



Eastern PA Coalition for Abandoned Mine Reclamation

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September 2023 Progress Report

Highlights:

- EPCAMR staff scanned, georeferenced, mosaicked & digitized mine maps for the **DEP MSI MMG** program. QA/QC checked work.
- Hosted 2 EPCAMR Committee calls over zoom; Participated in weekly **PA AML Campaign** calls, several **PA AMR Conference Committee** calls, Solar on AML calls with **DEP EPO** and **LaBella**, and a call from **PA DEP Infrastructure Coordinator**; Continued to manage registration and contact venues for the **NTTP AMD Treatment Course** and the **PA AMR Conference**.
- Sampled Askam AMD Treatment System, upstream & downstream on **Nanticoke Cr.** for **EC**; 3 AMD TS, upstream, downstream and several headwater sites in **Loyalsock Creek Watershed** for **LCWA & SCD**; sampled 27 discharge and instream sites in **Shamokin Cr.** for **SCRA**.
- Attended the 3-day **NTTP AMD Treatment Course** in State College
- Updated www.PaSolarMinedLands.org, www.TreatMineWater.com and www.EPCAMR.org; administered GobbaDaPile local domain, G Suite for Nonprofits, and social media sites.

Education, Outreach and Admin.:

- Processed more AMR Conference registrations: 96 registrations with almost 2 months to go. If the max number in the Altoona Grand Hotel Tropical Courtyard for meals is 160 and NASLR expected 40 guests, then we could only sell 120 registrations. That meant we only had 24 registrations, 2 exhibits and 13 tour seats to sell until we are maxed out. Notified the AMR conference committee that we had to cut off registration early this year and not allow walk-ins. Added this notification as a post to treatminewater.com to notify potential attendees. In the past, we got most of our registrations a month to a few weeks before the AMR Conference.
- Sorted back thru emails to see where Anne and I left off ordering beanies and cups for the AMR Conference 25th anniversary. Decided we should order 140 each since the cups are ordered in increments of 20 and then potentially we were able to allow more registrations. Otherwise, the CAMRs could split 20 of each leftover to give to volunteers (as a thank you). Asked for a quote from Cabella's for the embroidered beanies and worked on artwork.
- Call with Anna Stork to discuss sites for AMD pumped storage projects.
- Prepared for Loyalsock Headwaters Tributary Assessment. [LCWA]
- Processed several more registrations that came in over the past week. Reached a limit of 120 registrants for AMR Conference and shut down registration a month and a half before the conference. Password protected the AMR Conference registration on the EPCAMR Online Store so that 12 speakers we are waiting on to purchase the item. This was new territory for the AMR Conference. We sold out of exhibit space the previous week, but had 5 seats for the AMR Field Tour and 6 NASLR dinner tickets left. We had never sold out of AMR Conference registrations that I can remember. Updated treatminewater.com website and notified the AMR Conference Committee.

- Downloaded August Shamokin Sampling results from Bobby and uploaded them to EPCAMR SharePoint. Traveled to state college for NTTTP AMD Passive Treatment Training. EPCAMR management staff attended the 3-day NTTTP AMD Passive Treatment Training. The second day was a field day to visit several passive treatment systems in Clearfield County.
- Attempted to download Southern Field Mosaics from MMG SharePoint. The mosaic itself downloaded fine, but the folders of map images were not downloading properly.
- Downloaded photos from EPCAMR Facebook from Loyalsock Sampling, added sampling results to EPCAMR FieldBook and created a report. Sent to Tom Clark at Kleinfelder for review before releasing to the Loyalsock Creek Watershed Association (LCWA) and Sullivan Conservation District (SCD). [LCWA]
- Updated registration database with decisions from the AMR Conference Committee. The last Field Tour spot sold yesterday. Registration is completely sold out. Placed the order for the custom embroidered Beanies for the AMR Conference.
- Call from Louie Krak, PA DEP Infrastructure Coordinator, asking about AML spoil piles on Commonwealth owned properties. Found our RAMLIS tool and was wondering how to calculate volumes and acreages for an interesting proposal to use spoil as an additive to construction materials. He was wondering if he should purchase the RAMLIS tool. I showed him where to download the files on PASDA and showed the different attributes in the feature polygons database he could use to identify sites and potentially calculate what he needed. The only problem is if the information is available in the database. He is working closely with PA DEP BAMR. He said Pat Web encouraged him to use the inventory for some initial site selection, but then have the contractor go and verify the info in the inventory.
- Hosted and took minutes for the EPCAMR Education and Science Committee Zoom Call.
- Woke up sick went to the walk-in clinic after participating in the AMR Conference Call. Worked from home for the rest of the week. Added Anne's agenda to treatminewater.com website program page. Added several more folks to the registration waiting list.
- Sent a reminder for the upcoming EPCAMR Strategic Planning Committee Zoom Call.
- Hosted and took minutes for the EPCAMR Strategic Planning Committee Zoom Call. This was the last one as all goals were reviewed.
- EPCAMR Management staff participated in weekly AML Campaign call.
- Sent the updated strategic plan update (now version D) to the EPCAMR Strategic Planning Committee. Added Leigh Ann to the EE and Science Committee.
- Reserved 15-passenger van for AMR Conference tour and for EPCAMR staff to travel to AMR Conference. Anne will rent one and drive it out from Pittsburgh area. Printed list of tour attendees to see which ones could potentially carpool.
- Discussion with AMR Conference committee over email about potential federal government shutdown and what to do if federal employee speakers and 1 attendee cannot attend. Strategized options such as virtual speakers and setups.
- More discussion about AMR Conference tour. Decided to rent another 7-passenger van for 1 day from Enterprise in Altoona. So that takes care of 37 of the 39 tour attendees.

Technical Assistance:

- Helped Steve dissolve the AML Polygon Features layer based on PA problem area for the Solar on AML report statistics. Had to first calculate a new field to remove the last 3 digits from the surface feature attribute which leaves the first 4 digits to represent the problem area. Then we dissolved the layer with the new problem area number attribute. Lastly, we intersected the parcel database with the features database to show an average of like 8.5 parcels in a problem area's features. [SOLAR]
- 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 SCD & Loyalsock Creek Watershed Association. Came back to office and worked on a strategy for Loyalsock Headwaters sampling. Called Jim Sysock for permission to access White Ash Land Association (WALA) lands along Pigeon Creek. The rest of the sites are on State Game Lands (SGL) aside from 1 that is private and may be skipped (pond trib to Pigeon Creek). Looked at

adding 2 more Loyalsock Creek Mainstem sampling points to the south route both on SGL as requested by Tom Clark at Kleinfelder. Sent a heads-up email to project partners. [LCWA]

- Day 1 Loyalsock Headwaters tributary assessment. Sampled tributaries north of the mainstem for temperature, DO, ORP, pH, Acidity and Alkalinity. We could not find 1 site on private land.
- Day 2 Loyalsock Headwaters tributary assessment. Sampled tributaries south of the mainstem for temperature, DO, ORP, pH, Acidity and Alkalinity. We were not able to reach several tributaries to Lopez Creek because they are on private land (Newell Rod and Gun Club). Met a representative of the club and he offered to take us to the spots at a later time if needed. Substituted these sites for Open Run and 2 more sites along Loyalsock Creek: downstream of Shuman's Lake and downstream of Murphy's Run, all on SGL. [LCWA]
- Day 1 Shamokin sampling with Frank and Brenna Schneider: Richards Shaft to Excelsior Strip Pit discharges (Bobby and Steve did day 2 the following day). Ordered another 6-month supply of 16 oz and 4 oz sampling bottles from Grainger. This time HDPE as per instructions from the lab and Tetra Tech instead of LDPE. [SCRA]
- Finished copying lab results from August and field results from September to a Shamokin Sampling excel sheet on EPCAMR's SharePoint. [SCRA]
- Added August and September sampling results for Loyalsock including the headwaters snapshot sampling. Copied these results into an excel table and began to write the report and place photos from Facebook. Completed the sites sampled on 9/7/23. [LCWA]
- Continued to work on the Loyalsock Headwaters report. Added sites from 9/8/23. Began to research scientific reports to support discussions and recommendations sections. [LCWA]
- Sorted bottles from Grainger for Shamokin Sampling Project. [SCRA]
- Sampled Askam Boreholes, Treatment System, upstream and downstream on Nanticoke Creek, and 2 flow sites. [EC]
- Completed the draft of the Loyalsock Headwaters Report and sent to colleagues for review. Also need to add results from previous months likely in the yellow field book. [LCWA]
- Delivered ~30 georeferenced maps that Shawnese completed to EC for the new parcel map processing project. [EC]
- Prepared invoice for Solar on AML project to DEP. [SOLAR]
- Edited footprint for BLUE_HCC-0E-10-01 and WBDO_099-02 in Pittston Lo Skidmore Mosaic. Had to re-geo and edited footprint for WBDO_027-0A-12 as it was originally georeferenced ~230 feet to the southwest. May have to adjust WBDO_027-0A-13 as well. [MSI]

[] - Denotes funding source where applicable.