

STORET/WQX Conference Call – February 24, 2011, 12:00-1:00 PM Eastern Time

Introduction (Kristen Gunthardt)

- 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 March 2011. The exact date will be emailed via the list server when the call gets closer.
- Please email 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 Gunthardt.Kristen@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
- Please subscribe to the STORET automated listserver for announcements regarding conference calls: <http://www.epa.gov/storet/listserv.html>

WQX Domain Values List Definitions – Kevin Christian

- Previous user calls we released webservice to the WQX Domain Values. Need to get feedback on definitions or descriptions of domain values that you are using or have requested. Some have been added without descriptions.
- Now trying to 100% document domain values definitions.
- Last call highlighted that domain value services are under webservices section of STORET Website (http://www.epa.gov/storet/wqx/wqx_getdomainvalueswebservice.html). You can query and download xml files of all domain values – tied to stylesheet that will present it in browser as a table, so if you open in Excel it will reference the stylesheet and open as a table.
- There were a few small issues that were being resolved with domain services.
- Please provide feedback on definitions, or your understanding of them. If you can improve definitions, please let us know.
- Changes will be tracked in a change log.
- Timeframe for comments is in the next month, but is really an on-going process since domain values are always being added. Definitions and descriptions will also help resolve whether domain values are already in there, or are just similar.
- We are trying to get wider feedback from the environmental science feedback. This is more of a formal feedback process that we are trying to set in motion. Can be discussed by listserve or on future user calls.

WQX Analytical Method Change (analytical method 2340) – Kevin Christian

- Method 2340 – this is a standard method. Source is National Environmental Methods Index (www.nemi.gov) for standard methods.
- This method does not exist in NEMI. It is for hardness in water by calculation. The more correct method is 2340B (hardness in water by EDTA Titration) and 2340C (EDTA Timetric method hardness), according to NEMI.
- Redirected results that reference 2340 to 2340B. Organizations were notified. If they disagree, we will re-reference to 2340C. Listserve was also notified.
- E-mail from user community said that 2340 was still in WQX Web. We believe that it is currently fixed. This is probably because WQX Web takes snapshots of ODS list, rather than live.
- Kevin will verify that WQX does not have 2340 in production, anymore.

- Domain list request process – e-mail STORET@epa.gov with new domain value, description, and definition. Provide any documentation available.
- We will try to distinguish between lack of documentation and ETL Bug issues.
- Were people using 2340 notified? Kevin responded that they were directly notified and a list serve message was sent.
- Bruce Tuttle (ID) – Sees variations with the way 2340B and 2340C is listed. How do we know which one is the appropriate one to use? Kevin Christian answered that some are possibly be variations in analytical method context, others may be duplications and need to be removed. Some may be different editions of the method. The older system may have used different conventions. There may also be some human inconsistency.
- Jolene McQuillan (MT) – Does not look like our data is updated yet in warehouse for our data for 2340. Kevin Christian will check on it, but probably because warehouse has not refreshed yet.
- Kristen Gunthardt interjected that 2340 is the APHA method and is the standard national method. If you want to use a variation on the method, please submit method with your own method. For consistency, use the APHA Method.
- Domain values also not updated in webservice, but this is because the domain values list is cached every night, so there is a 24 hour turn around on changes.

WOX Web Version 2.0 Tutorials and Templates – Kristen Gunthardt

- Rolling out tutorials on website.

WQX Web and WQX Web Template Tribal Webinar – Kristen Gunthardt

- Hosting Tribal Webinar soon.

Upcoming Fixes in the Next STORET Warehouse ETL Update – Kristen Gunthardt

- ETL is Extract Transform and Load tool that takes data from WQX transactional database into STORET Warehouse structure.
- Wanted to highlight that by the end of March the development team will have additional fixes.
- Warehouse Change log will also be updated to describe fixes that have been addressed, as well as by listserve.

STORET Warehouse Results Webservice Estimated Fixes – Kevin Christian

- Both EPA and USGS webservices counts do not agree with warehouse application. The warehouse application always gives the true counts. Webservices do not always bring back true counts due to the way the join and query logic works. The warehouse application only joins to metadata. This is because it is basically a 1 table query. The EPA and USGS webservices both station table and result table has to be joined to generate all elements of WQX XML schema. This requires more metadata that is not stored in 1 table.
- May have to flatten results table to support better querying. Must retrofit data and ETL has to flatten table. This may require a 2 of 3 phase rollout. One, we would add columns to result table in support of WQX XML schema, then retrofit data with new columns, then ETL has to populate new columns. Once it is a 1 table query, there should be no issue with result counts.
- This fix will be in the April/May 2011 timeframe. This will be a phased rollout.

- Kevin did some cross-comparison between USGS schema and EPA Schema. May want to come to some type of merger between both schemas. This is due to using separate USGS and EPA contractors.
- The best QA/QC tool to see if all data made it to the warehouse is the warehouse query application. The webservices currently do a join between station and results table, so result of join is inconsistent in counts as opposed to warehouse application.

STORET Warehouse Refresh Update – Kristen Gunthardt

- ETL ran last night. Should be able to see what ran up through last night.
- List serve messages should show counts of last warehouse updates. Counts are a quick indication of what went in for each Organization.
- Eventually we will come up with data owner method to query by last change date using administrative fields.
- Last User ID and Last Change date, Last Transaction ID are available for querying in administrative columns.
- Trying to stress consistency, reliability, get reports automated, and consistency between services (ie. number of results produced).
- We will communicate to USGS to let them know what was changed in EPA webservices.
- Also in continuing resolution, so not a full operation and maintenance.

Update on Procedures that Add Geospatial Attributes – Kristen Gunthardt

- Thought about running service to add geospatial attributes to STORET Warehouse.
- INDUS Corporation is new contractor. They gave a spatial service last year. They could call a spatial service that generates and populates HUC, state, county when it is not submitted, based on Latitude and Longitude. This is not the highest priority. Bug fixes are a higher priority. WQX Web is a higher priority, as well.
- This is probably going to happen before June. This is a “like to have” on the priority list. It is an enhancement.

Updating the Summary Page to Windows to My Environment Package– Kristen Gunthardt

- Station Summary including different characteristics collected and frequency of collection and period of record.
- Kevin said that we can add that as a system incident report and prioritize it on our list.

Q and A

- Q:** Tracie from Seldovia Village Tribe – We submitted new habitat characteristics and have been waiting to get Template sheet updated since July. Template has not been updated. When will this happen?
- A:** All characteristics will be added by Monday next week and also you are free to add them to your own template.
- Q:** Tracie from Seldovia Village Tribe – Also trying to submit data and not getting processing report back, even though it was a valid transmission?
- A:** Kristen said that there are known problems due to an update. We will follow up on listserv to what is going on.

Participants on call (based on who emailed storet@epa.gov)

Jim Hudson	Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
Bill Kramer	US EPA
Joe Gross	North Dakota Department of Health
Jonathan Burian	EPA R5
Angela Westin	Georgia Department of Natural Resources
Jolene McQuillan	Montana Department of Environmental Quality
Richard Frazier	Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe
Wendi Gale	Critigen
Michael Opheim	Seldovia Village Tribe
Tracie	Seldovia Village Tribe
Bob Simpson	EPA R2
Arne Sjodin	Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment
Sue McCarthy	EPA R10
Kathy Knowles	Delaware Department of Natural Resources
Brian Fauth	Maul Foster Alongi, Inc.
Mike Butler	Kansas Department of Health and Environment
Eva Hays	Kansas Department of Health and Environment
Paul Morton	New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection
Michael Whitman	West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection
Bruce Tuttle	Idaho Department of Water Resources
Thomas Dallaire	Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection
Molly Pulket	Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection
Donald Kean	North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources
Paul Koska	EPA R6
Eric Wilson	Gulf Coast STORET, LLC
Paul Andrews	RTI International