

ECOTOURISM

Design a meaningful landscape for ecology and economy

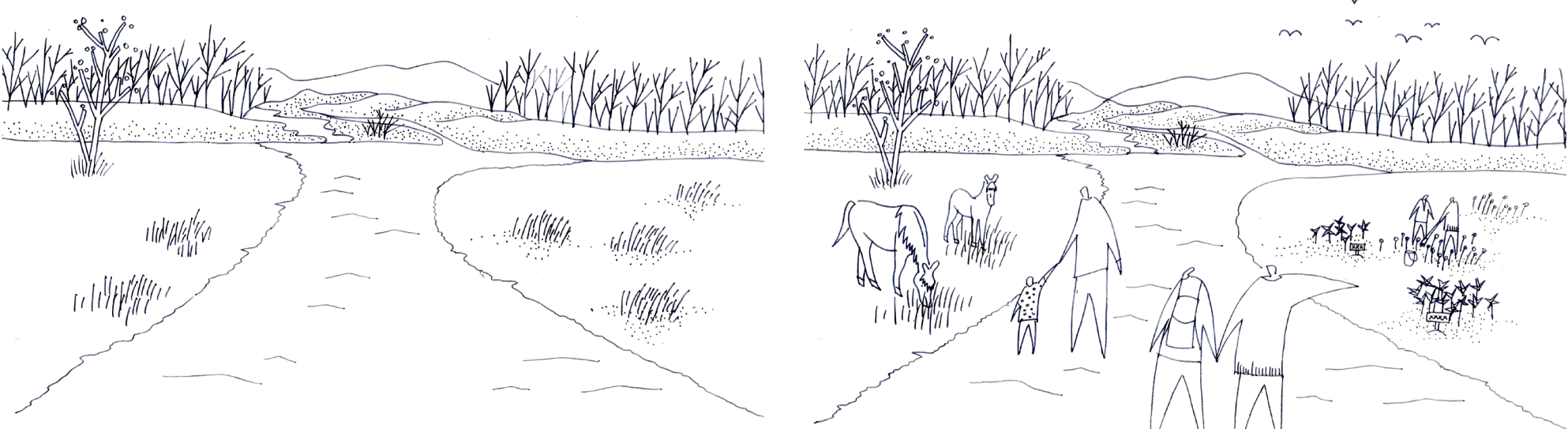
Wenxin Jin 4617452
Delta Interventions Studio
Mentor
Taneha Kuzniecowa Bacchin
Steffen Nijhuis

Over the past century, tourism has evolved to play a significant role in the regional economy and cultural identity of the Dutch southwest Delta. Yet, tourism practices are facing challenges from the declining ecology and shrinking economy. In response to the increasing appreciation of nature experiences, a new travel mode has arisen called ecotourism, which is distinguished by its emphasis on conservation, education, traveller responsibility and active community participation. Features of the local context in the Brouwersdam region include several landscape typologies across the coastal area like dunes, beaches, salt lakes, polders, etc., make it an ideal place to study the opportunity for ecotourism.

Then the regional concept design is elaborated. In this project, ecotourism will work as a bridge to connect nature and urban. This bridge will extend through the most diverse area of different landscapes to form a regional corridor of ecotourism across the Brouwersdam region. This corridor, on the one hand, can explore the recreational and economic value of nature resources and provide a viable economic development alternative for local communities. On the other hand, it will still leave the nature and urban areas independent of each other and increase the level of education and activism among travelers, making them more enthusiastic and effective agents of conservation.

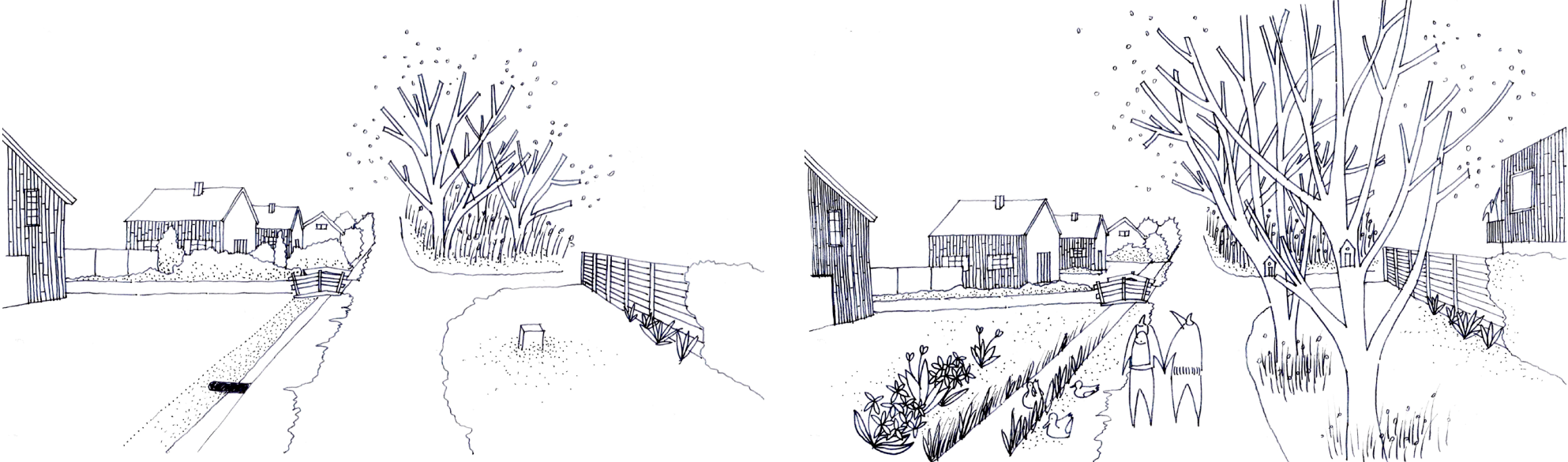
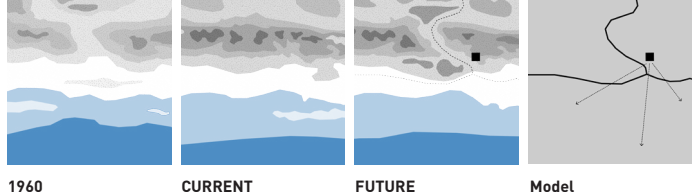
To achieve that, a range of interventions and programs will be developed to support this corridor and address territorial resilience. The existing landscape, buildings and infrastructure along the corridor - from parish church, water mills to lighthouse; from the forest, dune, polder to the spreading out of 'urban bush' - will be reused in flexible and polyvalent ways to minimize the built footprint on the ground. This space will be activated by developing sport events, alternative commercial enterprises, environmental education programs, entertainment, art and more empathetic activities associated with the field of ecotourism.

Based on these design objectives, the different spatial interventions are tested on the site in terms of territory, program and mobility system. Through these possible interventions, specific local design principles are explored in the human scale to link the possible narratives that can happen on the site. Each spatial quality is shown in the narrative as a certain condition of the Site Typology, Project Typology or Heritage. Based on this condition, we can find the other place that is suitable to develop in the same way. The implications of these narratives possible in the other area. Also, as each narrative shows a certain kind of space or perception of space. They are further concluded as the complementary principle to show the link between feeling and the organization of the space.



SITE 01 Primary dune

CURRENT : The increasing succession lead to the loss of dynamic in the dune.
PROPOSED : By cutting the primary dune, and supporting them with sand fencing, the dynamic dune habitat will be restored for more local species and wildlife. A new learning access for walker will provide educational environments and animal watching ground.



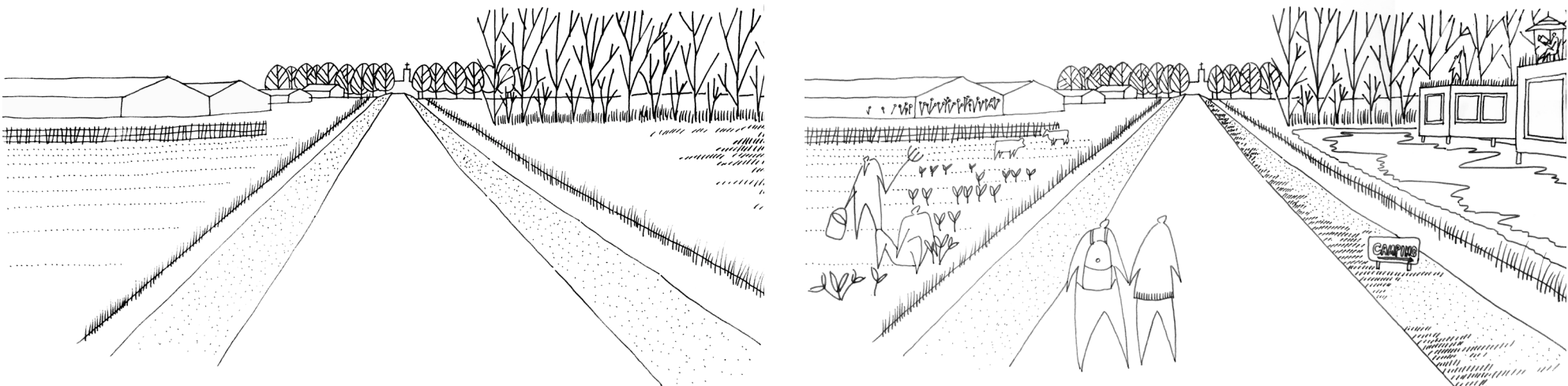
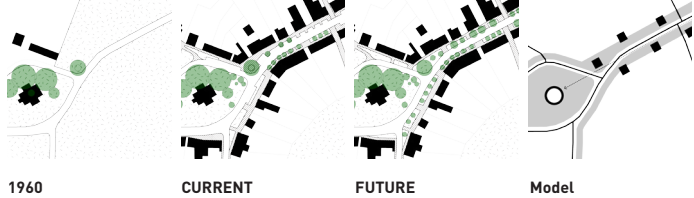
SITE 02 Half-way towards dune

CURRENT : Along the old small path, the old wooden banks are destroyed and the ditch is also abandoned.
PROPOSED : The front yard of the emergency house will be modified and the wooden bank will be reconnected to highlight the view toward the emergency house to commemorate the 1953 flood.



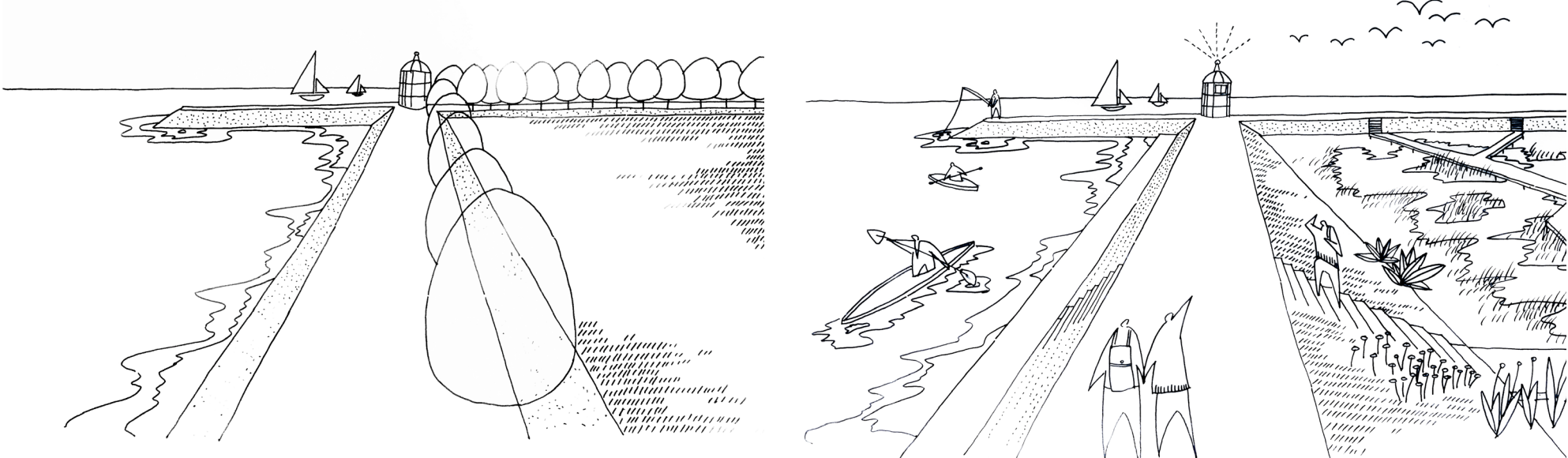
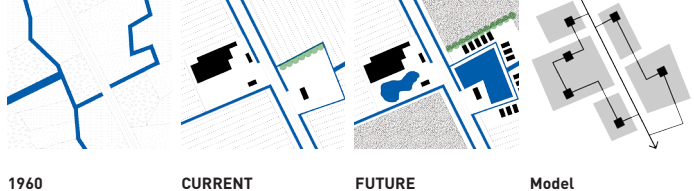
SITE 03 Green Road towards city center

CURRENT : Along the old ring, fruit trees have been installed, matching the central location of these roads, but this structure does not continue everywhere.
PROPOSED : The high tree along the street will highlight the church. The different program will be added along the street to involve more people and increase their awareness to protect the ecosystem.



SITE 04 Along the old dike

CURRENT : In order to meet demand for the growing human population, current agricultural practices need to maximize the use of available land, which results in increased mechanization.
PROPOSED : The different kinds of agricultural are proposed to be planted in the area in the different time of the year based on the soil and water condition. On that way, the water quality and biodiversity will be improved.

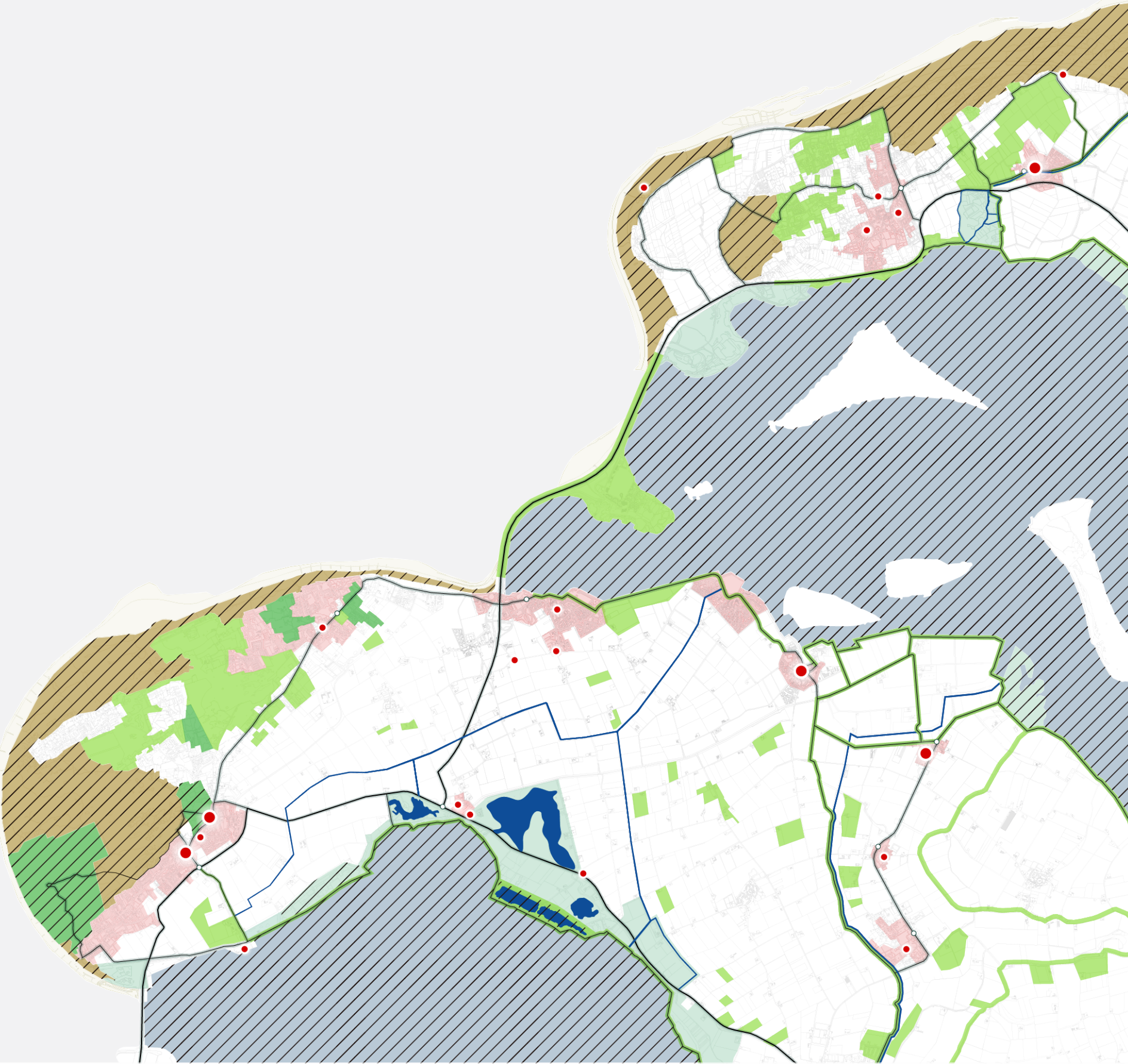


SITE 05 Towards water

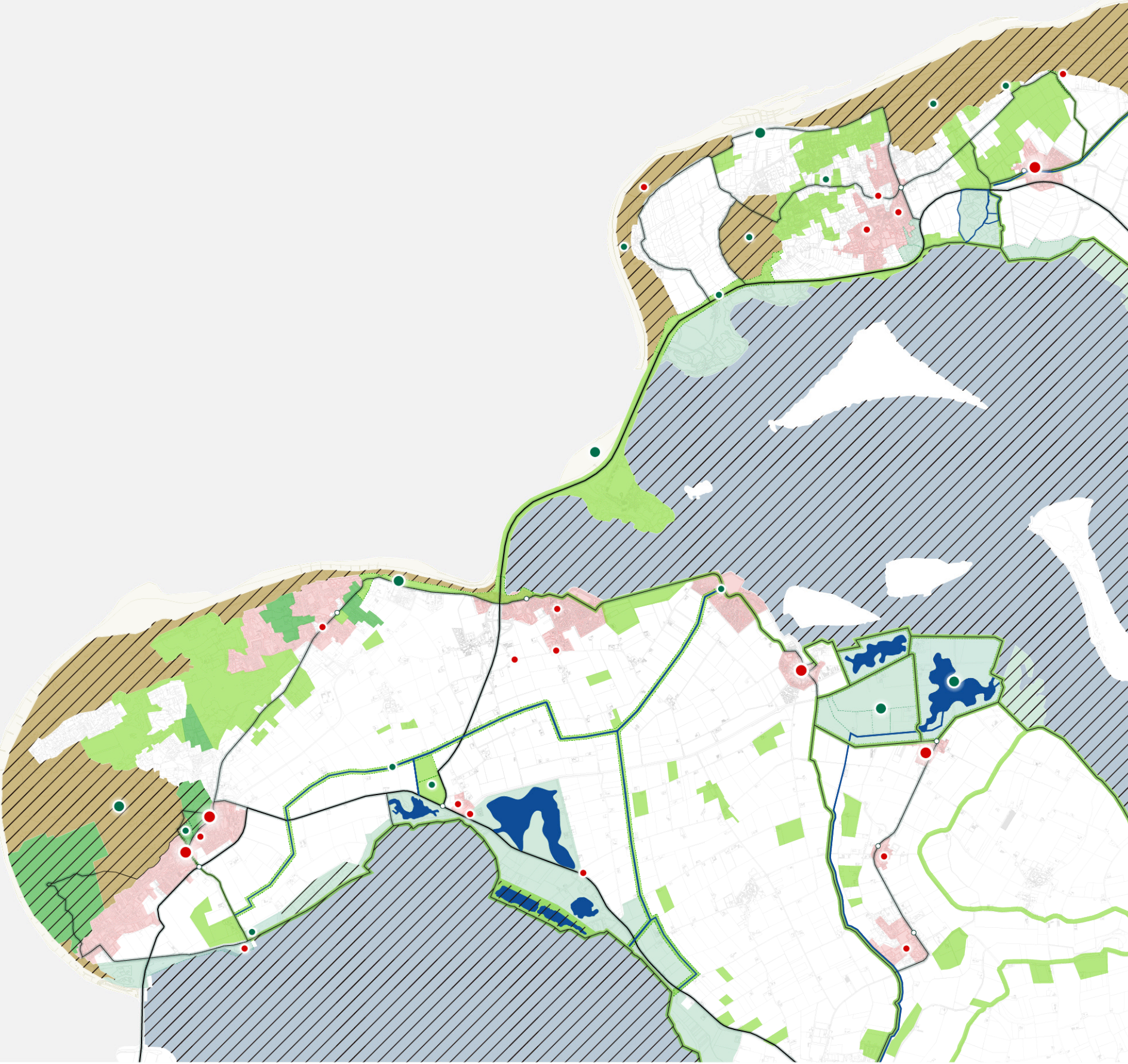
CURRENT : The image of water and light tower is the important cultural identity of the area and needed to be strengthened.
PROPOSED : The recovered wetland and the removal of trees along the street increase the accessibility of the water and light tower.



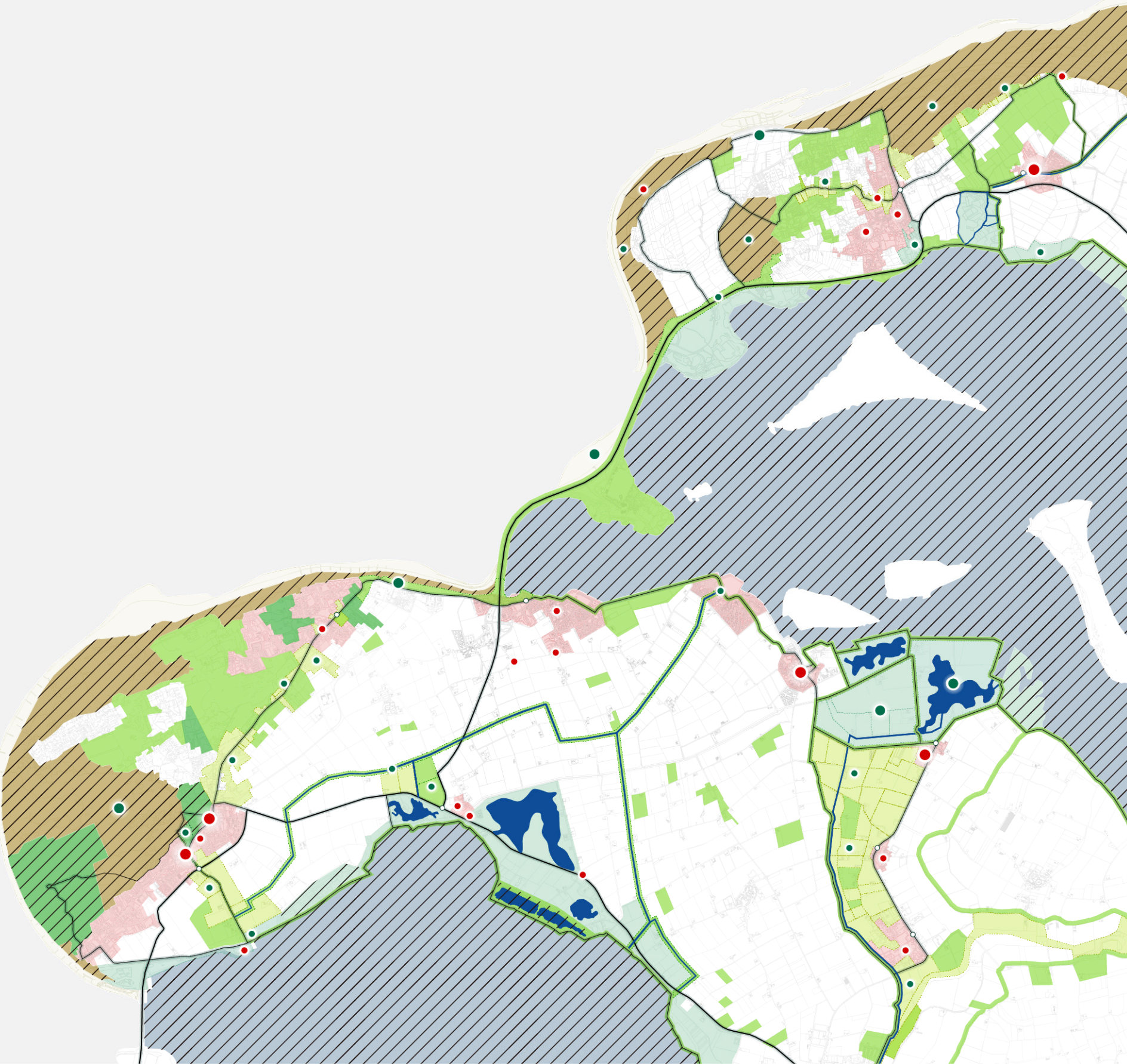
Phase 1 - 2020 : In the first phase, I will make use of this existing cultural and ecological resources to develop Ecotourism Network. Zone planning will be formulated to help preserve values and minimize impacts of invasive species. And the existing cultural and natural resource will be reactivated as the hotspots by adding more program and increasing the accessibility of them.



Phase 2 - 2050 : In the second phase, the main objective is to restore the natural gradient in the region. As the ecosystem and biodiversity improved, the network can support the development of various eco-educational program. Different actions will take place in different place. Based on the form or new gradients that I create, the new program will also be proposed there.



Phase 3 - 2100 : In the third phase, due to the development of eco-educational program, eco-tourism growth will take place without putting too much burden on the ecosystem. The development of ecotourism and economy form a virtuous circle. As the spatial quality improved, ecotourism will also provide chance for new urbanisation.



Legend

- Dune
- Forest
- Grass
- Lake(Salt water)
- Fairmland
- Wetland
- Creek
- Old Village
- Wetland Restoration (Proposed)
- Green Trails (Proposed)
- Local Species Restoration (Proposed)
- Multi-Activity Farming (Proposed)
- Conservation Area (Proposed)
- Program
 - Eco-educational Hotspots (Proposed)
 - Cultural Hotspots (Proposed)
- Mobility
 - Main Highway
 - Main transfer center (Proposed)
 - Main Touristic Route (Proposed)