

CUAHSI WaterML 1.1

Draft Specification

**Part 2: Changes compared with WaterML 1.0**

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Distribution

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Scope

Water Markup Language (WaterML) specification defines an information exchange schema, which has been used in water data services within the Hydrologic Information System (HIS) project supported by the U.S. National Science Foundation, and has been adopted by several federal agencies as a format for serving hydrologic data. The goal of the first version of WaterML was to encode the semantics of hydrologic observation discovery and retrieval and implement water data services in a way that is both generic and unambiguous across different data providers, thus creating the least barriers for adoption by the hydrologic research community. Now in version 1.1, WaterML is evolving to reflect the deployment experience at hydrologic observatory testbeds around the U.S., and U.S. federal and state agency practices of serving observational data on the web. Data sources that can be queried via WaterML-compliant water data services include many national and international repositories of water data, and a growing number of academic observation networks registered by researchers associated with the hydrologic observatories.

WaterML 1.0 specification was published as an OGC discussion paper in 2007, and is available at the OGC web site. WaterML 1.1 is an updated version developed during 2008-2009, based on the feedback from HIS 1.0 deployment.

The WaterML 1.1 specification consists of three parts. The first part is a high-level description of WaterML scope, rationale, context and design drivers, main trade-offs in WaterML development, the evolution of WaterML, and the core WaterML constructs. This first part follows a paper by Valentine, Zaslavsky and Whiteaker “CUAHSI WaterML: Design Drivers and Evolution Towards OGC Standards” (2009), currently in review. The second part (this document) reviews changes in WaterML 1.1 compared to the previous published specification. The third part is a detailed technical description of WaterML 1.1 schema.

Support and questions

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# Scope

This document summarizes WaterML design changes as it evolves from version 1.0 to 1.1, and 2.0. The document starts with detailed project planning for evolving WaterML towards 1.1 and then to an OGC-compliant version (referred to as WaterML 2.0). The core of the document is a listing of specification change requests as expressed by the CUAHSI HIS team and external partners, For each change request, the target implementation version (either 1.1 or 2.0) is proposed, and risks (of breaking client applications, or other uncertainties) are outlined.

## Goals of Information Model for Hydrologic Observations, and WaterML development:

* Maintain semantic information outlined in the CUAHSI Hydrologic Observations Data Model paper
* Create independent conceptual model of Hydrologic Observations
* Move towards OGC Observations and Measurements

## Benefits of moving towards OGC standards:

* Standardize on an information model that can be used for handling both hydrologic time series and hydrologic themes, and potentially other use cases
* Compatibility with GIS software and other COTS software
* Easier cross-domain adoption (within GEOSS)
* No longer need to write CUAHSI services. Utilize OGC service interfaces.

## Risks:

* Loss of understanding and community acceptance
* Mitigation: Communication, provide API tools and examples
* Difficulty of use, as namespaces, URNs, and generic and flexible notions make it more complex and less domain-oriented
* Difficulty of moving community to new standard
* Possible divergence from the CUAHSI Hydrologic Observations Data Model
* Expectations of CUAHSI Partners

## Issues

* 20 questions/Use Case issues: we need to figure out usage scenarios and use cases that the data encoding should support
* What are the expectations of the CUASHI Partners, such as USGS and EPA: often these requirements to a data exchange standard are not well verbalized and are rooted in data handling and analysis practices of each agency

# Planning for WaterML upgrades

## Proposed Plan:

1. Finalize WaterML 1.1 specification
2. Finalize WOF 1.1 services, including examples for method signatures (use c# interface classes), and a generic ODM service
3. Determine future requirements for future WaterML by gathering use cases, reviewing how they are expressed in other data exchange standards or practices, and using this information to derive requirements
4. In parallel, develop a WaterML 2.0, which is OpenGIS services compliant

# Projects/Tasks

## WaterML 1.1

### Goal

* Expose additional information from the Observations Data Model 1.1
* Address issues with fixed code lists/enumerations, eg ODM “Controlled Vocabularies” DataType, ValueType ,GeneralCategory
* Make changes that improve consistency

### Risks:

* Breaking client applications
  + - To avoid breaking present applications, an additional web service that returns the 1.1 schema will be created.
* Changes for Consistency
  + - Remove any dependence on ID's; use codes instead (e.g. siteCode, variableCode)

### Basic Changes

* Changes for Use Consistency (CR#a1)
* Add sample and lab sample (CR#a2)
* Make extensibility of Site, Variable, Sites simpler, and clearer. (CR#1)
* Specify how multiple qualifiers should be done (CR#2)
* Make attribute value/@count explicitly optional (CR#3)
* Add additional information on site type to site information (CR#4)
* Add speciation (cr#5)
* Address time support issues (CR#6)
* Make Units consistent (cr#9)

### Breaking Changes

* Expendable Enumerations (CR#7)
* Make <values> repeatable. (CR#8)
* Ensure naming consistency (CR#18)
* Make changes to values to for multiple time series: <values>(TsValuesSingleVariableType)
  + Multiple variables from one site (cr#21)
  + Allow for unit transformation values (cr#22)
  + Modifications to <timeSeriesResponse> that need to occur
    - (CR#21 ) Support Multiple variables response
    - (CR#8. waterml 1.1) Make <values> repeatable.
* Changes to how data values are handled (CR#29)
  + Codes and not identifiers (cr# a1)
* Repeatable NoDataValue
  + NoDataValue is a value to be interpreted by a client. Sometimes multiple NoDataValue codes may exist. These are streamed inside of a values list from a service (Ilya, Use case) , They may have the meaning of a censorCode, or a qualifier, but they are represented as a value.

## WaterOneFlow 1.1

### Goals

Standardize the naming, and avoid overloading the method.

### Risks

Low risk A new endpoint that is separate from 1.0 will be used to send WaterML 1.1 over a WaterOneFlow 1.1 API.

### WaterOneFlow 1.1

* Rename Web Service Method for Consistency (CR#10)
* GetSites method name (CR#11)
* GetSites by Box (Cr#29)
* Rename GetVariableInfo GetVariables (CR#12)
* Add Capabilities Endpoint or document (CR#13)
* Multiple Sites with SiteInfo (CR#28)
* ExposeMethods, Sources, and Vocabularies (CR#14)

## ODM Services

### Goals

ODM providers would like to expose groups, and information on derived data values. This is information that not every data source has, and would be difficult to expose in a markup language.

### ODM Services for ODM 1.1 databases

* Additional service endpoints (Cr#17)
* Expose Groups, Derived from DataValues in Web Services (CR#18)

## Conceptual Basis for Future Version of WaterML

### Goals

* Provide an independent conceptual model that can be used for a variety of information that is useful to the hydrologic sciences
* Deliver information over WFS/WCS and/or Modified Water Web Services.
* Understand the implications of the change to the user community

### WATERML 2.0/WOML

* Utilize existing OGC models to develop a UML model that can be converted to XML (Cr#18,19).
* Provide prototype samples that match the requirements and use cases.
* Deliver information over services (CR#16)
* Change how Data Values are handled (#CR23, 24,25,26)
* Make values use elements, and not attributes (cr#24)
* Time Precision (cr#25)
* Additional Data Types (CR#26)

# Resources

List of resources

## Community specification process

WaterML specification development should be a community process, going through a series of steps: submission of change requests, review of change requests, updates of the schema, documenting schema updates and publishing them for review, collecting feedback from CUAHSI HIS team and partners, and finalizing the schema. In parallel, development web services utilizing the new schema shall be developed, to allow developers and reviewers a better feel for the changes.

The following community resources will be used:

* Mailing lists
* Workspaces/Wiki

## Programming tools

### XML Schema data binding

Adding multiple XML schema files means that coding becomes more complex.

SDSC has license for Liquid XML, and can distribute compiled XML data bindings for .net, java, and c

# Change List

Versions:

1\_0 – Present, as specified in OGC document 07-041r1. <http://www.opengeospatial.org/standards/dp>

1\_1- Basic changes, including ODM 1.1 compliance, conversion to elements, re-arrangements and consistency improvements.

2\_0 - Object model based changes, consistent with next major version update.

## Change 0. Object Model

**Proposed Version: 2 -**

**Description:** Develop a conceptual basis for a hydrologic markup language independent of ODM and WaterML. Use the semantic information from the ODM. Utilize the OGC UML models, and convert to XML. Provide prototype samples that match the requirements and use cases.

ODM central concepts are time-variable-space, implemented as Site, Variable, and observations values.

WaterML is service bases, and uses variables, site, series, and value lists.

OGC O&M has observations, measurements, and locations. (verify)

OpenMI (details)

Community Modeling Environment (details)

**Risks:**

### Change Details:

To be determined.

This change requires independent investigation, and an independent task list.

## Change Request a1. Consistency Changes

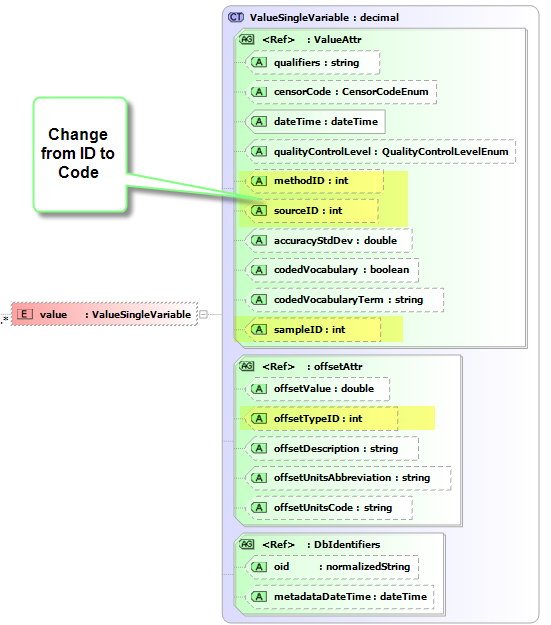
**Proposed Version: 1\_1**

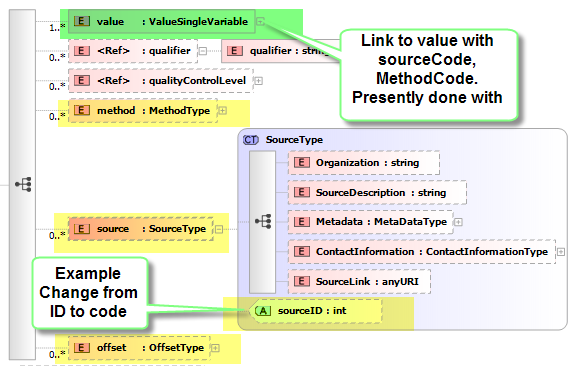
**Description:** Make changes that improve the consistency. For example, use codes as references between elements. And use consistent types.

**Risks:** Moderate. Programs will need to be changed to use Code, and not an ID as references

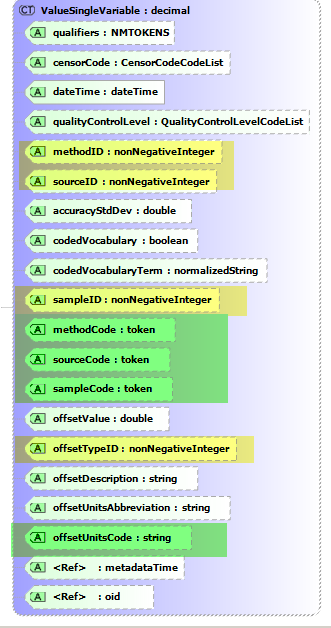
### Change Details:

* + Remove any dependence on ID's and use codes, instead
    - values/value/@methodID,@sourceID,@sampleID,@offsetTypeID
    - values/offset/@offsetTypeID
    - values/source/@sourceID
    - values/method/@methodID
    - values/samples/@sampleID
  + Change attribute types to be consistent
    - to token for \*Code (no returns, tabs, no runs of more than one space)
    - to normalizedString for others (no returns, tabs)





WaterML 1.1



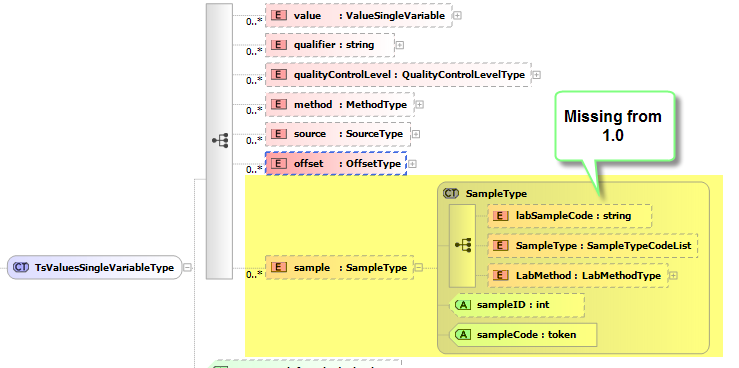
## Change Request a2. Add Sample and Lab Sample

**Proposed Version: 1\_1**

**Description:** Sample is not included in 1.1, although @sampleID can be on a value. @sampleCode should be use as a reference.

**Risks:** low.

### Change Details:



## Change Request Extensibility fixes

**Proposed Version: 1\_1**

**Description:** Make extensibility of Site, Variable, Sites simpler, and clearer.

* Make extensibility of Site, Variable, Sites simpler, and clearer.
  + Use OGC concept of “property” instead of note element.
  + Properties provide clearer communication by saying “siteProperty”, “State” is “California”
  + Additional elements
    - siteInfo/siteProperty
    - variable/variableProperty
    - series/seriesProperty

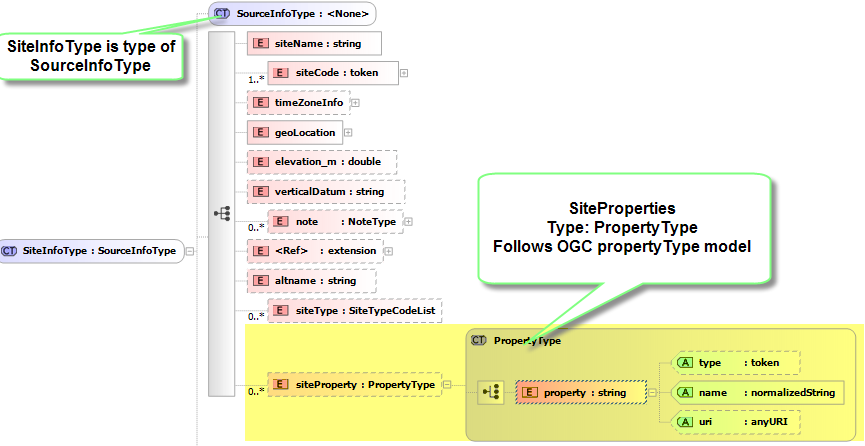
**Risks:**

### Change Details:

* Make extensibility of Site, Variable, Sites simpler, and clearer.
  + Use OGC concept of “property” instead of note element.
  + Properties provide clearer communication by saying “siteProperty”, “State” is “California”

<siteProperty @name=’State’>California</siteProperty>

* + Additional elements
    - siteInfo/siteProperty
    - variable/variableProperty
    - series/seriesProperty



## Change Request Specify Multiple qualifiers

**Proposed Version: 1\_1**

**Description:** Specify how multiple qualifiers should be done. This will be accomplished by space delimiting qualifiers.

**Risks:** low. A string is a string.

### Change Details:

Specify how multiple qualifiers should be done

* + value/@qualifiers redefine as space delimited set of tokens.
  + Change data type to MNTOKENS

<value @qualifies=”usgs:A usgs:e annotation:X”>1244</value>

## Change Request Explicity flag values@count as optional

**Proposed Version: 1\_1**

**Description:** some programs have relied on that a count is included with the list of values. Services coded by third parties often do not include this... since sometimes the count may not be known in advance.

XML attributes are optional. **Explicitly specify this as attribute as optional**

**Risks:** medium. Need to communicate not to rely on this attribute. The length of the array is easily obtained.

### Change Details:

<xsi:attribute name="count" type="positiveInt" **use="optional">**

</xsi:attribute>

## Change Request Add siteType element

**Proposed Version: 1\_1**

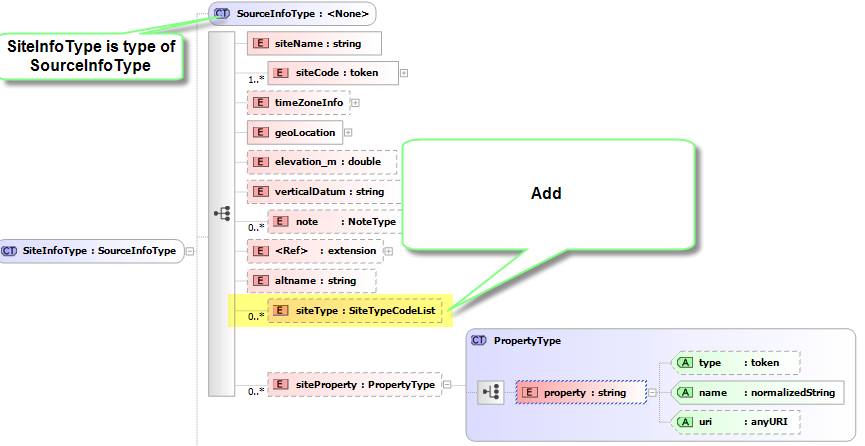
**Description:** SiteTypes are use in the USGS and EPA.

Eg. Suface water, ground water, estuary

**They could be communicated with siteProperty, but if we want a suggested set of terms, then an element is best.**

**Risks:** low. It might be more appropriate to communicate as a siteProperty, since it is not in ODM.

### Change Details:



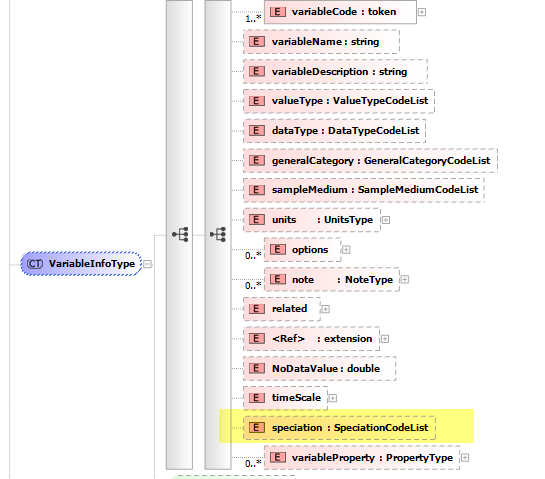
## Change Request Add Speciation

**Proposed Version: 1\_1**

**Description:** Speciation is new column in ODM db schema. Add to variableInfo Type

**Risks:** low

### Change Details:



## Change Request Address time “support” issues

**Proposed Version: 1\_1**

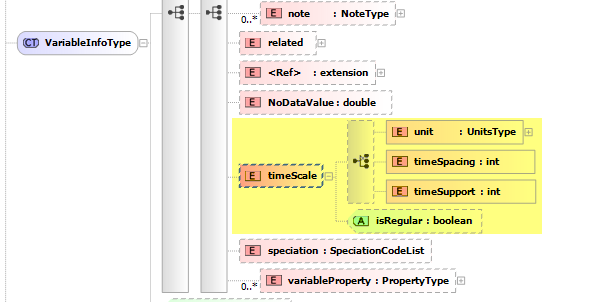
**Description:** Address issues with existing time support information. All dimensions need to be covered: timeSupport, timeSpacing, regularity.

A timeScale element is to be added to VariableInfoType, and timeSupport is to be dropped.

We will need to externally specify how clients are to use this element to determine time precision, and use, and check that our client code properly output the correct precision (eg YYYY-MM-DD, YYYY-MM-DDT00:00)

**Risks:** medium. Services need to coded to send out timeScale, and clients need to properly utilize it.

### Change Details:



## Change Request Expandable Enumerations

**Proposed Version: 1-1**

**Description:**

Expendable Enumerations. Elements that were restricted to an enumerated list of values, are no longer restricted. Suggested lists of values are still included in the XML schema, but they are not enforced. Basically, all ODM CV elements become list of terms, plus the ability to add any string.

**Risks:** Medium. If a 1.0 service reads an unknown value, it will through an error. For 1.1 services, this will work, but any consistency between data sources relies on cooperation.

### Change Details:

This is mainly an internal schema change, externally, all the CV’s will look like strings.

Elements that were enumerations will be a union of the previous enumeration, and string. Basically, it will be treated as a string. Smart Clients may use the enumeration to display a list of known values. The example below uses CensorCode:

<xsi:simpleType name="CensorCodeCodeList">

<xsi:union memberTypes="CensorCodeEnum xsi:string" />

</xsi:simpleType>

<xsi:simpleType name="CensorCodeEnum">

<xsi:restriction base="xsi:string">

<xsi:enumeration value="lt" />

<xsi:enumeration value="gt" />

<xsi:enumeration value="nc" />

<xsi:enumeration value="nd" />

<xsi:enumeration value="pnq" />

</xsi:restriction>

</xsi:simpleType>

Effects:

* + CensorCode
  + QaulityControlLevel
  + SampleType
  + ValueType
  + SampleMedium
  + Speciation
  + TomepCatecory
  + VerticalDatum
  + Sitetype

## Change Request Make Values Repeatable

**Proposed Version: 1\_1**

**Description:** A USGS site can have multiple streams of the same variable parameter from different instruments.

Station: NWISDV:02289050

Variable: NWISDV:00065 or NWISDV:00065/statistic=00003 or NWISDV:00065/ValueType=Average

DateRange 2003-01-01 to 2004-01-01

<ws:GetValuesObject>

<ws:location>NWIS:02289050</ws:location>

<ws:variable>NWIS:00065</ws:variable>

<ws:startDate>2003-01-01</ws:startDate>

<ws:endDate>2004-01-01</ws:endDate>

<ws:authToken>?</ws:authToken>

</ws:GetValuesObject>

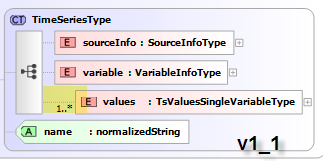
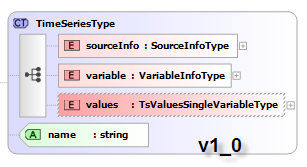
**Risks:** medium. Clients must understand that multiple value lists can be returned.

Clients hand coded to the XML for the path may only access the first instrument

Clients objects compiled from WSDL should handle this.

### Change Details:

Change Cardinatlity to allow for more than one:



WaterML 1.1

<timeSeriesResponse xmlns="http://www.cuahsi.org/waterML/1.0/">

<queryInfo>

<creationTime>2008-09-04T18:35:52.191-04:00</creationTime>

<criteria>

<locationParam>USGS:02289050/agency=USGS</locationParam>

<variableParam>USGS:00065/statistic=00003</variableParam>

<timeParam>

<beginDateTime>2003-01-01</beginDateTime>

<endDateTime>2003-01-01</endDateTime>

</timeParam>

</criteria>

</queryInfo>

<timeSeries>

<sourceInfo xsi:type="SiteInfoType">

<siteName>TAMIAMI CANAL AT S-333 NR MIAMI, FL</siteName>

<siteCode network="NWISDV" siteID="2380231">02289050</siteCode>

<timeZoneInfo>

<defaultTimeZone ZoneAbbreviation="EST" ZoneOffset="-05:00"/>

<daylightSavingsTimeZone ZoneAbbreviation="EDT" ZoneOffset="-04:00"/>

</timeZoneInfo>

<geoLocation>

<geogLocation xsi:type="LatLonPointType" srs="EPSG:4269">

<latitude>25.76121208</latitude>

<longitude>-80.6739499</longitude>

</geogLocation>

</geoLocation>

<note>Agency:USGS</note>

</sourceInfo>

<variable>

<variableCode vocabulary="NWISDV">00065</variableCode>

<variableName>Gage height</variableName>

<variableDescription>Gage height, feet</variableDescription>

<valueType>Derived Value</valueType>

<dataType>Average</dataType>

<units unitsAbbreviation="ft">feet</units>

<options>

<option name="Statistic" optionCode="00003">Mean</option>

</options>

<NoDataValue>-999999</NoDataValue>

<timeSupport isRegular="true">

<unit>

<UnitName>day</UnitName>

<UnitType>Time</UnitType>

<UnitAbbreviation>d</UnitAbbreviation>

</unit>

<timeInterval>1</timeInterval>

</timeSupport>

</variable>

<values count="1">

<value dateTime="2003-01-01T00:00:00" qualifiers="A">10.03</value>

<qualifier qualifierCode="A" network="USGS" vocabulary="dv\_rmk\_cd">Approved for publication -- Processing and review completed.'</qualifier>

<method methodID="2">

<MethodDescription>sensor:</MethodDescription>

</method>

</values>

<values count="1">

<value dateTime="2003-01-01T00:00:00" qualifiers="A">7.48</value>

<qualifier qualifierCode="A" network="USGS" vocabulary="dv\_rmk\_cd">Approved for publication -- Processing and review completed.'</qualifier>

<method methodID="8">

<MethodDescription>sensor:DOWNSTREAM PUBLISHED</MethodDescription>

</method>

</values>

</timeSeries>

</timeSeriesResponse>

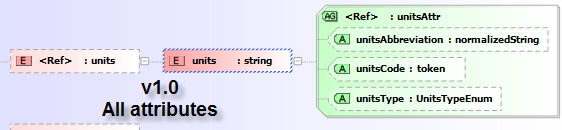
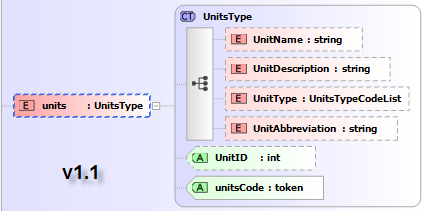
## Change Request Standardize Unit elements

**Proposed Version: 1\_1**

**Description:** A units type was added as a way to standardize the way units are communicated. The original “units” element in variables need to be changed

**Risks:** high. While name “units’ would be the same, the units element would contain elements, and not attributes.

### Change Details:

## Change Request Rename Web Service Method for Consistency

**Proposed Version: webservices 1\_1**

**Description:** The base names are GetValues,GetVariableInfo,GetSiteInfo.

The“Object” methods are really the more SOAP-like, GetValuesObject, GetVariableInfoObject, GetSiteInfoObject

Whereas, the base names in Web Services 1.0 are really “String” They take the object, and write out a string.

GetSites and GetSitesXml are incorrectly named. See CR#10

Do we need to rename GetVariableInfo GetVariables. See CR#11

**Risks:** Conversation. We talk GetValues... not GetValuesXXXX

### Change Details:

#### WaterOneFlow method Renaming (aslo see CR#10 and CR#11)

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Method v1** | **Method v 1.1/2** |  |
| GetSites | GetSitesObject | rename |
| GetSitesXML | GetSitesString | rename |
| GetValues | GetValuesString | rename |
| GetVaraibleInfo | GetVariablesString | rename |
| GetVariableInfoObject | GetVariablesObject | rename |
| GetSiteInfo | GetSiteInfoString | rename |
|  | GetCapabilities | add |

## Change Request Fix GetSites method name

**Proposed Version: webservices 1\_1**

**Description:** GetSites and GetSitesXml are incorrectly named.

**Risks:** low.

### Change Details:

#### WaterOneFlow method Renaming

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Method v1** | **Method v 1.1/2** |  |
| GetSites | GetSitesObject | rename |
| GetSitesXML | GetSitesString | rename |

## Change Request Rename GetVariableInfo GetVariables.

**Proposed Version: webservices 1\_1**

**Description:** Conversationally, we have been saiying GetVariables()... should we standardize

**Risks:** low.

### Change Details:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Method v1** | **Method v 1.1/2** |  |
| GetVaraibleInfo | GetVariablesString | rename |
| GetVariableInfoObject | GetVariablesObject | rename |

## Change Request Add Capabilities Endpoint or document

**Proposed Version: webservices 1\_1**

**Description:** We may have different endpoints(service versions, or services). If we have a standard format for communicating this information, and put it at a standard location then clients could look for it.

This document would describe the various services, and their capabilities.

Services could have a method that returned the capabilities document, and could alert clients to other services.

**Risks:** Medium. 1.0 service does not have a capabilities method

Other data providers will need to implement it.

### Change Details:

#### NEED DOCUMENT FORMAT

#### WaterOneFlow method

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Method v1** | **Method v 1.1/2** |  |
|  | GetCapabilities | add |

## Change Request Expose Methods, Sources, and Vocabularies

**Proposed Version: webservices 1\_1**

**Description:** Sources, Methods, and Vocabularies should be exposed so that clients can harvest the information, without having to go through GetValues.

**Risks:** low

### Change Details:

TBD.

Need to review document from DT, and provide functionality specification. Need to insure that information for sources, methods is exposed. Need to add vocabulary response to WaterML, if this is needed.

## Change Request Expose Groups, Derived from DataValues in Web Services

**Proposed Version: webservices 1\_1**

**Description:** Data in an ODM should be exposed as outlined at: <http://river.sdsc.edu/wiki/Exposing%20full%20ODM%20content%20in%20Web%20Services.ashx>

**Risks:** TBD.

Adds complexity to services.

Functionality is only for a single type of data source

### Change Details:

TBD

## Change Request Open GIS Mappings

**Proposed Version: Unknown**

**Description:** Possible mappings to OpenGIS methods in web feature services, and Sensor services needs to be investigated

**Risks:** TBD

### Change Details: TBD

## Change Request Additional service endpoints

**Proposed Version: 1\_1**

**Description:** Data in an ODM should be exposed. Should this be an service. What other possible service may be needed.

**Risks:** Dependencies on CR 14 and 15

### Change Details:

## Change Request Make WaterML Simple GML compliant

**Proposed Version: 2**

**Description:** Make waterML able to be use in services that understand GML.

This involves more than just using GML geometries for geographic information.

The responses need to derive from the abstract type, and the links to communicate where the GML is hiding need to be added.

**Risks:** extreme. We may not be able to map all responses into GML. GetSite and GetSiteinfo sites responses would map, but time series may be more difficult.

Could be a complex process, that

### Change Details:

TBD. Needs planning.

Need to prototype a sitesResponse simpleGML schema.

Remove LatLonBox, LatLonPoint replace with GML equivalents.

## Change Request Use Simple GML for the Geometries

**Proposed Version: 2**

**Description:** Use GML for the geographic information elements.

Benefits are than we can describe line, polygons and other objects. But we really don’t have those in our databases.

**Risks:** high. Namespaces are introduced. Documentation will need to be changed to handle getting information from elements with namespaces.

### Change Details:

Remove LatLonBox, LatLonPoint replace with GML equivalents.

## Change Request Ensure naming consistency

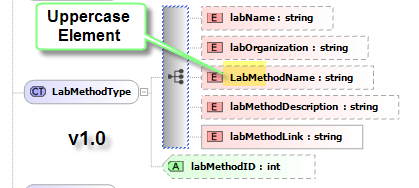
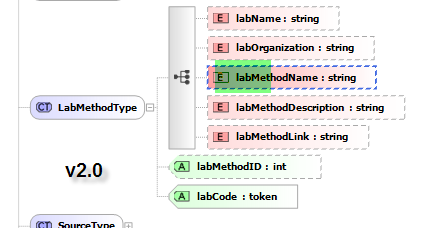
**Proposed Version:** 1\_1

**Description:** Casing rules got overlooked during rush to implement some elements and attributes. Changing case is not done lightly, since XML is caSe sensitive, and so is our preferred language, c#.

This is a change that does require coding changes.

**Risks:** High. Client code that is not ported will break.

### Change Details:

## Change Request Multiple variables

**Proposed Version:** 1\_1

**Description:** timeSeries will now be repeatable, so multiple series are returned. Each with a set of data values

Add units element inside of values. Remove from attributes of values. (CR#22)

**Risks:** low.

### Change Details:

## Change Request Allow for unit transformation values

**Proposed Version:** 1\_1

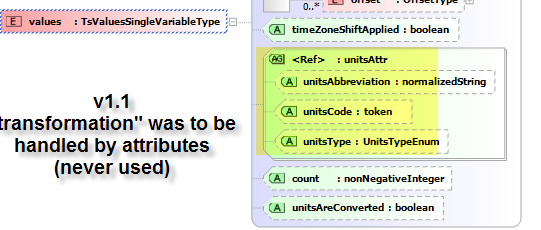
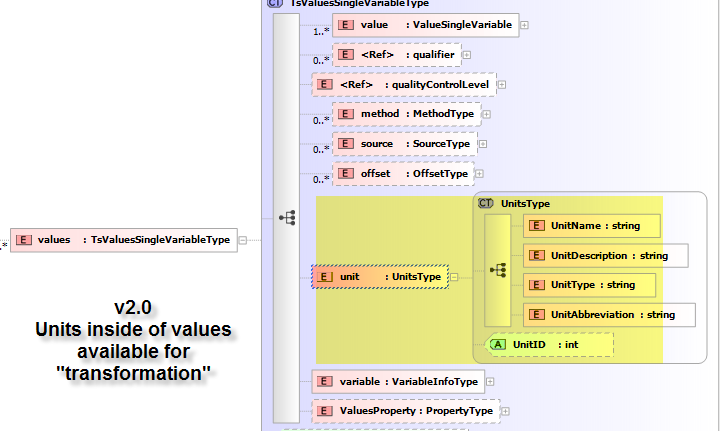
**Description:** in WaterML 1.0 and 1.1 it was proposed that the attributes attached to values could allow of transformation of units to occur.

Add units element inside of values. Remove from attributes of values.

**Risks:** Medium. Clients must now look for units. But the unit element is standardized.

Transformation never implemented.

### Change Details:

## Change Request Change how Data Values are handled

**Proposed Version:**

**Description:** Multiple changes are proposed.

We should move from attributes to elements

We should allow for more precise times that just dateTime

We should allow for more than just a numeric value, such as a null, categorical, or vector data types.

**Risks:** Low to Moderate

Clients would need to be recoded, and would need to better be able to handle more than a numeric value, and should be able to handle null values, in the same manner as NoDataValues.

### Change Details:

## Change Request Move attributes to elements on value

**Proposed Version: 2**

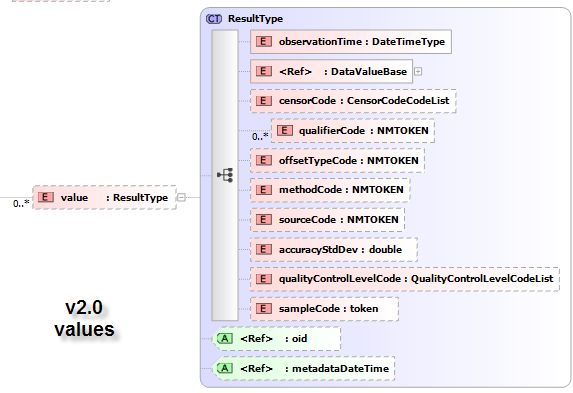
**Description:** It can be difficult to use attributes in some programs. Elements also provide more flexibility, such as the ability to have defined time with more precision.

**Risks:** medium. Large change.

Files become larger

### Change Details:

Original 1.1 ‘value’ element



## Change Request Make it possible to use XML data types to specify time precision

**Proposed Version:**

**Description:**

Make it possible to use XML data types to specify time precision. eg DateTime, Year-Month-Day, Month-Day, Year

USGS suggestion. Send out times at the appropriate precision so that users do not misuse data..

**Risks:** moderate. Clients will need to know that some values do not convert to dateTime, and will have to do appropriate processing

Best practices means that client code needs to be able to handle a variety of date formats, properly.

### Change Details:

Easily possible in XML, when it the temporal reference is an element. Element observationTime is defined as DateTimeType, which is defined as the union of date, dateTime, gYear, gYearMonth. This will cover DateTime, Year-Month-Day, Month-Day, Year

<xs:element name="observationTime" type="DateTimeType" />

<xs:simpleType name="DateTimeType">

<xs:union memberTypes="xs:date xs:dateTime xs:gYear xs:gYearMonth" />

</xs:simpleType>

NEED XML Example

## Change Request Allow for other data value types

**Proposed Version: 2**

**Description:** Numeric, and categorical values are represented in the same form. It is possible to define different elements which could communicate what the value is, eg dataValueNumeric, dataValueCategorical, dataValueVector.

** Allow for empty data values; <value>**

** Change Client Code need to handle null values.**

** Handle categorical differently than numeric data values**

** Categorical data type: dataValueCategorical**

** Vector data types**

** Vector data type: dataValueVector**

**Risks:** High.

Clients need to know how to handle different variations of observed value.

### Change Details:

Utilize substituionGroup’s as a way to have different elements that contain the ‘value’

A dataValueNumeric element would contain a standard data value (eg float), and a

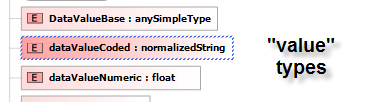
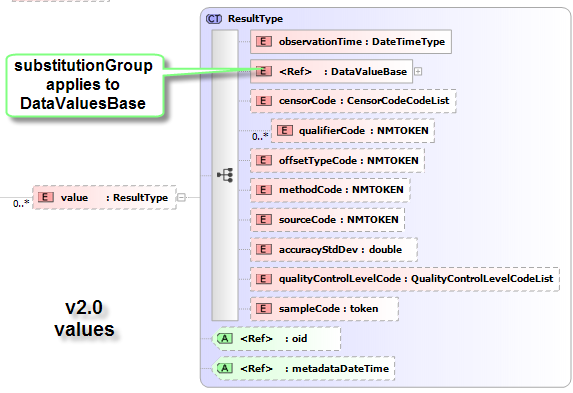
The are defined to substitute for DataValueBase which is used in the type that defines value.

TODO: Needs a graphical XML output

<xs:element abstract="true" name="DataValueBase" type="xs:anySimpleType" />

<xs:element name="dataValueCoded" substitutionGroup="DataValueBase" type="xs:normalizedString" />

<xs:element name="dataValueNumeric" substitutionGroup="DataValueBase" type="xs:float" />

## Change Request Time Zone/Offset Issues

**Proposed Version: 1\_1**

**Description:** Language support for time zones is poor. Time zones should be carried as a separate attribute.

**Risks:**

### Change Details:

## Change Request Multiple Sites with SiteInfo

**Proposed Version: 1\_1**

**Description:**

**Risks:**

### Change Details:

## Change Request GetSites by Box

**Proposed Version: 1\_1**

**Description:**

**Risks:**

### Change Details:

## Change Request Return values for a site

**Proposed Version:**

**Description:**

**Risks:**

### Change Details:

## Change Request title

**Proposed Version:**

**Description:**

**Risks:**

### Change Details: