

Surface Water Quality Data Collection and Retrieval



EPA Surface Water Quality Data

Two options for data collection and retrieval:

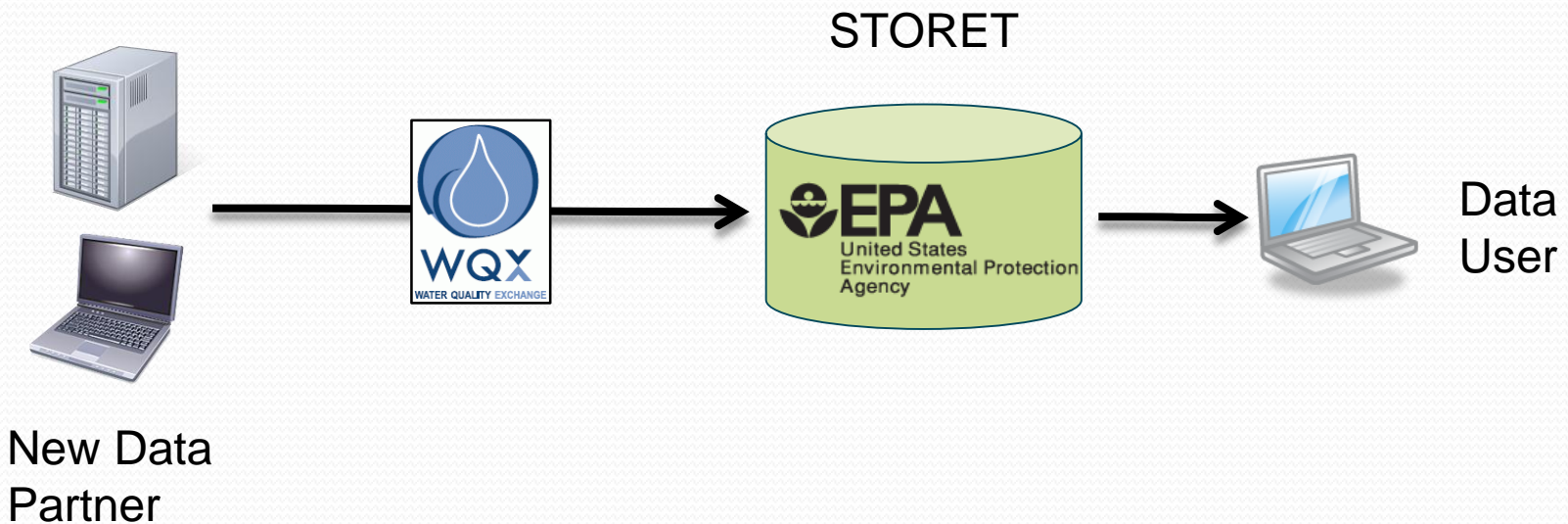
- **STORET** (STOrage and RETrieval)
- **Water Quality Portal** (WQP)

STORET

- Managed and supported by EPA
- It is the official EPA repository for all surface water quality, biological, and physical data
- STORET is populated by states, tribes, federal agencies, and public (e.g., monitoring groups)
- Data retrieval is done by federal agencies, states, universities, private citizens, etc.
- STORET contains physical/chemical, sediment, habitat and biological (e.g., algae, fish, benthic) data and more
- Data flows into STORET through the use of the Water Quality Exchange (WQX)

Data Flow into STORET

Data flows to STORET via the Water Quality Exchange (WQX)



STORET

The following have data in STORET for the Lake Superior Basin:

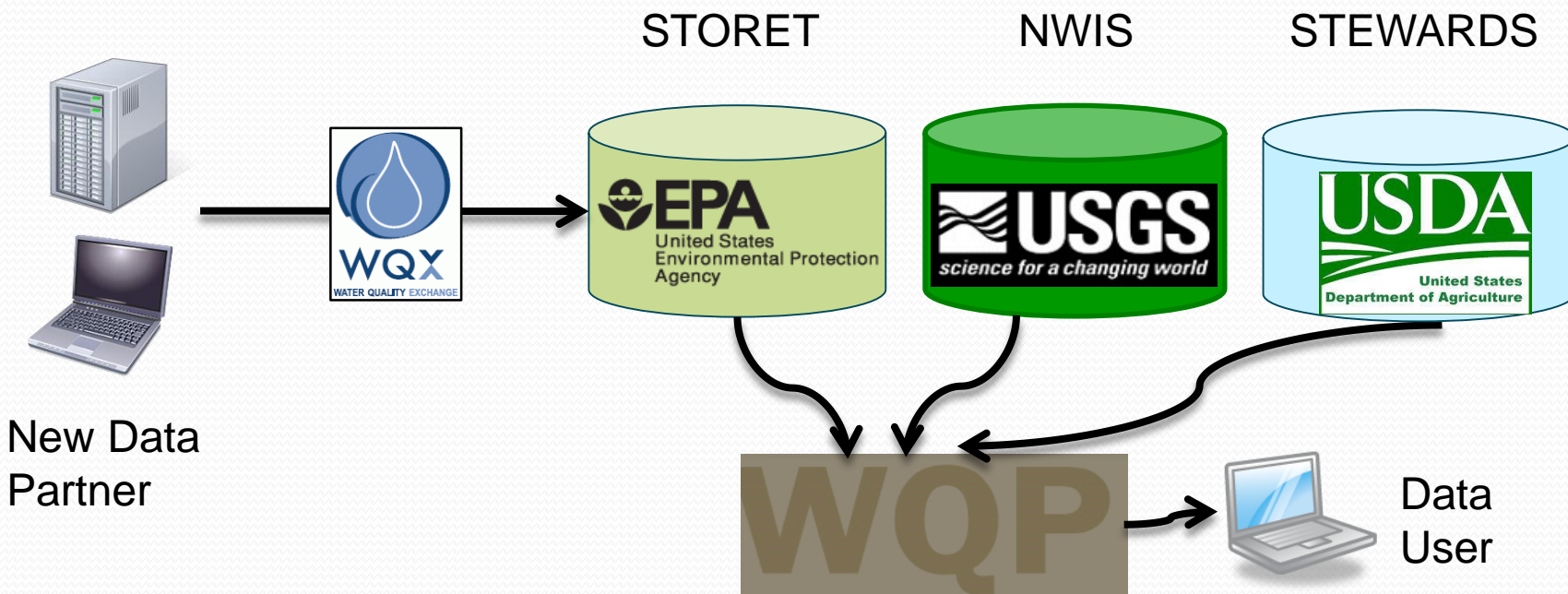
- MPCA
- Minnesota Department of Agriculture
- MDEQ
- WDNR
- **National Park Service**
- USEPA
- **USGS**
- Bad River Tribe
- Bay Mills Indian Community
- Grand Portage Tribe
- Fond Du Lac Band of Lake Superior Chippewa
- Lac Courte Oreilles Band of Lake Superior Chippewa
- Lac Vieux Desert Band of Lake Superior Chippewa
- Red Cliff, Keweenaw Bay Indian Community, and Sault St Marie will soon input data into STORET.

Water Quality Portal (WQP)

- Co-managed by USGS and EPA
- Provides data from EPA (STORET), USGS (NWIS database), and USDA (STEWARDS database)
- Data retrieval is done by federal agencies, states, universities, private citizens, etc.
- Contains physical/chemical, sediment, biological, habitat, benthic, algae data and much more
- Data flows into WQP through the use of the Water Quality Exchange (WQX)

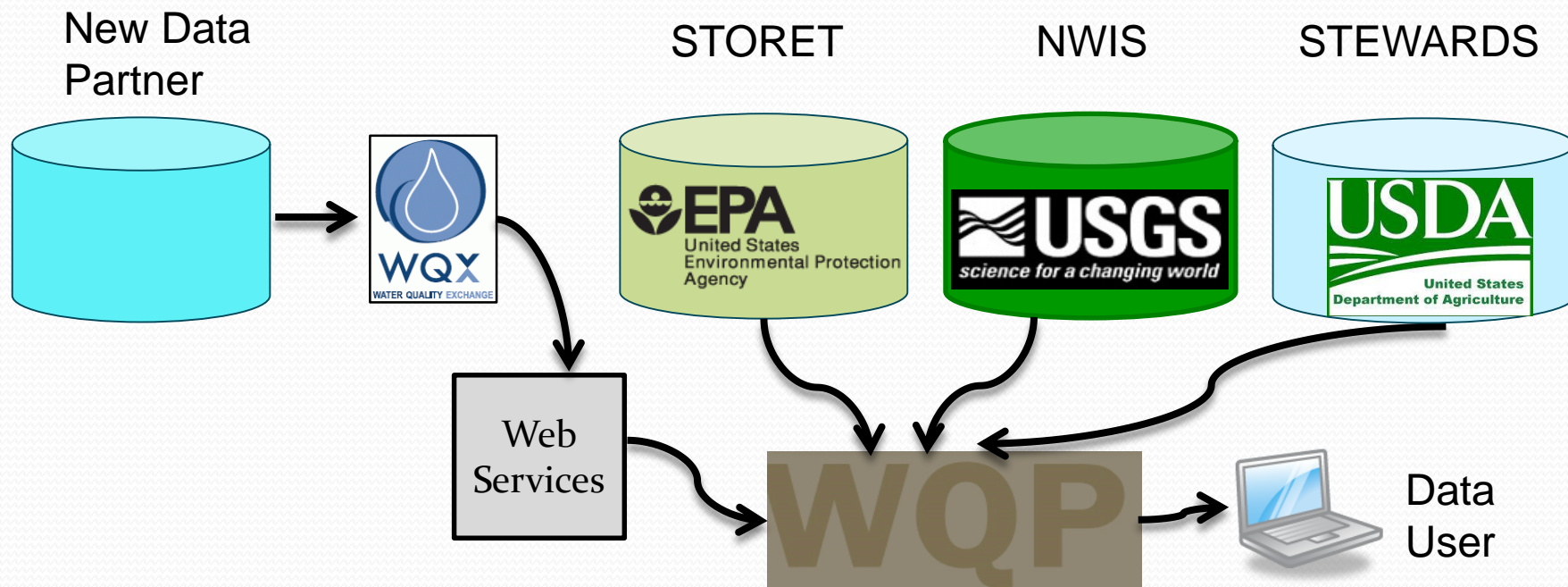
Data Flow into STORET and WQP

Option 1 - Data flows to STORET and is then available on the Water Quality Portal



Data Flow to the WQP

Option 2 - Data flows directly to the Water Quality Portal.



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Data Output – Both STORET and Water Quality Portal

- Presented in a CVS spreadsheet (Excel-compatible)
- This is the raw, complete data; including all metadata
- Data queries are intended for data practitioners, not necessarily for general public consumption
- Data practitioners use the data and process it into a form that suits their specific needs
- The Portal provides a map of data locations
- For easier viewing of data and conditions, other web-based applications/tools are used
- There are two examples of data viewers are:
 - Map My Waters <http://watersgeo.epa.gov/mwm/>
 - How's My Water <http://watersgeo.epa.gov/mywaterway/>

Contacts

STORET Contact: Charles Kovatch, EPA, WQX and STORET Team Leader, Office of Water, kovatch.charles@epa.gov 202-566-0399

EPA Region 5 Contact: Jonathan Burian, Water Division, Water Quality Branch, burian.jonathan@epa.gov, 312-886-2916

Water Quality Portal Contacts:

Mike Shapiro, EPA, Deputy Assistant for Water.

Donna Myers, USGS, Chief of the Office of Water Quality

Morgan Schneider, USGS, Chief of the Center for Integration and Data Analytic

Technical Assistance: Charles Kovatch, EPA, and Jim Kreft, USGS

Website Information: STORET <http://www.epa.gov/storet/>

WQP <http://www.waterqualitydata.us/>

WQX http://www.waterqualitydata.us/upload_data.jsp and
<http://www.exchangenetwork.net/data-exchange/wqx/>

Questions?

