

Pennsylvania Mine and the Snake River Task Force

July 21, 2011

History

1988 – Early ARD - natural wetlands investigations

1989 – USFS SUP for penstock to treatment bldg

1990 – Hydro powered limestone pretreatment system, 319 funds

1993 – CERCLA delayed SRB pilot project approved

1993 – EPA determines discharging abandoned mines are point sources.

1994 – Bio-cells constructed through 319 and volunteers, DMG liability concern

1995 – AG insists DMG not activate system or continue work

1997 – Good Sam legislation proposed, DMG prepared with revised design

1998 – Good Sam fails, work cancelled. DEIS for ABasin snowmaking released

1999 – USFS ROD on ABasin, significant WQ requirements, including mine cleanup.

2000 – TU & Colo Wild Appeal to District Court
and WQCC

2000 – USFS initiates SRTF – “The mission of the Snake River Watershed Task Force is to improve water quality in the Snake River watershed. The Task Force will focus in particular on identifying, evaluating, and implementing opportunities to reduce heavy metal concentrations of concern. “

2001 – Appeal dismissed, hard work of SRTF begins!