

WQX User Call
September 26, 2019
12:00 – 1:00 PM EST
202-991-0477 ID: 4189172 / Skype Access

There were approximately 54 participants.

Next WQX User Meeting: Thursday, October 31, 2019

Agenda

- 1) How's My Waterway
- 2) WQX Domain Value Alert for Characteristics
- 3) Open Discussion

1) How's My Waterway

Watersgeo.epa.gov

A new version of HMW will be released publicly this November. The application pulls data from various data sources at EPA and USGS to show a picture of water quality. There are three different levels at the community, state and national information. It covers topics on drinking water, swimming and fishing.

Kiki Schneider demonstrated the new version of HMW. She has a list of the data sources for users who may be interested.

The current HMW application can be found at:

<https://www.epa.gov/waterdata/how-s-my-waterway>

2) WQX Domain Value Alert for Characteristics

A review was conducted on characteristics by CAS numbers and duplicates were identified and resolved in WQX. It is corrected by Organization ID.

The data has been refreshed and are out in there in the portal reflecting the changes in the table. Users who come across, discrepancies, contact the [help desk](#).

Kevin was alerted to the characteristic domain value for BDE-203. The Characteristic domains will be updated by the end of the day.

Both previous and current list of duplicate characteristic domains are located on the ftp site. ftp://newftp.epa.gov/storet/wqx/domain_alerts/

3) Finalization of WQX 3.0

Kevin presented the draft schema for WQX 3.0 during the August User call. He did not receive any additional requests for schema elements. The schema elements that were in the draft plan were finalized.

WQX 3.0 will include WQX Schema 2.2 which is compatible with WQX 2.1 and previous. It handles one-to-one field changes in alignment for WQX 3.0. WQX 3.0 will have some additional elements and deprecated elements that may not be completely compatible based on business rules and with WQX 2.1. Deprecated elements were presented last month. It may have some elements that are not backward compatible. These were presented last month. We will package both a WQX Data Exchange Template (DET) 2.2 and a WQX DET 3.0 with flow configuration documents for each version.

An example schema is on the FTP site.

Users are not required to move to WQX 3.0. WQX 2.2 is backward compatible. To use new schema elements, this will require you to move to schema 3.0. If you are not using the new elements, you are not required to move to WQX 3.0.

Review word document: WQX Fields to be Added to the WQX Schema.docx

A list of all the elements in 3.0 is located at <ftp://newftp.epa.gov/storet/wqx/draft/schemav3/>

A best practice guide for macroinvertebrate will be available and published via the WQX website. In cases where fish tissue overlaps with the macroinvertebrate, it will be noted; however, there will not be a specific best practice guide for fish tissue.

WQX schema version 3.0 will be released March 2020.

Version 3.0 includes a Version 2.2 of the WQX schema. Schema version 2.2 is backwards compatible with v2.1 and provides expanded data element lengths for various key description text type elements. Version 3.0 adopts new elements which may or are not be backwards compatible with version 2.1.

Contact the [WQX Help Desk](#) with questions.