



# CEDEN User Group Agenda & Notes

**Date:** Thursday, May 29, 2025

**Time:** 10:00 - 11:00 AM

[Meeting recording](#)

## Overview of Agenda Items

Topic	Time
Welcome	10:00 - 10:05
1. Water Boards CEDEN inbox data submission process	10:05 - 10:15
2. Vocabulary Updates <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Analyte required fields</li> <li>• PCR method business rules</li> <li>• PFAS analyte update and business rules</li> <li>• Proposed update to Effluent matrix description to include stormwater in addition to wastewater</li> </ul>	10:15 - 10:30
3. CEDEN Query Tool updates	10:30 - 10:40
4. CEDEN 2.0 updates <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Schedule</li> <li>• Vocabulary</li> </ul>	10:40 - 10:55
Wrap-up and adjourn	10:55 - 11:00

<b>Welcome</b>	Tessa Fojut & Keenan Smith	Time: 5 Minutes From: 10:00 AM – 10:05 AM
<b>Purpose</b>	Welcome and announcements <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tessa Fojut and Keenan Smith will be leading user group meetings</li> <li>• Plan to hold meetings quarterly (May, Aug, Nov, Feb)</li> </ul>	
<b>Desired Outcome</b>	Informational	
<b>Notes</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Best contact to reach the Water Boards CEDEN team is: <a href="mailto:ceden@waterboards.ca.gov">ceden@waterboards.ca.gov</a></li> <li>• Current Water Boards staff who work on CEDEN:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ CEDEN Database Manager: Tessa Fojut</li> <li>○ Vocabulary Management Team:                 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Candice Heinz</li> <li>▪ Jennifer Salisbury</li> <li>▪ Tessa Fojut</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ CEDEN 2.0 Transition Lead: Keenan Smith</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Jarma Bennett no longer works on CEDEN</li> </ul>	

<b>1. Water Boards CEDEN inbox data submission process</b>	Tessa Fojut	Time: 10 minutes From: 10:05 AM - 10:15 AM
<b>Purpose</b>	Explain data types that can be submitted free of charge to the Water Boards CEDEN data center, which are redirected to SWAMP data center, where to find data once submitted, and that other Regional Data Centers accept all data types.	
<b>Desired Outcome</b>	Informational	
<b>Relevant Links</b>	<a href="#">Water Boards CEDEN submission flow chart</a> <a href="#">CEDEN Regional Data Centers website</a>	
<b>Notes</b>	All Regional Data Centers (RDCs) are still accepting data. If you submit to the Water Boards Data Center, which is free of charge, chemistry and field results will be posted to the Open Data Portal CEDEN Augmentation dataset and will	

	not be available in the CEDEN Query Tool. Other data types submitted to the Water Boards Data Center (taxonomy, tissue, toxicity) will be directed to SWAMP for loading, but there will be longer waiting times compared to loading through other RDCs.
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<b>2. Vocabulary Updates</b>	Tessa Fojut	Time: 15 minutes From: 10:15 AM - 10:30 AM								
<b>Purpose</b>	<p>Discuss updates to CEDEN vocabulary business rules and updated vocabulary in CEDEN.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• New analytes: CAS rn and Groups are required</li> <li>• New guidance on PCR methods</li> <li>• New guidance on PFAS analytes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ PFAS analytes recently updated (April 2025) to reflect EPA naming conventions – primarily acid forms rather than anion forms</li> <li>○ Analytes should better match EPA methods and ELAP certificates of labs</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Proposed update to Effluent matrix description to include stormwater, not just wastewater</li> </ul>									
<b>Desired Outcome</b>	Informational & Opportunity to Provide Feedback									
<b>Proposed Updates</b>	<p>Current effluent description:</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr style="background-color: #d3d3d3;"> <th style="width: 25%;">MatrixName</th> <th>MatrixDescription</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>effluent</td> <td>Wastewater--treated or untreated--that flows out of a treatment plant, sewer, or industrial outfall</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Proposed effluent description:</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr style="background-color: #d3d3d3;"> <th style="width: 25%;">MatrixName</th> <th>MatrixDescription</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>effluent</td> <td>Wastewater (treated or untreated) or stormwater that flows out of a treatment plant, sewer, industrial outfall or municipal storm sewer system (MS4).</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		MatrixName	MatrixDescription	effluent	Wastewater--treated or untreated--that flows out of a treatment plant, sewer, or industrial outfall	MatrixName	MatrixDescription	effluent	Wastewater (treated or untreated) or stormwater that flows out of a treatment plant, sewer, industrial outfall or municipal storm sewer system (MS4).
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**Notes**

- [CEDEN Vocabulary Request Template](#) was updated May 2025 to include:
  - New Analyte Business Rule for PFAS analytes
    - Acid forms will be used primarily instead of anionic forms to be consistent with EPA methods
  - New Method Business Rule for PCR methods
    - The Method reported for a PCR analyte should describe the analytical procedure, not the identification of specific primer sets
- Effluent matrix description
  - Goal is to clearly distinguish stormwater/MS4 discharge from receiving water
  - Discussion on whether to update the matrix description for Effluent or the Runoff to accomplish the goal
  - Discussion that it would also be helpful for data users to be able to distinguish between dry weather MS4 discharge and wet weather MS4 discharge
  - Tessa will follow up with Regional Board staff and others and bring an updated proposal to the group at the next meeting

<b>3. CEDEN Query Tool updates</b>	Tessa Fojut	Time: 10 minutes From: 10:30 AM - 10:40 AM
<b>Purpose</b>	Overview of CEDEN Query Tool that was updated to a new format in 2023, and additional updates completed in April 2024 and March 2025	
<b>Desired Outcome</b>	Informational and Opportunity to Provide Feedback	
<b>Proposed update priorities</b>	<p>We are able to work on additional features and updates about once a year, what should we prioritize for next year?</p> <p>Potential updates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Change file download format to CSV instead of TSV/TXT</li> <li>• Show both station code and station name in Station filter picklist</li> <li>• Benthic data: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Add Organism Group filter with choices of: BMI, Diatom, Soft-bodied Algae</li> <li>○ Make Phylum a dynamic filter instead of a static list</li> <li>○ Add Genus filter</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	
<b>Relevant Links</b>	<a href="#">CEDEN Query Tool</a>	
<b>Notes</b>	Provided overview of current CEDEN Query Tool and requested input on future features to request when we have the opportunity next year	

<b>4. CEDEN 2.0 Updates</b>	Tessa Fojut	Time: 15 Minutes From: 10:40 AM - 10:55 AM
<b>Purpose</b>	Update on schedule of CEDEN 2.0 soft launch, testing, and public release and planned vocabulary processes.	
<b>Desired Outcome</b>	Informational	
<b>Notes</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• See slides for schedule.</li> <li>• Some fields are getting shorter in the new system and we are going to start limiting those fields in the current system now so that the vocabulary can be consistent between the two systems <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ StationCode: 25 → 20</li> <li>○ ParentProjectCode: 50 → 40</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Method and DigestExtract: 50 → 20</li> <li>● New business rule that ProjectCode and ParentProjectCode cannot be the same for a given project to be consistent with the new system</li> </ul>
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<b>Meeting Wrap-up</b>	Tessa Fojut	Time: 5 minutes From: 10:55 AM - 11:00 AM
<b>Purpose</b>	Review action items and take suggestions for agenda topics for the next meeting	
<b>Next meeting: August 28, 2025</b>		
<b>Action Items</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● CEDEN staff: Update CEDEN Data Flow Chart to include Central Valley RDC</li> <li>● Tessa: Follow up with Water Boards staff to clearly identify the goals of updating one or more matrix description to include stormwater/MS4 discharge and bring updated proposal to the group at the next meeting</li> <li>● Everyone: Send requests for additional features or updates to the CEDEN Query Tool to <a href="mailto:ceden@waterboards.ca.gov">ceden@waterboards.ca.gov</a></li> <li>● Tessa: Update Vocabulary Request Template with shorter field lengths that we will now be enforcing</li> </ul>		

## Microsoft Teams

[Join the meeting now](#)

**Meeting ID: 298 931 207 729 6**

**Passcode: hU9FG2Ha**

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# CEDEN User Group



May 29, 2025

# Agenda

- Welcome
- Water Boards CEDEN inbox data submission process
- Vocabulary Updates
- CEDEN Query Tool updates
- CEDEN 2.0 updates
- Wrap-up and Adjourn

# Welcome & Introductions

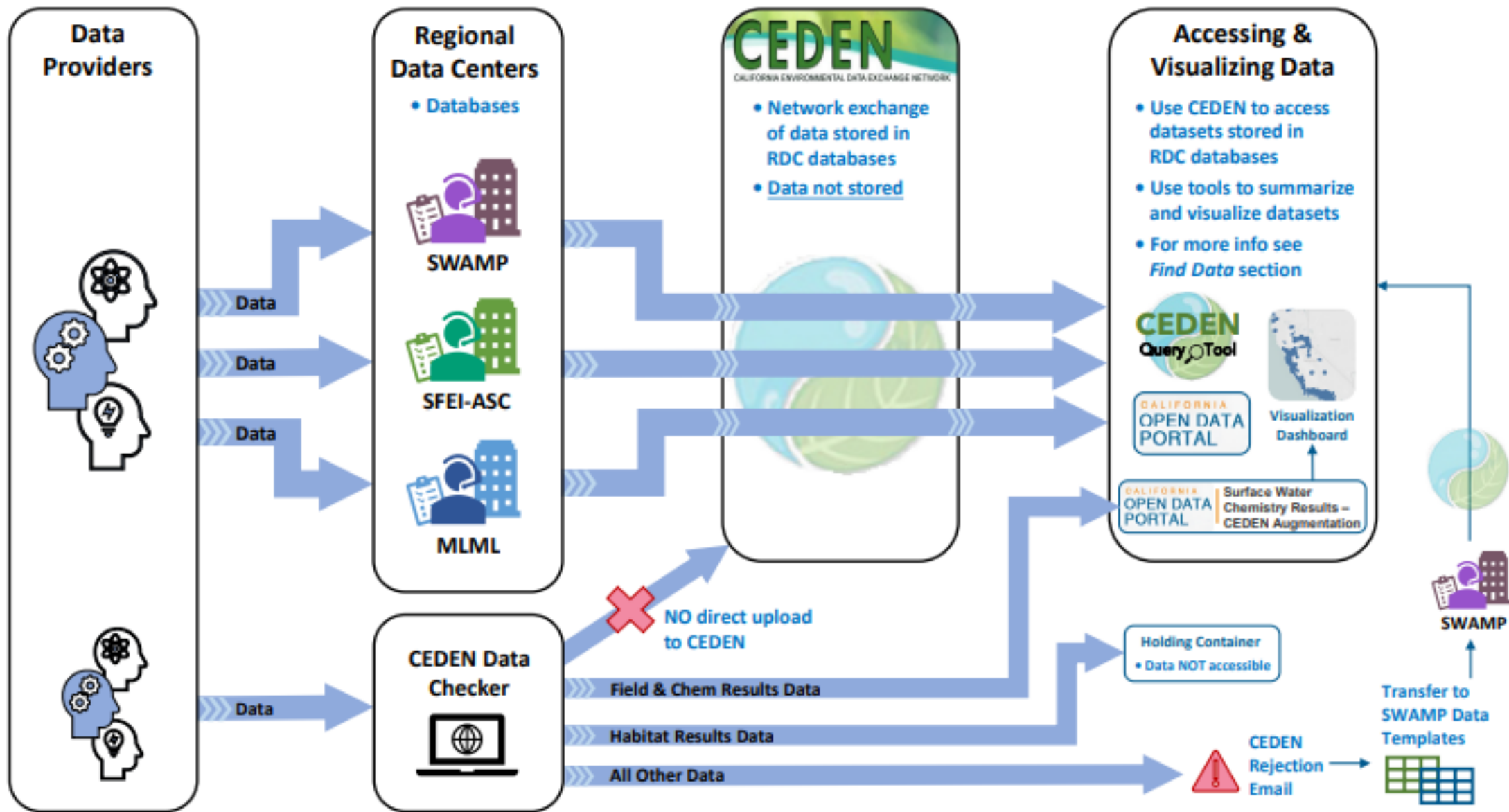
- CEDEN Database Manager: Tessa Fojut
- CEDEN Vocabulary Management Team
  - Jennifer Salisbury
  - Candice Heinz
  - Tessa Fojut
- CEDEN 2.0 Lead Staff: Keenan Smith
- **Contact:** [ceden@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:ceden@waterboards.ca.gov)

# 1. Water Boards CEDEN inbox data submission process

Active Data Centers that are part of CEDEN

- **Water Boards** CEDEN Data Center
- Marine Pollution Studies Lab-Moss Landing Marine Lab (**MPSL-MLML**)
- San Francisco Bay Area Regional Data Center (**SFEI**)
- Central Valley Regional Data Center (**CV RDC** - MLJ)
- Surface Water Ambient Monitoring Program Data Center (**SWAMP** IQ)

# Data Flow Using CA Environmental Exchange Network (CEDEN)



## 2. Vocabulary Updates

- CEDEN Vocabulary Request Template updated May 2025
  - New analytes: CAS rn and Groups are required
  - Business rule for PFAS analytes
  - Business rule for PCR methods
- Update “effluent” matrix description

# Business Rule for PFAS Analytes

- Added to Analyte business rules in CEDEN Vocab Request Template
- Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) analytes should follow EPA naming conventions (i.e., EPA 1633)
- Primarily acidic forms, rather than anionic forms
  - Anion forms of PFAS will generally not be added to CEDEN.
  - The Description of an acidic PFAS should not include the conjugate base name, as it is a distinct chemical.

# Business Rule for PFAS Analytes

- The Description should include the acronym of the analyte, if given in the method or used in another reliable source.

## Example

Name	Description
Perfluorodecanoic Acid	Perfluorodecanoic Acid (PFDA)

# PFAS Analytes Clean Up

- In April 2025, most anionic PFAS analytes were end-dated and all acidic forms from EPA 1633 were added
- More updates may be coming for PFAS analytes that are not included in EPA 1633

# Business Rule for PCR Methods

- Added to Method business rules in CEDEN Vocab Request Template
- Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) methods, including Microbial Source Tracking (MST), should **describe the analytical procedure**, *not the identification of specific primer sets.*

# Business Rule for PCR Methods

- In addition to all other business rules, the description of PCR methods should include:
  1. Type of analytical equipment (i.e., qPCR or ddPCR),
  2. Target organism the assay was developed for (e.g., bacteroidales, human bacteroidales, HF183, etc.)
  3. Type of assay used if applicable (e.g., TaqMan, CyberGreen, etc.)
- If these elements are not included in the title of the method, they should be included in the Method Description after the title.

# Business Rule for PCR Methods

## Example

**Name:** EPA 1696

**Description:** Characterization of Human Fecal Pollution in Water by **HF183/BacR287 TaqMan** Quantitative Polymerase Chain Reaction (**qPCR**) Assay

1. Type of analytical equipment: **qPCR**
2. Target organism the assay was developed for: **HF183/BacR287**
3. Type of assay used if applicable: **TaqMan**

# Effluent matrix description

- **Current**

Wastewater—treated or untreated—that flows out of a treatment plant, sewer, or industrial outfall

- **Proposed**

Wastewater (treated or untreated) or stormwater that flows out of a treatment plant, sewer, industrial outfall, or municipal storm sewer system (MS4)

# 3. CEDEN Query Tool Updates

- CEDEN Query Tool was updated to a new format in 2023
  - Additional updates occurred in April 2024, March 2025
- Demo of CEDEN Query Tool

# 3. CEDEN Query Tool Updates

- Requests and priorities for 2026 annual updates?
- Potential requests:
  - Change file download format to CSV (instead of TSV or TXT)
  - Show both station code and station name in Station filter picklist
  - Benthic data:
    - Add Organism Group filter (BMI, Diatom, Soft-bodied Algae)
    - Make Phylum a dynamic filter instead of a static list
    - Add Genus filter

## 4. CEDEN 2.0 Updates

- Water Boards is working with EarthSoft software vendor to customize their EQulS platform to intake and store CEDEN data
- First phase: Chemistry
  - Field Results, Habitat
- Second phase: Taxonomy Data

## 4. CEDEN 2.0 Updates

- Schedule

- Soft launch testing of chemistry module with Water Boards contract laboratory in late summer 2025
- Testing API connections with RDCs – summer/fall 2025
- Testing of field forms and field/habitat data submission – late 2025
- Public use of chemistry module – late 2025/early 2026

# 4. CEDEN 2.0 Updates

- **Controlled Vocabulary**
  - Water Boards staff will load vocabulary in CEDEN to CEDEN 2.0 on an ongoing basis so submitters will not need to request to add vocabulary to both systems
- **Most vocabulary will match exactly between the systems**
  - Some fields have shorter character limits in CEDEN 2.0
  - We may start enforcing the shorter limits in CEDEN so that we can keep the vocabulary consistent between the two systems

## 4. CEDEN 2.0 Updates

- Controlled Vocabulary
  - Fields that are getting shorter that we will start limiting in CEDEN now:

Field Name	Current CEDEN limit	CEDEN 2.0 limit
Station Code	25	20
Parent Project Code	50	40
Method and DigestExtract	50	20

- New business rule to comply with CEDEN 2.0 system:
  - ProjectCode and ParentProjectCode cannot be the same

# Meeting Wrap-up

- Next meeting: **August 28, 2025**
  - Ideas for agenda items?
- Action items:
  - Update matrix definition in lookup list
  - Submit requests for improvements or changes to the CEDEN Query Tool
  - Update vocabulary request template with character limits and business rules we will start enforcing to be consistent with CEDEN 2.0