



# **NORMAN W. LONG**

## **Calumet in Dub**

November 10, 2022–February 17, 2023



# Norman W. Long: Calumet in Dub

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Focusing on Norman W. Long's research-based work *Calumet in Dub* that delves into the ecology and soundscapes of the Southeast Side of Chicago along the Calumet and Little Calumet River area. Inspired initially by a story that aired on the BBC about the relationship of the Little Calumet River to the history of the Great Migration, Long investigated how housing, labor, and environmental activism have coalesced in this location and how historic figure, Hazel Johnson considered the "mother of the environmental justice movement," diligently brought these issues to light.

*Calumet in Dub* is an 8-channel sound installation presented in the main gallery, accompanied by two rooms shedding light on a portion of the research that informed the work. Population demographics, ecological information, and pollution statistics about the Calumet region provide the raw data that Long used in this body of work. While the research materials provide insight into Long's experimental sound art practice translates visual and text-based information into sonic experiences.

Long's experimental sound practice, as reflected in *Calumet in Dub*, used sound from direct field recordings, sonified research data, and experimentation with various inputs and outputs. The exhibition included sounds from historically significant locations from the the Great Migration in the Calumet area, such as wind rustling trees or the bubbling water of a stream. Long has gathered other sounds by processing data through inputs such as the TwoTone webapp (which allowed him to assign a particular note or pitch to the numerical data in order to turn it into sound) or the PlantWave device (that reads plant biorhythms through electrodes connected to a plant). Once sounds were collected, effects were then used to manipulate sound and further creative methods of editing, splicing, and moving sound through multiple audio channels were used to transport the listener to different locations via the soundscapes Long created.

Glass Curtain Gallery—Columbia College Chicago  
1104 S. Wabash Ave, 1st Floor, Chicago, IL 60605  
[colum.edu/deps](http://colum.edu/deps)

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# They Say Time is Like a River

Time has often been compared to a river, though usually toward the end of communicating the fundamental impermanence of life or encouraging us to “get in the water.” But if time is a river, then the river reverberates with history.

For decades, Norman W. Long’s artistic path has been focused on memory and Black subjectivity, but it hasn’t been linear. *Calumet in Dub* is the greatest synthesis thus far of Long’s manifold explorations into visual art, sound art, landscape architecture, and environmental activism.

The centerpiece of this exhibit is an 8-channel speaker installation featuring field recordings of the Calumet region Long calls home, an area which is very slowly recovering from the heavy industry of the last century. Long utilizes the dub production techniques of King Tubby and Lee “Scratch” Perry to communicate traumatic resonance in the Calumet soundscape. The structure of dub music can be interpreted as one of loss, rupture, and repair; experiences that are continuous across the diasporic experience of Black people displaced by the extreme horrors of slavery and colonialism. Dub emerges as an art form which recalls the notion of “testimony” described by trauma theorists, which attempts to bear witness and cull meaning from experiences which are challenging to integrate into our psyche.

The Calumet River is not particularly well-known or considered, but its strategic position connecting the East, West, and South via the Mississippi River is fundamental to the development of Chicago’s prominence as the “Player with Railroads and the Nation’s Freight Handler” as stated in Carl Sandburg’s famous ode to the city. It’s also why Chicago played such a central role in the Great Migration of Black Americans from the rural South to the urban North. Going back further than that, though, two Dutch-born abolitionists—Jan and Aagje Ton—used their farm on the Little Calumet River to ensure the safe arrival of hundreds out of slavery on the Underground Railroad.

Long’s recordings for this exhibit focus on locations of historical significance to the movement of Black people into the region. He includes sonified research data, books of demographic and ecological information, pollution statistics, and images of areas where the recordings were made, as well as lyrics to *Good*

*Lord (Run Old Jeremiah)*. The latter is a ring shout dance song, characterized by leader-chorus singing, complex counter-rhythmic hand clapping and other percussion, and shouts and hollers. Lyrically, the song captures the experience of having to run for your life and surrender your fate to others, be it God or the railroad engineer. Sonically, the frantic, collective rhythm communicates both a restlessness and a determination; a momentary transcendence of suffering through constant motion and sound, which is also a chronic worry of what may happen if you are stopped.

The final component of the exhibit is a video installation, where Long provides us with further history of toxic pollution in the region and the birth of the environmental justice movement through the work of its pioneer, Hazel M. Johnson. Johnson herself came to Chicago during the Great Migration and began looking into the toxicity levels in the area following the death of her husband from lung cancer in 1969 and the development of widespread skin and respiratory issues amongst her seven children. Levels of cancer and lead poisoning were so high in the area that it made the national news. The video installation also highlights some of the ecological restoration which has occurred in these neighborhoods that were abandoned and neglected for so long by environmental racism, where industrial waste sites are now being ecologically restored into parks and food deserts are becoming urban farms. There are also video presentations of images Long captured at field recording sites paired with the recordings he made there.

What is most noticeable about the interplay of media Long offers us in this exhibit is how the most abstract thing—these dubbed out and manipulated field recordings—are what communicate the most. The government-issued data is nearly impossible to understand, communicating a great deal about both how the people in power get away with this and how the communities it impacts struggle to even be a part of the conversation. It's in listening to the people in the videos and Long's soundscapes that the knowledge of this history and this ongoing situation really resonates, pointing towards the idea that it's in listening to each other and listening to the land that we engage meaningfully in transformation and healing.

— Erin Margaret Day













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Kultur in der Research-Mission

Text describing the role of culture in research missions, including the importance of interdisciplinary collaboration and the integration of cultural insights into scientific inquiry.





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Small white informational card with text, likely describing the river or lake shown in the adjacent photograph.





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**Indian Ridge Marsh**

Indian Ridge Marsh is a wetland area located in the northern part of the city of Chicago, Illinois. It is a remnant of a larger wetland system that once covered the area. The marsh is characterized by tall, green grasses and sedges. It is a popular area for bird watching and other outdoor activities. The marsh is also an important habitat for many species of birds and other wildlife.



**Indian Ridge Wetlands**

Indian Ridge Wetlands is a wetland area located in the northern part of the city of Chicago, Illinois. It is a remnant of a larger wetland system that once covered the area. The wetlands are characterized by tall, green grasses and sedges. They are a popular area for bird watching and other outdoor activities. The wetlands are also an important habitat for many species of birds and other wildlife.





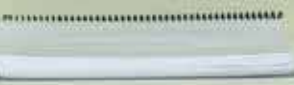
**Acme Sand Company**

Acme Sand Company is a large-scale sand and gravel processing facility located in the city of Acme, Michigan. The facility is a major source of aggregate materials for the region and is known for its high-quality products. The site is situated along the banks of the Acme River, which is a tributary of the Saginaw River. The facility's operations are regulated by the Michigan Department of Environment and Natural Resources (MDENR) and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).



**Wentworth Park**

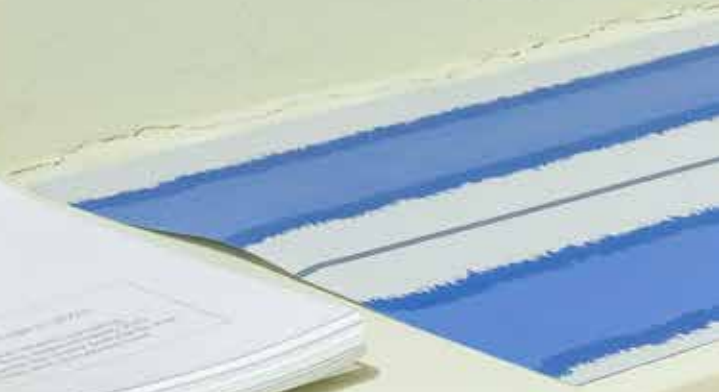
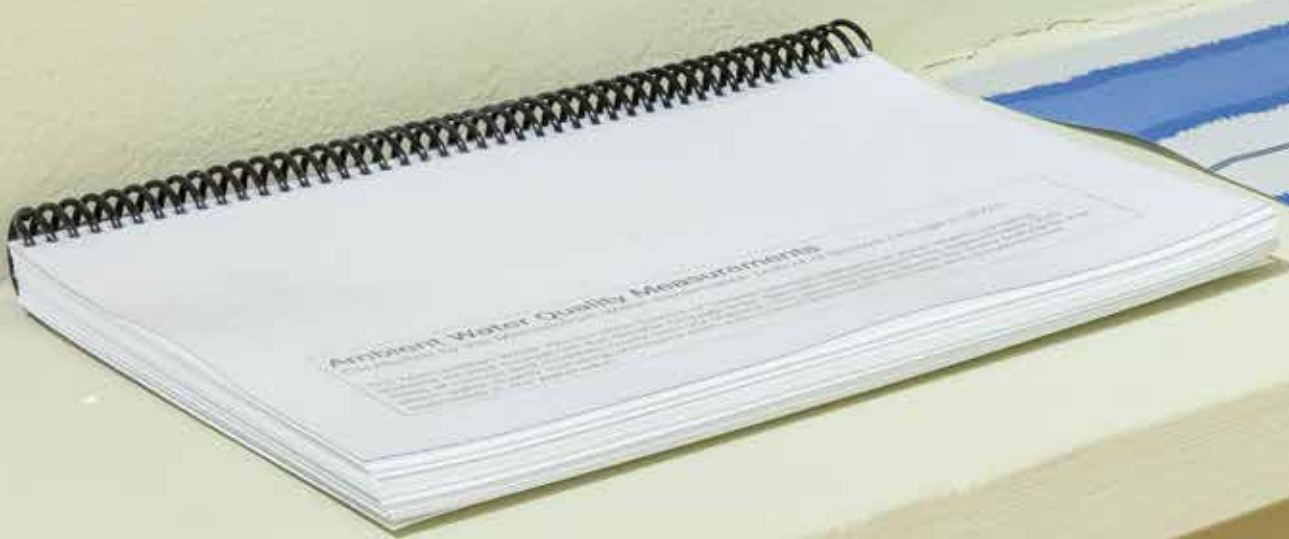
Wentworth Park is a large, multi-use recreational area located in the city of Acme, Michigan. The park features a variety of amenities, including a playground, a sports field, and a picnic area. It is a popular destination for families and individuals looking for outdoor recreation. The park is situated in a scenic area with views of the Acme River and the surrounding landscape. The park is maintained by the City of Acme and is open to the public year-round.





**SEPA (Sidestream Elevated Pool Aeration) Station #2**

I found the waterfall to be calm and soothing on a very hot day. Yet the function of the pumping station is to pump water from the Little Calumet River. These type of stations pump water into an elevated pool where it then flows over a series of weirs back into the river. As it tumbles over the falls, it creates turbulence resulting in greater oxygen levels in the water, improving the ability of the river to support fish and other aquatic life.







(ion)  
 A green water drop icon.  
 Clean  
 river water  
 of waterfalls  
 with air  
 using the  
 le

**Swedish Wood Roof Canal**

Swedish Wood Roof Canal is a unique water management system that captures rainwater from the roof of a building and filters it through a series of layers of wood chips and gravel. The filtered water is then collected in a storage tank and can be used for a variety of purposes, including irrigation, flushing toilets, and washing cars. This system is an excellent example of sustainable water management and can help reduce the amount of water that is wasted.

Informational display on a white table with blue and white graphic elements, including a spiral-bound notebook and a printed document.

WIRA L M CRAY  
MANSON MURIEL JONES  
JIMMY GRIMES RICHARD  
STANFORD JACKSON  
WOODSON GEORGE JOHNSON  
NANCY BELL MCELROY STAC  
MARIUS BLADES





**African Americans as a Percentage of the Population by Large U.S. Cities**

Conducted by the Population Division of the United States Census Bureau, 2002

The United States Census Bureau, an agency of the United States Congress is responsible for collecting information relating to the population of the United States and the economy. The data set on display relates to the migration of six million African Americans from the southern United States to the northern United States between 1910 and 1970. During this time, due to Jim Crow laws African American citizens experienced unequal economic conditions, racial segregation, and discrimination forcing them to move to the northern territories of the United States. At this time population increased in large cities, and in the Southwest of Chicago.

# Calumet in Dub Research Materials

For *Calumet in Dub* Norman W. Long conducted a deep exploration of the Calumet region that not only included engaging the site physically, but also by pouring through historical and environmental material surrounding the region. Supporting research presented alongside the work offered a glimpse into Long's practice by opening up a sliver of his references and thought process.

The development of *Calumet in Dub* brought Long to numerous locations in the Calumet River area to take photographs, capture field recordings, and to experience the land in person. Of the many locations explored, Long identified six sites he found particularly notable for their historical and ecological significance, as well as their importance to the creation of the sound piece presented in the gallery.

Each leaf icon on the map corresponds to one of the six locations spotlighted. Each location display featured a text extrapolated from Long's notes along with three research items—an image taken by Long during his visit to the site, a visualization of a field recording made at the site, and a data set that conveys related historical or ecological information. Using a process known as sonification the data sets were translated into sounds that were incorporated into *Calumet in Dub*.

In the following pages you will find a representation of what was viewable in the gallery as well as documentation from two videos influential to Long's process that were displayed along with two monitors featuring additional videos and photographs taken on location. Additionally, the field recordings from each site listed on the map could be heard through the headphones in the gallery.

By fusing field recordings with sonified data sets Long compares what he personally experienced at each site against published information collected and disseminated by branches of the local and federal government. Long's process addresses the inequity of access to public resources. The Calumet area is a dominantly Black region in large part due to the Great Migration. Industrial work in the region has employed a lot of Black citizens, yet these industries have created air, water, and soil pollution that threatens the lives of the very people living in the area.

During Long's Calumet site visits, he found some of the areas to be unexpectedly closed. Similarly, the ecological and historical data sets Long researched were not put into technical terms that could be understood by members of the general public as governmental data is dense and requires specialists to decode. In Long's pursuit to interpret the Calumet region through innumerable sets of facts as well as through its presence, he reveals varying levels of access, information, and abstraction.







## **SEPA Station #2 (Sidestream Elevated Pool Aeration)**





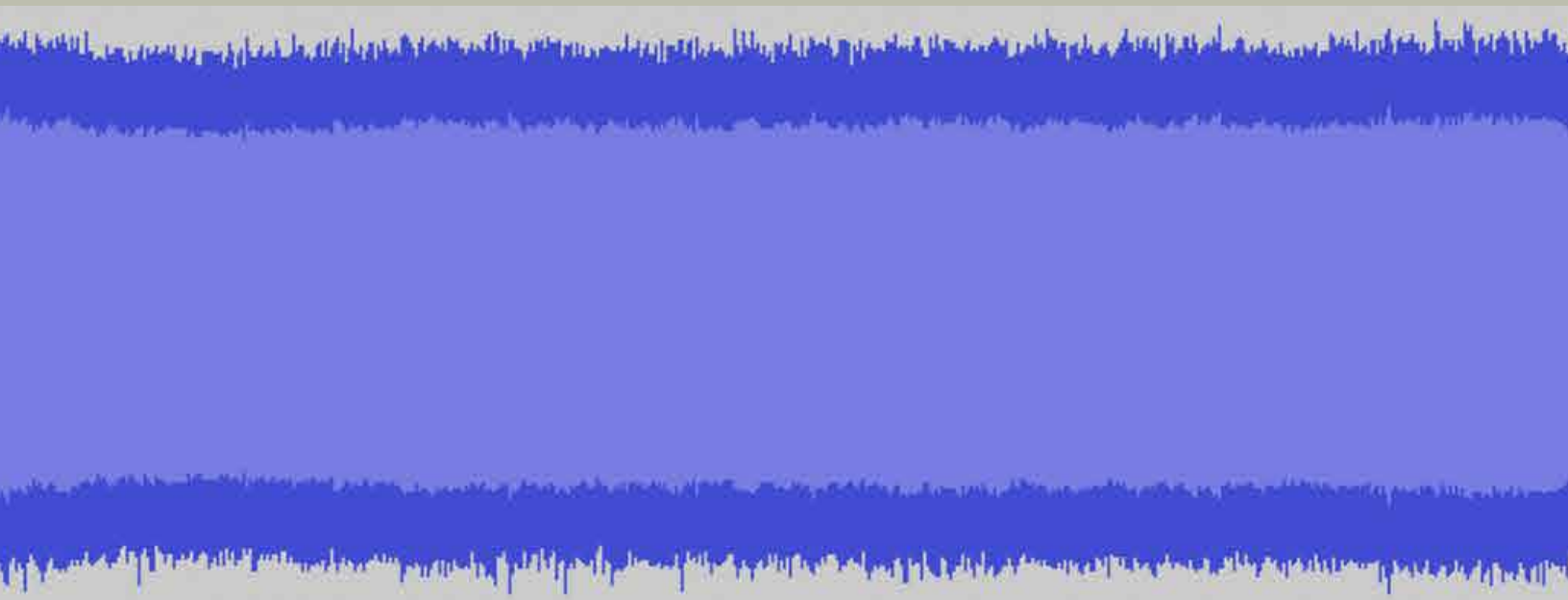




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I found the waterfall to be calm and soothing on a very hot day. Yet the function of the pumping station is to clean the Little Calumet River. These types of stations pump river water into an elevated pool where it then flows over a series of waterfalls back into the river. As it tumbles over the falls, it mixes with air, resulting in greater oxygen levels in the water, improving the ability of the river to support fish and other aquatic life.

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# Ambient Water Quality Measurements

Conducted by the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago in 2021

The Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago has several water quality sampling stations located throughout the Greater Chicago area. Samples are collected from approximately 225 miles of natural and modified rivers from 29 stations. The samples are analyzed for many pollutants that affect water quality including pollutants from intermittent stormwater releases and pollutants from sediments in the waterways.

Collect date	Sampling point	Time collected	TEMP Deg C	TEMP Qual Code	DO mg/L	DO Qual Code	pH	pH Qual Code	NO2+NO3 mg/L	NO2+NO3 Qual Code	NH3 N mg/L	NH3 N Qual Code	TKN mg/L	TKN Qual Code
1/4/21	WW 78	1135	11		9.8		7.5		6.76		<0.3		<1	
1/4/21	WW 19	1229	3		11.2		8.1		4.36		<0.3		<1	
1/4/21	WW 109	900	3		11.7		7.9		4.88		<0.3		<1	
1/4/21	WW 22	940	3		12.2		8		4.05		<0.3		<1	
1/4/21	WW 23	1020	3		11.8		7.9		3.81		<0.3		<1	
1/4/21	WW 91	1130	2		12.5		8		4.24 X		<0.3		<1	
1/4/21	WW 18	905	8		9.9		7.6		6.98		<0.3		1	
1/4/21	WW 110	940	2		10		7.7		0.57		<0.3		<1	
1/4/21	WW 111	1010	6		10.4		7.7		9.85		<0.3		2	
1/4/21	WW 92	1200	6		7.6		7.6		5.91		<0.3		1	
1/4/21	WW 77	1055	2		11.3		7.9		0.42		<0.3		<1	
1/11/21	WW 112	910	3		13		8.3		1.16		<0.3		<1	
1/11/21	WW 36	1000	10		10.1		7		9.3		0.6		1	
1/11/21	WW 96	1030	1		13.3		8		1.84		<0.3		<1	
1/11/21	WW 73	1140	7		9.9		7.5		8.1		<0.3		<1	
1/11/21	WW 92	1015	9		8.8		7.6		6.38		<0.3		<1	
1/11/21	WW 37	1105	8		10.2		7.4		7.86		<0.3		<1	
1/19/21	WW 100	900	4		11.7		7.8		2.15		0.3		<1	
1/19/21	WW 108	900	8		8.5		7.3		6.11		1.4		2	
1/19/21	WW 99	950	4		10.2		7.3		6.72		<0.3		<1	
1/19/21	WW 75	950	5		10		7.6		6.73		<0.3		<1	
1/19/21	WW 41	1030	8		9.4		7.2		7.23		<0.3		1	
1/19/21	WW 92	1100	7		9		7.2		6.61		<0.3		1	
1/19/21	WW 48	1220	9		8.5		7.4		5.44		<0.3		<1	
1/25/21	WW 86	905	7		9.5		7.7		3.68		<0.3		<1	
1/25/21	WW 56	1130	3		12.1		8		3.04		<0.3		<1	
1/25/21	WW 76	1110	6		10.2		7.5		5.39		<0.3		<1	
1/25/21	WW 57	1050	2		12.6		7.9		4.91		<0.3		<1	
1/25/21	WW 59	1010	5		10.2		7.6		3.86		0.3		1	
1/25/21	WW 43	910	5		10.1		7.6		3.98		<0.3		<1	X
1/25/21	WW 92	1047	7		9.8		7.5		5.43		<0.3		<1	
2/1/21	WW 19	1145	1		13.2		8.2		4.19		<0.3		<1	X
2/1/21	WW 109	852	2		12.4		7.7		8.85		<0.3		<1	
2/1/21	WW 23	948	0		13.2		8		5.42		<0.3		<1	
2/1/21	WW 91	1051	1		14		8.2		4.7		<0.3		<1	
2/1/21	WW 18	915	7		10.5		7.4		7.71		<0.3		<1	
2/1/21	WW 111	950	4		11.5		7.9		11.81		<0.3		1	
2/1/21	WW 92	1126	4		10.1		7.9		5.22		0.5		1	
2/1/21	WW 77	1035	1		12.2		7.7		0.38		<0.3		<1	



# Beaubien Woods Boat Launch



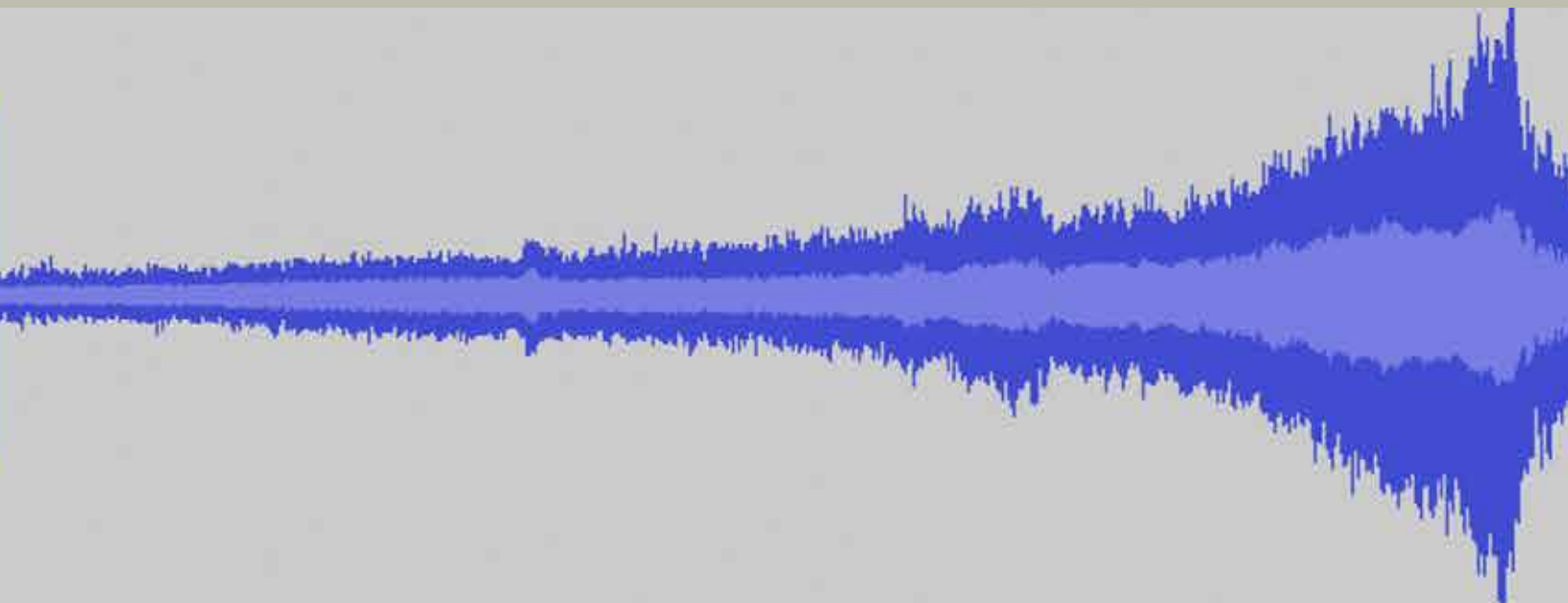




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The Michigan Central and Michigan Southern train rails run through the Beaubien Woods, part of the Forest Preserves of Cook County. Beaubien Woods comprises 300 acres of natural area along the Calumet River, this area is part of the African American Heritage Water Trail which honors the history of individuals who traveled the Underground Railroad and settled along the shores of the Little Calumet River. Shortly before the Civil War, an estimated 3,000–5,000 people fleeing slavery came into the Chicago and Calumet regions. The highest point of the area is the Harbor View Landfill, managed by the state of Illinois Environmental Protection Agency.

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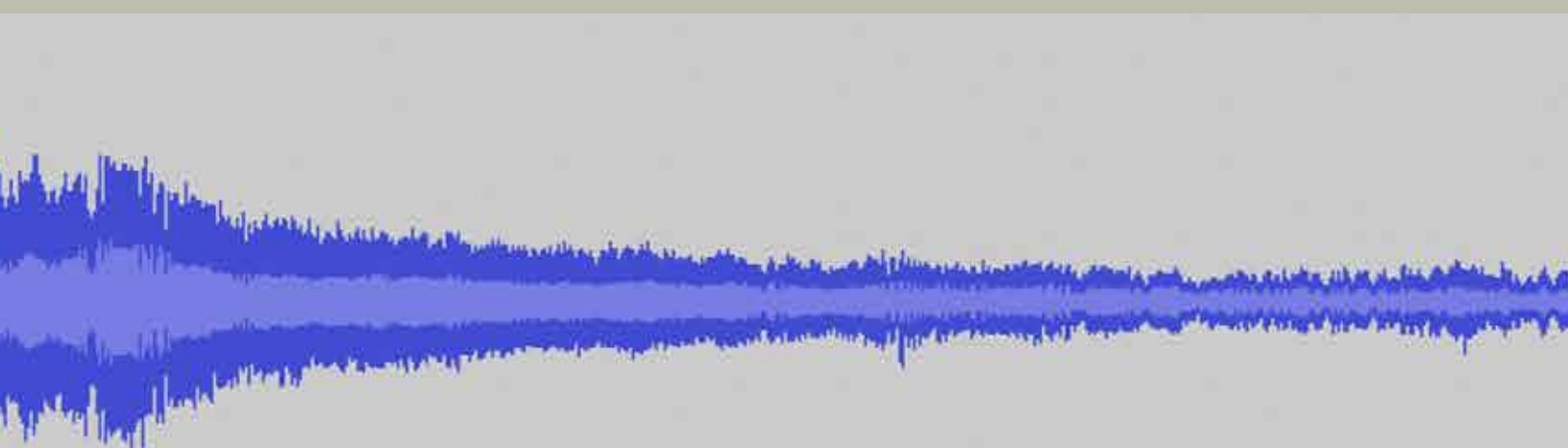


# African Americans as a Percentage of the Population by Large U.S. Cities

Conducted by the Population Division of the United States Census Bureau, 2002

The United States Census Bureau, an agency of the United States Congress, is responsible for collecting information relating to the population of the United States and the economy. The data set on display relates to the migration of six million African Americans from the southern United States to the northern United States between 1910 and 1970. During this time, due to Jim Crow laws African American citizens experienced unequal economic conditions, racial segregation, and discrimination forcing them to move to the northern territories of the United States. At this time population increased in large cities, and in the Southside of Chicago.

City	1900	1910	1920	1930	1940	1950	1960	1970	1980	1990	Change in the Black Percentage of the Total Population Between 1900 and 1990
Phoenix, Arizona	2.70%	2.80%	3.70%	4.90%	6.50%	4.90%	4.80%	4.80%	4.80%	5.20%	2.50%
Los Angeles, California	2.10%	2.40%	2.70%	3.10%	4.20%	8.70%	13.50%	17.90%	17.00%	14.00%	11.90%
San Diego, California	1.80%	1.50%	1.30%	1.80%	2.00%	4.50%	6.00%	7.60%	8.90%	9.40%	7.60%
San Francisco, California	0.50%	0.40%	0.50%	0.60%	0.80%	5.60%	10.00%	13.40%	12.70%	10.90%	10.40%
San Jose, California	1.00%	0.60%	0.50%	0.40%	0.40%	0.60%	1.00%	2.50%	4.60%	4.70%	3.70%
Denver, Colorado	2.90%	2.50%	2.40%	2.50%	2.40%	3.60%	6.10%	9.10%	12.00%	12.80%	9.90%
Washington, District of Columbia	31.10%	28.50%	25.10%	27.10%	28.20%	35.00%	53.90%	71.10%	70.30%	65.80%	34.70%
Chicago, Illinois	1.80%	2.00%	4.10%	6.90%	8.20%	13.60%	22.90%	32.70%	39.80%	39.10%	37.30%
Indianapolis, Indiana	9.40%	9.30%	11.00%	12.10%	13.20%	15.00%	20.60%	18.00%	21.80%	22.60%	13.20%
Baltimore, Maryland	15.60%	15.20%	14.80%	17.70%	19.30%	23.70%	34.70%	46.40%	54.80%	59.20%	43.60%
Boston, Massachusetts	2.10%	2.00%	2.20%	2.60%	3.10%	5.00%	9.10%	16.30%	22.40%	25.60%	23.50%
Detroit, Michigan	1.40%	1.20%	4.10%	7.70%	9.20%	16.20%	28.90%	43.70%	63.10%	75.70%	74.30%
Minneapolis, Minnesota	0.80%	0.90%	1.00%	0.90%	0.90%	1.30%	2.40%	4.40%	7.70%	13.00%	12.20%
Kansas City, Missouri	10.70%	9.50%	9.50%	9.60%	10.40%	12.20%	17.50%	22.10%	27.40%	29.60%	18.90%
St. Louis, Missouri	6.20%	6.40%	9.00%	11.40%	13.30%	17.90%	28.80%	40.90%	45.60%	47.50%	41.30%
Buffalo, New York	0.50%	0.40%	0.90%	2.40%	3.10%	6.30%	13.30%	20.40%	26.80%	30.70%	30.20%
New York, New York	1.80%	1.90%	2.70%	4.70%	6.10%	9.50%	14.00%	21.10%	25.20%	28.70%	26.90%
Cincinnati, Ohio	4.40%	5.40%	7.50%	10.60%	12.20%	15.50%	21.60%	27.60%	33.80%	37.90%	33.50%
Cleveland, Ohio	1.60%	1.50%	4.30%	8.00%	9.60%	16.20%	26.60%	38.30%	43.80%	46.60%	45.00%
Columbus, Ohio	6.50%	7.00%	9.40%	11.30%	11.70%	12.40%	16.40%	18.50%	22.10%	22.60%	16.10%
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania	4.80%	5.50%	7.40%	11.30%	13.00%	18.20%	26.40%	33.60%	37.80%	39.90%	35.10%
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania	5.30%	4.80%	6.40%	8.20%	9.30%	12.20%	16.70%	20.20%	24.00%	25.80%	20.50%





# Indian Ridge Marsh





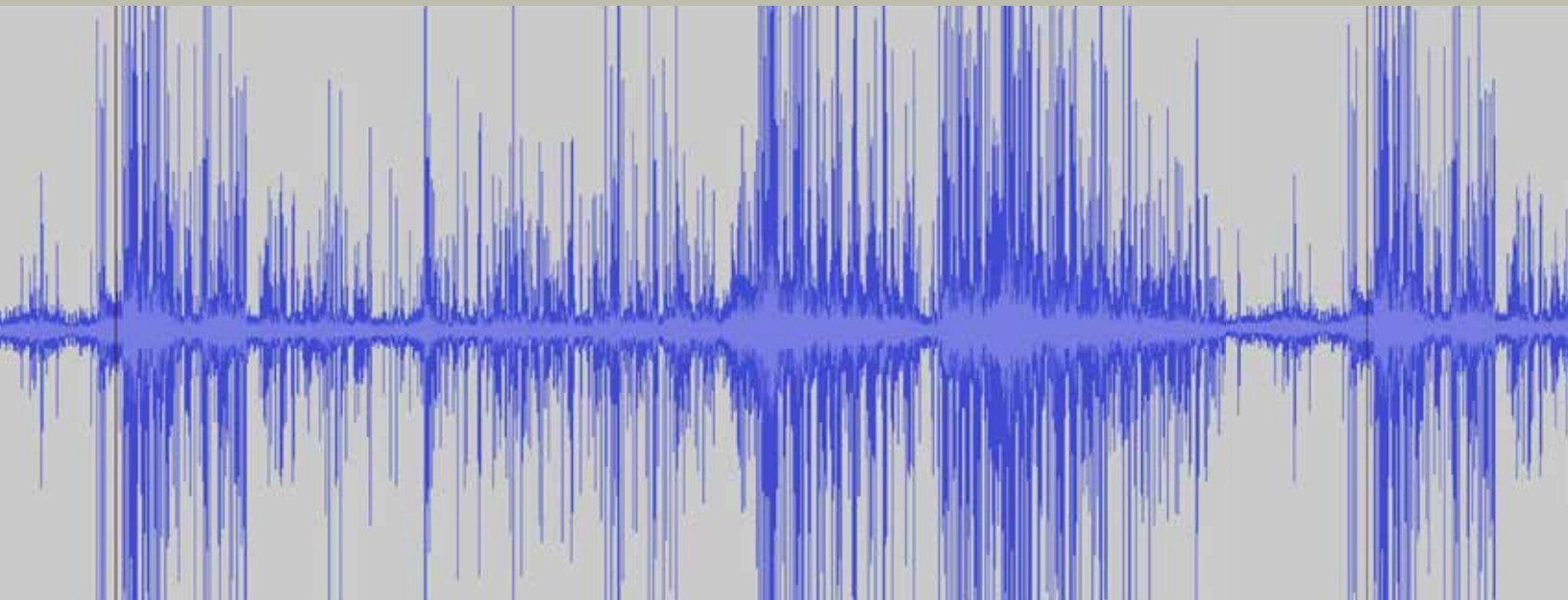




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Indian Ridge Marsh is located where Lake Calumet, the Calumet River, and the Little Calumet River converge. My goal was to reach Deadstick Pond, but it was not accessible. Indian Ridge Marsh is managed by the Chicago Park District, and Deadstick Pond, which is managed by the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District, was temporarily closed to the public. Both areas serve as a critical wildlife habitat for many endangered regional waterfowl.

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# Biological survey of the Calumet West Solids Drying Area

Conducted by the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago, conducted in 2019

The Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago is an independent special-purpose department of the state of Illinois that seeks to protect the health and safety of the Cook County residents by managing wastewater and flood water. The data on display makes note of the many wildlife species that are found in the Calumet West Solids Drying Area which includes natural wildlife habitats that are typically open to the public, such as Indian Ridge Marsh and Deadstick Pond. Many of the waterfowl documented in the dataset are endangered species that are reliant on the health of this natural area.

Name	NotableLocation _Description	NotableLocation HabitatType	Taxonomic	ScientificName	CommonName	Exact Count	Rare End Threat	Flyover	Breeding
Calumet West Solids Drying Area									
			Dragonflies	Anax junias	Common Green Darner	48			
			Dragonflies	Githemis elisa	Calico Pennant	5			
			Dragonflies	Enallagma basidens	Double-striped Bluet	132			
			Dragonflies	Enallagma civile	Familiar Bluet	15			
			Dragonflies	Enallagma signatum	Orange Bluet	6			
			Dragonflies	Erythemis simplicicollis	Eastern Pondhawk	16			
			Dragonflies	Isonura posita	Fragile Forktail	1			
			Dragonflies	Isonura verticalis	Eastern Forktail	37			
			Dragonflies	Lestes diunctus/australis	Northern/Southern Spreadwing	2			
			Dragonflies	Libellula luctuosa	Widow Skimmer	14			
			Dragonflies	Pachydiplax longipennis	Blue Dasher	47			
			Dragonflies	Pantala flavescens	Wandering Glider	3			
			Dragonflies	Perithemis tenera	Eastern Amberwing	7			
			Dragonflies	Tramea lacerata	Black Saddlebags	10			
		wetlands, with deadstick ponds	Birds	Agelaius phoeniceus	Red-winged Blackbird	31			PR
			Birds	Ardea alba	Great Egret	1			
			Birds	Bombus cedrorum	Cedar Waxwing	3			PO
			Birds	Cardinalis cardinalis	Northern Cardinal	1			PO
			Birds	Cathartes aura	Turkey Vulture	1			
			Birds	Chaetura pelagica	Chimney Swift	1			
			Birds	Charadrius vociferus	Killdeer	1			PO
			Birds	Cistothorus palustris	Marsh Wren	1			PO
			Birds	Dendroica petechia	Yellow Warbler	3			PO
			Birds	Dumetella carolinensis	Gray Catbird	5			PO
			Birds	Empidonax traillii	Willow Flycatcher	1			PO
			Birds	Geothlypis trichas	Common Yellowthroat	7			CO
			Birds	Hirundo rustica	Barn Swallow	2			PO
			Birds	Larus argentatus	Herring Gull	1			1
			Birds	Larus delawarensis	Ring-billed Gull	2			
			Birds	Melospiza melodia	Song Sparrow	4			PR
			Birds	Molothrus ater	Brown-headed Cowbird	3			PO
			Birds	Passerina cyanea	Indigo Bunting	7			PR
			Birds	Picoides pubescens	Downy Woodpecker	2			PO
			Birds	Poocile atricapillus	Black-capped Chickadee	2			PO
			Birds	Quiscalus quiscula	Common Grackle	2			2 PO
			Birds	Spinus tristis	American Goldfinch	10			PO
			Birds	Stelgidopteryx serripennis	Northern Rough-winged Swallow	3			
			Birds	Sturnus vulgaris	European Starling	58			13 CO
			Birds	Tachycineta bicolor	Tree Swallow	3			PO
			Birds	Troglodytes aedon	House Wren	2			PO



# Jan and Aagje Ton Farm



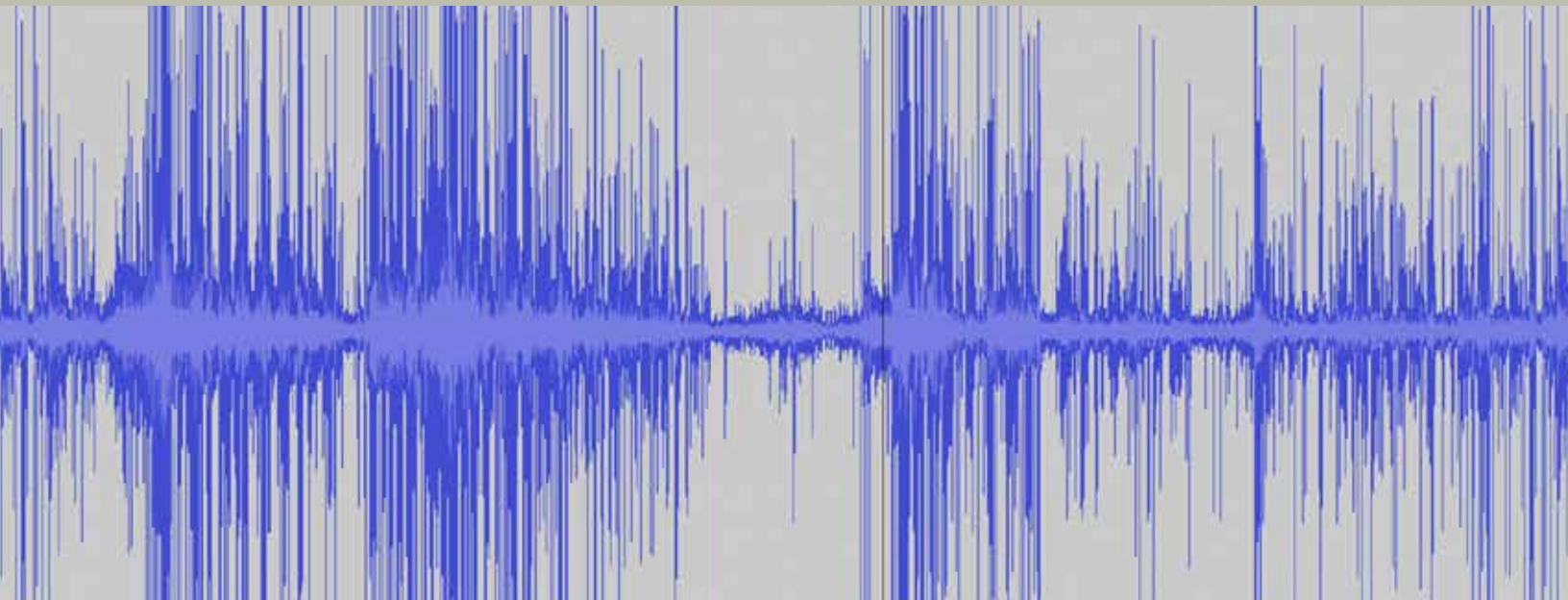




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I tried to visit the site this summer, but no one was there to let me in to record. A month or two later the same site was declared an Illinois landmark. The National Park Service's Network to Freedom project recognized the Jan and Aagje Ton Farm as a site of the Underground Railroad. From 1840 until the Civil War, the farm occupied 40 acres along the bank of the Little Calumet River and served as a safe house for those seeking freedom.

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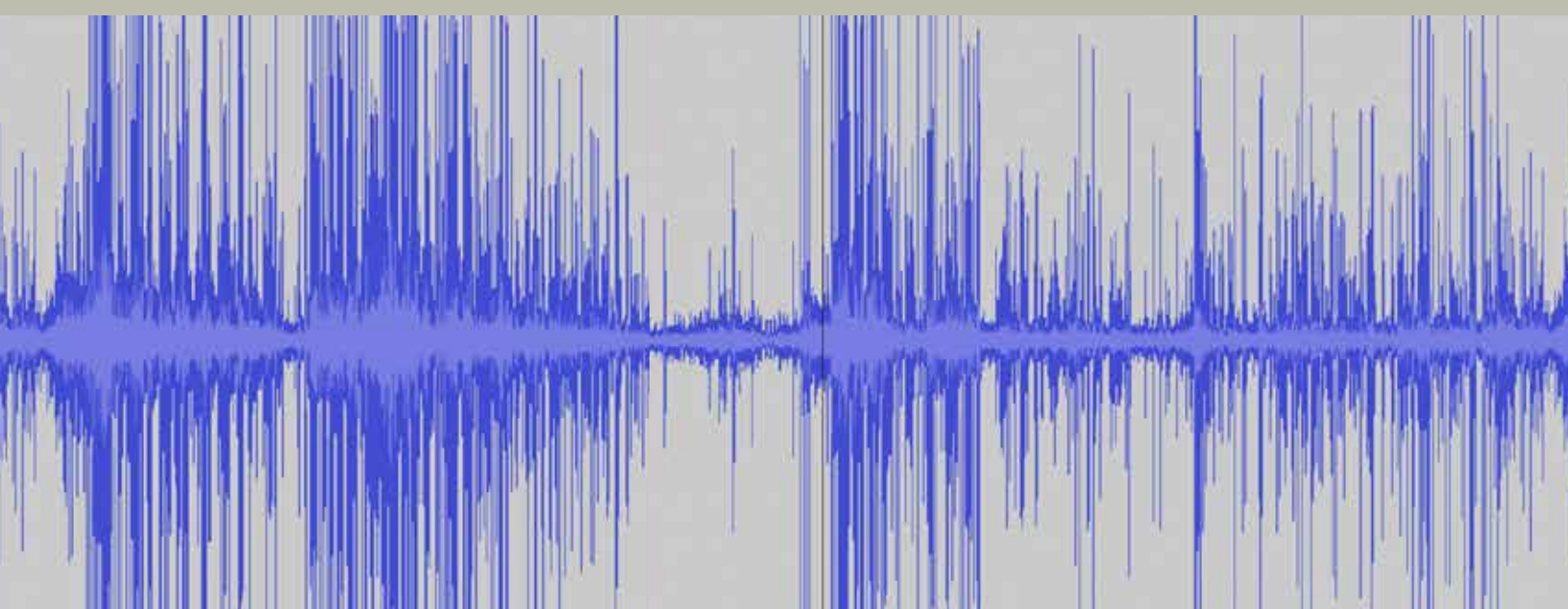


# RadNet monitor data from Chicago 2020

Conducted by the United States Environmental Protection Agency

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is a branch of the United States federal government that regularly conducts RadNet air quality measurements for the entire nation. RadNet, also known as Near-real-time Air Monitoring, is a network of 140 air monitors that collect gamma radiation levels across the nation in order to analyze the quality of our natural resources including the air, precipitation, and drinking water. The data summarizes RadNet data captured in Chicago in 2020.

LOCATION_NAME	SAMPLE COLLECTION TIME	DOSE EQUIVALENT RATE (nSv/h)	GAMMA COUNT RATE R02 (CPM)	GAMMA COUNT RATE R03 (CPM)	GAMMA COUNT RATE R04 (CPM)	GAMMA COUNT RATE R05 (CPM)	GAMMA COUNT RATE R06 (CPM)	GAMMA COUNT RATE R07 (CPM)	GAMMA COUNT RATE R08 (CPM)	GAMMA COUNT RATE R09 (CPM)	STATUS
IL: CHICAGO	4/28/2021 21:06	35	944	563	196	102	66	101	49	33	APPROVED
IL: CHICAGO	4/28/2021 22:06	59	1834	1235	406	198	116	175	84	39	APPROVED
IL: CHICAGO	4/28/2021 23:07	50	1498	990	351	172	105	156	74	37	APPROVED
IL: CHICAGO	4/29/2021 0:07	38	1010	614	217	113	72	106	51	34	APPROVED
IL: CHICAGO	4/29/2021 1:07	34	880	514	181	94	63	92	48	32	APPROVED
IL: CHICAGO	4/29/2021 2:07	34	843	490	169	87	60	89	46	31	APPROVED
IL: CHICAGO	4/29/2021 3:07	40	1022	634	216	113	73	105	52	32	APPROVED
IL: CHICAGO	4/29/2021 4:08	37	1045	638	224	115	73	107	53	33	APPROVED
IL: CHICAGO	4/29/2021 5:08	36	928	550	192	102	65	97	48	32	APPROVED
IL: CHICAGO	4/29/2021 6:08	34	845	493	168	89	61	89	46	32	APPROVED
IL: CHICAGO	4/29/2021 7:08	33	852	491	171	90	59	88	46	31	APPROVED
IL: CHICAGO	4/29/2021 8:08	35	903	536	186	99	67	97	49	33	APPROVED
IL: CHICAGO	4/29/2021 9:09	35	899	539	189	101	64	95	46	32	APPROVED
IL: CHICAGO	4/29/2021 10:09	34	851	497	171	92	61	91	45	32	APPROVED
IL: CHICAGO	4/29/2021 11:09	34	848	496	173	95	60	91	46	31	APPROVED
IL: CHICAGO	4/29/2021 12:09	33	831	486	169	91	60	89	43	31	APPROVED
IL: CHICAGO	4/29/2021 13:09	33	821	489	169	92	60	88	46	31	APPROVED
IL: CHICAGO	4/29/2021 14:10	34	838	495	171	92	60	92	45	31	APPROVED
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IL: CHICAGO	4/30/2021 6:58	34	833	485	166	91	60	91	45	30	APPROVED
IL: CHICAGO	4/30/2021 7:58	32	845	501	172	94	63	93	46	32	APPROVED





# Acme Steel Company





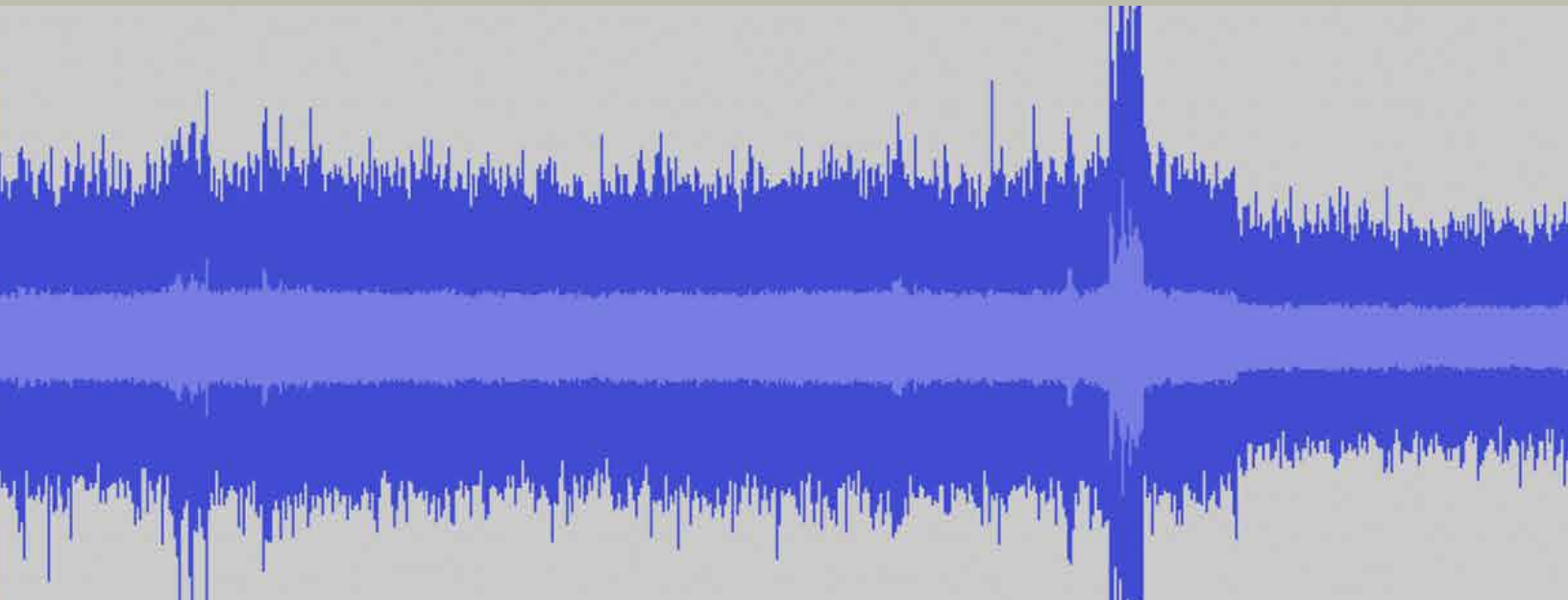




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One of the photographs I took captures a distant view of the Acme Steel Company, as I couldn't access it any closer. Given its location between the Calumet River and Lake Calumet it is easy to understand how the water quality of the Calumet area is affected by this kind of industrial activity.

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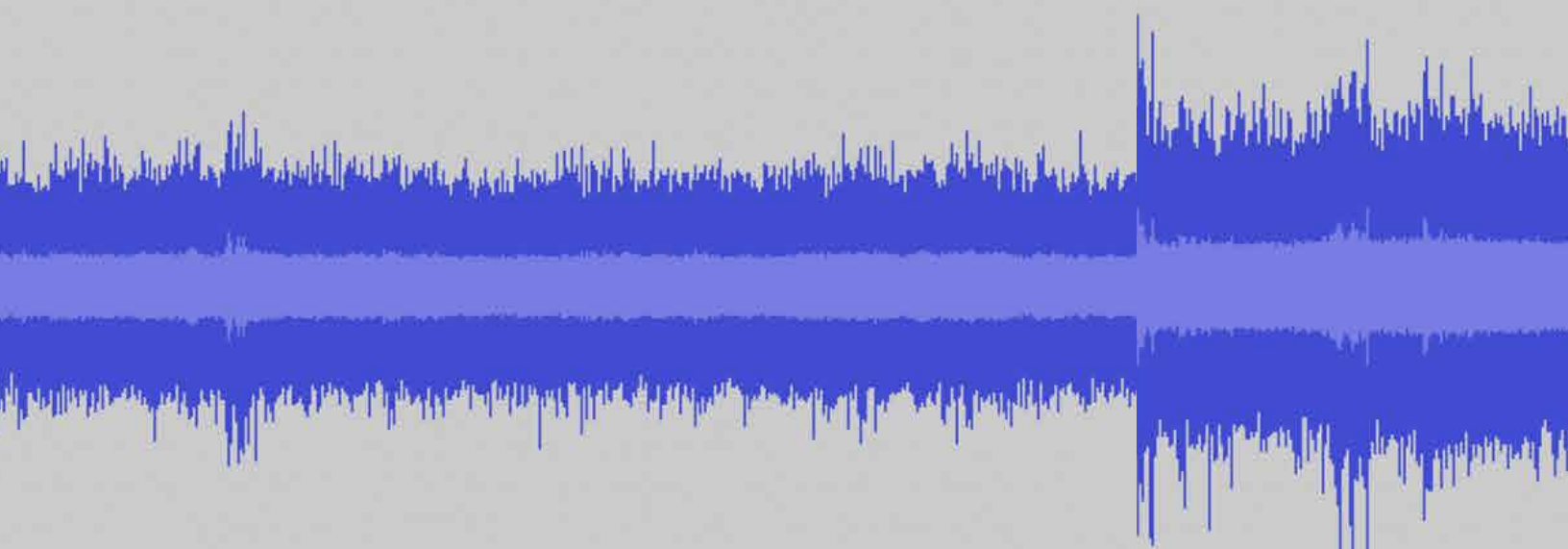


# RadNet monitor data from Chicago 2017

Conducted by the United States Environmental Protection Agency

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is a branch of the United States federal government that regularly conducts RadNet air quality measurements for the entire nation. RadNet, also known as Near-real-time Air Monitoring, is a network of 140 air monitors that collect gamma radiation levels across the nation in order to analyze the quality of our natural resources including the air, precipitation, and drinking water. The data summarizes RadNet data captured in Chicago in 2017.

LOCATION_NAME	SAMPLE COLLECTION TIME	DOSE EQUIVALENT RATE (mSv/h)	GAMMA COUNT RATE R02 (CPM)	GAMMA COUNT RATE R03 (CPM)	GAMMA COUNT RATE R04 (CPM)	GAMMA COUNT RATE R05 (CPM)	GAMMA COUNT RATE R06 (CPM)	GAMMA COUNT RATE R07 (CPM)	GAMMA COUNT RATE R08 (CPM)	GAMMA COUNT RATE R09 (CPM)	STATUS
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IL-CHICAGO	4/29/2021 4:08	37	1045	638	224	115	73	107	53	33	APPROVED
IL-CHICAGO	4/29/2021 5:08	36	928	550	192	102	65	97	48	32	APPROVED
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IL-CHICAGO	4/30/2021 5:58	33	835	491	171	92	61	92	45	30	APPROVED
IL-CHICAGO	4/30/2021 6:58	34	833	485	166	91	60	91	45	30	APPROVED
IL-CHICAGO	4/30/2021 7:58	32	845	501	172	94	63	93	46	32	APPROVED
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IL-CHICAGO	4/30/2021 11:59	34	933	589	200	108	68	103	53	33	APPROVED
IL-CHICAGO	4/30/2021 12:59	35	926	580	199	109	66	104	51	32	APPROVED
IL-CHICAGO	4/30/2021 13:59	32	869	533	185	100	63	98	49	32	APPROVED
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IL-CHICAGO	4/30/2021 17:00	32	792	459	159	87	58	86	43	31	APPROVED
IL-CHICAGO	4/30/2021 18:00	32	782	449	158	86	55	83	43	30	APPROVED





# Steelworkers Park



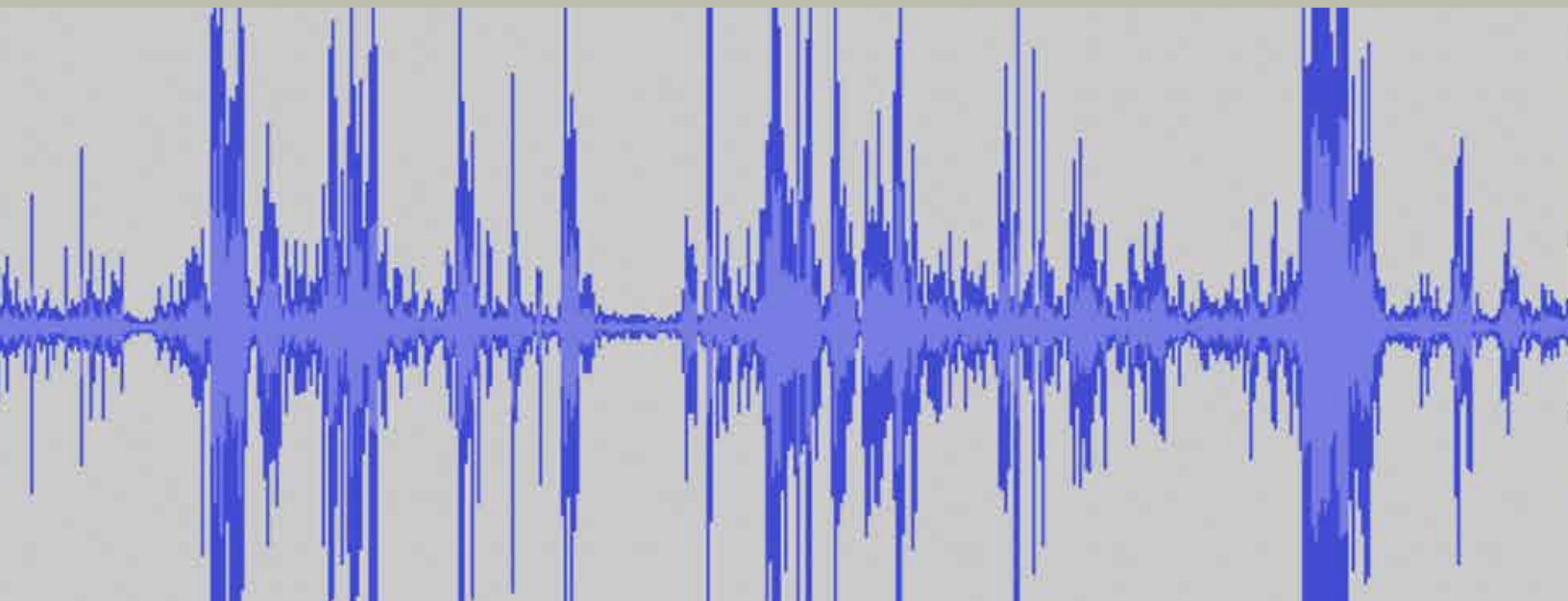




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The area of Steelworkers Park, near Calumet Harbor was developed from a U.S. Steel industrial complex into a tree lined natural area with walking paths. This photograph I took captures a huge piece of slag that lines the shoreline at Calumet Harbor. Slag, a discarded material created in the smelting process from industrial metal refining, can be seen throughout the recreational area.

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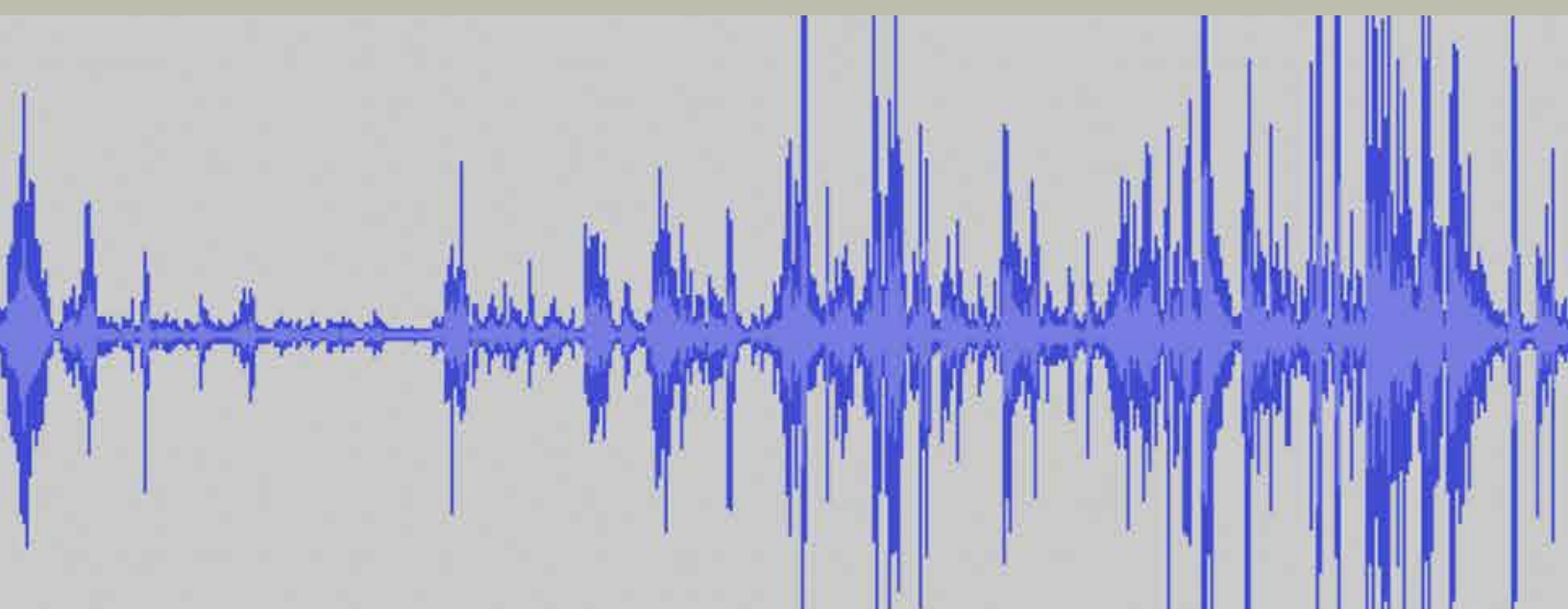


# RadNet monitor data from Chicago 2021

Conducted by the United States Environmental Protection Agency.

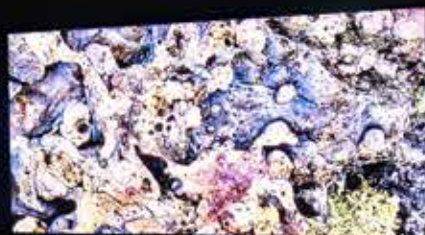
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IL CHICAGO	4/29/2021 21:06	35	944	503	196	203	66	101	49			33 APPROVED
IL CHICAGO	4/29/2021 22:06	59	1834	1235	406	198	118	175	84			39 APPROVED
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IL CHICAGO	4/29/2021 13:09	33	821	489	169	92	60	88	46			31 APPROVED
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IL CHICAGO	4/29/2021 19:56	34	840	499	173	94	62	92	47			32 APPROVED
IL CHICAGO	4/29/2021 20:56	34	824	482	169	92	61	88	43			30 APPROVED
IL CHICAGO	4/29/2021 21:56	31	822	480	168	90	60	87	45			32 APPROVED
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IL CHICAGO	4/30/2021 21:01	32	781	441	153	86	56	80	41			30 APPROVED
IL CHICAGO	4/30/2021 22:01	32	788	446	153	81	56	81	42			30 APPROVED
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IL CHICAGO	5/1/2021 0:01	32	794	448	154	83	57	80	41			31 APPROVED
IL CHICAGO	5/1/2021 1:01	31	789	444	152	83	55	83	42			29 APPROVED
IL CHICAGO	5/1/2021 2:02	32	782	440	154	82	55	81	42			31 APPROVED













# Biographies

**Norman Long's** current practice centers on walking, listening, improvising, performing, teaching, field recording, and exploring memory, place, ecology, and race. Long has performed and exhibited at Yale University's Center for Collaborative Arts & Media in Newhaven, High Zero Festival in Baltimore, as well as the Experimental Sound Studio, Kavi Gupta Gallery, The Renaissance Society, Chicago Humanities Festival, Chicago Cultural Center, and the 2021 Chicago Architecture Biennial all in Chicago. Long has performed and toured with Angel Bat Dawid and the Brothahood, the Ali/Harris/Long/McKenna group, Honey Pot Performance Spectralina, Todd Carter, Xris Espinoza, Carol Genetti, Damon Locks, Jamal Moore, Tatsuya Nakatani, Joe Namy, Cristal Sabbagh, Ami Yamasaki, and Sara Zalek. He has released his compositions on labels such as Hausu Mountain, Reserve Matinee, LINE, and Room40. *Anemoi* is the latest ensemble release with Ishmael Ali, William Harris, and Wills McKenna. His solo album, *BLACK BROWN GRAY GREEN* was released in September 2021 on Hausu Mountain, and *Return and Recovery* is his latest solo release on LINE.

**Erin Margaret Day** writes primarily about music with specific attention to how it connects to our lives and our struggles, and what it communicates about our cultures and our histories. Her writing is an extension of her work as a participant in DIY music scenes and as an anti-oppressive educator and activist; it is deeply informed by knowledge gleaned from those efforts. She has lived in the urban industrial Rust Belt of the United States her whole life and is currently working on a book about how her home region of Northeast Ohio modernized rock music in the late '60s and '70s. Her work as a writer and broadcaster can be found in *The Wire*, *Bandcamp Daily*, *Cleveland Review of Books*, *Brilliant Corners*, *Hugo Ball Chicago*, and on WFMU.

# Acknowledgments

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# References

## Audio

### *Calumet in Dub* Playlist

A playlist compiled by Norman W. Long citing research and influences.  
[bit.ly/3H7p0QB](https://bit.ly/3H7p0QB)

### *Kepla with Norman Long (September '22)*

Aired by Melodic Distraction  
58 minutes 50 seconds  
Mixcloud  
[mixcloud.com/melodicdistraction/kepla-with-norman-long-september-22/](https://mixcloud.com/melodicdistraction/kepla-with-norman-long-september-22/)

### *The Sounds of Slavery*

Playlist by T. David Franklin  
Track 1: *Arwhoolie Cornfield Holler*, 46 seconds  
Track 3: *Field Holler*, 1 minute 17 seconds  
Track 13: *Run Old Jeremiah*, 5 minutes 30 seconds  
Internet Archive  
[archive.org/details/TDavidFranklinTheSoundsofSlavery](https://archive.org/details/TDavidFranklinTheSoundsofSlavery)  
*The Sounds of Slavery* is the closest modern listeners will ever get to experiencing the diverse sounds that surrounded slave life.

## Websites

### *African American Heritage Water Trail: From Beaubien Woods to Robbins*

An initiative of Openlands  
[bit.ly/3HbHUWe](https://bit.ly/3HbHUWe)  
This site offers maps and information about exploring the Trail that honors the 180 years of African American history in the Calumet Region.

### *Illinois Underground Railroad*

[illinoisundergroundrailroad.info](https://illinoisundergroundrailroad.info)  
A website presenting detailed information about the Underground Railroad in Illinois.

### *Untold America: Chicago's new African American Heritage Water Trail*

by Tiffany Walden  
BBC Travel  
[bbc.in/3JcAKnx](https://bbc.in/3JcAKnx)  
This piece provides a detailed look at the African American Heritage Water Trail.

## Videos

### *Chicago: City of Big Shoulders with Scott Simon Part 1 of EDENS LOST & FOUND How Ordinary Citizens are Restoring Our Great American Cities*

Directed by Harry Wiland  
PBS, May 18, 2006  
56 minutes  
This show highlights the cooperation of ordinary citizens, environmental groups, and government to develop solutions to ecological issues.

### *Matter of Fact With Soledad O'Brien*

Executive Produced by Rita Aleman  
NBC, June 21, 2020  
30 minutes  
Internet Archive  
[bit.ly/3HvRcxj](https://bit.ly/3HvRcxj)  
This video focuses on Hazel Johnson's environmental activism regarding cancer causing pollution in the Altgeld Gardens area of Chicago.

## Book

### *Dub Soundscapes and Shattered Songs in Jamaican Reggae*

by Michael E. Veal  
Wesleyan University Press, Middletown, Connecticut 2007  
Particularly chapter 8, *Starship Africa: the acoustics of diaspora and of the postcolony* which discusses dub music techniques and processes as metaphor for loss, rupture, and repair that are a part of the experience of many Black people in the diaspora.



Scan the QR Code for an excerpt of *Calumet in Dub*

