

UPDATE OF THE NTWQM NTN DATABASE: SAMPLING AND DATA MANAGEMENT ISSUES

NTWG OCTOBER 2012 CONFERENCE CALL

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ISSUES DISCUSSED BY ACTION TEAM

- ✘ Event Types
 - + Expected event types and frequency
 - + Additional interim sampling (i.e. during droughts)
- ✘ Event Remarks
 - + Stream sampling equipment
 - + Exact monitoring station locations (i.e. routine vs. alternate)
- ✘ Consistency Checks
 - + To be performed at Data Collector level
- ✘ Reproducibility of Measurement – Precision
 - + Field Split duplicate sample frequencies and procedures
- ✘ Contamination – BIAS
 - + Field Blank sample frequencies and procedures
 - + Coding of possible biased data
- ✘ Historical NTN Data
 - + DUET will be used for WY2012 data and beyond
- ✘ Out of Network Data – Automated and Continuous Sampling
 - + Auto sampling and continuous monitoring procedures

SHORT-TERM ISSUES

✘ Event Types

- + Expected event types and frequency
 - ✘ Agreed that coding was too complex and needed to be simplified
- + Additional interim sampling (i.e. during droughts)
 - ✘ Agreed that coding was too complex and needed to be simplified

✘ Event Remarks

- + Stream sampling equipment
 - ✘ Now captured as a comment code
- + Exact monitoring station locations (i.e. routine vs. alternate)
 - ✘ Agreed that coding was too complex and needed to be simplified

✘ Consistency Checks

- + To be performed at Data Collector level
 - ✘ Some data collectors indicated that this will take some additional programming resources for them to perform full suite of checks

LONG-TERM ISSUES

✘ Reproducibility of Measurement – Precision

- + Purpose
- + Acceptable types of duplicate samples
- + Representativeness of duplicate samples
- + WQP coverage by duplicate samples
- + Duplicate sample data in unrounded form (Critical)
- + Duplicate sample data in uncensored (non-null) form (regardless of consistency check results)
- + Defined acceptance level

✘ Field Blanks (FB) – BIAS

- + Purpose
- + Acceptable type(s) of Field Blanks
- + Representativeness of Field Blanks
- + WQP coverage by Field Blanks
- + Field Blank data below the RL and above the MDL (Critical)
- + Identify source(s) of contamination in a contaminated FB
- + If contaminant source(s) in FBs reflect contamination of associated WQP samples, identify the affected WQP data

PROCESS

- ✖ CBPO leadership to deal with short-term individual issues (October – November 2012)
 - + Provide 1-page guidance on collection of duplicate samples and field blanks for 1st quarter 2013
 - + Participation from key NTWG members as needed
- ✖ Report back to NTWG for short-term issue decision-making (November – December 2012)
- ✖ Revise guidance (2012 – 2013)
 - + Short and long-term issue resolution
 - + Incorporate into NTWG workplan for 2013