STORET/WQX Conference Call – January 24[h], 2013 12:00- 1:00 P.M. Eastern Time

Introduction (Kevin Christian)

- 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 February 28th 2013. User calls are usually held on the 4th
  Thursday of the month.
- Please email STORET@epa.gov and let EPA know you attended the call so that meeting rosters
  may be kept.
- If you have a special topic you would 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 server for announcements regarding conference
  calls: http://www.epa.gov/storet/listserv.html

WQX Proposed schema changes (Michael Brennan)

For the time being, the discussion on schema changes is being tabled. The STORET team is still
having discussions regarding the best way to capture Reach Code and Water Body Name data.

- **Comments** - Bill Kramer (USEPA) inquired whether the new terms associated with the Water
   Quality Criteria, specifically Standard Statistical Value and the Beach Action Value would
   qualify as Domain value changes or just schema changes.
- Kevin Christian (USEPA) responded that the Standard Statistical Value and the Beach Action
   Value parameters would be classified under Statistical Base Codes within the WQX schema.
   Additional Statistical Base Codes can be added per user request by contacting STORET@epa.gov.
- Mike Conova (USGS) requested if these schema changes would have any potential impacts on
   the water quality data portal.
- Kevin Christian (USEPA) responded that the water quality data portal is based on a fixed format.
   The current changes being discusses apply to metadata being served out of WQX that is not
   provided through the portal.

New STORET Warehouse application enhancements (Kevin Christian)
- The recently released STORET Warehouse application enhancements provide users with the
   ability to download all WQX result types from the STORET Warehouse, including Regular,
   Biological, Habitat, Metrics and Index results. Please refer to the STORET Changelog
   (http://www.epa.gov/storet/Warehouse_change_log.html) for a detailed list of outstanding
   issues related to Metrics and Indexes.
- Activity Groups -   Activity Groups are now available for fownload out of the STORET Warehouse.
   For more details on WQX Activity Groups please refer to the following URL
   http://www.epa.gov/storet/wqx/products/Activity_Group_Examples.pdf

- Subsamples, and Fieldsets – Users are now able to retrieve entire field sets associated with a particular characteristic. By selecting Sample (whole) on the STORET application page, results that were measured in conjunction with a characteristic such as conductivity, and turbidity, will additionally be returned by the results query.

- Latitude Longitude Bounding Box - An interactive global map is now available on the STORET webpage, providing assistance to users constructing queries based on Latitude and Longitude coordinates.

- Users are now able to structure queries to retrieve unique lists of results by selecting the distinct data element from the STORET Warehouse application. Based on the search criteria, users can query for unique lists of characteristics, monitoring locations and analytical methods.

- Please Note that Data Elements listed with a star next to them (*), indicate an element where multiple fields are grouped together. Click on the hyperlink for more detailed information on what field will be returned.
- Finally please note that the content provided in the help documentation has been updated.

Please click on the below URL for a presentation on the STORET dashboard (Kevin Christian)

General Discussion
Bob Simpson (USEPA) - Inquired whether the STORET team had explored developing a tool that allowed users to sort data that met met a specific level of data standards, i.e. quality of data provided or whether a QUAPP was included.
Michael Brennan (USEPA) – This is a topic that has come up frequently, and is an issue the team is not looking to address at the moment. The QA/QC specifications necessary for a water quality sample to meet data standards can vary from stake holder to stakeholder. It is up to the end user to decide whether or not data is of a high enough quality to use.

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

Aaron Leingang   South Dakota Department of Natural Resources

Bill Kramer   USEPA

Bob Simpson   USEPA

Thomas R. Dellaire   Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection

Molly Pulket   Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection

Michael J. Whitman   West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection

Dean Tucker   National Park Service

Deb Soule   New Hampshire Department of Environmental Service

James Hudson   Wisconsin Department of Natural Resource

Jolene McQuilan   Montana Department of Environmental Quality

Rick Langel   Iowa Department of Natural Resources

Bruce Tuttle   Idaho Department of Natural Resource

Joe Gross	North Dakota Department of Health
Shawn Henderson	USEPA region 7
Susan Moore	CH2M Hill
Steve Kroeger	North Carolina Division of Water Quality
Debbie L. McCubbin	Robinson Rancheria
Kathy Knowles	Delaware Department of Natural Resources
Ron Spears	Tennessee Programmer Analyst
Greg Hellyer	USEPA New England Regional Lab
Kayren Pittman	Alabama Department of Environmental Management
Tania Spurkland	Seldovia Village Tribe
Lemonteh' Horne	Florida Department of Environmental Protection