

STORET/WQX Conference Call – February 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 March 2012. 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 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
- Please subscribe to the STORET automated listserver for announcements regarding conference calls: <http://www.epa.gov/storet/listserv.html>

Result Measure Qualifier – Charles Kovatch

- Received a lot of great feedback.
- Will not be making any changes to this field.
- Really valuable discussion. Thanks.

Refresh Reports – Charles Kovatch

- Refresh reports posted and available at our website..

Warehouse Change Log – Michael Brennan

- Warehouse change log is available on our website.
- Review and notify us if there are any issues.
- Jimmy Bisese from RTI asked is the refresh report an automated process, as the last was 1/20 ETL. Can we expect it the day of the ETL? Michael Brennan responded that it is not automated and it needs to be updated today. Will send out list serve message once it is updated.
- Kevin Christian highlighted that the change log has been recently updated and is a merger between helpdesk ticket tracking and contractor directed tracking system. Please give us feedback if there is an issue that is either open and should be closed, or if closed and should be open. Please review the change log. Let us know if the situation or issue still exists. We will have it re-opened or re-prioritized.

Upcoming Releases – Michael Brennan

- We haven't had a Metrics or Index template available. Those will be posted soon.
- We have a continuous monitoring template.
- WQX Web dictionary has hyperlinks in it, so you can go in and click on the link to get a live link for any of the domain values. This is a new feature.
- We will announce when they are available. Should be in the next week or 2. Watch for list serve message.

Update Web Services Link – Charles Kovatch

- EPA is moving to a new server at National Computing Center.
- The URLs will change as a result, but status is still pending.
- Kevin said we are verifying in staging environment. As soon as production version released it will be posted via the list serve.
- The mandate from our computing center was to be more compliant from OAS 10g to OFM 11g. We are recompiling to J5E (Java 5) environment.
- The URL will be customizable to something like STORET.epa.gov, so this will be an alias and future upgrades will be more seamless.

Future Topics – Charles Kovatch

- What would you like to see on this call in the future?
- Any Tools or demos that people would like to see or share, especially if they use our web services? We could use some of this time to do these kinds of things. The comment was made by a listener that it would be useful to see tools that would have data analysis routines that would flag exceedences or generate impairment decisions. Paul Morton brought up the version 2 of Exchange Network browser that hits CDX Node, SOAP services, STORET and NWIS REST services. Has issues with the box that is on and the amount of data that it can return. May want to demo this.
- We are looking for examples of how organizations and states are already capturing metrics and indices data and displaying it. We are looking for ways to serve it out of the STORET Warehouse and want to get a better sense of how that data are being used. Send ideas either through list serve or to storet@epa.gov with any applicable links.

Q. Jimmy Bisese from RTL: Change log shows title of problem, proposed fix and the status, but does not show what was done to make it fixed. Can we get explanations of the fix in the change log, or where I would notice the fix?

A. Kevin Christian responded: The solution was probably internal, but it could be provided if you want to know what the fix was. Fixes vary, so we did not reveal it, but it is in our contract tracking system. We can provide the technical solution, if you need to review and see how it was resolved. Send request for this info as artifact or to storet@epa.gov.

Q. Matt Gubitosa from EPA Region 10: Is there a process for deleting old STORET entered Organizations that we have replace with data in WQX?

A. Kevin Christian responded: You can e-mail a list of Organizations. There was a helpdesk ticket for your particular case. Don't know if feedback was given to you. If you migrated your data from STORET to WQX dataset, or if you have a request to delete your data, or request to delete any ORG_IDS in the warehouse, send this request to storet@epa.gov.

Q. Paul Morton from NJ: Speaking of web services, it seems like the warehouse (HTML) is the most up to date, best source. You also have the STORET mini-portal and are involved with the WQ portal with USGS?

A. Kevin Christian responded: Our warehouse (HTML) application is the most up to date and direct. Our first generation was to revisit the EPA web services. The station service and result service should be pulling very close to the HTML service. Before, this was bundled with the inventory tables that supported the watershed summary, so it was set to give you exactly what had been inventoried. If not inventoried it was not available through webservices. If the station and results services do not give you what the HTML application gives you, please let us know so that we can open an artifact. The only issue is that the webs ervices have a limit on the number of records that it can give you back. We are talking about SOAP services. Both SOAP and REST services should be the same. The portal service synchronization is temporarily a refresh of an export of the warehouse at the USGS computer center. They refresh their data daily, meaning that this should be out of synch by a day with the WQX dataset, at most. The unified portal is hosted at USGS Computing Center. Once we are able to meet reasonable performance thresholds for pulling data between computer centers, we will start pulling data directly and there will be no lag in the datasets. After ETL run, we currently give them an export.

Q. Paul Morton from NJ: Currently, if we want anything other than field measurements and samples, we have to go to the warehouse. Do you have any plans to expand the web services to include biological and habitat data?

A. Kevin Christian responded: Our SOAP services have those for EPA, but the unified portal does not have that yet. They are looking to expand the schema for biological and habitat data through the unified portal, as well. The EPA SOAP and REST services currently support bio and habitat.

Q. Paul Morton from NJ: There is going to be a new template for submitting continuous data through WQX Web. Are you still hoping that organizations submit summary stats with attachments of raw data files? We are finding that some organizations are submitting raw data, which is boosting our record counts into hundreds of thousands.

A. Kevin Christian responded: Our recommended method is to do summary statistics. Most of the 110 million + records are discrete water quality measure events instead of data logger events. Recommendation is to use data logger type activity sample and store the raw data as an attachment at the activity level and that can be served back out. You can do summaries of max, mins, and averages.

Q. Paul Morton from NJ: With attachments, since it seems like you can get only one attachment per project or per activity, should we zip up multiple attachments into a single zip file when sending?

A. Kevin Christian responded: You can either zip them up as individual documents, or append the files together and submit them.

Q. Todd Plessel from Lockheed Martin (EPA VISLAB): I developed an application which uses the STORET web services, currently `storet-nwis.epa.gov/storetqw-result` and `station`. Are those going to go away and you will have a new URL for a different web service? Currently two web services, one for results and one for lat/long and station IDs. This requires 2 queries. Is there a way get both station info and results at the same time?

A. Kevin Christian responded: That particular web service will not be impacted by the migration. Since this is a unified service (interagency), it has to be vetted through the steering committee. Currently, the format for the unified portal that the steering committee for the unified portal has agreed on is that. Kevin can bring it up, so please send in info to storet@epa.gov. Also please send your application URL.

Q. Todd Plessel from Lockheed Martin (EPA VISLAB): Is it possible to speed this up? I use several web services with similar data are an order of magnitude faster than the STORET services. This is borderline not useable. Is there any effort to speed up performance?

A. Kevin Christian responded: Strategies like inventory tables are going to be employed to give quicker responses on whether there is or isn't data. Todd suggested that if there is a database behind it is that you can use index files. Kevin suggested sending in technical suggestions and examples of systems working well. We will know what queries should be supported.

Q. Sue McCarthy from EPA Region 10: For clarification, is the `storet-nwis.epa.gov/storetqw` address changing?

A. Kevin Christian responded: This is not changing.

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

Andrea Thomas	North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources
Jim Hudson	Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
Sue McCarthy	EPA R10
Matt Gubitosa	EPA R10
Deb Soule	New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services
Bruce Tuttle	Idaho Department of Water Resources
Vilma Quant	Florida Department of Environmental Protection
Lisa Schwenning	Florida Department of Environmental Protection
Siteria Gregory	Florida Department of Environmental Protection
Lemonteh Horne	Florida Department of Environmental Protection
Maria Rivera	Florida Department of Environmental Protection
Kyle Ferris	Florida Department of Environmental Protection
Denise Miller	Florida Department of Environmental Protection
Rick Langel	Iowa Department of Natural Resources
Kayren Pittman	Alabama Department of Environmental Management
Paul Morton	New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection
Eric Wilson	Gulf Coast STORET, LLC
Bill Richardson	EPA R3
Lowell Carty	Arizona Department of Environmental Quality
Joe Gross	North Dakota Division of Water Quality
Nancy Ragland	Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
Dean Tucker	National Park Service
Todd Plessel	Lockheed Martin
Jimmy Bisese	RTI International