



## Eastern PA Coalition for Abandoned Mine Reclamation

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### January 2022 Progress Report

#### Highlights:

- EPCAMR staff scanned, georeferenced, mosaicked & digitized mine maps for the **PA DEP MSI MMG** program. QA/QC checked work.
- EPCAMR staff participated in a weekly **PA AML Campaign** call, 2 **PA AMR Conference** calls, a Zoom virtual conference platform demo & tour/press event at in the **Wyoming Valley** with **DOI Secretary**
- Submitted several state reimbursements and setup/fixed several AGOL Story Maps.
- Updated [www.treatminewater.com](http://www.treatminewater.com) and [www.epcamr.org](http://www.epcamr.org); administered G Suite for Nonprofits and social media sites; maintained GobbaDaPile in-house domain server

#### Education, Outreach and Admin.:

- Updated the 2022 EPCAMR membership form and posted to the website.
- EPCAMR management staff participated in an AMR Conference call to discuss and gear up for a potential hybrid conference in June 2022.
- Fielded a call about a waste coal pile in Shickshinny that borders State Game Lands. Owners were interested in cleaning it up. Gave Hank Zielinski's information to potentially test for BTU, otherwise we can contact BAMR to ask about traditional reclamation.
- Dr Nerozzi from Wyoming Seminary asked how we would overlap census data with impaired waters to show community impact. Mentioned we are currently working on that topic with PA DEP Environmental Justice (EJ) Office and would let her know. Recommended Frank Sindaco, EPCAMR GIS specialist follow up to share his experiences with the census data. Frank recently created a [PA AML Site Dashboard on AGOL](#) which may help.
- Ran office errands after a doctor appointment in morning. Went to Staples to find a replacement stamp roll for Dymo. Found out Staples no longer carries them in stores, but could be purchased from their website. The price was higher than ordering directly from Endicia, the company we purchase postage from. Went into the office and ordered the stamps from directly from Endicia website. Cleaned the trout tank and changed out water with spring water in preparation for eggs, but that was postponed.
- Previewed Underground Mine Map mosaics for the Southern Field completed by Harrisburg University for the Mine Mapping Grant (MMG). There are 33+ different vein mosaics but lots of large gaps in each. [MSI]
- Digitally signed reimbursement documents for the Bear Creek Grant and sent one off a contract for signature from our President using Hello Sign.
- Reviewed fish photos in Mill Creek Coldwater Heritage Partnership (CHP) Report with Executive Director help identify species. [Mill CHP]
- Started July-September 2021 Reimbursement to MMG program. Went into office to transfer maps to server and prepare the MSI travel drive to be mailed. [MSI]
- Answered a few emails related to AMLIS inventory for colleagues on the PA AML Campaign.

- Wrote up a synopsis for Ed Wytovich, EPCAMR Past President, regarding the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) also known as the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) that included that \$11.3 billion boost of taxpayer money into the AML Trust fund and AML Reauthorization of 7 years with reduced fees.
- Review of draft language to amend the recently passed BIL to include AMD provisions by former Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement (OSMRE) Director Joe Pizarchik.
- Noticed the PA DEP EJ map was updated with the AML sites and feature points/polygons. The layers are not turned on by default, but are there now which is a great step to recognizing that AML areas are also EJ. Hoping to make similar headway with the federal Justice 40 initiative.
- Collected jacket orders for staff and contacted Cabellas/Bass Pro Shops to embroider our logo on the jackets. Sent Tax exempt paperwork to reestablish an account with Cabellas/Bass Pro Shops.
- EPCAMR Management staff met with DOI staff over Microsoft Teams. Worked on tour stops in the Wyoming Valley for next week and gathered board members to speak on Just Transition, Environmental Justice and WorkForce Training topics.
- Discussed preparing a grant for the Plainsville Borehole Pond enhancement with John Levitsky of the Luzerne Conservation District (LCD), with a deadline looming. Decided that we did not have enough information at this time, but would continue researching and reaching out to partners as we are very close to a plan for operation and maintenance (O&M) at the site.
- Participated in Zoom Events Promo webinar and took 2 pages of notes. Sent notes to the AMR Conference committee as we consider a platform for the upcoming hybrid event.
- Reconnaissance with US Department of the Interior (DOI) Secretary staff and security for next week's field trip and press event.
- EPCAMR hosted the DOI Secretary field trip and press event starting at the Swoyersville AMLER Culm Pile Reprocessing project, then on to EC's Askam Treatment System and Bliss Banks Reclamation site.
- Stopped at office to add charcoal to TIC tank filter, download files completed by Denise Hernandez EPCAMR Bookkeeper for 319 reimbursements and assess file size of National Mine Map Repository (NMMR) TIFF image files to send to the PA DEP California District Mining Office (DMO). Their server containing the NMMR files crashed and they need to be re-uploaded. Also found the Dombrowski Mineral Springs Map Collection was never sent.
- Completed and submitted a 319 Reimbursement for July-September 2021.
- EPCAMR Management staff participated in a PA AMR Conference Call to discuss hybrid format. Meeting with Nevada AML program to explain how they setup their hybrid NAAML P conference last year then went full virtual with Whova.
- Wrote November and December EPCAMR Program Manager Board Reports
- Completed and submitted a 319 Reimbursement for October-December 2021.
- In office to transfer Southern and Northern NMMR TIFF images to the travel drive and sent to Patrick Jaquay at the PA DEP California DMO. Added updated excel index files to the collieries that we have sorted out and used in mosaics. Used these index files to catalog the aperture card scans on PHUMMIS.
- Helped Elizabeth Hughes at EC with preparation for the Environmental Workforce Training Program. Reviewed and provided maps to add to a PowerPoint presentation for an afternoon Map Reading and GIS exercise led by EPCAMR. [EWT]
- EPCAMR Management staff participated in the weekly PA AML Campaign Call. Reviewed newly proposed PA Senate Bill No. 1038 forwarded to us by Cristy. Seems to relate to PA Clean Streams Law violation money to be directed to the PA DEP BAMR "Set Aside" fund for O&M of Alternate Bonded Sites (ABS) related AMD treatment systems which seems like a good use. More analysis of the repeals section is needed before knowing full impact.
- Reconciled registration database for the 2020 and 2021 AMR Conferences and transferred revenue from PayPal to EPCAMR's restricted account for the PA AMR Conference.
- Forwarded Frank's PA AML Sites Dashboard to group of folks with questions about AMD locations, streams impaired and proposed projects in Ohio River Basin in PA.

- Worked on our National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) Quality Assurance Project Plan (QAPP) revisions. [NFWF]

### **Technical Assistance:**

- Removed geor\_BMSA\_0259-003 & geor\_BMSA\_0259-004 (badly georeferenced) and added geor\_BLUE\_LOO-09-03-01 to the Nanticoke Abbott Vein Mosaic. Removed BLUE\_HCC-0C-03-01 (Hollenback), geor\_WBDO\_133-01-09 (Nottingham) 1:400 scale maps, then added 1:100 scale maps BLUE\_LOO-02-03-01 (Nottingham), WBDO\_041-02 (Hollenback), BMSA\_1947-001, EPCAMR\_010894-08, EPCAMR\_010892-05 (Susquehanna) and BLUE\_TRU-16-02-01 to the Wilkes-Barre West Abbott Vein Mosaic. Geo and add EPCAMR\_010891-09 to Wilkes-Barre West Snake Island Mosaic. Removed geor\_BMSA\_3862-001 and replaced with BLUE\_KIN-0A-02-07 which shows insufficient cover and dirty coal for most of the Woodward Colliery to show why that area wasn't mined in the Kingston Snake Island Vein Mosaic. Added WBDO\_041-03 and geor\_WBDO\_076-07-05 to the Kingston Kidney Vein Mosaic.
- Downloaded the EPCAMR Environmental Education (EE) Summer Camp video from Facebook and uploaded to our YouTube channel as requested by Laura Rinehimer, EPCAMR EE Specialist.
- Setup a google calendar to display PA Game Commission (PGC) hunting seasons to help us decide when to sample especially at the Loyalsock Creek AMD Treatment Systems because they are on White Ash Land Association (WALA) land which is hunting land. Landowner cooperation is key to maintain these projects so we want to be respectful of their time as well.
- Noticed Reclaimed Abandoned Mine Land Inventory System (RAMLIS) ArcGIS Online (AGOL) map not displaying map service layers from PA Spatial Data Access (PASDA) server. Contacted Maurie Catlin to potentially check the data display settings. Noticed EPCAMR had a map service for Anthracite Discharges and Small Watersheds on PASDA. Created an Anthracite Discharges AGOL map and added it to our featured AGOL map gallery. Gave the AGOL Map Gallery a facelift and added the Huntsville CHP Projects map as well.
- Discovered a fix with the help of ESRI Technical Support for the RAMLIS AGOL Map. Edited the URL of the PASDA map service in the Web Map settings and the layers came back in the Web App. The custom symbology was preserved in the Web App as opposed to the Web Map, contrary to what I was told by ESRI Tech Support.
- Conducted a RAMLIS investigation on Active and Abandoned Mine Sites in Lycoming County on SGL 75. Sent info to Foundation for PA Watersheds (FPW). Added the Active Coal Mines in the USA layer from Living Atlas back to RAMLIS AGOL tool.
- Downloaded maps used in the Pittston Surface Mosaic. 4 maps are still not showing up. Emailed staff to ask if they had the missing AUX.XML files. [MSI]
- Cataloged July- September 2021 georeferencing work on PA Historic Underground Mine Map Inventory System (PHUMMIS). [MSI]
- Processed 9-2019 to 9-2020 and 10-2020 to 10-2021 Askam Stevens Recorder Hydrograph and sent to Earth Conservancy. [EC]
- Added Hollenback 1:100 scale WBDO\_041-03 and geor\_BMSA\_0096 maps from Wilkes-Barre West Kidney Vein Mosaic to cover 1:400 scale maps in Wilkes-Barre East Kidney Vein Mosaic. Added WBDO\_020-07-01 to cover 1:400 scale maps in the Henry and Prospect Collieries in the Kingston Kidney Vein Mosaic. [MSI]
- Discovered a map under Wyoming Seminary that showed an outcrop of the Kidney Vein estimated to be under their dining hall. Notified Dr. Andrea Nerozzi who will ask her campus historian if coal was found during construction of buildings along Sprague Ave.
- Reviewed Abbott Vein Mosaics in Wilkes-Barre East, Wilkes-Barre West, Kingston, and Nanticoke Mosaics. Removed EPCAMR\_010892-05 from the Nanticoke Mosaic.

[ ] - Denotes funding source where applicable.