

## STORET/WQX Conference Call – August 23, 2012, 12:00-1:00 PM Eastern Time

### Introduction (Charles Kovatch)

- The minutes from all previous conference calls are available over the web: <http://www.epa.gov/storet/confcalls.html>
- The next scheduled call will be September 2012. The exact date will be emailed via the list server when the call gets closer.
- Please email [storet@epa.gov](mailto:storet@epa.gov) and let EPA know you have attended the call so that meeting rosters may be kept.
- If you have a special topic you'd like to lead for an upcoming call, please email [Kovatch.Charles@epamail.epa.gov](mailto:Kovatch.Charles@epamail.epa.gov)
- EPA would like to hear comments you have on the quality of these conference calls. Please send them to [storet@epa.gov](mailto:storet@epa.gov)
- Please subscribe to the STORET automated listserver for announcements regarding conference calls: <http://www.epa.gov/storet/listserv.html>

### OFM Migration Recap and Node Transition – Kevin Christian

- OFM migration primarily impacted our server on our domain. Previously referencing [iaspub.epa.gov](http://iaspub.epa.gov), now we are referencing [ofmpub.epa.gov](http://ofmpub.epa.gov).
- Links to web services on storet website ([www.epa.gov/storet](http://www.epa.gov/storet)). See features box.
- Major Impact is that previously we supported both SOAP and REST calls, now we only support SOAP calls to our web services.
- You will see links for our services and links to Water Quality Portal. WQP supports both SOAP and REST services. WQP does not have some of the cataloging services that we have.
- If you reference [iaspub](http://iaspub.epa.gov), then it should give you a note telling you to change services. Will send out another e-mail to re-highlight the migration and the urls to the endpoint.
- Most of the time you can change [iaspub](http://iaspub.epa.gov) or [oaspub](http://oaspub.epa.gov) to [ofmpub](http://ofmpub.epa.gov). This is not an alias, you must make this change.
- Second major impact is that our WQX Node endpoints changed because they are on a different server and are programmed in a different language. This was a complete change.
- You must get a new node client. Need Node Client Lite 2.0.
- Kevin plans to send out another alert containing URL endpoints in the body of the e-mail, to call more attention to this.
- Jonathan Burian in EPA Region 5 asked will state users get notification if they missed this message, and their submission fails? Kevin Christian answered that they should get an error. It should be an immediate failure. The alert was also sent out via the Exchange Network.
- Charles Kovatch asked if there were other mechanisms other than Listserve to get messages out to folks?
- Johnnie Purify asked if we are tracking who is using the old endpoints? Kevin Christian answered that they are tracked by the helpdesk tickets based on requests for assistance. We would send another notice through list serve or other alert if we get a lot of tickets.
- Bob Simpson from EPA Region 2 asked when you say that STORET is no longer supporting REST calls, are you talking about the data warehouse? Kevin answered that there was a form front-end associated with all of the web services, which was a REST-like call. This is no longer supported.

### Exchange Network Grants FY13 Update – Charles Kovatch

- These grants are available for use on a number of systems, including WQX. They are typically announced in September or October. They are awarded in the spring.
- The solicitation notice is currently available in draft form on the EPA Exchange Network Grant Website. We want to make sure this is available to you.

- There are a number of things that are grant eligible activities. These include: developing capabilities for utilizing the EPA Warehouse Web Services, adopting different data standards, identifying innovative ways to share monitoring data, incorporating new data partners within your state, building other tools, or aligning with the National Hydrography Dataset.

#### **Future User Call and Webinar Topics – Charles Kovatch**

- We have opportunities to engage the whole community on these calls, as far as lessons learned and ideas. Are there ideas for future topics that you would like to hear about?
- Could have a survey sent out on the list-serve.
- Bob Simpson from EPA Region 2 asked if you do generate a survey, would it be possible to tease out the amount of data generation for USGS NWIS vs STORET? Interested in utilization of NWIS and STORET.
- Kevin Christian asked if Bob could send a note to [STORET@epa.gov](mailto:STORET@epa.gov) so that we could capture that idea correctly.
- Monitoring Branch discussions around taxonomy discussion. STORET's solution for capturing taxonomy and taxon tree is we reference both ITIS and Catalogue of Life. If you can find it there, you can send name and url for reference, then we add your taxon. Also we will accept a literature publication as a reference or any url reference of species. Send along documentation and we will register it and send it to a taxonomist for review. We will reference your name. This gives documentation to other references to published taxa in literature. The researcher or taxonomist can review it and see if it is valid and verify if there are duplicates or not. If duplicates are found we will alert the requester and update their data to the appropriate validated taxon species. We will migrate their name as an alias, so we keep it as a synonym so that we can still reference it. You can search on characteristic name aliases. We can move duplicates or incorrectly spelled names to our retired names list.
- Shawn Henderson in EPA Region 7 asked if biologist reported the taxon as a generic or mixed species, how do we enter this? Can we enter mixed species or roll up to higher level? Kevin Christian said that this should not go in, as this is about data of documented quality.
- For methods we use NEMI.gov for official naming of methods, then we go to other references next that you have documented via URL. We find the official name in NEMI, if possible and verify that it does what the message description says.
- You also have the ability for organizations to own their own methods. They don't have to all be nationally referenced. We only want to register National methods, otherwise you can enter organizationally owned methods.
- Substances for chemistry, we reference the Substance Registry System ([www.epa.gov/srs/](http://www.epa.gov/srs/)). We have experts that resolve substances and resolve those to agency standards. We will get back to you if they say that it already exists.
- Karla Hyde from Maine asked about mixed species and it was suggested before of rolling it up or using Unidentified Species Identifier. Kevin Christian commented that we had these internal discussions that it was not satisfactory to customers to roll up species.
- Charles Kovatch noted that we will re-visit these items.

**Participants on call (based on who emailed [storet@epa.gov](mailto:storet@epa.gov))**

Karla Hyde	Maine Department of Environmental Protection
Bob Simpson	EPA R2
Michael Whitman	West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection
Bill Kramer	EPA Headquarters
Michael Basmajian	Georgia Department of Natural Resources
Chris Neumiller	Washington State Department of Ecology
Chris Mickle	CDM Smith
Dean Tucker	National Park Service
Caitlyn Nichols	Interstate Environmental Commission
Lowell Carty	Arizona Department of Environmental Quality
Kayren Pittman	Alabama Department of Environmental Management
Deb Merrill	Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management
Andrea Thomas	North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources
Ben Cole	Maryland Department of Natural Resources
Diane Stevenson	Cherokee Nation
Lemonteh Horne	Florida Department of Environmental Protection
Jim Hudson	Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
Shawn Henderson	EPA R7
Bill Richardson	EPA R3
Tom Dallaire	Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection
Eric Wilson	Gulf Coast STORET, LLC
Paul Andrews	RTI International