

United States Department of Agriculture



Natural Resources Conservation Service  
P.O. Box 2890  
Washington, D.C. 20013

MAR 15 2006

SUBJECT: FNM - First Joint Training Conference of the Asian Pacific Island Organization (APIO) and the American Indian Alaskan Native Employees Association (AIANEA)

TO: Regional Assistant Chiefs  
State Conservationists  
Directors, Pacific Islands and Caribbean Areas  
Directors, National Technology Support Centers  
NHQ Division Directors and Above

File Code: 250-13-15

**Action Required By: June 10, 2006**

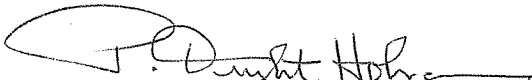
The American Indian Alaska Native Employees Association (AIANEA) and the Asian Pacific Islander Organization (APIO) joint Training Conference will be hosted in Anchorage, Alaska, August 14-18, 2006. It is the first time the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Employees' Associations will be joining forces to host a training conference!

NRCS encourages employees to take advantage of all professional, technical, and cultural training opportunities that the conference will offer. To view the conference agenda, offered training, and opportunities to share your State's successes in the poster session, please see either association's web site.

You should submit one composite Form SCS-FNM-72, Meeting Attendance Approval, by the deadline of **June 10, 2006**, to: Deanna Smith-Queen, USDA/NRCS/Financial Management Division, P.O. Box 2890, Washington, D.C. 20013, or fax to (202) 720-0372.

An early registration fee of \$300 is available for those who register and pay before July 1, 2006. After July 1, the registration fee becomes \$380. Registration forms and other conference information are available and can be printed from [www.aianea.com](http://www.aianea.com) or [www.apio.org](http://www.apio.org) website. A block of rooms has been reserved under the group code of "NRCS Employees' Associations" at the Sheraton Anchorage Hotel, 401 E. 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Anchorage, Alaska, at the rate of \$170.00 plus taxes per night through July 14, 2006. The phone number for the hotel is 1-800-478-8700. Rooms will be released to the public after July 14, 2006.

Questions regarding attendance approval should be directed to Deanna Smith-Queen, at (202) 720-0429. Questions concerning the Training Conference should be directed to Many Wei, at (217) 347-7101, extension 115, or Crystal Leonetti, at (907) 271-2424, extension 110.

  
P. DWIGHT HOLMAN  
Deputy Chief for Management