# QGIS Application - Bug report #21086
Can't add a virtual field or update a existing field of a WFS layer using the field calculator

2019-01-24 11:52 AM - Bo Thomsen

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Status:</th>
<th>Closed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Priority:</td>
<td>Normal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assignee:</td>
<td>Alessandro Pasotti</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Category:</td>
<td>Web Services clients/WFS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Affected QGIS version:</td>
<td>3.5(master)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Regression?:</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Easy fix?:</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pull Request or Patch supplied:</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crashes QGIS or corrupts data:</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Resolution:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Copied to github as #:</td>
<td>28904</td>
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## Description

If you try to add a virtual field to a WFS based layer using the field calculator it will fail and show "NULL" regardless what expression you use in the created field.

Further, it's not possible to set the type or field length for the virtual field because the relevant combo boxes in the dialog are disabled.

Lastly, you can't update a existing field using the field calculator (The wfs can however be edited manually in the attribute dialog)

## Associated revisions

**Revision 57d32939 - 2019-01-25 05:24 PM - Alessandro Pasotti**

Field calculator: provide a list of default field types in case the provider does not (WFS is one of them).

Rationale: consider that there is not such a thing like a list of supported types for WFS and parsing the particular `describeFeatureType` for the layer would restrict the types to only those actually existing in the layer, but we are dealing with virtual fields here (because WFS has no column add capabilities) so let's give the users a minimal set of useful types to play with.

Fixes #21086

## History

**#1 - 2019-01-24 11:59 AM - Alessandro Pasotti**

- Category changed from Field calculator to Web Services clients/WFS

Changing category to WFS because I assume that all of this is working correctly with the other provider, or not?

**#2 - 2019-01-24 03:21 PM - Bo Thomsen**

Yes, I exported one of the wfs-datasources to a shapefile and retried the experiment. It worked as expected with the shapefile based data.
Next time please file separate tickets for separate issues, even if in this particular case my first answer is the same.

1 - If you try to add a virtual field to a WFS based layer using the field calculator it will fail and show "NULL" regardless what expression you use in the created field.
   I cannot reproduce with current master on Linux (but I doubt that the OS makes any difference).

2 - Further, it's not possible to set the type or field length for the virtual field because the relevant combo boxes in the dialog are disabled.
   I cannot reproduce with current master on Linux (but I doubt that the OS makes any difference).

3 - Lastly, you can't update a existing field using the field calculator (The wfs can however by edited manually in the attribute dialog)
   I cannot reproduce with current master on Linux (but I doubt that the OS makes any difference).

Can you please test current master?

Sorry, I need to update my results:

I can reproduce 1 and 2 but not 3, working on it.

PR [https://github.com/qgis/QGIS/pull/8990](https://github.com/qgis/QGIS/pull/8990)

Applied in changeset commit:qgis|57d32939363073bafe6d54016813c75c9964adc2.