

USFS – NASA Virtual Pitch Fest / June 2, 2020

*Synergistic NASA/FS Training for Improved
Decision-Making
Dr. Ana I. Prados*

About Me

Dr. Ana I. Prados

Research Associate Professor

University of Maryland Baltimore County & NASA GSFC

- 20 years' experience in air quality monitoring, modeling, and research applications of satellite remote sensing.
- 15 years working with local and state government to develop environmental policies
- Program manager of NASA's Applied Remote Sensing Training (ARSET)
- Teach university level courses in climate change policy

Other team members

Amber Jean McCullum

Juan Luis Torres Pérez

Erika Podest

The Idea



What: Synergistic ARSET/GTAC Remote Sensing Training for Improved Decision-Making

Why: Training users is a key step in the Geospatial Applications life cycle, don't skip it!

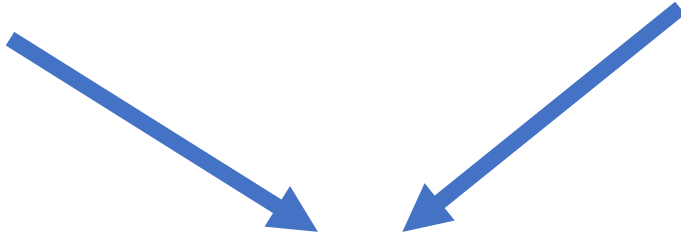
For The Users: FS, FS National and International Partners, and NASA ARSET trainees around the world (40,000+ to date)

How: online

The Idea

NASA ARSET

Forest Service GTAC



Share:

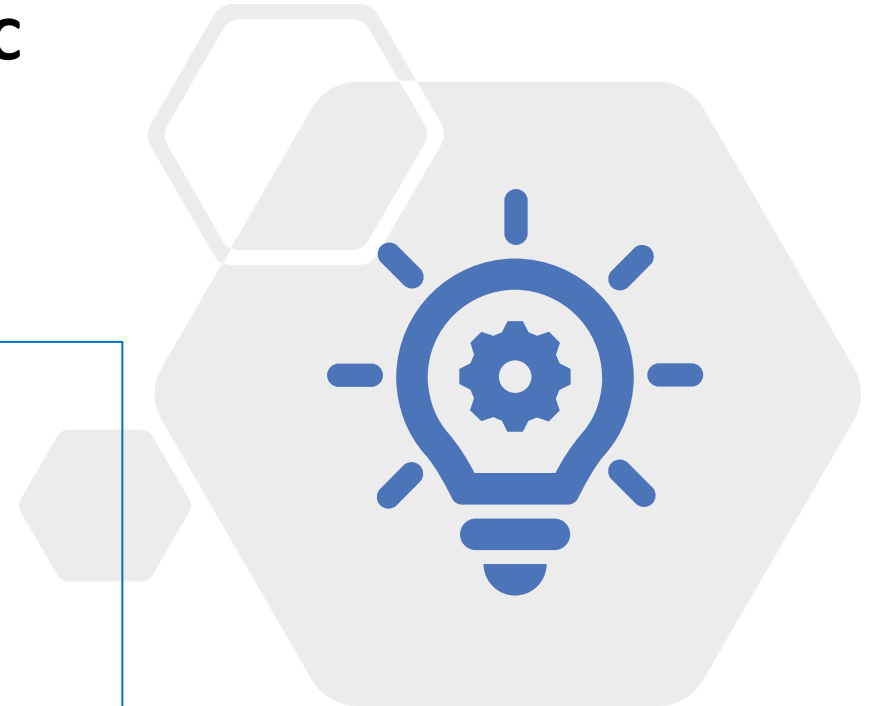
- Best practices
- Training Techniques
- Training Materials
- Trainers

Develop:

- Joint Trainings

Identify:

- Training gaps at each agency



Issue(s) being addressed

Ask The Users!

Determine issues by conducting a NASA/FS training gaps assessment, the sky is the limit

Possible Themes

- Fuel loading
- Wildfire hazards
- Air Pollution from Wildfires
- Water and aquatic resources
- Climate and drought
- Soil moisture
- Vegetation mapping

The Idea



Issues Addressed

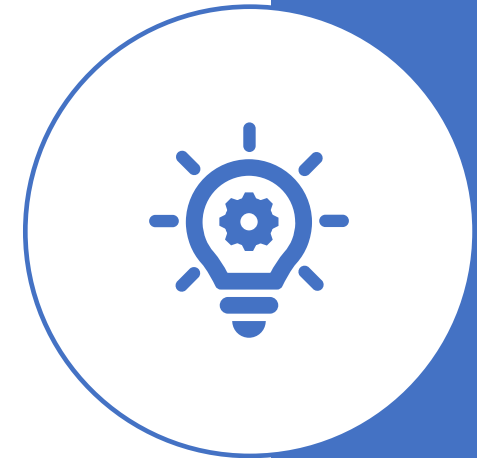
What EO data does your idea utilize?

Depends on training needs-assessment results

NASA ARSET trainees say the following are particularly useful for land management

- Landsat (nice spatial resolution!)
- Sentinel-1 & 2 (cool, I can finally see beneath the clouds!)
- MODIS (my favorite, and there are two of them!)
- VIIRS (even better than MODIS!)
- SMAP (best instrument ever!)
- SRTM (yes, I'd like to learn more!)

The Idea



The Idea – Outcomes / Societal Benefits



- More access to training by leveraging resources from two seasoned training programs at each federal agency
- Higher quality training by sharing of Best Practices between ARSET and GTAC
- More awareness and training ->> Increased use of remote sensing
- Evaluate impacts of the trainings through systematic use of surveys and interviews: reassess and adjust training as needed to maximize societal benefits



Thank You!

