Office of Active and Abandoned Mine Operations

LR 58059 SOUTH
Abandoned Mine Reclamation
Contract No. OSM 59(1904)101.1

Bureau of Abandoned Mine Reclamation
2 Public Square, 5th Floor
Wilkes-Barre, PA 18701-1915
Location: The project site is located in Hamilton Township, Tioga County. The work features are located east of Morris Run Road at approximately 41° 39' 44.55” North latitude and 77° 1’ 44.14” West longitude on the Blossburg 7.5’ quadrangle.

Watershed: Tioga River: Cold Water Fishes, Migratory Fishes (CWF,MF)

Official Start Date: September 14, 2015

Contract Completion Date: June 13, 2017

Contractor: JBS Dirt, Inc. Canastota, NY

Property Owners: Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

Project Cost: $500,685.60 (Final Amount); $514,683.20 (Bid Amount)

Project Area: 37.9 acres

Purpose: The scope of this project is to eliminate a public health and safety hazard by excavating, backfilling and grading abandoned mine lands in Hamilton Township, Tioga County.

Description: Surface mining was conducted by Morris Run Coal Company, permit #10861, which was issued in 1950 and the Jones and Brague Mining Company under a permit issued in 1957. The abandoned pits are visible on the 1959 air photo of the region.

This project reclaimed 37.9 acres of abandoned strip mine land by grading approximately 292,000 cubic yards of on-site material. Approximately 5,610 feet of highwall was reclaimed. The highwall’s maximum height was about 40 feet. Existing impoundments were drained and regraded. The site contributes surface runoff to Morris Run and the Tioga River.
The project is entirely within a formerly forested area therefore the Appalachian Regional Reforestation Initiative (ARRI) reclamation approach was used for re-vegetation of the site. The goal was to utilize native hardwood and evergreen seedlings to return the site to approximate pre-mining forested conditions. Innovative grading methods were utilized to best prepare the poor soil conditions to become more habitable for the seedlings. In addition, this methodology creates wildlife habitat which in turn contributes to the distribution of seeds and native plant habitation.

**Funding:**
Pennsylvania’s Abandoned Mine Land Grant

**Project Management:**
Bureau of Abandoned Mine Reclamation
Wilkes-Barre District Office
570.826.2371

**Accomplishments:**

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AMLF = Abandoned Mine Land Feature
Pre-Construction

Grading Area D Impoundment Looking East

LR 58059 South
PROJECT NO. OSM 59(1904)101.1
During Construction

Grading Area A Looking West