



Eastern PA Coalition for Abandoned Mine Reclamation

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October 2021 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, a **Sullivan CAP** meeting, several **PA AMR Conference Committee** calls, & hosted the **2021 PA AMR Conference**
- Sampled AMD Treatment System on **Nanticoke Cr.** for **EC**, 3 on **Loyalsock Cr.** for **LCWA**, & several water bodies in the **Newport Watershed** for **NFWF**
- Updated www.treatminewater.com and www.epcamr.org; administered G Suite for Nonprofits; maintained GobbaDaPile in-house domain server; Setup PA AMR virtual Conf. on Whova

Education, Outreach and Admin.:

- Updated graphs for Loyalsock Sampling Report. Fixed loading calculations especially for times when systems were bypassing some flow. Made sure to only calculate load reductions of flow going through the systems. Updated tables and graphs for report. Added photos of high and low flow events for each sampling location and finished up a third draft of the Loyalsock Sampling Report for discussion with Robert. [LCWA]
- EPCAMR Management staff participated in several Pennsylvania Abandoned Mine Reclamation (PA AMR) Conference Committee calls as the conference is this month and the committee was meeting to tie up loose ends. Updated the Presentations page on www.treatminewater.com with approved presenters and abstracts posted on Whova. Eventually this will be a page that holds the actual recorded presentations after the conference.
- Sent a finalized Loyalsock Creek 2020-2021 Sampling Report to the Loyalsock Creek Watershed Association (LCWA), White Ash Land Association (WALA) and Sullivan County Conservation District (SCCD). [LCWA]
- EPCAMR Management staff participated in weekly PA AML Campaign calls to find out the status of AML related legislation moving through Congress.
- Caught up on PA AMR Conference Registrations. Purchased the webinar package from Zoom for the month. Worked with Anne Daymut at WPCAMR to setup more Zoom webinars and meetings in Whova for the PA AMR Conference. Investigated Whova settings to test out. Contacted tech support to find out how to disable Q&A in Whova and control how participants access the live streams whether thru an internet browser with Whova Web App or directly through Zoom App. Looked through improvements and new features in 2021 since our last conference. Planned to test these settings in several moderator trainings.

- Attended Science Exploration Exhibit and Presentation by Dr. Andrea Nerozzi at Wyoming Seminary
- Watched a demo of Aquarius software in the office with Denise, Laura and Steve.
- EPCAMR and WPCAMR staff hosted a moderator training for those on the PA AMR Conference Committee that were moderating sessions. I had been instructed they need to join the session through Whova to watch the chat for attendees asking questions. A few had problems when they left and tried to rejoin as it was asking for a panelist token. These folks had to rejoin using the Zoom link and it opened the Zoom native application, which disallowed them from seeing the Whova chat. This was a new error and I later chatted with Whova technical support who referred me to Zoom technical support.
- EPCAMR and WPCAMR staff hosted several speaker trainings to allow PA AMR Conference speakers to test out the controls in Zoom before their virtual presentations.
- Traveled to Sullivan County Conservation District with EPCAMR Executive director to participate in their CAP. They are teamed up with Columbia and Montour County to do their Tier 3 assessments. We worked with them to add the AMD sampling work to their plan for Sullivan County.
- EPCAMR and WPCAMR staff hosted a second moderator training to test out suggestions from Zoom and Whova Staff. The error still remains, but the committee was able to find a work around.
- Was asked by the Luzerne Conservation District (LCD) to provide information related to a pond near the Espy Run AMD Treatment System in the Nanticoke Watershed, also found a map of Glen Alden Mine Co. stream channel projects in the Wyoming Valley and sent to Earth Conservancy (EC) and LCD. Some of the projects were Scarlift Projects, but some were older and some were completed by the coal company without government financial assistance.
- Closed AMR Conference registration by disabling the items in the EPCAMR online store and made a post on www.treatminewater.com. Made final touches to Whova and answering questions for attendees that post in the community chat.
- EPCAMR and WPCAMR staff hosted one last moderator training to test out suggestions from Zoom and Whova Staff. The error still remains, and we decided to just supply the committee with direct Zoom links in case they are locked out of the live stream. We had run out of time to continue to test things out with Zoom.
- EPCAMR and WPCAMR staff hosted the 3-day PA AMR Conference. The first to days were our typical plenary, concurrent and virtual tour presentations and the last day was a Dashed Workshop.

Technical Assistance:

- EPCAMR staff and a few volunteers from the board participated in the electroshocking of Mill and Gardner Creek with Tour Unlimited (TU). I broke off from the group in the afternoon to sample a newly found discharge to Gardner Creek that EPCAMR staff found while assessing the stream. A white precipitate stains the streambed, but it was difficult to find the discharge located on the other side of an active rail line. The 1,300 gpm discharge was the one we had been looking for in the Packer Colliery for a long time. The pH was only 3.71 and dissolved oxygen was 0.63 mg/L with 3 mg/L of iron and greater than 5 mg/L aluminum. Later researched mine maps to find the discharge is emanating from an air shaft so I named it the Packer Air Shaft Discharge. [CAP]
- Updated Luzerne and Lackawanna Countywide Action Plan (CAP) sampling databases and delivered to Larson Design Group (LDG) who is heading up the planning effort. Added 5 new discharges in Lackawanna (Dana Tunnel, East Mtn. Seep, Dunmore #1 Res. Seep, Aylesworth Creek AMD Trib, and National Mine Seep near Poultry Plant)

and 1 in Luzerne (Packer Air Shaft) to the Anthracite Discharges Layer. Added 2 underground mined basins on Scranton's East Mountain digitized from WBDO_00D-05-01-04 map. [CAP]

- Sent calculated Jeddo Tunnel Discharge flow we took on 9/29/21 to Gary Leander at Friends of the Nescopeck (FON). They went out that day as well for their monthly sampling and flow calculation, this time with PA DEP, and they were getting conflicting flows. The flow FON calculated matched more in the range of what I measured. I explained that I initially sampled below the condemned bridge, but then went up to sample flow on the Little Nescopeck B above where the Jeddo Discharge comes in and removed that flow to make the number more accurate. Regardless, it was difficult to sample flow there because it was high and very dangerous, but I found an overhanging tree to brace myself in the thalweg.
- Sampled Loyalsock Upstream, Downstream, & 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) & Loyalsock Creek Watershed Association. [LCWA]
- Discussed potential pollution sources on Gardner Creek above Laflin Park with John Levitsky and the need to sample macros above the reservoir.
- Added Loyalsock Sampling data to the water quality database on Google Sheets. [LCWA]
- Georeferenced BLUE_LOO-03-05-01 (Inman) map and BLUE_TRU-10-06 and BLUE_TRU-14-06 (Truesdale) map for Wilkes-Barre West Quad Stanton Vein mosaic. Added BLUE_LOO-03-05-01, BLUE_TRU-10-06, BLUE_TRU-14-06, BLUE_LOO-02-05-01, BLUE_LOO-02-05-02, EPCAMR_012083-01 to 05, EPCAMR_012084-01 to 05, BLUE_AVO-06-08-02, geor_BLUE_LOO-07-05-03, BLUE_TRU-13-06, geor_BLUE_TRU-12-06, geor_BLUE_TRU-11-06, geor_BLUE_TRU-15-06, geor_BLUE_TRU-16-06, and BLUE_TRU-09-06 maps to Wilkes-Barre West Quad Stanton Vein mosaic. [MSI]
- Removed geor_BMSA_4928-013, BMSA_3883-001, geor_WBDO_133-01-12, geor_WBDO_115-08-10 and geor_WBDO_115-02-11 maps and added EPCAMR_012178-01 to 03 (Stanton), EPCAMR_010903-09 and EPCAMR_010902-02 (Susquehanna) maps to Wilkes-Barre West Quad Stanton Vein mosaic. Started QA&QC Nanticoke Quad and Wilkes-Barre West Quad Hillman Vein Mosaics for comparison across the quadrangle boundaries. [MSI]
- Went sampling water bodies in the Newport Watershed for Black Duck Habitat with Steve on the ATV but got only assessed the “real Kapik Pond” completed because we got the ATV stuck on a tree and had to go back to the office to get a chainsaw. [NFWF]
- Went sampling water bodies in the Newport Watershed for Black Duck Habitat with Robert on the ATV and got several more sites completed around Wanamie. [NFWF]
- 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]

[] - Denotes funding source where applicable.