



BERNER CONSTRUCTION, INCORPORATED PROJECT SUMMARY

Project Title: Barney's Hill Northwest Abandoned Mine Reclamation Project

Location: Hamilton Township and Blossburg Borough, Tioga County, PA

Scope: Provide labor, materials, equipment, and supervision to reclaim an abandoned strip coal mine area

Berner Construction was awarded a contract from the PA Department of Environmental Protection, Bureau of Abandoned Mine Reclamation, to reclaim an abandoned strip coal mine site located in Hamilton Township and Blossburg Borough in Tioga County, PA. The site is separated into two work areas requiring relocation of displaced materials from the mining operations involving a total of 68 acres. Approximately 592,000 cubic yards of displaced materials was used to backfill and grade the abandoned mine site.



Impoundment prior to dewatering

The project site was heavily wooded and required the clearing and grubbing of the vegetation, followed by grinding of the cleared vegetation. The ground materials were then spread at the jobsite to prevent erosion from the cleared areas.

The site contained five, low pH water impoundments generated from strip operations that were required to be dewatered prior to grading in these areas. Prior to discharge, approximately 3 million gallons of water were pumped and treated through a high calcium limestone bed and conveyed through pumped water filter bags to prevent sediment from entering the downstream waterways.

The ecosystem restoration project included clearing, grubbing, excavating, backfilling, grading, constructing ditches and rock-lined channels, installing subsurface drain piping and a collector pad, installing an on-site access road, and site restoration.

In addition, the project included the implementation of the Erosion and Sedimentation Control Plan which consisted of the installation and removal of over 12,000 linear feet of large diameter compost filter sock and 3,000 linear feet of super silt fence for erosion control measures.



Hydroseeding graded area

Once grading was complete, the 68-acre site was restored by spreading soil amendments including lime and fertilizer. The site was then hydroseeded to plant seed and apply mulch to the newly graded areas in accordance with the project plans and specifications.

Berner's two Caterpillar® D-11 bulldozers, excavators and off-road articulating dump trucks were used to relocate the mine spoils and perform the grading operations. Berner utilized a TopCon® GPS system, mounted on the bulldozers to maintain the proper grades through the duration of the project.