

SUBJECT: Earth Science Week 2002 Activities from USGS Rocky Mountain Mapping Center - Submitted by Joseph J. Kerski from . on 8/19/02 2:03:00 PM

During Earth Science Week, the USGS will conduct tours for educators and students of its Rocky Mountain Mapping Center facility in Denver, where over 50 million maps, books, CDs, and other resources useful for Earth Science teaching are housed.

USGS Geographer Joseph Kerski will conduct a workshop for K-12 educators from across Arizona through the University of Arizona's Sherrill Scholar Program. The program brings together geography teachers from across the state and geography instructors from across the country for the purpose of expanding the use of geography throughout the curriculum. Kerski's workshop on 2 October 2002 will focus on the use of Internet mapping tools that offer USGS data, such as topographic maps and aerial photographs through Terraserver, biological, water resources, and earth science-related maps through The National Atlas, and near real-time wildfire maps through GeoMac.

USGS scientists will conduct workshops and host an informational exhibit at the 2002 "Geographic Information Systems in the Rockies" conference from 7-11 October 2002 at Denver's Merchandise Mart. The workshops will include one from Geographer Joseph Kerski that helps data users make effective use of USGS spatial data for decision making within a geographic information system. In addition, the USGS will highlight its mapping liaison work in Colorado, homeland security, wildfire mapping, and The National Map at the conference. Over 750 GIS professionals and university students are expected to attend.

The USGS will conduct workshops and operate an informational exhibit at the 2002 annual conference of the National Council for Geographic Education (NCGE), 16-18 October 2002, in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. The NCGE is the largest professional geographic education association in North America with over 3,000 members. The workshops will focus on mapping test scores and using USGS maps and Internet resources in the curriculum for the over 800 teachers who are expected to attend the conference. The USGS will distribute maps, lesson plans, posters, and CDs on such topics as global change, land use, invasive weeds, population, floodplains, and natural hazards.

The USGS will present results of its earth science-related research and distribute information in several USGS exhibits at the Geological Society of America conference, 27-30 October 2002, at Denver's Colorado Convention Center. Over 10,000 researchers, educators, and scientists are expected to attend.

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