

WQX User Call

June 26, 2025

There were approximately 45 participants on the call.

Agenda:

1. WQX Project Status
2. WQP Status
3. Presentation GRTS
4. Open Discussion

Notes:

Welcome to Water Quality Exchange (WQX) / Water Quality Portal (WQP) User Call

- The STORET listserv went down last month, and we were not able to recover emails. We gathered emails from recent WQX users for this call but recognize this may not be a complete list.
- We plan to stand up a new listserv or some mass communication method soon.
- **Reminder - In the event of an interruption of service:** The WQX Team will use the following method to communicate with the WQX User Community. A Notice and Alert will be posted to both the WQX Web application and emailed to the "STORET" WQX Listserver (a work in progress to re-establish the service has begun)

WQX Project Status: (Kevin)

- All WQX and WQX Web services were available ONLINE with ONE interruption this past month.
 - Operation and Maintenance (O&M): On June 20, 2025 the Central Data Exchange deployed a Security Patch for the WQX Node. The service disruption lasted two hours.
- ***QAQC Task*:** Data owners should review their data or submissions for sample start dates before "01-01-1940":
 - Data 1 on 1 assistance is available upon request for data owners to assistance updating any Activity Start Dates before "01-01-1940"
 - Please Email [wxq@epa.gov](mailto:wqx@epa.gov)
- WQX Detection Limit Guidance and Best Practices published for draft review

- The document, [Detection Limits Best Practices Guide](#), is available as a Google Doc for comments.
- Provide Feedback by Emailing [wxq@epa.gov](mailto:wqx@epa.gov)
- As mentioned at last month's WQX/WQP user call, our team has drafted a Detection Limits Best Practices Guide, and we would value your feedback! This document aims to provide guidance on how to handle and document censored data in WQX by documenting detection limit metadata. We identify and describe required WQX elements and provide examples of valid data entries. This document is intended to serve as a reference for users when preparing to submit censored data to WQX
- WQX Web Enhancement (development)
 - Current Sprint#2 In Progress, planned release to Production by December 2025
 - Improved documentation for API services
 - Improved documentation for Getting Started WQX Web
 - WQX-213, WQX-264, WQX-265 Create a new API service to Retrieve Binary Attached Objects For Projects, Monitoring Locations, Activities, and Results
 - Populate Binary Attached Object URL Info in the Review Export to Excel reports to download associated files for Projects, Monitoring Locations, Activities, and Results
 - WQX-271 Enhance Review Projects Export To Excel reports, 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-275 Result Review Export Add Taxon Parent Name And Rank
 - 508 Compliance Issue Resolution
 - WQX-156 Improve Exporting in WQX Web
 - WQX-13 Remove (WQX 2.1) Deprecated Sample Collection and Sample Preparation Methods from the WQX Activity Table
 - Descoped: WQX-101 Batch Delete Index and metric Types

- Descoped: WQX-278 Batch Update Identifiers For Metric Types And Index
- WQX/WQP Helpdesk Status Report (Shay)
 - Below is a chart of the themes of the inquiries from the previous WQX/WQP User call.

Topic	Number of Inquiries	Total Monthly Percentage
User and Organizational Access Requests and Issues	51	31%
Data Assistance, Triaging, and Support	68	42%
WQP	11	7%
Miscellaneous	33	20%
Grand Total	163	

Water Quality Portal Status Report: (Candice/USGS, 10 min)

- Added a dashboard (internal) to track CPU usage in the system to better diagnose performance issues
- The ETL process that takes WQX data and translates to WQP format (conducted 2x a week: Wednesday and Saturday) is running faster – improving performance and time it takes to get WQX data refreshed on WQP.
- Note on WQP Banner indicating ‘performance degradation’. This is related to impacts from staff losses resulting from federal level actions with no current commitment to continued financial support of the system. It is not an indication of known errors in WQP.
- Review of new BETA Portal User Interface (UI)
- To Provide feedback, Email [wxq@epa.gov](mailto:wqx@epa.gov).
- Always reach out if experience any issues

Presentation: CWA Section 319 Grants Reporting and Tracking System (GRTS) (Alex Porteous/WDIB)

- Current Status and Introduction (10 min)
- <https://www.epa.gov/nps/grants-reporting-and-tracking-system-grts>

- [Nonpoint Source Data Explorer \(Public\)](#)
- Explore your community for Nonpoint Source projects
- Grab the code [here](#) to host it on your website.
- Questions:
 - Are data uploaded into WQX and then fed into GRTS? - Data are uploaded to GRTS and WQX through separate processes because differences in data architecture.
 - GRTS data are available in How's My Waterway but so is WQP. How are these records taken in? Are they replicated? - GRTS data on nonpoint source pollution control programs as part of CWA Section 319(h) are presented in various tabs in HMW: Restore, Protect, Watershed Health and Protection. Data are not duplicated

Open Discussion/Office Hours (10 min)

- WQP/WQX questions/comments
- Any other topics/questions
- Look for emails from WQX about the listserv status. Hope to have a new one up and running before the next User Call

Next WQX/WQP User **Thursday 7/24/2025 @ 12 ET.**

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](tel:800-424-9067) ([wxq@epa.gov](mailto:wqx@epa.gov)).