

For: State Offices

2007 Environmental Systems Research Institute (ESRI) International User Conference (UC)

Approved by: Deputy Administrator, Farm Programs



1 Overview

A Background

ESRI holds an annual UC each year. ESRI UC is the largest in the world devoted to geospatial information systems (GIS). Users from more than 120 countries come to learn new skills, share information, and discover best practices. The 2007 ESRI UC will be held June 18 through 22, 2007, at the San Diego Convention Center in San Diego, California.

FSA generally sends staff from the National Office, APFO, and the Kansas City Information Technology Centers. For the past 2 years, SED's were 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
Hawaii	Kentucky
Illinois	Missouri
Montana	New Hampshire
North Carolina	New Mexico
West Virginia	Wyoming

B Purpose

FSA State GIS specialists will again represent each region at this year's conference. This notice:

- invites SED's to nominate State GIS specialists to attend 2007 ESRI UC
- provides the selection process for 2007 ESRI UC State GIS specialist attendees
- informs State Offices that only 1 State GIS specialist from each region will be selected to attend 2007 ESRI UC.

Disposal Date	Distribution
July 1, 2007	State Offices

Notice CM-563

2 2007 ESRI UC Nomination and Selection Process

A Nominations

SED's are encouraged to nominate their State GIS specialist to attend the conference. 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 **March 16, 2007**.

B Personnel Exempt from Nominations

Nominations will be accepted **only** from States that did **not** send 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 a UC.

C Selection Process

On March 19, 2007, one 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 the conference and travel authorization information.