

**WQX/STORET User Call
Meeting Minutes
February 22, 2018
12:00 Noon – 1:00 PM EST**

<http://epawebconferencing.acms.com/wqxqa/>

Next WQX/STORET Workgroup Meeting – March 29, 2018 at 12 p.m. EST

There were approximately 36 participants

Agenda

- 1) Water Quality Portal (WQP) New Enhancements
- 2) Share detection limit order
- 3) Status Report of the prioritized list for the portal and decommission needs
- 4) Review WQP Data profile(s)
- 5) WQP Characteristic Group assignment spreadsheet
- 6) Open Discussion

1) Water Quality Portal (WQP) New Enhancements

Dwane demonstrated new enhancements and services for the WQP. These items have been implemented in the test environment. Jim Kreft suggested these would be available in the user interface next week.

- **Project Service** – allows project information to be returned
- **Project Monitoring Weights Service** – applies to only statistical survey type data, i.e., NARS data. It returns for everything that has been collected for the NARS project.

- Retrieve Files for projects
- Retrieve Files for monitoring locations, activities and results
- Now using County layer from STORET Warehouse for the county/station association

2) Share detection limit order

This item was mentioned on the last call. It was placed on the FTP site for the user group to access. ftp://ftp.epa.gov/storet/xfer/User_call_2018-01-25.docx

In the portal download there is a rule of having one result on one line so not all the result detection limits are returned for that result. The WQX Team had to come up with a set of rules as to which result detection limit will be returned. If there is more than one detection limit for a result, the one shown in the profile has the lower the number.

Dwane noted that there is a separate service to obtain all the detection limit but this is for only the “one” that is returned.

3) Status Report of the prioritized list for the portal and decommission needs

Kiki Schneider reviewed the list of upgrades to the WQP based on requests from the user group. The list and status of the items are located in the link to prioritization spreadsheet below.

Prioritization spreadsheet

https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1sFS38ZWikVX6GNnnxHDuaEKmEZvFBUWJltd2ENeWJxI/edit?usp=sharing_eil&ts=5a3aa036

WQX 3.0 implementation is not being planned for right now. It will add a suite of data elements into WQX 3.0. It has been tabled due to the budget. .

Activity Groups were suggested by a user. James Kreft noted that this was doable. It would likely be another service.

Action: Add the Activity Groups to the upgrade list for a future enhancement.

4) Review WQP Data profile(s)

There are a whole other suite of data profiles not exposed in the WQP. Britt Dean explained that this issue came up when Jolene McQuillan wanted method speciation included with the physical/chemical profile. Method speciation will be added and returned as separate element next to the characteristic name. The way it is added is by deprecation of the old sample results. This will not break web service calls.

Britt asked if there are any other metadata elements to add to the physical/chemical profile. Tom Dallair and Kari Winfield asked for Project Name. James Kreft explained this is doable. There is now a project endpoint to access the project IDs.

The method speciation appears as method specification on WQP. To address this Jim explained it would be best to depreciate all the existing result data profiles.

Implementation of deprecations will be announced on a workgroup call and on the List Serve.

Action: Add Project Name to the suggestions for a metadata element for the physical/chemical profile.

5) WQP Characteristic Group assignment spreadsheet

The WQX/STORET Team identified groups to assign characteristic groups. Dwane asked the user group to review the groups and provide feedback. Once all the groups are identified the characteristics will be applied to the group. He noted that it is possible for characteristics to show up in more than one group. Characteristics should only appear in one group. This was an issue with organics.

The group list can be accessed via the excel document link below. Comments should be added to the last column and new category suggested appended to the bottom of the list.

Google Docs link: [DI CHARACTERISTIC GROUP NAME.xlsx](#)

6) Open Discussion

Angie Reed of Penobscot Nation is working with Maine Department of Environmental Protection since her tribe uses their same methodology for benthic data. She explained that a few of her test runs have encountered problems with taxonomic names and wanted to know how the WQX/STORET Team plans to address taxonomic names. Dwane explained the team is thinking about leveraging what the USGS uses for their bio program. USGS has a good approach for tracking species names and their lifecycle and management of their lists.

Dwane suggested Angie reach out to him to work on the issues her tribe is encountering for taxonomic names.