

Technical Advisory Committee for the Raccoon Creek Partnership

Meeting Minutes – 6/27/2012

Action Items are Underlined

In Attendance: Jeff Calhoun (ODNR-DMRM), Renee Reber (OU Voinovich School/RCP summer intern), Jackie Haynal (Ohio University MSES student), Sarah Landers (Ohio Valley RC&D/RCP), Amy Mackey (OU Voinovich School/RCP), Natalie Kruse (OU Voinovich School/RCP), Barb Flowers (ODNR-DMRM), Jen Bowman (OU Voinovich School), Ben McCament (ODNR-DMRM), Kimberly Brewster (RCP AmeriCorps), Kristin Kindler (RCP AmeriCorps),

The meeting was called to order at 9:05am. Meeting location: Voinovich School, The Ridges, Bldg 22

Agenda Item Number 1: Begin Meeting, Welcome, Introductions

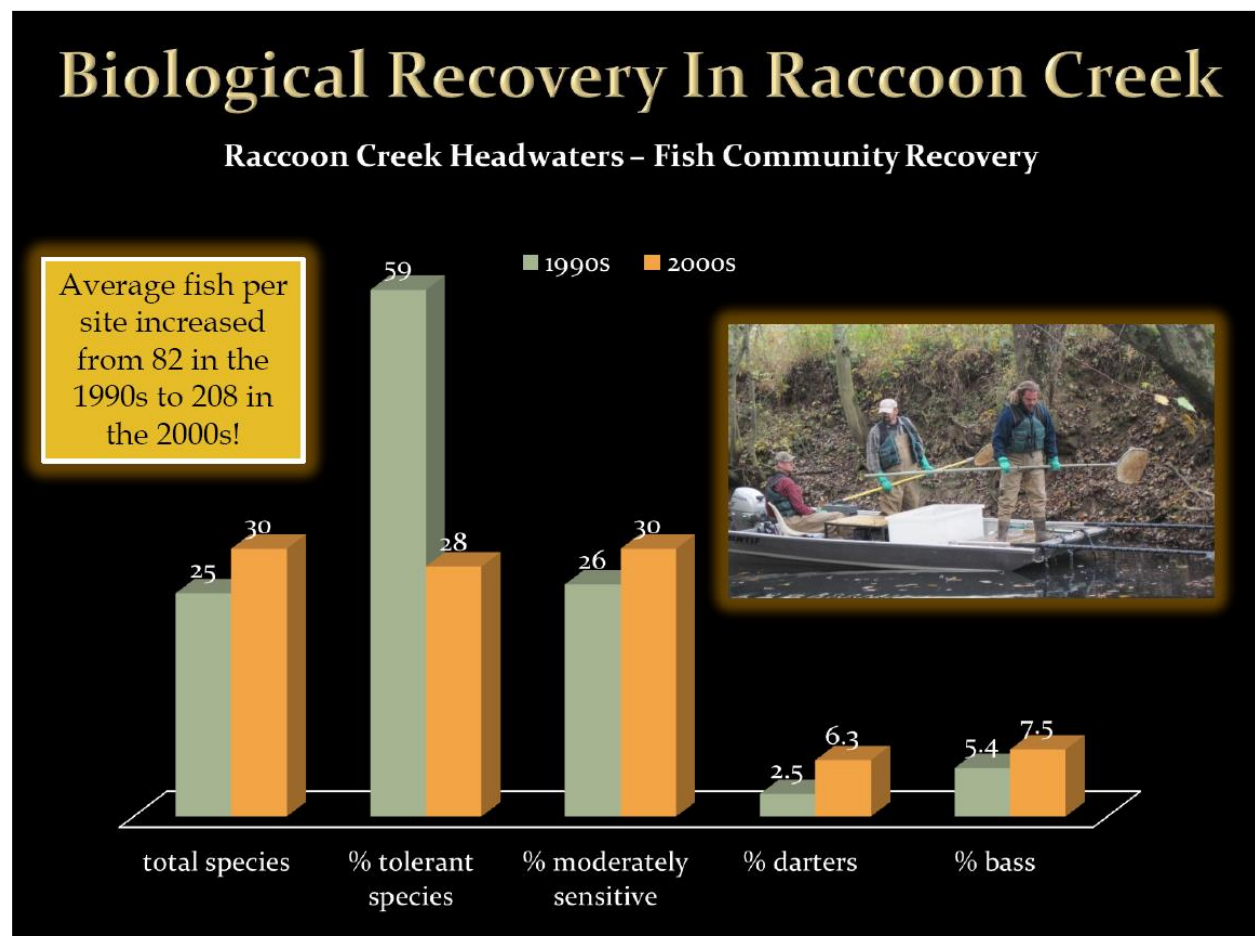
Renee Reber was introduced as the OU Voinovich School/RCP summer intern.

Agenda Item Number 2: Watershed Coordinator Updates – Amy Mackey

Amy Mackey drafted the Office of Surface Mining (OSM) grant for the Lake Morrow project in Little Raccoon Creek watershed. She is presently waiting on the updated budget information to be provided by Mike McAvoy (ODNR-DMRM). Amy mentioned that she knew that they had been waiting on information from Dam Safety. Mike was on vacation and not present at the TAC. Ben McCament and Barb Flowers indicated that Mike was working on the numbers before he left for vacation, but were unsure if they were complete. Although Amy included a total cost that was provided to her earlier this spring by Kaabe Shaw (ODNR-DMRM), Ben advised Amy to wait until Mike returns the following week to get final numbers and submit the grant proposal to Ohio Valley RC&D for revision and submission. Amy will contact Mike to get the final numbers the week of July 2nd to finish the grant application.

Amy has been working on her semi-annual report for the Harble Griffith 319 grant. Amy went out to the Harble Griffith project the previous day and took photos and observed final construction. Barb Flowers brought up that the contractors are to be finished with construction by the end of the month (June) and this week they are going to plant trees and will also be watering the trees over the summer. Amy has also been working on her Watershed Coordinator annual technical report and that is going well. Amy's Watershed Coordinator grant will be expiring December 2012 and she is presently working on renewing that grant. Amy checked the Water Quality Specialist contract and that contract is still good for one more year and is set to expire June 30th 2012. Sarah Landers, Water Quality Specialist, is to begin working on renewing that grant in December 2012. In May Ohio Valley RC&D informed Sarah that she was running out of available funds for mileage reimbursement until it renews again July 1st. The Raccoon Creek Partnership (RCP) voted at their May board meeting to send Ohio Valley RC&D money to help match the Water Quality Specialist funds as they have done in past years. This year RCP had funds available to send \$1,250 to help cover the gap in mileage reimbursement until July and be used to equipment thereafter.

Since the last TAC meeting the RCP spring newsletter was printed and mailed out to membership. Amy brought some copies that were returned to sender for distribution to the TAC group if anyone would like a copy of the RCP newsletter. Amy then brought up on the projector slides from her May 2012 presentation at the Ohio Mineland Partnership meeting. The slides depicted biological recovery in Raccoon Creek from the 1990s to 2000s and Little Raccoon Creek from the 1980s to 2000s. Greg Nageotte, Watershed Programs Manager, with the Ohio Department of Natural Resources Division of Soil and Water Resources requested that Amy submit these recovery slides to the Water Management Association of Ohio for their fall meeting. The meeting is to take place on November 14th & 15th in Columbus, and the meeting topic is “100 Years of Watershed Events.” Amy’s two biological recovery slides are included below and her Watershed Coordinator Updates are concluded.



Biological Recovery In Raccoon Creek

Little Raccoon Creek - Fish Community Recovery



Agenda Item Number 3: 2012 Intern and AmeriCorps Introduction

Renee Reber was introduced as the OU Voinovich School/RCP summer intern. Renee recently completed her Environmental Studies Master's Degree from Ohio University where she conducted her practicum project on Murray City, Ohio and their sewage and AMD treatment issues. Renee has funding for 7 weeks of work with Raccoon Creek as well as with other local watersheds to assist with chemical sampling, macroinvertebrate sampling, and fish sampling.

Two new Raccoon Creek AmeriCorps members were hired for the 2012-2013 year. The new AmeriCorps members are: Rebekah Korenowsky and Darcy Vandervort. Both AmeriCorps members studied Geology at Ohio University and recently finished their undergraduate degrees. Rebekah worked on the AEP Hewett Fork project for her Senior Thesis and has lab experience in addition to experience with field work and data analysis. Both of the new AmeriCorps members went to MAIS (Macroinvertebrate Aggregated Index for Streams) training in June and will be volunteering some this summer with MAIS sampling as well as summer day camps. The Rural Action AmeriCorps Grant funding was approved for this next program year. The AmeriCorps grant requested additional match funding; however ODNR is just entering the second year of a two year contract and this will be addressed under the next contract.

Agenda Item Number 4: Harble Griffith 319 Semi Annual Tech Report – Amy Mackey

Amy Mackey addressed this update during her Watershed Coordinator Update

Agenda Item Number 5: RC Water Quality Specialist and AmeriCorps Updates – Sarah Landers, Kim Brewster, Kristin Kindler

WATER QUALITY SPECIALIST UPDATE

Sarah Landers, Water Quality Specialist, began by summarizing recent sampling activities. Field work has been taking place during the spring and summer and in recent low flow data collection has been in progress. High flow events were completed in the winter and early spring. Sarah showed the group a current copy of the 2012 monitoring plan tables for chemical monitoring. For the calendar year 2012, chemical monitoring is on schedule. Chemical water quality monitoring activities that are scheduled for this summer or early fall depending on summer rainfall are: West Branch LTM (following completion of West Branch projects), Harble Griffith (following completion of project), East Branch Phase I (post-maintenance monitoring) – ran out of time before MAIS and it is possibly too dry now. Middleton Run – Daniel's Run (preliminary data) – ran out of time before MAIS and creek might be dry. Later in the year, but before hunting season, Sarah will request that ODNR contact the landowner that lives on Elk Fork to try to get an Right of Entry to sample the mine seep and tributary mouth. Daniel's Run needs to be chemical sampled for inclusion in the Little Raccoon Creek AMDAT.

Sarah continued with project updates and provided information she gathered while out in the field doing chemical monitoring.

Flint Run/Lake Milton

While conducting post-maintenance monitoring at the Flint Run/Lake Milton site during high flow, the new weir at the Lake Milton sediment pond overflow was found to be leaking. Upon further investigation at another date, Amy Mackey discovered that the weir might be installed backward with the bevel facing the wrong direction. And Natalie Kruse mentioned that the water should be dropping a certain distance and there might be an issue with the weir flowing straight onto the concrete. Photos are located below. Barb Flowers took notes on the weir and will follow-up on these concerns. Ben McCament suggested that Amy Mackey should have the opportunity to review all design plans for the monitoring aspects prior to construction.



Photo of water leaking through weir.



In the AMD source just downstream from the Lake Milton (FR0170) the new installed flume had water going around it. It looked like the substrate got washed out from under the corner of the flume.



Ben McCament informed the group that the gap had been sealed. Amy Mackey asked if concrete had been placed below the flume, however it was unclear at this time how the flume was fixed. It will be checked-out during the next visit to Lake Milton.

East Branch Phase II

Post construction monitoring continued in early June. The Steel Slag Bed (SLB) pipes to the Kern SLB were trimmed down and lowered by the Raccoon Creek crew. Presently there is no longer standing water on most of the SLB except for at the low end at the source water inlet. At North Woods SLB it was noticed during June sampling that the dam spillway at the source pond looks as though it weathered a high volume event and now some of the rocks are displaced and dirt is exposed.



View looking up toward source pond from sediment pond.



View looking down from source pond



View from top of source pond dam

Ilesboro Road Project Recon 4/20/2012

(formerly referred to as “Harble-Griffith Phase II/Griffith Road Phase II”)

Crew: Kaabe Shaw, Sarah Landers, Amy Mackey, Kristin Kindler

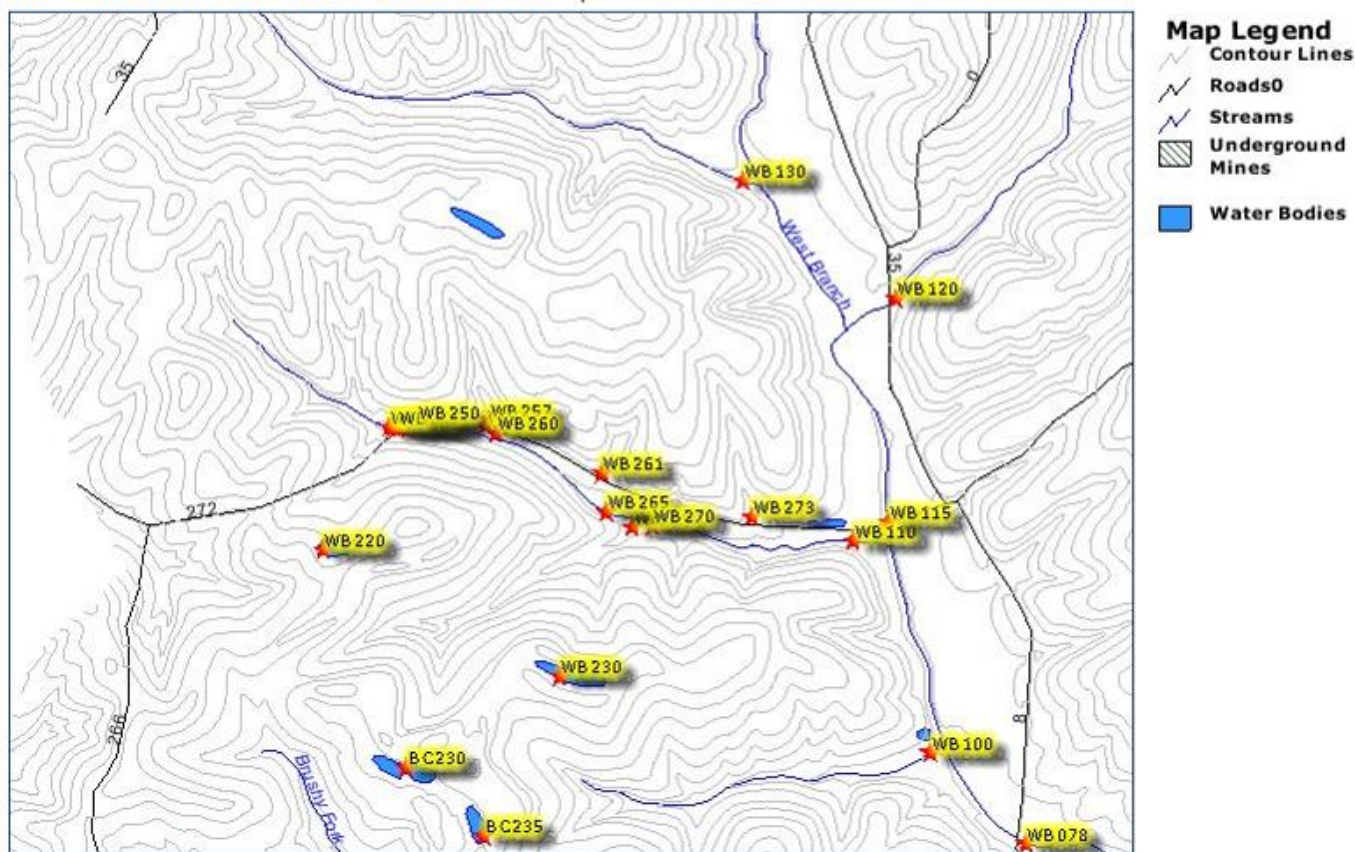
Myron (field parameters only), flume, bucket & stopwatch

Medium flow conditions

Reconnaissance began on west side of Ilesboro Rd starting just east of the Wind Chime Shop and worked our way to Griffith Rd intersection. Still would like to sample WB upstream of WB110 – but Sarah needs to acquire landowner permission to cross field (See Washington Twp map for landowner info). All tributaries to the WB110 tributary were measured for field parameters and flow. It is worth noting that the field recon team found a limestone channel lining the roadside drainage ditch that runs along Ilesboro road at the western side of the reconnaissance area. It is presumed that the landowner Bolton, who in the past reclaimed the top of the hill above the channel, might have had this limestone channel installed. Maps follow of the reconnaissance area and sample sites identified.



West Branch Ilesboro Rd Recon Sites



Powered by ESRI's ArcIMS.

Site Name	Site Description	pH	Specific Conductance	TDS
WB241	Trib in limestone channel along Ilesboro Rd. Upst of 110 trib confluence on south side of road.	4.42	1613	1153
WB250	110 Trib on south side of Ilesboro rd. Dst of road culvert and past confluence with limestone trib.	4.95	625.5	426.5
WB 245	110 trib upstream of Ilesboro Rd culvert and along drive by gale. Dst of WB243.	5.41	336.4	223.9
WB243	Mouth of trib on north side of Ilesboro Rd that drains into WB110 trib upst of road culvert	4.64	977.8	679.7
WB240	110 trib upst of culvert and upst of confluence with WB243 trib	6.25	268	89.56
WB257	Trib in grassy field on north side of Ilesboro Rd.	4.26	249.1	163
WB255	WB110 trib south of Ilesboro Rd upstream of WB257 mouth	5.71	603.8	409.8
WB260	WB110 trib downstream of mouth of WB257 trib culvert	5.85	552	919.2
WB261	Next trib down on north side of Ilesboro	5.52	198.4	129.2

	Rd from WB257			
WB263	Trib on south side of Ilesboro rd. Back of field east of tobacco barn	3.8	700.2	478.1
WB265	WB110 Trib upstream of WB263 Trib. Behind tobacco barn	6.13	458	308
WB270	WB110 Trib downstream of WB263 Trib.	4.38	527.7	355.7
WB273	Next to driveway for 30040 Ilesboro Rd upstream of road culvert	6.21	112	71.7
WB110	Mouth of WB 110 Trib	4.55	464.7	312.6

Orland Gob Pile

The Vinton County SWCD inquired at the June board meeting whether any press had been done regarding the completion of the project. Sarah is going to draft a press release and forward it to Ohio Valley RC&D for assistance in polishing and then send to Vinton County media.

Photos were taking of the project site on May 31st and post construction photos need to be taken once more. Grass was growing on the project site back in May and the sign was put up, but needs to be changed to say "Ohio Valley RC&D" and the Director's name needs to be changed. Kaabe Shaw was already informed that the RC&D name needs changed and Barb Flowers noted the need to change the Director's name. Amy Mackey mentioned that she had not talked with the landowner directly across the street from the project for a while now. During construction he had been interested in getting the status of the projects. Amy will talk with him soon and possibly Sarah can get a quote from him to include in the press release. Chemical Sampling was conducted at the Orland Gob Pile project site in June following a rain event. In the Road Culvert that drains the project (WB050) the pH was 6.59 and the specific conductance was 329 microsiemens. Amy Mackey interjected that historically this location didn't have a pH above 4. The pH of 6.59 indicates that mostly rain water that had no come into contact with coal was coming off the site, and that the project is working!





Orland Gob Pile 5/31/12

Water Quality Specialist Data Update

Sarah Landers is still working on the 2011 Data Analysis and has intertwined that project into a steel slag bed (SLB) analysis that was requested by Ben McCament. The purpose of this analysis is to determine the proper SLB discharge rates to treat AMD sources that don't over exhaust the steel slag in the bed and extend the life of the steel slag. Sarah is going to do a project by project analysis using data that includes 2011 data as a different way to do the 2011 Data Analysis since the NPS reports already covers single year data analysis. Jen Bowman noted that the NPS reports don't cover project analysis on site that includes treatment components and only covers the final sample points. Ben suggested that Sarah just look at the SLB's that are adjustable and are not just "on-off systems" that are not adjustable in regard to the SLB analysis. Sarah will discuss the Little Raccoon Creek AMDAT update later in the meeting agenda.

Raccoon Creek Project Tour

On July 25th the monthly RCP board meeting will include a project tour and will welcome the board, members, agencies, RC&D's, SWCD's, officials, Voinovich School, and other entities to come on the tour. Sarah asked the TAC for suggestions for invites and was informed to invite local elected officials and Voinovich School staff. Natalie and Jen will help with this. Sarah will be creating a flyer and event announcement and distributing it the following week.

Dickason Rd Mine Blow-out in Little Raccoon Creek Watershed

On June 5th there was a mine blow-out along Dickason Rd that drained into the Dixon Run tributary and then into Dickason Run, which is a direct tributary to Little Raccoon Creek. ODNR-DMRM and Raccoon Creek Partners visited the site within a week and collected water quality data. Initially the water coming out of the mine was orange. The Raccoon Creek crew sampled the site on 6/26/2012 while out doing Little Raccoon Creek long term monitoring. The mine discharge was white and cloudy and aluminum was present where the seep was running down the hillside and through the road ditch. The pH was 4.84

and specific conductance was 3834 microsiemens. The discharge has reduced down to 30 gpm. The mouth of Dickason Run had a pH of 7.30 and specific conductance of 1509 on 6/26/12.

Barb Flowers did some research on the area and determined that this underground mine was sealed with two wet seals and the blow-out was at the location of one of the seals. The other seal needs to be checked. Sarah also brought up that the land owner across the street from the blow-out was very concerned about the health and safety of her family and neighbors. Sarah got her contact information and Barb is going to follow up with Scott Davies to make sure that her concerns are or have been addressed.

Flint Run

While still on projects, Ben McCament mentioned that he and Kaabe went out to Lake Milton and gave the valve 2.5 turns to allow more water into the steel slag bed. Discussion ensued regarding the operation of the new valve. Ben informed the group that after all projects are complete there will be a post construction maintenance meeting scheduled. Sarah sampled the mouth of Flint Run on 6/25/12 and the pH was 3.72.

Chemical Sampling in Raccoon Creek

Sarah and Amy informed the group that each year as new chemical sampling sites are added it is getting more and more difficult to get all of the sites sampled in a calendar year. In 2011 there was one project that did not get sampled at all (Salem Rd project in Middleton Run) and a tributary (OTF0010) that did not get sampled (during low flow Long Term Monitoring this trib can be dry). In 2012 Sarah projected that there will be 414 Chemical Water Quality Samples collected in the Raccoon Creek Watershed (255 HW) (36 Middle) (123 LRC). 86 more chemical sites proposed than in 2011 mostly due to East Branch and West Branch post construction monitoring and pre construction data collection in Little Raccoon. This estimate does not include sampling that has already occurred for reconnaissance, Ilesboro Rd, Vinton County Airport, Zaleski Wetland, and additional Middleton Run sampling other than scheduled pre-construction. Ben McCament suggested that Raccoon Creek crew prioritize sites to make sure that sampling is completed for NPS reporting and long term monitoring and divide up responsibilities. Also ODNR is available to help with sampling and Kaabe Shaw and Mary Ann Borch can help with sampling if we can't get all of our sampling complete. Raccoon Creek crew will need to communicate with ODNR on sampling needs. Sarah also brought up that one of this year's AmeriCorps members is experienced in sampling and is confident that both AmeriCorps members will be able to help with sampling and doing field work on their own.

END Water Quality Specialist Update

AMERICORPS UPDATE

Kristin Kindler began by talking about the RCP summer watershed day came which was held the previous week. Kristin gave a summary of camp activities which included: pond studies, fishing, canoeing, bird house making, flower press making, tie-dying, and field trips to Lake Hope and the Hocking Hills. The second RCP summer camp is set for July 30th – August 1st and is geared to an older age group, however there are some younger children signed up. So far there are 10 campers signed up and the number of campers is probably going to be limited to 15.

Kimberly Brewster shared information with the group regarding RCP's recent participation in the Ohio River Clean Sweep. The event was a multi-state clean-up held on a single day in six states along the Ohio River and Ohio River tributaries. RCP had two clean-up locations. One location was along Hewett Fork, upstream of the doser. There were 7 participants and they collected 14 tires and 15 bags of trash. The second clean-up location was on Raccoon Creek beginning at Ponn's Bridge down to SR 160. This group was also comprised of 7 or 8 participants and they pulled about 15 bags of trash and tires out of the creek.

Current AmeriCorps members Kimberly Brewster and Kristin Kindler will finish their terms in early August and neither will be returning for a second term. Kim will be moving to the St. Clairsville, Ohio area to begin her new position as Captina Creek Watershed Coordinator. Kristin will be moving to Tyler, Texas to join her fiancé.

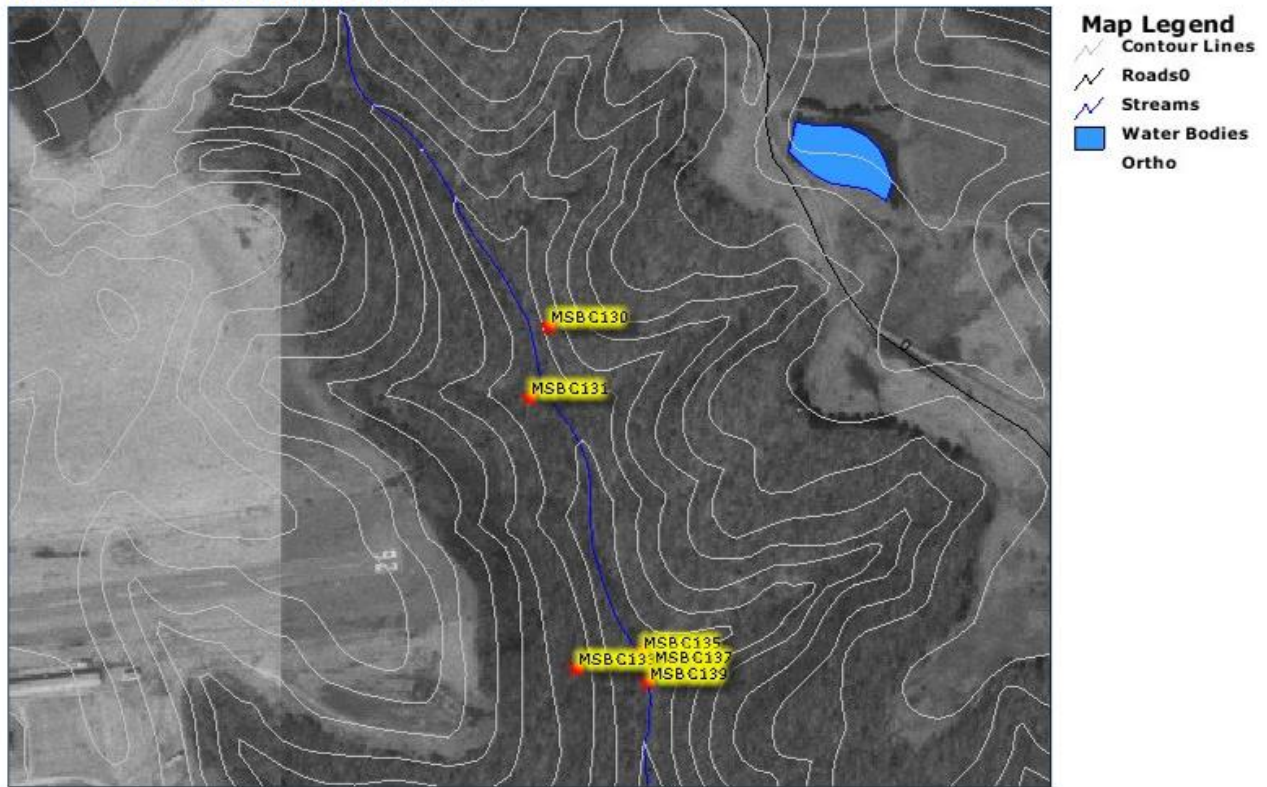
Agenda Item Number 6: Vinton County Airport Mitigation Updates – Sarah Landers, Amy Mackey, Ben McCament

On April 26th 2012 a meeting and site tour was held at the Vinton County Airport. Attendees included Ohio EPA, the FAA, Vinton County Engineer, new consultant, and Ben McCament, Amy Mackey and Sarah Landers. The site tour occurred after a heavy rain event and a YSI was utilized as well as pH strips to get an idea of the potential AMD on site. Stepping back for a moment, this mitigation is necessary because the FAA funded a project to extend the airport runway and the unnamed tributary running downhill of the western end of the runway was culverted and there were no permits sought. Phase I of the project involved the use of gob and spoil to fill in the valley and pipe an AMD stream through about 300 feet of aluminum culvert under the fill. There is potential that the culvert can clog and the aluminum could be dissolving. Sarah showed the group a table downloaded for the NPS database showing the data collected at the site when lab samples were taken on 5/21/12.

Site ID	Discharge (cfs)	Acidity	Alkalinity	Aluminum Total	Ph Lab	SPC Lab
MSBC130	0.0744	77	0	8.24	3.71	1490
MSBC131	0.0172	10.1	89.5	1.61	7.25	1780
MSBC133	0.0075	71.2	24	8.43	5.42	1320
MSBC135	0.14	57.5	4.74	4.52	5.45	1300
MSBC137		39.6	0	2.81	4.05	370
MSBC139	0.13	68.7	4.38	8.11	5.25	1260

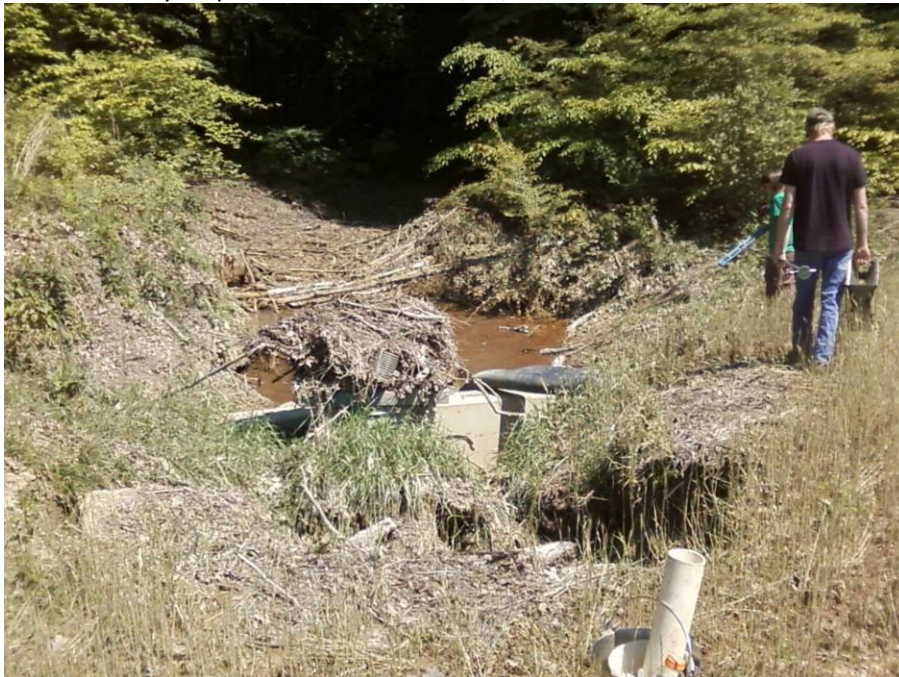
4/26/2012 (recon tour) & lab samples 5/21/2012

Vinton County Airport Recon Sites



Powered by [ESRI's ArcIMS](#).

Vinton County Airport Culvert intake 5/21/12





Another consultant was hired to fix the problem and wanted to know if there was anything that ODNR and RCP can do about AMD and if there are suggestions for doing something on site. The new consultant acknowledged that the spoil backfill is very unstable and had an idea to re-route the stream on the back edge of the backfill area. Amy will email this to Joe Cook, the Vinton County engineer who is working with the consultant. Sarah suggested sampling this site again following a rain event if there is interest in doing an AMD project as part of the mitigation. There are some AMD issues in the unnamed airport tributary that begin upstream of the Airport, however that is on private property and this might be a D or C permit area, which means there is nothing we could do about the AMD.

Agenda Item Number 7: 2012 Biological Sampling Update – Amy Mackey, Jeff Calhoun.

MAIS for the Raccoon Creek Watershed is scheduled for July 9th – July 20th. It is estimated that there are 35-47 sites for MAIS and these sites will be discussed and prioritized at a separate biological monitoring meeting following the TAC meeting. There are over 20 Raccoon Creek fish sites scheduled for 2012 at this time (which will be discussed at the biological monitoring meeting following the TAC). Jeff Calhoun is the only person with level III fish, Amy and Nate Schlater (Monday Creek Water Quality Specialist) have their level II fish, but not level III. The question was posted, could Amy and Nate conduct IBI sampling without Jeff. Ben McCament and Jeff and Jen Bowman had a discussion about the use of the data and EPA analysis and determined that this is not possible because the data won't be accepted without someone who has their level III fish. Jeff informed the group that we will need to prioritize sites since we will need to have time to do 2 passes on most of the fish sites. There was some discussion about the possibility of Amy and/or Nate to get level III fish. There hasn't been a level three class offered for a few years. Someone (Ben or Jeff?) was going to inquire with Ohio EPA to find out if it is possible for Amy/Nate to try for their level III fish if there is no class. It was determined that this would not be possible this year for anyone else to attempt to get their level III fish, due to time constraints and the necessary time it would take for Amy/Nate to study all the material for the test.

Agenda Item Number 8: Little Raccoon Creek AMDAT Update – Amy Mackey, Ben McCament, Sarah Landers

Earlier in the week Ben McCament inquired about the progress of the Little Raccoon Creek AMDAT (Acid Mine Drainage Abatement and Treatment) Plan. Sarah put together the timeline on the following page for AMDAT completion and assured Ben that the LRC AMDAT will be completed in 2012. Sarah outlined sampling that had been completed in 2012 and some sampling that she would like to complete, such as Daniel's Run to include in the AMDAT so that it may be considered as a potential future project. Sarah also mentioned that there are some tributaries in the original AMDAT that had not been sampled for a while (example: Greasy Run) that she may want to investigate now that many of the higher priority projects in the Little Raccoon Creek watershed had been completed. Any additional sampling will be completed in the early fall, because many creeks in the LRC watershed are already dry. After looking over the timeline Ben agreed that October would be a fine time to schedule a meeting with Mike McAvoy to go over potential projects and calculate design costs for projects to include in the AMDAT project analysis and prioritization. Sarah will schedule a meeting in July with ODNR to go over LRC AMDAT expectations and procedure as she writes the plan and seeks ODNR-DMRM input.

Little Raccoon Creek AMDAT Timeline											
November 2011	December 2011	January 2012	February 2012	March 2012	April 2012	May 2012	June 2012	July 2012	August 2012	September 2012	October 2012
Data Collection: Little Raccoon Creek Long Term Monitoring (11/7/11 & 6/25/12), Salem Rd Project (1/4/12), Mulga Treatment (2/28/12), Buffer Run (4/11/12), Flint Run (1/16/12 & 6/5/12), Lake Milton (1/31/12 & 5/9/12), Middleton Run (Kisor Ridge Rd Mines) (1/9/12, 4/11/12), Middleton Run Mass Balance (6/4/12), Dickason Run mine blowout (6/12/12 & 6/26/12)											
								Chemical Data Analysis: calculate acid, metal, & alkalinity loading			
								Biological Data Analysis: BI, ICI, MIWB			
								Historical Data Comparison: 2000 AMDAT to 2012			
								Project Updates: past & future			
								Rank & Prioritize AMD Potential Treatment Sites + Cost Analysis			
								Introduction & Conclusion			

Agenda Item Number 9: Current and Upcoming AMD Project Updates – ODNR and all

Harble Griffith

Barb Flowers informed the group that this project was pretty well done. The wetland is being completed and is being seeded and trees are being planted. The contract is up at the end of June.

Orland Gob Pile

Completed. Discussion followed about the changing of the signs. Barb Flowers mentioned that she had asked Mitch Farley at one time if it is required to put the Director and Governor's names on the signs. When those positions change, all of the project signs need to be changed to reflect each administration and director. Barb asked Ben McCament if the signs can get the special exemption from having the Director and Governor's names on the signs. Ben will check to see if this is possible.

East Branch Projects

(Nelsonville area maintenance) East Branch Phase I maintenance is complete.

East Branch Phase II – Forrest is still working and is not clogged again

East Branch Phase III – Still doing well after the excess sediment was removed from off the top of the steel slag beds. Amy noticed that the rock channel had been extended.

There have been some issues with mulch and some of the contractors not using enough mulch in some areas in the watershed. Kaabe had previously acknowledged that Orland is mulched well.

Jackson area (Flint Run/Lake Milton)

The bipro was respreads and reseeded. There was a question whether it is ok to seed now since it is so dry. However the contractor can't finish the project unless it is seeded now. Barb will go to Lake Milton to the weir installed at the sediment pond overflow and make sure the weir is installed correctly.

Amy Mackey brought up that while the Raccoon Creek crew was out at Flint Run with Kaabe Shaw they noticed that the elephant pipes coming right out of the Flint Run East steel slag bed were tearing apart under the weight of the water in the pipes where the pipes are sagging down between the outlet of the steel slag bed and the new piping that runs down the hill. The crew wanted to lower the pipes to lower the water level in the slag bed but could not lower the pipes because the increase in water through the pipes would put too much stress on the tearing pipes. Soon water will be discharging right at these pipes and won't be piped downhill to the AMD source. The pipes need replaced and the issue of how to keep the weight of the water from tearing them in the future needs to be addressed.

It was also brought up that on the Lake Milton side in the sediment pond the elbow intake pipes for the steel slag bed are open and do not have grates over them. Amy was concerned that they might need to be covered. Kaabe should check to see if the design required the pipes to be open.

Pierce Run Dam Maintenance

ODNR has the low bidder and Barb Flowers is sending in the contract right now. ODNR decided to move forward on the project. Construction is slated to begin sometime in the fall.

Lake Morrow

A price still needs to be provided to Amy. Mike McAvoy has been working on the design. Kaabe was working on the SHPO (Ohio Historic Preservation) and historic clearance was passed. The Nationwide was approved. The current timeline is to drain the lake in the fall of 2012 and have the project complete in the late spring of 2013. Kaabe Shaw has an updated Project Development Schedule. Kaabe will be working on the Flint Run “bermages” and NEPA for the wetland for the project in 2013 and plastic sheeting for the berms is being considered.

Middleton Run 2013

Mike McAvoy has earthwork complete for 5 of the 6 sites. There isn’t as much clay as we would have wanted. Conditions are going to be created to grow plants using fertilizer and lime and improve the water drainage and there is a potential to use bipro.

Agenda Item Number 10: Corporate Sponsorship Letters – Jen Bowman

At the last TAC meeting Jen informed the group 3 different versions of corporate sponsorship letters that were drafted by an Ohio University MPA student for the Raccoon Creek Partnership. Letters were geared toward corporate sponsorship encompassing three watershed components: education, recreation and science. A database of potential sponsors has been compiled using an Ohio University keyword database. The letters right now are intended to raise \$5,000 maximum and will first focus on local businesses to draw local attention and give local businesses an opportunity first to support this endeavor. The idea is to start by asking for a few \$1,000 donations, or if that does not work then to ask for \$500 donations. Another Ohio University Master’s student, Karla Sanders created a Raccoon Creek Water Trail educational and access point map and also created a video depicting how she created the map. This video was shown at the TAC meeting. To view the video, go to: <http://vimeo.com/43116003>

The Raccoon Creek Water Trail Association intends to print copies of the map for distribution. They need an estimated \$4,000 to print the maps. Jen believes this would be a good first project for the corporate sponsorship letters. Jen will work with Molly to get a better estimated printing price and work with her on using these letters. There was conversation around the room about the process of getting the water trail designated as a state trail. Presently the state is asking for a lot of money to designate as a water trail so the Water Trail Association is going to put the trail on the ACA (American Canoe Association) website and use the map to submit for state designation anyway. Jen still has some final edits for the corporate sponsorship letter, and will send them to Molly after edits are complete.

Agenda Item Number 11: AEP Project Updates – Jen Bowman

The Ohio University Voinovich School submitted a proposal to AEP for \$1,000,000 to support multiple environmental programs at Ohio University. Only one of the programs received funding, which was \$100,000 for student graduate assistants for the next 2-3 years to work on Voinovich School projects. Unfortunately funding that was to be used for the NPS database expansion was not allocated and the project will need to be completed with remaining funds or with funds from the Voinovich School. Ben McCament told Jen to inform him if there is a funding gap because ODNR uses the database and hasn’t paid for it and might be able to help fund the completion of the expansion.

Jen Bowman also updated the group on the progress for the NPS reports for 2011. Most of the work is done and when complete the reports will be given to ODNR for review. Jen asked about the format and Ben let her know that electronic was just fine. Jen will make 4 CD's for ODNR to review in July (1 for each office) and then get back to Jen with comments. Jen also wants the TAC and ODNR to think about how to handle maintenance projects for the 2012 NPS report. In the fall Ben and Jen will dedicate some time to address this. Also, Amy Mackey's watershed coordinator grant expires in December of 2012. Amy will be drafting and submitting the new grant as soon as possible.

Currently for the AEP project publications have been worked on. There will be a final publication, protocol paper and a methods paper all based on the Hewett Fork study. Graduate students will use the methods and determine what a group would do if they went into a different area to use these methods. They would need to answer the question; could these methods be applicable in other watersheds. GA students will test this theory on other watersheds.

Agenda Item Number 12: New Business/Announcements - All

Renee Reber, RCP summer intern brought up with the group that following her summer internship she will be moving to Cincinnati and is presently looking for a job. It was suggested that Renee sign up to get on the email list for Ohio Watershed Network as well as get her resume to Constance White since she is very connected in the watershed field and often hears of career opportunities.

Ben McCament announced that the Manager of the AML program is retiring and a new Manager has been selected, whose identity has not yet been revealed. Mitch Farley is helping train the new Manager. It was suggested that the watershed groups take an active role and set up a meeting with the new Manager.

Ben also let the group know that they are still working on lining up a maintenance contract to have a contractor "on call" to fix minor project issues. It would be preferred to have someone local, and this is taking some time because the contracting is more difficult than it initially appeared.

The ODNR summer intern program was denied this year without any explanation. The descriptions needed more justification and additional language was added and then was delivered to the Deputy Director. There is no response yet.

For the Mulga Run AML Enhancement Project and possible re-mining project, drilling is taking place near Dundas Stone Plant and so far one hole has been drilled, which contained a 12 ft. void. This project will cost the company and they need to find enough recoverable minerals under the group to re-mine the area. We'll know the status in a few months.

Jen Bowman announced that Ed Rankin is retiring. Ben McCament also acknowledged that Raina Fulks the Leading Creek Watershed Coordinator is leaving and the Meigs SWCD Board is going to have a meeting about the Watershed Coordinator position.

Ben is also working on a strategic plan and getting ODNR-DMRM priorities in writing so that upcoming projects are outlined and to facilitate easier planning for future projects down the road.

Agenda Item Number 13: Wrap-up Review Action items - All

**End Meeting 11:50am – Next meeting: Wednesday, September 26th 9:00 am,
The Ridges, Building 22 – Room 214**