

Espy Run Stream Restoration Project

Project Summary

Sponsor: Earth Conservancy

Project Description: Espy Run is a stream channel which originates from the Hanover Reservoir. The stream channel is approximately 2.4 miles long. Due to past mining practices, the stream was diverted, which caused the flow to go underground and traverse through underground mines. This diversion has resulted in the creation of Acid Mine Drainage in tributaries throughout the region.

Project Goals: The goal of this project is to create a new channel which will result in stream flow occurring above ground and thus eliminate the acid mine drainage which this stream has created. Additionally, stormwater practices are to be implemented to help alleviate any future stormwater issues related to this stream.

Project Results: Approximately 4,000 feet of channel has been restored and another 1,000 feet is left to be restored until the project is completed. Once the last section is restored, the channel will be able to be reconnected to the Hanover Reservoir and water will be able to once again flow above ground. Lining of the channel will prevent the stream from filling the mine pools. A riparian buffer has been installed which will provide stability to the channel and provide a more aesthetically pleasing venue.

Project Costs: This phase of the project incurred \$1.2 million of costs. Of this amount, \$500,000 was funded through a Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection Growing Greener Grant. Other funding sources were the United State Environmental Protection Authority; Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection Abandoned Mine Land Grant and Earth Conservancy



Partners: The success of this project was dependent upon many partners. The major partners were Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection; United State Environmental Protection Authority; George M. Albert, PE and James T O'Hara, Inc.

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