

STORET/WQX Conference Call – May 20, 2010, 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 2010. 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 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
- 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 listserver for announcements regarding conference calls: <http://www.epa.gov/storet/listserv.html>

STORET Warehouse refresh schedule – Kristen Gunthardt

- EPA was notified over the last month that the weekly refresh was not occurring as scheduled. The last successful run of the weekly refresh was sometime in April.
- The automated ETL software is having problems moving data from WQX to the STORET Warehouse.
- The contractor is reviewing the log files. The EPA summary reports were showing that the refresh events were happening as scheduled and data was moving. However, examination of the log files should show us what is actually in the warehouse and what is not.
- All data submitted to WQX has reached EPA, it just has not been moved to the warehouse. There is no action to be taken on the part of the users, ie. there is no need to resubmit any data.
- We plan to get a schedule out so everyone will know when they can expect to see their data posted to the warehouse.
- The only data that will not be moved to the warehouse is any records marked as preliminary. All other records with any other status will be moved to the warehouse.

STORET Warehouse query application – Kevin Christian

- EPA received deliverables from the developer on all 3 services: warehouse services, the application, and the web services. There were some outstanding errors that were addressed in the update, however some errors still exist.
- We will post a complete summary of issues via the list server before the end of May.
- We would like feedback from the user community on whether or not to post the list of issues on the website.
- We are working to improve consistency between the web services and the application. This is a quality assurance issue. We want to make sure we can run the same queries in the web services and the application.
- We appreciate any feedback on getting more consistency, query application enhancements, and how to make it more user friendly.

Q: Would it be possible to implement a change log so we can know what has been fixed and what you plan to fix?

A: Yes. That is in the works.

Q: Are the contractors doing any QA on output of web services versus the USGS services?

A: We are currently working on spinning up a new developments team and with that comes a learning curve. They are trying to get up to speed on consistency between the queries in the web services and the application queries. We were able to parallel the queries for the stations, but we are still working on the results. The current issue at the forefront is getting the query consistency between the services. Adding the USGS services is another wrinkle that we will look at in time.

Q: Are you going to have the WQX services be consistent with the STORET services? Some fields are handled differently between the two in the schema.

A: We are working to get consistency in the schema. Right now there is only one WQX schema. USGS may have had some adaptations in the WQX schema for some of the native USGS codes. We may not be able to mesh the two together. Still, there is only one real WQX schema for inbound and outbound data.

Q: Are the outbound web services confined only to data brought in through WQX or are the earlier batch loaded data from the states available?

A: Any data in the STORET warehouse from old or new loads is available. There may be some formatting issues. We are also making sure the services provided with the USGS parameters and the services engine, the services provided by STORET, and the query application off the STORET warehouse are all three consistent. This is the main issue we are focusing on.

Q: The excel interface spreadsheet on the web services download seems to be limited to returning data that has the WQX prefix. Is that correct?

A: All web services are hitting the STORET warehouse which includes both the STORET data and the WQX data.

WQX and WQX Web next releases – Kristen Gunthardt

- The next version release for the WQX schema will be called WQXv2.1. This will include expanded various comment fields in the WQX schema which were made compatible with the distributed STORET. There will be no change to the header document format. We expect this to be ready to push to production in mid-June. We will send out an announcement via the list server when it is available.
- The next version of the WQX web tool will include the ability to submit a previously created XML file. It will act more like a web client versus only being able to submit a file created by the tool. We expect this to be ready in mid-June and will send out an announcement via the listserver.

STORET Helpdesk – Kristen Gunthardt

- We have enlisted additional contractor support in helping field emails and calls coming into the helpdesk. Please continue to email storet@epa.gov with any questions so we can make sure that we can track the user requests and issues.

National Water Quality Monitoring Conference and Exchange Network National Meeting – Kristen Gunthardt

- Exchange Network National Meeting was held Apr. 20 - 22 in Chicago. We were glad to see many projects going on with regards to using current STORET web services and continued engagement on data submissions and data sharing. Presentations should be posted soon on the Exchange Network website.
- National Water Quality Monitoring Conference in Denver April 26 – April 29. There was a focus on data exchanges between both EPA and USGS.

The services are in place functionally, but they still need a lot of QA work. We are working with the development team at USGS to bring together the exchange and consistency between the services. We are moving away from technical problems and are able to start dealing with analysis, modeling and comparability.

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

Jon Becker	EPA R4
Dave Ihrle	Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality
Sue McCarthy	EPA R10, Office of Environmental Assessment
Karla Hyde	Maine Department of Environmental Protection
Michael Whitman	West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection
Joe Gross	North Dakota Dept. of Health, Division of Water Quality
Rebecca Ross	Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
Nancy Ragland	Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
Thomas Dallaire	Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection
William Richardson	EPA R3, Water Protection Division
Jolene McQuillan	Montana Department of Environmental Quality
James Hudson	Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
Cary McElhinney	EPA R5
Deb Soule	New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services
Bill Kramer	EPA HQ
Bruce Tuttle	Idaho Department of Water Resources
Andrea Thomas	North Carolina Division of Water Quality
Mellony Hoskinson	RTI International