

## STORET User Call Minutes

September 22, 2016

12:00 Noon – 1:00 PM EST

Call number: 866-299-3188

Access: 202 566 1170#

### Presenters

Name	Organization
Laura Shumway	USEPA (OW)
Dwane Young	USEPA (OW)
Rusty Wasem and Bob Greenspun	USEPA (OECA)

### Agenda Topics

#### **1) Water Quality Indexing (WQI) Graphical User Interface**

- a. The Water Quality Indexing tool (WQI) is an internal EPA tool which will be used to inform OECA in water quality decisions.
- b. Arose out of the question of can we use underlying water quality data to determine criteria hotspots?
  - i. Decided to focus on Nutrients.
  - ii. Wanted a tool that uses the water quality data that is already readily available.
- c. Developed as an inspection targeting tool. How can we use the data to improve our inspection?
  - i. We typically focus on the worst polluters in the most polluted areas.
- d. Scope
  - i. Focusing on nutrients.
  - ii. Data timeframe 2009-2014.
  - iii. Data source are Water Quality Portal, ECHO-NPDES permitted facility, CWA 304a National Criteria, CWA 303(d) impaired waters.
- e. Project approach
  - i. Derived and used available total nitrogen
    1. Calculated relevant statistics with data and compare to ANE criteria.
    2. Associated results in a GUI that allows user to visually identify water monitoring locations.

- f. Major Caveats**
  - i.** Didn't change any data. Because of that half the measurements (2.2million) were rejected for missing units or sample fraction.
  - ii.** Only about 40 station types of 120 in the portals data were used. Excluded were: no type present, aggregate surface water use, estuary, and ocean.
  - iii.** CWA 304(a) criteria used were developed 15 years ago and are specific to ANE but not to local areas.
  
- g.** Demo of Tool presented by Rusty Wasem and Bob Greenspun from OECA.
  
- h. Data Summary**
  - i.** Records not used due to missing measure value: 319551
  - ii.** Records not used due to missing fraction: 162848
  - iii.** Non-detects were handled by substitution of detects at ½ detection limit.
  - iv.** How can we improve our data submission so the data is more usable?

## **2) Upstream/Downstream Query Function**

- a.** This is a new feature that allows users to query upstream or downstream of a selected point.
  
- b.** Live on WQP website. Labeled as a beta product.
  
- c.** A navigation direction, distance, and query location is selected on a map.
  - i.** Map displays sites upstream or downstream of that point.
  - ii.** Sites will be passed through the water quality portal query.
  
- d.** Demo of tool presented by Dwane Young (USEPA)
  
- e.** The tool uses NLDI services which allows the user to discover indexed information.
  
- f.** Programmers can use the NLDI services to query and return GeoJSON code that can be used in other representations