

# 5 Ecological Piers

## Touisset Marsh Wildlife Refuge

99 Touisset Road, Warren, Rhode Island 02885

### Explore and Discover

This ecological art installation and environmental education device shares the diverse ecological landtypes and its dynamism at Touisset Wildlife Refuge in Warren, Rhode Island. The 20'-0" tall piers are etched in morse code with passages from seminal environmentalists of the 20th Century. The writings echo the struggles and warnings voiced by prior generations, and these monuments present the viewers an opportunity to dwell upon the latent narratives in the landscape, shaped by the refuge's many ecological and social complexities.

### Reverent Gateways

These piers are designed to recognize the forerunners of today's environmental movement through their aspirational and cautionary excerpts etched in morse code - a language that spanned their generation - which ciphers the message for today with hopes of stirring the muse and curiosity of a digital generation.

### From Lumber to Snag

These structures are built from a local "natural" material that ironically threatens these habitats. It has instead been re-designed, re-shaped and re-appropriated to receive wildlife such as native apian (bee) and avian (bird) species.

### Habitat Change / Sea Level Rise

Rhode Island will be dramatically impacted by sea level rise. The coded text is organized to present a measuring device, set at 1" intervals, and displays the latest scientific data on expected sea level rise and stormevents for the years 2050 and 2100.

2100 100 YEAR FLOOD

### Morse code

Each member is represented by a key 20th century environmentalist and an excerpt from their seminal text translated into morse code.

2050 100 YEAR FLOOD

### Habitat

The holes and perches provide habitat opportunity for native avian (bird) and apian (bees) species on the site. The perches are located at pauses in the sentences, like commas and periods.

### QR code\*

This is an analog conduit for digital information about the site and structure. It will provide an interactive digital interface with resources related to climate change, sea level rise and habitat change.

\* QR digital interface is still in development.

#### Audubon Assistants:

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Refuge Manager

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Refuge Manager

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Stewardship Specialist

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Refuge Manager

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QR Code Blocks, 3D Printer, Construction

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Christopher Norcross  
Rhino, Grasshopper

Dylan Pratt  
Construction

YOU  
ARE  
HERE

Aldo  
Leopold  
#landethic

Rachel  
Carson  
#thealarm

John  
Muir  
#woodland

Wes  
Jackson  
#grassland

Majorie  
Stoneman  
Douglas  
#wetland

chase cove

mt. hope bay

