The U.S Geological Survey (USGS) Center for Biological Informatics (CBI) has historically performed applied research in the areas of biological informatics. This research has focused on the necessary tools, services, processes, and policies needed to support the full data life cycle of biological/ecological data. In support of the various CBI Programs, collaborations exist with organizations such as the Global Biodiversity Information Facility (GBIF), Inter-American Biodiversity Information Network (IABIN), and the NSF sponsored DataONE network. As one of the leading informatics organizations within these efforts, the CBI is working on addressing the numerous challenges of indexing and visualizing the distributed heterogeneous data/information to researchers, decision makers, and information and computer scientists.

This session will provide an overview of the various informatics challenges within the biological/ecological domain, discuss specific efforts underway to address these challenges, and identification of areas where additional research is needed.

Bio

Jeff Falgout

Jeff Falgout is the Senior Systems Administrator for the US Geological Survey's Center for Biological Informatics (CBI) in Denver, Colorado. He manages a computing infrastructure that supports 5 distinct programs and over 100 websites. He is responsible for daily infrastructure operations, including the configuration and support of servers and applications in compliance with government security regulations. In addition, Jeff leads long-term infrastructure planning activities that support the needs of a diverse USGS bioinformatics community.

Jeff has over 9 years of experience working in government. Prior to joining the USGS in 2007, Jeff worked as Systems Administrator for both the Bureau of Land Management and Jefferson County Colorado Information Technology Operations. Jeff holds a Bachelor of Science in Biology from Northwestern State University of Louisiana.