

For: State Offices

2009 Environmental Systems Research Institute (ESRI) International User Conference (UC)

Approved by: Acting Deputy Administrator, Farm Programs



1 Overview

A Background

ESRI holds an annual UC. ESRI's UC is the largest in the world devoted to geographic information systems (GIS's). Users from more than 120 countries attend to learn new skills, share information, and discover best practices. The 2009 ESRI UC will be held July 13 through 17, 2009, at the San Diego Convention Center in San Diego, California.

FSA generally sends staff from the National Office, APFO, and Kansas City Information Technology Centers. For the past 4 years, SED's have been invited to nominate State GIS specialists to attend UC's. The following States sent State GIS specialists to previous UC's.

2005 ESRI UC Attendees	2006 ESRI UC Attendees	2007 ESRI UC Attendees	2008 ESRI UC Attendees
Hawaii Illinois Montana North Carolina West Virginia	Kentucky Missouri New Hampshire New Mexico Wyoming	Arkansas Indiana South Dakota Vermont Texas	Arizona California Georgia Idaho Michigan New Jersey

FSA State GIS specialists are again invited to represent each region at this year's UC.

B Purpose

This notice:

- invites SED's, whose States have **not** been represented at ESRI UC's in the past, to nominate State GIS specialists to attend in 2009
- provides the selection process for 2009 ESRI UC State GIS specialist attendees
- informs State Offices that only 1 State GIS specialist from each region will be selected to attend the 2009 ESRI UC
- obsoletes Notice CM-635.

Disposal Date	Distribution
August 1, 2009	State Offices

Notice CM-636

2 200 ESRI UC Nomination and Selection Process

A Nominations

SED's are encouraged to nominate their State GIS specialist to attend UC. To nominate a GIS specialist, SED's shall e-mail the name of the nominee to Shirley Hall, GIS Program Manager, at shirley.hall@wdc.usda.gov.

Note: The deadline for nominations is **April 13, 2009**.

B Personnel Exempt from Nominations

Nominations will be accepted **only** from States that have **not** sent GIS specialists to previous ESRI UC's. FSA sends only a limited amount of staff to UC's. This restriction will allow GIS specialists from all States the opportunity to eventually attend UC's.

C Selection Process

On **April 17, 2009**, 1 GIS specialist will be selected from each region by random drawing. SED's and State GIS specialists will be notified of the selection, shortly thereafter, with details about UC and travel authorization information.