Water Quality Data Reporting and Management:

Our STORET / WebSIM Experience

Presented By:

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November 19, 2008
Today’s Presentation: Outline

- Overview of our Water Quality Monitoring Program
- Understanding Data from the Lab
- Getting the Info You Need from the Lab
- Resource Needs for Using STORET / WebSIM
- Suggestions for Using STORET / WebSIM
- Questions?
Zanja De Cota Creek WQMP

• Funded with CWA 106 Grant

• Contracted Tetra Tech, Inc.
  • Non-point Source Assessment
  • Non-point Source Management Plan
  • Water Quality Control Plan

• First Flush Samples (8 sites) Jan. 2005

• Monthly Monitoring Plan (4 sites) Dec 05 – Sept 06

• Field Samples
  • pH, turbidity, temp, DO, SC

• Lab Samples
  • organic / chemical constituents, bacteria
Understanding Data from the Lab

### STORET Field

- Station ID
- Medium
- Activity Start Date
- Characteristic Name
- Result Value
- Result Value Units
- Field/Lab Procedure
- Field/Lab Procedure Source
- Analysis Date
- Detection Limit
- Detection Limit Unit
- Sample Fraction (not reported)
Getting the Info You Need from Lab

- Create List of Categories You Need
- Create simplified STORET template (maintain macros)
- Lab can report data using this template
Resource Needs

1 Year of Data (monthly sampling) for 3 sites

- Acquiring and organizing lab data
  - 1 person, (6 - 8 hours)

- Data entry into STORET template
  - 2 people, (16 hours)
  - (Most time-consuming part: looking up entries)

- Reviewing and editing STORET template
  - 2 people, (2-3 hours)

- Uploading data using WebSIM (without errors)
  - 1 person, (30 min - 1 hour)

- Uploading data using WebSIM (with errors)
  - 1 person and the EPA Help Desk, (1 - 48 hours)
Suggestions for Using STORET / WebSIM

- “Drag and Fill” feature in Excel
- “Find” feature in Excel (cut and paste)
- Date and time formats (mm/dd/yyyy)
  - Leading 0 must be present
- Use 2 people for data entry and checking
  - Paper → spreadsheet, Spreadsheet paper
- Tribal Education Program
- Interns
  - Local Universities, City Colleges, or High Schools
  - Familiar with Excel
Questions?

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