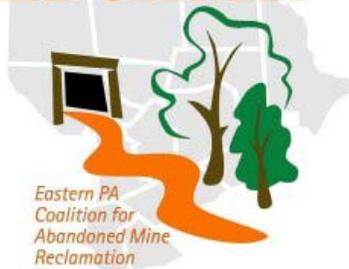


EPCAMR



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June 30, 2009

Re: Work Progress Report on the Hicks Creek AMR Natural Stream Channel Restoration Grant

Eastern PA Coalition for Abandoned Mine Reclamation- Hicks Creek AMR Natural Stream Channel Restoration Grant

Update Work Progress Report-PD060048 (April 1, 2009 thru June 30, 2009)

- On April 1st, 2009 EPCAMR Executive Director reviewed a brief summary of the existing conditions H&H Report Borton & Lawson have performed for the Hicks Creek Natural Stream Channel Design Project. They mentioned that they can include a lot more if you want, but they are not sure what the final product that Skelly & Loy puts together. When Borton & Lawson gets the design from them, they will be able to complete the proposed conditions modeling, and then EPCAMR can add that to the report. Right now, the H & H is mainly just to show the results of the existing conditions HEC-HMS and HEC-RAS analyses. HEC-RAS cross sections can ultimately be included (for now, they only have a profile and summary tables)
- Dennis Palladino, our Project Officer informed EPCAMR that the Grant Center said that they need a formal letter requesting an extension once the waiver is approved; The waiver is still pending; He would let EPCAMR know when it is approved and then we could send him the letter for processing; He informed EPCAMR that he had processed our most recent Application for Reimbursement on April 1, 2009
- On May 5, 2009 Gerald from Skelly & Loy asked what EPCAMR thought was the easiest way to get a line representing the "Regulated waters of the Commonwealth" [Ch 105.13(d)(1)(i)(A)] on the plan; EPCAMR informed him that this would become simpler since there were no wetlands found in this area. EPCAMR talked with Borton & Lawson on seeing if they can interpret the boundary from the LIDAR data from their topographic survey; EPCAMR Executive Director talked with Stephen Boone to see if the LIDAR data captured the stream channel widths on the cross-sections; EPCAMR asked him if we needed to define the bank to bank area, including an elevated floodplain area, plus the active incised channel; There are no NWI Floodplain Areas defined by FEMA this far up the channel;
- On May 6, 2009 Stephen informed EPCAMR and Skelly & Loy that they were able to pick up the stream channel and that the bank to bank area could certainly be defined, and they could give EPCAMR the floodplain area from their HEC-RAS model if needed; The stream centerline is good enough for Gerry's needs on the plans

- Skelly & Loy have a .pdf document of the property line information and owner name that we can work with, but they still need the other features nailed down; Relative to property owner coordination, EPCAMR and HCWA member Karen Szwest will be working on getting the Growing Greener Landowner Easement Access form signed by the three affected owners (1) Highland Manor Associates; 2) Gateway Development Company, Inc. (the corner lot); and 3) Frances and Carmen Capitano (with an Exeter Borough easement). EPCAMR asked for the design drawings first before getting the Agreement Forms signed; EPCAMR will need to have those forms included with the permit application package; Skelly & Loy are trying to layout E & S sheets and it's difficult without the other existing features
- EPCAMR Executive Director informed the consultants that we will target the three landowners that were provided to us by Skelly & Loy; EPCAMR asked for a copy of the design drawings that we could take with us when EPCAMR and Karen Szwest meet with the landowners to show them how much/how little of their properties are going to be affected/helped by the project; Since EPCAMR found no wetlands, if EPCAMR needs to meet with Stephen Boone from Borton & Lawson to determine the regulatory jurisdiction line for the channel on a particular type of drawing, we informed them that we would
- On May 7, 2009 Skelly & Loy informed Borton & Lawson that using their field survey to define the bank to bank stream channel is fine, however, the files they sent to him do not show a stream centerline or the stream channel bank to bank lines. Skelly & Loy is assuming that your field survey data does not change the LIDAR topo; Skelly & Loy are using the LIDAR topo to develop our design and stream profile; For permit application purposes, they believe the only thing we will need to show is the flood water surface profile (current and proposed) which is the only thing we will need the HEC RAS information for. Skelly & Loy do not believe they will be required to show the flood plain line on the plan view for this type of stream project unless required through local ordinances
- As EPCAMR sees things unfolding, Skelly & Loy will complete their design including Limits of Disturbance and proposed grading; This information is what Borton & Lawson would use to rerun the HEC RAS to generate the "proposed flood water surface profile (they can provide Borton & Lawson with the existing profile data); EPCAMR Staff would then take this design and complete the Joint Permit Requirements associated with the EA (i.e., Enclosures A, B, C & D).
- EPCAMR Executive Director has been spending time reviewing the attachments provided by Skelly & Loy for the detailed requirements related to the EA; Since EPCAMR is going this far, it make sense for EPCAMR just to go ahead and complete and sign the EA form since we are already doing everything else and would need to sign the form anyway; If EPCAMR needs Skelly & Loy to provide any specific input to the assessment, we will contact them
- On May 7, 2009, Gerry e-mailed EPCAMR the EA Form to complete
- On May 8, 2009 Stephen responded to Gerry's concerns and informed him that he was correct; The drawing they sent him was just contours without banks and stream centerline called out; This info will be on the base map; The field survey verified the LIDAR topo and that data does not change
- On June 17, 2009 EPCAMR Executive Director followed up with our Project Office Dennis Palladino-PA DEP BAMR, to find out if there was any word on the waiver for our Hicks Creek NSCD Project that we submitted back in March 2009; EPCAMR Executive Director informed

him that we would be submitting a quarterly update at the end of June 2009 since we were in the middle of moving and renovating our new office space at the Earth Conservancy Building by ourselves; We're moving operations away from the Conservation District and going out on our own as an independent non-profit managing our own PA DEP Grants; Informed him that Mike and I will be working on the EA and Joint Permit Application and will be reviewing it with Skelly & Loy prior to submitting to the PA DEP for further review; Knowing that the official grant deadline is June 30, 2009, EPCAMR is a bit concerned because we're not quite complete with the design

- On June 18, 2009, EPCAMR received an e-mail from Dennis who was going to check in on the waiver since it is so close to the end of the grant contract; Later that same day, EPCAMR received a follow-up e-mail from Dennis that stated the Grant Center's answer. The Grant Center said that if the grantee continues to do work after June 30th, they will be doing at their own risk. The Grant Center cannot guarantee that the waiver is going to be approved; however, the waiver has never been declined in the past. If the waiver is not approved, they will not be able to grant an extension; therefore, the grant would be closed out; So EPCAMR is in a bit of a dilemma; As they said, the waiver should be approved, however there is a risk involved if any work is done between June 30 and September 2009; Dennis doesn't know what kind of effect the Governor's budget problems might have on Growing Greener funding; This does present a problem for EPCAMR because Borton & Lawson's contract is dated June 30, 2009 and Skelly & Loy's contract was inadvertently dated June 30, 2010; EPCAMR has informed Borton & Lawson of our situation and will be calling Skelly & Loy about the dilemma as well on July 1st to see if we what we can do; All reimbursements of work completed through June 30, 2009 have been processed by EPCAMR
- On June 22, EPCAMR informed Borton & Lawson of our new office address and recent move and to provide EPCAMR with narrative reports (March thru June 2009) for their recent work on the project; Amber Wallace provided EPCAMR with several reports that are attached to this Progress Report through June 30, 2009
- On June 30, 2009, EPCAMR Executive Director completed a reimbursement and Progress Report to be submitted to the Growing Greener Grants Center and our Project Officer, Dennis Palladino.

Respectfully Submitted,

Robert E. Hughes

Robert E. Hughes
EPCAMR Executive Director