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Statement by Samuel Rauch, Deputy Assistant Administrator for NOAA's Fisheries Service, on the Appointment of John K. Bullard as the NOAA Fisheries Northeast Regional Administrator

Today, I am pleased to announce that John K. Bullard, immediate past president of Sea Education Association, former mayor of New Bedford, Mass., and former director of NOAA's Office of Sustainable Development, has been named the Northeast Regional Administrator for NOAA Fisheries. He will assume his new duties on August 6.

Mr. Bullard will head the agency's regional office in Gloucester, Mass., which works with coastal states from North Carolina to Maine, two fishery management councils, the fishing industry and other stakeholders to manage federal commercial and recreational fisheries, marine mammals, habitat, and much more. He will also oversee critical aspects of international fisheries conservation and management in the region.

His appointment will bring a renewed spirit and forward momentum to the Northeast Regional Office as he strives to balance NOAA's multiple missions in a historically-significant and dynamic region. Mr. Bullard has the right leadership skills and experience for the job. His long history of bringing people with diverse perspectives together to reach common goals will serve him well in his new position. His efforts will continue to strengthen NOAA's partnerships with fishing communities as we work together to build an economically vibrant and sustainable future.

Please join me in wishing Mr. Bullard well in his new position and in thanking Mr. Dan Morris for a job well done in his tenure as acting regional administrator since January 2012.

Samuel D. Rauch III

For additional information, go to;

http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/stories/2012/07/07 02 12ne administrator announcement.html