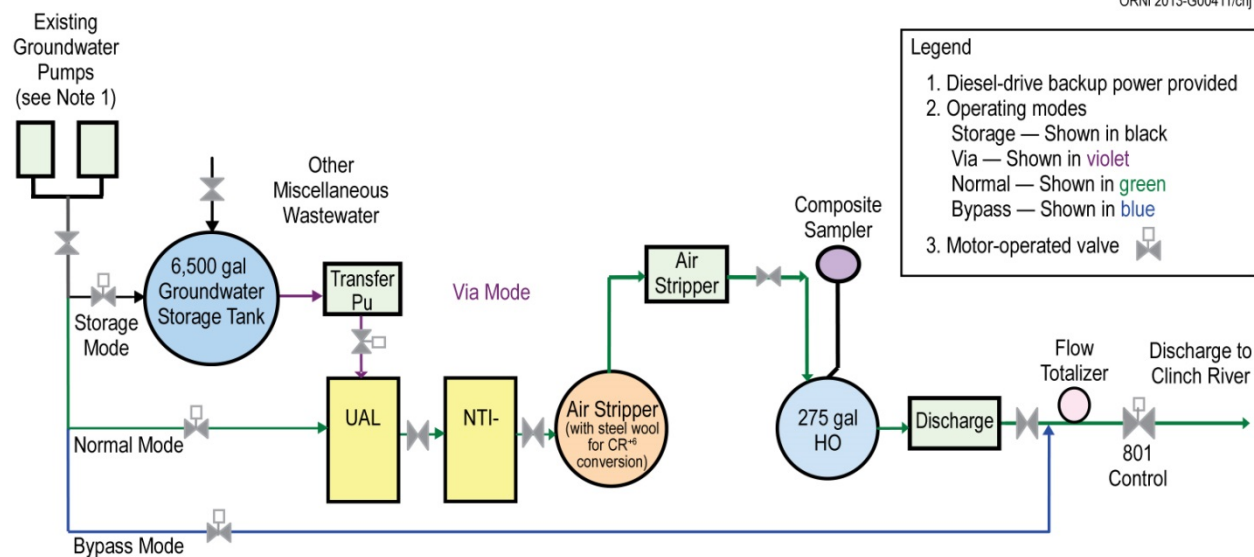


Fig. 3.26. Process flow diagram for the Chromium Water Treatment System.

Table 3.16. Monitoring requirements—Mitchell Branch watershed 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	Total chromium	1/quarter	Grab
Monitoring well 289	Hexavalent chromium	1/quarter	Grab
Cr collection system wells	Total chromium	1/quarter	Grab
Cr collection system wells	Hexavalent chromium	1/quarter	Grab

Abbreviations

MIK = Mitchell Branch kilometer

Samples at these locations are collected on a quarterly basis during alternating wet and dry weather conditions. All of the samples collected as part of this effort are taken using the manual grab sampling method. Manual grab samples are collected according to the guidelines specified in Sections 3.1.2 and 3.3.1 of the EPA *NPDES Storm Water Sampling Guidance Document* (EPA 1992) and applicable procedures that have been developed by the sampling subcontractor. All guidelines in the *East Tennessee Technology Park Storm Water Pollution Prevention Program Sampling and Analysis Plan* (UCOR date) are followed as part of this sampling effort. Figures 3.27 and 3.28 are graphs of the analytical data from this sampling effort.

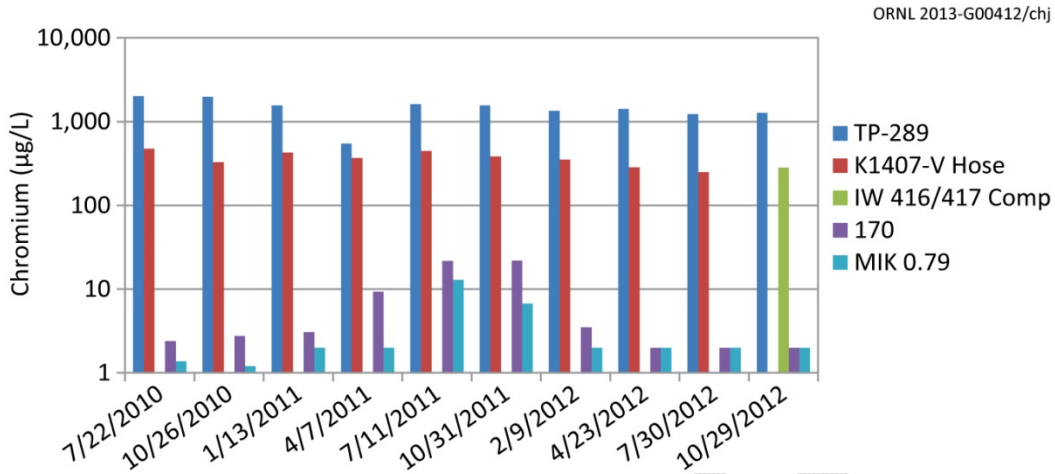


Fig. 3.27. Total chromium sample results from sampling upstream and downstream of the chromium collection system.

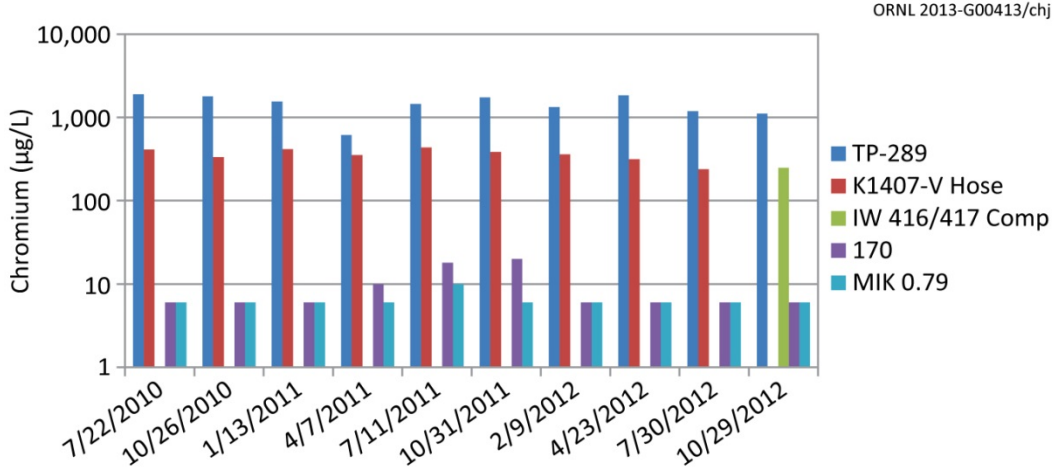


Fig. 3.28. Hexavalent chromium sample results from sampling upstream and downstream of the chromium collection system.

Initially, the water from the chromium collection system wells (IW 416/417) was pumped to CNF via the K-1407-V hose. Because CWTS is now online, water is being pumped directly from IW 416/417 to CWTS. Therefore, analytical results from the K-1407-V hose and IW 416/417 are from the same source of flow.

The analytical data indicate that chromium levels may fluctuate slightly at TP-289 and the K-1407-V hose/IW 416/417, but are relatively consistent over the long term. Chromium values at outfall 170 and MIK 0.79 have much more variability. This is most likely due to the greater variability in flow rates at these two locations. In July and October 2011, the collection system pumps were operating at a decreased pumping rate of 8 gal/min, which likely corresponds to the increase in chromium results at 170 and MIK 0.79.

In the future, additional monitoring of CWTS will include the Clinch River discharge sampling point as indicated in the *East Tennessee Technology Park Chromium Water Treatment System Sampling and Analysis Plan* (UCOR date).

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.)

3.5.2.6 Investigation of Mercury at East Tennessee Technology Park

History of Mercury Use at ETPP

Mercury activities at ETPP 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 ETPP. Mercury from soils and spill cleanups were processed on-site as well.

Current NPDES Requirements for Mercury Monitoring

The current NPDES permit requires quarterly mercury sampling to be performed at storm water outfalls 05A, 170, 180, and 190. 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. Outfall 05A, which is located on the east side of ETPP, is the discharge point for the former STP drainage basin into Poplar Creek. Outfalls 170, 180, and 190 collect storm water from large areas on the north side of ETPP and discharge to Mitchell Branch.

Mercury results for outfall 170 and the associated catch basins have been well below AWQC since July 2009. For 2012, the results for outfall 170 ranged from 4.11 to 9.6 ng/L, which is well below AWQC. Outfalls 180 and 190 and the associated catch basins appear to be the primary sources of mercury discharges into Mitchell Branch. Both networks drain areas with historical mercury processes. For 2012, the results for outfall 180 varied significantly, ranging from 13.1 to 337 ng/L. For 2012, the results for 190 ranged from 44.2 to 166 ng/L. Results for storm water outfalls 170, 180, and 190 and the associated catch basins for each network are shown in Figs. 3.29 through 3.31.

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. Additional investigation of possible sources of mercury in Mitchell Branch is ongoing.

Figure 3.32 shows the mercury results in the effluent from outfall 05A from 2006 through 2012. As shown, all results are above AWQC. The highest mercury result in 2012 was 173 ng/L from a sample collected on October 11, 2012. Potential sources of mercury in the discharge from outfall 05A are currently under investigation.

Outfall 05A is the discharge point for the former STP overflow sump (K-1203-10) and a collection sump for storm water. The K-1203-10 sump receives water influent from both pipe flow and surface water sheet flow. During its years of operation, 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 STP ceased in 2008.

Samples collected for compliance with the current NPDES permit were collected as manual grab samples. NPDES permit renewal application samples were collected as composite samples using automated sampling equipment. Composite samples consist of at least three aliquots taken during the first 60 min of a storm event discharge.

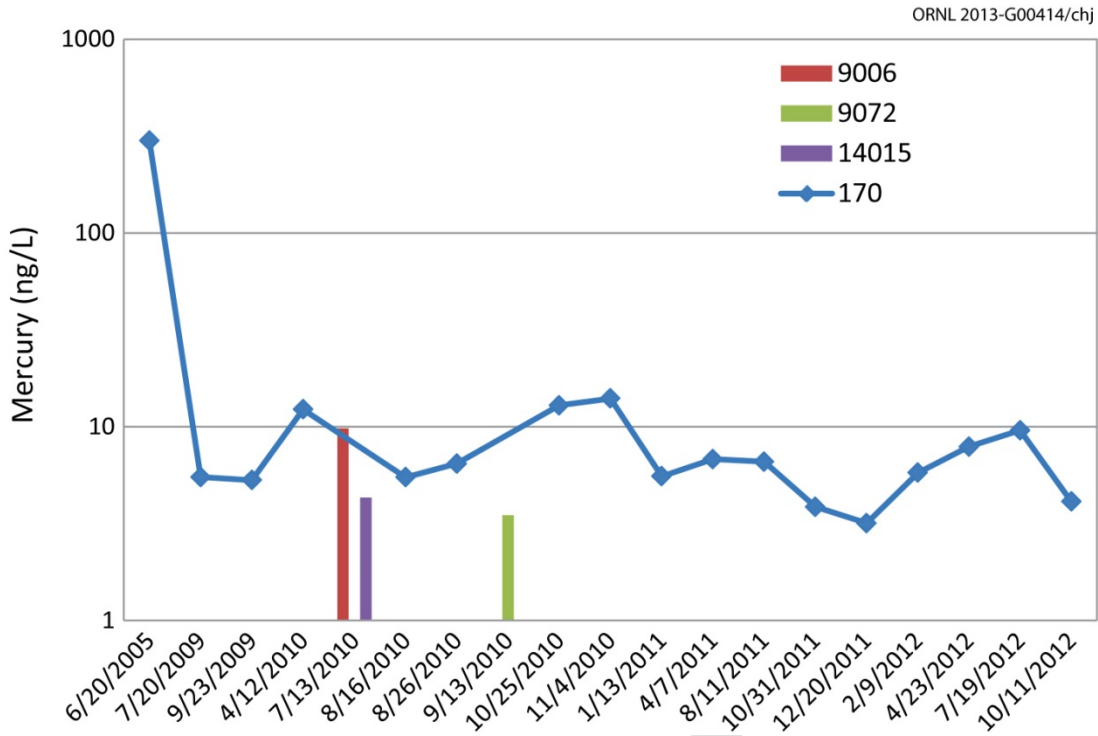


Fig. 3.29. Outfall 170 network water results for mercury.

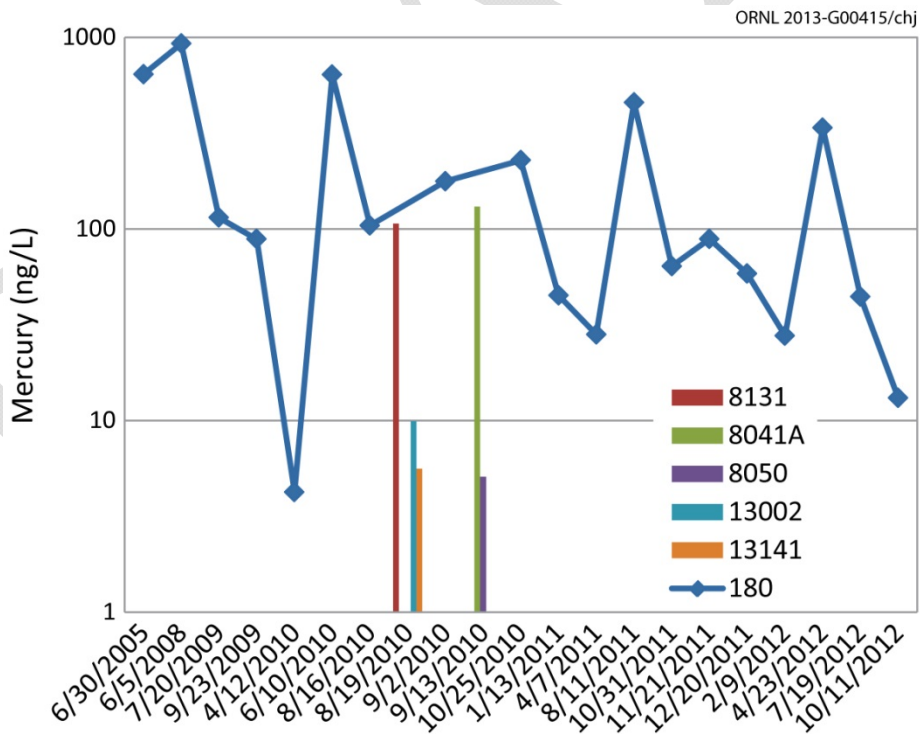


Fig. 3.30. Outfall 180 network water results for mercury.

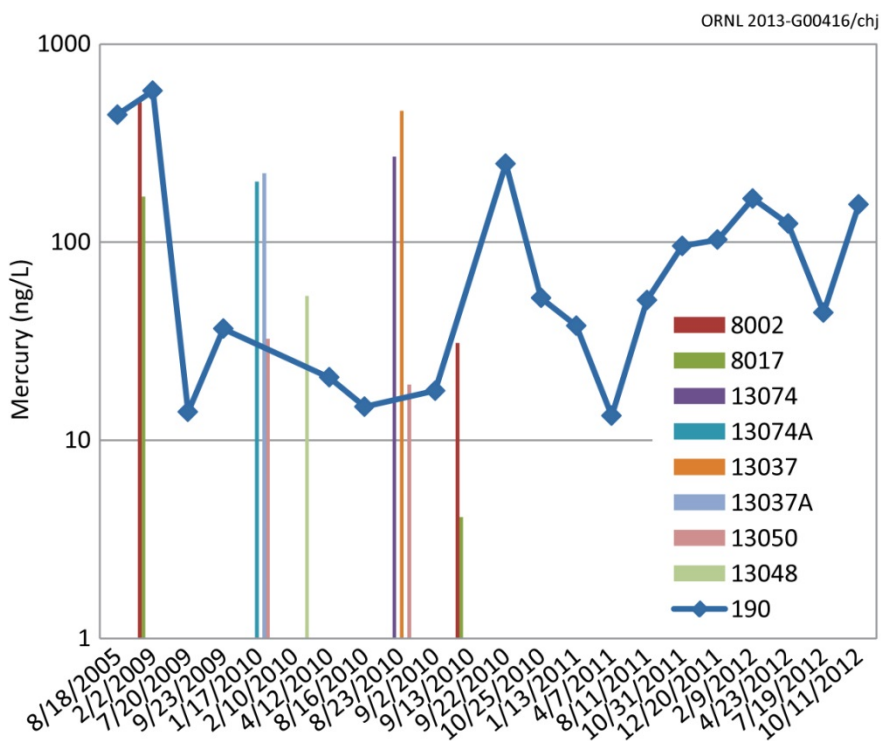


Fig. 3.31. Outfall 190 network water results for mercury.

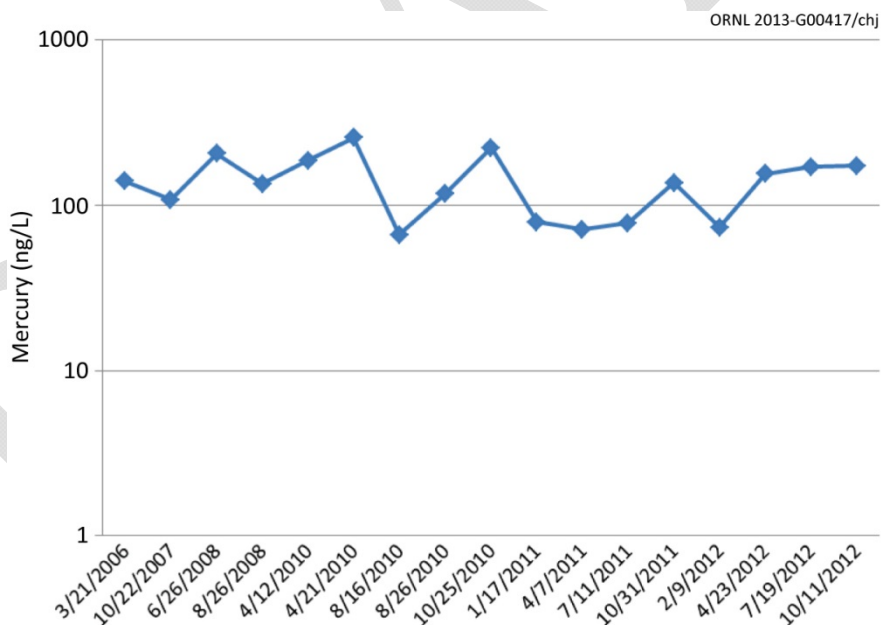


Fig. 3.32. Outfall 05A water results for mercury.

Additional Mercury Monitoring Activities

In an effort to obtain analytical data using a more sensitive method and 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 (Table 3.17). In addition, surface water sampling has been performed along Mitchell Branch as shown in Table 3.18 and Figure 3.26.

As stated previously, the applicable water quality criterion for total mercury is 51 ng/L (0.051 µg/L); therefore, total mercury samples were analyzed by a laboratory with a method detection limit for mercury below this criterion. For the storm water and surface water samples, the laboratory method used since 2010 for total mercury analysis is either the EPA 1631 or EPA 245.7 method (EPA 2002, 2005). These analytical methods have a detection limit that is below the water quality criterion.

All storm water outfalls monitored for mercury in CY 2012 (excluding those sampled for NPDES permit compliance) are shown in Table 3.17. There were five storm water outfalls at ETTP that had mercury results above the water quality criterion (WQC) in CY 2012: 100, 230, 240, 250, and 694. Outfall 100 drains much of the south side of ETTP and discharges into the K-1007-P1 pond. Outfalls 230, 240, and 250 are located north of Building K-25 and discharge into Poplar Creek. Outfall 694 is located on the northeast side of Building K-33. It also discharges into Poplar Creek.

Storm water samples were collected during both wet and dry weather conditions. Wet weather samples were collected from flows resulting from a storm event greater than 0.1 in. in magnitude within 24 h that occurred at least 72 h after any previous storm event of 0.1 in. or greater within 24 h. If an intermittent rainfall occurred over a period of 24 h and did not equal or exceed 0.1 in, it was not considered to be a storm event, and the 72 h delay until the next rainfall that can potentially be sampled was not in effect. Dry weather samples were collected at least 72 h after a storm event of 0.1 in. or greater. All dry weather samples were collected by the manual grab sampling technique.

A surface water mercury sample profile along Mitchell Branch was collected on September 6, 2012, as a part of the SWPP Program. The results of the September 6, 2012, sampling event are shown in Table 3.18 and graphically represented in Fig. 3.33. The sampling locations along Mitchell Branch are denoted by “MIK,” with the kilometer values representing distance from the downstream confluence with Poplar Creek. Samples were collected at the Poplar Creek Road culvert influent and effluent for Mitchell Branch. A sample was collected at the northern side of the culvert effluent, the southern side of the culvert effluent, the northern side of the culvert influent, and the southern side of the culvert influent.

Figure 3.34 shows that Mitchell Branch instream mercury concentrations for the period 2008–2012 increased significantly moving downstream toward the K-1700 weir. Figure 3.35 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 there were several activities 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 Building K-1035.

Table 3.17. Mercury results from storm water monitoring conducted in CY 2012 (ng/L)

Outfall	1/12	2/12	4/12	5/12	6/12	9/12	11/12	12/12
100	5.8	51.6						
142							<0.5	
160								26.8
200				7				
210				22.2				
230	1.5			61.6			10.5	
240				28				81.6
250				72.8				
280				8.4				

Table 3.17. (continued)

Outfall	1/12	2/12	4/12	5/12	6/12	9/12	11/12	12/12
334			10.7					7.64
350				9.9				18.4
380								8.81
382	18.2			7.8				
410								16.9
430	1.8							
440								8.15
490	4.6			6.5	20.7			
510							2.22	
560						6.21		
610								5.41
694	64.1			21.9				
700	18							
710	4.8							
720								15.5
724							3.76	
780								20.9
890		12.7						
992							4.88	

Bolding indicates results above the water quality criterion of 51 ng/L.

Abbreviations

CY = calendar year

Table 3.18. Mitchell Branch surface water mercury results from September 6, 2012 (ng/L)

Mitchell Branch Location	Mercury ^a	Mitchell Branch Location	Mercury
K-1700 weir	72.6	Poplar Creek Road Culvert Influent, South Side	32.9
Mitchell Branch kilometer (MIK) 0.14 ^b	67.2	MIK 0.33	36.3
MIK 0.23	138.5	MIK 0.38	36.2
Poplar Creek Road Culvert Effluent, North Side	35.8	MIK 0.45	41.5
Poplar Creek Road Culvert Effluent, South Side	34.9	MIK 0.59	16
Poplar Creek Road Culvert Influent, North Side	33.9	MIK 0.71	10.2

^aBolding indicates results above Tennessee water quality criteria.

^bMIK values represent distance from the downstream confluence with Poplar Creek.

Abbreviations

MIK = Mitchell Branch kilometer

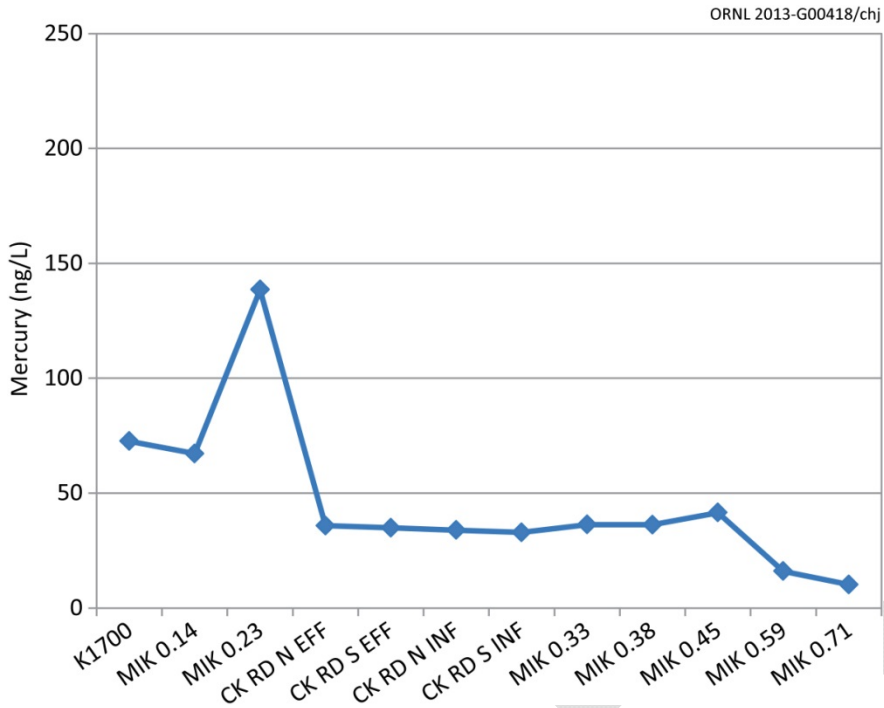


Fig. 3.33. Mitchell Branch surface water mercury results profile from September 6, 2012.

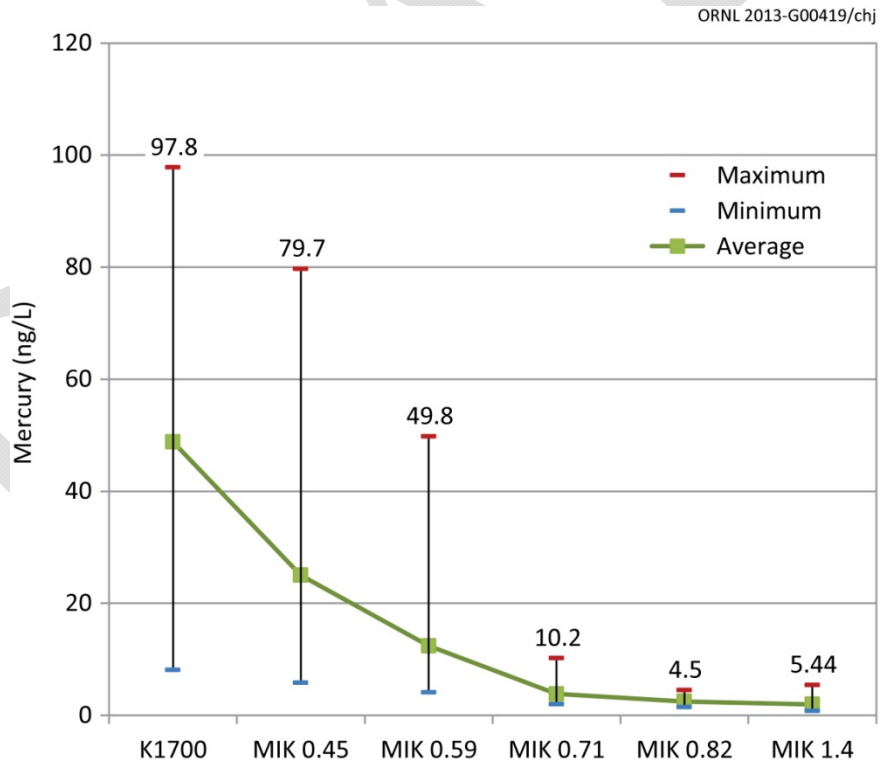


Fig. 3.34. Mitchell Branch instream mercury results, 2008–2012.

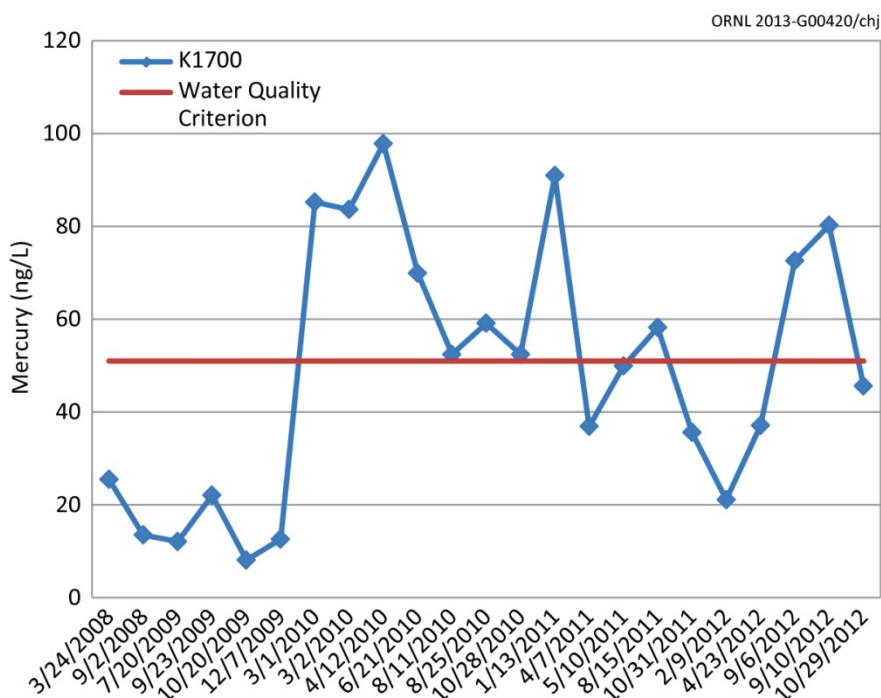


Fig. 3.35. Results for mercury from water samples collected at K-1700.

In 2012, fish and caged clams from various locations at ETTP were analyzed for mercury. For details of this study, please see Section 3.6.

For information regarding the monitoring of mercury in the groundwater at ETTP, please see Section 3.5.4.

Further monitoring for mercury has been proposed for 2013 for Mitchell Branch, the former K-1203 STP, and other locations as part of the NPDES permit compliance sampling program, SWPP Program, environmental monitoring program, groundwater program, and Biological Monitoring and Abatement Program (BMAP). Historical documents continue to be researched and future monitoring proposed as part of the ongoing mercury investigation.

3.5.2.7 NPDES Monitoring at the CNF Waste Water Treatment System

Wastewater from CNF is discharged through outfall 001 into the Clinch River. Nonradiological monitoring of CNF effluent is conducted according to the requirements of NPDES permit number TN0074225. Monitoring requirements, frequencies, and sample types required under the permit changed during 2010 with the reissuance of the permit on December 1, 2010. During the permit renewal process, CNF was reclassified from the “Metal Finishing” category into the “Centralized Wastewater Treatment” category by the permit writer. This change in point source category was mainly responsible for the change in parameters between the previous permit and the renewed permit. The requirements for the 2010 permit are listed in Table 3.19.

As of December 15, 2012, CNF no longer accepts any external wastewater for treatment. CNF will continue to discharge for some period of time after December 15, 2012, due to internal wastewater generated as decommissioning activities progress.

Table 3.19. NPDES permit number TN0074225 outfall 001 monitoring requirements

Parameter	Measurement frequency	Sample type
Flow	Continuous	Recorder
pH	Continuous	Recorder
¹³⁷ Cs	1/month	Monthly composite
²³⁴ U	1/month	Monthly composite
²³⁵ U	1/month	Monthly composite
²³⁶ U	1/month	Monthly composite
²³⁷ Np	1/month	Monthly composite
²³⁸ Pu	1/month	Monthly composite
²³⁸ U	1/month	Monthly composite
²³⁹ Pu	1/month	Monthly composite
⁹⁹ Tc	1/month	Monthly composite
COD	1/month	24 h composite
Gross alpha radioactivity	1/month	Monthly composite
Gross beta radioactivity	1/month	Monthly composite
Oil and grease	1/month	Grab
Other radionuclides contained in waste water ^a	1/month	Monthly composite
Total uranium	1/month	Monthly composite
2-4-6-trichlorophenol	1/quarter	24 h composite
Acetone	1/quarter	Grab
Acetophenone	1/quarter	24 h composite
ICP metals ^b	1/quarter	24 h composite
Methyl ethyl ketone (2-Butanone)	1/quarter	Grab
o-Cresol (2-methyl phenol)	1/quarter	24 h composite
p-Cresol (4-methyl phenol)	1/quarter	24 h composite
Phenol	1/quarter	24 h composite
Pyridine	1/quarter	24 h composite
Trichloroethylene	1/quarter	Grab
TSS	1/quarter	24 h composite
BOD	1/year	24 h composite
Chloroform	1/year	Grab
Methylmercury	1/year	Grab
Total mercury	1/year	24 h composite
PCBs	1/year	24 h composite

^aNo other radionuclides are currently being analyzed each month.

^bICP metals shall include, at a minimum, Sb, As, Cd, Cr, Co, Cu, Pb, Ni, Ag, Sn, Ti, V, and Zn per the permit and Al, Ba, Be, B, Ca, Fe, Mg, Mn, Mo, K, Se, Si, Na, and Tl.

Abbreviations

BOD = biochemical oxygen demand
 COD = chemical oxygen demand
 ICP = inductively coupled plasma

NPDES = National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System
 PCB = polychlorinated biphenyl
 TSS = total suspended solids

Radiological sampling of effluent from CNF is conducted weekly according to the requirements of NPDES permit number TN0074225. The weekly samples are then composited into a single monthly sample. Table 3.20 lists the total discharges in 2012 by isotope. The radiological results are compared with the derived concentration guides (DCGs). The sum of the fractions must be kept below 100% of the DCGs; in practice the effluent results from CNF were well below 100% of the DCGs until 2007. Figure 3.36 shows a rolling 12-month average for 2012. Monitoring results for 2012 showed a marked decrease in the rolling 12-month average of the sum of the fractions of the DCGs from a high of 1.1 in January 2008 to 0.17 in December 2012. In most of 2012, the rolling average of the sum of the fractions gradually decreased from 0.24 to 0.17. The cessation of waste-burning activities at the TSCA Incinerator may account for much of the decrease, as well as the start-up of CWTS to treat the chromium collection system influent that was previously sent to CNF.

Table 3.20. Isotopic discharges from the Central Neutralization Facility Wastewater Treatment System, 2012

Isotope	Discharge (Ci)	Isotope	Discharge (Ci)
¹³⁷ Cs	1.3E-5	^{233/234} U	7.3E-4
²³⁷ Np	3.3E-6	²³⁵ U	7.3E-5
²³⁸ Pu	3.6E-7	²³⁶ U	7.3E-5
^{239,240} Pu	7.3E-7	²³⁸ U	6.1E-4
⁹⁹ Tc	1.2E-2		

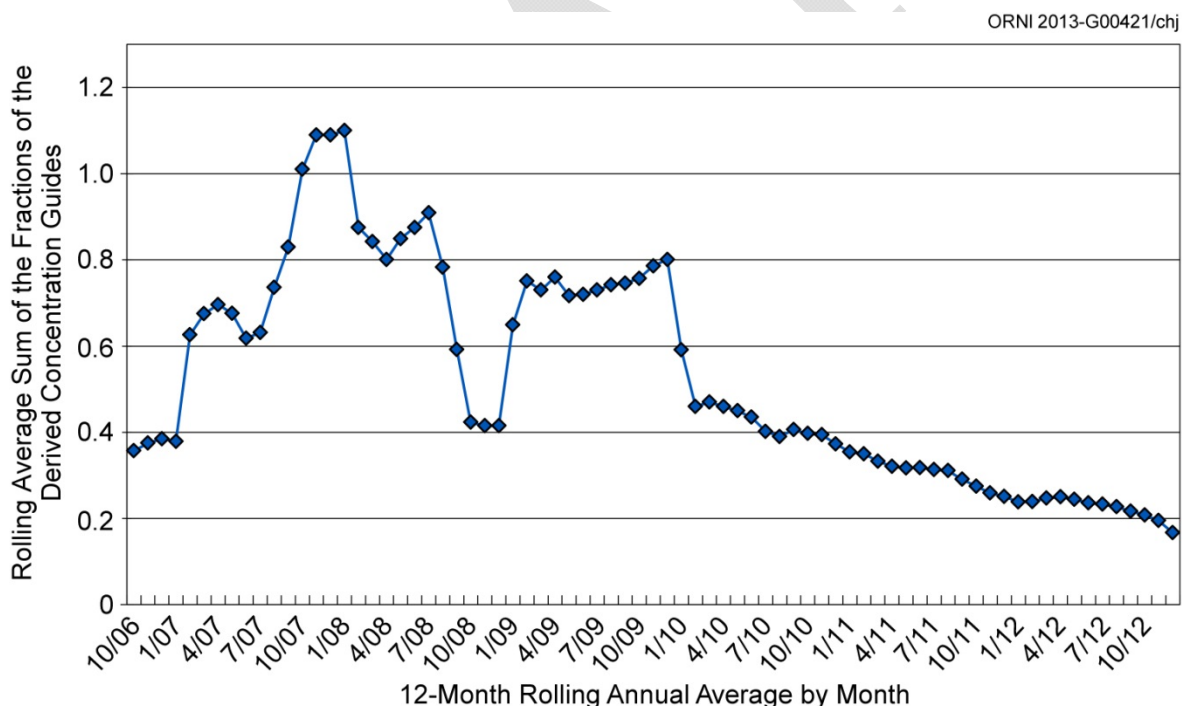


Fig. 3.36. Central Neutralization Facility/K-1435 Wastewater Treatment System radionuclide liquid discharges.

Although uranium isotopes constitute a greater mass of radionuclides discharged from CNF, ⁹⁹Tc accounts for the greatest activity due to its much higher specific activity. Transuranic isotopes constitute a small fraction of the total in the rolling 12-month average of the sum of the fractions of the DCGs.

3.5.2.8 NPDES Permit Noncompliances

During 2012 ETTP and UCOR NPDES operations were conducted in compliance with contractual and regulatory environmental requirements. There were no NPDES permit noncompliances in 2012.

3.5.3 Surface Water Monitoring

During 2012 ETTP environmental monitoring program personnel conducted environmental surveillance activities at 13 surface water locations (Fig. 3.37) to monitor groundwater and storm water runoff (K-1700, K-1007-B, and K-901-A) or ambient stream conditions (CRK 16; CRK 23; K-1710; K-716; K-702-A slough; and MIK 0.45, 0.59, 0.71, 0.82, and 1.4). Depending on the location, samples were collected and analyzed for radionuclides quarterly (K-1700 and MIK 0.45, 0.59, 0.71, 0.82, and 1.4) or semiannually (remainder of locations). Results of radiological monitoring are compared with the DCGs. Radiological data are reported as fractions of DCGs for reported radionuclides. If the sum of DCG fractions for a location exceeds 100% for the year, a source investigation is required. Sources exceeding DCG requirements would need an analysis of the best available technology to reduce the sum of the fractions of the radionuclide concentrations to their respective DCGs to less than 100%. Comparisons with DCGs are updated regularly to maintain an annual average. The monitoring results at several locations were less than 1% of the allowable DCG (Fig. 3.38). The exceptions are K-1700 and four locations on Mitchell Branch, as indicated by the sums of the fractions of the DCGs for these locations: K-1700—1.0%, MIK 0.45—1.4%, MIK 0.59—1.3%, MIK 0.71—1.0%, and MIK 0.82—1.5%. The percentage of the DCGs at K-1700 (1.0%) was below the percentage of the 2011 monitoring results (1.9%). The percentage of the DCGs at MIK 0.45, MIK 0.59, and MIK 0.71 also decreased from the 2011 results.

Depending on the monitoring location, water samples may be analyzed for pH, selected metals, and VOCs. In 2012, results for most of these parameters were well within the appropriate Tennessee state WQC.

The WQC for dissolved oxygen in streams and ponds is a minimum level of 5 mg/L. On five occasions during the 2012 monitoring dissolved oxygen levels at several of the surface water monitoring locations fell below this level. The lowest levels (3.4 mg/L and 3.5 mg/L) were measured at K-1700 in September and October, respectively. Levels at MIK 0.82 (4.6 mg/L in September), K-1710 (4.8 mg/L in June) and CRK-23 (3.6 mg/L in June) were also measured at less than 5 mg/L at some point during 2012. No obvious signs of distress (e.g., dead fish) were observed to be associated with any of these measurements in 2012. Low levels of dissolved oxygen are not uncommon in area streams and are usually associated with higher temperatures (and the associated elevated levels of biological activity) and low rainfall and stream flow. Late summer and fall of 2012 had very low rainfall.

The WQC for mercury is 0.051 $\mu\text{g/L}$. On three occasions in 2012 levels of mercury were measured above this level in water collected from MIK 0.45 and once in water collected from K-1700. Both locations are within Mitchell Branch. For details, please see the discussion of the sitewide mercury investigation given in Section 3.5.2.6.

Figures 3.39 and 3.40 illustrate the concentrations of trichloroethene (TCE) and total 1,2-dichloroethene (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, Appendix C, Table C.2), 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. 3.41). 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.

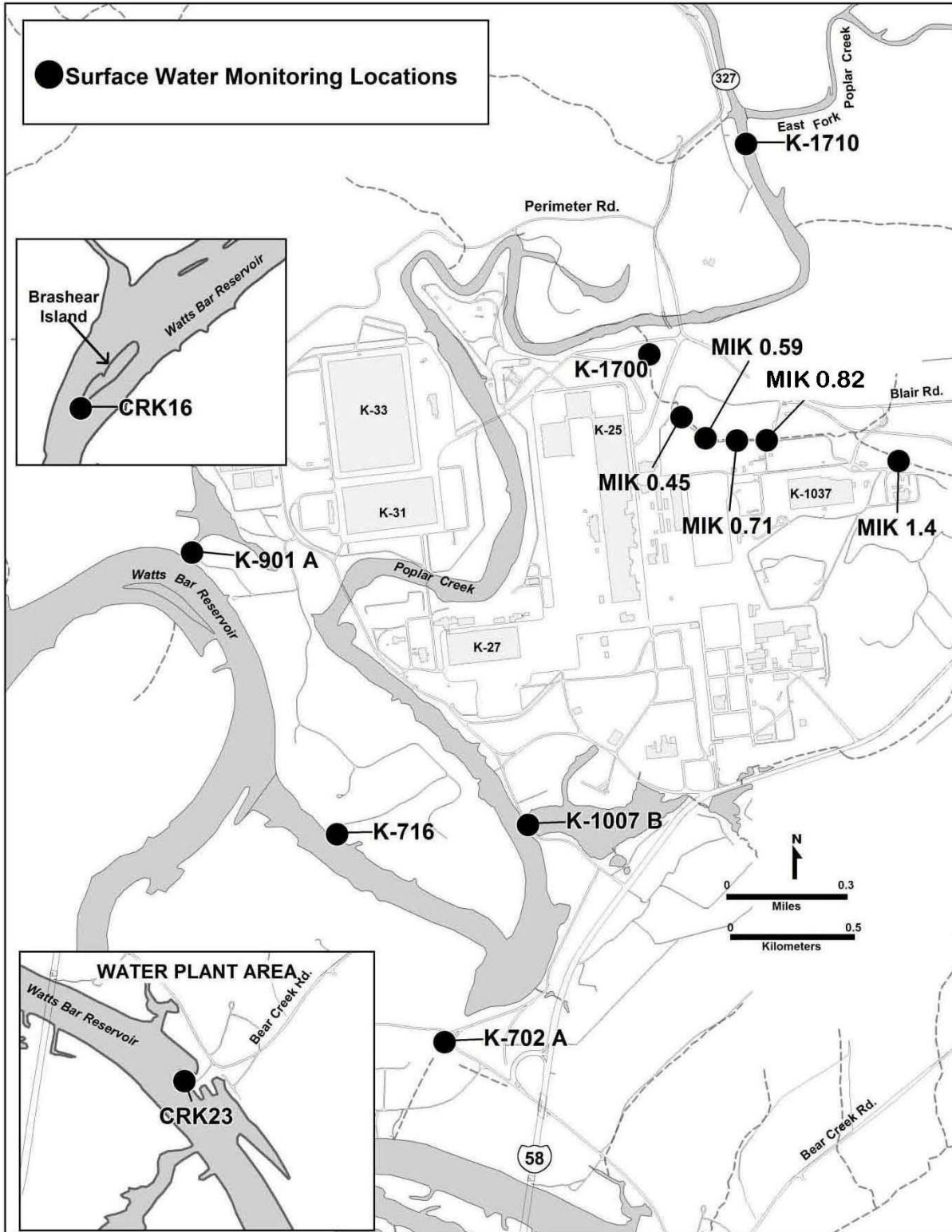


Fig. 3.37. Environmental monitoring program surface water monitoring locations.

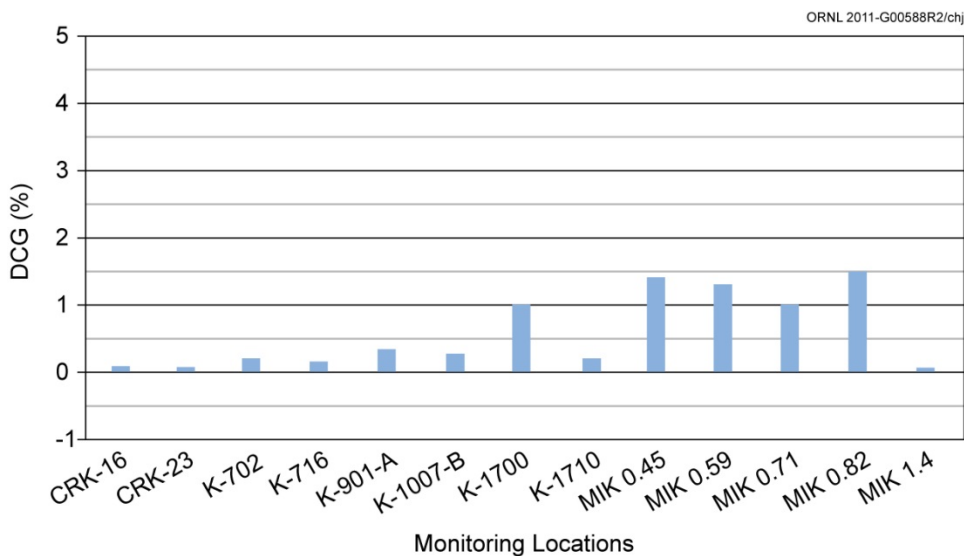


Fig. 3.38. Percentage of derived concentration guides (DCGs) at surface water monitoring locations, 2012. (CRK = Clinch River kilometer, MIK = Mitchell Branch kilometer.)

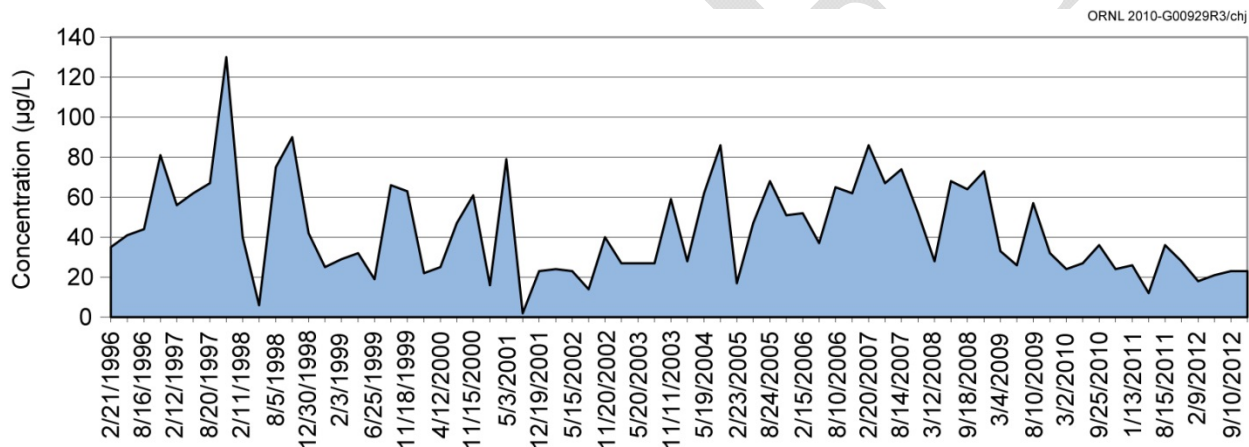


Fig. 3.39. Trichloroethene concentrations at K-1700. (The water quality criterion is 300 µg/L.)

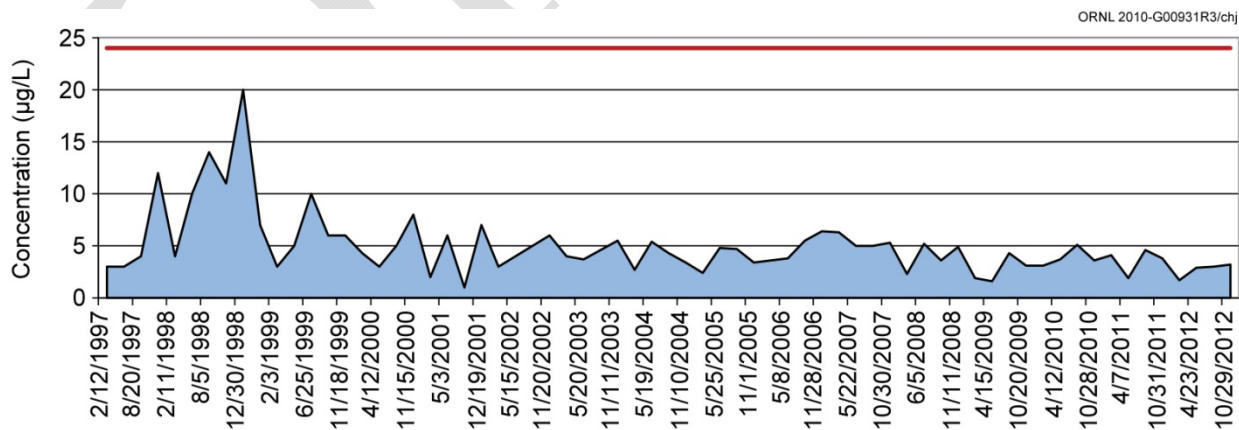


Fig. 3.40. 1,2-dichloroethene concentrations at K-1700. (The water quality criterion is 10,000 µg/L.)

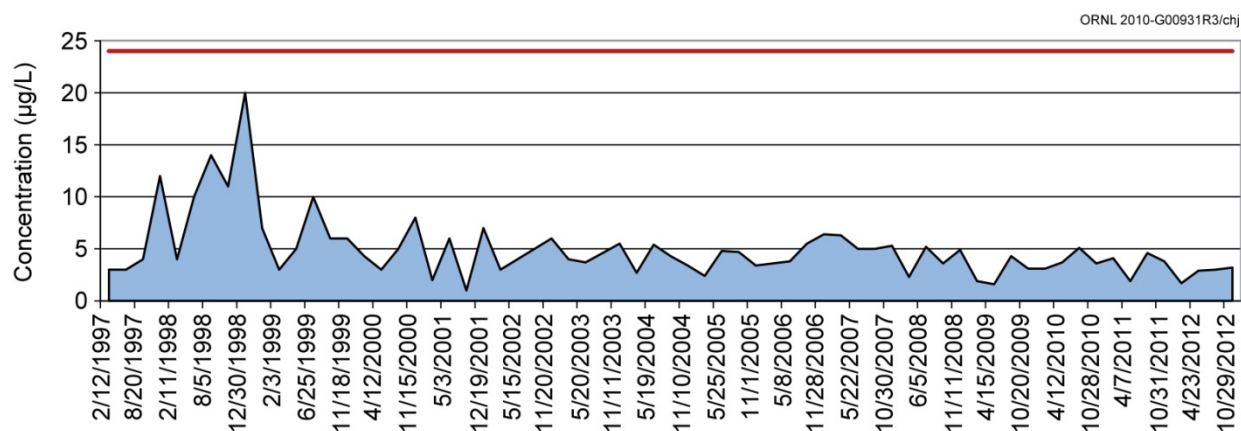


Fig. 3.41. Vinyl chloride concentrations at K-1700. [The water quality criterion (horizontal red line) is 24 µg/L.]

Surface water has been routinely sampled by DOE contractors and TDEC for several years as part of environmental monitoring programs. The DOE contractor surface water sampling program is conducted in accordance with DOE order surveillance program guidance. In data collected as part of the DOE contractors’ sampling efforts, dry weather levels of total chromium over the past 10 years (Fig. 3.42) have been shown to be generally less than 0.01 mg/L or, in some instances, at nondetectable levels. Results from routine surface water monitoring conducted in fall 2006 showed a significant increase in the total chromium level in Mitchell Branch, but it was still below the WQC for total chromium. Sampling performed in the spring of 2007 by DOE contractors and TDEC indicated that chromium levels had increased above the levels found in the fall 2006 sampling. A chromium collection system using two extraction wells and pumps was installed to pump water from the vicinity of storm water outfall 170 for treatment at CNF. Since this system was installed, chromium levels in Mitchell Branch have dropped dramatically, with levels being routinely measured at less than 3 µg/L. Hexavalent chromium levels in Mitchell Branch were all below the detection limit in 2012.

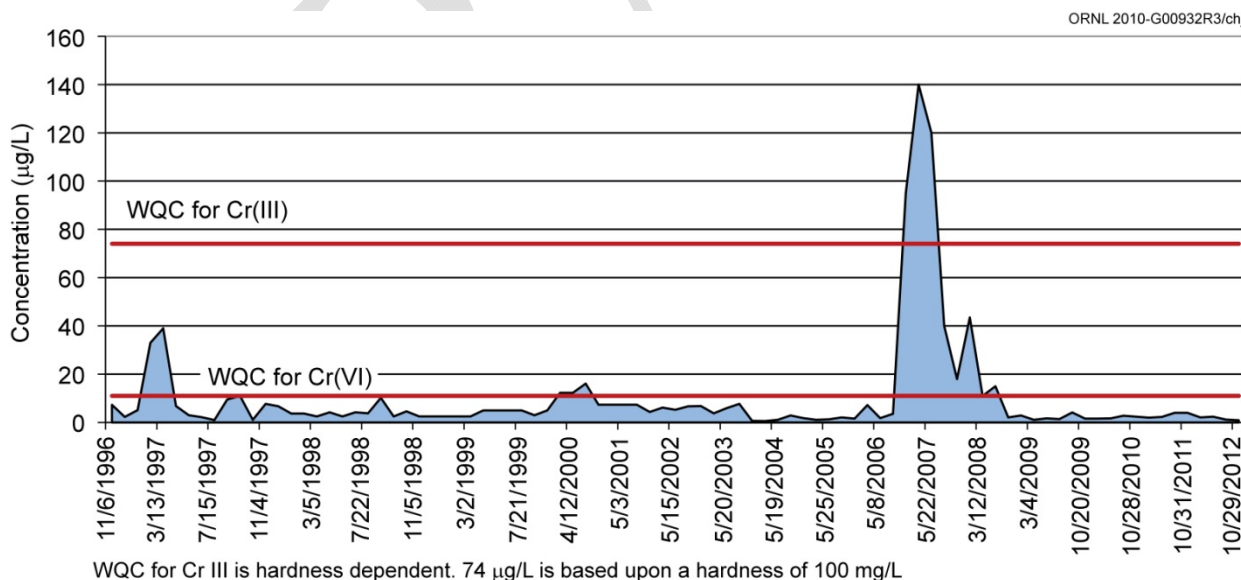


Fig. 3.42. Total chromium concentrations at K-1700. (The water quality criterion for Cr III, which is hardness dependent, is 74 µg/L, based on a hardness of 100 mg/L. The water quality criterion for Cr VI is 11 µg/L.)

3.5.4 East Tennessee Technology Park Groundwater

3.5.4.1 Introduction

Groundwater at the ETTP site occurs in residual soils, fill, alluvial soils, and bedrock. Because of the extensive terrain modification that occurred during site construction, large areas of the main industrial site were subjected to cut and fill activities that modified site hydrology. Most of the ETTP site is underlain by carbonate bedrock of the Chickamauga Group, with subordinate areas underlain by carbonates of the Knox Group and clastic dominated sandstones, shales, and siltstones of the Rockwood formation. The geologic structure of bedrock beneath the ETTP site is the most complex of the ORR facilities because of structural rock deformation associated with the White Oak Mountain thrust fault and footwall deformation associated with motion along that fault.

3.5.4.2 Background

The groundwater monitoring program at ETTP is focused primarily on investigating and characterizing sites for remediation under CERCLA, monitoring groundwater contaminant trends, and monitoring groundwater exit pathways. As a result of the FFA and certification of closure of the K-1407-B and K-1407-C ponds, the principal driver at ETTP is CERCLA. ETTP Groundwater Protection Program requirements are incorporated into the DOE EM Water Resources Restoration Program (WRRP), established to provide a consistent approach to watershed monitoring across ORR and responsible for groundwater surveillance monitoring at ETTP, which includes groundwater exit pathway monitoring. This groundwater monitoring is conducted to assess the performance of completed CERCLA actions. Groundwater monitoring wells have been placed downgradient of potential contamination sources. Groundwater discharges into Poplar Creek; the Clinch River; and the three main surface water bodies at ETTP, the K-901 pond, the K-1007 pond, and Mitchell Branch. Groundwater contaminants at ETTP migrate toward these surface water bodies. Groundwater monitoring wells have been placed near these exit points, and groundwater monitoring is supplemented by the ETTP Environmental Monitoring Plan surface water surveillance program.

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

Extensive groundwater monitoring at the ETTP site has identified VOCs as the most significant groundwater contaminant on the site. To analyze the groundwater contaminant issues at ETTP, the remedial investigation/feasibility study (RI/FS) subdivided the site into several distinct areas—Mitchell Branch watershed, K-1004 and K-1200 area, K-27 and K-29 area, and K-901 area. Each of these areas has significant VOC contamination in groundwater. The principal chlorinated hydrocarbon chemicals that were used at ETTP were tetrachloroethene (PCE), TCE, and 1,1-dichloroethane (1,1-DCA).

Several plume source areas have been 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/-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 gallons 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 area and the 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.

3.5.4.4 Exit Pathway Monitoring

Groundwater exit pathway monitoring sites are shown in Fig. 3.43. Groundwater monitoring results for the exit pathways are discussed below starting with the Mitchell Branch exit pathway and then progressing in a counterclockwise fashion.

Mitchell Branch. The Mitchell Branch exit pathway is monitored using surface water data from the K-1700 weir on Mitchell Branch and wells BRW-083 and UNW-107. Figure 3.44 shows the detected concentrations of TCE, 1,2-DCE (essentially all cis-1, 2-DCE), and vinyl chloride at the K-1700 weir on Mitchell Branch from FY 1994 through FY 2012. These contaminants are the major contaminants in Mitchell Branch, although low concentrations of carbon tetrachloride, chloroform, and trichloroethane are sometimes detected. VOC concentrations measured during FY 2012 were consistent with previous years' results at the K-1700 weir.

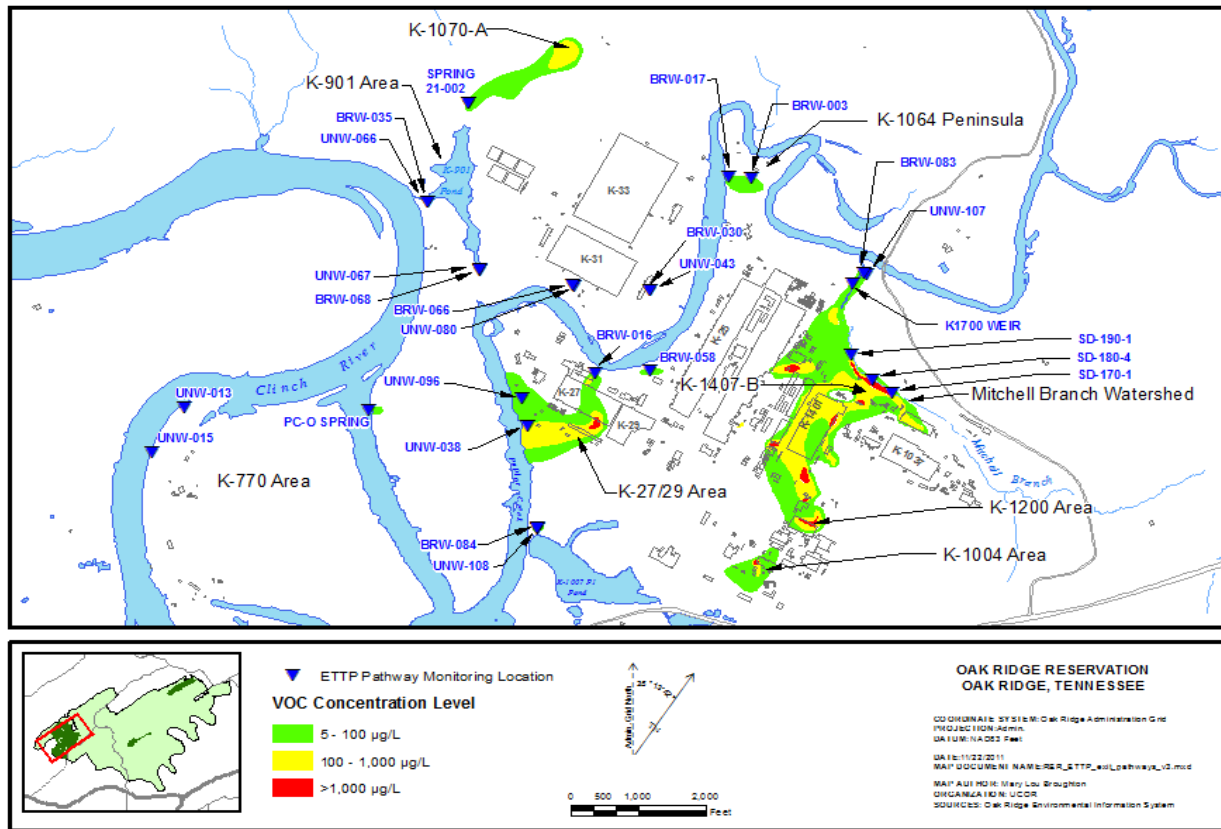


Fig. 3.43. East Tennessee Technology Park exit pathway monitoring locations.

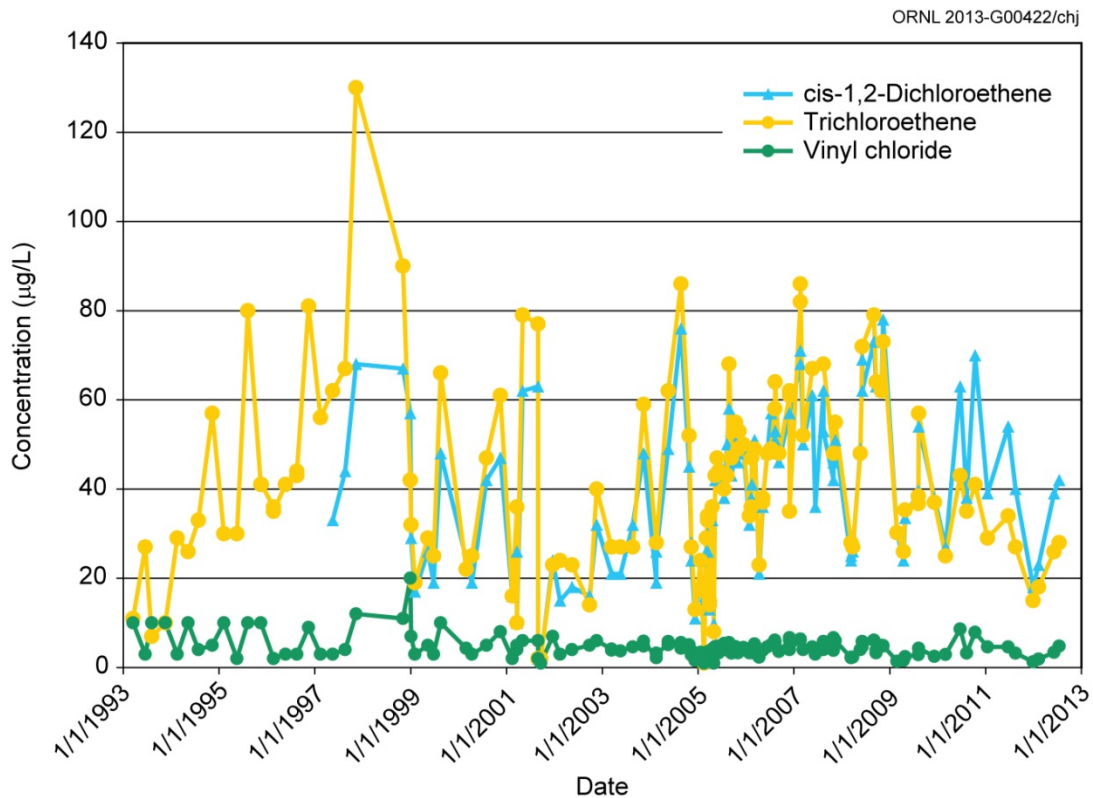


Fig. 3.44. K-1700 weir volatile organic compound concentrations.

Wells BRW-083 and UNW-107, located near the mouth of Mitchell Branch (Fig. 3.43), have been monitored since 1994. Table 3.21 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 and are strongly affected by rainfall. No chlorinated VOCs were detected in BRW-083 or UNW-107 during FY 2012.

Table 3.21. Volatile organic compounds detected in groundwater in the Mitchell Branch exit pathway (µg/L)^a

Well	Date	cis-1,2-Dichloroethene	Tetrachloroethene	Trichloroethene	Vinyl chloride
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 ^b	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

Table 3.21. (continued)

Well	Date	cis-1,2-Dichloroethene	Tetrachloroethene	Trichloroethene	Vinyl chloride
UNW-107	8/16/2012	ND	ND	ND	ND
	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 ^b	23	2 ^c
	8/21/2007	17	ND	30	0.3 ^b
	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
	8/11/2011	ND	ND	ND	ND
	3/20/2012	ND	ND	ND	ND
	9/12/2012	ND	ND	ND	ND

^aBolding indicates results that exceed Safe Drinking Water Act maximum contaminant level screening values (tetrachloroethene, trichloroethene = 5 µg/L; cis-1,2-dichloroethene = 70 µg/L; vinyl chloride = 2 µg/L).

^bEstimated value.

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

Abbreviations

BRW = bedrock well

ND = Not Detected

UNW = unconsolidated well

K-1064 peninsula area. Wells BRW-003 and BRW-017 monitor groundwater at the K-1064 peninsula burn area. Figure 3.45 shows the history of VOC concentrations in groundwater from FY 1994 through FY 2012. TCE concentrations have declined in both wells over that period of time. One of the two samples from BRW-017 contained TCE at concentrations slightly greater than the maximum contaminant level (MCL) during FY 2012, while at BRW-003 both analytical results were much less than the MCL. In well BRW-003, 1,1,1-TCE has declined to undetectable concentrations. In both semiannual samples in well BRW-017, cis-1,2-DCE was detected at concentrations much less than its MCL.

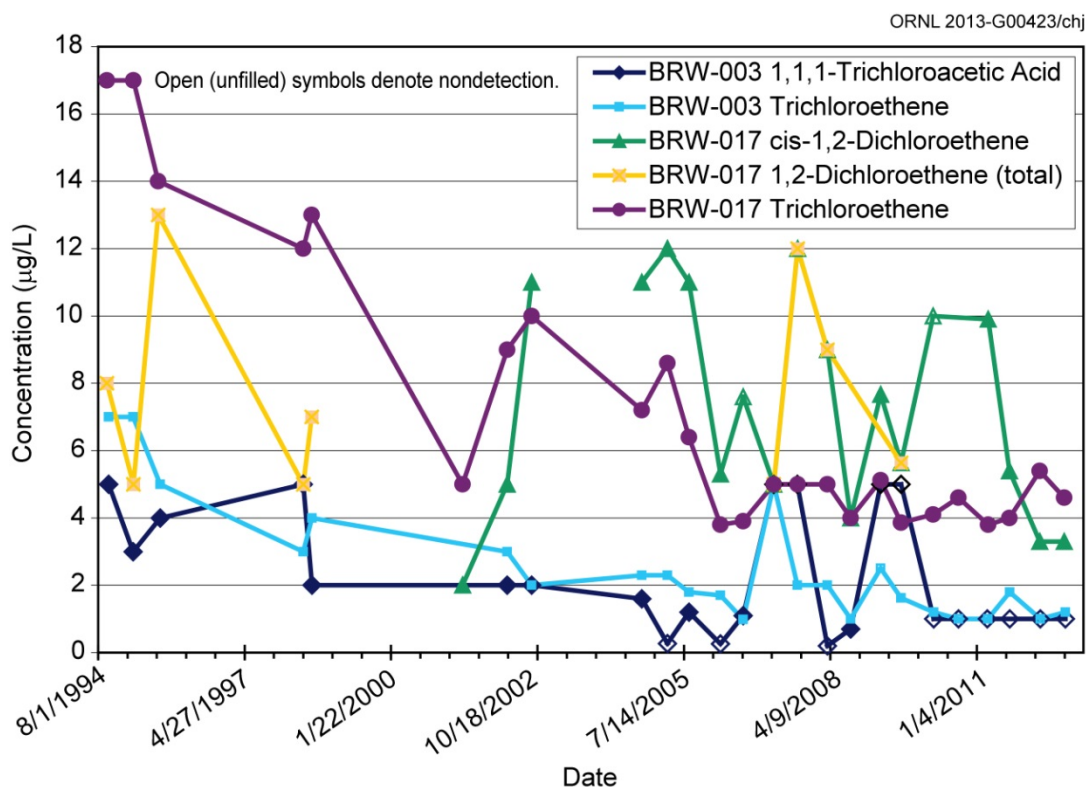


Fig. 3.45. Volatile organic compound concentrations in groundwater at K-1064 peninsula area.

K-31–K-33 area. Groundwater is monitored in four wells (BRW-066, BRW-030, UNW-080, and UNW-043) that lie between the K-31–K-33 area and Poplar Creek, as shown on Figure 3.43. VOCs are not COCs in this area; however, leaks of recirculated cooling water in the past have left residual subsurface chromium contamination. Figure 3.46 shows the history of chromium detection in wells in the K-31–K-33 area. Well UNW-043 exhibits the highest residual chromium concentrations of any in the area. Chromium concentrations in well 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 and K-33 buildings contained residual hexavalent chromium from recirculated cooling water leaks. The data indicated all the chromium in groundwater near the leak sites was essentially the less toxic trivalent species. From FY 2008 through FY 2012, 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 2012, both field-filtered and unfiltered samples were collected from wells BRW-066, UNW-043, and UNW-080. In FY 2012 the chromium concentrations in unfiltered samples from well UNW-080 decreased significantly and were nearly the same as concentrations in the filtered sample. Chromium was not detected in any samples from well BRW-066.

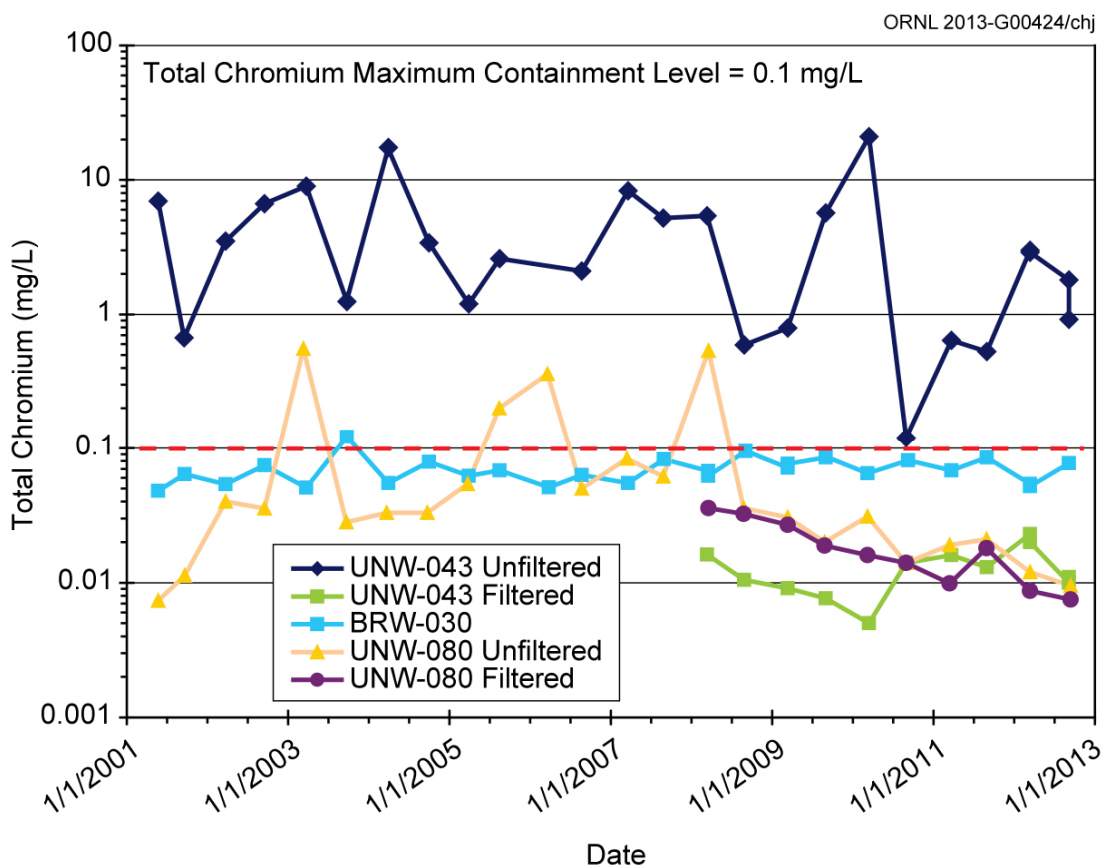


Fig. 3.46. Chromium concentrations in groundwater in the K-31–K-33 area.

K-27–K-29 area. Several exit pathway wells are monitored in the K-27–K-29 area, as shown on Figure 3.43. Figure 3.47 shows concentrations of detected VOCs in wells both north and south of K-27 and K-29 through FY 2012. The source of VOC contamination in well BRW-058 is not suspected to be from K-27–K-29 area operations. With the exception of cis-1,2-DCE in well BRW-058, which appears stable to slightly increasing but remains less than its MCL, the VOC concentrations in this area show slowly declining concentrations. TCE levels in well UNW-038 fluctuate between 10 and 20 times the MCL but show a gradually decreasing trend.

K-1007-P1 holding pond area. Wells BRW-084 and UNW-108 are exit pathway monitoring locations at the northern edge of the K-1007-P1 holding pond (see Figure 3.43). These wells were monitored intermittently from 1994 through 1998 and semiannually from FY 2001 through FY 2012. The first detections of VOCs in these wells occurred during FY 2006 with detection of low concentrations (~10 µg/L or less) 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 2012. Metals were detected and associated with the presence of high turbidity in the samples. Iron exceeded its secondary drinking water standard in the unfiltered aliquots from both semiannual sampling events but was not detectable in the field-filtered aliquots. Manganese exceeded its secondary drinking water standard in both the filtered and unfiltered samples from UNW-108 in the fourth quarter sampling event. Aluminum exceeded its secondary drinking water standard in the unfiltered aliquots from well UNW-108 during both FY 2012 sampling events but did not exceed the limit in the field-filtered aliquots. No other primary or secondary MCLs for metals were exceeded in sample aliquots that were field-filtered before acid preservation during FY 2012.

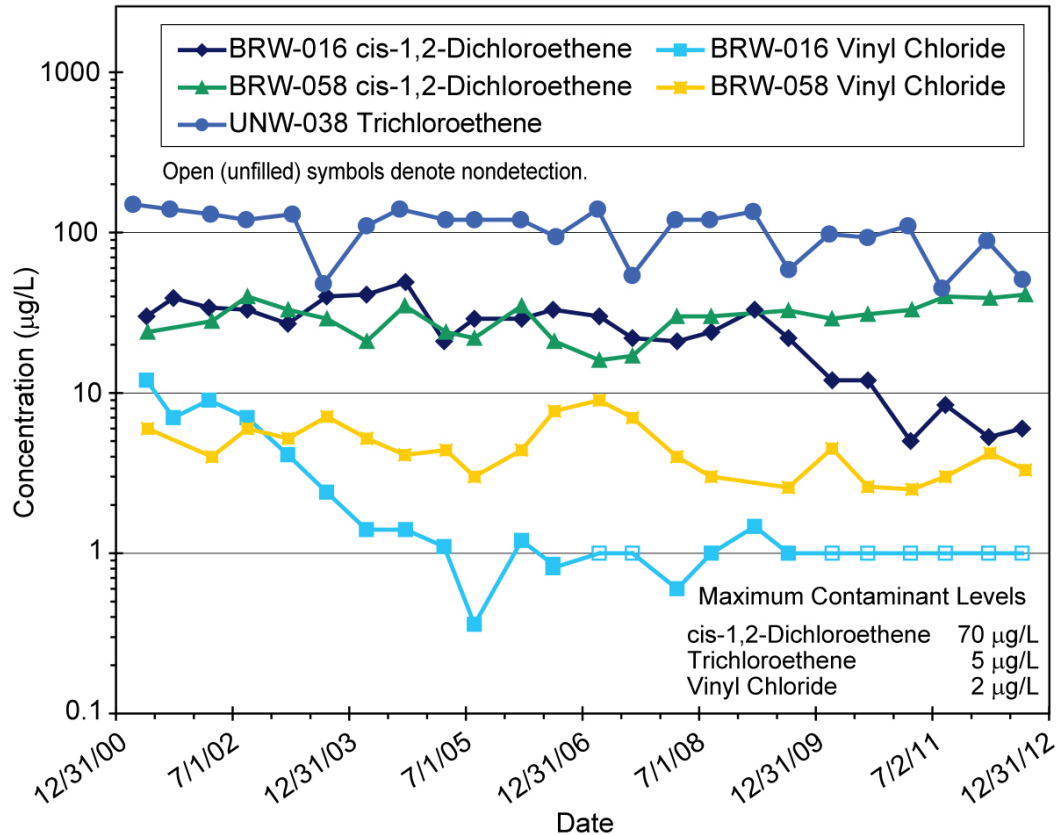


Fig. 3.47. Detected volatile organic compound concentrations in groundwater exit pathway wells near K-27 and K-29.

K-901-A holding pond area. Exit pathway groundwater in the K-901-A holding pond area (see Figure 3.43) 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 2012. Alpha and beta activity levels were less than 5 pCi/L and 15 pCi/L, respectively, for all wells.

TCE is the most significant groundwater contaminant detected in the springs, and the historic TCE concentrations are shown in Figure 3.48. 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, so this location is accessible for sampling only during winter when the lake level is lowered by TVA. The contaminant source for the PC-0 spring is presumed to be disposed waste at the K-1070-F site. The TCE concentrations in the PC-0 spring have varied between about 9 and 26 µg/L and appear to have decreased from their highest measured value in 2006 to concentrations between about 2 to 3 times the drinking water standard. At spring 21-002, 1,1,1-trichloroethane, 1,2-DCE, carbon tetrachloride, and PCE are sometimes present at concentrations typically less than 5 µg/L. The TCE concentration at spring 21-002 tends to vary between 5 and about 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 2012, TCE was detected above its MCL in both semiannual samples. In addition, low levels of alpha and beta activity were detected, as was ⁹⁹Tc, in the fourth quarter sample.

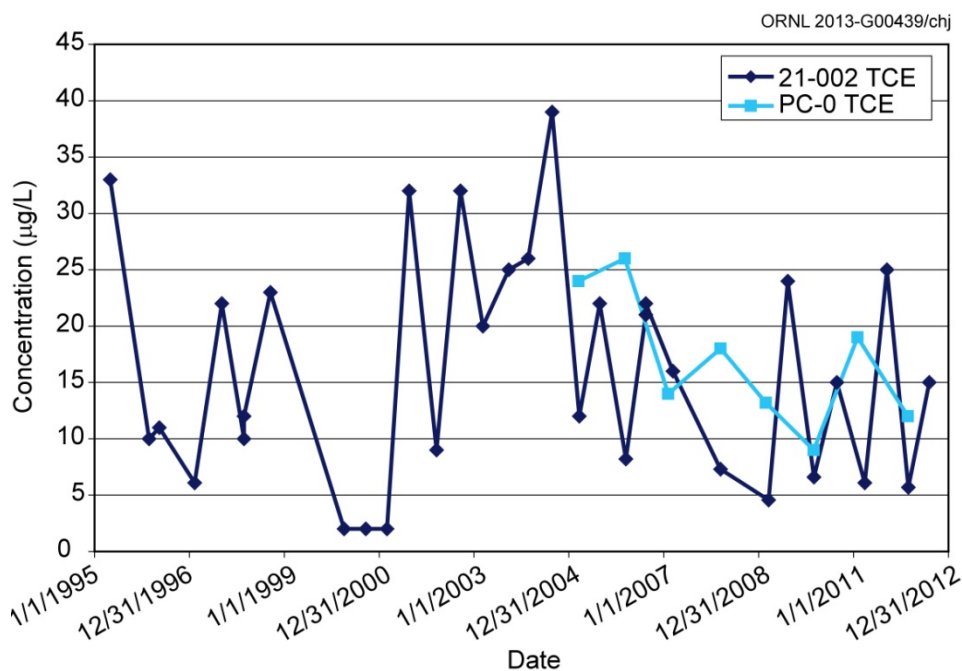


Fig. 3.48. Trichloroethene (TCE) concentrations in K-901 area springs.

K-770 area. Exit pathway groundwater monitoring is also conducted at the K-770 area, where wells UNW-013 and UNW-015 are used to assess radiological groundwater contamination along the Clinch River (see Fig. 3.43). Well UNW-015 could not be sampled in FY 2012 because of construction activities. Beta activity was detected at 19.8 and 61.4 pCi/L, respectively, for second and fourth quarter sampling of well UNW-013. Figure 3.49 shows the history of measured alpha and beta activity in this area. Analytical results indicate that the alpha activity is largely attributable to uranium isotopes, and well UNW-013 historically contained ⁹⁹Tc, which is a strong beta-emitting radionuclide responsible for the elevated beta activity in that well. The alpha and beta activity levels in the area groundwater exhibit stable but variable conditions.

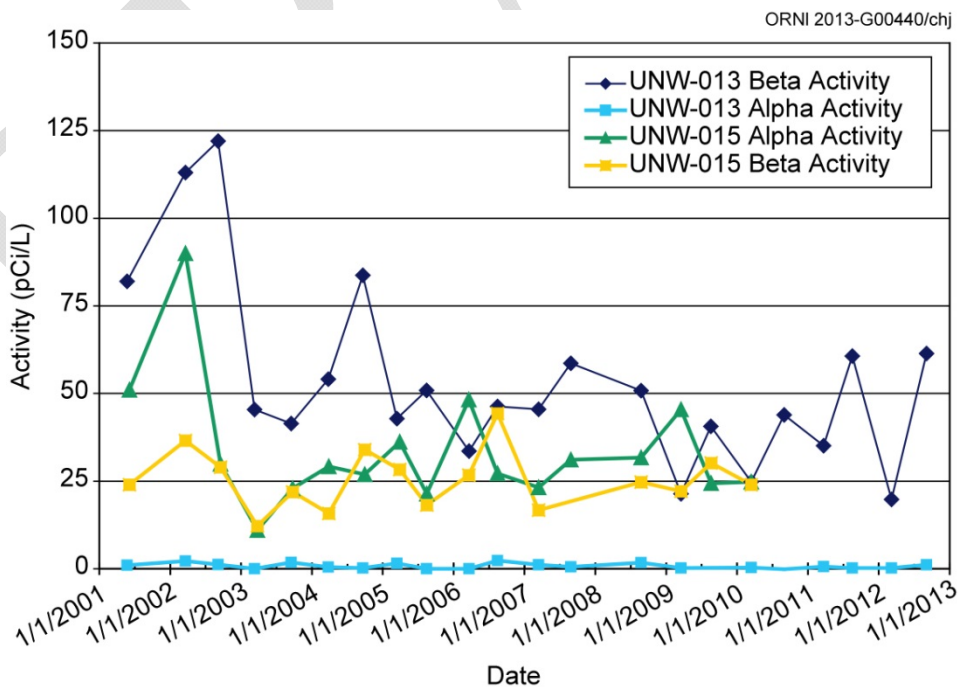


Fig. 3.49. History of measured alpha and beta activity in the K-770 area.

3.5.4.5 Groundwater Sampling Adjacent to Potential Source Areas

Additional monitoring of groundwater adjacent to potential sources of groundwater contamination, including the K-1070-C/-D burial ground, was conducted to monitor trends (DOE 2005). Monitoring will continue until a final Zone 2 ROD is approved.

3.5.4.6 Groundwater Sampling in the K-1407-B and K-1407-C ponds area at East Tennessee Technology Park

The *Remedial Action Report for the K-1407-B Holding Pond and the K-1407-C Retention Basin* (DOE 1995a) 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 $^{234,238}\text{U}$. However, VOCs are the primary groundwater contaminant in the Mitchell Branch area of ETTP. Remediation target concentrations were not established in the CERCLA decision documents for use in post-remediation monitoring. 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. 3.50.

Groundwater samples were collected at UNW-003 and UNW-009 during March and September 2012. Monitoring results for FY 2012 at the wells are consistent with results from previous years. Gross alpha activity was detected at 5.42 pCi/L in March and at 3.67 pCi/L in September at UNW-003 and was not detected at UNW-009 in March or August. Gross beta activity ranged from 9.55 to 29.3 pCi/L at UNW-003. Gross beta activity was detected at 5.9 pCi/L in March but was not detected in September at UNW-009. The radionuclide ^{99}Tc was detected at 12.5 pCi/L in March and at 36.8 pCi/L in September at UNW-003 and was not detected in either sampling round at UNW-009. Uranium-234 was not detected in UNW-009 but was detected at 4.17 pCi/L in March and 4.33 pCi/L in September in UNW-003.

None of the metals having primary drinking water standards exceeded those levels. Iron was elevated above its secondary drinking water standard in both filtered and unfiltered samples from UNW-009 and from only the unfiltered samples from UNW-003. The secondary standard for aluminum was exceeded in unfiltered samples from UNW-009 but was not detected in the field-filtered samples from either well. Manganese exceeded its secondary drinking water standard in both filtered and unfiltered aliquots from both wells during both sampling events. The elevated manganese and iron levels are likely caused by chemical reduction in the local groundwater induced by reductive dehalogenation of VOCs.

High concentrations of several VOCs are present in groundwater in well UNW-003 downgradient of the former K-1407-B pond and adjacent to Mitchell Branch. In FY 2012 significant concentrations of parent compounds PCE (150–520 $\mu\text{g/L}$) and TCE (1,700–5,500 $\mu\text{g/L}$) and the degradation products 1,1-DCE (300–920 $\mu\text{g/L}$), 1,1-DCA (410–1,100 $\mu\text{g/L}$), cis-1,2-DCE (1,100–3,000 $\mu\text{g/L}$), and vinyl chloride (23–150 $\mu\text{g/L}$) were detected at UNW-003. The detection of VOCs at concentrations well above 1,000 $\mu\text{g/L}$ and the steady concentrations over recent years strongly suggest the presence of dense nonaqueous phase liquids (DNAPLs) in the vicinity of this well. The Zone 2 final ROD will address groundwater contamination present in the area of the former ponds.

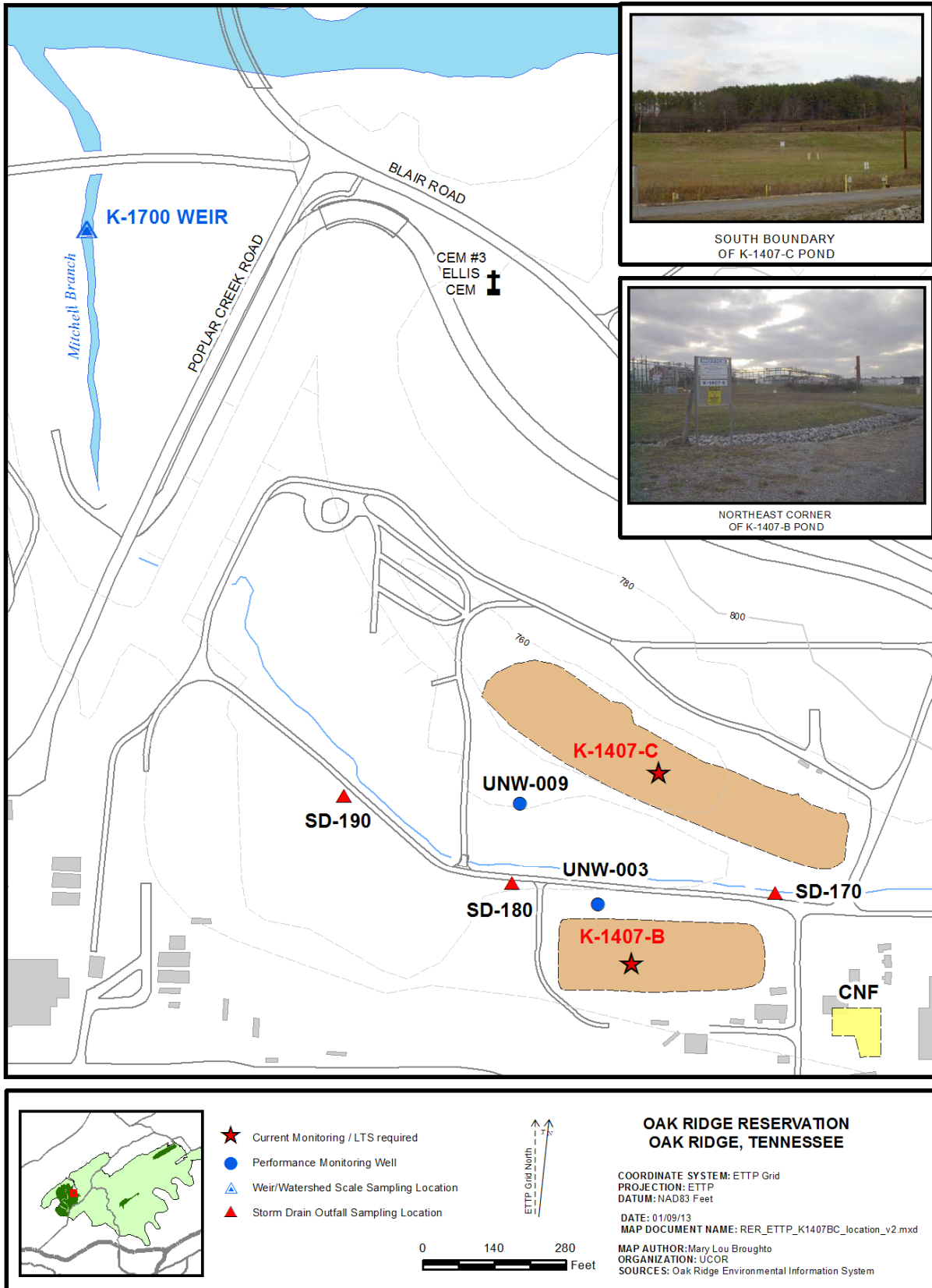


Fig. 3.50. Location of K-1407-B and K-1407-C ponds.

3.5.4.7 Groundwater Sampling Summary

During FY 2012, monitoring results for the groundwater locations indicated that contaminant levels are generally stable to decreasing in most instances. Collection and treatment of groundwater containing hexavalent chromium is ongoing and is protective of water quality in Mitchell Branch. Mercury detections at storm drain outfalls and the K-1700 weir indicate the need for additional investigation to identify potential mercury sources.

3.6 Biological Monitoring

The ETTP BMAP consists of three tasks designed to evaluate the effects of ETTP operations on the local environment, identify areas where abatement measures would be most effective, and test the efficacy of the measures. 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 3.51 shows the major water bodies at ETTP, and Fig. 3.52 shows the BMAP monitoring locations along Mitchell Branch.

In spring (April) and fall (October) of 2012, survival and reproduction toxicity tests using the water flea *Ceriodaphnia dubia* [(*C. dubia*); Fig. 3.53] 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 170 and 190. In none of the 2012 tests was toxicity demonstrated (Table 3.22).

In 2012 caged clams (*Corbicula fluminea*) were placed at several locations around ETTP. The clams (Fig. 3.54) were allowed to remain in place for 4 weeks and were then analyzed for PCBs (Table 3.23) and total mercury and methylmercury. The spatial patterns of PCB concentrations in clams were generally consistent with those of previous years, although the concentration of PCBs in clams from almost all locations (the K-1007-P1 pond being the sole exception) decreased substantially from the concentrations found in the 2011 monitoring. While the concentrations of PCBs in clams from MIK 0.3, the K-1007-P1 pond, and storm water outfall 100 remain the highest of any tested at ETTP, and the concentrations of PCBs in the clams from the K-1007-P1 pond increased slightly from last year, the overall trend in the last several years has been of decreasing concentrations. Concentrations of PCBs in clams from the K-901-A pond remained considerably lower than those found in and around the K-1007-P1 pond. While three Aroclors (Aroclor 1248, 1254, and 1260) were detected in clams from the K-1007-P1 pond and the K-901-A pond, the primary Aroclor detected in clams from Mitchell Branch was Aroclor 1254.

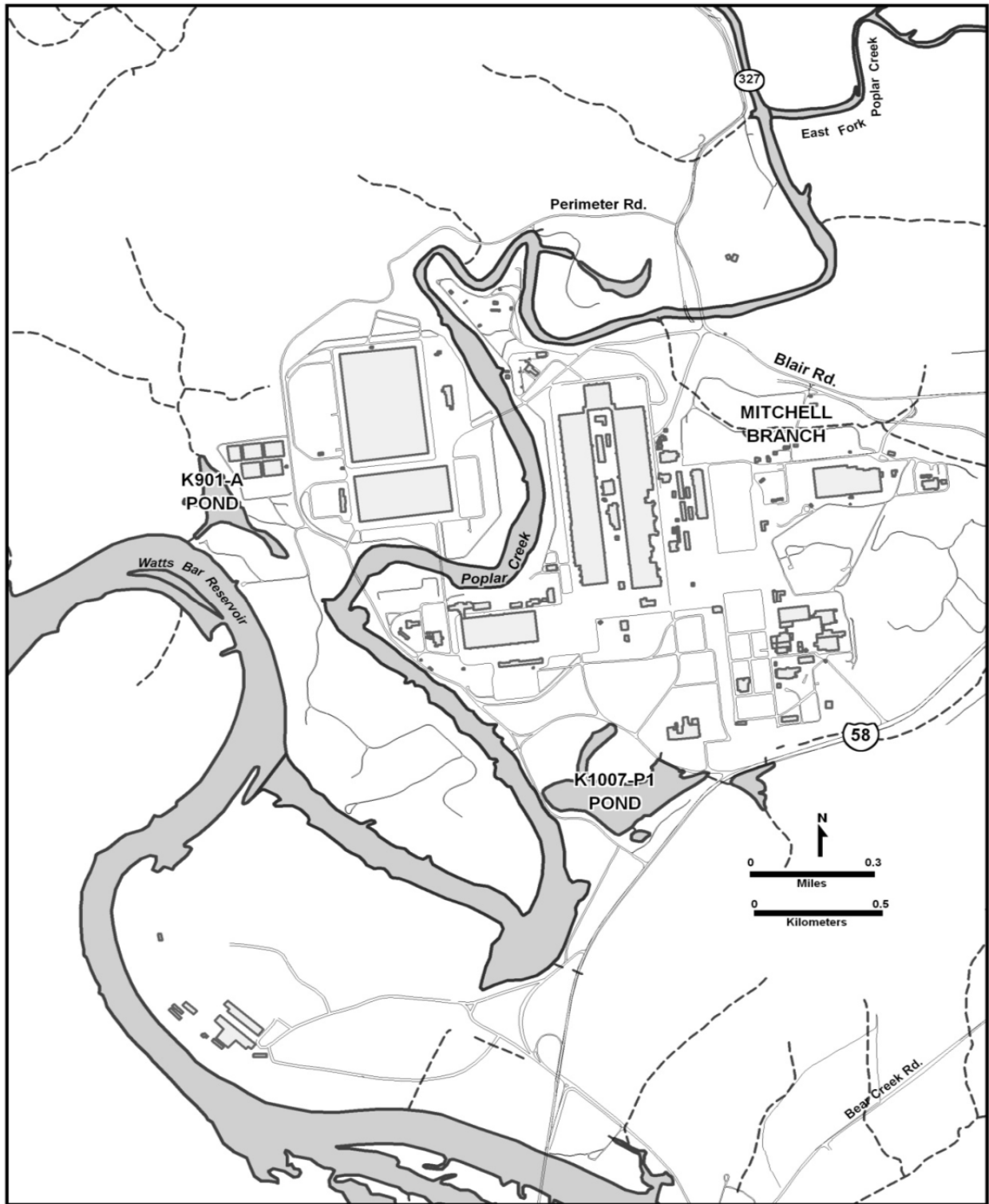


Fig. 3.51. Water bodies at the East Tennessee Technology Park.

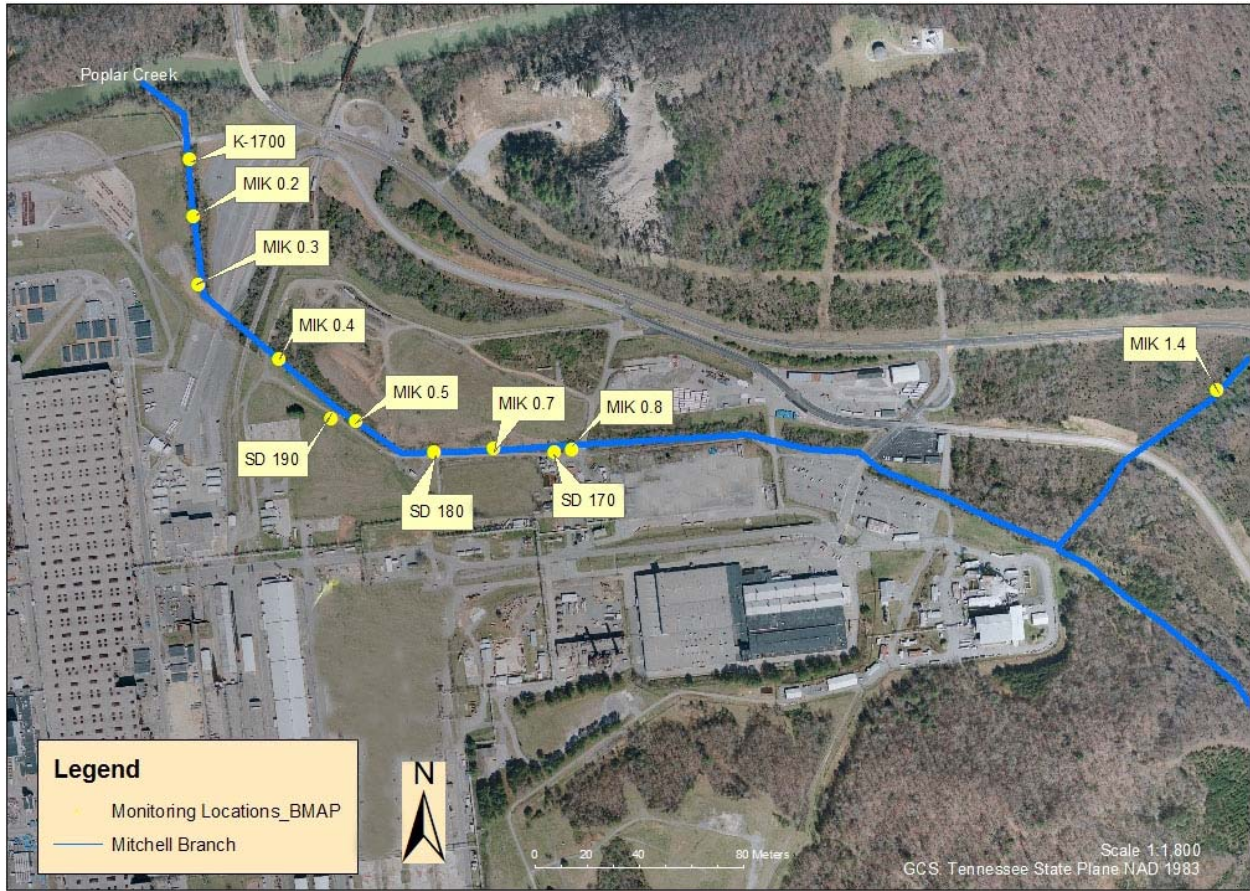


Fig. 3.52. Major storm water outfalls and biological monitoring locations on Mitchell Branch.



Fig. 3.53. Water flea (*Ceriodaphnia dubia*).

Table 3.22. Mitchell Branch and associated storm water outfall toxicity test results, 2012 (no-observed-effects concentrations)^a

Season	Test	MIK 1.4	MIK 0.8	SD 170	MIK 0.7	SD 190	MIK 0.4	MIK 0.2
Spring	<i>Ceriodaphnia dubia</i> survival (%)	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
	<i>C. dubia</i> reproduction (%)	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
Fall	<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 which had no effect on either survival or reproduction of *C. dubia* in three-brood static renewal tests (EPA test method 1002.0).

Abbreviations

MIK = Mitchell Branch kilometer

SD = storm water outfall



Fig. 3.54. Asiatic clam (*Corbicula fluminea*).

Table 3.23. Compiled data of PCB concentrations ($\mu\text{g/g}$, wet weight) in caged Asiatic clams (*Corbicula fluminea*) (2009–2012)

Site	Basket ^a	2009	2010	2011	2012
<i>Mitchell Branch</i>					
MIK 0.8 (above SD 170)	A	0.09	0.12	0.11	0.04
	B	0.11	0.13	0.15	0.04
SD170	A	0.27	0.21	0.16	0.08
	B	0.25	0.28	0.16	0.15
MIK 0.7 (below SD170)	A	0.18	0.15	0.13	0.08
	B	0.15	0.13	0.17	0.07
MIK 0.5 (below SD180)	A	0.25	0.15	0.13	<i>b</i>
	B	0.20	0.17	0.16	<i>b</i>
SD190	A	2.07	1.22	2.36	0.84
	B	1.98	1.09	1.70	<i>b</i>

Table 3.23. (continued)

Site	Basket ^a	2009	2010	2011	2012
MIK 0.4 (below SD190)	A	0.90	1.28	1.71	0.41
	B	0.78	2.69	1.82	0.5
SD195	A	—	—	—	0.37
	B	—	—	—	0.31
MIK 0.3	A	—	2.93	6.74	2.52
	B	—	3.42	4.56	2.74
MIK 027	A	—	—	4.42	—
	B	—	—	4.94	—
MIK 0.2	A	2.43	2.15	5.33	0.96
	B	2.42	2.13	4.82	1.41
SD 992	A	—	2.93	—	—
	B	—	3.42	—	—
<i>Poplar Creek</i>					
K-1203 Sump	A	—	—	—	0.34
	B	—	—	—	0.29
<i>K1007-P1 Pond</i>					
SD 100 (upper)	A	0.96	0.29	2.25	1.69
	B	0.69	0.22	1.75	1.70
SD 100 (lower)	A	1.32	0.72	5.95	<i>b</i>
	B	1.72	0.80	4.50	1.92
SD 120	A	0.34	3.06	0.75	0.11
	B	0.57	1.18	0.97	0.16
SD 490	A	0.40	0.37	0.39	0.19
	B	0.46	0.47	0.46	0.17
K1007 P1 outfall	A	0.91	—	—	—
	B	0.85	—	—	—
P1	A	0.86	0.99	1.38	1.48
	B	1.17	0.91	1.68	1.57
<i>K-901-A Pond</i>					
K-901-A outfall	A	0.14	0.06	0.30	0.07
	B	0.16	0.05	0.20	0.07
<i>Reference Site</i>					
Sewee Creek	A	0.02	0.01	0.00	0.01
	B	0.02	0.01	0.01	0.003

^aSample result is the reported concentration in the composited clam sample from each cage, where A and B denote replicates. Data are extracted from tables within the 2009, 2010, 2011, and 2012 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.

Abbreviations

MIK = Mitchell Branch kilometer

SD = storm water outfall

Clams from the Mitchell Branch watershed were analyzed for mercury (both total and methylmercury) in 2012 (Table 3.24). Although mercury was detected in all clams, the highest mercury concentrations for the Mitchell Branch watershed were found in the clams from the section between MIK 0.2 and storm water outfall 190, with concentrations of total mercury in the clams ranging from 85 ng/g to 323 ng/g. Results from the 2012 monitoring at storm water outfall 190 were significantly higher than those from previous years. The highest concentration of total mercury (472.3 ng/g) was found in the basket of clams placed at K-1203-10, near the site of the former ETPP STP. This location is the subject of more intensive investigation (see Section 3.5.2.6 for more details).

Bioaccumulation monitoring in the K-1007-P1 pond, K-901-A pond, K-720 slough, and Mitchell Branch involves sampling fish (Fig 3.55) and analyzing the tissues for PCB concentrations (Table 3.25). 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 2012 in the K1007-P1 pond was bluegill sunfish (*Lepomis macrochirus*) (Fig. 3.56). 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*). Because there were not enough largemouth bass, common carp (*Cyprinus carpio*) and smallmouth buffalo (*Ictiobus bubalus*) were also collected.

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 9.25 mg/kg. Fillets averaged 2.16 mg/kg total PCBs, comparable to levels seen in 2011 (1.85 mg/kg). Average PCB concentrations in fillets of redbreast sunfish collected in Mitchell Branch were 1.67 mg/kg, slightly higher than the levels seen in 2011 (1.12 mg/kg). These levels are higher than the concentrations observed in fillets of largemouth bass from the K-901-A pond (0.72 mg/kg). In addition to being analyzed for PCBs, the redbreast sunfish collected from Mitchell Branch (MIK 0.2) were analyzed for total mercury (Table 3.26). Previous studies have shown that methylmercury accounts for more than 95% of the total mercury in fish, so a separate analysis for methylmercury was not conducted. The EPA recommended limit for mercury in fish fillets is 0.3 mg/kg. Levels of mercury in fish collected at MIK 0.2 were 0.37 mg/kg, slightly exceeding this limit and roughly unchanged from last year (0.34 mg/kg).

In April 2012, the benthic macroinvertebrate community at four Mitchell Branch locations (MIKs 0.4, 0.7, 0.8, and 1.4) was sampled by the ORNL Environmental Sciences Division using standard quantitative techniques; MIK 1.4 was the reference location. After 4 to 6 years of gradual improvement following construction of the interceptor trench in late 1997, the benthic macroinvertebrate communities at MIK 0.7 and MIK 0.8 have 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 (taxonomic richness of the Ephemeroptera, Plecoptera, and Trichoptera) (Fig. 3.57). Although the trend in taxa richness at MIK 0.4 has been similar to those at MIK 0.7 and MIK 0.8, trends in taxa richness of the pollution-intolerant taxa at MIK 0.4 suggest that there has been a persistent reduction in the number of these taxa at that site since 2006. These results show that the benthic macroinvertebrate community at MIK 0.4 continues to be negatively impacted, while the results for MIKs 0.7 and 0.8 suggest that the macroinvertebrate communities at those sites are becoming more similar to that of the reference site at MIK 1.4.

Table 3.24. Compiled data of mercury concentrations (ng/g, wet weight) in caged Asiatic clams (*Corbicula fluminea*), 2010–2012

Site	Basket ^a	2010	2011	2012 Total Hg	2012 Methyl Hg
<i>Mitchell Branch</i>					
MIK 0.8 (above SD 170)	A		37	31.9	11.3
	B		46.9	32.2	14.3
SD170	A	41.8	67.2	88.7	17.5
	B	49.5	80.7	62.3	16.5
MIK 0.7 (below SD170)	A		37.7	46.2	17.8
	B		64.8	48.8	19.6
MIK 0.5 (below SD180)	A	65.7	97.2	51.4	12.1
	B	57.6	154.8	<i>b</i>	
SD190	A	137.4	109.9	127.8	12.9
	B	142.3	80.7	270	17.2
MIK 0.4 (below SD190)	A		114	85	12.5
	B		102.3	104.8	23.5
SD195	A			88.1	42.5
	B			79.5	39
MIK 0.3	A	203.4		311.7	30.3
	B	224.8		322.6	40
MIK 0.2	A	106.3	166.3	115.9	22.7
	B	117.6	187.9	136.6	56.2
<i>Poplar Creek</i>					
K-1203-10 Sump	A	—	—	472.3	19.6
	B	—	—	336.2	13.1
<i>K1007-P1 Pond</i>					
P1	A		23	25.6	11.3
	B		22.6	14.5	6.9
<i>K-901-A Pond</i>					
K-901-A outfall	A		33.1	17.4	6.8
	B		46.4	27.6	8.9
<i>K-1203-10</i>					
05A	A			472.3	
	B			336.2	
SD992	A	24.6			
	B	24.9			
<i>Reference Site</i>					
Little Sewee Cr	A	20.8	19.6	25.2	8.5
	B	36.4	27.2	19.1	9.2

^aSample result is the reported concentration in the composited clam sample from each cage, where A and B denote replicates. Data are extracted from tables within the 2010, 2011, and 2012 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.

Abbreviations

MIK = Mitchell Branch kilometer
SD = storm water outfall



Fig. 3.55. Fish bioaccumulation sampling at K-1007-P1 pond.

Table 3.25. Polychlorinated biphenyl levels (mg/kg) in fish fillet samples at East Tennessee Technology Park, 2009–2012^a

Site	Fish species	2009	2010	2011	2012
Mitchell Branch	Redbreast sunfish	0.99 + 0.47	1.17 + 0.13	1.12 + 0.21	1.67+ 0.16
K-901-A pond	Largemouth bass	0.48 + 0.12	—	0.50 + 0.08	0.72+ 0.10
K-901-A pond	Common carp	—	0.71 + 0.20	2.06 + 0.25	3.08+ 0.20
K-1007-P1 pond	Largemouth bass	14.85 + 5.44	0.30 + 0.05	—	—
K-1007-P1 pond	Bluegill sunfish	—	2.13 + 0.16	1.85 + 0.31	2.16+ 0.26
Hinds Creek	Redbreast sunfish	0.0007 + 0.0004	0.09 + 0.05	0.06 + 0.001	<0.06
K-720 slough	Largemouth bass	—	—	0.24 + 0.02	0.22+ 0.10
K-720 slough	Smallmouth buffalo	—	—	0.77 + 0.19	0.68+ 0.19
K-720 slough	Common carp	—	—	0.96 + 0.21	0.31+ 0.03

^aData are extracted from tables within the 2009, 2010, 2011, and 2012 East Tennessee Technology Park Biological Monitoring and Abatement Program fiscal year reports.



Fig. 3.56. Bluegill sunfish (*Lepomis macrochirus*).

Table 3.26. Total mercury levels (mg/kg) in fish fillet and whole body samples at East Tennessee Technology Park, 2009–2012^a

Site	Fish species	2009	2010	2011	2012
Mitchell Branch	Redbreast sunfish	0.49 + 0.09	0.35 + 0.059	0.34 + 0.04	0.37 + 0.05
K-901-A pond	Gizzard shad (whole body)		0.086 + 0.021		
K-1007-P1 pond	Paddlefish (1 sample)		0.07		
K-1007-P1 pond	Bluegill sunfish		0.085 + 0.008		
Hinds Creek	Redbreast sunfish		0.08 + 0.01	0.07 + 0.01	0.058 + 0.005
K-720 slough	Gizzard shad (whole body)		0.067 + 0.006		

^aData are extracted from tables within the 2009, 2010, 2011, and 2012 East Tennessee Technology Park Biological Monitoring and Abatement Program fiscal year reports.

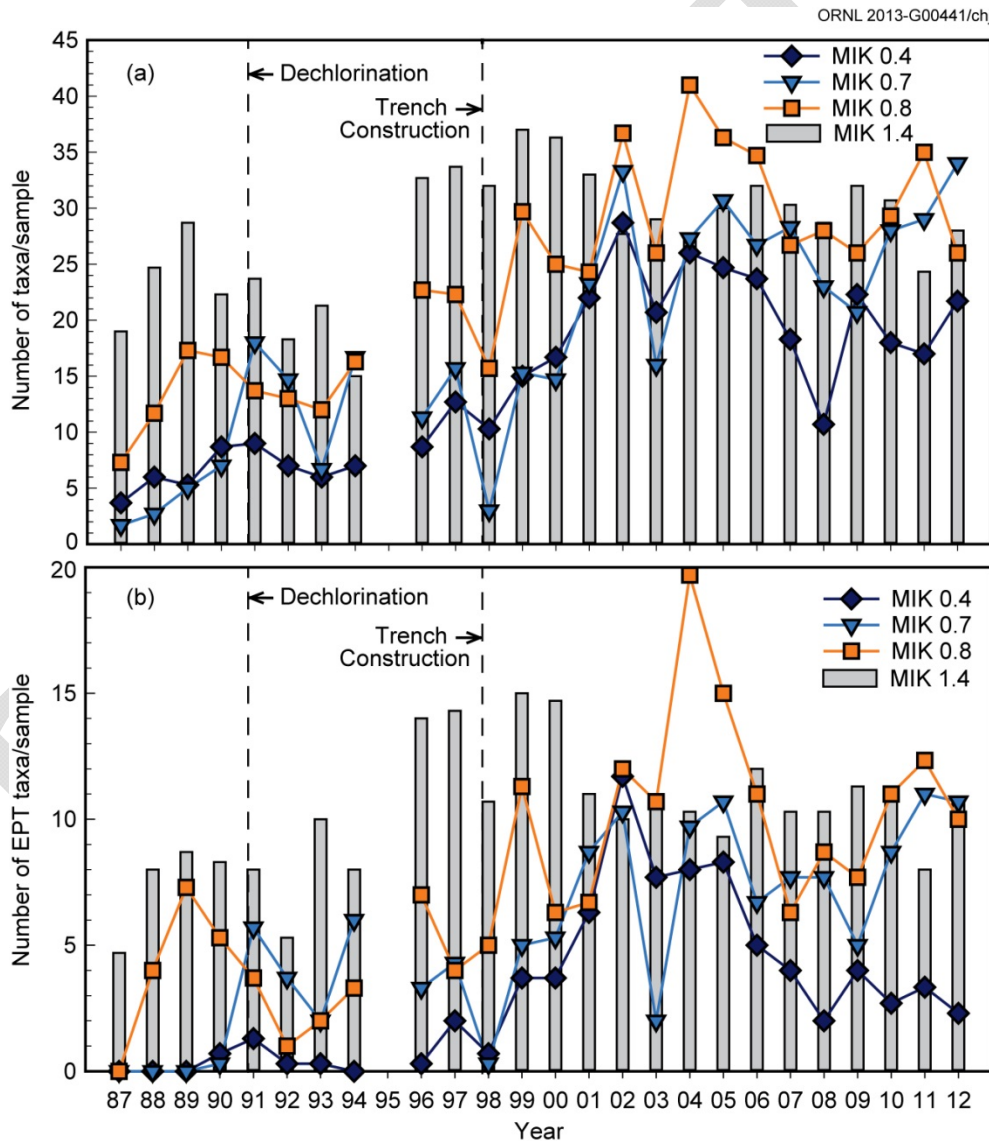


Fig. 3.57. Mean taxonomic richness in Mitchell Branch, 1987–2012: (a) number of all taxa and (b) number of the pollution-intolerant *Ephemeroptera*, *Plecoptera*, and *Trichoptera* (mayflies, stoneflies, and caddisflies or EPT). Samples were not collected in April 1995, as indicated by the gap in the bars. (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 (Fig. 3.58). Beginning in August 2009, the use of TDEC protocols was expanded to include MIK 1.4 as well. In 2012, the biotic index (Fig. 3.59) indicated that the benthic macroinvertebrate communities at MIK 0.4, 0.7, and 0.8 were slightly impaired, while the community at MIK 1.4 was not impaired. Although the numbers of taxa at MIK 0.7 and 0.8 are similar to that of the community at MIK 1.4, the community at MIK 1.4 is richer in pollution-intolerant species. The habitat assessment (which primarily considers the physical aspects of the stream to determine its suitability to support biological communities) indicated that not all sampling locations along Mitchell Branch met the habitat goals for this region. In 2012, habitat at MIKs 0.7 and 0.8 met the habitat goals, while MIKs 0.4 and 1.4 scored as being moderately impaired. Overall, results using TDEC's semiquantitative protocols and ORNL's quantitative protocols since 2008 have been in general agreement that MIK 0.4 is moderately to severely impaired and that slight impairment remains at MIKs 0.7 and 0.8.

Fish communities in Mitchell Branch (MIK 0.4 and MIK 0.7) and at three local reference sites (Mill Branch kilometer 1.6, Scarboro Creek kilometer 2.2, and Ish Creek kilometer 1.1) were sampled in 2012. Species richness, density, and biomass were examined. Results for 2012 indicate a decrease in density and biomass and also a slight decrease in species richness from 2011 (Figs 3.60 through 3.62). 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.



Fig. 3.58. Benthic macroinvertebrate sampling using Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation protocols.

ORNL 2013-G00442/chj

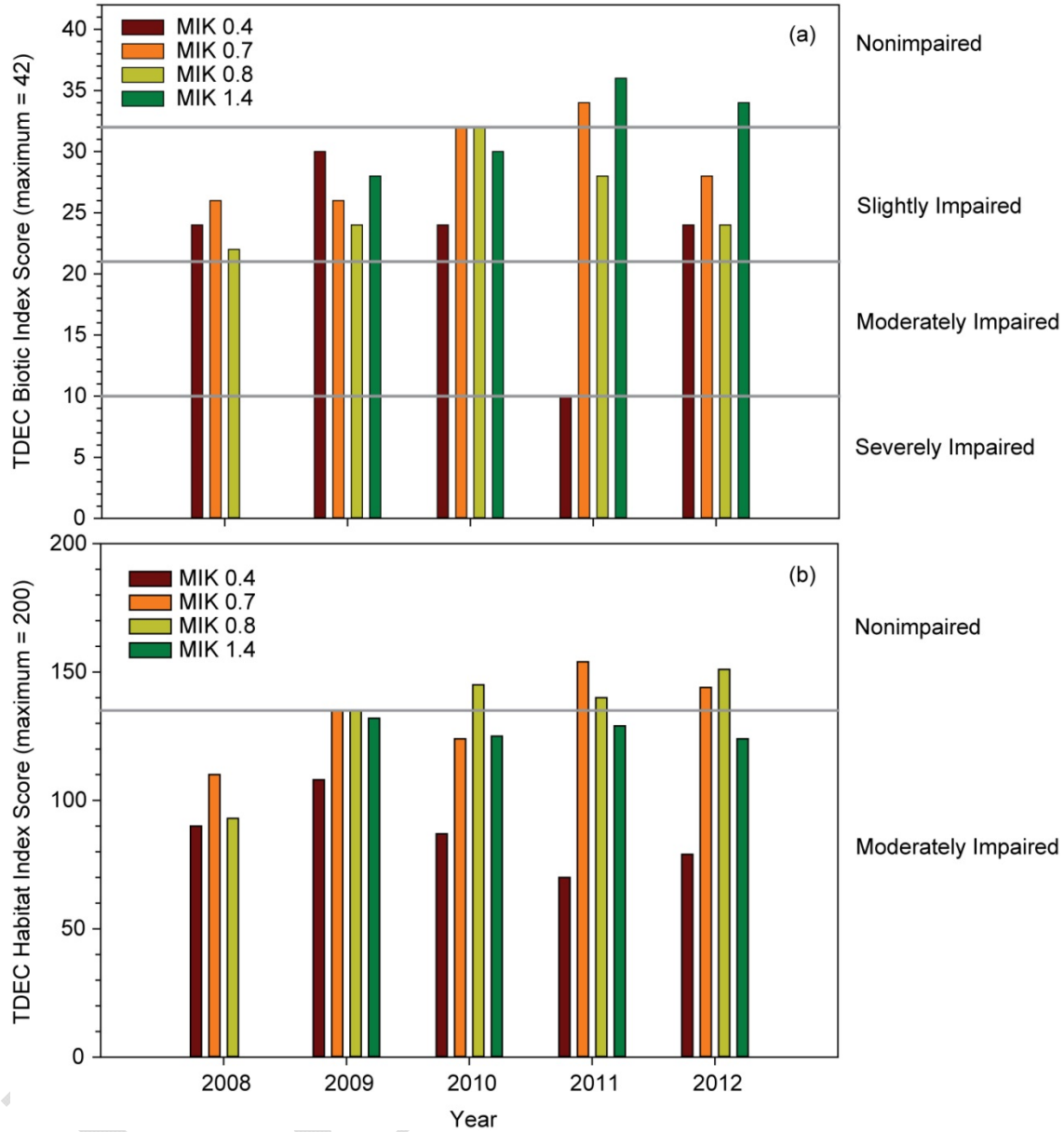


Fig. 3.59. Temporal trends in Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation (TDEC) Benthic Macroinvertebrate Biotic Index (a) and Stream Habitat Index (b) scores for Mitchell Branch, August 2008–2012. Horizontal lines in both graphs show the lower thresholds for narrative index ratings; respective narrative ratings for each threshold are shown on the right side of each graph. (MIK = Mitchell Branch kilometer.)

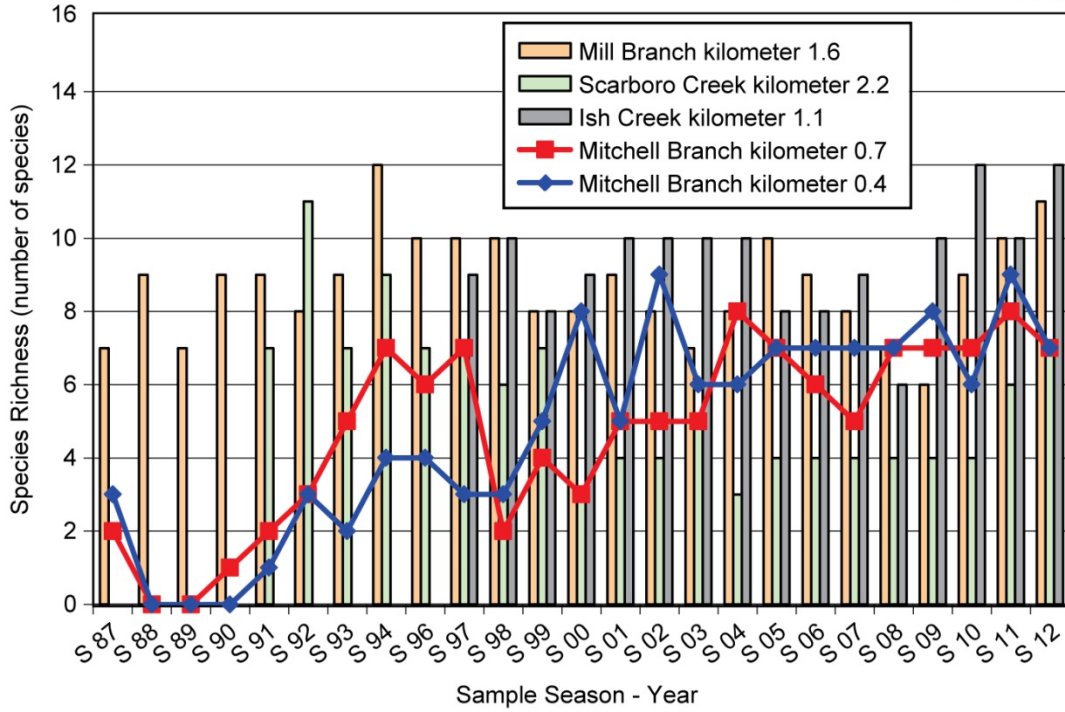


Fig. 3.60. Species richness for fish communities.

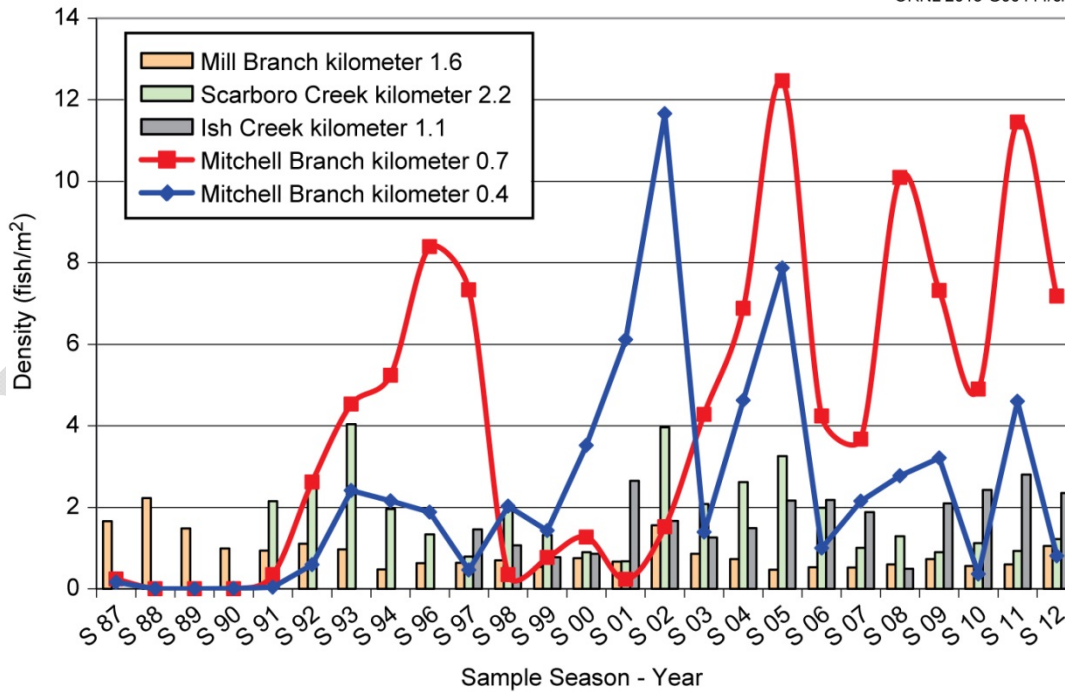


Fig. 3.61. Density for fish communities.

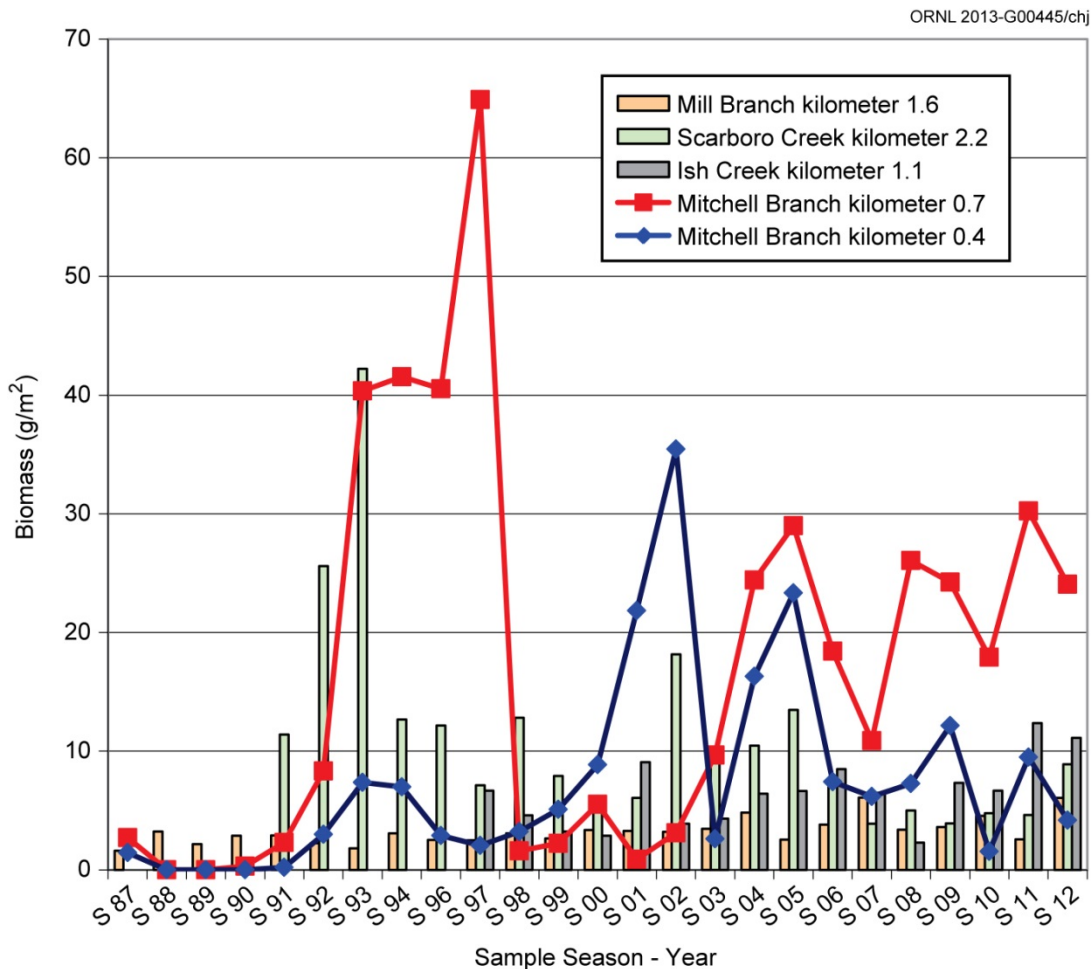


Fig. 3.62. Biomass of fish communities.

3.7 Quality Assurance Program

3.7.1 Integrated Assessment and Oversight Program

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 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.

3.8 Environmental Management and Waste Management Activities

3.8.1 Waste Management Activities

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

The TSCA Incinerator located at ETTP was shut down permanently on December 2, 2009, after treating 35.6 million lb of liquid and solid waste over a 19-year period. The TSCA Incinerator was a one-of-a-kind thermal treatment unit. It played a key role in treating radioactive PCBs and hazardous wastes (mixed wastes) from ORR and other facilities across the DOE complex, thus facilitating compliance with regulatory and site closure milestones. The certified closure report was submitted to TDEC and EPA in June 2011. Efforts to encapsulate remaining PCB and radioactive contamination, to minimize water management actions, and to reduce the cost of ongoing surveillance and maintenance continued through 2012. Other activities included cleaning, rinsing, and filling multiple sumps and removing and disposing carbon vessels that were part of the water management system. Upon completion of these activities, the facility will be under surveillance and maintenance until demolition.

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 waste, stabilized waste, building debris, scrap equipment, and personal protective equipment. During FY 2012, EMWMF operations collected, analyzed, and dispositioned about 5.6 million gal of leachate at the ORNL Liquid and Gaseous Waste Operations Facility. An additional 16.5 million gal of contact water was collected, analyzed, and released to the storm water retention basin after it was determined that the water met the release criteria. EMWMF received about 16,660 truckloads of waste accounting for about 185,000 tons during FY 2012. Projects that have disposed of waste at EMWMF during fiscal year 2012 include the following:

- K-25 Building Demolition Project;
- K-33-Building Demolition Project;
- ETTP Decontamination and Decommissioning Project, including the K-1070-B burial ground;
- Y-12 Old Salvage Yard Project;
- Alpha 5 Project; and
- several ORNL demolition projects.

EMWMF began operations in 2002 to provide on-site waste disposal capacity from remediation efforts across ORR. Although it has been expanded to its maximum capacity, EMWMF will not be able to handle all of the waste expected to be generated from reservation cleanup activities.

Further expansion at EMWMF is constrained by physical limitations of the site. Therefore, DOE began evaluating disposal alternatives in FY 2010 for future reservation waste cleanup. In September 2012 DOE issued an RI/FS that evaluated the following alternatives:

- no action,
- on-site disposal (constructing and operating a new disposal facility on the reservation), and
- off-site disposal (shipping to an off-site facility).

The on-site disposal alternative would provide consolidated disposal of most future-generated CERCLA waste in a newly constructed, engineered facility referred to as the Environmental Management Disposal Facility. This would require permanent commitment of land and has the potential to impact environmental resources, but it would be less costly than the off-site disposal alternative and would provide a greater level of certainty that long-term disposal capacity would be available.

The off-site disposal alternative would involve transporting future CERCLA waste for disposal in approved disposal facilities in Nevada and Utah. The alternative would isolate waste more effectively due to the arid climate and fewer receptors.

CNF ceased accepting waste in December 2012 to begin the decommissioning process. The facility was ETTP's primary wastewater treatment facility and processed both hazardous and nonhazardous waste streams arising from multiple waste treatment facilities and remediation projects. The facility removed heavy metals and suspended solids from the wastewater, adjusted pH, and discharged the treated effluent into the Clinch River. Sludge from the treatment facility was treated, packaged, and disposed of off-site. The main waste streams in 2012 were the hexavalent-chromium-contaminated groundwater collected from the chromium collection system near Mitchell Branch and wastewaters generated at the TSCA Incinerator, including remediation and investigation projects to support the TSCA Incinerator closure activities. CWTS is a smaller water treatment unit that sits within the existing CNF footprint. CWTS came online in late 2012 and will handle purge water from groundwater monitoring as well as the chromium collection system water.

At ORNL, about 117 million gal of wastewater was treated and released at the Process Waste Treatment Complex. In addition, the liquid low-level waste (LLW) evaporator at ORNL treated 163,610 gal of such waste, and the ORNL 3039 Stack Facility treated a total of 2.2 billion m³ of gaseous waste.

These waste treatment activities supported both EM and Office of Science mission activities in a safe and compliant manner during FY 2012. NNSA at the Y-12 Complex treated 134 million gal of contaminated ground/sump water at the Groundwater Treatment Facility, Central Mercury Treatment System, Big Springs Water Treatment System, and East End Volatile Organic Compounds Treatment System.

The Big Springs Water Treatment System treated 116 million gal of mercury-contaminated groundwater. The East End Volatile Organic Compound Treatment System treated 12 million gal of VOC-contaminated groundwater. The West End Treatment Facility and the Central Pollution Control Facility at the Y-12 Complex processed more than 950,000 gal of wastewater primarily in support of NNSA operational activities. The Central Pollution Control Facility also down-blended more than 64,000 gal of enriched wastewaters using legacy and newly generated uranium oxides from on-site storage.

The ORR landfills are located near the Y-12 Complex and are designed for the disposal of sanitary, industrial, construction, and demolition wastes that meet the waste acceptance criteria for each landfill. In FY 2012, about 44,351 yd³ of waste was disposed of at these facilities, and about 1.2 million gal of leachate was collected, monitored, and discharged to the Y-12 Complex sanitary sewer system.

3.8.2 Environmental Restoration Activities

ETTP operated as an enrichment facility for four decades during which time many of the buildings became contaminated to some degree with radionuclides, heavy metals, and toxic organic compounds. In addition, large quantities of wastes were generated, much of which was stored on the site.

ETTP's Environmental Management Program was created with the goal of demolishing all unnecessary facilities and restoring the site to a usable condition. The safety and health of employees and the public is a constant focus. Cost-effectiveness is also a major consideration in the cleanup operations.

DOE has signed two of three key CERCLA RODs with the State of Tennessee and EPA authorizing environmental restoration of about 890 ha (2,198 acres) of land at ETTP. The area encompasses about 567 ha (1,401 acres) outside the main plant security fence (Zone 1) and about 324 ha (800 acres) inside the fence within the former plant production area (Zone 2). The main objectives of the two decisions are to protect future industrial workers and the underlying groundwater from contamination in soil, slabs, and subsurface structures. The Zone 1 interim ROD was signed in November 2002 and covers the 567 ha area surrounding ETTP outside the main plant perimeter. The Zone 2 ROD was signed in April 2005 and covers the roughly 324 ha in the main plant area. The final sitewide ROD for groundwater, surface water, sediment, and ecological soil risk is in development.

From the time cleanup operations began through FY 2012, 374 facilities have been demolished, 1.77 million yd³ of waste has been removed from the site, and 567 ha (1,400 acres) of land has been cleared for unrestricted use. In addition, about 7,000 old UF₆ cylinders were removed from the site.

When ORR was established, in addition to the three major facilities, a buffer zone was also included between the three facilities and areas open to the public. This area, about 8,140.5 ha (20,100 acres) in extent, has little or no process-related history. However, with the listing of ORR on the National Priority List in 1989, the possibility of contamination had to be investigated. Beginning in 2008, DOE initiated a process to achieve FFA party consensus that the buffer parcels require no further investigation and to modify the FFA appendixes to better represent the known contaminated areas. ORAU was contracted to complete the verification activities (initiated in the late 1990s as a footprint reduction project), including review of historical documents; sampling and analysis; risk analysis; and reporting of study results, with recommendations for no further investigation where appropriate. The first Environmental Baseline Survey Report (EBSR), addressing five parcels around ETTP totaling about 1,863 ha (4,600 acres), was submitted in September 2011, and regulator comments were received in 2012. The second EBSR, addressing 14 parcels of about 6,278 ha (15,500 acres) total around ORNL and Y-12, was submitted in September 2012. Based upon these reports, a total of 7,817 ha (19,300 acres) could be approved for no further investigation.

3.8.2.1 K-25 Building Demolition

Building K-25 (Fig. 3.63), built during the Manhattan Project, occupied about 16 ha (40 acres) and contained more than 3,000 stages of gaseous diffusion and associated auxiliary equipment. Each stage consisted of a converter, two compressors, two compressor motors, and associated piping. In 2011, demolition of the east wing began. Demolition work continued through 2012. Workers completely cut through a portion of the east wing to segregate a portion of the building contaminated with ⁹⁹Tc from the rest of the demolition area. Predemolition activities in that area included characterization, vent, purge, drain, and inspection; foaming of components to stabilize contaminants in place; asbestos removal; and draining lubricants and coolants. As a cost saving initiative, equipment for the demolition is being borrowed from other DOE sites wherever practical. These materials, with an initial purchase cost of \$2,450,000, were obtained for use at ETTP for less than \$100,000. Debris from the demolition project is largely being sent to EMWMF for disposal.

ORNL 2011-G00821/chj



Fig. 3.63. Building K-25 after demolition of the west wing.

3.8.2.2 K-33 Building Demolition

Building K-33 was a multistory building that was built in 1954 as a uranium enrichment process building. The building covered 13 ha (32 acres) and contained more than 1.4 million yd³ of concrete and

steel. The building had been largely decontaminated under an earlier project. In 2011, the building was completely demolished and the debris removed to EMWMF. In FY 2012 the building's 13 ha (32-acre) slab was excavated and removed. Contaminated soil was removed and the area was backfilled and seeded.

3.8.2.3 K-27 Building Demolition

Building K-27 is a multistory building that was built as a uranium enrichment process building. The building is about 900 ft long, 400 ft wide, and 58 ft high. In 2012, predemolition work included inventory management; collection of nondestructive assay measurements of process pipe; vent, purge, drain, and inspection of process equipment; removal of high-hazard sodium fluoride traps; and installation of safety controls.

3.8.2.4 Groundwater Treatability Study

A two-phase groundwater treatability study at ETPP began in FY 2009 to support selection of a sitewide groundwater remedy. The purpose of the study was to determine the feasibility of in situ treatment technologies to restore the groundwater. In the first phase of the study, to characterize and delineate suspected areas of solvent contamination, seven boreholes were installed to depths of 110 to 160 ft below ground surface in FY 2009. In FY 2010, DNAPL was detected in one of the boreholes in the vicinity of the former K-1401 vapor degreasing tank. DNAPLs are a group of organic substances that are relatively insoluble in water and denser than water. Seven additional boreholes were installed to further delineate the lateral extent of DNAPL contamination.

In 2012, the study was closed and the wells grouted to limit the spread of contamination until the treatability study is resumed.

3.8.2.5 Soil, Burial Ground, and Exposure Unit Remediation Activities

The soil at ETPP is to be remediated to a level that protects a future industrial workforce and the underlying groundwater. RODs detailing the selected cleanup methods are in place and address soil, slabs, subsurface structures, and burial grounds for both zones.

Remediation of the soils in Zone 1 was completed in 2011. In 2012, a final RI/FS was prepared to support development of a final Zone 1 ROD. Activities included conducting groundwater, soils, surface water, and land use control workshops to review data and develop an alternative for the feasibility study. The first draft RI/FS was transmitted to the regulators in March 2012; regulator comments were received in August 2012.

In Zone 2, remediation of the 2.6 ha (6.5-acre) K-1070-B burial ground was completed. In 2012, excavation of six trenches and two hotspots in the burial ground was completed. At the end of FY 2012, about 100,000 yd³ was excavated from the K-1070-B burial ground and shipped for disposal at the appropriate disposal facilities. After excavation, the site was graded and contoured. A cover was placed in the burial ground that consisted of a combination of layers of riprap/concrete rubble, backfill, and topsoil for seeding. The project received more than 4,100 dump truck loads of concrete rubble, riprap, backfill, and topsoil to provide the final cover for the burial ground.

3.8.2.6 Mitchell Branch Chromium Collection System

Surveillance monitoring of water from Mitchell Branch indicated elevated levels of hexavalent chromium. While the source of this chromium has not been positively identified, it is believed to be the result of historical uses somewhere in the watershed. A collection system was installed to intercept the chromate water and pump it for treatment. In 2012, CWTS began operation and will provide long-term treatment of the collected chromium-contaminated water. Since the installation of this system and subsequent modifications to increase pumping rates, chromium levels in Mitchell Branch have been reduced to well below the WQC and near or below the detection limit.

3.8.3 Reindustrialization

The DOE Oak Ridge Reindustrialization Program continued the transformation of ETTP into a private sector business-industrial park in FY 2012 (Fig. 3.64).

With the transfer of Parcel ED-10 to CROET, an additional 5.3 ha (13 acres) in the central area of ETTP was made available for private use. Babcock Services purchased 1 ha (2.5 acres) of Parcel ED-10 and began construction of an 11,400 ft² facility. The property will be used to manage, recover, and refurbish radioactively contaminated components from commercial nuclear power plants and is projected to create more than 100 jobs.

An additional 12 ha (26.5-acre) parcel in the former powerhouse area along the Clinch River was made available via a lease to CROET for industrial development, increasing the total to 125 ha (308 acres). Oak Ridge Forest Products is leasing a portion of this site from CROET in support of its operations to supply wood chips that fuel a biomass gasification plant at ORNL.

In spring 2012, a 200 kW photovoltaic solar farm at the entrance to ETTP began generating enough electricity to power 22 homes. The land for the solar farm was purchased from CROET by RSI, the developer and operator of the system. This project required collaboration with TVA, DOE, UCOR, and the City of Oak Ridge.

The new \$35 million Carbon Fiber Technology Facility at Oak Ridge's Horizon Center is nearing completion. This advanced materials facility will allow researchers to develop and demonstrate the commercial viability of low cost carbon fiber products for several industry sectors. Although carbon fiber has long been considered a desirable lightweight substitute for steel and other materials, its use has been limited due to its high production costs. The development of low cost production methods is expected to create new possibilities for carbon fiber use in a wide array of applications such as building structures, industrial products, and wind turbines.

DOE ORO hosted an Asset Revitalization Workshop in June 2012. The workshop brought together DOE officials, government contractors, and community stakeholders from across the nation to gain a better understanding of transitioning federal land and facilities for beneficial reuse. Asset revitalization experts from Oak Ridge were able to share their many years of experience, successes, and lessons learned in implementing this unique program.

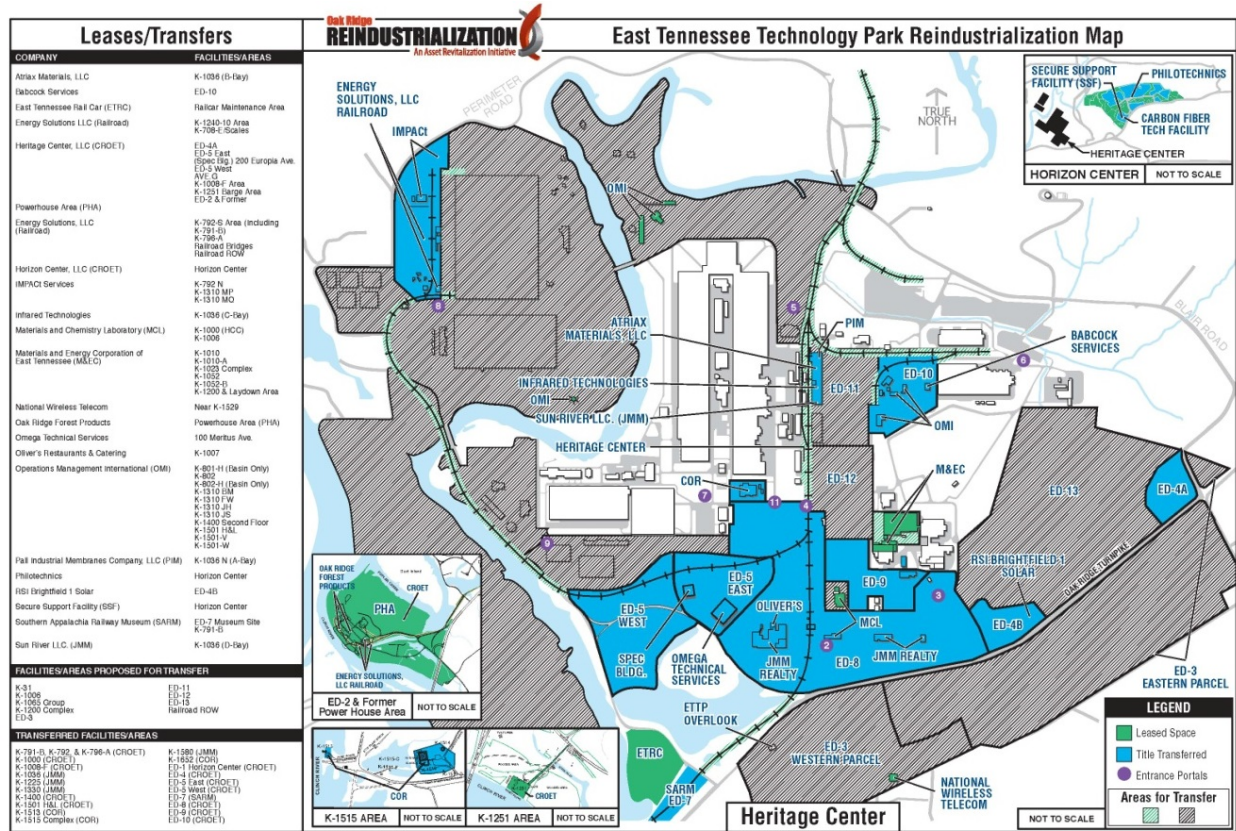


Fig. 3.64. East Tennessee Technology Park reindustrialization status, CY 2012.

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. This oversight plan is scheduled to be revised in 2013. The city has applied biosolids on ORR since 1983.

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. 3.65). 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. Table 3.27 lists the six application sites and the tons of biosolids applied to each site in CY 2012.

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, with lesser amounts from ETPP through the Rarity Ridge treatment plant through tanker delivery of sludge. All industrial generators are required by Oak Ridge city ordinance number 5-09 to obtain an industrial discharge permit from the city, which prescribes discharge limits and monitoring/reporting requirements.

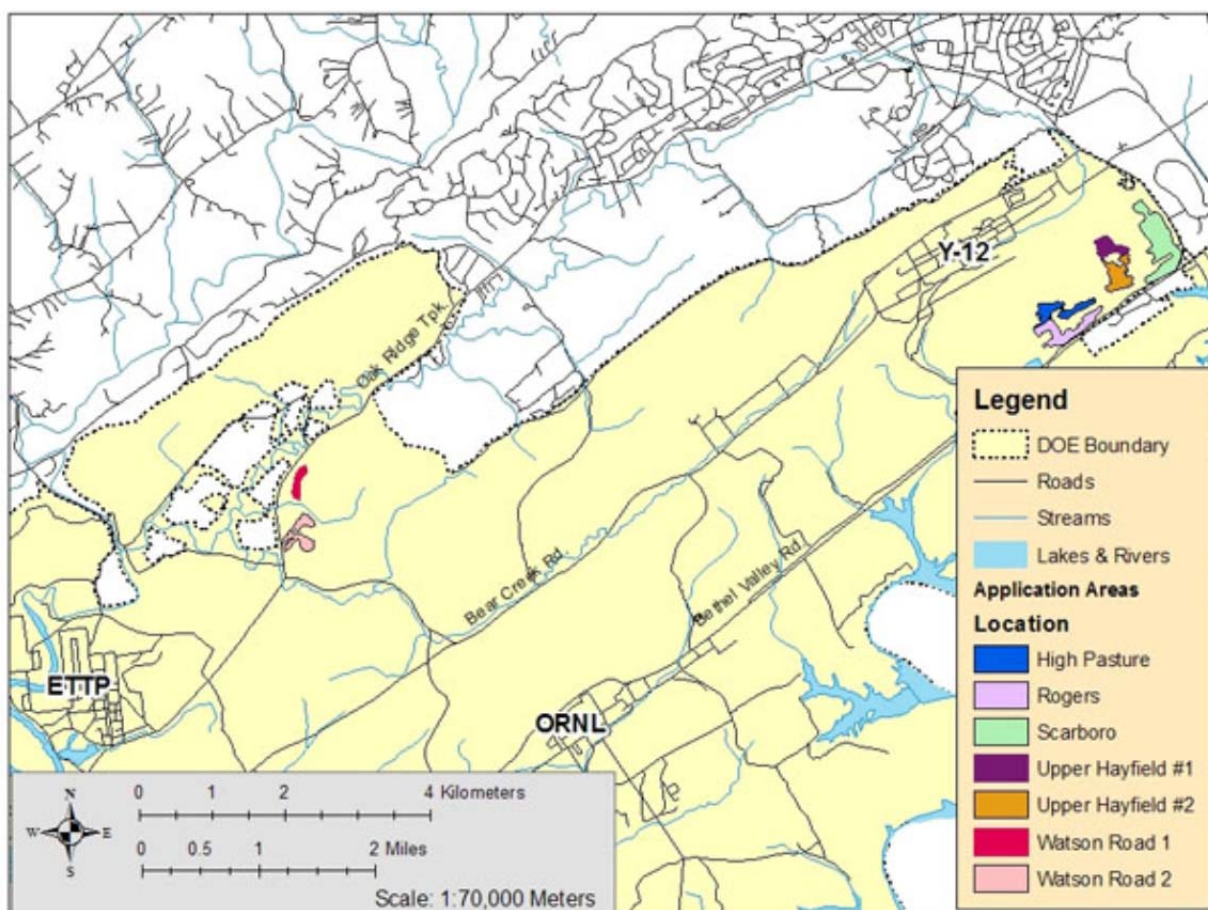


Fig. 3.65. Biosolids application areas on the Oak Ridge Reservation.

Table 3.27. Biosolids applied on the Oak Ridge Reservation in CY 2012 by the City of Oak Ridge (Tons)

	Bethel Valley				Watson Road	
Upper Hayfield	High Pasture	Rogers	Scarboro	Watson Road 1	Watson Road 2	
0	24.3	0	0	0	13.05	

3.8.4.3 Current Status

The public review phase for the draft environmental assessment (DOE 2012a) began in August of 2011, with completion and approval in January 2012. This environmental assessment documents application setbacks and radiological guidance levels that have been revised to reflect the latest field surveys and analytical data for biosolids. TDEC approved the UCOR land application approval request in October 2012, and it will be valid for 5 years. Following the receipt of the approval letter, UCOR resumed application of biosolids on both the Bethel Valley and Watson Road application sites. Table 3.27 presents the amount of product (about 15% solids) applied to each field during CY 2012.

As part of the surveillance program, UCOR successfully completed sampling the Rogers Site in CY 2012, with more sampling planned for 2013 on the High Pasture site. Cumulative metal loading is monitored for each site for compliance with limits set in 40 CFR 503. Tables 3.28 through 3.38 present these data for each site and the percentage of the regulatory limit that has been attained for each application area.

Table 3.28. High Pasture Field 1

Heavy Metal	2012 (kg/ha)	Cumulative Loading to Date (kg/ha)	40 CFR 503 Cumulative Loading Limits (kg/ha)	Percentage of 503 Limits Attained
As	0.00	0.54	41	1.3%
Cd	0.00	0.94	39	2.4%
Cr	0.09	13.22	N/A	N/A
Cu	1.68	91.10	1,500	6.1%
Pb	0.09	7.78	300	2.6%
Hg	0.02	1.16	17	6.8%
Mo	0.02	1.68	N/A	N/A
Ni	0.07	11.95	420	2.8%
Se	0.04	2.92	100	2.9%
Zn	3.09	201.44	2,800	7.2%

Table 3.29. High Pasture Field 2

Heavy Metal	2012 (kg/ha)	Cumulative Loading to Date (kg/ha)	40 CFR 503 Cumulative Loading Limits (kg/ha)	Percentage of 503 Limits Attained
As	0.00	0.49	41	1.2%
Cd	0.00	0.91	39	2.3%
Cr	0.05	13.12	N/A	N/A
Cu	0.86	90.00	1,500	6.0%
Pb	0.04	7.67	300	2.6%
Hg	0.01	1.15	17	6.8%
Mo	0.01	1.64	N/A	N/A
Ni	0.03	11.82	420	2.8%
Se	0.02	2.85	100	2.9%
Zn	1.58	198.15	2,800	7.1%

Table 3.30. Upper Hay Field 1

Heavy Metal	2012 (kg/ha)	Cumulative Loading to Date (kg/ha)	40 CFR 503 Cumulative Loading Limits (kg/ha)	Percentage of 503 Limits Attained
As	0.00	0.26	41	0.6%
Cd	0.00	0.44	39	1.1%
Cr	0.00	7.80	N/A	N/A
Cu	0.00	36.03	1,500	2.4%
Pb	0.00	4.97	300	1.7%
Hg	0.00	0.77	17	4.5%
Mo	0.00	1.20	N/A	N/A
Ni	0.00	3.55	420	0.8%
Se	0.00	0.49	100	0.5%
Zn	0.00	105.36	2,800	3.8%

Table 3.31. Upper Hay Field 2

Oak Ridge Reservation

Heavy Metal	2012 (kg/ha)	Cumulative Loading to Date (kg/ha)	40 CFR 503 Cumulative Loading Limits (kg/ha)	Percentage of 503 Limits Attained
As	0.00	0.29	41	0.7%
Cd	0.00	0.51	39	1.3%
Cr	0.00	8.55	N/A	N/A
Cu	0.00	38.87	1,500	2.6%
Pb	0.00	5.18	300	1.7%
Hg	0.00	0.88	17	5.2%
Mo	0.00	0.72	N/A	N/A
Ni	0.00	3.24	420	0.8%
Se	0.00	2.04	100	2.0%
Zn	0.00	118.27	2,800	4.2%

Table 3.32. Scarboro Field 1

Heavy Metal	2012 (kg/ha)	Cumulative Loading to Date (kg/ha)	40 CFR 503 Cumulative Loading Limits (kg/ha)	Percentage of 503 Limits Attained
As	0.00	0.32	41	0.8%
Cd	0.00	0.54	39	1.4%
Cr	0.00	8.46	N/A	N/A
Cu	0.00	43.62	1,500	2.9%
Pb	0.00	5.01	300	1.7%
Hg	0.00	0.95	17	5.6%
Mo	0.00	1.06	N/A	N/A
Ni	0.00	4.63	420	1.1%
Se	0.00	1.95	100	2.0%
Zn	0.00	126.60	2,800	4.5%

Table 3.33. Scarboro Field 2

Heavy Metal	2012 (kg/ha)	Cumulative Loading to Date (kg/ha)	40 CFR 503 Cumulative Loading Limits (kg/ha)	Percentage of 503 Limits Attained
As	0.00	0.32	41	0.8%
Cd	0.00	0.54	39	1.4%
Cr	0.00	8.46	N/A	N/A
Cu	0.00	43.62	1,500	2.9%
Pb	0.00	5.01	300	1.7%
Hg	0.00	0.95	17	5.6%
Mo	0.00	1.06	N/A	N/A
Ni	0.00	4.63	420	1.1%
Se	0.00	1.95	100	2.0%
Zn	0.00	126.60	2,800	4.5%

Table 3.34. Rogers Field 1

Heavy Metal	2012 (kg/ha)	Cumulative Loading to Date (kg/ha)	40 CFR 503 Cumulative Loading Limits (kg/ha)	Percentage of 503 Limits Attained
As	0.00	0.45	41	1.1%
Cd	0.00	1.01	39	2.6%
Cr	0.00	22.51	N/A	N/A
Cu	0.00	100.59	1,500	6.7%
Pb	0.00	13.85	300	4.6%
Hg	0.00	1.97	17	11.6%
Mo	0.00	4.28	N/A	N/A
Ni	0.00	10.23	420	2.4%
Se	0.00	1.31	100	1.3%
Zn	0.00	249.62	2,800	8.9%

Table 3.35. Rogers Field 2

Heavy Metal	2012 (kg/ha)	Cumulative Loading to Date (kg/ha)	40 CFR 503 Cumulative Loading Limits (kg/ha)	Percentage of 503 Limits Attained
As	0.00	0.47	41	1.2%
Cd	0.00	1.01	39	2.6%
Cr	0.00	22.55	N/A	N/A
Cu	0.00	101.25	1,500	6.7%
Pb	0.00	13.91	300	4.6%
Hg	0.00	1.97	17	11.6%
Mo	0.00	4.29	N/A	N/A
Ni	0.00	10.30	420	2.5%
Se	0.00	1.35	100	1.3%
Zn	0.00	251.41	2,800	9.0%

Table 3.36. Watson Road Field 1

Heavy Metal	2012 (kg/ha)	Cumulative Loading to Date (kg/ha)	40 CFR 503 Cumulative Loading Limits (kg/ha)	Percentage of 503 Limits Attained
As	0.00	0.61	41	1.5%
Cd	0.00	0.82	39	2.1%
Cr	0.00	13.22	N/A	N/A
Cu	0.00	92.94	1,500	6.2%
Pb	0.00	8.97	300	3.0%
Hg	0.00	1.27	17	7.5%
Mo	0.00	1.88	N/A	N/A
Ni	0.00	10.93	420	2.6%
Se	0.00	2.83	100	2.8%
Zn	0.00	213.10	2,800	7.6%

Table 3.37. Watson Road Field 2

Heavy Metal	2012 (kg/ha)	Cumulative Loading to Date (kg/ha)	40 CFR 503 Cumulative Loading Limits (kg/ha)	Percentage of 503 Limits Attained
As	0.00	0.61	41	1.5%
Cd	0.00	0.82	39	2.1%
Cr	0.04	13.22	N/A	N/A
Cu	0.72	92.94	1,500	6.2%
Pb	0.04	8.97	300	3.0%
Hg	0.01	1.27	17	7.5%
Mo	0.01	1.88	N/A	N/A
Ni	0.03	10.93	420	2.6%
Se	0.02	2.83	100	2.8%
Zn	1.33	213.10	2,800	7.6%

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DRAFT

4. The Y-12 National Security Complex

The Y-12 Complex, a premier manufacturing facility operated by B&W Y-12 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 weapon 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;
- 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 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.

In 2012 the facility was operated by B&W Y-12 LLC, a partnership of the Babcock & Wilcox Company and Bechtel Corporation, under contract to DOE, of which NNSA is a separately organized agency.

4.1.2 Transformation

“Complex Transformation” is NNSA’s vision for a smaller, safer, more secure, and less expensive nuclear weapons complex that leverages the scientific and technical capabilities of its workforce and meets national security requirements.

Government-owned facilities and operations are being challenged to become smaller, more efficient, and more responsive to changing national and global challenges. Nowhere in the National Security Enterprise is transformation more evident than at the Y-12 Complex.

Most of the Y-12 Complex mission-critical facilities are more than 60 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 (DM) reduction, enhanced security measures, technology enhancements, infrastructure reduction, and innovative business practices, the Y-12 Complex is becoming a more responsive, sustainable enterprise as evidenced by the performance achievements presented in this year’s ASER.

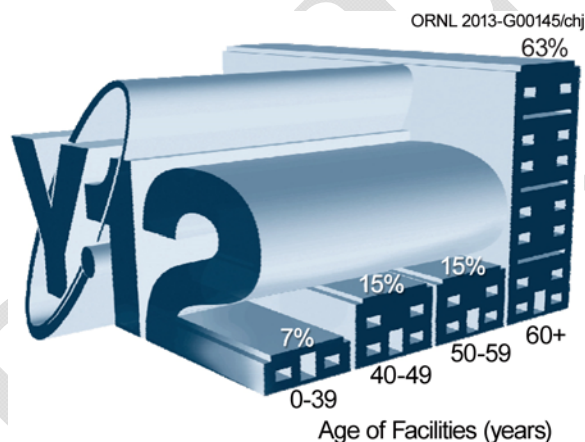


Fig. 4.1. Age of mission-critical facilities at the Y-12 Complex.

Since 2002, Y-12 has demolished more than 1.4 million ft² of excess facilities. The NNSA Facilities Disposition Program for FY 2014 is under development and will identify and 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. The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) funding secured at Y-12 implemented early actions to deactivate and demolish some of these facilities. Results and progress on these projects is detailed in Section 4.8, “Environmental Management and Waste Management Activities.”

UPF (Fig. 4.2) 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. Built to today’s codes and standards, the facility will leverage new technologies and provide life-cycle cost savings. Planning and design continued through 2012.



Fig. 4.2. Uranium Process Facility conceptual image.

4.2 Environmental Management System

As part of B&W Y-12'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 DOE's 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. B&W Y-12's ISMS has incorporated the elements of the ISO 14001 EMS in the overall umbrella of ISMS for environmental compliance, pollution prevention, waste minimization, and resource conservation.

4.2.2 Policy

The environmental policy of B&W Y-12 and its 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 B&W Y-12 ES&H policy is presented in Fig. 4.3.

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 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.

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. 4.3. B&W Y-12 environment, safety, and health policy.

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 2012 analysis identified the following as significant environmental aspects.

• Air Emissions	• Surface Water and Storm Water
• GHG Emissions (Scopes 1 and 3)	• Aging Infrastructure and Equipment
• Wastewater/Groundwater	• Legacy Contamination and Disturbance
• Excess Facilities and Unneeded Materials and Chemicals	• Storage or Use of Chemicals and Radioactive Materials
• Hazardous or Mixed Wastes	• Energy Consumption (Scope 2 GHGs)
• Radiological Waste	• Potable Water Usage
• Universal Waste and Other Recycle Streams	• Raw Materials and Other Natural Resource Procurement / Use

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

B&W Y-12 continues to respond to change and pursue sustainability initiatives by establishing and maintaining environmental objectives, targets (goals), and action plans. Goals and commitments are established annually; are agreed to by NPO and B&W Y-12; and are consistent with the Y-12 Complex's mission, budget guidance, ES&H work scope, site incentive plans, and continuous improvement. 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 2012 B&W Y-12 environmental targets achieved 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 B&W 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 B&W Y-12's environmental policy and site procedures. ECD serves as the B&W Y-12 interpretive authority for environmental compliance requirements and as the primary point of contact between B&W 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

The B&W Y-12 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 NNS 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,

waste sampling, waste generator services, and Y-12 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 the stewardship practices, the programs that manage the legacy issues and assist in the prevention of additional problematic areas being formed. Stewardship programs include Clean Sweep and Unneeded Materials and Chemicals (UMC).

The synergistic effects of combining these programs under a single umbrella improves overall compliance with EOs, DOE orders, state and federal regulations, and NNSA expectations and also 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/environmentally preferable purchasing (i.e., promoting the purchase of products made with recycled content and bio-based products, including alternative fuels such as E85 and biodiesel), meet sustainable design requirements, complete the pollution prevention reporting requirements, and implement various other related activities.

Energy Management

Energy management is an ongoing and comprehensive effort containing 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, Infrastructure, and 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.

Among other duties, the energy manager directs the site toward meeting energy management sustainability goals as defined in the site sustainability plan (SSP) (B&W Y-12 2012) issued in December 2012.

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 B&W Y-12 and the community. The council provides feedback to B&W Y-12 regarding its operations and ways to enhance community and public communications. The following paragraphs describe some of the Y-12 Complex communication and community involvement activities.

B&W Y-12 sponsored and participated in community events in 2012, including Oak Ridge Earth Day (Fig 4.4), to provide highlights of Y-12's environmental management, sustainability and stewardship, and pollution prevention activities and to provide information about the Tennessee Pollution Prevention

Partnership (TP3) to more than 1,000 members of the public. B&W Y-12 also sponsored the Southern Appalachian Science and Engineering Fair, East Tennessee Fuels Coalition, and the University of Tennessee Arboretum in 2012.



Fig. 4.4. Y-12 Complex “booth” at Oak Ridge Earth Day in 2012. [Source: Kathy Fahey, Y-12 Photographer]

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 aluminum beverage can (ABC) recycling efforts. Since the ABC recycling program began in 1994, more than \$81,600 has been donated to various local charities.

B&W Y-12 actively promoted the TP3 program by mentoring and sharing information with interested organizations to encourage pollution prevention and involvement in TP3. In 2012, B&W Y-12 shared information concerning the TP3 program with Eaton-Inoac, Volkswagen, Y-12 Complex employees, and members of the local community. As of October 1, 2012, the Tennessee Green Star Partnership replaced TP3 as TDEC’s pollution prevention recognition program, and all of the current TP3 Partners and Performers have been grandfathered into the new program for the 2013 calendar year.

On February 23, 2012, the Y-12 Complex hosted its first annual “Introduce a Girl to Engineering” event at the New Hope Visitor Center (Fig. 4.5). The event was dedicated to girls in grades 9 through 12 to encourage them to pursue careers in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics. Three hundred seventy-six girls and 53 chaperones from 13 area schools attended the event. Twenty-four interactive exhibits, developed by 50 Y-12 women engineers and scientists, included hands-on activities ranging from surrogate material simulation to T-shirt chromatography. The University of Tennessee (UT) sponsored several booths, sharing information about preengineering curricula for high school and college planning. Also, various UT student chapters of professional engineering organizations were present.



Fig. 4.5. Y-12 National Security Complex hosted its first annual “Introduce a Girl to Engineering.” [Source: Brian Wagner, 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.

The Y-12 Complex conducted one full-participation exercise, one full-scale exercise, and three functional exercises in FY 2012. The focus of these exercises included responding to an active shooter event, a chemical spill, and Continuity of Operations events. Additionally, a tabletop exercise was conducted focusing on the response to a beyond design basis event. Eight building evacuation and accountability drills were also conducted.

Y-12 Emergency Management, Fire Protection Operations, and Public Affairs assisted Methodist Medical Center in Oak Ridge, Tennessee, with the conduct of their full-participation exercise by supplying the senior controller, two controllers, and two media role players radios and control vests on October 20, 2011. Additionally, B&W Y-12 provided moulage (injury simulations) to almost 30 role players.

Y-12 Emergency Management provided Off-Site Response to DOE Facilities training to 76 Anderson County Emergency Medical Service employees during their annual in-service training January 14 and 21, 2012.

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 Seattle, Washington, in May 2012. 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 2012 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, that 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 (UTCIS) 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.

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's 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, 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 (HSS) annual environmental progress reports on implementation of EO 13423, *Strengthening Federal Environmental, Energy, and Transportation Management* (EO 2007), and Office of Management and Budget's Environmental Stewardship Scorecard gave the Y-12 Complex an EMS scorecard rating for FY 2012 of green, indicating full implementation of EO 13423 requirements.

4.2.6.1 Environmental Management System Objectives and Targets

At the end of FY 2012 B&W Y-12 had achieved 11 of 12 targets that had been established the year before. Overall, 54 actions were completed through September. Highlights included the following, with additional details and successes presented in other sections of this report.

- Clean Air—Completed a laboratory evaluation of a uranium chip cleaning process that uses less solvent and could potentially reduce Y-12 Complex fugitive GHG emissions.
- Energy Efficiency—Achieved High-Performance Sustainable Building (HPSB) status for the Jack Case Center, completed fourteen energy audits, completed construction for all planned energy conservation measures (ECMs) under the FY 2012 Energy Savings Performance Contract (ESPC), issued a metering plan and installed 116 meters as part of the Energy Modernization Implementation Program (EMIP).

- Hazardous Materials—Completed shipment of uranium containing residues, generated during ARRA-funded activities, for final treatment and disposal; completed FY 2012 scope of work to disposition UMC.
- Land/Water Conservation—Continued progress to identify and correct inflow/infiltration (I/I) into the Y-12 Complex sanitary sewer by smoke testing throughout the Y-12 Complex and making repairs; implemented a mercury trap project to collect and remove mercury accumulation from storm drains.
- Reduce/Reuse/Recycle/Buy Green—Expanded installation of drinking water filtration and bottle filling stations to minimize bottled water expense and plastic wrap.

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. 4.6).

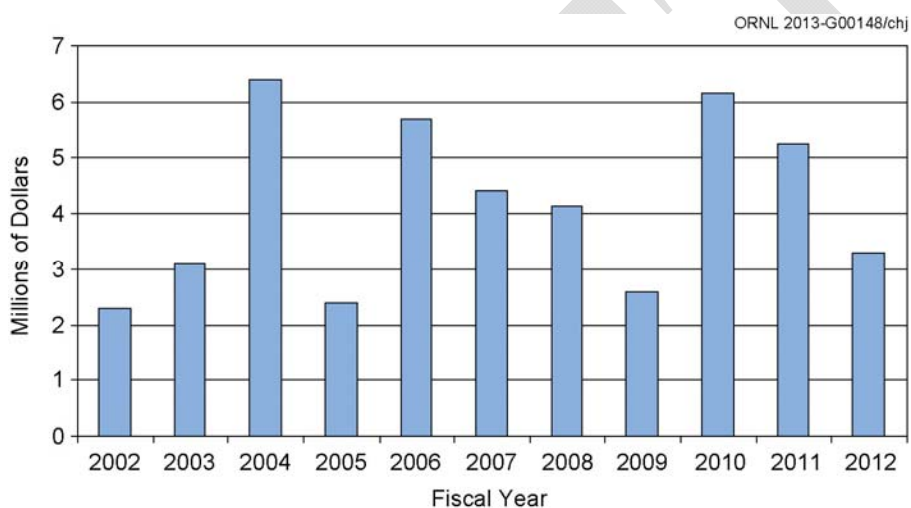


Fig. 4.6. Cost savings from Y-12 Complex pollution prevention activities.

In FY 2012 the Y-12 Complex implemented 104 pollution prevention initiatives (Fig. 4.7), with a reduction of more than 11.9 million kg (26.3 million lb) of waste and cost efficiencies of more than \$3.3 million. The completed projects include the activities described below.

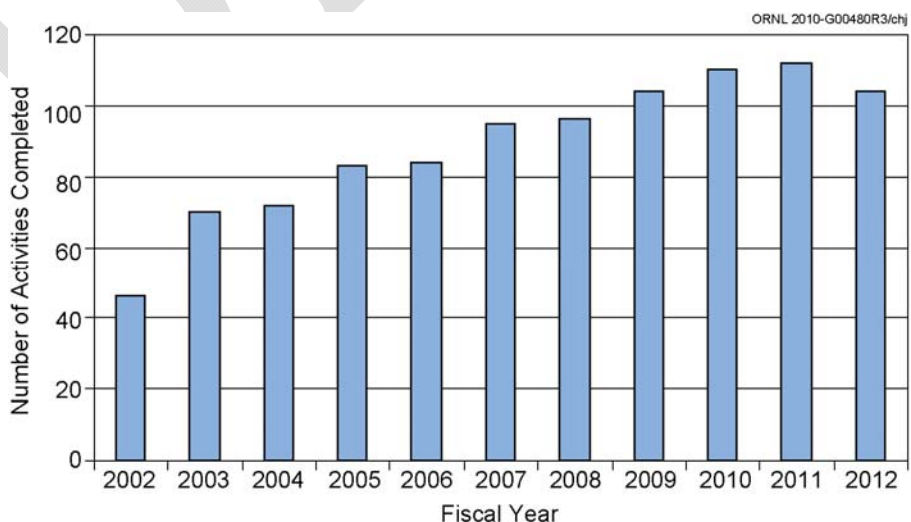


Fig. 4.7. Y-12 Complex pollution prevention initiatives.

Initiatives with Pollution Prevention Benefits and 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's sustainable initiatives have pollution prevention benefits or targets eliminating the source of pollution, including the 2012 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 2012, B&W Y-12 procured recycled-content materials valued at more than \$2.4 million for use at the site.

Unneeded Materials and Chemicals. The UMC initiative was implemented to assist in the potential use and ultimate disposition of resources that were not being used. The overall goal of the UMC initiative is reuse of existing resources while providing a cleaner/safer facility and improved compliance. The UMC disposition process (Fig. 4.8) does not simply manage all UMC as waste but first tries to find another outlet using a systematic process. The steps of this process are to first try to identify another use (1) within the Y-12 Complex, (2) within DOE, (3) within the government, (4) through sale to the public, (5) through recycle, and finally (6) through disposal as waste. Since 2006, the UMC program at the Y-12 Complex has dispositioned more than 12,747 items.

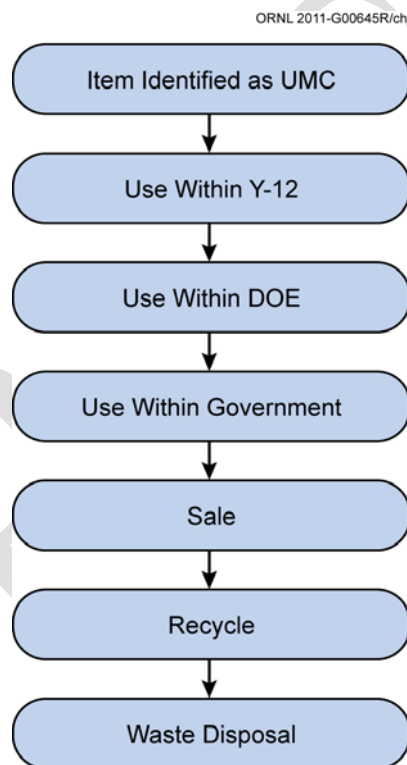


Fig. 4.8. Unneeded materials and chemicals disposition process at the Y-12 Complex.

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. During FY 2012, the UMC program was instrumental in the processing of more than 60 kg of pyrophoric chemicals for reuse at Y-12 instead of disposing of the chemicals as hazardous waste. Y-12 has also completed various other reuse initiatives that have reduced the acquisition of hazardous chemicals such as filtering a material so that it could be reused in a process, completing equipment modifications to extend the life of a material to reduce the amount of materials that had to be purchased and disposed of, and isolating and containerizing a material so that it could be transferred for reuse in a different facility rather than becoming a waste.

Recycling Initiatives. B&W Y-12 has a well-established recycling program and continues to identify new material streams and to expand the types of materials that can be recycled by finding new markets and outlets for the materials. As shown in Fig. 4.9, more than 1.36 million kg (3.0 million lb) of materials was diverted from landfills and into viable recycle processes during 2012. 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. Mutoh ink cartridges were added in Fiscal Year 2012. The Recycle Program has implemented the 7S process at the Recycle Center (Fig. 4.10). The 7S process includes the following seven steps: sort, set in order, shine, standardize, safety, security, and sustain. The 7S process was implemented to improve the overall organization, cleanliness, safety, security, and productivity of the Recycle Center. The 7S process has made the recycling program more efficient, which will contribute to the site's ongoing efforts for landfill diversion through reuse and recycling.

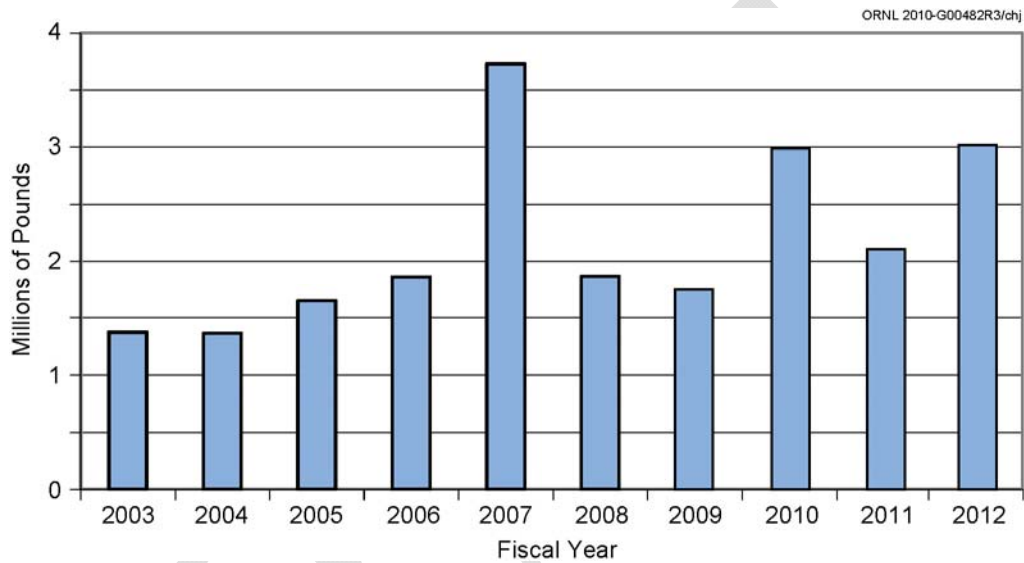


Fig. 4.9. Y-12 Complex recycling results.

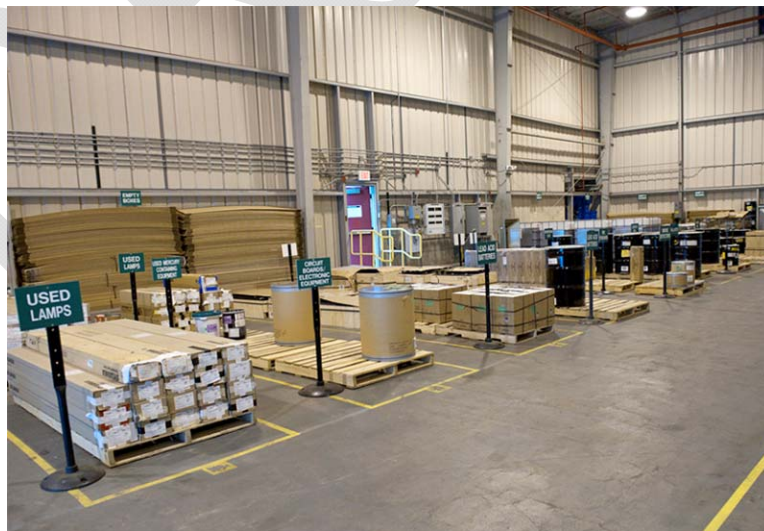


Fig. 4.10. Y-12 Recycle Center. [Source: Kathy Fahey, Y-12 photographer]

Personal Electronic Equipment Collection Event. On September 14, 2012, the Y-12 Complex Sustainability and Stewardship Organization hosted a personal electronics and document recycling collection event for Y-12 Complex employees and subcontractors. An off-site recycling vendor collected the equipment from the employees in the New Hope Center Parking Lot. More than 95 employees and subcontractors participated in the collection event. More than 4,700 pounds of electronics and 1,124 pounds of paper were collected during the 4 h event. Examples of the types of items collected include CPUs, CRT monitors, LCD monitors, cell phones, printers, etc. Government-owned equipment was not collected during the event.

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 (TEAM) Initiative.

The Energy Policy Act of 2005 (EPA05) established the goal of reducing building energy intensity using 2003 as the baseline year. Y-12 is meeting the reduction goal and has achieved a 26.4% reduction in energy intensity from the 2003 baseline (Fig.4.11).

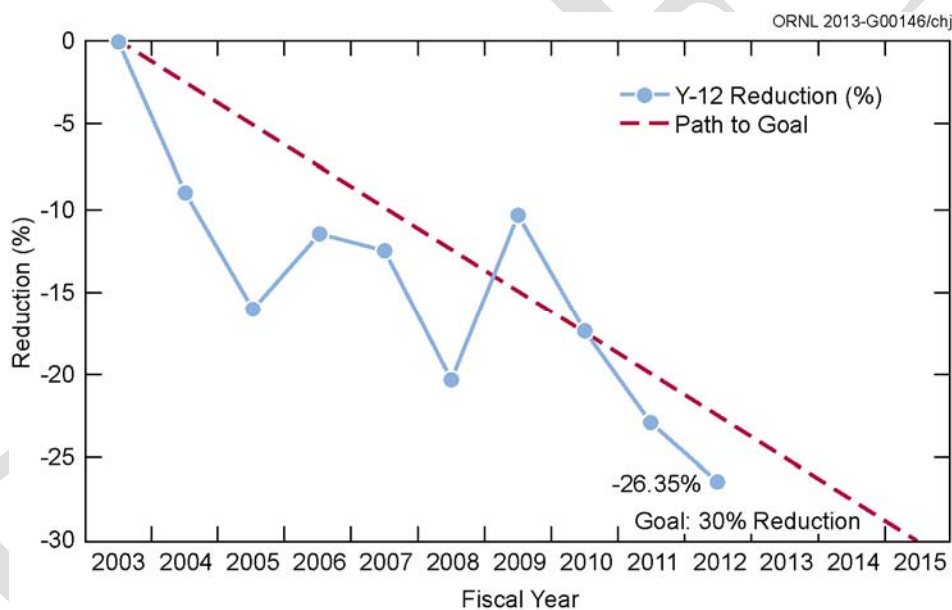


Fig. 4.11. Y-12 has achieved a 26.4% reduction in energy intensity from the 2003 baseline.

Based on FY 2012 data, energy use at Y-12 is 2,113,550M Btu. The square footage is 6,858,240; therefore, the FY 2012 estimated energy intensity is 308,177 Btu/gsf, which represents a 10% reduction compared to FY 2011. When compared to the baseline year of FY 2003, this represents a 26.4% reduction. The site has made good progress in implementing several energy reduction initiatives.

FY 2012 initiatives that contributed to the sustainability of facilities and aided in progress toward achieving the energy intensity reduction goal include

- energy reduction initiatives at Jack Case Center;
- retro-commissioning and heating, ventilating, and air conditioning (HVAC) improvements in Buildings 9201-03 and 9201-05N;
- chiller efficiency improvements in Building 9767-8/11;
- reconnecting HVAC controls to the Utilities Management System (UMS);

Oak Ridge Reservation

- off-shift temperature setbacks;
- steam trap replacements;
- lighting fixture upgrades;
- EMIP advanced meter installations; and
- low-flow fixture installations in Buildings 9113/9119.

In response to an inspector general audit (DOE 2012), the Y-12 Complex implemented an aggressive energy assessment schedule to ensure all EISA-covered facilities were evaluated. The evaluations have been 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 HVAC replacements and low-flow fixtures. To facilitate this aggressive program, employees in the condition assessment survey program were used. Y-12 recognized this as an available resource with existing knowledge of facility operations and conditions.

As a result of the EMIP effort, the site now has meter data available in the UMS energy management tool. Although electricity billing is not currently under consideration, monthly consumption data with equivalent cost is distributed to facility management for tenant awareness and general knowledge. Future plans include facility competition and building-specific ECMs and “what can you do” campaigns.

Future energy intensity reductions will be realized through continued construction of new facilities and demolition of legacy facilities combined with ongoing audits and ECMs and new efforts in building commissioning. Both Facility and Utilities Management are diligently focusing on improvements to achieve the goal. The following efforts can substantially reduce energy in all areas.

- Demolish inactive facilities when funding is identified.
- Execute the ECMs identified from EISA assessments.
- Implement delivery order 3 of the ESPC project for additional utility impact.
- Support construction of UPF to reduce production facility footprint (post-2020).
- Implement new energy-efficient lighting technologies throughout the site.
- Include ECMs from both EISA and ESPC processes in out-year budgets.
- Implement low-cost/no-cost efforts, including component replacements, into routine maintenance activities.
- Identify and consolidate data centers per Office of Management and Budget definition.
- Continue installation of advanced metering in accordance with meter plan.
- Work with site lighting team to upgrade lighting to efficient technologies in several facilities.
- Upgrade facilities for 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.

As shown in Fig. 4.12, 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.

Energy Monitoring

The Y-12 Complex began entering facilities into the EPA Portfolio Manager* in FY 2011. A concerted effort to capture monthly meter data and enter Guiding Principle compliance began in FY 2012. At present, 103 facilities have been entered and are being tracked for compliance. Data from Portfolio Manager are shared with NNSA Sustainability contacts and are automatically migrated to the Compliance Tracking System for annual reporting.

*Portfolio Manager is an interactive energy management tool that allows owners, managers, and various other property holders to track and assess energy and water consumption across their entire portfolio of buildings in a secure online environment. With Portfolio Manager, underperforming buildings can be identified and efficiency improvements verified.

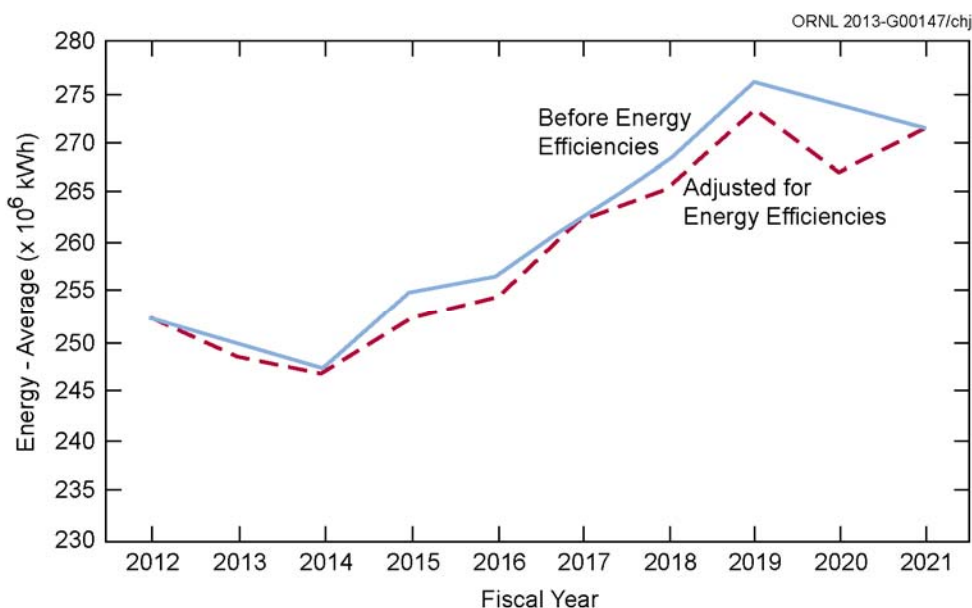


Fig. 4.12. Y-12 Complex electricity load forecast.

During FY 2012, the Y-12 Complex received funding from EMIP to install meters in support of EPAct05 goals. Efforts were concentrated on 13.8 kV advanced meter installations and on connectivity of existing and new meters to UMS. The project completed installation of 76 meters and connected a total of 118 meters to UMS. As these connections are progressing, data are being migrated to the energy management module for eventual use in site metrics, data reporting, and ECMs. Meter data are also entered into Portfolio Manager for benchmarking and reporting purposes.

Meter data are distributed to facility management and building tenants for educational purposes. Because a space chargeback system is not in use, the monthly cost for electricity if billed individually is provided with the total consumption. As more facilities are metered and historical trending is available, metrics will be provided to monitor progress toward goals at the building level. To further employee awareness, competitions between buildings and organizations may be implemented to emphasize the impact of employees.

Steam

A new steam plant (Building 9401-7) was constructed in 2009 and placed into service early in 2010. This new facility replaced the former steam plant at Building 9401-3, which was constructed in 1954. The new steam plant is located in the east end of the Y-12 Complex and consists of four 80,000 lb/h, dual-fuel package boilers, which were manufactured by Nebraska Boilers. These boilers produce 240,000 lb/h by design, with capacity for peak production of 320,000 lb/h. The primary fuel is natural gas, which is supplied by East Tennessee Natural Gas.

Saturated steam is distributed throughout the Y-12 Complex at 235 psig through about 7 miles of piping ranging in diameter from 4 in. to 18 in. All four boilers discharge to a common manifold inside the steam plant and then feed the plant through two main headers (one 10 in. and one 16 in.). The new steam plant provides improved metering capabilities and more energy-efficient equipment than the old steam plant (Building 9401-3). However, there is no real distribution system metering, and the billing is performed based on engineering estimates. Installation of a steam supply flowmeter at Building 9201-3 was completed September 2011.

As part of the energy savings plans for the Y-12 Complex, the energy savings contractor has established projects to replace steam traps and return condensate from the field to the steam plant. There also are areas of insulation that need repair, and condensate stations throughout the Y-12 Complex need to be evaluated for the potential to return more condensate to the steam plant. The condensate return ECM is expected to reduce water use by 23,652,000 gal (based on 45 gal/min condensate return) and natural

gas usage by 31,338M Btu while increasing electricity use by 131,614 kWh annually. While the new condensate system and steam trap installations are complete, condensate return is not yet used for boiler feedwater makeup due to high iron content. Additional chemical treatment is being evaluated.

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 *Strategic Sustainability Performance Plan* (SSPP; DOE 2012c). The FY 2013 SSP (B&W Y-12 2012) 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. Y-12 Complex Site Sustainability Plan goal performance and review for 2012

SSPP Goal	DOE Goal	Performance Status	Planned Actions and Contribution	Risk of Nonattainment
1: Greenhouse Gas Reduction and Comprehensive Greenhouse Gas Inventory				
1.1	28% GHG reduction (Scopes 1 & 2) by FY 2020 from a FY 2008 baseline	At Risk —Scopes 1 & 2 emissions decreased by 30.1%. It is doubtful this goal will be sustainable once UPF construction begins	Continue to identify methods for reduction of GHG; further emphasize energy reductions	Low
1.2	13% Scope 3 GHG reduction by FY 2020 from a FY 2008 baseline.	At Risk —Site Scope 3 emissions have decreased by 4.3%	Site will increase teleconference and webinar capabilities to reduce business travel	Medium
2: Buildings, ESPC Initiative Schedule, and Regional and Local Planning				
2.1	30% energy intensity reduction by FY 2015 from a FY 2003 baseline	On track —the site has achieved a 26.4% reduction from the 2003 baseline	Continue implementation of planned energy reduction initiatives, including ESPC delivery order 3	Low
2.2	EISA Section 432 energy and water evaluations	Goal has been met. Y-12 completed all EISA-covered assessments during FY2012	Assessments will continue to include 25% of EISA-covered facilities for 2nd assessment cycle	
2.3	Individual buildings or processes metering for 90% of electricity (by October 1, 2012); for 90% of steam, natural gas, and chilled water (by October 1, 2015)	On track —Currently 91.6% of electricity metered (76 advanced meters were installed in FY 2012, and an additional 27 meters were connected to UMS)	Continue procurement and installation of metering as funding is allocated in accordance with metering plan	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	On track —Investments in roofing have resulted in cool roof technology since 2008	Future roofing projects will continue to use cool roofs where practical, with 43,600 ft ² planned for FY 2013	Low

Table 4.1. (continued)

SSPP Goal	DOE Goal	Performance Status	Planned Actions and Contribution	Risk of Nonattainment
2.5	15% of existing buildings larger than 5,000 gsf are compliant with the Guiding Principles of HPSB by FY 2015	At Risk —the site focused on meeting HPSB compliance for JCC; the site is yellow for gross square feet, with 12% complete, but still red for building count, with 2% complete	Will 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 GPs	On track —the UPF project is seeking LEED certification	The UPF project team will continue efforts toward LEED certification	Low
2.7	7.5% of a site's annual electricity consumption from renewable sources by FY 2013 and thereafter	On track —Y-12 is at 8% renewable due to purchased Green-e certified RECs in the amount of 21,000 MWh per year	Based on DOE decision to accept RECs to satisfy this goal, Y-12 will extend current RECs	Without RECs: High With RECs: Low
3: Fleet Management				
3.1	10% annual increase in fleet alternative fuel consumption by FY 2015 from a FY 2005 baseline	Goal has been met. Y-12 has achieved a 554.3% increase in alternative fuel consumption within 7 years	Additional measures are being evaluated for continued improvement beyond the goals	
3.2	2% annual reduction in fleet petroleum consumption by FY 2020 from a FY 2005 baseline	Goal has been met. Y-12 has achieved the petroleum reduction goal with a 32.9% reduction within 7 years	Additional measures are being evaluated for continued improvement beyond the goals	
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 only AFVs for the on-site fleet	Future vehicle purchases will only include consideration for AFVs	
3.4	Reduce fleet inventory of non-mission-critical vehicles by 35% by FY 2013 from a FY 2005 baseline	On Track —NNSA has established a 35% reduction target complexwide; Y-12 has reduced by 26% during the last 7 years	With the inclusion of security force vehicles, Y-12 will evaluate the existing inventory and develop a path forward	Low
4: Water Use Efficiency and Management				
4.1	26% water intensity reduction by FY 2020 from a FY 2007 baseline	Goal has been met. Site has achieved 33.4% reduction from the baseline	Water conservation measures will continue to be implemented on a building by building basis in support of the HPSB initiative	
4.2	20% water consumption reduction of ILA water by FY 2020 from a FY 2010 baseline	No ILA water use at Y-12	ILA water is considered to be nonpotable freshwater used for aiding processes or irrigation. All water used at Y-12 is potable water and included in the potable water category	

Table 4.1. (continued)

SSPP Goal	DOE Goal	Performance Status	Planned Actions and Contribution	Risk of Nonattainment
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. More than 51% 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	
5.2	Divert at least 50% of C&D materials and debris by FY 2015	Goal has been met. More than 80% of C&D waste diverted from landfill	Systematic disposition evaluation method will continue to be used for C&D materials to ensure maximum waste diversion is achieved	
6: Sustainable Acquisition				
6.1	Procurements meet requirements by including necessary provisions and clauses (Sustainable Procurements/Biobased Procurements)	Goal has been met. Sustainable acquisition clause 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.	
7: Electronic Stewardship and Data Centers				
7.1	All data centers are metered to measure monthly PUE (100% by FY 2015)	At Risk —electric meter installations were planned for 2012 but have been postponed until 2013. The primary data centers are funded in FY 2013	The primary data centers are being consolidated. Efforts will consider additional metering to ensure PUE is effectively measured	Low
7.2	Maximum annual weighted average PUE of 1.4 by FY 2015	At Risk —PUE is currently estimated at lower than 1.4. However, this value is based solely on electricity use and does not account for chilled water energy intensity	Chilled water and electrical metering are planned for Buildings 9103 and 9117 in 2013. The data will verify PUE; it is not known at this time what actions will be required.	Medium
7.3	Electronic stewardship—100% of eligible PCs, laptops, and monitors with power management actively implemented and in use by FY 2012	On Track —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 security network features. The site will continue active implementation of power management of computing devices while maintaining security network features.	Medium

Table 4.1. (continued)

SSPP Goal	DOE Goal	Performance Status	Planned Actions and Contribution	Risk of Nonattainment
8: Innovation and Governmentwide Support				
8.1	Innovation and governmentwide support		Continue working with the community and local government agencies to further efforts.	

Abbreviations

AFV = alternative fuel vehicle	ILA = industrial, landscaping, and agricultural
C&D = construction and demolition	JCC = Jack Case Center
CD = Critical Design	LEED = Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design
CPU = central processing unit	NNSA = National Nuclear Security Administration
EISA = Energy Independence and Security Act	PUE = power usage effectiveness
ESPC = Energy Savings Performance Contract	REC = renewable energy certificate
FY = fiscal year	SSPP = Strategic Sustainability Performance Plan (DOE)
GHG = greenhouse gas	UMS = Utilities Management System
GP = Guiding Principles	UPF = Uranium Processing Facility
gsf = gross square feet	Y-12 = Y-12 National Security Complex
HPSB = high-performance sustainable building	

4.2.6.4 Water Conservation

The Y-12 Complex reduction in water intensity exceeds the FY 2016 target of 16% and the FY 2026 target of 26%. By the end of FY 2012, the site had achieved a 33.4% reduction in potable water use since the baseline was established (Fig. 4.13). During FY 2012, the site noted a reduction of 8.3%. Actions that have contributed to the overall reduction in potable water use include the following.

- Steam trap repairs and improvements.
- Condensate return repair and reroute (~10 million gal saved/year).
- Cleanout and shutdown of Buildings 9201-05, 9204-01, 9204-04, and 9401-03.
- Replacement of once-through air handling units (~5 million gal saved/year).
- Low-flow fixture installation (~660 thousand gal saved/year).
- The Y-12 Complex potable water system supplies numerous on-site facilities and supports
- fire protection systems (e.g., sprinkler systems),
- fire hydrants and emergency fire-fighting water storage),
- sanitary water systems (e.g., emergency showers and eyewash stations, personnel decontamination facilities, drinking fountains, restrooms, change houses, and the cafeteria),
- process water systems (e.g., feedwater for the steam plant and demineralizer, makeup water for cooling towers, process cooling, cleaning and decontamination systems, chemical makeup systems, laboratories, and other miscellaneous needs), and
- 16-in. emergency backup water feed for ORNL.

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.

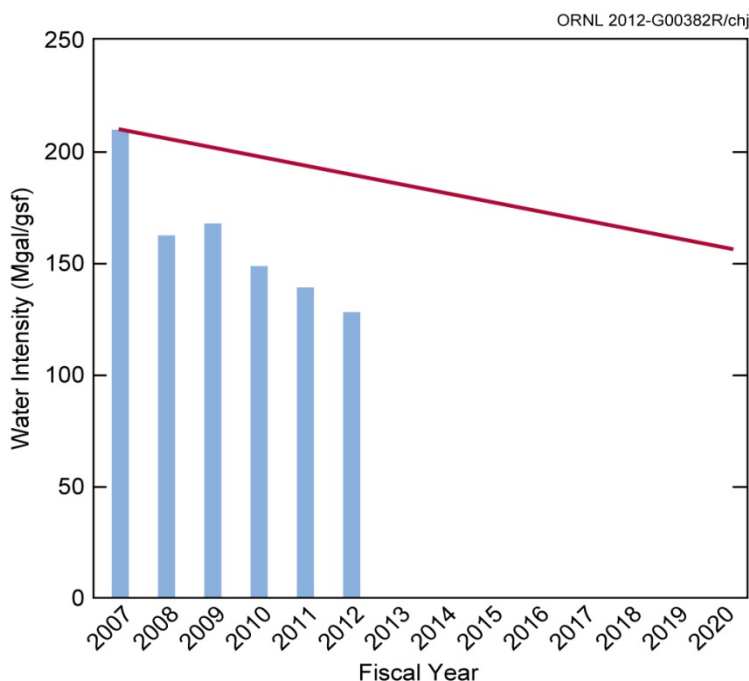


Fig. 4.13. Y-12 Complex water intensity (i.e., consumption per gross square foot) vs goal, FY 2007 through FY 2012. (Mgal = millions of gallons; gsf=gross square foot; red line is the consumption reduction goal.)

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 Buildings 9212 and 9204-02E condensate returns.

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 the ages of 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 rightsize the fleet based on mission needs. In addition to the fleet size, petroleum and alternative fuel (E85) use is monitored to ensure executive orders 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 executive orders associated with petroleum consumption reduction and alternative fuel usage.

The Y-12 Complex has already surpassed the petroleum reduction goal by achieving a 67.1% reduction within 7 years. Due to the expanding mission and increase in transformation-related activities on-site, it may be difficult for the site to continue to reduce fuel consumption by 2% each year and increase nonpetroleum consumption by 10% annually, but Y-12 continues to progress toward this goal.

The site has also achieved a 554.3% increase in alternative fuel use from the 2005 baseline. As there is a ready supply of E85 fuel on the site, all alternative fuel vehicles use the fuel 100% of the time. Biodiesel was introduced to the site in 2007. In 2008 the increase in the cost of biodiesel prompted an

evaluation of the benefits of biodiesel use vs the costs, and it was determined that biodiesel was no longer cost-effective. Therefore, ultralow diesel was purchased and diesel vehicles were required to use the ultralow fuel. Table 4.2 is a Y-12 Complex fuel statistic pulled from the Flow and Analysis System for Transportation Data Consistency Report showing the goal will be reached through 2018.

Table 4.2. Summary of petroleum and alternative fuel use over a 7-year period

	2005 Baseline	2012	Increase/ decrease	EO 13423 goal
Petroleum (Fleet)	160,126 gal	51,791 gal	67.1% decrease	2% per year decrease
E85 fuel	4,801 gal	26,614 gal	554.3% increase	10% per year increase

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.

The NNSA fleet reduction goal for FY 2012 and FY 2013 is 35% for the organization. Although this goal continues to evolve, the FY 2012 reduction will contribute toward this goal. Given the unsustainable state of the current fleet and the existing funding constraints, Y-12 Complex Fleet Management is taking a multitiered approach 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 sustainable fleet.

In FY 2012, Fleet Management removed 100 vehicles from the fleet. This initiative was aligned with the DOE requirement to rightsize the fleet and reduce inventory by 35% in 2 years. The reduction helped Y-12 maintain the average age of the fleet, decrease maintenance costs, and reinvest in the remaining mission-critical fleet. In conjunction with the fleet reduction, the existing shuttle service was transformed into a taxi service to provide a customer-focused alternative form of transportation. In addition, four heavy duty vehicles were procured to replace commercial leases.

The Y-12 Complex will continue to monitor vehicle use and redistribute or remove vehicles from the fleet as needed. Replacement vehicles will be evaluated on energy use in accordance with sustainable acquisition guidance and will be more fuel efficient. As additional guidance becomes available, Y-12 will evaluate the existing fleet to identify further reductions.

The following actions are planned for continued progress in fleet management.

- Increase the use of hybrid electric vehicles as they become available.
- Develop and implement a plan for installing electric charging stations throughout the plant.
- Evaluate a “preferred parking” initiative for energy-efficient and/or electric vehicles (Fig. 4.14).



Fig. 4.14. Electric carts are used within the protected area of the Y-12 Complex.

4.2.6.6 Electronic Stewardship

The Y-12 Complex committed to the FEC pledge in 2008 to improve the management of electronic assets during all life-cycle phases: acquisition, operation and maintenance, and end-of-life management. In 2012, as an FEC Partner, B&W Y-12 completed all FEC annual reporting to account for acquisition and procurement of electronics and implementation of other practices to maximize Y-12 Complex energy efficiency, reduce electronic-related wastes, and improve end-of-life management. B&W Y-12 received a 2012 FEC Gold Level Award in September 2012 (see Section 4.2.7).

4.2.6.7 Greenhouse Gases

The Y-12 Complex developed a preliminary GHG inventory in August 2009. The inventory was developed for FY 2008 with an FY 2003 baseline year. Based on the requirements of EO 13514, the baseline year was changed to FY 2008. Table 4.3 provides a summary of Y-12 Complex GHG emissions for FY 2008 and FY 2012.

The Y-12 Complex reduced Scope 1 and 2 GHG emissions by 30% in FY 2012, primarily due to decreased Scope 1 emissions from steam generation, decreased Scope 2 emissions from energy efficiency projects, and cleaner regional electric power sources. Scope 3 GHG emissions have decreased by 6.5% since the 2008 baseline year. Employee commuting GHG emissions account for 60% of the Scope 3 emissions. 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 2012 (metric ton CO ₂ e/year)
Scope 1		
Steam (coal, natural gas, fuel oil)	128,654	66,746
Industrial fugitive emissions	22,549	12,274
On-site wastewater treatment	6.9	6.6
Fleet fuels	1,675	1,107
Scope 2		
Electricity	184,995	156,162
Total Scopes 1 and 2	337,872.9	236,295
Scope 3		
T&D losses	12,185.8	10,287
Off-site municipal wastewater treatment	25.3	25.85
Employee commute	17,447	18,005
Business ground and air travel	2,251	1,517.3
Total Scope 3	31,909.1	29,835.15
TOTAL GHG Emissions	369,782.1	266,130.15

Abbreviations

- CO₂e = CO₂ equivalent
- FY = fiscal year
- GHG = greenhouse gas
- T&D = transmission and distribution

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

During FY 2012, Y-12 implemented several initiatives to reduce storm water runoff by creating green spaces and installing permeable pavement on the new parking lot at the New Hope Center (Fig. 4.15).



Fig. 4.15. Permeable pavement and native plantings contribute to Energy Independence and Security Act Section 438 requirements. (Source: Kathy Fahey, Y-12 Photography)

Efforts included taking all the excess soil resulting from the new parking lot near New Hope Center and backfilling over “rubbleized” concrete slabs. This area was an inactive parking area adjacent to demolished buildings. Additionally, green space was created around several demolished facilities to remove roadways and parking spaces that are no longer needed. In all, about 1.3 hectares (3.3 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 95 external environmental awards from local, state, and national agencies. The awards received in 2012 are summarized below.

DOE Sustainability Awards. The “Reaching Beyond—Y-12 Sustainability Outreach” and “Y-12 Targeted Excess Materials (TEM) Program Pursues Sustainable Disposition Paths” activities were selected by DOE headquarters to receive DOE Sustainability Awards. 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.

Tennessee Chamber of Commerce and Industry. B&W Y-12 was recognized in two areas at awards ceremonies at the 30th Annual Tennessee Chamber of Commerce and Industry Environmental Conference in October 2012. Award winners were selected by a panel of state officials who reviewed the nominations, accomplishments, and compliance records of the respective environmental programs. B&W Y-12 received the following award.

- Environmental Excellence Award for Y-12’s Sustainability Team
- Additionally, B&W Y-12 received an achievement certificate for the following activity.
- Solid Waste Management Certificate for “Sustainable Scenarios: Y-12 Reduces Risk and Waste”

NNSA Awards. In 2012 the Y-12 Complex received three NNSA Pollution Prevention/Sustainability Best in Class Awards. This is the ninth 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 Pollution Prevention Partnership. In 2012, the Y-12 Complex was awarded Performer Level status in the TP3 program for another year. To maintain Performer Level status in the TP3 program, the Y-12 Complex must illustrate ongoing commitment to pollution prevention through the completion of a success story and mentoring and outreach activities. (The TP3 program has been replaced by the newly developed Tennessee Green Star Partnership.)

Federal Electronics Challenge. B&W Y-12 received a 2012 FEC Gold Level Award in September 2012. FEC awards recognize the achievements of FEC partners and their leadership in federal electronics stewardship. B&W Y-12 was one of five Gold Level Award winners.

4.3 Compliance Status

4.3.1 Environmental Permits

Table 4.4 lists environmental permits in force at the Y-12 Complex during 2012. More detailed information can be found in the following sections.

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 2012, environmental evaluations were completed for 40 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 is available on the Internet at www.y12sweis.com.

In accordance with NHPA, NNSA is committed to identifying, preserving, enhancing, and protecting its cultural resources. The compliance activities in 2012 included completing NHPA Section 106 reviews and participating in various outreach projects with local organizations and schools.

Forty proposed projects were evaluated to determine whether any historic properties eligible for inclusion in the *National Register of Historic Places* would be adversely impacted. Of the 40 proposed projects, it was determined that none of them would have an adverse effect on historic properties eligible for listing in the *National Register* and 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. Major renovations have been completed and the new Y-12 History Center, featuring a history library and video viewing area, reopened in May 2012. 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 DVDs, books, pamphlets, postcards, and fact sheets will continue to be available free to the public.

Table 4.4. Y-12 National Security Complex environmental permits, 2012

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	B&W Y-12
CWA	Industrial & Commercial User Wastewater Discharge (Sanitary Sewer) Permit	No. 1-91	4/1/2010	3/31/2015	DOE	DOE	B&W Y-12
CWA	NPDES Permit	TN0002968	10/31/2011	11/30/2016	DOE	DOE	B&W Y-12
CWA	401 Water Quality Certification/ARAP Access/Haul Road	NRS10.083	6/10/2010	6/09/2015	B&W Y-12	B&W Y-12	B&W Y-12
CWA	Department of Army Permit	2010-00366	9/02/2010	9/02/2015	DOE, B&W Y-12	B&W Y-12	B&W Y-12
CWA	General Storm Water Permit New Hope Center Parking Project	TNR 134147	5/8/2012	5/8/2017 (Project complete—notice of termination 11/8/12)	DOE	B&W Y-12	B&W Y-12
CWA	General Storm Water Permit Y-12 Complex (41.7 hectares/103 acres)	TNR 134022	10/27/2011	5/23/2016	DOE	B&W Y-12	B&W Y-12
RCRA	Hazardous Waste Transporter Permit	TN3890090001	12/4/2012	1/31/2014	DOE	DOE	B&W Y-12
RCRA	Hazardous Waste Corrective Action Permit	TNHW-121	9/28/2004	9/28/2014	DOE	DOE, NNSA, and all ORR cooperators of hazardous waste permits	UCOR
RCRA	Hazardous Waste Container Storage Units	TNHW-122	8/31/2005	8/31/2015	DOE	DOE/B&W Y-12	B&W Y-12/ Navarro co-operator

Table 4.4. (continued)

Regulatory driver	Title/description	Permit number	Issue date	Expiration date	Owner	Operator	Responsible contractor
RCRA	Hazardous Waste Container Storage and Treatment Units	TNHW-127	10/06/2005	10/06/2015	DOE	DOE/B&W Y-12	B&W Y-12 co-operator
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	12/10/2013	DOE	DOE/UCOR	UCOR
RCRA	RCRA Postclosure Permit for the Upper East Fork Poplar Creek Hydrogeologic Regime	TNHW-113	9/23/2003	9/23/2013	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

Table 4.4. (continued)

Regulatory driver	Title/description	Permit number	Issue date	Expiration date	Owner	Operator	Responsible contractor
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

Abbreviations

- ARAP = Aquatic Resource Alteration Permit
- B&W Y-12 = B&W Technical Services Y-12 L.L.C.
- CAA = Clean Air Act
- CERCLA = Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act
- 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

Outreach activities in 2012 consisted of B&W Y-12 partnering with the city of Oak Ridge, the Convention and Visitor's Bureau, and the Arts Council of Oak Ridge, which sponsors the annual Secret City Festival. The Secret City Festival promoted the history of the Manhattan Project by providing guided tours of the Y-12 Complex in June. The American Museum of Science and Energy ran shuttles continuously to the Y-12 Complex New Hope Visitor Center. The Y-12 Complex conducted a total of 36 tours. About 739 people from 22 states visited the Y-12 History Center and toured the Y-12 Complex's historic facility, Building 9731, known as the "Pilot Plant" (Fig. 4.16).

B&W Y-12 also partnered with the American Museum of Science and Energy by providing guided public tours 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.



ORNL 2011-G00651/chj

Fig. 4.16. Building 9731 between two images of calutrons.

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. DOE was issued Title V Major Source Operating Permits 554701 and 554594 in 2004 for the Y-12 Complex. On January 9, 2012, TDEC issued to DOE the first renewal of the Y-12 Title V Major Source Operating Permit (permit number 562767), replacing both 554701 and 554594.

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 2012, 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 August 8 and 9, 2012. This is the ninth 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 2012 activities conducted at Y-12 in support of CAA.

4.3.4 Clean Water Act Compliance Status

During 2012 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 requirements for 2012 was >99.9%. About 3,200 data points

were obtained from sampling required by the NPDES permit; only two noncompliance's were reported. The Y-12 NPDES permit in effect during 2012 (TN0002968) was issued on October 31, 2011, and became effective on December 1, 2011. 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 current permit are summarized below.

- The current NPDES permit continues to place emphasis on chlorine limitations based on water quality criteria at headwater outfalls 200 and 135. Outfall 125 is a storm water outfall and no longer requires dechlorination or toxicity testing.
- Whole effluent toxicity testing continues to be required at outfall 200 and outfall 135.
- The frequency of measurement for flow, pH, and chlorine at the small categorical outfalls has been reduced, and there has been a minor reduction in the number of parameters and measuring frequency at major outfalls.
- NPDES monitoring continues instream at two EFPC locations (station 17 and monitoring location C11).
- Requirements for monitoring and reporting of mercury at station 17 have been increased.
- The Y-12 NPDES permit requires implementation of a radiological monitoring plan for the sampling and reporting of uranium and other isotopes at pertinent locations.
- An annual biological monitoring abatement plan and associated sampling is required.
- The Y-12 permit requires implementation of an SWPP Program, which requires sampling and characterization of storm water.
- Storm water sampling of stream-based sediment at four instream locations and an annual storm water monitoring report are completed each year as required by the SWPP Program.
- 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.

The permit also included requirements for DOE to perform several activities to reduce the site mercury discharges. Substantial reductions in mercury loading are dependent on DOE successfully completing several cleanup projects previously identified in a CERCLA decision document. In November 2011 DOE filed an appeal to remove the performance of CERCLA actions, most of which were already subject to implementation under the Environmental Management Program under the ORR FAA. See Section 4.8.2 for details of the Mercury Reduction Project to facilitate reduction and lessened mobility of mercury at the Y-12 Complex. Removal of mercury from some storm drain locations has occurred and is noted in Section 4.5.2

4.3.5 Safe Drinking Water Act Compliance Status

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

The Tennessee Regulations for Public Water Systems and Drinking Water Quality, Chap.1200-5-1, sets limits for biological contaminants and for chemical activities and chemical contaminants. Sampling for total coliform, chlorine residuals, lead, copper, disinfectant by-product, and propylene glycol is conducted by the Y-12 Utilities Management Organization.

In 2012, the Y-12 Complex potable water system retained its approved status for potable water with TDEC. TDEC instituted a requirement for sampling the site potable water system for propylene glycol in 2007 after learning that an unapproved cross-connection existed between the Y-12 potable water system and the antifreeze fire sprinkler systems containing propylene glycol. Sampling of the potable water system for propylene glycol was continued in 2012. Laboratory results for all of the samples collected during 2012 were below the detection limits. As of March 31, 2013, all unapproved cross-connections

have been eliminated. As a result of the removal of these cross-connections the requirement to test for propylene glycol has been lifted.

All total coliform samples collected during 2012 were analyzed by the State of Tennessee laboratory, and the results were negative. Analytical results for disinfectant by-products (total trihalomethanes and haloacetic acids) for Y-12 Complex water systems were below TDEC and Safe Drinking Water Act (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 2011. 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 (TDEC 2012) is updated annually and submitted to TDEC for review. The October 2012 plan 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.

The quantity of hazardous and mixed wastes generated by the Y-12 Complex increased in 2012 (Fig. 4.17). The increase in hazardous waste generation is attributed to the treatment of an additional 1.3 million kg of contaminated leachate compared to 2011. Ninety-eight percent of the total hazardous and mixed waste generated in 2012 was generated as contaminated leachate from legacy operations. The Y-12 Complex currently reports waste on 88 active waste streams. The Y-12 Complex is a state-permitted treatment, storage, and disposal facility. Under its permits, the Y-12 Complex received 1,977 kg (4,358 lb) of hazardous and mixed waste from the off-site Union Valley analytical chemistry laboratory in 2012. In addition, 163,596 kg (360,647 lb) of hazardous and mixed waste was shipped to DOE-owned and commercial treatment, storage, and disposal facilities. More than 9 million kg (19 million lb) of hazardous and mixed wastewater was treated at on-site wastewater treatment facilities.

From June 18 to 21, 2012, TDEC and EPA Region 4 conducted a joint RCRA Compliance Evaluation Inspection of operations at the Y-12 Complex as a component of a multimedia inspection. During the inspection an alleged violation related to storage of CERCLA project investigation-derived waste was identified. (See Section 2.4 for more detailed information related to the alleged violation.) No other issues were identified.

TDEC conducted a comprehensive inspection of the Y-12 Complex hazardous waste program in November 2012, including permitted storage facilities, SAAs, and 90-day accumulation areas. No violations were noted during the inspection.

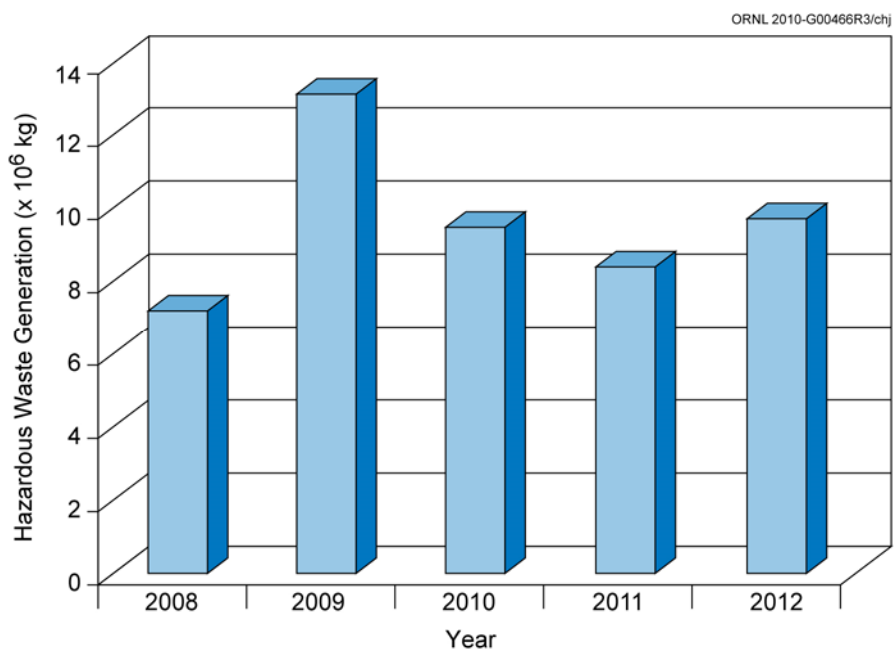


Fig. 4.17. Hazardous waste generation, 2008–2012.

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). Three specific requirements are considered:

- release detection for both the tank and piping,
- corrosion protection for both the tank and piping, and
- spill/overflow prevention equipment.

In 2012, two petroleum USTs, a 10,000 gal diesel tank and a 20,000 gal gasoline tank, were removed from the ground and permanently closed in accordance with TDEC UST regulations. Before the tanks were permanently removed from service, TDEC performed a compliance inspection of the facility. An NOV was received from the TDEC Division of Underground Storage Tanks for deficiencies observed during a January 31, 2012, compliance inspection of the East End Fuel Station. At the time of the inspection, Y-12 had begun preliminary activities to drain product and close and remove the tanks; however because of the level of fuel in the tanks, certain leak detection requirements still applied and were not being met. A change of status notification was submitted to TDEC personnel for the USTs at the East End Fuel Station. Placing the tanks in a “Temporarily Out of Service” status resolved the issues raised in the NOV. Closure of the East End Fuel station, including removal of the USTs began in late June and was completed in August.

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 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.

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 2012).

Table 4.5. Y-12 National Security Complex RCRA postclosure status for former treatment, storage, and disposal units on ORR

Unit	Major components of closure	Major postclosure requirements
<i>Upper East Fork Poplar Creek Hydrogeologic Regime (RCRA Postclosure Permit No. 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 No. 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
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 No. 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

Table 4.5. (continued)

Unit	Major components of closure	Major postclosure requirements
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

Abbreviations

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

Periodic updates of proposed construction and demolition 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 construction and demolition 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.

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 19, 2012.

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, known as the “Oak Ridge Reservation Polychlorinated Biphenyl Federal Facilities Compliance 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 the ORR PCB FFCA.

The removal of legacy PCB waste, some of which had been stored since 1997, in accordance with the terms of the ORR PCB FFCA was completed last year. The final shipment of legacy PCB waste occurred on August 22, 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 2012 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 2012. Section 311 notifications were made to TEMA and local emergency responders in 2012 because two chemicals newly exceeded the reporting threshold. The chemicals were not new to Y-12 operations, but it was the first time they had exceeded inventory thresholds. 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 as required in Section 312. This is the

first year data submittal was made 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 54 chemicals that were over Section 312 inventory thresholds in 2012.

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-MEweb (Toxics Release Inventory-Made Easy) web-based reporting system operated by EPA. Total 2012 reportable toxic releases to air, water, and land and waste transferred off-site for treatment, disposal, and recycling were 21,775 kg (48,004 lb). Table 4.6 lists the reported chemicals for the Y-12 Complex for 2011 and 2012 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 Complex, 2011 and 2012

Chemical	Year	Quantity ^a (lb) ^b
Chromium	2011	<i>c</i>
	2012	1,447
Cobalt	2011	<i>c</i>
	2012	<i>d</i>
Copper	2011	7,043
	2012	9,474
Lead compounds	2011	8,467
	2012	5,182
Manganese	2011	<i>d</i>
	2012	5,540
Mercury	2011	3,322
	2012	981
Methanol	2011	43,505
	2012	12,941
Nickel	2011	2,286
	2012	12,439
Silver	2011	<i>c</i>
	2012	<i>d</i>
Total	2011	64,623
	2012	48,004

^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 = 0.45359237 kg.

^cNot applicable because releases were less than 500 lb; hence, a Form A was submitted.

^dNot reported for the year (i.e., below threshold).

Abbreviations

Y-12 Complex = Y-12 National Security Complex

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 *Spill Prevention, Control, and Countermeasures Plan* (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.

An inspection of the Y-12 SPCC Plan was performed on September 18 by an EPA Region 4 representative. The inspection was focused on management of on-site oil and fuel and the related risk of spills. Interviews with Y-12 personnel were conducted that identified how oil and spills are managed. Inspections were made in the field, with particular attention given to secondary containment. While there were no issues identified during the inspection, a letter of deficiency dated October 25, 2012, was received from EPA regarding the plan. A statement of correction was provided on December 18, 2012, that included a table to cross-reference requirements and clarification regarding how the plan meets those requirements indicated as deficient in the EPA letter.

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 2012 there were no releases of hazardous substances exceeding an RQ nor were there any observed oil sheens on EFPC. There was a reportable occurrence [NA--YSO-BWXT-Y12SITE-2012-0043] due to a potable waterline break that occurred on September 6, 2012. Chlorinated water from the point of the break entered the storm drain system and resulted in a fish kill. (See Section 4.5.1.)

4.3.12 Audits and Oversight

A number of federal, state, and local agencies oversee Y-12 Complex activities. In 2012, the Y-12 Complex was inspected by federal, state, or local regulators on seven occasions. One NOV was issued, but no penalties were issued by regulatory agencies.

A TDEC-Knoxville Office UST auditor completed a compliance inspection of the UST system. An NOV was received for a past due line tightness test.

A team of six inspectors from EPA Region 4 and five inspectors from TDEC conducted a surprise multimedia environmental compliance audit of Y-12 the week of June 18, 2012. This inspection included as focus areas hazardous waste management, SWPP, USTs, clean water compliance, wastewater discharges, and EPCRA reporting. There were no findings. During the inspection of a UCOR CERCLA project waste storage area, a concern was expressed regarding storage of two drums of waste purge water stored longer than 1 year. (See Section 2.4 for detailed information.) The containers were shipped for disposal soon afterwards.

A TDEC-Knoxville Office Clean Air Compliance auditor completed the Annual Clean Air Compliance inspection on August 8 and 9, 2012, for 17 air emission sources located at the Y-12 Complex. For the ninth consecutive year, no findings were noted.

TDEC inspectors completed their annual compliance inspection of Y-12 Complex hazardous waste management practices November 15. The four-member audit team inspected more than 30 RCRA permitted storage and accumulation areas and examined training records, spill control equipment, waste characterization records, hazardous waste manifests, the annual waste activity report, and waste reduction report. This year is the fifth consecutive year that no violations were identified.

Table 4.7 provides a summary of external regulatory audits and reviews for 2012.

Table 4.7. Summary of external regulatory audits and reviews, 2012

Date	Reviewer	Subject	Issues
January 31	TDEC-Knoxville	UST Compliance Inspection	1
February 28	City of Oak Ridge	Semiannual Industrial Pretreatment Compliance Inspection	0
June 18–21	EPA Region 4 and TDEC	Multimedia Environmental Compliance Audit	0 ^a
August 8–9	TDEC-Knoxville	Annual CAA Compliance Audit	0
September 18	EPA Region 4	SPCC Plan	0 ^b
September 18	City of Oak Ridge	Semiannual Industrial Pretreatment Compliance Inspection	0
November 13–15	TDEC	Annual RCRA Inspection	0

^aSee Section 2.4 for information related to an alleged violation related to CERCLA project investigation-derived waste.

^bA statement of correction was issued to address alleged SPCC Plan deficiency. See Section 4.3.10.

Abbreviations

- CAA = Clean Air Act
- EPA = US Environmental Protection Agency
- RCRA = Resource Conservation and Recovery Act
- SPCC = Spill Prevention Control and Countermeasures Plan
- TDEC = Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation
- UST = underground storage tank

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 2011b). 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.

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 and 2009) survey plan that provides survey instructions along with the technical (process knowledge) justification for the survey plan. The surface contamination limits the Y-12 Complex uses to determine whether M&E are suitable for release to the public are provided in Table 4.8.

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.”

Property Potentially Contaminated in Volume (Volumetric Contamination)

Materials such as activated material, 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 (i.e., unbroken fluorescent bulbs, sealed capacitors, etc.), 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.

*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 4.8. 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	N/A	N/A	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.

Abbreviations

N/A = not applicable

DOE = US Department of Energy

Source: Vázquez 2011.

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, aluminum beverage cans, and toner cartridges; office trash, house-keeping materials, and associated waste; breakroom, cafeteria, and medical wastes; and medical and bioassay samples generated in nonradiological areas
- Subcontractor/vendor/privately owned vehicles, tools, and equipment used in nonradiological areas
- M&E that are administratively released

Summary of Materials Released in CY 2012

The quantities of property released in 2012 are summarized in Table 4.9.

Table 4.9. Summary of materials released in calendar year 2012

Category	Amount Released
Property sales (auctioned items)	452,306 pounds
Computer/Telecommunications equipment recycled	117,967 pounds
Vehicles	34
Real Property	None

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 hazardous air pollutants (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 2012, the Y-12 Complex had no construction air permits issued by TDEC. The Title V renewal operating air permit, number 562767, from TDEC was issued to DOE January 9, 2012, and incorporates all the change requests that were previously submitted to TDEC.

Permit administration fees are paid to TDEC annually in support of the Title V program. B&W Y-12 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 2012, emissions categorized as actual emissions totaled 47,247 kg (52.08 tons), and emissions calculated by the allowable method totaled 639,966 kg (705.43 tons). The total emissions fee paid was \$22,136.03.

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 ORR radiological NESHAPs report (40 CFR 61.94, Subpart H), which includes specific information regarding Y-12 Complex emissions; the second is an annual Title V compliance certification report indicating compliance status with all conditions of the permit. 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 Complex Steam Plant, 2012

Pollutant	Emissions (tons/year) ^a		Percentage of allowable
	Actual	Allowable	
Particulate	4.5	41	11.0
Sulfur dioxide	0.35	39	0.9
Nitrogen oxides ^b	19	81	23.5
Volatile organic compounds ^b	3.1	9.4	33.0
Carbon monoxide ^b	47.6	139	34.2

NOTE: The emissions are based on fuel usage data for January through December 2012. 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 some pollutants, 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). The emissions for both the actual and allowable emissions were calculated based on the latest US Environmental Protection Agency compilation of air pollutant emission factors (EPA 1995 and 1998. *Compilation of Air Pollutant Emission Factors AP-42, Fifth Edition, Volume 1: Stationary Point and Area Sources*. Environmental Protection Agency, Research Triangle Park, N.C., January 1995 and September 1998).

Abbreviations

Y-12 Complex = Y-12 National Security Complex

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 2012. There were six notifications of asbestos demolition or renovation and two records of oral regulatory communication submitted to TDEC in 2012 for its review and records.

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 ODS 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 construction and demolition 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.

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 term. In 2012, 39 process exhaust stacks were continuously monitored, 33 of which were major sources; the remaining 6 were minor sources. The sampling systems on these stacks have been approved by EPA Region 4.

During 2012, unmonitored uranium emissions at the Y-12 Complex occurred from 34 emission points associated with on-site, unmonitored processes and laboratories operated by B&W Y-12. 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 B&W 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 2012, 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 2005) 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. Two emission points from room ventilation exhausts were identified in 2012 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 0.0067 Ci (0.35 kg) of uranium was released into the atmosphere in 2012 as a result of Y-12 Complex process and operational activities (Figs. 4.18 and 4.19).

The calculated radiation dose to the maximally exposed off-site individual from airborne radiological release points at the Y-12 Complex during 2012 was 0.1 mrem. This dose is well below the NESHAPs 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 Section 7.1.2. for an explanation of how the airborne radionuclide dose was determined.)

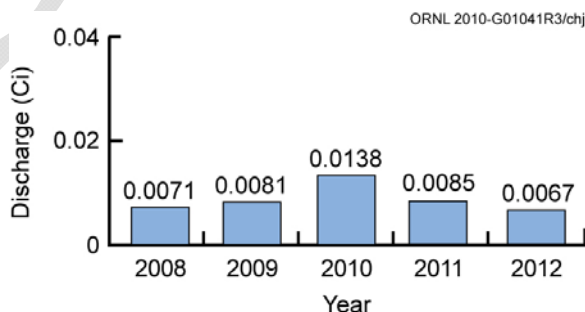


Fig. 4.18. Total curies of uranium discharged from the Y-12 Complex to the atmosphere, 2008–2012.

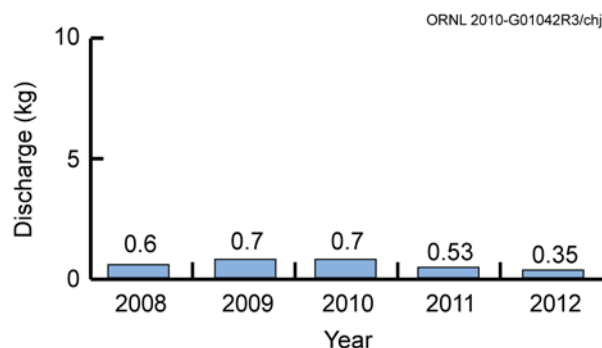


Fig. 4.19. Total kilograms of uranium discharged from the Y-12 Complex to the atmosphere, 2008–2012.

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 natural gas and Number 2 fuel oil were burned in 2012. 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 amount of Solvent 140 and methanol emitted for CY 2012 is 0.417 pounds (0.000209 tons) and 12,896 pounds (6.448 tons), respectively. The amount of acetonitrile emitted to the atmosphere 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 CO₂ equivalent (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 from 2010 to 2012 in emissions 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 Complex stationary fuel combustion sources

Year	GHG emissions (metric tons CO₂e)
2010	97,610
2011	70,187
2012	63,177

Abbreviations

CO_{2e} = CO₂ equivalent

GHG - greenhouse gas

Y-12 Complex = Y-12 National Security Complex

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 2012 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 Maximum Achievable Control Technology (MACT) standard which 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 hazardous air pollutant emission 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. The new requirements will be incorporated in the Title V operating air permit no later than January 31, 2016. This is the date the new steam plant must comply with the new requirements.

Unplanned releases of hazardous air pollutants 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.

4.4.2 Ambient Air

To understand the complete picture of ambient air monitoring in and around the Y-12 Complex, data from monitoring conducted on- and off-site specifically for the Y-12 Complex, DOE reservationwide monitoring, and on- and off-site monitoring conducted by 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-use 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. 4.20). 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.

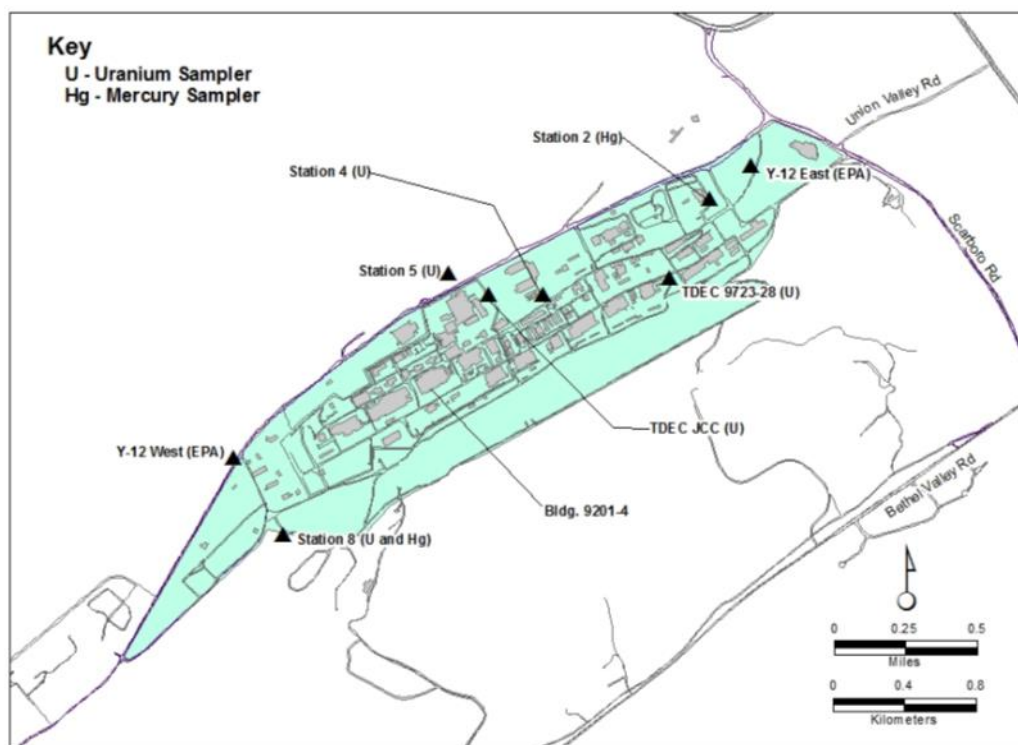


Fig. 4.20. Locations of ambient air monitoring stations at the Y-12 Complex.

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 weekly with a calibrated Gilmont flowmeter in conjunction with the 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 7-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 7-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 2012 is $0.0038 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ ($N = 48$), 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 2012 was $0.0051 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ ($N=48$), similar to levels reported for 2008 and the early 2000s.

Table 4.12 summarizes the 2012 mercury results and results from the 1986 through 1988 period for comparison. Figure 4.21 illustrates temporal trends in mercury concentration for the two active mercury monitoring sites since the inception of the program in 1986 through 2012 [parts (a) and (b)] and seasonal trends at AAS8 from 1993 through 2012 [part (c)]. The dashed line superimposed on the plots in Fig. 4.21(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 1993 through 2012.

Table 4.12. Summary of data for the Y-12 National Security Complex ambient air monitoring program for mercury for CY 2012

Ambient air monitoring stations	Mercury vapor concentration ($\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$)			
	2012 Minimum	2012 Maximum	2012 Average	1986-1988 ^a Average
AAS2 (east end of the Y-12 Complex)	0.0015	0.0080	0.0038	0.010
AAS8 (west end of the Y-12 Complex)	0.0020	0.0200	0.0051	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.

Abbreviations

AAS = ambient air station

CY = calendar year

Y-12 Complex = Y-12 National Security Complex

In conclusion, 2012 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].

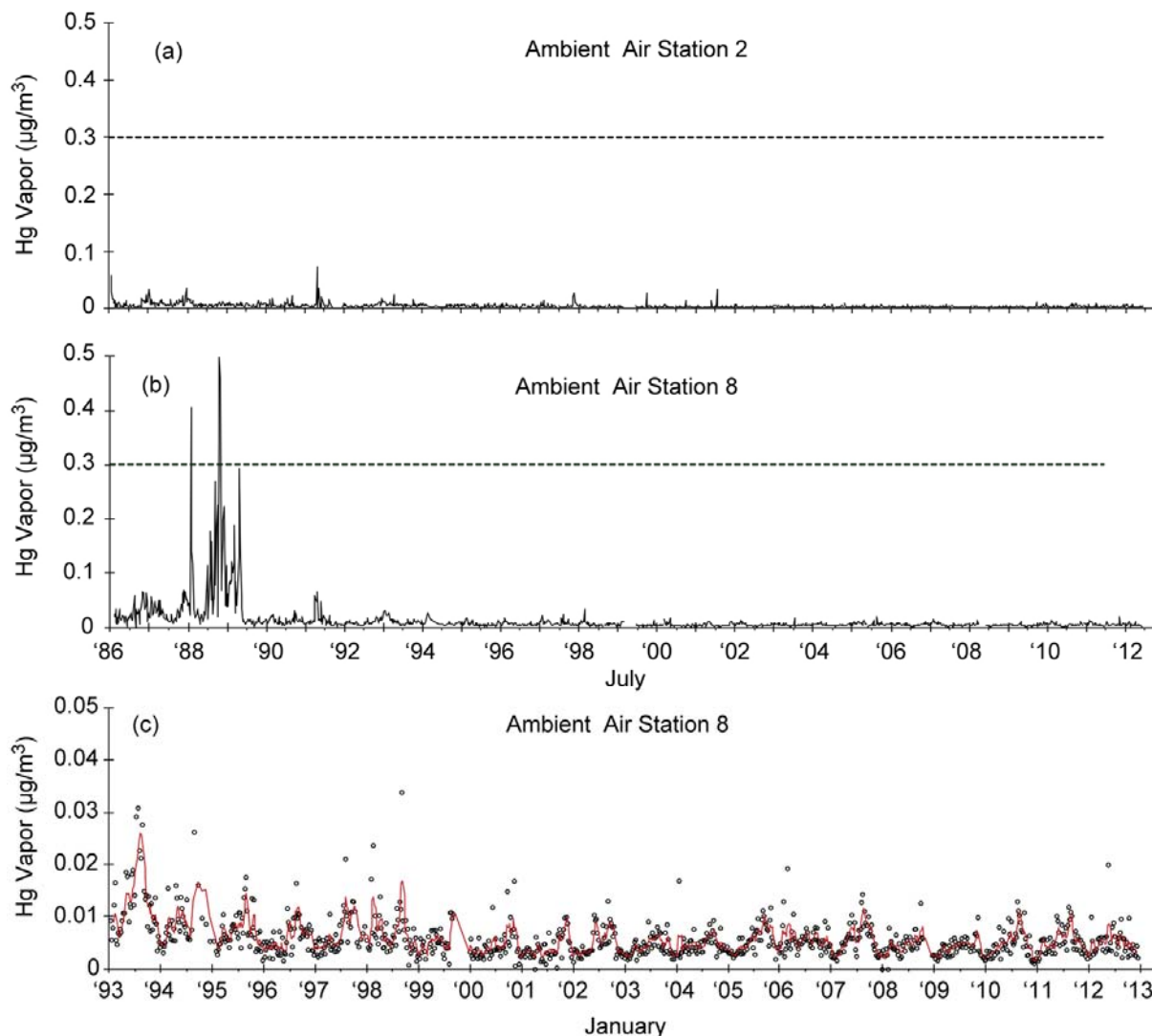


Fig. 4.21. Temporal trends in mercury vapor concentration for the boundary monitoring stations at the Y-12 Complex, July 1986 to January 2013 [(a) and (b)] and January 1993 to January 2013 for ambient air station 8 [(c)]. The dashed lines superimposed on (a) and (b) represent the US Environmental Protection Agency 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 ambient air station 8 from January 1993 to January 2013, with higher concentrations generally measured during the warm weather months.

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, December 20, 2012.

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 of 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 hazardous air pollutants, 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 ambient air monitoring station 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, there are three uranium ambient air monitors within the Y-12 Complex boundary that, since 1999, have been used by TDEC personnel in their environmental monitoring program. Each of the monitors uses 47 mm borosilicate glass-fiber filters to collect particulates as air is pulled through the units. The monitors control airflow with a pump and rotometer set to average about 2 standard ft³/min. During 2012, these uranium monitors at stations 4, 5, and 8 were phased out of service, and two additional high volume samplers (Fig. 4.20) 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.

In addition, 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. 4.22. 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.

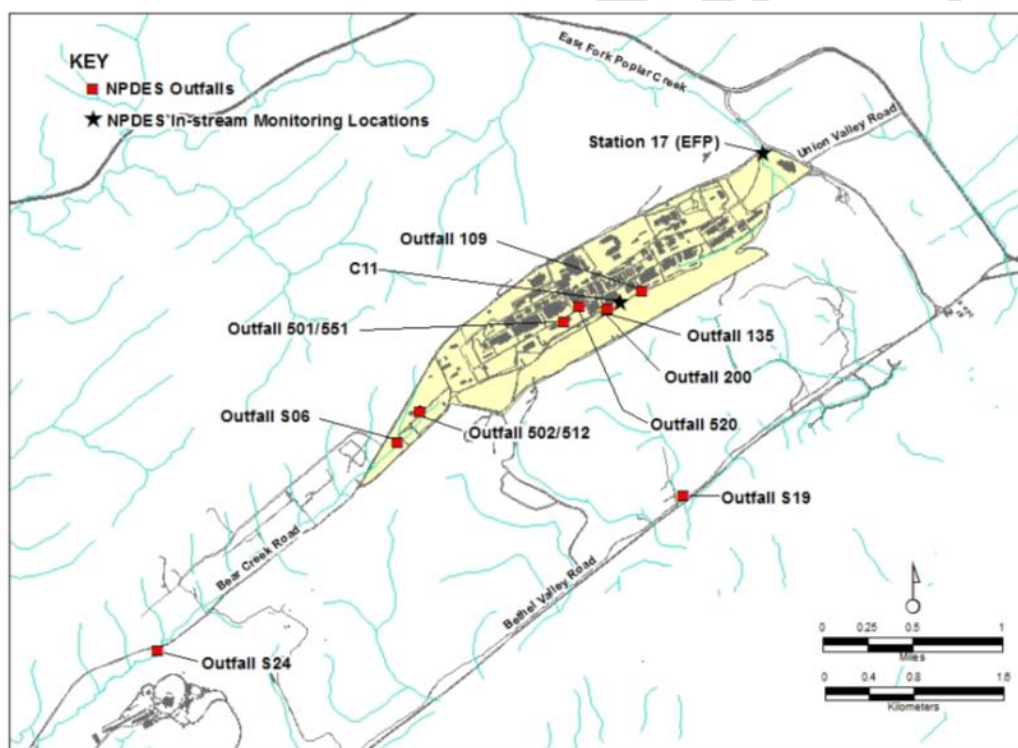


Fig. 4.22. Major Y-12 Complex National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) outfalls and monitoring locations.

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.

Requirements of the NPDES permit for 2012 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 requirements for 2012 was >99.9%.

There were two NPDES permit limit excursions for cadmium (monthly average permit limit 0.001 mg/L). At the time of these readings, there were no observed adverse effects on the receiving stream.

- At outfall 200 samples were taken on March 6, March 20, and March 29, 2012. Cadmium results obtained from analysis of the samples were 0.00106 mg/L, 0.00114 mg/L, and 0.00133 mg/L, respectively. All values were below the permit daily maximum value. The average of March cadmium values (0.00118 mg/L) exceeded the monthly average permit value of 0.001 mg/L cadmium.
- At outfall 200 during April 2012 measured monthly average cadmium was 0.00131 mg/L.

Other events and observations during 2012 include the following.

Outfall 520 is condensate from a chemical process that requires hold up of pH adjustment and monitoring before discharge. When the process is running, a weekly grab sample for pH (value 6–9) and weekly grab for total dissolved solids (report only) are obtained. The pH reading obtained for the week ending January 22, 2012, was 6.5. The grab sample taken for total dissolved solids was refrigerated for analysis. On removing the sample bottle from refrigeration, the bottle was dropped, it broke, and the sample was lost. Because the weekly period had ended, a replacement sample could not be obtained. Dissolved solids values obtained during January 2012 were 14 mg/L, 10 mg/L, and 13 mg/L.

On June 21, 2012, discolored water (about the color of tea) was observed at the outfall 200 location. The discharge was short duration and did not appear to affect fish or aquatic life. The cause was traced to testing of a backflow preventer with high pressure water flow. The discharge caused rusty water to reach a nearby storm drain grating.

On September 6, 2012, at about 1 p.m., a potable waterline break near the center of the Y-12 Complex was reported to the Y-12 plant shift superintendent. The break occurred in a large waterline, and the discharge included chlorinated water and eroded soil at the point of the break. Y-12 Utilities Department personnel took immediate action to close off water to the break and minimized the impact by placing dechlorination tablets in the discharge before it entered the storm drain system. Personnel were able to stop the flow at about 2 p.m. An estimated 500,000 gal may have entered EFPC during the waterline break.

A sudden rise of muddy water was noticed in the creek and by 3:45 p.m. Environmental Compliance personnel observed the upper reach of the stream begin to clear as conditions returned to normal. To assess the impact on the creek, ORNL aquatic biologists were requested to survey the creek and aquatic life.

A total of 229 minnow-sized fish were found dead in the afternoon of September 6. On the morning of September 7, a survey crew found 272 dead fish, all minnow species. Close observation by the biologist indicated that most of the fish likely died on September 6, the day of the waterline break. Live fish were seen throughout the stream on both survey days.

Based on past surveys, the number of fish killed is a very small percentage (about 2% to 3%) of the total number of fish in the upper reach of EFPC. The estimated long-term impact on the resident fish population associated with this event is likely minimal. This event was reported to TDEC according to regulations and was a reportable occurrence (NA--YSO-BWXT-Y12SITE-2012-0043) reported through ORPS.

Oak Ridge Reservation

Dechlorination treatment in the upper reach of EFPC provided excellent control of chlorinated discharges, and toxicity testing results of three outfalls in the upper reach have shown no toxicity. Table 4.13 lists the NPDES compliance monitoring requirements with the 2012 record of compliance.

Table 4.13. National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System compliance monitoring requirements and record for the Y-12 Complex, January through December 2012

Discharge point	Effluent parameter	Daily avg (lb)	Daily max (lb)	Monthly avg (mg/L)	Daily max (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 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	2
		Total suspended solids		31		40	100	2
Total toxic organic Hexane extractables				10	15	100	2	
Cadmium			0.4		0.15	100	2	
Chromium			1.7		1.0	100	2	
Copper			2.0		1.0	100	2	
Lead			0.4		0.2	100	2	
Nickel			2.4		3.98	100	2	
Nitrate/Nitrite					100	100	2	
Silver			0.26		0.05	100	2	
Zinc			0.9		1.48	100	2	
Cyanide			0.72		1.20	100	2	
PCB					0.001	100	2	
Outfall 512 (Groundwater Treatment Facility)		pH, standard units			<i>a</i>	9.0	100	12
		PCB				0.001	100	1
Outfall 520	pH, standard units			<i>a</i>	9.0	100	5	
Outfall 200 (North/South pipes)	pH, standard units			<i>a</i>	9.0	100	54	
	Hexane extractables			10	15	100	13	
	Cadmium			0.001	0.023	98	26	
	Lead			0.041	1.190	100	13	
	PCB				0.002	100	1	
	IC ₂₅ <i>Ceriodaphnia</i>			37% Minimum		100	1	

Table 4.13. (continued)

Discharge point	Effluent parameter	Daily avg (lb)	Daily max (lb)	Monthly avg (mg/L)	Daily max (mg/L)	Percentage of compliance	Number of samples
	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	12
Outfall 135	pH, standard units			<i>a</i>	9.0	100	13
	IC ₂₅ <i>Ceriodaphnia</i>			37% Minimum		1100	1
	IC ₂₅ <i>Pimephales</i>			37% Minimum		1100	1
Outfall 109	pH, standard units			<i>a</i>	9.0	100	5
	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	4
Outfall EFP	pH, standard units			<i>a</i>	9.0	100	14
Category I outfalls	pH, standard units			<i>a</i>	9.0	100	31
Category II outfalls	pH, standard units			<i>a</i>	9.0	100	17
	Total residual chlorine				0.5	100	17
Category III outfalls	pH, standard units			<i>a</i>	9.0	100	10
	Total residual chlorine				0.5	100	10

^aNot applicable.^bNo discharge.**Abbreviations**

Y-12 Complex = Y-12 National Security Complex

4.5.2 Mercury Removal from Storm Drain Catch Basins

The storm drain line on which the catch basins are located flows into EFPC at outfall 200. Mercury tends to collect at those low spots in the drain system following heavy rains. During 2012, spill response and waste services personnel continued to perform work in this area of the Y-12 storm drain system. Devices designed to fit in storm drain catch basins to collect mercury at low spots were installed at nine locations during 2012. The traps are devised to allow mercury collected in the trap to be routinely removed by hoisting from the ground surface. Two mercury traps were placed in storm drain subsystem 150; one trap on subsystem 160; two traps on subsystem 163, and four traps in catch basins on drain subsystem 169. Mercury traps were also placed on Buildings 9201-5 and 9201-4 exterior roof drains. In addition, an impervious surface was applied to the north and south sides of Building 9201-4 and south side of 9201-5. This was done as an aid in preventing mercury migration from soils to the drain system. During the period from mid-June 2012 to the end of the year about 11 kg (25 lb) of mercury was collected from the storm system. Since 2003 about 50 kg (110 lb) of mercury has been removed from the storm system.

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 2012b) was last revised and reissued in January 2012.

Table 4.14. Radiological parameters monitored at the Y-12 Complex, 2012

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

Abbreviations

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 raw water flow, and an outfall on Bear Creek. Results of storm event monitoring during 2012 were reported in the annual storm water report (B&W Y-12 2012a), which was last issued in December 2012. 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 2012 are noted on Fig. 4.23. Table 4.15 identifies the monitored locations, the frequency of monitoring, and the sum of the percentages of the DCGs for radionuclides measured in 2012. Radiological data were well below the allowable DCGs.

In 2012, 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 121 kg or 0.039 Ci (Table 4.16). Figure 4.24 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 gal per day). Converting units and multiplying by 365 days per year yields the calculated discharge. The increase in uranium quantity in 2010 may be the result of higher rainfall and subsequent movement of sediment and runoff from surfaces such as rooftops.

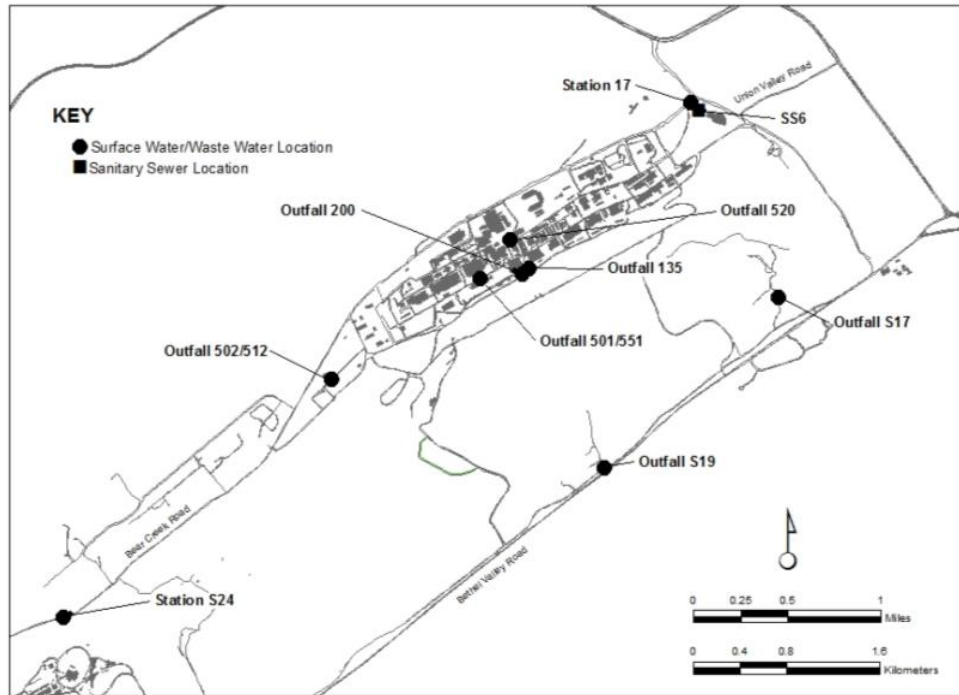


Fig. 4.23. Surface water and sanitary sewer radiological sampling locations at the Y-12 Complex.

Table 4.15. Summary of Y-12 Complex radiological monitoring plan sample requirements and 2012 results

Location	Sample frequency	Sample type	Sum of DCG 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	4.5
Groundwater Treatment Facility	4/year	24 h composite	1.3
Steam condensate	1/year	Grab	0
Central Mercury Treatment Facility	4/year	24 h composite	0
<i>Other Y-12 Complex point and area source discharges</i>			
Outfall 135	4/year	24 h composite	0
Kerr Hollow Quarry	1/year	24 h composite	0.2
Rogers Quarry	1/year	24 h composite	0
<i>Y-12 Complex instream locations</i>			
Outfall S24	1/year	7-day composite	0.69
East Fork Poplar Creek, complex exit (east)	1/month	7-day composite	3.8
North/south pipes	1/month	24 h composite	3.8
<i>Y-12 Complex Sanitary Sewer</i>			
East End Sanitary Sewer Monitoring Station	1/year	7-day composite	2.0

Abbreviations

DCG = derived concentration guide

Y-12 Complex = Y-12 National Security Complex

Table 4.16. Release of uranium from the Y-12 Complex to the off-site environment as a liquid effluent, 2008–2012

Year	Quantity released	
	Ci ^a	kg
Station 17		
2008	0.046	75
2009	0.067	187
2010	0.075	326
2011	0.104	124
2012	0.039	121

^a1 Ci = 3.7E+10 Bq.

Abbreviations

Y-12 Complex = Y-12 National Security Complex

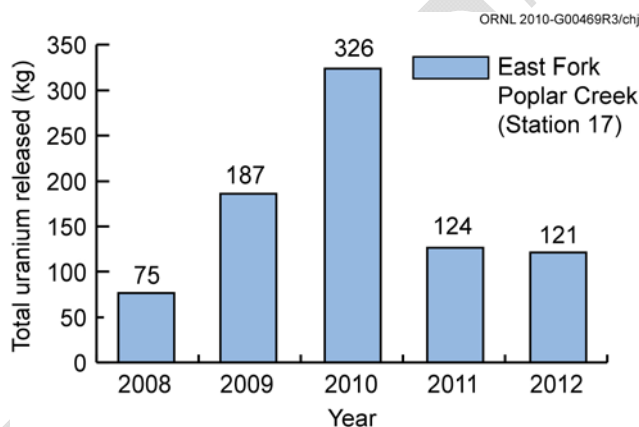


Fig. 4.24. Five-year trend of Y-12 Complex release of uranium to East Fork Poplar Creek.

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. 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 "as low as reasonably achievable" goals. Results of radiological monitoring were reported to the city of Oak Ridge in 2012 quarterly monitoring reports.

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 the issuance of a new NPDES permit in November 2011. Significant changes include 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 for 2012 during rain events which occurred in April, August, and September. Results were published in the annual storm water report (B&W Y-12 2012a), which was submitted to the Division of Water Pollution Control in January 2013. 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, raw water flow, and two instream monitoring locations on EFPC (Fig. 4.25). The permit no longer calls for sampling of stream base load sediment that is being transported as a result of the heavy flow.

In general, the quality of storm water exiting the Y-12 Complex via EFPC continued to improve in 2012. Improved best management practices and reductions of outside material storage are suspected to be the primary reasons for this continued improvement.

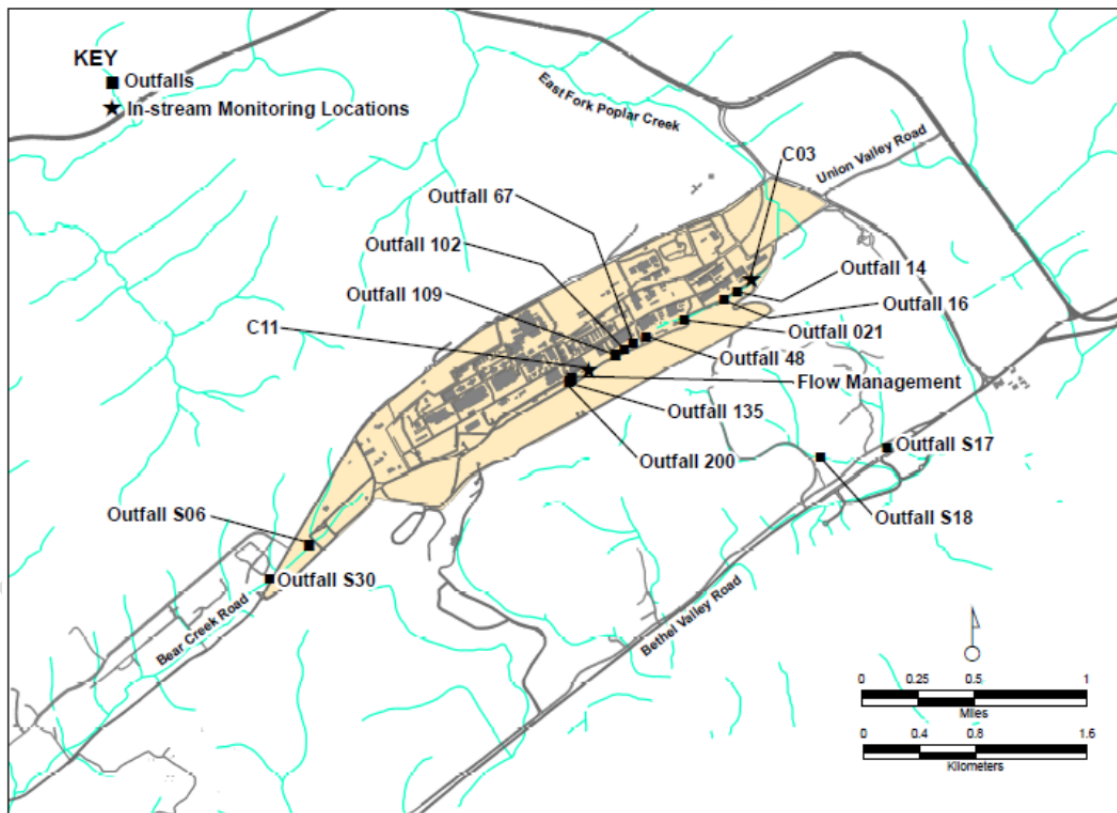


Fig. 4.25. Y-12 Complex storm water monitoring locations.

4.5.5 Flow Management (or Raw Water)

Because of concern about maintaining water quality and stable flow in the upper reaches 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 requires 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 offers the potential benefit of reducing the transport of mercury from a contaminated section of the streambed.

A new NPDES permit that became effective December 1, 2011, contains a requirement to provide a schedule for the relocation of the addition of raw water to EFPC downstream of its current location 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 raw water addition to EFPC was submitted to TDEC in accordance with the NPDES permit indicating the raw addition will be relocated and associated water quality studies will be completed in 2015. Subsequently, an engineering report was transmitted to TDEC in December 2012, and design is expected to commence pending approval of this document.

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. 4.26. 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 to monitor trends throughout the three hydrogeologic regimes (see Section 4.6).

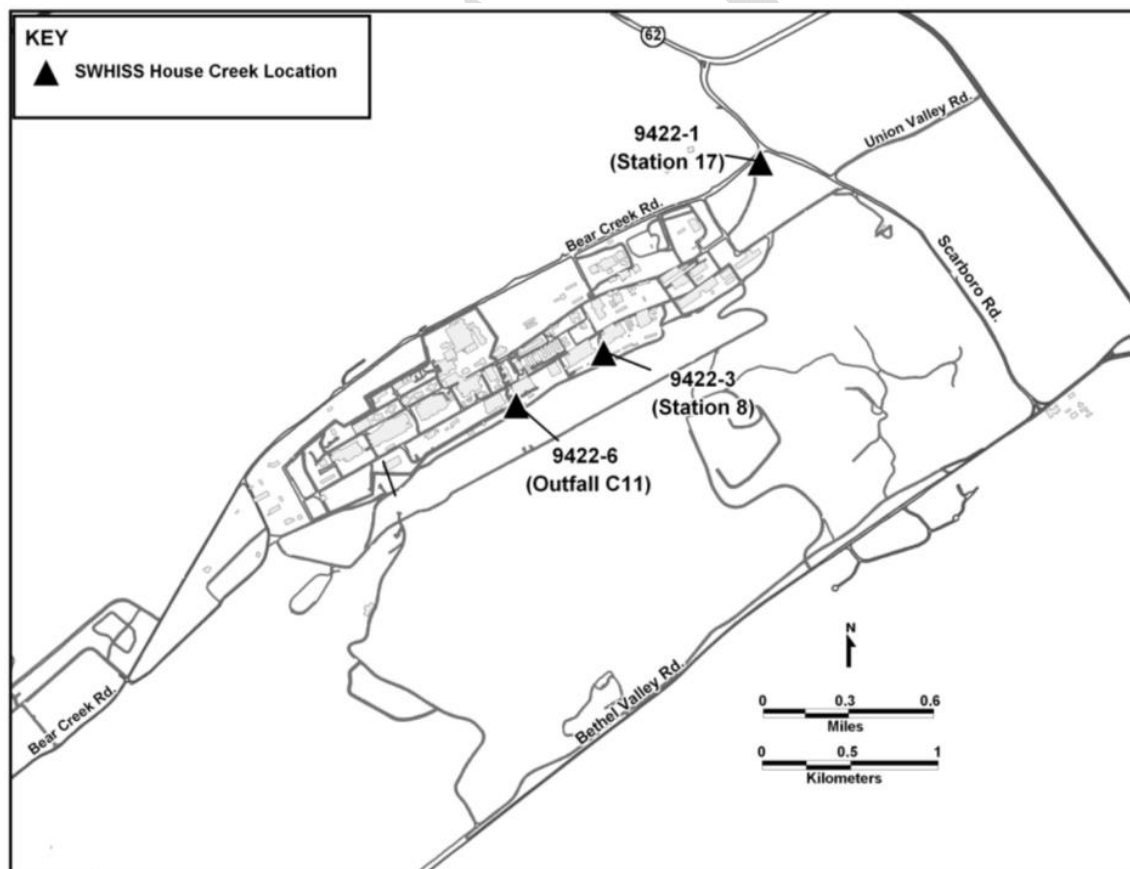


Fig. 4.26. Surface Water Hydrological Information Support System (SWHISS) monitoring locations.

4.5.7 Industrial Wastewater Discharge Permit

The Industrial and Commercial User Wastewater Discharge Permit No. 1-91 provides 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. Limitations are set in the permit 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 use the monitoring station to conduct compliance monitoring as required by the pretreatment regulations. City personnel also conduct twice yearly compliance inspections. Monitoring results during 2012 (Table 4.17) indicate one exceedance of the permit. This was for a daily flow in excess of the permit limit that occurred on September 18, 2012.

Over the last several years, Y-12 Complex personnel have conducted flow monitoring at key locations in the sanitary sewer system during wet and dry weather conditions. This effort has enabled a determination to be made of the general areas of the system most likely to contribute the greatest volume of I/I of extraneous water into the lines. Examination of the data in 2009 led to the conclusion that inflow of surface water was the major contributor, and in November 2009, a plan was developed to conduct smoke tests of the lines to locate specific inflow problems. The testing effort was initiated in 2010 and continued through 2012. Progress continues to be made in identifying and correcting sources of storm water inflow.

Table 4.17. Y-12 Complex Discharge Point SS6, Sanitary Sewer Station 6 January through December 2012 (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 (gallons per day)	366	373,519	1,400,000	1,400,000	1
pH (standard units)	14	7.45	9/6 ^b	9/6 ^b	0
Silver	14	0.002	0.10	0.05	0
Arsenic	14	<0.004	0.025	0.010	0
Biochemical oxygen demand	14	75.7	300	200	0
Cadmium	14	<0.0004	0.005	0.0033	0
Chromium	14	<0.003	0.075	0.05	0
Copper	14	0.0358	0.21	0.14	0
Cyanide	14	<0.007	0.062	0.041	0
Iron	14	0.619	30	10	0
Mercury	14	0.0043	0.035	0.023	0
Kjeldahl nitrogen	14	19.3	90	45	0
Nickel	14	<0.004	0.032	0.021	0
Oil and grease	14	<6.8	50	25	0
Lead	14	<0.0017	0.074	0.049	0

Table 4.17. (continued)

Effluent parameter	Number of samples	Average Value	Daily Maximum (effluent limit) ^a	Monthly Average (effluent limit) ^a	Number of Limit Exceedances
Phenols—total recoverable	24	<0.033	0.3	0.15	0
Suspended solids	15	115	300	200	0
Zinc	14	0.1467	0.75	0.35	0
Molybdenum	14	0.0648	0.05 ^c	0.05 ^c	Not Applicable
Selenium	14	<0.008	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
111 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	0.003	0.005 ^c	0.005 ^c	Not Applicable
Trichloroethylene	4	0.005U	0.005 ^c	0.005 ^c	Not Applicable
1,2 trans 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

Abbreviations

Y-12 Complex = Y-12 National Security Complex

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 new 2011 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 in the summer of 2012 using fathead minnow larvae and *Ceriodaphnia dubia*. A third outfall, outfall 125, no longer has sufficient base flows for toxicity to be evaluated. Table 4.18 summarizes the inhibition concentration (IC₂₅) results of biomonitoring tests conducted during 2012 at outfalls 200 and 135. IC₂₅ is the concentration of 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. The IC₂₅ was greater than the highest tested concentration of each effluent (100% for outfall 200; 36% for outfall 135) during each test conducted, indicating that no toxicity was detected during 2012.

Table 4.18. Y-12 Complex Biomonitoring Program summary information for outfalls 200 and 135 in 2012^a

Site	Test date	Species	IC ₂₅ ^b (%)
Outfall 200	7/25/12	<i>Ceriodaphnia dubia</i>	>100
Outfall 200	7/25/12	Fathead minnow	>100
Outfall 135	7/25/12	<i>Ceriodaphnia dubia</i>	>36
Outfall 135	7/25/12	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.

Abbreviations

Y-12 Complex = Y-12 National Security Complex

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 2012 BMAP sampling reported here follows the 2011 permit requirements. 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,

Oak Ridge Reservation

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, located upstream from the Oak Ridge Wastewater Treatment Facility; and EFK 6.3, located about 1.4 km downstream of the ORR boundary (Fig. 4.27). 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. 4.28).

Significant increases in species richness and diversity 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 the upper reaches of EFPC near the Y-12 Complex has slowed in recent years, and fish and invertebrate communities continue to be less diverse than the corresponding communities in reference streams.

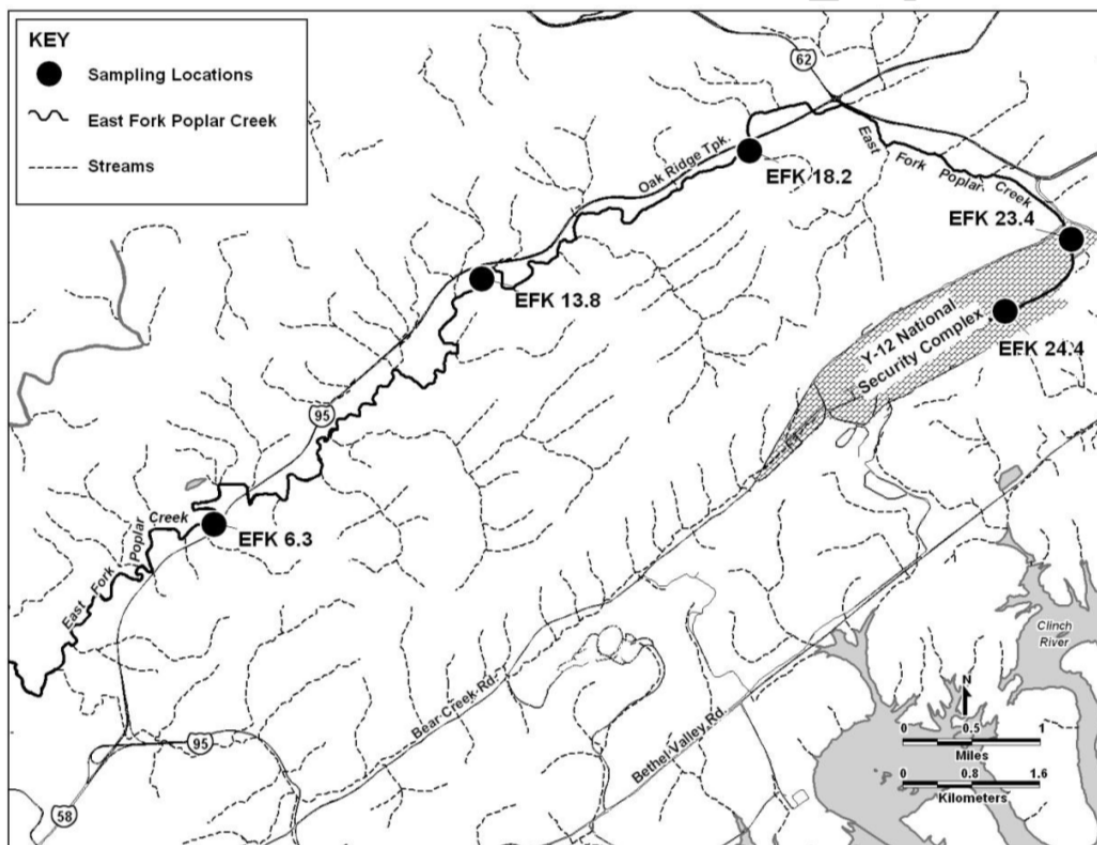


Fig. 4.27. Locations of biological monitoring sites on East Fork Poplar Creek in relation to the Y-12 National Security Complex. (EFK = East Fork Poplar Creek kilometer.)

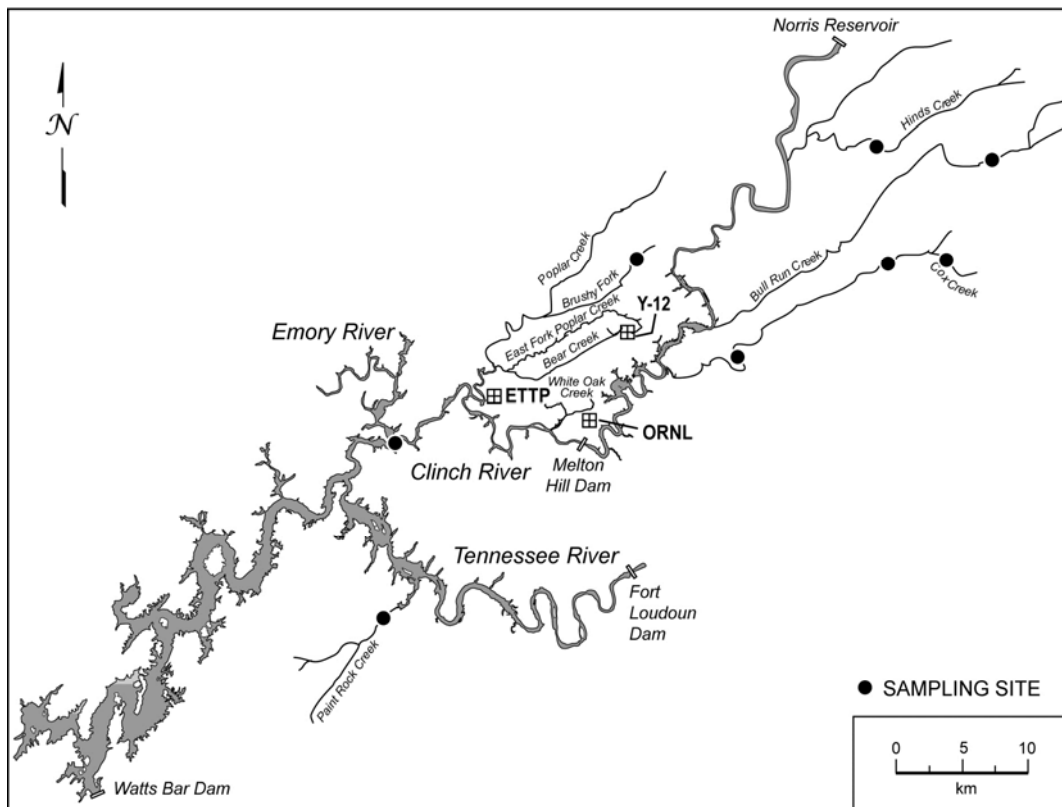


Fig. 4.28. Locations of biological monitoring reference sites in relation to the Y-12 National Security Complex.

4.5.10.1 Bioaccumulation Studies

Mercury and PCB levels in fish from EFPC have been historically 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). Mercury concentrations remained higher in fish from EFPC in 2012 than in fish from reference streams. Elevated mercury concentrations in fish from the upper reaches of EFPC indicate that the Y-12 Complex remains a continuing source of mercury to fish in the stream. Waterborne mercury concentrations in the upper reaches of EFPC have decreased substantially over the years in response to various remedial actions, first over the 1990s time period and then again in response to the Big Springs Treatment System in 2006 (Fig. 4.29). 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. 4.29). Significant increases in aqueous mercury concentrations (thought to be the result of storm drain relining and cleanout) have been seen at EFK 23.4 since 2009, but fish tissue concentrations at EFK 24.4 did not increase until fall 2011–spring 2012. The increase in mercury concentrations in fish seen at this site was statistically significant; these fish tissue concentrations were the highest recorded in more than a decade at this site. Mean concentrations of PCBs in fish at EFK 24.4 have not changed substantially since 2008 but continued to be much lower than peak concentrations observed in the mid-1990s (Fig. 4.30).

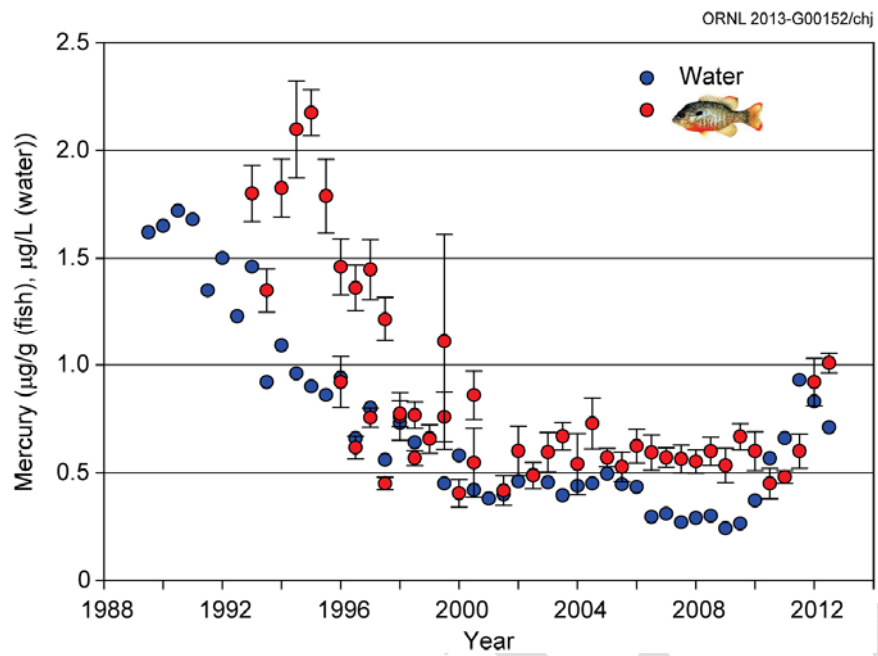


Fig. 4.29. Semiannual average mercury concentration in water and muscle fillets of redbreast sunfish in East Fork Poplar Creek (EFPC) at EFPC kilometer 24.4 through spring 2012.

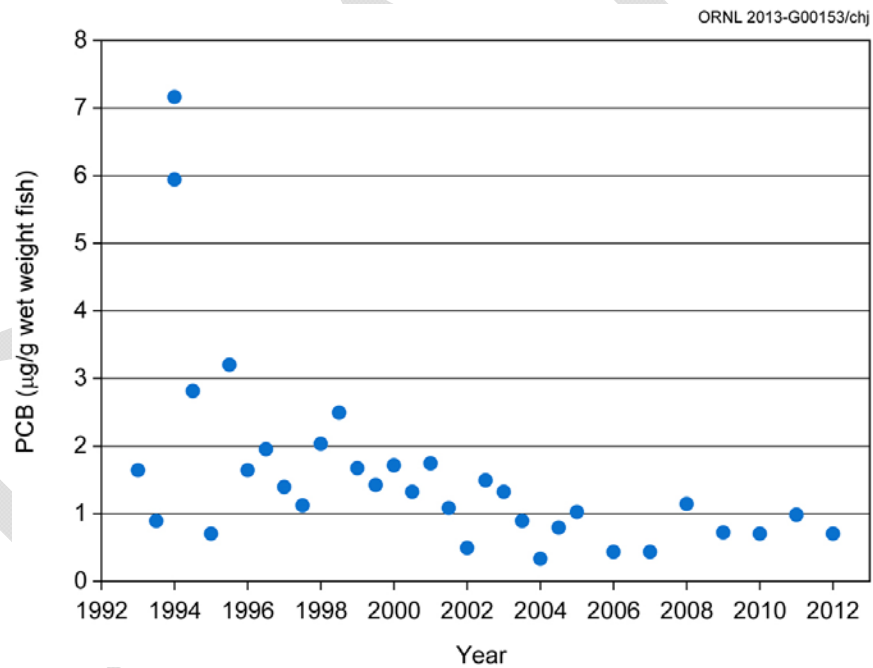


Fig. 4.30. Mean concentrations of PCBs in redbreast sunfish muscle fillets in East Fork Poplar Creek (EFPC) at EFPC kilometer 24.4 through spring 2012.

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 2012. The macroinvertebrate community at EFK 23.4 and EFK 24.4 remained degraded as compared with reference communities, although recent trends at EFK 23.4 suggest improvement has occurred at that site since 2005. Trends at EFK 24.4, on the other hand, suggest that no substantial change has occurred at that site since 2000 (Fig. 4.31). Results for EFK 13.8 in 2012 continue to suggest that no substantial change has occurred at that site since the late 1980s and that mildly degraded conditions remain.

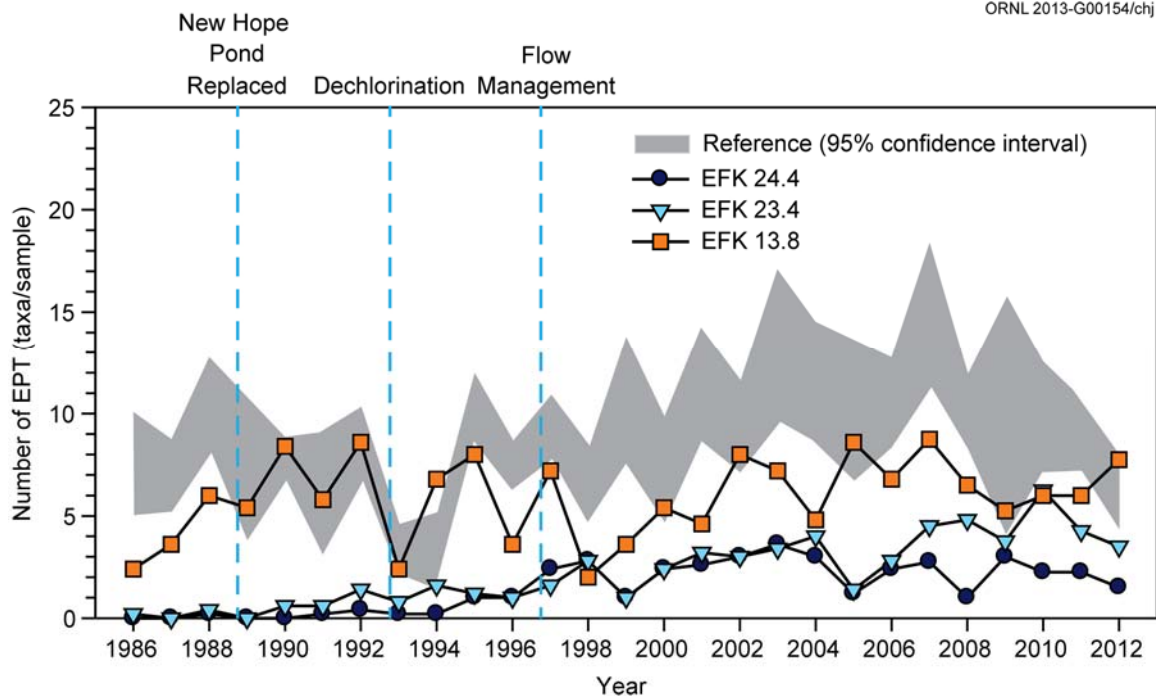


Fig. 4.31. Total taxonomic richness of the Ephemeroptera, Plecoptera, and Trichoptera (EPT) (mean number of EPT taxa/sample) of the benthic macroinvertebrate communities sampled in spring from East Fork Poplar Creek and two nearby reference streams (Brushy Fork and Hinds Creek). (EFK = East Fork Poplar Creek kilometer.)

4.5.10.3 Fish Community Monitoring

Fish communities were monitored in the spring and fall of 2012 at five sites along EFPC and at a reference stream. 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. 4.32 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 25% of the reference value.

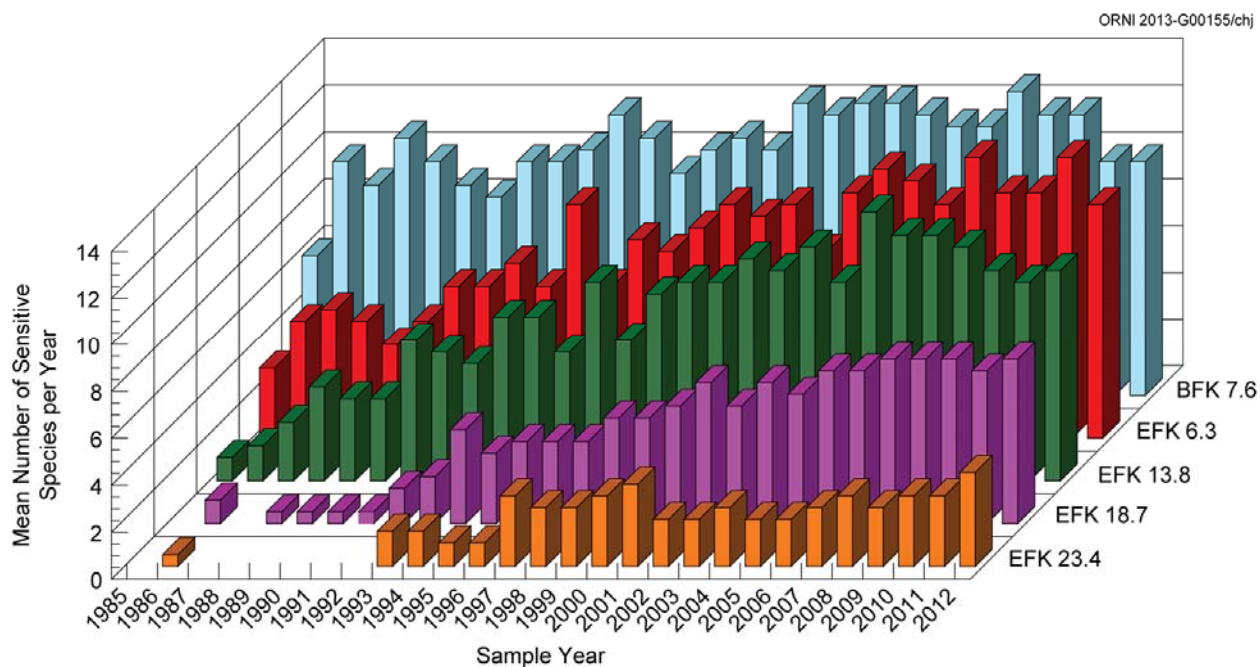


Fig. 4.32. Comparison of mean sensitive species richness (number of species) collected each year from 1985 through 2012 from four sites in East Fork Poplar Creek and a reference site (Brushy Fork). (EFK = East Fork Poplar Creek kilometer; BFK = Brushy Fork kilometer.)

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 what impacts to the environment from legacy and current operations are occurring. More than 200 sites have been identified at the Y-12 Complex that represent known or potential sources of contamination to the environment as a result of past operational and waste management practices. 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 2012.

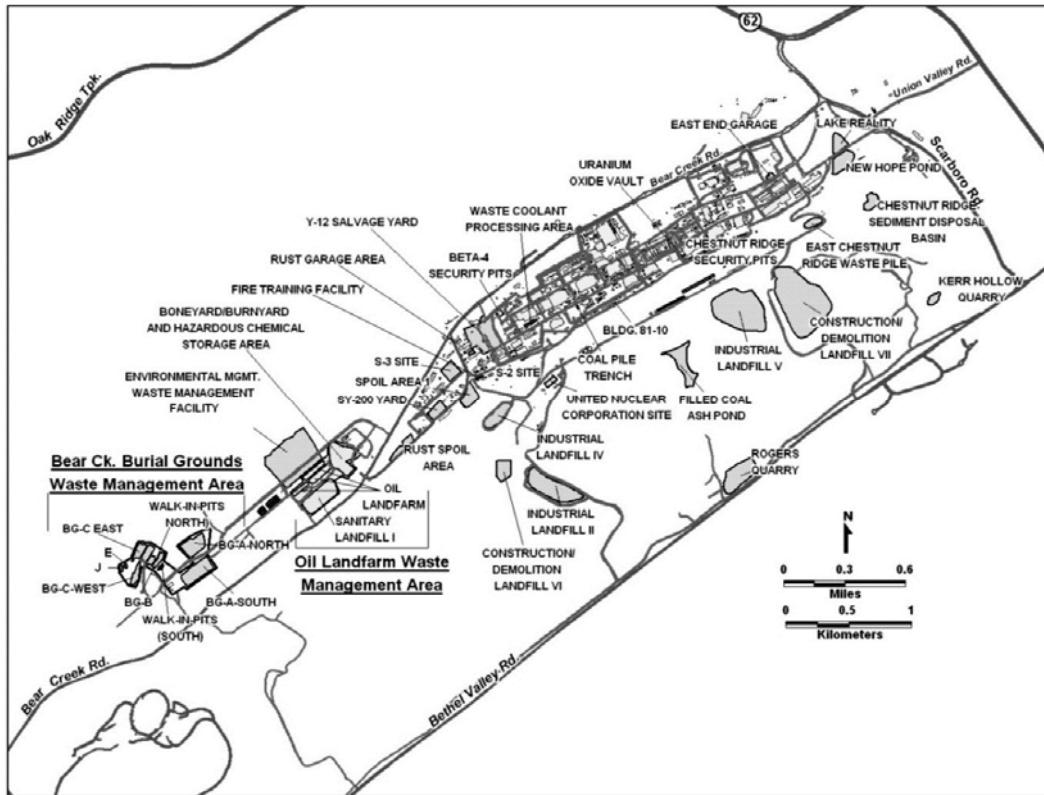


Fig. 4.33. Known or potential contaminant sources for which groundwater monitoring was performed at the Y-12 National Security Complex during CY 2012.

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.

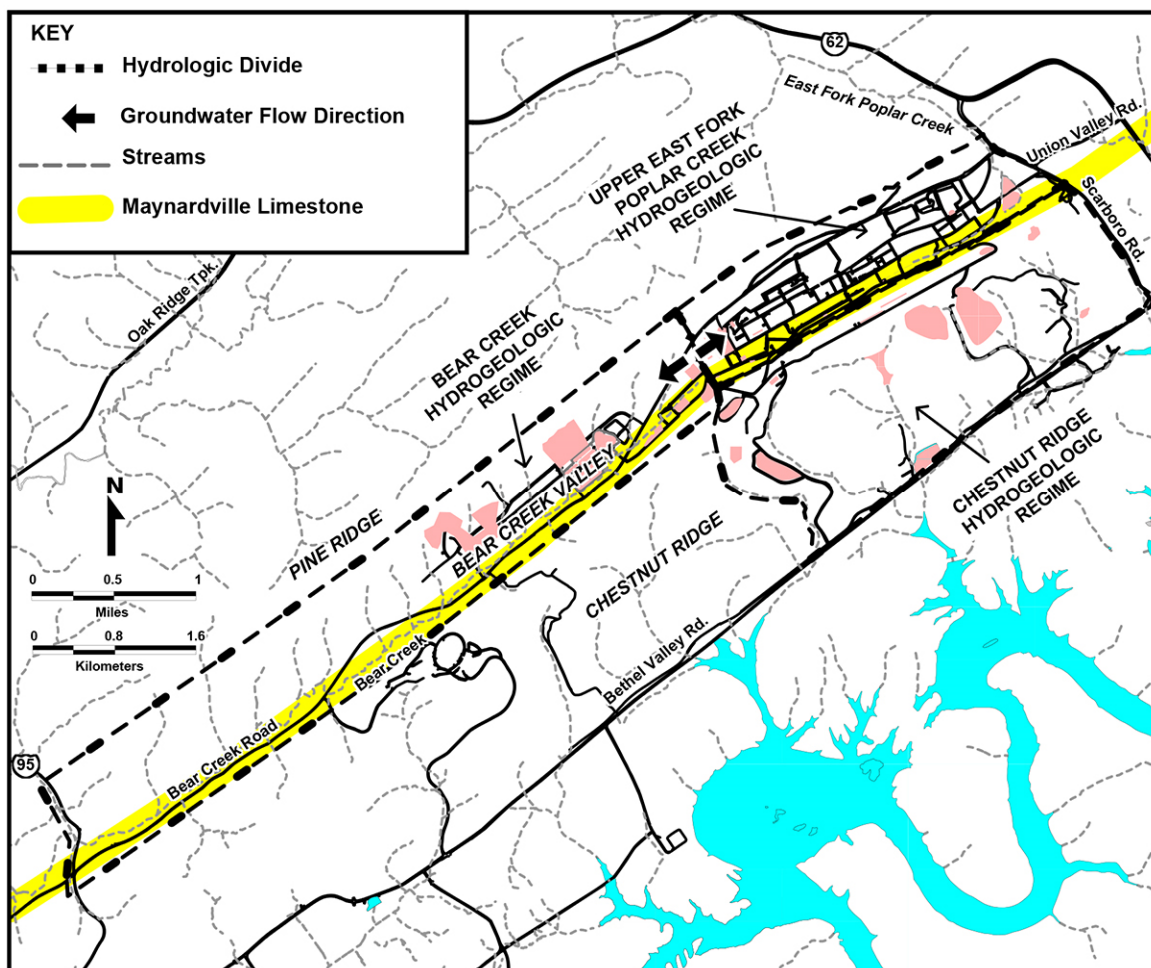


Fig. 4.34. Hydrogeologic regimes at the Y-12 National Security Complex and the position of the Maynardville Limestone in Bear Creek Valley.

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 1 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-3 site 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 are routinely 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 2012, one monitoring well was installed at the Y-12 Complex to support closure of the UST at the East End Garage (Fig. 4.33).

Eight monitoring wells were plugged and abandoned during the year in support of DOE-EM CERCLA site activities. Seven of these were located at the ORAU South Campus Facility located at the corner of Scarboro and Bethel Valley Roads (not shown on Fig. 4.33). One well that was plugged and abandoned was located at the White Wing Scrap Yard northwest of the Y-12 Complex off of State Highway 95 (also not shown on Fig. 4.33). Details regarding activities associated with the ORAU South Campus Facility and White Wing Scrap Yard are reported in the annual CERCLA remediation effectiveness reports (DOE 2013).

4.6.3 CY 2012 Groundwater Monitoring

Groundwater monitoring in CY 2012 was performed to comply with DOE orders and regulations by the Y-12 Groundwater Protection Program, DOE EM programs such as WRRP, and other projects. Compliance requirements were met by monitoring 207 wells and 61 surface water locations and springs (Table 4.19). Figure 4.36 shows the locations of Y-12 Complex perimeter/exit pathway groundwater monitoring stations.

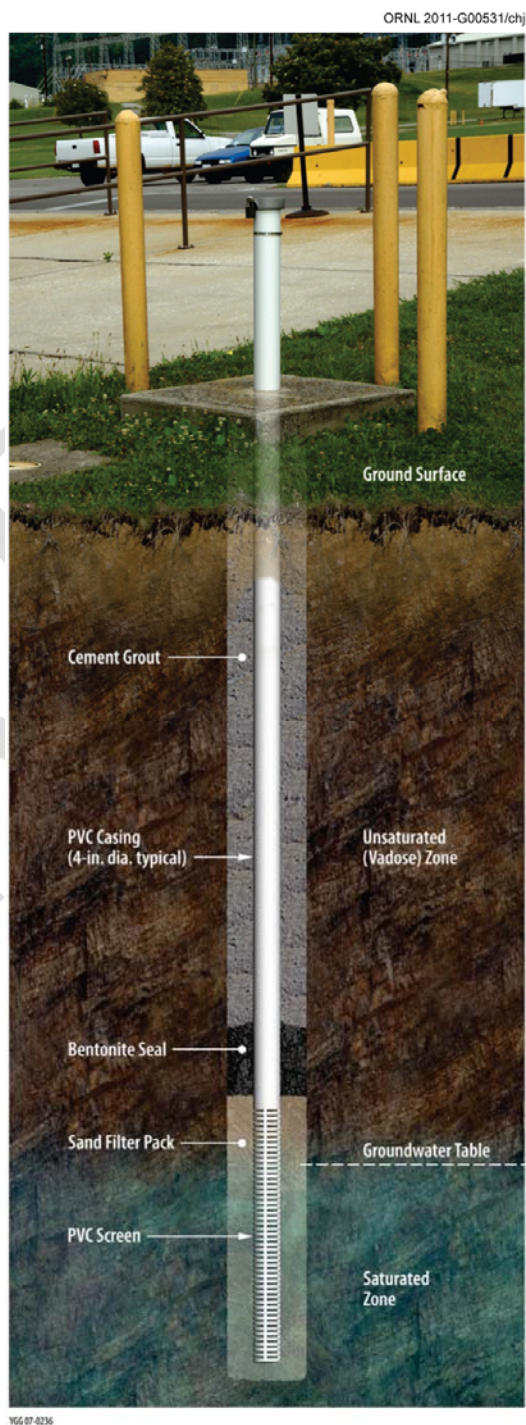


Fig. 4.35. Cross section of a typical groundwater monitoring well.

Table 4.19. Summary groundwater monitoring at the Y-12 National Security Complex, 2012

	Purpose for which monitoring was performed				Total
	Restoration ^a	Waste management ^b	Surveillance ^c	Other ^d	
Number of active wells	61	33	113	140	347
Number of other monitoring stations (e.g., springs, seeps, surface water)	35	6	20	0	61
Number of samples taken ^e	176	151	155	1,859	2,341
Number of analyses performed	8,859	19,855	11,998	6,189	46,901
Percentage of analyses that are nondetects	74.3	86.8	80.8	40.9	76.8
<i>Ranges of results for positive detections, VOCs (µg/L)^f</i>					
Chloroethenes	1–2,600	4.74–31.8	2–55,000	NA	
Chloroethanes	1.1–500	9.63–48.4	2–520	NA	
Chloromethanes	1–1,000	ND	2–4,100	NA	
Petroleum hydrocarbons	1–8,400	ND	1–2,000	NA	
Uranium (mg/L)	0.004–0.6	0.004–0.0074	0.00053–0.986	0.000237–55.29	
Nitrates (mg/L)	0.012–7,500	0.54–1.82	0.054–10,799	0.089–24,578	
<i>Ranges of results for positive detections, radiological parameters (pCi/L)^g</i>					
Gross alpha activity	2.15–313	0.8–5.99	3.2–580	NA	
Gross beta activity	3.17–15,500	2.54–27.5	5.4–15,000	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 Natural and Accelerated Bioremediation Research Field Research Center.

^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.

Abbreviations

CERCLA = Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act

NA = not analyzed

ND = not detected

RCRA = Resource Conservation and Recovery Act

VOC = volatile organic compound

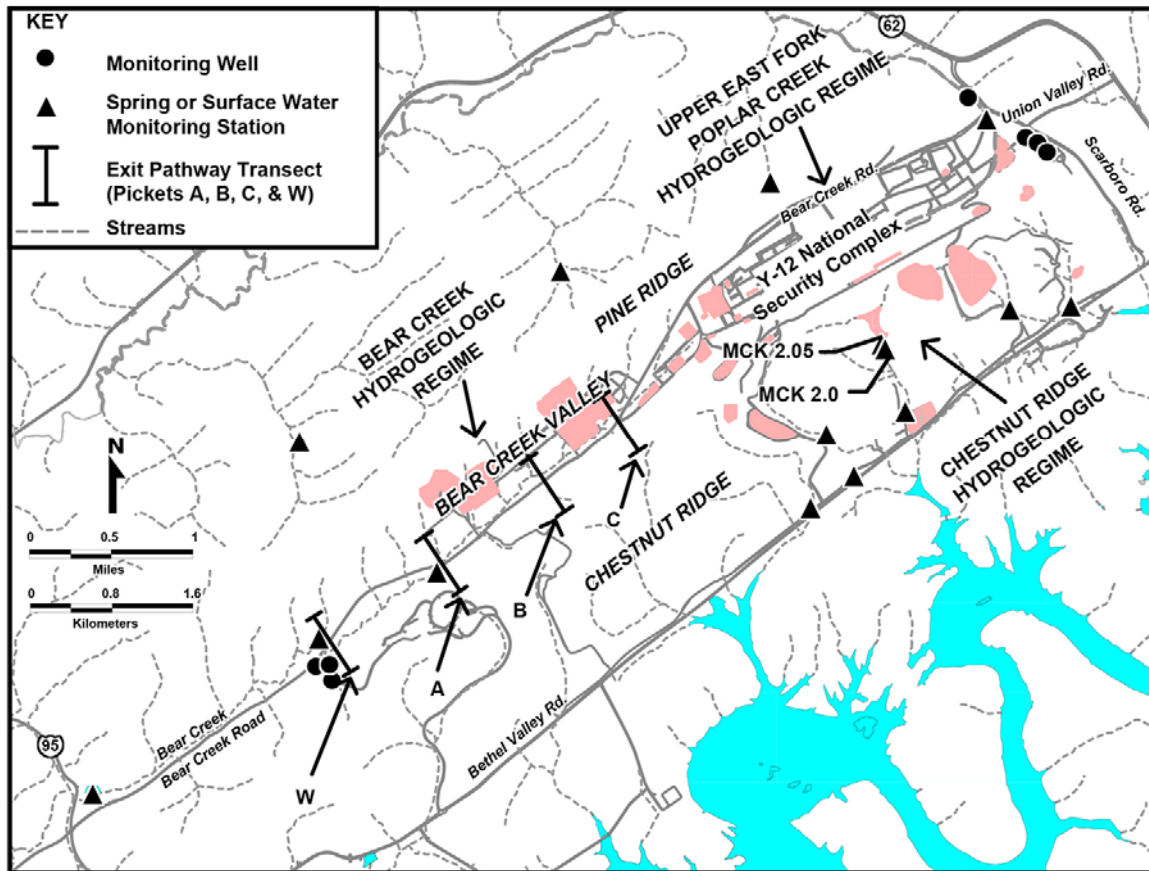


Fig. 4.36. Location of Y-12 National Security Complex perimeter/exit pathway well, spring, and surface water monitoring stations. (MCK = McCoy Branch kilometer.)

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). The Y-12 Groundwater Protection Program continued to use passive diffusion bag samplers in 2012 at selected monitoring wells. The passive diffusion bag sampling method is suitable only for monitoring for the presence and concentration of selected VOCs in groundwater. This method involves suspending a polyethylene bag (semipermeable membrane) filled with deionized water at a selected depth within the monitored interval of the well and leaving the passive diffusion bag in place for a prescribed period (at least four weeks). The chemical concentration gradient between the uncontaminated deionized water in the passive diffusion bag and the surrounding contaminated groundwater induces VOCs in the groundwater to diffuse through the bag into the deionized water until equilibrium conditions are achieved. When retrieved, the water in the passive diffusion bag is decanted into VOC sample bottles and analyzed using standard procedures.

Comprehensive water quality results of groundwater monitoring activities at the Y-12 Complex in CY 2012 are presented in *Calendar Year 2012 Groundwater Monitoring Report* (B&W Y-12 2013).

Details of monitoring efforts performed specifically for CERCLA baseline and remediation evaluation are published in the FY 2012 and FY 2013 WRRP sampling and analysis plans (UCOR 2011, UCOR 2012) and the annual CERCLA remediation effectiveness reports (DOE 2013).

Groundwater monitoring compliance reporting to meet RCRA postclosure permit requirements can be found in the annual RCRA groundwater monitoring report (UCOR 2013).



Fig. 4.37. Groundwater monitoring well sampling at Y-12. [Source: Kathryn Fahey, Y-12 photographer.]

4.6.4 Y-12 Complex Groundwater Quality

Historical monitoring efforts have shown that there are four primary contaminants that have impacted 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 ^{99}Tc are the radionuclides of greatest concern. Trace metals (e.g., barium, cadmium, chromium, arsenic), the least extensive groundwater contaminants, generally occur close to source areas because of their generally high adsorption characteristics. Historical data have shown that plumes from multiple-source units have mixed with one another and that contaminants (other than nitrate and ^{99}Tc) 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 ^{99}Tc) 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, including Union Valley, 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, 2012

Site	Description
New Hope Pond	Built in 1963. Regulated flow of water in upper East Fork Poplar Creek before exiting the Y-12 Complex grounds. 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. 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. Runoff and infiltration are the principal release mechanisms to groundwater. 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. Leaks and spills represent the primary contamination mechanisms for groundwater. 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 oils, 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 is 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.
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 current 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.

Abbreviations

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 2012 include the S-2 site, the Fire Training Facility, the S-3 site, the Waste Coolant Processing Facility, 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 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.

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 2012, groundwater concentrations of nitrate as high as 9,320 mg/L (well GW-275) were observed in the shallow bedrock 16.7–19.8 m (55–65 ft) below ground surface) about 396 m (1,300 ft) east of the S-3 site (Fig. 4.38). These results are consistent with results from previous years.

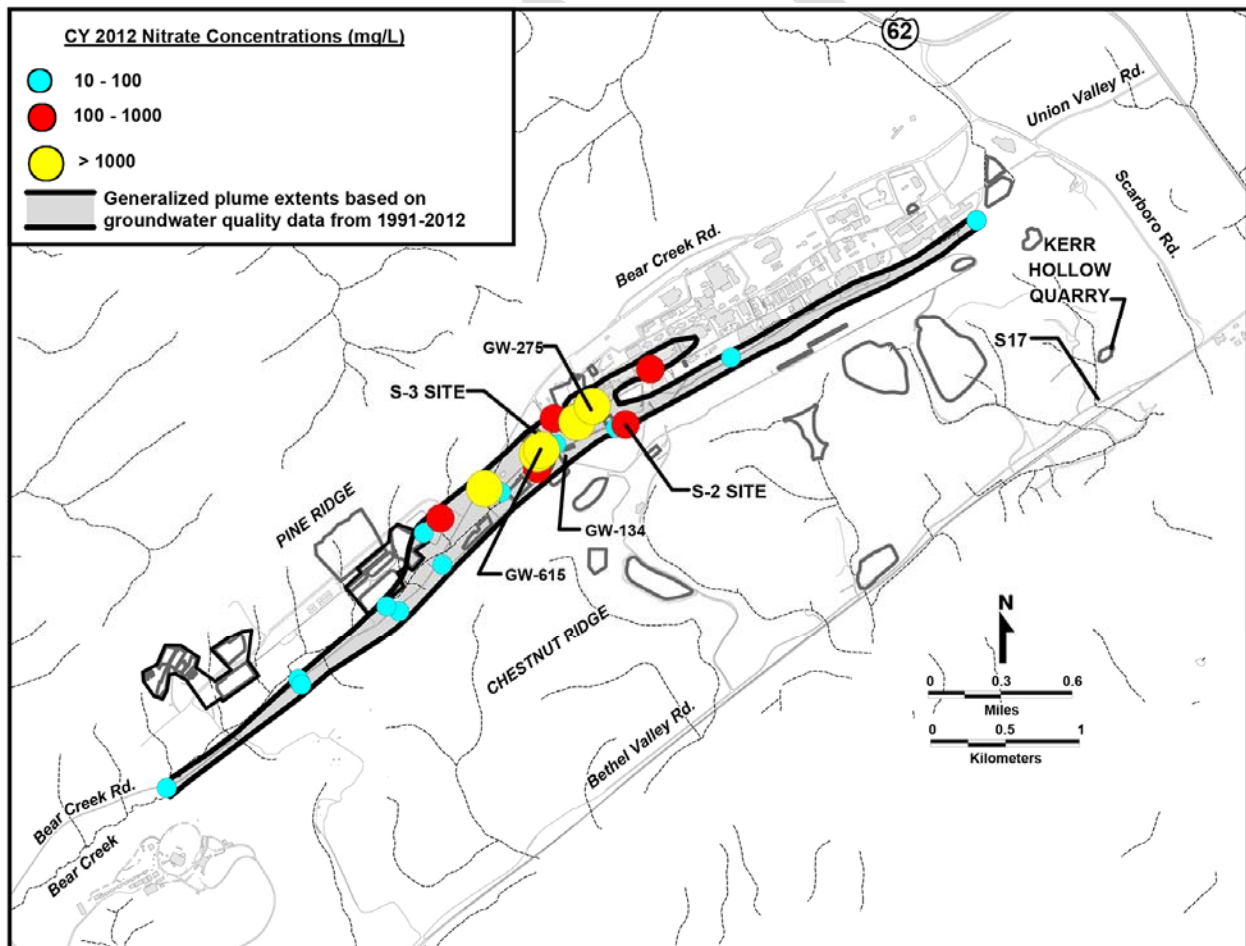


Fig. 4.38. Nitrate observed in groundwater at the Y-12 National Security Complex, 2012.

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 2012 in samples collected from various monitoring wells and surface water locations downgradient of the S-2 site, the S-3 site, and the Salvage Yard 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 2012 is mercury. Due to very low solubility in water and a very high affinity for clay-rich soils 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 analytical detection limits) in groundwater have been consistently observed only near known source areas (Fig. 4.39). 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.

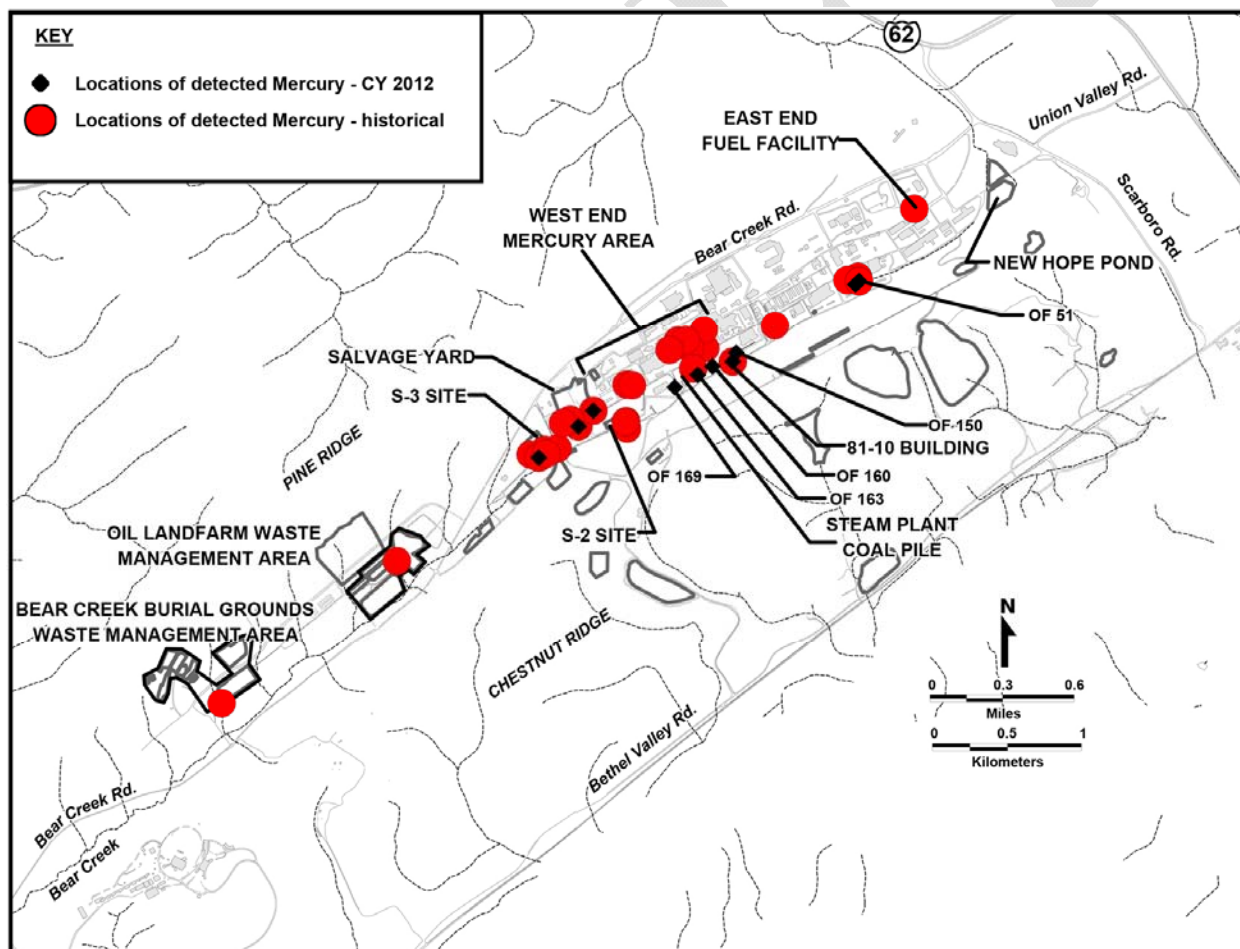


Fig. 4.39. Y-12 groundwater and surface water monitoring stations where mercury has been detected.

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 sequestered 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 as evident 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 catch basins [e.g., outfall 169, outfall 163, outfall 160, and outfall 150 (Fig. 4.39)]. 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.

4.6.4.1.4 Volatile Organic Compounds

Because of the many legacy source areas, VOCs are the most widespread groundwater contaminants in the EFPC regime. Dissolved VOCs in the regime primarily consist of chlorinated solvents and petroleum hydrocarbons. In CY 2012, the highest summed concentration of dissolved chlorinated solvents (66,527 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 (19,707 µg/L) was obtained from well GW-658 at the closed East End Garage.

These monitoring results generally confirm findings 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), 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 and isomers of DCE are 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.

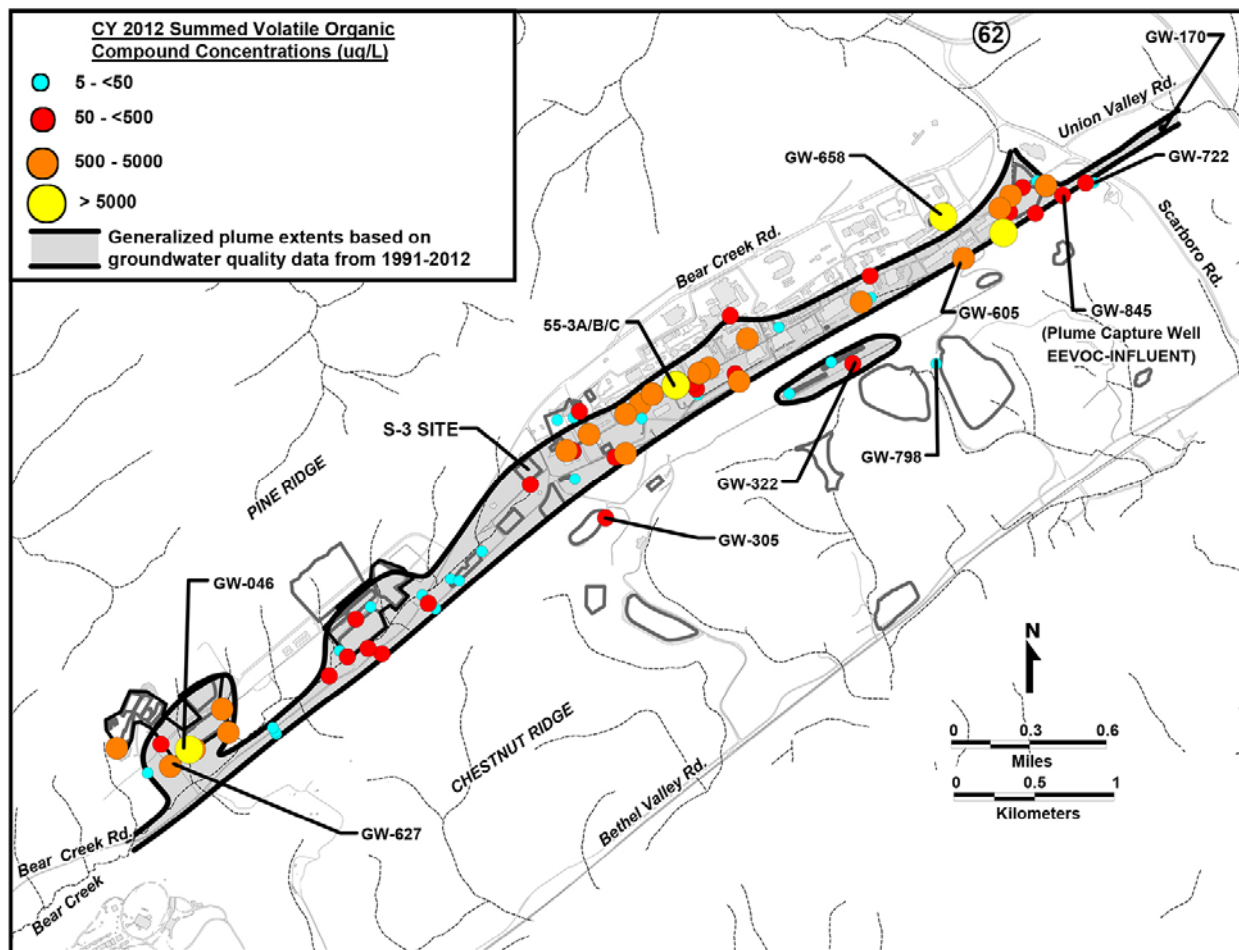


Fig. 4.40. Summed volatile organic compounds observed in groundwater at the Y-12 National Security Complex, 2012.

Within the exit pathway (the Maynardville Limestone, underlying EFPC) the general trends are also stable or decreasing, with one exception. 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 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 EFPC regime during CY 2012 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, the highest gross alpha activity in groundwater (313 pCi/L) continues to be observed on the east end of the Y-12 Complex in well GW-154, east of the former Oil Skimmer Basin (Fig. 4.41).

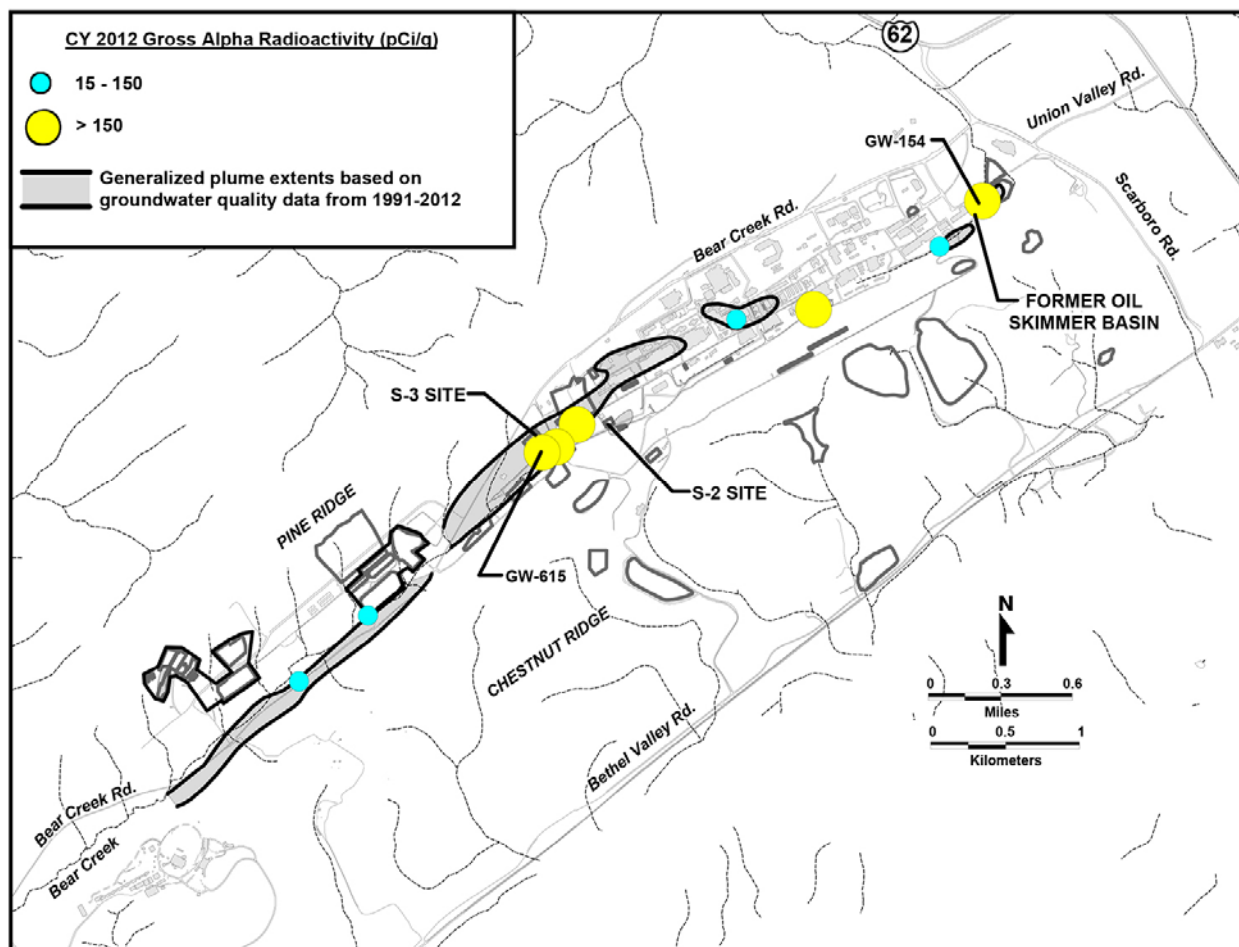


Fig. 4.41. Gross alpha activity observed in groundwater at the Y-12 National Security Complex, 2012.

The primary beta-emitting radionuclides observed in the upper EFPC regime were ⁹⁹Tc 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, where ⁹⁹Tc 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 2012 from well GW-108 (15,500 pCi/L), east of the S-3 site.

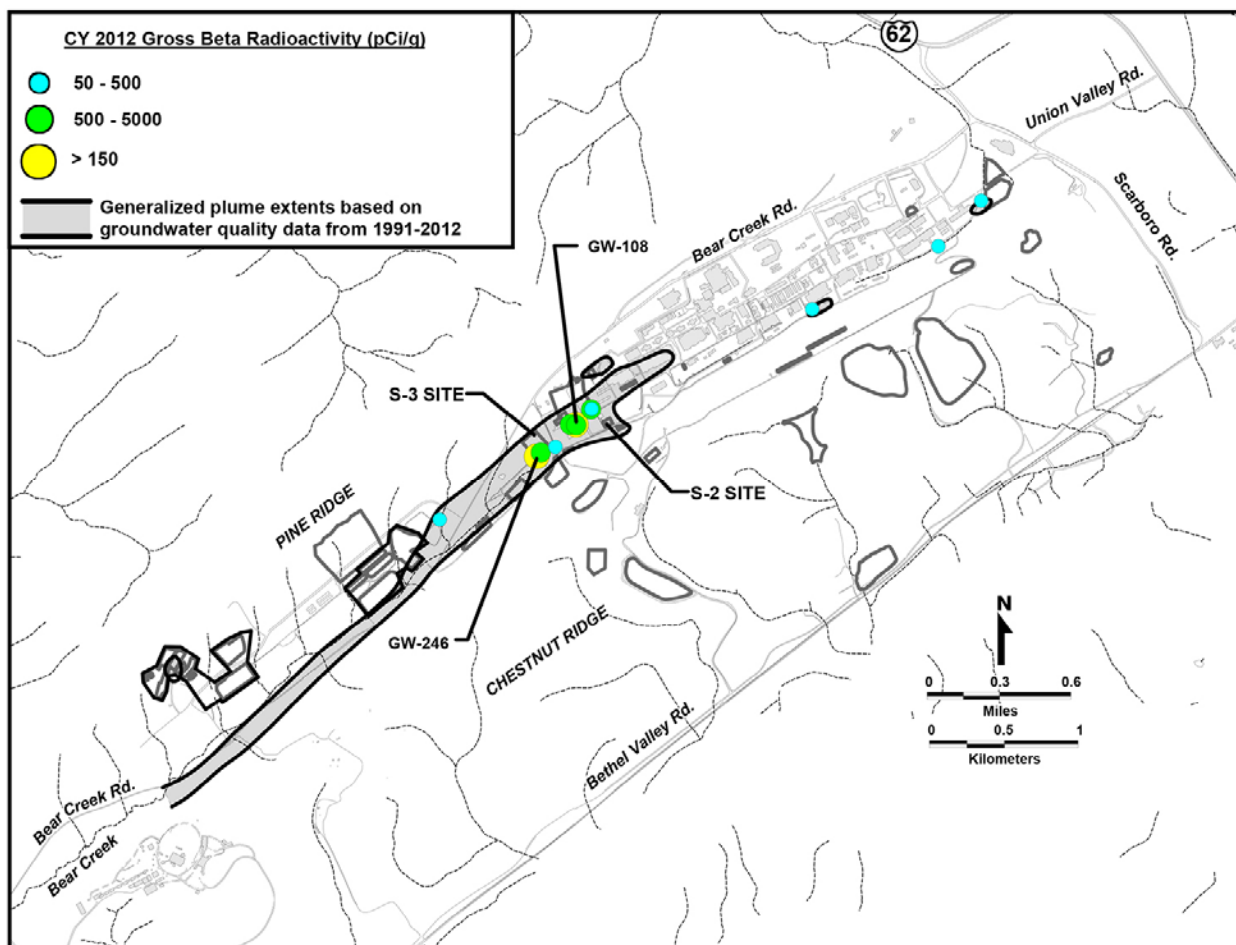


Fig. 4.42. Gross beta activity observed in groundwater at the Y-12 National Security Complex, 2012.

4.6.4.1.6 Exit Pathway and Perimeter Monitoring

Data collected to date indicate that VOCs are the primary class of contaminants that are 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 2012, the observed concentrations of VOCs at the New Hope Pond distribution channel underdrain continued to remain low (21.9 $\mu\text{g/L}$). 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 (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.

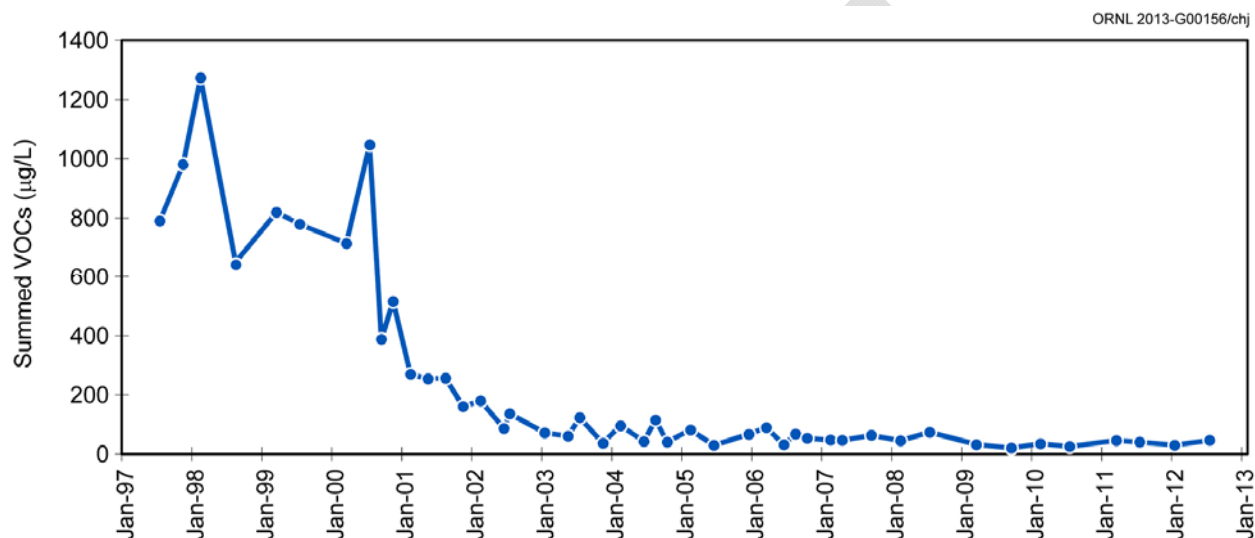


Fig. 4.43. Decreasing summed volatile organic compounds observed in exit pathway well GW-722-17 near the New Hope Pond, 2012.

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). Only one shallow well was monitored in CY 2012, 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 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 remedial investigation (DOE 1998) provided a discussion of the nature and extent of the VOCs.

In CY 2012, monitoring of locations in Union Valley continued, showing overall decreasing or very low concentration stable trends (less than 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 (DOE 2013).

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 at 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 2012 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.
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.
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.

Table 4.21. (continued)

Site	Description
Bear Creek Burial Grounds A and C and Walk-In Pits	Burial grounds A and C received waste oils, coolants, beryllium and uranium, various metallic wastes, and asbestos into unlined trenches and standpipes. Walk-in pits received chemical wastes, shock-sensitive reagents, and uranium saw fines. Activities ceased in 1981. Final closure 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, unlined trenches, received depleted uranium metal and oxides and minor amounts of debris and inorganic salts. 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 grounds B and part of C was granted 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	Constructed in 2002. CERCLA landfill receiving legacy wastes from ETTP, ORNL, the Y-12 Complex, and nearby off-site CERCLA action sites within the state of Tennessee.

Abbreviations

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.

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 2012 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 (10,799 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 2012, barium, beryllium, boron, 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 remedial actions 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 the remedial actions performed from 2002 to 2003 were successful in removing much of a primary source of uranium in Bear Creek Valley. Even though there is an overall decrease in uranium concentrations (Table 4.22), certain areas still present a significant impact to the overall health of Bear Creek.

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– 1993	1994– 1997	1998– 2001	2002– 2005	2006– 2009	2010– 2012
BCK ^b -11.84 to 11.97 (~0.5 miles downstream)	Nitrate	119	80	80	79.5	33.4	45.1
	Uranium	0.196	0.134	0.139	0.133	0.122	0.135
BCK-09.20 to 09.47 (~2 miles downstream)	Nitrate	16.4	9.6	10.6	11.3	9.1	3.3
	Uranium	0.091	0.094	0.171	0.092	0.067	0.047
BCK-04.55 (~5 miles downstream)	Nitrate	4.6	3.6	2.6	2.9	1.1	0.9
	Uranium	0.034	0.031	0.036	0.026	0.022	0.015

^aExcludes results that do not meet data quality objectives.

^bBCK = Bear Creek kilometer

Additional monitoring has been initiated to attempt to determine uranium inputs to the stream from source areas and the karst groundwater system underlying Bear Creek. Other trace metal contaminants that have been observed in previous years in the Bear Creek regime are arsenic, mercury, selenium, strontium, thallium, and zinc. Concentrations have commonly exceeded background values in groundwater near contaminant source areas.

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) of the source areas. The highest concentrations observed in CY 2012 in the Bear Creek regime occurred in the shallow unconsolidated zone at the Bear Creek Burial Ground waste management area, with a maximum summed VOC concentration of 5,083 µg/L in well GW-046 (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.

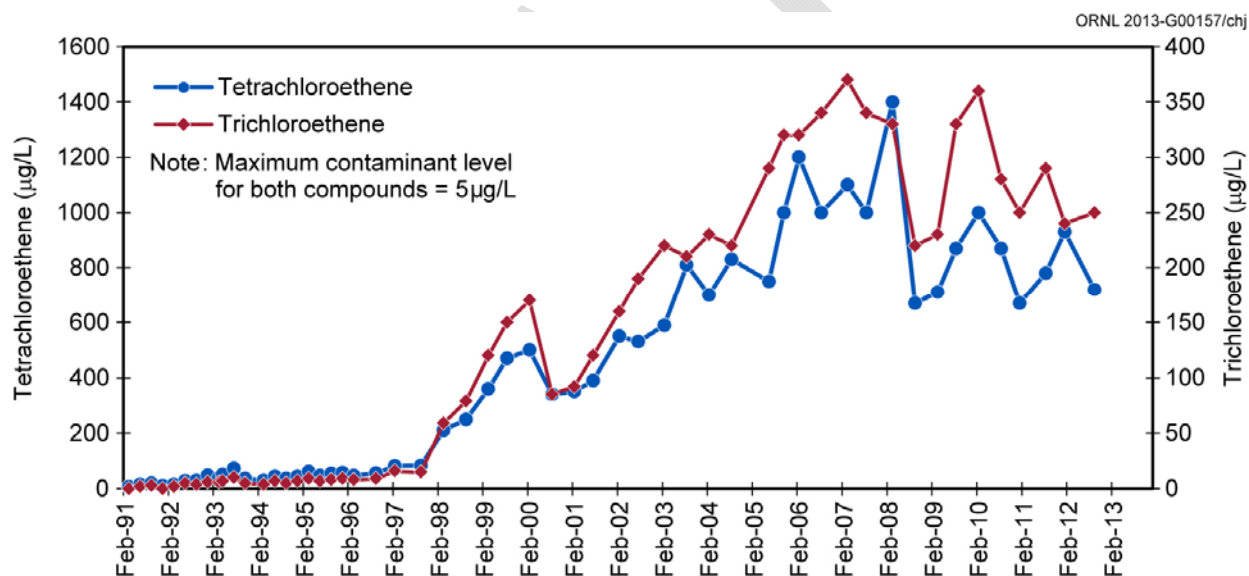


Fig. 4.44. Increasing volatile organic compounds observed in groundwater at well GW-627 west and downgradient of the Bear Creek Burial Grounds, 2012.

Significant transport of VOCs has occurred in the Maynardville Limestone. Data obtained from exit pathway monitoring locations show that in the intermediate groundwater interval, an apparently continuous dissolved plume extends at least 2,195 m (7,200 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 ⁹⁹Tc. 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 2012

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 2012 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 3,353 m (11,000 ft) west of the S-3 site. The highest gross alpha activity observed in groundwater in CY 2012 was 580 pCi/L in well GW-615 located adjacent to the S-3 site.

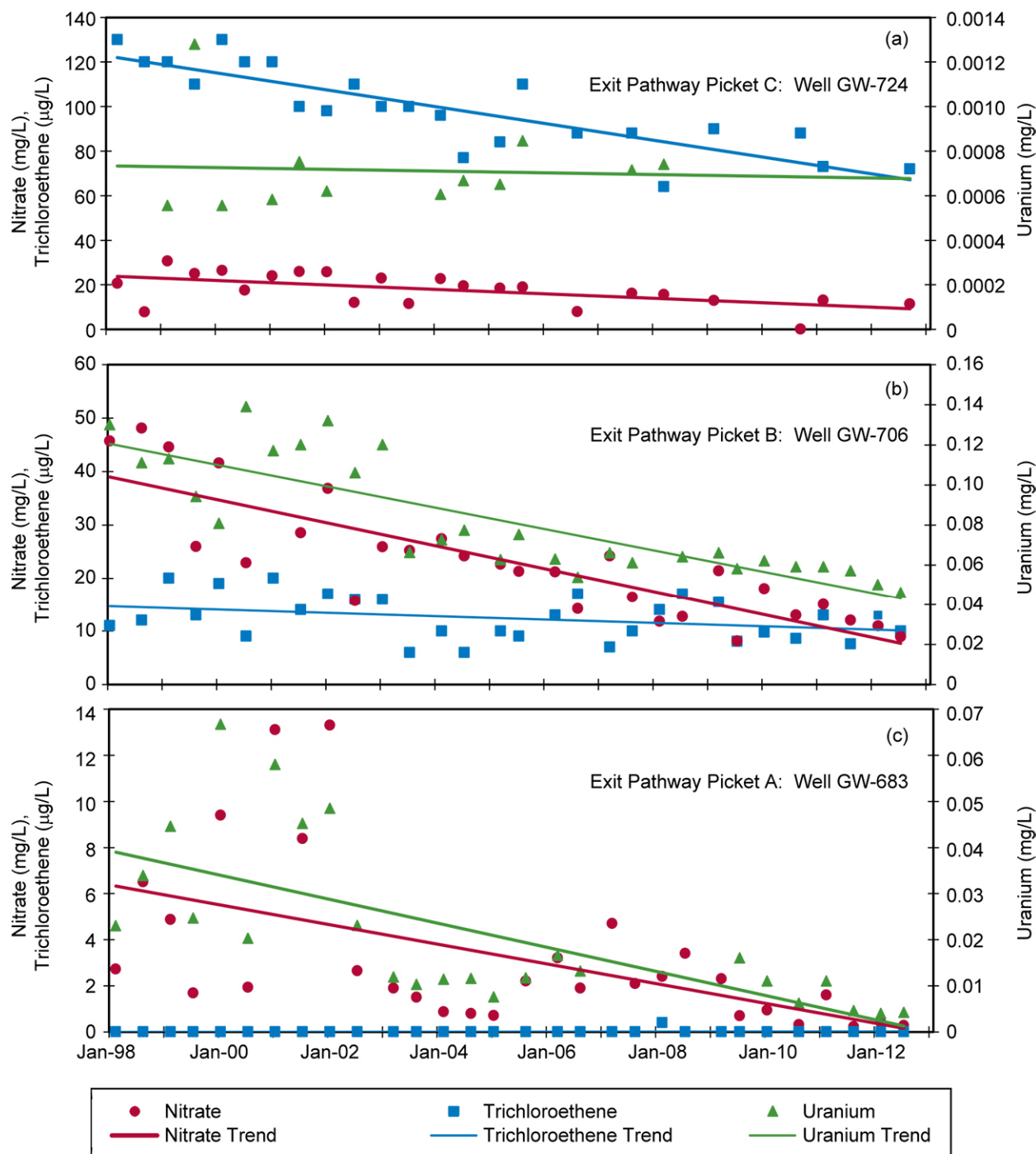
The distribution of gross beta activity in groundwater is similar to that of gross alpha activity. During CY 2012, the lateral extent of gross beta activity within the exit pathway groundwater interval and surface water above the drinking water standard diminished dramatically. There are no monitoring locations within the Maynardville Limestone exit pathway where gross beta activity has exceeded the 50 pCi/L standard. 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). This apparent oscillation in the plume length is dependent on rainfall and other seasonal factors, but this is an encouraging demonstration of a potentially diminishing contaminant plume. The highest gross beta activity in groundwater in the Bear Creek regime in 2012 was 15,000 pCi/L at well GW-246 located adjacent to the S-3 site.

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 2012 from the exit pathway monitoring wells indicate that groundwater is contaminated above drinking water standards in the Maynardville Limestone as far west as Picket B, and trends continue to be generally stable to decreasing (Fig. 4.45).

Surface water samples collected during CY 2012 indicate that water in Bear Creek contains many of the compounds found in the groundwater. Nitrate and uranium concentrations exceeding their respective drinking water standards have been observed in surface water west of the burial grounds as far as Picket A. The concentrations in the creek decrease with distance downstream of the waste disposal sites (Table 4.22).



Note: Only nitrate and uranium results above the detection limit are plotted; nondetected trichloroethene results are plotted at zero.

Fig. 4.45. CY 2012 concentrations of selected contaminants in exit pathway monitoring wells GW-724 (a), GW-706 (b), and GW-683 (c) 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. 4.34). 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 only documented 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, 2012

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. 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 exceedence of a TDEC groundwater protection standard.
Industrial Landfill V	Initiated operations April 1994. 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.
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.

Abbreviations

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 2012 indicate that the western lateral extent of the plume of VOCs at the site has not changed significantly from previous years. The continued observation of VOC contaminants over the past several years at a well about 458 m (1,500 ft) southeast 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 very low 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.

4.6.4.3.2 Nitrate

Nitrate concentrations were below the drinking water standard at all monitoring stations in the Chestnut Ridge hydrogeologic regime. Exit pathway/perimeter surveillance monitoring location S17 (Fig. 4.38) presented an increasing trend in nitrate as nitrogen that just exceeded the drinking water standard in August 2011 (10.1 mg/L). This surface water monitoring station is located on the tributary that drains Chestnut Ridge adjacent to Kerr Hollow Quarry and is monitored due to the known interrelationship between the groundwater and surface waters on Chestnut Ridge. Following this detection, a detailed survey of the tributary was performed in an attempt to pinpoint the possible source of this contaminant. This survey, completed in December 2011, determined that no further elevated concentrations of nitrate as nitrogen above the drinking water standard have been observed and that one natural spring appears to be the source of the elevated nitrate concentrations. Quarterly monitoring of 28 locations along this tributary (including surface water, springs, Kerr Hollow Quarry, and an upgradient pond) continued throughout CY 2012. Some locations presented detectable concentrations of nitrate but nothing that exceeded the drinking water standard (10 mg/L). The CY 2011 exceedence at S17 has not been repeated, and a source could not be determined. One spring location upstream from S17 did consistently present the highest concentrations and may be discharging from a source; however, no activities upgradient of this spring could definitively be identified. Monitoring location S17 will continue to be sampled under the routine surveillance monitoring program.

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 2013). Under the ROD a constructed wetland area is being used to reduce surface water contamination by effluent from the Filled Coal Ash Pond. During CY 2012, 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 82% and 97% less than the prerediation average concentrations, respectively (DOE 2013). An exit pathway/perimeter surface water monitoring location about 610 m (2,000 ft) downstream from the Filled Coal Ash Pond was also sampled during CY 2012 with no detectable arsenic. These locations will continue to be monitored in CY 2013.

4.6.4.3.4 Volatile Organic Compounds

In 2012, the highest summed VOC concentration observed in the Chestnut Ridge hydrogeologic regime was at Chestnut Ridge Security Pits well GW-322 (134 µg/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) to the southeast and downgradient of the Chestnut Ridge Security Pits has been developing since CY 2000. The maximum summed VOC concentration observed at well GW-798 during CY 2012 was 45 µg/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 2012, samples continue to exceed the drinking water standard for 1,1-DCE (7 µg/L). This has resulted in an increased level of monitoring to further evaluate the trend.

4.6.4.3.5 Radionuclides

In CY 2012, 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 three surface water monitoring locations were sampled during CY 2012. 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 of 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 well casing itself. All sampling methods follow industry/regulator-recognized protocols to ensure that consistent and repeatable samples are obtained.

- QCs such as field blank, trip blank, duplicate, and equipment rinse 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 2012 all groundwater monitoring and related analytical activities were performed in accordance with the established protocols.

4.7 Quality Assurance Program

It is the intent of B&W Y-12 that the Y-12 Complex Quality Assurance Program be fully consistent with and supportive of the ISMS program's functions and guiding principles. Management requirement Y60-101PD, *Quality 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.

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 B&W Y-12 Quality Assurance Program; customer-specific requirements; certification program requirements, International Standard 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*. To meet these requirements, the ACO laboratory adheres to the latest edition of the *DOE Quality Systems for Analytical Services* (DOE 2010) where it applies.

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.

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 a remedial investigation 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 Upper East Fork Poplar Creek Remediation

A report, *Explanation of Significant Differences for the Record of Decision for Phase I Interim Source Control Actions in the Upper East Fork Poplar Creek Characterization Area, Oak Ridge, Tennessee* (DOE 2012b), was approved on August 29, 2012. This report made changes to the *Record of Decision for Phase I Interim Source Control Actions in the Upper East Fork Poplar Creek Characterization Area, Oak Ridge, Tennessee* (DOE 2002) that are designed to be consistent with the new remediation strategy to conduct remedial actions in upper EFPC generally in an upgradient to downgradient sequence to reduce the potential for recontamination. These changes included elimination of asphalt capping of unpaved areas and changes to special studies identified in the Phase I ROD (DOE 2002).

DOE EM is intently focused on mercury remediation at Y-12. In 2012, engineers began projects that focused on mercury abatement through treatability studies, removing mercury tanks, cleaning storm drains, and designing treatment facilities that will reduce mercury migration into EFPC. Results and progress on these projects are summarized in Section 4.8.2.

4.8.2 American Recovery and Reinvestment Act–Funded Projects at the Y-12 National Security Complex

ARRA work at the Y-12 Complex continued toward completion. Most of the original ARRA work scope is now complete. Remaining ARRA work includes the Mercury Reduction Project (consisting of subprojects) and project closeout activities.

Alpha 5 characterization work performed

Alpha 5 (Building 9201-5) is the largest building at Y-12, measuring 613,642 ft². Previously completed work scope for the project included removal and disposal of legacy materials from the building (floors 1 through 4). About 464,000 ft³ of legacy waste was disposed.

In FY 2012, characterization of building materials and equipment that was physically connected to the building was completed. This effort was a critical necessary step in preparation for the eventual deactivation and decommissioning of the building. The final characterization report was completed in January 2012.

Storm drain material disposal completed

Cleaning and lining of storm sewers in upper EFPC were completed in September 2011. A phased construction completion report was submitted to the regulators in May 2012, and their approval was received in August 2012. The cleanout project generated 518,000 gal of wastewater, 16,980 yd³ of solid wastes, and 24.5 kg (54 lb) of elemental mercury that were properly treated and disposed (Fig. 4.46).



Fig. 4.46. Contaminated storm sewers were the primary source of mercury contamination in Poplar Creek.

Old Salvage Yard soil characterized, disposed

A single 50 ft by 50 ft area of the Old Salvage Yard was determined to be contaminated to a level that required remediation of the soil and disposal as LLW. The area was remediated to a depth of 2 ft and backfilled and stabilized in late 2011. The excavated soil was characterized, profiled, and disposed in FY 2012. About 988 yd³ of contaminated soils and miscellaneous debris were disposed at EMWMF. Site restoration was completed for remediated and nonremediation areas.

Exposure Unit 9

A 4.74 ha (11.7-acre) exposure unit (EU), EU-9, was addressed in FY 2012. This project included characterization of the EU and development of a remedial design report (RDR) that had an FFA milestone of September 30, 2012. The characterization strategy followed the upper EFPC remedial action work plan and included radiation walkover surveys and soil sampling and analyses. The goal was to identify contaminants exceeding industrial worker remediation limits and contaminants that were a threat to surface and groundwater below 2 ft.

Characterization results were presented in a technical memorandum and indicated that a remedial action is required in the former 81-10 area for protection of the industrial work force. The proposed

remedial action is excavation of a 45 ft by 70 ft by 2 ft deep area with an estimated volume of 6,300 ft³ of soil in the remedial action boundary. An RDR detailing the method of accomplishment, waste management, and waste disposition was prepared and submitted to EPA and TDEC ahead of the FFA milestone.

Mercury Reduction Planning and Remediation Projects

The Mercury Reduction Project was initiated in FY 2012 to facilitate reduction and lessened mobility of mercury at the Y-12 Complex. Subprojects under the Mercury Reduction Project began in 2012 and will continue into FY 2013.

Outfall 200 Conceptual Design—Outfall 200 is the major outfall at which mercury entrained with storm sewer effluents discharges into upper EFPC. During FY 2012, a treatability study and conceptual design were begun to remove mercury and decrease discharge of mercury at outfall 200. A draft alternatives analysis was performed for an outfall 200 treatment system, and a conceptual design based on the alternatives was started. The conceptual design is expected to be completed in FY 2013.

Secondary Pathways—An evaluation of mercury pathways of direct discharge points and/or structural factors that mobilize soil movement was conducted in the immediate vicinity of Alpha 4 (9201-4), Alpha 5 (9201-5), and Beta 4 (9204-4). Drains that could potentially discharge to soils were inspected. Designs were completed to retrofit selected building drains with mercury collection devices before building drain discharge to the storm sewer system. Additionally, designs for installation of impervious surfaces and direct drainage to the storm sewer system were completed. Installation of impervious surfaces at Alpha 4 and Alpha 5 is planned for FY 2013. The impervious surfaces will prevent percolation of water through the mercury-contaminated soils and direct rain water to the storm sewer system.

Mercury Recovery—Free mercury is free phase elemental mercury. Under the Mercury Recovery Project innovative, passive free mercury recovery traps were designed and installed at locations upstream of outfalls 150, 160, 163, and 169. The traps will collect free mercury, and Y-12 personnel will remove that mercury from the traps. As part of the Free Mercury Recovery Project, Y-12 began collecting free mercury from storm sewer structures and has removed roughly 9 kg (20 lb) of mercury from the storm sewers since August 2012. Also, design was completed and procurements were begun for a decanting facility necessary to separate mercury from co-collected gravel and water and potentially amalgamate collected free mercury for disposal purposes. Trapping and removing free mercury from the storm sewers will benefit upper EFPC by removing free mercury from the storm.

Mercury Soils Treatability Study—A treatability study for mercury-contaminated Y-12 soils started in FY 2012. The treatability study was initiated to define treatment options and available disposal options for Y-12 soils contaminated with mercury. Mercury-contaminated soil samples from EU-9 were shipped to three laboratories for treatment. Each of the laboratories used a different treatment method for stabilizing mercury in the soil matrix to ensure the mercury could not leach out of the soil. In addition, the process of identifying post-treatment disposal pathway and regulatory requirements for the soils was begun as part of the study.

If the study proves successful and results are approved by EPA and TDEC, it may be possible to dispose of treated soils in an environmentally sound method at a lower cost than is currently possible for disposal of untreated soils. In FY 2013 a mercury-contaminated soils treatability study report will be produced that captures the results of all of these activities.

Disposal of Five Tanks—The project was initiated to remove five tanks used for mercury-related activities at Y-12. Characterization was completed along with the necessary documentation needed for disposal of these tanks. After size reduction, the tank residuals and debris will be disposed. Disposal of each tank will take place in FY 2013.

4.8.3 Waste Management

CERCLA Waste Disposal

Much of the waste generated during FY 2012 cleanup activities was disposed at ORR facilities (DOE 2012). 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).

This engineered landfill consists of six disposal cells and accepts low level radioactive and hazardous wastes that meet specific waste acceptance criteria. 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 2012 EMWMF received 16,600 truckloads (about 185,000 tons) of waste. EMWMF operations collected, analyzed, and dispositioned about 5.59 million gal of leachate at the ORNL Liquid/Gaseous Waste Operations Facility in FY 2012. An additional 16.5 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. Operating practices also effectively controlled site erosion and sediment.

Projects that disposed of waste at EMWMF during FY 2012 include

- K-25 Building Demolition Project;
- K-33 Building Demolition Project;
- ETTP D&D Project, including K-1070-B Burial Ground;
- Y-12 Complex Old Salvage Yard;
- Y-12 Complex Alpha 5; and
- several ORNL demolition projects.

EMWMF, is predicted to reach capacity before all ORR CERCLA cleanup waste has been generated and disposed. To evaluate alternatives for disposal of future cleanup waste, DOE issued an RI/FS report in September 2012. Following regulator review and approval, the report will serve as the initial document supporting DOE's selection of a preferred alternative for waste disposal post-EMWMF.

Similar to a previous study completed for EMWMF, the report analyzes three alternatives.

- The no action alternative provides a benchmark for comparison with the action alternatives. Under the no action alternative, no coordinated ORR-wide strategy to manage wastes generated by future CERCLA actions would be implemented.
- The on-site disposal alternative would provide consolidated disposal of most future-generated CERCLA waste in a newly constructed, engineered facility referred to as the Environmental Management Disposal Facility (EMDF).
- The off-site disposal alternative would provide for transport, primarily by rail, of future-generated CERCLA waste off-site for disposal in approved disposal facilities in Nevada and Utah.

The RI/FS report concludes that both the on-site and off-site disposal alternatives would be protective of human health and the environment long-term by disposal of waste in a landfill designed for site-specific conditions.

The off-site disposal alternative would more effectively isolate the wastes due to the arid climate and fewer receptors at facilities in western states. While the on-site disposal alternative would require permanent commitment of additional ORR land for waste disposal and would impact environmental resources, it would be less costly and provide a greater level of certainty that long-term disposal capacity would be available.

Solid Waste Disposal

DOE also operates solid waste disposal facilities called the Oak Ridge Reservation Landfills (ORRLs), which are located near the Y-12 Complex. ORRLs are engineered facilities used for the disposal of sanitary, industrial, construction, and demolition waste.

In FY 2012, about 44,451 yd³ of industrial wastes and construction/demolition debris were disposed in the landfill. Operation of ORRLs generated about 1.17 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.

4.8.4 Wastewater Treatment

NNSA at the Y-12 Complex treated 134 million gal of contaminated ground/sump water at the Groundwater Treatment Facility, the Central Mercury Treatment System, the Big Springs Water Treatment System, and the **East End Volatile Organic Compounds** Treatment System.

The Big Springs Water Treatment System treated 116 million gal of mercury-contaminated groundwater. The **East End Volatile Organic Compound** Treatment System treated 12 million gal of VOC-contaminated groundwater.

The West End Treatment Facility and the Central Pollution Control Facility at the Y-12 Complex processed 1.2 million gal of wastewater primarily in support of NNSA operational activities.

The Central Pollution Control Facility and the Central Pollution Control Facility at the Y-12 Complex processed 955,020 gal of wastewater primarily in support of NNSA operational activities. The Central Pollution Control Facility also downblended more than 64,020 gal of enriched wastewaters using legacy and newly generated uranium oxides from on-site storage.

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5. Oak Ridge National Laboratory

ORNL is the largest science and energy national laboratory in the DOE system. ORNL's scientific programs focus on materials, neutron science, energy, high-performance computing, systems biology, and national 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 nine user facilities that draw thousands of research scientists and visitors each year.

- Building Technologies Research and Integration Center
- 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 2012 the ORNL operations of UT-Battelle, WAI, UCOR, Isotek, and Safety and Ecology Corporation (SEC) were conducted in compliance with contractual and regulatory environmental requirements with the exception of five issues identified during a joint EPA-TDEC-RCRA inspection. There were no NOV's or penalties 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 herein 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 a 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 ORNL within the Oak Ridge Reservation and its relationship to other local 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, at the American Museum of Science and Energy in the city of Oak Ridge, and several other locations around the Oak Ridge vicinity.

NTRC, an alliance among UT-Battelle; the University of Tennessee; DOE; NTRC, Inc.; and the Development Corporation of Knox County, is the site of activities that span the whole range of transportation research. The center is an 85,000 ft² building, located on a 2.4 ha (6-acre) site in the Pellissippi Corporate Center and is leased to UT-Battelle and the University of Tennessee separately by Pellissippi Investors LLC.

TWPC, managed by WAI for DOE, is located on the western boundary of ORNL on about 10 ha (25 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, contact-handled (CH) debris waste in December 2005, and remote-handled (RH) debris waste in May 2008. Based on the definition of TRU waste, some waste being managed as TRU is later determined to be LLW or mixed LLW.

In March 2007, Isotek assumed responsibility for the Building 3019 Complex at ORNL, where the national repository of ²³³U 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 ²³³U disposition. In April 2011, the Deputy Secretary of Energy endorsed the recommendations in the final draft ²³³U 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 of canisters of Consolidated Edison Uranium Solidification Project material at NNSS 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 the transfer of ZPR plate canisters to the NNSA Critical Safety Program located at the Device Assembly Facility at NNSS. Isotek completed the transfer of ZPR plate canisters in June 2012.

Since 2010 the SEC mission has been to complete deactivation, demolition, and removal/disposition activities for multiple facilities at ORNL. SEC was awarded two separate contracts to perform work

activities and removal actions regulated by CERCLA. The first contract, Miscellaneous Facilities Decontamination and Decommissioning (D&D) project, involved D&D of 34 buildings, totaling almost 115,902 ft² in three areas of the ORNL Central Campus: the Southeast Contaminated Laboratory Complex, General Maintenance Facilities Complex, and Small Facilities Complex. Historically, these facilities were used in support of reactor area operations and for various laboratory support activities. The project included characterization, abatement, and removal of radioactive and hazardous materials; deactivation of buildings; removal of equipment; and demolition of facilities to grade level. The objective of the Central Campus Legacy Material Disposition project was to remove material (including miscellaneous legacy materials) from six facilities (Buildings 3025M, 3095, 3112, 3503A, 3550T, and 4501) and six radioisotope thermoelectric generators near Building 3517 in the ORNL Central Campus. The objective of the second contract, the Hot Cell project, was to perform decommissioning of the Building 3026 C/D hot cell complex and legacy material removal from Building 3038 at ORNL. Building 3026 C/D facilities were to be removed to their concrete foundation slabs. SEC closely coordinated with UT-Battelle and DOE on numerous environmental issues including sitewide environmental monitoring and reporting.

The Miscellaneous Facilities project was completed in June of 2012, and as a result of budget constraints, the Hot Cell project was curtailed in February 2013 when partially completed. It has since been turned over to UCOR to be managed under a Surveillance and Maintenance Agreement.

UT-Battelle performs air and water quality monitoring for the Building 3019 complex and water quality monitoring for TWPC. TWPC air monitoring information is included in the ORR RadNESHAPs annual report. Therefore, the UT-Battelle air and water monitoring discussions in this chapter include the results for the Isotek and WAI operations at ORNL.

About 5 ha (12 acres) in the central portion of ORNL has been leased to Halcyon, LLC, a CROET subsidiary, for development into 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 115,000 ft² National Security Engineering Center, was completed in 2009, and the company is now well-established in the building. In addition, the former Building 2033, also leased to Halcyon, LLC, is now known as HCC and continues to attract tenants. The largest tenant in HCC is Roane State Community College, which is offering job training classes on-site in the areas of carbon fiber manufacturing and solar energy technology. Other HCC tenants include 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 since 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 2011d), 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 June 2007 and June 2010 by NSF International Strategic Registrations, Ltd (NSF-ISR). No nonconformities were identified during the most recent reregistration audit. Detailed information on the UT-Battelle EMS is provided in Sections 5.2.1 through 5.2.1.7. 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 May 2011, 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.

Consistent with the SEC environmental policy, SEC is committed to protecting and sustaining human, natural, and cultural resources and to completing the project safely to protect the public, the workers, and the environment. SEC has developed and implemented processes and procedures that minimize exposure to ionizing radiation for employees, the public, and the environment to levels that are as low as reasonably achievable (ALARA).

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 service representatives, 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 environment, safety, and health 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 5.2 depicts the relationship between EMS and ISMS.

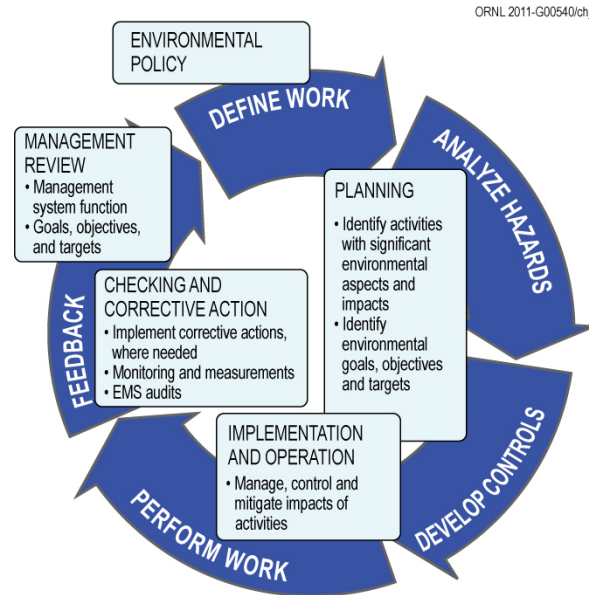


Fig. 5.2. The relationship between the UT-Battelle Environmental Management System and the Integrated Safety Management System.

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. 5.3) 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.



Fig. 5.3. 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,
- radioactive waste,
- mixed waste,
- energy use/intensity,
- GHG emissions,
- permitted air emissions,
- regulated liquid discharges, and
- storage or use 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. In 2011, laboratory- and organization-level objectives and targets focused on chemical inventory reduction, energy conservation, waste minimization, and recycling.

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. 5.3. Information on UT-Battelle's 2011 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,
- environmental sampling and data evaluation, and
- CERCLA interface.

The UT-Battelle staff also includes experts who provide critical waste management and disposition support services to research, operations, and support divisions. These include

- waste services representatives who work with waste generators to identify, characterize, package, and certify wastes for disposal;
- 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 hazardous material spill response team, which is the first line of response to hazardous materials spills at ORNL and controls and contains such spills until the situation is stabilized; and
- the Environmental Management Program Office (EMPO), which coordinates and directs specific CERCLA decommissioning and demolition work being done on the UT-Battelle site. EMPO activities include developing and implementing interface agreements applicable to multiple contractors, CERCLA ARARs, and project work plans.

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. The initiative was launched in October 2008 and continues a modernization program that began in 2000.

Seventy years after its establishment, ORNL has been transformed from a single-purpose facility to a center for multiple world-leading scientific research initiatives. Over the last decade, major science

Oak Ridge Reservation

program investments, including the \$1.4B SNS and more than \$750M in modernization projects, have produced a modern, world-class research campus.

Modernization successes in 2012 include completion of the Maximum Energy Efficiency Laboratory and the Carbon Fiber Technology Facility. Multiple site infrastructure modernization projects included the Building 2519 renovation, Building 1505 fire barrier upgrades, Building 8600 fifth floor office improvements, expanded parking for Chestnut Ridge Campus, Building 3000 area utilities improvements, 0901 Switchyard upgrade, and replacement of the heating boiler for Building 7603. Figure 5.4 demonstrates the focus of the modernization and revitalization campaign at ORNL during 2012.

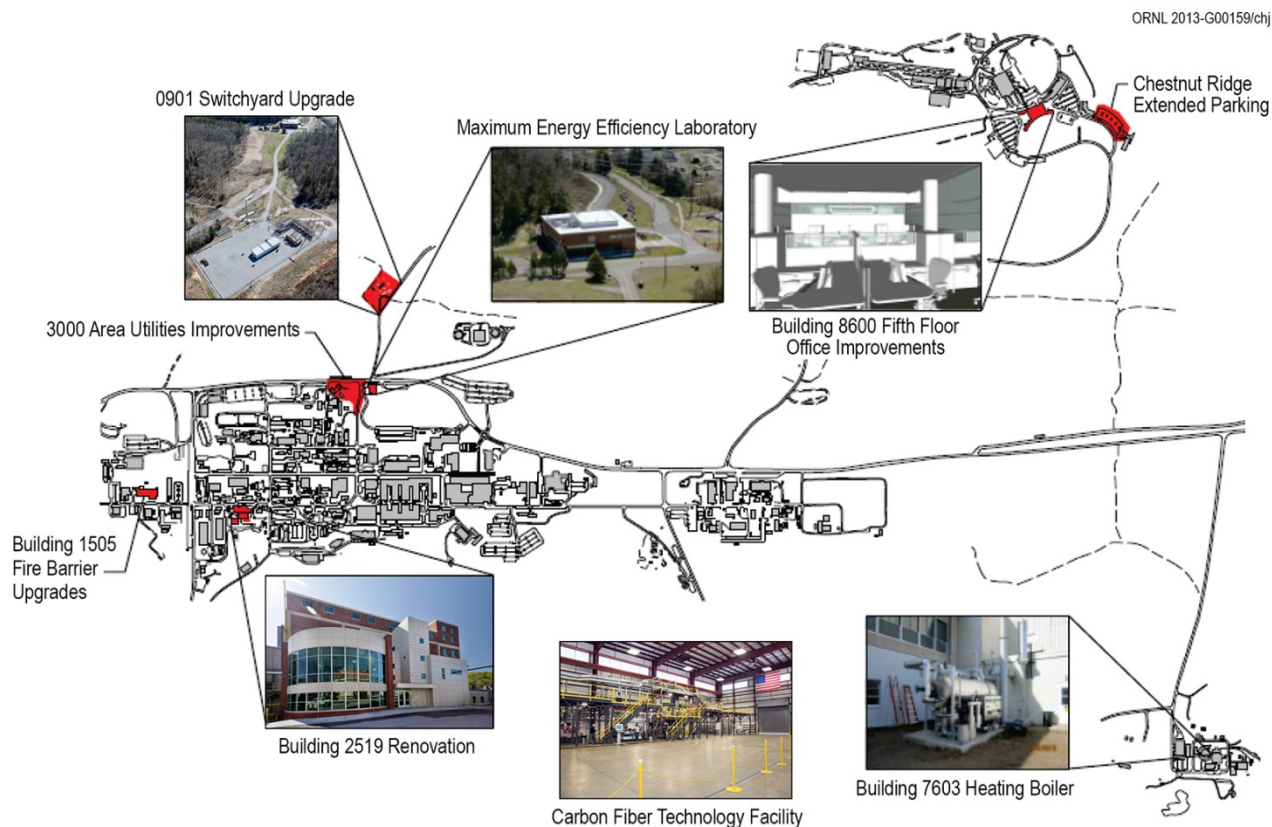


Fig. 5.4. Modernization and facilities revitalization.

UT-Battelle has achieved numerous other sustainability successes during FY 2012 that are detailed throughout this document and in greater detail at <http://sustainability-ornl.org>. The following is an abbreviated list of highlights.

- Commissioned the Biomass Steam Plant, a key to exceeding Scope 1 GHG reduction goals
- Positioned the ORNL campus to reduce energy intensity by at least 30% by 2015
- Completed four additional HPSBs
- Achieved water use reduction of 35% to date, exceeding the FY 2020 goal
- Surpassed the goal for electric use by achieving 91.7% of individual building metering goal
- Achieved 78.6% of the construction and demolition diversion rate for debris, surpassing the 50% goal
- Received seven external awards and certificates for sustainability achievements (e.g., from the DOE Sustainability Performance Office, Tennessee Chamber of Commerce and Industry, and East Tennessee US Green Buildings Council)

Table 5.1 summarizes progress toward attainment of DOE sustainability goals at ORNL in 2012.

Table 5.1. 2012 UT-Battelle progress toward attainment of DOE sustainability goals

Performance Area	DOE Goal	Performance Status
<i>Greenhouse Gas Reduction and Comprehensive Greenhouse Gas Inventory</i>		
Energy Intensity Reduction	30% Energy Use Intensity Reduction by FY 2015 from a FY 2003 baseline.	UT-Battelle is on track to meet or exceed this goal (Fig. 5.5) by continuing construction of new energy-efficient facilities, repurposing existing facilities, and demolishing inefficient legacy facilities. Aggressive energy reduction activities in current facilities will be combined with ongoing audits and the ECMs program, new efforts in building commissioning, benchmarking energy consumption, and best management practices. As demonstrated in Fig. 5.6, over the past decade the footprint of offices and laboratories at ORNL has increased 50%, accompanied by a 7.3% decrease in energy consumption (excluding biomass consumption). Based on FY 2012 data, Buildings Category energy usage at ORNL is 1.210709×10^{12} Btu (not considering excluded facilities as defined by EPC Act 1992) or biomass fuel consumption). Given an area of 4,462,777 gsf of energy-consuming buildings, trailers, and other structures/facilities, the FY 2012 calculated energy intensity was 254,203 Btu/gsf, which represents a 13.5% reduction from FY 2011.
RE Consumption	7.5% of annual electricity consumption from renewable sources by FY 2013 and thereafter (5% FY 2010–2012).	Multiple sources of RE are used at ORNL. The electricity produced on-site from three solar arrays accounted for about 0.023% of electrical consumption at ORNL in FY 2012. Another 675 MWh was procured through the Tennessee Valley Authority's Green Power Switch Program, along with the purchase of 31,829 MWh of RE credits from wind resources. Total RE sources at ORNL in FY 2012 contributed 32,747 MWh or 6.23% of total electricity consumption, exceeding the 5% FY 2012 goal.
SF ₆ Reduction (Scope 1 GHG)	28% reduction in SF ₆ emissions by FY 2020 from a FY 2008 baseline.	The SF ₆ inventory at ORNL at the end of FY 2012 was about 209,800 lb. Losses during the year totaled 1,700 lb., which is less than the facility baseline of 2,500 lb./year established in 2008.
Metering for Individual Buildings	Individual buildings or processes metering for 90% of electricity (by October 1, 2012); for 90% of steam, natural gas, and chilled water (by October 1, 2015).	In 2012, 91.7% of ORNL buildings and processes had individual metering of electricity, 7.2% for steam, 95.8% for natural gas and 65% for chilled water.
Cool Roofs	All new roofs must meet cool roof standards and have thermal resistance of at least R-30.	In FY 2012, 58,789 ft ² of cool roof construction was completed at ORNL including new building and reroofing projects. More than 97% of new roofing projects (new structure or reroofed structures), including the Building 4020 MAXLAB project and two new research platform buildings, meet total or partial cool roof standards.

Table 5.1. (continued)

Performance Area	DOE Goal	Performance Status
Training	Ensure facility energy managers can demonstrate the core competencies for facility managers.	<p>A UT-Battelle energy efficiency manager is responsible for identifying and managing energy efficiency projects for ORNL facilities and related infrastructure. The energy efficiency manager holds the following qualifications and certifications.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • International Facilities Management Association Certified Facility Manager • Association of Energy Engineers Certified Energy Manager • Building Owners & Managers Institute Systems Maintenance Administrator and Facility Management Administrator) designations • Green Buildings Council LEED Accredited Professional Operations + Maintenance designation. <p>Other key facility operations and management staff have also obtained several of these qualifications and certifications, and all have completed training in energy-efficiency-related topics.</p>
Net Zero Energy	Net zero energy in new or major renovation facilities.	Planning efforts for all new facilities or major renovations at ORNL include exploring research and design concepts that use a combination of conservation measures and on-site RE.
Facility Energy Evaluations	Each year, evaluate a minimum of 25% of 75% of facility energy use over a 4-year cycle per Energy Independence and Security Act Section 432.	In FY 2012, UT-Battelle completed a 4-year energy audit cycle. An ESPC evaluation performed by Johnson Control, Inc., in FY 2008 provided the first 100% audit of the ORNL campus.
GHG—Scope 3	13% Scope 3 GHG reduction by FY 2020 from a FY 2008 baseline.	In FY 2012 total Scope 3 GHG emissions were estimated at 44,247 MT CO ₂ e. The Scope 3 inventory has grown by 8% from the FY 2008 baseline and is not on target to meet the 13% reduction goal. Table 5.2 demonstrates that while employee commutes, business air travel, and business ground travel categories have improved, a 31% growth in transmission and distribution loss limits the overall performance.
GHG—Scopes 1 & 2	28% Scopes 1 & 2 GHG reduction by FY 2020 from a FY 2008 baseline.	Table 5.3 lists each major component of Scope 1 and Scope 2 GHG emissions and shows the FY 2012 performance result of each category in terms of increase/decrease in MT of CO ₂ e from the FY 2008 baseline and the percentage gain/loss of each category.

Table 5.1. (continued)

Performance Area	DOE Goal	Performance Status
<i>Buildings, High-Performance Sustainable Buildings, Energy Savings Performance Contract Initiative, and Regional and Local Planning</i>		
Existing Buildings—HPSBs Guiding Principles	15% of existing buildings (greater than 5,000 gsf) to comply with the five guiding principles of HPSBs by FY 2015, with progress to 100% thereafter.	In FY 2012, four facilities at ORNL (Buildings 1061, 1520, 4007, and 6008) were evaluated and brought into compliance with the guiding principles for federal leadership in HPSB. Currently, there are 18 HPSBs at ORNL, which is 82% of the 2015 goal of 22 HPSBs.
New Construction and Major Renovations—Comply with HPSB Guiding Principles for New Construction and Major Renovation		<p>As of the end of FY 2012, 15 facilities have been constructed to LEED standards at ORNL. LEED certification has either been received or is in progress for the following facilities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Building 1521—ORNL West End Research Support Facility (LEED Certified) • Building 3625 (expansion)—Advanced Materials Characterization Laboratory (LEED Silver) • Building 4020—MAXLAB (LEED Gold pending) • Building 4100—Chemical and Materials Science Laboratory (LEED Gold) • Building 5100—Joint Institute for Computational Sciences (LEED Silver) • Building 5200—ORNL Conference Center (LEED Certified) • Building 5300—Multi-Program Research Facility (LEED Gold) • Building 5600—Computational Sciences Building (LEED Certified) • Building 5600 (expansion)—Multi-program Office Complex (LEED Gold, pending) • Building 5700—Research Office Building (LEED Certified) • Building 5800—Engineering Technology Facility (LEED Certified) • Building 7990—Melton Valley Warehouse (LEED Certified) • Building 7995—Melton Valley Maintenance Facility (LEED Gold) • Building 8630—Joint Institute for Neutron Sciences (LEED Certified) • Building 8640—ORNL Guest House (LEED Gold)
ESPC Initiative (i.e., Third Party)	Nonquantitative goal.	Although informal discussions have been held with energy service companies, no notice of opportunity has been submitted.

Table 5.1. (continued)

Performance Area	DOE Goal	Performance Status
Regional and Local Planning	Active engagement in regional and local planning for transportation options as well as outreach activities for the enhancement of sustainability effort in the entire southeast region. (Nonquantitative goal.)	<p>FY 2012 regional sustainability planning efforts included the following.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regional partnerships with <i>SmartTrips</i> and Knoxville Area Transit. • Participation in development of the Knoxville Regional Transit Development Plan. • Participation in the five-county East Tennessee Sustainability Initiative. • Discussions with the East Tennessee Human Resource Agency regarding vanpools. • Hosting the second ORNL Sustainability Summit for roughly 125 participants from the Southeast. • Participation in developing an umbrella approach to sustainability in the Southeast. • Work-for-others agreement between UT-Battelle and Indian River State College to develop an umbrella approach to sustainability and provide expertise on power grid management.
<i>Fleet Management</i>		
Fleet Alternative Fuel Consumption	10% annual increase in fleet alternative fuel consumption by FY 2015 relative to a FY 2005 baseline.	In 2005, 38% of the fuel used at ORNL was alternative fuel; this increased to 75.5% in FY 2012, representing a 50% increase since 2005. An idle reduction guide was created to promote a culture of reducing unnecessary idling for all nonemergency vehicles operating on- and off-campus.
Fleet Petroleum Consumption	2% annual reduction in fleet petroleum consumption by FY 2020 relative to a FY 2005 baseline.	Between 2005 and 2012, a 21% reduction in fleet petroleum consumption was realized. To ensure that future reductions are realized, UT-Battelle is continuing to increase the use of alternative fuels, increase the fuel economy of fleet vehicles, and reduce the number of vehicle miles driven. Between FY 2011 and FY 2012 vehicle miles were reduced by 15%.
Purchase of light duty AFVs	100% of light duty vehicle purchases must consist of AFVs by FY 2015 and thereafter (75% FY 2000–2015).	UT-Battelle purchased two light-duty vehicles in FY 2012; both were AFVs (Fig 5.7).
Rightsizing the Fleet	Submit a fleet rightsizing management plan and identify mission critical/non-mission-critical vehicles by December 31, 2012.	UT-Battelle submitted a fleet rightsizing management plan to DOE in 2012 and reduced the vehicle fleet by 58 vehicles.

Table 5.1. (continued)

Performance Area	DOE Goal	Performance Status
<i>Water Use Efficiency and Management</i>		
Potable Water Use Intensity	26% potable water intensity (gallons per gross square foot) reduction by FY 2020 from a FY 2007 baseline.	<p>UT-Battelle has implemented an aggressive plan to reduce water consumption. In FY 2012 water use intensity was 114 gal/gsf, exceeding the FY 2020 goal (a reduction of 35% to date).</p> <p>Significant progress toward identifying and repairing leaks was made in 2012, and a Fix-A-Leak initiative directed at the entire work force heightened staff awareness of the need to identify and repair water leaks both at home and at work.</p> <p>The reduction of OTC is a major UT-Battelle water conservation goal. The 2011 completion of Building 4100 enabled discontinuing heavy water use operations in Buildings 3137, 3150, 4508, 4500N, and 4500S. Plans are under way to reduce the use of OTC in Building 6000 by installing flow control valves and eliminating cooling water entirely where air-cooled fans can be used.</p> <p>A water-metering plan has been implemented at ORNL and includes priorities for meter installations. Thirty-three ORNL facilities account for more than 90% of water use. Seventeen of these facilities have been metered, and plans are in place to install seven water meters at strategic locations within the water utilities distribution system. Fourteen meters were installed at building locations in FY 2012.</p>
ILA Water Consumption	20% consumption reduction of ILA water by FY 2020 from a FY 2010 baseline.	ILA water is nonpotable freshwater used in processes such as cooling, washing, and manufacturing or for irrigation and agriculture. All water procured at ORNL is potable water; therefore this goal is not applicable.
<i>Waste Reduction</i>		
Nonhazardous Solid Waste (other than construction waste)	Divert at least 50% of nonhazardous solid waste, excluding construction and demolition debris, by FY 2015.	UT-Battelle's FY 2012 diversion rate for municipal solid waste was 33%. While less than the FY 2015 50% goal, this represents an increase from the 26% realized in FY 2011.
Construction and Demolition Materials and Debris	Divert at least 50% of construction and demolition materials and debris by FY 2015.	<p>UT-Battelle's diversion rate for construction and demolition debris has consistently exceeded the 50% goal.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FY 2010—85.6% • FY 2011—61.9% • FY 2012—78.6%

Table 5.1. (continued)

Performance Area	DOE Goal	Performance Status
<i>Sustainable Acquisition</i>		
Sustainable Acquisitions and Procurements	Procurements meet requirements by including necessary provisions and clauses (sustainable procurements/ biobased procurements).	100% of all UT-Battelle FY 2012 procurement transactions (excluding purchase card purchases) contained terms and conditions requiring sustainable acquisitions.
<i>Electronic Stewardship and Data Centers</i>		
Meters for the Measurement of PUE	All data centers are metered to measure monthly PUE (100% by FY 2015).	UT-Battelle has introduced a standard for metered power strips that capture amperage, humidity, and temperature data, and plans are in place for the installation of additional Btu meters on chilled water lines.
Annual Weighted PUE Goals	Maximum annual weighted average PUE of 1.4 by FY 2015.	The calculated PUE value at the end of FY 2012 was 1.29 for the Building 5300 data center and 1.26 for the Building 5600 data center.
Electronic Stewardship	100% of eligible equipment with power management actively implemented and in use by FY 2012.	All eligible PCs and monitors are actively power.
<i>Agency Innovation and Government-Wide Support</i>		
Local Innovation	Support US global leadership in science, engineering, sustainability, and energy management.	<p>Key FY 2012 activities at ORNL included the following.</p> <p>Oak Ridge Reservation Sustainability in Natural Resources Management and ORNL Landscaping, including</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • development of a generic riparian landscape plan; • updating of the ORNL campus landscaping plan; • installation of interpretive signs for rain gardens, edge habitat, and riparian landscaped areas; • cosponsorship of a community workshop “Dealing with Invasive Plants”; and • preparation of a draft forest management plan that includes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ an approach for monitoring forest pests (hemlock wooly adelgid, emerald ash borer, thousand canker disease, gypsy moth, etc.); ○ strategies for identification, enhancement, and protection of special plant and wildlife habitat such as migratory bird habitat, wetlands, and native grass/meadow communities; ○ treatment of invasive plant infestations; and ○ sequestering carbon in forests and soils

Table 5.1. (continued)

Performance Area	DOE Goal	Performance Status
		Integration of Pest Management Practices, including <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • an indoor integrated pest management program that focuses on pest management inside buildings and facilities and • an exterior integrated pest management program that focuses both on areas around buildings and structures on the ORNL site and on reservationwide pest management.

Abbreviations

- AFV = alternative fuel vehicle
- Btu = British thermal unit
- CO₂e = carbon dioxide equivalent
- DOE = US Department of Energy
- ECM = energy conservation measure
- EPAct = Energy Policy Act
- ESPC = Energy Savings Performance Contract
- FY = fiscal year
- GHG = greenhouse gas
- gsf = gross square feet
- HPSB = High Performance Sustainable Building
- ILA = industrial, landscaping, and agricultural
- LEED = Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design
- MAXLAB = Maximum Energy Efficiency Laboratory
- MT = metric ton
- MWh = megawatt-hour
- ORNL = Oak Ridge National Laboratory
- OTC = once-through-cooling
- PUE = power utilization effectiveness
- RE = renewable energy
- T&D = transmission and distribution

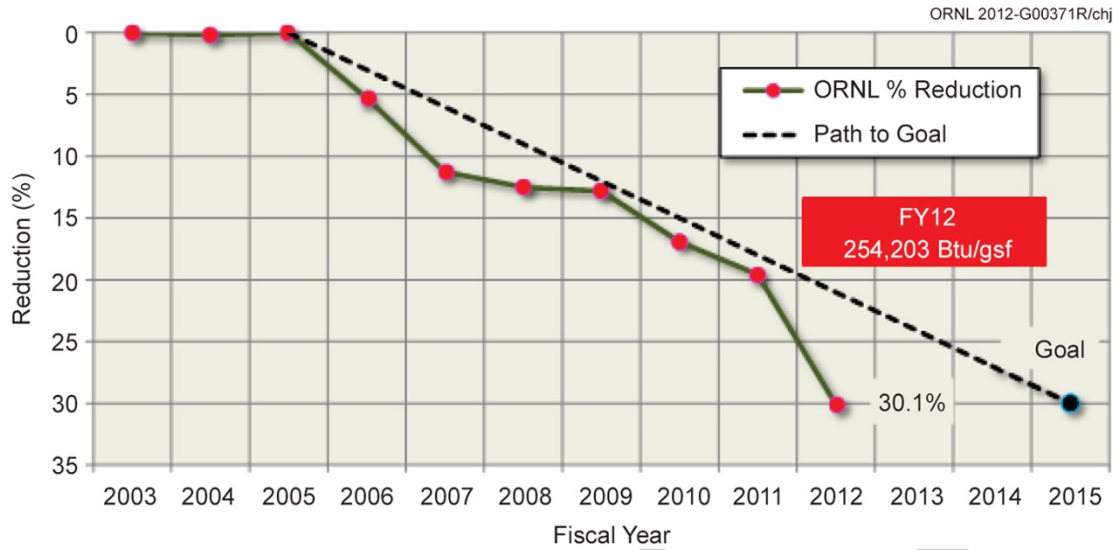


Fig. 5.5. Summary of energy intensity reduction results and progress toward goal. [Black dotted line = the path to the goal (30% reduction); Gsf = gross square foot.]

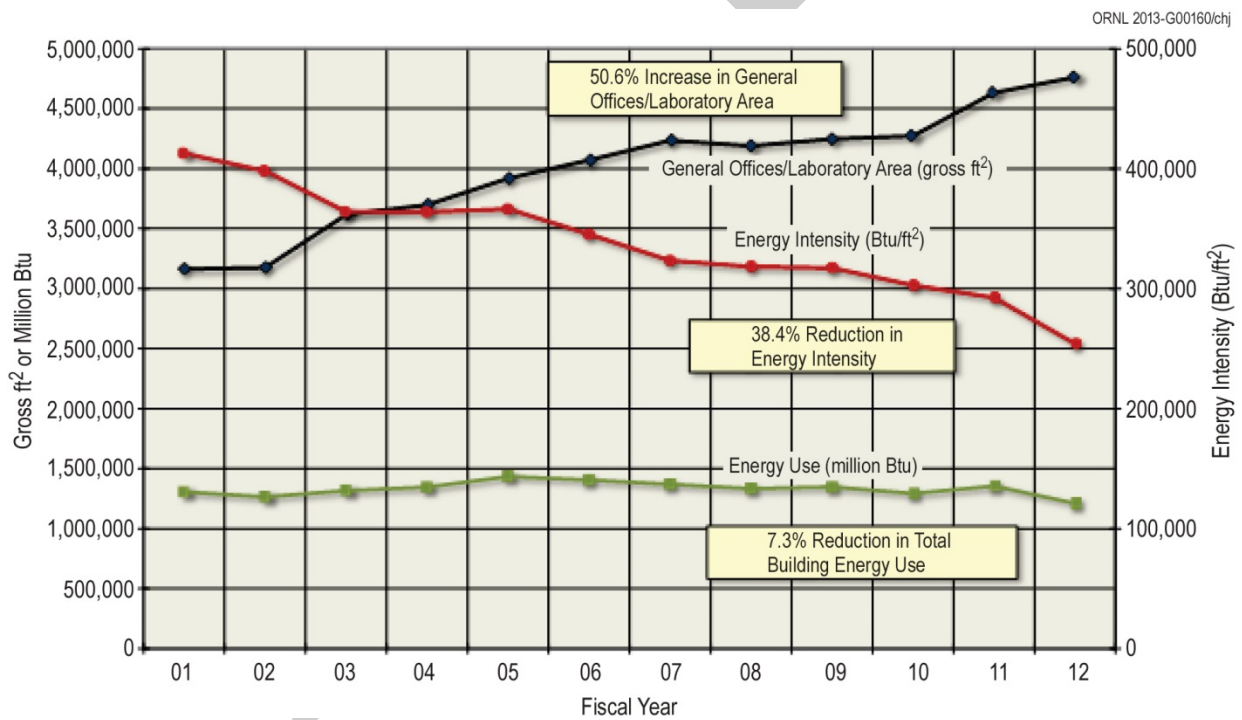


Fig. 5.6. ORNL building energy performance from FY 2001 through FY 2012.

Table 5.2. ORNL Scope 3 greenhouse gas emissions performance status

Scope 3 GHG Emissions	FY 2008	FY 2012	Increase (Decrease)	(% +/-)
T&D Losses	16,429	21,499	5,070	31%
Employee Commute	16,193	15,177	(1,016)	-6%
Business Air Travel	7,204	6,545	(695)	-9%
Business Ground Travel	1,169	1,060	(109)	-9%
Other	44	47	3	7%
FY 2012 Total Scope 1	41,039	44,328	3,289	8%

Abbreviations

FY = fiscal year

GHG = greenhouse gas

T&D = transmission and distribution

Table 5.3. Scopes 1 and 2 greenhouse gas emissions performance status

GHG Emissions Category	Emissions		Increase (Decrease) ^a	Difference (%)
	FY 2008 ^a	FY 2012 ^a		
<i>Scope 1</i>				
Natural Gas, Facilities	48,563	36,398	(12,165)	-25%
SF ₆ Process Losses	27,102	18,429	(8,673)	-32%
Other Fugitive Losses	10,660	3,277	(7,383)	-69%
Fuel Oil, Facilities	1,968	1,294	(674)	-34%
Fleet Fuels	1,104	944	(160)	-14%
Other Facility Fuels	203	301	98	+48%
BioMass Boiler	—	614	614	NA
FY 2012 Total Scope 1 Performance	89,600	61,257	(28,343)	-32%
<i>Scope 2</i>				
Purchased Electricity	249,407	326,388	76,981	+31%
Purchased RECs – GHG Avoided	—	(31,311)	(31,311)	NA
Net Annual GHG Emissions	249,407	295,077	45,670	+18%
<i>Total Scopes 1 and 2 GHG Emissions</i>				
All Sources, Combined	339,007	356,334	17,327	+5%

^aNumbers are metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalent.**Abbreviations**

FY = fiscal year

GHG = greenhouse gas

NA = not applicable



Fig. 5.7. Plug-in vehicles highlighted at the Oak Ridge National Laboratory sustainability summit. Photo: Jason Richards

5.2.1.4.1 Pollution Prevention and Waste Reduction

UT-Battelle implemented 37 new pollution prevention projects at ORNL during 2012, eliminating more than 51 million kg (about 114 million lb) of waste, which included about 11.8 million gal of wastewater. Excluding the wastewater efforts, these projects eliminated about 7 million kg (about 15 million lb) of waste. In total, all of these projects led to cost savings/avoidance of more than \$8 million (including ongoing reuse/recycle projects). In addition to the successful resource conservation and sustainable transportation initiatives discussed previously, source reduction actions such as efforts related to medical radioisotopes; resource efficient supercomputing; and recycling programs for lead, electronics, and construction and demolition debris were also implemented during 2012 (Fig 5.8). During the year UT-Battelle aggressively supported the recycling program at ORNL with more than 68% of FY 2012-generated materials being diverted for recycle or beneficial use. Large construction projects incorporated comprehensive project-specific recycling efforts.

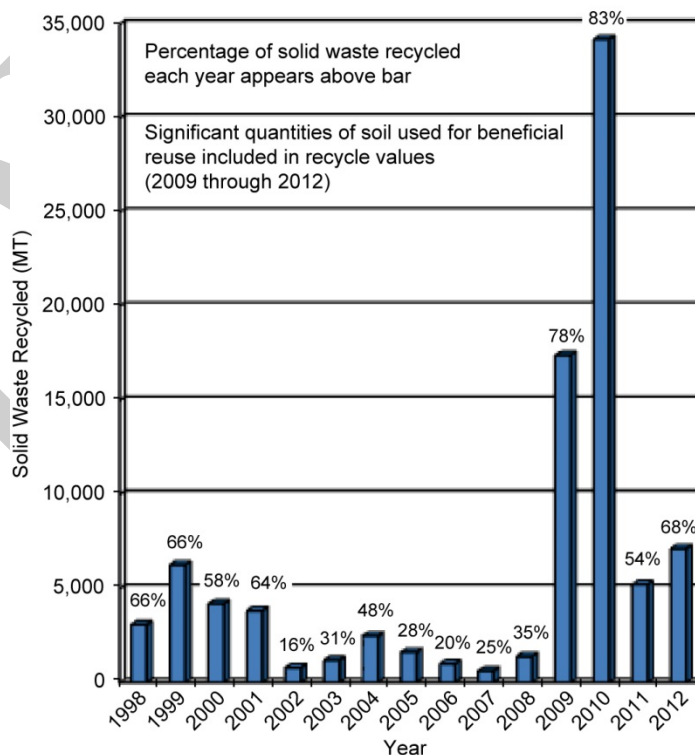


Fig. 5.8. Solid waste recycled at Oak Ridge National Laboratory as a result of recycling programs.

ORNL Site Pollution Prevention Awards

- 2012 DOE Bronze GreenBuy Award—for sustainable acquisition activities at ORNL.
- 2012 DOE Sustainability Award—for water resource management efforts at ORNL.
- 2012 DOE Sustainability Award—for UT-Battelle’s work in championing sustainable energy and water efforts at ORNL.
- 2012 Tennessee Chamber of Commerce and Industry Air Quality Excellence Achievement Certificate—for UT-Battelle’s involvement in the statewide installation of solar assisted charging stations.
- 2012 Tennessee Chamber of Commerce and Industry Water Quality Excellence Achievement Certificate—for several water conservation projects at ORNL including cooling water reductions, low-flow fixtures, and leak repair.
- 2012 Tennessee Chamber of Commerce and Industry Environmental Excellence Achievement Certificate—for energy efficiency improvements in super computers at ORNL and the efficiency impacts from the research conducted by using these super computers.
- *HPCwire* Readers’ Choice Award—for best application of green computing in high-performance computing (Titan supercomputer).
- Federal Laboratory Consortium 2012 Award for Excellence in Technology Transfer—for excellence in technology transfer for a clean-burning cook stove designed for the developing world (UT-Battelle, Envirofit International, and Colorado State University jointly received this award).

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, etc.) 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-site, 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.

In 2012, EISA requirements applied to two projects at ORNL. The first was declared a “Technical Infeasibility” due to utility restrictions and other site restrictions. The second project satisfied EISA Section 438 requirements by converting two existing sediment basins on the SNS site into permanent retention ponds.

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.

The SBMS “Assessments” subject area 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 2012, 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 environment, safety, and health goals. The EMS and ISMS are incorporated into the *Integrated Safety Management System Description* (BJC 2009); a "plan-do-check-act" cycle is used for continual improvement in both. NSF-ISR conducted a recertification audit in May 2011, 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 82 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 bio-based 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.

5.3 Compliance Programs and Status

During 2012 UT-Battelle, UCOR, WAI, Isotek, and Safety and Ecology Corporation operations were conducted in compliance with contractual and regulatory environmental requirements with the exception of one issue identified during a TDEC Air Pollution Control inspection. This issue is summarized in Section 5.3.3.

There were no NOV's or penalties issued by the regulatory agencies. Table 5.4 presents a summary of environmental audits conducted at ORNL in 2012.

Table 5.4. Summary of regulatory environmental audits, evaluations, inspections, and assessments conducted at ORNL, 2012

Date	Reviewer	Subject	Issues
January 4	Knox County	Construction Permit Inspection for NTRC	0
February 6	TDEC	Inspection of ORNL USTs	0
March 22	TDEC	Follow-up RCRA Inspection	0
May 14	Knox County	Annual CAA Inspection for NTRC	0
July 31	TDEC	Annual CAA Inspection	1
November 13–15	TDEC	Annual RCRA Inspection of UT-Battelle facilities at Y-12 Complex	0

Abbreviations

CAA = Clean Air Act
 ORNL = Oak Ridge National Laboratory
 NTRC = National Transportation Research Center
 RCRA = Resource Conservation and Recovery Act
 TDEC = Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation
 UST = underground storage tank
 Y-12 Complex = Y-12 National Security Complex

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 2012 and provide an overview of the compliance status for the year.

5.3.1 Environmental Permits

Table 5.5 contains a list of environmental permits that were effective in 2012 at ORNL.

Table 5.5. Oak Ridge National Laboratory environmental permits, 2012

Regulatory driver	Permit title/description	Permit number	Issue date	Expiration date	Owner	Operator	Responsible contractor
CAA	Title V Operating Permit	562765	08-16-11	08-15-16	DOE	UT-B	UT-B
CAA	Carbon Fiber Technology Facility (Construction Permit)	965013P	03-27-12	04-04-13	DOE	UT-B	UT-B
CAA	NTRC	0941-05 ^a	10-23-12	Annually ^b	DOE	UT-B	UT-B
CAA	TN Operating Permit (emissions source)	06331P	03-07-12	03-01-22	DOE	WAI	WAI
CAA	Title V Operating Permit (UCOR)	562860	07-16-10	07-15-15	DOE	UCOR	UCOR
CAA	TN Operating Permit	057077P	04-13-04	10-13-14	DOE	WAI	WAI
CAA	Title V Operating Permit	560898	07-27-09	07-26-14	DOE	Isotek	Isotek
CWA	ORNL NPDES Permit (ORNL sitewide wastewater discharge permit)	TN0002941	07-01-08	07-30-13	DOE	DOE	UT-B, UCOR, WAI
CWA	Tennessee General (NPDES) Permit No. 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 No. TNR10-0000, Storm Water Discharges from Construction Activities—ORNL Modernization of Laboratory Facilities	TNR133485	05-29-09	05-23-16	DOE	DOE	UT-B
CWA	Tennessee General Permit No. TNR10-0000, Storm Water Discharges from Construction Activity—ORNL Decommissioning & Demolishing Buildings	TNR1301343	05-26-05	NA	DOE	DOE	UT-B
CWA	Tennessee Storm Water Multi-Sector General Permit for Industrial Activities for Storm Water Discharges Associated with Construction Activity (CGP)—0975 Water Reservoir	TNR133727	07-08-10	05-14-14	DOE	DOE	UT-B
CWA	Tennessee General (NPDES) Permit No. TNR10-0000, Storm Water Discharges from Construction Activities—ORNL Melton Valley Access Road and Parking Lot	TNR133893	08-30-11	05-23-16	DOE	DOE	UT-B
CWA	Tennessee General (NPDES) Permit No. TNR10-0000, Storm Water Discharges from Construction Activities—Biomass Gasification System Project	TNR133428	06-09-10	05-23-16	DOE	DOE	JCI
CWA	Tennessee General (NPDES) Permit No. TNR10-1000, Storm Water Discharges from Construction Activities – Maximum Energy Efficiency Building Research Laboratory	TNR133932	05-24-11	05-23-16	DOE	DOE	UT-B

Table 5.5. (continued)

Regulatory driver	Permit title/description	Permit number	Issue date	Expiration date	Owner	Operator	Responsible contractor
CWA	Industrial and Commercial User Waste Water Discharge Permit (Carbon Fiber Technology Facility, located near ETPP)	1-12	10-15-12	03-31-15	UT-B	UT-B	UT-B
CWA	Tennessee General (NPDES) Permit No. TNR10-0000, Storm Water Discharges from Construction Activities—Pro2Serve National Security Engineering Center		10-06	NA	DOE	DOE	CROET
CWA	TN Operating Permit (sewage)	SOP-02056	02-01-08	12-31-12	DOE	WAI	WAI
CWA	Tennessee General Permit No. TNR10-0000, Storm Water Discharges from Construction Activity—Site Expansion Project	TNR 133560	08-31-09	NA	DOE	WAI	WAI
CWA	Aquatic Resource Alteration Permit for Maintenance of the Flume at White Oak Creek Headwaters Monitoring Station	ARAP NR1103.115	10-11-11	10-11-12	DOE	UT-B	UT-B
CWA	Aquatic Resource Alteration Permit for Temporary Disturbance To 0.02 Acres of Wetland at Melton Branch Circle	ARAP NR1203.123	09-13-12	09-13-13	DOE	UT-B	UT-B
RCRA	Hazardous Waste Transporter Permit	TN1890090003	01-25-12	01-31-13	DOE	DOE	UT-B, UCOR, Isotek
RCRA	Hazardous Waste Corrective Action Permit	TNHW-121	09-28-04	09-28-14	DOE	DOE/all ^c	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.

^cDOE and Oak Ridge Reservation contractors are co-operators of hazardous waste permits.

Abbreviations

ARAP = Aquatic Resource Alteration Permit

CAA = Clean Air Act

CGP = Construction General Permit

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

JCI = Johnson Controls, Inc.

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

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 5.6 summarizes NEPA activities conducted at ORNL during 2012.

Table 5.6. National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) activities, 2012

Types of NEPA documentation	Number of instances
<i>Oak Ridge National Laboratory</i>	
Approved under general actions or generic CX determinations	51 ^a
<i>Wastren Advantage, Inc.</i>	
Approved under general actions or generic CX determinations	2

^aProjects that were reviewed and documented through the site NEPA compliance coordinator.

Abbreviations

CX = categorical exclusion

During 2012, 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 *Cultural Resource Management Plan* (DOE 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 and includes four major regulatory programs: the National Ambient Air Quality Standards, State Implementation Plans, New Source Performance Standards, 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 first sitewide operating air permit was issued in 2004. To demonstrate compliance with this Title V Major Source Operating Permit, more than 1,500 data points are collected and reported every year. In addition, there are three continuous monitors for criteria pollutants, nine continuous samplers for radionuclide emissions, 15 minor radionuclide sources, and numerous demonstrations of compliance with generally applicable air quality protection requirements (asbestos, stratospheric ozone, etc.). Also, Knox County Air Quality permits are maintained for the off-

site NTRC. In 2012, an annual emissions analysis report was submitted for this permit. In summary, there were no UT-Battelle, Isotek, or WAI CAA violations or exceedances in 2012. The TDEC Division of Air Pollution Control issued an NOV on August 31, 2012, for failure to conduct an initial VEE at stack 3039 and to report this omission as a deviation in the corresponding semiannual and annual compliance certification reports for permit number 568860. This permit was originally issued to the previous contractor at stack 3039 who failed to perform the VEE and to report the missed test as a deviation. However, UCOR was the operator on the permit at the time the deviation was identified. Consequently, upon discovery, a VEE was conducted and UCOR submitted the revised semiannual and annual compliance certification reports to the Division of Air Pollution Control. No further enforcement actions were taken.

Section 5.4 provides detailed information on 2012 activities conducted at ORNL 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 2012, 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 2012 was nearly 100%, with only one measurement exceeding numeric NPDES permit limits. On May 24, 2012, effluent from the new ORNL Melton Valley Steam Plant (MVSP), discharged through NPDES outfall 585, exceeded the permit limit for pH. The exceedance was due to the greater percentage of higher-pH boiler blowdown that is present in the outfall 585 effluent during the warmer months compared to the heating season. To correct this situation, MVSP was shut down until a pump and underground piping could be installed to reroute the MVSP effluent to the ORNL STP for treatment. Section 5.5 contains detailed information on the activities and programs carried out in 2011 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 400-45-1, 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

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 2012, sampling results for ORNL's water system residual chlorine levels, bacterial constituents, lead and copper, and disinfectant by-products were all within acceptable limits.

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 2012, 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 of hazardous/mixed wastes in at least 1 calendar month during 2012. 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 storage. The RCRA units operate under three permits at ORNL, TNHW-145, TNHW-134, and TNHW-121, as shown in Table 5.7. In 2012, UT-Battelle, UCOR, and Isotek were permitted to transport hazardous wastes under an EPA ID number issued for ORNL activities, and UT-Battelle was registered to operate a transfer facility for temporary storage (less than 10 days) of hazardous wastes transported from off-site locations such as NTRC.

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 2012 was 765,327 kg. Mixed wastewater accounted for 550,826 kg. Excluding the wastewater generation, which remains fairly constant from year to year, 2012 hazardous waste generation increased about 12%. The increase is attributed to debris from building cleanout, renovation, and demolition. ORNL generators treated 8,319 kg of hazardous/mixed waste by elementary neutralization and silver recovery; and 518 kg of hazardous/mixed waste was received from UT-Battelle generators at the Y-12 Complex—which was stored at ORNL and will be processed at TWPC. The quantity of hazardous/mixed waste treated in RCRA-permitted treatment facilities at ORNL in 2012 was 35,400 kg. This includes waste treated by macroencapsulation, size reduction, and stabilization/solidification. In addition, 550,826 kg of mixed waste was treated at an on-site wastewater treatment facility. The amount of hazardous/mixed waste shipped off-site to commercial treatment, storage, and disposal facilities decreased about 6% to 244,735 kg in 2012.

In March 2012, TDEC conducted a RCRA inspection that was a follow-up to the December 2011 joint EPA and TDEC RCRA inspection of ORNL generator areas; battery collection areas; RCRA-permitted treatment, storage, and disposal facilities; and RCRA records. During the March inspection, all activities and records were found to be in compliance with RCRA regulations and the RCRA permits, and no NOV's or penalties were associated with this inspection.

At NTRC DOE and UT-Battelle were regulated as “conditionally exempt small-quantity generators” in 2012, 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 or the 0800 Area in 2012. The 0800 Area is a location on ORR adjacent to ORNL that has been assigned EPA identification number TNR000019760.

Table 5.7. Oak Ridge National Laboratory Resource Conservation and Recovery Act operating permits, 2012

Permit number	Building/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 & 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 Building 7880BB TWPC-6 (Contact-Handled Marshaling Building) Container Storage Unit Building 7880AA TWPC-7 (Drum Venting Building) Container Storage Unit Building 7880QQ TWPC-8 (Multi-Purpose Building) Container Storage Unit Macroencapsulation T-1 Treatment Unit Amalgamation T-2 ^a Treatment Unit Solidification/Stabilization T-3 ^a Treatment Unit Hot Cell Table T-4 ^a Treatment Unit Size Reduction T-5 ^a Treatment Unit Groundwater Filtration T-6
<i>Oak Ridge Reservation</i>	
TNHW-121	Hazardous Waste Corrective Action Permit

^aTreatment operating units within Building 7880.

Abbreviations

TWPC = Transuranic Waste Processing Center

WPB = Waste Processing Building

5.3.7 Oak Ridge National Laboratory RCRA-CERCLA Coordination

The ORR FFA 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 2012 for ORNL's Solid Waste Management Units and Areas of Concern were consolidated with updates for ETTP, Y-12 Complex, and ORR and were reported to TDEC, DOE, and EPA Region 4 in January 2013.

In May 2005 Bechtel Jacobs, Inc., LLC applied for a RCRA postclosure permit for solid waste storage area (SWSA) 6, which had not been issued at the time DOE transitioned environmental management responsibilities to UCOR. RCRA groundwater monitoring data are reported yearly to TDEC and EPA in the annual CERCLA remediation effectiveness report for ORR.

Periodic updates of proposed construction and demolition 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 construction and demolition 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 EMPO manages or performs an integration function for the DOE Office of Environmental Management-funded Integrated Facility Disposition Project and ARRA work at ORNL. Although the conduct of DOE Office of Environmental Management-related work (i.e., environmental remediation and building decontamination and demolition) is not a UT-Battelle core business function, UT-Battelle has endorsed participation in ARRA-funded cleanup work to accelerate ORNL revitalization by completing the upgrading and reconfiguration of the 4500 Area Central Ventilation System resulting in removal of the dependency on the 3039 stack and cleanout of the 4556 filter pit. This reduces the liabilities and risks to current and future ORNL science missions. During 2012, EMPO supported other DOE contractors in the removal of five radioisotope thermoelectric generators for shipment to NNSS and the demolition of six buildings/sets of hot cells in the ORNL Central Campus area, including Buildings 3102, 3503, 3508, 3543, and 3605 and the hot cells in 3026C. These activities and other 2012 DOE Office of Environmental Management accomplishments at ORNL are discussed in more detail in Section 5.8 and in the FY 2012 cleanup progress annual report to the Oak Ridge community (DOE 2011c).

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 currently deferred from regulation. This UST is inactive.

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 NPL. In 1992, the ORR FFA among EPA, TDEC, and DOE became effective and established the framework and schedule for developing, implementing, and monitoring remedial actions 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 2012, UT-Battelle operated about 29 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. Three 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 2012, no unauthorized uses of PCBs were discovered.

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 5.8 describes the main elements of EPCRA. UT-Battelle complied with these requirements in 2012 through the submittal of reports under EPCRA Sections 302, 303, 311, and 312. These reports reflect information pertinent to 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 2012.

Table 5.8. Main elements of the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act (EPCRA)

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 material 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

Abbreviations

EPA = US Environmental Protection Agency

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 2012, 19 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 2012 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.

5.3.11 US Department of Agriculture/Tennessee Department of Agriculture

The US Department of Agriculture, 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 2012, UT-Battelle personnel had a combined 54 permits and agreements for the receipt, movement, or controlled release of regulated articles.

5.3.12 Wetlands

Activities conducted at ORNL in 2012 in support of wetlands management are discussed below.

Vegetation parameters were measured at the ORNL parking structure wetland (P2) about 1 year 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. Second year data obtained for P2 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 mammals, birds, frogs, and insects.

Stream habitat assessments were conducted at both First Creek and White Oak Creek (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 2012 survey represented the second formal assessment of post-mitigation conditions. Pre-mitigation conditions for First Creek are discussed qualitatively based on information contained in previous reports. The 2012 WOC habitat assessment was based on habitat conditions about 1 year 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 6, 2012) and WOC (July 6, 2012) 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 the orders Ephemeroptera, Plecoptera, and Trichoptera. 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 creek. 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 2012 showed that the creek continued to provide good overall habitat and remained in a nonimpaired 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 and thorny olive in these zones is a potential concern.

The survival rates of east side First Creek riparian plantings have been good thus far. In general, planted vegetation appears to be thriving. However, some areas of dead plant growth were noted during the 2012 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. Overall conditions at the site related to vegetation growth and success remain very good. There are plans to replace some of the dead plants to further improve coverage.

A moderately diverse benthic macroinvertebrate population was recorded at the First Creek site in 2012, although 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) fell within the ranges of densities observed in certain reference streams on ORR. The number of fish species at both upstream and downstream sampling locations was lower than numbers observed in reference streams.

The third year of post-mitigation monitoring for the First Creek site will be conducted in the summer of 2013.

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 a nonimpaired 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 had greatly improved due to the presence of significantly fewer invasive plants, a result of the mitigation efforts taken. Riparian vegetative zone width had also significantly improved over the 2011 pre-mitigation conditions. Plant species diversity was significantly higher and invasive species presence significantly lower in the WOC riparian zone for the 2012 survey period, mainly due to mitigation completed after the 2011 survey. Areas of higher habitat quality were found directly adjacent to the creek, where green ash, black willow, eastern redbud, and silky dogwood were prevalent.

A moderately diverse benthic macroinvertebrate population was recorded at the WOC site in 2012. This included some of the more tolerant taxa found in ORR streams. Fish population densities sampled within the reach were within the ranges of reference streams on ORR. The number of fish species recorded tended to be lower than reference streams.

The second year of post-mitigation monitoring for the WOC site will be conducted in the summer of 2013.

Wetland assessments were conducted for four sites at ORNL during 2012 to determine whether jurisdictional wetlands were present in areas adjacent to proposed projects. These included a power line right-of-way maintenance project, a sanitary sewer system tie-in for a new lift station, two access roads, and a parking lot. These sites were checked to see whether any areas satisfied USACE wetland protocols

for soils, hydrology, and vegetation. Small areas of wetlands were flagged at each site, and riparian zones along creeks were also evaluated at two of the sites.

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 2011e), replaced DOE O 5400.5 for reporting year 2012. Like DOE O 5400.5, DOE O 458.1 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, aluminum beverage cans, toner cartridges, and other items released for recycling;
- office trash;
- housekeeping materials and associated waste;
- break-room, 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 2011e) 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. 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 (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 2012, UT Battelle cleared more than 20,000 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 5.9.

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 5.9. Excess items requested for release and recycling totals, calendar year 2012

	Process Knowledge	Radiologically Surveyed
Computers-for-Learning	319	53
DOE—Donations	1	0
Donations	992	736
ERLE (donations to Colleges/Universities)	0	3
Other Federal Agencies Transfers	256	110
DOE Transfers	382	233
Landfill	42	13
Reutilization at ORNL	2,204	1140
Sales	10,377	5015
Totals	14,573	7,303

Recycling Totals for calendar year 2012		
	Gallons <2 ppm PCBs	Gallons >2 and <50 ppm PCB
Used Oils Recycled	19,552	25,830
Scrap Metal (nonradiological areas)	283.56 tons	
Used Tires	867 each	
Used Auto Cores and Batteries	25,888 lbs.	

Abbreviations

- DOE = US Department of Energy
- ERLE = energy-related laboratory equipment
- 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 originally defined in DOE O 5400.5 (later replaced by DOE O 458.1) and associated guidance. The sample clearance limits were 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. Experience over about 2 years of implementation had shown that using the formal user agreement form to address required regulatory notifications was not effective. Often these forms were only seen by senior institution officials, without radiation protection or ES&H responsibilities. In such cases important information on the authorized limits clearance process did not get to the institution's radiation safety officer (RSO), or the equivalent, and the clearance process was delayed.

To address this concern, UT-Battelle initiated an effort to make direct contact with each institution's 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 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.

In 2012 ORNL cleared seven 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 Permit includes requirements that are generally applicable to large operations such as a national laboratory (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 hazardous air pollutants (nonradiological). In April 2009, an application was submitted to the State of Tennessee to renew this sitewide permit and the application was also updated in September 2010. As a result, the State of Tennessee issued a new sitewide Title V Operating Permit to DOE-UT-Battelle on September 1, 2011.

In 2012 UT-Battelle applied for and received a construction permit for the Carbon Fiber Technology Facility (CFTF). CFTF is located off-site at the Heritage Center, in Oak Ridge, Tennessee. CFTF, which is expected to start up in April 2013, will be a Title V Major Source Facility. The Knox County Department of Air Quality Management worked with site personnel to incorporate one construction permit and three operating permits into one consolidated operating permit for all permitted activities at CFTF, thereby streamlining future permitting and annual reporting for this facility.

DOE-WAI has an operating air permit for one emission source at TWPC. DOE-Isotek has a Title V Major Source Operating permit for the Radiochemical Development Facility (Building 3019 complex). During 2011, no permit limits were exceeded.

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 2012.

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 and 4500 areas' 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 Facility
- 7880 TWPC
- 7911 Melton Valley complex, which includes HFIR and the Radiochemical Engineering Development Center (REDC)
- 8915 SNS Central Exhaust Facility stack

In 2012 there were 20 minor point/group sources, and emission calculations/estimates were made for each of them.

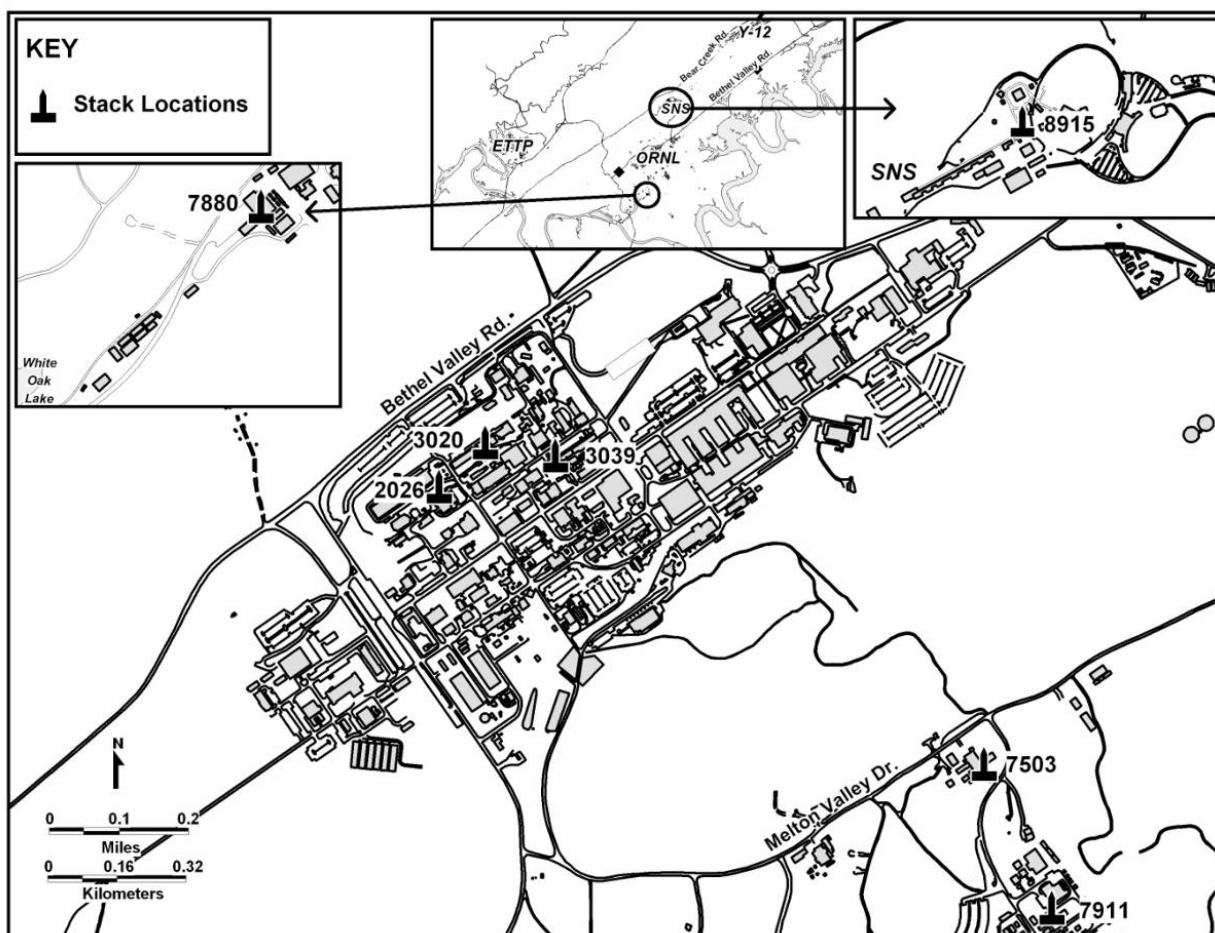


Fig. 5.9. Locations of major radiological emission points at Oak Ridge National Laboratory.

5.4.3.1 Sample Collection and Analytical Procedure

Four of the major point sources (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 13.1-1969 (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 has historically shown 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 2012 are presented in Table 5.10. 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.

Table 5.10. Radiological airborne emissions from all sources at Oak Ridge National Laboratory, 2012^a

Isotope	Solubility ^b	Stack							Total Minor Source	ORNL Total
		X-2026	X-3020	X-3039	X-7503	X-7880	X-7911	X-8915		
²²⁵ Ac	M								3.63E-08	3.63E-08
²²⁸ Ac	M								1.75E-06	1.75E-06
^{110m} Ag	M								1.39E-08	1.39E-08
^{110m} Ag	S					8.03E-06			2.24E-08	8.05E-06
²⁴¹ Am	M	3.10E-07	4.81E-07				6.10E-07		1.67E-07	1.57E-06
²⁴¹ Am	F			1.13E-06	1.90E-07	1.65E-06			6.08E-07	3.58E-06
²⁴³ Am	M								1.02E-08	1.02E-08
⁴¹ Ar	G						6.69E+02	9.50E+00		6.79E+02
¹³⁹ Ba	M						1.92E-01			1.92E-01
¹⁴⁰ Ba	S					1.83E-04				1.83E-04
¹⁴⁰ Ba	M						3.23E-04		1.54E-10	3.23E-04
⁷ Be	M	1.55E-07	1.45E-07				4.24E-07		2.21E-06	2.94E-06
⁷ Be	S			6.26E-06	7.48E-08	8.06E-05			5.80E-06	9.27E-05
²¹¹ Bi	M								5.82E-11	5.82E-11
²¹² Bi	S								2.84E-13	2.84E-13
²¹⁴ Bi	M								6.08E-07	6.08E-07
²⁴⁹ Bk	M								7.00E-11	7.00E-11
¹¹ C	G							3.34E+03		3.34E+03
¹⁴ C	G								5.00E-10	5.00E-10
¹⁴ C	M								1.39E-18	1.39E-18
⁴⁵ Ca	M								3.36E-13	3.36E-13
¹⁴¹ Ce	M								2.06E-08	2.06E-08
¹⁴⁴ Ce	M								4.09E-07	4.09E-07
²⁴⁹ Cf	F								1.11E-13	1.11E-13
²⁵² Cf ^c	M						4.59E-09		5.83E-08	6.29E-08
³⁶ Cl	M								5.00E-10	5.00E-10
²⁴² Cm	M								3.01E-11	3.01E-11
²⁴³ Cm	M						4.40E-08		3.83E-08	8.22E-08
²⁴³ Cm	F				1.16E-08	7.60E-07			1.55E-08	7.87E-07
²⁴⁴ Cm	F			1.37E-07	1.16E-08	7.60E-07			3.45E-06	4.35E-06
²⁴⁴ Cm	M	3.47E-07	2.49E-08				4.40E-08		7.43E-07	1.16E-06
²⁴⁵ Cm	M								1.03E-09	1.03E-09
²⁴⁶ Cm	M								3.73E-13	3.73E-13
²⁴⁷ Cm	M								6.84E-14	6.84E-14

Table 5.10. (continued)

Isotope	Solubility	Stack							Total Minor		Unlabeled
		X-2026	X-3020	X-3039	X-7503	X-7880	X-7911	X-8915	Source	ORNL Total	
²⁴⁸ Cm ^d	F								1.11E-13	1.11E-13	
⁵⁷ Co	M								5.07E-07	5.07E-07	
⁵⁷ Co	S								2.30E-14	2.30E-14	
⁵⁸ Co	S								7.58E-13	7.58E-13	
⁵⁸ Co	M								2.09E-11	2.09E-11	
⁶⁰ Co	M								3.48E-05	3.48E-05	
⁶⁰ Co	S			6.97E-07		1.11E-05			3.80E-07	1.22E-05	
⁵¹ Cr	M								7.80E-10	7.80E-10	
¹³⁴ Cs	F								3.69E-07	3.69E-07	
¹³⁴ Cs	S					7.81E-06			2.03E-13	7.81E-06	
¹³⁷ Cs	F	1.11E-06	1.27E-06					4.63E-06	9.17E-05	9.87E-05	
¹³⁷ Cs	S			8.16E-05	1.77E-08	9.43E-06			7.00E-04	7.91E-04	
¹³⁸ Cs	F							5.47E+02		5.47E+02	
¹³⁸ Cs	S			7.72E-02						7.72E-02	
²⁵³ Es	M								6.24E-10	6.24E-10	
¹⁵² Eu	M								2.21E-07	2.21E-07	
¹⁵⁴ Eu	M								2.02E-07	2.02E-07	
¹⁵⁵ Eu	M								1.00E-08	1.00E-08	
⁵⁵ Fe	M								1.23E-08	1.23E-08	
⁵⁹ Fe	M								1.36E-08	1.36E-08	
⁵⁹ Fe	S								6.50E-14	6.50E-14	
¹⁵³ Gd	M								2.15E-10	2.15E-10	
³ H	V	8.03E-02		4.73E+00	1.55E+00		1.39E+02	2.89E+02	7.68E-01	4.35E+02	
¹⁷⁵ Hf	M								1.22E-12	1.22E-12	
¹⁸¹ Hf	M								1.22E-08	1.22E-08	
²⁰³ Hg	M								2.16E-07	2.16E-07	
^{166m} Ho	M								1.00E-04	1.00E-04	
¹²³ I	V							1.17E+00		1.17E+00	
¹²⁴ I	F								5.48E-09	5.48E-09	
¹²⁵ I	V							1.77E-01		1.77E-01	
¹²⁵ I	F								9.43E-07	9.43E-07	1.77E-01
¹²⁶ I	F								4.64E-06	4.64E-06	
¹²⁹ I	F					7.78E-06			1.26E-09	7.78E-06	
¹²⁹ I	V								5.56E-05	5.56E-05	
¹³⁰ I	F								2.68E-10	2.68E-10	
¹³¹ I	F			7.57E-03		9.28E-05	1.09E-01		3.00E-02	1.47E-01	

Table 5.10. (continued)

Isotope	Solubility	Stack						Total Minor		Unlabeled	
		X-2026	X-3020	X-3039	X-7503	X-7880	X-7911	X-8915	Source		ORNL Total
¹³² I	F			1.95E-03			5.68E-01			5.70E-01	
¹³³ I	F			7.77E-05			3.91E-01		2.05E-10	3.91E-01	
¹³⁴ I	F						1.42E+00			1.42E+00	
¹³⁵ I	F						1.08E+00		1.87E-32	1.08E+00	
¹⁹² Ir	M								2.35E-07	2.35E-07	
⁴⁰ K	S								3.69E-07	3.69E-07	
⁴⁰ K	M								8.25E-06	8.25E-06	
⁷⁹ Kr	G								1.46E-13	1.46E-13	
⁸¹ Kr	G								4.21E-12	4.21E-12	
⁸⁵ Kr	G						5.99E+02		4.20E-04	5.99E+02	
^{85m} Kr	G						2.56E+00	6.27E+00		8.83E+00	
⁸⁷ Kr	G						3.20E+01			3.20E+01	
⁸⁸ Kr	G						4.75E+01	6.19E+00		5.37E+01	
⁸⁹ Kr ^e	G						2.95E+01			2.95E+01	
¹⁴⁰ La	S				7.10E-05					7.10E-05	
¹⁴⁰ La	M						6.83E-04		1.95E-10	6.83E-04	
⁵⁴ Mn	S				8.94E-06				2.52E-13	8.94E-06	
⁵⁴ Mn	M								9.23E-10	9.23E-10	
⁹³ Mo	M								1.72E-14	1.72E-14	
¹³ N	G							7.31E+01		7.31E+01	
²² Na	M								3.72E-14	3.72E-14	
^{93m} Nb	M								6.87E-13	6.87E-13	
⁹⁴ Nb	S								1.25E-08	1.25E-08	
⁹⁴ Nb	M								1.24E-17	1.24E-17	
⁹⁵ Nb	M								3.90E-09	3.90E-09	
^{95m} Nb	M								6.58E-18	6.58E-18	
¹⁴⁷ Nd	M								1.88E-12	1.88E-12	
⁵⁹ Ni	M								4.65E-21	4.65E-21	
⁶³ Ni	M								6.49E-09	6.49E-09	
²³⁷ Np	M								8.05E-08	8.05E-08	
²³⁹ Np	M								3.06E-09	3.06E-09	
¹⁹¹ Os	M						4.18E-08			4.18E-08	
¹⁹¹ Os	S								9.84E-13	9.84E-13	
³² P	M								2.31E-17	2.31E-17	
³³ P	M								2.17E-22	2.17E-22	
²¹⁰ Pb	M								2.53E-11	2.53E-11	

Table 5.10. (continued)

Isotope	Solubility	Stack						Total Minor		Unlabeled	
		X-2026	X-3020	X-3039	X-7503	X-7880	X-7911	X-8915	Source		ORNL Total
²¹² Pb	M	5.33E-01	5.37E-01					1.94E-02	2.20E-06	1.09E+00	
²¹² Pb	S			9.04E-01	1.28E-01				3.17E-02	1.06E+00	2.15E+00
²¹⁴ Pb	M								2.50E-13	2.50E-13	
¹⁴⁷ Pm	M								1.41E-14	1.41E-14	
²¹⁵ Po	M								3.24E-10	3.24E-10	
²¹⁶ Po	M								2.16E-10	2.16E-10	
²³⁸ Pu	F			3.57E-07	5.57E-08	1.49E-06			2.76E-07	2.18E-06	
²³⁸ Pu	M	1.07E-07	1.43E-07					2.45E-07	2.24E-07	7.19E-07	
²³⁹ Pu	F			1.71E-06	3.43E-08	6.55E-07			1.24E-07	2.52E-06	
²³⁹ Pu	M	1.13E-07	2.23E-07					3.52E-08	6.08E-08	4.32E-07	
²⁴⁰ Pu	F					6.55E-07			9.79E-09	6.65E-07	
²⁴⁰ Pu	M							3.52E-08	4.97E-08	8.49E-08	
²⁴¹ Pu	F								4.17E-11	4.17E-11	
²⁴¹ Pu	M								6.88E-10	6.88E-10	
²⁴² Pu	M								4.27E-09	4.27E-09	
²²³ Ra	M								4.64E-11	4.64E-11	
²²⁴ Ra	M								1.44E-12	1.44E-12	
²²⁵ Ra	M								4.62E-06	4.62E-06	
²²⁸ Ra	M								1.75E-06	1.75E-06	
⁸⁸ Rb	M							7.78E-01		7.78E-01	
¹⁸⁶ Re	M								1.03E-18	1.03E-18	
²¹⁹ Rn	G								3.80E-11	3.80E-11	
¹⁰³ Ru	M								6.88E-09	6.88E-09	
¹⁰³ Ru	S					1.14E-05				1.14E-05	
¹⁰⁶ Ru	M								2.81E-06	2.81E-06	
¹⁰⁶ Ru	S					7.09E-05			1.00E-12	7.09E-05	
³⁵ S	M								5.03E-10	5.03E-10	
¹²⁴ Sb	M								2.02E-07	2.02E-07	
¹²⁴ Sb	S			6.30E-06						6.30E-06	
¹²⁵ Sb	S			2.48E-06					5.24E-07	3.00E-06	
¹²⁵ Sb	M								1.41E-08	1.41E-08	
⁴⁶ Sc	M								5.20E-18	5.20E-18	
⁷⁵ Se	S			1.90E-04		8.24E-06				1.98E-04	
³² Si	M								4.64E-22	4.64E-22	
¹¹³ Sn	M								2.84E-11	2.84E-11	
^{117m} Sn	M								5.78E-12	5.78E-12	

Table 5.10. (continued)

Isotope	Solubility	Stack							Total Minor		Unlabeled
		X-2026	X-3020	X-3039	X-7503	X-7880	X-7911	X-8915	Source	ORNL Total	
^{119m} Sn	M								1.00E-18	1.00E-18	
^{121m} Sn	M								1.12E-12	1.12E-12	
⁸⁹ Sr	M	1.36E-07	5.55E-07					1.25E-05	5.78E-12	1.31E-05	
⁸⁹ Sr	S			9.90E-05	2.50E-08				4.65E-05	1.46E-04	
⁹⁰ Sr	M	1.36E-07	5.55E-07					1.25E-05	1.91E-04	2.04E-04	
⁹⁰ Sr	S			9.90E-05	2.50E-08	8.48E-06			1.62E-04	2.69E-04	
¹⁷⁹ Ta	M								5.95E-14	5.95E-14	
¹⁸² Ta	M								3.59E-11	3.59E-11	
⁹⁹ Tc	S					1.02E-05				1.02E-05	
⁹⁹ Tc	M								3.20E-08	3.20E-08	
^{125m} Te	M								1.44E-12	1.44E-12	
^{129m} Te	M								7.52E-07	7.52E-07	
²²⁷ Th	S								3.00E-08	3.00E-08	
²²⁸ Th	S	1.12E-09	1.40E-08	4.52E-08	5.59E-09			3.68E-08	1.07E-07	2.10E-07	
²²⁹ Th	S								3.33E-12	3.33E-12	
²³⁰ Th	S	3.55E-09	1.63E-09					5.48E-09	7.10E-08	8.17E-08	
²³⁰ Th	F			4.18E-09	1.21E-09				2.75E-08	3.29E-08	
²³² Th	F			3.10E-09	3.61E-10				4.50E-09	7.96E-09	
²³² Th	S	5.48E-10	1.31E-09					1.99E-09	1.00E-03	1.00E-03	1.00E-03
²³⁴ Th	S								8.12E-06	8.12E-06	
²⁰⁸ Tl	M								1.11E-13	1.11E-13	
²³² U	M								4.48E-14	4.48E-14	
²³³ U	S				1.23E-08	5.45E-07			7.06E-06	7.62E-06	
²³³ U	M							6.10E-08	1.12E-11	6.10E-08	
²³⁴ U	M	7.41E-08	9.43E-08					6.10E-08	1.58E-04	1.58E-04	
²³⁴ U	S			8.96E-08	1.23E-08	5.45E-07			7.48E-06	8.12E-06	
²³⁵ U	M	3.78E-09	2.32E-08					3.40E-08	2.64E-05	2.65E-05	
²³⁵ U	S			1.05E-08	4.17E-09	1.16E-06			7.13E-07	1.89E-06	
²³⁶ U	S								3.92E-07	3.92E-07	
²³⁸ U	M	3.94E-09	1.39E-08					2.87E-08	1.22E-03	1.22E-03	
²³⁸ U	S			3.32E-08	3.08E-09	1.03E-06			9.23E-07	1.99E-06	1.22E-03
¹⁸¹ W	M								2.23E-11	2.23E-11	
¹⁸⁵ W	M								8.44E-11	8.44E-11	
¹⁸⁸ W	M								6.15E-14	6.15E-14	
¹²³ Xe	G							1.06E+01		1.06E+01	
¹²⁵ Xe	G							1.48E+01		1.48E+01	

Table 5.10. (continued)

Isotope	Solubility	Stack							Total Minor		Unlabeled
		X-2026	X-3020	X-3039	X-7503	X-7880	X-7911	X-8915	Source	ORNL Total	
¹²⁷ Xe	G								7.16E-08	7.16E-08	
^{129m} Xe	G								4.91E-06	4.91E-06	
^{131m} Xe	G							1.66E+02	9.10E-04	1.66E+02	
¹³³ Xe	G							9.14E+00	1.03E-02	9.15E+00	
^{133m} Xe	G							2.39E+01	9.84E-05	2.39E+01	
¹³⁵ Xe	G							2.56E+01	9.79E-24	2.56E+01	
^{135m} Xe	G							2.15E+01		2.15E+01	
¹³⁷ Xe ^f	G							5.48E+01		5.48E+01	
¹³⁸ Xe	G							7.20E+01		7.20E+01	
⁸⁸ Y	F					1.07E-05				1.07E-05	
⁹¹ Y	M								2.64E-11	2.64E-11	
⁶⁵ Zn	F					2.08E-05			6.28E-13	2.08E-05	
⁶⁵ Zn	M								3.59E-09	3.59E-09	
⁹³ Zr	M								4.05E-19	4.05E-19	
⁹⁵ Zr	M								6.35E-09	6.35E-09	
⁹⁵ Zr	S					1.78E-05				1.78E-05	
Totals		6.13E-01	5.37E-01	5.72E+00	1.68E+00	6.48E-04	2.44E+03	3.75E+03	8.46E-01	6.20E+03	

^aEmissions given in curies (Ci). 1 Ci = 3.7E+10 Bq

^bM = moderate, S = slow, F = fast, and G = ????

^cCalifornium-248 surrogate for Californium-252

^dCurium-245 surrogate for Curium-248

^eKrypton-88 surrogate for Krypton-89

^fXenon-135 surrogate for Xenon-137

Abbreviations

ORNL = Oak Ridge National Laboratory

Table 5.10 shows total radionuclide emissions from point sources on ORR. The designation of F, M, and S refers to the lung clearance type—fast (F), moderate (M), and slow (S)—for the given radionuclide.

Historical trends for ^3H and ^{131}I are presented in Figs. 5.10 and 5.11. For 2012, ^3H emissions totaled about 435.1 Ci (Fig. 5.10), an increase from 2011; ^{131}I emissions totaled 0.15 Ci (Fig. 5.11), which was in line with 2011 emissions. The increase in ^3H was due to SNS operations and research activities at REDC involving the processing of heavy element targets. For 2012, the major dose contributors to the off-site dose at ORNL were ^{11}C , ^{212}Pb , ^{232}Th , and ^{138}Cs , with dose contributions of about 31%, 24%, 19%, and 6%, 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 following stacks: 2026, 3020, 3039, 7503, 7856, 7935, and 7911, and the STP sludge drier. Emissions of ^{232}Th come from a number of operations and research activities on the ORNL site. Emissions of ^{138}Cs were primarily due to research activities at REDC, which exhaust through the 7911 Melton Valley complex stack. In 2012, ^{138}Cs was also emitted from the 3039 stack. For 2012, ^{11}C emissions totaled 3,340 Ci, ^{212}Pb emissions totaled 2 Ci, ^{232}Th emissions totaled $1.00\text{E}-03$ Ci, and ^{138}Cs emissions totaled 547 Ci (Fig. 5.12). Emissions of ^{41}Ar totaled 679 Ci and were in line with 2011.

The calculated radiation dose to the maximally exposed individual (MEI) from all radiological airborne release points at ORR during 2012 was 0.3 mrem. The dose contribution to MEI from all ORNL radiological airborne release points was 0.298 mrem. This dose is well below the NESHAPs standard of 10 mrem and is less than 0.1% 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.)

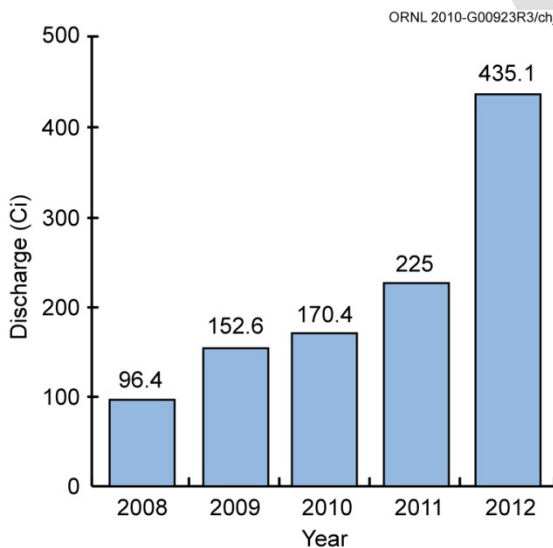


Fig. 5.10. Total curies of ^3H discharged from Oak Ridge National Laboratory to the atmosphere, 2008–2012.

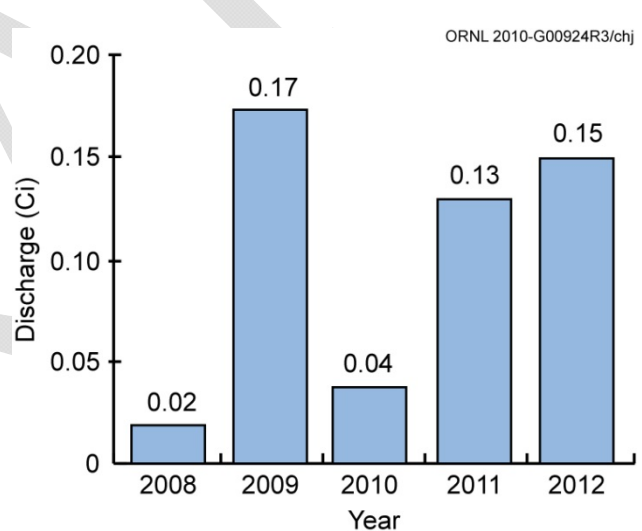


Fig. 5.11. Total curies of ^{131}I discharged from Oak Ridge National Laboratory to the atmosphere, 2008–2012.

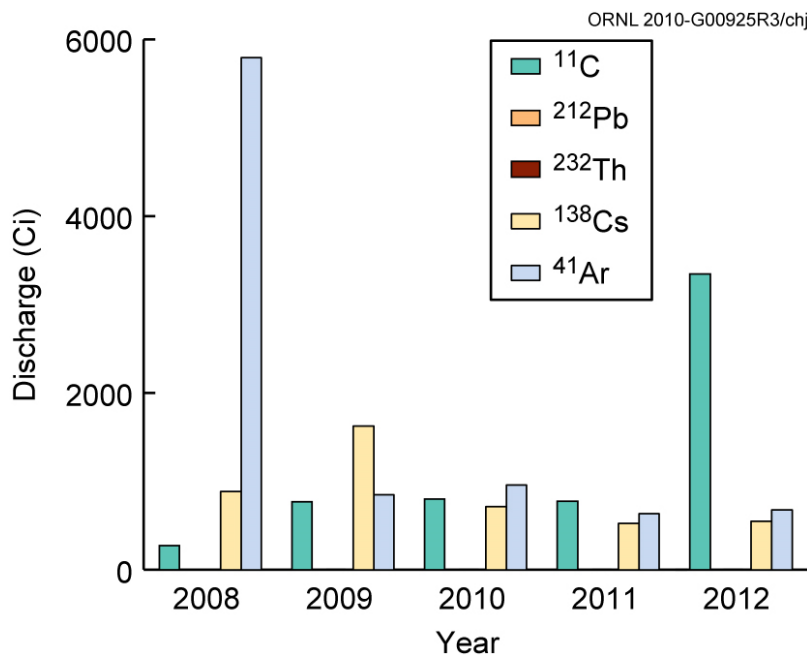


Fig. 5.12. Total curies of ^{41}Ar , ^{138}Cs , ^{212}Pb , ^{125}I , ^{11}C , and ^{238}U discharged from Oak Ridge National Laboratory to the atmosphere, 2007–2011. (Note: Levels of ^{212}Pb and ^{232}Th discharged were too low to accurately depict on this figure (2 Ci and $1.00\text{E}-03$, respectively.)

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 objectives of the ORNL ambient air monitoring program are to collect samples at site PAM stations located in areas most likely to show impacts of airborne emissions from ORNL and to provide information to support emergency response activities. Four stations, identified as stations 1, 2, 3, and 7, make up the ORNL PAM network (Fig. 5.13). During 2012, sampling was conducted at each station to quantify levels of tritium; uranium; and gross alpha-, beta-, and gamma-emitting radionuclides (Table 5.11).

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.

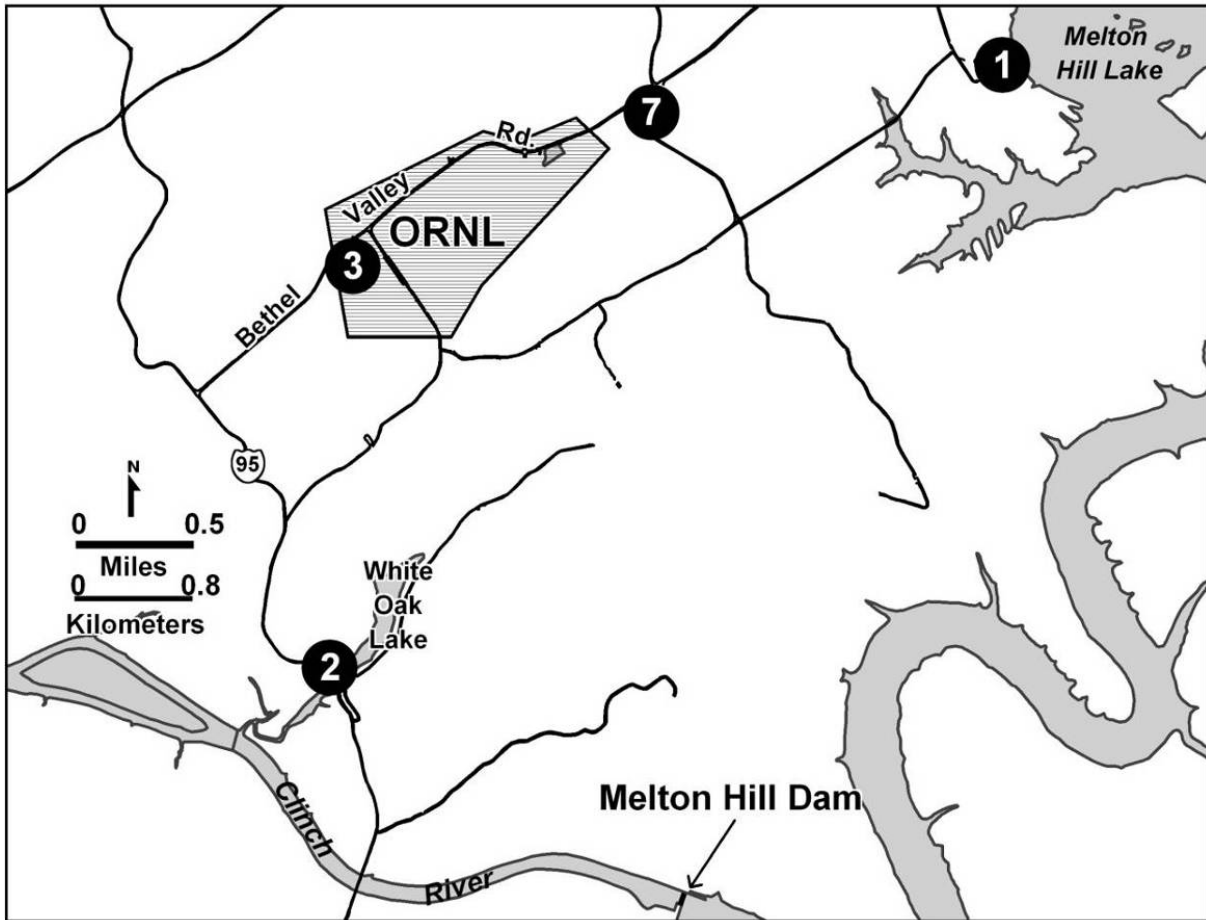


Fig. 5.13. Locations of ambient air monitoring stations at Oak Ridge National Laboratory.

DR

Table 5.11. Radionuclide concentrations (pCi/mL)^a measured at Oak Ridge National Laboratory perimeter air monitoring stations, 2012

Parameter	Number detected/ sampled	Concentration		
		Average	Minimum	Maximum
Station 1				
Alpha	4/4	2.34E-09	2.17E-09	2.61E-09
⁷ Be	4/4	4.24E-08	2.48E-08	5.07E-08
Beta	4/4	1.05E-08	9.44E-09	1.15E-08
³ H	2/4	4.27E-06	1.14E-06	8.29E-06
⁴⁰ K	0/0	-2.56E-10	-4.75E-10	-1.23E-10
²³⁴ U	4/4	2.98E-12	2.28E-12	3.71E-12
²³⁵ U	1/4	2.49E-13	9.91E-14	4.09E-13
²³⁸ U	4/4	2.21E-12	1.88E-12	2.43E-12
Total U	4/4	5.44E-12	4.68E-12	5.39E-12
Station 2				
Alpha	1/1	5.04E-09	<i>b</i>	<i>b</i>
⁷ Be	1/1	1.84E-08	<i>b</i>	<i>b</i>
Beta	1/1	1.94E-08	<i>b</i>	<i>b</i>
³ H	3/4	3.16E-06	-2.67E-10	1.83E-05
⁴⁰ K	0/1	-4.39E-10	<i>b</i>	<i>b</i>
²³⁴ U	0/1	3.14E-12	<i>b</i>	<i>b</i>
²³⁵ U	0/1	2.35E-12	<i>b</i>	<i>b</i>
²³⁸ U	0/1	3.71E-12	<i>b</i>	<i>b</i>
Total U	0/1	9.19E-12	<i>b</i>	<i>b</i>
Station 3				
Alpha	1/1	3.48E-09	<i>b</i>	<i>b</i>
⁷ Be	1/1	1.83E-08	<i>b</i>	<i>b</i>
Beta	1/1	1.82E-08	<i>b</i>	<i>b</i>
³ H	2/4	8.77E-07	-2.45E-08	6.77E-06
⁴⁰ K	0/1	1.05E-09	<i>b</i>	<i>b</i>
²³⁴ U	0/1	5.97E-12	<i>b</i>	<i>b</i>
²³⁵ U	0/1	-1.28E-12	<i>b</i>	<i>b</i>
²³⁸ U	1/1	7.07E-12	<i>b</i>	<i>b</i>
Total U	1/1	1.18E-11	<i>b</i>	<i>b</i>
Station 7				
Alpha	1/1	7.95E-09	<i>b</i>	<i>b</i>
⁷ Be	1/1	2.18E-08	<i>b</i>	<i>b</i>
Beta	1/1	2.06E-08	<i>b</i>	<i>b</i>
³ H	3/4	9.79E-06	2.59E-06	1.65E-05
⁴⁰ K	0/1	-1.56E-10	<i>b</i>	<i>b</i>
²³⁴ U	1/1	4.47E-12	<i>b</i>	<i>b</i>
²³⁵ U	0/1	3.73E-13	<i>b</i>	<i>b</i>
²³⁸ U	1/1	6.05E-12	<i>b</i>	<i>b</i>
Total U	1/1	1.09E-11	<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 5.11) are compared with the derived concentration standards (DCSs) for air established by DOE as guidelines for controlling exposure to members of the public. During 2012, 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 2008 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.

TDEC implements the Clean Water Act with EPA review. TDEC issues the NPDES Permit to ORNL, including a WQPP requirement in 2008.

The public comments on regulatory and industry actions through public meetings and reviews of regulatory documents (Aug. 2007 public review period for draft ORNL NPDES permit).

Monitoring and investigatory data are analyzed and reported in the annual WQPP report. Results can lead to specific abatement or remedial actions, or further monitoring and investigation to define next steps.

Specific monitoring and assessment actions are defined in the ORNL WQPP (October 2008), and will be refined annually with decision-maker and regulatory involvement.

Short-term investigation is conducted concurrent with core program to determine, or better characterize, the cause of a specific impairment. Plans for mercury and PCB investigation in FY 2009 are detailed in Section 5.0 of the WQPP.

Sampling is prioritized using the stressor identification process: list candidate causes, and analyze the evidence (using data from core program as well as outside).

Mercury and PCB contamination was identified as high priority for further investigation (2008).

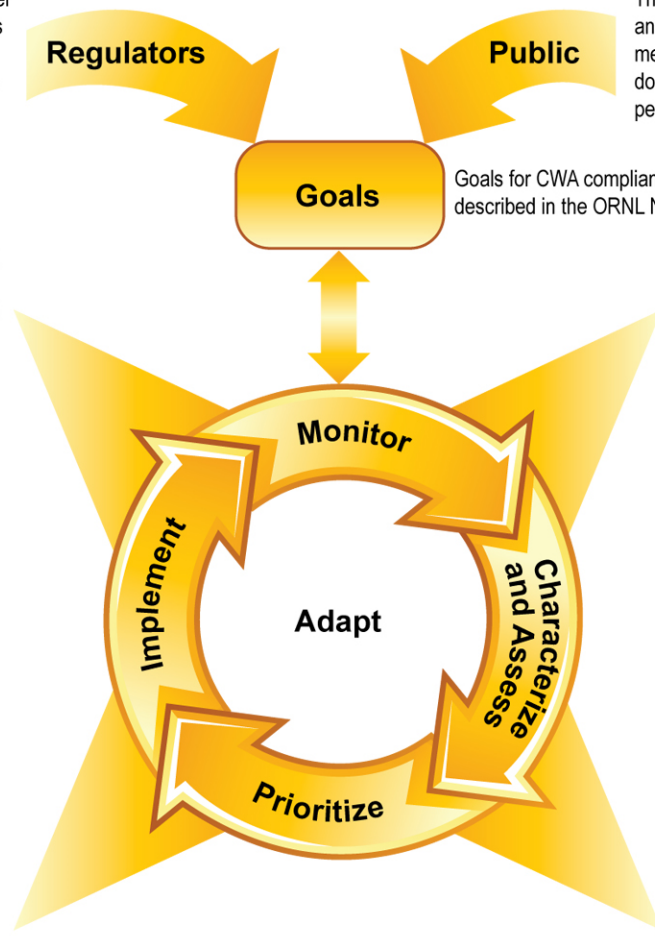


Fig. 5.14. Diagram of the adaptive management framework, with step-wise planning specific to the Oak Ridge National Laboratory Water Quality Protection Plan. [Adapted from the EPA stressor guidance document (EPA 2000).]

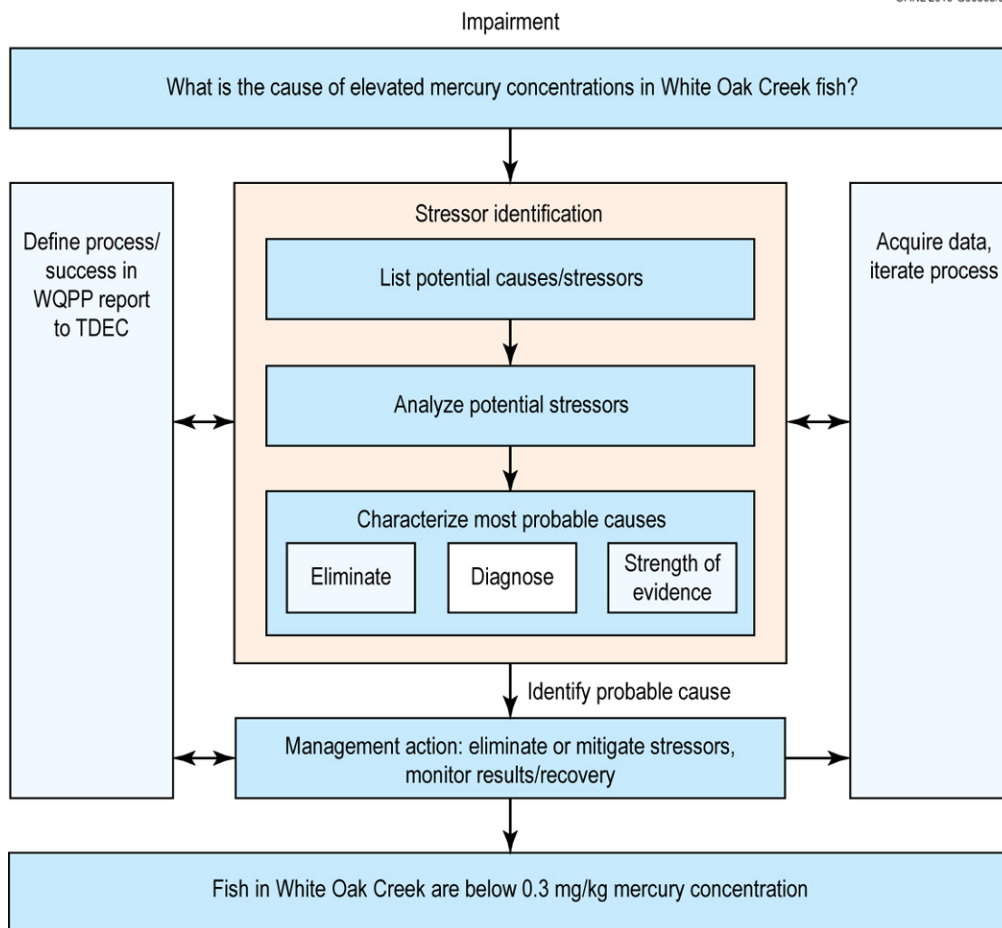


Fig. 5.15. Application of stressor identification guidance to address mercury impairment in the White Oak Creek watershed. [Modified from Figure 1-1 in the EPA stressor guidance document (EPA 2000).]

5.5.1 Treatment Facility Discharges

Three on-site wastewater treatment systems were operated at ORNL in 2012 to provide appropriate treatment of the various R&D, operational, and domestic wastewaters generated by site staff and activities. All three 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), the ORNL Steam Plant Wastewater Treatment Facility (SPWTF; outfall X02), and the ORNL Process Waste Treatment Complex (PWTC; outfall X12). The ORNL NPDES permit requirements include monitoring the three 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 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 5.12. In 2012, the SPWTF was taken out of service, as modernization of the ORNL Steam Plant included a new reverse-osmosis boiler-water softening system, which eliminated the need for the SPWTF. The SPWTF treatment components were taken offline and are being removed, the SPWTF settling ponds were remediated and backfilled, and the outfall X02 discharge pipe was sealed shut. There will be no discharges from ORNL outfall X02 in the future. ORNL facilities achieved 99.9% compliance with permit limits and conditions in 2012.

Oak Ridge Reservation

Table 5.12. National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System compliance at Oak Ridge National Laboratory, 2012 (NPDES permit effective August 1, 2008)

Effluent parameters	Permit limits					Permit compliance		
	Monthly average (lb/d)	Daily max. (lb/d)	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	1 ^b	6	83.3
<i>X01 (ORNL STP)</i>								
LC ₅₀ for <i>Ceriodaphnia</i> (%)					69.4	0	2	100
LC ₅₀ for fathead minnows (%)					69.4	0	2	100
Ammonia, as N (summer)	6.26	9.39	2.5	3.75		0	27	100
Ammonia, as N (winter)	13.14	19.78	5.25	7.9		0	25	100
Carbonaceous biological oxygen demand	19.2	28.8	10	15		0	52	100
Dissolved oxygen					6	0	52	100
<i>Escherichia coli</i> form (col/100 mL)			941	126		0	52	100
IC ₂₅ for <i>Ceriodaphnia</i> (%)					15.5	0	2	100
IC ₂₅ for fathead minnows (%)					15.5	0	2	100
Oil and grease	19.2	28.8	10	15		0	12	100
pH (standard units)				9	6	0	52	100
Total suspended solids	57.5	86.3	30	45		0	52	100
<i>X02 (ORNL SPWTF)</i>								
pH (standard units)				9.0	6	0	51	100
Total suspended solids				50		0	6	100
Conductivity				Report		0	51	100
<i>X12 (PWTC)</i>								
LC ₅₀ for <i>Ceriodaphnia</i> (%)					100	0	2	100
LC ₅₀ for fathead minnows (%)					100	0	2	100
Arsenic, total			0.007	0.014		0	6	100
Cadmium, total	1.73	4.60	0.003	0.038		0	6	100
Chromium, total	11.40	18.46	0.22	0.44		0	6	100
Copper, total	13.8	22.53	0.07	0.11		0	6	100
Cyanide, total	4.33	8.00	0.008	0.046		0	2	100
Lead, total	2.87	4.60	0.028	0.69		0	6	100
IC ₂₅ for <i>Ceriodaphnia</i> (%)					30.5	0	2	100
IC ₂₅ for fathead minnows (%)					30.5	0	2	100

Table 5.12. (continued)

Effluent parameters	Permit limits					Permit compliance		
	Monthly average (lb/d)	Daily max. (lb/d)	Monthly average (mg/L)	Daily max. (mg/L)	Daily min. (mg/L)	Number of noncompliances	Number of samples	Percentage of compliance ^a
Oil and grease	66.7	100	10	15		0	12	100
pH (standard units)				9.0	6.0	0	52	100
Temperature (°C)				30.5		0	52	100
<i>Instream chlorine monitoring points</i>								
Total residual oxidant			0.011	0.019		0	288	100

^aPercentage compliance = 100 [(number of noncompliances/number of samples) × 100].

^bThe exceedance of an effluent pH limit that occurred at the new ORNL Melton Valley Steam Plant outfall 585 was attributed to the percentage of boiler blowdown in the outfall 585 effluent. As corrective action, the MVSP was shut down until a pump and piping could be installed to redirect the effluent to the ORNL STP for treatment.

Abbreviations

LC₅₀ = 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 caused 25% reduction in survival, reproduction, or growth of the test organisms.

MVSP = Melton Valley Steam Plant

NPDES = National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System

ORNL = Oak Ridge National Laboratory

PWTC = Process Waste Treatment Complex

SPWTF = Steam Plant Wastewater Treatment Facility

STP = Sewage Treatment Plant

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 and SPWTF 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*, 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. SPWTF and PWTC effluent have 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 twice per year each, using two test species. As previously mentioned, the ORNL SPWTF was taken permanently out of service in 2012. In 2012, 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 5.12).

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 lower 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-three individual outfalls are checked for TRO semiannually, quarterly, monthly, or bimonthly. Flow was detected 254 times. Table 5.13 lists instances in 2012 where outfalls were found to be in excess of the TRO action level. Five outfalls, 265 and 363 on Fifth Creek, 082 on Melton Branch, and 227 and 312 on WOC, exceeded the action level during 2012. The sources for outfalls 265, 207, and 081 have been determined to be aging underground water pipes that are leaking drinking water.

Table 5.13. Outfalls exceeding total residual oxidant (TRO) action level^a in 2012

Sample date	Outfall	TRO concentration (mg/L)	Flow (gpm)	Load (grams/day)	Receiving stream	Downstream integration point	Instream TRO point
2/6/2012	265	1.1	15	89.93	Fifth Creek	FFK 0.2	X19
2/6/2012	312	0.2	8	6.54	White Oak Creek	WCK 3.9	X21
4/12/2012	265	0.8	8	32.70	Fifth Creek	FFK 0.2	X19
7/19/2012	082	1.5	20	163.50	Melton Branch	MEK 2.1	N/A
7/19/2012	312	0.3	25	34.06	White Oak Creek	WCK 3.9	X21
7/19/2012	363	0.9	12	55.59	Fifth Creek	FFK 0.2	X19
9/4/2012	227	0.4	50	109.00	White Oak Creek	WCK 3.9	X21
9/12/2012	312	0.2	10	8.18	White Oak Creek	WCK 3.9	X21
10/15/2012	265	0.4	18	34.34	Fifth Creek	FFK 0.2	X19

^a1.2 g/day

Abbreviations

- FFK = Fifth Creek kilometer
- MEK = Melton Branch kilometer
- TRO = total residual oxidant
- WCK = White Oak Creek kilometer

5.5.3 Cooling Tower Blowdown Whole Effluent Toxicity Monitoring

As part of the ORNL WQPP, samples of blowdown from three cooling towers/cooling tower systems (5600, 5807, and 4510-4521) were tested for whole effluent toxicity (WET) in August 2012. This was done primarily 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 (stream) kilometer 3.9 (WCK 3.9). The towers chosen for WET testing were those thought to 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 2012 were tested with *Ceriodaphnia dubia* using a 3-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*).

Two of the tested tower systems discharge through outfalls where blowdown is mixed with other types of effluent before the blowdown reaches the receiving stream, so effluents from those outfalls were also tested for WET during the same time period in which the towers were tested. 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 an additional test on outfall 014 effluent. WET test results are shown in Table 5.14.

Table 5.14. Summary results of chronic *Ceriodaphnia dubia* toxicity tests of Oak Ridge National Laboratory cooling towers and outfalls conducted during August 2012

Location	NOEC ^a	IC ₂₅ ^b	96 h LC ₅₀ ^c
Cooling Tower 4510-4521	25%	32%	89%
Cooling Tower 5600	100%	>100%	>100%
Outfall 227	100%	>100%	>100%
Cooling Tower 5807	25%	50.2%	>100%
Outfall 231	100%	>100%	>100%

^aNOEC = No observed effect concentration for survival and reproduction.

^bIC₂₅ = Inhibition concentration that would cause a 25% reduction in mean young per female.

^cLC₅₀ = Lethal concentration that would cause a 50% reduction in survival in 96 h (estimated, with this type of chronic test).

Results were similar for two of the tower systems, 4510-4521 and 5807. The results for the 5600 tower were considerably different from the other two, which was unexpected because all three tower systems are operated and maintained similarly (they receive the same chemical treatments and the towers are operated within similar ranges of specific conductivity). Evidence suggests that the results obtained for the 5600 tower are an anomaly. Water quality measurements made on test samples as they were received at the testing laboratory revealed considerably lower specific conductivity than the samples from the other two towers and much lower specific conductivity than the conductivity setting on the tower's blowdown control system. It is theorized that the sampler intake in the tower 5600 basin may have been located such that the samples were enriched in tower makeup water (water added from the potable water system to replace water lost to evaporation). Therefore, the samples that were collected are not thought to be representative of the blowdown. If the tower 5600 samples would have been representative of the blowdown, that tower would likely have tested similarly to the others. 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 sampler.

The results presented in Table 5.14 indicate that if *Ceriodaphnia dubia* were to be continually exposed to blowdown from these cooling towers for a long enough period of time, at a concentration roughly 25%–50% of the no observed effect concentration or higher, their reproduction would be negatively affected. At concentrations approaching 100%, survival may also be affected. In the driest summer conditions in WOC, it is possible for concentrations of blowdown in the receiving stream [instream waste concentration (IWC)] to be as high as 40%. However, more work needs to be done to determine whether such impacts (to *Ceriodaphnia dubia* and other organisms) are actually occurring in the stream. As mentioned previously, the WET tests that were performed are chronic tests, which measure impacts to organisms under a continuous exposure scenario for 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. In addition, WET tests done in the past have generally showed that when actual stream water is used as the diluent when making up the various dilutions to be tested (as opposed to the standard degassed mineral water as the diluent), the organisms tend to fair better. The blowdown samples that were tested were prepared with standard diluent.

Two outfalls receiving these blowdown discharges were tested for WET as well. Those test results reveal that when blowdown sources are mixed with other wastewaters before discharge, significant improvements in toxicity are realized. No toxicity was detected at the two outfalls receiving blowdown from towers 5600 and 5807. This may be the result of simple dilution but could involve some beneficial chemical or physical interactions that result from the mixing of effluents. Blowdown from the 4510-4521

tower complex is not blended with other wastewaters before discharge and therefore does not have this benefit.

Before these tests were conducted, it was anticipated that if toxicity were to be observed, the toxicity might be the result of increased concentrations of dissolved metals in the blowdown due to evaporation of water from the tower and due to tower water coming into contact with metals in materials of construction. Additional samples of 100% blowdown were treated with ethylenediaminetetraacetic acid (EDTA) to chelate commonly encountered metals and were tested alongside the untreated samples. EDTA treatment did not improve toxicity, indicating that metals (at least the metals that can be removed with EDTA) were not responsible for the observed toxicity.

More work is planned to resolve some of the uncertainties described above and to gather the information needed to determine appropriate management actions if cooling tower blowdown is confirmed as a likely contributor to the biological impairments observed in WOC. This work will likely include data gathering and model simulations to better understand realistic exposure scenarios in WOC (i.e., more accurate determination of IWCs) and performing additional WET tests. Additional WET testing will be performed to confirm the initial results and to learn more about the constituents in the blowdown that are contributing to toxicity.

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, total metals, and total suspended solids. Results of that monitoring are shown in Table 5.15.

Table 5.15. Field parameters and results from laboratory analyses of blowdown from Oak Ridge National Laboratory cooling towers
(Sampled August 21, 2012)

Parameter	Cooling Towers Sampled		
	4510-4521	5600	5807
Conductivity (mS/cm)	1.12	0.295	1.07
Dissolved Oxygen (mg/L)	8.2	9.1	8.8
pH (standard units)	8.6	8.7	8.7
Temperature (°C)	23.1	17.5	19.7
Chemical Oxygen Demand (mg/L)	66.8	26.8	89.3
Total Suspended Solids (mg/L)	< 2	< 2	< 2
Ag (mg/L)	< 0.000619	0.00186	< 0.000619
As (mg/L)	< 0.001	< 0.001	< 0.001
Be (mg/L)	< 0.000686	< 0.000686	< 0.000686
Ca (mg/L)	128	29.2	132
Cd (mg/L)	< 0.000782	< 0.000782	< 0.000782
Cr (mg/L)	< 0.001	< 0.001	< 0.001
Cu (mg/L)	0.0027	0.0013	0.0093
Fe (mg/L)	< 0.0206	< 0.0206	< 0.0206
Mg (mg/L)	38.2	8.69	39
Mn (mg/L)	0.00154	0.00127	0.00769
Mo (mg/L)	0.19	< 0.000931	0.26
Ni (mg/L)	< 0.00138	< 0.00138	< 0.00138
Pb (mg/L)	< 0.001	< 0.001	< 0.001
Sb (mg/L)	0.0027	< 0.00081	< 0.00081
Se (mg/L)	< 0.0406	< 0.0406	< 0.0406
Zn (mg/L)	0.283	0.128	0.319

5.5.4 Radiological Monitoring

At ORNL, monitoring of effluents and instream locations for radioactivity is conducted under the ORNL WQPP. Table 5.16 details the monitoring frequencies and target analyses for 3 treatment facility outfalls, 3 instream monitoring locations, and 22 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 2012, dry-weather grab samples were collected at 16 of the 22 category outfalls targeted for sampling. Four category outfalls (203, 205, 241, and 284) were not sampled because there was no discharge present during sampling attempts. Monitoring requirements were eliminated for two outfalls (217 and 219) in a monitoring plan update implemented in mid-2012.

Table 5.16. Radiological monitoring conducted under the Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL) Water Quality Protection Plan, 2012

Location	Frequency	Gross alpha/beta ^a	Gamma scan	³ H	Total rad Sr	Isotopic uranium	¹⁴ C	^{243/244} Cm
Outfall 001	Annually	X						
Outfall 080	Monthly	X	X	X	X			X
Outfall 081	Annually	X						
Outfall 085	Quarterly	X	X	X	X	X ^b		
Outfall 203 ^c	Annually	X	X		X			
Outfall 204	Semiannually	X	X		X			
Outfall 205 ^c	Annually	X						
Outfall 207	Quarterly	X	X ^b		X ^b			
Outfall 211	Annually	X						
Outfall 217	Annually	X ^b						
Outfall 219	Annually	X ^b						
Outfall 234	Annually	X						
Outfall 241 ^c	Quarterly	X	X ^b	X ^b	X	X		
Outfall 265	Annually	X						
Outfall 281	Quarterly	X		X				
Outfall 282	Quarterly	X						
Outfall 284 ^c	Annually	X						
Outfall 302	Monthly	X	X	X	X	X		
Outfall 304	Monthly	X	X	X	X	X		
Outfall 365	Semiannually	X						
Outfall 368	Annually	X						
Outfall 383	Annually	X		X				
STP (X01)	Monthly	X	X	X	X		X	
SPWTF (X02) ^{c, d}	Monthly	X			X			
PWTC (X12)	Monthly	X	X	X	X	X		

Table 5.16. (continued)

Location	Frequency	Gross alpha/beta ^a	Gamma scan	³ H	Total rad Sr	Isotopic uranium	¹⁴ C	^{243/244} Cm
Melton Branch 1 (X13)	Monthly	X	X	X	X			
WOC (X14)	Monthly	X	X	X	X			
WOD (X15)	Monthly	X	X	X	X			

^aIsotopic analyses are performed to identify contributors to gross activities when results exceed screening criteria described in the Water Quality Protection Plan, October 2008.

^bMonitoring for this parameter was discontinued beginning June 30, 2012.

^cNo discharge present during sampling attempts.

^dOutfall X02 was removed from the ORNL NPDES permit in July 2012.

Abbreviations

NPDES = National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System

PWTC = Process Waste Treatment Complex

SPWTF = Steam Plant Wastewater Treatment Facility

STP = Sewage Treatment Plant

WOC = White Oak Creek

WOD = White Oak Dam

Two ORNL treatment facilities were monitored for radioactivity in 2012: STP (outfall X01) and PWTC (outfall X12). Operations at SPWTF (which formerly discharged through outfall X02) were permanently discontinued in 2011, and therefore there were no discharges from that facility in 2012. The three instream locations that were monitored were X13 on Melton Branch, X14 on WOC, and X15 at White Oak Dam (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. It should be noted that though effluents and instream concentrations are compared to DCSs, neither ORNL effluents nor ambient surface waters are direct sources of drinking water. 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. The annual average concentration of at least one radionuclide exceeded 4% of the relevant DCS concentration in dry-weather discharges from NPDES outfalls 080, 081, 085, 204, 302, 304, X01, and X12 and at instream sampling location X15 (Fig. 5.17). In 2012, no outfalls had a mean radioactivity concentration greater than 50% of the applicable DCS for an individual radioisotope, nor a sum-of-fractions (summation of DCS percentages of multiple radiological parameters measured at a given location) greater than 100%.

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 2012 continue to be generally lower than in the years preceding completion of the waste area caps in Melton Valley.

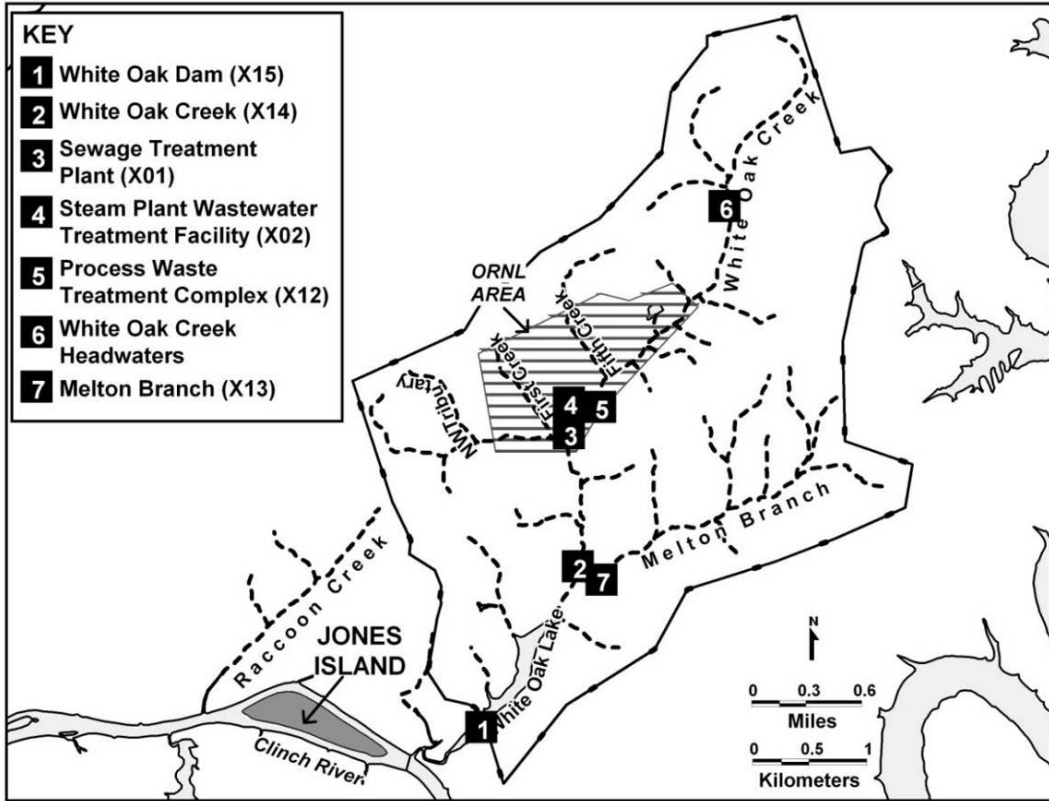


Fig. 5.16. Oak Ridge National Laboratory surface water, National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System, and reference sampling locations.

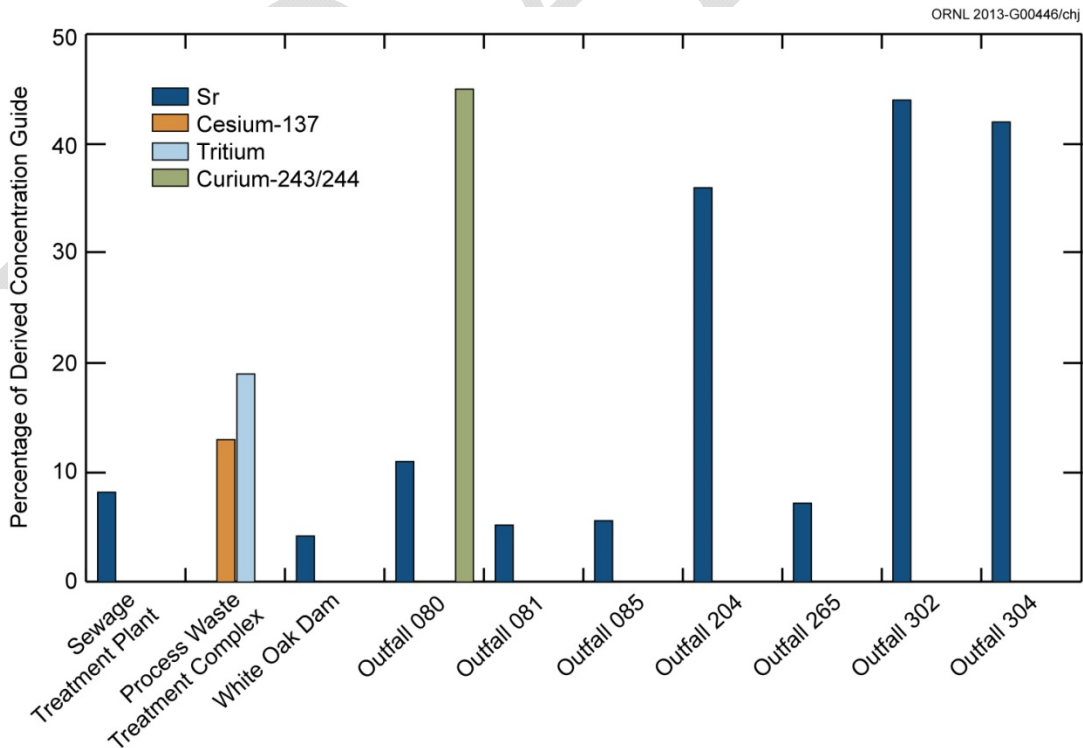


Fig. 5.17. Radionuclides at Oak Ridge National Laboratory sampling sites having average concentrations greater than 4% of the relevant derived concentration guides in 2012.

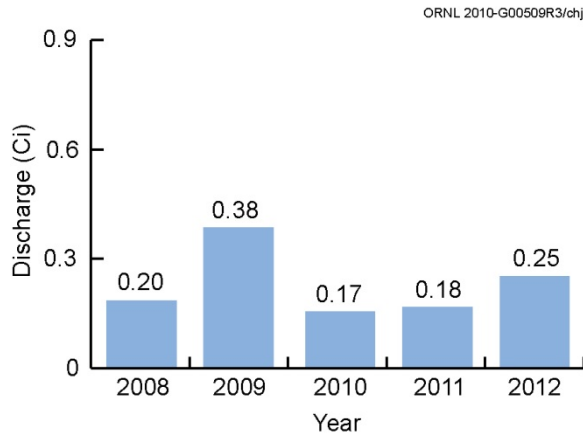


Fig. 5.18. Cesium-137 discharges at White Oak Dam, 2008–2012.

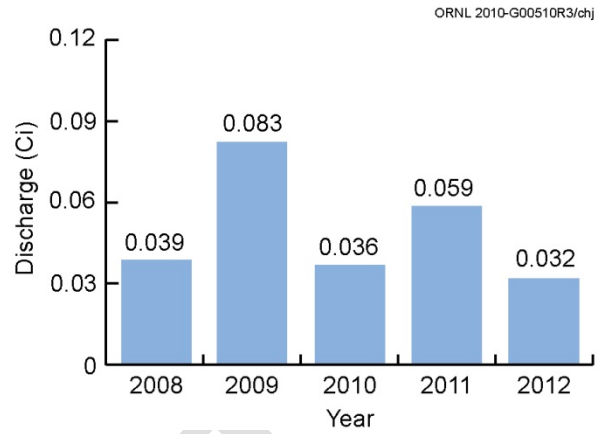


Fig. 5.19. Gross alpha discharges at White Oak Dam, 2008–2012.

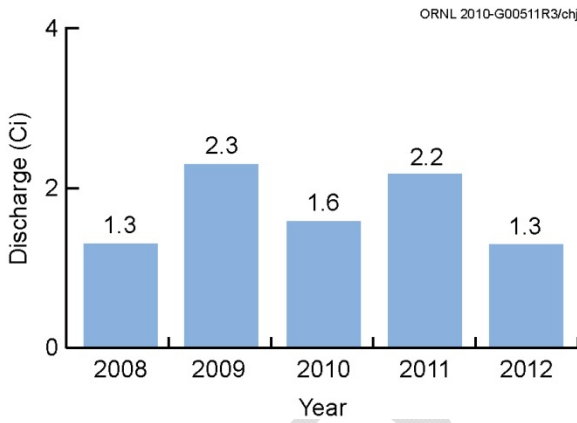


Fig. 5.20. Gross beta discharges at White Oak Dam, 2008–2012.

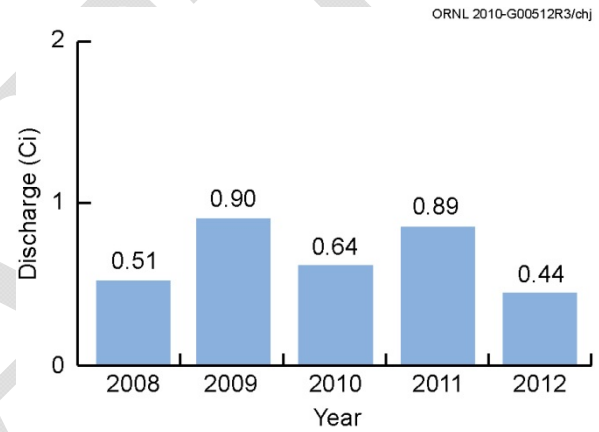


Fig. 5.21. Total radioactive strontium discharges at White Oak Dam, 2008–2012.

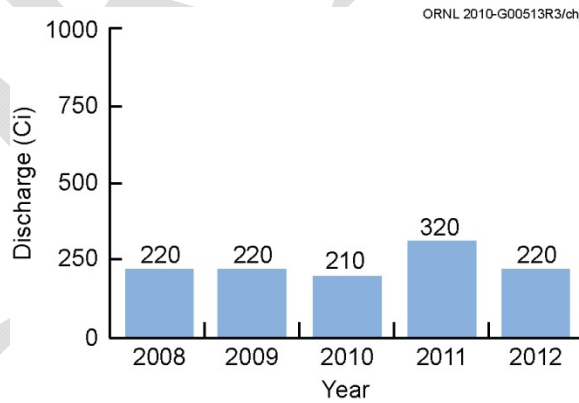


Fig. 5.22. Tritium discharges at White Oak Dam, 2008–2012.

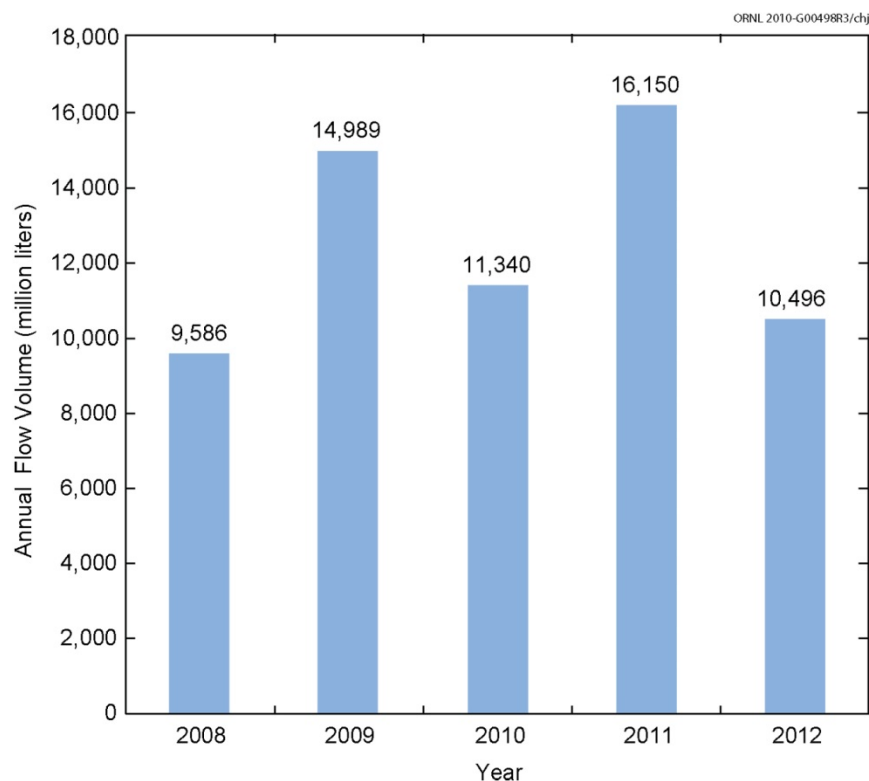


Fig. 5.23. Annual flow volume at White Oak Dam, 2008–2012.

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 also is 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).

For the mercury-investigation component of WQPP, data collected during initial monitoring indicates effluent sampling at additional outfalls and instream reaches needs to be incorporated in future WQPP revisions to help prioritize future abatement actions and to delineate mercury sources.

In 2012, 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 2012 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 2012 indicated that Tennessee mercury criteria were largely met at instream locations. 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. Locations where water was infiltrating the network were discovered. One source, a leaking valve associated with underground fire protection water piping, was excavated and repaired, and a second source also associated with that system is planned for repair in 2013. It is believed that the water in leakage contributes to mobilization of legacy mercury contamination in or near the outfall 265 underground pipe network. Since the first water source was repaired in September 2012, mercury concentrations in outfall 265 effluent have declined but continue to be of interest.

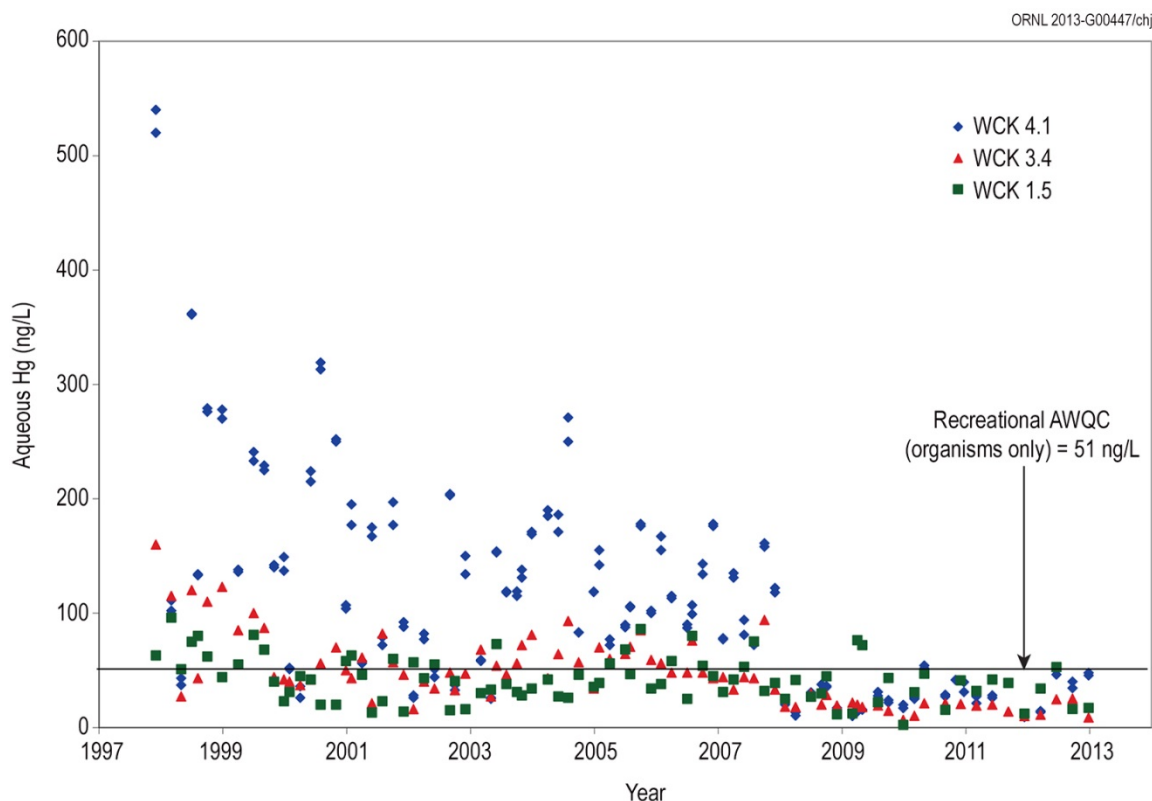


Fig. 5.24. Total aqueous mercury concentrations at sites in White Oak Creek downstream from Oak Ridge National Laboratory, 1997–2012. (AWQC = ambient water quality criterion; WCK = White Oak Creek kilometer.)

In 2012, WQPP mercury investigative efforts also focused on legacy-mercury-bearing sediment, a sediment-clogged dechlorination unit, and effluent mercury concentrations, all associated with storm water outfall 211. Plans for 2013 include replacing the outfall 211 dechlorinator unit with a system that is less susceptible to clogging by sediment and gravel. An ongoing mercury-characterization monitoring protocol, which has been maintained at various instream- and outfall-monitoring locations in the WOC watershed since 2009, will be continued in 2013.

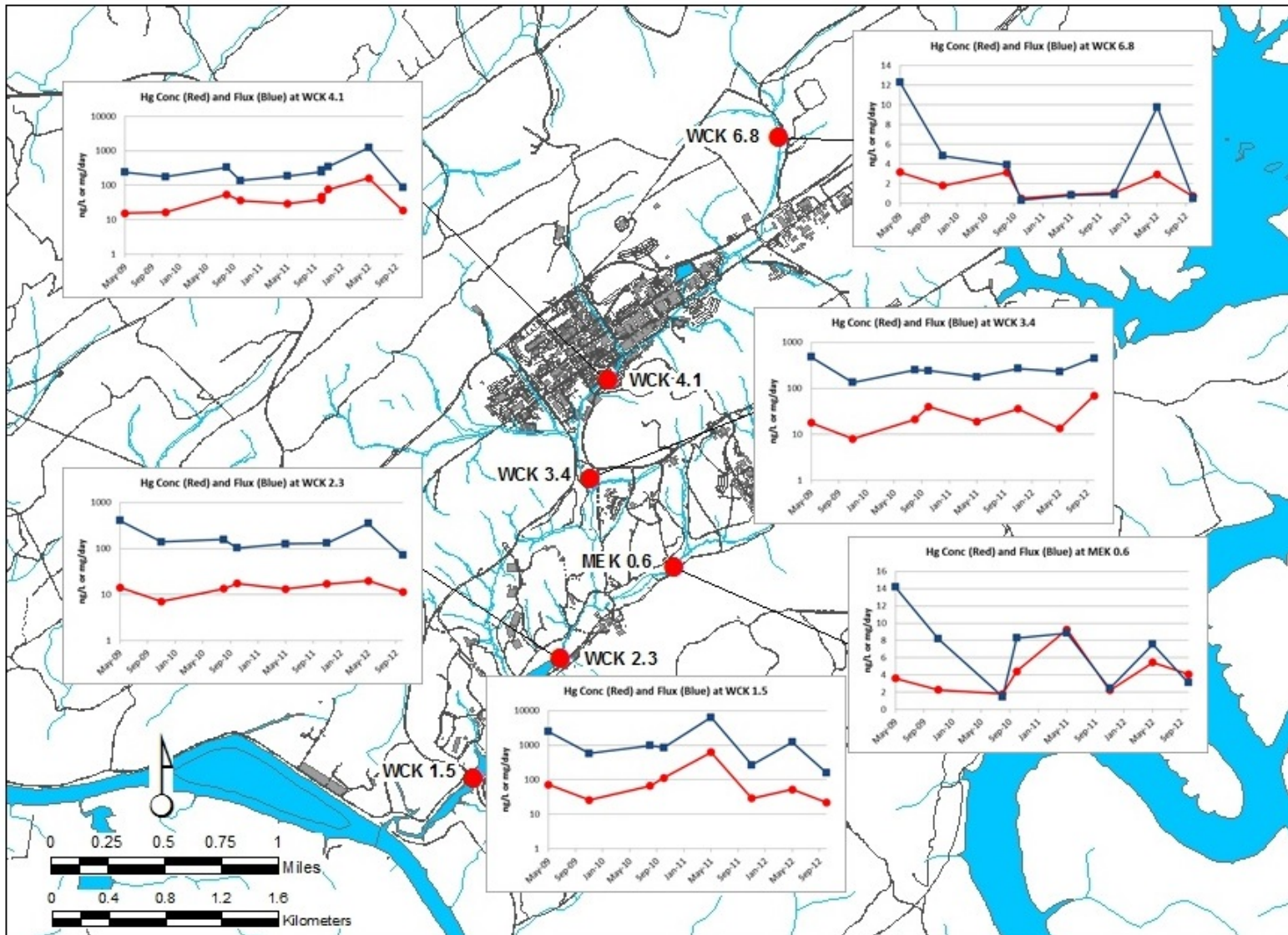


Fig. 5.25. Total mercury concentration and flux at selected Oak Ridge National Laboratory in-stream locations, 2009 through 2012.

5.5.6 Water Quality Assessment of Selected Stream Reaches in the Oak Ridge National Laboratory Main Campus Area

In 2012, monitoring was conducted under the ORNL WQPP to characterize water quality in selected stream reaches in WOC (Fig. 5.26) and Melton Branch (Fig. 5.27). The WOC stream reach was monitored in wet-weather (storm runoff) conditions; dry-weather water quality monitoring was conducted for the same reach of WOC in 2011 and was not repeated in 2012. The sampled reach of WOC receives storm water runoff from heavily industrialized portions of the ORNL campus including research and support facilities in the 4000, 5000, and 6000 areas, facility maintenance and storage facilities in the 7000 area, and SNS and Center for Nanophase Materials Sciences on Chestnut Ridge. The Melton Branch stream reach was monitored in 2012 in both dry-weather and wet-weather conditions. The monitored reach of Melton Branch receives discharges from HFIR, REDC, and TWPC.

Both instream and outfall locations were sampled during each monitoring event. Outfalls and instream locations within these geographic areas were monitored concurrently to more directly assess the influence of outfall discharges on instream water quality. The outfalls selected for monitoring were judged to be the most significant in terms of potential to affect water quality in the monitored stream reaches. The primary objective of this monitoring was to support one of the overall WQPP objectives: to discover the reasons for biological community impairments and to ultimately eliminate or reduce those impairments.

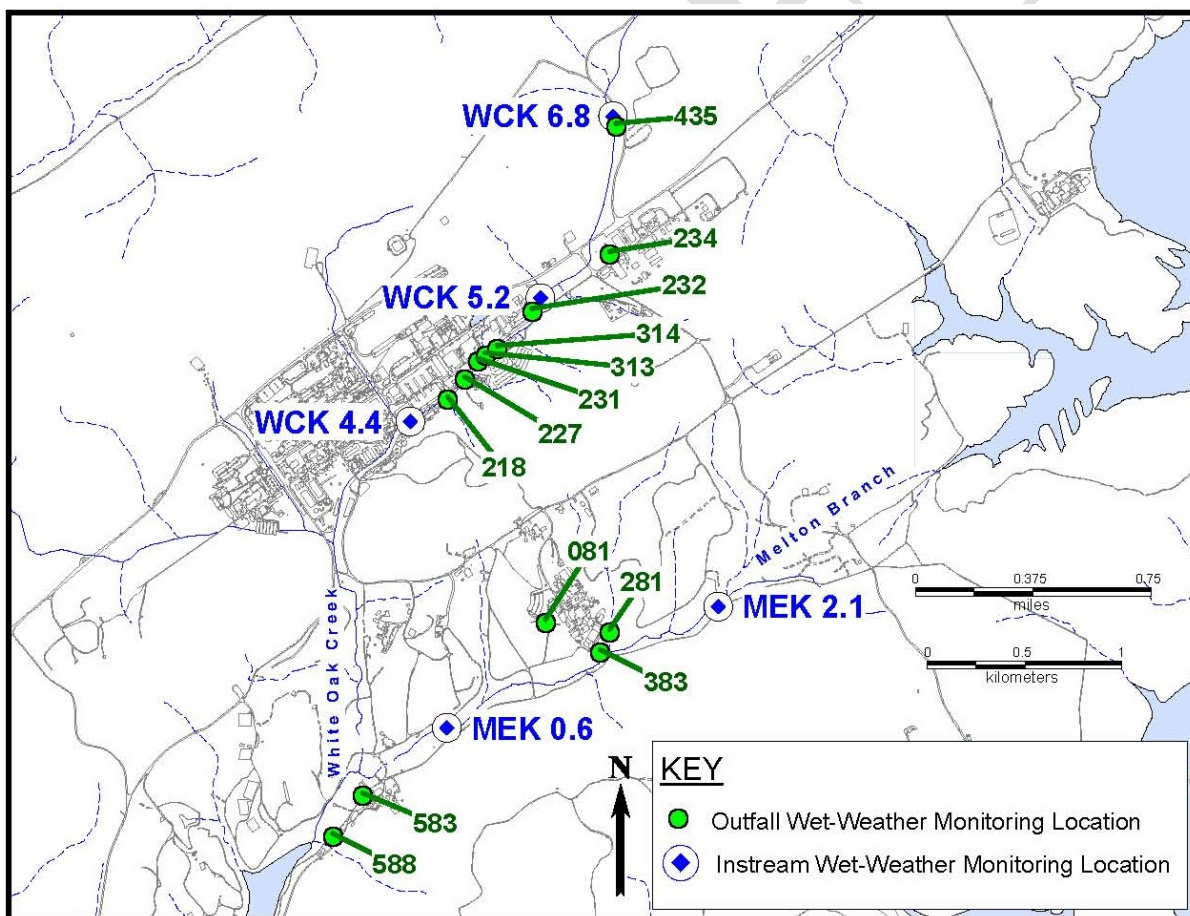


Fig. 5.26. Instream locations and outfalls sampled for water quality parameters under the Oak Ridge National Laboratory Water Quality Protection Plan during wet-weather conditions, 2012.

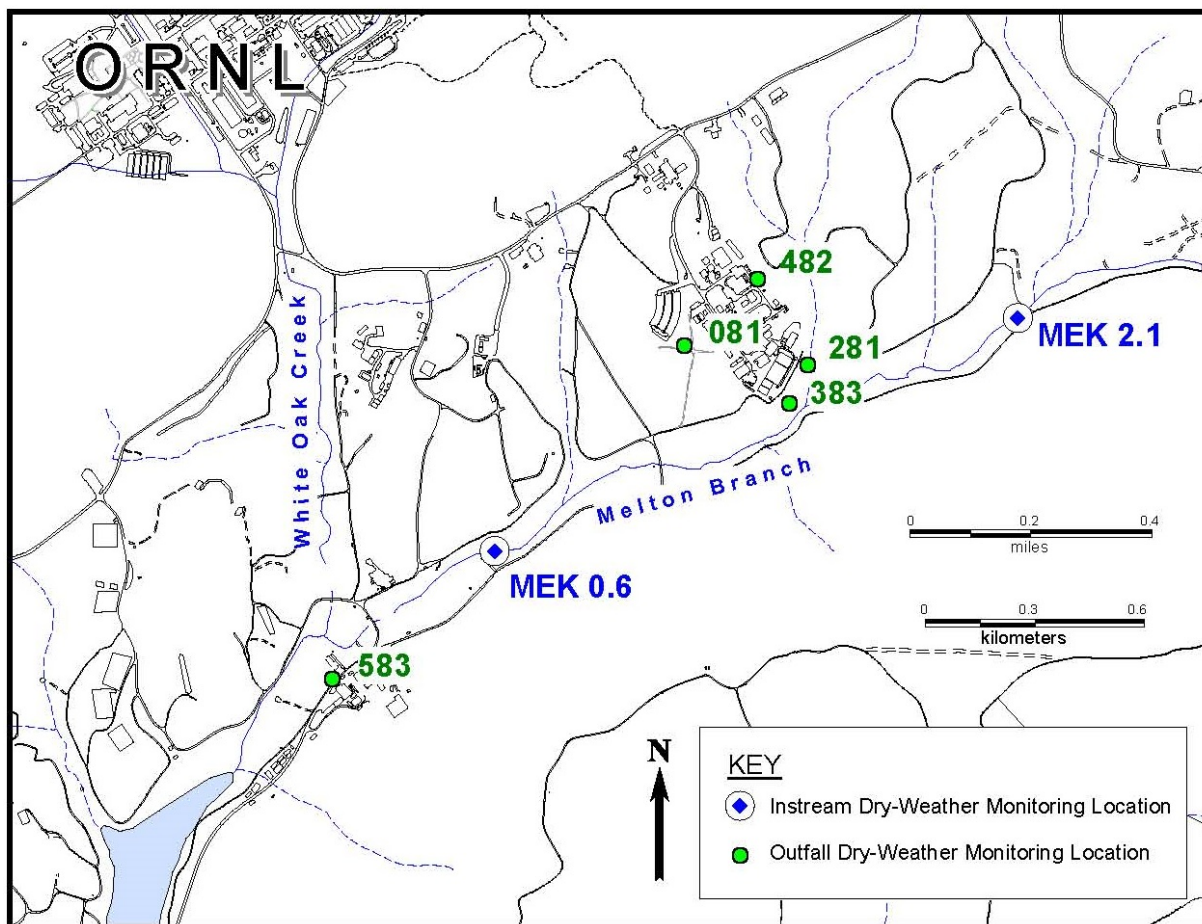


Fig. 5.27. Instream locations and outfalls sampled for water quality parameters under the Oak Ridge National Laboratory Water Quality Protection Plan during dry-weather conditions, 2012.

In both wet- and dry-weather conditions, samples were collected for solids (suspended and dissolved), metals (total and dissolved), and nutrients (total phosphorus, Kjeldahl nitrogen, nitrate+nitrite nitrogen, and ammonia). The Melton Branch locations were also sampled for radioactivity (gross alpha, gross beta, gamma scan, total radioactive strontium, and tritium). Dry-weather samples were 24 h time-proportional composite samples for both instream and outfall locations. Wet-weather samples for instream locations were flow-proportional composites. For outfall locations, both flow-proportional composite and first flush grab samples were collected. At all locations, in both wet- and dry-weather conditions, grab sample field measurements were made for conductivity, dissolved oxygen, flow, pH, temperature, and turbidity.

The results from this water quality sampling are being used to guide future efforts under WQPP and will be useful in determining causes of biological community impairments in the WOC watershed. None of the measurements made in 2012 exceeded any applicable water quality criteria. Radionuclides at all Melton Branch locations (radionuclides were not sampled at WOC locations) were well below DOE DCS levels. The data collected to date suggest that parameters warranting additional study under WQPP are nutrients and metals (particularly copper in WOC near the main plant area).

5.5.7 Storm Water Surveillances and Construction Activities

Figure 5.28 depicts the location of construction sites that were considered significant in 2012 because of the need to be covered under the general Tennessee NPDES permit for construction activities and/or an aquatic resource alteration permit or because they had a footprint of greater than 0.405 ha (1 acre). (Construction areas that are part of CERCLA remediation follow substantive requirements of the appropriate water pollution control permits but are not required to obtain official permit coverage). Four

of these sites were inspected in 2012 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.

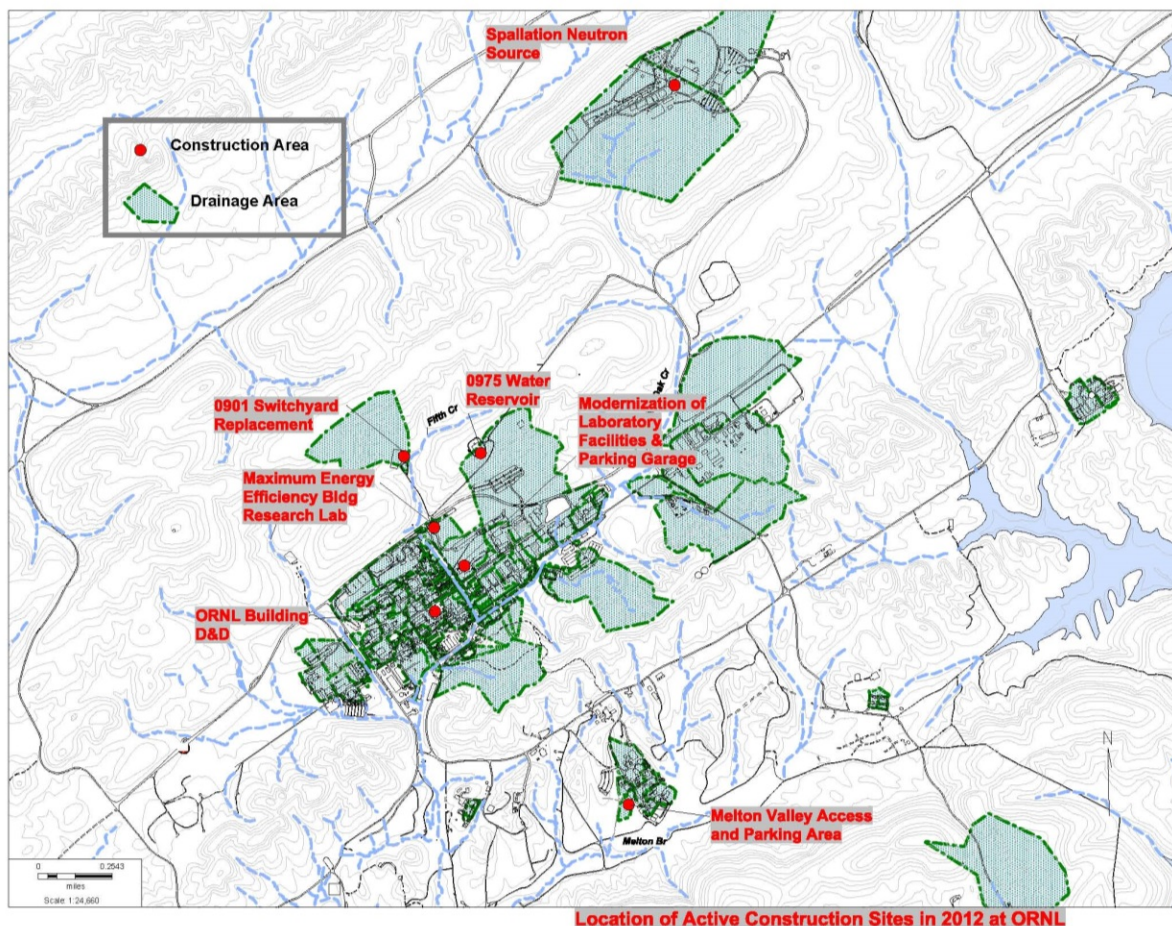


Fig. 5.28. Active construction sites and WQPP monitoring locations at ORNL, 2012.

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. Flaking paint on some buildings (slated to be dismantled in the near future) also poses a potential mobile storm water pollutant source.

Some construction activities are performed by third-party contractors working as tenants 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.

Certain instream and outfall locations identified under WQPP were monitored in 2012 in storm conditions. A more detailed description of the WQPP wet-weather monitoring scenario can be found in Section 5.5.6.

5.5.8 Biological Monitoring

5.5.8.1 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.

Mercury in Water. In continuation of a monitoring effort initiated in 1997, bimonthly water samples were collected from WOC at four sites in 2012. 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 2012. 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 2012 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 27.5 ± 17.8 ng/L in 2012 compared with 108 ± 33 ng/L in 2007. The decrease was also apparent but less pronounced at WCK 3.4, with mercury averaging 17.7 ± 8.3 ng/L in 2012 versus 49 ± 23 ng/L in 2007. Mercury concentrations at these two sites were significantly lower than levels in 2007 and were slightly higher than in 2011. 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 28.8 ± 7.9 ng/L in 2012, 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, TDEC fish advisory limits]. In 2010, mercury concentrations in redbreast sunfish filets collected from WOC were below the 0.3 $\mu\text{g/g}$ AWQC for the first time in 10 years, and this decreasing trend has continued through 2012 (Fig. 5.29). Mean fillet concentrations at WCK 3.9 decreased from 0.45 $\mu\text{g/g}$ in 2007 to 0.19 $\mu\text{g/g}$ in 2012, bringing the mean concentrations observed at this site below AWQC (Fig. 5.29). Because these trends have persisted for several years and because the decreases in fish tissue were more pronounced at upstream sites where the decreases in aqueous mercury concentrations were most evident suggests a causal response. Mercury concentrations in bluegill and largemouth bass collected from WCK 1.5 (White Oak Lake) continued to increase in 2012 such that mean concentrations in both species were the highest observed since 1998. The reason for the increase in the lower end of the WOC watershed is not known, but changes 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 (0.76 and 0.30 $\mu\text{g/g}$, respectively) were comparable to recent years. Mean PCB concentrations in bluegill from WCK 1.5 (0.40 $\mu\text{g/g}$) were also comparable to concentrations observed in recent years. The mean PCB concentrations in bass collected from WCK 1.5 have been decreasing over the past 2 years but in 2012 remained near typical concentrations that result in a TDEC fish advisory limit (i.e., ~ 1 $\mu\text{g/g}$) (Fig. 5.30).

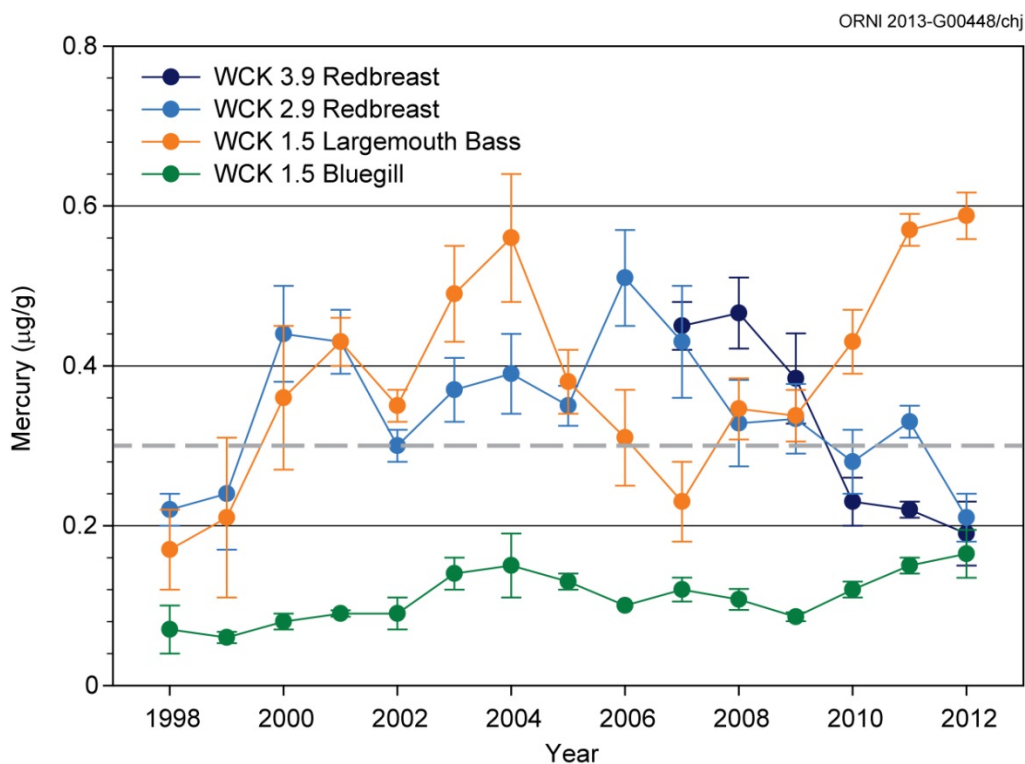


Fig. 5.29. Mean concentrations of mercury (\pm standard error, N = 6) in muscle tissue of sunfish and bass from White Oak Creek [White Oak Creek kilometers (WCKs) 3.9 and 2.9] and White Oak Lake (WCK 1.5), 1998–2012. [Dashed grey line indicates the EPA ambient water quality criterion for mercury (0.3 $\mu\text{g/g}$ in fish tissue).]

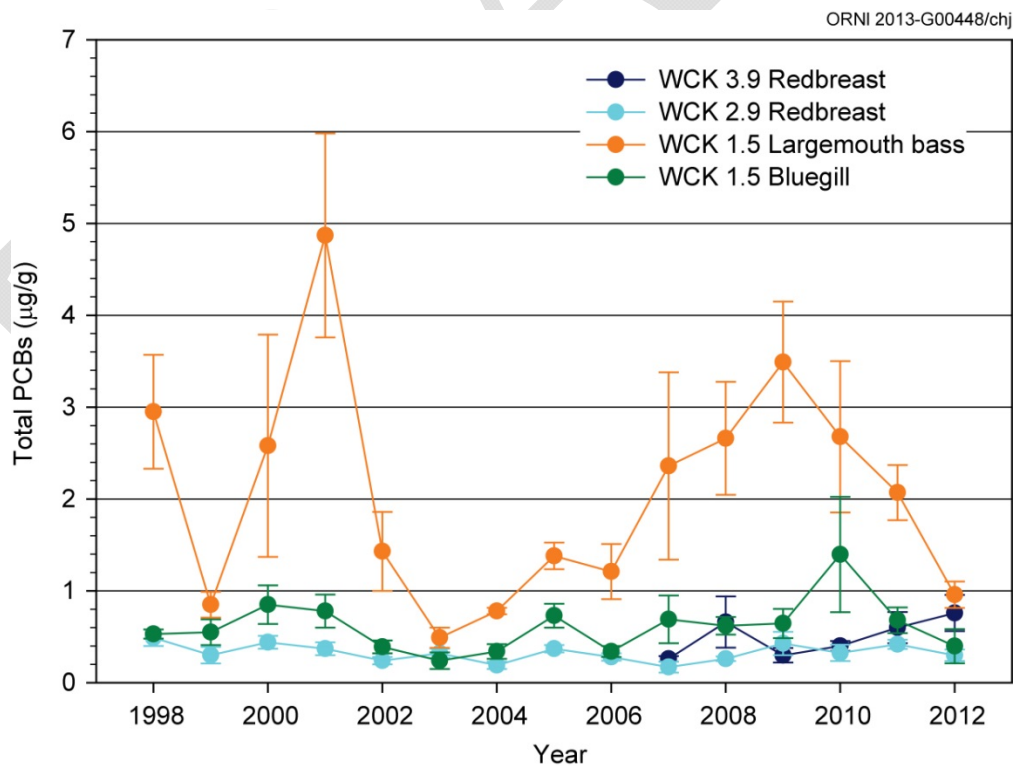


Fig. 5.30. Mean PCB concentrations (\pm standard error, N = 6) in fish filets collected from the White Oak Creek watershed, 1998–2012. (WCK = White Oak Creek kilometer.)

5.5.8.2 Benthic Macroinvertebrate Communities

Monitoring of benthic macroinvertebrate communities in WOC, First Creek, and Fifth Creek continued in 2012. Additionally, monitoring of the macroinvertebrate community in lower Melton Branch [Melton Branch kilometer (MEK) 0.6] continued under the DOE Office of Environmental Management 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 data set that allows the most effective means of evaluating and verifying the effectiveness of pollution abatement and remedial actions taken at ORNL since 1986. These protocols also provide the most effective means of determining the significance of changes in trends relative to historical conditions. TDEC protocols, on the other hand, provide an estimate of the condition of a macroinvertebrate community relative to a state-derived reference condition. The results from both protocols are used to help assess ORNL compliance with current NPDES permit requirements. The report provides a summary of results through 2012 from both sets of protocols.

Compared with the TDEC derived reference condition, the only site monitored in the WOC watershed that has consistently rated as nonimpaired is WCK 6.8, which until construction of SNS had served as the reference site for WOC (Fig. 5.31). Except in 2009, when MEK 0.6 rated as nonimpaired and WCK 3.9 rated as moderately impaired, the invertebrate communities at the sites monitored using TDEC protocols have consistently rated as slightly 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. 5.32, 5.33, and 5.34). Relative to 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 Ephemeroptera, Plecoptera, and Trichoptera (EPT) richness] continue to be lower at these downstream sites. Fluctuations in metrics between years at First Creek kilometer (FCK) 0.1 continue to be inconsistent, thus suggesting that no major persistent changes have occurred at this site since the mid-1990s. In Fifth Creek at Fifth Creek kilometer (FFK) 0.2, a roughly twofold reduction in metric values after 2007 that was followed by only minimal increases in 2008 and 2009 suggested that a major change had occurred in the conditions at that site between 2007 and 2008. However, trends at that site since 2009 suggest that conditions may now be comparable to those present before 2008. Results for WCK 2.3 and WCK 3.9 suggest that no major environmental changes have occurred at those sites for roughly 10 years.

Macroinvertebrate community metrics for lower Melton Branch (MEK 0.6, Fig. 5.35) 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 community density and densities of some of the most pollution-tolerant species (e.g., Orthocladinae midges and aquatic worms) continue to suggest the presence of excessive amounts 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 fertilized land) or indirect inputs (e.g., natural release from freshly disturbed soils or underdeveloped riparian areas).

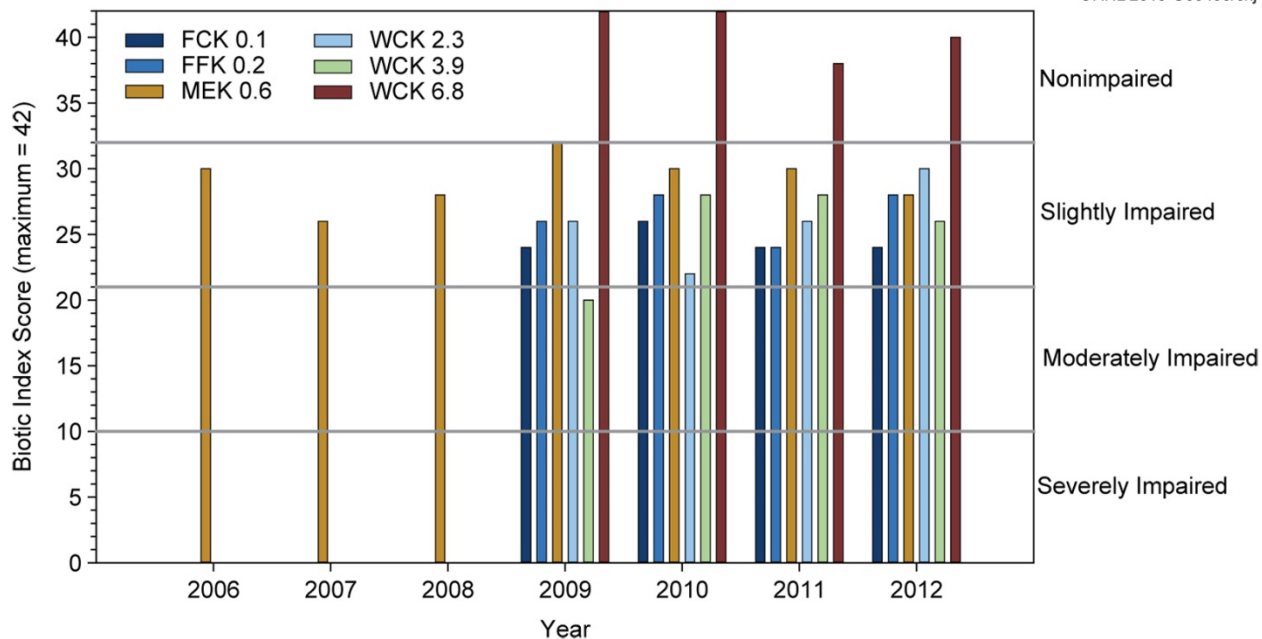


Fig. 5.31. Temporal trends in Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation Biotic Index Scores for White Oak Creek watershed, August 2006–August 2012. Horizontal lines show the lower thresholds for biotic condition ratings for index scores; respective narrative ratings for each threshold are shown at right of graph. (FCK = First Creek kilometer; FFK = Fifth Creek kilometer; MEK = Melton Branch kilometer; WCK = White Oak Creek kilometer.)

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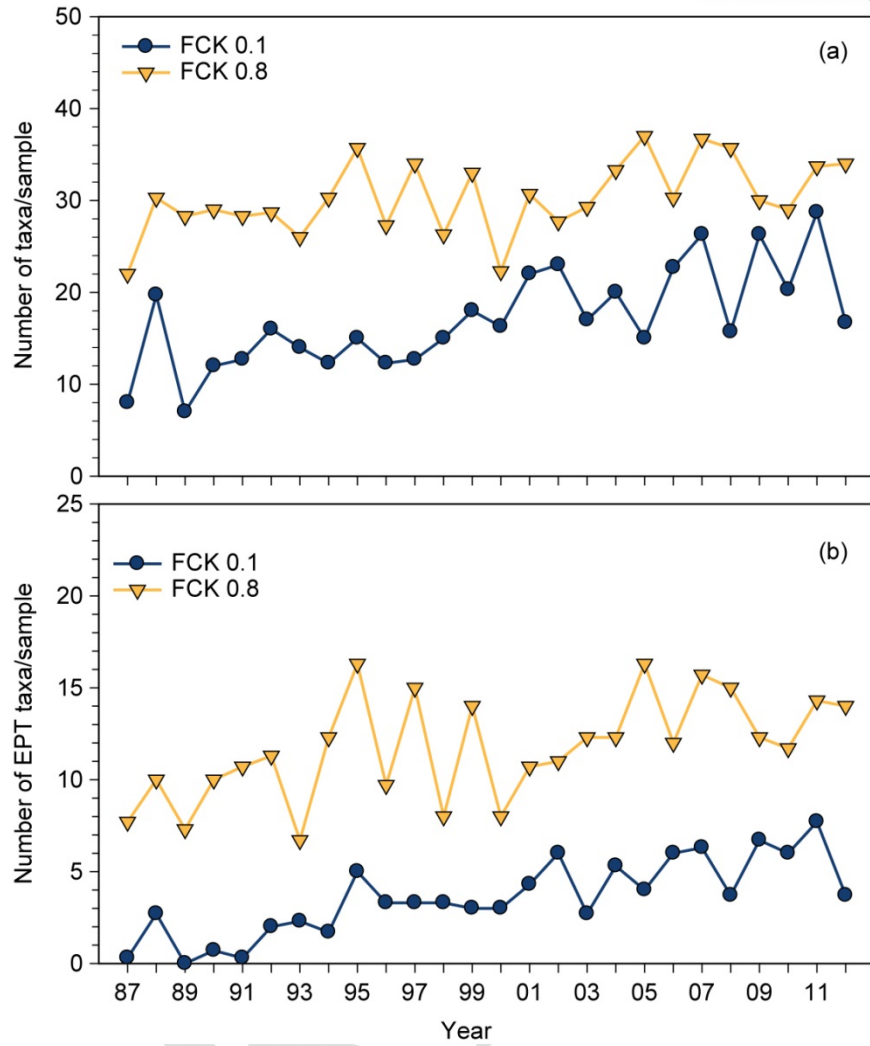


Fig. 5.32. Taxonomic richness (mean number of all taxa/sample) (a) and taxonomic richness of the pollution intolerant taxa, Ephemeroptera, Plecoptera, and Trichoptera [(EPT); mean number of EPT taxa/sample] (b) of the benthic macroinvertebrate community in First Creek, April sampling periods, 1987–2012. (FCK = First Creek kilometer; FCK 0.8 = reference site.)

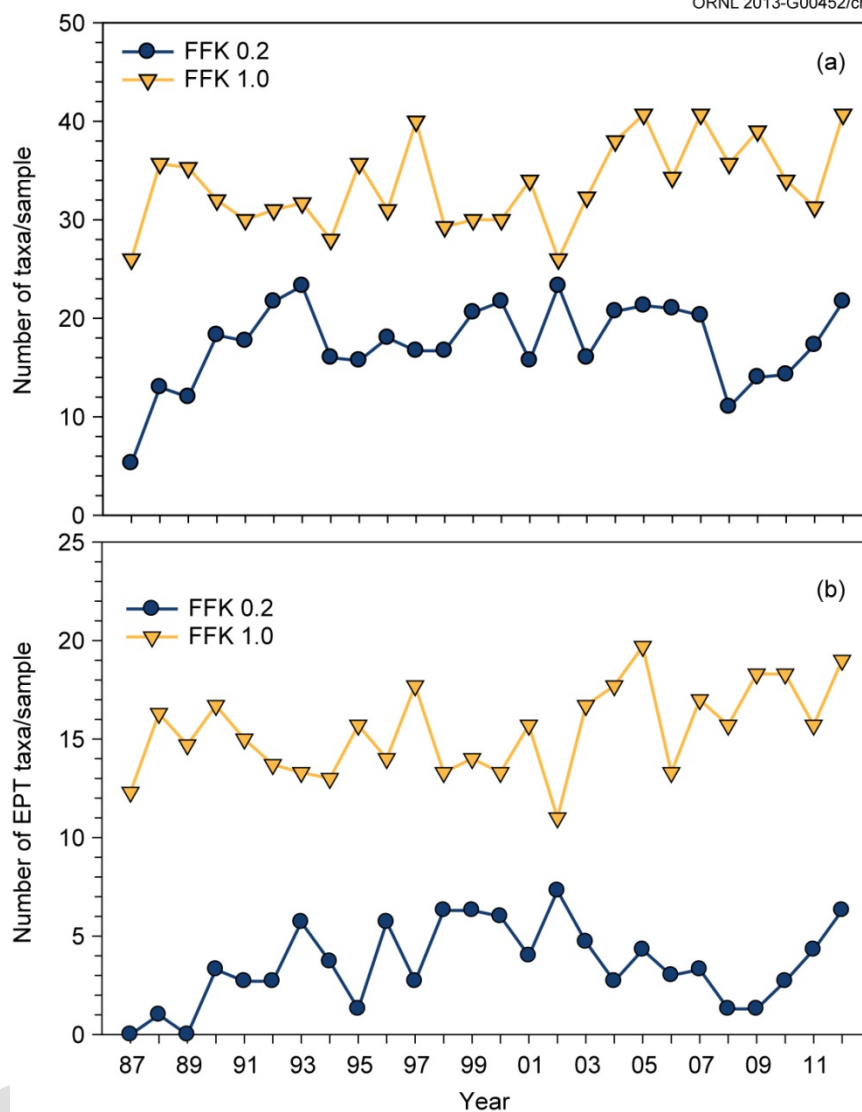


Fig. 5.33. Total taxonomic richness (mean number of all taxa/sample) (a) and taxonomic richness of the pollution intolerant taxa, Ephemeroptera, Plecoptera, and Trichoptera [(EPT) mean number of EPT taxa/sample], (b) of the benthic macroinvertebrate community in Fifth Creek, April sampling periods, 1987–2012. (FFK = Fifth Creek kilometer; FFK 1.0 = reference site.)

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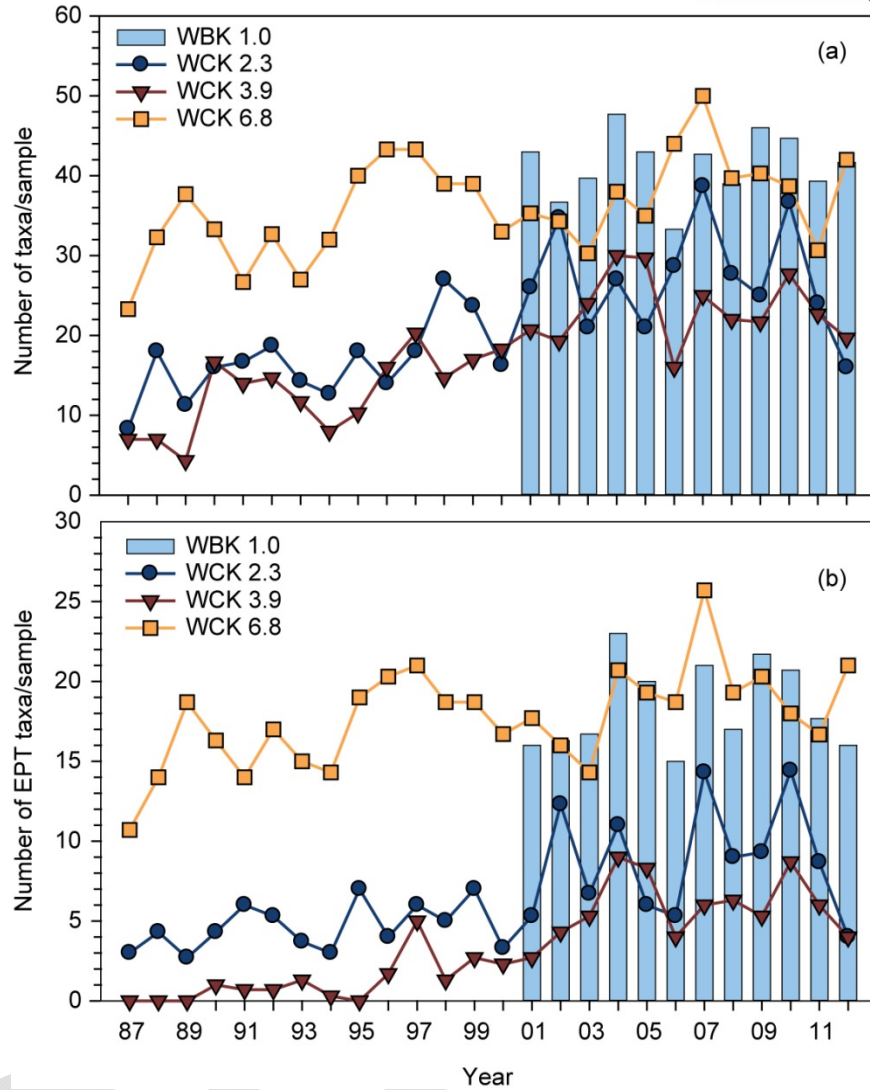


Fig. 5.34. Total taxonomic richness (mean number of all taxa/sample) (a) and taxonomic richness of the pollution intolerant taxa, Ephemeroptera, Plecoptera, and Trichoptera [(EPT); mean number of EPT taxa/sample], (b) of the benthic macroinvertebrate communities in White Oak Creek, April sampling periods, 1987–2012. (WCK = White Oak Creek kilometer; WBK = Walker Branch kilometer; WBK 1.0 = reference site.)

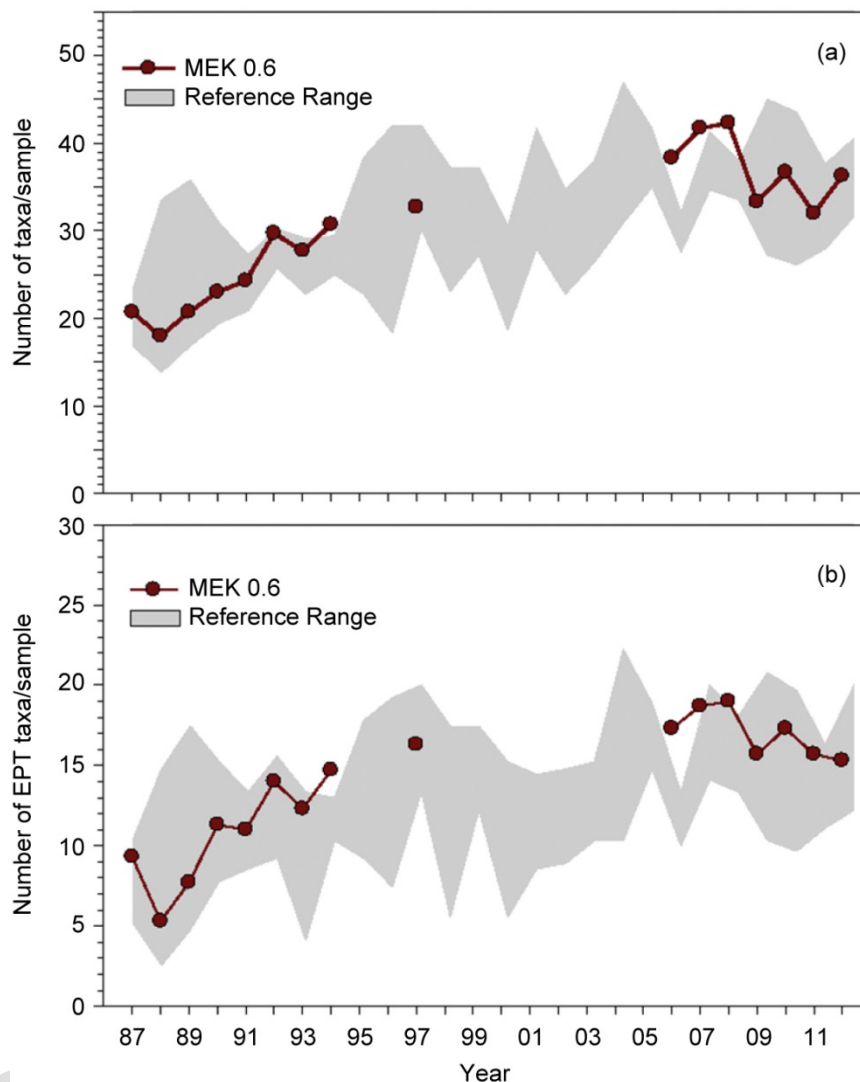


Fig. 5.35. Total taxonomic richness (mean number of all taxa/sample) (a) and taxonomic richness of the pollution intolerant taxa, Ephemeroptera, Plecoptera, and Trichoptera [(EPT); mean number of EPT taxa/sample], (b) of the benthic macroinvertebrate communities in lower Melton Branch, April sampling periods, 1987–2012. [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 (1987–2012), Walker Branch (2001–2012), and White Oak Creek (1987–2000, 2007–2012).]

5.5.8.3 Fish Communities

Monitoring fish communities in WOC and major tributaries continued in 2012. Fish samples were taken at 11 sites in the WOC watershed in the spring and fall. Streams located near or within the city of Oak Ridge (Mill Branch and Brushy Fork) were also sampled as reference sites.

In WOC, the fish community continued to be degraded in 2012 compared with communities in reference streams, with sites closest to the outfalls having lower species richness (number of species) (Fig. 5.36), fewer pollution-sensitive species, more pollution-tolerant species, and elevated density (number of fish per square meter) compared with similar-sized reference streams. Generally, the fish

communities in tributary sites adjacent to and downstream of ORNL outfalls also remained impacted in 2012 relative to reference streams or upstream sites.

A project to introduce missing fish species into the watershed was initiated in 2008 by stocking six native species. Reproduction was noted for three of the species, and several species expanded their range beyond initial introduction sites. In general introduced species have done better at downstream sites, with a few number of species established further upstream near ORNL facilities.

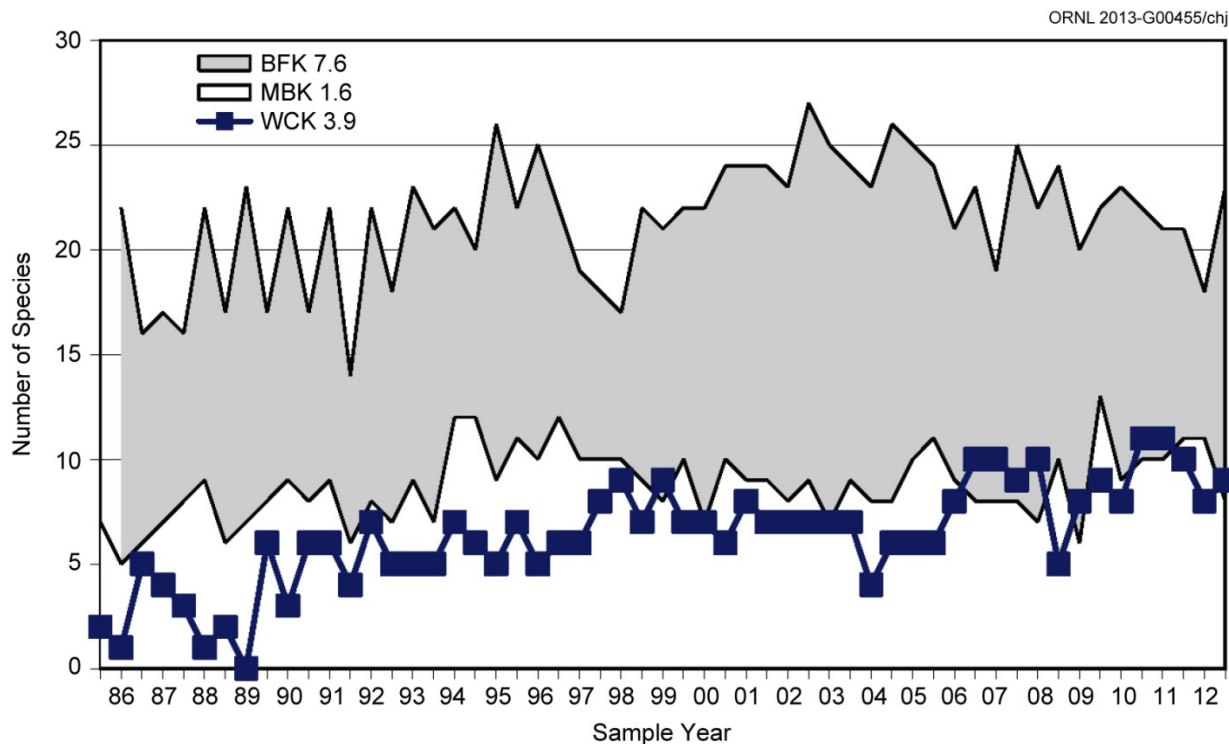


Fig. 5.36. Fish species richness (number of species) in upper White Oak Creek within the Oak Ridge National Laboratory campus compared with two reference streams.(BFK = Brushy Fork kilometer; MBK = Mill Branch kilometer; and WCK = White Oak Creek kilometer.)

5.5.9 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. Largemouth bass collected from White Oak Lake continue to have tissue PCB concentrations 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 remain submerged 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 2012, ORNL’s PCB monitoring efforts continued focusing on the First Creek watershed, which has been identified previously as a source of PCBs. SPMDs and clams were deployed in First Creek. SPMDs

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were deployed in both wet- and dry-weather conditions in pipe networks for outfalls 250 and 341, contributing to First Creek, and in the outfall 001 pipe network contributing to lower WOC (Fig. 5.37). The results are summarized in Table 5.17.

The SPMD results in this study provide information on the relative contributions of outfall discharges along First Creek outfalls 250 and 341 and WOC outfall 001. 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 background levels at FCK 0.9, confirming that the First Creek watershed is a source of PCBs.

The results from this assessment confirm that outfall 250 is the pipe network of interest for PCB sources in First Creek. Outfalls 001 and 341 pipe network locations contained relatively lower PCB concentrations. The results also indicated that PCBs are likely distributed along the outfall 250 pipe network and likely not concentrated in the upper sections where the historic uses of PCBs were known to have occurred.

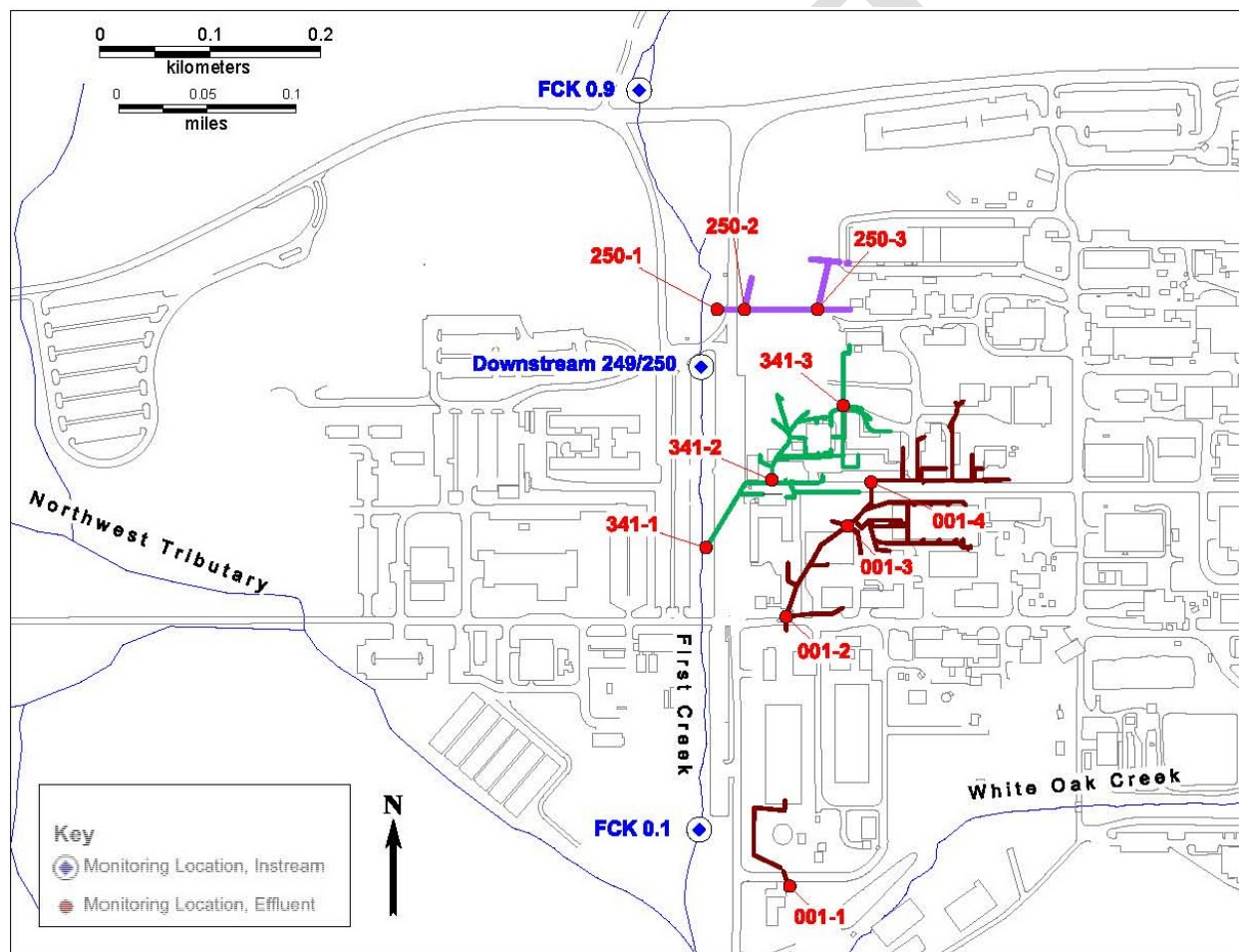


Fig. 5.37. Locations of monitoring points for First Creek source investigation. (FCK = First Creek kilometer)

Table 5.17. White Oak Creek and First Creek PCB source assessment, August 2012

[Total PCBs (parts per billion)]

[Total PCBs (parts per billion)]

Sample Location	Location Type	Watershed	Weather Condition Sampled	SPMD	Clams
FCK 0.9	Reference Site	First Creek	All	205	16.5
Outfall 250-3	Pipe Network	First Creek	Wet	23000	—
Outfall 250-2	Pipe Network	First Creek	Wet	11000	—
Outfall 250-1	End of Pipe	First Creek	Wet	41000	—
Downstream Outfall 249/250	Instream	First Creek	All	16000	2,490
Outfall 341-3	Pipe Network	First Creek	Wet	5900	—
Outfall 341-2	Pipe Network	First Creek	Wet	2320	—
Outfall 341-1	End of Pipe	First Creek	Wet	2500	—
FCK 0.1	Instream	First Creek	All	32000	1,344.5
Outfall 001-4	Pipe Network	White Oak Creek	Wet	2340	—
Outfall 001-3	Pipe Network	White Oak Creek	Wet	1580	—
Outfall 001-2	Pipe Network	White Oak Creek	Wet	2810	—
Outfall 001-1	End of Pipe	White Oak Creek	Wet	670	—

Abbreviations

FCK First Creek kilometer
 PCB = polychlorinated biphenyl
 SPMD semipermeable membrane device

5.5.10 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. There were no regulatory or permitting actions related to oil pollution prevention at ORNL in 2012. The ORNL SPCC plan was revised in November 2011 to comply with regulatory requirements. An oil handler training program, which includes an initial training module and annual refreshers, has been implemented to comply with training requirements in 40 CFR 112.

5.5.11 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. 5.38) 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 5.18. 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.

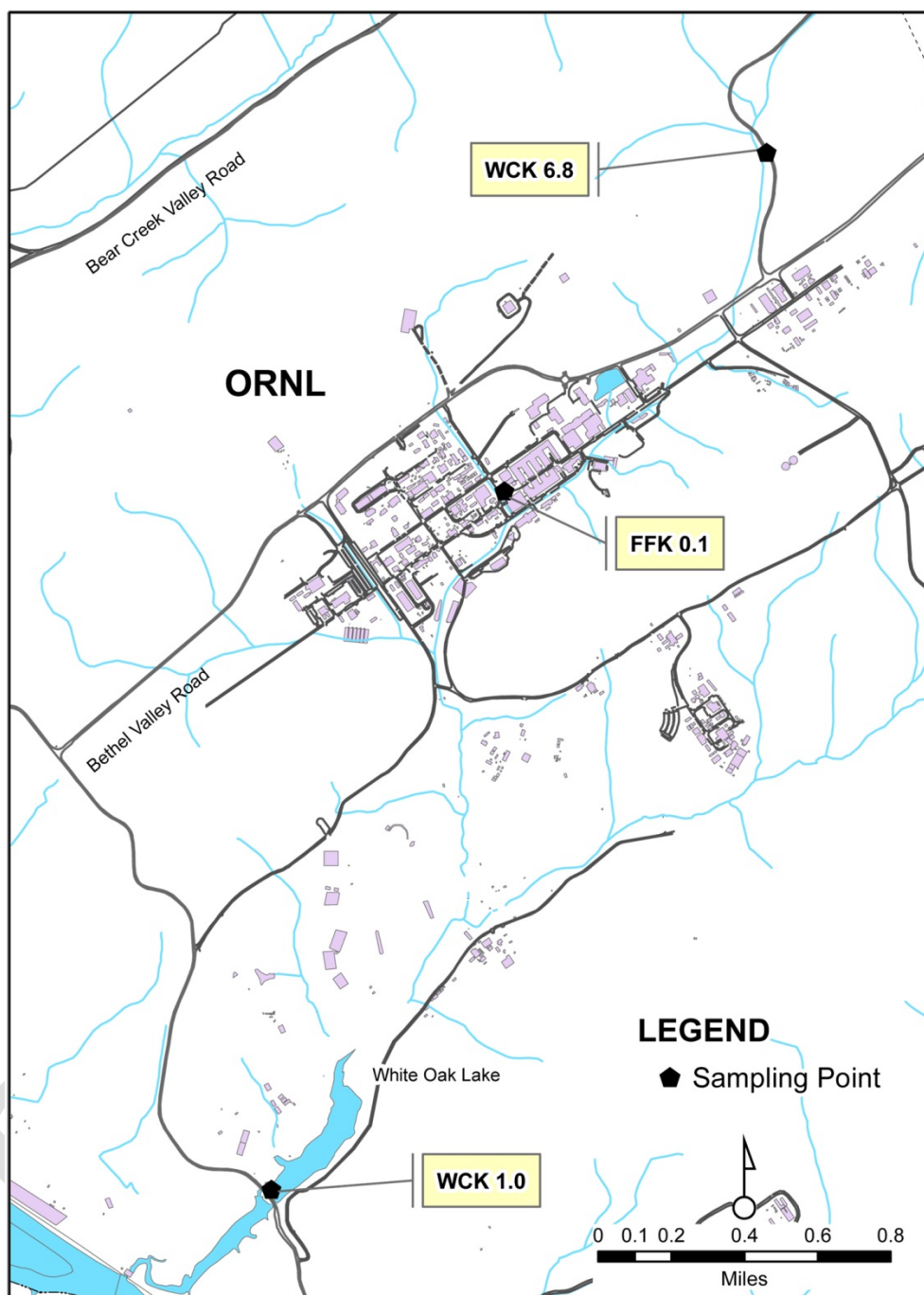


Fig. 5.38. Oak Ridge National Laboratory surface water sampling locations. (FFK = Fifth Creek kilometer; WCK = White Oak Creek kilometer.)

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 WQC associated with these classifications are used as references where applicable. The Tennessee WQC 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.

Table 5.18. Oak Ridge National Laboratory surface water sampling locations, frequencies, and parameters, 2012

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	Gross alpha, gross beta, total radioactive strontium, gamma scan, tritium, 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.

Abbreviations

FFK = Fifth Creek kilometer
 ORNL = Oak Ridge National Laboratory
 WCK = WOC kilometer
 WOC = White Oak Creek
 WOD = White Oak Dam

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 2012 surveillance monitoring efforts are consistent with historical data.

No radionuclides were detected in surface water at WCK 6.8. Radionuclides were detected at the Fifth Creek location; however, none were above 4% of the DOE DCS. Radionuclide results before WOC empties into the Clinch River (at WOD) are discussed in Section 5.5.4.

PCB-1254 and PCB-1260 were detected at estimated levels once during 2012 at WOC at WOD. Only PCB-1254 was detected last year; before that, PCBs had not been detected since 2001 at WOC at WOD.

5.6 Groundwater Protection Program

As in years past, groundwater monitoring at ORNL was conducted under two sampling programs in 2012: DOE Office of Environmental Management (EM) monitoring and DOE Office of Science surveillance monitoring. The **Office of Environmental Management** groundwater monitoring program was performed by UCOR in 2012. The Office of Science groundwater monitoring surveillance program was conducted by UT-Battelle.

Radiological and metal contaminant concentrations observed in groundwater exit pathway discharge areas were generally consistent with observations reported in past ASERs. One VOC was identified at low estimated concentrations in samples collected from a WOC discharge area sampling location. Based on the results of the 2012 monitoring effort, there is no indication that current Office of Science operations are significantly impacting groundwater at ORNL.

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 remedial actions 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 2012, including monitoring at

ORNL, are evaluated and reported in the *2013 Remediation Effectiveness Report for the U.S. Department of Energy Oak Ridge Reservation, Oak Ridge, Tennessee* (DOE 2012) 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 this report.

WRRP also conducts groundwater monitoring at SWSA 6 and submits the required annual groundwater monitoring report to TDEC in response to the RCRA Permit.

Groundwater monitoring conducted as part of the DOE Office of Environmental Management program at ORNL includes routine sampling and analysis of groundwater in Bethel Valley to measure performance of several remedial actions and to continue contaminant and groundwater quality trend monitoring. In Melton Valley, where CERCLA remedial actions 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 2012 post-remediation monitoring was started at SWSA 3 following completion of hydrologic isolation of the area by construction of a multilayer cap and upgradient stormflow/shallow groundwater diversion drain. Remedial actions and monitoring were specified in a CERCLA remedial action work plan that was developed by DOE and was approved by EPA and TDEC before the project was started.

During FY 2012 the DOE Office of Environmental Management 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 DOE Office of Environmental Management program, including sampling at six multiport monitoring wells in western Melton Valley (wells 4537, 4538, 4539, 4540, 4541, 4542).

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 remedial actions 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 remedial action 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 2012 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 three locations, and exhibited no trend at two locations.

During FY 2012 the DOE EM program monitored three groundwater monitoring wells in Bethel Valley to the west of Tennessee Highway 95 to detect and monitor 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 monitoring 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 as presented in the 2013 remediation effectiveness report (DOE 2012).

During FY 2012 groundwater monitoring continued at the ORNL 7000 Area 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 2012. 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. During FY 2012 the remedy 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 2012 greater than average annual rainfall occurred for the fourth consecutive year since the remedy was completed in 2006. 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; however, groundwater-level control at the SWSA 4 downgradient collection trench was challenged following large rain events. Near the end of FY 2012, the DOE Environmental Management Program initiated a project to redevelop the groundwater extraction wells in the SWSA 4 downgradient collection trench. The effectiveness of that maintenance activity on collection trench performance will be evaluated in the 2014 remediation effectiveness report.

Groundwater quality monitoring in the interior of Melton Valley shows that in general groundwater contaminant concentrations are declining or are stable following remedial actions.

During the past 8 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 , ^3H , 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 2012 the EM program monitored an off-site groundwater monitoring well array west of the Clinch River adjacent to Melton Valley. 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. Groundwater quality monitoring showed that aggressive off-site well pumping related to well construction may have drawn chlorinated VOCs associated with DOE beneath the river. Those compounds were detected only during the first of five sampling events. DOE provided funding for installation of utility water supplies to residents near the Clinch River opposite the Melton Valley area in response to the potential vulnerability of off-site well pumping drawing contaminants off ORR. Monitoring results are summarized in the 2012 remediation effectiveness report (DOE 2012).

5.6.2 DOE Office of Science Groundwater Monitoring

DOE O 458.1 (DOE 2011e) 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 Office of Science groundwater surveillance monitoring program are reported in the following sections.

Exit pathway and active-sites groundwater surveillance monitoring points sampled during 2012 included seep/spring and surface-water monitoring locations in addition to groundwater surveillance monitoring wells. Seep/spring and surface-water monitoring locations were used in the absence of monitoring wells located in appropriate groundwater discharge areas.

Groundwater monitoring performed under the exit pathway groundwater surveillance and active-sites monitoring programs is not regulated by federal or state regulations. Consequently, no permit or standards exist for evaluating sampling results. To provide a basis for evaluating analytical results and for assessment of groundwater quality at locations monitored by UT-Battelle for the Office of Science, federal drinking water standards and Tennessee WQC for domestic water supplies (TDEC 2009) were used as reference standards in the following discussions. Four percent of the DCSs established by DOE O 458.1 were used if no federal or state standards had been established for a particular radionuclide. Although drinking water standards and DOE DCSs are 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.

5.6.2.1 Exit Pathway Monitoring

During 2012, exit pathway groundwater surveillance monitoring was performed in accordance with the exit pathway sampling and analysis plan (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 5.39 shows the locations of the exit pathway monitoring points sampled in 2012.

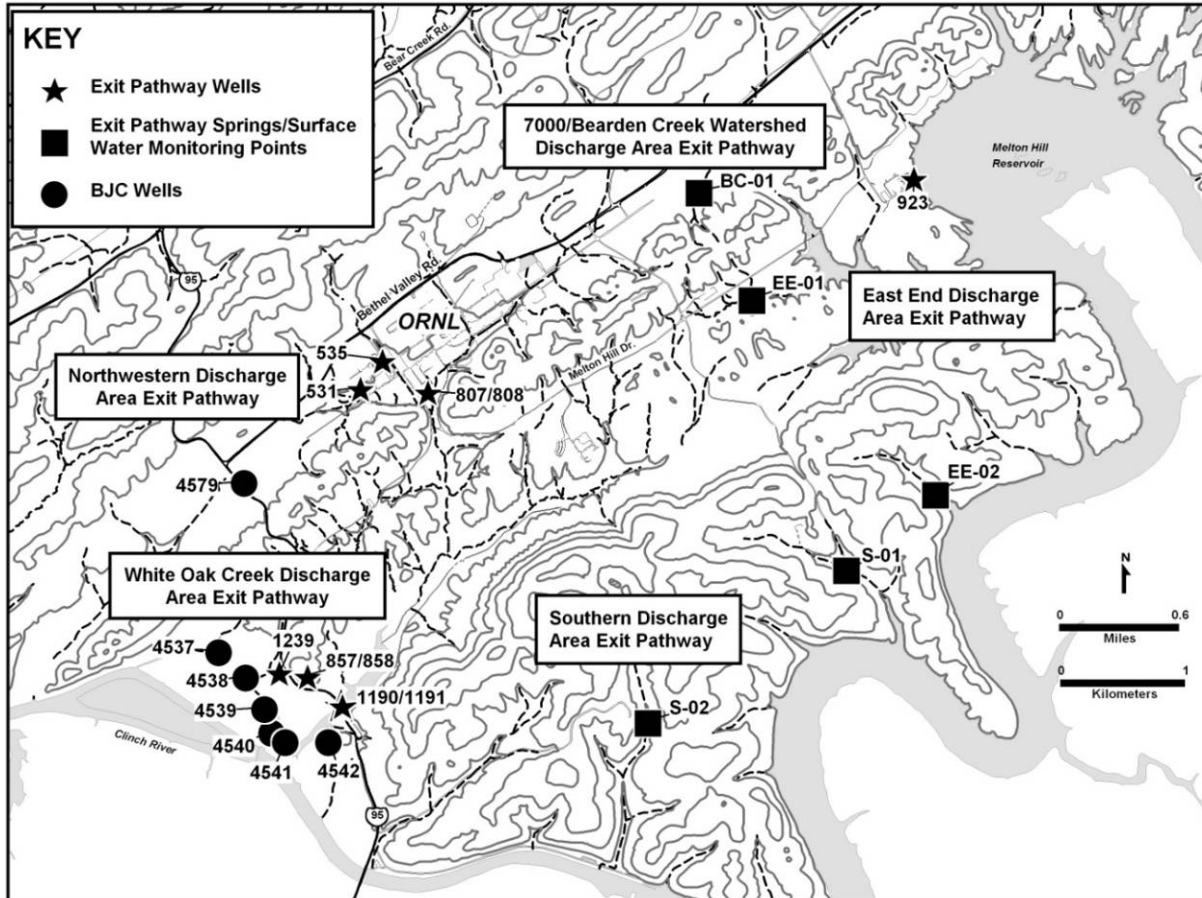


Fig. 5.39. UT-Battelle exit pathway groundwater monitoring locations at Oak Ridge National Laboratory, 2012.

Due to budgetary constraints, the exit pathway groundwater 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. Groundwater samples were collected from the monitoring points and analyzed for the parameter suites (radiological, organic, and metallic) shown in Table 5.19.

Table 5.19. 2012 exit pathway groundwater monitoring

Discharge Area	Monitoring Point	Wet Season	Dry Season
White Oak Creek	857	Radiological	Radiological
	858	Radiological, organic, and metals	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	Radiological
	807	Radiological, organic, and metals	Radiological
	808	Radiological	Radiological
7000-Bearden Creek	BC-01	Radiological, organic, and metals	Radiological
	923	Radiological	Radiological
East End	EE-01	Radiological, organic, and metals	Radiological
	EE-02	Radiological	Radiological
Southern	S-01	Radiological	Radiological
	S-02	Radiological	Radiological

Unfiltered samples collected from the exit pathway groundwater surveillance monitoring points in 2012. The organic suite was composed of VOCs and semivolatile organic compounds (SVOCs); the metallic suite included metals (e.g., mercury); and the radionuclide suite was composed of gross alpha/gross beta activity, gamma emitters, total radioactive strontium, and ^3H . Under the monitoring strategy outlined in the exit pathway SAP, samples were collected semiannually during the wet (March) and dry (August) seasons.

5.6.2.1.1 Exit Pathway Monitoring Results

Statistical trend analyses were performed on 2012 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 2012. Trend analyses were not performed on data sets where minimum detection limits exceeded reference standards (e.g., 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.

Samples were not collected at BC-01, EE-01, EE-02 or S-01 during the dry season due to a lack of water flow at these 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 2012. Table 5.22 summarizes organics parameters detected in samples collected from exit pathway monitoring points. Given that metal parameters are ubiquitously detected in exit pathway groundwater monitoring points, they are not likewise summarized. Parameters (including metals) exceeding reference standards during 2012 are summarized in Table 5.20.

Table 5.20. 2012 exit pathway groundwater monitoring—results of statistical trend analyses for parameters exceeding reference standards

Discharge Area	Monitoring Point	Parameter	Trend
White Oak Creek	1190	Iron	None
		Manganese	Down
		Tritium	Down
	1191	Iron	None
		Manganese	Up
		Gross beta	Down
Total radioactive strontium		None	
Northwest	807	Tritium	Down
		Iron	Up
7000 Area–Bearden Creek	BC-01	Manganese	None
		Aluminum	None
Eastern	EE-01	Iron	None
		Aluminum	None

Table 5.21. 2012 exit pathway groundwater monitoring results—detected radiological parameters^a

Discharge Area	Monitoring Point	Radiological Parameter	Wet Season	Dry Season
White Oak Creek	857	Bismuth-214	32	11
		Lead-214	31	17
		Thallium-208	3.4	<i>b</i>
		Tritium	470	<i>b</i>
	858	Tritium	240	<i>b</i>
		1190	Gross beta	3.5
	1191	Bismuth-214	26	<i>b</i>
		Lead-214	26	11
		Tritium	25000	27000
		Gross beta	300	350
		Bismuth-214	14	19
		Lead-214	<i>b</i>	17
		Total radioactive strontium	140	220
		Tritium	33000	24000
1239	Gross beta	2.6	<i>b</i>	
Northwestern	535	Gross beta	7.2	<i>b</i>
		Bismuth-214	24	<i>b</i>
		Lead-214	23	<i>b</i>
	807	Gross beta	6.7	3.5
		Bismuth-214	24	<i>b</i>
		Lead-214	26	<i>b</i>
Total radioactive strontium	1.8	<i>b</i>		
	Tritium	350	480	
	East End	808	Gross beta	2.5
923		Gross beta	3.2	<i>b</i>

Table 5.21. (continued)

Discharge Area	Monitoring Point	Radiological Parameter	Wet Season	Dry Season
7000 Area–Bearden Creek	BC-01	Gross alpha	2.1	<i>b</i>
Southern	S-01	Gross beta	3.2	<i>b</i>
		Bismuth-214	7.1	<i>b</i>
	S-02	Thallium-208	2.4	<i>b</i>

^aRadiological units—pCi/L^bNone detectedTable 5.22. 2012 exit pathway groundwater monitoring results—detected organic parameters^a

Discharge Area	Monitoring Point	Radiological Parameter	Wet Season	Dry Season
White Oak Creek	1191	Benzoic acid	<i>b</i>	<i>J14</i>

^aOrganic units—µg/L^bNone detected

Radiological and metal contaminant concentrations observed in groundwater exit pathway discharge areas were generally consistent with observations reported in past ASERs. Most of the radiological contaminants detected in groundwater in 2012 occurred during the wet season at the WOC and Northwestern discharge areas. Tritium, total radioactive strontium, and gross beta activity were the only radiological contaminants exceeding reference standards at any of the discharge areas and these three contaminants were found at the WOC discharge area in 2012. Statistical trend analyses show that radiological contaminant trends at exit pathway monitoring locations continue downward. The downward trend in radiological contaminants in the WOC discharge area is very likely attributable to EM remediation activities in Melton Valley. 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. Only three metals (iron, manganese, and aluminum) were detected at concentrations exceeding reference standards. These metals are commonly found in groundwater at ORNL. One VOC (benzoic acid) was identified at low estimated concentrations in samples collected from a WOC discharge area sampling location. Its source is unknown. Based on the results of the 2012 monitoring effort, there is no indication that current Office of Science 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

Groundwater monitoring conducted by the Research Reactors Division ceased in 2007 based on declining ³H concentrations observed since the repair of the subsurface leak site discovered in late 2000. Since then, outfall pipelines intercepting groundwater have been monitored for ³H routinely 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 2012 at the SNS site. The site was monitored based on the potential for adverse impact on groundwater resources at ORNL should a release occur. Monitoring at the SNS site was performed in 2012 under the SNS operational monitoring plan (Bonine, Ketelle, and Trotter 2007). 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 operational monitoring plan include the following: (1) maintain compliance with applicable 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 5.40 shows the locations of the specific monitoring points sampled during 2012.

Because of the presence of karst geomorphic features at the SNS site (and the lack of groundwater wells at the SNS site), sampling of the seeps/springs was performed quarterly to characterize the radionuclide content of the water throughout the expected range of flow at each monitoring location. Three grab samples were collected from each seep/spring: one sample to represent base flow (collected during dry periods between rainfall events) and two samples collected during rainfall events representing higher stage/flow rates [i.e., one representing the rising limb of the storm hydrograph (water flow induced by the initial pulse of rainfall percolating through the system) and one representing the falling limb of the storm hydrograph (water flowing in the system after peak flow induced by rainfall has occurred)], as shown in Fig. 5.41. Given their fate and transport characteristics, ^3H and ^{14}C are the principal groundwater constituents of concern at the SNS site. In 2012, samples were collected on a quarterly basis for ^3H and ^{14}C analyses. Additionally, samples were collected during wet-season base flow conditions for gross activity (alpha and beta) and for selected gamma spectroscopic parameters.

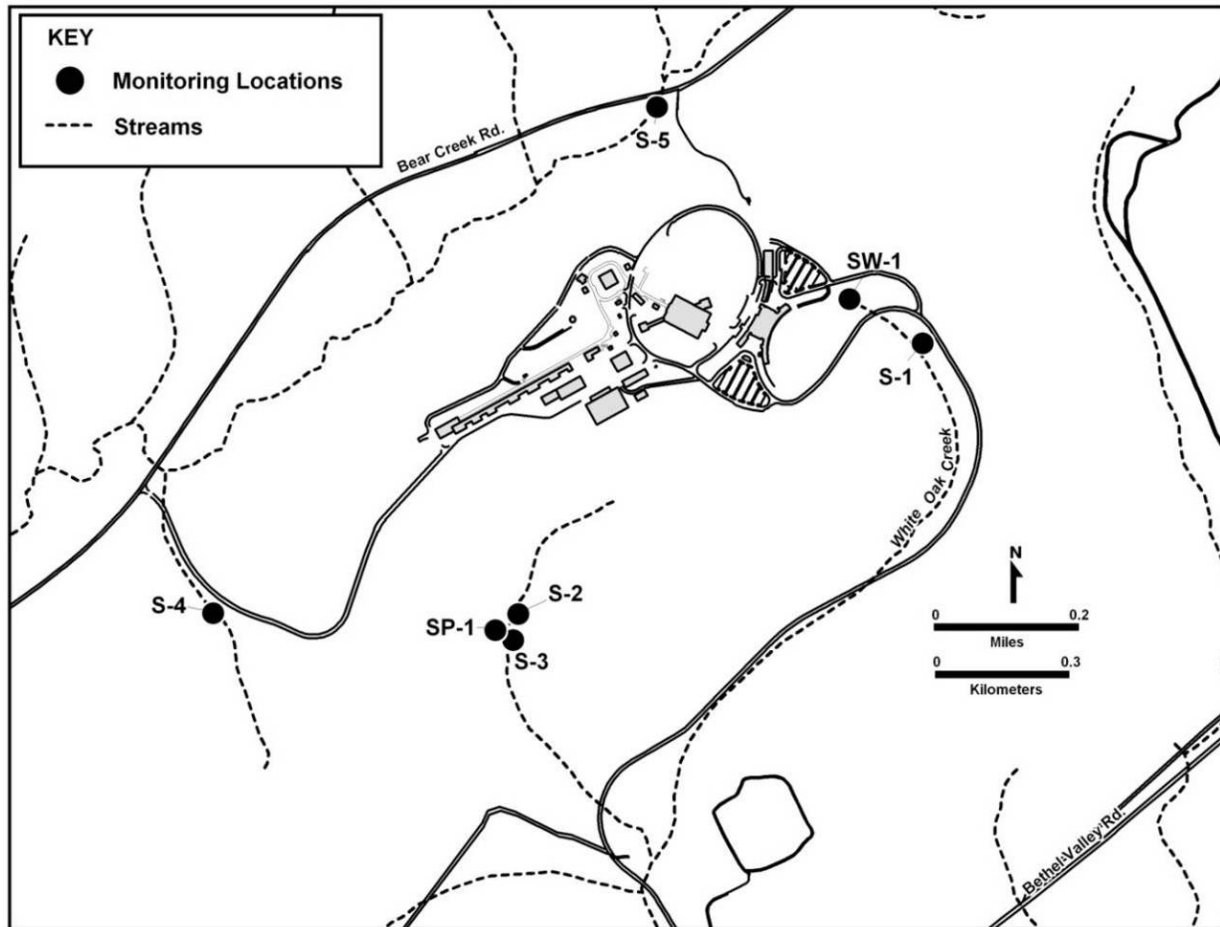


Fig. 5.40. Groundwater monitoring locations at the Spallation Neutron Source, 2012.

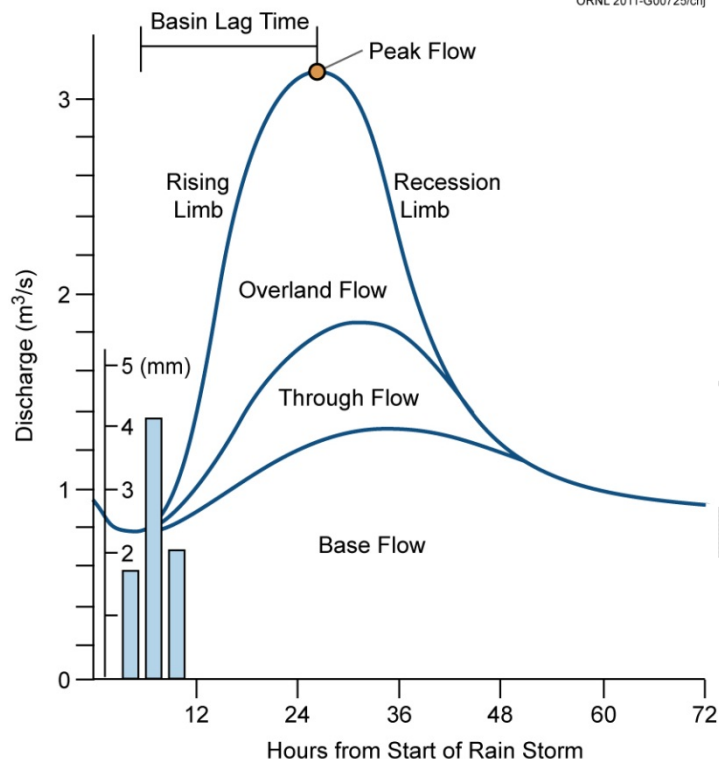


Fig. 5.41. Simple hydrograph of spring discharge vs time after initiation of rainfall.

Spallation Neutron Source Site Results

Sampling at the SNS site occurred during March, June, August, September, and November 2012. No SNS sample results exceeded reference standard thresholds in 2012. Carbon-14, gross beta activity, and gamma-emitting radionuclides were not detected in samples collected at the SNS site during 2012. Low concentrations of gross alpha activity were detected in samples collected from S-3 and S-5 during base flow conditions in March. Low concentrations of ^3H were detected numerous times at very low concentrations during 2012. Table 5.23 provides a summary of the locations, flow conditions, and sampling events for ^3H detections observed during 2012.

Table 5.23. Spallation Neutron Source groundwater monitoring results— ^3H detections in 2012

Monitoring Point	Flow Condition		
	Base Flow	Rising Limb	Falling Limb
S-1	March, June, August, and November	March	March, September, and November
S-2	March, August, and November	March, September, and November	September and November
S-3	March	March	March and September
S-4	March and August	March and September	March and September
S-5	March	March	None
SP-1	None	None	None
SW-1	March, June, August, and November	March, June, and November	March, June, September, and November

5.7 Quality Assurance Program

UT-Battelle implements the requirements of DOE O 414.1D, *Quality Assurance*, (DOE. 2011f) 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 and Waste Services Division (EP&WSD).

UT-Battelle uses SBMS to provide a systematic approach for integrating QA, environmental, and safety considerations into every aspect of ORNL environmental monitoring. 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, EP&WSD has approved project-specific standard operating procedures for all activities controlled and maintained through the Integrated Document Management System.

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. UT-Battelle Facilities and Operations Instrumentation and Control Technical Support 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. EP&WSD 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, continuous monitors used for CAA compliance monitoring at specific ORNL boilers are subjected to rigorous quality assurance 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 relative accuracy audit is performed on PEMS using a second, calibrated system to verify the accuracy of the on-stack system. A calibration error opacity audit is performed quarterly on continuous opacity monitoring systems. This audit is performed at low-, mid-, and high-ranges. Automated zero and span checks are performed daily. The results of these QA tests are provided to TDEC quarterly and annually as applicable.

5.7.3.2 Standardization

The UT-Battelle Integrated Document Management System (IDMS) provides the necessary functionality and controls to ensure controlled documents are managed, distributed, revised, and maintained in accordance with ORNL document control requirements. EP&WSD 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

EP&WSD 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 2012 and information on the number of findings identified, if any. EP&WSD 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 ORNL 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. Corrective actions, if required, are documented and tracked in the WAI Issues Management Database and the Isotek Assessment and Commitment Tracking System, respectively.

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. The DOE Environmental Management Consolidated Audit Program performs oversight of subcontracted commercial laboratories. This program, administered by DOE and subcontractors from across the DOE complex, establishes required internal and external laboratory control and performance evaluation programs and conducts on-site laboratory reviews that monitor the performance of all subcontracted laboratories and verify that all quality requirements are met.

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

Because of past waste disposal practices and unintentional releases, portions of land and facilities on ORR are contaminated with radioactive elements, mercury, asbestos, polychlorinated biphenyls, and industrial wastes. The DOE Office of Environmental Management conducts cleanup programs across the reservation to correct the contamination remaining from years of energy research and weapons production (Fig. 5.42).



Fig. 5.42. Removal of Tank W-1A eliminated the main source of groundwater contamination at Oak Ridge National Laboratory.

DOE EM has divided ORNL into two major cleanup areas: Bethel Valley and Melton Valley. The Bethel Valley area was used for reactors and the principal research facilities, and the Melton Valley area was used for reactors and waste management. The following sections summarize some of the 2012 EM activities undertaken at ORNL. More detailed information is available in the 2012 cleanup progress report to the Oak Ridge community (DOE 2011c)

5.8.1 Contaminated Tank W-1A and Soil Removal

Removal and disposal of a 15,142 L (4,000 gal) contaminated tank at ORNL was completed in FY 2012. Tank W-1A and its pipelines were the largest source of groundwater contamination at the site. The contaminated soil surrounding the vessel was also disposed.

5.8.2 Isotope Row Material Removed

In FY 2012 work was completed on the removal of legacy materials from the Isotope Row area in the central portion of ORNL.

Historically, Isotope Row facilities served as radioisotope production laboratories and support facilities. Work completed in FY 2012 included the removal, packaging, and off-site disposal of lead shielding from the exterior of the hot cells in Buildings 3030 and 3031 and the packaging and disposal of shielded casks, carriers, and miscellaneous materials staged to the west of Building 3028. A completion report documenting the work performed was prepared, submitted, and approved in FY 2012.

5.8.3 Uranium-233 Disposition Planning

A significant inventory of uranium-233 (^{233}U) is stored in ORNL Building 3019A. Uranium-233 is a special nuclear material that requires strict safeguards and security controls to protect against access. The U-233 Project was initiated to address safeguards and security requirements, eliminate safety and nuclear criticality concerns, and ship the material to an approved disposal site. Treating the ^{233}U inventory as expeditiously as possible will reduce the substantial annual costs associated with safeguards and security requirements, eliminate the risk of a nuclear criticality event, and avoid the need for future facility upgrades to Building 3019A to ensure safe storage of the inventory. DOE commissioned a review of alternatives for dispositioning the ^{233}U inventory.

Phase I of the Alternatives Analysis, which screened and identified potential alternatives, was completed in January 2011. The Deputy Secretary of Energy endorsed the review recommendations in April 2011, and the team began executing the two-part direct disposition campaign on January 1, 2012. By October 2012, 126 items had been dispositioned to NNSS, and 10 items were safely and securely transferred to ORNL for programmatic reuse.

Phase II of the Alternatives Analysis, which provided a more detailed evaluation of processing options for the inventory unable to be directly dispositioned was approved by the DOE Offices of Environmental Management and Science and endorsed by the Secretary of Energy in July 2012.

5.8.4 Upgrade of 4500 Waste System

The objective of the 4500 Area Gaseous Waste System Upgrades Project is to deactivate one of the five Cell Ventilation System branches and remove several facilities from the central hot off-gas system.

The ventilation system branches and off-gas system are part of the Central Gaseous Waste System at ORNL that vents through the 3039 central stack. The project will provide localized ventilation systems to the 4501, 4505, 4500N, and 4507 facilities; stabilize the hot cells in Building 4507; clean out filter pits 3106 and 4556; and stabilize hundreds of feet of deactivated underground ductwork.

Demolition and removal of existing equipment and fabrication and installation of the replacement ventilation system for the 4501, 4505, and 4500N facilities began in FY 2012 and will be completed during FY 2013. During FY 2012 the local ventilation system for Building 4507 was designed, fabricated, installed, and commissioned and stabilization of the 4507 hot cells was completed. Characterization of the underground ductwork was completed and planning initiated for cleanout of the 3106 filter pit. Cleanout of the 4556 filter pit was initiated in FY 2012 and will be completed in FY 2013 along with cleanout of the 3106 filter pit and stabilization of the underground ductwork once the remaining facilities are removed from the central systems.

5.8.5 Remediation of Slab Areas

During FY 2012, remedial actions were completed for 18 slabs and the associated concrete structures, associated inactive process waste drains, and underlying soil following building demolition in the Bethel Valley area of ORNL.

The slabs that were removed and disposed covered an area of about 1 ha (2.4 acres), and these sites were restored to either open grassed areas or gravel lots—depending on the planned use of the area—to support ongoing ORNL research and operations. Waste from the removal of the slabs and associated structures was packaged and disposed. The inactive process waste pipelines were removed and disposed or backfilled in place, depending on the depth of the piping below ground. A completion report documenting the work performed was prepared, submitted, and approved in FY 2012.

5.8.6 Hot Cell Structure Demolition

Building 3026 C&D, one of the original buildings constructed in the 1940s to support the war effort, has been inactive since the 1990s. Entries into the highly contaminated hot cells have been minimal.

A waste handling plan for the 3026 hot cells demolition and waste disposition was approved by EPA and TDEC in FY 2011. The six structures that compose Building 3026 C&D were in various stages of

characterization, planning, decontamination, and demolition in FY 2012. Two structures (3026C Counting Room and 3026C Tritium Lab) were decontaminated in FY 2011. Three additional structures (3026C Cell Bank 1, 3026C Cell Bank 2, and 3026D Storage/Sorting Cell) were decontaminated in FY 2012. This work included removal of internal equipment, the final step to make these structures ready for demolition.

The four 3026C structures were also demolished and disposed of in FY 2012. Preparation for demolition of the two remaining structures (3026D Storage/Sorting Cell and 3026D Cell A and B) is under way. In March 2011, higher levels of contamination than anticipated were found in the 3026D structures while performing initial characterization.

The project's revised technical approach for hot cell cleanout was approved in FY 2012; the operational readiness review was completed in July 2012, and demolition will be completed in FY 2013.

5.8.7 Bethel Valley Groundwater

Several activities were initiated in FY 2012 to address Bethel Valley groundwater, including the following:

- 7000 Area groundwater treatability study,
- core hole 8 intercept extraction system, and
- SWSA 3 exit pathway monitoring.

5.8.8 Demolition of Unneeded Facilities

Legacy material removal and demolition activities were completed in FY 2012 at several ORNL facilities. These contaminated nonreactor facilities were surplus buildings, some dating from the original Manhattan Project, that were no longer needed.

As part of the 34 Buildings D&D Project, legacy material was removed from more than 2,976 m² (32,000 ft²) of facility space, and a total of 10,751 m² (115,600 ft²) of building space was demolished and the demolition debris disposed. The 34 buildings, located in the busy central campus portion of ORNL, were safely and successfully demolished without impacting adjacent laboratory facilities. This project has eliminated the risk associated with these unused facilities and will allow reuse of the area to support ORNL's ongoing and future research activities.

5.8.9 Oak Ridge National Laboratory Waste Management

5.8.9.1 Oak Ridge National Laboratory Wastewater Treatment

At ORNL, the DOE Environmental Management Program operates PWTC and the Liquid Low-Level Waste Treatment Facility. In 2012 447 million L (118 million gal) of wastewater was treated and released at PWTC in 2012. In addition, the liquid LLW evaporator at ORNL treated 721,121 L (190,500 gal) of waste. The waste treatment activities of these facilities support both **Office of Environmental Management** and Office of Science mission activities, ensuring that wastewaters from activities associated with projects of both offices are managed in a safe and compliant manner.

5.8.9.2 Oak Ridge National Laboratory Newly Generated Waste Management

ORNL is the largest, most diverse Office of Science 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 **the DOE Environmental Management Program** 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. No accidents, incidents, or other compliance problems associated with the management of ORNL waste materials were experienced in CY 2012.

5.8.9.3 Transuranic Waste Processing Center

TRU waste-processing activities carried out for DOE in 2012 by WAI addressed CH solids/debris and RH solids/debris and involved processing, treating, repackaging, and off-site transportation and disposal at NNSS, WIPP, and other approved off-site facilities. Planning for treating RH sludge continued this year.

During CY 2012, 132.4 m³ (4,675.0 ft³) of CH waste and 91.0 m³ (3,213.2 ft³) of RH waste were processed. In CY 2012, 75.4 m³ (2,662.4 ft³) of CH waste and 15.0 m³ (530.0 ft³) of RH waste were shipped off-site.

5.8.10 SEC Federal Services Corporation Waste

In 2012 SEC shipped 750.52 m³ (981.64 yd³) of material from SEC hot cells, which includes Building 3026 and Building 3038. SEC also shipped 3,093.3 m³ (4,045.92 yd³) of material from the Miscellaneous Facilities Project, which concluded in June 2012.

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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

Ten meteorological towers provide data on meteorological conditions and on the transport and diffusion qualities of the atmosphere on 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 10 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, 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 all towers except MT3, MT9, and MT11, where data are collected at 15 m or 25 m. Additionally, at selected towers data are collected at the 30, 33, 60, and 100 m levels. At each measurement level, 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 limit accurate determination of nighttime stability to those towers that are 60 m or higher. Barometric pressure is measured at one or more of the towers at each ORR plant (MT1, MT2, MT7, and MT9). Precipitation is measured at MT6 and MT9 at the Y-12 Complex, at MT1 and MT7 at ETTP, and at MT2 and MT4 at ORNL. Solar radiation is measured at MT6 and MT9 at the Y-12 Complex, at MT1 and MT7 at ETTP, at MT2 at ORNL, and TVCR at the TVA Clinch River Site. Data are collected at 1, 15, and 60 min intervals. Calibrations of the instruments are managed by UT-Battelle and B&W Y-12 and were performed every 3 to 6 months by an independent auditor (Shaw Environmental).

In addition to the meteorological towers, sonic detection and ranging (SODAR) devices have been installed at the east end of the Y-12 Complex and at 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 (100–600 m above ground level). Although SODAR measurements are slightly less accurate than those on the 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 (lat., long.)	Altitude (m MSL)	Measurement heights (m)
<i>ETTP</i>				
MT1	“K,” 1208	35.93317N, -84.38833W	253	10, 60
MT7	“L,” 1209	35.92522N, -84.39414W	233	10, 30
<i>ORNL</i>				
MT2	“C,” 1057	35.92559N, -84.32379W	261	10, 30, 100
MT3	“B,” 6555	35.93273N, -84.30254W	256	15, 30
MT4	“A,” 7571	35.92185N, -84.30470W	263	10, 30
MT10	“M,” 208A	35.90947N, -84.38796W	237	10
<i>TVA</i>				
TVCR	Clinch River	35.887237N, -84.37967W	243	10, 60
<i>Y-12 Complex</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

Abbreviations

- ETTP = East Tennessee Technology Park
- MSL = mean sea level
- ORNL = Oak Ridge National Laboratory
- PSS = Park Shift Superintendent
- TVA = Tennessee Valley Authority
- Y-12 Complex = Y-12 National Security Complex

Data are collected in real time at 1 min, 15 min, and hourly intervals for emergency-response purposes, including dispersion modeling at the ORNL and Y-12 Complex 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. Quality assurance records of missing and erroneous data are routinely kept for the nine DOE-managed towers.

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, with the exception of ETTP, which is located in a less constrained open valley bottom, resulting in greater flow variation.

On ORR, low-speed winds dominate near the valley surfaces, due largely to the decelerating influence of nearby ridges and mountains. Wind acceleration is sometimes 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.

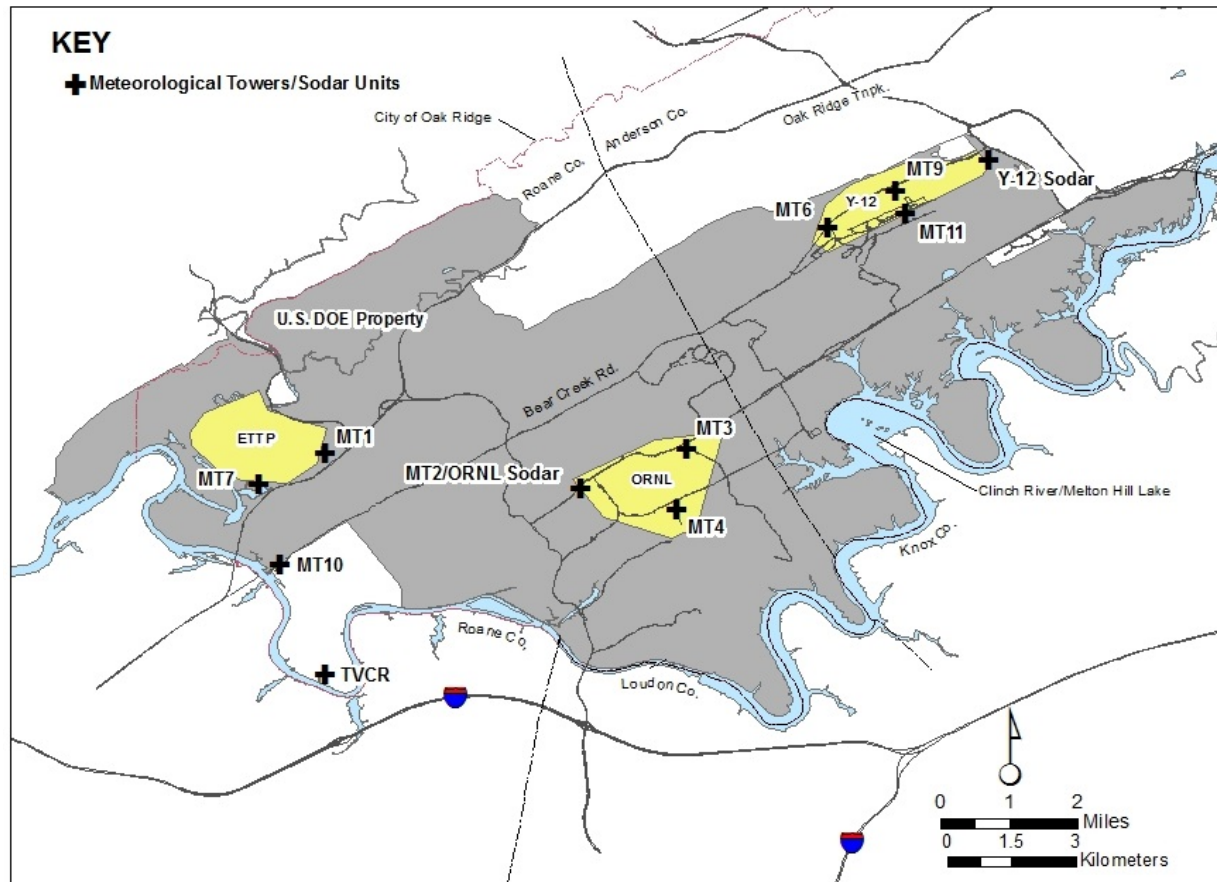


Fig. 6.1. The Oak Ridge Reservation meteorological monitoring network, including SODARs (sonic detection and ranging wind profilers).

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 2012 (1,232 mm or 48.49 in.) was slightly below the long-term average of 1,294 mm (50.91 in.), yielding a 5% deficit compared with the 30 year means (1981–2010).

The average data recovery rates (a measure of acceptable data) across locations used for modeling during 2012 were greater than 99% for ORNL sites (towers MT2, MT3, MT4, and MT10); however, there were problems with a few sensors at Tower MT2 late in the year. Due to structural problems, Tower MT2 is in the process of being replaced, and some sensors at the 30 and 100 m level could not be reached for repair during the last half of 2012. Consequently, data recovered for the 100 m temperature was only 42.7% during the 4th quarter of 2012 and 83.9% for the year (but were acceptable in other quarters). Missing values were generally profiled from Tower MT1 at ETPP, depending on atmospheric conditions. Similarly, the wind monitor speed threshold at Tower MT2 was anomalously high at 30 m, resulting in a minimum 3rd and 4th quarter data recovery of 89.1% and 85.4% (93.3% for the year). All other Tower MT2 instrument recoveries were well above 90% both quarterly and for the year.

Quarterly data recovery from ETPP during 2012 ranged from 95.3 to 100% for ETPP sites (towers MT1 and MT7) and ranged from 98.7 to 99.9% on an annual basis. Y-12 sites (towers MT6, MT9, and MT11) had especially high recovery rates during 2012, ranging from 99.4 to 100% for the year.

6.2 External Gamma Radiation Monitoring

6.2.1 Data Collection and Analysis

External gamma measurements (exposure rates) are recorded weekly at six ambient air stations from resident external gross gamma monitors (Fig. 6.2). Each consists of a dual-range, high-pressure ion chamber sensor and digital electronic count-rate meter and a totalizer. Totalizing consists of multiplying the count rate by the time of exposure to obtain total exposure.

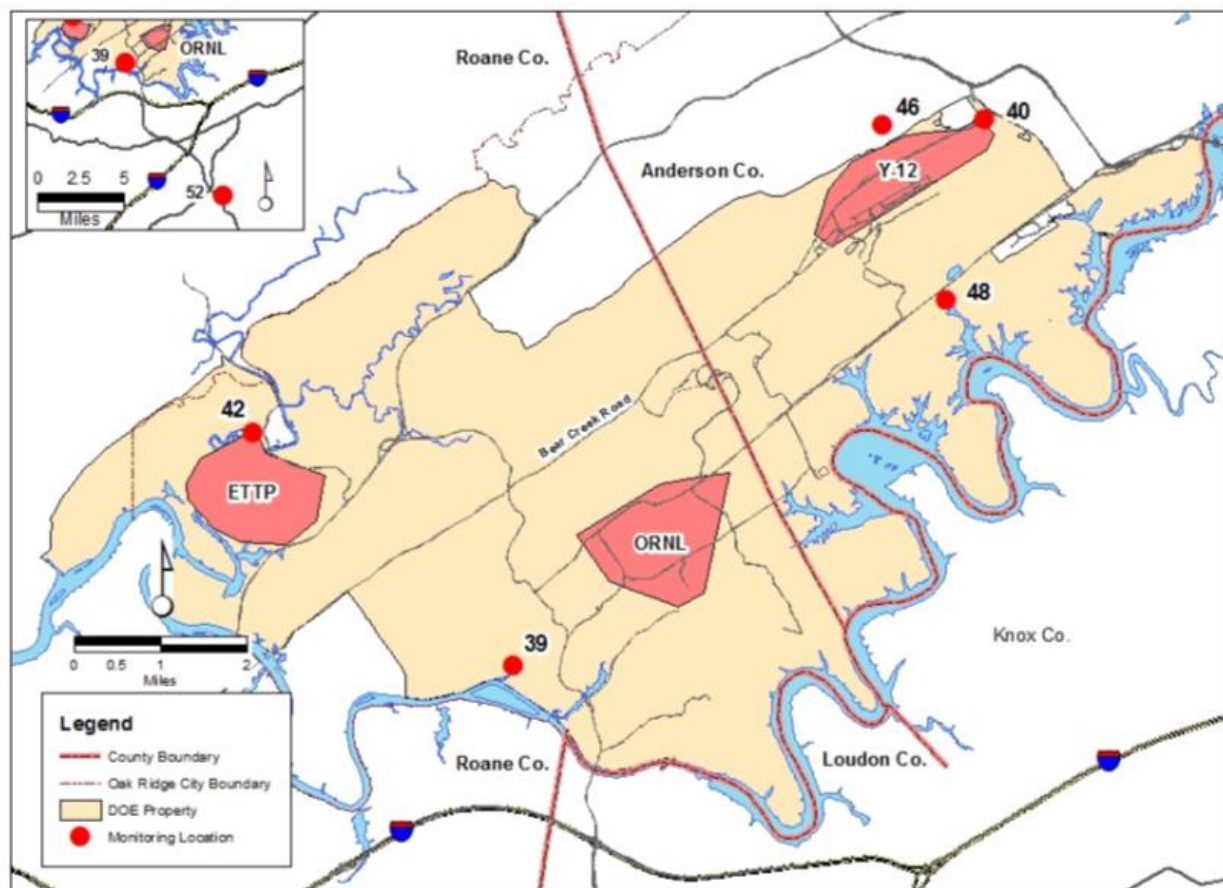


Fig. 6.2. External gamma radiation monitoring locations on the Oak Ridge Reservation.

6.2.2 Results

Table 6.2 summarizes the data collected at each station during the year. The mean observed exposure rate for the reservation network for 2012 was $8.3 \mu\text{R/h}$, and the average at the reference location was $6.9 \mu\text{R/h}$. Exposure rates from background sources in Tennessee range from 2.9 to $11 \mu\text{R/h}$.

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.

Table 6.2. External gamma (exposure rate) averages for the Oak Ridge Reservation, 2012

Monitoring location	Number of data values collected	Measurement ($\mu\text{R/h}$) ^a		
		Min	Max	Mean
39	52	8.8	9.7	9.3
40	52	7.7	8.6	8.2
42	52	6.5	8.3	7.6
46	52	8.3	9.3	8.9
48	52	6.8	11.5	7.6
52	52	6.5	7.3	6.9

^aTo convert microroentgens per hour ($\mu\text{R/h}$) to milliroentgens per year, multiply by 8.760.

ORNL 2013-G00149/chj



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 2012 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.

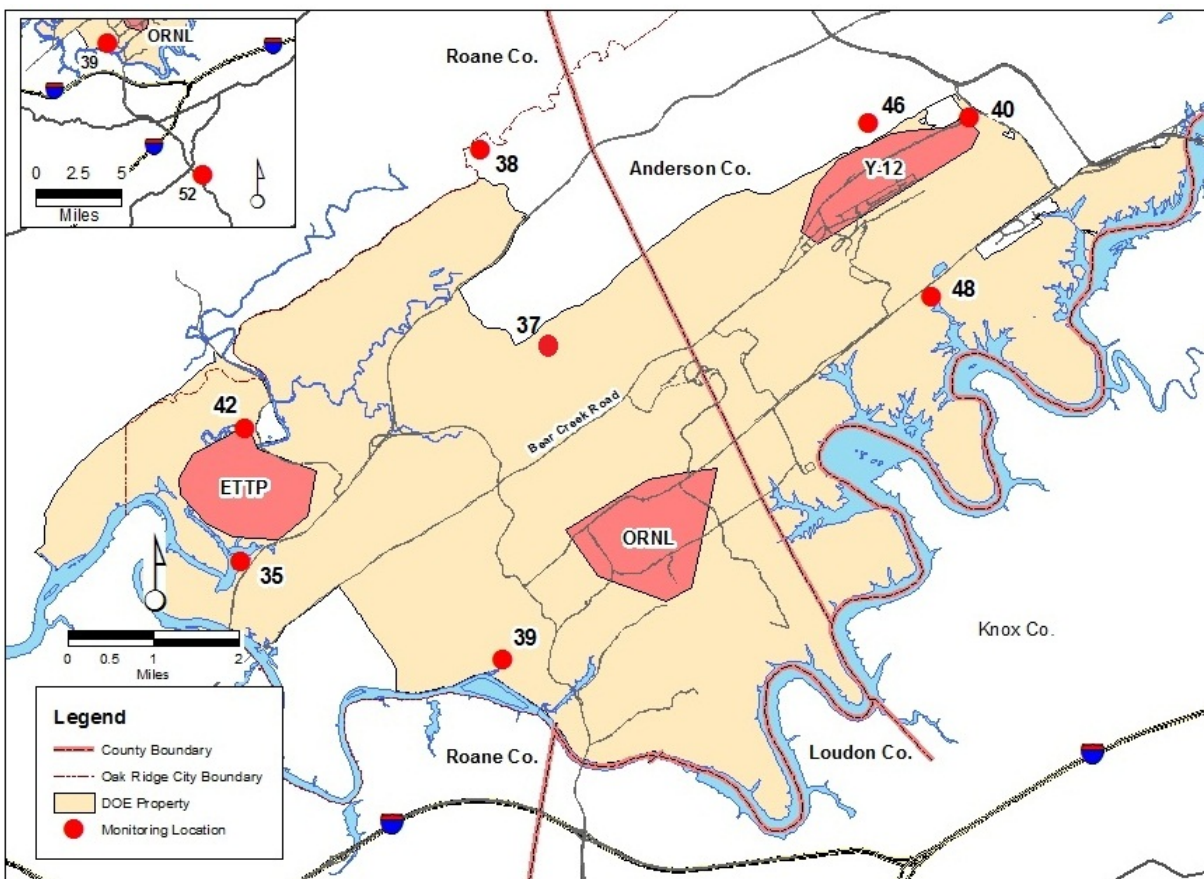


Fig. 6.4. Locations of Oak Ridge Reservation perimeter air monitoring stations.

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 stations 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 ambient air stations during 2012 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, 2012

Parameter	N detected/N total	Concentration (pCi/mL)		
		Average	Minimum	Maximum
<i>Station 35</i>				
⁷ Be	4/4	2.74E-08	1.93E-08	3.69E-08
⁴⁰ K	0/4	-2.30E-10	-6.95E-10	3.77E-10
T	1/4	8.42E-06	3.03E-06	1.56E-05
²³⁴ U	4/4	8.48E-12	4.79E-12	1.03E-11
²³⁵ U	0/4	3.15E-13	1.12E-14	6.90E-13
²³⁸ U	4/4	1.73E-12	1.28E-12	1.99E-12
<i>Station 37</i>				
⁷ Be	4/4	2.96E-08	1.63E-08	3.60E-08
⁴⁰ K	0/4	-8.59E-11	-4.53E-10	4.73E-10
T	1/4	4.40E-06	1.68E-06	6.80E-06
²³⁴ U	4/4	2.65E-12	1.96E-12	3.14E-12
²³⁵ U	0/4	1.50E-13	4.64E-14	2.61E-13
²³⁸ U	4/4	1.40E-12	1.13E-12	1.72E-12
<i>Station 38</i>				
⁷ Be	4/4	3.11E-08	1.87E-08	4.22E-08
⁴⁰ K	0/4	1.02E-10	-2.89E-10	3.07E-10
T	0/4	3.71E-06	-1.07E-06	1.03E-05
²³⁴ U	4/4	3.35E-12	2.10E-12	5.71E-12
²³⁵ U	0/4	1.66E-13	9.37E-14	2.37E-13
²³⁸ U	4/4	1.98E-12	1.21E-12	2.66E-12
<i>Station 39</i>				
⁷ Be	4/4	2.82E-08	1.51E-08	3.58E-08
⁴⁰ K	0/4	-4.50E-10	-7.06E-10	-1.63E-10
T	0/4	1.81E-06	-1.91E-06	4.38E-06
²³⁴ U	4/4	2.39E-12	1.88E-12	3.50E-12
²³⁵ U	1/4	5.63E-14	-2.27E-13	5.09E-13
²³⁸ U	4/4	1.39E-12	9.91E-13	1.61E-12
<i>Station 40</i>				
⁷ Be	4/4	2.63E-08	1.79E-08	3.32E-08
⁴⁰ K	0/4	-8.54E-11	-5.48E-10	4.13E-10
T	2/4	9.91E-06	3.02E-06	1.89E-05
²³⁴ U	4/4	8.66E-12	2.09E-12	1.99E-11
²³⁵ U	2/4	5.22E-13	0	1.24E-12
²³⁸ U	4/4	2.47E-12	1.41E-12	3.06E-12

Table 6.3. (continued)

Parameter	N detected/N total	Concentration (pCi/mL)		
		Average	Minimum	Maximum
<i>Station 42</i>				
⁷ Be	4/4	2.87E-08	1.92E-08	3.74E-08
⁴⁰ K	0/4	-1.24E-10	-3.20E-10	1.51E-10
T	1/4	2.16E-06	-6.28E-07	9.24E-06
²³⁴ U	4/4	2.11E-11	6.07E-12	4.14E-11
²³⁵ U	2/4	1.11E-12	2.82E-13	2.12E-12
²³⁸ U	4/4	2.76E-12	1.43E-12	4.80E-12
<i>Station 46</i>				
⁷ Be	4/4	3.03E-08	1.93E-08	3.84E-08
⁴⁰ K	0/4	3.55E-11	-3.54E-10	2.74E-10
T	2/4	9.73E-06	8.25E-06	1.33E-05
²³⁴ U	4/4	9.43E-12	3.71E-12	1.93E-11
²³⁵ U	1/4	5.10E-13	1.47E-13	1.36E-12
²³⁸ U	4/4	2.28E-12	1.63E-12	2.72E-12
<i>Station 48</i>				
⁷ Be	4/4	3.22E-08	1.78E-08	4.12E-08
⁴⁰ K	0/4	-1.73E-10	-6.72E-10	2.56E-10
T	1/4	5.78E-06	2.62E-06	1.13E-05
²³⁴ U	4/4	3.76E-12	2.22E-12	5.67E-12
²³⁵ U	1/4	2.06E-13	-1.68E-13	4.87E-13
²³⁸ U	4/4	2.25E-12	1.88E-12	2.69E-12
<i>Station 52</i>				
⁷ Be	4/4	3.73E-08	2.81E-08	4.42E-08
⁴⁰ K	0/4	-2.82E-10	-5.65E-10	-1.15E-10
T	0/4	5.06E-07	-1.11E-06	1.46E-06
²³⁴ U	4/4	2.59E-12	2.31E-12	2.92E-12
²³⁵ U	1/4	4.55E-13	1.23E-13	8.78E-13
²³⁸ U	4/4	3.14E-12	1.99E-12	3.83E-12

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.

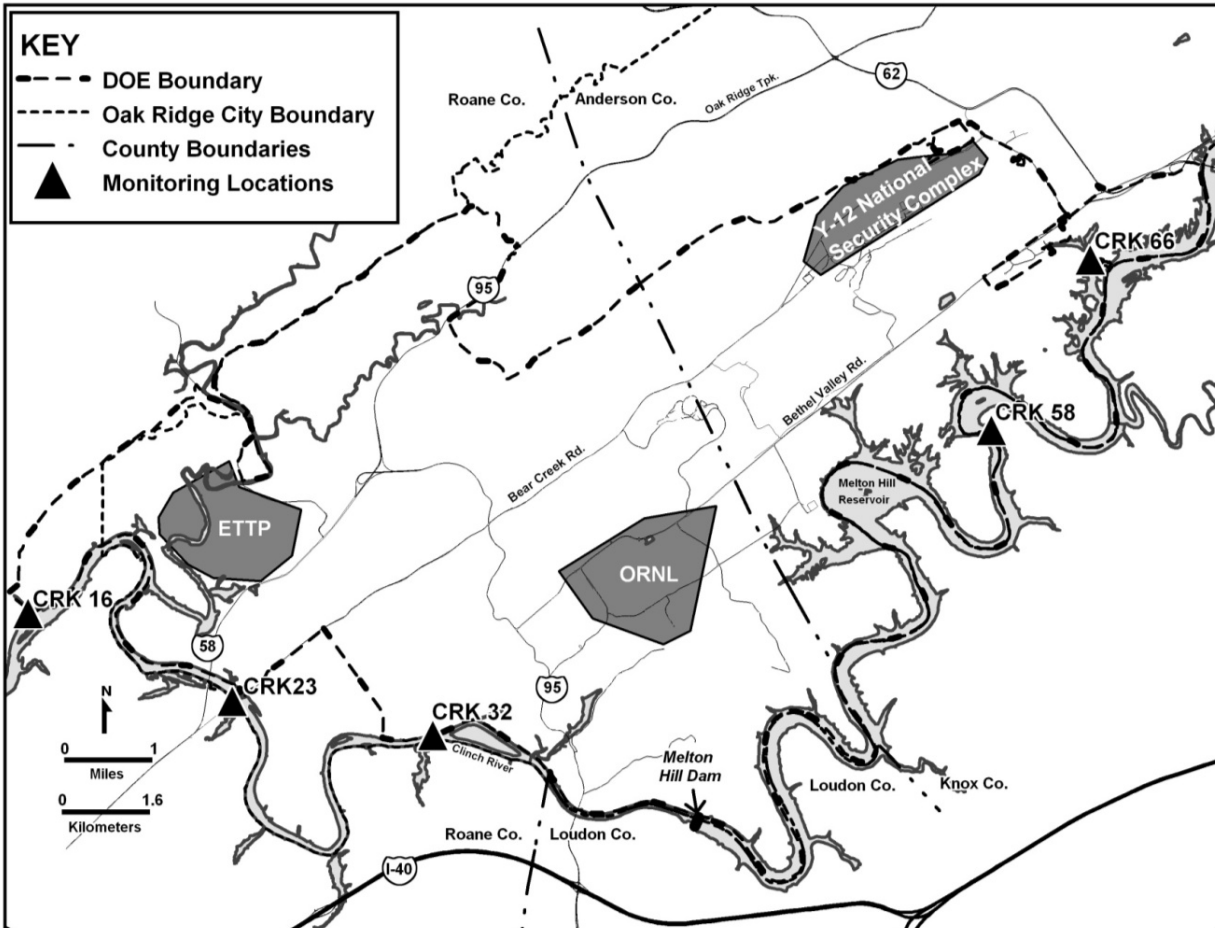


Fig. 6.5. Oak Ridge Reservation surface water surveillance sampling locations.

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 water quality criteria (WQC) associated with these classifications are used as references where applicable (TDEC 2008). The Tennessee WQC 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.

Table 6.4. Oak Ridge Reservation surface water sampling locations, frequencies, and parameters, 2012

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.

Abbreviations

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 2012 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 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.

6.5.1 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.

6.5.1.1 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 ⁴⁰K. Concentrations of radionuclides detected above MDA are shown in Table 6.5.

Table 6.5. Concentrations of radionuclides detected in vegetables, 2012 (pCi/kg)^a

Location	Gross alpha	Gross beta	⁷ Be	⁴⁰ K	²³⁴ U	²³⁵ U	²³⁸ U
<i>Lettuce</i>							
East of Y-12 Complex (Claxton vicinity)	0.000061	0.0038	<i>b</i>	0.0049	<i>b</i>	<i>b</i>	<i>b</i>
West of ETTP	<i>b</i>	0.0040	<i>b</i>	0.0050	<i>b</i>	<i>b</i>	<i>b</i>
North of Y-12 Complex	0.00010	0.0051	<i>b</i>	0.0061	<i>b</i>	<i>b</i>	<i>b</i>
South of ORNL	<i>b</i>	0.0023	<i>b</i>	0.0048	<i>b</i>	<i>b</i>	<i>b</i>
Southwest of ORNL, Lenoir City	<i>b</i>	0.0030	<i>b</i>	0.0049	<i>b</i>	<i>b</i>	<i>b</i>
Reference location, Maryville	<i>b</i>	0.0027	<i>b</i>	0.0044	<i>b</i>	<i>b</i>	<i>b</i>
<i>Tomato</i>							
East of Y-12 Complex (Claxton vicinity)	<i>b</i>	0.00032	<i>b</i>	0.0013	<i>b</i>	<i>b</i>	<i>b</i>
West of ETTP	<i>b</i>	0.00045	<i>b</i>	0.0017	<i>b</i>	<i>b</i>	<i>b</i>
North of Y-12 Complex	<i>b</i>	0.00053	<i>b</i>	<i>b</i>	0.0000026	<i>b</i>	<i>b</i>
South of ORNL	0.000031	0.00078	<i>b</i>	0.0015	<i>b</i>	<i>b</i>	<i>b</i>
Southwest of ORNL, Lenoir City	<i>b</i>	0.00085	<i>b</i>	<i>b</i>	<i>b</i>	<i>b</i>	<i>b</i>
Reference location, Maryville	<i>b</i>	0.00040	<i>b</i>	0.0014	<i>b</i>	<i>b</i>	<i>b</i>
<i>Turnips</i>							
East of Y-12 Complex (Claxton vicinity)	<i>b</i>	0.0016	<i>b</i>	0.0024	<i>b</i>	<i>b</i>	<i>b</i>
West of ETTP	0.000034	0.0013	<i>b</i>	0.0026	<i>b</i>	<i>b</i>	<i>b</i>
North of Y-12 Complex	0.000036	0.0015	<i>b</i>	0.0018	<i>b</i>	<i>b</i>	<i>b</i>
South of ORNL	0.00019	0.0016	<i>b</i>	0.0018	<i>b</i>	<i>b</i>	<i>b</i>
Southwest of ORNL, Lenoir City	<i>b</i>	0.0018	<i>b</i>	0.0048	<i>b</i>	0.0000015	<i>b</i>
Reference location, Maryville	<i>b</i>	0.0013	<i>b</i>	0.0025	<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.

Abbreviations

ETTP = East Tennessee Technology Park

ORNL = Oak Ridge National Laboratory

Y-12 Complex = Y-12 National Security Complex

6.5.2 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 2012 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 ($^{89}\text{Sr} + ^{90}\text{Sr}$) by chemical separation and low-background beta counting. Liquid scintillation is used to analyze for tritium.

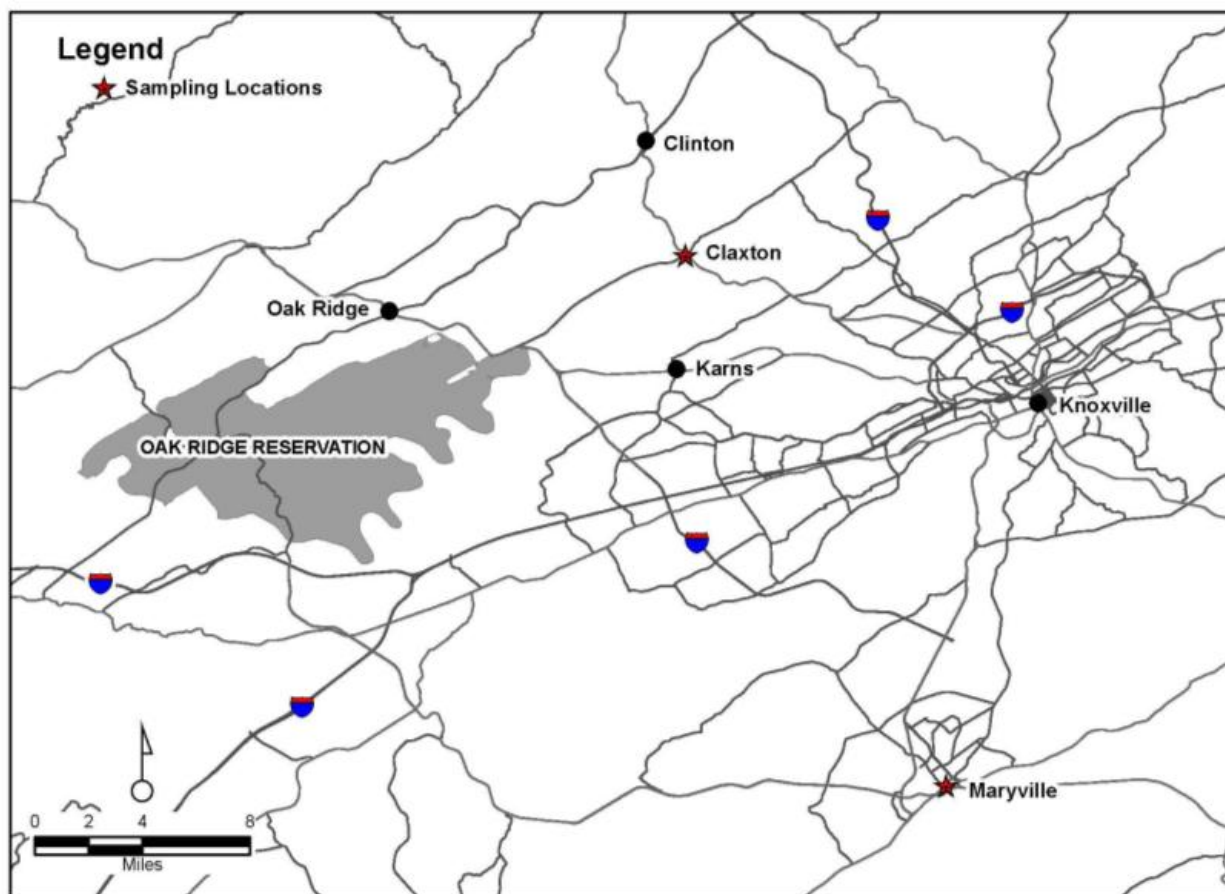


Fig. 6.6. Milk sampling locations in the vicinity of the Oak Ridge Reservation.

6.5.2.1 Results

Concentrations of radionuclides detected above MDA in milk are presented in Table 6.6. Potassium-40 and total radioactive strontium were only detected once at each location. 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 of the radionuclides.

Table 6.6. Concentrations of radionuclides detected in raw milk, 2012

Analysis	No. detected/ no. total	Detected concentration (pCi/L) ^a			Standard error of mean
		Max	Min	Avg	
<i>Claxton</i>					
⁴⁰ K	6/6	1,300 ^b	1,100 ^b	1,200 ^b	29
Total rad Sr	1/6	2.9 ^b	0.65	1.3 ^b	0.34
<i>Reference location</i>					
⁴⁰ K	6/6	1,400 ^b	1,200 ^b	1,300 ^b	31
Total rad Sr	1/6	3.2 ^b	0.14	1.3 ^b	0.42

^aDetected radionuclides are those above minimum detectable activity.

1 pCi = 3.7×10^{12} Bq.

^bIndividual and average concentrations significantly greater than zero at the 95% confidence level.

6.6 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 [Clinch River kilometer (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 2012, 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).

6.6.1 Results

Detected PCBs, mercury, and radionuclides are shown in Table 6.7.

PCBs, specifically Aroclor-1260, and mercury were detected in both sunfish and catfish at all three locations in 2012. These results are consistent with the TDEC advisories discussed above.

Radiological analyses for fish tissues sampled in 2012 showed few statistical differences (at the 95% confidence level) between the upstream and downstream locations, indicating that DOE activities on ORR are not significant contributors to the public radiological dose from fish consumption.

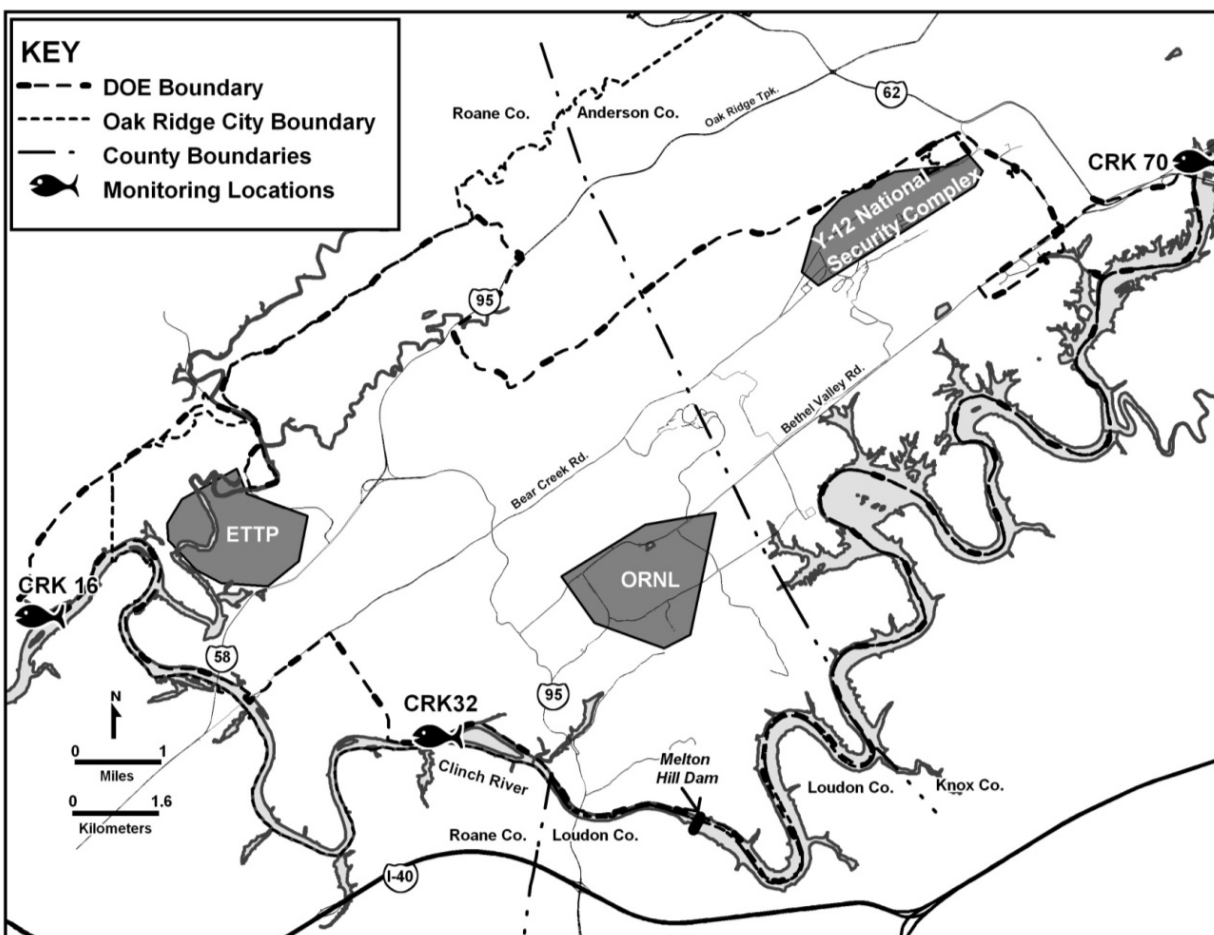


Fig. 6.7. Fish sampling locations for the Oak Ridge Reservation Surveillance Program.

Table 6.7. Tissue concentrations in catfish and sunfish for mercury, detected PCBs, and detected radionuclides, 2012^a

Parameter	Catfish ^b	Sunfish ^b
<i>Clinch River downstream from all DOE ORR inputs (CRK 16)</i>		
Metals (mg/kg)		
Hg	0.11	0.24
Pesticides and PCBs (µg/kg)		
PCB-1260	66	73
Radionuclides (pCi/g) ^b		
Alpha activity	0.068 ^c	0.03 ^c
Beta activity	2.4 ^c	2.6 ^c
⁴⁰ K	2.6 ^c	2.6 ^c
⁹⁰ Sr	0.01 ^c	0.026 ^c
<i>Clinch River downstream from ORNL (CRK 32)</i>		
Metals (mg/kg)		
Hg	0.058	0.037
Pesticides and PCBs (µg/kg)		
PCB-1260	92	24

Table 6.7. (continued)

Parameter	Catfish ^b	Sunfish ^b
Radionuclides (pCi/g) ^b		
Beta activity	2.9 ^c	2.8 ^c
⁴⁰ K	2.0 ^c	2.6 ^c
<i>Clinch River (Solway Bridge) upstream from all DOE ORR inputs (CRK 70)</i>		
Metals (mg/kg)		
HG	0.063	0.037
Pesticides and PCBs (µg/kg)		
PCB-1260	410	41
Radionuclides (pCi/g) ^b		
Beta activity	3.1 ^c	2.5 ^c
⁴⁰ K	4.2 ^c	2.0 ^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.

Abbreviations

CRK = Clinch River kilometer
 DOE = US Department of Energy
 ORNL = Oak Ridge National Laboratory
 ORR = Oak Ridge Reservation
 PCB = polychlorinated biphenyl

6.7 White-Tailed Deer

Three deer hunts were held on ORR during the final quarter of 2012. 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 were held October 20–21, November 10–11, and December 8–9. In 2012 there were about 450 shotgun/muzzleloader-permitted hunters and 675 archery-permitted hunters. 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 all three weekends. The year's total harvest was 256 deer. From the total deer harvest, 160 (62.5%) were bucks and 96 (37.5%) were does. The heaviest buck had eight antler points and weighed 171 lb. The greatest number of antler points found on one buck was 13. The heaviest doe weighed 116 lb.

Since 1985 11,633 deer have been harvested. Of these, only 204 (1.8%) have been retained as a result of potential radiological contamination. The heaviest buck was 218 lb (harvested in 1998); the average weight is 85.9 lb. The oldest deer harvested was 12 years old; the average age is 2.0 years. For more information, see <http://www.ornl.gov/sci/rmal/huntinfo.htm>.

6.7.1 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.

During the 2012 hunts, 256 deer were harvested on ORR, and one (0.39%) was 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

6.8 Fowl

6.8.1 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 are held 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.

6.8.1.1 Results

During the 2012 roundup, 39 geese were subjected to live whole-body gamma scans. The geese were collected from ORNL (5), Solway Boat Ramp (27), and Clark Center Park (7). None exceeded the administrative release limits.

The 5 pCi/g administrative release limit that is applied to 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.

6.8.2 Turkey Monitoring

Two wild turkey hunts managed by DOE and TWRA were held on the reservation (April 14–15 and April 21–22, 2012). Hunting was open for both shotguns and archery. Forty-nine turkeys were harvested, of which 6 (12.2%) were juveniles and 43 (87.8%) were adults. The average turkey weight was about 17.9 lb, with the largest weighing 23.1 lb. The longest beard was 11.8 in., and the average was 9.1 in. The longest spur was 1.5 in., and the average was 0.8 in.

6.8.2.1 Results

In 2012, none of the 49 turkeys harvested exceeded the administrative release limits established for radiological contamination. Since 1997, 713 turkeys have been harvested. Of these, only three (0.4%) have been retained because of potential radiological contamination. For additional information, see <http://www.ornl.gov/rmal/huntinfo.htm>.

The 5 pCi/g administrative release limit 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.

6.9 Quality Assurance

The activities associated with administration, sampling, data management, and reporting for the ORR environmental surveillance programs are performed by the UT-Battelle Environmental Protection and Waste Services Division. Project scope is established by a task team whose members represent DOE, UT-Battelle, B&W Y-12, 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.)

6.10 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. April.

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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.

A hypothetical maximally exposed individual could have received in 2012 an effective dose (ED) of about 3 mrem from radionuclides emitted to the atmosphere from all ORR sources; this is well below the NESHAP 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 2 mrem. This dose is based on a person eating 27 kg/year (60 lb/year) of the most contaminated fish accessible, drinking 930 L/year (246 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 ^{137}Cs concentration and maximum weights), that person could have received an ED of about 2 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. 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 2012 maximum ED was about 3% of the limit given in DOE O 458.1.

7.1 Radiation Dose

Small quantities of radionuclides were released to the environment from operations at ORR facilities during 2012. Those releases are 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 are performed using monitored and estimated release data, environmental monitoring and surveillance data, estimated exposure conditions that tend to maximize the calculated EDs, and environmental transport and dosimetry codes that also tend to overestimate the calculated EDs. Thus, the presented doses are conservative estimates of the potential doses received by 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. An important term to understand is “effective dose” (ED). 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.5.6 through E.5.12, 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 2012 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 (EPA 1999). The dose coefficients were calculated by use of the methods in Publication 72 of the International Commission on Radiological Protection (ICRP 1996). 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 45 emission points on ORR, each of which includes one or more individual sources, were modeled during 2012. The total includes 3 (two combined) points at the Y-12 Complex, 34 points at ORNL, and 8 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 2012 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 2012, rainfall, as averaged over the five rain gauges located on ORR, was 130.8 cm (51.5 in.). The average air temperature was 15.7°C (60.3°F), and the average mixing-layer height was 690 m (2,263 ft). The mixing height is the depth of the atmosphere adjacent to the surface within which air is mixed.

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 defined in the NESHAPs background documents (EPA 1989). 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.

Table 7.1. Emission point parameters and receptor locations used in the dose calculations

Source ID	Stack height (m)	Stack diameter (m)	Effective exit gas velocity (m/s)	Exit gas temperature (°C)	Distance (m) and direction to the maximally exposed individual ^a			
					Plant maximum		Oak Ridge Reservation maximum	
<i>7.1.2.2 Oak Ridge National Laboratory</i>								
X-1000 Lab Hoods	15	0.5	0	Ambient	4350	SW	4350	SW
X-2000 Lab Hoods	15	0.5	0	Ambient	4770	SW	4770	SW
X-3000 Lab Hoods	15	0.5	0	Ambient	5100	SW	5100	SW
X-4000 Lab Hoods	15	0.5	0	Ambient	5270	SW	5270	SW
X-6000 Lab Hoods	15	0.5	0	Ambient	5970	SW	5970	SW
X-7000 Lab Hoods	15	0.5	0	Ambient	5290	WSW	5290	WSW
X-2026	22.9	1.05	10.91	Ambient	4820	SW	4820	SW
X-2099	3.66	0.178	21.9	Ambient	4810	SW	4810	SW
X-3018	61	4.11	0.17	Ambient	NA ^a		NA ^a	
X-3020	61	1.22	15.45	Ambient	5000	SW	5000	SW
X-3026 D Pad	2.438	0.203	29.11	Ambient	4990	SW	4990	SW
X-3039	76.2	2.44	11.09	Ambient	5070	SW	5070	SW
X-3102	2.438	0.203	29.11	Ambient	5200	SW	5200	SW
X-3503	2.438	0.203	29.11	Ambient	5000	SW	5000	SW
X-3508	2.438	0.203	29.11	Ambient	4990	SW	4990	SW
X-3544	9.53	0.279	22.01	Ambient	4810	SW	4810	SW
X-3608 Air Stripper	10.97	2.44	0.57	Ambient	4930	SW	4930	SW
X-3608 Filter Press	8.99	0.36	9.27	Ambient	NA ^a		NA ^a	
X-5505M	11	0.305	1.84	Ambient	NA ^a		NA ^a	
X-5505NS	11	0.96	0	Ambient	5550	SW	5550	SW
X-7503	30.5	0.91	11.66	Ambient	5330	SW	5330	SW
X-7830 Group	4.6	0.248	9.24	Ambient	3920	WSW	3920	WSW
X-7856-CIP	18.29	0.483	12.01	Ambient	3970	WSW	3970	WSW
X-7877	13.9	0.406	13.56	Ambient	3890	WSW	3890	WSW
X-7880	27.7	1.52	14.05	Ambient	3970	WSW	3970	WSW
X-7911	76.2	1.52	13.62	Ambient	5240	WSW	5240	WSW
7935 Building Stack	18.29	0.6096	0	Ambient	NA ^a		NA ^a	
7935 Glove Box	9.14	0.254	0	Ambient	NA ^a		NA ^a	
X-7966	6.096	0.292	10.9	Ambient	5330	SW	5330	SW
X-8915	24.38	1.219	6.81	Ambient	8070	SW	8070	SW
X-Decon Areas	15	0.5	0	Ambient	5310	SW	5310	SW
X-STP	7.6	0.203	10.21	Ambient	4590	SW	4590	SW
X-413 Tank W-1A	1.68	0.867	14.38	Ambient	NA ^a		NA ^a	
<i>East Tennessee Technology Park</i>								
K-1200 South Bay	28	0.81	13.7	Ambient	750	NW	5050	SE

Table 7.1. (continued)

Source ID	Stack height (m)	Stack diameter (m)	Effective exit gas velocity (m/s)	Exit gas temperature (°C)	Distance (m) and direction to the maximally exposed individual ^a			
					Plant maximum		Oak Ridge Reservation maximum	
K-1407-U CNF	7.16	1.22	0.625	Ambient	450	WSW	5700	SSE
K-1407-AL CWTS	2.74	0.15	0	Ambient	460	WSW	5710	SSE
K-2500-H-A	8.23	0.61	12.9	Ambient	540	SE	6330	SE
K-2500-H-B	8.23	0.61	12.9	Ambient	550	SE	6350	SE
K-2500-H-C	8.23	0.61	12.9	Ambient	540	SE	6330	SE
K-2500-H-D	8.23	0.91	12.9	Ambient	550	SE	6340	SE
K-2527-BR	2.0	0.3	0	Ambient	540	ESE	6280	SE
Y-12 National Security Complex								
Y-Monitored	20	0.5	0	Ambient	2270	NE	13340	SW
Y-Unmonitored Processes	20	0.5	0	Ambient	2270	NE	13340	SW
Y-Unmonitored Lab Hoods	20	0.5	0	Ambient	2270	NE	13340	SW

^aNA: Effective doses were calculated to be zero; therefore, distance and direction to maximally exposed individuals could not be determined.

Table 7.2. Meteorological towers and heights used to model atmospheric dispersion from source emissions

Tower	Height (m)	Source
Y-12 National Security Complex		
MT6 (West Y-12)	30 ^a	All Y-12 sources
	60	Spallation Neutron Source (ORNL)
East Tennessee Technology Park		
MT7 (K1209)	10	K-1407-U, K-1407-AL CWTS, K-2500-H A, B, C, D, and K-2527-BR
	30	K-1200 South Bay
Oak Ridge National Laboratory		
MT4 (Tow A)	10	X-7830, X7877, X-7966, X-7935 Glove Box
	30	X-7503, X-7856-CIP, X-7880, X-7911, X-7935, and X-7000 Lab Hoods
MT3 (Tow B)	15	X-Decon Hoods, X-3000, X-4000, and X-6000 Lab Hoods, X-5505
MT2 (Tow C)	10	X-2099, X-3026 D, X-3038, X-3102, X-3503, X-3508, X-3544, X-3608 FP, X-3608 AS, STP, Tank W-1A
	30	X-2026, X-1000 and X-2000 Lab Hoods
	100	X-3018, X-3020, and X-3039

^aWind speeds adjusted to match conditions at a height of 30 m.

7.1.2.2.1 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

7-4 Dose

ORR was located about 13,340 m southwest of the main Y-12 Complex release point, about 5,240 m west-southwest of the 7911 stack at ORNL, and about 5,700 m south-southeast of the K-1407-U CNF at ETTP. This individual could have received an ED of about 0.3 mrem, which is well below the NESHAP standard of 10 mrem, and is about 0.1% 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 23 person-rem, which is about 0.006% 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, 2012

Plant	Effective dose, mrem (mSv)	
	At plant max	At Oak Ridge Reservation max
Oak Ridge National Laboratory	0.3 (0.003) ^a	0.3 (0.003)
East Tennessee Technology Park	0.01 (0.0001) ^b	3E-4 (3E-6)
Y-12 National Security Complex	0.1 (0.001) ^c	0.01 (0.0001)
Entire Oak Ridge Reservation	<i>d</i>	0.3 (0.003) ^e

^aThe maximally exposed individual was located 5070 m SW of X-3039 and 5240 m WSW of X-7911.

^bThe maximally exposed individual was located 1770 m W of K-1407-U CNF.

^cThe maximally exposed individual is located 2270 m NE of the Y-12 National Security Complex release point.

^dNot applicable.

^eThe maximally exposed individual for the entire ORR is the ORNL maximally exposed individual.

Table 7.4. Calculated collective effective doses from airborne releases, 2012

Plant	Collective effective dose ^a	
	Person-rem	Person-Sv
Oak Ridge National Laboratory	21.8	0.218
East Tennessee Technology Park	0.022	2.2E-4
Y-12 National Security Complex	1.4	0.014
Entire Oak Ridge Reservation	23.2	0.23

^aCollective effective dose to the 1,172,530 persons residing within 80 km (50 miles) of ORR (based on 2010 census data).

The maximally exposed individual for the Y-12 Complex was located at a residence about 2270 m northeast of the main Y-12 Complex release point. This individual could have received an ED of about 0.1 mrem from Y-12 emissions. Inhalation and ingestion of uranium radioisotopes (i.e., ²³³U, ²³⁴U, ²³⁵U, ²³⁶U, and ²³⁸U) accounted for about 82% and tritium (³H) accounted for about 18% of the dose. The contribution of Y-12 Complex emissions to the 50-year committed collective ED to the population residing within 80 km (50 miles) of ORR was calculated to be about 1.4 person-rem, which is about 6% of the collective ED for ORR.

The maximally exposed individual for ORNL was located at a residence about 5,070 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 0.3 mrem from ORNL emissions. Radionuclides contributing 5% or more to the dose include ¹¹C (31%), ²¹²Pb (24%), ²³²Th (19%), ¹³⁸Cs (6%), and ³H (5%). 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 21.8 person-rem, about 94% of the collective ED for ORR.

The maximally exposed individual for the ETTP was located at a business about 450 m (1,476 ft) west southwest of the K-1407-U CNF. The ED received by this individual was calculated to be about 0.1 mrem. About 85% of the dose is from uranium radioisotopes (^{234}U , ^{235}U , ^{236}U , and ^{238}U), 11% of the dose is from ^{99}Tc , and 4% of dose from plutonium isotopes (^{238}Pu , ^{239}Pu , and ^{240}Pu). 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 0.02 person-rem, or about 0.09% of the collective ED for the reservation.

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 0.0009 and 0.05 mrem/year. Based on calculated air concentrations, the above individuals could have received EDs between 0.06 and 0.3 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, 2012

Station	Calculated effective doses			
	Using air monitor data		Using CAP-88 ^a and emission data	
	mrem/year	mSv/year	mrem/year	mSv/year
35	0.04	0.0004	0.1	0.001
37	0.02	0.0002	0.1	0.001
38	0.02	0.0002	0.06	0.0006
39	0.009	0.00009	0.3	0.003
40	0.05	0.0005	0.2	0.002
42	0.0009	0.000009	0.07	0.0007
46	0.05	0.0005	0.2	0.002
48	0.03	0.0003	0.3	0.003
52	0.003	0.00003	<i>b</i>	<i>b</i>
K2	0.002	0.00002	0.07	0.0007
K6	0.003	0.00003	0.05	0.0005
K11	0.04	0.0004	0.07	0.0007

^aCAP-88PC Version 3 software, developed under EPA sponsorship to demonstrate compliance with 40 CFR 61, Subpart H.

^bEffective dose was not calculated using CAP-88 and emission data at the given ambient air monitoring location.

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 0.003 mrem/year (the isotopes ^7Be and ^{40}K also were not included in the background air monitoring station calculation.) 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 0.05 mrem/year, which is less than the ED of 0.2 mrem/year estimated using CAP88PC 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 0.009 mrem/year, which was considerably less than the 0.3 mrem/year calculated using CAP-88PC Version 3 and emissions data. The K-11 Air Monitoring Station is located near the ETTP maximally exposed individual (at a business); the ED calculated using measured air concentrations was about 0.04 mrem/year, which is somewhat lower than the ETTP maximally exposed individual annual dose of 0.07 mrem estimated using CAP-88PC Version 3 and emissions data.

7.1.2.3 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 the Y-12 Complex 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 the 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 and 6.6). 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 will not be considered or will 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. The EDs estimated by both methods, in each of the surface water segments, are provided in Appendix E.

7.1.2.3.1 Drinking Water

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 Anderson, Knox, Loudon, and Roane county population, the drinking water consumption rate for the maximally exposed individual is 930 L/year and the drinking water consumption

rate for the average person is 330 L/year. The average drinking water consumption rate is used to estimate the collective ED. At all locations in 2012, 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], there would be no estimated dose to a hypothetical maximally exposed person drinking such water. The collective ED to the 41,495 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 1×10^{-7} mrem; the collective dose to the 60,688 persons who drink water from this plant could have been 3×10^{-6} person-rem.

Upper Clinch River. The ETTP (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 [465 L (123 gal)] intake at work. Such a worker could have received an ED of about 0.08 mrem; the collective dose to the 1,318 workers who drink water from this plant could have been about 4×10^{-2} 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 0.02 mrem; the collective dose to the 25,552 persons who drink water from these plants could have been about 0.2 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 0.02 mrem calculated for drinking Kingston and Rockwood water. The dilution from Upper Watts Bar Lake to the Lower system is considered to be negligible. The collective dose to the 295,630 persons who drink water within the lower system could have been about 1.3 person-rem.

Poplar Creek/Lower East Fork Poplar Creek. No drinking water intakes are located on Poplar Creek or lower EFPC.

7.1.2.3.2 Groundwater

Since 2004, sentinel and off-site groundwater monitoring wells have been sampled. Analyses of the samples periodically have detected radionuclides, VOCs, metals, and anions in samples from different monitoring locations (DOE 2013). In 2012, detected radionuclide concentrations were observed at 8 out of 11 off-site wells. As for surface water drinking water, groundwater doses were calculated using a drinking water consumption rate of 930 L/year. Persons drinking water from the sentinel groundwater wells could have estimated doses ranging between 1 mrem and 6 mrem. For the off-site residential groundwater wells, the estimated doses ranged between 0.05 mrem and 4 mrem. The detected radionuclides are part of the uranium and thorium series and may be attributed to natural groundwater constituents. Currently no water is consumed from these groundwater wells.

7.1.2.3.3 Eating Fish

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 Anderson, Knox, Loudon, and Roane county population, it was assumed that avid fish consumers would have eaten 27 kg (60 lb) of fish during 2012. For the average person, who is used for collective dose calculations, it was assumed that 7 kg (15 lb) of fish was consumed in 2012. 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 2011 Melton Hill, Watts Bar, and Chickamauga creel surveys 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 0.04 mrem. The collective ED to the 63 persons who could have eaten such fish was about 6×10^{-4} mrem.

Melton Hill Lake. An avid fish consumer who ate fish from Melton Hill Lake could have received an ED of about 2×10^{-7} mrem. The collective ED to the 564 persons who could have eaten such fish could be about 3×10^{-8} person-rem.

Upper Clinch River. An avid fish consumer who ate fish from the upper Clinch River could have received an ED of about 0.05 mrem. The collective ED to the 372 persons who could have eaten such fish could have been about 0.005 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 0.08 mrem. The collective ED to the 868 persons who could have eaten such fish could have been about 0.02 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 0.004 mrem. The collective ED to the 2,481 persons who could have eaten such fish could be about 0.003 person-rem.

Lower System. An avid fish consumer who ate fish from the lower system could have received an ED of about 0.004 mrem. The collective ED to the 31,113 persons who could have eaten such fish could have been about 0.03 person-rem. The dilution from upper Watts Bar Lake to the lower system is considered to be negligible.

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 0.2 mrem. Assuming that 100 people could have eaten fish from lower EFPC and 100 from Poplar Creek, the collective ED could have been about 0.006 person-rem.

7.1.2.3.4 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 the LADTAP XL code (Hamby 1991) were used to estimate potential EDs from these activities. At all locations in 2012, the estimated maximally exposed individual EDs were based on measured off-site surface water radionuclide concentrations and exclude naturally occurring radionuclides such as ^{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) would have no estimated dose. The collective ED to the 10,412 other users would also not have an estimated dose.

Melton Hill Lake. An individual other user of Melton Hill Lake could have received an ED of about 2×10^{-4} mrem. The collective ED to the 24,294 other users could have been about 1×10^{-3} person-rem.

Upper Clinch River. An individual other user of the upper Clinch River could have received an ED of about 1×10^{-3} mrem. The collective ED to the 3,075 other users could have been about 1×10^{-3} person-rem.

Lower Clinch River. An individual other user of the lower Clinch River could have received an ED of about 1×10^{-3} mrem. The collective ED to the 7,175 other users could have been about 3×10^{-3} person-rem.

Upper Watts Bar Lake. An individual other user of upper Watts Bar Lake could have received an ED of about 5×10^{-4} mrem. The collective ED to the 20,509 other users could have been about 3×10^{-3} person-rem.

Lower system. An individual other user of the lower system could have received an ED of about 4×10^{-4} mrem. The dilution from Upper Watts Bar Lake to the Lower system is considered to be negligible. The collective ED to the 397,044 other users could have been about 3×10^{-2} 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 0.002 mrem. The collective ED to the 200 other users of Poplar Creek and Lower East Fork Poplar Creek could have been about 8×10^{-5} person-rem.

7.1.2.3.5 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 0.2 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-mile) population could be as high as 2 person-rem. These are small percentages of individual and collective doses attributable to natural background radiation, about 0.07% of the average individual background dose of roughly 300 mrem/year and 0.0006% of the 363,484 person-rem that this population received from natural sources of radiation.

Table 7.6. Summary of annual maximum individual (mrem) and collective (person-rem) effective doses (EDs) from waterborne radionuclides, 2012^{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	0.04	0	0.04
Collective ED	0	0.0006	0	0.0004
Melton Hill Lake (CRK 58, Knox County Water Plant)				
Individual ED	0.0000001	0.0000002	0.0002	0.0002
Collective ED	0.000003	0.00000003	0.001	0.001
Upper Clinch River (CRK 23, Gallaher Water Plant, CRK 32)				
Individual ED	0.08	0.05	0.001	0.1
Collective ED	0.04	0.005	0.001	0.04
Lower Clinch River (CRK 16)				
Individual ED	NA ^d	0.08	0.001	0.08
Collective ED	NA ^d	0.02	0.003	0.01
Upper Watts Bar Lake, Kingston Municipal Water Plant				
Individual ED	0.02	0.004	0.0005	0.02
Collective ED	0.2	0.003	0.003	0.2
Lower system (Lower Watts Bar Lake and Chickamauga Lake)				
Individual ED	0.02	0.004	0.0004	0.02
Collective ED	1.3	0.02	0.03	1.3

Table 7.6. (continued)

	Drinking water	Eating fish	Other uses	Total ^c
Lower East Fork Poplar Creek and Poplar Creek				
Individual ED	NA ^d	0.2	0.002	0.2
Collective ED	NA ^d	0.006	0.00008	0.003

^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 due to rounding.

^dNot at or near drinking water supply locations.

Abbreviation

CRK = Clinch River kilometer

7.1.2.4 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.

7.1.2.4.1 Milk

During 2012, 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 Anderson, Knox, Loudon, and Roane county population) who drank milk was assumed to have consume annually 131 L of milk. Significant concentrations of ⁴⁰K were detected in all samples, and radioactive strontium was detected in all but two samples from the nearby dairy and the composite of several reference locations. Tritium was also detected once in samples from both the nearby dairy and compost of several reference locations. Potential EDs attributable to ⁴⁰K at both “locations” were about 5 mrem/year. The doses due to strontium and tritium at the nearby dairy and the composite reference locations were estimated to be about 0.03 mrem, respectively.

7.1.2.4.2 Food Crops

The food-crop sampling program is described in Section 6.5. 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 found 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 Anderson, Knox, Loudon, and Roane county population) was assumed to have eaten 26 kg (57 lb) of homegrown tomatoes, 7 kg (15 lb) of homegrown lettuce, and 27 kg (60 lb) of homegrown turnips. The hypothetical gardener could have received a 50-year committed ED of between 0 and 0.02 mrem, depending on garden location. Of this total, between 0 and 0.02 mrem could have come from eating tomatoes, between 0 and 0.007 mrem from eating lettuce, and between 0 and 0.008 mrem from eating turnips. The highest dose to a gardener could have been about 0.02 mrem from consuming all three types of homegrown vegetables. A person eating food from the distant (background) garden could have received a committed ED of essentially 0 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 4 mrem to the hypothetical home gardener's ED. In 2012, each gardener was asked about water sources and fertilizers used. Four gardeners used commercial fertilizers and about four used either well or community water sources. 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.

7.1.2.4.3 White-Tailed Deer

TWRA conducted two 2-day deer hunts during 2012 on the Oak Ridge Wildlife Management Area, which is part of ORR (see Section 6.7). During the hunts, 256 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). One deer exceeded the limit for beta-particle activity in bone and was retained. The remaining 255 deer were released to the hunters.

The average ^{137}Cs concentration in tissue of the 255 released deer, as determined by field counting, was 0.59 pCi/g; the maximum ^{137}Cs concentration in a released deer was 0.92 pCi/g. Many of the ^{137}Cs concentrations were less than minimum detectable levels. Of the released deer, the average weight was about 41 kg (91 lb) and the maximum weight was 78 kg (171 lb). The EDs attributed to field-measured ^{137}Cs concentrations and actual field weights of the released deer ranged from about 0 to 1.6 mrem, with an average of 0.7 mrem.

Also evaluated were potential doses attributed to deer that might have moved off ORR and been harvested elsewhere. In this scenario, an individual who consumed one hypothetical average-weight (41kg/91 lb) deer (assuming 55% field weight is edible meat) containing the 2012 average field-measured concentration of ^{137}Cs (0.6 pCi/g) could have received an ED of about 0.7 mrem. The maximum field-measured ^{137}Cs concentration was 0.92 pCi/g, and the maximum deer weight was 78 kg (171 lb). A hunter who consumed a hypothetical deer of maximum weight and ^{137}Cs content could have received an ED of about 2 mrem.

Tissue samples collected in 2012 from 13 deer (12 released and 1 retained) were subjected to laboratory analysis. Requested radioisotopic analyses included ^{137}Cs , ^{90}Sr , and ^{40}K radionuclides. Comparison of the field results to analytical ^{137}Cs concentrations found that the field concentrations were all but in one case 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 13 deer (both retained and released) ranged between 0.03 and 0.9 mrem. When present at MDA, the primary contributor to dose was ^{90}Sr ; however, most results were as less than detection.

The maximum ED to an individual consuming venison from two deer was also evaluated. About 25 hunters harvested two deer 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 0.5 to 2 mrem.

The collective ED from eating all the harvested venison from ORR with a 2012 average field-derived ^{137}Cs concentration of 0.6 pCi/g and an average weight of 41 kg (91 lb) is estimated to be about 0.2 person-rem.

7.1.2.4.4 Canada Geese

During the 2012 goose roundup, 39 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 0.22 pCi/g, with a maximum ^{137}Cs concentration in the released geese of 0.41 pCi/g. Most of the ^{137}Cs concentrations were below MDA levels. The average weight of the geese screened during the roundup was about 3.6 kg (8.0 lb), and the maximum weight was about 5.0 kg (11.0 lb).

The EDs attributed to field-measured ^{137}Cs concentrations and actual field weights of the geese ranged from 0 to 0.04 mrem. However, for bounding purposes, if a person consumed a released goose with an average weight of 3.6 kg (8.0 lb) and an average ^{137}Cs concentration of 0.22 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 0.41 pCi/g and the maximum weight of 5.0 kg (11.0 lb) was about 0.05 mrem.

It is possible that a person could eat more than one goose that spent time on ORR. Most hunters harvest on average one to two geese per hunting season (USFWS 1995). 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 transuranics (^{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. Three wild turkey hunts were held on the reservation in 2012: April 14–15, April 21–22, and November 10–11. Three of the turkeys were harvested during the fall deer hunt (November 10–11), when TWRA allows hunters to take one turkey (either sex) with archery equipment. Fifty-two birds were harvested, and none were retained. The average ^{137}Cs concentration measured in the released turkeys was 0.11 pCi/g, and the maximum ^{137}Cs concentration was 0.23 pCi/g. The average weight of the turkeys released was about 8.0 kg (17.4 lb). The maximum turkey weight was about 10.0 kg (22.1 lb).

The EDs attributed to the field-measured ^{137}Cs concentrations and the actual field weights of the released turkeys ranged from about 0.008 to 0.03 mrem with an average dose of 0.02 mrem. Potential doses were also evaluated for turkeys that might have moved off ORR and been harvested elsewhere. In this scenario, if a person consumed a wild turkey with an average weight of 8.0 kg (17.4 lb) and an average ^{137}Cs concentration of 0.11 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 0.23 pCi/g and the maximum weight of 10.0 kg (22.1 lb) was about 0.06 mrem. It is assumed that approximately half the weight of a wild turkey is edible. No tissue samples were analyzed in 2012.

The collective ED from consuming all the harvested wild turkey meat (52 birds) with an average field-derived ^{137}Cs concentration of 0.11 pCi/g and average weight of 8.0 kg (17.4 lb) is estimated to be about 0.001 person-rem.

An evaluation 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 transuranics (^{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).

7.1.2.4.5 Direct Radiation

External exposure rates due to 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. Exposure rates measured at five PAM stations around ORR during 2012 averaged about 8.3 $\mu\text{R}/\text{h}$ and ranged from 6.5 to 11.5 $\mu\text{R}/\text{h}$. These exposure rates correspond to an average ED rate of about 52 mrem/year and a range of 42 to 58 mrem/year. At the remote PAM station, the exposure rate averaged 6.9 $\mu\text{R}/\text{h}$ (about 43 mrem/year) and ranged from 6.5 to 7.3 $\mu\text{R}/\text{h}$ (41 to 46 mrem/year). 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 2012, that person could have received a total ED of about 3 mrem. Of that total, 0.3 mrem would have come from airborne emissions and 0.2 mrem from waterborne emissions (0.02 mrem from drinking water, 0.2 mrem from consuming fish, and 0.001 mrem from other water uses along the upper Clinch River), and no appreciable dose above background from external radiation.

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 0.5 mrem.

Table 7.7. Summary of maximum potential 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		
Airborne effluents:							
All pathways	0.3	0.003	0.3	23.2	0.23	1,172,530 ^b	
Liquid effluents:							
Drinking water	0.02	0.0002	0.02	1.5	0.015	424,683 ^c	
Eating fish	0.2	0.002	0.2	0.03	0.0003	35,661 ^d	
Other activities	0.001	0.00001	0.001	0.04	0.0004	462,709 ^d	
Eating deer	2 ^e	0.02	2	0.2	0.002	255	
Eating geese	0.1 ^f	0.001	0.1	^g	^g		
Eating turkey	0.06 ^h	0.0006	0.06	0.001	0.00001	52	
Direct radiation	NA ⁱ	NA					
All pathways	3	0.003	3	25	25	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 in 2012; 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.

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 2012 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.5.6 through E.5.12 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 25 person-rem. This dose is about 0.007% of the 363,484 person-rem that this population received from natural sources during 2012.

7.1.4 Five-Year Trends

EDs associated with selected exposure pathways for the years 2008 to 2012 are given in Table 7.8. In 2012, a decrease in the dose from fish consumption was observed as compared to earlier years. Recent measurements along the Clinch River indicate doses near background levels. 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	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Air pathway (all routes)	0.4	0.3	0.4	0.3	0.3
Surface water pathway					
Fish consumption (Clinch River)	0.6	1.2	0.3	0.3	0.08
Drinking water (Kingston)	0.05	0.03	0.03	0.02	0.02
Direct radiation pathway					
Clinch River	0.4 ^b	0.4 ^b	NA ^b	NA ^b	NA ^b
Wildlife					
Deer	2	3	2	2	2
Geese	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.1
Turkey	0.04	0.04	0.05	0.1	0.06

^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 2012, 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 NESHAP regulations and the terms of their operating licenses. Eight facilities responded to the DOE request. Four facilities, which used the COMPLY screening tool for evaluating radiation exposure from atmospheric releases of radionuclides, reported annual doses from airborne emissions of 4.9×10^{-4} mrem, 0.66 mrem, 2.2 mrem, and <10 mrem (level 1), respectively. Non-DOE facility doses from either water discharges or external radiation ranged from zero emissions, sewer discharges less than the sum of ratios, an annual dose rate of 1.4 mrem from direct radiation exposure measurements outside a facility, to an annual dose of 51 mrem based on area monitors location within one of the facilities. Therefore, 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 six different instream sampling locations.

- Melton Branch (MEK 0.2)
- WOC (WCKs 1.0 and 2.6)
- First Creek
- Fifth Creek
- Northwest Tributary

All locations, except WCK 1.0 and WCK 2.6, passed the initial screening phase (comparison of maximum radionuclide water concentrations to default BCGs). WCK 1.0 (WOC at the dam) passed, when comparing average radionuclide water concentrations to default BCGs. For WCK 2.6, average concentrations were used, and the default bioaccumulation factors for both ^{137}Cs and ^{90}Sr were adjusted to reflect on-site bioaccumulation of these radionuclides in fish. Riparian organisms are the limiting receptor for both ^{137}Cs and ^{90}Sr in surface water; however, the best available bioaccumulation data for WOC are for fish. Because fish are consumed by riparian organisms (e.g., raccoons), adjustment of the fish bioaccumulation factor modified the bioaccumulation of both ^{90}Sr and ^{137}Cs in riparian organisms. This resulted in absorbed dose rates to aquatic organisms below the DOE aquatic dose limit of 1 rad/day at all six sampling locations.

At the Y-12 Complex, 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 (BCK) 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 Complex 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 MIK 1.4 (upstream location)
- Poplar Creek at K-716 (downstream)

- K1007-B and K-1710 (upstream location)
- K-700 Slough and K901-A (downstream of ETP 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 450.1, 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. Soil sampling for terrestrial dose assessment was initiated in 2007. 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. 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

With the exception of samples collected on the WOC floodplain (collected on the confluence of Melton Branch and WOC and collected on the WOC floodplain upstream from White Oak Dam), 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. Radiological risk to wildlife associated with ¹³⁷Cs on the WOC floodplain is known and will be addressed in future CERCLA records of decisions.

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 since 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. In addition, biota samples were collected at a background location (Gum Hollow). The maximum radionuclide tissue concentrations and maximum soil radionuclide concentrations for each sample location were used to estimate the terrestrial dose. The tissue concentrations were used to estimate the internal dose. To evaluate the external dose, the soil concentrations previously collected were also included in the dose assessment. The external dose was the primary contributor to the total dose. For WOC, ¹³⁷Cs was the major contributor to the total dose (0.023 rad/day) with ⁹⁰Sr and ⁴⁰K as secondary contributors (7.0×10^{-4} and 5.97×10^{-4} rad/day, respectively). For Melton Branch, ¹³⁷Cs was the major contributor to dose (0.009 rad/day) with ⁹⁰Sr and ⁴⁰K as secondary contributors (8.2×10^{-4} and 7.8×10^{-4} rad/day, respectively). For the background location, Gum Hollow, ⁴⁰K was the major contributor to dose (7.4×10^{-4} rad/day) with ²³⁸U as the secondary dose contributor (3.5×10^{-4} rad/day). Based on measured concentrations in soil and tissue, the absorbed doses to the mice and voles analyzed along the confluence of Melton Branch and WOC and in the floodplain upstream of White Oak Lake were less than 0.1 rad/day.

Based on the low level exposure rates found in the terrestrial organisms during the 2009 sampling, the sampling period has been changed from annual to periodic. 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

7.2.1.1 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 Anderson, Knox, Loudon, and Roane county population, it was assumed that the drinking water consumption rate for the maximally exposed individual is 930 L/year (246 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, 2012

Chemical	Hazard quotient	
	CRK 23 ^a	CRK 16 ^b
Arsenic	0.08	0.07
Barium	0.006	0.006
Boron	0.005	0.006
Chromium		0.01
Lead	0.04	0.04
Manganese	0.01	0.009
Mercury	0.0001	0.0005
Nickel	0.003	0.003
Selenium	0.003	
Uranium	0.003	0.004
Vanadium	0.006	0.005
Risk for carcinogens		
Arsenic	4×10^{-5}	1×10^{-5}

^aClinch River near the water intake for ETTP.

^bClinch River downstream of all US Department of Energy inputs.

Abbreviations

CRK = Clinch River kilometer

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 Anderson, Knox, Loudon, and Roane county population, it was assumed that avid fish consumers would have eaten 27 kg (60 lb) of fish during 2012. 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 is a PCB, also referred to as PCB-1260). An HQ greater than 1 for Aroclor-1260 was estimated in sunfish and catfish at all three locations (CRKs 16, 32, and 70). It is not known why the Aroclor-1260 concentration in the CRK 70 fish composite sample was greater than observed in previous years.

For carcinogens, risk values at or greater than 10^{-5} were calculated for the intake of Aroclor-1260 found 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 2009). Overall, the risk values were approximately within the same order of magnitude as those estimated in 2011.

Table 7.10. Chemical hazard quotients and estimated risks for carcinogens in fish, 2012^a

Carcinogen	Sunfish			Catfish		
	CRK 70 ^b	CRK 32 ^c	CRK 16 ^d	CRK 70 ^b	CRK 32 ^c	CRK 16 ^d
<i>Hazard quotient for metals</i>						
Antimony	0.2	<0.2	0.3	0.4	0.2	0.2
Barium	0.004	0.004	0.003	0.0001	0.0001	<0.00002
Chromium	0.06	0.05	0.03	0.02	0.02	0.03
Copper	0.006	0.007	0.005	0.01	0.008	0.007
Lead	0.4	0.2		<0.2	2	
Manganese	0.04	0.04	0.03	0.002	0.002	0.002
Mercury	0.1	0.1	0.8	0.2	0.2	0.4
Nickel	<0.001	<0.01	<0.001	0.002	0.005	0.007
Selenium	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
Strontium	0.009	0.01	0.004	0.00005	0.0002	0.00004
Thallium	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.06	0.07	0.06
Uranium	0.0003	0.0002	0.0007	<0.0002	<0.0002	<0.0002
Vanadium	0.002		0.003	<0.001		<0.001
Zinc	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.03	0.02	0.02
<i>Hazard quotient for pesticides and Aroclors</i>						
Aroclor-1260	2	1	4	21	5	3
<i>Risks for carcinogens</i>						
Aroclor-1260	4E-5	2E-5	6E-5	4E-4	8E-5	6E-5
PCBs (mixed) ^e	4E-5	2E-5	6E-5	4E-4	8E-5	6E-5

Table 7.10. (continued)

^aThe symbol “<” indicates that the value for a parameter was not quantifiable at the analytical detection limit, and a blank space 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.

Abbreviation

CRK = Clinch River kilometer

7.3 References

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Appendix A. Glossary

Appendix A. Glossary

absorption, atomic—The process by which the number and energy of particles or photons entering a body of matter is reduced by interaction with the matter.

accuracy—The closeness of the result of a measurement to the true value of the quantity.

ACM—Asbestos-containing materials.

aliquot—The quantity of sample being used for analysis.

alkalinity—A measure of the buffering capacity of water, and because pH has a direct effect on organisms as well as an indirect effect on the toxicity of certain other pollutants in the water, the buffering capacity is important to water quality.

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.

anthropogenic—Any effect caused by humans.

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.

ash—Inorganic residue remaining after ignition of combustible substances.

assimilate—To take up or absorb into the body.

atom—The smallest particle of an element capable of entering into a chemical reaction.

atomic absorption spectrometry (AA)—Chemical analysis performed by vaporizing a sample and measuring the absorbance of light by the vapor.

Atomic Energy Commission (AEC)—A federal agency created in 1946 to manage the development, use, and control of nuclear energy for military and civilian applications. It was abolished by the Energy Reorganization Act of 1974 and was succeeded by the Energy Research and Development Administration (now part of the Department of Energy and the Nuclear Regulatory Commission).

base flow—The base flow of a spring or stream represents the normal day-to-day discharge of the spring or stream and is the result of groundwater seeping into the spring/stream.

base/neutral and acid extractables (BNA)—A group of organic compounds analyzed as part of Appendix IX of 40 CFR 264 and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) list of priority pollutants.

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. 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.

carcinogen—A cancer-causing substance.

cation—A positively charged ion.

CERCLA-reportable release—A release to the environment that exceeds reportable quantities as defined by the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA).

chain-of-custody—A form that documents sample collection, transport, analysis, and disposal.

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.

chlorocarbons—Compounds of carbon and chlorine, or carbon, hydrogen, and chlorine, such as carbon tetrachloride, chloroform, and tetrachloroethene. They are among the most significant and widespread environmental contaminants. Classified as hazardous wastes, chlorocarbons may have a tendency to cause detrimental effects, such as birth defects.

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.

DAPC—Division of Air Pollution Control (state of Tennessee).

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 Order 5400.5.

desorption—The process of removing a sorbed substance by the reverse of adsorption or absorption.

dilution factor—The mathematical factor by which a sample is diluted to bring the concentration of an analyte in a sample within the analytical range of a detector (e.g., 1 mL sample + 9 mL solvent = 1:10 dilution, or a dilution factor of 10).

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 desirable indicator of satisfactory water quality in terms of low residuals of biologically available organic materials. Dissolved oxygen prevents the chemical reduction and subsequent leaching of iron and manganese from sediments.

dose—The energy imparted to matter by ionizing radiation. The unit of absorbed dose is the rad, equal to 0.01 joules per kilogram in any medium.

absorbed dose—The quantity of radiation energy absorbed by an organ, divided by the organ's mass. Absorbed dose is expressed in units of rad (or gray) (1 rad = 0.01 Gy).

dose equivalent—The product of the absorbed dose (rad) in tissue and a quality factor. Dose equivalent is expressed in units of rem (or sievert) (1 rem = 0.01 sievert).

committed dose equivalent—The calculated total dose equivalent to a tissue or organ over a 50-year period after known intake of a radionuclide into the body. Contributions from external dose are not included. Committed dose equivalent is expressed in units of rem (or sievert).

committed effective dose equivalent—The sum of the committed dose equivalents to various tissues in the body, each multiplied by the appropriate weighting factor. Committed effective dose equivalent is expressed in units of rem (or sievert).

effective dose equivalent—The sum of the dose equivalents received by all organs or tissues of the body after each one has been multiplied by an appropriate weighting factor. The effective dose equivalent includes the committed effective dose equivalent from internal deposition of radionuclides and the effective dose equivalent attributable to sources external to the body.

collective dose equivalent/collective effective dose equivalent—The sums of the dose equivalents or effective dose equivalents of all individuals in an exposed population within a 50-mile (80-km) radius, and expressed in units of person-rem (or person-sievert). When the collective dose equivalent of interest is for a specific organ, the units would be organ-rem (or organ-sievert). The 50-mile distance is measured from a point located centrally with respect to major facilities or DOE program activities.

dosimeter—A portable detection device for measuring the total accumulated exposure to ionizing radiation.

dosimetry—The theory and application of principles and techniques involved in the measurement and recording of radiation doses. Its practical aspect is concerned with using various types of radiation instruments to make measurements.

downgradient—In the direction of decreasing hydrostatic head.

downgradient well—A well that is installed hydraulically downgradient of a site and may be capable of detecting migration of contaminants from a site.

DRH—Division of Radiological Health (state of Tennessee).

drinking water standard (DWS)—Federal primary drinking water standards, both proposed and final, as set forth by the EPA.

duplicate result—A result derived by taking a portion of a primary sample and performing an analysis on that portion identical to that performed on the primary sample.

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.

Environmental Restoration—A DOE 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.

falling limb—The falling limb is when discharge decreases and a spring or stream level falls. It has a gentler gradient than the rising limb as most overland flow has now been discharged, and it is mainly throughflow that makes up the spring/stream flow.

fecal coliform—The coliform group comprises all of the aerobic, non-spore-forming, rod-shaped bacteria. Testing determines the presence or absence of coliform organisms.

flux—A flow or discharge of a substance (in units of mass, radioactivity, etc.) per unit of time.

formation—A mappable unit of consolidated or unconsolidated geologic material of a characteristic lithology or assemblage of lithologies.

friable asbestos—Asbestos that is brittle or readily crumbled.

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.

genotoxicology—The study of the effects of chemicals or radioactive contaminants on the genetics of individual animals or plants.

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).

groundwater, unconfined—Groundwater exposed to the unsaturated zone.

half-life, biological—The time required for a biological system, such as that of a human, to eliminate by natural processes half the amount of a substance (such as a radioactive material) that has entered it.

half-life, radiological—The time required for half of a given number of atoms of a specific radionuclide to decay. Each nuclide has a unique half-life; half-lives can range in duration from less than a second to many millions of years.

halogenated compound—An organic compound bonded with one of the five halogen elements (astatine, bromine, chlorine, fluorine, or iodine).

halomethane—Any compound that includes a methane group (CH₃) bonded to a halogen element (astatine, bromine, chlorine, fluorine, or iodine).

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.

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heavy water—Water in which the molecules contain oxygen and deuterium, an isotope of hydrogen that is heavier than ordinary hydrogen.

hectare—A metric unit of area equal to 10,000 square meters or 2.47 acres.

herbaceous—Having little or no woody tissue.

hydrogeology—Hydrologic aspects of site geology.

hydrology—The science dealing with the properties, distribution, and circulation of natural water systems.

in situ—In its original place; field measurements taken without removing the sample from its origin; remediation performed while groundwater remains below the surface.

internal dose factor—A factor used to convert intakes of radionuclides to dose equivalents.

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.

ion exchange—Process in which a solution containing soluble ions is passed over a solid ion exchange column that removes the soluble ions by exchanging them with labile ions from the surface of the column. The process is reversible so that the trapped ions are removed (eluted) from the column and the column is regenerated.

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.

laboratory blank—An analyte-free matrix to which all reagents are added in the same volumes or proportions as used in sample processing. The laboratory blank should be carried through the complete sample preparation and analytical procedure. The laboratory blank is used to document contamination resulting from the analytical process.

lower limit of detection (LLD)—The smallest concentration/amount of analyte that can be reliably detected in a sample at a 95% confidence level.

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.

mercury—A silver-white, liquid metal solidifying at -38.9°C to form a tin-white, ductile, malleable mass. It is widely distributed in the environment and biologically is a nonessential or nonbeneficial element. Human poisoning from this highly toxic element has been clinically recognized.

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—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 in order 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.

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.

peak flow—Peak flow discharge occurs when a spring or stream reaches its highest level. The time difference between the peak of the rain event and the peak discharge is known as the basin lag.

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.

piezometer—An instrument used to measure the potentiometric surface of the groundwater. Also, a well designed for this purpose.

precision—The closeness of approach of a value of similar or replicate results to a common value in a series of measurements.

priority pollutants—A group of approximately 130 chemicals (about 110 are organics) that appear on an EPA list because they are toxic and relatively common in industrial discharges.

process sewer—Pipe or drain, generally located underground, used to carry off process water and/or waste matter.

process water—Water used within a system process.

purge—To remove water prior to sampling, generally by pumping or bailing.

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.

quality factor—The factor by which the absorbed dose (rad) is multiplied to obtain a quantity that expresses, on a common scale for all ionizing radiation, the biological damage to exposed persons. It is used because some types of radiation, such as alpha particles, are more biologically damaging than others.

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.

regression analysis—A collection of statistical techniques that serve as a basis for drawing inferences about relationships among quantities in a scientific system.

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. See Environmental Restoration.

RFI Program—RCRA Facility Investigation Program; EPA-regulated investigation of a solid waste management unit with regard to its potential impact on the environment.

RFI/RI Program—RCRA Facility Investigation/Remedial Investigation Program; on the Oak Ridge Reservation (ORR), the expansion of the RFI Program to include CERCLA and hazardous substance regulations.

rising limb—The rising limb of the hydrograph represents the rapid increase resulting from rainfall causing surface runoff and later throughflow.

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.

screened interval—In well construction, the section of a formation that contains the screen, or perforated pipe, that allows water to enter the well.

seepage basin—An excavation that receives wastewater. Insoluble materials settle out on the floor of the basin, and soluble materials seep with the water through the soil column, where they are removed partially by ion exchange with the soil. Construction may include dikes to prevent overflow or surface runoff.

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.

slurry—A suspension of solid particles (sludge) in water.

specific conductance—The ability of water to conduct electricity; this ability varies in proportion to the amount of ionized minerals in the water.

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.

split sample—A sample that has been portioned into two or more containers from a single sample container or sample-mixing container.

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.

strata—Beds, layers, or zones of rocks.

substrate—The substance, base, surface, or medium in which an organism lives and grows.

surface water—All water on the surface of the earth, as distinguished from groundwater.

temperature—The thermal state of a body considered with its ability to communicate heat to other bodies.

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 and consist of inorganic salts, small amounts of organic matter, and dissolved materials.

total organic halogens—A measure of the total concentration of organic compounds that have one or more halogen atoms.

total solids—The sum of total dissolved solids and suspended solids.

total suspended particulates—The concentration of particulates in suspension in the air irrespective of the nature, source, or size of the particulates.

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 waste—Solid radioactive waste containing primarily alpha-emitting elements heavier than uranium.

transuranium elements—Elements with higher atomic weights than uranium; all 13 known transuranic elements are radioactive and are produced artificially.

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.

tritium (^3H)—The hydrogen isotope with one proton and two neutrons in the nucleus. It emits a low-energy beta particle (0.0186 MeV maximum) and has a half-life of 12.5 years.

t-test—Statistical method used to determine whether the means of groups of observations are equal.

turbidity—A measure of the concentration of sediment or suspended particles in solution.

unconsolidated zone—Soil zone located above the water table.

uncontrolled area—Any area to which access is not controlled for the purpose of protecting individuals from exposure to radiation and radioactive materials.

upgradient—In the direction of increasing hydrostatic head.

upper tolerance limit (UTL)—The upper endpoint of an interval that contains a specified fraction of a population with a specified probability (confidence level). Data points or calculated values that fall above a UTL indicate the existence of a statistical difference that is not explained by inherent random variation.

volatile organic compounds—Used in many industrial processes; the levels of these carcinogenic compounds must be kept to a minimum. They are measured by volatile organic content analyses. 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 marshes or swamps, inundated or saturated by surface water or groundwater sufficiently to support hydrophytic vegetation typically 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 (cold air wedging and moisture trapping).

Severe thunderstorms are most frequent during spring 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, 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 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. A strong positive phase of the AMO seems to have been a factor in the well-above-average summer temperatures experienced in Oak Ridge during 2012. All of these patterns collectively modulate regional temperature and precipitation trends in eastern Tennessee (especially the AMO). The AMO shifted from a cold to a warm sea surface temperature phase (mid-1990s) and could continue in its present state for another 10 to 15 years. The PDO entered a cool sea surface temperature phase around 2000. Also, the ENSO pattern has more frequently brought about warmer Eastern Pacific sea surface temperatures during the 1990s, though this effect has declined somewhat during the 2000s. 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, 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. In addition, a warming of minimum temperature has been noted over the last 30 years, this latter effect being presumably related to changes in the interaction of the surface boundary layer with greenhouse gases and/or aerosol concentration changes.

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.

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 flow 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 channelled 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 during 2012 for each of the nine DOE-managed ORR meteorological towers (towers MT1, MT2, MT3, MT4, MT6, MT7, MT9, MT10, and MT11) and the TVA "TVCR" Clinch River tower. These, along with other annual wind rose data may be viewed online at <http://www.ornl.gov/~das/web/page7.cfm>. 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://www.ornl.gov/~das/web/page7.cfm>.

B.3 Temperature and Precipitation

Temperature and precipitation normals (1981–2010) and extremes (1948–2012) 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 (1985–2012) are given in Table B.3.

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 2000s. In general, temperatures in Oak Ridge rose in the 1990s but have leveled off during the 2000s. Based on these average decadal temperatures, temperatures have risen 1.4°C between the decades of the 1970s and the 2000s from 13.8°F 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 , respectively. This significant increase is probably dominated by the effects of the AMO. Also, the Arctic has seen the largest increase in temperatures of anywhere in the Northern Hemisphere over the last 30 years. During the months of January and February, much of the air entering eastern Tennessee comes from the Arctic.

Table B.1. Climate normals (1981–2010) and extremes (1948–2012) for Oak Ridge, Tennessee (townsite), with 2012 comparisons

Monthly variables	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	Annual
Temperature, °C (°F)													
30-Year Average Max	8.1 (46.6)	11.1 (51.9)	16.3 (61.4)	21.4 (70.6)	25.7 (78.3)	29.8 (85.7)	31.3 (88.4)	31.1 (88.0)	27.6 (81.7)	21.7 (71.1)	15.3 (59.6)	9.8 (49.6)	20.8 (69.5)
2012 Average Max	8.3 (46.9)	13.4 (56.1)	22.5 (72.5)	23.2 (73.7)	28.2 (82.6)	31.3 (88.4)	33.2 (91.7)	30.6 (87.0)	27.4 (81.3)	19.8 (67.7)	15.5 (59.9)	12.3 (54.2)	22.1 (71.8)
65-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	-1.7 (28.9)	-0.2 (31.7)	4.1 (39.3)	8.3 (46.9)	12.9 (55.2)	18.1 (64.5)	20.3 (68.6)	19.6 (67.2)	15.4 (59.7)	8.9 (48.0)	3.5 (38.3)	-0.5 (31.1)	9.1 (48.4)
2012 Average Min	3.8 (38.8)	2.2 (35.9)	9.3 (48.7)	9.7 (49.5)	16.1 (60.9)	17.5 (63.5)	21.8 (71.3)	18.8 (65.8)	15.3 (59.5)	8.8 (47.8)	1.1 (34.0)	3.3 (38.0)	10.6 (51.1)
65-Year Record Min	-27 (-17)	-25 (-13)	-17 (1)	-7 (20)	-1 (30)	4 (39)	9 (49)	10 (50)	1 (33)	-6 (21)	-18 (0)	-22 (-7)	-27 (-17)
30-Year Average	3.2 (37.7)	5.4 (41.8)	10.2 (50.4)	14.9 (58.8)	19.3 (66.8)	23.9 (75.1)	25.8 (78.5)	25.3 (77.6)	21.5 (70.7)	15.3 (59.5)	9.4 (48.9)	4.6 (40.3)	14.9 (58.9)
2012 Average	3.1 (37.5)	7.8 (46.0)	15.9 (60.6)	16.4 (61.6)	19.3 (66.7)	24.4 (76.0)	27.5 (81.5)	24.7 (76.4)	21.3 (70.4)	14.3 (57.8)	8.3 (47.0)	7.9 (46.3)	15.9 (60.7)
2012 Dep from Average	-0.1 (-0.2)	2.3 (4.2)	5.7 (10.2)	1.6 (2.8)	-0.1 (-0.1)	0.5 (0.9)	1.7 (3.0)	-0.7 (-1.2)	-0.2 (-0.3)	-0.9 (-1.7)	-1.1 (-1.9)	3.3 (6.0)	1.0 (1.7)
30-year average heating degree days, °C (°F)^a													
	383 (689)	303 (546)	96 (172)	79 (142)	6 (11)	3 (5)	0	0	11 (19)	126 (227)	297 (534)	322 (580)	1625 (2925)
30-year average cooling degree days, °C (°F)^a													
	0	0	24 (44)	26 (46)	127 (229)	189 (341)	289 (520)	200 (360)	104 (188)	6 (10)	0	0	966 (1738)
Precipitation, mm (in.)													
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)
2012 Totals	165.7 (6.52)	95.5 (3.76)	142.0 (5.59)	78.8 (3.1)	72.2 (2.84)	35.6 (1.40)	148.4 (5.84)	73.4 (2.89)	182.2 (7.17)	42.2 (1.66)	29.0 (1.14)	167.2 (6.58)	1232.0 (48.49)
2012 Dep from Average	-14.0 (-0.55)	28.7 (1.13)	40.4 (1.59)	125.8 (4.95)	-54.6 (-2.15)	76.7 (3.02)	-11.9 (-0.47)	-47.0 (-1.85)	163.9 (6.45)	42.4 (1.67)	162.9 (6.41)	-1.5 (-0.06)	+511.7 (+20.14)
65-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)
65-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)
65-Year Min Monthly	23.6 (0.93)	21.3 (0.84)	54.1 (2.13)	22.4 (0.88)	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)
Snowfall, cm (in.)													
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)
2012 Totals	2.5 (0.1)	Trace	Trace	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Trace	2.5 (0.1)
65-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)
65-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)
Days w/temp													
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
2012 Max ≥ 32°C	0	0	0	0	5	13	21	10	4	0	0	0	68
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
2012 Min ≤ 0°C	15	10	3	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	14	8	51
30-Year Max ≤ °C	2.8	0.5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.8	4.1
2012 Max ≤ 0°C	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Days w/precipitation													
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
2012 Days ≥ 0.01 in.	14	11	14	11	11	7	16	11	9	10	6	14	134
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
2012 Days ≥ 1.00 in.	4	0	2	1	1	0	0	0	3	1	0	2	14

Table B.2. Decadal climate change (1970–2009) for Oak Ridge, Tennessee (townsite), with 2012 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)	17.0 (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)
Change (70s vs 00s)	2.2 (5.1)	1.5 (2.6)	1.4 (2.6)	0.0 (0.0)	1.0 (1.7)	1.3 (2.3)	0.8 (1.6)	1.4 (2.5)	0.8 (1.6)	1.0 (1.8)	1.4 (2.4)	-0.2 (-0.3)	1.1 (1.9)
2012 Avg Max	8.3 (46.9)	13.4 (56.1)	22.5 (72.5)	23.2 (73.7)	28.2 (82.6)	31.3 (88.4)	33.2 (91.7)	30.6 (87.0)	27.4 (81.3)	19.8 (67.7)	15.5 (59.9)	12.3 (54.2)	22.1 (71.8)
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)	6.0 (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 (45.3)
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)	9.4 (48.9)
Change (70s vs 00s)	2.0 (3.7)	2.4 (4.4)	1.4 (2.5)	1.9 (3.4)	2.0 (3.6)	2.3 (4.1)	1.7 (3.0)	1.9 (3.4)	0.6 (1.1)	2.0 (3.5)	1.3 (2.2)	0.4 (0.9)	1.7 (3.1)
2012 Avg Min	3.8 (38.8)	2.2 (35.9)	9.3 (48.7)	9.7 (49.5)	16.1 (60.9)	17.5 (63.5)	21.8 (71.3)	18.8 (65.8)	15.3 (59.5)	8.8 (47.8)	1.1 (34.0)	3.3 (38.0)	10.6 (51.1)
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)	9.4 (48.8)	3.1 (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)
Change (70s vs 00s)	2.1 (3.8)	1.9 (3.5)	1.4 (2.5)	1.2 (2.2)	1.6 (2.8)	1.8 (3.3)	1.3 (2.3)	1.8 (3.3)	0.8 (1.4)	1.4 (2.6)	1.3 (2.3)	0.1 (0.2)	1.4 (2.5)
2012 Avg	3.1 (37.5)	7.8 (46.0)	15.9 (60.6)	16.4 (61.6)	19.3 (66.7)	24.4 (76.0)	27.5 (81.5)	24.7 (76.4)	21.3 (70.4)	14.3 (57.8)	8.3 (47.0)	7.9 (46.3)	15.9 (60.7)
<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)	1516.4 (59.68)
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)	1236.2 (48.66)
1990-1999 Avg	141.4 (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)	1429.4 (56.26)
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)	1333.4 (52.48)
Change (70s vs 00s)	-26.5 (-1.04)	27.2 (1.07)	-43.8 (-1.72)	6.7 (0.26)	-32.0 (-1.26)	-25.3 (-1.00)	8.5 (0.33)	-31.4 (-1.24)	1.6 (0.06)	-25.8 (-1.02)	-8.2 (-0.32)	-20.9 (-0.82)	-183.0 (-7.20)
2012 Totals	165.7 (6.52)	95.5 (3.76)	142.0 (5.59)	78.8 (3.10)	72.2 (2.84)	35.6 (1.40)	148.4 (5.84)	73.4 (2.89)	182.2 (7.17)	42.2 (1.66)	29.0 (1.14)	167.2 (6.58)	1232.0 (48.49)
<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)	351 (13.8)
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)	328 (12.9)
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)	109 (4.3)
2000-2009 Avg	2.1 (0.8)	4.5 (1.8)	Trace	Trace	0	0	0	0	0	0	Trace	1.7 (0.7)	8.3 (3.3)
Change (70s vs 00s)	-9.0 (-3.6)	-8.0 (-3.1)	-4.2 (-1.7)	-0.2 (-0.1)	0	0	0	0	0	0	-0.5 (-0.2)	-2.7 (-1.1)	-242 (-9.5)
2012 Totals	2.5 (0.1)	Trace	Trace	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Trace	2.5 (0.1)

Table B.3. Hourly subfreezing temperature data for Oak Ridge, Tennessee, 1985–2012 (Number of 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	≤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	22	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	32	10	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	103	18	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	62	3	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	125	14	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	62	1	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	148	16	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	100	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	152	2	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	53	1	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	142	3	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	101	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	96	10	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	38	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	41	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	11	0	94	11	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	18	0	28	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	41	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	37	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	9	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	55	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	37	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	60	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	89	18	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	8	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	46	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	29	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	46	0	0	76	0	0	0	379	46	0	0	
Avg.	244	75	15	3	155	36	6	1	63	6	1	11	0	0	0	7	0	66	4	0	201	45	7	1	760	166	28	5	

^aSource: 1985–2009 National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Atmospheric Turbulence and Diffusion Division, KOQT Station, Automated Surface Observing System.

As a result, Oak Ridge temperatures have warmed more dramatically during these months. Spring temperatures (March–April) have risen by about 1.4°C. Summer and fall temperatures have exhibited lesser temperature rises of 1.1°C and 0.9°C (2.5°F), respectively. September and December temperatures changed little (0.0°C and +0.1°C respectively). Most of these changes were driven by significant increases in minimum daily temperatures, a change likely resulting from the redistribution of heat in the boundary layer resulting from increased presence of greenhouse gases and aerosols. More greenhouse gases 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) than maximum temperatures (1.1°C). For the most recent 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. 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). The year 2012 yielded precipitation totals around 5% below the 30 year mean. These statistics encompass the period from 1948 to 2012.

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 decade (2000s), snowfall has averaged only 6.6 cm (2.6 in). This decrease seems to have occurred largely since the mid-1990s. Although snowfall during 2010 reversed this trend somewhat with 11.1 in (28.2 cm), 2011 and 2012 snowfall returned to the recent trend of less snowfall (4.3 in. in 2011 and 0.1 in. in 2012). Concurrently 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.

Select wind roses for the ORR towers that show wind direction for hours with and without precipitation have been compiled for 2012 and may be reviewed at <http://www.ornl.gov/~das/web/page7.cfm>.

Hourly values of subfreezing temperatures in Oak Ridge are presented in Table B.3 for the years 1985 through 2012. 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 occasionally occur. Other statistics on winter precipitation may be found at <http://www.ornl.gov/~das/web/page5.cfm>.

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 73.3% (1998–2012). In terms of absolute humidity (g/m^3), the average annual humidity for ORR is $10.3 \text{ g}/\text{m}^3$. This value varies greatly throughout the annual cycle, ranging from a minimum of about $5 \text{ g}/\text{m}^3$ during winter to a maximum of about $20 \text{ g}/\text{m}^3$. These data are summarized for absolute and relative humidity and dew point at <http://www.ornl.gov/~das/web/page5.cfm>.

B.5 Severe Weather

On average, thunderstorms and associated lightning occur in the Oak Ridge area at a rate of 51 days/year, with a monthly maximum near 11 occurring in July. About 41 of these thunderstorm days occur during a 6 month period from April through September, with most of the remainder spread throughout the fall and winter. Monthly and annual average numbers of thunderstorm days for ORNL and

Knoxville McGhee-Tyson Airport, respectively, during 2001–2012 can be viewed at <http://www.ornl.gov/~das/web/page5.cfm>. 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 typically 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. For the 1961–1990 period, about six hail events were documented (having hailstones larger than about 2 cm) to have occurred at locations within 40 km 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 southeast of ORNL.

Although greater tornado frequencies occur in Middle and West Tennessee, East Tennessee experiences infrequent tornado outbreaks (every 3 to 6 years on average). Tornado indices from the National Weather Service in Morristown show that since 1950, three tornadoes have been documented within 10 km of ORNL, represented by two F0 (Fujita Scale) tornadoes and one F3 tornado. The moderately strong F3 tornado occurred in February 1993 and moved through Bear Creek Valley near the Y-12 National Security Complex 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 eight tornadoes have been documented since 1950 at distances within 20 km 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. These tornadoes 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 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://www.ornl.gov/~das/web/page5.cfm>.

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 21 tornadoes have been documented within 35 km of ORNL since 1950. This represents a surface area of 3,848 km² and yields a probability of 0.005 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 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 true 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 in 2012. These may be viewed at <http://www.ornl.gov/~das/web/page7.cfm>. 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://www.ornl.gov/~das/web/page5.cfm>.

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**Appendix C. Reference Standards
and Data for Water**

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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	4% of DCS ^c	DCS ^d
²⁴¹ Am		6.8	170
²¹⁴ Bi		10,400	260,000
¹⁰⁹ Cd		640	16,000
¹⁴³ Ce		1,040	26,000
⁶⁰ Co		288	7,200
⁵¹ Cr		31,600	790,000
¹³⁷ Cs		120	3,000
¹⁵⁵ Eu		3480	87,000
Gross alpha ^e	15		
Gross beta (mrem/year)	4		
³ H	20,000 ^f	76,000	1,900,000
¹³¹ I		52	1,300
⁴⁰ K		192	4,800
²³⁷ Np		12.8	320
^{234m} Pa		2,840	71,000
²³⁸ Pu		6	150
^{239/240} Pu		5.6	140
²²⁶ Ra	5 ^g	3.5	87
²²⁸ Ra	5 ^g	1	25
¹⁰⁶ Ru		164	4,100
⁹⁰ Sr	8 ^f	44	1,100
⁹⁹ Tc		1,760	44,000
²²⁸ Th		13.6	340
²³⁰ Th		6.4	160
²³² Th		5.6	140
²³⁴ Th		336	8,400
Thorium, natural		5.6	140
²³⁴ U		27.2	680
²³⁵ U		28.8	720
²³⁶ U		28.8	720
²³⁸ U		30	750
Uranium, natural		30	750
Uranium, total ^h (μg/L)	30	27.2	680

^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.

^cFour percent of the derived concentration standard represents the DOE criterion of 4 mrem effective dose equivalent from ingestion of drinking water.

^dDOE “*Derived Concentration Technical Standard, DOE-STD-1196-2011, April 2011.*”

^eExcludes radon and uranium.

^fThese 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.

^gApplies to combined ²²⁶Ra and ²²⁸Ra.

^hMinimum 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
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	
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	100 (E1, T)			130, 1600
Chlorodibromomethane (c)				4.0, 130
Chloroform (c)				57, 4700
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

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	
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)			
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
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

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	
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)			
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
Indeno(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	
Manganese	50 (E2)			
Mercury (inorganic) ^c	2 (E1, T)	1.4 ^c	0.77 ^c	0.05, 0.051
Methyl bromide				47, 1500
2-Methyl-4,6-dinitrophenol				13, 280
Methylene chloride (Dichloromethane) (c)				46, 5900
Nickel	100 (T)	470 ^d	52 ^d	610, 4600
Nitrate as N	10,000 (E1)			
Nitrite as N	1000 (E1)			
Nitrobenzene				17, 690
N-Nitrosodimethylamine (c)				0.0069, 30
N-Nitrosodi-n-propylamine (c)				0.05, 5.1
N-Nitrosodiphenylamine (c)				33, 60
Odor	3 threshold odor number (E2)			
Oxamyl (Vydate)	200 (E1, T)			
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
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	–	

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	
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 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
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

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**Appendix D. National Pollutant Discharge
Elimination System Noncompliance
Summaries for 2012**

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Appendix D. National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Noncompliance Summaries for 2012

D.1 Y-12 National Security Complex

A. National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permit

Analysis of water samples taken at Outfall 200 during March and April 2012 revealed a noncompliance of the Y-12 National Security Complex (Y-12 Complex) National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit average monthly value for cadmium. Outfall 200 is tied to a large drain system that includes most of the entire western half of the Y-12 Complex.

At Outfall 200 samples were taken on March 6, March 20, and March 29, 2012. Cadmium results obtained from analysis of the samples were 0.00106 mg/L, 0.00114 mg/L, and 0.00133 mg/L, respectively. All values were below the permit daily maximum value. The average of March cadmium values (0.00118 mg/L) exceeded the monthly average permit value of 0.001 mg/L cadmium.

During April, special monitoring for cadmium was conducted at Outfall 200 and upstream locations in the storm drain system. All values of cadmium obtained from Outfall 200 monitoring were below the permit maximum limit. However, the average of all values measured was 0.00131 mg/L, which is above the permit average value limit of 0.001 mg/L.

The cause of the elevated cadmium level at Outfall 200 is not exactly known. It may have been associated with upstream remediation projects including cleaning and lining of portions of the drain system upstream of Outfall 200. A review of groundwater data in the general area of the storm drain system indicates values similar to those now being measured at Outfall 200. This may indicate that legacy contamination from a land disposal unit is affecting the discharge of water from Outfall 200.

B. Industrial and Commercial User Wastewater Discharge Permit

Monitoring results during 2012 indicated one exceedance of the Industrial and Commercial User Wastewater Discharge Permit issued by the City of Oak Ridge for the discharge of wastewaters to the sanitary sewer system. This was for a daily flow in excess of the permit limit of 1.4 million gal per day, which occurred on September 18, 2012. Total flow was 2.03 million gal on this day. On September 17–18, 2012, the Y-12 Complex experienced a rain event that totaled 4.86 in.

Progress continues to be made in identifying and correcting sources of storm water inflow. The smoke testing of the sanitary sewer that was initiated in 2010 continued through 2012. Flow meters have been installed and used to indicate some areas of the Y-12 Complex for which additional smoke testing was needed, and minor repairs have been executed based on these tests. Since the beginning of CY 2012, approximately 9 miles of sewage pipe has been smoked tested and 2,000 ft has been subjected to video surveillance.

D.2 East Tennessee Technology Park

In 2012, compliance with East Tennessee Technology Park (ETTP) NPDES storm water permit TN0002950 was determined by about 420 laboratory analyses, field measurements, and flow estimates. The NPDES permit compliance rate for all discharge points for 2012 was 100%.

In 2012, compliance with the ETTP NPDES permit for industrial wastewater from the Central Neutralization Facility (CNF) was determined by more than 2,000 laboratory analyses and field measurements. The CNF NPDES permit compliance rate for 2012 was 100% with no noncompliances.

D.3 Oak Ridge National Laboratory

On May 24, 2012, effluent from the new Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL) Melton Valley Steam Plant (MVSP), discharged through ORNL NPDES Outfall 585, exceeded the permit limit for pH. The exceedance was due to the greater percentage of higher-pH boiler blowdown that is present in the Outfall 585 effluent during the warmer months, compared to the heating season. To correct this situation, the MVSP was shut down until a pump and underground piping could be installed to redirect the MVSP effluent to the ORNL Sewage Treatment Plant for treatment. There has been no recurrence of the effluent pH issue since the effluent was redirected to treatment.

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Appendix E. Radiation

Appendix E. Radiation

This appendix presents basic facts 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, including atoms and isotopes; 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).

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 “throw away,” or 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).

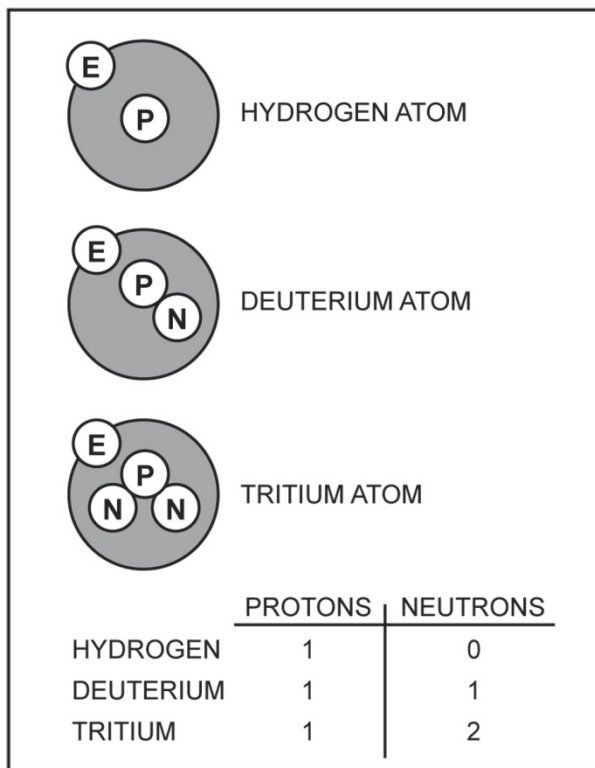


Fig. E.1. The hydrogen atom and its isotopes.

Table E.1. Selected radionuclide half-lives

Radionuclide	Symbol	Half-life	Radionuclide	Symbol	Half-life
Americium-241	²⁴¹ Am	432.2 years	Plutonium-238	²³⁸ Pu	87.75 years
Americium-243	²⁴³ Am	7.38E+3 years	Plutonium-239	²³⁹ Pu	2.41E+4 years
Antimony-125	¹²⁵ Sb	2.77 years	Plutonium-240	²⁴⁰ Pu	6.569E+3 years
Argon-41	⁴¹ Ar	1.827 h	Potassium-40	⁴⁰ K	1.2777E+9 years
Beryllium-7	⁷ Be	53.44 days	Promethium-147	¹⁴⁷ Pm	2.6234 years
Californium-252	²⁵² Cf	2.639 years	Protactinium-234m	^{234m} Pa	1.17 min
Carbon-11	¹¹ C	20.48 min	Radium-226	²²⁶ Ra	1.6E+3 years
Carbon-14	¹⁴ C	5.730E+3 years	Radium-228	²²⁸ Ra	5.75 years
Cerium-141	¹⁴¹ Ce	32.50 days	Ruthenium-103	¹⁰³ Ru	39.35 days
Cerium-144	¹⁴⁴ Ce	284.3 days	Ruthenium-106	¹⁰⁶ Ru	368.2 days
Cesium-134	¹³⁴ Cs	2.062 years	Strontium-89	⁸⁹ Sr	50.55 days
Cesium-137	¹³⁷ Cs	30.17 years	Strontium-90	⁹⁰ Sr	28.6 years
Cesium-138	¹³⁸ Cs	32.2 min	Technetium-99	⁹⁹ Tc	2.13E+5 years
Cobalt-58	⁵⁸ Co	70.80 days	Thorium-228	²²⁸ Th	1.9132 years
Cobalt-60	⁶⁰ Co	5.271 years	Thorium-230	²³⁰ Th	7.54E+4 years
Curium-242	²⁴² Cm	163.2 days	Thorium-232	²³² Th	1.405E+10 years
Curium-244	²⁴⁴ Cm	18.11 years	Thorium-234	²³⁴ Th	2.41E+1 day
Iodine-129	¹²⁹ I	157E+7 years	Tritium	³ H	12.28 years
Iodine-131	¹³¹ I	8.04 days	Uranium-234	²³⁴ U	2.445E+5 years
Krypton-85	⁸⁵ Kr	10.72 years	Uranium-235	²³⁵ U	7.038E+8 years
Krypton-88	⁸⁸ Kr	2.84 h	Uranium-236	²³⁶ U	2.3415E+7 years
Lead-212	²¹² Pb	10.643 min	Uranium-238	²³⁸ U	4.468E+9 years
Manganese-54	⁵⁴ Mn	312.7 days	Xenon-133	¹³³ Xe	5.245E+9 years
Neptunium-237	²³⁷ Np	2.14E+6 days	Xenon-135	¹³⁵ Xe	9.11 h
Niobium-95	⁹⁵ Nb	35.06 days	Yttrium-90	⁹⁰ Y	64.1 h
Osmium-185	¹⁸⁵ Os	93.6 days	Zirconium-95	⁹⁵ Zr	64.02 days
Polonium-210	²¹⁰ Po	138.378 days			

Source: DOE 1989. *Radioactive Decay Data Tables: A Handbook of Decay Data for Application to Radioactive Dosimetry and Radiological Assessments*, DOE/TIC-11026.

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 Sources of Radiation

Radiation is everywhere. Most occurs naturally; a small percentage is human made. Naturally occurring radiation is known as background radiation.

E.3.1 Background Radiation

Many materials are naturally radioactive. In fact, this naturally occurring radiation is the major source of radiation in the environment. Although people have little control over the amount of background radiation to which they are exposed, this exposure must be put into perspective. Background radiation remains relatively constant over time and is present in the environment today much as it was hundreds of years ago.

Sources of background radiation include uranium in the earth, radon in the air, and potassium in food. Background radiation is categorized as cosmic, terrestrial, or internal, depending on its origin.

E.3.1.1 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.

E.3.1.2 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.

E.3.1.3 Internal Radiation

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).

E.3.2 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.3.2.1 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).

E.3.2.2 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.

E.3.2.3 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.

E.4 Pathways of Radionuclides

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 the air could fall on grass in a pasture. The grass then could be eaten by cows, and the radionuclides deposited on the grass would show up in the cow's milk. People drinking the milk would be exposed to this radiation. People could also inhale the airborne radionuclides. Similarly, radionuclides in water could be ingested by fish, and people eating the fish would then ingest the radionuclides in the fish tissue. People swimming in the water also would be exposed.

E.5 Measuring Radiation

To determine the possible effects of radiation on the health of the environment and people, the radiation must be measured. More precisely, its potential to cause damage must be ascertained.

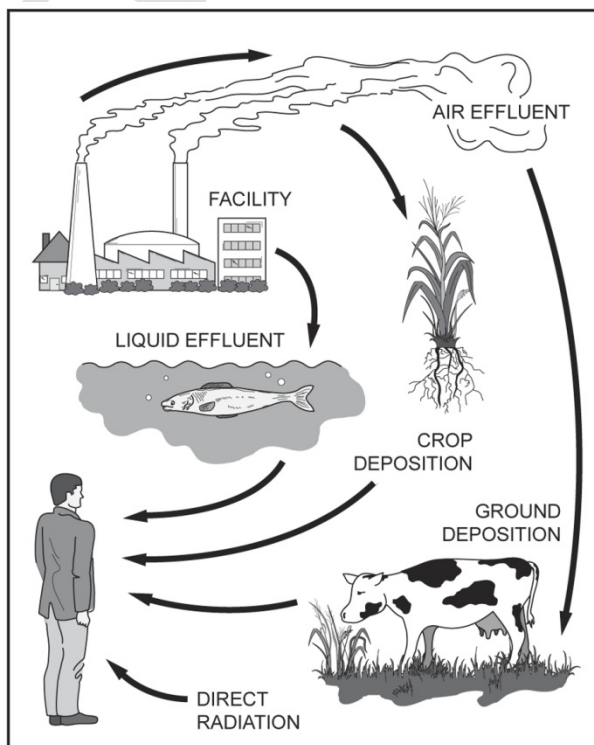


Fig. E.2. Examples of radiation pathways.

E.5.1 Activity

When we measure the amount of radiation in the environment, we actually are measuring the rate of radioactive decay or activity. The rate of decay varies widely among the 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.5.2 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.5.3 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 total damaging effect. Because a rem represents a fairly large equivalent 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 latest 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.5.4 Dose Determination

Determining dose is an involved process in which complex mathematical equations based on several factors, including the type of radiation, rate of exposure, weather conditions, and typical diet, are used. Basically, radioactive decay, or activity, generates radiant energy. People absorb some of the energy to which they are exposed. 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.

Many terms are used to report dose. The terms take several factors into account, including the amount of radiation absorbed, the organ absorbing the radiation, and the effect of the radiation over a 50-year period. The term “dose” in this report means the committed ED, which is the ED that will be received during a specified time (50 years) from radionuclides taken into the body in the current year, and the ED due to exposure during the year to penetrating radiation from sources external to the body.

E.5.5 Dose Coefficient

A dose coefficient is defined as the ED received from exposure to a unit quantity of a radionuclide by way of a specific exposure pathway. There are two types of dose coefficients. One type gives the committed ED (rem) resulting from intake (by inhalation and ingestion) of a unit activity (1.0 μ Ci) of a radionuclide. The second gives the ED rate (millirem per year) per unit activity (1.0 μ Ci) of a radionuclide in a unit (cubic or square centimeters) of an environmental compartment (air volume or ground surface). In 2011 the Department of Energy replaced DOE O 5400.5 with DOE O 458.1. As part of this revision, dose coefficients were derived for a hypothetical Reference Person. The Reference

Person is an aggregate of individuals in the US population (DOE 2011). The Reference Person effective dose coefficients are used for the ingestion pathway. For the airborne pathway, dose coefficients from Federal Guidance Report No. 13 were used, since these dose coefficients are used in the EPA-approved model CAP88PC, version 3 (EPA 1999).

E.5.6 Comparison of Dose Levels

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. This information is intended to help the reader become familiar with a range of doses that various individuals may receive.

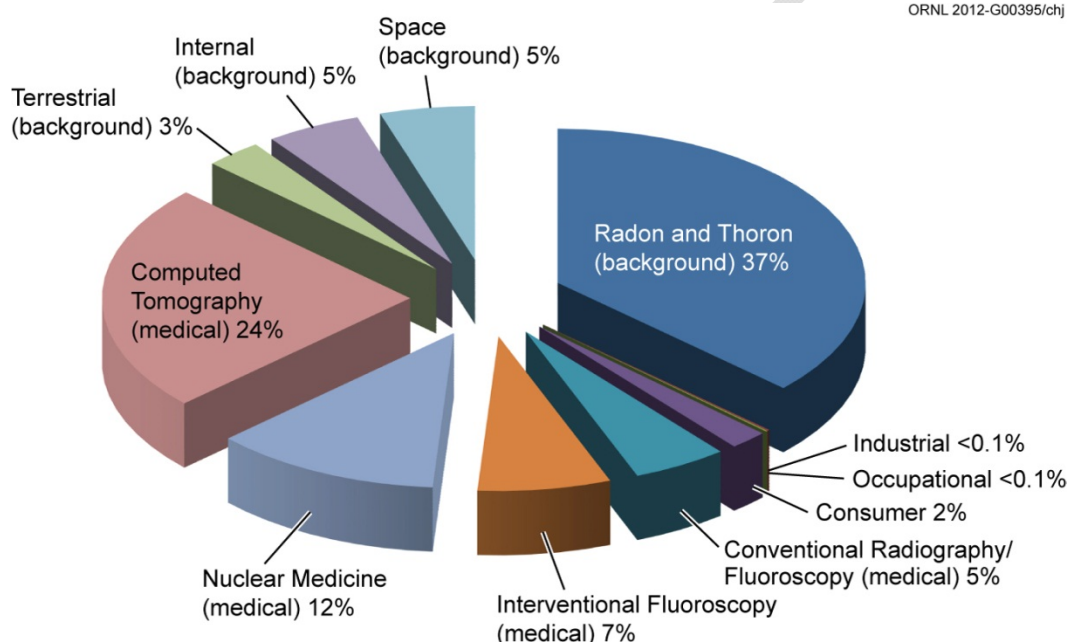


Fig. E.3. All exposure categories for collective effective dose for 2006.

E.5.7 Dose from Cosmic Radiation

The average annual dose equivalent to people in the United States from cosmic radiation is about 33 mrem (0.33 mSv) (NCRP 2009). The average dose equivalent caused by cosmic radiation in Tennessee is about 45 mrem per year (0.45 mSv per year) (Tsakeres 1980). When shielding and the time spent indoors are considered, the dose for the surrounding population is reduced to 80%, or about 36 mrem (0.36 mSv) per year.

E.5.8 Dose from 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 16 mrem (0.16 mSv) on the Atlantic and Gulf coastal plains and about 63 mrem (0.63 mSv) on the eastern slopes of the Rocky Mountains.

E.5.9 Dose from Internal Radiation

The major contributors to the annual dose equivalent for internal radionuclides are the short-lived decay products of radon, which contribute an average dose of about 228 mrem (2.28 mSv) per year. This dose estimate is based on an average radon concentration of about 1 pCi/L (0.037 Bq/L) (NCRP 2009).

The average dose from 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 . The concentration of radioactive potassium in human tissues is similar in all parts of the world (NCRP 2009).

E.5.10 Dose from Consumer Products and Activities

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.5.11 Dose from Medical Sources

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.5.12 Doses from Other Sources

A few additional sources of radiation contribute minor doses to individuals in the United States. 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 Water Pathway Dose Method

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 exposure pathways. Several such pathways exist for exposures of humans to radionuclides in water. People may directly ingest (drink) the water. They may eat fish that contain radionuclides taken in from the water where the fish were caught. Also, people may swim in or boat on the water or use a shoreline that has absorbed radionuclides from the water. The following sections discuss the methods used to calculate potential radiological impacts to persons who drink water; eat fish; and swim, boat, and use the shoreline at various locations along the Clinch and Tennessee Rivers. The results of these calculations are summarized in Section 7.1.2.2.

Radionuclides discharged to surface waters from ORR enter the Tennessee River system by way of the Clinch River and various feeder streams (see Section 1.3.4 for the surface water setting of ORR). Discharges from the Y-12 National Security Complex enter the Clinch River via Bear Creek and East Fork Poplar Creek (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 Oak Ridge National Laboratory enter the Clinch River via White Oak Creek and Melton Hill Lake via some small drainage creeks. Discharges from East Tennessee Technology Park enter the Clinch River either directly

Oak Ridge Reservation

or via Poplar Creek. For convenience, and to correspond to water sampling locations, surface waters around and below ORR are divided into seven segments (called water bodies in this appendix):

- Melton Hill Lake above all possible ORR inputs,
- Melton Hill Lake,
- Upper Clinch River (from Melton Hill Dam to confluence with Poplar Creek),
- Lower Clinch River (from confluence with Poplar Creek to confluence with the Tennessee River),
- Upper Watts Bar Lake (from around the confluence with the Clinch River to below Kingston),
- Lower System (remainder of Watts Bar Lake and Chicamauga Lake), and
- Poplar Creek, including the confluence of East Fork Poplar Creek.

Since East Fork Poplar Creek is posted against water use, dose estimates for such uses are not reported.

The LADTAP computer code, Excel version (Hamby 1991), is used to calculate individual and population doses via waterborne exposure pathways. All dose calculations require definition of radionuclide concentrations in the medium of interest (water, fish, and shoreline) in the water body of interest.

Two methods, determined by the type of data, are used to estimate potential radiation doses to the public. The first method uses radionuclide concentrations in the medium of interest (i.e., water and fish) that were determined by laboratory analyses of actual water and fish samples (see Sections 6.4 and 6.6). The second method estimates radionuclide concentrations in water and fish that were calculated from measured radionuclide discharges and known or estimated stream flows.

The advantage of the first method is the use of radionuclide concentrations actually measured in water and fish. Disadvantages of the first method are the inclusion of naturally occurring radionuclides, especially in gross alpha- and beta-activity measurements; the possibility that some radionuclides of ORR origin might be present in quantities too low to be measured; and the possibility that the presence of some radionuclides might be misstated (e.g., present in a quantity below the detection limit). The advantages of the second method are that most radionuclides discharged from ORR will be quantified and that naturally occurring radionuclides will not be considered or will be accounted for separately; the disadvantage is the lack of complete river, discharge, and stream flow data. Both methods use models to estimate the concentrations of the radionuclides in water and fish, except at locations (water bodies) where actual measurements are made. Using the two methods should allow the potential radiation doses to be bounded.

For some water bodies, radionuclide concentrations are measured directly. These water body concentrations are then used to calculate concentrations in fish and the shoreline. Concentrations in the water body downstream of the measured water body are obtained by multiplying the measured water body concentrations by the ratio of the measured water body flow (liters per year) to the downstream water body flow (liters per year); in essence, the concentrations in the upstream water body are diluted by any additional water input to the downstream water body. This dilution calculation continues for all other downstream water bodies. Note that the dilution from Upper Watts Bar Lake to the Lower System (Lower Watts Bar Lake) is considered negligible.

For other water bodies, data are available on the activities of radionuclides discharged to a water body. These data may be in the form of (1) total activities discharged per year (curies per year) or (2) activities per unit volume of water (curies per liter) plus the total volume of water discharged per year (liters per year). Radionuclide concentrations in the receiving water body are calculated simply by dividing the measured discharge activities (curies per year) by the total annual flow of the receiving water body (liters per year). The process for calculating concentrations in downstream water bodies is the same as that described in the previous paragraph. The discharge flow rate is usually negligible with respect to the receiving water body flow rate.

Equations used to estimate water pathway doses from radionuclide concentrations in water are given in the following sections.

E.6.1 Drinking Water

Several water treatment plants along the Clinch and Tennessee river systems could be affected by discharges from ORR, but data on radiological constituents in the treated water are not available. Therefore, the dose estimates given below are based on concentrations of radionuclides in water before it undergoes treatment and are most likely overestimates. Most water treatment plants use flocculation/sedimentation processes. The flocculant process produces a precipitate that helps to remove solids and also adsorbs dissolved metals. Many radionuclides would be adsorbed by the solids. However, the fraction removed depends on the radionuclide and initial concentration. For purposes of assessment, it was assumed that maximally exposed individuals drink 730 L/year of water and that the average person drinks 370 L/year.

Table E.2 is a summary of potential EDs from identified waterborne radionuclides around ORR and shows the variation in dose based on method used to estimate dose. The ED from ingestion of water is given by

$$D_{E,i,drink} = U_{drink} * C_{w,i} * DC_{i,ing} * EXP(-\lambda_{r,i} * t_{drink}),$$

where

$D_{E,i,drink}$	=	ED due to drinking water containing nuclide i (mrem/year),
U_{drink}	=	water consumption rate (L/year),
$C_{w,i}$	=	concentration of nuclide i in water ($\mu\text{Ci/L}$),
$DC_{i,ing}$	=	dose coefficient for ingestion of nuclide i (mrem/ μCi),
$\lambda_{r,i}$	=	radioactive decay constant for nuclide i (I/d), and
t_{drink}	=	time between entry of nuclide into plant and consumption (assumed 1 day).

E.6.2 Eating Fish

Fishing is quite common on the Clinch and Tennessee river systems. For purposes of assessment, it was assumed that avid fish consumers eat 21 kg/year of fish and that the average person consumes 6.9 kg/year. EDs were calculated from measured radionuclide contents in fish (see Section 6.6), measured concentrations of radionuclides in water, and calculated concentrations in water. The ED from consumption of fish containing nuclide i is given by

$$D_{E,i,fish} = U_{fish} * C_{w,i} * DC_{i,ing} * B_{i,fish} * EXP(-\lambda_{r,i} * t_{fish}),$$

where

$D_{E,i,fish}$	=	ED due to eating fish containing nuclide i (mrem/year),
U_{fish}	=	fish consumption rate (kg/year),
$C_{w,i}$	=	concentration of nuclide i in water ($\mu\text{Ci/L}$),
$DC_{i,ing}$	=	dose coefficient for ingestion of nuclide i (mrem/ μCi),
$B_{i,fish}$	=	bioaccumulation factor (L/kg),
$\lambda_{r,i}$	=	radioactive decay constant for nuclide i (I/d), and
t_{fish}	=	time between harvest and consumption (assumed 10 days).

Fish samples are collected from Melton Hill Lake above all ORR inputs (Clinch River kilometer [CRK] 70), from the upper part of the Clinch River (CRK 32), and from the Clinch River below all ORR inputs (CRK 16). Unidentified beta and alpha activities are often detected in many of the fish samples. Excess beta and alpha activities are estimated by subtracting activities of identified beta- and alpha-particle-emitting radionuclides from the corresponding unidentified activities. The excess unidentified beta and alpha activities are assumed to be from the naturally occurring radionuclides ^{234}Th and ^{226}Ra .

Table E.2. Summary of annual maximum individual effective dose equivalents from waterborne radionuclides (mrem)^a

Type of sample	Drinking water	Eating fish	Other uses	Total of highest
Melton Hill Lake above ORR inputs, CRK 66				
Fish ^b		0.04		0.04
Water ^c				
Maximum		0.04		0.04
Melton Hill Lake, CRK 58				
Water ^c			2E-04	2E-04
Discharge ^d	1E-07	2E-07	1E-11	4E-07
Maximum	1E-07	2E-07	2E-04	2E-04
Upper Clinch River, CRK 23, Gallaher Water Plant, CRK 32				
Fish ^b		0.05		0.05
Water ^c	0.08	0.02	1E-03	0.1
Discharge ^d	2E-06	6E-6	6E-07	9E-06
Maximum	0.08	0.05	1E-03	0.1
Lower Clinch River, CRK 16				
Fish ^b		0.08		0.08
Water ^c	NA ^e	0.02	1E-03	0.02
Discharge ^d	NA ^e	6E-06	6E-07	7E-06
Maximum	NA ^e	0.08	1E-03	0.08
Upper Watts Bar Lake, Kingston Municipal Water Plant				
Water ^c	0.02	0.004	5E-04	0.02
Discharge ^d	6E-07	1E-06	2E-07	2E-06
Maximum	0.02	0.004	5E-04	0.02
Lower System (Lower Watts Bar Lake and Chickamauga Lake)				
Water ^c	0.02	0.004	4E-04	0.02
Discharge ^d	5E-07	1E-06	2E-07	2E-06
Maximum	0.02	0.004	4E-04	0.02
Lower East Fork Poplar Creek and Poplar Creek				
Water ^c	NA ^e			
Discharge ^d	NA ^e	0.6	0.007	0.6
Maximum	NA ^e	0.6	0.007	0.6

^a1 mrem = 0.01 mSv.

^bDoses based on measured radionuclide concentrations in fish tissue.

^cDoses based on measured radionuclide concentrations in water.

^dDoses based on measured discharges of radionuclides from on-site outfalls.

^eNot at drinking water supply locations.

Abbreviations

CRK = Clinch River kilometer

ORR = Oak Ridge Reservation

E.6.3 Other Uses

Other uses of the 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. Measured and calculated concentrations of radionuclides in water and LADTAP XL were used to estimate potential EDs from these activities. The ED from swimming in water containing nuclide i (except tritium) is given by

$$D_{E,i,swim} = 0.142 * C_{w,i} * U_{swim} * DC_{i,WS},$$

where

$D_{E,i,swim}$	=	ED from swimming in water containing nuclide i (mrem/year),
0.142	=	unit conversion factor (1,000 L/m ³ divided by 8,760 h/year),
$C_{w,i}$	=	concentration of nuclide i in water (μCi/L),
U_{swim}	=	time spent swimming (h/year), and
$DC_{i,WS}$	=	dose conversion factor for submersion in water containing nuclide i (mrem-m ³ /year-μCi).

Complete submersion is assumed while swimming. For tritium, the swimming dose equation is given by

$$D_{E,T,swim} = C_{W,T} * U_{swim} * I_T * DC_{T,ing},$$

where

$D_{E,T,swim}$	=	ED from swimming in water containing tritium (mrem/year),
$C_{W,T}$	=	concentration of tritium in water (μCi/L),
U_{swim}	=	time spent swimming (h/year),
I_T	=	absorption factor for tritium via whole body immersion in water (= 0.035 L/h), and
$DC_{T,ing}$	=	dose coefficient for ingestion of tritium (mrem/μCi).

The ED from boating on water containing nuclide i (except tritium) is given by

$$D_{E,i,boat} = 0.5 * (0.142 * C_{w,i} * U_{boat} * DC_{i,WS}),$$

where

$D_{E,i,boat}$	=	ED from boating on water containing nuclide i (mrem/year),
0.5	=	correction factor,
0.142	=	unit conversion factor (1,000 L/m ³ divided by 8,760 h/year),
$C_{w,i}$	=	concentration of nuclide i in water (μCi/L),
U_{boat}	=	time spent boating (h/year), and
$DC_{i,WS}$	=	dose coefficient for submersion in water containing nuclide i [mrem-m ³ /year-μCi].

The 0.5 correction factor arises from the assumption used in LADTAP XL that doses per unit from boating equal one-half the doses from swimming. Any shielding by the boat’s hull is ignored. The dose attributable to any tritium, which emits only very weak beta radiation, in the water is assumed to be 0.

The ED from using a shoreline containing nuclide i is given by

$$D_{E,i,shore} = C_{i,shore} * U_{shore} * (G_{shore} / 8760) * DC_{i,soil},$$

where

$D_{E,i,shore}$	=	ED due to use of shoreline containing nuclide i (mrem/year),
$C_{i,shore}$	=	annual average concentration of nuclide i in shoreline soil (μCi/m ²),
U_{shore}	=	duration of time spent on the shoreline (h/year),
G_{shore}	=	unitless shoreline width correction factor (0.2 for rivers),

- 8760 = number of hours in a year (h/year), and
 $DC_{i,soil}$ = dose conversion factor for infinitely thick soil containing nuclide
(mrem-m²/μCi-year).

The annual average concentration of nuclide i in shoreline soil is obtained by

$$C_{i,shore} = C_{W,i} * F_{i,W-S} * T_{1/2,i} * (1 - \text{EXP}[-\lambda_{r,i} * 365 * t_{S-W}]),$$

where

- $C_{W,i}$ = annual average concentration of nuclide i in water (μCi/L),
 $F_{i,W-S}$ = water-to-sediment transfer coefficient nuclide i (= 100 L/m²-day),
 $T_{1/2,i}$ = radioactive half-life of nuclide i (d),
 $\lambda_{r,i}$ = radioactive decay constant for nuclide i (1/d),
365 = number of days in a year (d/year), and
 t_{S-W} = time over which shoreline soil is exposed to water containing nuclide i
(= 50 years).

It is assumed that the buildup and decay of nuclides in shoreline soil have occurred at the current year's rates for the past 50 years.

When compared with EDs from drinking water and eating fish from the same waters, the EDs from these other uses are relatively small. Refer to Table E.2 for a summary of potential EDs from identified waterborne radionuclides around ORR and the variation in dose based on the method used to estimate dose.

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Appendix F. Chemicals

Appendix F. Chemicals

This appendix presents basic facts 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 would then be exposed to the chemical. Less likely would be exposure by directly drinking from the river.

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 a noncarcinogenic and a carcinogenic effect. 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 the form of food, water, and sometimes medications. Even those chemicals usually 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 are thought to have an adverse effect on human health. These concentration limits can be used to calculate a chemical dose 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 is an estimate of a daily exposure level for the human population, including sensitive subpopulations, that is likely to be without an 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 database, which contains verified reference doses and up-to-date health risk and EPA regulatory information for numerous chemicals.

F.3.2.2 Primary Maximum Contaminant Levels

For chemicals for which reference doses are not available in the Integrated Risk Information System, 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.

Table F.1. Chemical reference doses and slope factors used in drinking water and fish intake analysis

Elements			Compounds		
Chemical	Factor	Reference ^a	Chemical	Factor	Reference ^a
Arsenic	3.0E-04	RfD	Thallium	5.7E-05	<i>d,g</i>
	1.5E+00	SF	Uranium ^h	3.0E-03	RfD
Barium	2.0E-01	RfD	Vanadium ⁱ	9.0E-03	RfD
Beryllium	2.0E-03	RfD	Zinc	3.0E-01	RfD
Boron	2.0E-01	RfD			
Cadmium	5.0E-04	RfD	Aroclor-1260	2.0E-05	RfD ^b
Chromium VI	3.0E-03	RfD	Benzene	4.0E-03	RfD
Lead	1.4E-04	<i>d,e</i>		1.5E-02	SF ^j
Manganese	1.4E-01	RfD	Chloroform	1.0E-02	RfD
Mercury	3.0E-04	RfD ^f	PCBs (mixed)	2.0E+00	SF ^c
Molybdenum	5.0E-03	RfD	Toluene	8.0E-02	RfD
Nickel ^h	2.0E-02	RfD			

^aRfD: reference dose (mg/kg-day); SF: slope factor (risk per mg/kg-day). Values obtained from US EPA, Integrated Risk Information System.

^bThe RfD for Aroclor-1254 is used for Aroclor-1260.

^cThe 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.

^dThe water quality criteria (WQC) 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.

^eThis 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).

^fAn 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.

^gThis 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).

^hSoluble salts

ⁱas Vanadium pentoxide

^jThis value is the lower end of a range provided for the oral slope factor for benzene, 1.5E-02 to 5.5E-02.

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 2 L (0.5 gal) of water per day directly from the river, which amounts to 730 L (193 gal) per year, and that they eat 0.06 kg (roughly 1 lb) of fish per day from the river (21 kg or 46 lb per year). Estimated daily intakes or estimated doses to the public are calculated by multiplying measured (statistically significant) concentrations in water by 2 L or those in fish by 0.06 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 actual individual would 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 per day (mg/kg-day). In this case, the "kilogram" refers to the body weight of an adult individual. 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."

The daily intake or dose from ingestion of water is estimated by the following equation:

$$I = \frac{CW \times IR \times EF \times ED}{BW \times AT},$$

where

- I = intake (mg/kg-day),
- CW = concentration in water (mg/L),
- IR = ingestion rate (2 L/day),
- EF = exposure frequency (350 days/year),
- ED = exposure duration (30 years),
- BW = body weight (70 kg),
- AT = averaging time for noncarcinogens (365 days/year \times ED) or for carcinogens (365 days/year \times 70 years).

The daily intake rate or dose from consumption of fish obtained by recreational anglers is estimated by the following equation:

$$I = \frac{CW \times IR \times EF \times ED}{BW \times AT},$$

where

- I = intake (mg/kg-day),
- CW = concentration in fish tissue wet weight (mg/kg),
- IR = ingestion rate (0.06 kg/day),
- EF = exposure frequency (350 days/year),
- ED = exposure duration (30 years),
- BW = body weight (70 kg),
- AT = averaging time for noncarcinogens (365 days/year \times ED) or for carcinogens (365 days/year \times 70 years).

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. The hazard quotient is a ratio that compares the estimated exposure dose or intake (I) to the reference dose as follows:

$$HQ = \frac{I}{RfD},$$

where

- HQ = hazard quotient (unitless),
- I = estimated intake or dose (mg/kg-day),
- RfD = reference dose (mg/kg-day).

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. In previous reports, the estimated dose from ingesting water or fish from rivers and streams surrounding ORR is compared to the chronic daily intake I (10^{-5}) derived from assuming a human lifetime risk of developing cancer of 10^{-5} (1 in 100,000). However, as in typical human health risk assessments, risk levels are derived as follows:

$$R = I \times SF,$$

where

- R = risk,
- I = estimated intake or (mg/kg-day),
- SF = slope factor, oral (risk per mg/kg-day).

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). The tilde (~) indicates that estimated values were used in estimating the average concentrations of a chemical.

F.6 References

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