

# EPCAMR



## Eastern PA Coalition for Abandoned Mine Reclamation Program October 2007 Progress Report

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### **Highlights:**

- Added to 4 EPCAMR GIS Layers related to the Mine Pool Mapping Project, Printed 4 maps and 15 RAMLIS CDs
- Presented at 1 workshop and attended the Audenreid Treatment System Celebration, the PA Anthracite Council / EPCAMR Joint Meeting, a Non-Point Source Liaison Workgroup Meeting, a Heckscherville Valley Tour 2008 AMR Conference Call
- Updated [www.orangewaternetwork.org](http://www.orangewaternetwork.org)

### **Education and Outreach:**

- Attended the Audenreid Treatment System Celebration. Several newspapers and other media were in attendance as Katie McGinty, PA DEP Secretary, made an appearance to check out the system and tout all the successes in mine drainage remediation in PA.
- Prepared for the EPCAMR Board Meeting by preparing an agenda and writing up minutes and watershed reports from the last meeting. Also updated the EPCAMR Board Member list with new and renewed memberships from the last meeting.
- Attended the PA Anthracite Council / EPCAMR Joint Meeting with 3 EPCAMR Board Members to meet and talk to coal operators and find out how both organizations can work together to reclaim abandoned mine lands and combat abandoned mine land issues.
- Created a CD of Teacher Training Resources for the new LCD EE Coordinator filled with teacher training resources, AMD Education Curriculum and many PowerPoint Presentations created by EPCAMR Staff over the years.
- Attended the Non-Point Source Liaison Workgroup Meeting and represented EPCAMR on the Resource Extraction Sub-Committee. Will be submitting successes for FY 06-07 to Donna Carnahan which begins the process of creating the 2007 EPCAMR Annual Report.
- Sat in and produced notes for a 2008 AMR Conference Call where the conference planning committee began planning for next year's conference. Potential themes, venue and topics were discussed.

### **Technical Assistance:**

- Received a response of about 15 individuals that were interested in obtaining a copy of the RAMLIS CD as mentioned in the Clearfield Progress. A writer was in attendance at the Clearfield SMCRA Title 4 Townhall Meeting.
- Produced a list of abandoned mine discharges in Luzerne County for Shawn Rybka, LCD Watershed Specialist, for a project that he was working on with Kings College students.
- Asked for an update of conservation easements and protected farmlands from Luzerne County GIS Department as requested by Diane Madl, DCNR Nescopeck State Park. Diane sits on a

DCNR committee that is dealing with environmental impacts and resources in Luzerne County Watersheds.

- Received a new “Priority Forests” GIS Layer. The layer was produced by the Nature Conservancy and the Western PA Conservancy and shows forest hubs left in PA rated with an eco score. Interestingly enough the land that the Hazleton Cargo Airport will sit on is rated 28 out of 40, a high quality forest.
- Produced Nescopeck Creek and Conyngham Valley maps for a Stormwater Workshop hosted by the Friends of the Nescopeck. Presented the maps at the workshop along with some facts and figures on the Jeddo Tunnel and our observation of the downstream impacts as of the June 2006 flooding.
- Received scanned maps from the PA DEP Pottsville District Mining Office (DMO) as a part of the Mine Pool Mapping Project. Began to sort through the maps to find several “missing pieces” for the Southern Anthracite Coal Fields. Began by digitizing mine pools, tunnels and mine water flow paths for the Panther Creek Valley, northeast of Tamaqua, Schuylkill and Carbon Counties.
- Updated tunnel elevations, history and metadata for the EPCAMR Region mine tunnels GIS layer for the Mine Pool Mapping Project. The information was based on the Mine Drainage Tunnels of the Eastern Middle Anthracite Field Report (1982) by Jim LaRegina for the 53<sup>rd</sup> Annual Field Conference of Pennsylvania Geologists.
- Posted AMR Program Staff reports to [www.orangewaternet.org](http://www.orangewaternet.org) and sent them to 319 Program. Posted articles to the EC Express News Flash and began a collection of AMD Impacted Watershed Restoration Plans by posting the Catawissa Creek Watershed Implementation Plan (WIP), the Upper Schuylkill Watershed Implementation Plan (WIP) and the Nescopeck Watershed Restoration Action Strategy (WRAS) to the “Watersheds” section.
- Aided Donna Carnahan and Garry Price with the setup of RAMLIS v.7.0 at the DEP 319 Program Office. Donna would like to further study the GIS Tool and begin tracking load reductions for non-point source polluted streams.
- Attended a meeting in Heckscherville held by the Schuylkill Headwaters Association to deal with the Greenberry Culvert Problem. Representatives from Penn DOT and DEP were available for questions from the general public. The general outcome of the meeting was that DEP will study the area (possibly move the stream back to its pre-mining location) while SHA and the township officials will continue to find about \$350,000 to replace existing undersized 24” culvert. Stayed in the Heckscherville Valley to tour the area with Paul Lohin, SHA, and GPS Locate Reclaimed and Unreclaimed AML Features.
- Extracted Infiltration Points from Heckscherville Valley Tour dataset and added them to the EPCAMR Infiltration Points GIS Layer. Began digitizing Southern Mine Pools from the Bureau of Mines Bulletin 526 obtained from the Pottsville DMO.
- Setup a new laptop for the Mine Pool Mapping Project. The laptop will be used to store data gathered by the researcher at the Pottsville DMO.
- Filled out a portion of the Environmental Support Center LEAP Grant for Strategic Planning. Added historical background and past successes to the grant application that the Regional Coordinator started.

\* Represents time billed to the Western PA Watershed Protection Program.

\*\* Represents time billed to the System Appalachian Clean Streams Initiative Grant related to the Audenried Treatment System.

^ Represents time billed to the Hicks Creek Stream Restoration Growing Greener Grant.