



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Reduce Risks from Invasive Species Coalition (RRISC) Hosts Fourth Annual Congressional Reception

By Rick Otis
June 11, 2019

Washington, D.C. – In cooperation with Representatives Mike Thompson (D-CA) and Elise Stefanik (R-NY) as Co-Chairs of the Congressional Invasive Species Caucus, RRISC recently hosted its fourth annual Congressional reception and awards program in Washington DC with a crowd of over 100 Congressional and federal agency officials in attendance.

Award recipients included **Bill Whitacre** of the Western Governors' Association for Outstanding Achievement by a State Government Agency; **Ed Rudberg** and **Mark Apfelbacher** of CD3 Station from Minneapolis, Minnesota for Outstanding Achievement by a Private Sector Company; **John Kabashima** for Outstanding Achievement by a Volunteer; **Enrico Bonello** of Ohio State University's Center for Applied Plant Sciences for Outstanding Innovation; and **The US Forest Service Region 6 Office** for Outstanding Achievement by a Federal Government Agency. For details on each awardee, please visit our website: [RRISC 2019 Awardees](#).

Attendees learned how the economy, environment, and public health in every Congressional District are harmed by Invasive Species and how the award winners are making a difference in this fight. Additionally, stakeholders from private and public sector agencies attended to share their efforts in combatting risks posed by invasive species. Participating organizations included RRISC, the National Invasive Species Council, US Fish and Wildlife Service, Bureau of Land Management, US Geological Survey, US Department of Agriculture/Forest Service, S-K Environmental, and Pet Industry Joint Advisory Council.

Representative Thompson stated, "I congratulate the award winners on their achievements and thank RRISC for its leadership on this important issue."

The event was sponsored by RRISC, Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission, the Wine Institute, National Invasive Species Awareness Week, and the Pet Industry Joint Advisory Council.

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.

Contact: To learn more about RRISC, please contact:

Rick Otis, President
(202) 553-4713
rick.otis@rrisc.org

RRISC educates on the risks posed by invasive species, and promotes cost-effective strategies to reduce those risks.

**1225 I Street NW, Suite 250 Washington DC 20005 www.rrisc.org
501(c)(3) Tax Deductible Charitable Organization**