



pennsylvania

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION



Active and Abandoned Mine Operations

New Hope Crushed Stone

Monthly Update

Solebury Communications Group

May 2017

Tom Wolf, Governor

Patrick McDonnell, Secretary

May 2017 Project Status

STATUS AS OF:	May 7, 2017
PROJECT	New Hope Crushed Stone (NHCS) Quarry Reclamation and Stream Restoration
START DATE	Reclamation: January 29, 2016 Stream Restoration: January 29, 2016
ANTICIPATED COMPLETION DATE	Reclamation: March 2019 Stream Restoration: March 2019
CURRENT STATUS	Quarry Reclamation Behind Stream Restoration On Schedule

Key Ongoing Factors

- Provisions of the January 29, 2016, letter from DEP to NHCS continue to be in effect.
- Reclamation and stream restoration are required to be completed by March 2019; reclamation is currently behind schedule.
- The August 26, 2016, Compliance Order requires NHCS to report on progress by the 5th of each month that includes quantifiable data which is tracked in this monthly status report.
- Environmental Hearing Board Appeals by NHCS
 - January 29, 2016, DEP letter: Hearing held March 20, 2017. Decision anticipated later this year.
 - August 26, 2016, Compliance Order: Hearing scheduled in Norristown for September 26, 2017.
- NHCS appealed the January 29 letter to the Environmental Hearing Board. A hearing was held on March 20, 2017. It is anticipated the Environmental Hearing Board will render a decision later this year.
- An improved Corrective Action Plan was approved by DEP on April 13, 2017, which requires catchup work to be completed by July 1, 2017.
- The last NHCS related sinkhole was repaired on April 28, 2017 (see February/March 2017 report highlights).
- There is a current investigation of possible sinkholes on the grounds of Solebury School.

May 2017 Highlights

- Settlement Negotiations.
 - Talks between DEP and NHCS have continued.
- An inspection was done on May 2.
 - Statutorily required inspection frequency is once per quarter.
 - In May, reclamation work was completed on the East and Southeast walls.
 - Work in support of reclamation included west wall access road construction and widening of the haul road for the staging of reclamation fill.
 - 500,000 GPD maximum pumping continues.
 - Pit water level will now be reported on a quarterly basis including a trend graph.
 - DEP receives quarterly professionally certified reports from NHCS's consultant that includes water levels. This will be the basis of future reporting.
- Reclamation and Stream Restoration Progress
 - May Work Days
 - 9 on reclamation; 1 on stream; 4 lost to inclement weather and conditions; 8 days on west wall access road construction.

May 2017 Highlights - Continued

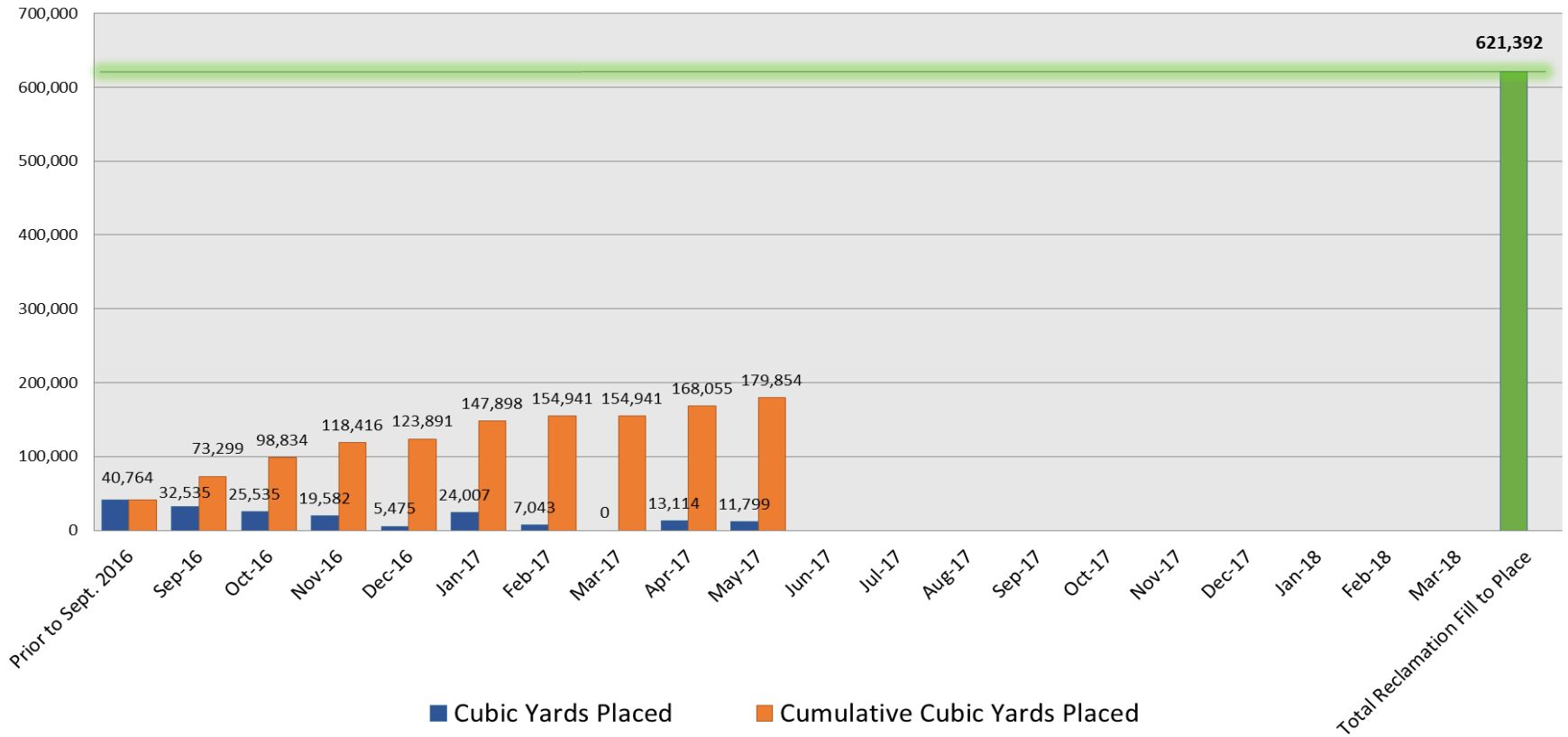
- Reclamation and Stream Restoration Progress - Continued
 - 301 truck trips were made in May with 11,799 cubic yards of overburden being trucked; total placed to date is 179,854 cubic yards.
 - As of the end of May, 28.9% of the total reclamation material has been moved.
 - Truck trip efficiency increased to 39.2 cubic yards per load from 35.9 in April.
 - During April and May NHCS was not meeting the required movement of reclamation material at the rate of 200 cubic yards per hour.
 - Corrective Action Plan
 - As per DEP's letter to NHCS on the CAP, the volume deficiency stated in the Compliance order of August 26, 2016, 76,868 cubic yards of material, must be made up over three sequential quarters which ends July 1, 2017.
 - No Corrective Action Plan catchup material was moved in May.
 - As of the end of May, 32.3% of the total CAP reclamation material has been moved.
 - April's CAP report was corrected to zero from the prior report resulting in the lower progress percentage from what was reported.
 - Survey work was completed on the stream on one day.

Monthly Progress Data

Month	Cubic Yards Placed Overburden	Corrective Action Plan, Portion of Catchup Cubic Yards Placed	Corrective Action Plan, Total Towards 76,868 Catchup Placed	Cubic Yards Placed Overburden, Cumulative	Truck Loads	Reclamation Work Days	Stream Restoration Work Days	Inclement Weather Work Days Lost
Prior to Sept. 2016	40,764			40,764	237			
Sep-16	32,535			73,299	940			
Oct-16	25,535	4,535	4,535	98,834	531	15.0	6.0	0.0
Nov-16	19,582	12,582	17,117	118,416	367	5.0	13.0	2.0
Dec-16	5,475	1,975	19,092	123,891	128	2.5	0.0	15.5
Jan-17	24,007	1,607	20,699	147,898	588	16.0	0.0	1.0
Feb-17	7,043	4,157	24,856	154,941	186	8.0	0.0	4.0
Mar-17	0	0	24,856	154,941	0	0.0	0.0	11.0
Apr-17	13,114	0	24,856	168,055	365	13.0	0.0	3.0
May-17	11,799	0	24,856	179,854	301	9.0	1.0	4.0
Jun-17								
Jul-17								
Aug-17								
Sep-17								
Oct-17								
Nov-17								
Dec-17								
Jan-18								
Feb-18								
Mar-18								
Total Reclamation Fill to Place	621,392	Total CAP Required	76,868					
Percentage of total placed to date	28.9%	Percentage of CAP completed	32.3%					

Reclamation Fill Progress

Reclamation Fill Tracking



Monthly Water Level Tracking

- Water level reporting will change from monthly to quarterly.
- DEP receives quarterly professionally certified reports from NHCS's consultant that includes water levels. This will be the basis of future reporting.
- As of the end of March the water level stood at – 72 Mean Sea Level.
- Water levels will also be illustrated in the monthly pictures.

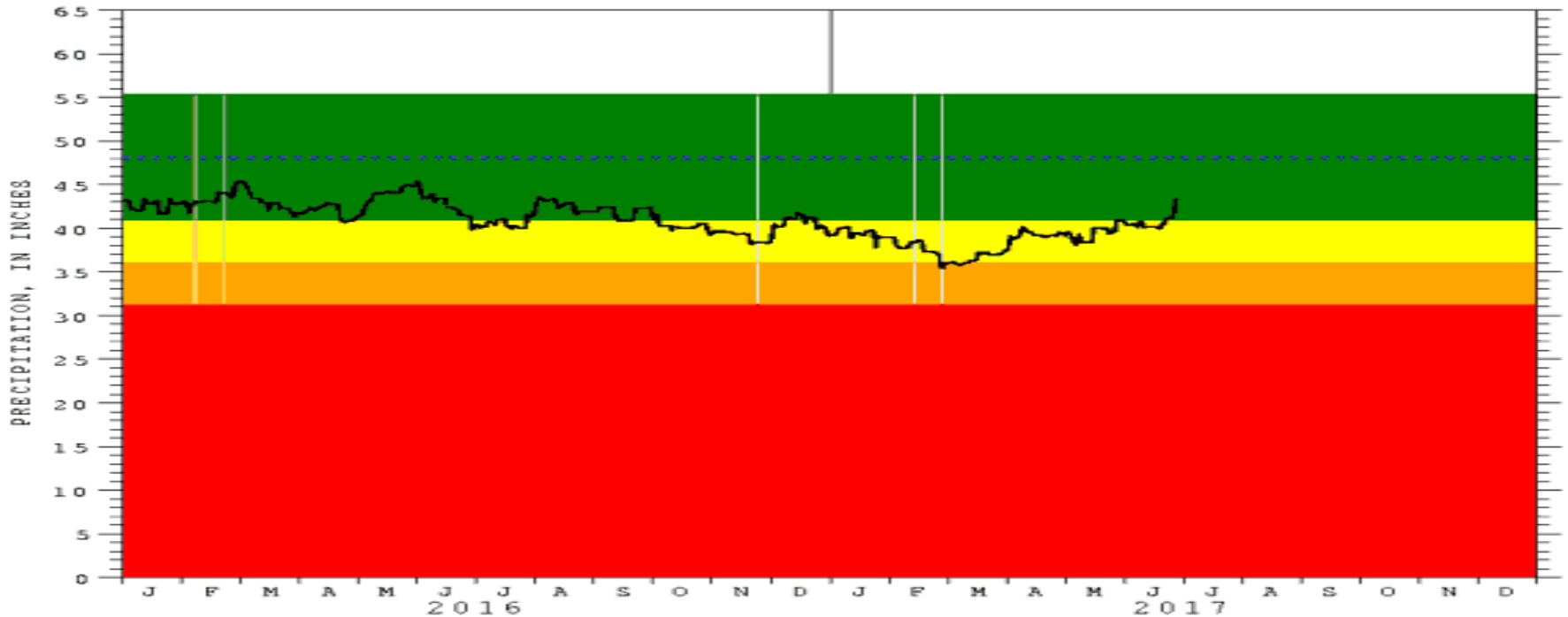
NHCS Monitoring Well Locations



Monitoring well locations are noted by MW1 and MW2 to the right and MW8 at the top center. The fourth in the center is for the plants water use.

Bucks County Precipitation: 2016-2017

BUCKS COUNTY PRECIPITATION
 USGS PLOT OF NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE DATA
 MOVING 365-DAY TOTAL PRECIPITATION
 DATE OF PLOT=06/25/17



COLORED BANDS REPRESENT DROUGHT INDICATOR CRITERIA USED BY THE PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION FOR DROUGHT MONITORING

SOLID LINE - CURRENT MOVING 365-DAY TOTAL, IN INCHES
 DASHED LINE - MOVING AVERAGE 365-DAY TOTAL, FOR 1981-2010, MARFC 2013

GREEN (TOP) BAND = 15 PERCENT ABOVE TO 15 PERCENT BELOW AVERAGE (NORMAL)
 YELLOW BAND = 15 TO 25 PERCENT BELOW AVERAGE (WATCH)
 ORANGE BAND = 25 TO 35 PERCENT BELOW AVERAGE (WARNING)
 RED (BOTTOM) BAND = GREATER THAN 35 PERCENT BELOW AVERAGE (EMERGENCY)

The overall status for Bucks County has changed to the normal level (June 25, 2017)

NHCS Bench Levels

- Bench 2 60' MSL
- Bench 3 10' MSL
- Bench 4 -35 MSL
- Bench 5 -85 MSL
- Bench 6 -120 MSL



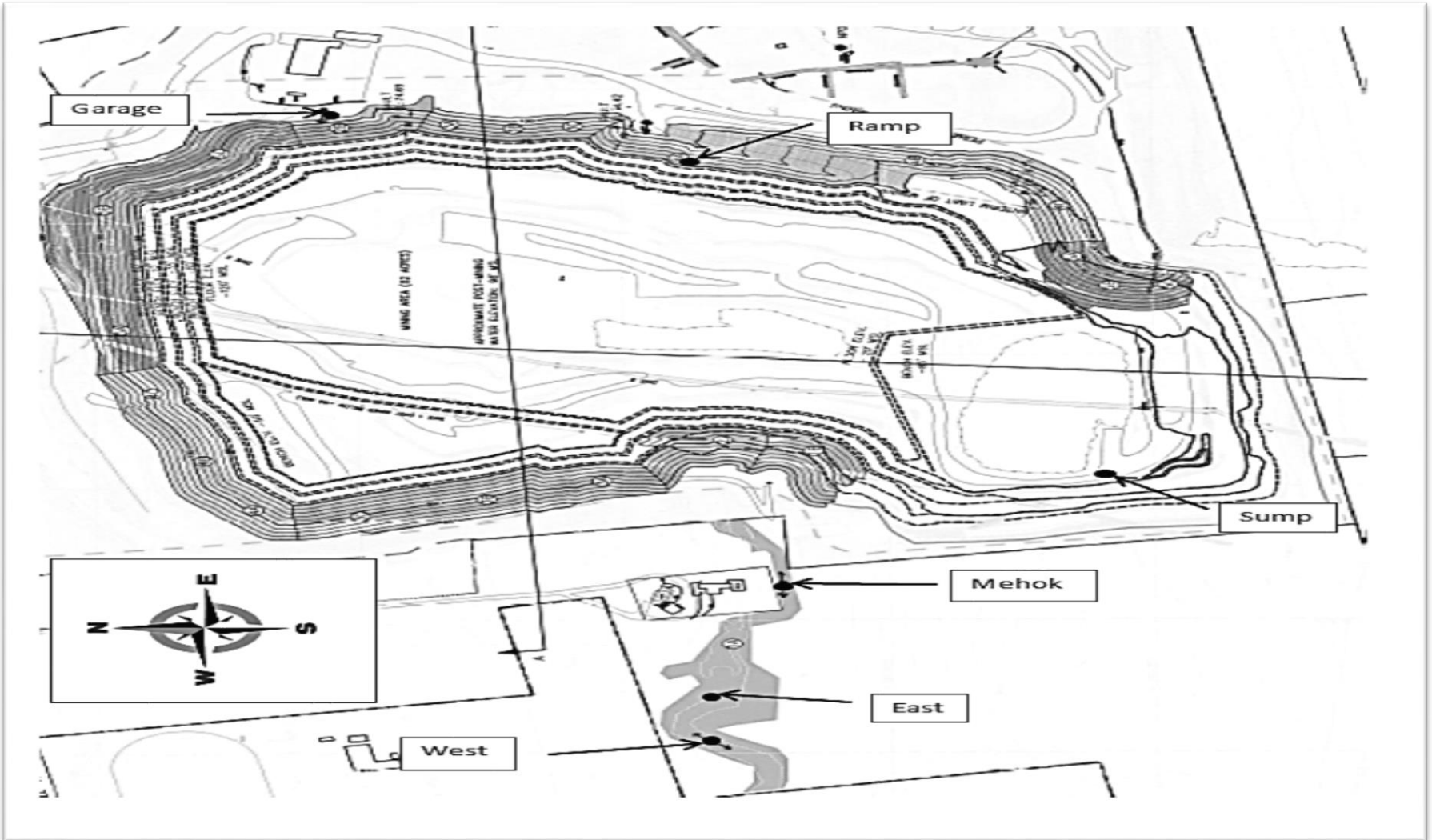
Establishing Photo Vantage Points

To the extent possible with changing conditions at the quarry, photos will be taken from these geographic locations during each inspection. Progress summaries will be included with each monthly update.

Please refer to the map on the next slide.

- West looking east, west
- East looking east, west
- Mehok looking east, west
- Sump
- Ramp looking south, west
- Garage looking north, south

Photo Vantage Points



Stream Restoration

- In May survey work was done on one day in preparation of work resuming.
- Some views from May 23 follow.

Stream Views - May 23



Left: West view towards school property.

Right: East view towards Mehok residence.



Left: Mehok residence east towards quarry.

Right: East outlet into quarry.



Sump - Reclamation



Water level continues to rise.
Area not revisited on May 23.



Ramp, Looking South - Reclamation



5/23/17

Some additional rise in the water level can be seen.



4/18/17

Ramp, Looking West - Reclamation



5/23/17

May 2 view is taken from the third level. Mining work observed.



5/2/17

▶ Garage, Looking North - Reclamation



5/23/17

No visible change from this view other than water level.



4/18/17

North and South Views Towards West



5/23/17



5/23/17

East Wall



05/23/17

Blasting Preparation – May 23



Water Management – May 23



Left: Water is pumped from the quarry into the weir box where the rate is monitored discharging to Primerose Creek.



Right: Discharge from the weir box.



Left: Filling area for water trucks.



Right: Water accumulation from plant. Weir box and truck filling area is further to the right.



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For More Information

Monthly Updates, Inspection Reports,
Communications and more, posted as available.

Please visit: www.dep.pa.gov

Regional Resources > Southeast Region > Community Information

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