

Buck Sutter is the Deputy Executive Director/Program Director for the Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council. He comes to the RESTORE team from the National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration where he served for the past three years as the Director of the Office of Habitat Conservation with nation-wide responsibility for protecting and restoring habitat toward sustaining fisheries and recovering listed species within the context of a healthy and resilient ecosystem. Buck was strongly involved with developing restoration strategies in association with Deep Water Horizon during his NOAA tenure from both Natural Resource Damage Assessment and RESTORE perspectives. Buck represented NOAA on the interagency Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration President's Task Force, serving as the Deputy Executive Director with the responsibility for the technical and science components of the overall strategy. Buck graduated Phi Beta Kappa from the University of Rhode Island with an undergraduate degree in Zoology. He received a Master of Science degree in Fisheries Science at the University of Massachusetts. Buck began his professional career in 1980 as a fishery scientist at the Gulf Coast Research Laboratory in Mississippi, and later with the Florida Wildlife Research Institute in St. Petersburg, Florida. He has published numerous papers and journal articles on fishery science in the Gulf of Mexico. Buck joined NOAA in 1993, working in State-Federal partnerships, highly migratory species management, and from 2003 through 2010 served as the Deputy Regional Administrator for the NOAA Fisheries Southeast Regional Office in St. Petersburg.