



**West Branch Susquehanna Restoration Coalition  
Meeting Report  
Tuesday, March 13, 2012**

- Opening**      This meeting of the West Branch Susquehanna Restoration Coalition was called to order at 6:30 pm by Amy Wolfe. The meeting was held at the Clearfield County Conservation District office in Clearfield, PA.
- Present**      The meeting was attended by: Ann Donovan, Terry O'Connor, Amy Wolfe, Ken Undercoffer, Becky Dunlap, Shawn Rummel, Jack Straley, Von Holquin, Glenn Williams, Art Rose, Rebecca Holler, Kevin Clark, Eli Long, Kelly Williams, Carl Undercoffer, Buddy Thomas, and Rachel Kester.

**Information and Discussion Items**

- Item 1: Introductions: All meeting participants introduced themselves and the group they were representing.
- Item 2: The minutes of the December 13, 2011 meeting were distributed. One change was noted: the acronym for PA Fish and Boat Commission should be changed to PFBC throughout.
- Item 3: Rebecca Holler and Rachel Kester, Trout Unlimited, gave an update on the upcoming West Branch Susquehanna Restoration Symposium to be held April 27-28, 2012 at the Ramada Conference Center, State College, PA. There will be a variety of AMD-related presentations on April 27, followed by a teacher's workshop and treatment system tour on April 28. Interested persons can go to [www.wbsrc.org/symposium.html](http://www.wbsrc.org/symposium.html) to download the agenda and registration form. It was noted that volunteers are still needed to help with tasks at the Symposium. Also, updates for the "Around-the-Watershed" booklet must be emailed to Rebecca Holler ([rholler@tu.org](mailto:rholler@tu.org)) by March 30.
- Item 4: Amy Wolfe, Trout Unlimited, updated the group about recent developments with the Federal Good Samaritan legislature, noting that EPA will likely be issuing an internal memo that should help with but not entirely alleviate liability to watershed groups, etc. under the Clean Water Act. Trout Unlimited has a white paper on the subject. Contact Amy ([awolfe@tu.org](mailto:awolfe@tu.org)) with any questions or for a copy of the white paper. Amy also told the group that it appears the merger of the Bureau of Land Management and the Office of Surface Mining will not be taking place as previously discussed; however, it appears they will be merging some operational functions. Amy also mentioned the re-organization of DEP as it relates to the cleanup of AMD. It was noted that the folks from BAMR that work on water quality have been moved to the new Bureau of Conservation and Restoration, headed by Glenn Rider.
- Item 5: Rachel Kester updated the group about upcoming grant deadlines. The group is reminded that funding opportunities are posted on the WBSRC website at [www.wbsrc.com/amdtech.html](http://www.wbsrc.com/amdtech.html). Anyone wishing to submit a grant opportunity for the website should email Rachel Kester ([rkester@tu.org](mailto:rkester@tu.org)).
- Item 6: Becky Dunlap, Trout Unlimited, updated the group about the white paper that DEP has released regarding using AMD for Marcellus Shale gas development. More information about this will be available at the upcoming Symposium. Becky also told the group that TU has received funding from the Chesapeake Bay Funders network to help build watershed group capacity in the West Branch. Also, Becky told the group that TU will be partnering with SRBC, PFBC, and DEP to complete a study on the recovery of the West Branch headwaters now that the Barnes and Tucker Lancashire 15 treatment plant is online. Anyone interested in volunteering should contact Becky ([rdunlap@tu.org](mailto:rdunlap@tu.org)).

Item 7: Amy Wolfe reviewed the Growing Greener and Section 319 grants that were recently awarded to groups within the West Branch Susquehanna River watershed. Congratulations to those who received funding! It is anticipated that the next round of GG will be announced soon and will likely be due in August.

Item 8: Amy Wolfe then shared with the group that there have been a great many projects completed under TU's AMD Technical Assistance program within the West Branch Susquehanna River watershed over the last few years. Statewide, over 100 AMD projects have now been completed through TAG. For more information or an application, visit [www.wbsrc.org/amdtech.html](http://www.wbsrc.org/amdtech.html).

Item 9: "Round-the-table" watershed updates were provided by those present on behalf of the organization(s) that they represent.

The next meeting will be held on June 12, 2012 in Clinton County. The exact location will be announced closer to the meeting time.