



Eastern PA Coalition for Abandoned Mine Reclamation

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September 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, attended an **EPA Region 3 319 program virtual tour** webinar, a **PA AMR Conference Committee** call, & a call for the **Lackawanna CAP** program
- Sampled AMD Treatment System on **Nanticoke Cr.** for **EC**, & 3 on **Loyalsock Cr.** for **LCWA**
- 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.:

- Participated in Lackawanna Countywide Action Plan (CAP) stakeholder meeting. Followed up with Bernie McGurl afterward and added an AMD treatment system along the Casey Highway Wetland to Datashed. [LDG]
- Continued to process Pennsylvania Abandoned Mine Reclamation (PA AMR) Conference registrations weekly and setup Whova Virtual Conference Platform.
- Received and sent online orders for the Centralia DVD and Iron Oxide.
- Participated in the EPA Region 3 319 program virtual tour with DEP, WPCAMR and Clearfield County Conservation District.
- EPCAMR Management staff participated in an AMR Conference Call where I was able to report that Larson Design Group (LDG) agreed to present and submit abstract regarding the Countywide Action Plans (CAP). Followed up with Jon Dietz and notified the committee that will wait on his presentation till next year.
- Participated in a conference call with John Clune of the US Geological Service (USGS) to discuss his paper on nutrient loads in streams and his thoughts on discharges in the Lackawanna Watershed as he was the Watershed Specialist prior to Cheryl Nolan.
- Caught up on PA AMR Conference registrations, added Pennsylvania Aggregates and Concrete Association (PACA) to conference sponsors on Whova.
- Met with EPCAMR Executive Director to review resumes for the part-time GIS Watershed Technician.
- Added Datashed Training to PA AMR Conference agenda in Whova. Processed and answer questions about AMR Conference registrations. Organized paperwork and straightened up home office.
- Replied to Elizabeth Hughes at Earth Conservancy (EC) regarding their Environmental Workforce Training (EWT) program Chemistry Class as it was suggested we help with field and macro collection.

- Checked attendees on Whova from those registered, made corrections and noted speakers that still needed to register. Sent that list to Anne. Setup another virtual exhibit booth.
- Began looking for new drop off recycling locations now that Mascaro's in Nanticoke closed down their recycling center. A worker said that too many people were dumping garbage into the recycling containers, but they also stopped monitoring the site a long time ago. No cameras were visible to deter bad behavior. Balecki's scrap yard used to be a drop off location in Wilkes-Barre but suffered a fire last year and never reopened. Luzerne County has a very good recycling website, but unfortunately does not make it easy for residents to recycle because there are no more drop off locations left in the county. Each municipality in the county deals with garbage/recycling differently and only a few waste pickup services or municipalities offer curbside pickup. EPCAMR would like to correlate our illegal dumped garbage cleanup data to how residents pay for garbage pickup in each municipality. There is likely a correlation.

Technical Assistance:

- Entered sampling data from Askam and Lower Lackawanna into water quality database in Google sheet.
- Prepared Abandoned Mine Land Inventory System (AMLIS) Reports for 5 of the 8 discharges sampled for the CAP in the Lower Lackawanna (others were well known). Sent these with comments to EPCAMR Executive Director and Bernie McGurl of the Lackawanna River Conservation Association (LRCA). Added Dana Tunnel Discharge to Anthracite AMD Discharges shapefile. [LDG]
- Added BLUE_NOT-00-06-12 map to Kingston Quad Lance Mosaic. Recorded May-June scans and April-June georeferenced maps in the Pennsylvania Historic Underground Mine Map Inventory System (PHUMMIS) on PA DEP Virtual Private Network (VPN). [MSI]
- Georeferenced EPCAMR_012085-01 to 05 maps and EPCAMR_012086-01 to 05 maps then added them to the Wilkes-Barre West Quad Five Foot Vein Mosaic. Removed a 1:400 scale "bluie" from the mosaic. Discovered that Inman veins were missed in the mosaic from Upper Ross to Bottom Red Ash. Need to work on replacing 1:400s in Loomis and Nottingham Collieries. [MSI]
- Found 10 more detailed 1:100 scale maps to replace 1:400 scale maps in Wilkes-Barre West Quad Five Foot vein mosaic. Georeferenced 12 National Mine Map Repository (NMMR) maps to replace 1:400 scale maps in Wilkes-Barre West Quad Up and Lo Red Ash vein mosaics.
- 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]
- Received reviews of Mine Mapping Grant (MMG) work from PA DEP and sent corrections of January to June maps submitted to the MSI Program. Corrected typos in PHUMMIS and added missing entries. Asked Shawnese to correct 14 NMMR maps (24 scenes) that were georeferenced in the wrong projection. [MSI]
- Analyzed "Dissolved metals and associated constituents in abandoned coal-mine discharges, Pennsylvania, USA. Part 1: Constituent quantities and correlations" report by Charles A. Cravotta III for statewide dissolved nutrient (NO₃-N and PO₄-P) levels in 1999 as compared to the total nutrient (NO₃-N and PO₄) results we are getting from our CAP sampling as suggested by John Clune from USGS.

- Downloaded MMG georeferenced maps and mosaic work sent to me by Shawnese and Steve from the previous month. Removed WBDO_084-09-05 map, georeferenced BLUE_NOT-05-06 map, re-georeferenced BLUE_LOO-10-08 map, and then added them along with BLUE_NOT-03-06, 02-06, 08-06, 07-06, BLUE_LOO-06-08-01, 07-06, 09-08, 11-08 maps to cover 1:400 scale maps in the Wilkes-Barre West Quad Five Foot Vein Mosaic. Removed BLUE_LOO-00-06 and added BLUE_NOT-03-06 to Kingston Quad Lance Vein Mosaic. [MSI]
- Added EPCAMR_010906-06 and 07 maps to Wilkes-Barre West Quad Top Baltimore Vein Mosaic. Created shapefiles of Wilkes-Barre West Quad Five Foot Vein, Top Baltimore Vein, and Baltimore Vein mosaics and sent to Mara at the DEP California District Mining Office (DMO) for approval. Added EPCAMR_012096-01, 02, 012096-04 and 05 maps to the Wilkes-Barre West Quad Lower Red Ash Vein Mosaic to replace portions of maps that did not have elevation points. Removed BMSA_3877-001 and BMSA_3888-001 maps and added EPCAMR_012094-02 to 05, 012095-01 to 04 maps to the Wilkes-Barre West Quad Up Red Ash Vein Mosaic to replace portions of maps that were still 1:400 scale and incomplete. Removed BMSA_3859-005 map and replaced with BLUE_NOT-06-05, WBDO_025-04, geor_BMSA_3859-005, geor_BMSA_3859-002 and geor_BMSA_3859-001 maps in the Wilkes-Barre West Quad Stanton Vein Mosaic. Georeferenced EPCAMR_012084-01 to 05, EPCAMR_012083-01 to 05 (South Wilkes-Barre Colliery), BLUE LOO 03-05-01, 02-05-01, 02-05-01(Inman and Buttonwood Collieries) maps for the Wilkes-Barre West Quad Stanton Vein Mosaic. [MSI]
- 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].
- Reviewed issues with multiple maps for the Dunmore #1 vein especially in the Pine Brook Colliery in the Scranton Quad Mosaics with Steve. We discovered that he might need to have a separate "Top Split" vein mosaic for that quadrangle. [MSI]
- Spoke with Nate Miller from the PA Department of Health about an Environmental Health interactive map in development. It seems like it will be very robust and useful. He asked about Anthracite AMD Discharges layer on PASDA and wanted permission to use it in their map, but also how AMD Discharges relate to environmental health. I sent Ann Liu's report on AML Sites related to health which helped answer this question with actual congregated medical data a few years ago and Geisinger's Environmental Health Institute continued efforts to update the data.
- Created the Loyalsock Creek 2020-2021 Sampling Report draft as we closed out another year of sampling recently. Circulated the draft around to staff for comments before finalizing and sending to the LCWA and SCD. [LCWA]
- Located mine discharges to sample for the CAP and identified landowners in Nescopeck Creek Watershed. Contacted Gary Leander of the Friends of the Nescopeck for information as well. Ordered YSI Photometer Iron HR Reagent in preparation. [LDG]
- Asked Patrick Jaquay, PA DEP California DMO and head of the MMG program if any of the grant recipients are currently creating mosaics for the Lykens Quad in the Southern Anthracite Coal Field. He replied that Harrisburg University expects to complete the digitizing of that quad by the end of November and we may have the data for our Bear Creek Mine Pool Mapping Project.

[] - Denotes funding source where applicable.