

## STORET Conference Call – May 8, 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 June 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 and data dictionary is available at [http://www.epa.gov/storet/wqx\\_bio\\_pilot.html](http://www.epa.gov/storet/wqx_bio_pilot.html). Some small changes, such as namespace changes, may be possible but the schema is considered final at this time.
- The STORET team has sent the schema to the Exchange Network Board for approval and is anticipating that the schema will be available for testing next week. Users should be able to test it with a current NAAS account and WQX ID.
- WQX will be down for approximately four hours during the WQX 2.0 roll-out.
- Both the WQX 1.0 and WQX 2.0 schemas are valid and can be used for submissions to WQX. Upgrade to WQX 2.0 is not required at this time.

### Exchange Network Conference

- The Exchange Network National Meeting took place April 29 - May 1, 2008 in Nashville, TN. During the meeting, the STORET team gave presentations on the purpose and function of WQX, WQX v2.0 and the new biological and habitat components, the WQX web submission tool and new batch indexing services.
- Please visit the conference web site for the presentations: <http://www.exchangenetwork.net/2008Meeting/presentations.htm>.
- Exchange Network has also set up a wiki to improve communication, knowledge and outreach services available to the Exchange Network user. You can check out and contribute to the Exchange Network community at <http://www.exchangenetworkwiki.com>.

### Batch Indexing Services

- The new batch indexing service takes incoming latitudinal and longitudinal information from WQX, batch processes the data, and assigns NHD reach codes to the incoming water quality data. It also functions as an additional QA process of the data to ensure that the latitudes and longitudes provided agree with the state and HUC information. The QA process would provide the user a list of warnings when a potential for conflicting geographical location exists.
- The batch indexing service will use lat/longs, elevation and QA to derive the location. However, the locations shown on the website will be those that the states have provided, not what is generated in batch indexing.
- States can use the derived reach codes to link other programs information such as 305b and 303d data.

- The batch service links latitudes and longitudes to reaches in the 1:100K NHD (as opposed to 1:24K) to take advantage of NHDPlus and to be consistent with EPA's current platform. We will be using the batch work for internal and cross-program analyses that require NHD association. These analyses are currently not possible without the indexing results from WQX. It will be the same platform as the current public display for 305b and 303d information.

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

- On Monday May 19<sup>th</sup>, the STORET team will present a short course during the National Water Quality Monitoring Conference. The course is titled, "Sharing Water Quality Data with EPA" and topics will include overviews of the Exchange Network, WQX framework and the STORET warehouse.
- On Tuesday May 20<sup>th</sup>, the STORET team will showcase the web submission tool available this fall and discuss the status of the USGS –EPA common web services.
- On Wednesday May 21<sup>st</sup>, the STORET team will provide an overview of STORET web services and the related tools.
- Monitoring Coordinators will meet after the conference to talk about data management.

#### Q and A

**Q:** Will you post the ERD for WQX 2.0? (MT)

**A:** We can post the table level diagram ERD.

**Q:** Hypothetically, how will EPA display a 1:24K reach which is exceeding water quality standards? (WA)

**A:** It would be moved to the 1:100K scale, however the distance that batch indexing has moved the location will also be available. Users can review the distance and determine whether there is sufficient confidence that the 1:100K stream is the true stream which is exceeding the standards.

**Q:** How soon will EPA use higher resolution events (IA)?

**A:** There is more incentive to move to 1:24K now that 1:24K is available to the whole US, however NHDPlus is only available in 1:100K. NHDPlus has much more analytical capability.

**Q:** How will states update the data that QA has provided warnings for?

**A:** A link will be provided to the list of flagged records. Submitted WQX data will be processed and moved into a temporary storage place where the QA'd data will be held for 60 days. After 60 days, the data will be submitted to the warehouse with a flag that indicates the data has not been reviewed. If the QA data is reviewed and updated or approved, it will go into the national system with a QA'd flag. The data must be updated within the state's records and submitted again to avoid differing state and EPA copies.

**Q:** When will the XML generation tool be ready for testing (R9)?

**A:** We are anticipating testing will occur in the beginning or middle of September.

**Q:** What is the status of USGS-WQX common web services (R9)?

**A:** The services are still in progress. The web services may be available for EPA to begin testing in mid May. On this schedule, it is anticipated that the common web services will be available sometime this year.

**Q:** Will the common web services have similar methods and output schema as the current WQX web services?

**A:** Yes. We are still looking at the concept of the catalog schema, but the output will be available in WQX 2.0 format.

**Q:** Is it possible to submit vernal pool data to WQX 2.0 (MD)?

**A:** It should be possible, however please send example files (e.g., field sheets) to [storet@epa.gov](mailto:storet@epa.gov) for verification and comments.

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

Jolene McQuillan	Montana Department of Environmental Quality
Erik W. Leppo	Tetra Tech
Nate Booth	U.S. Geological Survey
Ronald E. Travis	Alabama Department of Environmental Management
Eric Wilson	EPA Region 9 STORET/WQX Coordinator
James Hileman	U. S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 10
Deb Soule	NH Department of Environmental Services
Bruce Tuttle	Idaho Dept of Water Resources
Andrea Thomas	NC DWQ
Donald Kean	NC DWQ
Paul Mooney	Acclaim Systems, Inc.
Roger E. Stewart	Virginia Department of Environmental Quality
Dean Tucker	National Park Service
Jim Porter	Minnesota Pollution Control Agency
Michael Whitman	West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection
Vilma Quant	Florida Department of Environmental Protection
Terry Frohm	Florida Department of Environmental Protection
Dan Marelli	Florida Department of Environmental Protection
Lisa Schwenning	Florida Department of Environmental Protection
Rebecca James	Florida Department of Environmental Protection
Lemonteh Horne	Florida Department of Environmental Protection
Alexander Yeboah	Maryland Department of the Environment
Fred Schenerman	Maryland Department of the Environment
Priya Papali	Maryland Department of the Environment
Vimila John	Maryland Department of the Environment
John Hill	Maryland Department of the Environment