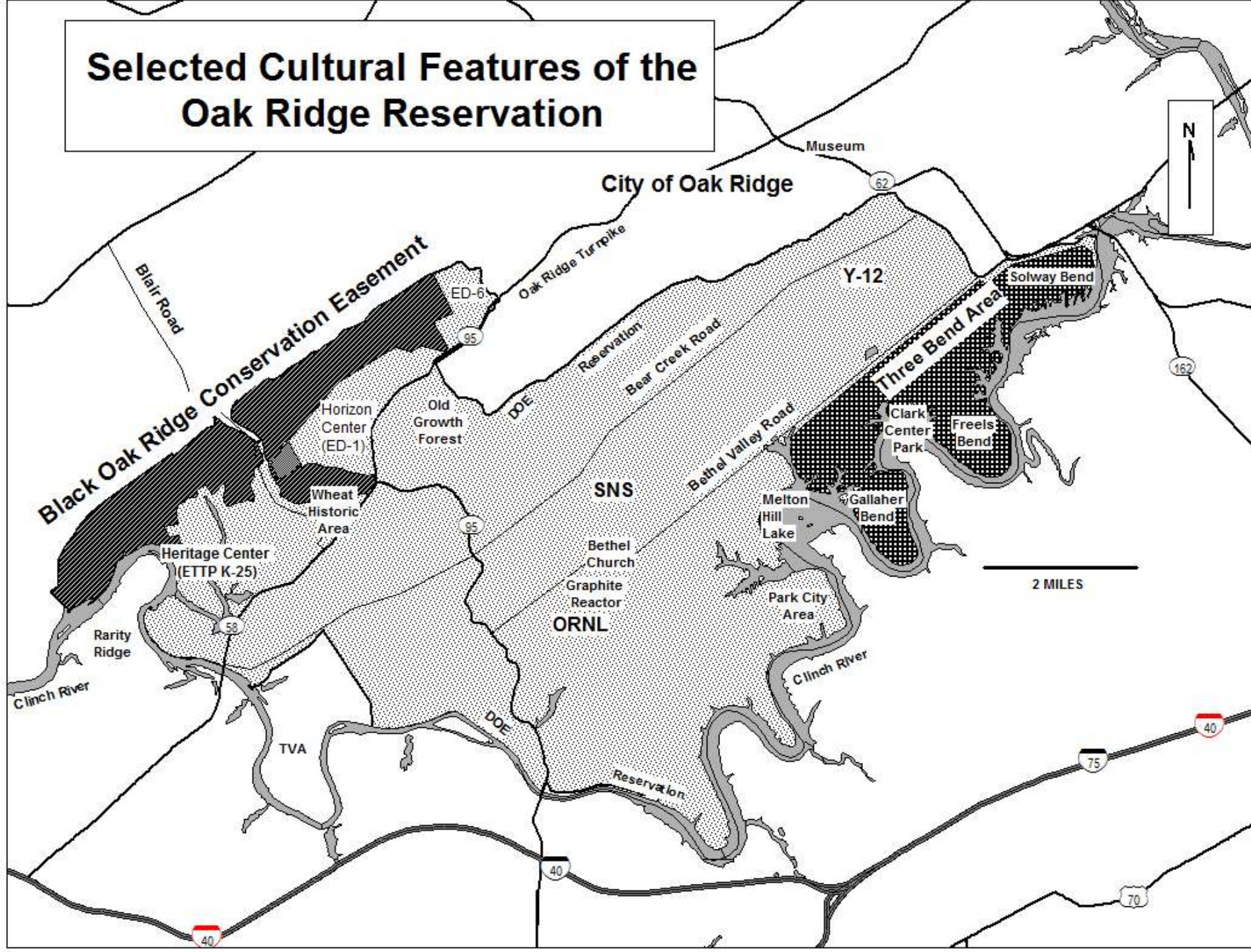


An aerial photograph of a vast, forested mountain range. The terrain is covered in dense green trees, with rolling hills and valleys. In the distance, more mountain ranges are visible under a bright blue sky with scattered white clouds. The overall scene is a wide, panoramic view of a natural landscape.

Overview of Cultural Landscape & History of Three Bends
Doug Colclasure, Ellen Smith and Virginia Dale

Selected Cultural Features of the Oak Ridge Reservation



Freels Bend







DOE gives 3,000 acres for refuge; city fathers not pleased

By Frank Munger
News-Service, Oak Ridge bureau

OAK RIDGE — On a very warm day in East Tennessee, U.S. Energy Secretary Bill Richardson warmed the hearts of environmentalists.

Richardson signed documents Wednesday creating a wildlife refuge on 3,000 picturesque acres in the government's Oak Ridge reservation. The property includes about 20 miles of shoreline along Melton Hill Lake.

"I just think it's important to go back," Richardson said at the outdoor ceremony near historic Fred's Bend Cabin. He said Oak Ridge workers delivered an important message during the Cold War and deserved something in return.

Most of the Department of Energy's assistance to the local community has been on economic development, but there needs to be a balance, Richardson said.

"We're returning the green to the region in more ways than one," he said.

It takes an ... environment that can answer to people's human lives. They need places to fish and hunt, to swim and breathe good, warm air. They need areas where they recreate their spirits after a week of hard work. The Oak Ridge reserve can be such a place.

The initial agreement is for five years, but Richardson said the intent is for the refuge to be permanent.

Please see LAND, page A6



U.S. Energy Secretary Bill Richardson holds up Bradley Hershey, 9, and says, "This land's for you, kid," during the announcement of a conservation area. Bradley was part of a science camp at Oak Ridge National Laboratory and had given Richardson a T-shirt with other campers. At left is Leah Dever, who will become the Department of Energy's Oak Ridge manager in July.

"The proclamation signed today will help balance recent land use initiatives to foster economic development in the Oak Ridge area with better protection for unique habitat and wildlife," said Secretary Richardson

- **Three Bend Scenic and Wildlife Management Refuge Area**
 - Important habitat & home for threatened, endangered, & rare species
 - Animals: bald eagles, ospreys, and migrant songbirds.
 - State listed rare plants: Canada Lily and Tall Larkspur.
 - A combination of open fields, hedgerows, woodlots, wetlands, & water that is rare in the region.
 - Recognized special habitats:
 - Chestnut Oak-Tuliptree-White Oak Hickory Forests
 - White Oak-Northern Red Oak-Hickory Forests
 - Oak-Hickory-Ash Limestone Woodlands
 - Limestone Sinkholes
 - Limestone Barrens
 - The historic Freels Cabin, built in the 1820s & one of the earliest settlements in the area.
- **The Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency, in consultation with DOE and the Oak Ridge community, prepared a cooperative agreement**
 - Serves as a natural resources management plan for Three Bends
 - Establishes guidelines for managing the area to preserve & enhance its natural attributes.

Three Bends Scenic and Wildlife Management Area

A satellite map of the Three Bends Scenic and Wildlife Management Area. The map shows a winding river with several sharp bends. Four specific areas are highlighted with red lines and labels: Clark Center Park, Solway Bend, Freels Bend, and Gallaher Bend. The river is shown in a light green color, and the surrounding land is in shades of green and brown. The labels are in white boxes with red borders. The text "Google Earth" is visible in the bottom left corner.

Clark Center Park

Solway Bend

Freels Bend

Gallaher Bend

Solway Bend



Freels Bend



© 2015 Google

Image U.S. Geological Survey

Google earth

1992

Imagery Date: 10/16/2014 35°57'26.43" N 84°13'46.07" W elev 941 ft eye alt 12545 ft

Gallaher Bend



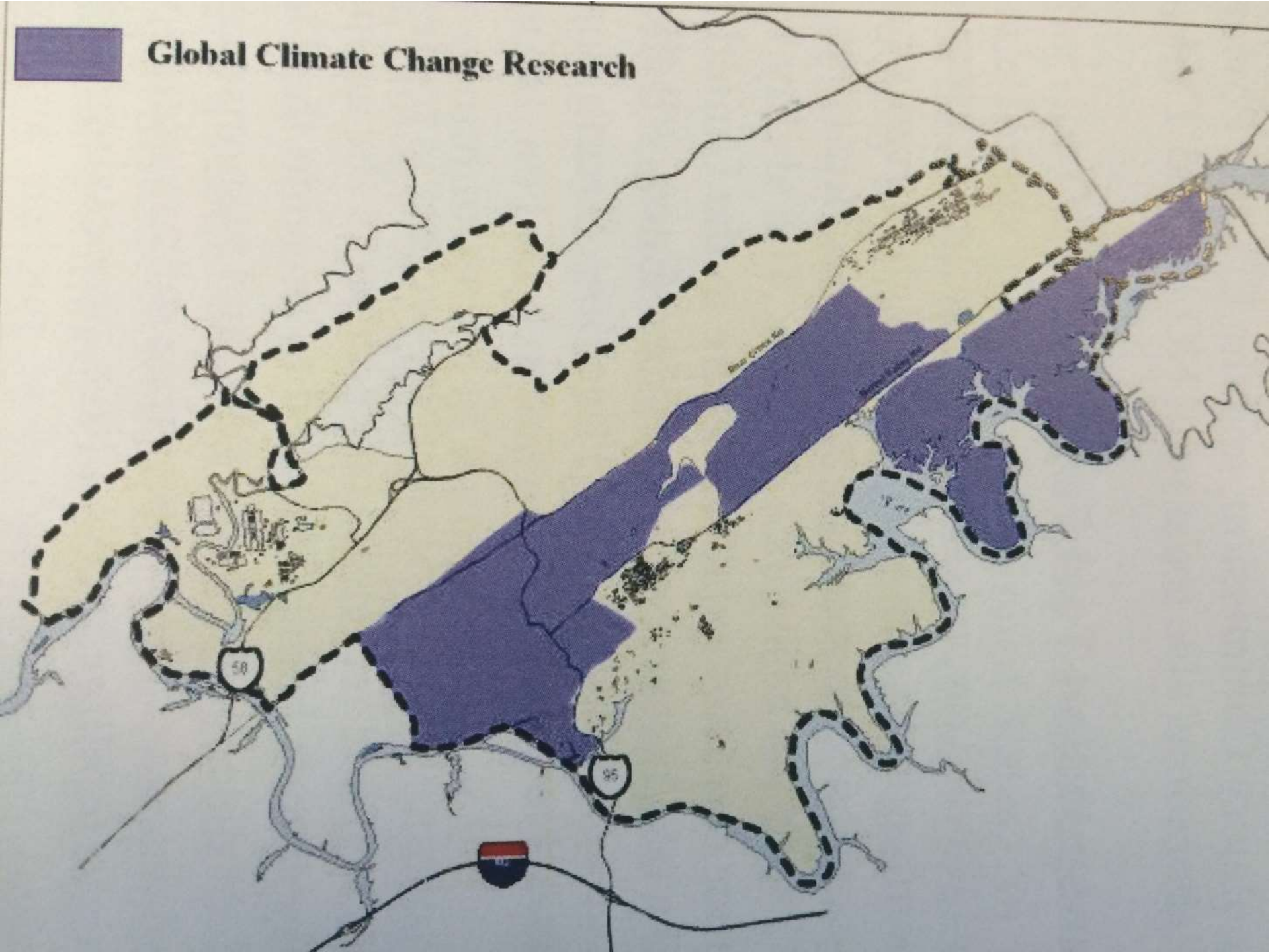
© 2015 Google
Image USDA Farm Service Agency
Image U.S. Geological Survey

Google earth

1992

Imagery Date: 10/16/2014 35°56'34.97" N 84°15'02.53" W elev 806 ft eye alt 15747 ft

Global Climate Change Research



CLARK CENTER RECREATION PARK

WARNING

NO LIFEGUARD ON DUTY

Swim at Your Own Risk

- * Adults should not swim alone
- * Children should not swim without adult supervision
- * No Diving
- * No Alcoholic Beverages
- * No Glass or Sharp Objects
- * No Pets (Service animals only)

For Emergencies Call 911

For other assistance call 576-5187 or 924-7208



07/14/20



10/14/20





A rustic log cabin built from horizontal logs, situated in a dense forest. The cabin has a steep, gabled roof covered in shingles. To the left of the cabin, a tree trunk has two signs attached to it: a wooden sign with the number '14' and a white paper sign with the text 'GRAVEL HILL'. The ground is covered in green vegetation and fallen leaves. The background is filled with tall, thin trees and a bright sky.

14

GRAVEL HILL

04/07/20







04/03/2014



03/09/2016



03/09/2016

Controlled burns begin on Oak Ridge Reservation

The U.S. Department of Energy's Oak Ridge Office is initiating a series of controlled burns of grassland areas on the Oak Ridge Reservation for prescribed burning at the East Tennessee Technology Park (ETTP) and the Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL) this month and April.

Beginning this week and continuing through April, weather permitting, controlled burns will take place:

- Upper First Creek Bottoms at ORNL — approximately 1.5 acres;
- ORNL East Campus Native Grass Planting — approximately 7.1 acres;
- Bethel Valley Delphinium Man-

agement — approximately 3 acres;

- Bethel Valley Fields Native Grass Maintenance — approximately 44 acres in two separate plots;

- Solway Bend Fields — approximately 62 acres in ten adjoining plots;

- Free ls Bend Fields — approximately 143 acres in three adjoining plots;

- Gallaher Bend Kudzu Infestation and Native Grass Maintenance — approximately 110 acres in three adjoining plots;

- Hickory Creek Bend Kudzu Infestation — approximately 21 acres;

- West Borrow Kudzu Infestation — approximately 6 acres;

- Dyllis Orchard Road Field — approximately 22 acres;

- Wheat Church Vista east of ETIP — approximately 5.5 acres;

The planned burns are part of the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency (TWRA) and ORNL's effort to restore native plant communities and ecosystems, improve wildlife habitat, and reduce the risk of wildfires. They are conducted and overseen by the State of Tennessee Division of Forestry which maintains fire control equipment, certified burn managers and trained personnel at the burn area with the support of on-site TWRA personnel and the ORNL forester.

03/17/2016









05/13/20



04/05/2014



03/18/2016



07/14/2009



06/16/2014



05/04/2013













06/07/2009

Three Bends Scenic and Wildlife Management Area

A satellite map of the Three Bends Scenic and Wildlife Management Area. The map shows a winding river system with several distinct bends. Four specific areas are highlighted with red lines and labeled in white boxes with red borders. The labels are: Clark Center Park (top left), Solway Bend (top right), Freels Bend (middle right), and Gallaher Bend (bottom center). The surrounding landscape is a mix of green fields and wooded areas. The text 'Google with' is visible in the bottom left corner.

Clark Center Park

Solway Bend

Freels Bend

Gallaher Bend