

2009 TRAINING OPPORTUNITY

S-341 - GIS Specialist for Incident Management

Two Classes:

Orlando, FL: February 23 – 27, 2009

St. Paul, MN: March 30 – April 3, 2009

Nominations due November 1, 2008

COURSE DESCRIPTION: The GIS Specialist course is a 36 hour course designed to meet the training needs of a Geographic Information Systems Specialist (GISS) to manage the information needs of all risk incidents managed with the Incident Command System (ICS). The course combines lecture, discussion, and group exercises. The use of Geographic Information Systems (GIS) is one of the most efficient methods for documenting, analyzing, and managing information regarding the location of facilities, conditions, and environments affected by Wildfire, Storms, Floods, Earthquakes, and other incidents. Candidates from all agencies involved in all risk incident management are encouraged to apply.

NOTE: This course is a fire course for people already well-versed in GIS. It is not a course for people wanting to learn GIS.

During the course students will:

- Describe the pre-season and pre-incident duties of the GIS Specialist and identify the equipment and data needs required for incident support.
- Describe the dispatch and mobilization process and the procedures for incident check-in.
- Demonstrate how to set up the GIS Specialist work area and organization to meet the needs of the Incident Management Team.
- Describe the Incident planning cycle and the associated timeframes and product deadlines critical to GIS Specialist incident support.
- Collect data, identify and use maps, orthoimagery, graphics, and other information to produce the required incident maps.
- Discuss some examples of the more complex data analysis and manipulation commonly requested of a GIS Specialist.
- Utilize the established file structure and naming conventions to store, archive, and document all GIS Specialist incident activities.

OBJECTIVE: Upon completing the course, students will have the knowledge and skills to respond to fire and all-risk incidents and perform the duties of a beginning GIS Specialist. This includes:

- Identify the basic supplies and data they will need on the incident.
- Create the basic maps required from the GIS Specialist on an incident within established timeframes.
- Establish and utilize a file structure, naming convention, and documentation to manage and archive incident data.

TARGET GROUP:

Specialists and technicians actively using GIS in a Land or Resource Management environment that are interested in utilizing those skills in all risk incident management.

COURSE PREREQUISITES:

- ICS-100, Self-study ICS Orientation, available at: <http://training.nwcg.gov/classes/i100.htm>
- Working knowledge of **ArcGIS 9.2**. The course is designed for those with considerable experience working with ArcMap. This is not a class on how to use ArcMap.
- Adept at working within the directory structures in Windows and in the use of Windows Explorer file management and folder structures.
- Availability for dispatch to an incident as a GIS Specialist trainee within the next year. Availability includes supervisory approval and a personal commitment to support at least one incident.

COURSE HARDWARE REQUIREMENTS: Selected students will be required to bring a notebook PC to the course with the following minimum specifications:

	RECOMMENDED	PERFORMANCE
Windows Operating System	NT4/2000/XP	Windows 2000/XP
Memory	512MB	2GB
Processors: Pentium III, or IV or equivalent	1.4 GHz	2 GHz
Free hard drive space	40GB	60GB
USB	1.1 Required	2.0
Display resolution	1024 x 768	1280 x 1024
Mouse or Pointer	required	required

Software: Software requirements include **ArcView or ArcInfo** versions **9.2** should be loaded and running on the computer you bring to the class. **Administrative Rights to load software must be allowed in your laptop configuration.**

NOMINATION PROCESS: Forest Service (FS), Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA), Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS), and National Park Service (NPS), Geological Survey (USGS), and state or local government employees will submit their nomination forms through their Geographical Area Training Representative for forwarding to the coordinator.

Please refer to: <http://www.nationalfiretraining.net/misc/gatr%20nomination%20process.pdf> for a complete description of the nomination process and to download the nomination form. All others please call the course coordinator for nomination submission process.

All nominations must be submitted on the NWCG training nomination form (or through IQCS).

Note: Once nominations are received, you will be notified and requested to submit further information regarding your knowledge, skills, and abilities related to the subject matter. You will also be asked your preference as to course offerings, (Orlando or St. Paul). Class size is limited.

Course Coordinator: Don Washco, BLM - NTC, 602-906-5535

Course Location (two): Orlando, FL: February 23 – 27, 2009
St. Paul, MN: March 30 – April, 2009

Tuition: \$450

Nomination Due: November 1, 2008