Eastern PA Coalition for Abandoned Mine Reclamation

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July 2020 Progress Report

Highlights:

- Managed EPCAMR staff as some worked from home to georeference & digitize mosaic maps for the **PA DEP** MSI MMG program. 69 maps were scanned. QA/QC checked work. Rebuilt several mosaics.
- EPCAMR staff participated in a weekly **PA AML Campaign** call, several **PA AMR Conference** calls, a call with **ARIPPA**, and aided in an EE video.
- Sampled the Askam TS twice along **Nanticoke Cr.** for **EC**, sampled 2 TS along **Loyalsock Cr.** for **LCWA** and worked on the **EnviroDIY Mayfly** for **Lackawanna CD.**
- Updated www.treatminewater.com and www.epcamr.org; administered the EPCAMR Facebook and G Suite for Nonprofit accounts; maintained GobbaDaPile in-house domain server and workstation.

Education, Outreach and Admin.:

- Added Anne Daymut from WPCAMR to Whova Dashboard to look at the setup as the AMR Conference Committee was looking at options for virtual conferences more seriously.
- Trip to office to get sampling supplies for intern. Also got sampling book to record Askam TS results in spreadsheet and eventually deliver to Earth Conservancy (EC).
- Received a call from Gannett Fleming about the mine pool related to Gilberton Pump Discharge. This was related to the recent flooding in the town of Gilberton and the construction on Rte 924 was blamed. In all actuality it could have been due to reduced pumping at the co-gen plant and at the Gilberton Pump discharge. They asked for GIS layers to show where the mine pool was located. Created a Gilberton Multi-Colliery Hydrological Unit (MCHU) layer package and sent via email.
- EPCAMR management staff participated in weekly AML Campaign Calls.
- Bought two standup desks and bottom load water cooler as requested by staff as we return to the office.
- Sent tax exempt paperwork to eBay to re-establish our account as tax exempt.
- Participated in a Cvent Zoom Call with Anne Daymut from WPCAMR to learn their pricing structure. After creating a spreadsheet to begin to calculate our conference costs, it became clear that this would be a very pricey option.
- Returned to office on July 6th. Transferred over mosaics and mine map image files on my travel drive over to X drive which is now acting as the backup for our individual external MSI work drives. Fixed the door handle on the EPCAMR Suburban, a consistent issue in warm weather but easy to fix.
- Made a 7' CAT6 patch cable for Robert's computer to connect to the network with his elevated standing workstation. Ordered Verizon MiFi Jetpacks with Robert and Steve as iPads were being setup for field work and needed mobile internet access.
- Sent Askam sampling results to Earth Conservancy (EC).

- Organized for the 2020 Datashed Snapshot sampling later this month: printed materials, ordered sample bottles from Mahaffey Labs and gathered shipping coolers and boxes.
- Countered a point that a board member made to say that EPCAMR staff are playing into partisan politics regarding a recent news report. In fact, the news station put a political spin on an interview that our Executive Director participated in. We were done a disservice from the news station, but never stated that EPCAMR was in support of any particular party or candidate.
- Sent Whova credentials to all members of the PA AMR Conference Committee so they can see the potential of the virtual conference app and understand features as we begin to compare other platforms.
- Followed up with AC Power about the Solar on AML project to let them know our progress with the GIS tool. [RAC]
- Looked over a quote for a drone from Shawnese which looked like a deal and could potentially save us money in the Luzerne Foundation Youth Advisory Council (YAC) grant budget.
- Sampled Loyalsock Creek upstream, downstream and inflow/outflow of the two Connell Tunnel Treatment Systems. Overnighted Datashed samples for Loyalsock Treatment Systems to Mahaffey Labs. [LCWA]
- EPCAMR evaluated, revised and sent back a service agreement with Peidmont and Teichos based off our prospectus.
- Followed up with EC about submitting an ARIPPA AMR Award to setup up flow monitoring stations in the Nanticoke Creek watershed. Suggested a specific model of transducers to get so it would be compatible with our existing Solinst field equipment.
- Participated in a conference call with ARIPPA to talk about how to outreach to our Senators about AML Issues. Currently we are having difficulties reaching out to both Senator Toomey's and Casey's staff.
- Zoom call with Cheryl Nolan to show her the EnviroDIY Mayfly and some missing pieces. We also set a goal of the end of August to have the station installed. Unfortunately, Campbell Scientific is not finished with the Turbidity probe and we will make plans to retrofit the unit when we are able to get it. Sent tax exempt paperwork to Campbell Scientific to establish our account as tax exempt.
- Previewed the 2020 Integrated List of Streams report and ArcGIS Online maps. Unfortunately, several streams are missing from the impaired water's list. I sent an email to the team inquiring about the mistake.
- Prepared a letter of support for the Waste Coal to Power Industry and sent it to Senator Casey to hopefully start a dialogue about how the co-gen industry is helping to reclaim AML at no cost to the AML Trust Fund, but they are being unfairly outcompeted by the natural gas industry and are assumed to be bad polluters like traditional coal fired power plants. The co-gen industry is key to getting more AML reclaimed in PA.
- Created 319 reimbursement paperwork for February and March 2020.
- Contacted YSI about a Royce TSS meter to help us relate Turbidity readings to Total Suspended Solids (TSS) with a ratings curve. The quote for a TSS meter came in at a little under $2,500. Made the decision to purchase the unit to upgrade our field sampling methods.
- Ordered a Hologram Global SIM card for the EnviroDIY Mayfly as this was needed to test the DigiBee and the ability for the Mayfly to send sampling data over mobile data.
- Called the Ramada Inn and Conference Center in State College to postpone AMR Conference to June 2021. Explained to AMR Conference Committee that new increased contract prices and a down payment was now required.
- Checked with TechSoup cloud services to get two more Office 365 user licenses for Kyle and Frank. We have seven and are allowed up to ten free accounts.
- Participated in an AMR Conference Call to talk about a virtual conference in October. Another platform was suggested PheedLoop as it was being used for a PA Recycling conference. Several of us sat through a Pheedloop sales presentation to get the pricing. Created a PheedLoop vs. Whova preliminary budget to compare apples to apples based on our typical numbers and found that at first PheedLoop seems cheaper but the per person costs add up quickly to exceed the Whova costs. Also, the PheedLoop mobile app is less sophisticated as

Whova's. Discussed these topics with the AMR Conference Committee. Contacted Zoom to find out what level of account to purchase.

- Got ReadingEggs subscription from TechSoup sorted out for staff with young kids, came as a bonus with our Boost subscription.
- EPCAMR staff sampled the inflow/outflow of the Askam Treatment System, upstream and downstream (below Espy Confluence) on the Nanticoke Creek. [EC]
- Trained OSMRE VISTA, Kyle, on map scanning. [MSI]
- Aided Laura in filming a skit related to sampling macroinvertebrates. Also participated in a scene where all staff were involved briefly outside as a closing to the video.
- Added Zoom pricing to preliminary conference budget and relayed to AMR Conference Committee. Discovered that we would need to add on a webinar package and upgrade to 500 participants for the month of the conference, but that we could get a 50% discount to the service fees as a TechSoup Boost member.
- Provided Askam sampling results to EC. Also sent along site photos and PowerPoints regarding a 3D model that Mike Dunn from OSMRE created under the Nanticoke Watershed to help determine where to drill the boreholes. As we look at flow losses in the watershed, this may help us figure out where to place transducers.
- Sampled Askam chemistry and flow again (just upstream, at borehole and out of treatment system) after oxidizer was shut off as requested by EC. Recorded sampling results in a spreadsheet and sent them to EC along with an image of the Stevens stream gauge recordings marked up with time to show rise and fall of water after a rain event.
- Gathered water in jugs at the Courtdale Spring to refill the TIC Trout tank since water was removed from it last month.

Technical Assistance:

- Confirmed proper PHUMMIS entry of NMMR aperture card scans with Patrick. Began adding October georeferenced National Mine Map Repository (NMMR) maps to PHUMMIS. [MSI]
- Reviewed Frank's Shickshinny Quadrangle Mosaics digitizing work, finally all areas were showing up. Sent along the Nanticoke Digitizing geodatabase. [MSI]
- Completed the PHUMMIS "Drive Jive" for October to make sure the records matched. Fixed 2 typos and had to add 22 georeferencing records to PHUMMIS that were missed by Shawnese.
- Started November and December "Drive Jives". Fixed 6 typos and had to add 6 scan records that were missed. None of the 39 georeferencing records were added to PHUMMIS, so I added them as well. Going to have to remind Shawnese to double check work before submitting it. This work was requested to be completed by DEP last month and may reflect badly on our record. [MSI]
- Sent Nanticoke Red Ash (Upper and Lower), Chauncey and Ross (Upper and Lower) vein mosaic geodatabases via layer package to Frank. [MSI]
- Finished up PHUMMIS for November (geos) and December (scans and geos) for invoice approval by DEP. [MSI]
- Copied Abbie's files over to archived staff flies on the server and deleted her account to make the computer a PHUMMIS computer. [MSI]
- Traveled to the Redevelopment Authority of Luzerne County to install the Railroad properties GIS database tool on their conference room computer so they can share the information with their board members. Gave the staff a refresher on how to use and update the database.
- Continued to work on Solar on AML GIS tool. Switched all data sources to M Drive so others can help process DEMs to slopes. [RAC]
- Checked in with Frank on digitizing of the Nanticoke Mosaic. Answered a few questions related to shadow veins (lightly drawn portions of the map). Some are caused by the ink rubbing off the map and transferring to another place. Some are a manifestation of a color map copied to grayscale and different veins were lighter colors. Some are pencil drawings of portions of maps that are planned, but not completed (later drawn over with ink when completed). It's hard to tell the difference, but there some telltale signs to sort these out.

- Repaired sources on my MSI Mine Mapping Grant MMG Travel map projects. Somewhere along the line at home during quarantine my external drive claimed the D:/ directory. Switched my CD Drive back to D:/ instead.
- Checked into Nanticoke Mosaics for missing maps in veins above the Chauncey. One Stearns Colliery map in was missing georeferenced data in the Upper Baltimore. It must have been there before but now gone? Re-georeferenced, added it back and used the synchronize tool. [MSI]
- Setup an email and domain account for Kyle who is staring as EPCAMR's new OSMRE VISTA.
- Refreshed windows on the scanning computer because it was not downloading files, then it would not connect to the network drives. Worked on the EPCAMR domain server to updated and figure out why. Accidentally deleted my computer from the server and could not reconnect it. In the meantime, Denise was using her computer to scan (which was working out ok).
- Decided to set the scanning computer up for Kyle and work on connection to the server drives later. Ordered a chill pad because it was heating up and the screen would go dark. This is a common problem for Dell Precision Laptops, which is why I stick with purchasing the same type of computer, so I only have to research the problems with one make of computer, plus I have parts from decommissioned computers to repair computers.
- Ran into issues with Nanticoke Upper Baltimore Mosaic, where the Stearns map would not show up. It lost georeferencing data. Re-georeferenced and synchronized the mosaic to get it back. Georeferenced NMMR 01915-01 to 08 and 01916-00 which were both Susquehanna Colliery Middle Ross vein maps and added it to the Lower Ross Mosaic (removed WBDO_138-12 which was a Chauncey vein map). Georeferenced NMMR 010865-01&02 which were Glen Nan maps that belonged in the Lower Baltimore Mosaic. There were so many changes that needed to be done to these maps and really hindered my ability to simply quality control the mosaics and provide to them to DEP in a timely matter. I am instead rebuilding entire mosaics. [MSI]
- Checked in with Frank digitizing on Nanticoke Mosaics Chauncey and Red Ash veins. [MSI]
- Continued working on Nanticoke Lower Baltimore Mosaic by re-georeferencing BLUE_WAN-05-09 in the Wanamie Colliery. ArcGIS Pro was moving slow with georeferencing and mosaic edits since upgrade to 2.5.2. Researched the issue and cautioned other staff not to upgrade right away until maybe another update comes out. [MSI]

[ ] - Denotes funding source where applicable.