

SNOTEL QC Data – Downloads via Web Service

A protected web service is available for downloads of individual comma-separated value (CSV) text files containing all SNOTEL QC data for a given day.

USAGE

To initiate a request via this web service, use a client (web browser, the *wget* utility, etc.) that can perform an HTTP connection with the following parameters:

<http://snotel.nacse.org/rpc.php?call=csv&date=YYYYMMDD>

Where:

- YYYYMMDD is an 8-digit date defining a single day (e.g., 20121026 to request data for 26 Oct 2012)

Date limit:

- 20121001 through the day before yesterday

Access:

- The portal is protected by a username/password (currently: snotel/nrcs)

Valid HTTP example:

To download the CSV file for 26 Oct 2012: <http://snotel.nacse.org/rpc.php?call=csv&date=20121026>

Enter the username and password when prompted, and the download will commence. Note that if you have already logged in during your current browser session, you likely won't be prompted to log in again during that session.

Valid UNIX command line example:

```
wget -nv --content-disposition --user=snotel --password=nrcs  
http://snotel.nacse.org/rpc.php?call=csv&date=20121026
```

SAMPLE BULK DOWNLOAD SCRIPT

The web service provides a single CSV file per request. To perform a bulk download of multiple CSV files, create and run a script or batch job. An example Perl script is provided below – this particular example will download one month's worth of CSV files. (Note that it's important to use the `--content-disposition` switch with the `wget` command to preserve the original filename, as in the example below.)

```
#!/usr/bin/perl  
use strict;  
use warnings;  
use DateTime;  
  
my $day;
```

```
my $url;
my $username = 'snotel';
my $password = 'nracs';
my $base_url = 'http://snotel.nacse.org/rpc.php?call=csv&date=';

my $start = DateTime->new( day => 1, month => 10, year => 2012 );
my $stop = DateTime->new( day => 31, month => 10, year => 2012 );

while($start <= $stop) {
    $day = $start->strftime('%Y%m%d'); #place date in proper form
    $url = $base_url.$day;
    system("wget -nv --content-disposition --user=$username --password=$password \"\$url\"");
    $start->add(days => 1);
}
}
```