

OBSERVATIONS ON THE GEOLOGIC HISTORY OF A WETLAND HAVE THE  
POTENTIAL OF ASSISTING EFFORTS TO CONSTRUCT WETLANDS ON MINED LAND

by

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Abstract. Disruption of surface water flow through a wetland along Pendleton Creek, Tucker County, WV due to the presence of an abandoned underground mine, led to a decision by the WV Department of Natural Resources to permit removal of a portion of the wetland to "daylight" the coal yet remaining, followed by reestablishment of a wetland. The wetland was examined as it was removed during mining and the data collected has resulted in a better understanding of the creation of this wetland over the past 30,000 years. It has also allowed us to observe both the "plumbing" of a host site for fixing iron as coatings on the fine-grained sediments that line the valley floor. It is anticipated that a better understanding of the natural system as it has operated during the past 30,000 years will aid in the effort to construct a wetland on this mined land.

Additional key words: "Plumbing" of a natural wetland, fixing iron.

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