

WQX User Call

April 24, 2025

There were approximately 40 participants on the call.

Agenda:

1. WQX Project Status Report (15 mins)
 - WQX/WQXWeb performance/updates (Kevin)
 - WQX Helpdesk report (Shay)
 - WQX questions/comments
2. WQP Status Report (15 mins)
 - WQP General Status Report
 - User Feedback requests
 - WQP questions/comments
3. Open Discussion
 - Other topics/questions

Notes:

1. **WQX Project Status Report** (Kevin Christian)

All WQX and WQX Web services are available ONLINE with one (1) interruption this past month.

- On 2025-04-16, There was a WQX Node failure affecting data submissions to the WQX dataflow hosted via the EPA's exchange network. Duration of Interruption: 5 hours Between 10:30 am and until 3:30pm. A Notice and Alert was posted to both the WQX Web application and "STORET" WQX Listserver

QAQC Review of WQX domain value services for duplicates and completeness:

- Request Subject Matter Expert assignment recommendations for Characteristic to Characteristic Group aliases, and Characteristic Aliases
- Authoritative systems: www.epa.gov/srs and <https://pubchem.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/>

WQX/WQXWeb performance/updates

Current Sprint#2 In Progress, planned release to Production by September 2025

- Improved documentation for API services
- Improved documentation for Getting Started WQX Web

- WQX-213 Create new API services “project” Monitoring Location and Result to Review data details in WQX
- WQX-264 Create a new API service to Retrieve Binary Attached Objects For Projects, Monitoring Locations, Activities, and Results
- WQX-265 Populate Binary Attached Object Info in the Review Exports to download associated files for Projects, Monitoring Locations, Activities, and Results
- WQX-275 Result Review Export Add Taxon Parent Name And Rank
- WQX-156 Improve Exporting in WQX Web
- WQX-271 Enhance Review Projects Export To Excel, WQX-272 Enhance Review Monitoring Locations Export To Excel, WQX-273 Enhance Review Activities Export To Excel, WQX-274 Enhance Review Results Export To Excel
- WQX-13 Remove Deprecated Sample Collection and Sample Preparation Methods From Activity Table
- 508 Compliance Issue Resolution
- WQX-101 Batch Delete Index and metric Types
- WQX-278 Batch Update Identifiers For Metric Types And Index Types

WQX Helpdesk report (Shay Torres)

Over the last month - ~200 tickets received.

- New user requests - ~10%
- WQP Inquiries - 50%
- Data assistance - ~10%
- New domain requests - ~10%
- General inquiries - ~10%

Implemented better tracking on tickets. Continuing to develop new user guidance.

Coming soon: API service documentation, Detection Limit Guidance, High-frequency Time-Series Guidance, Periphyton/Phytoplankton Guidance

WQX - Comments/Questions

2. WQP Status Report (Candice and Lee)

The Beta service has been down - pulling in some additional developers to diagnose/treat. Looks like the issue has been identified and hopefully good news soon when Beta is restored. We will notify via the banner and the listserv once Beta is back up. Up-to-date USGS data is still available

from the USGS AQS sample endpoint, all other WQX side data should still be available from the Production WQP (2.0).

3. Open Discussion/ Other/Wrap-up

Arne - Can we add additional detection limit fields to a WQX Web Template and provide an import configuration for users?

A - Yes. This can be done fairly easily by copying and duplicating the columns in the Template (to a saved copy) and then making corresponding changes to an import configuration in WQXWeb. We don't currently have this setup in any of our existing Templates, but could do so (perhaps the All Result Elements tab).

Mike - Is there any work happening on the data retrieval Python package?

A - The python dataretrieval package was updated last fall to pull data using the new WQX3 (aka 'beta') services, so users can select either the legacy WQP services or WQX3 services when retrieving WQP data. The package is also in active development to implement a new, USGS-specific web service for pulling just USGS discrete sample data. That code is currently in review, so expect that to be released in the coming weeks. As always, users can report issues on the package's GitHub page, or send questions/comments to CompTools@usgs.gov.

<https://github.com/DOI-USGS/dataretrieval-python>

Amanda - I've been working on connecting to WQXWeb via the API in R but have been having some issues--do you have a timeline for this updated documentation or any resources you can point me to in the meantime?

A - Updated API documentation will be available in the next few weeks - latest would be the end of May. For current issues, contact [wxq@epa.gov](mailto:wqx@epa.gov) for 1 on 1 assistance and share your error messages or codes.

Cathy - Please remind me (I don't have the schema open at present time) are DL's required or optional?

A - Detection limits are not required if not applicable. Refer to WQX Validation rules for when Detection Limit information is required.

<https://cdx.epa.gov/WQXWeb/StaticPages/GlossaryWqx.htm#ValidationRules>

Our next WQX/WQP User call will be **Thursday 5/22/2025 @ 12 EST**.

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 ([wxq@epa.gov](mailto: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 ([wxq@epa.gov](mailto:wqx@epa.gov)).