

WQX User Call

March 23, 2023

There were approximately 52 participants on the call.

Returning Attendees:

Shay Torres, WQX Helpdesk (Contractor)

Steven Vu, R7 EPA

Chris Neumiller (WA Department of Ecology)

Kayla Gower (Gold Systems - Contractor WQX Data Advisor)

Lee Stanish, USGS

Ben Frans, WA Department of Ecology

Roger Stewart, VA Department of Environmental Quality

Rick Cooke (Gold Systems)

Adam Griggs (USEPA)

First-time Attendees:

- Prashanthi Kodidela (WA Department of Ecology)
- Daniel Rice (WA Department of Ecology)
- Sandi Thomas (WA Department of Ecology)

Agenda:

1. WQX Project Status Report (25 mins)
 - WQX/WQXWeb performance/updates (Kevin)
 - WQX Helpdesk report (Shay)
 - WQX new resources (Adam)
 - WQX questions/comments
2. WQP Status Report (15 mins)
 - WQP General Status Report
 - WQP questions/comments
3. Presentation: New implementations of the WQXWeb API. We will hear from the first two agencies to implement successful submissions via the WQXWeb API:
 - Mary Becker (CT DEEP)
 - Shylaja Prodduturi (SC DHEC)
4. Open Discussion

- Other topics/questions

Notes:

Welcome. We are trying out a new notes system during these meetings that is more in keeping with the practices of our other External User groups. Feel free to add your name to the attendance list so that we can have a better record of who is attending these meetings and receiving these updates.

1. **WQX Project Status Report**

a. WQX/WQXWeb performance/updates (Kevin)

WQX Web Developers continued working on a new WQX Web capability to generate Excel .xlsx review reports (zipped). Supporting both QAQC reports and immediate review of data submission for quality assurance.

Some users reported slow WQX submission processing. This issue remains open as intermittent. Our team and computer center continue to investigate and improve system performance issue.

WQX Helpdesk recently automated ticketing and tracking helpdesk requests with JIRA. Most tickets should receive a response within 24 hours.

Please re-send or follow-up via email [wxq@epa.gov](mailto:wqx@epa.gov) or phone 800-424-9067 if your response is longer than 24 hours.

b. WQX Helpdesk report (Shay)

We've had about ~70 email tickets over the last month. We had 25 new WQX user account requests over the last month! We have automated our JIRA ticketing process and are still dialing in our implementation to take advantage of auto-responses and other features.

c. New WQX resources (Adam)

- i. New WQX Resources - FAQs, simple How-to PDFs. These are available by request or through the WQX Upload Resources page. We have the larger user guide and others specific to certain data profiles already on the resources page.

- ii. Recently started a WQX101 course being taught to program and regional EPA staff internally. Others welcome to attend live if interested, but sessions are being recorded. Feel free to reach out to Adam if interested in attending and will post the recordings on the website once web-compliant.
- iii. Working on continuous data submission guidance. We find that most folks don't think we want continuous data, so we want to cover our options for submitting these datasets.

WQX supports a discrete data summary for high frequency data. Our recommendation for continuous monitoring data is to report to WQX a single activity in which you store the probe readings using up to 6 statistic summary events: daily average, max, min, median, standard deviation, and mode for a given day. In addition, data submitters should attach at the activity level a binary object formatted as text (".txt") file or compressed (".zip") file format for archiving the complete raw set of probe readings downloaded from the data logger. This works equally well for the fixed data logger and for the so-called CTD cast, when the data logger is deployed off the side of a ship or pier and allowed to freely descend through the water column and report continuously the readings of its probes.

iii. **WQX Data Assistance**

EPA WQX offers you a single point of contact to assist you with any questions or needs for your data submission and retrieval. We are here to help you succeed! For custom support, please request an appointment for individual assistance with a WQX data advisor.

What is "1 on 1" data assistance?

- We provide individualized, in-depth assistance to partners and programs conducting individual or group data monitoring.
- A WQX data advisor will schedule a meeting with you based on your best availability to help you with your project/assignment.
- Open to all WQX/WQX Web users.
- Sessions can last from 15 minutes to 1 hour.
- Sessions can be scheduled within the weekday hours of 8am to 7pm EST by appointment.

- If you had a "1 on 1" session, you may also request follow-up assistance via email to WQX Helpdesk (wqx@epa.gov).
- If you have a basic question, a faster way to get an answer is to chat with us.

To speak with a WQX representative, please call [800-424-9067](tel:800-424-9067) (wqx@epa.gov).

2. WQP Status Report (10 mins) (Candice and Lee)

NWQMC is in two weeks! We are going to start working on issues, bugs, new profiles coming up in April. We will be talking about changes happening - USGS mapping to WQX at the NWQMC annual meeting. It is 1-8, which is Thursday morning. Lee has been working on many of the anticipated changes needing to be done to their systems to map to WQX. Planning to publish instructions for the Arc GIS Online instructions on to the Web Services Guide on the WQP website.

3. Presentation: WQXWeb Submission API Examples

Mary Becker (CT DEEP) with Ansel Aarresstad. The reason they are able to achieve this dataflow is because of the WQX web services and the WQP web services.

<https://github.com/ctdeepwatermonitoring>

Link to Mary's presentation online: <https://ctdeepwatermonitoring.github.io/>

They use a Python powered database application to interact with the WQX API, dbase is MySQL. They integrate their ambient sample data with continuous data and stream connectivity image data from separate database schemas to push to WQX.

They then utilize WQP web services to power web data dashboards built with foundational web dev software, HTML, CSS, JS.

Shylaja Prodduturi (SC DHEC). Presented on the API utilization developed by SC DHEC. They built a web application and the user selects one of the CDX batch upload processes to get started.

The generated log file indicates the stored procedures in the SQL server dbase being operated. They get an email notification of either a successful or failed upload. They get the raw data upload files and the generated log files, and QAQC reports.

4. Wrap-up

Stay Tuned. The next scheduled call would occur during the National Water Quality Monitoring Council and will be canceled. Our next WQX/WQP User call will be May 25, 2023.