What is Claimed:

1. A system for controlling a habitat comprising:

a server comprising a database containing information associated with a habitat component and a communication interface for transmitting operating data for the habitat component;

a bridge having a first communication unit configured to communicate with the server communication interface and transmit the operating data received from the server to the habitat component;

a habitat component having a second communication unit for receiving operating data from the bridge.

2. The system of claim 1, further comprising a user interface and wherein the server is configured to receive information transmitted from the user interface.

3. The system of claims 1 or 2, wherein the habitat component comprises a microprocessor for processing the operating data received from the bridge to produce an output to control the operation of the habitat component.

4. The system of any of claims 1-3, wherein the habitat component comprises internal memory configured to store the operating data.

5. The system of claim 4, wherein the habitat component is capable of storing operating data relating to a day's operation.

6. The system of any one of claims claim 1-5, wherein the bridge comprises internal memory configured to store the operating data.

7. The system of any one of claims 1-6, further comprising a second habitat component comprising a third communication unit configured to receive the operating data from the bridge and a microprocessor for processing the operating data received from the bridge to produce an output to control the operation of the second habitat component.

8. The system of any one of claims 1-7, further comprising a monitoring component comprising a fourth communication unit configured to transmit information to the bridge.

9. The system of any one of claims 1-8, wherein the habitat component is one of a pump, lighting unit, heater, or filter.

10. The system of any one of claims 1-9, wherein the habitat is an aquatic habitat.

11. The system of any one of claims 1-10, further comprising a local device for transmitting operating data to the bridge.

12. The system of any one of claims 1-11, wherein the first and second communication units comprise a WiFi connection.

13. The system of any one of claims 1-12, wherein the first and second communication units comprise a RF module.

14. The system of any one of claims 1-6 or 10-13, wherein the habitat component is a first habitat component and the system further comprises a second habitat component comprising a third communication unit configured to receive operating data from the first habitat component.

15. The system of claims 7 or 14, wherein the bridge, the first habitat component, and the second habitat component form a wireless mesh network.

16. A method of controlling an aquatic habitat comprising:

inputting environmental information associated with a habitat to a user interface;

transmitting the environmental information from the user interface to a server;

preparing operating data related to a first component and a second component associated with the habitat;

transmitting the operating data related to the first and second components from the server to a bridge associated with the habitat;

transmitting the operating data related to the first component from the bridge to the first component; and

transmitting the operating data related to the second component from the bridge to the second component.

17. The method of claim 16, wherein said inputting environmental information comprises a user selecting a desired operating mode.

18. The method of claims 16 or 17, wherein the environmental information relates to a change in the environment of the habitat at a specific time.

19. The method of claim 16, wherein said inputting environmental information comprises a user entering information relating to components associated with the habitat.

20. The method of claim 19, further comprising automatically generating operating modes based on the input environmental information.

21. The method of any one of claims 16-20, wherein the first and second components are configured to process the operating data received from the bridge and produce an output to control the operation of the first and second components, respectively.

22. The method of any one of claims 16-21, further comprising monitoring individual components of the aquatic habitat and transmitting data relating to the operation of the individual components to the server.

23. The method of claim any one of claims 16-22, further comprising storing operating data in the bridge.

24. The method of any one of claims 16-23, wherein the bridge, the first component, and the second component are organized into a mesh network.

25. The method of any one of claims 16-23, wherein the first component is a lighting unit and the operating data related to the first component includes instructions to operate on a day and night cycle.

What is Claimed:

1. A system for controlling a habitat comprising:

a server comprising a database containing information associated with a habitatcomponent and a communication interface for transmitting operating data for the habitat component;

a bridge having a first communication unit configured to communicate with the server communication interface and transmit the operating data received from the server to the habitat component; and

a habitat component having a second communication unit for receiving operating data from the bridge.

2. The system of claim 1, further comprising a user interface and wherein the server is configured to receive information transmitted from the user interface.

3. The system of claims 1 or 2, wherein the habitat component comprises a microprocessor for processing the operating data received from the bridge to produce an output to control the operation of the habitat component.

4. The system of claim 1, wherein the habitat component comprises internal memory configured to store the operating data.

5. The system of claim 4, wherein the habitat component is capable of storing operating data relating to a day's operation.

6. The system of claim 1, wherein the bridge comprises internal memory configured to store the operating data.

7. The system of claim 1, further comprising a second habitat component comprising a third communication unit configured to receive the operating data from the bridge and a microprocessor for processing the operating data received from the bridge to produce an output to control the operation of the second habitat component.

8. The system of claim 7, further comprising a monitoring component comprising a fourth communication unit configured to transmit information to the bridge.

9. The system of claim 1, wherein the habitat component is one of a pump, lighting unit, heater, or filter.

10. The system of claim 1, wherein the habitat is an aquatic habitat.

11. The system of claim 1, further comprising a local device for transmitting operating data to the bridge.

12. The system of claim 1, wherein the first and second communication units comprise a WiFi connection.

13. The system of claim 1, wherein the first and second communication units comprise a RF module.

14. The system of claim 1, wherein the habitat component is a first habitat component and the system further comprises a second habitat component comprising a third communication unit configured to receive operating data from the first habitat component.

15. The system of claim 14, wherein the bridge, the first habitat component, and the second habitat component form a wireless mesh network.

16. A method of controlling an aquatic habitat comprising:

inputting environmental information associated with a habitat to a user interface;

transmitting the environmental information from the user interface to a server;

preparing operating data related to a first component and a second component associated with the habitat;

transmitting the operating data related to the first and second components from the server to a bridge associated with the habitat;

transmitting the operating data related to the first component from the bridge to the first component; and

transmitting the operating data related to the second component from the bridge to the second component.

17. The method of claim 16, wherein said inputting environmental information comprises a user selecting a desired operating mode.

18. The method of claims 16 or 17, wherein the environmental information relates to a change in the environment of the habitat at a specific time.

19. The method of claim 16, wherein said inputting environmental information comprises a user entering information relating to components associated with the habitat.

20. The method of claim 19, further comprising automatically generating operating modes based on the input environmental information.

21. The method of claim 16, wherein the first and second components are configured to process the operating data received from the bridge and produce an output to control the operation of the first and second components, respectively.

22. The method of claim 16, further comprising monitoring individual components of the aquatic habitat and transmitting data relating to the operation of the individual components to the server.

23. The method of claim 16, further comprising storing operating data in the bridge.

24. The method of claim 16, wherein the bridge, the first component, and the second component are organized into a mesh network.

25. The method of claim 16, wherein the first component is a lighting unit and the operating data related to the first component includes instructions to operate on a day and night cycle.