



Eastern PA Coalition for Abandoned Mine Reclamation

Michael A. Hewitt, GISP
Program Manager
101 South Main Street
Ashley, PA 18706
Main Line: (570) 371-3522
E-mail: hardcoal@epcamr.org

November 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**, and co-hosted the EPCAMR 4th Quarter Board Meeting.
- Sampled 3 AMD TS, upstream, downstream on Loyalsock Creek Watershed for **LCWA & SCD**, Askam AMD Treatment System, upstream & downstream on Nanticoke Cr. for **EC**, & took flow at 3 AMD discharges in Wyoming Valley with **Columbia U**.
- Updated www.TreatMineWater.com; www.EPCAMR.org; & www.AnthraciteHistory.org; administered GobbaDaPile local domain, G Suite for Nonprofits, and social media sites.

Education, Outreach and Admin.:

- Met with Janice Perry at First National Bank of PA about my IRA.
- Interpreted a map from the Big Mountain Mine for SCRA. They asked prior to the AMR Conference if I could review the flow data from the Big Mountain Discharge, upstream of Buck Run, and downstream on Shamokin Creek. The data seemed to show a flow gain on Buck Run above the confluence and downstream of the Big Mountain Discharge. This map helped me focus on that area to discover a Buck Ridge Outlet which looks like potential mine drainage from the Buck Ridge No. 1 - Greenback colliery (also where the Corbin Mine Drift discharges). SCARLIFT maps show discharges #24 to #27.
- EPCAMR Management staff participated in our weekly AML Campaign Call and monthly AMR Chronicles Podcast.
- Worked on and submitted a proposal for Michael Baker International for mine pool mapping work in Southern Schuylkill County. Their staff would process maps (scan, georeference, digitize) to point cloud, while EPCAMR staff would do the 3D modeling and volume calculations.
- Started the Treasurer's Report for the 4th Quarter EPCAMR Board Meeting. Worked in QuickBooks to produce the Statement of Financial Position, Estimates & Progress Invoicing, then the Jobs List and Prospects List. Corrected transactions that were causing negatives on the statement and shared these reports with Bobby to help fill in grants/funds that were applied for and or awarded/denied.
- Continued working in QuickBooks to produce the Treasurer's Report. EPCAMR Management staff continued to bill down and produce invoices on Estimates. Delivered a draft report to the EPCAMR Treasurer, who approved it, knowing that some of the amounts can change as we bill down different Estimates. Transferred AMR Conference Revenue from PayPal to EPCAMR's bank account in preparation to pay the AMR Conference Venue bill from Toftrees.
- Completed Minutes, Agenda, and a Presentation for the board meeting from Bobby's Board Meeting Invitation email. Started EPCAMR Program Manager's April board report.

- EPCAMR staff hosted the EPCAMR 4th Quarter Board Meeting in the Earth Conservancy Conference Room.
- Attempted to answer questions about the monitoring points for the PKN-OAK-REP project for DEP staff who are setting up lab monitoring, but needed to verify some things in ArcGIS. [SCD]
- Opened ArcGIS Pro, and it prompted me to update the software. So I updated the software as I have many times before. After rebooting the program, I attempted to open the PKN-OAK_REP project file, and ArcGIS Pro crashed. I tried rebooting the computer and opening the project file with the same outcome. I contacted ESRI support to find out that the newest version of ArcGIS Pro is 3.6 and it is not supported by Windows 10. This is nice to know after the fact. I asked why the program would prompt me to update then? The technician responded to say that technically 3.6 can be opened in Windows 10, but there are known errors, and they cannot support troubleshooting in this situation. She also said they have had many calls this week about the same issue. Her suggestion was to uninstall 3.6 and reinstall 3.5 and the 3.5.5 patch. I had Bobby text Shawnese and Steve not to update to the latest version at the prompt. If they want to patch to the latest version, let us know, and I can get them the patch from the ESRI downloads website. Steve responded that he installed 3.6 with no problems earlier this week and hasn't had many problems yet. Maria and Bobby have Windows 11 computers, so they can update, but the rest of us have to wait. Looking at Dell Pro Laptops to upgrade our systems.
- Organized Shared Drives on the Google Drive. Shared Drives function differently from shared folders in that they have different permission levels. Manager permissions allow sharing of the drive with others, unless a box is checked in the settings to also allow Content Managers to share. This was not done for our Cleanups drive. After some research, we discovered the folder was managed by former AmeriCorps, Kyle Argenziano. His account had been suspended for several years. I deleted his account and attempted to transfer his files to Bobby. That didn't work, tho that was the recommendation in help documentation. Discovered how to use my Administrator privileges to assign Managers and change settings in these shared drives. Organized several Coldwater Heritage Plan (CHP) completed project drives into one folder and reassigned the users.
- Purchased another Zoom Pro license for Frank and figured out how to create a meeting summary of the recent EPCAMR Board Meeting. It would not allow these to be generated for previous meetings, but hopefully, after changing settings, I will be able to in the future.
- Aided Dennis with a big map he was scanning. Also looked at the scanning computer to get the wifi working again.
- Researched how to copy over rows found by a text search in one Google Sheet into another sheet. This is done with Google Apps Script. Created a table in the new spreadsheet for each monitoring station at Askam and triggered it to run every night to overwrite the data (in case the spreadsheet was updated). This was an easy way to display the data by location from a spreadsheet that has all the locations separated by dates. The tables can be sorted by column and could be shared on a website. Will also look into creating charts to display the data graphically. Maybe an easier way to deliver data to Watershed Groups?
- Completed writing up EPCAMR Program Manager report for April and started May. This is about the time of year (spring) when workloads skyrocket, and certain things need to be set aside to address other priorities. Then AMR Conference registration and planning tasks begin to take precedence over regular work until the end of October. Before you know it, 2 quarters of board reports have to be completed at once. At least, I take the time to write up notes in Google Keep almost daily to help compose these reports.
- Out of curiosity, I attempted to log into PHUMMIS internal link on DEP's intranet. Of course, it was not working. The last time I logged in was October 28th to take an online training. So it doesn't even wait a month between logins before locking me out. The last time my password was reset was September 3rd. I am unsure of the timing anymore. [MSI]

Technical Assistance:

- Researched the DCNR_Bedrock Elevation Layer and discovered that it gives a predicted elevation (Green Band), then an upper range (Red Band), and a lower range (Blue Band) as

described in a USGS research document. Eric Bella already predicted less than 80 feet of casing needed. The prediction of the proposed Lytle Borehole was ~51 feet depth to bedrock, and for Oak Hill was ~57 feet. Asked Chuck about the length of casing needed for the Pine Knot Borehole. The model predicted ~37 ft down to bedrock for that area. [SCD]

- Processed cross-section #38 from Williamstown 009029 NMMRs in earthVision and adjusted the line of section to fit in ArcGIS Pro for the Bear Creek Project.
- Processed cross-sections #40 and #42 from Williamstown NMMRs in earthVision and adjusted the line of section ArcGIS Pro to fit other cross sections and anthracite grids displayed in earthVision.
- Sampled Loyalsock Upstream, Downstream, & in/out of 3 treatment systems (Connell B Vein, Connell C Vein and Gutten Drift) with Frank and VISTAs. [LCWA]
- Processed cross-sections #44, #46, #48, and #50 from Williamstown NMMRs in earthVision. Copied 4DVX and JPG files for #34-#50 (even numbers) to a thumb drive to give to interns to digitize the veins.
- Processed cross-sections #52, #54, #56, and #58 from Williamstown NMMRs in earthVision.
- Processed cross-sections #60 from Williamstown NMMRs in earthVision.
- Traveled to Girardville to meet with Mahanoy Creek Watershed Association (MCWA) and Kleinfelder staff to Kick Off the Lost Creek Boreholes project. Toured potential monitoring sites and photo documented existing conditions. [LOST]
- Took monthly flows and some chemistry with the YSI Probe and HACH Acidity Kit at the Repplier AMD and upstream on Mill Creek, then Pine Knot AMD, Oak Hill AMD (far and near channels), and upstream on West Branch Schuylkill River. [SCD]
- Worked on GIS Layers and reviewed mine maps for the Lost Creek Project. Reviewed Bureau of Mines 521 Report for Barrier Pillar weaknesses and listed in a table. Looked for connections between Packer #2 and #5 mine pools. Traced mine pool boundaries on the Mammoth Veins trying to account for a fault in the area of concern. Drew 5 new tunnels shown on mine maps. [LOST]
- Provided a Google pin drop (coordinates) to Eric Bella, Lehigh Engineering, to meet with a driller for the Lytle Borehole. Produced and attached a map of the location overlaid on the Tracy Vein mine map, a topographic map, and markups via email. Also marked up and sent the 91 1/2 cross-section to help aid if the location needed to be moved. Recommended he follow up with Wayne to find out about landowner access. [SCD]
- Finished processing Cross Sections #61 and #63 for Bear Creek. Updated #44 as well. Gave #52-#62 evens, #63, and #44 to interns for digitizing.
- Sampled Askam and sites above and below the treatment system on Nanticoke Creek for flow and chemistry. [EC]
- Recorded YSI probe chemistry and flows at Loomis Discharge, Buttonwood Discharge, and South Wilkes-Barre Discharge sites. [COLU]

[] - Denotes funding source where applicable.