

Robert Gropp, Ph.D.
**Biographical Sketch for House Subcommittee on Interior and Environment
Appropriations**

Dr. Robert Gropp is the chairman of the USGS Coalition and director of public policy for the American Institute of Biological Sciences. Dr. Gropp earned his doctorate in plant ecology from the University of Oklahoma and his bachelor's degree in biology from the University of California at Santa Cruz. Before joining the American Institute of Biological Sciences in 2003, he was a Presidential Management Intern and a Congressional Science Fellow.

The USGS Coalition is an alliance of more than 70 organizations united by a commitment to the continued vitality of the United States Geological Survey and its ability to provide critical data and services to the nation. The Coalition supports investments in USGS programs that underpin responsible natural resource stewardship, improve resilience to natural and human-induced hazards, and contribute to the long-term health, security, and prosperity of the nation.

The American Institute of Biological Sciences is a nonprofit scientific association dedicated to advancing biological research and education for the welfare of society. AIBS works to ensure that the public, legislators, funders, and the community of biologists have access to and use information that will guide them in making informed decisions about matters that require biological knowledge. Founded in 1947 as a part of the National Academy of Sciences, AIBS became an independent, member-governed organization in the 1950s. Today, AIBS has nearly 160 member organizations and is headquartered in Reston, VA, with a Public Policy Office in Washington, DC. Its approximately 40 staff members work to achieve its mission by publishing the peer-reviewed journal *BioScience* and the education Web site *ActionBioscience.org*, by providing scientific peer-review and advisory services to government agencies and other clients, and by collaborating with scientific organizations to advance public policy, education, and the public understanding of science.