

NWSEO Welcomes **NWS** Deputy Assistant Administrator Mary Erickson Sends best wishes to Laura Furgione as she moves to the Census Bureau

(December 22, 2016) NWSEO sends their best wishes to National Weather Service Deputy Assistant Administrator Laura Furgione as she moves to her new role as the Department of Commerce, 2017 Census Director of the Office of Strategic Planning, Innovation and Collaboration. Ms. Furgione started her NWS career as a met intern at WSO Kodiak, Alaska. Her career progressed in various roles within the NWS including aviation meteorologist, meteorologist in charge, and Alaska Regional Director from 2004-2008. In July 2010, Ms. Furgione was named NWS Deputy Assistant Administrator.

"Ms. Furgione has a long and successful career with the National Weather Service," said NWSEO President Dan Sobien. "She's made a lot of positive changes within the agency. For about 150 years, the NWS has existed as a male dominated workplace and culture. More than anyone I know, Laura forced us to rethink some of our social norms to create a diverse and welcoming workplace especially for women. There is still much work to be done in this area and it is my hope that union can pick up the ball where Laura left it and run with it."

NWSEO is happy to welcome Mary Erickson as the new NWS Deputy Assistant Administrator on January 8, 2017. Ms. Erickson most recently served as the director of NOAA's National Centers for Coastal Ocean Sciences. Her NWS career started as a research meteorologist in the Office of Science and Technology; she has a diverse resume within NOAA and the NWS. NWSEO looks forward to building a relationship with Ms. Erickson benefitting the employees of the National Weather Service and advancing the work of this great agency in the future.

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No one cares more for National Weather Service employees than National Weather Service employees.

No one works harder for National Weather Service employees than National Weather Service employees.

We are NWSEO.