Notes – CEDEN User Group Meeting

Date: **June 18, 2015**
Time: 10:00 am to 11:30 am

Item No.	Item
1	**Welcome**
2	**Follow-up** *Review location of User Group website (http://ceden.org/user_group.shtml) and an opportunity for participants to ask question regarding the May meeting.* **Notes:** The notes from the May meeting are posted at http://ceden.org/docs/user_group/ceden_ug_notes_052115.pdf.
3	**Query Tool - Defining** *Discuss the goals and limitations of developing a new query tool.*
4	**Query Tool – Use Scenarios** *Review and add to some key scenarios to help identify requirements. See attached.*
5	**Query Tool - Examples** *Review some examples of query tools for other systems.*
6	**Query Tool – Preliminary Key Features** *Review and add to preliminary list of key features.*
	Notes on Query Tool Discussion The primary goal in revising the query tool was to bring it into a computer language that Water Board staff can maintain and make it more user-friendly in the process. At the beginning of the discussion, Jarma stated the focus was a tool for getting data out of CEDEN, not a visualization tool. The group walked through the use scenarios presented in the agenda and added a few notes to them. Many of the additions were in regards to using a map to query data. The group then walked through EPA's STORET query tool (http://ofmpub.epa.gov/storpubl/dw_pages.querycriteria) and the National Water Quality Monitoring Portal (http://waterqualitydata.us/portal/). Some of the meeting participants suggested that since CEDEN will be connected to the Water Quality Exchange (WQX) and submitted to EPA for addition to STORET, that we do not create a new tool for getting data out, but rely on these existing tools for data consumers' needs for tabular data access. Instead, we could focus our resources on visualization tools. While several visualization tools that display CEDEN or similar data exist, they don't necessarily have the long-term commitment that STORET has, for example. Therefore, it was suggested that the group identify the best existing visualization tool or key features of an existing tool and then the Water Board provide support for it (either bring it in-house or as "software as a service"). It was also suggested that the group look at the data input process for WQX because there may be

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	some data providers that could benefit from direct input to WQX instead of via CEDEN if the WQX pathway was simpler than CEDEN. The group did not discuss the "key features" of a query tool listed in the agenda. The capabilities and minimum elements of WQX must be evaluated closely before deciding the existing query tools will address the needs of CEDEN data consumers. Questions to consider should include what data elements WQX accepts, what data elements can be reported out, how often we will be sending our data to CEDEN, how often the National Water Quality Portal tool is refreshed, the timeline for completing our WQX project, the suitability of the CEDEN/WQX crosswalk (i.e. how well do the values in CEDEN map to the values in WXQ).
7	**<u>Wrap Up</u>** *Next Meeting: July 16, 10 am* *Items:* *1. Discuss WQX project and some of the details of WQX* *2. Review topics for user group discussion*

Query Scenarios

User	Searching For*?	Comment/Note
Data Provider	Wants to see data uploaded by that provider (agency, project, or station search)	Likely too many projects to list in a drop down, would this be a free text feel with an implicit wild card search (for example, "sa" would return (San Francisco, Sacramento, Colusa, etc.)?
Water Board Staff	Specific analyte(s) or analyte group	
	Specific geographic location	Current geographic filters are not required fields but "calculated" Ability to show basic land use layers to give context to the sites being selected (Dave suggested NHD+v2)
	Specific water body	Water body isn't required; could use lat/long and assumptions? Recognize that there are different lists of waterbodies
	Specific water body type	
	Specific region	
	county	
	Polygon (drawn by user)	
	Select a watershed by identifying a pour point	
	Hydrologic unit	
General Public	Specific geographic location – including being able to type in an address	Further discuss what happens after the tool zooms into the address provided (auto select what is shown within the window, allow the user to use a polygon drawing tool, etc)
	Specific water body	
	Specific program	
Other Agency	Specific analyte or analyte group	Allow to search by analyte name
	Specific program	
Research	Specific analyte or analyte group	
	matrix	

*All with a time component

-Ability to search on urban vs. non-urban collection site (this was specifically brought up in regards to pesticides but could also be helpful for benthic data and other items as well). [Could be an input flag or a product of a visualization tool considering land use and population density; would need to consider ability to track changes over time or not track changes over time (i.e. users see what it was at the time of collection) because what is rural now may not be rural in ten years.]

Preliminary Key Features

Feature	Comment
Exportable	Option of text (with specific delimiter) or Excel; email for large files
Specify Data Categories	Many people miss the current categories, how could this be improved? Could this be a second layer so an initial search would return counts of results in all categories
Ability to include or exclude QA samples	
Cascading filters?	
Consistent naming between loading, filtering, and viewing data	
Counts?	
Ability to select a station on a map	