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# Manhattan Project National Historical Park

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# Background

- Support and activism from communities of Oak Ridge, TN; Los Alamos, NM and Hanford, WA to create a national park to tell the history of the Manhattan Project
- 2004 Congress directed NPS to perform a Special Resources Study to determine if the requirements to be included in the system were met. Dayton, OH was also included in the SRS legislation
- NPS team held site visits and open houses in each community
- DOE concurs that facilities included in an NPS unit will remain in DOE ownership and that the Department of Energy will maintain them preserve important historic resources at these sites ensure visitor and employee safety and request necessary funding from Congress to do so in the future...
- 2010 SRS completed recommending 3 primary sites



# Park Authorization

- 2015 NDAA passed December 2014 authorizing the park in three locations with joint management with DOE
- Joint DOE and NPS team created to develop Memorandum of agreement on how to manage the park
- MOA team held site visits and open houses in each community

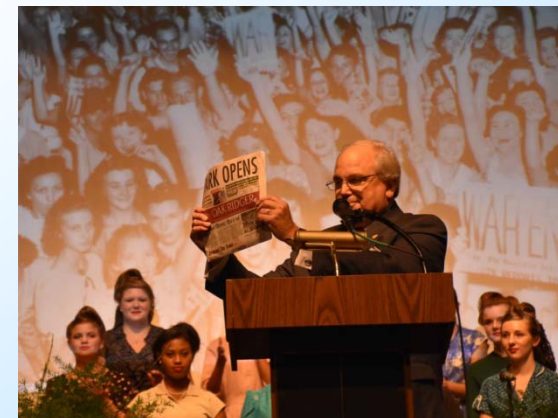


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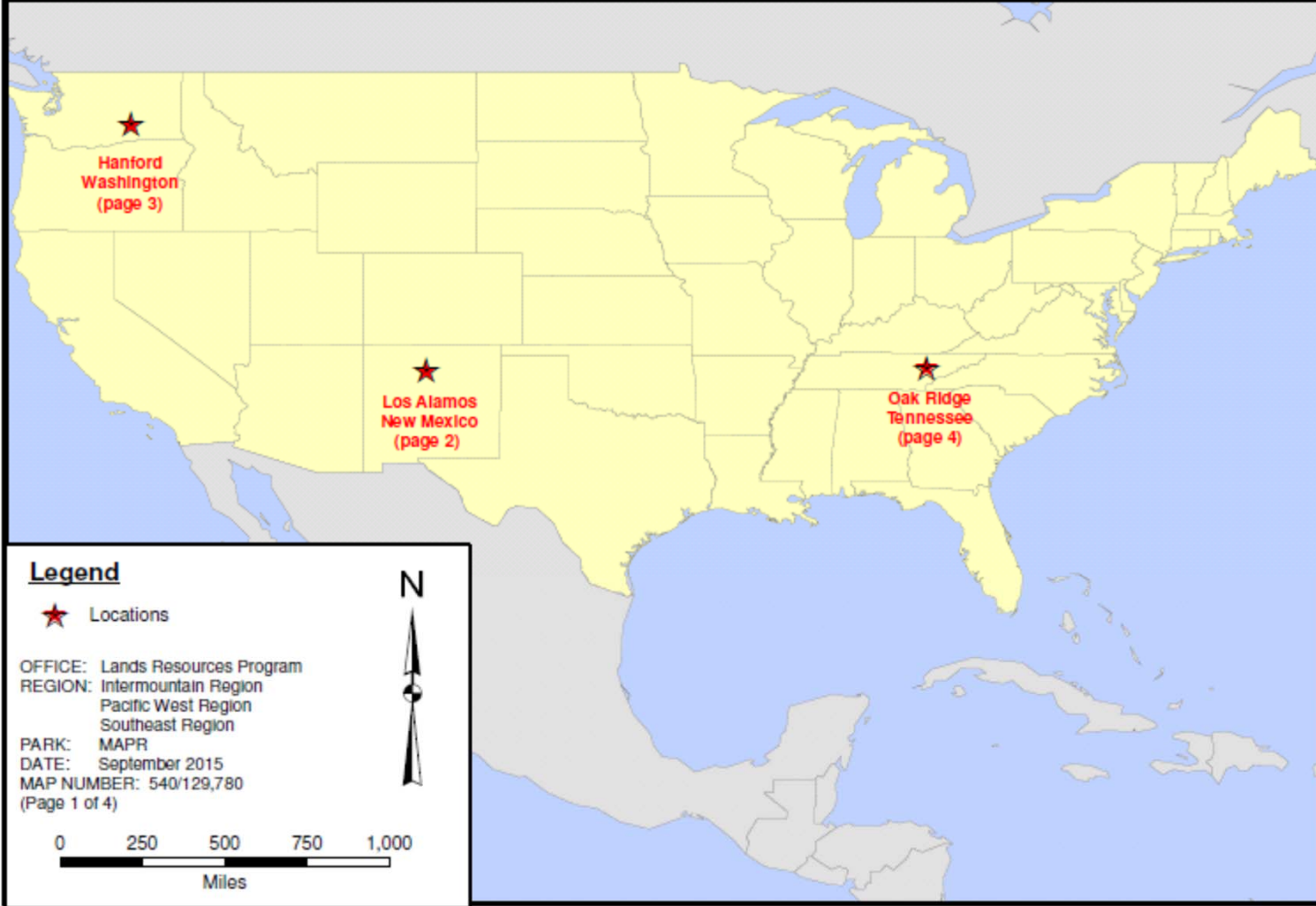
# Park Establishment

- Scholars Forum held in November 2015 to provide input to park interpretation
- MOA between DOE and DOI signed November 2015 which established the park and how it would be jointly managed
- Ceremonies held in each community to celebrate opening of the park



# Department of Energy Sites within the Manhattan Project National Historical Park

National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior



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## Park Purpose

Managed in partnership by the Department of Energy and the National Park Service, Manhattan Project National Historical Park **preserves and interprets** the nationally significant **historic sites, stories, and legacies** associated with the top-secret race to develop an atomic weapon during World War II, and provides access to these sites consistent with the mission of the Department of Energy.



# Division of Responsibilities

## ■ DOE

- Protect public safety, national security and support ongoing mission
- Perform historic preservation and maintenance to ensure safe access to park resources
- Retain responsibility for environmental remediation and structural safety for DOE facilities or lands in the park
- Provide historical information to NPS

## ■ DOI/NPS

- Historic interpretation
- Advisory role for historic preservation related to the park
- Develop a general management plan
- Accept donations for the park



# 2016 Accomplishments

- Visitor contact stations in each community, website and brochures all in place opening day
- DOE staffing in place, NPS has permanent superintendent and acting site representatives
- Overall visitation of over 90,000 in 2016 including:
  - Oak Ridge site tours, AMSE visitation and NPS programs
  - Los Alamos visitor contact station
  - Hanford B Reactor and pre-Manhattan tours
- Foundation Document underway
  - Site visits and open houses
- Strategic Plan underway





# 2017 MAPR Priorities

- Approval of Foundation Document and Strategic Plan
- Support outreach and telling diverse stories
- Update Joint Operating Plans for all 3 sites
- Begin implementation of Strategic Plan actions
- Identify and implement community projects to extend access



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# Strategic Plan Goals 2017-2022

- Protect the Heritage
- Interpret Science and Engineering
- Collaborate with passionate Partners and Volunteers
- Enhance Visitor Experience and Access and Inspire Personal Connections
- Develop the Organization



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# Oak Ridge Visitor Center

- Located at AMSE
- NPS has active programs including use of DOE historic gates houses and bike trails on DOE land
- Staffed by NPS ranger and volunteers
- Support from local parks – Big South Fork and Obed WSR



# Los Alamos Visitor Center

- Located in Downtown Los Alamos
- Part of historic district that is eligible to be in the park
- Space provided at no cost by Los Alamos County
- Staffed by NPS ranger and volunteers
- Support from near by parks – Fort Union and Bandelier



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# Hanford Visitor Center

- Located with B Reactor Tour Headquarters
- Staffed by DOE docents which support EM Public Outreach & Education
- NPS site manager on board in 2017
- Active outreach to local schools



School tour at B Reactor



# 2017 Oak Ridge Site Priorities

- Public Education and Outreach Mission Transition
  - American Museum of Science & Energy and associated land transferred to City of Oak Ridge as excess
  - City to provide space for DOE PE&O mission for 15 years at no cost
- Continued review and input on K-25 History Center design
- Support NPS Interpretive Programs at various DOE facilities
- Lessons plans to state standards in development



# 2017 Hanford Site Priorities

- Continue B Reactor and pre-Manhattan Sites tours
- Update of B Reactor Tour Headquarters by Port of Benton
- White Bluffs Bank restoration completion
- “Legacies of the Manhattan Project” Conference with WSU and Hanford History Project



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TRI-CITIES

**Hanford**  
HISTORY PROJECT



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# 2017 Los Alamos Site Priorities

- Historic preservation work through Interagency Agreement with NPS
- Trails and overlook work with Los Alamos County
- Collaboration with Highlands University on updating apps and engaging diverse youth





# Thank you!



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