



Natural Resources Conservation Service
6013 Lakeside Blvd.
Indianapolis, IN 46278

March 24, 2008

SUBJECT: FNM – Travel to the 2008 Annual Conference of the SWCS

TO: All Employees

File Code: 250-13-19

ACTION REQUIRED BY: May 12, 2008

The 2008 Annual Conference of the Soil and Water Conservation Society (SWCS) will be held in Tucson, Arizona, July 26-30, 2008. The conference will focus on the following topic areas: Soil Resources, Management and Conservation; Water Resources and Management; Conservation in Urban Settings; Adaptive Management of Conservation Efforts; Conservation Education; Conservation Tools and Technologies; and Conservation and Environmental Policy and Program Design. The 2008 areas of special interest are Hydrology, Climate Change, and the Bio-economy. Additional information is available on the SWCS Web site, http://www.swcs.org/en/conferences/2008_annual_conference/.

The second annual Conservation Innovation Grants (CIG) Showcase will be held in conjunction with the SWCS Annual Conference. The CIG Showcase is comprised of concurrent morning and afternoon sessions on Monday, July 28, 2008, from 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

The following attendance categories may receive approval consideration, by their supervisor, on a “government time and expense” basis.

- Receiving an Award, Citation, or Commendation
- Receiving a scholarship
- Presenting a topical paper or other agenda fulfillment
- Member of Chief’s Staff
- Training (providing or fulfilling a training need)
- Chairpersons/Member of Committees/Task Forces
- Regional and State Representatives
- Participating on program

The deadline for the SWCS early registration discount is June 12, 2008.

A block of rooms have been reserved at the Starr Pass Marriott. Reservations may be made online through the Starr Pass Web site, <http://www.jwmarriottstarrpass.com/>, or by calling 1-(520)-792-3500. You must refer to the SWCS group to get the negotiated discount guest room rate.

Hotel reservations must be made no later than June 30, 2008.

All employees requesting attendance must submit their names to their supervisor for approval. Supervisors are requested to then submit their compiled lists to Gail Voiles, by email, by COB May 12, 2008.

/s/

JANE E. HARDISTY
State Conservationist

cc: Gail Voiles, Accounting Technician, NRCS, Indianapolis, IN