AWS – Secrets Manager

-Hands-on guide.

Mr. Subramanyam Tirumani Vemala

https://www.linkedin.com/in/subbulinkedin/

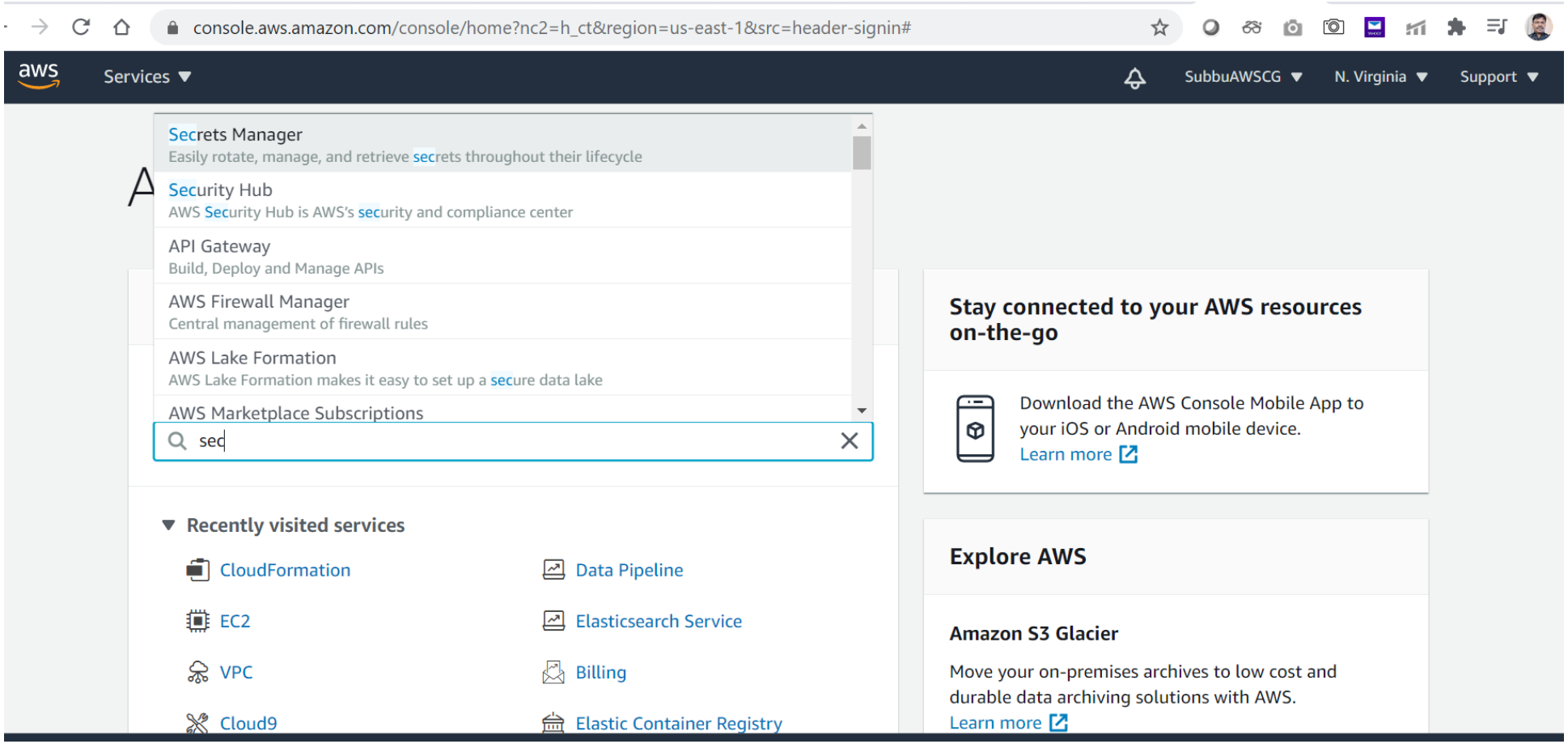
About AWS Secrets Manager:

- AWS Secrets Manager helps you to securely encrypt, store, and retrieve credentials for your databases and other services.
- Instead of hardcoding credentials in your apps, you can make calls to Secrets Manager to retrieve your credentials whenever needed.
- Secrets Manager helps you protect access to your IT resources and data by enabling you to rotate and manage access to your secrets.
- It is always a best practice to use the Secrets Manager, rather than hard coding or configuring in the code.

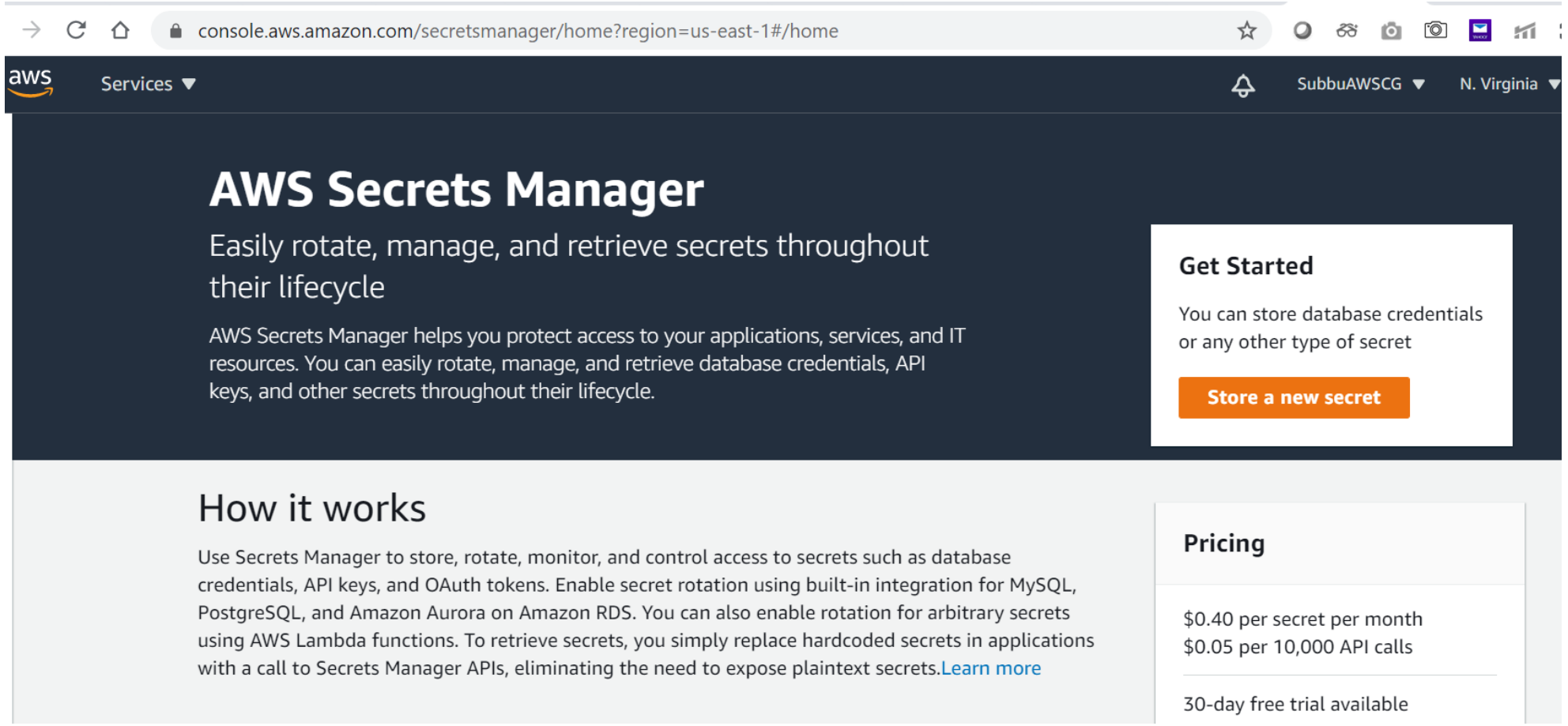
Pre-requisites:

1. AWS account.
2. AWS CLI.

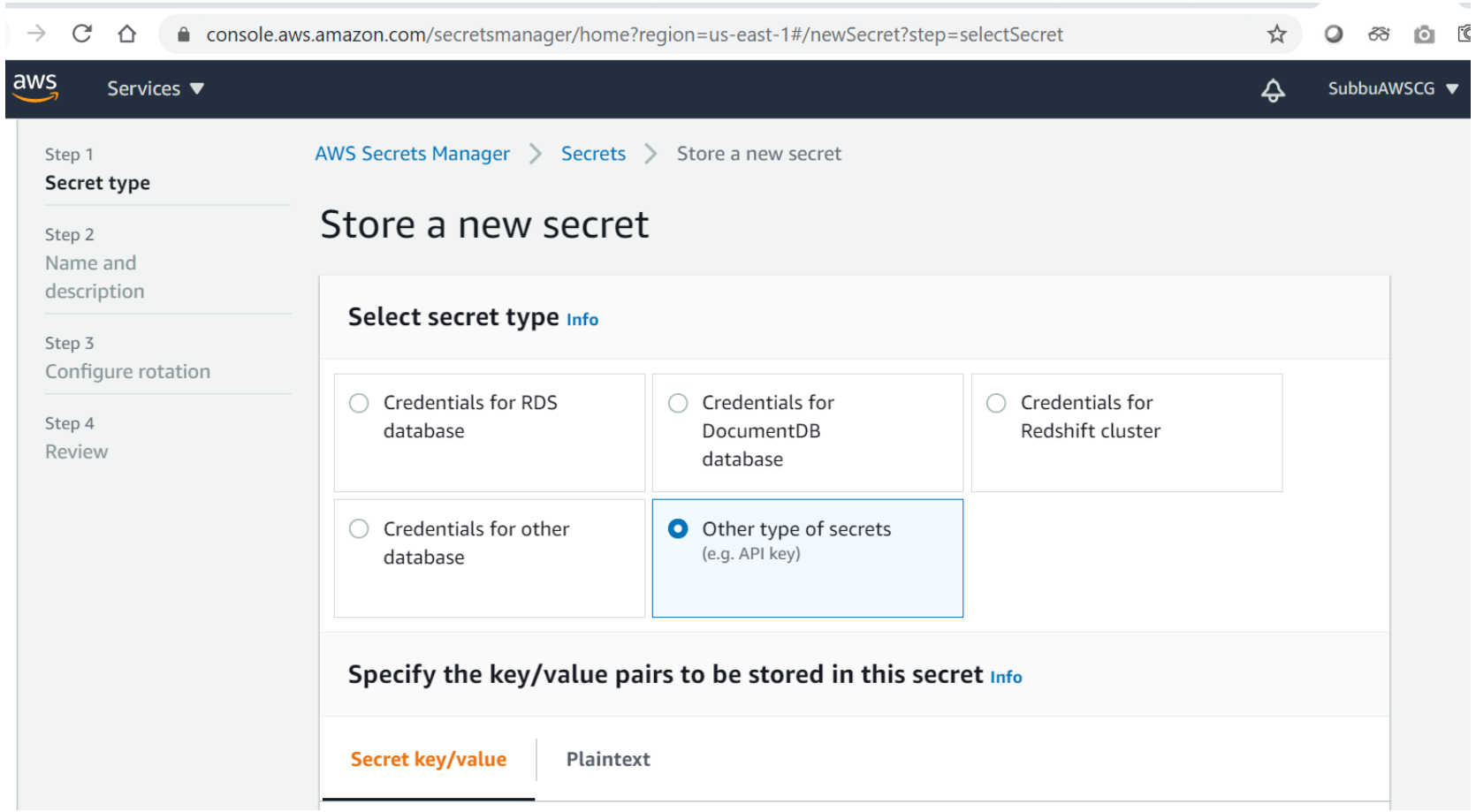
Login to your AWS account – search for Secrets Manager:



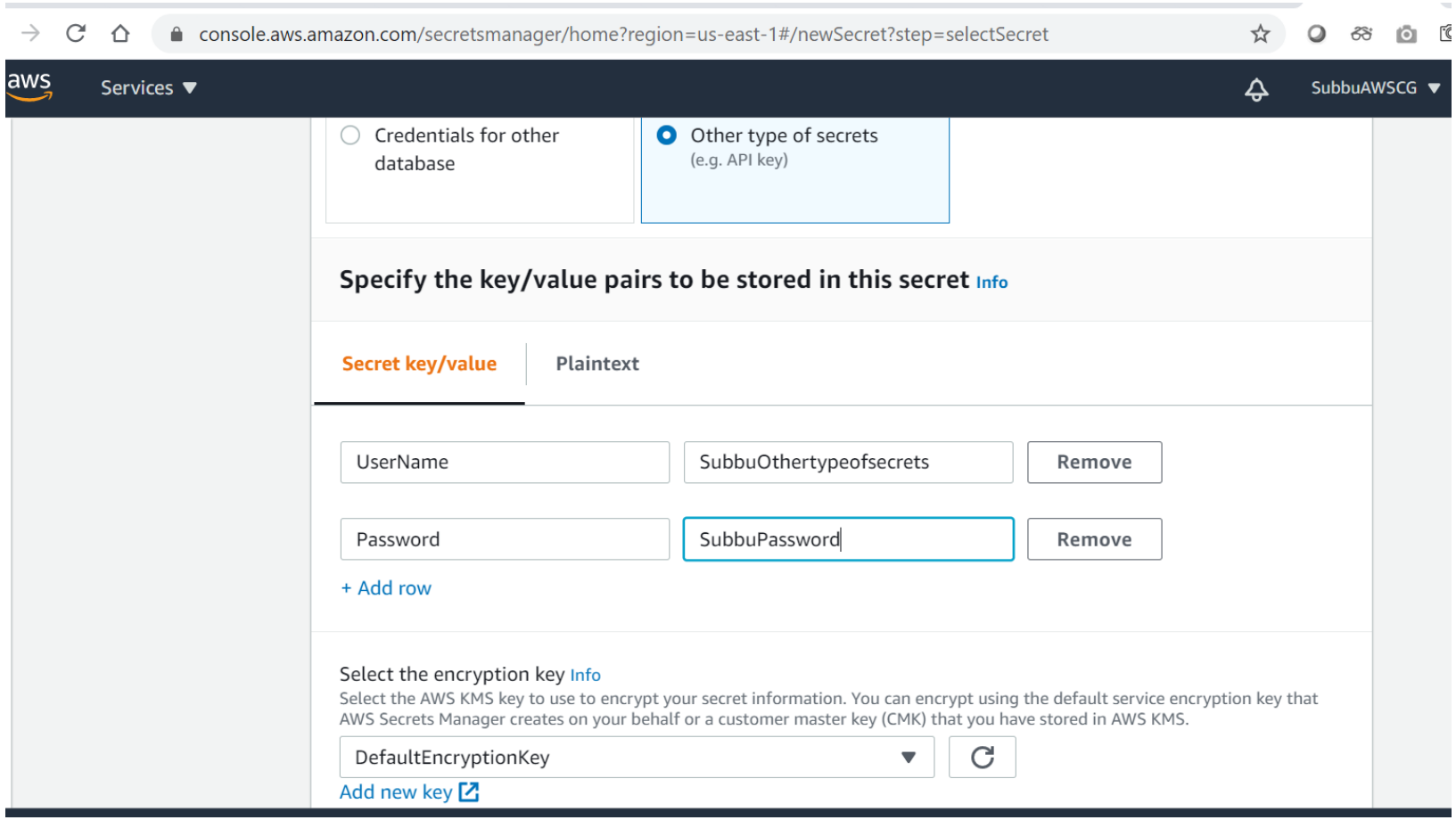
Click on Store a new Secret:



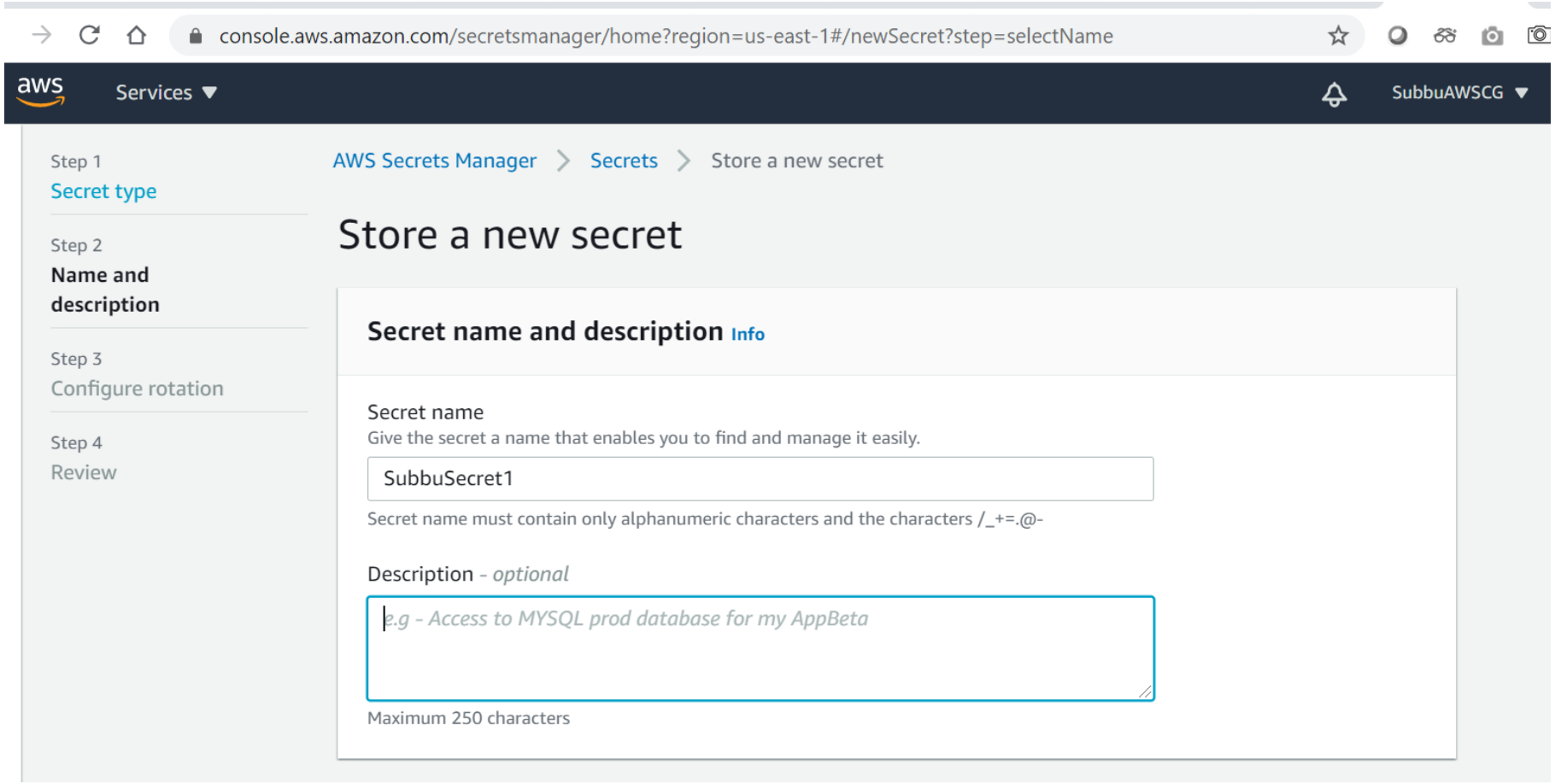
Choose the type of secret you want to create:



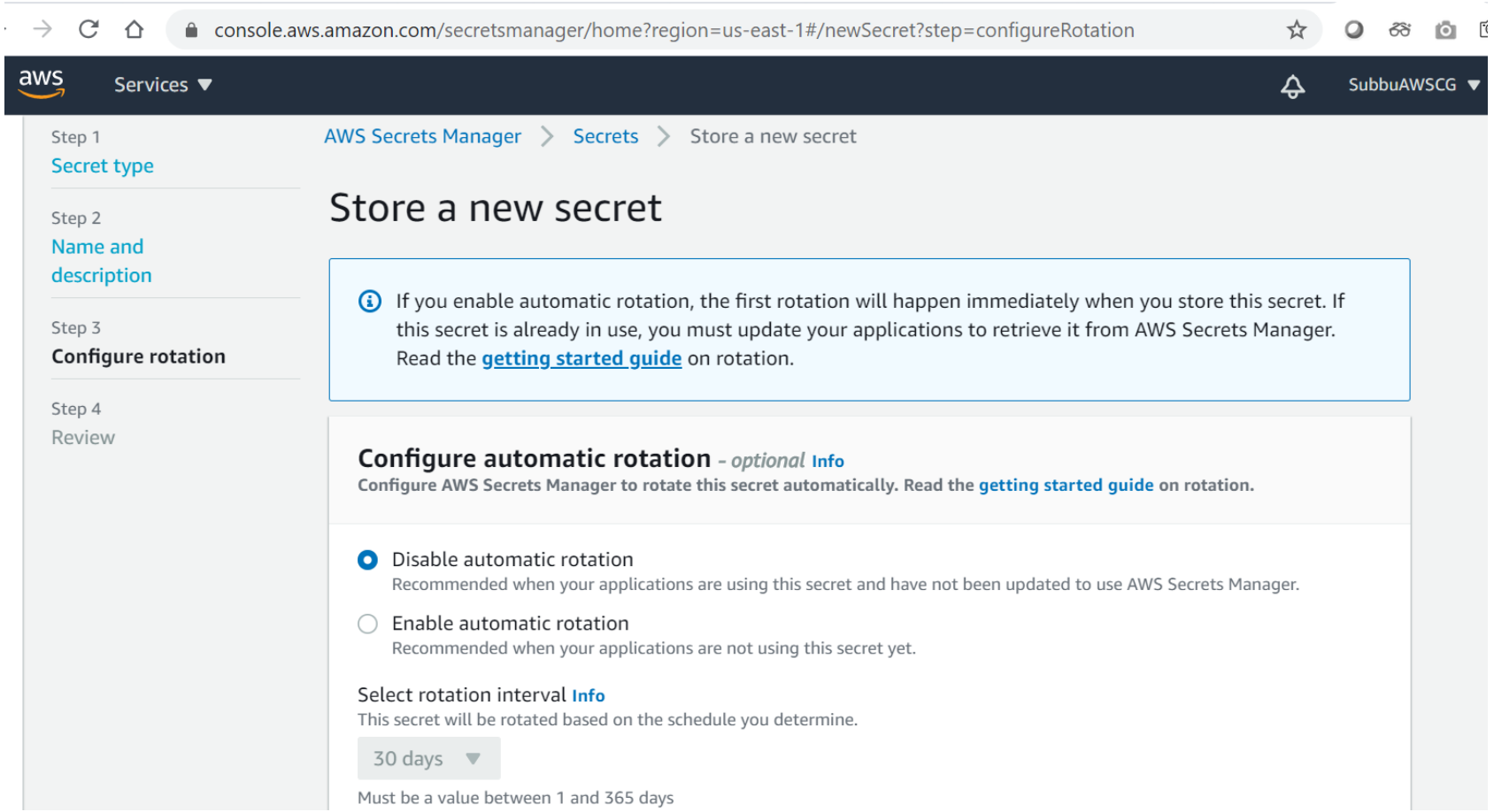
Create the desired Keys and Values:



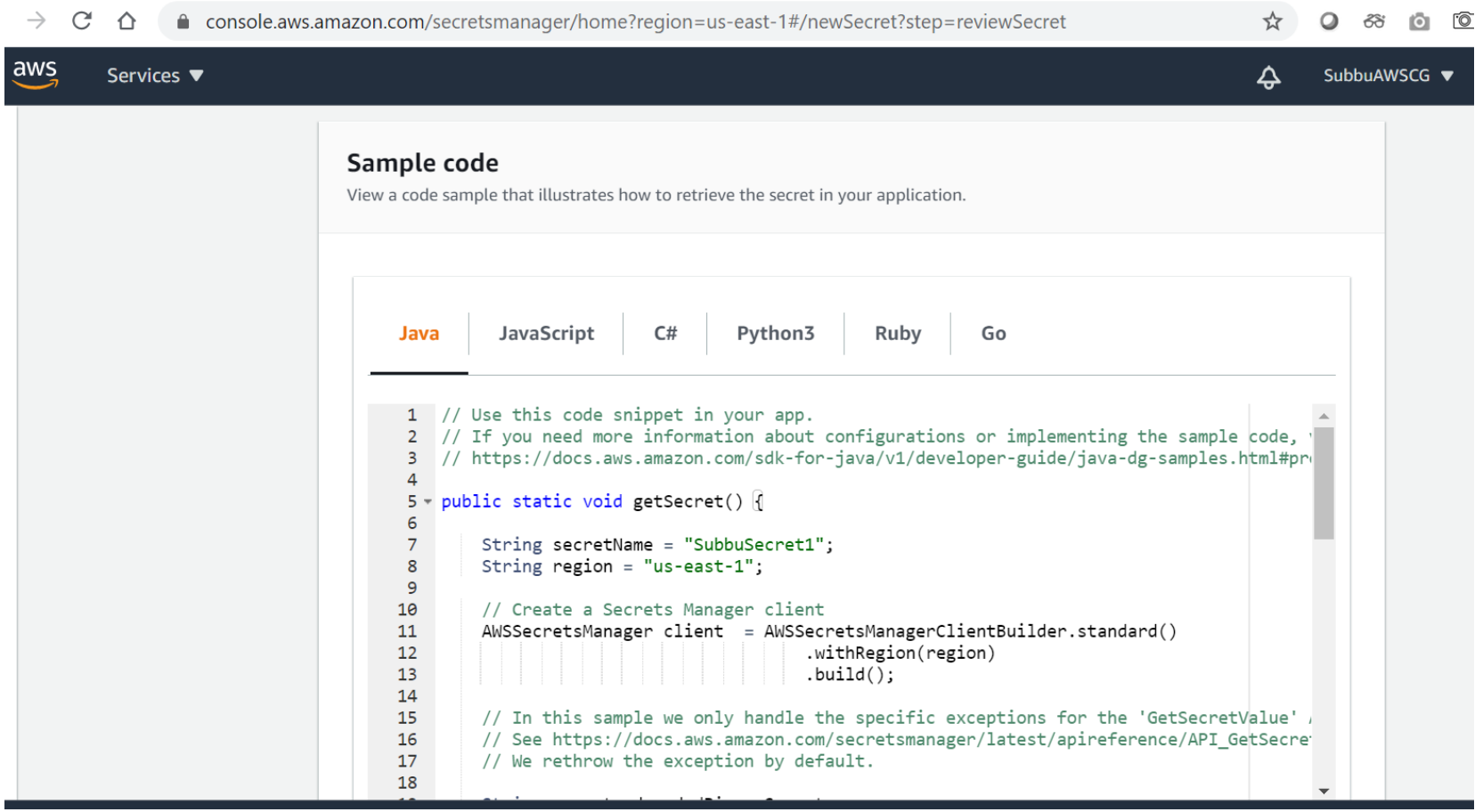
Name the new Secret:



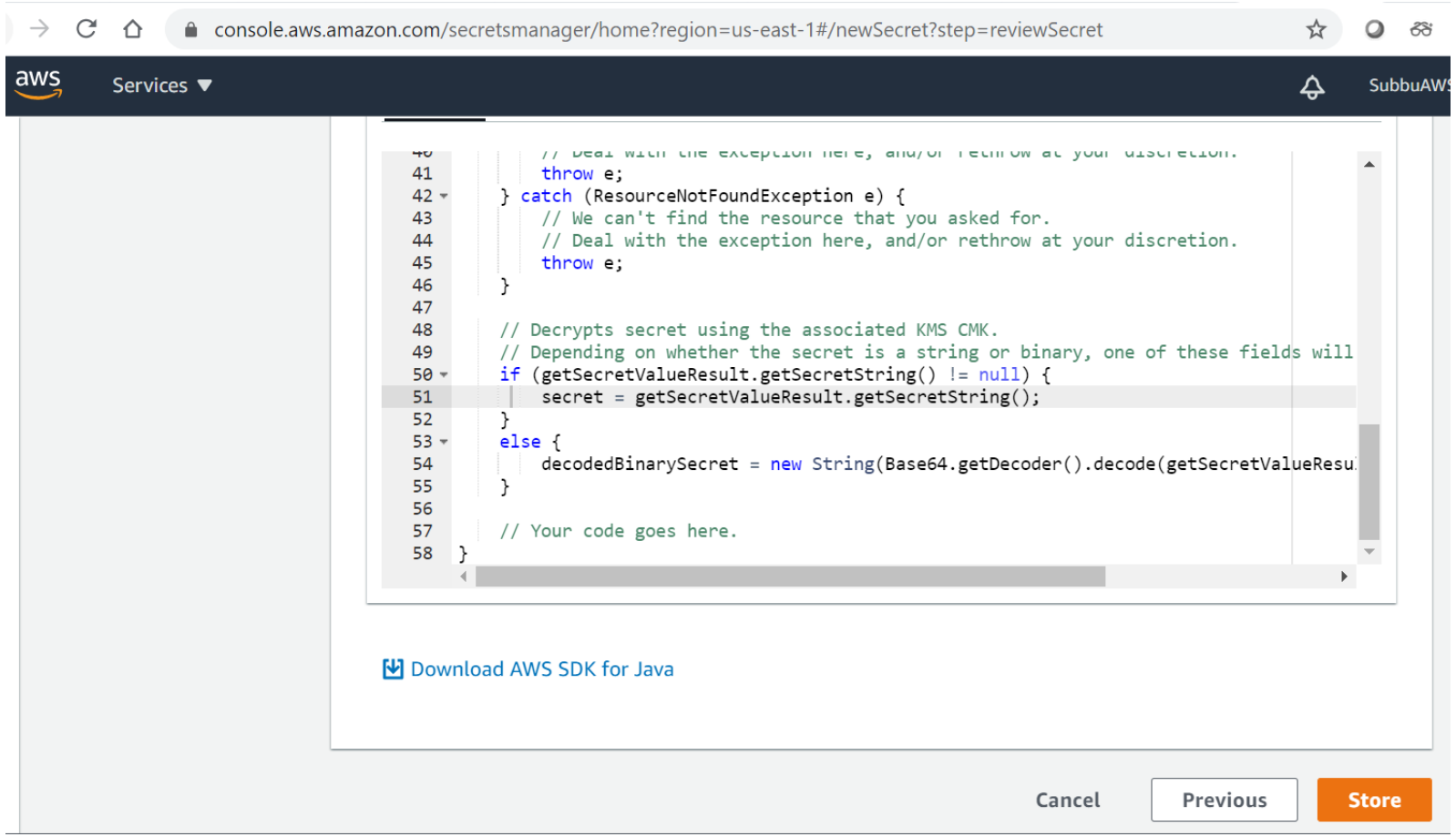
Choose the automatic rotation for more protection if needed:



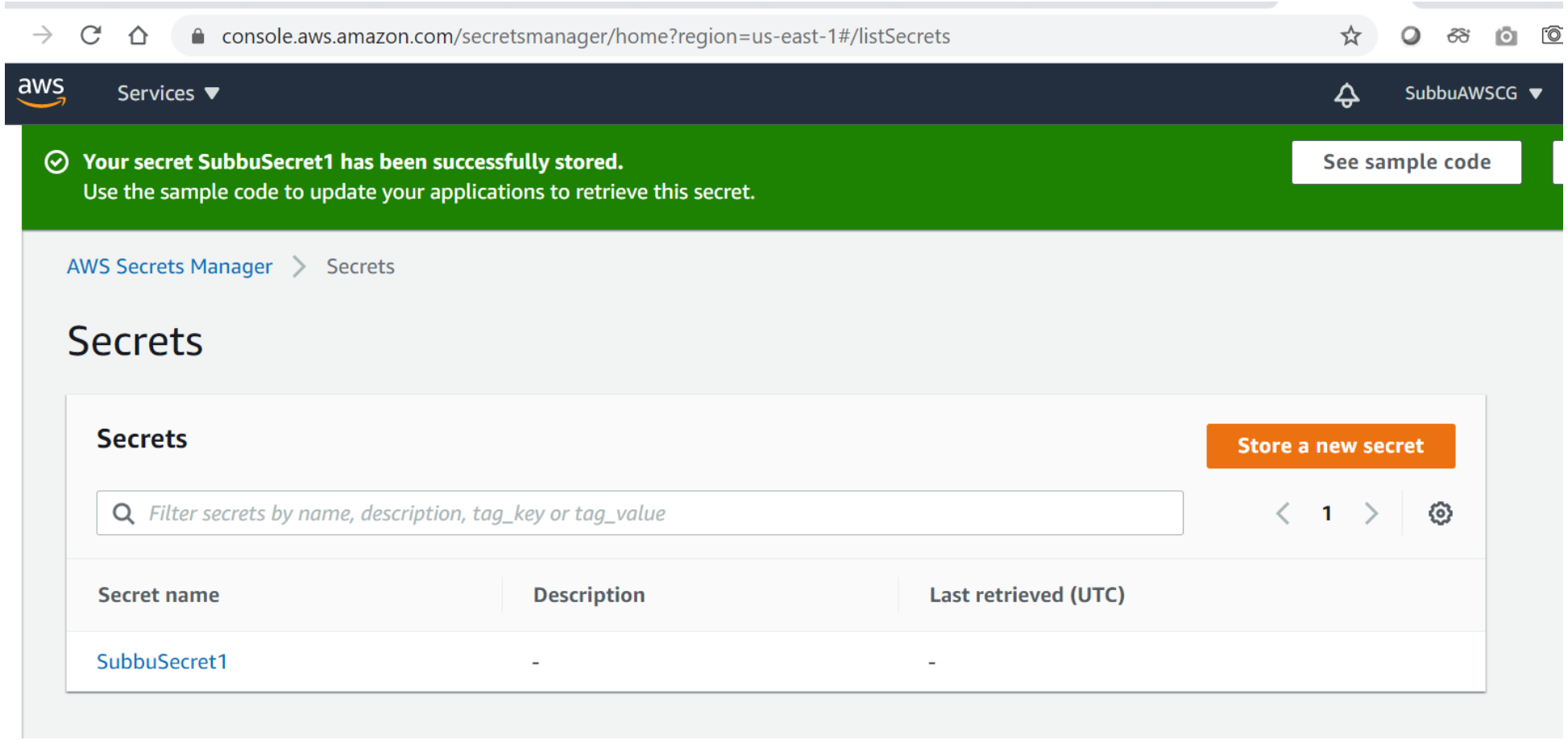
Use the generated code snippet, to have API calls in the code, based on the language:



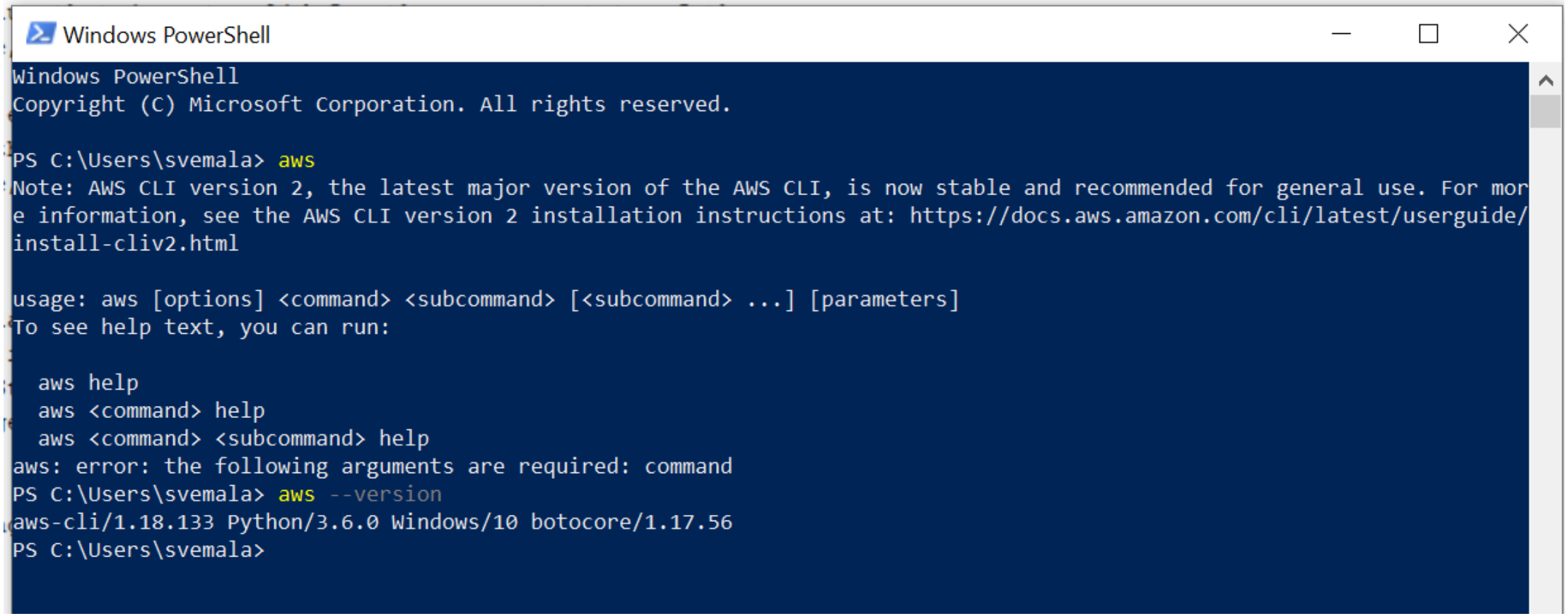
You can add your business logic in that code snippet too:



Now Secret has been created:



Install the AWS CLI and check for its existence as below:



Commands used:

Windows PowerShell

PS C:\Users\svemala> aws

Note: AWS CLI version 2, the latest major version of the AWS CLI, is now stable and recommended for general use. For more information, see the AWS CLI version 2 installation instructions at: https://docs.aws.amazon.com/cli/latest/userguide/install-cliv2.html

usage: aws [options] <command> <subcommand> [<subcommand> ...] [parameters]

To see help text, you can run:

aws help

aws <command> help

aws <command> <subcommand> help

aws: error: the following arguments are required: command

PS C:\Users\svemala> aws --version

aws-cli/1.18.133 Python/3.6.0 Windows/10 botocore/1.17.56

PS C:\Users\svemala>

You can view the created secret excluding keys and values:

```
PS C:\Users\svemala> aws secretsmanager describe-secret --secret-id SubbuSecret1
{
    "ARN": "arn:aws:secretsmanager:us-east-1:112253241392:secret:SubbuSecret1-9jfa9L",
    "Name": "SubbuSecret1",
    "LastChangedDate": 1600932011.177,
    "LastAccessedDate": 1600905600.0,
    "Tags": [],
    "VersionIdsToStages": {
        "49b8431a-f442-45d0-a954-03eb9aecf298": [
            "AWSCURRENT"
        ]
    }
}
aPS C:\Users\svemala>
```

Command used:

```
PS C:\Users\svemala> aws secretsmanager describe-secret --secret-id tutorials/SubbuSecret1


An error occurred (ResourceNotFoundException) when calling the DescribeSecret operation: Secrets Manager can't find the specified secret.
PS C:\Users\svemala> aws secretsmanager describe-secret --secret-id SubbuSecret1
{
    "ARN": "arn:aws:secretsmanager:us-east-1:112253241392:secret:SubbuSecret1-9jfa9L",
    "Name": "SubbuSecret1",
    "LastChangedDate": 1600932011.177,
    "LastAccessedDate": 1600905600.0,
    "Tags": [],
    "VersionIdsToStages": {
        "49b8431a-f442-45d0-a954-03eb9aecf298": [
            "AWSCURRENT"
        ]
    }
}
PS C:\Users\svemala>
```

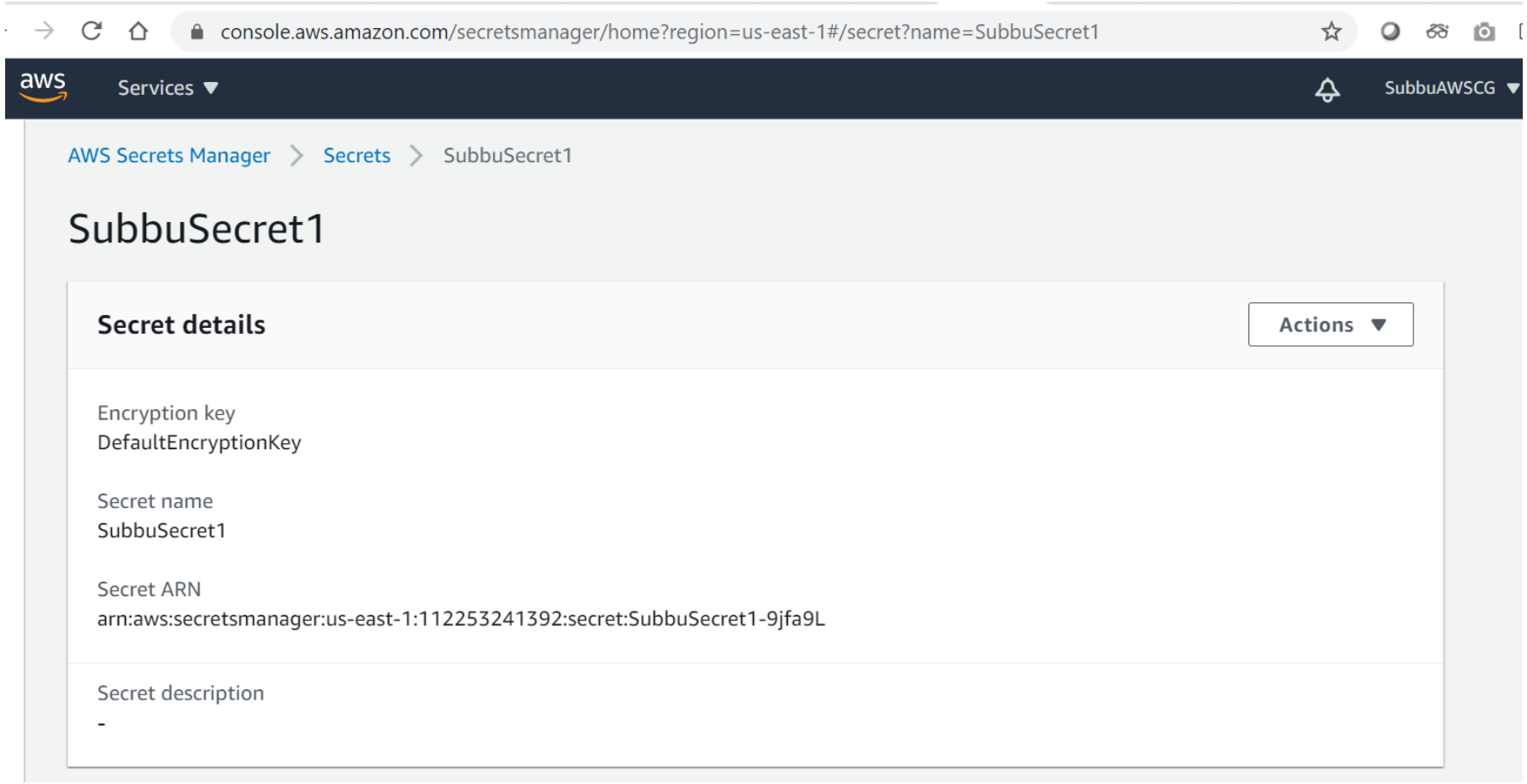
You can view the created secret including keys and values:

```
PS C:\Users\svemala> aws secretsmanager get-secret-value --secret-id SubbuSecret1 --version-stage AWSCURRENT
{
    "ARN": "arn:aws:secretsmanager:us-east-1:112253241392:secret:SubbuSecret1-9jfa9L",
    "Name": "SubbuSecret1",
    "VersionId": "49b8431a-f442-45d0-a954-03eb9aecf298",
    "SecretString": "{\"UserName\":\"SubbuOthertypeofsecrets\",\"Password\":\"SubbuPassword\"}",
    "VersionStages": [
        "AWSCURRENT"
    ],
    "CreatedDate": 1600930957.899
}
PS C:\Users\svemala>
```

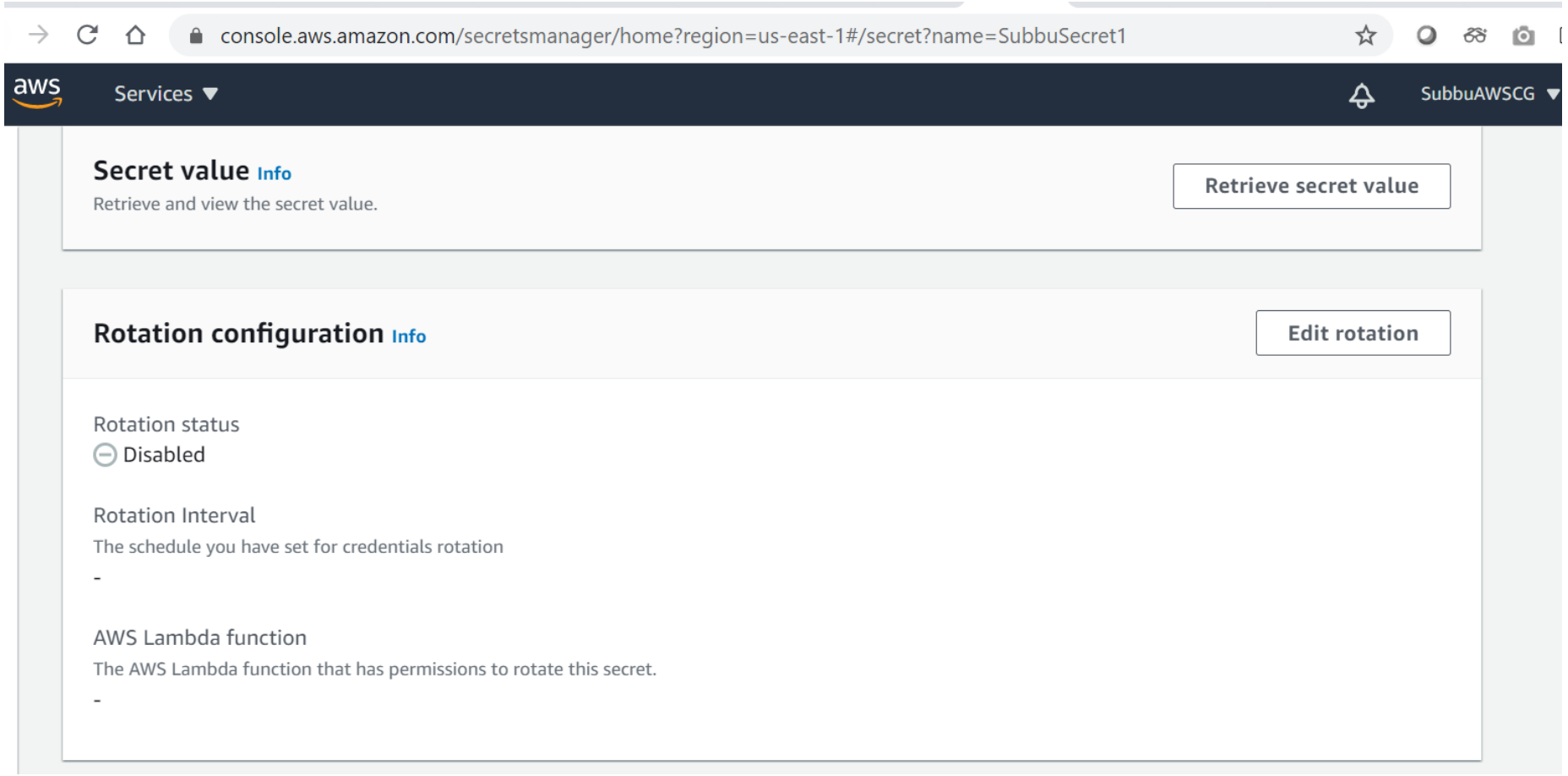
Command used:

```
PS C:\Users\svemala> aws secretsmanager get-secret-value --secret-id SubbuSecret1 --version-stage
AWSCURRENT
{
    "ARN": "arn:aws:secretsmanager:us-east-1:112253241392:secret:SubbuSecret1-9jfa9L",
    "Name": "SubbuSecret1",
    "VersionId": "49b8431a-f442-45d0-a954-03eb9aecf298",
    "SecretString": "{\"UserName\":\"SubbuOthertypeofsecrets\",\"Password\":\"SubbuPassword\"}",
    "VersionStages": [
        "AWSCURRENT"
    ],
    "CreatedDate": 1600930957.899
}
PS C:\Users\svemala>
```

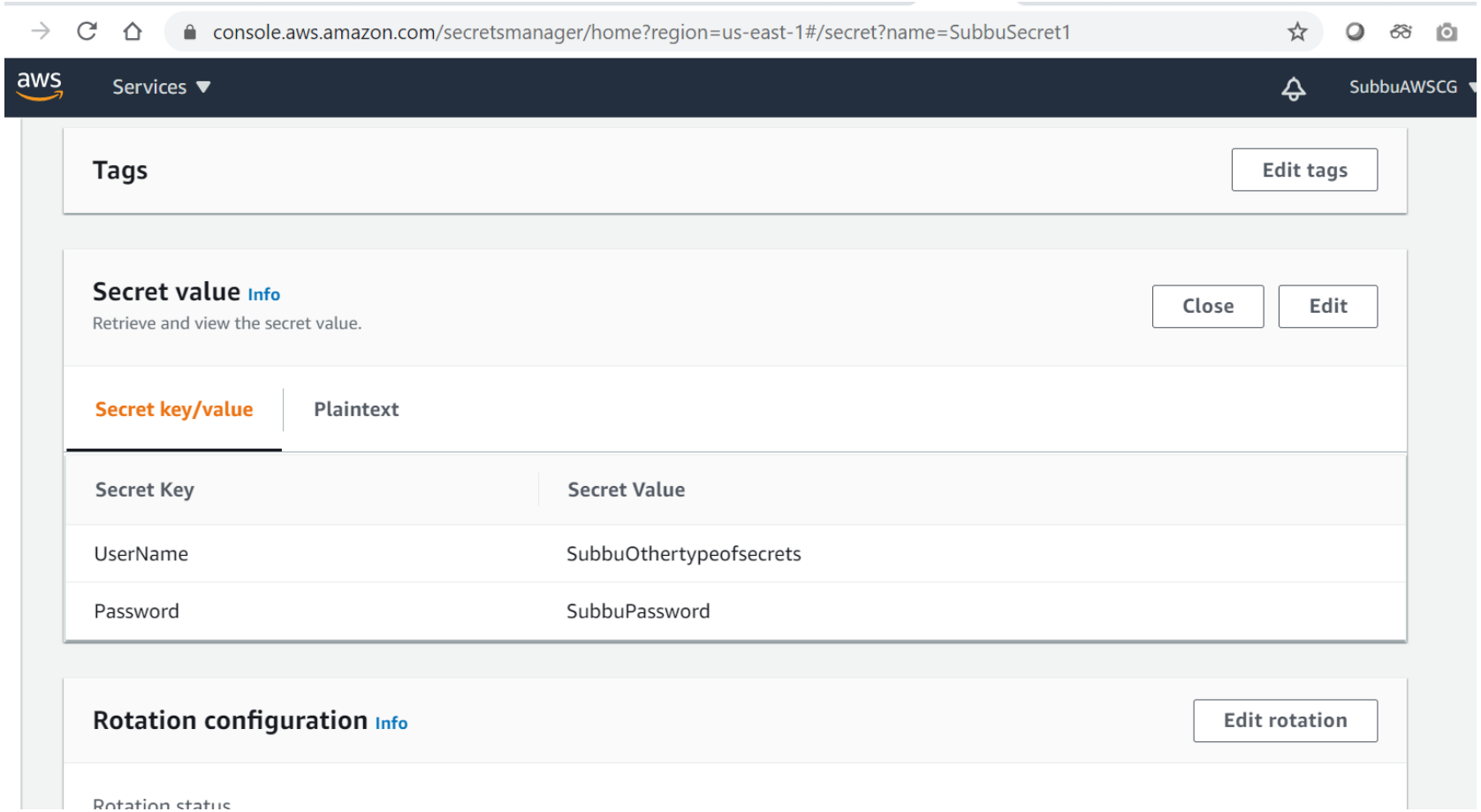
You can view the Secrets list:



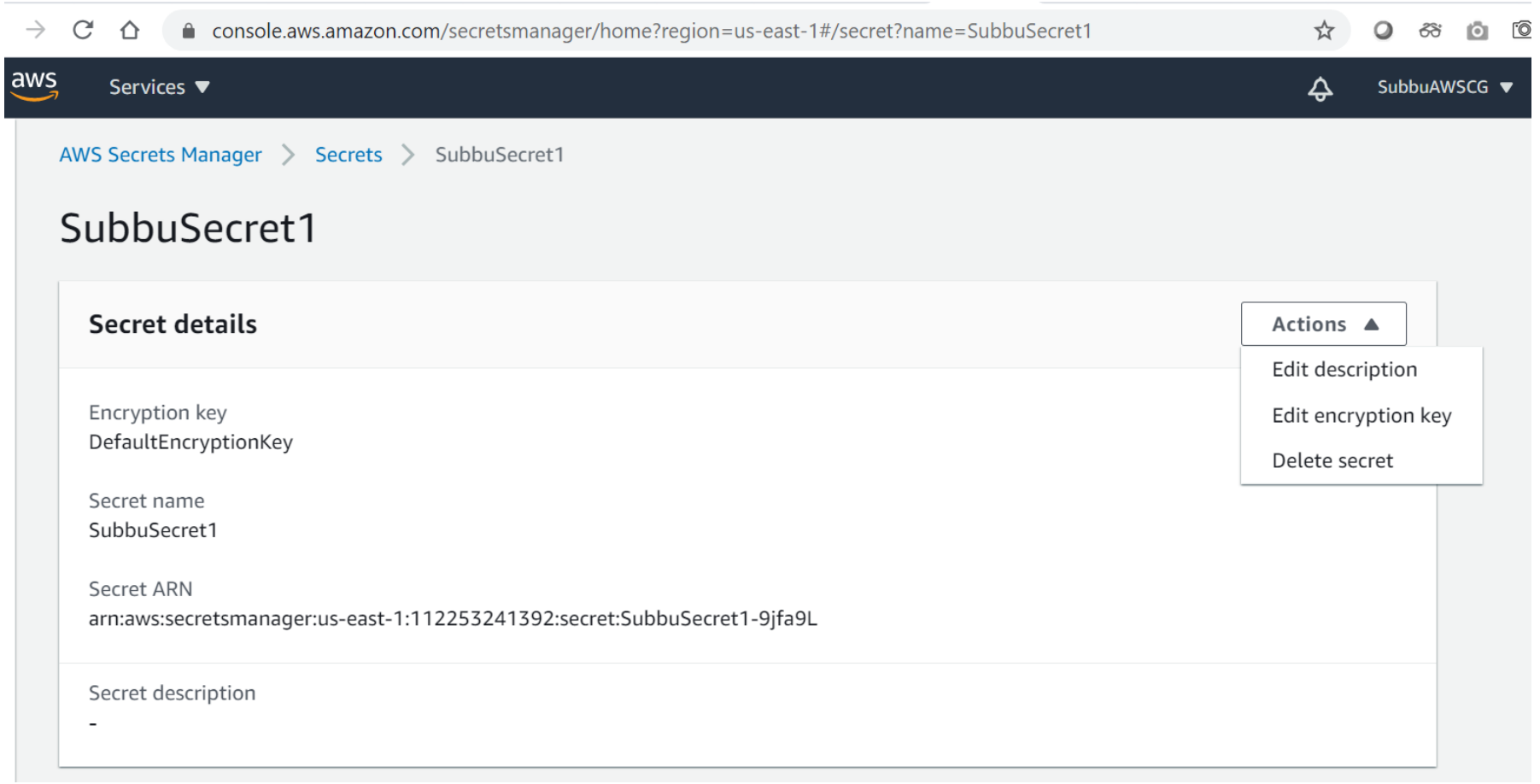
Retrieve the created Secrets values:



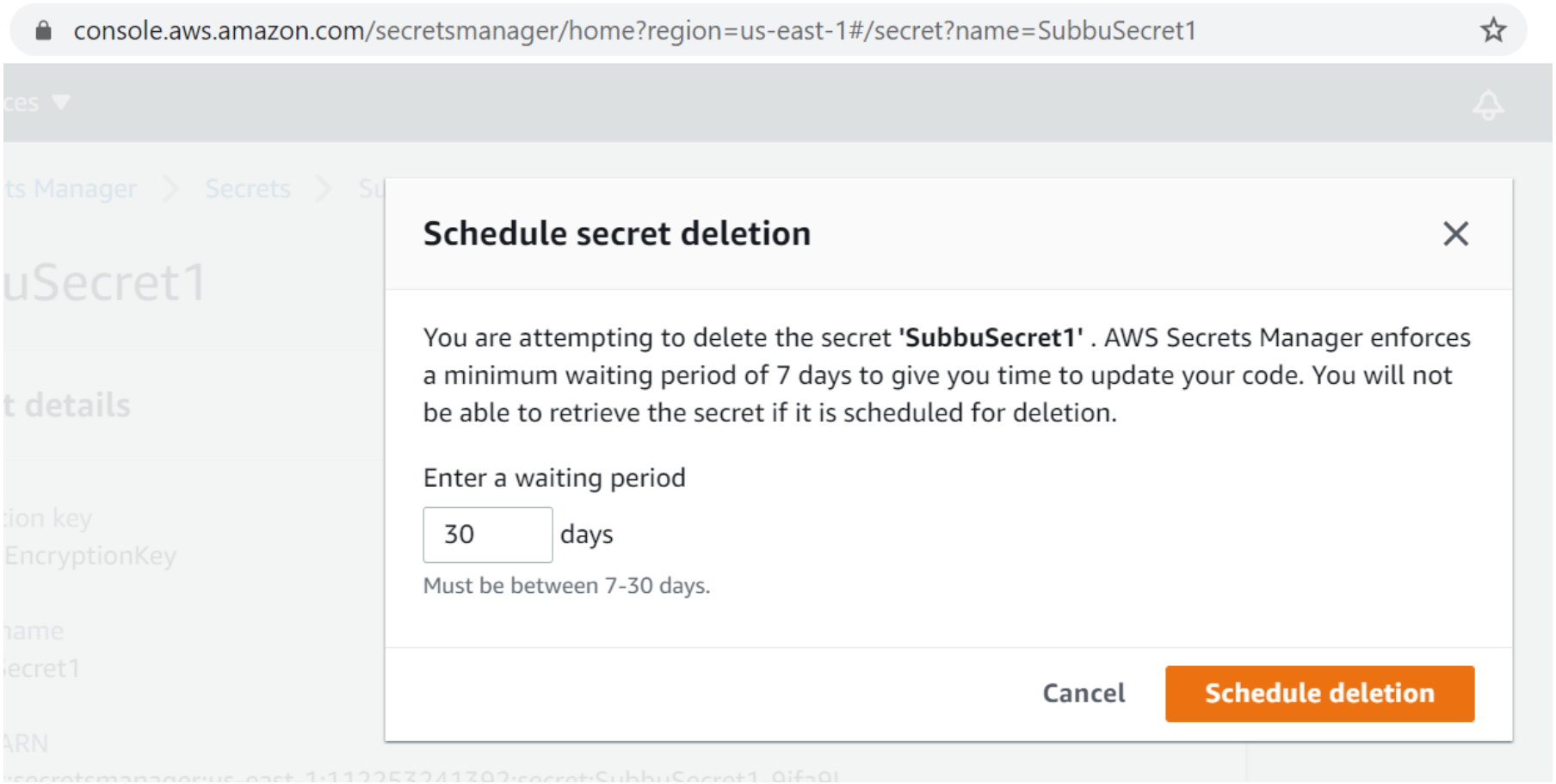
View of Secrets values:



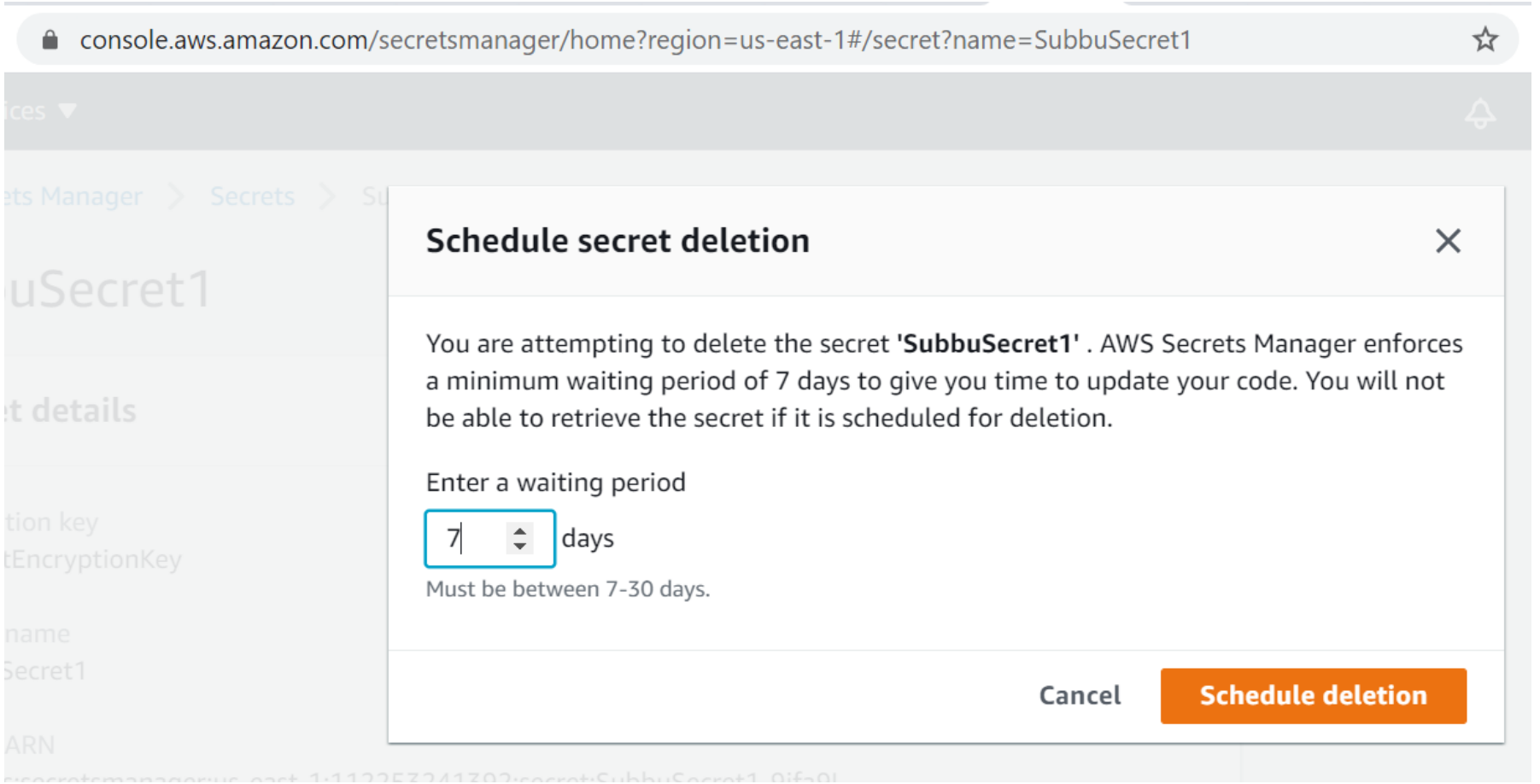
Delete the Secrets if no more needed:



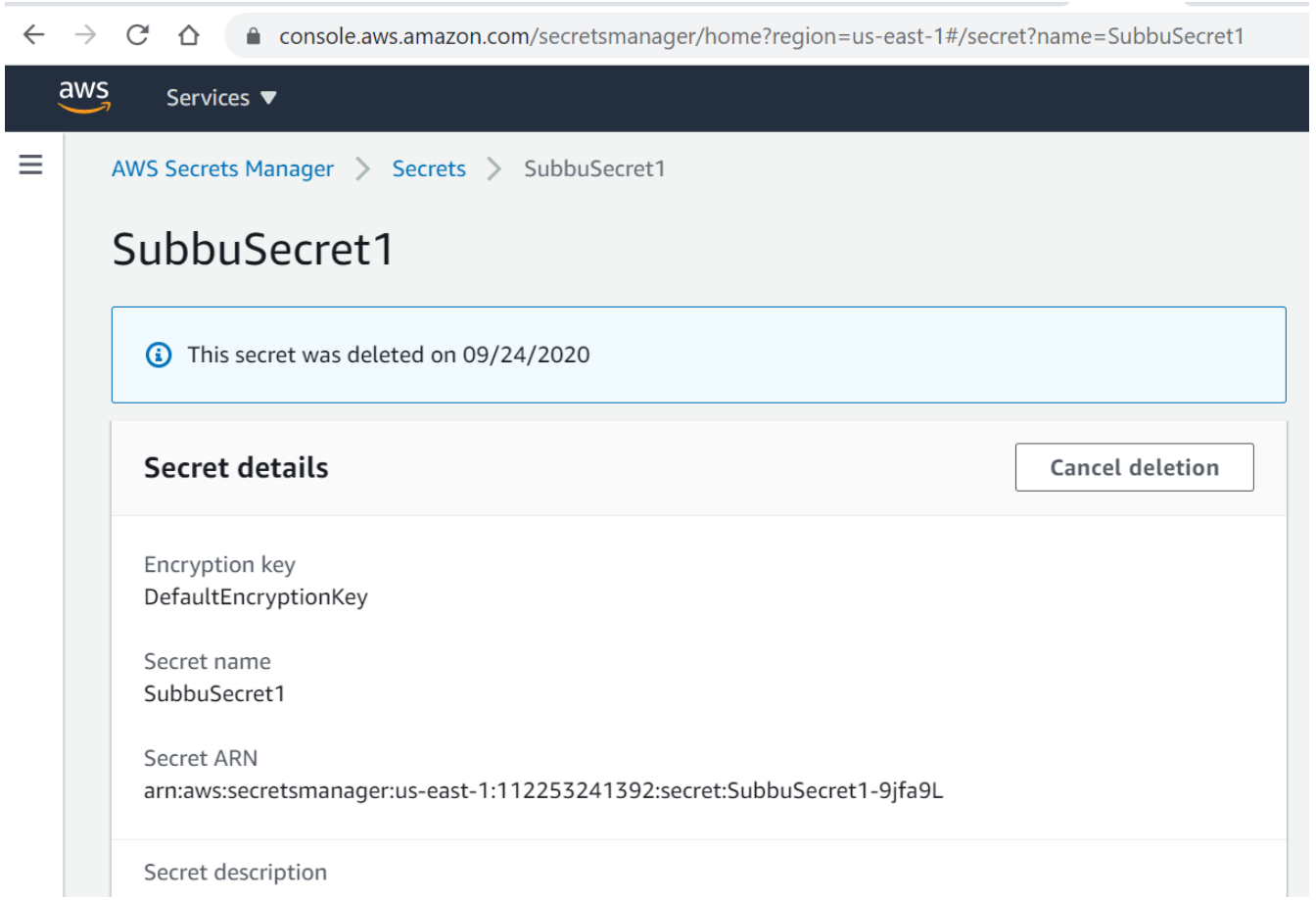
Instantly we cannot delete, needs minimum of 7 to 30 days of waiting:



Chosen 7 days as waiting:



You can Cancel the “Delete Secret” request anytime, within the waiting time:



Appendix:

https://docs.aws.amazon.com/secretsmanager/index.html

https://docs.aws.amazon.com/cli/latest/reference/secretsmanager/index.html

https://docs.aws.amazon.com/secretsmanager/latest/userguide/tutorials_basic.html

https://docs.aws.amazon.com/secretsmanager/latest/userguide/manage_retrieve-secret.html