



## National Rivers Hall of Fame

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

Jun. 11, 2010

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**National Achievement Award Presented to R. Barry Palmer**

*Washington D.C. – Feb. 24, 2009*— The National Rivers Hall of Fame presented the National Achievement Award to R. Barry Palmer at the Waterways Council Inc. dinner at the St. Regis Hotel in Washington, DC on Feb. 24, 2009. The award celebrates Palmer's 27-year career on behalf of the nation's inland waterways and recognizes Palmer's significant contributions to the rivers of America.

For the past five years, R. Barry Palmer served as President and CEO of Waterways Council, Inc., (WCI) the national public policy organization advocating a modern and well-maintained system of ports and inland waterways. WCI was created in 2003 by the amalgamation of the Waterways Work! Campaign and DINAMO, the Association for the Development of Inland Navigation in America's Ohio Valley.

Palmer was instrumental in organizing the merger of the Midwest Area River Coalition (MARC 2000) into WCI on December 15, 2006. This merger was designed to nationalize the issue of lock modernization for the Upper Mississippi River and Illinois Waterway to help accomplish the mission of maintaining and modernizing the waterways infrastructure.

Palmer was at the helm of DINAMO for 22 years, working to expedite the modernization of the Ohio River System's lock and dam infrastructure. During his career, Palmer not only witnessed tremendous change affecting the waterways industry, but was part of that change. Though his efforts and energy, the Ohio River was the recipient of extensive support for the modernization and improvement of the navigation system.

The National Rivers Hall of Fame, located at the National Mississippi River Museum & Aquarium, Dubuque, IA, is the national museum and repository for river people from all across America. Hall of Fame inductees include the pioneers, explorers, inventors, writers and artists who have made American history. The National Rivers Hall of Fame National Achievement Award is the highest tribute paid to a living person and is bestowed in recognition of significant contributions related to America's rivers.

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