



## Eastern PA Coalition for Abandoned Mine Reclamation

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### June 2021 Progress Report

#### Highlights:

- EPCAMR staff scanned 10, georeferenced 47, 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 CAP calls with **Luzerne Co.** and **LDG**, hosted **EPCAMR Board** strategic planning mtg., & STEAM in the Streams EE event
- Sampled AMD Treatment System on **Nanticoke Cr.** for **EC**, & 3 on **Loyalsock Cr.** for **LCWA**. Sampled 4 AMD discharges for nutrients in **Lackawanna Co.** for **LDG**
- Updated [www.treatminewater.com](http://www.treatminewater.com) and [www.epcamr.org](http://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.:

- Sent receipt to Cindy Wolfe at PA DEP for the 2021 PA AMR Conference sponsorship.
- Updated EPCAMR website, store and [treatminewater.com](http://treatminewater.com) to fix stale links. Also updated the Whova virtual conference platform to October dates as decided by the PA AMR Conference committee on the last conference call.
- Calculated data trends in Nanticoke Creek Watershed for Elizabeth Hughes at Earth Conservancy (EC) help prepare 2 Growing Greener grant applications related to Askam Enhancement Feasibility and Espy Run Culvert replacements. Also estimated Dashed sampling per site plus mileage to Cliff Denholm at Stream Restoration Inc. (SRI) also submitting a Growing Greener proposal.
- Participated in an EPCAMR strategic planning committee meeting. Took notes and updated the Action Planning worksheets for Goals 1-6, edited 7-9 and sent them to Robert for distribution.
- Edited the ARIPPA Award paperwork from Anne, posted to [epcamr.org](http://epcamr.org) and sent out a MailChimp Campaign about it.
- Added Pat Webb to the PA AML Campaign listserve as he took over a position in PA DEP Bureau of Abandoned Mine Reclamation (BAMR) which Brian Bradley left when he was promoted to Eric Cavazza's position when Eric moved to the Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement (OSMRE).
- Aided EPCAMR Volunteer in Service to America (VISTA), Kyle Arrenziano, with Mill Creek Coldwater Heritage Plan (CHP) presentation on Google Slides. Added active and recently active coal mine sites.
- Sent mine operators license for signatures for Swoyersville Project via HelloSign.
- Prepared a quote to the Loyalsock Creek Watershed Association (LCWA) and Sullivan Conservation District (SCD) for Loyalsock Creek and AMD Treatment System Sampling in 2021 and 2022.
- Call from Luzerne Conservation District asking about a sampling point in Hanover Industrial Park related to a construction project. Researched the Abandoned Mine Land Inventory System

(AMLIS) to find it was a 25 gpm discharge there in the Scarlift report (1970s) but was not there in a mine inspectors report in 1983 and now the site is redeveloped and a surface water pond exists. Caught up with John Levitsky regarding the Growing Greener grant proposal for a Plainsville AMD treatment feasibility study.

- Went into office to help Denise with QuickBooks invoices for LCWA and SCD.
- EPCAMR management staff participated in an AMR Conference call. Updated [www.treatminewater.com](http://www.treatminewater.com) website to show that registration is open. Updated budget to estimate expenses for the virtual conference in October.
- Sent an email campaign to invite attendees to the “Seeing Coal exhibit and Beyond the Breaker screening” at the Library Company of Philadelphia. Scheduled an email campaign to invite attendees to the PA AMR Conference.
- Researched Gilberton Coal Company (GCC) suggested Solar on AML sites in preparation for call scheduled with AC Power, clipped parcel data and sent to Steve for eventual analysis in the model. Also found another 500+ acre site to the east of the cogen plant in Morea that has potential, but that site is owned by Pagnotti Enterprises.
- Add Loyalsock Sampling data to sampling database. Attempted to get Tableau, but needed to renew Techsoup Boost first. Try again next week.
- Finished up February-April reports and posted them to [www.epcamr.org](http://www.epcamr.org).
- Meeting with John Levitsky, Jon Dietz and Executive Director to discuss Plainsville Feasibility Study application to Growing Greener.
- Conference call with John Levitsky and Josh Longmore from Luzerne Conservation District (LCD) regarding a County Allocation Plan (CAP) call with PA DEP Chesapeake Bay Office who wanted to incorporate AMD as a Best Management Practice (BMP) in the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) model. Larson Design Group (LDG) was instructed to pick a BMP that was close until that BMP can be added to Practice Keeper. I filled him in about the discussion we had a few months back with PA DEP 319 program regarding incorporation of Dashed data into Practice Keeper. Asked Josh Glace at LDG about Nitrate NO<sub>3</sub> vs NO<sub>3</sub>-N results and which should be reported. He said keep reporting NO<sub>3</sub>-N for consistency. NO<sub>3</sub> can be calculated later. [CAP]
- Helped EPCAMR Environmental Education staff remotely plan the STEAM in the Streams event days before and helped with setup of the stations around the office and lunch the day of the event in between participating in a PA AML Campaign Call and picking up the Iron Oxide Processor from Kings College.
- Participated in the Luzerne County Watershed Health CAP focus group to begin adding priority initiatives to the plan. [CAP]
- Prepared and submitted a January to March 2021 MSI MMG Reimbursement. [MSI]
- Picked up spring water for the office. Fielded calls about Commissioner's Lake near Mt. Carmel and a potential subsidence in Ashley.
- Processed the first 2 AMR Conference Registrations (one was a check received and the other was a credit card payment). Sent emails to attendees and responded we would let them know when we start adding attendees to the virtual platform.

### **Technical Assistance:**

- Georeferenced BLUE\_LOO-09-10, regeoreferenced BLUE\_AVO-01-10-02 and added BLUE\_AVO-01-10-01 to the Wilkes-Barre West Top Ross vein mosaic. [MSI]
- Added BLUE\_KIN-0A-10-0, BLUE\_KIN-0A-10-02, BLUE\_KIN-0A-10-05, BLUE\_KIN-0A-10-06, BLUE\_KIN-0A-10-09, BLUE\_LOO-00-10, and BLUE\_HUB-00-10 to fill in the gaps in the Wilkes-Barre West Top Ross vein mosaic. Removed BLUE\_AVO-01-10-01 and replaced it with BLUE\_AVO-01-10-03. [MSI]
- Added BMSA\_4928-024\_A, BMSA\_4926-026 (Red Ash and Empire Colliery maps), EPCAMR\_010915-08, EPCAMR\_010917-08 and EPCAMR\_010917-07 (Susquehanna Colliery maps) to the Wilkes-Barre West Low Ross vein mosaic. Replaced WBDO\_066-13 with geor\_WBDO-066-13 in Wilkes-Barre West Lo Ross vein mosaic which was georeferenced correctly. Added BLUE\_HUB-23-11 to Wilkes-Barre West Upper Ross vein mosaic. Sent

Wilkes-Barre West Lo Ross and Upper Ross vein mosaics to Mara at DEP California DMO. Added BLUE\_HUB-23-11, BLUE\_HUB-23-10, BLUE\_HUB-22-10 to Wilkes-Barre East Upper Ross vein mosaic, but did not resubmit, instead told Mara to check the Wilkes-Barre West vein mosaics and add those maps to Wilkes-Barre East before trimming. Georeference EPCAMR\_012239-01 to 03 and add to Wilkes-Barre West Baltimore vein mosaic. [MSI]

- Found more scenes for the National Mine Map Repository (NMMR) table I created which need to be added to PHUMMIS. Also, one other georeferenced maps needs to be added for March. Attempted to determine all the South Wilkes-Barre Colliery NMMR maps and recorded them in the excel table. Georeferenced EPCAMR\_012089-01 to 05 (South Wilkes-Barre Baltimore North Section) to fill in gaps in the Wilkes-Barre West Baltimore vein mosaic. [MSI]
- Denise reports issues with PHUMMIS access. Contacted Dave Tissue who recommended reinstalling Cisco. Went to office to resolve the issue for Denise.
- Remove BMSA\_3887-001 and add BLUE\_AVO-06-08-02 and EPCAMR\_012089-01 to 05 to the Wilkes-Barre West Baltimore vein mosaic. Requested and received georeferenced files from Steve for Kingston Low Pittston vein mosaic, EPCAMR\_011876-03 to 05 (Loree Colliery), to fill a gap in Wilkes-Barre West Baltimore vein mosaic and Kingston Low Pittston vein mosaic. Attempted to determine all the Loree Colliery NMMR maps and recorded them in the excel table. Looking for Bennett vein the southern portion of the colliery, but maps do not exist. Regeoreferenced geor\_BMSA\_6016-001, a 1:400 scale that was badly georeferenced and added it to WBW Baltimore Mosaic. Wilkes-Barre West Baltimore vein mosaic is ready to submit but wait to send along Top Baltimore vein mosaic. Added BMSA\_1859-001 and BMSA\_1866-001 to WBW Top Baltimore vein mosaic. [MSI]
- Calibrated the HANNA ORP Stick meter for the first time in preparation for field sampling.
- Sampled Loyalsock Upstream, Downstream and in/out of 3 treatment systems (Connell B Vein, Connell C Vein and Gutten Drift). Recorded data in a database for reporting to the Sullivan Conservation District (SCD) and Loyalsock Creek Watershed Association. [LCWA]
- Finished recording Loyalsock data in spreadsheet. Discovered we may have been doing the Phosphate test wrong by not using the HR reagent, but the SR instead. Ordered Phosphate SR reagent tablets from Palintest as directed by YSI representative. They sent 50 free. Ordered Nitrate reagent off Ebay for 1/2 the price on the YSI site, hoping there's nothing wrong with them.
- Planned out and sampled 4 upper Lackawanna discharges for nutrients: Simpson Drift and Shaft discharges to Wilson Creek. Found the Giombetti Breaker and Drift Discharge in Carbondale. Spoke to a neighbor that said its piped to a pond near Russell Park now. We found the new culvert system. Lastly, we sampled the Jermyn Outfall. While in general Phosphate levels were relatively high for AMD (3.5-7 mg/l), Nitrate levels were under 1 mg/L, the water was near-neutral with low metals but nice cold water feeding the streams. We would actually recommend not treating any of the discharges in this section of the Lackawanna River which carries a Class A Wild Trout status. Added Upper Lack AMD water quality to the database and formatted the database. [CAP]
- Recorded Aylesworth AMD Treatment Dashed Snapshot sampling data into Water Quality Database and transferred all recent Lackawanna AMD Sampling data to CAP Nutrient sampling in AMD database and sent to LDG. [CAP]
- Georeferenced WBDO\_012-03 and digitized the boundary into geobasins shapefile as the underground mined out area for the Racket Brook Colliery also marked the discharge we found from the Glombetti Drift last week in the Anthracite Discharges shapefile.
- Sampled Askam Boreholes, Treatment System, upstream and downstream on Nanticoke Creek and 2 flow sites in the Nanticoke Creek Watershed. Recorded data into sampling spreadsheet and delivered to Earth Conservancy. [EC]
- Added another "map" to MSI\_MMG\_Travel project in ArcGIS Pro to show digitizing work laid over mosaics only to help QC Frank's Work. Removed digitized files from the Mosaic Map to help speed that up. Maps only load in a project when you click on them speeding things up. [MSI]

[ ] - Denotes funding source where applicable.