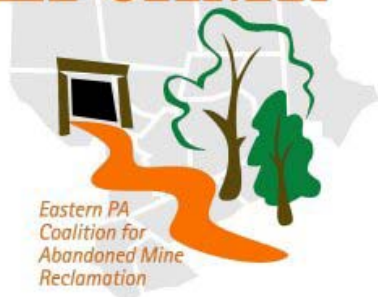


# EPCAMR



## Eastern PA Coalition for Abandoned Mine Reclamation October 2006 Progress Report [Abbreviated]

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### **Highlights:**

- Continued work on the Watershed Restoration Action Strategy (WRAS) for the Nescopeck Creek Watershed in Luzerne County
- Added information to 2 EPCAMR GIS Databases and new treatment cost estimates for
- Updated [www.orangewaternetwork.org](http://www.orangewaternetwork.org)
- Attended the Bear Creek Treatment Site Groundbreaking, the NPS Liaison Committee Workgroup, a Bradford County Commissioners Meeting, the 4<sup>th</sup> Qtr. EPCAMR Board Meeting and a Duryea Borough Council Meeting

### **October 1<sup>st</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup>**

- Completed a spread sheet of Congressional District coverage areas for the Western PA Watershed Protection Program as a partner in the PA AML Trust Fund Task Force\*.
- Received word from Dave Hess that my video interview was posted to the PA Environmental Digest website as a part of his Upper Susquehanna River Conference overview.
- Posted staff reports and several articles to [www.orangewaternetwork.org](http://www.orangewaternetwork.org).
- Attended the Bear Creek AMD Treatment Site groundbreaking ceremony with Dauphin County representatives, conservation district representatives, DEP Staff and a consultant on the project. Work is set to begin on the site soon\*.
- Worked up a budget to “revive” the Passing Go Program and submitted the information to Amy Wolfe of Trout Unlimited and Hanna Wheeler of the Eastern Coal Region Roundtable (ECRR). Both organizations plan to bundle several watershed support programs from different organizations into a proposal for a larger watershed support program and submit their proposals to the EPA.
- Gathered quotes for a laptop capable of running the newest version of Arc GIS. The current equipment at our office is sufficient, but can really be burdensome and time consuming with larger statewide datasets. Received a grant from the Western Pa Watershed Protection Program to purchase this laptop as a part of a larger effort to provide GIS mapping at a statewide level.

### **October 8<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup>**

- Added the newest DEP Bureau of Abandoned Mine Reclamation (BAMR) reclaimed problem areas information to the Nescopeck WRAS provided by the Mining and Reclamation Advisory Board (MRAB).
- Provided technical assistance to the PA Environmental Council (PEC) Northeast Office on upgrading their computer software.
- EPCAMR Program staff attended the Non-Point Source Liaison Workgroup Meeting at the Rachel Carson State Office Building (RCSOB) in Harrisburg. Provided the group with

accomplishments since the last time we met including the continued development of GIS tracking databases for projects.

- Updated the Jeddo Tunnel Discharge Treatment System Cost estimates with the newest version of AMD Treat (4.0). The new estimates include an additional passive treatment system making 2 passive and 1 active treatment system options. They are also updated to settle out metals in different stages for possible future resource development and include figures on cost to treat per 1,000 gallons.

### **October 15<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup>**

- Drafted an agenda for the 4th Quarter EPCAMR Board and sent an RSVP for the meeting on October 19<sup>th</sup>.
- Prepared for the Bradford County Commissioners meeting by gathering all available abandoned mine related and reclamation data to a fact sheet and maps. Presented this information with Josh First, representing the PA AML Trust Fund Task Force and Hugh McMahon of the Schrader Creek Watershed Association\*.
- Attended the 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter EPCAMR Board Meeting.
- Ordered a Dell Precision M65 Laptop as approved by the EPCAMR Board.
- Added water level data from various scarlift reports and volume data from a Bureau of Mines publication to the EPCAMR geobasins mine pool GIS Layer. This data is historical in nature, but can be used as a ballpark figure when estimating storage capacity in the mine pools.

### **October 22<sup>nd</sup> – 31<sup>st</sup>**

- Created cost estimates to treat both the Gowen and Derringer Tunnel Discharges with the newest version of AMD Treat (4.0). The estimates include figures related to a passive treatment system and an active treatment system option. They include both capital and annual costs for the expected life of the systems and figures on cost to treat per 1,000 gallons. These estimates along with estimate for the Jeddo Tunnel will be a part of the Nescopeck WRAS.
- EPCAMR Program staff co-presented a proposal to treat the Old Forge Borehole with Eco Tech LLC president Chris Gills and associate Bruce Jennings at the Duryea Borough Council Meeting. This proposal was originally submitted to the PA DEP Innovative Technologies Grant program last year. We hope to resubmit the proposal this year with a few revisions.
- Added a script to [www.orangewaternetwork.org](http://www.orangewaternetwork.org) to allow our news to be syndicated through the RSS Feed option in the current Mozilla Firefox internet browser. The script should work in Internet Explorer 7 also. Publicized this change through a news article on the EPCAMR website.
- Received a press release from Dave Hamilton, Office of Surface Mining, that their passive treatment database was now available online. Reviewed the site and discovered that one of the treatment systems in Bradford County was missing from the inventory, the Long Valley Run Vertical Flow Wetland. Will fill out a form and submit it when I have gathered more information from BAMR Wilkes-Barre and Schrader Creek Watershed Association.
- Found 2 more Scarlift Reports for in the EPCAMR Region; English Run (a tributary to Little Pine Creek in Lycoming County), and the Wyoming Valley.
- Worked up some preliminary information on surface water infiltration points that contribute to the Jeansville basin and eventually to the flow of the Audenried Tunnel and sent them to Catawissa Creek president Ed Wytovich. These were based on a Scarlift Report for the Jeansville Basin. These points should have a priority when reclamation is done in that area to reduce flows to the treatment system.
- Met Todd Wood, PA DEP BAMR Wilkes-Barre Office, to collect a water sample from the Glen Nan Discharge and talk about how and where to install a weir to monitor flow. The sample will go to the DEP Lab for analysis. Currently, volunteers are monitoring the site with field water quality equipment, but have no way to test for aluminum which is assumed to be present in the acidic water.