

**LOCATION:**

Potter County, Pennsylvania

**CLIENT:**

Williams

**SOLUTIONS:**

Stream Mitigation  
1,942 Linear Feet

Wetland Mitigation  
55.9 Wetland Acres

# RES OPENS PENNSYLVANIA'S FIRST COMMERCIAL MITIGATION BANK



## Upper Susquehanna River Mitigation Bank enabled Williams to obtain permits for Springville Gathering System

*“Mitigation takes marginalized wetlands and restores them to their full ecological capability...this is a real positive benefit to the environment.”*

*—Clayton Roesler, Director of Land, GIS, and Permitting, Williams*



### Williams Needed to Offset Pipeline Impacts

With the rise of the Marcellus Shale and Utica Shale plays, Pennsylvania needed to ensure minimal impacts to people, wildlife, and the environment. Within the 33,131 square-mile Pennsylvania Marcellus play alone, there are more than 681,697 acres of wetlands and 64,098 miles of streams. In addition, there are 20 defined watersheds governed by Baltimore, Philadelphia, and Pittsburgh. To reduce impacts to the region's biologically diverse streams and wetlands, the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (PADEP) and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) require operators and developers to offset their project's footprint.

### Pennsylvania Approved First Commercial Mitigation Bank

When Williams was building its 33.5-mile Springville natural gas gathering pipeline to meet customer demand in growing northeast markets, it needed to plan for environmental impacts and stream crossings—and attain the necessary regulatory permits. Williams needed a mitigation banking solution, but there were no off-the-shelf mitigation solutions in Pennsylvania. Williams began collaborating with RES on a pilot project to supply mitigation credits required for permits associated with its Springville Gathering System. RES and Williams worked closely with the PADEP and USACE to identify and execute appropriate ecological offsets for the pipeline—gaining approval for the Susquehanna River Mitigation Bank, Pennsylvania's first commercial mitigation bank.

## RES Pioneers Commercial Ecological Solutions in Pennsylvania

RES restored streams and wetlands, not only replacing these degraded resources, but improving wildlife habitat, water quality, and flood control through natural channel design, vegetative cover and long-term land protection. The resulting mitigation credits will be used to compensate for unavoidable wetland and stream impacts from permitted project activity in the watershed under the Clean Water Act, Rivers and Harbors Act, and the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection Chapters 102, 105, and 106 regulatory programs.

“Before, there was no commercial mitigation solution in Pennsylvania,” said Clayton Roesler, Director of Land, GIS and Permitting at Williams. “RES worked jointly with Williams on a successful pilot project that supplied mitigation credits required for permits associated with our Springville Gathering System. RES did their job efficiently and with good follow through.”

*“Because we are dealing with people’s lives, their families and our environment, we must commit ourselves on a daily basis to continuous improvement and to the protection of the world in which we live. That’s our plan, and that’s what we’ll do.”*

*—Alan Armstrong, President and CEO of Williams*



"Asylum Township" by Dincher is licensed under CC BY 2.0