

# The Future of Water

June 10, 2013, 6:30 – 9:30 pm

Virginia Wimberley Theatre, Calderwood Pavilion at the BCA, Boston, MA

*The Future of Nature is a three-part series, co-hosted by The Nature Conservancy and WBUR, with the intention of sparking a community discussion about how everyone can play a part in finding solutions to the challenges of how to meet global food, energy and water needs in the coming decades.* [www.nature.org/futureofnature](http://www.nature.org/futureofnature)



**SANDRA POSTEL, director, The Global Water Policy Project**

Sandra Postel directs the independent Global Water Policy Project, and also lectures, writes, and consults on global water issues. In 2010 she was appointed Freshwater Fellow of the National Geographic Society, where she serves as lead water expert for the Society's Freshwater Initiative. Postel has been named a Pew Scholar in Conservation and the Environment, as well as one of the "Scientific American 50" for her contributions to water policy. Author of "Pillar of Sand: Can the Irrigation Miracle Last?" (W.W. Norton, 1999) and of "Last Oasis: Facing Water Scarcity" (W.W. Norton, 1992), Postel also wrote "Rivers for Life: Managing Water for People and Nature" (Island Press, 2003) with The Nature Conservancy's Brian Richter. She is co-creator of Change the Course, a national freshwater conservation and restoration campaign being piloted in the Colorado River Basin. Photo © Cheryl Zook/National Geographic



**STEVEN SOLOMON, author, "Water: The Epic Struggle for Wealth, Power and Civilization"**

Steven Solomon is the author of "Water: The Epic Struggle for Wealth, Power, and Civilization" (HarperCollins, 2010), an account of the history of civilization that illuminates the importance of water in human development. The book was a finalist for the Los Angeles Times Book Prize. Solomon has written for The New York Times, BusinessWeek, The Economist, Forbes, and Esquire. He has been a regular commentator on NPR's Marketplace, and has appeared as a featured guest on the late Tim Russert's CNBC show, NPR's Talk of the Nation, Bloomberg TV, and on many other news shows. He has addressed the World Affairs Council, Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS), and university forums. A previous book, "The Confidence Game" (Simon & Schuster, 1995) presciently warned about mounting dangers in the volatile global financial system.



**BRIAN RICHTER, director of Global Freshwater Strategies, The Nature Conservancy**

Brian Richter has been a leader in river science and conservation for more than 20 years. He is the Director of Global Freshwater Strategies for The Nature Conservancy, promoting sustainable water use and management with governments, corporations, and local communities. He serves as a water advisor to some of the world's largest corporations and investment banks, and has testified before the US Congress on multiple occasions. He also teaches a course on Water Sustainability at the University of Virginia. He has published many scientific papers on the importance of ecologically sustainable water management in international science journals, and co-authored a book with Sandra Postel entitled "Rivers for Life: Managing Water for People and Nature" (Island Press, 2003). Richter holds a B.A. in journalism and environmental biology from San Diego State University and an M.S. in earth resources from Colorado State University. Photo © TNC

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**MEGHNA CHAKRABARTI**, host of WBUR's Radio Boston and fill-in host of Here & Now - *moderator*

Meghna Chakrabarti is the co-host of Radio Boston. Meghna previously reported on New England transportation and energy issues for WBUR's news department, and served as fill-in host for Here & Now, WBUR's national midday show. She has won awards from both the Associated Press and the Radio Television News Directors Association for her writing, hard news reporting, and use of sound. She produced and directed WBUR's national news and talk program, On Point, for five years. In 2006, she spent 10 months as a fellow at the Metcalf Institute for Environmental Reporting. Chakrabarti holds bachelors degrees civil and environmental engineering from Oregon State University, and a masters degree from Harvard University. Photo © WBUR



**ALISON BOWDEN**, freshwater conservation director, The Nature Conservancy in MA - *emcee*

Alison Bowden is a leader in The Nature Conservancy's efforts to protect fresh water for people and for nature. She works to preserve rivers' natural flows and to restore the fish that migrate within their banks up and down the east coast of the US. Bowden is also a dedicated home gardener and sustainable foodie who lives green in the greater Boston area. She holds a B.A. in environmental science from American University and an M.S. in water resources from University of New Hampshire. Photo © TNC