



**West Branch Susquehanna Restoration Coalition
Meeting Report
Tuesday, December 14, 2010**

Holiday Party A holiday party was held prior to the regular business meeting.

Opening This meeting of the West Branch Susquehanna Restoration Coalition was called to order at 6:40 pm by Amy Wolfe. The meeting was held in the Community Room at KCNet in Lock Haven, PA.

Present The meeting was attended by: Art Rose, Scott Koser, Carl Undercofler, Kelly Williams, Bill Beacom, Rebecca Holler, Amy Wolfe, Rachel Kester, Rebecca Dunlap, and Shawn Rummel.

Information and Discussion Items

Item 1: Introductions: All meeting participants identified themselves and the group they were representing.

Item 2: The minutes of the Sept. 14th, 2010 meeting were distributed. No changes were needed.

Item 3: Amy Wolfe, Trout Unlimited, gave an update about Federal Good Samaritan protection for abandoned mine remediation projects. She explained the results from the WV court case. This case determined that NPDES permits are needed for treatment systems, including work done on abandoned mines. TU along with other partners will be working to get protection for Good Samaritans. Anyone with questions about what their group's liability is, or how to help the passage of federal protection should contact Amy at awolfe@tu.org.

Item 4: Rachel Kester, Trout Unlimited, updated the group about upcoming grant deadlines. The group is reminded that all funding opportunities are posted on the WBSRC website at www.wbsrc.com/amdtech.html. Anyone wishing to submit a grant opportunity for the website should contact Rachel at rkester@tu.org.

Item 5: Amy Wolfe then led a discussion of the Growing Greener funds and their distribution for this year. It is unclear when grants will be announced or how many projects will be funded.

Item 6: Rebecca Holler, Trout Unlimited updated the group about the upcoming education events and the events that have already taken place. Classroom education has already been completed at Bucktail High School and Clearfield Area High School, with field trips planned for spring. The other classroom education days and field trips are planned for Northern Cambria Area High School, Harmony Area High School, and Grier School. Rebecca asked groups interested in assisting with these events to contact her for details of times and location at rholler@tu.org.

Item 7: Becky Dunlap, Trout Unlimited, gave a brief update on the upcoming symposium in 2012. Groups are asked to be aware of presentations for this event.

Item 8: Rebecca Holler gave an update on changes that were made to the WBSRC website to make it more user-friendly. These include a new publications page that makes finding relevant publications easier, as well as, an updated grants page. If anyone has suggestions on website updates they should contact Rebecca.

Item 9: Shawn Rummel, Trout Unlimited, discussed the plans for a new DEP education grant. This grant will allow TU to hire interns who will assist in the writing of AMD based lesson plans. These plans will be presented at the 2012 symposium, and made available on the website.

Item 10: Amy gave an update on the status of the three OSM/VISTA positions within the West Branch. Currently there are two positions for which applications are being accepted. One located in Lewisburg with Susquehanna Greenway partnership, and a second located in Lock Haven at Trout Unlimited will need to

be filled by Dec. 28th. A third position in Clearfield with the Conservation District will be formalized for hiring in May.

Item 11: "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 March 8th, 2011. The location will be announced closer to the meeting time.