BLUE GOOSE SOUTH
Abandoned Mine Reclamation Project
Contract No. OSM 11(4092)101.1

Bureau of Abandoned Mine Reclamation
286 Industrial Park Road
Ebensburg, PA 15931-4119
FACT SHEET

**Location:** The project site is located in Barr Township, Cambria County. The site can be accessed from United States Route 219 (U.S. 219) and Pennsylvania State Route 422 (SR 422) Interchange, after exiting U.S. 219, travel 6.8 miles in a westerly direction along the Benjamin Franklin Highway (SR 422), turn right onto Duman Road (SR 271), after traveling 5.8 miles on SR 271, turn right onto Wolfe Road, after one mile the site is located along the left side of Wolfe Road.

**Watershed:** Unnamed Tributary to Elk Creek, Warm Water Fishes (WWF)

**Official Start Date:** January 28, 2017

**Contract Completion Date:** April 11, 2017

**Contractor:** Hutchison Excavating

**Property Owners:** Mark L. Brawley and Betty A. Brawley
235 Buffalo Lane
P.O. Box 272
Nicktown, PA 15762-0272

**Project Cost:** $162,400.52 (Final Amount), $173,812.50 (Bid Amount)

**Project Area:** 1 count vertical opening

**Purpose:** To eliminate eligible abandoned mine public health and safety hazards that are located within close proximity to places of intense visitation of humans.

**Description:** The Blue Goose South project eliminated one dangerous vertical mine opening, which was a 21-foot-long by 14-foot-wide by approximately 450-foot-deep dual compartment mine shaft. The mine shaft was flooded and covered by deteriorated wood timbers and 1/4-inch-thick rusted sheet metal. The Pennsylvania Natural Diversity Index (PNDI) yielded an “Avoidance Measure” with the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (UWFWS) to ensure that Indiana bats or other bats were not adversely affected by this project. Appendix A of the Bat Survey Protocol was followed and a bat survey was dismissed because the mine shaft was prone to flooding and covered by the rusted sheet metal and deteriorated wood timbers.
wood timbers. Three residential structures were located within 750 feet of the project, and one storage building was located within 50 feet of the mine shaft. Even though access to the site was barricaded by an unlocked gate, intense public site visitation was prevalent with evidence of garbage dumping and burning of campfires. The property owner was extremely concerned that a person would fall down into the mine shaft due to the conditions of the covering. This dangerous abandoned mine feature was located within Problem Area 4092 (PA 4092), which was referenced within the Colver 7.5 Minute USGS Quadrangle Map. This dangerous condition was a direct result of deep mining performed prior to 1963 by the Sterling Coal Company. This dangerous abandoned mine feature met the Office of Surface Mining’s (OSM’s) Priority 2 safety criteria.

**Funding:**

Pennsylvania's Abandoned Mine Land Grant

**Project Management:**

Bureau of Abandoned Mine Reclamation
Cambria District Office
814.472.1800

**Accomplishments:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PRIORITY</th>
<th>AMLF #</th>
<th>AMLF KEYWORD</th>
<th>MEASUREMENTS</th>
<th>QUANTITY</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>4092-01</td>
<td>VO</td>
<td>- - - 1 - - 1</td>
<td>COUNT</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

AMLF = Abandoned Mine Land Feature
VO = Vertical Opening
Pre-Construction
During Construction

Open shafts.  
Rock fill dumped, to be pushed into the shaft by the excavator.

Grouting water infiltration area.  
Shaft, completely filled.
New aggregate entrance into the shaft.

Seeded and mulched.

Fence installed around the filled shaft.

View from the entrance gate to the shaft.