

STORET/WQX Conference Call – June 27th, 2013 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 May 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>

Call for abstracts for the National Water Quality Monitoring Council Conference, April 28-May2, 2014 in Cincinnati, OH <http://acwi.gov/monitoring/> (Charles Kovatch)

- Themes of the 2014 National Water Quality Monitoring Conference include advances in technology. Improving water quality and creating new jobs.
- The EPA STORET team is looking to organize sessions focused on the utility of water monitoring data, building awareness of how water monitoring data is utilized and the portal.
- The EPA STORET team is looking for new tools, new approaches, case studies where water monitoring data is being used.

Comment - John Becker EPA Region 4 Region 4 states would be interested in topic. John will follow up at a later date with states that might be interested in presenting

FY14 Exchange Network Grants <http://www.epa.gov/exchangenetwork/grants/index.html> (Charles Kovatch)

- Each year through the EPA Office of Environmental Information (OEI) announces the availability of Exchange Network grants. WQX has had a very active flow on the exchange network. A number of WQX users have received Exchange Network Grants in recent years. Please review the link from last year so you can see what type of activities are available.

New user guide for WQX Web (Charles Kovatch)

http://www.epa.gov/storet/wqx/products/WQX_Web_User_Guide_v2.10.pdf

Introduction to Water Quality Framework initiative at EPA (Charles Kovatch)

The Water Quality Framework initiative is not a new tool but an integration of four EPA office of water systems - ATTAINS (Water Quality Assessment and Total Maximum Daily Loads Tracking Information), GRTS – (Grants Reporting and Tracking System), NHD Plus (National Hydrography Dataset Plus) and STORET. NHD Plus is already connected to these systems via indexed monitoring sites, project sites and impaired waters. Through designing these systems to work together, data owners and stakeholders can more efficiently identify the relationships between water quality data and making assessment decisions, and impairment determinations.

Linking these four systems together enables users to assimilate parameters such as stream flow and elevation into water quality analysis. The Water Quality Framework Initiative provides the means to display incremental progress toward restoration and communicates the complete story from initiating water monitoring assessment to restoration.

Open Discussion

Comment - John Becker EPA Region 4 Region 4 states are working to flow more Biological and Habitat data into WQX and would appreciate assistance from the STORET team.

Comment – Maryland – What’ the process for adding additional characteristics to WQX.

Reply Please see the following web page for guidance on getting domain values established in WQX http://www.epa.gov/storet/wqx/wqx_getdomainvalueswebservice.html

Comment – Brent Shields - Region 6 Is the 2014 Monitoring Conference going to be held in conjunction with River Rally ?

Reply –No

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

Kathy Knowles	Delaware Department of Natural Resources
Caitlyn Nichols	NEIWPC
Andrea Thomas	North Carolina Department of Water Quality
Bill Kramer	USEPA Headquarters
Bryan Rabon	South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control
Susanne Meidel	Maine Department of Environmental Protection
Kathy Knowles	Delaware Department Of Natural Resources
Jolene McQuillan	Montana Department of Environmental Quality
Kayren Pittman	Alabama Department of Environmental Management
Lowell Carty	Arizona Department of Environmental Quality
Arne Sjodin	Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment
Valerie Alley	Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality
Thomas Dellaire	Maine Department of Environmental Protection
Brent Shiekds	Chicksaw Nation
Bruce Tuttle	Idaho Department of Water Resources
<i>Donald Kean</i>	<i>North Carolina Department of Natural Resources</i>
Shannon Minerich	South Dakota Department of Natural Resources
John Randolph	Alaska Department of Environment and Conservation
Lemonteh M. Horne	Florida Department of Environmental Protection
Jon Becker	EPA region 4
Steve Kroger	North Carolina Department of Water Quality