

**Project Description** - Abandoned mine drainage (AMD) from the Otto Colliery Airshaft Discharge (Otto Discharge) is one of the largest sources in the Schuylkill River watershed. The discharge contributes the majority of streamflow to the Muddy Branch at their confluence. The Muddy Branch flows from the western boundary of the watershed to the West Branch of the Schuylkill River which then joins the West Branch Schuylkill River. Because of metal loading from the Otto Discharge and other AMD sources, the entire West Branch of the Schuylkill River is designated “impaired” on the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection’s 303(d) List of Impaired Waterways.

**Project Timeframe** – November 22, 2021 through September 30, 2022

**Project Goals** - This project involved the redesign and construction of a new treatment system within the original footprint of the existing treatment system.

**Pictures –**



**Project Results** – Construction of a new treatment system within the original footprint of the existing treatment system was installed. The new treatment system adds aeration in the influent channel and between each pond in the system and improves the settling efficiency of the sedimentation ponds and wetland cell. The new system also has drain valves which will make future maintenance of the ponds easier. This project was split between 2018 and 2019 grant rounds to allow for full funding and completion.

**Project Costs** - \$127,979 EPA Section 319(h).

**Partners** – Alfred Benesch and Company, Miller Bros. Construction, and Schuylkill Headwaters Association.