TU Delft

Faculty of Architecture and the Built Environment

Linking Worlds

Rewilding the Netherlands

Graduation Studio
Explore Lab

An Ecological Approach

Matteo Cappello
5866057

Life - Beyond Humanity

Content

4 Principles for an Ecological Architecture

universal	*conditional*
Life-promoting	Sensing the Land
Science/ Technology	Adaptability

A spiritual conclusion

"Life itself we must accept as that which has value,
and whether something else does
can only be judged relatively to life,
namely whether it is apt to promote life or not."

- *Ludwig Boltzmann*

A spiritual conclusion

"Life itself we must accept as that which has value,
and whether something else does
can only be judged relatively to life,
namely whether it is apt to promote life or not."

- *Ludwig Boltzmann*

→ Life as highest value

Ecology

Deals with the relationship between **all living organisms** and their environment.

Ecology

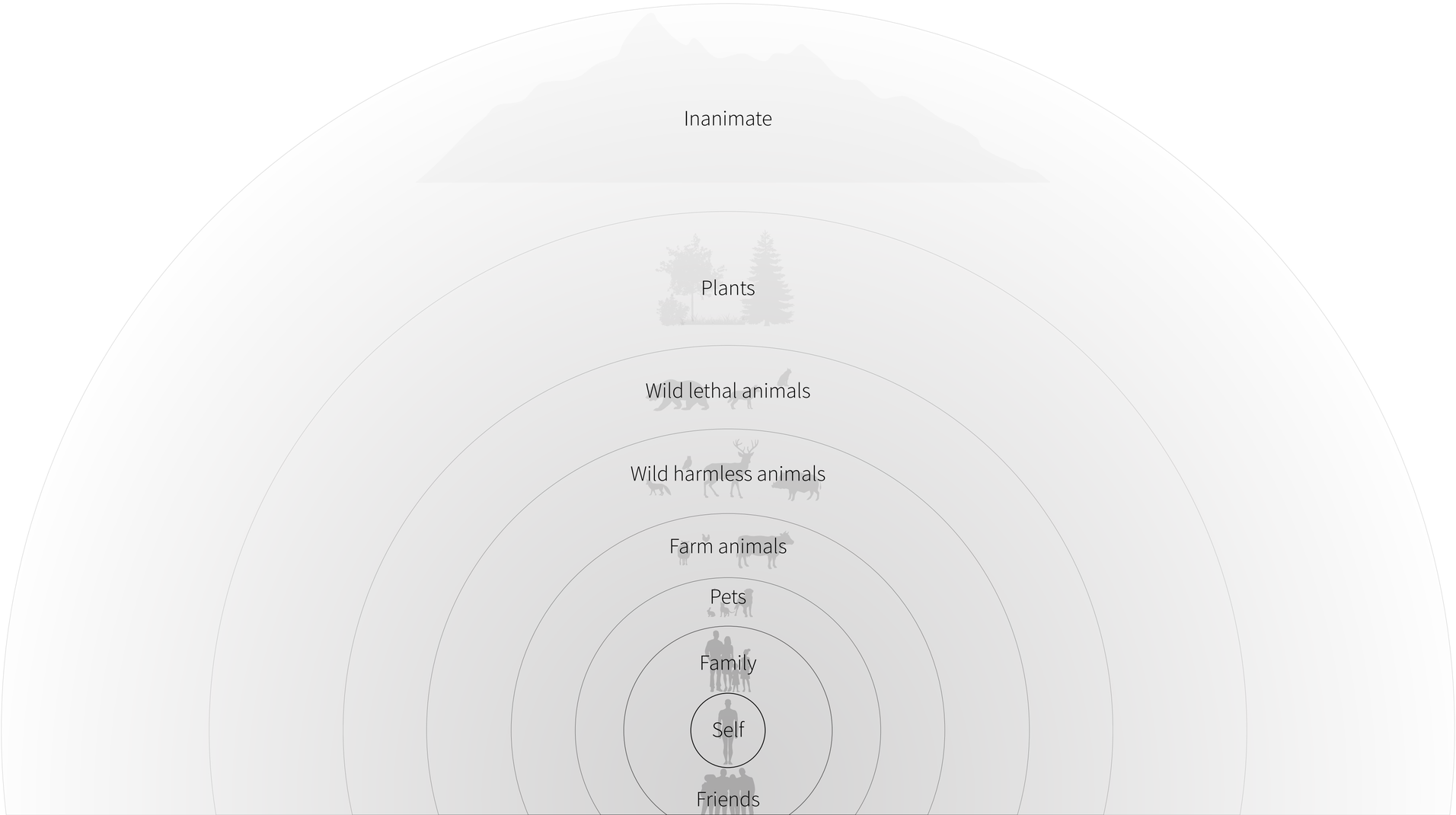
Deals with the relationship between **all living organisms** and their environment.

→ Multi-species

Life-promoting

Goal

Expanding our Circle of Empathy



Ecoduct

expansion and connection of habitat

Ecoduct

expansion and connection of habitat

→ more space for life

Ecoduct

expansion and connection of habitat

→ more space for life

→ fighting habitat loss as main reason to species extinction

Ecology

Deals with the relationship between **all living organisms** and their environment.

Ecology

Deals with the relationship between all living organisms and their **environment**.

Environment

Acknowledging the **beauty of the world**

Discovering our **surroundings** and its **components** (living and non-living)

realization

personal experience

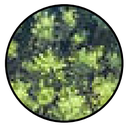
scientific modes

Sensing the Land

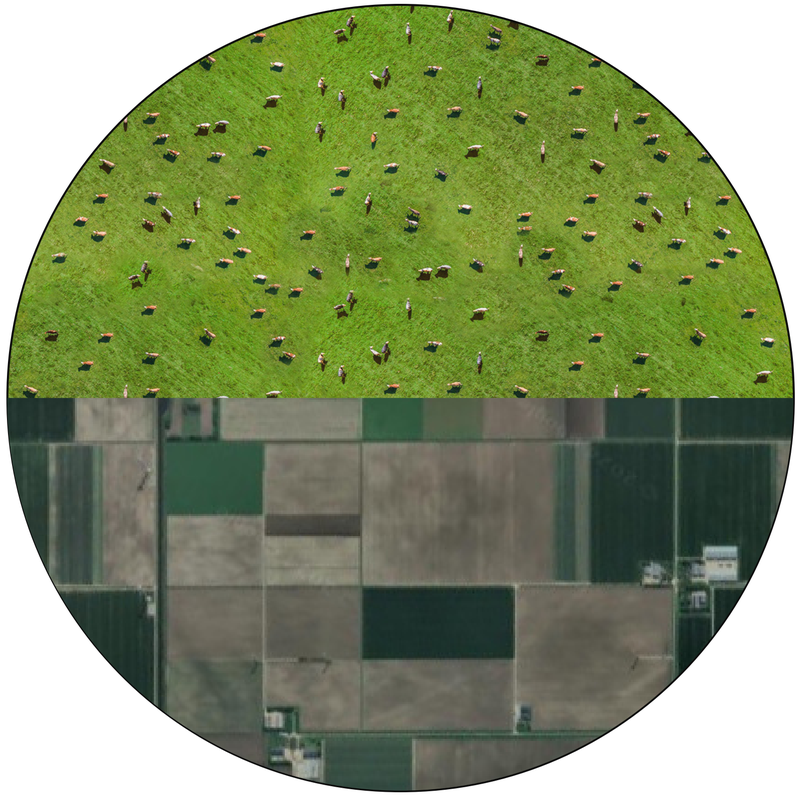
Site Analysis

Landuse Netherlands

Woodlands 8%



Urban environment 8%



24% Pastures

54% Agriculture

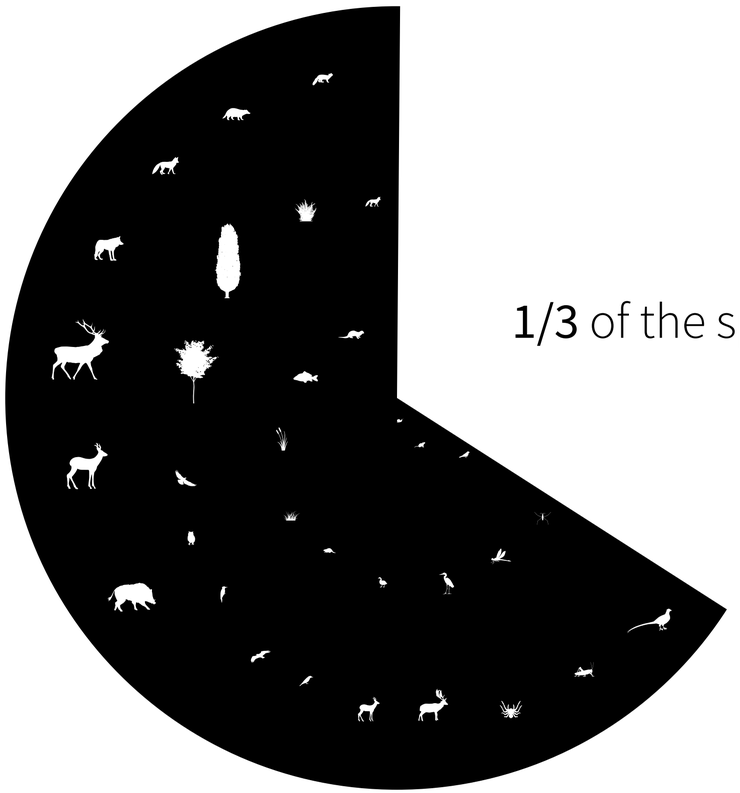
30% Mixed fields

Sensing the Land

Site Analysis/ Motive

Dutch Species

Endangered Dutch Species



1/3 of the species are **at risk of extinction**

Two insights from looking into the Netherlands

Catastrophic condition of wildlife

Misused land

The Tragic Story of Oostvaardersplassen

Population management issues → Reduction of 3.380 formerly human introduced animals

Annual culling as prevention method for starvation

Locating Potentials for Habitat Expansion

Sensing the Land

Intervention

Habitat Expansion

Sensing the Land

Intervention

Locating Potentials for Habitat Connection

Sensing the Land

Intervention

Habitat Connection

Sensing the Land

Intervention

Ecoducts

Sensing the Land

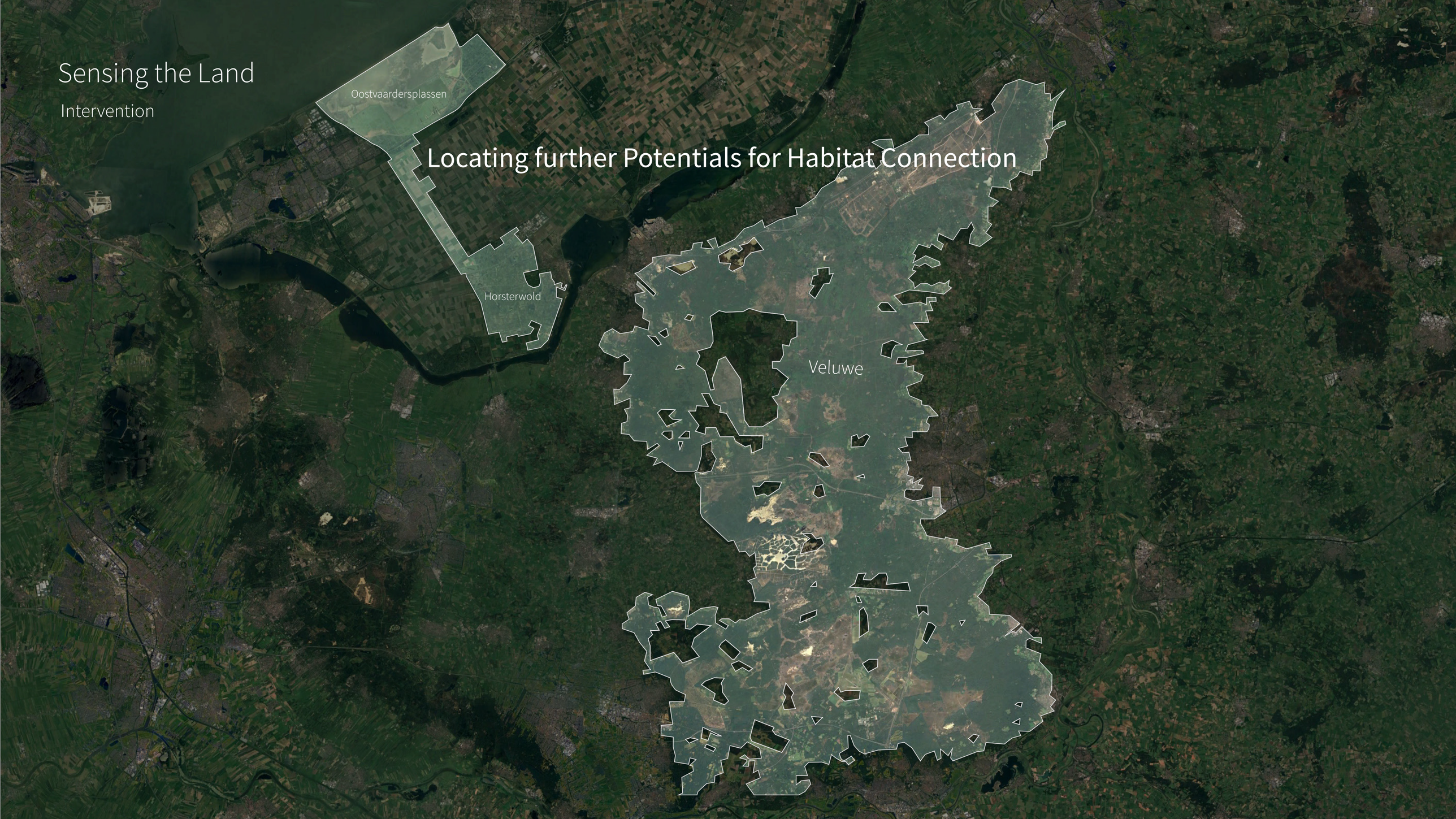
Intervention

Recreational Loops

Sensing the Land

Intervention

Locating further Potentials for Habitat Connection



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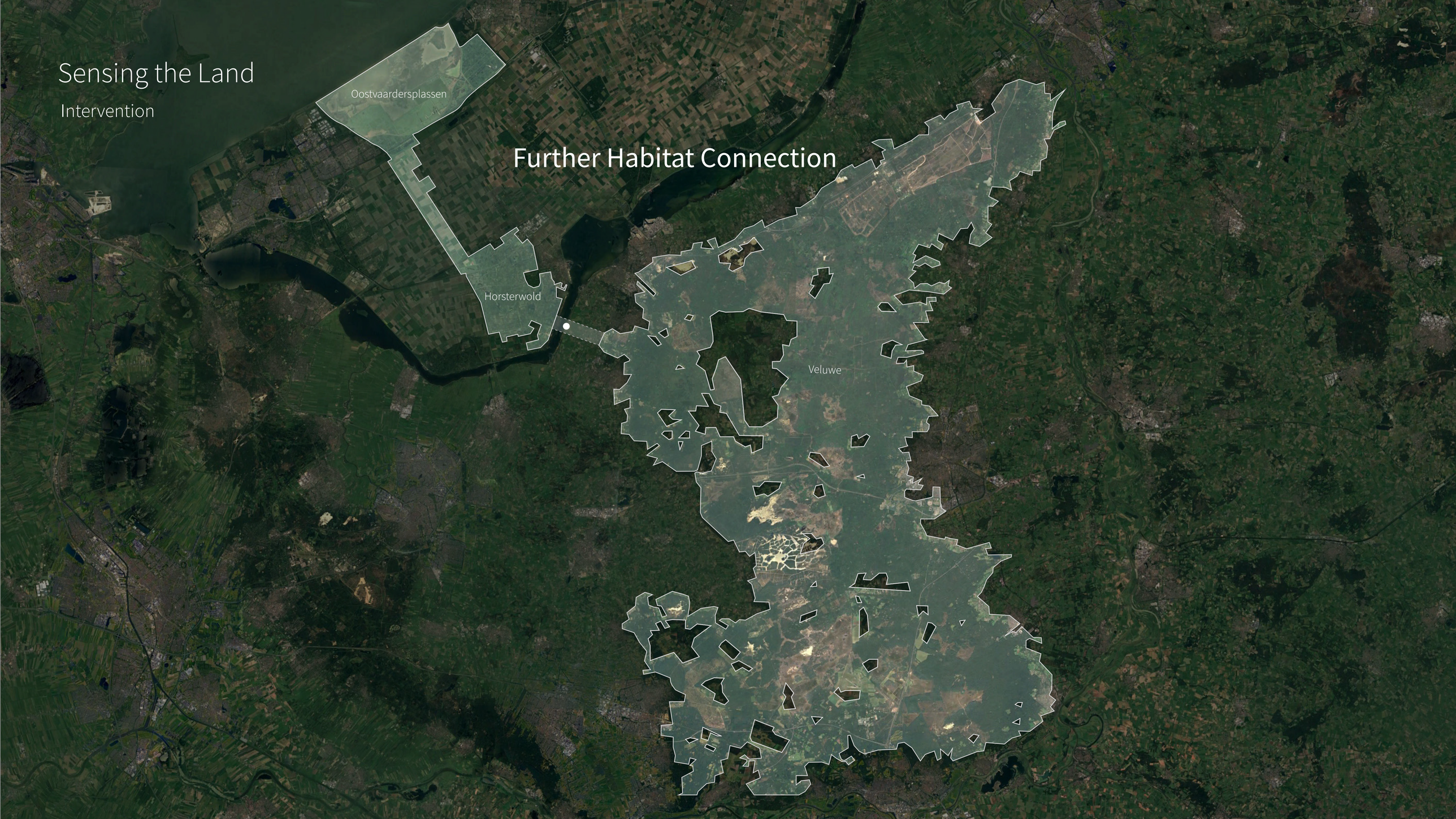
Intervention



Habitat Expansion and Connection

total continuous nature area 100.500 ha

Extended Version

Possibility of extension to Germany for an international nature network

Political effort and demand

GROEN LINKS

De andere grote natuurdoelen die alleen met grootschalige herinrichting zijn te bereiken zijn de water en klimaatdoelen. Door intensief gebruikte landbouwgrond uit productie te nemen en om te zetten in waterrijke natuur, vergroten we het vermogen van de bodem om koolstof op te nemen en te binden en ontstaat een grote waterberging, die in natte tijden nat is en in droge tijden water kan afgeven aan de omgeving. Ook stopt het toevoegen van (kunst-)mest en bestrijdingsmiddelen waardoor de chemische waterkwaliteit verbeterd wordt. Natuurlijke oevers dragen bij aan een verbeterde ecologische kwaliteit.

“Natuur is veel meer dan alleen stikstof en het reduceren van de stikstofuitstoot’’

Flevoland werkt nu al aan verbetering van landschap en ecologie door op veel kleinere schaal delen van de doelstellingen van destijds te realiseren. Zo vormt het Nationaal Park Nieuw Land met Tintelzand, de Markerwadden en de Lepelaarsplassen een prachtige verbinding voor vogels en vissen. Ook boeren werken mee aan de verbetering van de natuur. Dat heeft zeker waarde voor de lokale natuur en ecologie.

Aan de overkant van het Nuldernauw zal ook e.e.a. moeten gebeuren om een vrije doorgang naar de Veluwe mogelijk te maken. Edelherten zijn prima in staat om zelf het randmeer over te zwemmen, maar de A28 is een obstakel waar we een oplossing voor moeten bieden met een nieuw ecoduct. Er is inmiddels veel geïnvesteerd om de Veluwe ecologisch te ontsnipperen, maar het ecoduct Hulshorst is niet genoeg. Een tweede oversteek over de A28 tussen Ermelo en Nijkerk is nodig.

“Een tweede oversteek over de A28 tussen Ermelo en Nijkerk is nodig”

Het is bewonderenswaardig dat de Flevolandse natuurorganisaties zich niet uit het veld hebben laten slaan en met de magere beschikbare middelen en het soms twijfelachtige politieke commitment van de politiek, na het debacle van 2013, toch doorzetten om het beste ervan te maken. Desondanks blijft de behoefte van het oude plan van een robuuste verbinding van de Oostvaardersplassen naar de rest van Nederland weer nieuw leven in te blazen.

“Het is bewonderenswaardig dat de Flevolandse natuurorganisaties zich niet uit het veld hebben laten slaan”

Een nieuw Oostvaarderswold vraagt om een nieuwe inpassing, met deels dezelfde en deels nieuwe doelstellingen. Veel van de ideeën en uitwerkingen uit het oude plan kunnen opnieuw worden gebruikt, ook als het tracé enigszins wijzigt. Om aan de doelstellingen te voldoen is nog wel een gebied van 1000-2000 hectare nodig en enkel grote ecoducten. De kosten zullen daarom van dezelfde orde zijn als destijds geraamd (250-400 mln.). Het ligt voor de hand dat het Rijk hier een heel fors aandeel in neemt.

Sinds de PAS-uitspraak lijkt alle discussie over natuur zich te beperken tot stikstofreductie. Minder uitstoot door verkeer en industrie, forse krimp van de veestapel en extensivering van de landbouw zijn onvermijdelijk. Daarmee verandert er heel veel op het platteland, voor de boeren, maar ook in het landschap en de plattelandseconomie.

Elke provincie moet nog dit voorjaar een provinciaal plan maken in het kader van het Nationaal Plan voor het Landelijk Gebied (NPLG). Daarin wordt beschreven hoe de transformatie eruit gaat zien, hoe dit de bestemming en inrichting gaat veranderen, en wat daarmee de toekomst wordt voor de huidige gebruikers van de grond. De doelen voor stikstofreductie, klimaat en waterbescherming staan daarin centraal. En er is 24 miljard beschikbaar om dat allemaal mogelijk te maken. De kunst is om deze transformatie meer te laten zijn dan krimp en compensatie. Dit is hét moment om weer wat groter te denken en Nederland zo in te richten dat de natuur duurzaam kan bestaan.

Sensing the Land

Intervention

Specifying Corridor Location

Sensing the Land

Intervention

Additional Ecoducts

Sensing the Land

Intervention

Additional Ecoducts

Sensing the Land

Site Analysis

Life and Space

Sensing the Land

Site Analysis

Life and Space

Sensing the Land

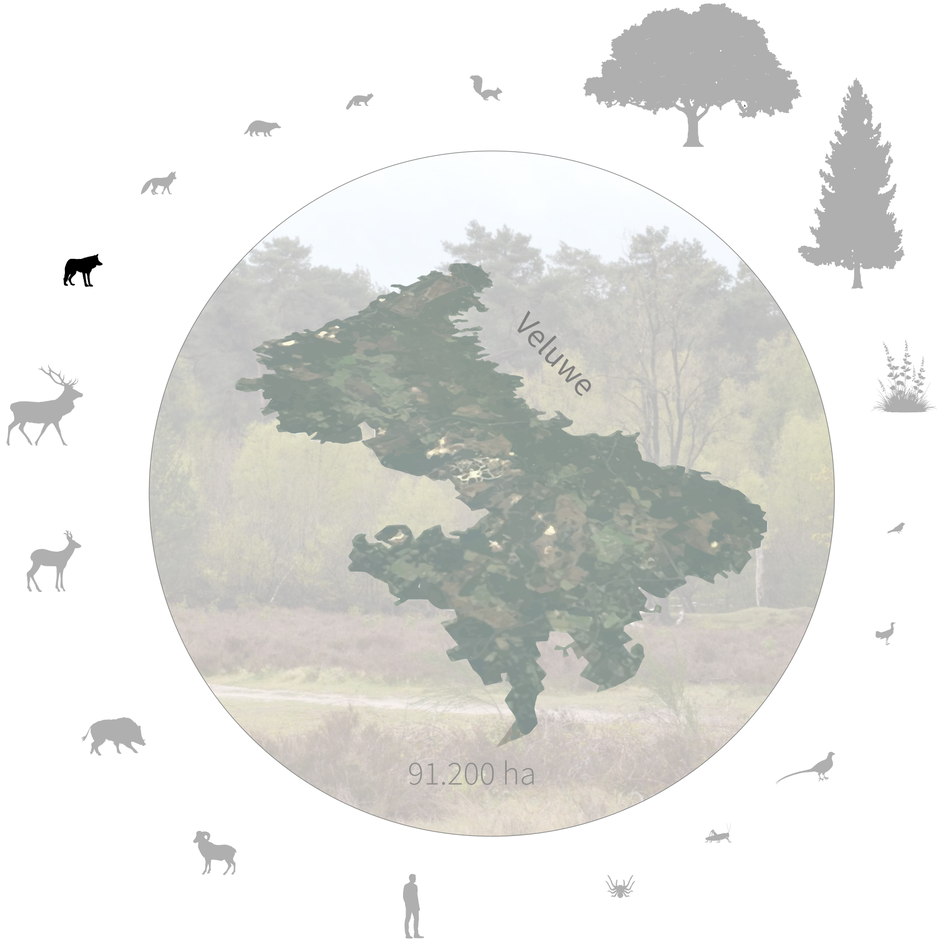
Site Analysis

Life and Space

Sensing the Land

Client

Main client



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Return of a Stranger

after absence of almost 150 years

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Wolves return to Netherlands after 140 years

9 April 2019

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Producer, Costing The Earth

This wolf was photographed in a wildlife park in Germany. But wild German wolves have been crossing the border into the Netherlands

The Netherlands has its first resident wolf population in 140 years, according to ecologists.

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This is how the wolf disappeared from the Netherlands – and then returned

After almost 150 years, the wolf has re-established itself in the Netherlands. But where was it all this time, and how did the animal make a comeback?

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A wolf gave birth to a litter of at least seven cubs in the Veluwe, and several have been seen on different trail cameras in the area. - Credit: Natuurmonumenten / Youtube - License: All Rights Reserved

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Nine wolf packs currently living in Netherlands; Could increase up to six-fold in future

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Wolves are becoming more unpopular as their number grows

April 12, 2024

Photo: Depositphotos.com

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Netherlands

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Wolf sparks warning to keep children out of forest in Netherlands

A child was bitten and another knocked over by a wolf displaying 'disturbing' behaviour near Utrecht, authorities say

Agence France-Presse
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A wolf has been showing 'disturbing behaviour' in the Utrecht Ridge Hills in the Netherlands, authorities said. Photograph: Jeffrey de Graaf/Getty Images/500px

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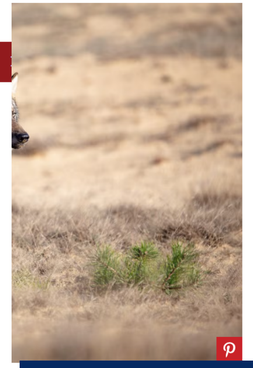

The Brussels Times

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Member States decide to downgrade the protection of wolves in the EU

Friday 27 September 2024

Eurasian wolf, credit: Magnus Lundgren/Swedensbigfive.org

Representatives of a qualified majority of EU Member States decided on Wednesday to adopt a Commission proposal on lowering the protection level of wolves in the EU, claiming that their increasing numbers pose a danger, particularly to livestock.

Photo: Depositphotos.com

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Photo: Depositphotos.com

WWF

Europe weakens wolf protection in major blow to science and biodiversity

Posted on September, 25 2024

Today, a majority of EU Member States agreed to adopt the European Commission's proposal [1] to downgrade the protection status of the wolf under the Bern Convention. This shift opens the door to wolf culling as a false solution to livestock depredation, which runs counter to Europe's commitment to safeguard and restore biodiversity. The decision went through after Germany unexpectedly changed its position from abstention to support at the last minute.

Instead of looking for solutions, such as investing more in preventive measures to achieve coexistence, the EU chooses to allow wolf hunting.

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A wolf has been showing 'disturbing behaviour' in the Utrecht Ridge Hills in the Netherlands, authorities said. Photograph: Jeffrey de Graaf/Getty Images/500px

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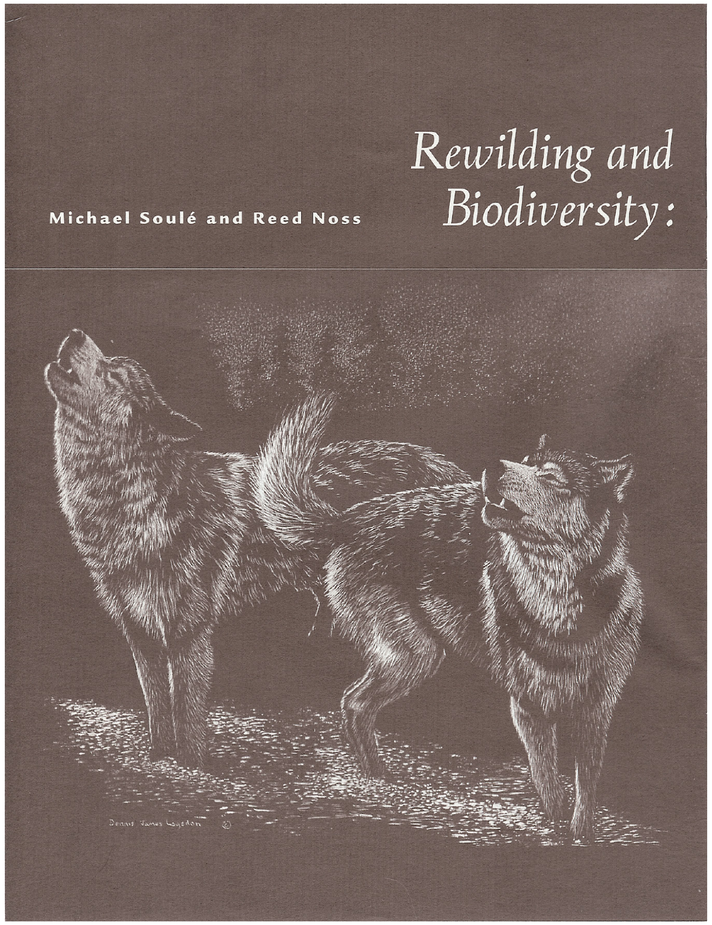
Science/ Technology

Interdisciplinarity

Conservation Biology

Rewilding Theory by Michael Soulé and Reed Noss



The Three **C**'s

The Three **C**'s

Carnivores

The Three **C**'s

Carnivores

Cores

The Three **C**'s

Carnivores

Cores

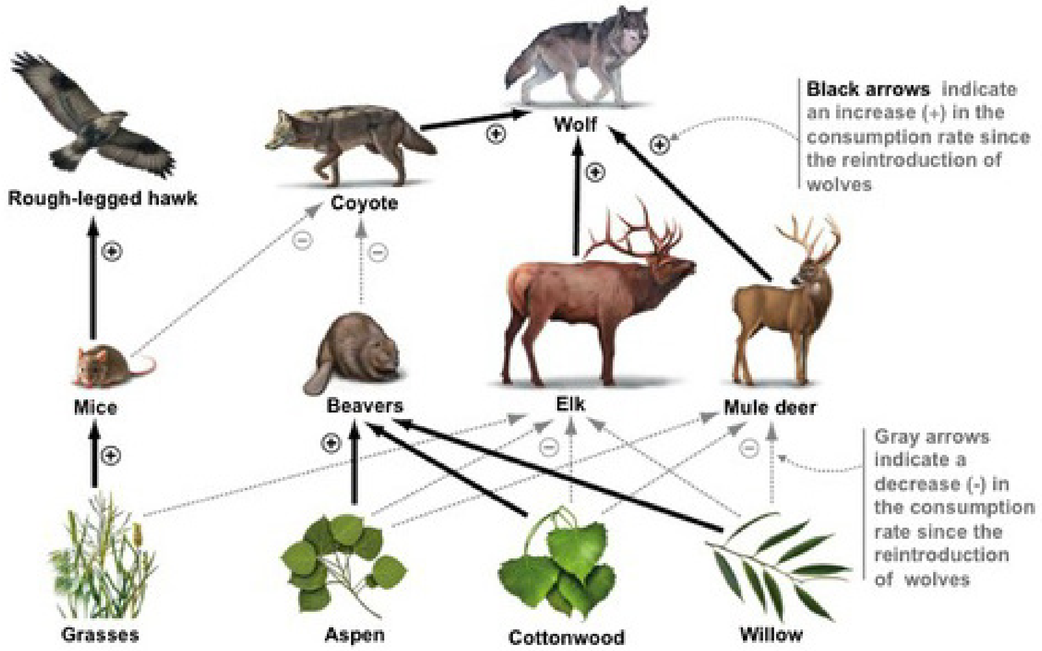
Corridors

Carnivores

Keystone species: Wolf

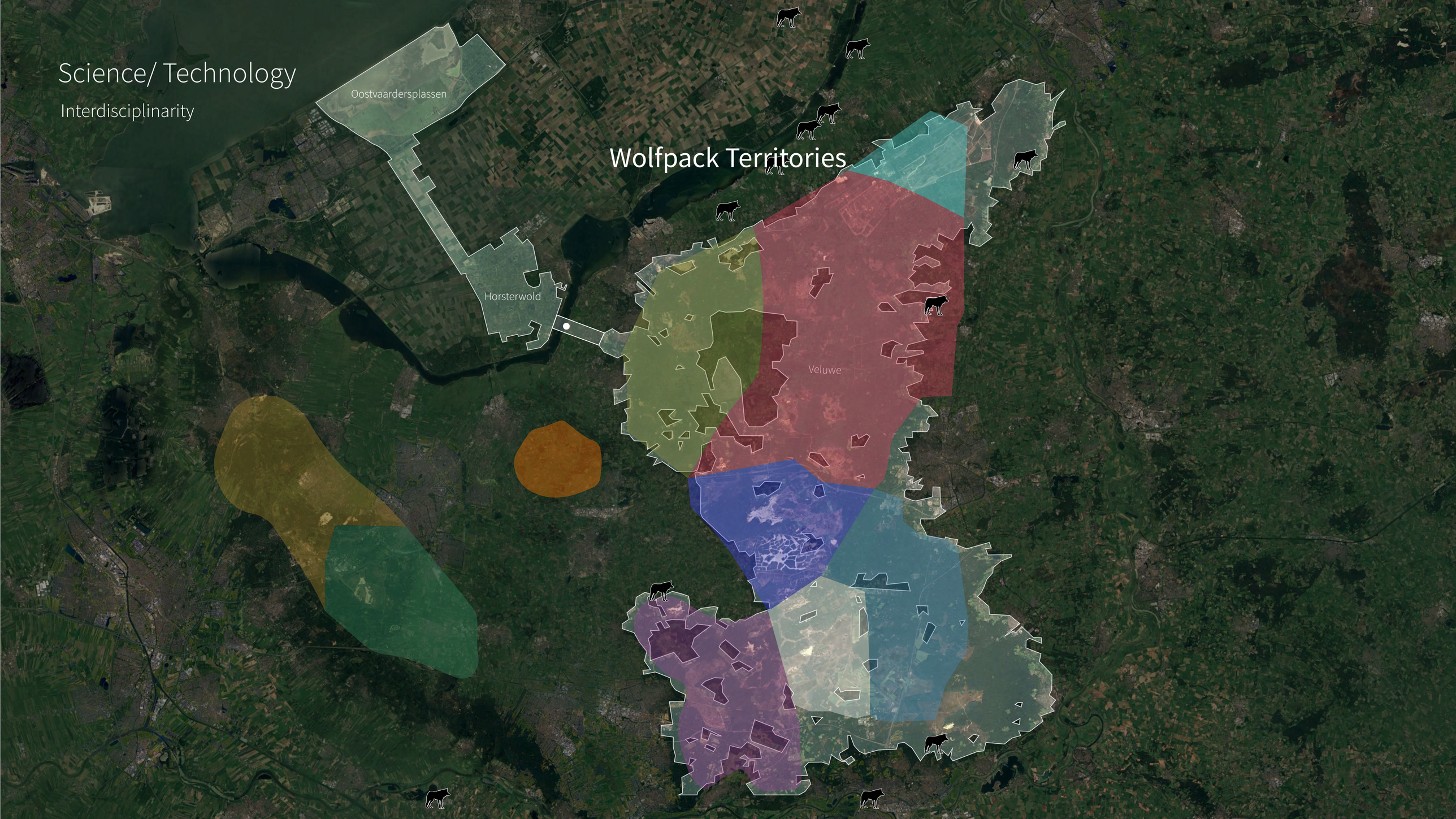
Presence of apex predators is beneficial for an ecosystems resilience

Showcase Yellowstone National Park



Science/ Technology

Interdisciplinarity



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Interdisciplinarity

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Veluwe

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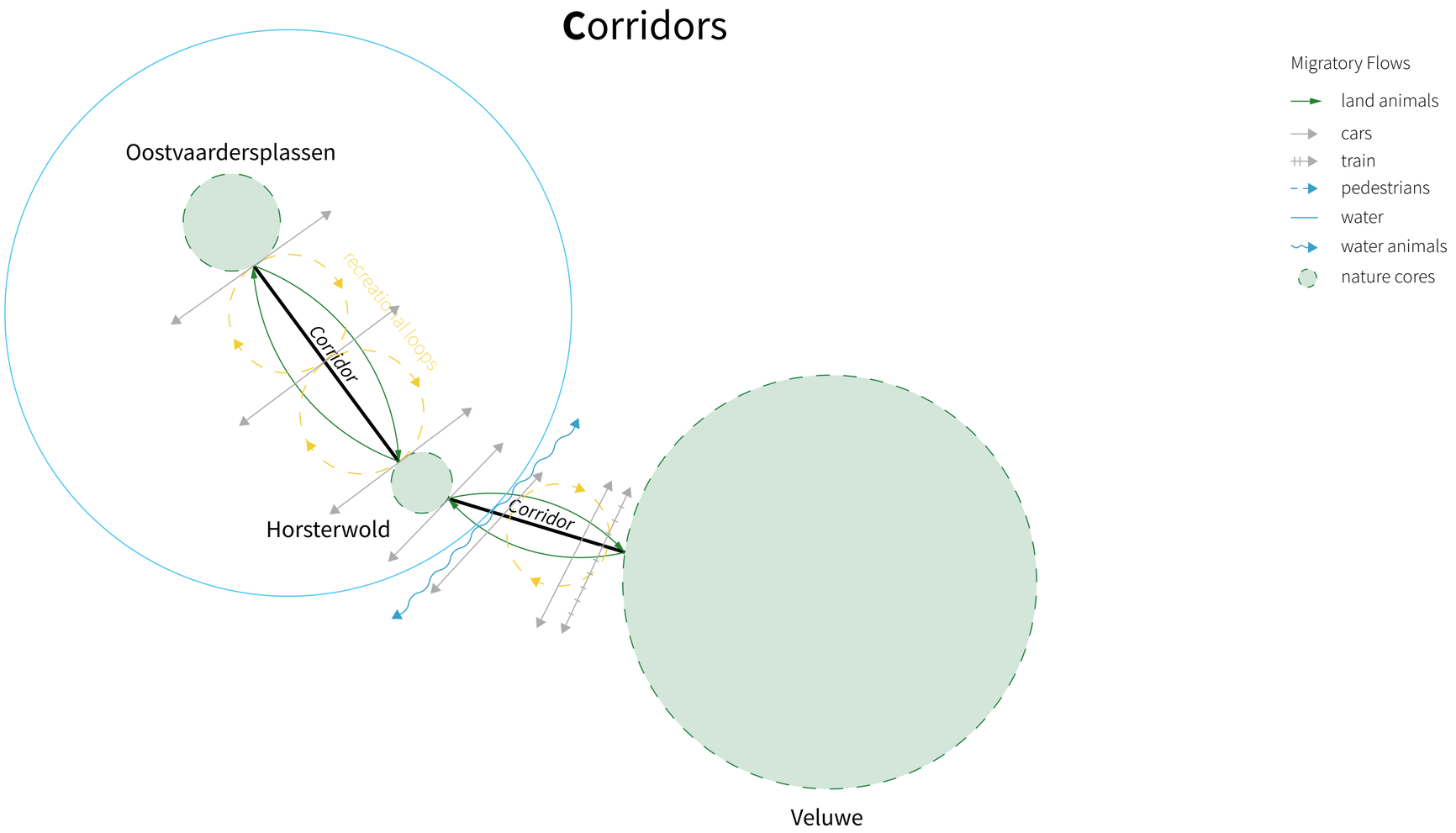
Interdisciplinarity

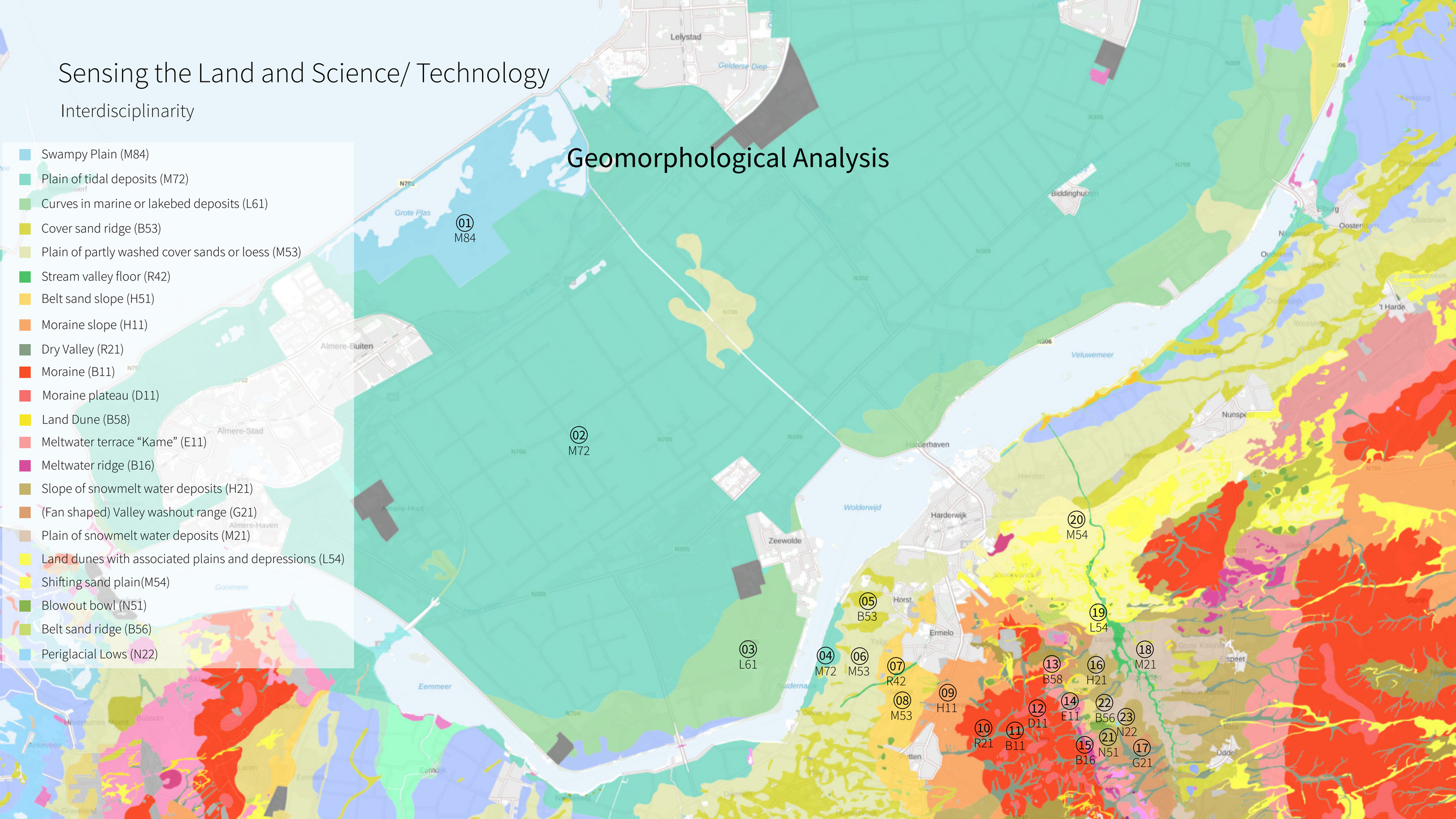


Sensing the Land and Science/ Technology

Interdisciplinarity

Geomorphological Analysis

- Swampy Plain (M84)
- Plain of tidal deposits (M72)
- Curves in marine or lakebed deposits (L61)
- Cover sand ridge (B53)
- Plain of partly washed cover sands or loess (M53)
- Stream valley floor (R42)
- Belt sand slope (H51)
- Moraine slope (H11)
- Dry Valley (R21)
- Moraine (B11)
- Moraine plateau (D11)
- Land Dune (B58)
- Meltwater terrace “Kame” (E11)
- Meltwater ridge (B16)
- Slope of snowmelt water deposits (H21)
- (Fan shaped) Valley washout range (G21)
- Plain of snowmelt water deposits (M21)
- Land dunes with associated plains and depressions (L54)
- Shifting sand plain(M54)
- Blowout bowl (N51)
- Belt sand ridge (B56)
- Periglacial Lows (N22)



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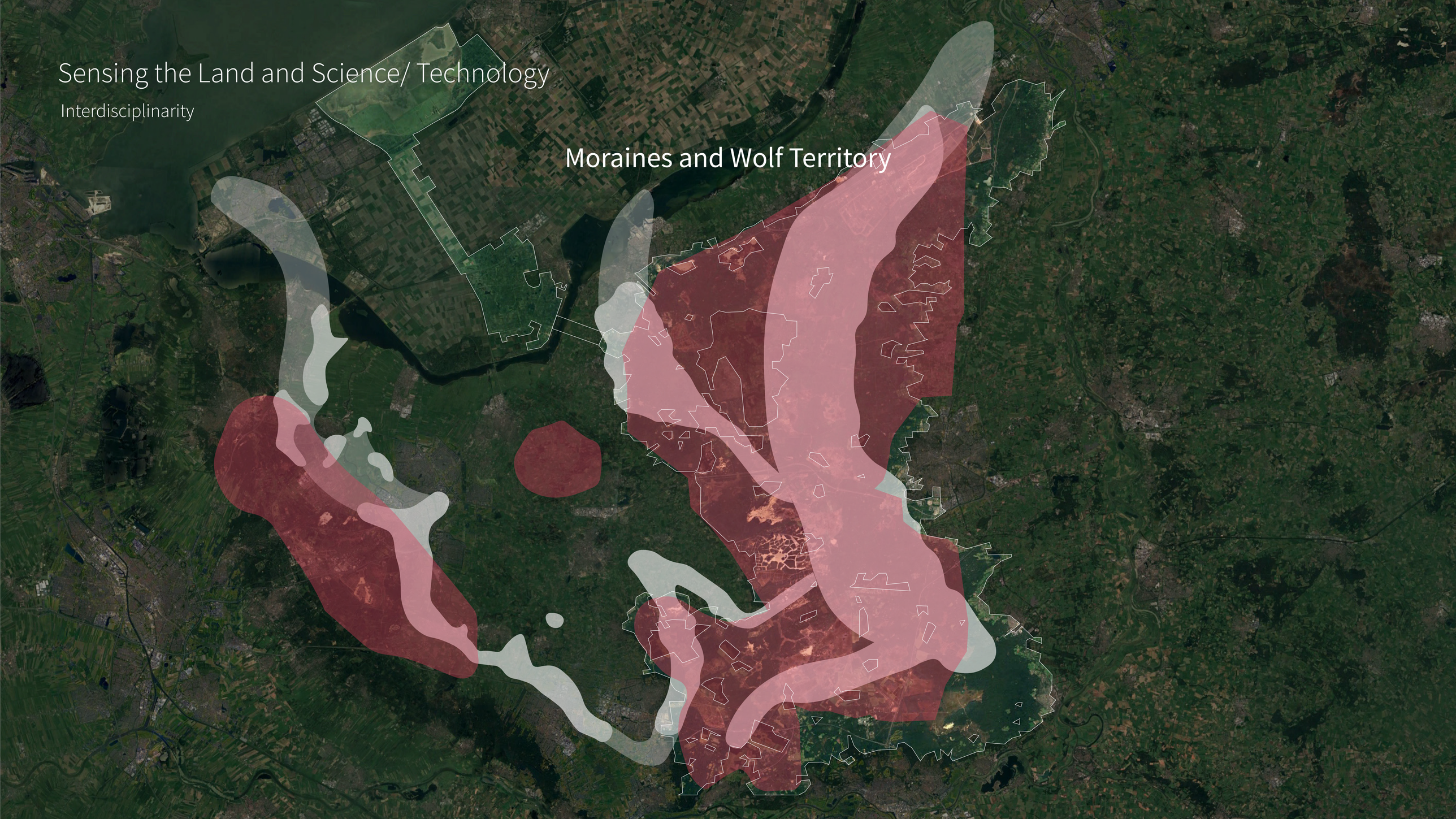
Interdisciplinarity

Sensing the Land and Science/ Technology

Interdisciplinarity



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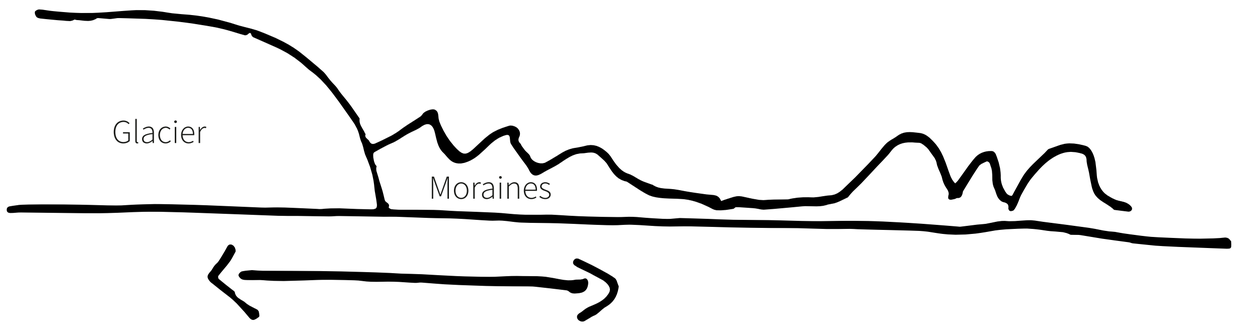
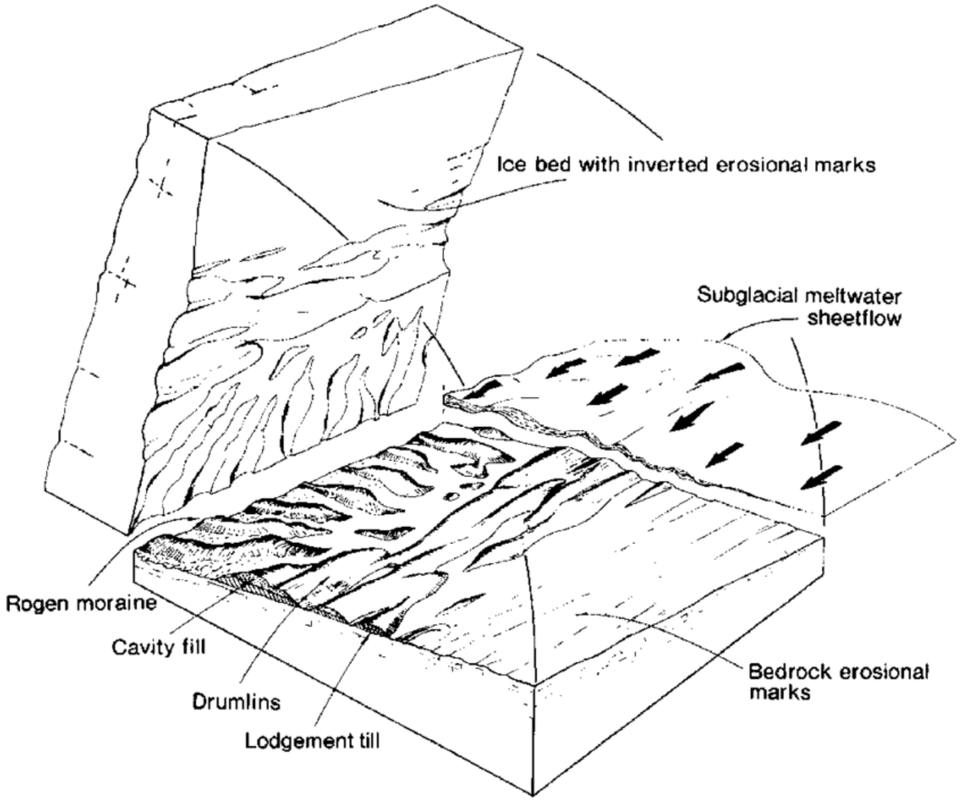
Interdisciplinarity

Moraines Formation



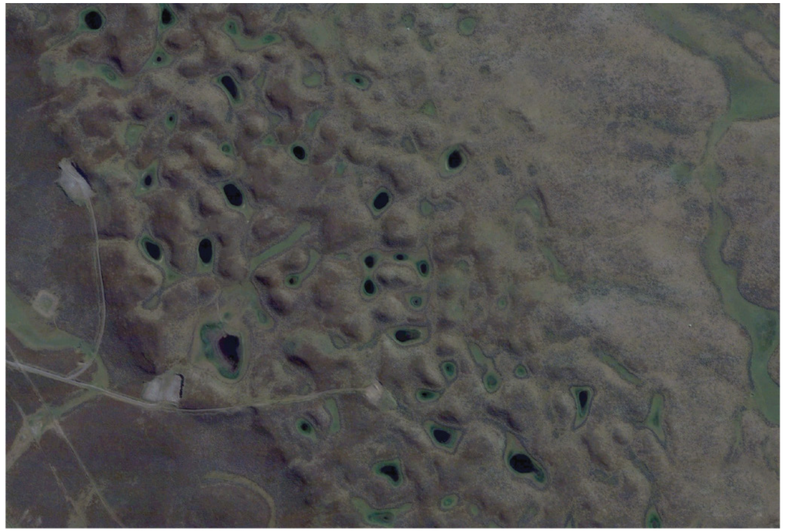
Subglacial Landforms



Sensing the Land and Science/ Technology

Interdisciplinarity

Subglacial Landscapes



Sensing the Land and Science/ Technology

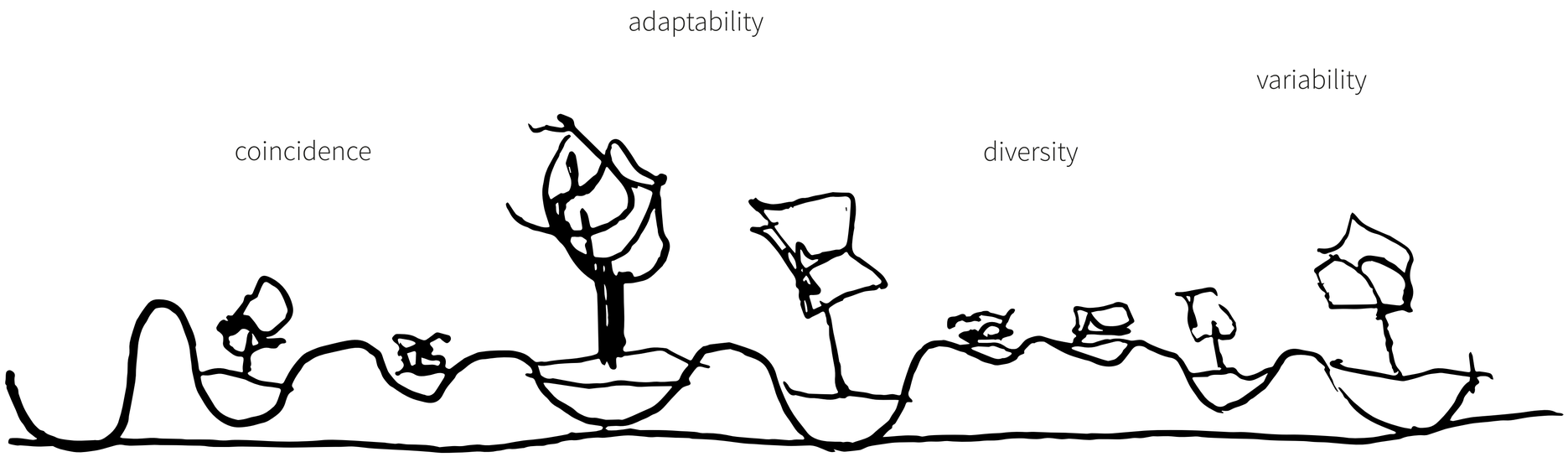
Interdisciplinarity

Subglacial Landscapes

Science/ Technology and Adaptability/ Collaborative

Concept

Conceptual Sketch



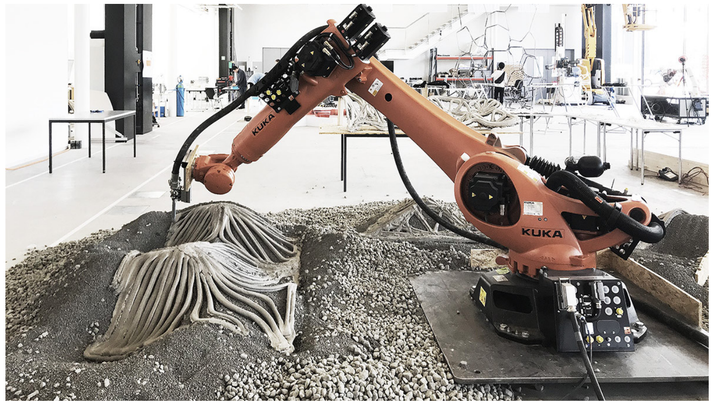
“The bridge is a mountain.”

Ambivalent Nature of Technology

Chance

Assist understanding

Facilitate complexity



Danger

Misleading

Demanding banality/simplicity

→ Support but never universal solution

Science/ Technology

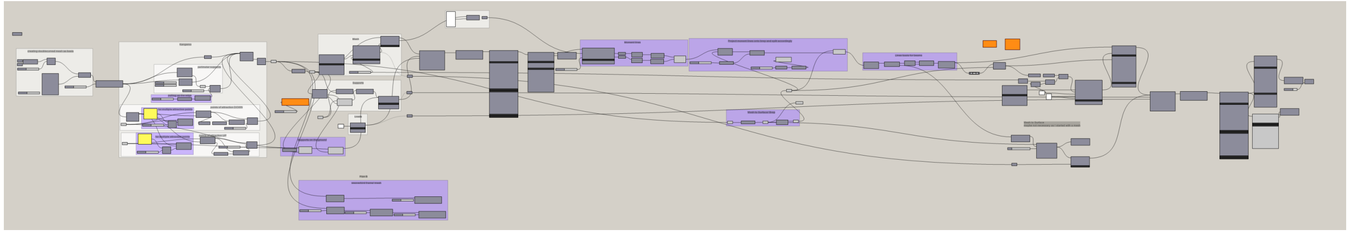
Materiality

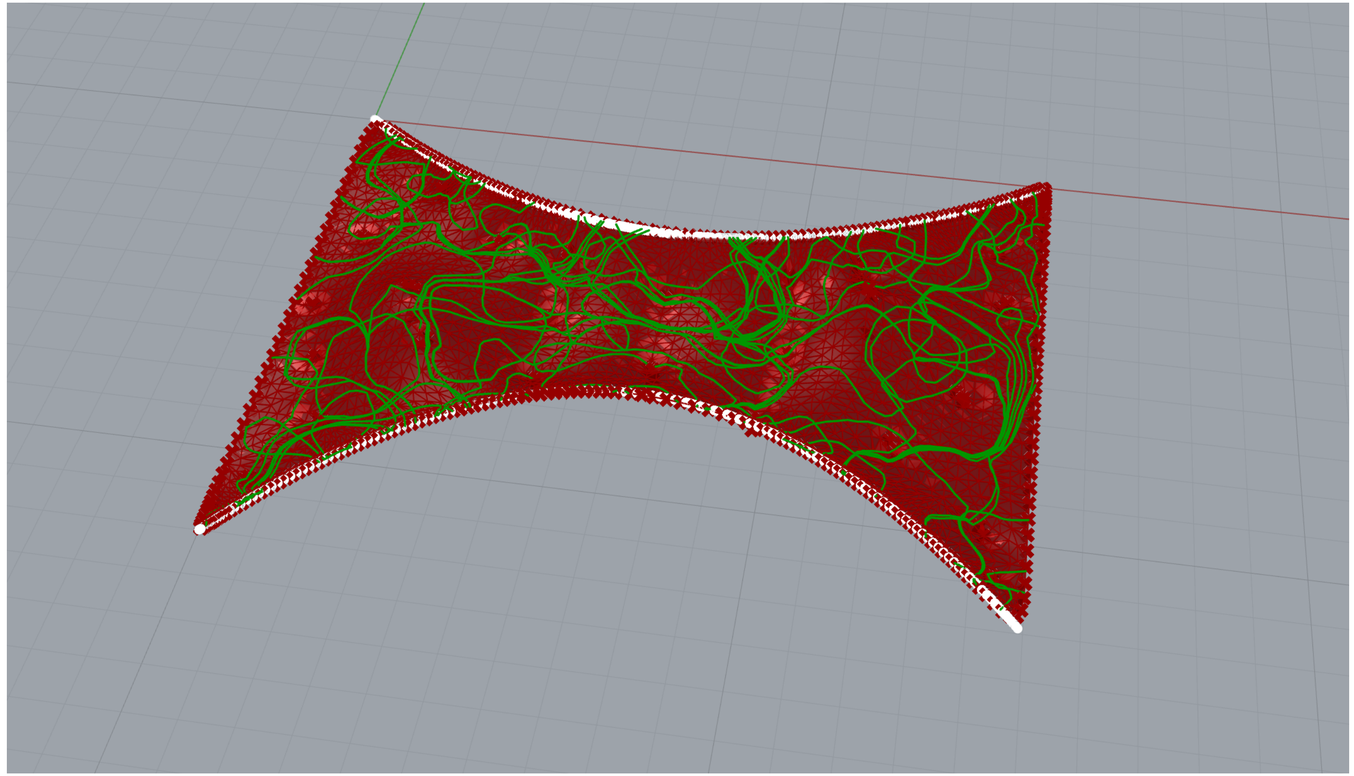
Experimentation

Science/ Technology

Shape

Computational Design



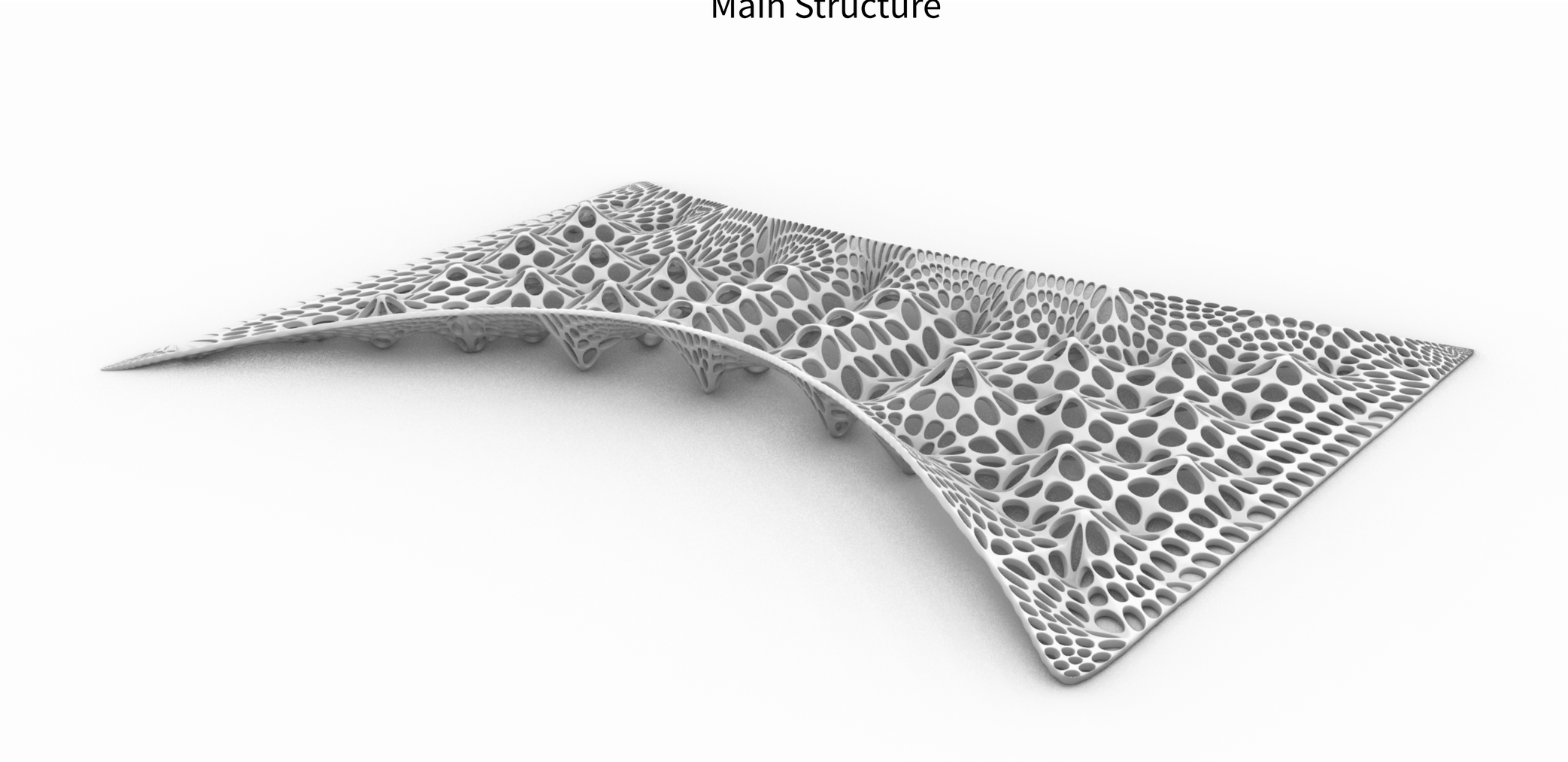


Working Model

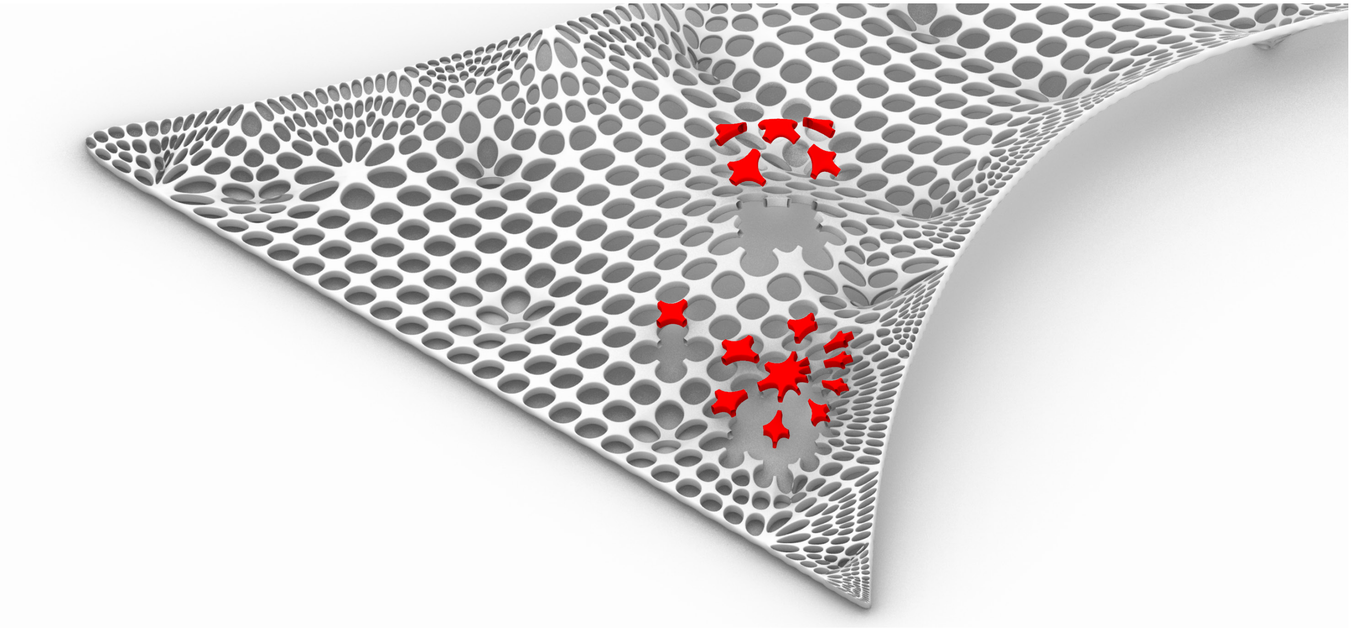
Science/ Technology

Materiality and Shape

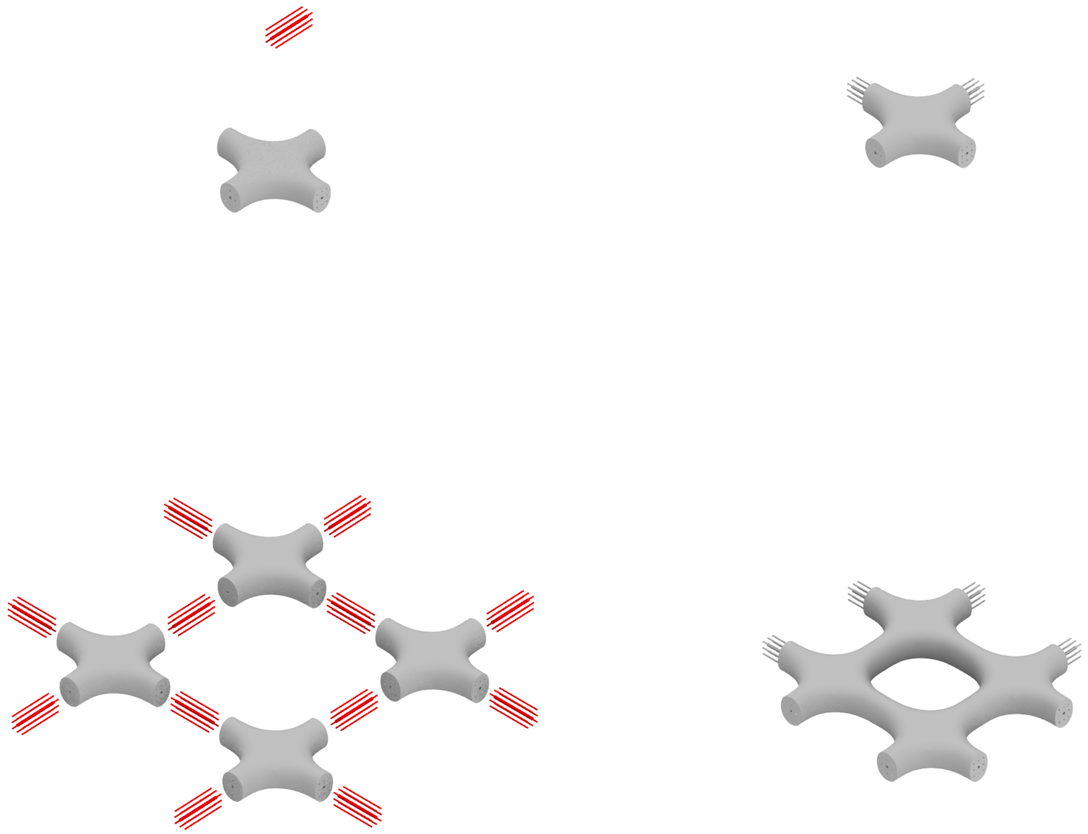
Main Structure



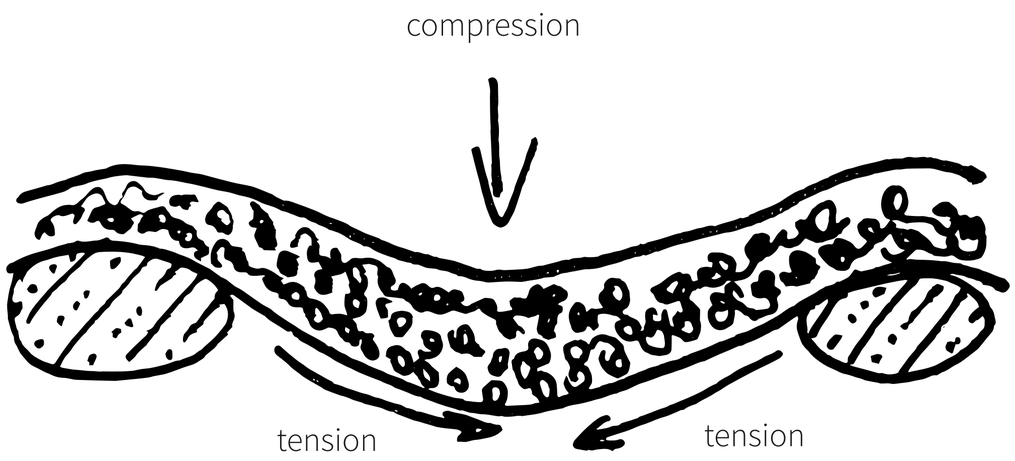
Structural Elements



Connections Structural Elements



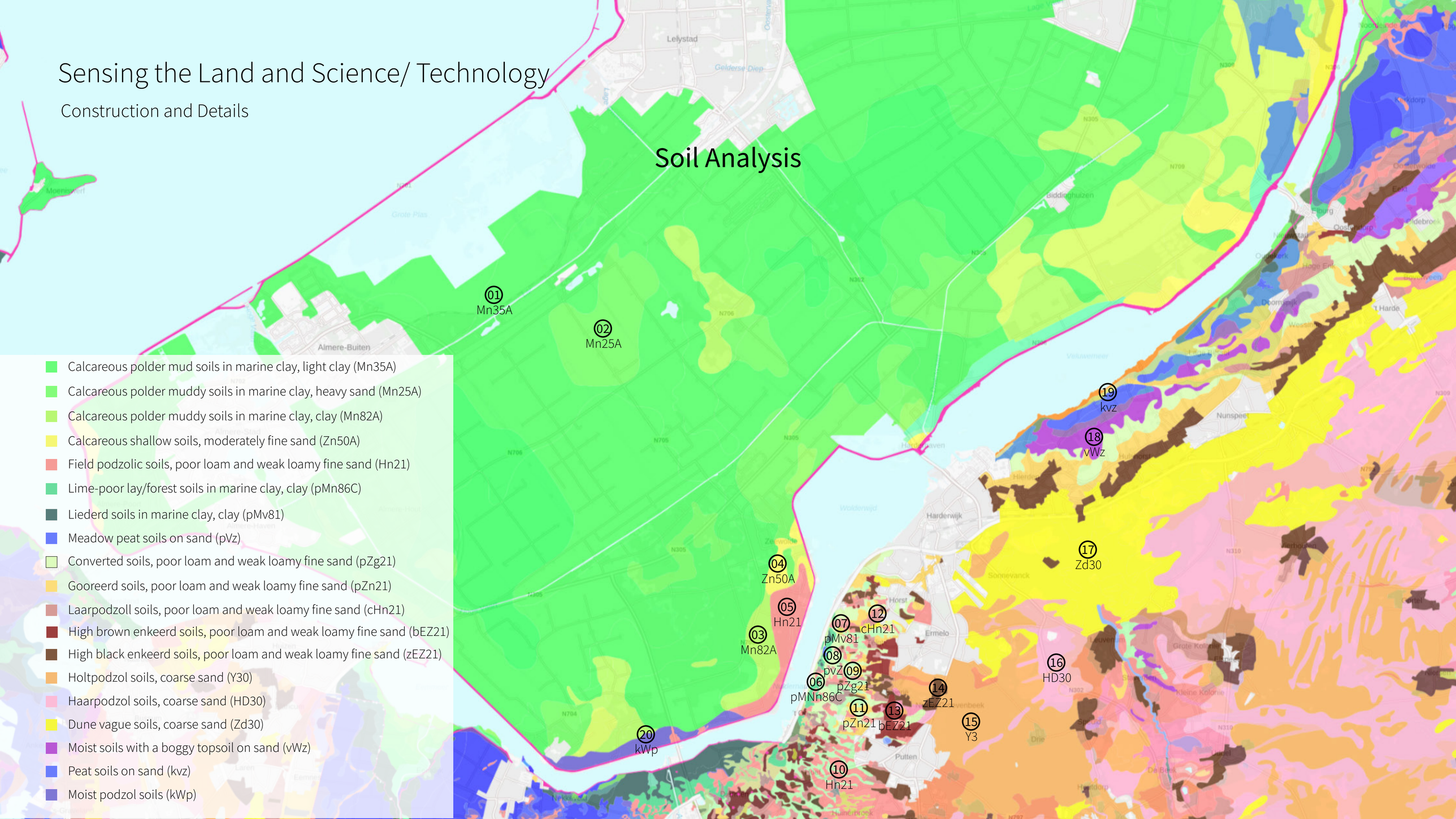
Secondary Structure



Sensing the Land and Science/ Technology

Construction and Details

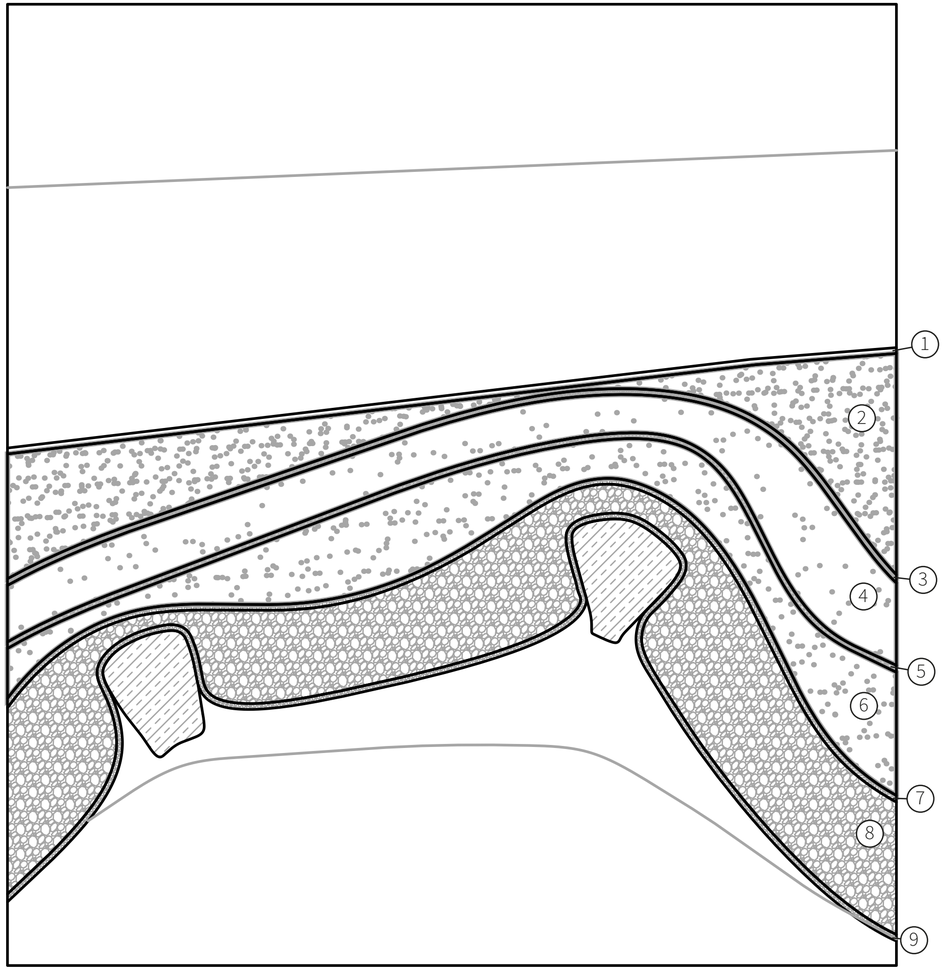
Soil Analysis



Science/ Technology

Construction, Materiality and Details

Complete Structure Detail



1  Jute net

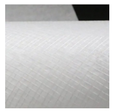
2  Topsoil (very fertile)

3  Metal grid

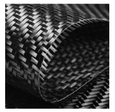
4  Eluviation layer/ leached soil (least fertile)

5  Plastic grid (degradable)

6  Subsoil (fertile)

7  Glas fibre textile

8  Gravel (substitute for parent/weathered rock)

9  Carbon fibre textile

Adaptability

Function vs Embeddedness

Machine

performing the task it was designed for

minimized use of materials

Ruin

perfectly attuned to the enviroment

enables inhabitation

→ Balancing act

Adaptability

Functionality

Machine

Adaptability

Functionality

Machine

Enable wildlife flows

Adaptability

Functionality

Machine

Enable wildlife flows

Connecting and expanding habitats

Adaptability

Functionality

Machine

Enable wildlife flows

Connecting and expanding habitats

Facilitate motorized movement

Adaptability

Functionality

Machine

Enable wildlife flows

Connecting and expanding habitats

Facilitate motorized movement

→ **Machine for movement**

Adaptability

Embeddedness

Ruin

Adaptability

Embeddedness

Ruin

Enable interaction **beyond** the **main function** for every species

Adaptability

Embeddedness

Ruin

Enable interaction **beyond** the **main function** for every species

→ *inhabitation*

Adaptability

Embeddedness

Ruin

Enable interaction **beyond** the **main function** for every species

→ *inhabitation*

Allowing **coincidence**

Adaptability

Embeddedness

Ruin

Enable interaction **beyond** the **main function** for every species

→ *inhabitation*

Allowing **coincidence**

→ *no planned landscape, alternation possible*

Adaptability

Embeddedness

Ruin

Enable interaction **beyond** the **main function** for every species
→ *inhabitation*

Allowing **coincidence**
→ *no planned landscape, alternation possible*

Strengthening ecology

Adaptability

Embeddedness

Ruin

Enable interaction **beyond** the **main function** for every species

→ *inhabitation*

Allowing **coincidence**

→ *no planned landscape, alternation possible*

Strengthening ecology

→ *tackling population management and landuse issues*

Adaptability

Embeddedness

Ruin

Enable interaction **beyond** the **main function** for every species
→ *inhabitation*

Allowing **coincidence**
→ *no planned landscape, alternation possible*

Strengthening ecology
→ *tackling population management and landuse issues*

Assimilation of its surroundings

Adaptability

Embeddedness

Ruin

Enable interaction **beyond** the **main function** for every species
→ *inhabitation*

Allowing **coincidence**
→ *no planned landscape, alternation possible*

Strengthening ecology
→ *tackling population management and landuse issues*

Assimilation of its surroundings
→ *soil composition, geographical landscape*

Adaptability

Embeddedness

Ruin

Enable interaction **beyond** the **main function** for every species
→ *inhabitation*

Allowing **coincidence**
→ *no planned landscape, alternation possible*

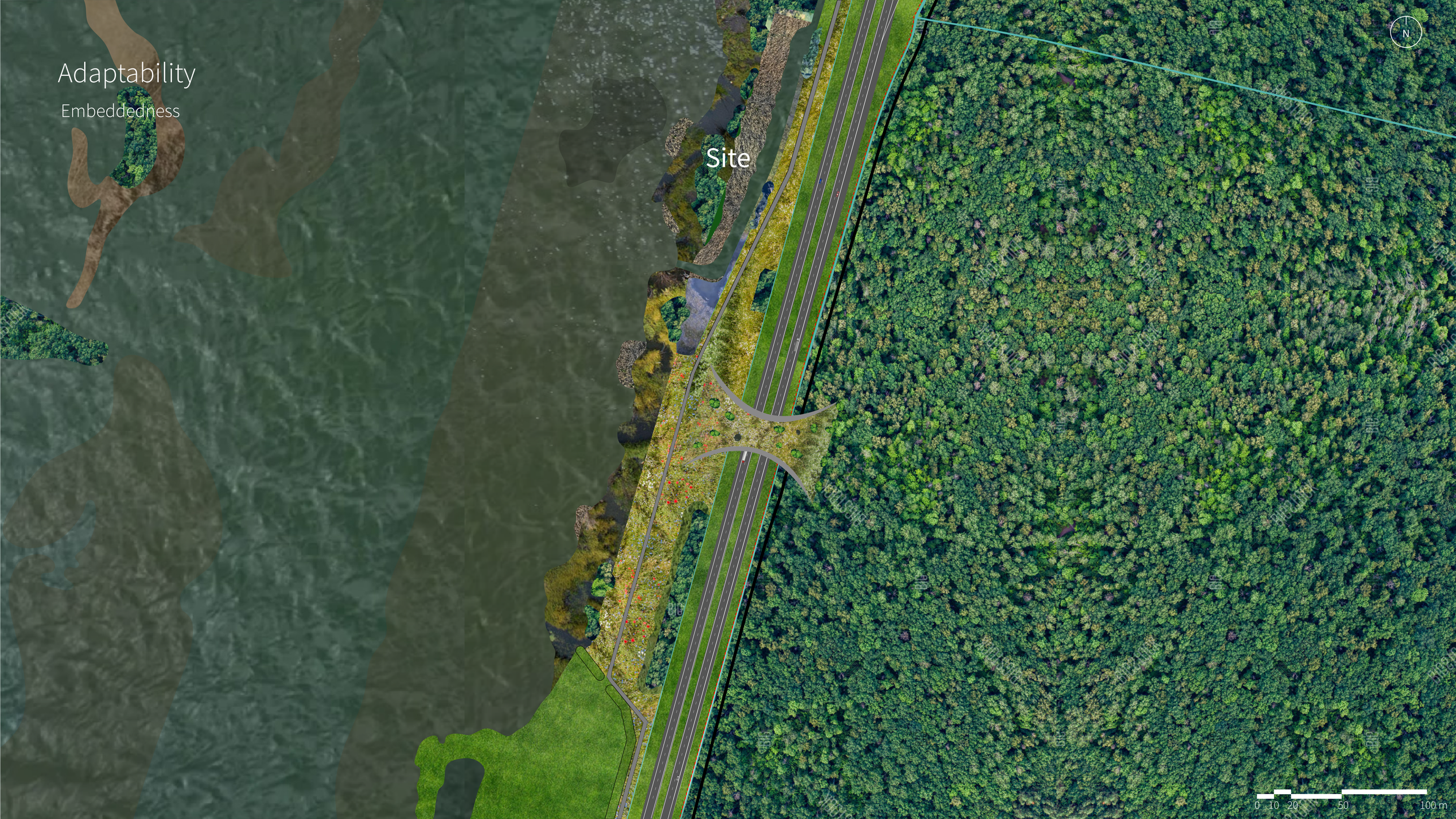
Strengthening ecology
→ *tackling population management and landuse issues*

Assimilation of its surroundings
→ *soil composition, geographical landscape*

→ **Functioning ruin**

Adaptability

Embeddedness



Adaptability

Embeddedness

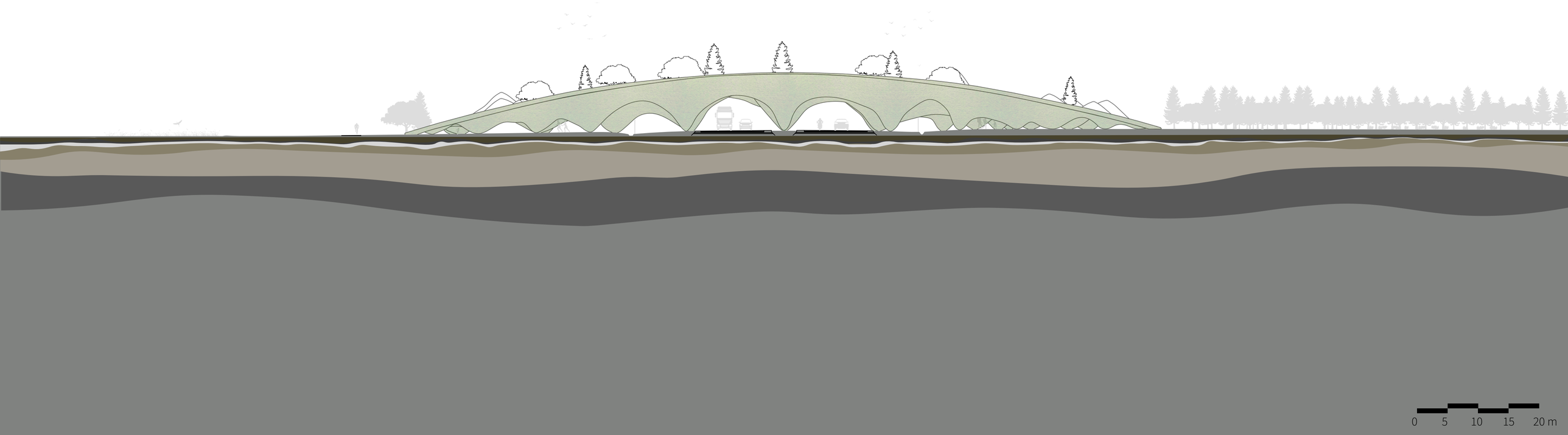
Adaptability

Embeddedness

Adaptability

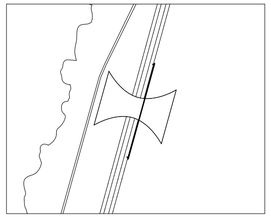
Embeddedness

Elevation

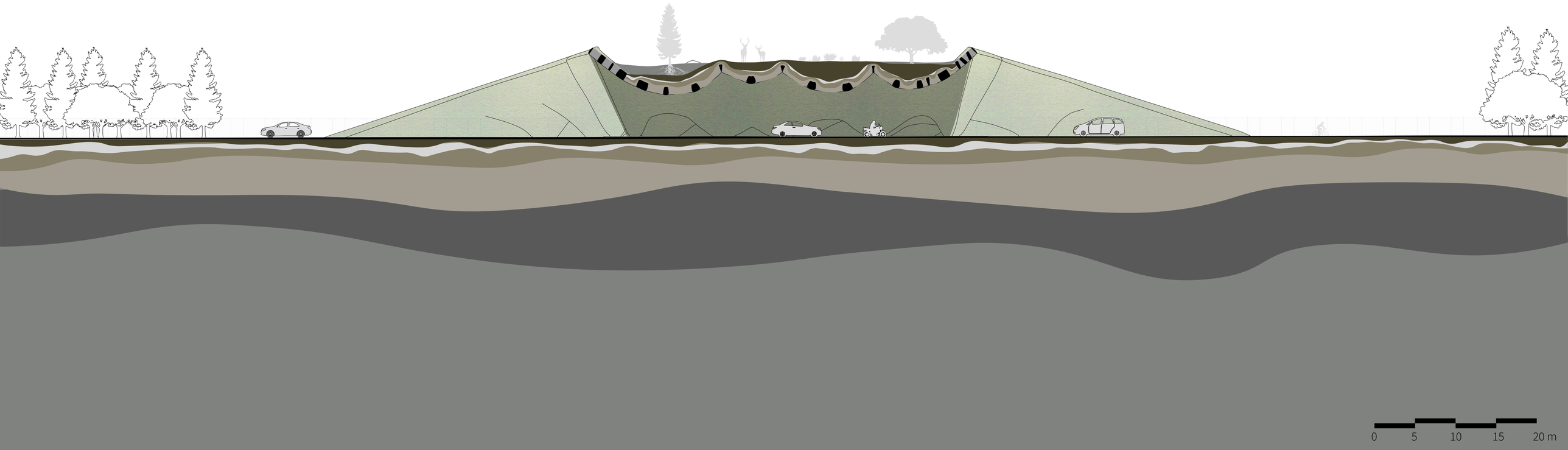


Adaptability

Embeddedness

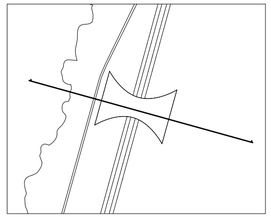


Section B

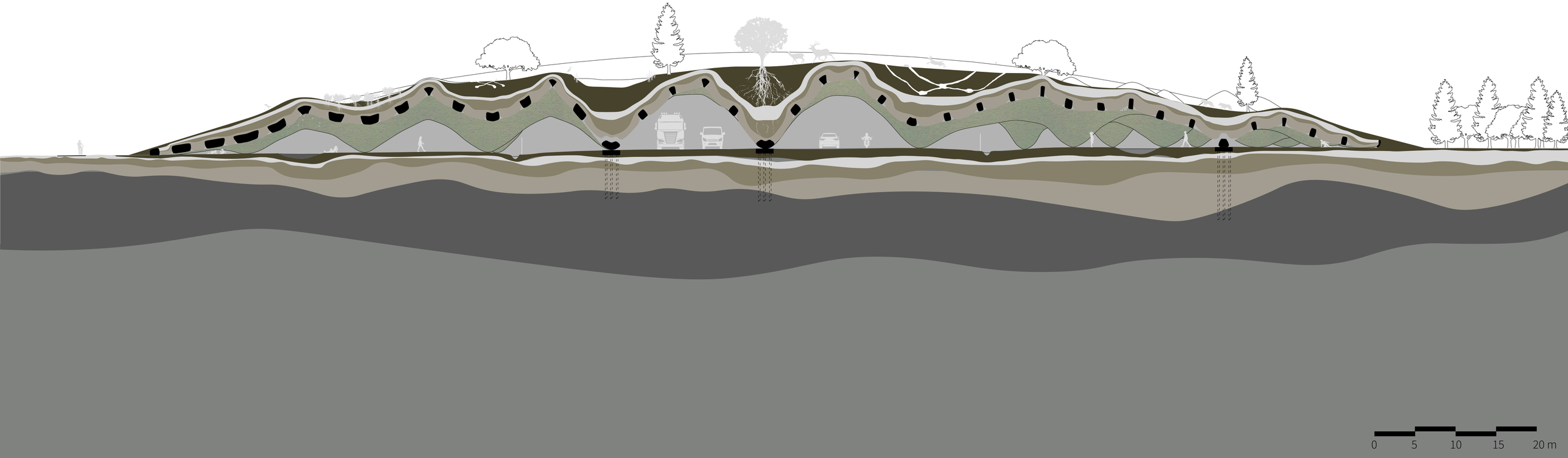


Adaptability

Embeddedness



Section A



Adaptability

Embeddedness

Section Day

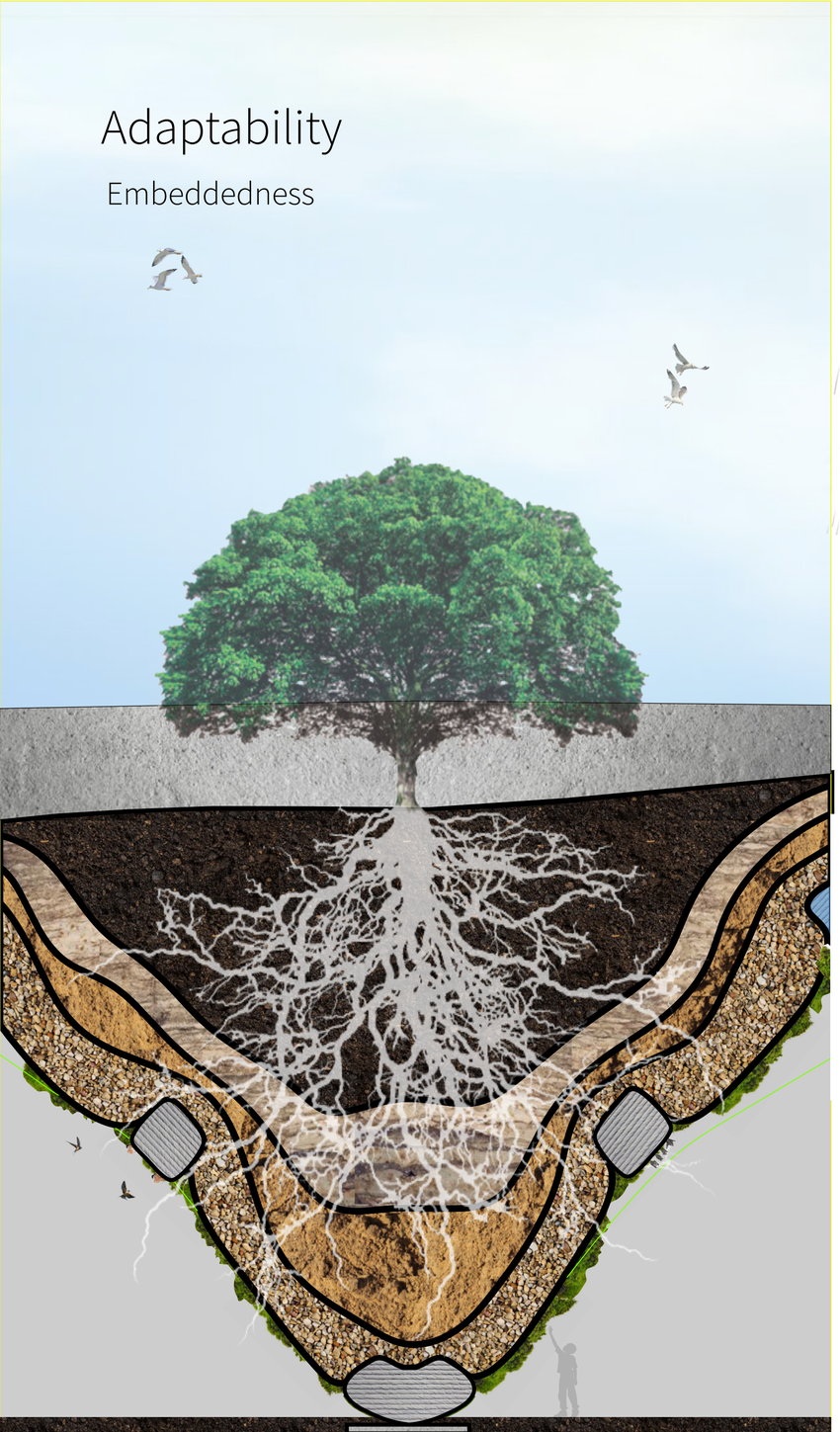
Adaptability

Embeddedness

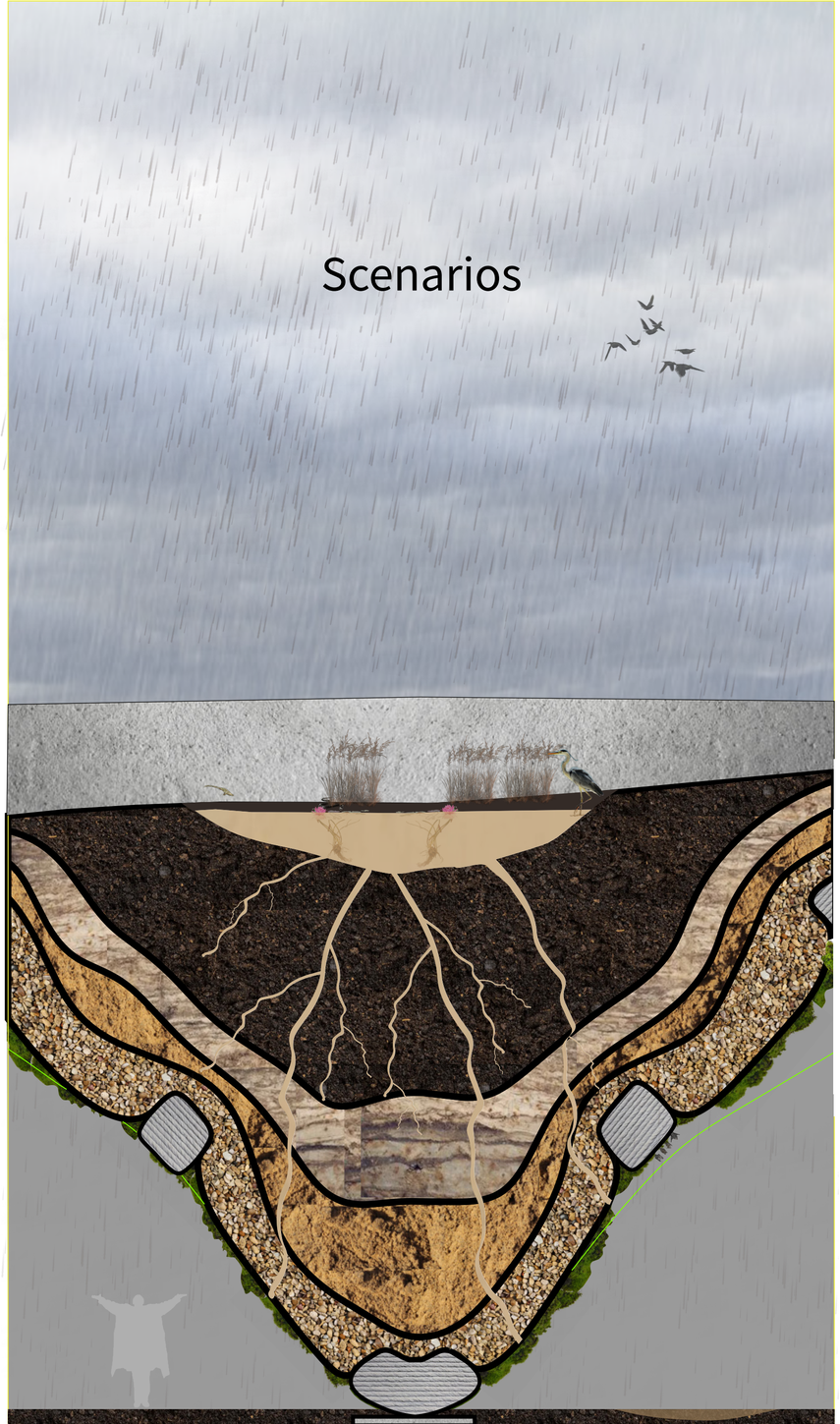
Section Night

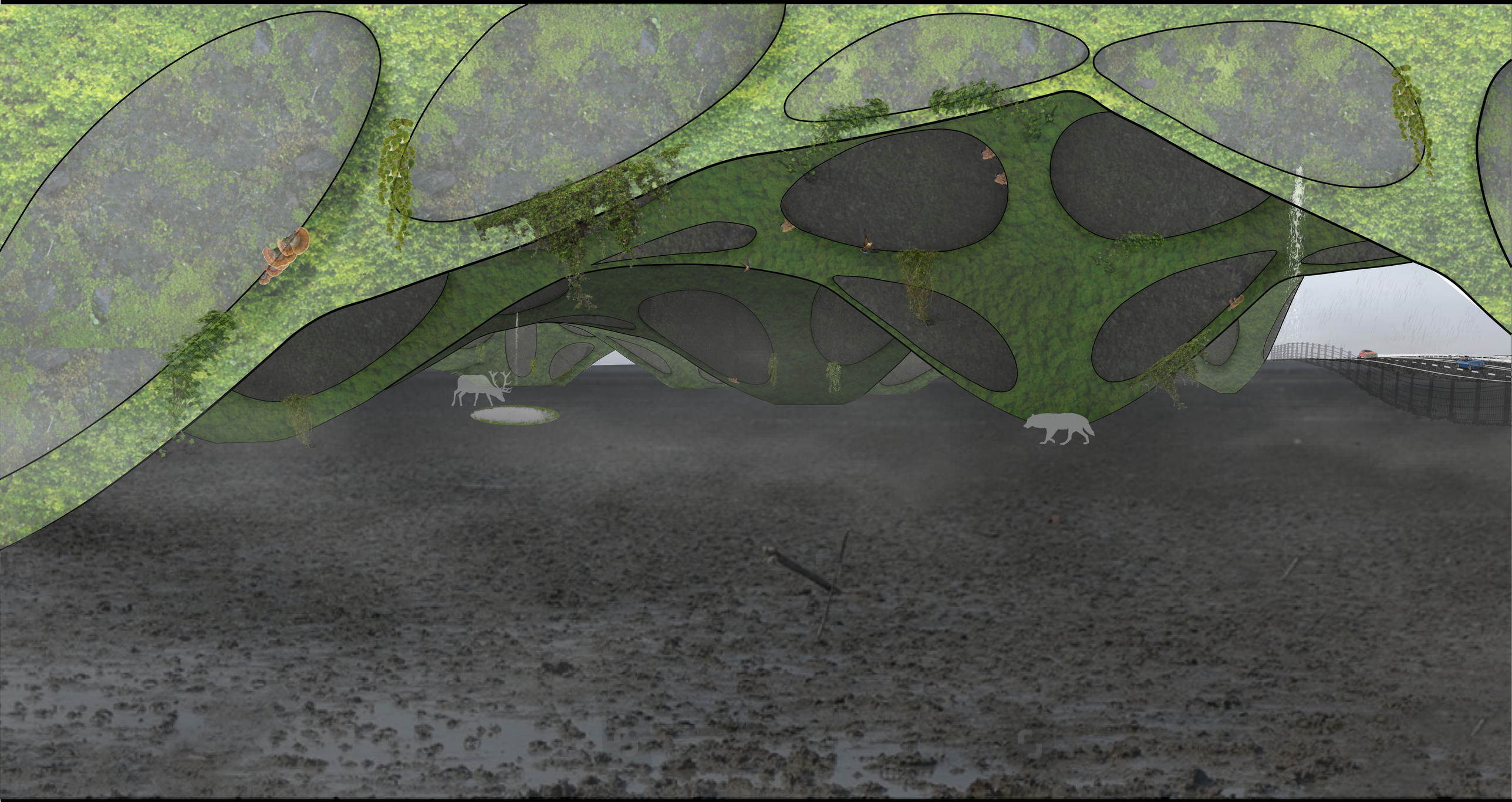
Adaptability

Embeddedness



Scenarios



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Change

“When insisting on permanence, trying to resist change, we are refusing life.
Life is an act of creation, an ongoing transformation.
Change is possible and change is life.”

- Sharon Blackie

Thank you

Sign the petition

LATEST CONTACT US

WWF

Europe weakens wolf protection in major blow to science and biodiversity

Posted on September, 25 2024

Today, a majority of EU Member States agreed to adopt the European Commission's proposal [1] to downgrade the protection status of the wolf under the Bern Convention. This shift opens the door to wolf culling as a false solution to livestock depredation, which runs counter to Europe's commitment to safeguard and restore biodiversity. The decision went through after Germany unexpectedly changed its position from abstention to support at the last minute.

Instead of looking for solutions, such as investing more in preventive measures to achieve coexistence, the EU chooses to allow wolf hunting.

© Staffan Widstrand / WWF

patagonia | the european nature trust | io non ho paura del lupo | WaterBear

THE WOLF WITHIN

UN FILM DI
FEDERICO MANNESCHI

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Join the howl. Help protect wolves in Europe.

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Via Giovanni Paisiello, 24

www.thewolfwithin.eu