



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Reduce Risks from Invasive Species Coalition (RRISC)  
Hosts Third Annual Congressional Reception and Award Ceremony**

By Alex Hosmar  
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Washington, D.C. – In cooperation with Representatives Mike Thompson (D-CA) and Dan Benishek (R-MI) as Co-Chairs of the Congressional Invasive Species Caucus, RRISC hosted its third annual Congressional reception and Awards Ceremony on June 15<sup>th</sup>.

Attendees learned how the economy, environment, and public health are affected by Invasive Species in every Congressional District. During the event, RRISC recognized several individuals and organizations from all over the country who display excellence in reducing the risks and adverse effects of invasive species. Awardees ranged from state, local, and federal government agencies, volunteers, and private companies.

Representative Benishek thanked RRISC President, Scott Cameron and said: "Finding ways to effectively combat invasive species, which are both harmful to the environment and the economy in Northern Michigan and around the country, has been a key priority of mine since coming to Congress. I was excited to partner with Rep. Thompson to found the Congressional Invasive Species Caucus, and I have been pleased to work with groups like RRISC to make progress on this important issue."

Representative Thompson said "Invasive species pose a threat to our economy and to communities across our country. I look forward to continuing to work with RRISC to better protect our resources and water infrastructure."

**About Reduce Risks from Invasive Species Coalition**

The Reduce Risks from Invasive Species Coalition (RRISC) seeks to reduce the risks posed by invasive species to the economy, environment, and public health by educating Americans about those risks and promoting cost-effective non-regulatory risk-based strategies for reducing them.

A list of the awards and winners is attached. More information about RRISC and the annual awards can be found at: [www.rrisc.org](http://www.rrisc.org)

**Contact**

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# Our 2016 Award Winners

## Conference of Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Governors and Premiers

In Recognition of Outstanding Achievement  
By a Regional Entity in Protecting  
America's Environment and Economy

## Lincoln County, Montana, Weed Department

In Recognition of Outstanding Achievement  
By a Local Government in Protecting  
America's Environment and Economy

## Michael Hoff

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
In Recognition of Outstanding Achievement  
By a Federal Employee in Protecting  
America's Environment and Economy

## Anthony Koop

USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service  
In Recognition of Outstanding Achievement  
By a Federal Employee in Protecting  
America's Environment and Economy

## Anna Schrenk

Verde Watershed Restoration Coalition  
In Recognition of Outstanding Achievement  
By a Volunteer Organization in Protecting  
America's Environment and Economy

## Trojan Marinex

In Recognition of Outstanding Achievement  
By an International Corporation in Protecting  
America's Environment and Economy

## Mussel Dogs

In Recognition of Outstanding Achievement  
By a Private Sector Company in Protecting  
America's Environment and Economy

## American Lumber Standard Committee

In Recognition of Best Practices in Reducing  
Phyosanitary Risks from Wood Packaging to  
Protect America's Environment and Economy