



## Eastern PA Coalition for Abandoned Mine Reclamation

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### June 2025 Progress Report

#### Highlights:

- EPCAMR staff georeferenced, mosaicked & digitized mine maps for the **DEP MSI** MMG program. Continued QA/QC of **HU's** Western Middle Anthracite Mosaic work.
- EPCAMR Management staff participated in weekly **PA AML Campaign** calls, a monthly PKN-OAK-REP call with **SCD**, a **PA AMR Conference Committee** call, presented at the **SCRA** Mine Pools Conference at **Bucknell U** & rescued [www.huberbreaker.org](http://www.huberbreaker.org) website for **HBPS**.
- Sampled 3 AMD TS in Luzerne Co. for Day 1 of the **Datashed Snapshot**, 3 AMD TS, upstream, downstream on **Loyalsock Creek** Watershed for **LCWA** & **SCD** & sites in **Shickshinny, Paddy and Rocky Watersheds** for a **CHP**.
- Updated [www.TreatMineWater.com](http://www.TreatMineWater.com); [www.EPCAMR.org](http://www.EPCAMR.org); & [www.AnthraciteHistory.org](http://www.AnthraciteHistory.org); administered GobbaDaPile local domain, G Suite for Nonprofits, and social media sites.

#### Education, Outreach and Admin.:

- Worked from home to prepare our presentation for the Shamokin Creek Restoration Alliance's (SCRA) Mine Pool Conference in Lewistown at Bucknell University.
- Tour of stream loss zones, major AMD discharges, and AML sites along the Mahanoy and Shamokin Creek valleys with Dan Goode and Chuck Cravotta the day before the Mine Pool Conference at Bucknell University.
- EPCAMR Management staff, Americorps VISTA Morgan Romanowki, and intern Maria Gereda, attended the Abandoned Mine Pools as Beneficial Resources Conference and Bucknell University June 4th and 5th.
- Purchased replacement reagents for the Total Alkalinity and Acidity field sampling tests. Took a moment to catch up on emails and other office work as this was the first day in the office in several days.
- Submitted a convening grant for the ARIPPA Minigrant program to FPW.
- Regained access to PHUMMIS on DEP's intranet and completed a required training. Reported back to Matt Cavanaugh.
- Rinsed tie-dye t-shirts made by volunteers on the Wyoming Valley Day of Caring and hung them back up to dry. Once dry they can be folded and inventoried to be sold online.
- Attempted to transfer huberbreaker.org over to EPCAMR's HostGator account to host the website as BRF Designs was no longer willing to host it for free. There is also a renewed interest in volunteers from HBPS to update the website. BRF Designs sent a zipped file, but it was a back up of their entire webhosting platform and I was unable to single out the files specific to the huberbreaker.org website (until later). Instead I setup a new instance of WordPress on our hosting platform and proceeded to copy the site page by page and post by post. There were a lot of old news articles, so I skipped those due to time. Cincopa was used for the photo galleries and it reached it's quota so it would no longer allow me to open the

photos. I did find photos in the zipped file which could be brought in later (some were on my computer as well).

- Started to add photos and articles to the huber breaker temporary website.
- Worked on transferring articles and photos from the old huberbreaker.org site to the new WordPress site.
- Got Huber Breaker website transferred over to huberbreaker.org with the help of HostGator, but it affected epcamr.org.
- EPCAMR Management staff participated in a PKN-OAK-REP monthly meeting. Followed up with maps, elevations of shafts, and equipment needed for monitoring points. Sent an updated list of Solinst transducers and related supplies to SCD. Added some redundancy to have extra equipment in case others fail. Todd Wood mentioned an airshaft in the Lytle colliery that may be accessible as an alternative to drilling a new borehole. Chuck began researching parshall flumes vs weirs for the Oak Hill borehole. [SCD]
- Attempted to upload Parts 2-3 of This Old Mine, but got a processing abandoned error on YouTube. Tried to convert the VOB format to MP4 before uploading with a free program called HandBrake, and this helped. Upload Parts 2-4 and added them to anthracitehistory.org active industry page.
- EPCAMR Management staff participated in an AMR Conference call. Followed up with Carla to get the tour site photos up to the Google Drive.
- Called HostGator again to sort out epcamr.org sites which went down after the HuberBreaker.org site was brought up. HostGator was able to bring them back, but had to reactivate plugins and the theme after they were done.
- Uploaded KS&F Coal Company Interview Part 1&2 with Davey Williams to our YouTube site.
- Worked on an AV setup for AMR Conference Recording. Last year it was hard to hear the presenter as we were using the microphone array built into our computers. This meant the recorder had to sit up next to the podium, but the podium did not have a computer for the presenter. Researched a way to use 2 computers: a recording computer and a presentation computer. This required purchasing a camera card to funnel the presentation computer outputs into the recording computer and out to the projector. This took care of most of the issue, but still need to sort out sound from movies played on the presentation computer.
- Attended the EPCAMR fundraiser setup by Coal Creative and hosted at Groove Brewing to announce their new brew. A portion of the sales went to EPCAMR.
- EPCAMR staff participated in Day 1 of the Datashed Snapshot. Visited Askam, Espy, and Oneida #3 treatment systems to take flow, parameters with the YSI probe and a grab sample to send off to Geochemical Labs in Somerset, PA

### **Technical Assistance:**

- Sampled macroinvertebrates, flow and chemistry at 3 sites near Shikshinny for the Shickshinny, Rocky and Paddy Creeks Coldwater Heritage Plan (CHP).
- Uploaded National Mine Map Repository (NMMR) maps for the Western Middle Field (WMF) surface to the DEP's FTP server for Patrick to convert to MrSID format and downloaded Harrisburg University (HU) digitized layers from underground mine maps in the Southern field.
- Worked on PKN-OAK-REP mapping. Added geo-tagged photos from the reconnaissance field day to ArcGIS Pro and calculated mine pool elevations (table) from measured depths on 5/30. Started shopping list of supplies to setup monitoring stations. [SCD]
- Continued editing the PKN-OAK-REP Recon document by adding and captioning some site photos and editing the shopping list after a discussion with Chuck Cravotta. Put all the site photos into a Google Album and added link to document for partners on the project to view all of them. Looked at mine pool maps and Schuylkill County Parcel Locator to find the best place to drill 2 new boreholes in the Lytle and Oak Hill mine pools. Sent off an email with some site choices to the team for comment. [SCD]
- Discussed transducer purchases needed for PKN-OAK-REP project. The Solinst Junior 5 series transducers work best up to 10 meters (32.8 feet) down which would be OK for the stream and discharge sites. The standard 5 series transducers can go up to 200 m (656 ft)

down. We may need to purchase the 100 m (328 ft) depth standard transducers for the borehole and shaft sites, but after discussion with Chuck the depth they are referring to is only the column of water above the probe (not the air or total depth) so 10 m juniors should work fine. Wrote up a Fondriest order for SCD to order. [SCD]

- Downloaded NMMR images converted to SIDs from the DEP FTP site and began to georeference them to the JPEG map images I georeferenced earlier. Georeferenced EPCAMR\_015270 (North Franklin), EPCAMR\_015473 (Sterling), EPCAMR\_015502 (Burnside), EPCAMR\_015658 (Corbin Excelsior), EPCAMR\_016014 (Alaska), EPCAMR\_016429 (Girard), EPCAMR\_016506 (East Bear Ridge), Completed EPCAMR\_016017 (Alaska) later. [MSI]
- Sampled Loyalsock Upstream, Downstream, & in/out of 3 treatment systems (Connell B Vein, Connell C Vein and Gutten Drift) with Steve and Frank. [LCWA]
- Sampled macros, flow and chemistry on Rocky Run mouth and Shickshinny Creek mouth for the CHP. Prepared a Google sheet to log the data from the Field Data Sheets for the CHP.
- Sampled macros, flow and chemistry on Rocky Run headwaters and Little Shickshinny Creek mouth for the CHP.
- Discussion with YSI about our 9800 Photometer and how it is not waterproof. We were using it in a light rain earlier in the month and water got inside it. I opened it up and let it dry out for a few days then it began to work again. Sent it in for evaluation and potential replacement. It also eats batteries faster than advertised on the sales page.
- More discussion on equipment needed for monitoring points on PKN-OAK-REP project. Chuck thought it would be better to split up the 12 transducers into 10-meter resolution for boreholes/shafts and 5-meter resolution for streams/discharge sites. They both cost the same. Also that we should build some redundancy and order at least 1 more of each piece of equipment. Sent an updated list of Solinst transducers and related supplies to SCD. [SCD]
- Put together a list of supplies for SCRA to order transducers for their watershed as well with some leftover grant money. Invoiced them and we will purchase the supplies.
- Worked with Blue Coal Corporation formerly Glen Alden Co. (BLUE) cross-sections already on our server and ones that Morgan downloaded to decipher which images related to which cross-sections for Earth Conservancy to prepare to trace water from Nanticoke Headwaters to the Askam Discharge or another discharge.
- Continued Blue XS cipher. Skipped to Truesdale XS and started a Line of Section shapefile on ArcGIS for eventual 3D viewing in EarthVision.
- Received a call from Steve that he was having trouble setting the mosaic dataset paths for the Western Middle Vein maps. He is starting QA/QC from the top down and I will start from the bottom up like we did with the Southern Field Mosaics. Sent Steve a stratigraphic column from the USGS Coal Investigation Series (CI-48-2) to help sort out the veins. Continued georeferencing maps for the WM Surface Mosaic EPCAMR\_016017-01 to 07 in Alaska Colliery. Began adding all recently georeferenced 20+ NMMR maps to the surface mosaic. Removed KAGE\_UP078-0014. [MSI]

[ ] - Denotes funding source where applicable.