NICE TO MEET YOU

Executive Director at Friends of Deckers Creek

• Abandoned Mine Lands

Previous Field Technician at Friends of the Cheat
Primarily Special Reclamation sites

AMD system operator for nearly 9 years

Abandoned Mine Lands and Special Reclamation

Friends of Deckers Creek



Acid Mine Drainage Monitoring and Evaluation February 1, 2024

ACID MINE DRAINAGE

WATER, PYRITE, AND OXYGEN COMBINE TO FORM SULFURIC ACID, WHICH DISSOLVES METALS

> ACIDIC AND HEAVY METAL LOADED WATER

> > DEAD AQUATIC LIFE

PYRITE IS EXPOSED DURING MINING AKA FOOLS GOLD

AQUIFER

WATER LEECHES INTO MINE

WATER



WATER QUALITY

Physicochemical Parameters

- > <u>Power of Hydrogen (pH):</u> How acidic or basic a solution
- > <u>Conductivity:</u> A measure of water's ability to pass electrical flow
- > <u>Salinity:</u> Total concentration of all dissolved salts in water
- Total Dissolved Solids (TDS): A measure of anything dissolved in water that is not an H2O molecule
- > <u>Temperature</u>: A measurement of the average thermal energy of a substance
- <u>Nitrates</u>: A form a nitrogen including ammonia (NH3), nitrates (NO3) and nitrites (NO3)
- <u>Dissolved Metals</u>: Dissolved Iron and Dissolved Aluminum main focus of FODC treatment systems
- <u>Flow:</u> Volume of water moving passed a fixed point

The Richard Mine

Largest AMD contributor in Deckers Creek watershed.

| lron 26 | Aluminu 13 | Mangane 25 | |
|-----------------|-----------------|---------------|--|
| Fe | A | Mr | |
| 43,000 lbs / yr | 59,000 lbs / yr | 3,200 lbs / y | |



| | рН | Total Dissolved Solids (TDS) (ppm) or (mg/L) | Conductivity (µs/cm) | Salinity (ppm) |
|----------|--------------------|--|--------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Good | 6.5-8.0 | 150-250 | 170-250 | 300-500 |
| Fair | 6.0-6.5 8.0-9.0 | 250-350 | 250-400 | 200-300 500-600 |
| Marginal | 5.0-6.0 9.0-9.5 | 350-450 | 400-500 | 100-200 600-1000 |
| Poor | <5.0 >9.5 | >450 | >500 | <100 >1000 |



ACID MINE DRAINAGE (AMD)

AMD flows from Legacy Mines, or mines closed before:

Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act (1977)

Coal Heritage:

- > Diverse workforce, job creation, community creation
- 1927-1973 highest coal production in US (still second).







AMD TREATMENT SITES



Passive Sites

Input (mg/L) pH - 3.1 Fe – 9.70 Al – 10.17

- + Low cost
- + Low maintenance
- + Effective treatment
- + 24/7 treatment without power source
- Require large amounts of space & funds

Output (mg/L) pH - 8.35 Fe - 0.16

AI - 0.08

ACTIVE SITES

Output (mg/L)

pH - 11.22 Fe – 0.1 Al – 5.94 Input (mg/L) pH - 2.36 Fe – 97.59 Al – 37.98



- + Arguably more effective
- + Less land required
- Higher cost
- Higher maintenance
- Requires outside power source

Ingrand

Kanes Creek South I



UPPER DECKERS - BEFORE AND AFTER





Deckers Creek Gorge, 1995

Deckers Creek Gorge, 2017

Dillan Creek

North Seep

Wetland

South Seep-







Dillan Creek

Dillan Creek

Complications

- Landowner Change
 - Ensure courthouse documentation
- Multiple Landowners
 - Get landowner(s) onboard early in the process
- Permit Approval Timeline
 - Realistic timelines
- Permit Action Timeline
 - Realistic timelines
- Insufficient Funding and Grant Timeline
 - Add contingency to budget
- Ambiguous Engineering Contract
 - Ensure scope of work is complete
- Project Redesigns

Dillan Creek System In pH: 2.95 Acidity: 223.74 Dissolved Al: 22.361 Dissolved Fe: 9.86

Dillan Creek System Out pH: 6.74 Acidity: 25.88 Dissolved Al: <0.059 Dissolved Fe: <0.014

