

# Environmental Sampling, Analysis, and Results (ESAR) Pilot Data Flow Project

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## **Biographical Sketch of Author**

Robert King is a biologist in the Office of Wetlands, Oceans and Watersheds within the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Office of Water with training and experience in data system design. Since the early 1990's, he has served as the project manager of the modernization of the STORET System, moving the project from its planning phase into full implementation.

Curtis Cude is the project coordinator for the Pacific Northwest Water Quality Data Exchange. His training is in chemistry and experience over the past 10 years with Oregon DEQ includes water quality monitoring, data management, and data analysis, including development and implementation of the Oregon Water Quality Index. Curtis is an alternate member (representing Region 10 states) on the National Water Quality Monitoring Council.

## **Abstract**

Over 130 organizations (including 30 state environmental agencies) operate local copies of STORET and make their data available through the Central STORET Data Warehouse. However, there are organizations (and states) which generate water quality data of interest to EPA that either do not or will not ever operate a local copy of STORET. The Office of Water intends to provide these organizations with a means to supply their data to EPA.

This pilot data flow project will demonstrate the feasibility of an alternative data exchange path to EPA for those organizations not operating STORET. The project will be a collaborative effort under the auspices of the Environmental Data Standards Council (EDSC, a partnership of EPA, States, and Tribal organizations), led by EPA Office of Water, with participation from EPA Office of Environmental Information, the Environmental Council of the States, and participating non-STORET State(s). This project will use, as its starting point, the data elements developed for data exchange by the Environmental Sampling, Analysis, and Results (ESAR) Data Standards Action Team of the EDSC. The ESAR Data Standard was founded, in part, upon the Chemical and Microbiological Water Quality Data Elements developed by the Methods Board of the National Water Quality Monitoring Council. The pilot data flow will utilize the existing mechanisms of the EPA Central Data Exchange and National Environmental Information Exchange Network.