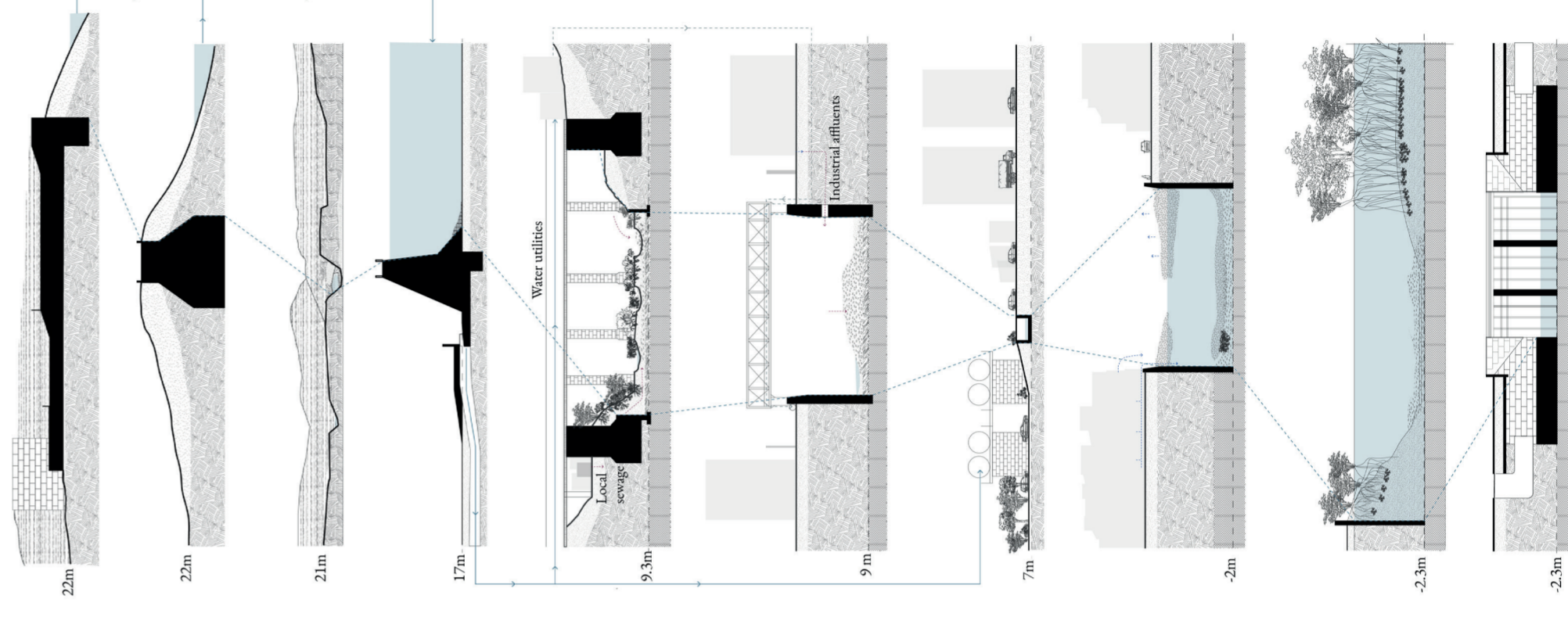
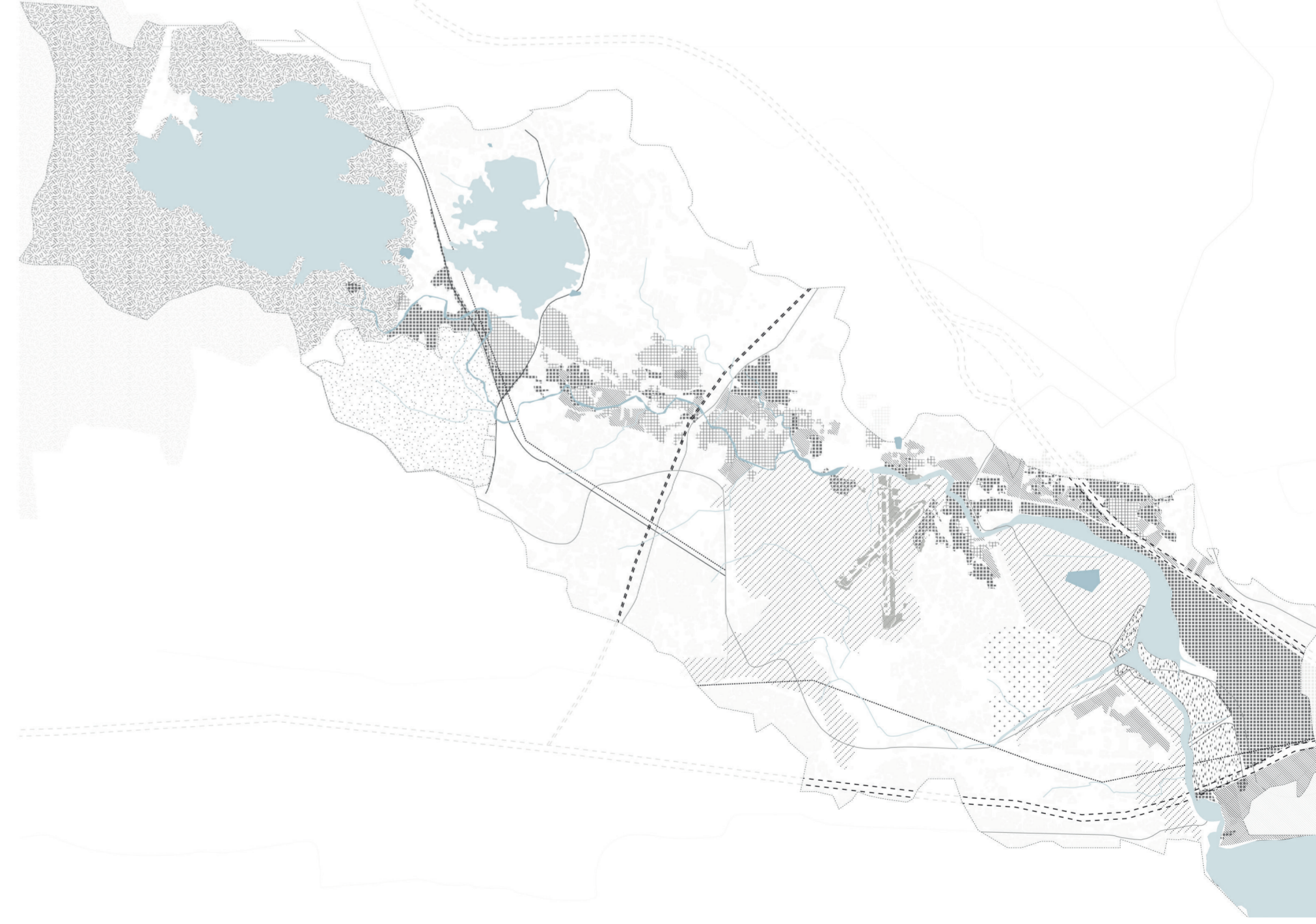


De-Landing Growth : Framing Alternative Perspectives To Evolution in
Mumbai

Topos_Alteration

In this analysis, the river is considered not as an isolated object of focus but more so as a body that has been in constant negotiation with contesting forces arising from the very saturated environment surrounding it. By analysing through the lens of accumulation, altered patterns can be traced that have marginalized the river and pushed the natural drainage system beyond its limits. Hence making a pressing case against the practices of land intensification that occurs at the cost of altering the innate estuarine nature of the territory. The water edge is defined by a variety of intensive land uses like industrial setups, commercial estates, residential dwellings, transit infrastructures cutting across it as well as informal dwellings- midstream to downstream. These functions have not only altered the natural state of the river by concreting its bed and edges beyond limits, but also through the accumulation of pollutant have drained it dry in most parts of its stream. Indeed transforming the Mithi River (translates to "sweet water river" in local language) to Mithi Nallah (which translates to "drain").

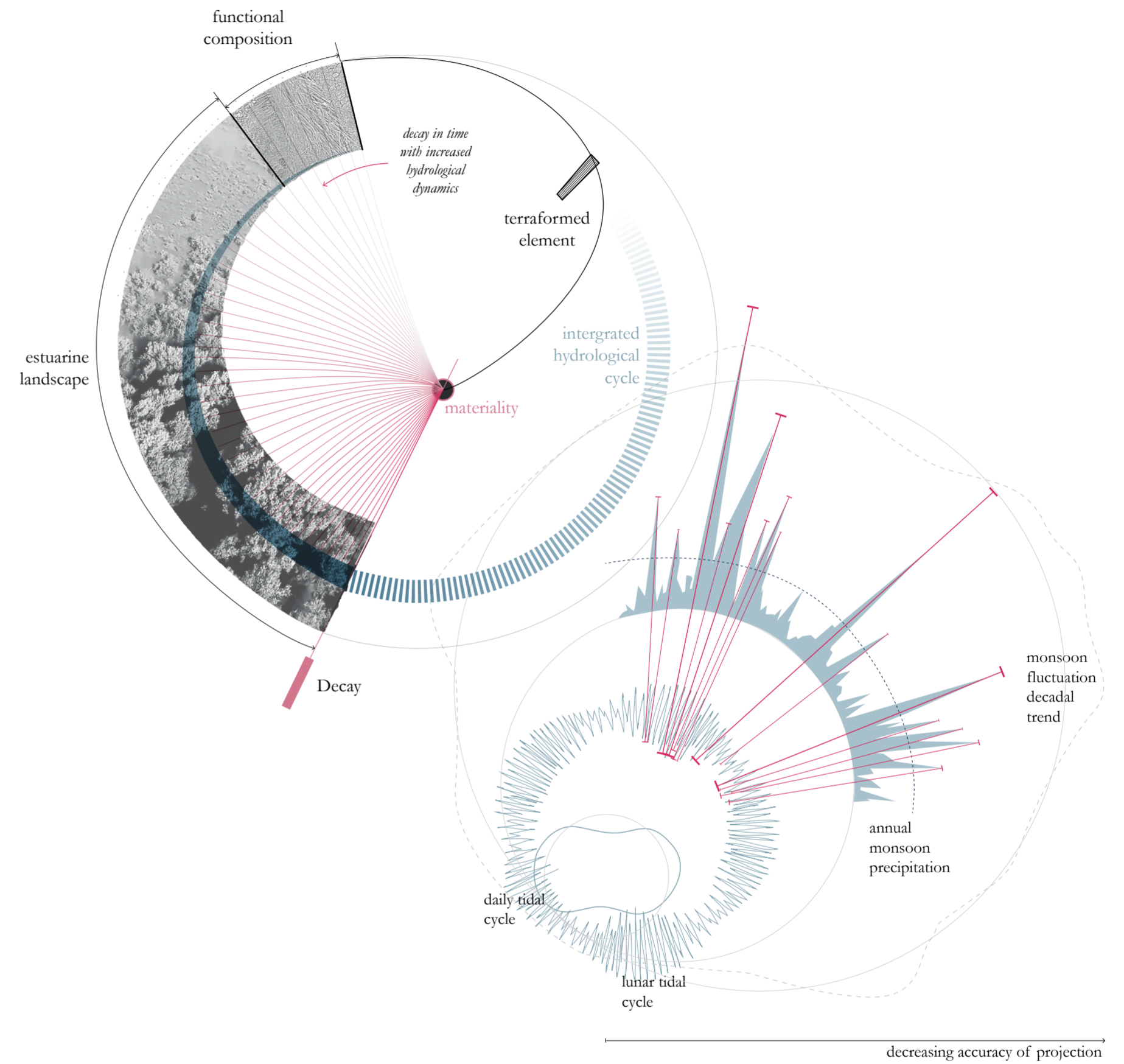
- Industrial landuse
- Residential
- Informal settlements
- Special development zones
- ⋯ Utilities
- ⋯ Mangroves
- ⋯ Topsoil
- ⋯ Weathered rocks
- ⋯ Pyroclastic rocks
- ⋯ Plastics and floatant pollutants
- ⋯ Debris
- River water
- Fresh water supply
- Waste water movement
- == Metro
- Highway
- Railways



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Paradigm Shift_Evolution by Degrowth.

The approach proposes to align processes of accumulation and clearance in the estuary based on time, spatial influence and capacity to speculate upon prospects of new local synergies. New forms of material synergies that are informed by local societal, surface and subsurface conditions and set in motion by water. Which cumulatively with other local interventions in time ensures the management of matter and thereby the biophysical health of the estuary. At the core of this approach is the act of maintenance stemming from the necessity for care. In the prevalent organizational structure, the estuarine landscape is regulated by the governing authority. Cycles of maintenance and landscape growth has been calibrated under the influence of the hydrological cycle on site. Where water acts as both a method as well as a performance determinant.

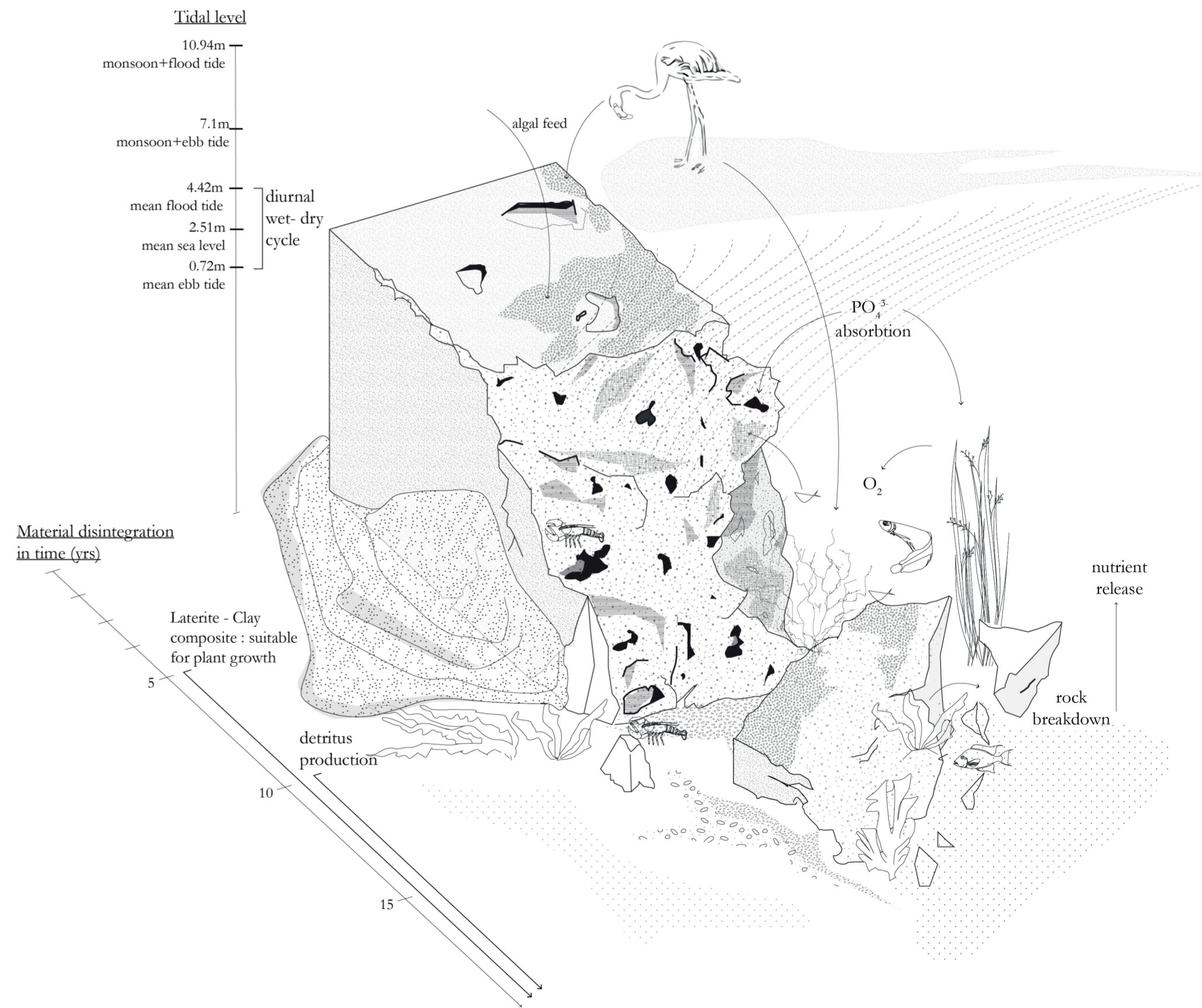
illustration based on:
 tides on 3rd june, 2022
 lunar tidal cycle 1 june - 3 july 2022
 monsoonal data 2022

Designed for Decay

Based on the formative understanding of the estuary as a living entity, the project refrains from introducing hard or permanent interventions within the landscape that refuse or evolve and respond to changes in the surrounding environment. Thus operating through terraforming as a primary medium of design that is shaped in time by the hydrological cycle of the territory. Laying critical focus on the materiality and thereby lifecycle of these interventions such that on serving their purpose, they either disintegrate into the landscape in time or lay foundations for the surrounding ecology to evolve, encroach, and thrive.

For instance in this case, in approximately 5 years due to the tidal and seasonal fluctuations of wetness, algal colonization as well as abrasive impact of water currents, will lead to the disintegration and erosion of the rock. With its pores and surface altered and overlaid with depositions of silt and clay, its reduced acidity will allow for the growth of native corals and aquatic plants, that feed the fish. To this effect, the intervention is thus imagined decaying into the landscape, that will with time host an active estuarine ecosystem.

- Accumulated sediments
- Phytoplankton
- Clay
- Iron Oxide
- Latent clay composite
- Bluegreen algae



Sasonal Landscapes

A landscape allowed to grow and remediate in time as storm water drains on site are unbanked, allowing for the water to assimilate in the otherwise desiccated territory. An intervention of evolution by degrowth, embraces the native ecology and vegetation on site and harnesses its potentials to not only prevent the desiccation of the adjoining landscape but at the same time play a critical role in draining monsoon waters. Thus curbing the tendency of water-logging in the adjoining regions.



A New Material Reading

Commencing from a fluid reading of the territory, the shifting water matter relations have been mapped through a transect of its materiality at a given point in time. Accounting for processes that leave traces in the territory, some more permanent than others.

Traces that define changes in the landscape across scales: in its physicality, composition, functionality, habitability and ultimately accretes in the longer term as a more evident morphing of the "land".

This material cartography of the landscape aims to present an alternative purview in the study of territories that are in state of constant formation. A method that not only presents material study as an analytical and monitoring tool but can also be used to trace the implications of external interventions placed inconspicuously in the landscape dynamics.

A visual that brings to prominence the reality and urgency of an adapting estuarine landscape that occurs at the cost of its hydrological integrity. That is further accelerated by anthropogenic interventions of building more, which may not necessarily be direct of acts of land reclamation but simply situating elements in the landscape dynamics as such invariable triggers new cycles of accumulation.

- Tidal water vectors
- Materiality stratified extent (vertically in meters)
- Density in decreasing order
- Settlement in a tidal clearance cycle

