

First Announcement and Call for Papers

The ASPRS Southwest US Region

is delighted to announce its Regional Technical Meeting

Photogrammetry, Remote Sensing and GIS in Extreme Environments

to be held on the campus of

USGS Astrogeology Science Center, Flagstaff, Arizona

Friday 20 April 2012 (with optional events on 19 and 21 of April)

Submission Deadline, 15 March, 2012

The ASPRS Southwest US Region is teaming with the USGS Astrogeology Science Center to host a region technical meeting in Flagstaff, AZ on Friday 20 April 2012. There is an optional workshop and social event on Thursday 19 April and, if there is sufficient interest, a field trip on Saturday 21 April.

The focus on “extreme environments” is to be construed flexibly in order to attract a wide range of papers. The pivotal work of the Astrogeology Science Center in mapping extra-terrestrial bodies, such as planets, moons and comets is clearly extreme in many ways, both scientific and environmental. The North American deserts, the Grand Canyon, and US/Mexico border zone, all present challenges of their own and the role of geospatial technologies is critical in understanding and managing these extreme environments.

We hope to attract high quality, interesting papers focusing on extreme environments that contributors are involved in, whether in research, production, or analysis. Abstracts are not to exceed 300 words and should be sent to Dr. Raad Saleh (USGS) at email address ASPRS_Flagstaff2012@usgs.gov **no later than 15 of March, 2012**. All submissions will be evaluated by representatives of USGS Astrogeology Science Center and ASPRS Southwest US Region. At least one slot will be reserved for a contribution from a student in these fields.

Please mark your calendars and plan to attend this intriguing meeting taking place in a historic Arizona town, founded in the 19th century in a dramatic location at 7000 feet. The area has a four-season climate. Daytime high temperatures in April average around 60°F but the night-time temperatures can drop to below freezing. The city’s population is around 65,000 and there is a rich heritage in astronomy.

Optional events include an afternoon workshop on Thursday 19 of April focused on the work of the USGS Astrogeology Science Center’s role and methodologies in extra-terrestrial mapping. The evening social event is a no-host, informal gathering at the renowned Flagstaff Brewing Company, located on historic Route 66. Tasting notes will be provided by USGS scientist Dr. Randy Kirk, justly renowned in certain (very specialized) circles as the originator of the “Beers of the Solar System” project. On Saturday, 21 of April there is the opportunity to join a field trip to one of the many fascinating sites near Flagstaff, for example Oak Creek Canyon and the Sedona area, the Grand Canyon, Antelope Canyon, Lowell Observatory, Glen Canyon Dam, Meteor Crater, Sunset Volcano Crater, Wupatki Indian Ruins, Walnut Canyon, and the Museum of Northern Arizona. The trip and the destination will depend on demand and logistics.

We are working on a web page for preregistration and will give details in the second announcement. The event is open to anyone interested, and the registration fee will be very nominal. Please put the ASPRS Southwest US Region regional technical meeting, “Photogrammetry, Remote Sensing and GIS in Extreme Environments”, 19-21 April 2012, on your calendar and plan for a memorable visit to Flagstaff. If you have any questions, please contact Event Coordinator, at email address ASPRS_Flagstaff2012@usgs.gov.

Thank you. We hope to see you in Flagstaff!