

Client
Environmental Resources
Management

Spectra Energy

ES Project No. 8794

Location
Fairfield County, OH
Marshall County, WV
Greene County, PA

Key Services Provided

- Freshwater Mussel Survey
- Endangered Plant Survey
- ODNR Coordination
- WVDNR Coordination
- PFBC Coordination

Project Duration
July-September 2016

ES Project Cost
\$21,000

ES Key Staff
Matthew Johnson

FRESHWATER MUSSEL & T&E PLANT SURVEYS

Fairfield County, OH; Marshall County, WV, and Greene County, PA



EnviroScience completed freshwater mussel and Threatened & Endangered (T&E) plant surveys for Environmental Resources Management (ERM) and Spectra Energy for a proposed natural gas pipeline abandonment project. EnviroScience malacologists simultaneously coordinated with multiple state agencies to receive approval to conduct freshwater mussel surveys in four streams in three states: Ohio Canal (OH), Little Rush Creek (OH), Grave Creek (WV), and North Fork Dunkard Fork (PA). During coordination with West Virginia Division of Natural Resources (WVDNR), the agency decided that no survey was required, based partly on data from other EnviroScience surveys within the same watershed.

In conjunction with the client, the project's malacologists quickly developed survey plans for each site, incorporating each state agency's specific survey guidelines and mobilized multiple crews of experienced biologists to complete all surveys within a short time-period. Although no protected mussel species were found during the surveys, common mussels were observed, collected, and relocated to upstream habitats where they would not be impacted by construction.

EnviroScience performed T&E plant surveys at several locations in southwestern Pennsylvania following swift coordination between the client and the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission (PFBC). Our biologists were in the field completing the survey less than 10 days following a kick-off meeting with the client.

Both the freshwater mussel and botanical teams quickly and efficiently completed the surveys with budget to spare by leveraging pre-existing relationships with state wildlife agencies, mobilizing multiple teams, and utilizing institutional knowledge of site areas and target species.