



Eastern PA Coalition for Abandoned Mine Reclamation

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September 2024 Progress Report

Highlights:

- EPCAMR staff georeferenced, mosaicked & digitized mine maps for the **DEP MSI MMG** program. Continue QA/QC of **HU's** Southern Anthracite Mosaic work.
- EPCAMR Management staff participated in weekly **PA AML Campaign** calls, **POWR CWO** calls; co-hosted the **NTTP** Training in State College
- Updated the **RAMLIS 2024 GIS Tool**; updated the **POWR CWO** final report
- Sampled Askam AMD Treatment System, upstream & downstream on **Nanticoke Cr.** for **EC**; 3 AMD TS, upstream, downstream in **Loyalsock Creek Watershed** for **LCWA & SCD**
- Updated www.TreatMineWater.com and www.EPCAMR.org; administered GobbaDaPile local domain, G Suite for Nonprofits, and social media sites.

Education, Outreach and Admin.:

- Caught up on AMR Conference Registrations, a RAMLIS Digital Tool, and Iron Oxide order.
- Aided Bobby with numbers for the NFWF report (ex. how many municipalities in the project area).
- Worked with Ramada to refund a watershed volunteer's room for which he was already charged for the AMR Conference in October. Relayed info that he needed to cancel the 3rd party booking and secured the room instead under the master account. He was also awarded a travel scholarship to cover the room.
- Set up email and Wordpress accounts for our new OSMRE Fellow, Morgan Romanowski. Worked on Shawnese's Windows 11 computer to save recovered files and set up the computer on the Server for Morgan. Notified Shawnese that I recovered the files and had a plan to incorporate them in her current geodatabase.
- Processed more AMR Conference Registrations and answered questions.
- Sent a follow-up email to Columbia University (CU) partners regarding Mine Pool Stratification in the Wyoming Valley with notes from the field day late last month. Forwarded the Ladwig Report and a report from Elke Mulgova that showed some chemical changes as you sample down into the boreholes. [CU]
- Added another AMR Conference sponsor, Dutchland, to the treatminewater.com sponsors page. Updated the website and changed the display of payment methods on the EPCAMR online store to select credit card as the default method. Many AMR Conference registrants had been accidentally choosing check/money order method which was the default.
- Made changes to the NTTP training list of attendees after finding out that one attendee could not go. We gave the spot to the next in line and forwarded the new list to the Ramada and teachers.
- AMR Conference Call. Updated several pages on the website. Added draft agenda and went over registration carefully to make sure the equations were calculating the right income amounts.

- The AMR Conference Tour became full on the 13th. Made updates to the AMR Conference website. Registered at least a dozen new people over the past few days.
- Traveled to Shamokin Creek with Morgan to observe waste coal and refuse sampling methods of EPA with PA DEP, DOE, and USGS staff. Hand samples were pulled and scanned with XRF while bags of culm were taken from 10 locations at each of the 4 sites selected. Broke off from the group in the afternoon and showed Morgan several nearby AMD discharges.
- Followed up with Bette Conway from EPA to thank her for allowing us to observe their work. Followed up with Jim Andrews from Pottsville DMO and Kim Snyder from Wilkes-Barre BAMR about the Joe Michels and Alex Chamberlain map collections. The digital scans we have are only 250 DPI and may have to be rescanned. Kim provided some insight as to where the physical maps may be now.
- Hadn't heard from Shawnese in over a week regarding recovered the files and had a plan to incorporate them in her current geodatabase. Asked Bobby to follow up with her.
- Updated AMR Conference Registrations and website to reflect that we aren't going to the MR7 AMD treatment site anymore as the road was washed out by Hurricane Debby. Sorted out potential sites with Kelly Williams, Clearfield County Conservation District Watershed Specialist, and Anne from WPCAMR for an upcoming call.
- EPCAMR Management staff participated in a POWR AMD Team Call. Added a second section to the results chapter to show charts of Watershed Group only answers as compared to all CWO answers and uploaded changes to SRI SharePoint. Frank worked on these numbers on his own dime for the good of the project as POWR would not pay extra for the work.
- Followed up with Nick from Industrial Archives Library (IAL) who lent us 2 boxes of maps from Joe Michels collection Lattimer Colliery to scan. [MSI]
- Updated treatminewater.com website to include additional sponsors and updated the program agenda.
- Morgan began scanning 2 boxes of rolled maps from IAL Joe Michels Collection from Lattimer Colliery. Let Patrick know that she will scan them at no charge to MSI and we would just charge MSI to catalog them to PHUMMIS if they wanted them.
- Reviewed the final CWO Study Report after hours (since we are over budget on the project) and provided comments to help organize the recommendations tables.

Technical Assistance:

- Sampled Loyalsock Upstream, Downstream, & in/out of 3 treatment systems (Connell B Vein, Connell C Vein and Gutten Drift) with Steve and Frank. [LCWA]
- Created maps for the Shickshinny Creek, Rocky, and Paddy Run (SRP) Coldwater Heritage Plan (CHP). Edited boundaries for the project area and created Paddy Run in the small watershed layer. [Shick]
- Reprinted a map for Friends of the Nescopeck (FON) that was water damaged from a festival.
- Completed 4 RAMLIS investigations for Problem Areas in SRP CHP. [Shick]
- Continued to QA/QC the Southern Anthracite Mosaics. Added EPCAMR_7001 to the Buck Mountain Mosaic. Searched for more. Discovered that Buck Mountain underlap and overlaps were not digitized and Buck Mountain maps digitized off by Harrisburg University (HU) in Valley View Colliery. Continued to recorded changes in an Excel spreadsheet on EPCAMR's SharePoint. Found OSMA_FOLIOs: S-15-A_01, S-15-B_01, S-15-C_01, S-16-E_01, and BMSA_3930-001 that should be added to Lykens Valley 2, 3, or 4 veins. Notified Patrick since we already submitted "final" Lykens Valley mosaics. [MSI]
- Researched the surface and underground mine maps in the vicinity of the Hollenback Borehole which was located 1,750 feet southeast of Figure 17 in the Ladwig Report, the shaft sampled in the Hollenback Colliery for the Ladwig report. Created a stratigraphic column for the borehole. Last month we grabbed a sample with the Kemmerer bottle at ~96' which is about the location of the Stanton Vein in the column. The water collected had a 6.46 pH, which correlates to Figure 17 in the Ladwig Report (even though it was from a lower vein). When we sent the beep tape down to locate the bottom >300' we were unsure if we were going down the borehole or down the vein at a 13% grade since the tape was difficult to retrieve. We speculated that the

borehole on the floor of the void could be covered by collapsed material. It may need a re-drill. Georeferenced a map from the Ladwig Report showing sampling locations. We could potentially find those and sample as well. Continued to read the Ladwig Report for insight on monitoring boreholes. Printed a poster for the Wyoming Valley Borehole Awareness Campaign, originally created by Abbie, the poster explains what a borehole is and why it is important to keep open for monitoring. Morgan will be taking this, a map of the boreholes in the Wyoming Valley and a list of municipalities with boreholes to table at a regional meeting of municipalities in the Back Mountain next week. [CU]

- Transferred Northern Field borehole monitoring data to EPCAMR SharePoint and separated individual boreholes into different tabs for Morgan to fill in handwritten sampling data from the yellow notepads in the Borehole Monitoring binder.
- Georeferenced BLUE_HCC-0C-02-01 in the Baltimore Colliery to find out if it was the Snake Island Bed in the BH133 diagram. Found several more maps (Blue and OSM Folios) to make a Snake Island Mosaic for the Pittston Quadrangle. Switched back to Southern Field QA/QC looking for Buck Mountain Vein maps in the Brookside Colliery but PHUMMIS external error again. [MSI]
- Met with Frank to show how I made pie charts and bar graphs in Excel for POWR CWO project.
- Reviewed the pie charts and bar graphs created by Frank in Excel and exported as images for inclusion in the POWR CWO Report.
- Continued QA/QC of Southern Field Buck Mountain and up mosaics. Add Folios S15C-01 and B-01, extend mosaic BMSA_1292-001_A west of Good Spring where digitizing was missed by HU. [MSI]
- Remotely aided Bobby and Anne at the NTPP training in State College by providing the registration list while Wi-Fi was not available to them.
- Met with Frank to brainstorm a potential new ArcGIS online (AGOL) mapping system for Dashed.
- Continued Southern Field Mosaic QA/QC for Buck Mountain and Little Buck. Found Glendower and Richardson-Thomaston maps in the National Mine Map Repository (NMMR). Sent to these TIFF images to Patrick via SharePoint to SID them. Georeferenced them as EPCAMR_008684-01 to 05 and EPCAMR_008229-01 to 05. [MSI]
- Added EPCAMR_008229-01 thru 05 Glendower to Buck Mountain Mosaic east of airport, crazy faulting brings BM north under Village of Buck Run. Left a piece of BMSA_2133-001_A showing a horizontal rock tunnel that explains the situation. Added NMMR EPCAMR_008684-01, 02 & 05 Thomaston to the Little Buck Mountain Mosaic. [MSI]
- Downloaded all Dell computers I had saved via Service Numbers on my Dell.com account to a spreadsheet on EPCAMR SharePoint. Added 3 Lenovo ThinkPad computers that were donated and began to sort them by ones in service and inactive. I had been meaning to do this for a long time to help with our inventory. Added information from the server like the name of the computer on the domain and what user accounts are associated. Checked with a few staff to see which computer models they were using.
- Continued looking for maps to fill gaps in Southern field mosaics. Checked Otto Colliery maps in NMMR which only goes down to Skidmore. These are similar to maps already in mosaic, plus BMSA_2448 is 7 foot (deeper vein not in NMMR set). Noticed a Summit folder in NMMR which is not a colliery, but found it was named for the operator instead and the maps were in the Coaldale-Nesquehoning area. Requested that Patrick convert 008876-01 to 04 and 008877-01 to 03 Summit Hill Colliery maps to SID format which show more Seven Foot and Skidmore Vein workings than the maps HU placed in the mosaics. [MSI]
- Received photos from TJ Matinas from Wilkes-Barre BAMR of the Stackhouse Colliery on State Game Lands near Shickshinny. They visited the sites with Game Commission and Luzerne Conservation District staff. Added the photos by their location in ArcGIS and sent out information to go with the photos from AMLIS and georeferenced underground mine maps. [Shick]
- Downloaded SID files 008876-01 to 04 and 008877-01 to 03 Summit Hill Colliery maps processed by Patrick from the MMG SharePoint. Georeferenced them in preparation for adding to mosaics. Saved text files of the control points because the AUX files were smaller than 6MB,

typically that means the paper and real-world coordinates (aka doubles) aren't recorded, a common ArcGIS glitch that requires regeoreferencing. [MSI]

- Sampled Askam Boreholes, Treatment System, upstream and downstream on Nanticoke Creek, and 2 flow sites. Lower flows downstream than outflow from treatment system for the second time since July. Recorded and sent results to EC. Discussed potential reasons for the flow loss which could be related to the low flow conditions of the mine pools in the Wyoming Valley taking water from the streambed. In normal conditions, the hydrostatic pressure of the mine pools and river keep this water on the surface. [EC]

[] - Denotes funding source where applicable.