

## **Distinguished Advisory Board**

The Honorable George Frampton The Honorable Tracy Mehan The Honorable Gale Norton The Honorable Lynn Scarlett The Honorable Harris Sherman

September 10, 2015

The Honorable Curt Clawson U.S. House of Representatives Washington DC 20515

Dear Congressman Clawson:

The Reduce Risks from Invasive Species Coalition (RRISC) is a 501(c)(3) organization that educates Americans on the risks posed by invasive species to the economy, environment, and public health of the United States, and promotes cost-effective strategies to reduce those risks.

RRISC is concerned with the ecological and economic havoc created by invasive lionfish in marine environments along the coast of the United States. Lionfish are depleting the fish populations of America's already imperiled coral reefs, and depleting the young of fish species that are important for both commercial and recreational uses. The integrity of entire marine ecosystems is being put at risk by this voracious predator with no natural enemies in our waters.

RRISC is therefore pleased to endorse your legislation, H.R. 3202, the Lionfish Elimination and Prevention Act of 2015, which would add species of lionfish to the Lacey Act's list of injurious species. RRISC believes it is important to ban the import into the United States and interstate commerce of these species.

Thank you for your leadership on this issue. We are pleased to support your efforts, and will also indicate our support of your legislation on our website.

Sincerely,

Scott J. Cameron

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President