

WQX User Call

August 24, 2023

Note: There were approximately 34 participants on the call. Past meeting minutes are posted here: <https://www.epa.gov/waterdata/wqx-monthly-conference-calls>. Our next WQX/WQP User call will be *September 28, 12-1pm EST*

Agenda:

1. WQX Project Status Report
 - WQX/WQXWeb performance/updates (Kevin)
 - WQX Helpdesk report (Shay)
 - WQX questions/comments
2. WQP Status Report
 - WQP General Status Report
 - User Feedback requests
 - WQP questions/comments
3. Presentation: National Environmental Methods Inventory (NEMI)
 - Candice Hopkins will give a demo and update on the NEMI service.
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.

- **WQX Project Status Report**
 - a. WQX Status
- Upcoming WQX release
 - All files associated with each transaction ID are being made available in summary reports
 - Anyone can now review these without having a CDX account and password
 - Que management

- Updating processing to better handle both API calls and user interface calls
 - Review reports can be processed asynchronously
 - Will give more detailed reports with every element in the schema included in the export to excel (see Export to File option)
 - All elements are published at the WQP as well, but now these review reports let you review and QAQC the data via WQX as well via the export to file option
 - Releasing to production the last week of September
 - More information will be available via the help menu/glossary
- b. WQX Helpdesk report (Shay)
- Troubleshooting data uploads to WQX
- Lots of WQP questions
- Working on updating responses for frequently asked questions
 - a. WQX - Comments, questions

i. **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).

- **WQP Status Report** (Candice and Lee)
- Making good progress on WQP profiles
 - a. Working on temp user interface for testing, and we are looking for testers!
 - i. New and advanced users are welcome to participate in testing
 - b. Changes to user interface will include
 - i. Descriptions of new WQP profiles
 - ii. Changes in response to user feedback
- **Presentation**
 - a. NEMI Presentation
 - i. NEMI is a methods repository
 1. Methods can be used to describe data in a consistent way
 2. We are always looking to update methods that are out of date
 - a. Please email us to recommend changes if you find any issues
 3. Recommend to use NEMI methods to reference your work, for example when submitted data to the WQP through WQX
 4. NEMI has an API, so if you want to pull these data into an application or analysis or report, you are welcome to
 5. NEMI is WQX's main source for method information
 - ii. Questions/comments
 1. Matt Zane: I agree, great resource. It might also be useful to add fields for valid speciation, fraction, weight basis, etc, so that there is a reference for users to help determine 1) which methods are most appropriate to use for their monitoring programs and 2) provide the information to properly populate the required characteristic/result level fields when submitting data to WQX.
 - a. When trying to populate WQX templates properly, you have to really dig in to determine what domain values are valid for specific methods, and so including valid WQX speciation and fractions for the methods in NEMI would be helpful. This would better connect the two - WQX/WQP and NEMI
 2. Chris Neuiller: This is a great resource that I use often! From a data management perspective, it would be really helpful to have historical methods too (designated as such, and with links to the current method).
- **Open Discussion/ Other/Wrap-up**

Our next WQX/WQP User call will be Thursday, September 28, 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM ET.