

Floating Habitat Raft Structures

Restoring and Enhancing Aquatic Habitat

ELWd Systems division of *Forest Concepts, LLC*

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ELWd[®] (pronounced “elwood”) habitat structures are manufactured alternatives to native floating logs for basking and perching habitat in lakes and ponds.

Products from the ELWd Systems division of Forest Concepts, LLC provide an economical and functional option for lake owners, hatcheries, fisheries specialists and conservation organizations wishing to add habitat features to lakes and ponds.

ELWd[®] structures are ideally suited for projects designed for installation by volunteer and conservation crews.



This basking structure is 6 feet long and 16 inches wide. It was delivered fully assembled, floated into position, and anchored with gravel-filled buckets.



Above: The ELWd[®] floating habitat structures provide perches for the local waterfowl population. Below: A habitat raft is nestled amongst aquatic plants.



ELWd[®] products can be used to create habitat for fish, turtles, waterfowl, and other aquatic organisms. The elliptical shape of ELWd[®] floating habitat structures provides a wide above water surface and a shallow incline so that critters can easily climb atop the structure. Flat-top models are also available.

ELWd[®] structures are fabricated from readily-available small diameter poles and forest residuals. Most floating habitat structures use poles with a 3 to 5 inch diameter. Standard ELWd[®] pond structure kits are available in lengths from 4 to 8 feet and widths of 14 to 24 inches. Other sizes are available upon request.

ELWd[®] engineered wood structures are available from local sales representatives, regional distributors and directly from ELWd Systems.

The Advantage of ELWd[®] Habitat Structures

All Wood Components, Lightweight, Effective Habitat

This inverted structure shows the normally submerged keel pole and spars that give the floating raft its overall shape and functional characteristics.



An important advantage of ELWd[®] habitat and technical products is the wide range in product use. For applications where the aesthetics of native LWD are desired, ELWd[®] floating habitat structures can be created from bark-on materials. In other applications, such as in hatchery ponds, floating habitat rafts can be made of peeled material for ease of cleaning.

ELWd[®] structures can be cabled to a drive-anchor or tethered in place with weights. This allows the floating rafts to be used in a wide range of applications including, basking sites, perches, complex underwater refuge, and rearing habitat.

Completed ELWd[®] floating habitat rafts have high surface area which promotes biotic activity. The complex shape and large number of cracks and crevices provide a rich environment for juvenile fish, aquatic insects and aquatic flora.



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Patent Pending

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