

STORET/WQX Conference Call – January 30th, 2014 12:00- 1:00 P.M. 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 February 27 2013. 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 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>

Today's agenda (Charles Kovatch)

Today's discussion will focus on

- Preparations for Exchange Network meeting in Philadelphia, PA, February 25-27
- Reminder on the Biological Intent Field change
- Discussions on Biological Data
 - Direction for the Water Quality Portal
 - Association of Mid-Atlantic Aquatic Biologists Workshop Berkeley Springs, WV, March 27-28, 2014
- Update Schedule for WQX schema
- Continuous Monitoring Data

Preparations for Exchange Network meeting in Philadelphia, PA, February 25-27 (Charles Kovatch)

<http://www.exchangenetwork.net/en2014-agenda/>

Reminder on the Biological Intent Field change (Michael Brennan)

-WQX Biological Intents categorize the type of data you are reporting. The field biological intent specifies what type of data you are reporting i.e. toxicity data, tissue sample data or perhaps a summary of the average weight or length of the organisms that you surveyed.

Documenting Harmful Algal Toxins (HAB) in WQX

Only blue green algae or the phylum cyanophyta produce harmful algal toxins, however not all species of cyanophyta produce harmful algal toxins, and species that do produce harmful algal toxins, do not produce these toxins always. STORET users may misinterpret WQX data submissions documenting targeted sampling for the presence of cyanophyta (HAB). STORET users may not get the sense that the data they are viewing does not represent a comprehensive sampling of a waterbody but only a targeted HAB sampling. We would like to poll the user community on adding a new biological Intent to address samples that target algal toxins ***Please respond by March 4th 2014***

Discussions on Biological Data (Charles Kovatch)

Taxonomic names are not permanent as scientists and bench taxonomists are continually reclassifying species and geneses. We have recently been exploring approaches for handling the non stable nature of taxonomic names. From this point forward, the STORET team will document taxon names in WQX as requested. Migrating records to updated taxon names will be left to the users discretion.

-Direction for the Water Quality Portal

The Water Quality Portal will be serving out STORET biological data sometime in 2014. USGS biological data will not be available through the portal until 2015.

-Association of Mid-Atlantic Aquatic Biologists Workshop Berkeley Springs, WV, March 27-28, 2014

<http://amaab.org/agenda.html>

Update Schedule for WQX schema (Charles Kovatch)

Please send schema change requests to STORET@EPA.GOV

Continuous Monitoring Data (Charles Kovatch)

The STORET team is exploring options for making continuous monitoring data available through the Water Quality Exchange

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

Molly Pulket	Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection
Lowell Carty	Arizona Department of Environmental Quality
Caitlyn Nichols	NEIWPCC
Melanie Titus	New Hampshire department of Environmental Protection
Charles Bell	Indiana Department of Environmental Management
Katie Anderson	Northwest Indian Fisheries Commision
Ben Cole	Maryland Department of Natural Resources
Samantha Bennett	Earthsoft
Donald Thurman	Mississippi Department of Environmental Protection
Cathy Anderson	Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
Chris Nuemiller	Washington Department of Ecology
Arlene Garcia	Pueblo of Acoma
Andrea Thomas	North Carolina Department of Water Quality
Cathy Alexander	Ohio EPA Division of Surface Water
Emily Zimmerman	Maine Department of Environmental Protection
Diane Stevenson	Cherokee Nations Environmental Programs
David Newman	New York State Department of Environmental Conservation
Susanne Meidel	Maine department of Environmental Protection
Carol O'Donnell-Kee	New Jesey Department of Environmental Protection
Gerald Burnette	Hydrogeologic Inc
Michael J. Whitman	West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection
Jonathan Burian	EPA Region 5
Kari Winfield	Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection