



Eastern PA Coalition for Abandoned Mine Reclamation

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March 2019 Progress Report

Highlights:

- Managed EPCAMR staff as they scanned 38 mine maps into TIFF images, georeferenced 99 & digitized mosaic maps for the **PA DEP** MSI MMG program. QA/QC checked work.
- Worked on building vein nomenclature lists with EPCAMR volunteer for MSI program.
- Continued creating a 3D model in ArcGIS format for mine pools near **Mocanaqua** for **SRBC**.
- Continued scanning, georeferencing and began digitizing maps for the **Luzerne Co. Rail Corp.**
- EPCAMR staff participated in a **NAAML** meeting, aided **NTCO** with an event, met with **SRBC** to show progress, and traveled to **Washington DC** to talk about AML issues with legislators
- Raised **TIC** trout and aided in forum for **PA FB&C**; livestreamed tank at www.dailymotion.com
- EPCAMR staff sampled minepool monitoring stations near **Mocanaqua** for the **SRBC** and 2 AMD treatment systems along the **Loyalsock Creek** for the **Sullivan Conservation District**.
- Updated www.epcamr.org; updated items on the EPCAMR online store; administered the EPCAMR Facebook and G Suite for Nonprofit accounts (for NAAML as well); maintained GobbaDaPile in-house domain server and workstation

Education, Outreach and Admin.:

- Continued reimbursements and sent October – December and January reimbursement for work completed for the mine mapping grant. Sent the digital files on the travel drive to PA DEP California District Mining Office (DMO). [MSI]
- An anonymous source donated some field sampling equipment to EPCAMR including a Pigmy flow meter with rod and some acid ampules for acidifying samples. Will need to obtain an AquaCalc 5000 to have a fully functional flow meter. Found used ones for \$300 on eBay.
- Received a call from Newport Township Community Organization (NTCO) regarding bird box availability for a project with a youth group. Did not have any on hand, but forwarded them a pattern we modified from PA Game Commission that uses only 1 pine board.
- Met with the Wyoming Valley Sanitary Authority (WVSA) and the Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE) with regard to the Municipal Separate Storm Sewer (MS4) program in the Wyoming Valley. WVSA and/or the ACOE plans to sub-contract with EPCAMR to quantify and sample AMD discharges in WVSA's coverage area.
- EPCAMR management staff participated in an AML Campaign Call.
- Aided Shawnese Taylor with her application to the Luzerne Foundation.
- Continued stocking the TIC tank with watercress seeds to help control nitrate levels. Sprouted the seeds in a dish of tank water then added them to the floating redd baskets at the top of the tank. Changed 40% of the water in the tank to reduce the nitrate levels in the meantime.
- EPCAMR staff participated in a conference call with ACOE regarding Section 510: Chesapeake Bay Environmental Restoration and Protection program and Section 206: Aquatic Ecosystem Restoration program funding. Both programs are a cost share programs with a local sponsor, but fund the ACOE to work in the area as opposed to a non-profit or consultant.

- EPCAMR welcomed Steve Cornia as the newest member of our staff. Setup an email, computer, desk and paperwork items for him to complete.
- EPCAMR management staff participated in the NAAML P call to discuss PA AMR Conference Committee and EPCAMR participation in the conference.
- Meet with the Susquehanna River Basin Commission (SRBC) to show progress in the Mocanaqua Tunnel Mine Pool Project. Showed a live demo of 3D multipatch shapefiles done so far. [SRBC]
- Traveled to Washington D.C. for Executive Director to testify at a hearing of the House Natural Resources Committee regarding the RECLAIM Act. Met with staff of Congressman Doyle, and Congressman Meuzer as well to introduce ourselves and talk about AML issues.
- Traveled to Huntingdon, PA to participate in an PA AML Campaign Meeting at Juniata College.

Technical Assistance:

- Handed over quality controlled Datashed data to Gavin to produce AMD PTS stats and maps per legislative district and for the Chesapeake Bay Watershed (Susquehanna River Basin) for Joe Pizarchik and the PA AML Campaign.
- Created a problem list of 35 Passive Treatment Systems to Stream Restoration Inc. (SRI) with negative metals loadings and possibly why based on how data was entered into Datashed.
- Setup an email redirect to notify PA DEP Bureau of Abandoned Mine Reclamation (BAMR) staff when a National Association of Abandoned Mine Land Programs (NAAML P) conference registration is processed through the EPCAMR online store.
- Continued to aide Conal Herron, EPCAMR Volunteer, as he reviewed OSM Folios and created vein nomenclature tables for the Southern Anthracite Coal Field. Folios are even more incomplete for this field than the Northern and Western Middle fields so we supplemented with National Mine Map Repository (NMMR), Pennsylvania Historic Mine Map Inventory System (PHUMMIS) and Second PA Geologic Survey map collections. [MSI]
- Georeferenced a Northern Anthracite Coalfield railroad map spline with about 300 control points because the map was not to scale between urbanized areas. Digitize railroad properties for the CRRNJ Nanticoke Branch to get an idea of a procedure to teach staff to digitize the rest of the railroad properties. [RALC]
- Updated coupon codes for the NAAML P registration on the EPCAMR Online Store for PA DEP to allow sponsors and a select few of comped attendees to register through the store, but not pay. These coupons had to exclude guest registrations as well.
- Showed staff how to digitize properties and what information to collect from the Redevelopment Authority of Luzerne County (RALC) railroad maps. [RALC]
- Created graphs and mapping snapshots for SRBC meeting. Prepared a map document in ArcGIS Pro to showcase data that had been generated. [SRBC]
- Searched for an image sorting program to sort the thousands of EPCAMR photos by location and face recognition. EPCAMR used to use Picasa, but that program has been discontinued by Google. You can still use the program but the location services are broken. Google touts its Google Photos as the replacement, but it was not sorting images for our Google Apps for Nonprofits accounts like it worked for personal google accounts. Several free and relatively inexpensive programs are available. Downloaded a few like ACDSee, but Google Photos began working after about a week.
- Field sampled flow and chemistry at 2 sites along the Black Creek for the Mocanaqua Mine Pool Project. Collected water samples at the tunnel discharge and sent them to Hawk Mountain Labs for analysis. Took water levels and transducer readings at 3 strip pits, and 4 boreholes and 3 water quality monitoring sites. Recorded results in a google spreadsheet shared with the Susquehanna River Basin Commission. [SRBC]
- Sampled flow and chemistry on 2 treatment systems (WALA Connel B and C Tunnel AMD treatment systems), upstream and downstream on the Loyalsock Creek to judge the effectiveness of the upgrades to the Connel B Tunnel AMD treatment system. [LCWA]

[] - Denotes funding source where applicable.