

Eastern PA Coalition for Abandoned Mine Reclamation Program October 2008 Progress Report

Michael A. Hewitt, Watershed Outreach Coordinator Luzerne Conservation District 485 Smith Pond Rd., Shavertown, PA 18708 (p) 570-674-3414 (f) 570-674-7989 hardcoal@epcamr.org www.OrangeWaterNetwork.org

Highlights:

- Completed all of the raw GIS contour data and merged into 1 shapefile for the Western Middle Field; Began creating similar data for the Southern Field and 1 spreadsheet of data related to the Mine Pool Mapping Project; Created 2 GIS Maps for the Catawissa Creek RCP
- EPCAMR Staff conducted 1 AMD/AML tour, and lead an AMR Conference Call; Attended a Brownfield Mtg., a Luzerne Lackawanna Joint Comprehensive Plan Mtg., and a PA Geologic Professionals Mtg.
- Updated <u>www.orangewaternetwork.org</u>

Education and Outreach:

- Attended a Brownfield Meeting hosted by EPA Region 3 in Harrisburg with Chris Gillis, EcoTech LLC.
- Setup a new block on <u>www.orangewaternetwork.org</u> homepage for the Datashed and FACTS websites. These links will provide partners with access to new water quality monitoring web tools and information. These programs currently serve groups in Western PA, but the intent is to expand them for the entire state (possibly the entire Appalachian Coal Region).
- EPCAMR Staff conducted a tour of AML and AMD Sites in the Hazleton area for the Hazleton Area School District.
- EPCAMR Staff prepared for and conducted an AMR Conference Call to begin planning for the 2009 conference.
- Attended a Luzerne Lackawanna Joint Comprehensive, Transportation and Hazard Mitigation Plan meeting. Aside from the low attendance, the meeting served as a platform to showcase the statistical information gathered for the 3 plans.
- EPCAMR Staff attended a PA Geologic Professionals meeting in Hazleton, specifically to see a presentation on Natural Stream Channel Design (NSCD) "Lessons Learned" by PA DEP BAMR Wilkes-Barre Office.
- Updated the tentative agenda for the upcoming EPCAMR Board Meeting, sent out a meeting reminder to the board of trustees and posted it to <u>www.orangewaternetwork.org</u>. Also added news articles to the NewsFlash.
- Prepared a narrative and accounting of hours spent on the Hicks Creek NSCD Project for the 3rd and 4th quarter 2008.
- E-mailed WPCAMR and PEC staff to find out their travel policies to compare and contrast with the Luzerne Conservation District policy as EPCAMR decides on language for a policy of their own. WPCAMR responded with a draft policy.

Technical Assistance:

- Researched the "Heart of Hazleton" Problem Area on the PA DEP Bureau of Abandoned Mine Reclamation (BAMR) Abandoned Mine Land Inventory (AMLIS) Database at the request of Eastern Middle Anthracite Region Recovery, Inc. (EMARR). Created a report of the features, comments and several GIS maps of the area. EMARR plans to construct a karst column in the feature to boost alkalinity to the mine pool and reduce AMD production in the mine below. The area is a know infiltration point to the Jeddo Tunnel Drainage System.
- Created a spreadsheet of the collieries in the Southern Anthracite Coal Field and sent it to Roger to begin filling in the bottom elevations as a part of the mine pool mapping program.
- Called Hawk Mountain Labs in Hazleton and Wilson Testing Labs in Shamokin fir the FACTS program in Eastern PA. Currently this program only has cooperating labs in Western PA.
- Traveled to OSM Office in Pittsburgh to pick up a digitizer. Also met with Mike Dunn to learn some tips and tricks in EarthVision.
- Completed and exported C7, C12 and C14 Structure Contours for the Western Middle Anthracite Field. Began digitizing lines of section from map I-689 as well as faults and coal seams from cross sections on the map. This information was sent to Dynamic Graphics Inc. staff (makers of EarthVision) to show how the data could be manipulated to show 3D structures for the Southern Anthracite Field.
- Traveled to the PA DEP BAMR Office in Wilkes-Barre to share digital map files and obtain new files for the Southern Anthracite Field.
- Created parcel outlines on a PDF of an Aerial Map of the Hicks Creek Natural Stream Channel Design Project. This information will be used by surveyors as they begin to map the area for construction.
- Merged several slope GIS files, created from county soils data, into one shapefile for the Catawissa Creek Rivers Conservation Plan. Clipped Chapter 93 Designated Use and PA Fish and Boat Commission Fisheries Classification Streams shapefiles to the Catawissa Creek watershed boundaries. Produced 2 maps containing this information: Generalized Soils Map and Stream Classifications Map. *
- Merged all C series structure contour shapefiles (except C47 and C25) into one draft file and sent to partners in the Mine Pool Mapping Program for their review and corrections.

* Indicates work done for the PA Environmental Council under the Catawissa Creek Rivers Conservation Plan (531-2008)