

## STORET Conference Call – June 12, 2008, 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 July 2008. The exact date will be emailed via the listserver later this month.
- Please email [storet@epa.gov](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:storet@epa.gov)
- Please subscribe to the STORET automated listserver for announcements regarding conference calls: <http://www.epa.gov/storet/listserv.html>

### WQX 2.0 Update

- The WQX 2.0 schema is now in testing phase. Users should be able to test the schema with a current NAAS account and WQX ID.
- Details about WQX 2.0, including the WQX 2.0 schema and supporting documentation, are available on the STORET web site at: [http://www.epa.gov/storet/wqx\\_bio\\_pilot.html](http://www.epa.gov/storet/wqx_bio_pilot.html).
- WQX 2.0 in the production environment is anticipated to be available in July.
- Both the WQX 1.0 and WQX 2.0 schemas are valid and can be used for submissions to WQX. Users developing data submissions using the 1.0 schema will not be affected by the deployment of 2.0 and all valid 1.0 submissions will be accepted. Upgrade to WQX 2.0 is not required unless a user wishes to share biological and/or habitat type monitoring data.

### XML Generation Tool

- The XML Generation Tool is intended for users with flat data files that want to submit to WQX and do not have a CDX node. Static mockups of the XML Generation Tool are available on the STORET website at [http://www.epa.gov/storet/xml\\_gen\\_tool.html](http://www.epa.gov/storet/xml_gen_tool.html).
- The web site also contains documentation summarizing the features and how users might use the tool.
- The XML Generation Tool is planned for deployment in the CDX environment.
- Please submit names for the tool or vote for one of the entered names on the web site!
- The XML Generation Tool is anticipated to be available for use in September 2008.

### National Water Quality Monitoring Conference (Atlantic City, NJ)

- The STORET team presented a short course on "Sharing Water Quality Data with EPA", showcased the web submission tool and discussed the status of the USGS –EPA common web services.
- We noticed a huge change in the perception of the STORET transition to WQX. At the last conference, many attendees had questions which focused on "STORET going away". At this year's conference, attendees were embracing WQX.

### Q and A

- Q: Does the namespace in the BEACHES program need to specify whether it is WQX 1.0 or WQX 2.0? (EPA HQ)

- A: No changes from the current BEACHES program process are required at this time.**
- Q: Can the WQX 2.0 example XML file be expanded to include more of the WQX 2.0 data elements? (EPA R9)**
- A: That's a great idea and the STORET team will work on it.**
- Q: When is the XML generation tool planned to enter the test environment (EPA R5)?**
- A: August 1<sup>st</sup>. Staging will be opened beforehand to a limited group in the CDX environment.**
- Q: How does WQX 2.0 handle RBP characteristics since every ecoregion has different values? Do you have documentation on how to submit activity metrics to WQX? (R10)**
- A: RBP is currently incorporated in the characteristics list, but in the future it will be encouraged that RBP be incorporated in the Metric List so that the scales have more context. The STORET team will work on documentation.**

**Participants on call (based on who emailed [storet@epa.gov](mailto:storet@epa.gov))**

Bill Kramer	EPA HQ, BEACHES Program
Eric Wilson	EPA Region 9 STORET/WQX Coordinator
Deb Soule	NH Department of Environmental Services
Roger E. Stewart	Virginia Department of Environmental Quality
Paul Morton	NJ DEP
James F. Hudson	Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
Ian Ogilvie	Gulf of Maine Ocean Observing System
Elizabeth A. Florom	SC DHEC Bureau of Water
Lisa Peacock	GA DNR
Andrea Thomas	NC DWQ
Shawn Henderson	EPA R7
Molly M. Pulket	PA-Department of Environmental Protection
Ronald E. Travis	Alabama Department of Environmental Management
Paul Koska	EPA R6