



## CONSERVATION INNOVATION UPDATE

THE PROGRAM ON CONSERVATION INNOVATION AT THE HARVARD FOREST  
HARVARD UNIVERSITY, FOURTH QUARTER 2011

### What's Ahead

#### Conservation Finance Boot Camp at Stanford January 30-February 3, 2012

Registration is now open for the 2012 Western Conservation Finance Bootcamp, which will begin in late January 2012 on the campus of Stanford University. Taught by Peter Stein of Lyme Timber Company and Story Clark of Conservation Consulting, the boot camp offers invaluable perspective on some of the most effective conservation finance tools available today. The bootcamp is co-sponsored by the Woods Institute for the Environment at Stanford University, the Trust for Public Land, the Land Trust Alliance, and the Conservation Finance Forum, with additional support from Island Press. For more information, please contact Rebecca Bright at [rbright@islandpress.org](mailto:rbright@islandpress.org).

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For publications, news and resources, see our site at:  
[ConservationInnovation.net](http://ConservationInnovation.net)

**Photo credits:** Birds flying above the Colorado River Delta: Sonoran Institute; Canoeing on the Charles: CRWA

### A Tale of Two Rivers



Join us on **THURSDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2011 at 11 AM** Eastern Time for a live, online discussion with two remarkable conservationists. Each has played a key role in the recovery of an iconic North American river: Bob Zimmerman in the revival of the Charles River in Boston; and Francisco Zamora in the ongoing rebirth of the delta of the Colorado River that spans the US-Mexico border.

Please register for the event and get login instructions at [www.innovations.harvard.edu/xchat.html](http://www.innovations.harvard.edu/xchat.html).

**Robert Zimmerman**, Executive Director of the Charles River Watershed Association (CRWA) will review his organization's initiatives over the past several decades to bring the Charles back to health. Largely as a result of these efforts, the Charles was awarded the International Riverprize in 2011 by the Australia-based International River Foundation.

**Francisco Zamora** of the Arizona-based Sonoran Institute will focus on the ongoing efforts to restore the Colorado Delta system, a magnificent mosaic of riparian resources and estuaries that some had written off as a hopelessly damaged natural system. Following the idea that we need to "just add water," Zamora and his associates on both sides of the border are finding novel water sources, including bioremediated wastewater treatment plant effluent, that are being added back into the system. Each new source brings bringing us closer to the day that the now-dry river bed will bring surface waters back to meet the sea.

Please join us at 11 am this coming Thursday for this session, which will offer listeners the opportunity to interact with these singularly perseverant and productive individuals.

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## Saving the Colorado Delta

Working in the Colorado Delta for several decades, a coalition of organizations in the public, non-profit and academic sectors have made substantial progress in bringing the entire region back to life. Key resources needed to understand the transformative work that is ongoing are available from the [Sonoran Institute](#) Delta webpage, from the [Colorado River Delta Research Coordination Network](#) (RCN) site hosted by the University of Arizona, and from a wide variety of other public, non-profit and academic sites gathered on the [RCN's Resources website](#).

In addition, several very clever social marketing campaigns are bringing the Colorado River Delta story to the public's attention. Perhaps the most memorable of those efforts features a photo of some bare-backed protesters holding aloft signs spelling out "Save the Colorado." The campaign, sponsored by several for-profit and non-profit organizations, including the New Belgium Brewing Company, the Patagonia Clothing Company and the National Geographic Society, offers a variety of multi-media resources at [www.savethecolorado.org](http://www.savethecolorado.org).

## Reclaiming the Charles



The achievement of the Charles River Watershed Association in bringing international acclaim to a place once known to rock-and-roll fans as Boston's "dirty water" was widely covered in the local media. Coverage by the [Boston Globe](#) features comments by former Massachusetts Governor Michael Dukakis and others. A local National Public Radio Station, [WBUR](#), conducted a lengthy interview with Zimmerman and a regional EPA administrator when the International Riverprize was awarded. For links to those stories and and more, visit:

[www.crwa.org/events/RiverPrize.html#Slideshow](http://www.crwa.org/events/RiverPrize.html#Slideshow)

## **Science and Policy: from Quandry to Innovation**

On November 1-2, 2011 representatives from several Long Term Ecological Research (LTER) sites in the Northeast United States met at the Harvard Forest for a workshop with policy and media experts to explore new approaches for expanding the impact of science in environmental decision making. Representatives from the Harvard Forest, Hubbard Brook, the Cary Institute, and The Ecosystems Center at the Marine Biological Laboratory agreed to pursue a collaborative effort that will address, through the synthesis of ongoing research, the interrelated effects of climate change and energy, water, and land use in the region. The collaborative will promote stronger connections between the all-too-often separate realms of long-term ecological research and environmental stewardship. For more information contact: Kathy Fallon Lambert ([klambert01@fas.harvard.edu](mailto:klambert01@fas.harvard.edu)) or David Sleeper ([dsleeper@hbresearchfoundation.org](mailto:dsleeper@hbresearchfoundation.org)).