ELWd® (pronounced “elwood”) structures are manufactured alternatives to native coarse woody debris and stumps for improving wetlands, estuaries, riparian areas, wildlife preserves, and areas where wildlife habitat is limited.

ELWd® products from the ELWd Systems division of Forest Concepts, LLC provide an economical and functional alternative for wildlife biologists, engineers, landscape architects and conservation organizations. ELWd® products provide exceptional habitat value, are easy to transport and install, can be used across a range of applications, and are readily available.

ELWd® structures provide high functionality as coarse woody debris replacement.

- Provides excellent habitat for amphibians, small mammals and birds
- Provides runways, perches, and basking sites
- Hollow center can be filled with soil to create a ready-to-plant nurse log
- All-wood structure provides water storage and organic substrate for insects, fungi and other components of the food chain
- Stump replacement structures provide lookout and perch sites as well as nesting locations

ELWd® structures are fabricated from readily-available small diameter poles and forest residuals. Most wetland structures use poles with a 3 to 4 inch top diameter. Standard ELWd® wildlife structures and kits are available in lengths from 4 to 8 feet and diameters from 12 to 18 inches. Other sizes are available upon request.
The Advantage of ELWd® Habitat Structures
All Wood Components, Lightweight, Effective Habitat

An important advantage of ELWd® wildlife habitat products is the ease of manufacture and assembly by hand crews. Raw materials include fireline debris, precommercial thinnings, fuel reduction program poles, etc.

When fabricated on-site, volunteer and conservation field crews use simple hand tools to build hollow log structures according to plans provided by ELWd Systems. As spars are inserted into tapered mortise holes, a wedge is driven into the tenon to form a strong all-wood joint.

ELWd® wetland habitat logs can be delivered as complete structures or as kits, ready for deployment by contractors, volunteers or conservation crews.

With ELWd® wetland restoration structures, immediate habitat value can be added to any area with minimal impact. The hollow core provides a distinct advantage in that it can be filled with soil and planted to create a nurse log. Processes that take decades in nature can easily be recreated in wetland or natural areas. The hollow center can also be filled with wood chips for amphibian habitat or left open for small mammal nesting and cache storage.

ELWd® structures are held together by round mortise and tenon joints. Crossed spars join opposite poles into an interlocking all-wood structure.

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