

Imagery and Remote Sensing Activities Agenda

@ Esri UC 2026



Welcome & Vision

Welcome to the 2026 Esri User Conference! I am excited to share the latest imagery developments across Esri and our community.

The conference theme this year, GIS—Creating a More Intelligent World, is a reminder that our ability to understand the physical world starts with a good representation. Imagery in ArcGIS gives you an understanding of what is happening around you, why it is happening, and what is likely to happen next so that you can make effective decisions.

At the Esri User Conference, choose your favorite way to engage: Ask a panel of your peers about image management techniques, join a technical workshop, or stop by the Earth Sciences showcase during “office hours” to chat about hyperspectral signatures. I also encourage you to meet with our NASA partners to learn about the newest SAR data addition to ArcGIS: NISAR.

It’s impossible to do everything in one conference week, so I asked a few of our Esri imagery experts to share their recommendations of sessions to attend to learn what’s next with imagery and GIS! I hope you find this guide to be a helpful reference throughout the week.

Please say hi if you see me on the floor,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Stephanie Dockstader".

Stephanie Dockstader

Director of Imagery and Remote Sensing Solutions

Don't miss these great imagery community activities this week!

Imagery and Remote Sensing SIG (Special Interest Group)

Wednesday, July 15, 11:30 AM–12:30 PM | Room 15 B | SDCC

Office Hours with Esri Imagery Experts at the Imagery and Remote Sensing Area in the Earth Sciences Showcase | Expo | SDCC

Hyperspectral Office Hours: Tuesday, 2:30 PM–3:30 PM

Earthdata Office Hours: Wednesday, 9:00 AM–10:00 AM

Hyperspectral Office Hours: Thursday, 9:30 AM–11:00 AM

NISAR for Geospatial Applications

Wednesday, Jul 15, 10:00 AM–11:30 AM | Grand Ballroom Salon 2 | Marriott





Jeremiah Johnson, Lead Solution Engineer | Drones

My Recommended Reality Mapping Sessions

It's an exciting time in the 2D/3D reality mapping world, and this year's sessions really show it! I've gone through and selected several sessions that highlight some of the cool stuff Esri has been working on, along with workflows that our users have developed and are eager to share. One session that is a must-attend for me is the "[Drones and Reality Mapping Special Interest Group \(SIG\)](#)." This session is always very popular, so make sure you come early enough to grab a seat! Something else you're going to see more of this year is talk around a new 3D data type, Gaussian splats. Incredibly high resolution, easy to generate, and more importantly, as simple as publishing to ArcGIS Online for sharing. Be sure to stop by the Imagery Island area in the Expo to learn more and explore some datasets yourself!

Track	Audience	Recommended Sessions
New to Reality Mapping	New users, managers, students	• Introduction to Reality Mapping with Drone, Aerial, and Satellite Imagery (Tue, Thu) • Drone Reality Mapping: A Complete Workflow from Capture to Insights (Thu)
Drone Capture and Field Operations	Drone program leads, pilots, survey teams, public safety operators	• Best Practices for Capturing Drone Imagery (Tue, Wed) • ArcGIS: Using Drones for Public Safety (Tue) • Drones and Reality Mapping SIG (Thu)
Advanced Processing, Lidar, and Performance	Analysts, production teams, remote sensing specialists	• Managing Lidar Like a Pro: Tips for High-Performance Workflows (Tue, Wed) • Lidar Classification and Feature Extraction (Thu)
3D GIS and Digital Twins	Planners, AEC and infrastructure teams, utilities, GIS leads	• Digital Twins, 3D GIS & Scan-to-BIM-to-GIS (Tue) • The Planning Digital Twin (Wed)
Applied Use Cases and Impact	Program managers, leadership	• From Chaos to Clarity: Transforming USAR Operations with AI and GIS (Wed) • From Drones to Satellites: Measuring Habitat and Species Health (Thu) • How Accurate Data Elevates Government Impact (Thu)



Dave Wright, Lead Solution Engineer | Imagery and Remote Sensing

My Recommended Image Management Sessions

Imagery data managers and IT professionals play a critical role in how their organizations understand, deploy, and use ArcGIS for imagery and reality mapping. My session recommendations for you this week were selected with your work in mind. You'll gain insight into the big picture for planning architectures, get specific with powerful deployment and administration concepts, and witness the application of a variety of imagery data modalities to solve real-world problems. Enjoy!

Track	Audience	Recommended Sessions
Planning and Architecture	IT directors, developers, GIS managers	• ArcGIS: Understanding and Supporting STAC (Tue) • Design Better ArcGIS Systems with the ArcGIS Architecture Center (Wed) • ArcGIS Enterprise and ArcGIS Online: Image Management at Scale (Thu)
Deployment and Administration	System administrators, GIS managers	• ArcGIS Enterprise: Administering Your Deployment (Tue, Thu) • ArcGIS Enterprise: Cloud Automation Tooling (Thu) • ArcGIS Enterprise: Administration Workflows for ArcGIS Data Pipelines (Thu)
Application Areas	GIS analysts, urban planning teams, public safety teams	• Introduction to Reality Mapping with Drone, Aerial, and Satellite Imagery (Tue, Thu) • Imagery: A Complete Workflow from Management and Analysis to Sharing (Tue) • Extracting Geospatial Insights from Images and Videos (Thu)



Vinay Viswambharan, Principal Product Manager

My Recommended Geospatial AI (GeoAI) Sessions

The imagery landscape is expanding quickly, and keeping up now means going beyond traditional workflows to include geospatial AI (sometimes called GeoAI), SAR, hyperspectral, multidimensional analysis, and emerging predictive capabilities. These sessions are of particular interest to me because they help imagery professionals focus on the technologies, data types, and analytical shifts that I believe will have the biggest impact on how we work going forward.

Track	Audience	Recommended Sessions
GeoAI Foundations	PMs, GIS leads, new GeoAI adopters	• ArcGIS: GeoAI (Tue, Wed, Fri) • ArcGIS Living Atlas of the World: Ready-to-Use Imagery for GeoAI (Wed)
Advanced Imagery and Multidimensional Analysis	Imagery analysts, remote sensing specialists	• Imagery: Change, Trend, and Pattern Analysis Using Multidimensional Data (Wed) • ArcGIS: Using Pretrained Deep Learning Models for Feature Extraction and Classification (Thu)
Operational GeoAI and Emergency Response	Public safety, disaster response, operations leaders	• GeoAI for Smarter Fire and EMS Operations (Tue) • GeoAI for Emergency Management and Damage Assessments (Wed)
Enterprise AI Expansion	Data scientists, enterprise architects	• AI and ArcGIS (Tue) • GeoAI with Feature, Tabular, and Time-Series Data (Thu)
Applied Innovation and Domain Workflows	Innovation teams, applied solution builders	• ArcGIS: Improving Airfield Data Management with AI (Tue)

Learn More About Imagery and Remote Sensing and GIS

esri.com/en-us/capabilities/imagery-remote-sensing/overview

Contact Us: imagery@esri.com



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