



(De)Landing Growth

Framing Alternative Perspectives
to Evolution In Mumbai



20.96 million



17.53 million





1650



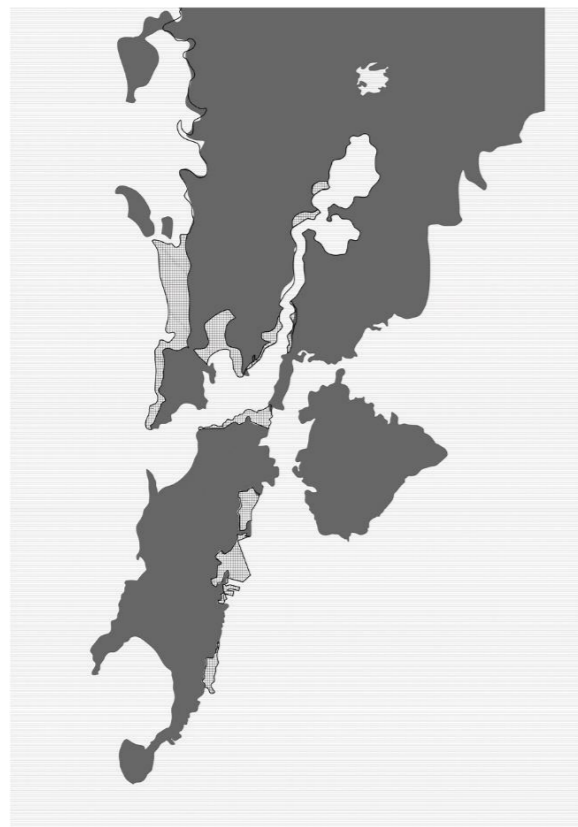
1800



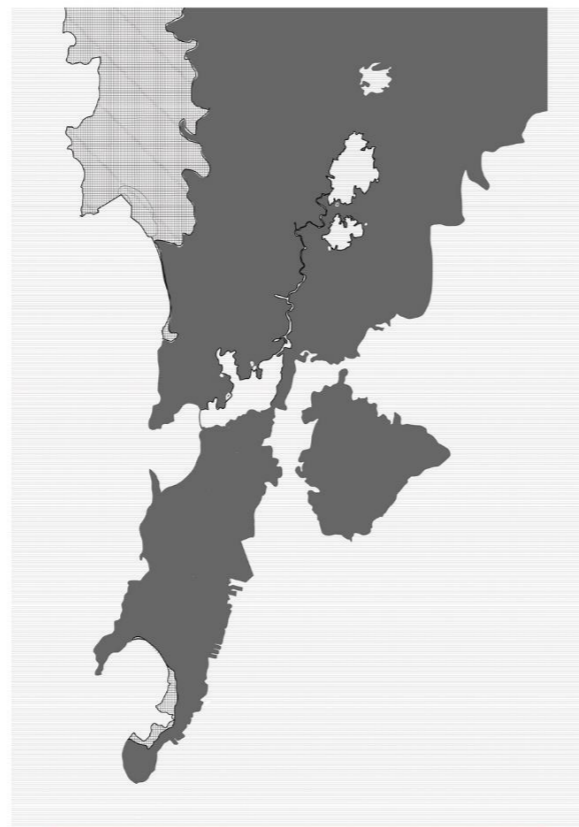
1850



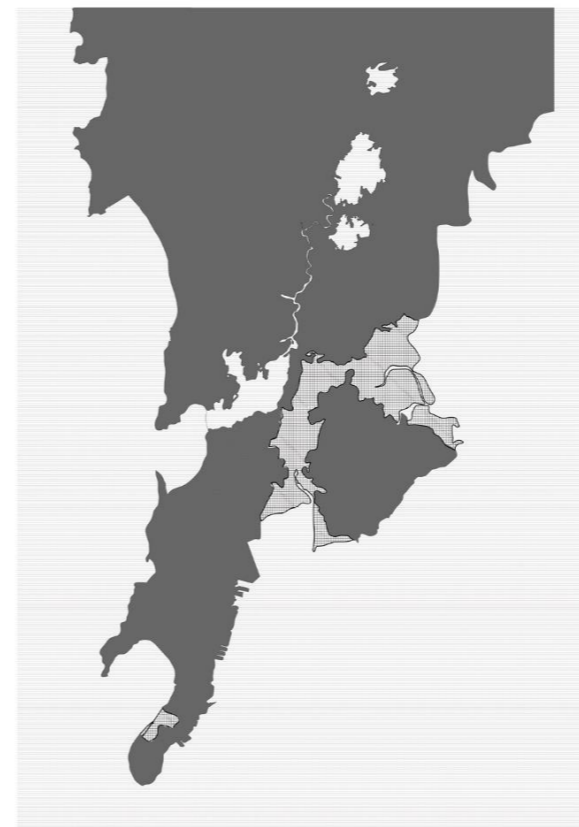
1870



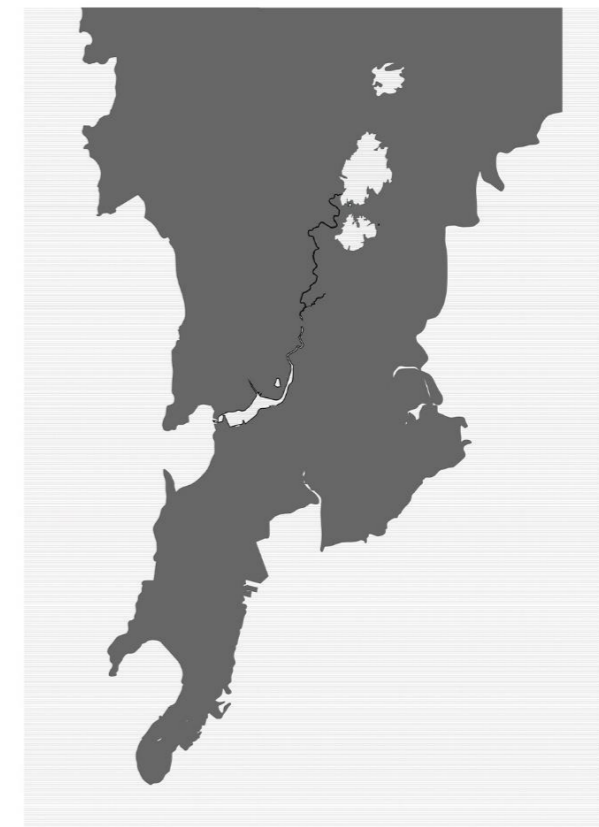
1905
"επτανησία"



1920
"Βοη Βαίαν"



1950
"Bombay"



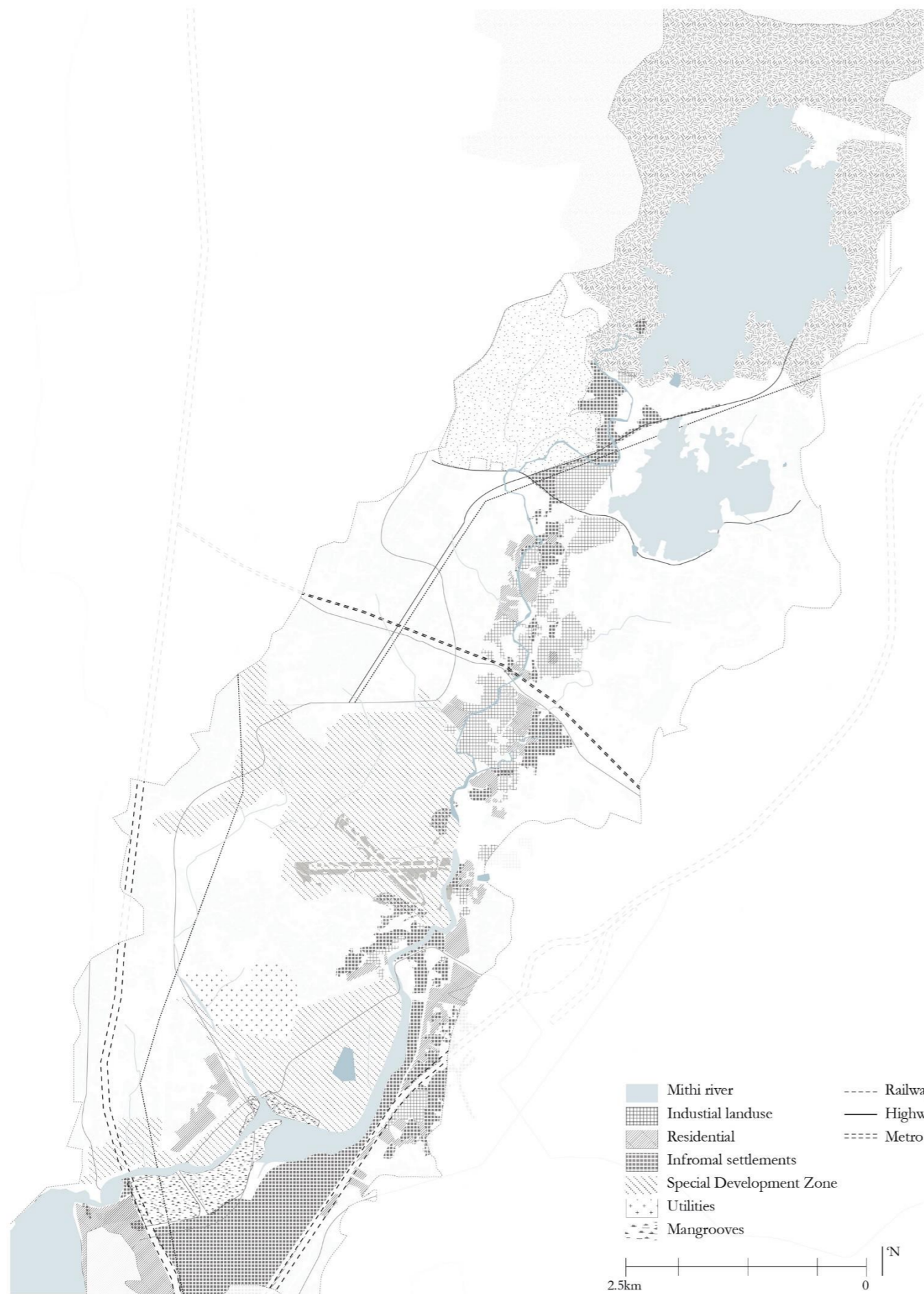
385 sq. km. reclaimed area | 2020
"Mumbai"

Growth & Development in the 21st century

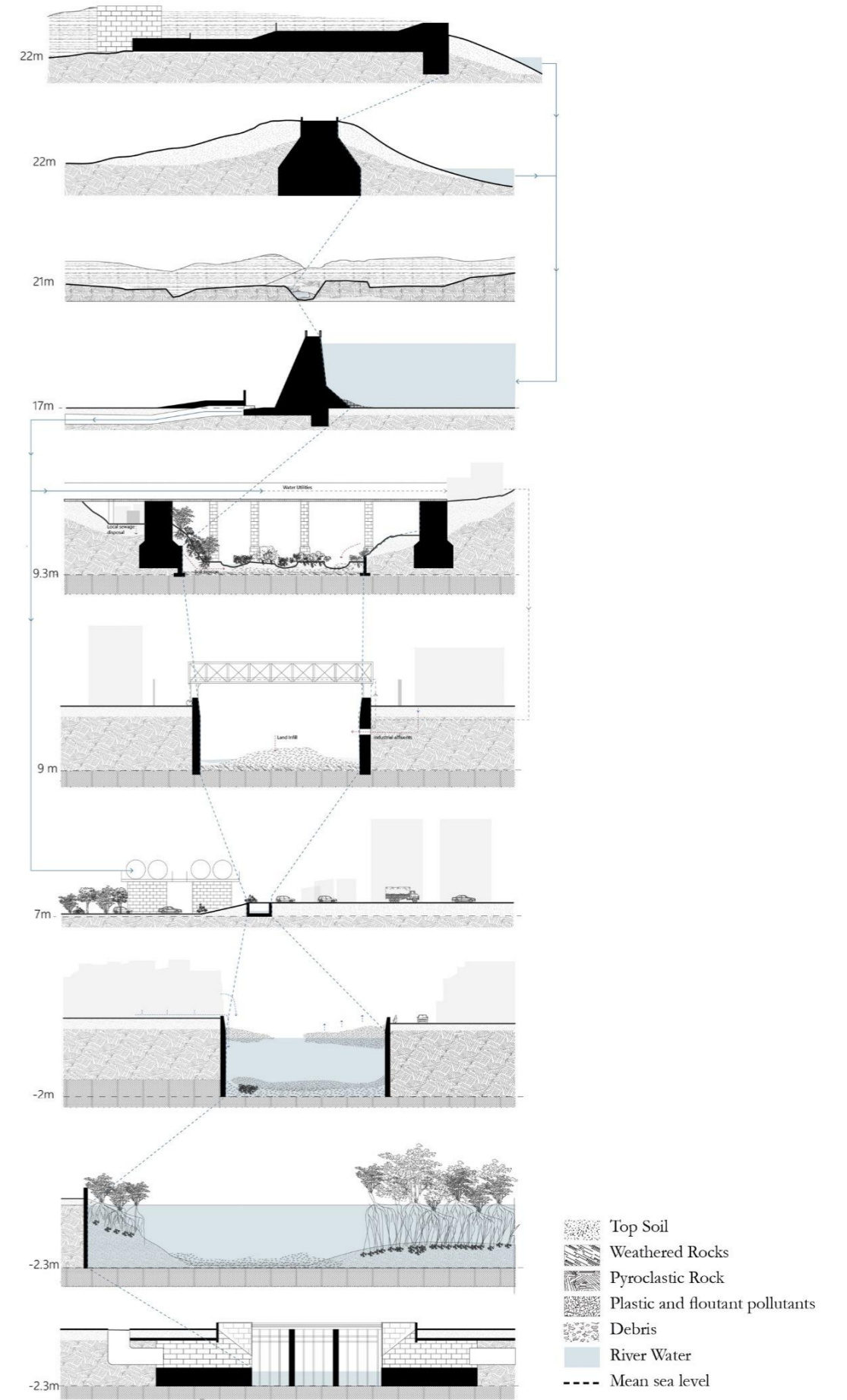
Development = Building | expand
intensify
'reclaim'



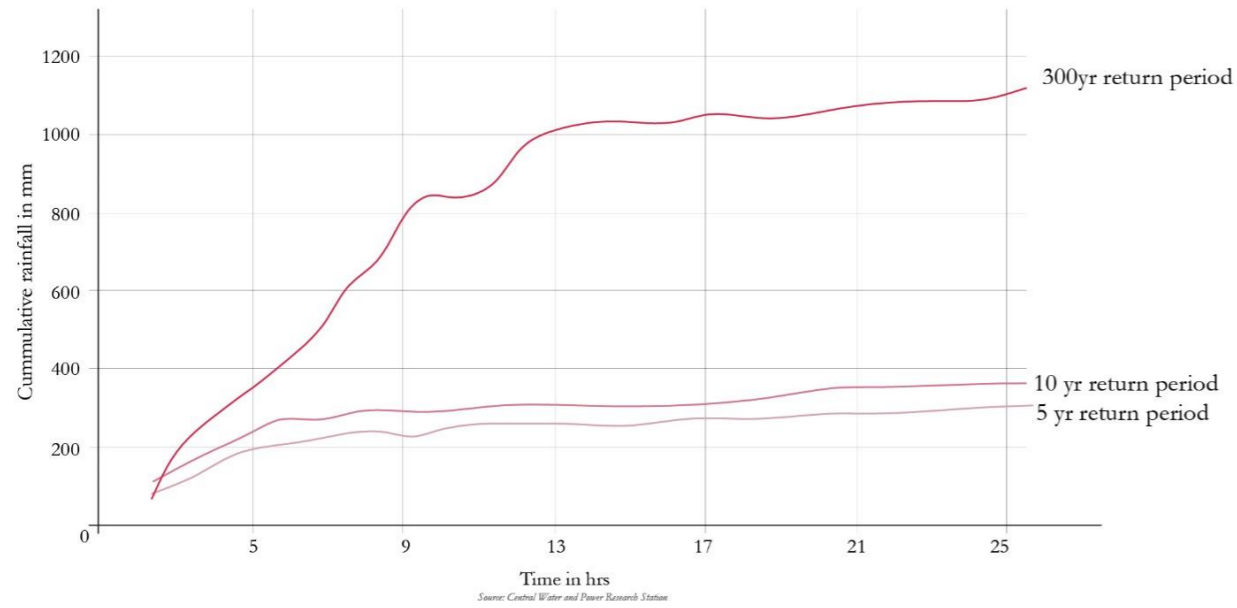
Current Reclamation for the Coastal Road Project



Mithi River basin and its present land use



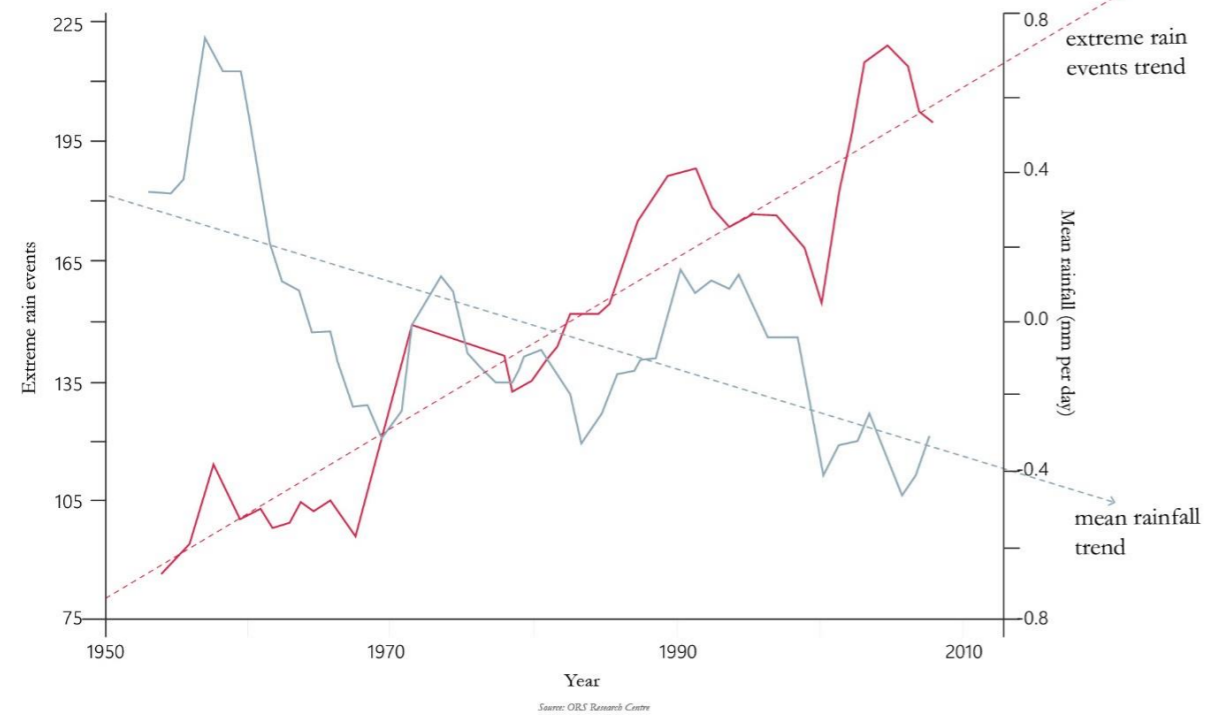
Alterations in the river body



2013



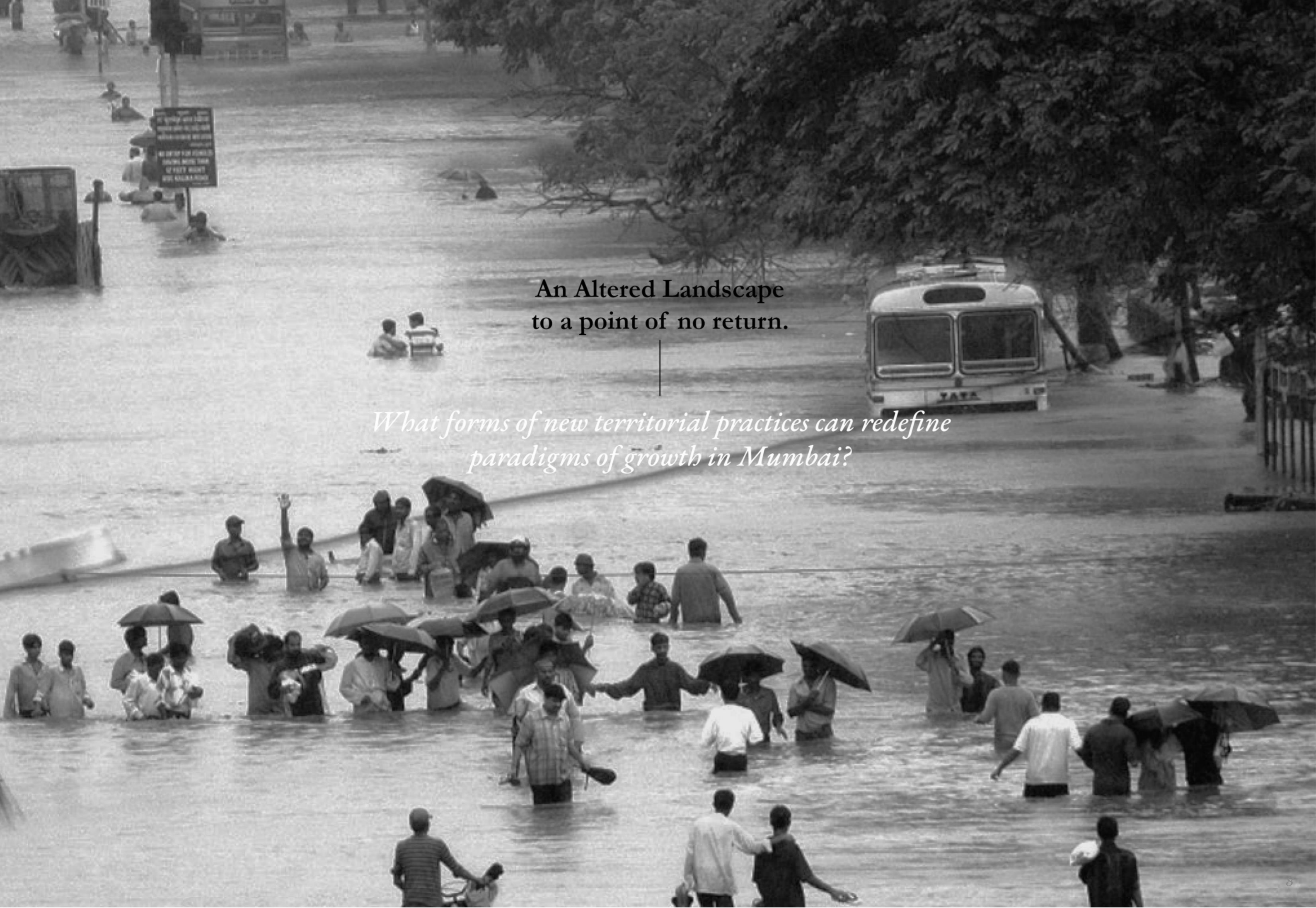
2015



2017



2021



An Altered Landscape
to a point of no return.

*What forms of new territorial practices can redefine
paradigms of growth in Mumbai?*

Research Question

What forms of new territorial practices can redefine paradigms of growth in Mumbai? That responds to the necessity to accommodate the growing population and their neo-liberal/globalization ambitions whilst addressing its **externalities** that manifest in the form of a **disrupted hydrological cycle**- causing recurring and intense flooding every monsoon. So as to foster an **evolutionary** and **symbiotic** relationship between its **critical ecosystem cycles** (geological and hydrological) and **habitation patterns** as a means to safeguard the existence of humans and more than humans alike .

Sub-Questions

Contextualizing

1. Which natural (biotic + abiotic) cycles of the ecosystem are fundamental in shaping the morpho-dynamics of the territory and how do they **manifest spatially in time?**

Research by Design

2. What are the critical **anthropogenic dependencies** and ambitions embedded/positioned in these ecosystem cycles and in which form?

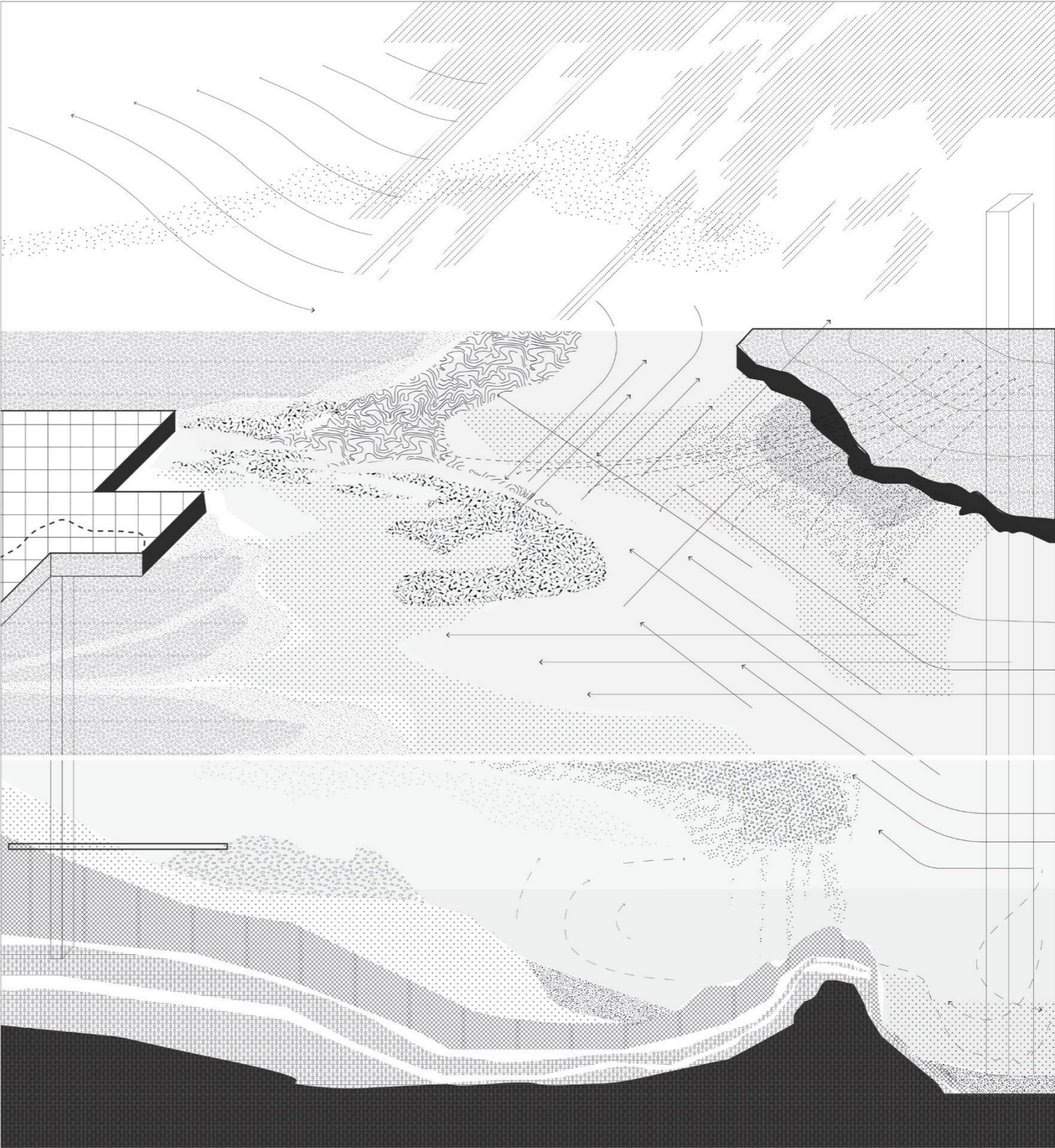
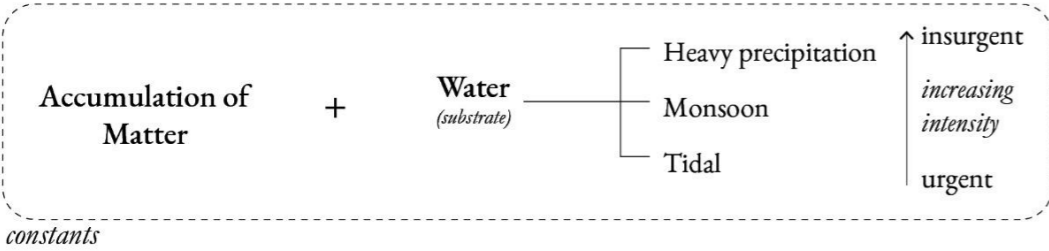
Grounding

3. What are the **thresholds** of the prevalent human appropriation and growth patterns in Mumbai before they are **incongruently positioned** in the territorial ecosystem cycles? How is their impact witnessed in the region across the varying scales of space and time?

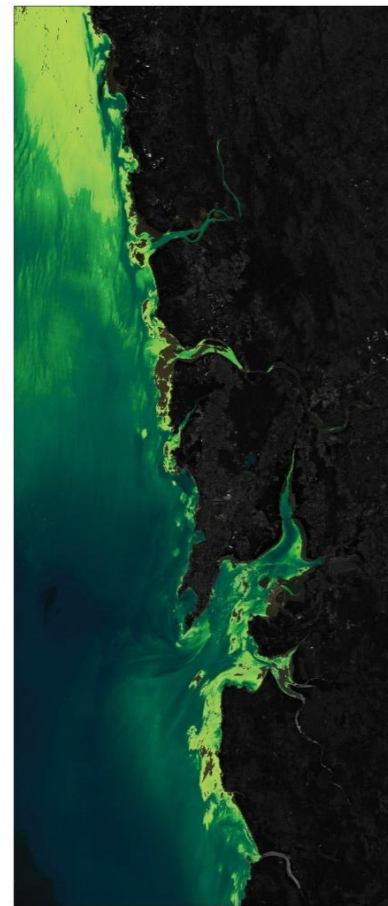
Evaluation:

4. What are the **limits of growth** and how can they be directed progressively to influence the morphodynamics of the territorial landscape so as to mitigate the externalities of intensifying anthropogenic functions on the estuarine territory to ensure its **biophysical as well as functional health?**

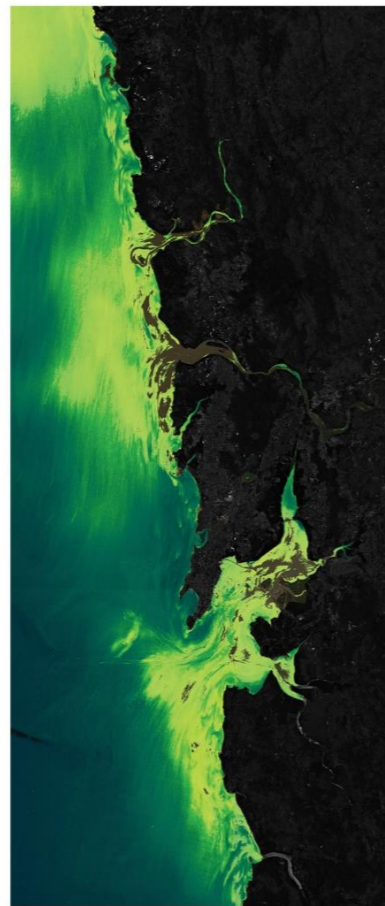
Landscape hypothesis



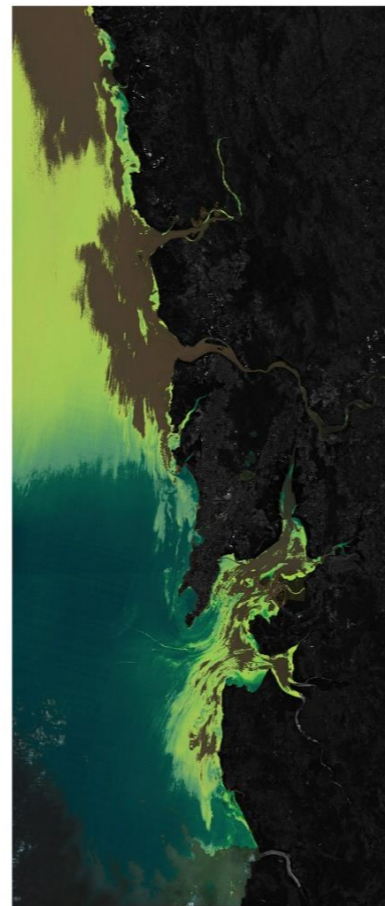
potentials of stratigraphic and antistratigraphic processes



January



February



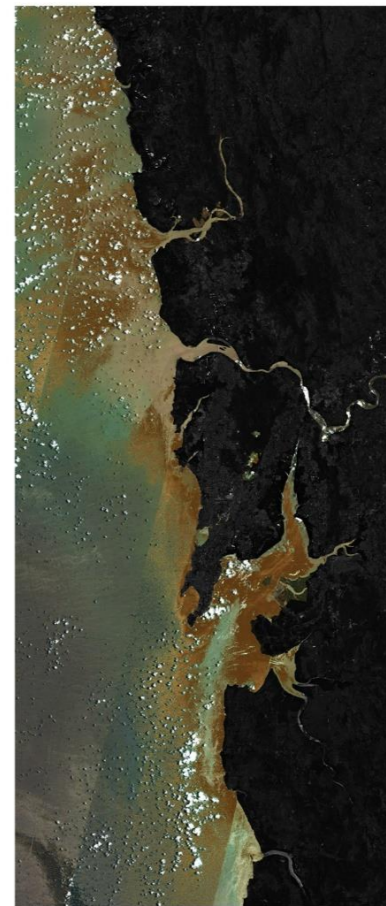
March



April



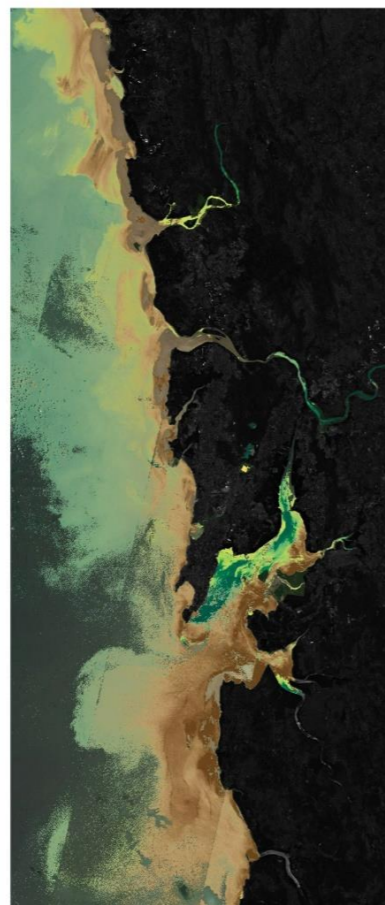
May



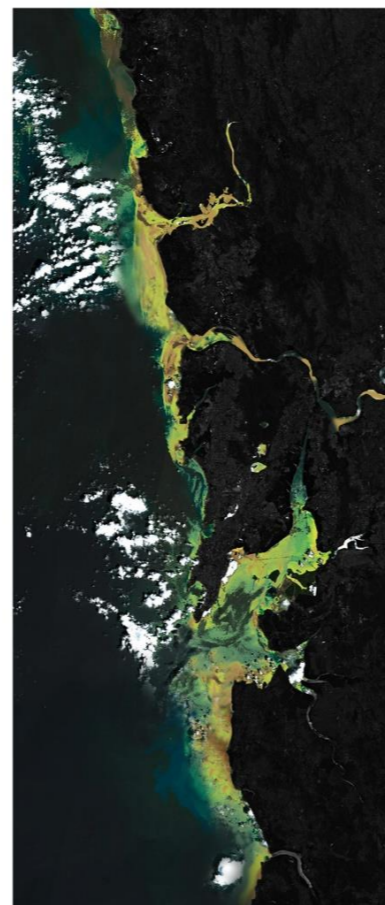
June



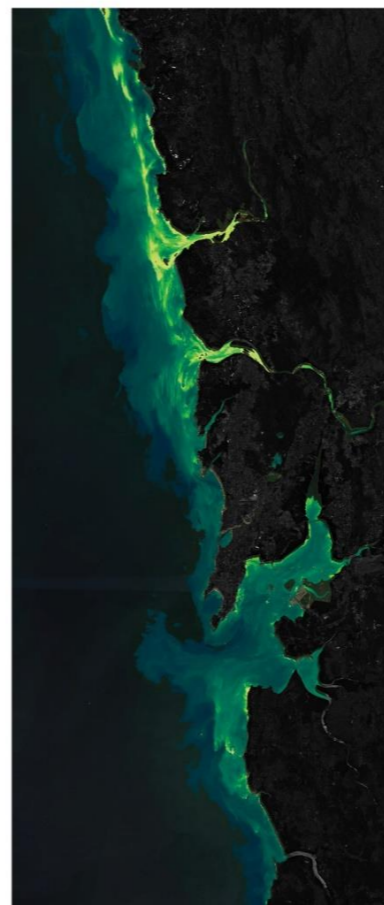
July



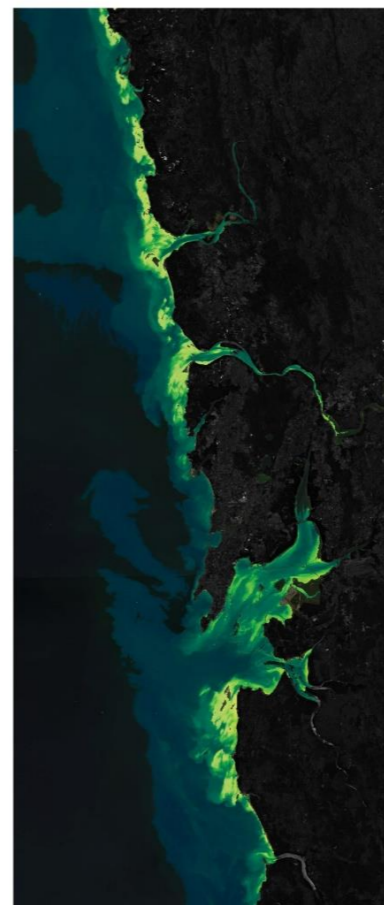
August



September



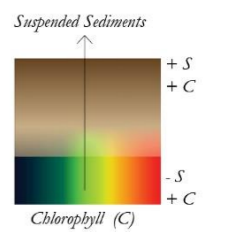
October

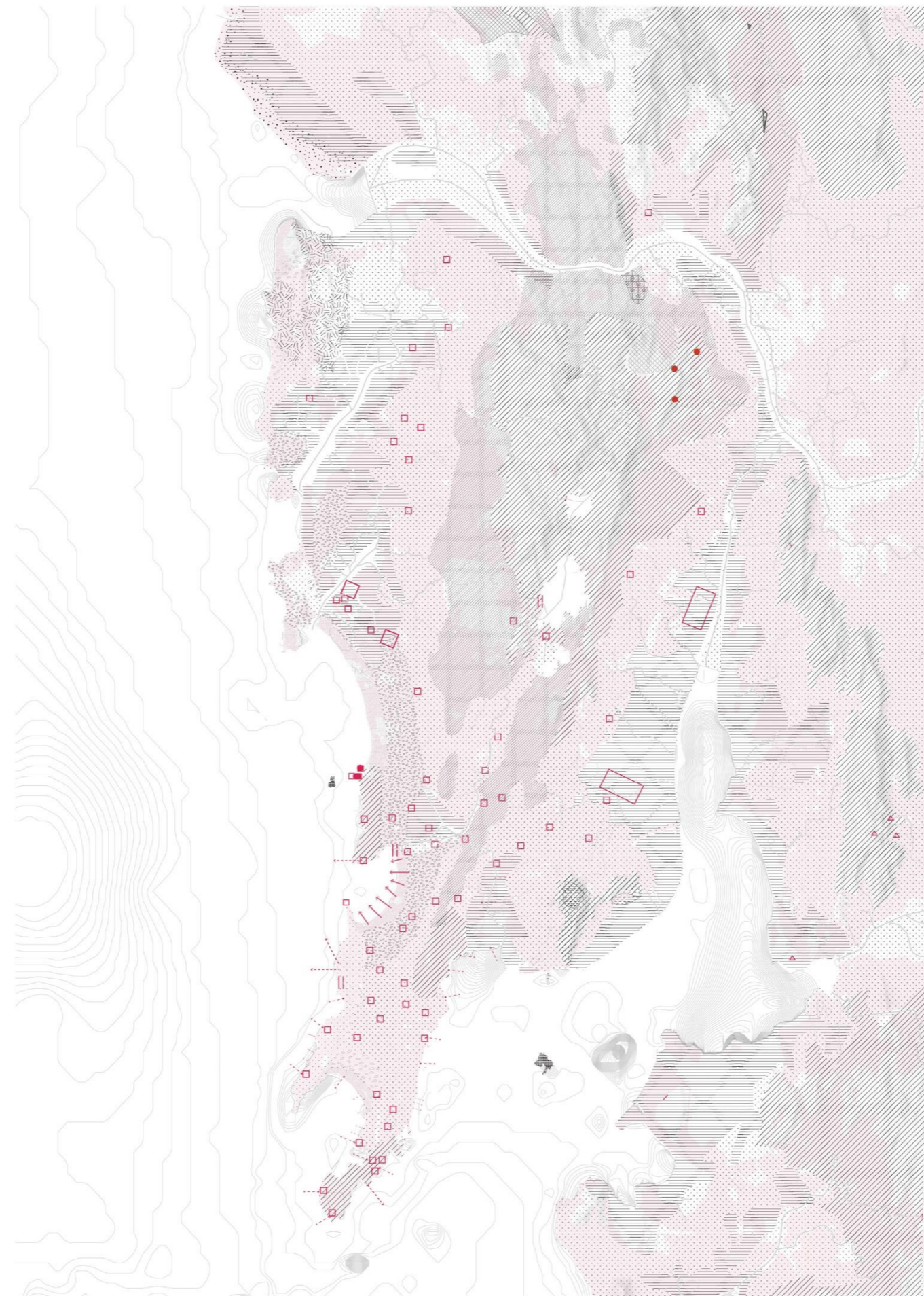


November



December



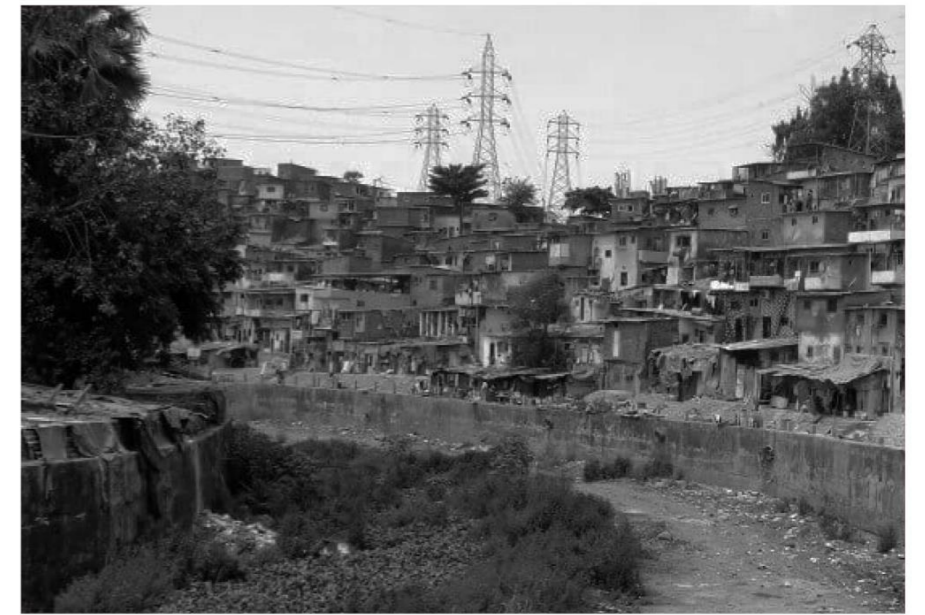


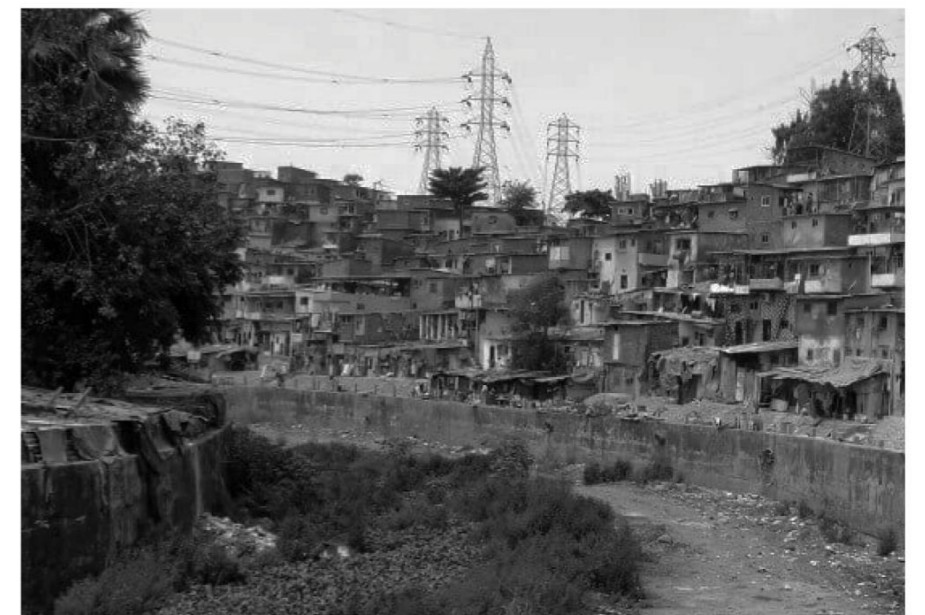
- Mechanical drainage systems
- || Flood gates
- △ Pumping stations
- ← Primary sewage outfall
- - - Secondary sewage outfall
- ▭ Water treatment plant
- Non-permeable surface
- Beach sand
- Interflow sediments
- Semi consolidated sedi-
ments
- Mud flats
- Alluvium
- Volcanic tuff
- Basalt Lava
- Pillow Occurances

in order of
decreasing
K-value

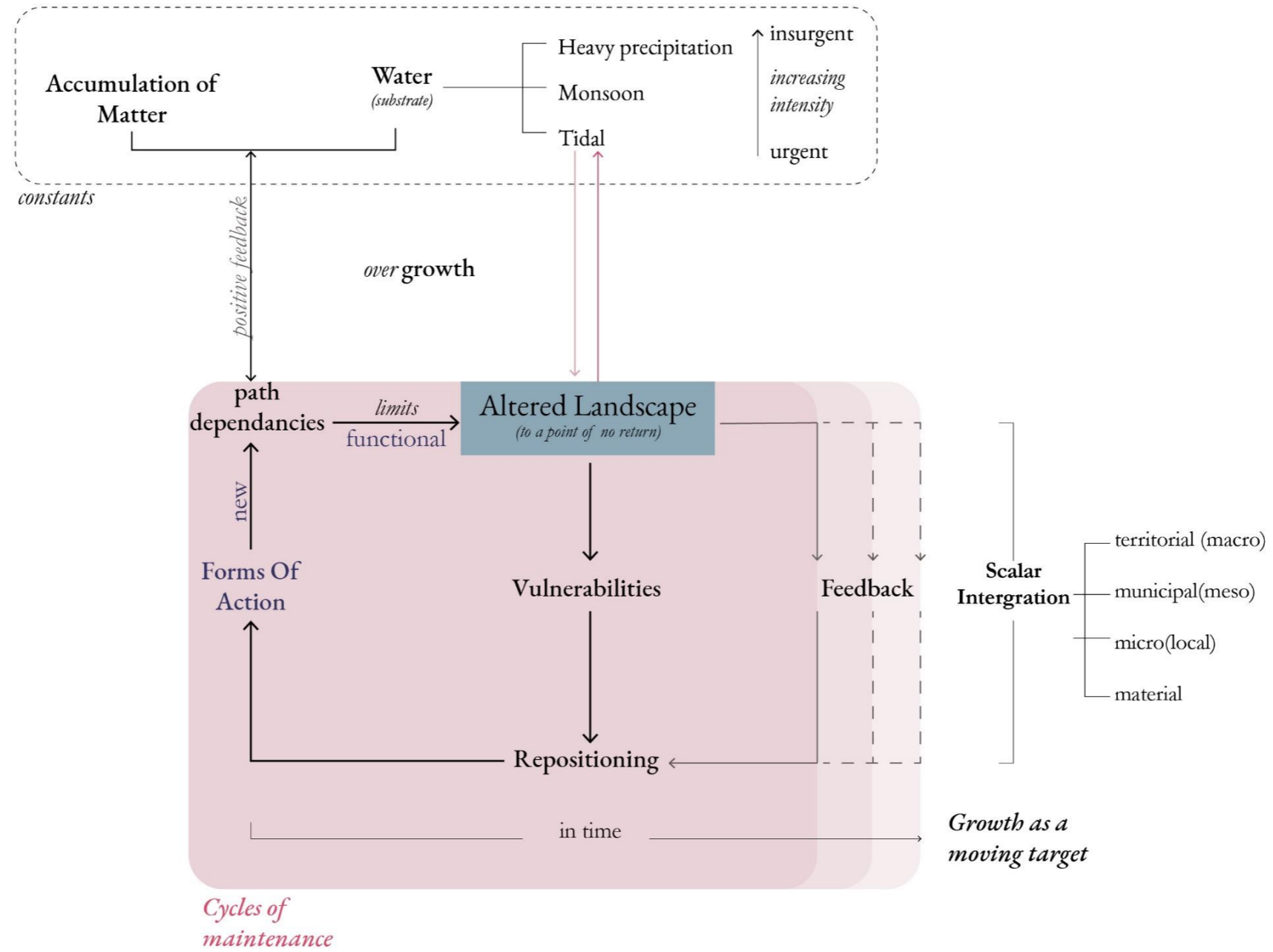
0 10km N

Surface Conditions

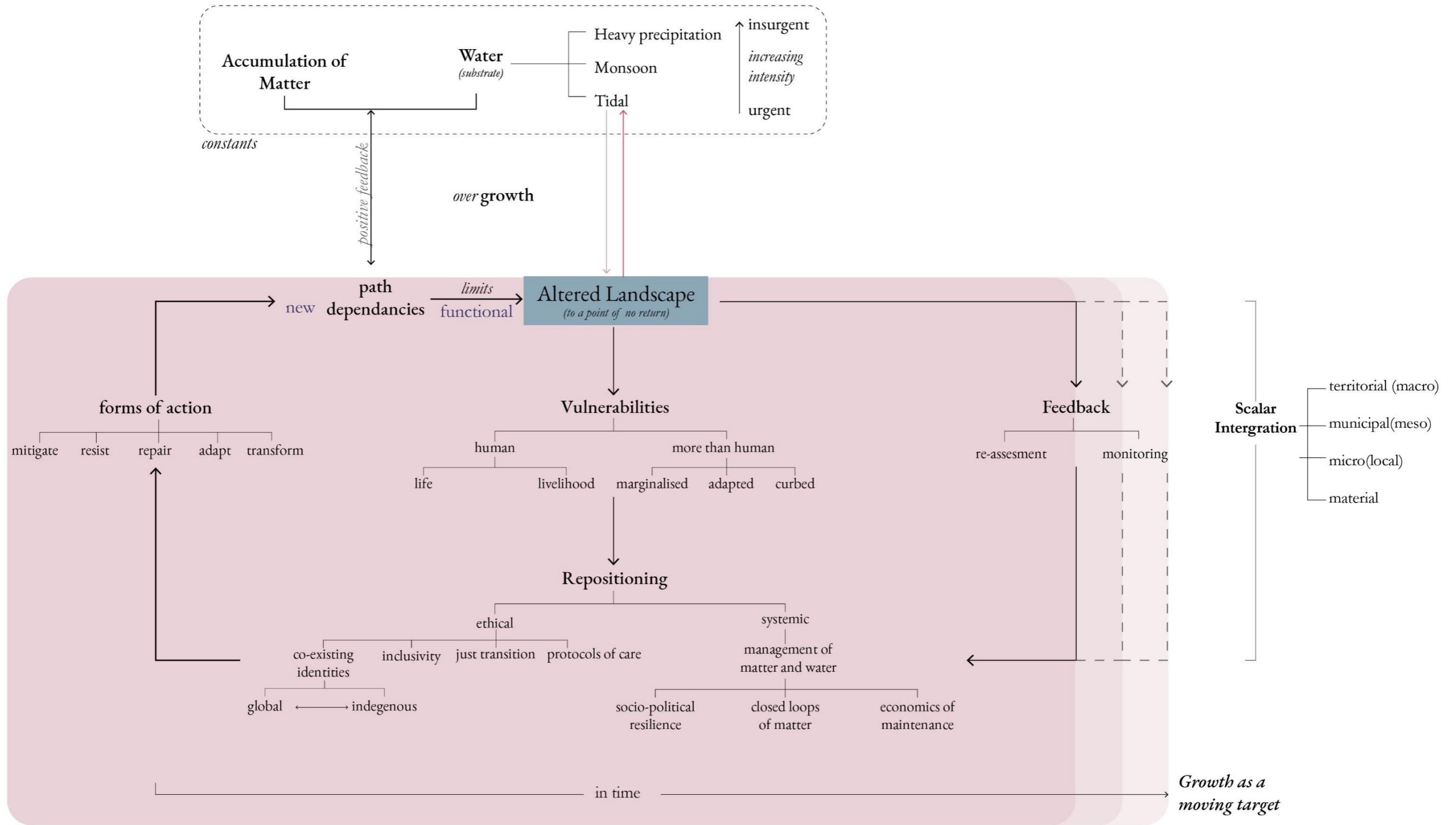




Conceptual Framework

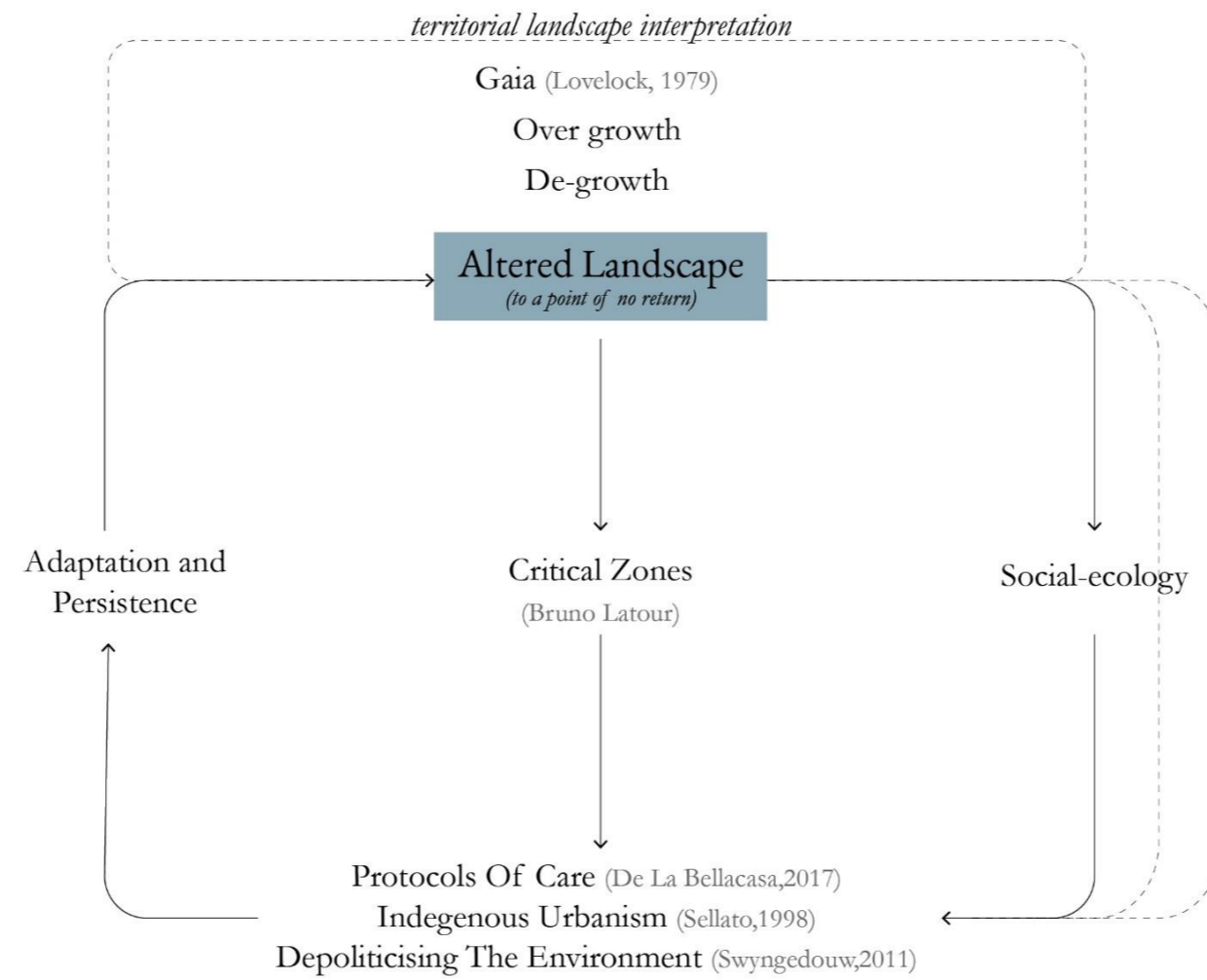


Conceptual Framework



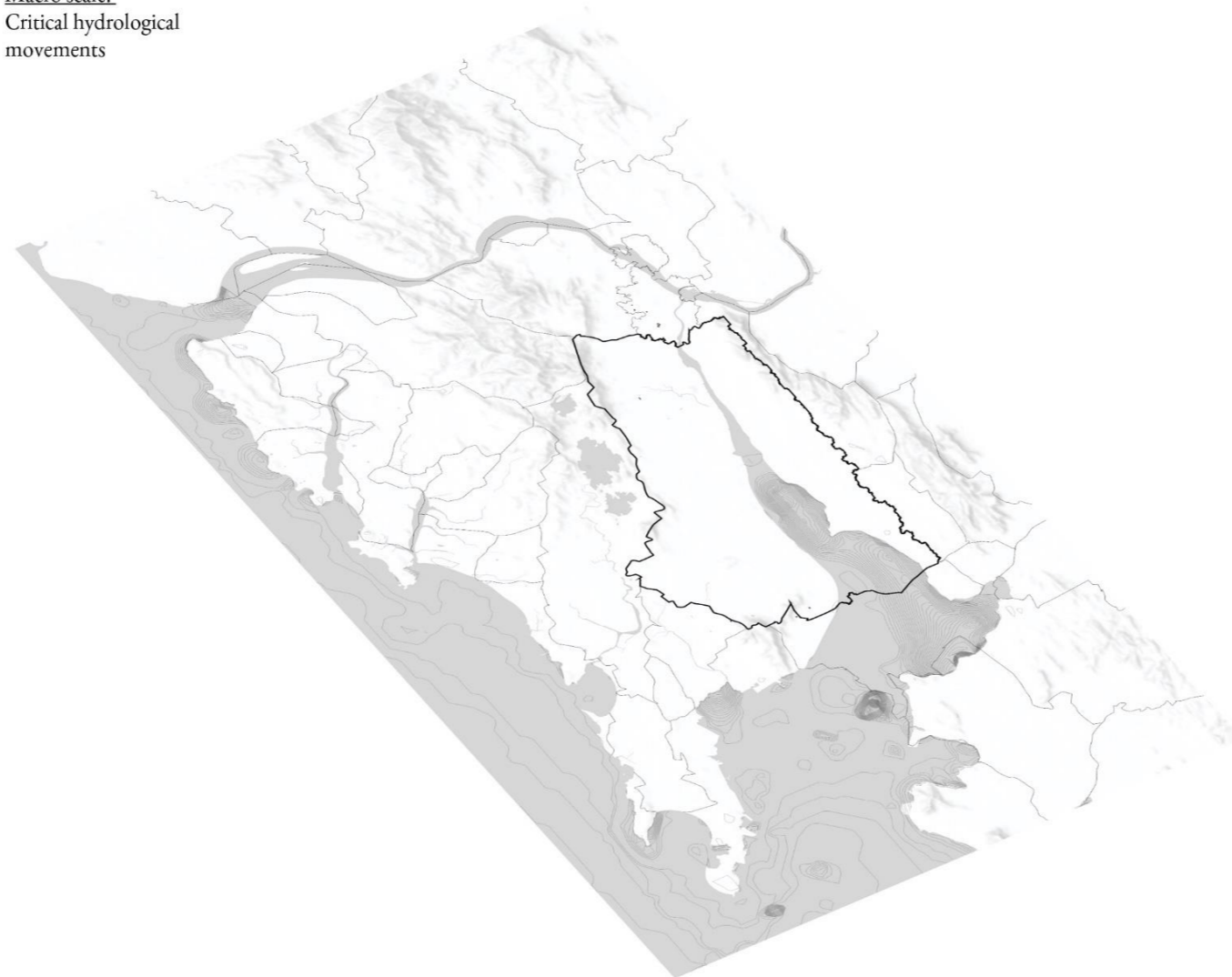
Cycles of maintenance

Theoretical Framework



Testing Grounds

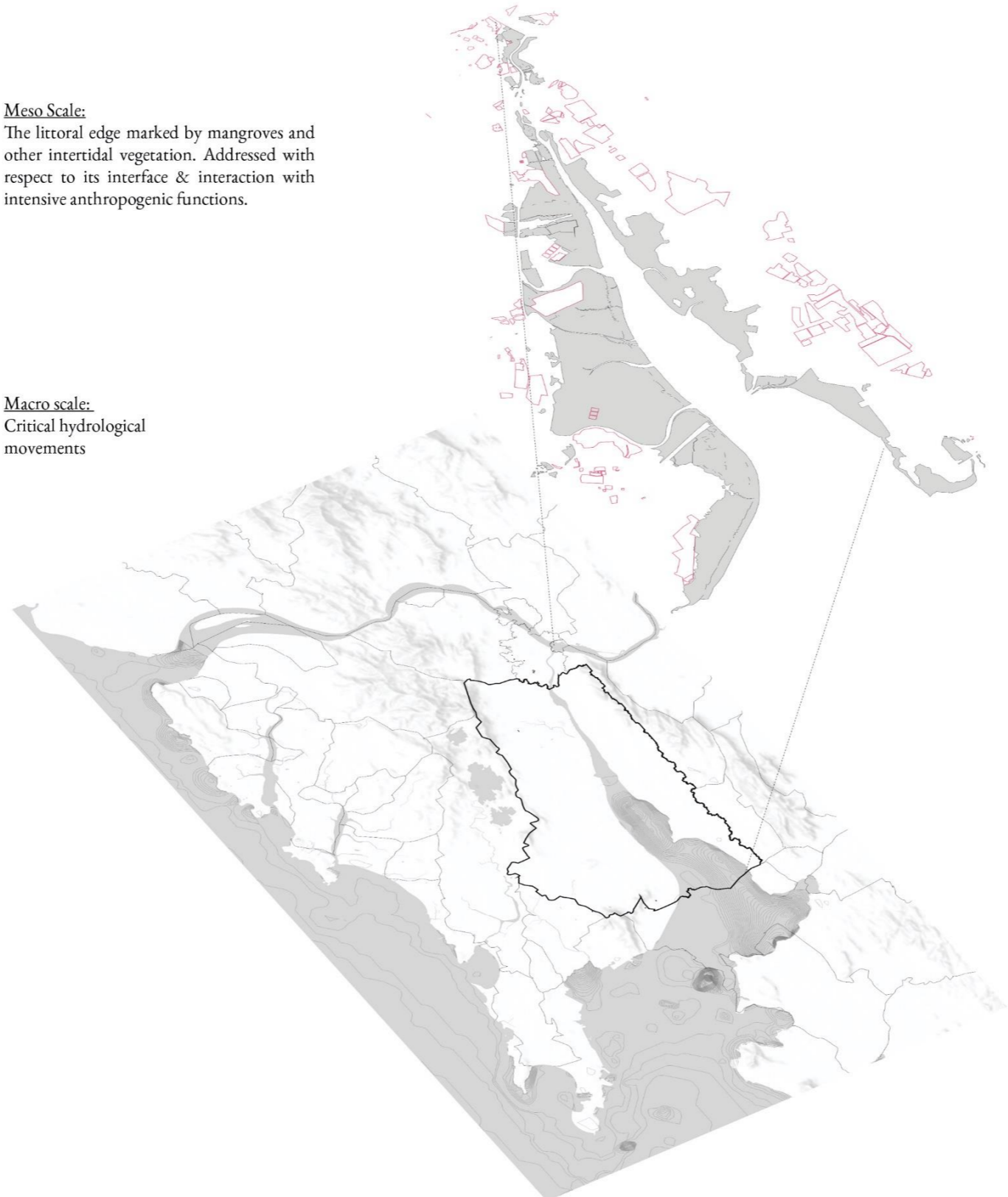
Macro scale:
Critical hydrological
movements



Testing Grounds

Meso Scale:
The littoral edge marked by mangroves and other intertidal vegetation. Addressed with respect to its interface & interaction with intensive anthropogenic functions.

Macro scale:
Critical hydrological movements



Testing Grounds

Micro Scale:

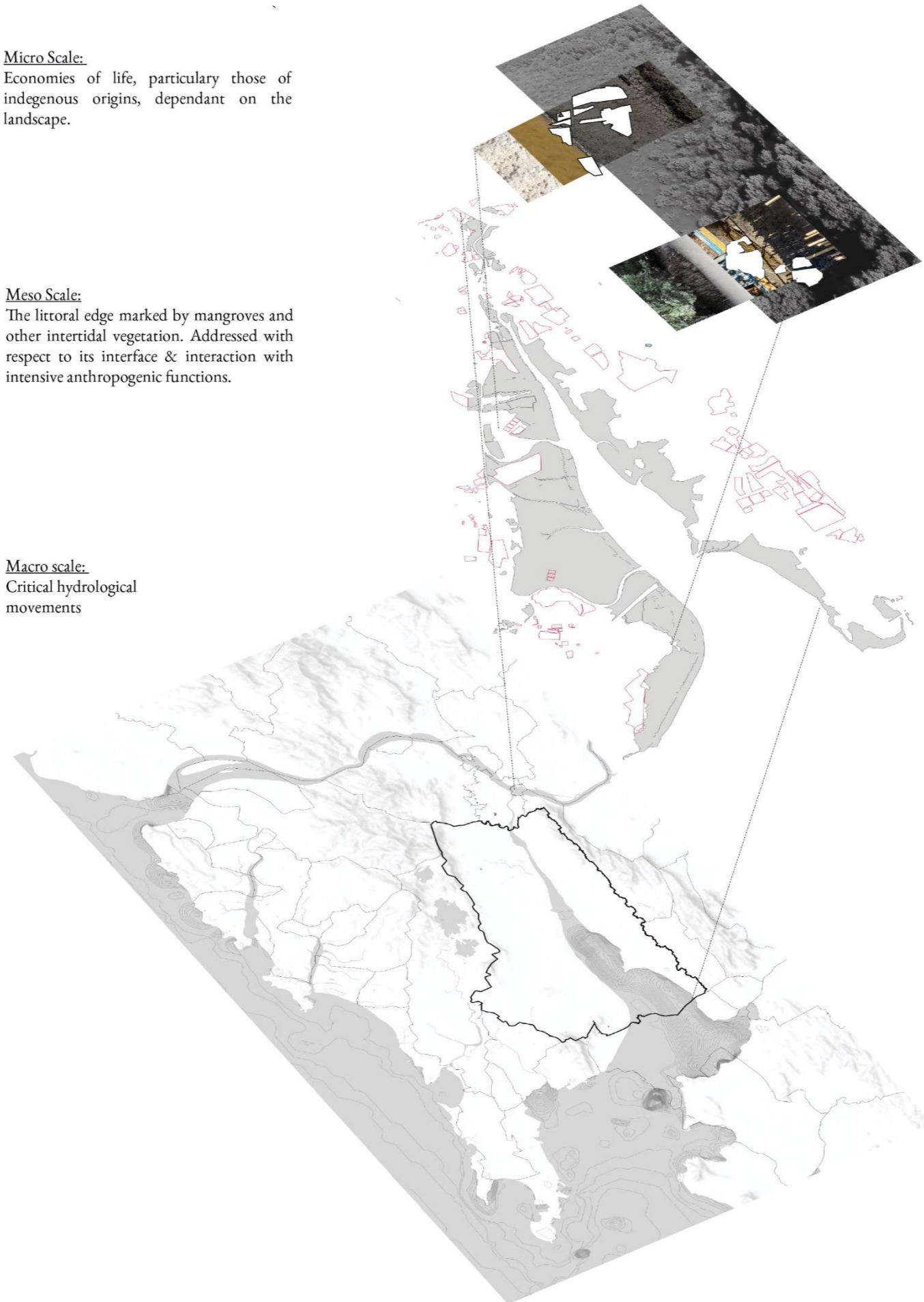
Economies of life, particularly those of indigenous origins, dependant on the landscape.

Meso Scale:

The littoral edge marked by mangroves and other intertidal vegetation. Addressed with respect to its interface & interaction with intensive anthropogenic functions.

Macro scale:

Critical hydrological movements

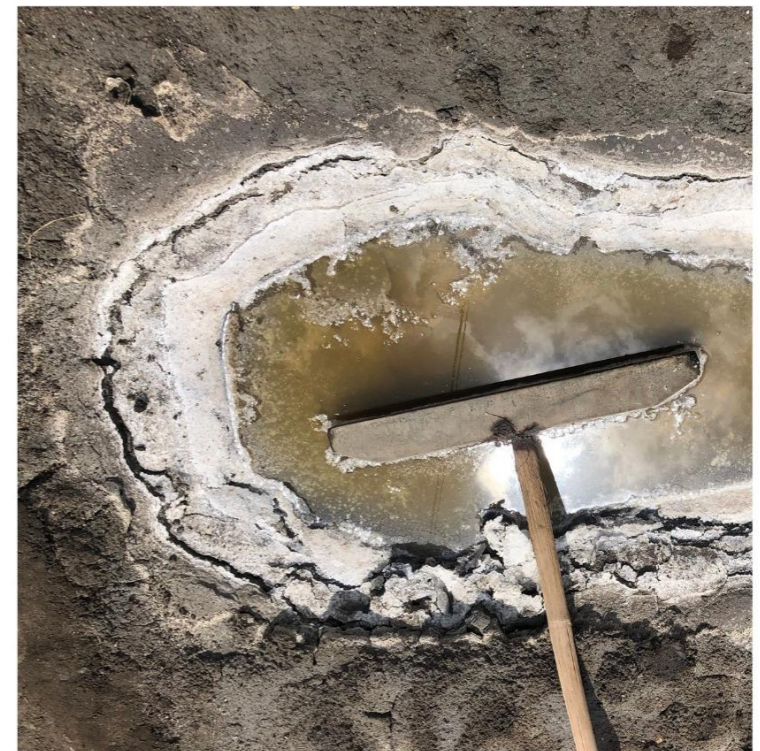




A thriving landscape



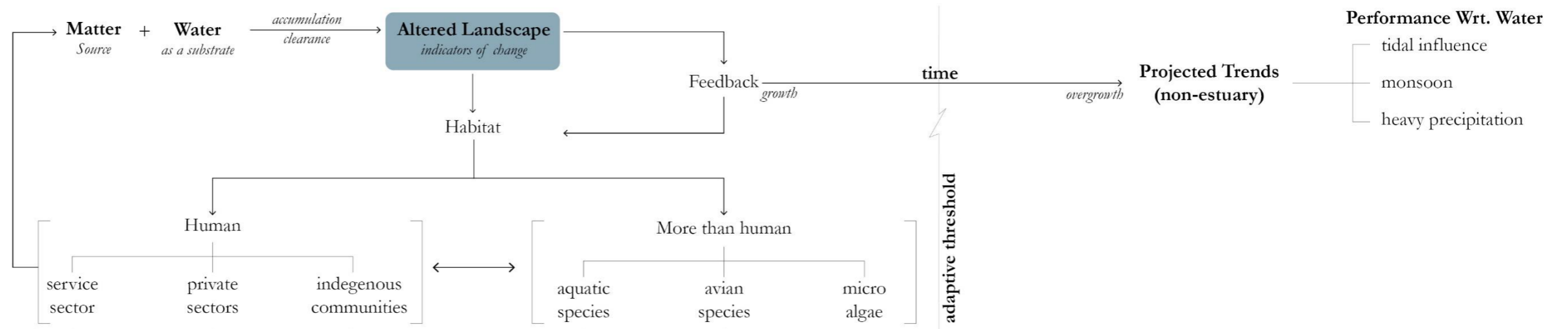
The two directions of time



Archiving indegenity

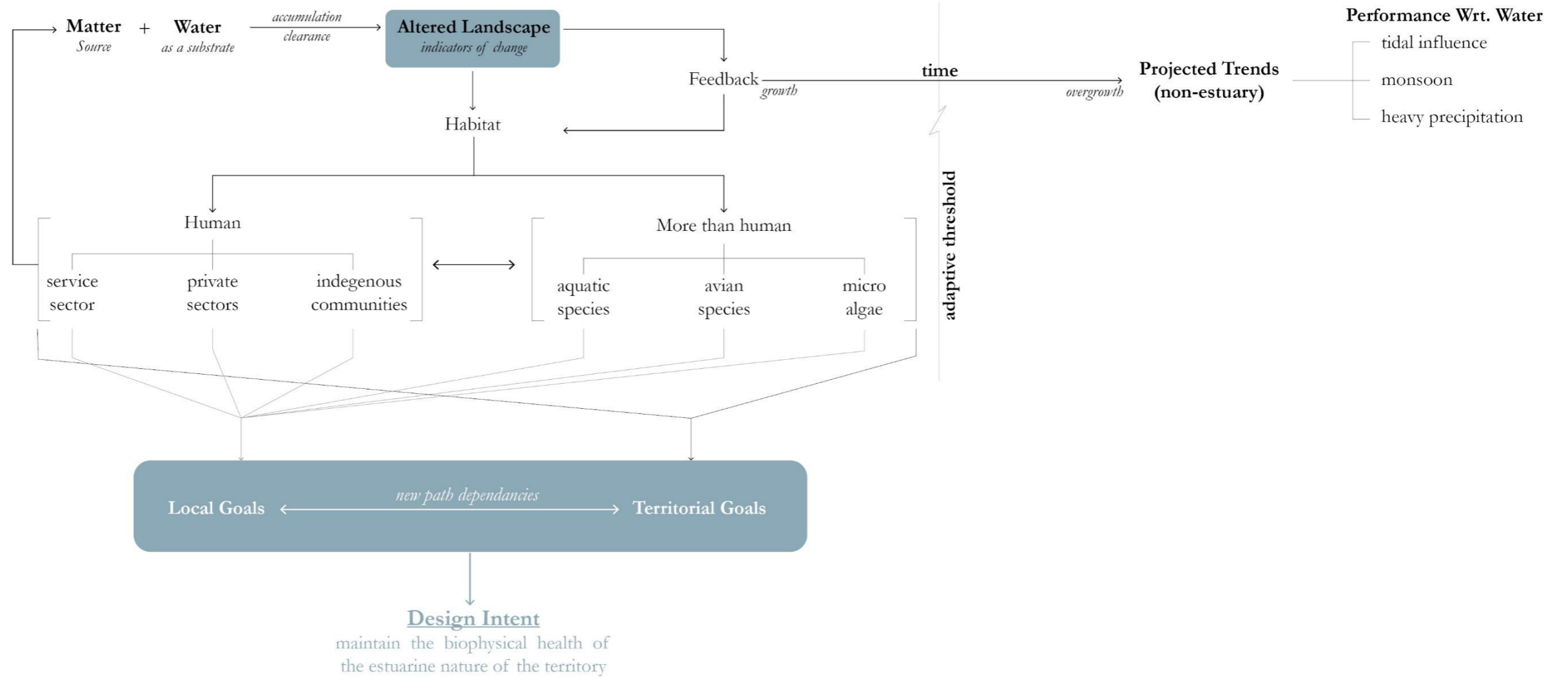
The Approach - *research by design*

I. Research by Design

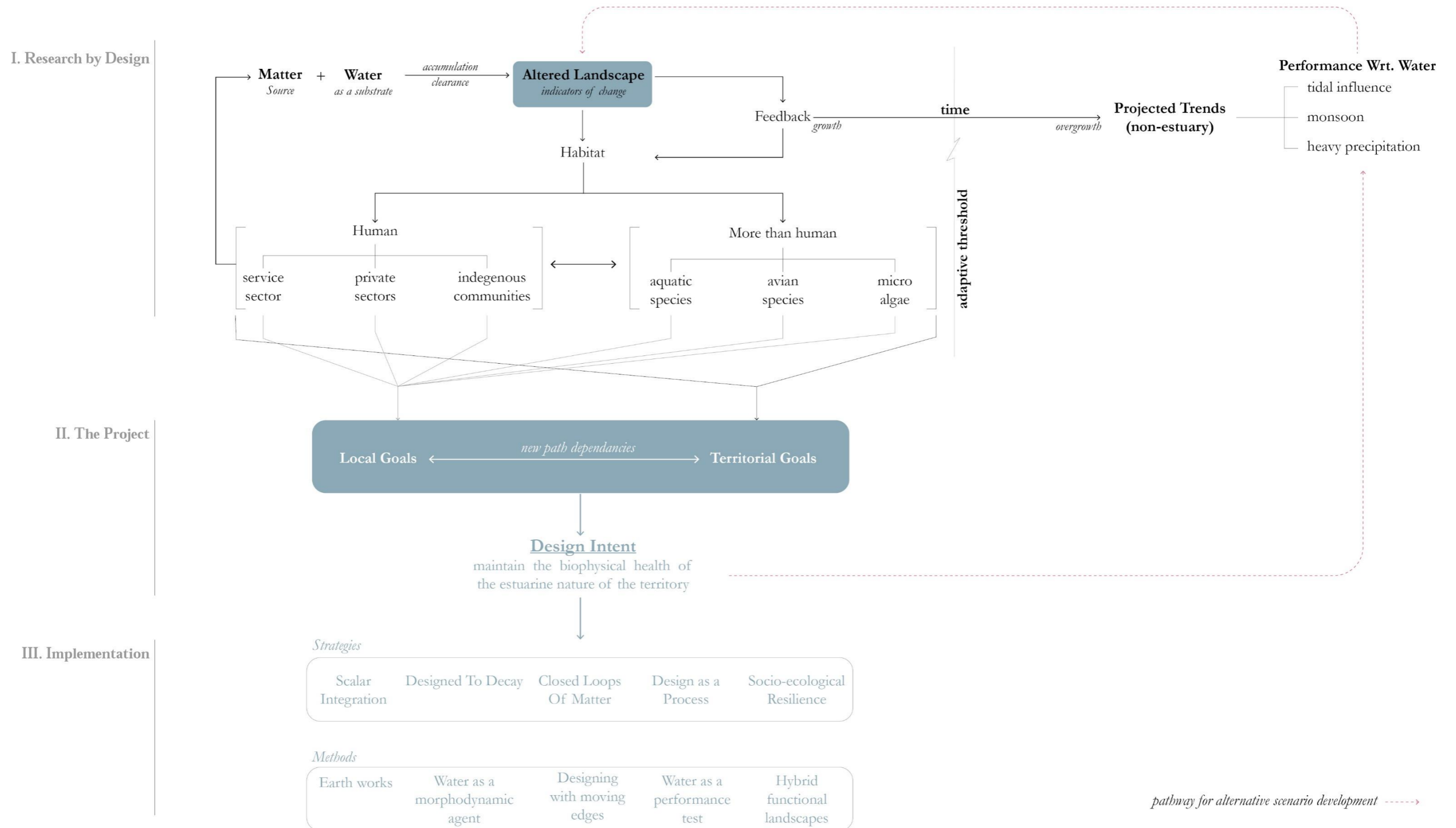


The Approach- *the project*

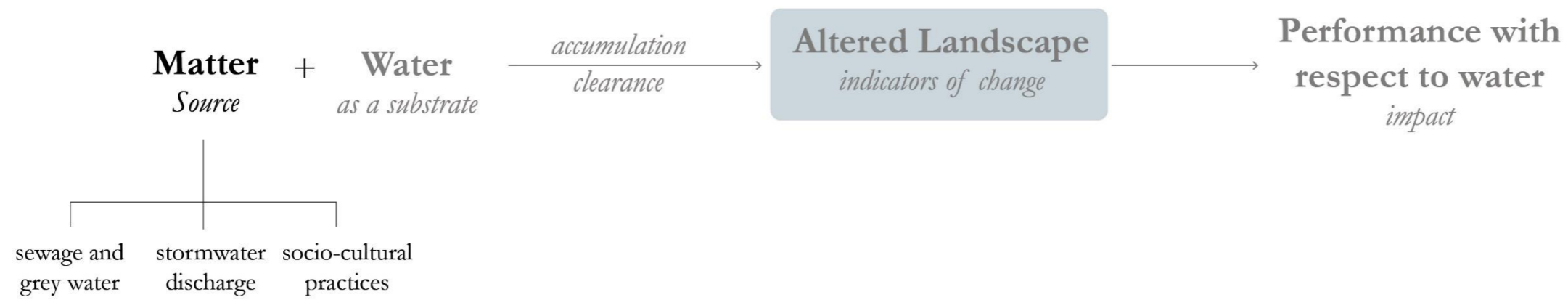
I. Research by Design



The Approach- *implementation*







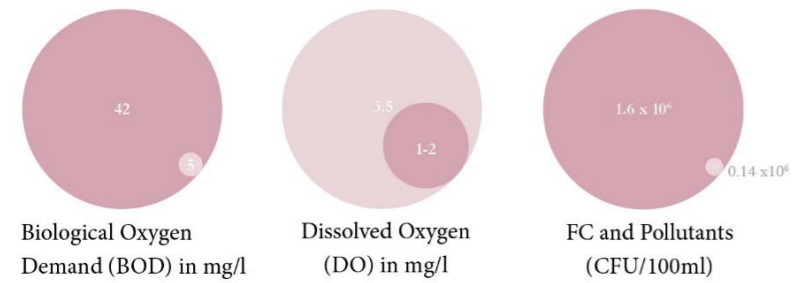
Matter Source

Grey water

Quantity:

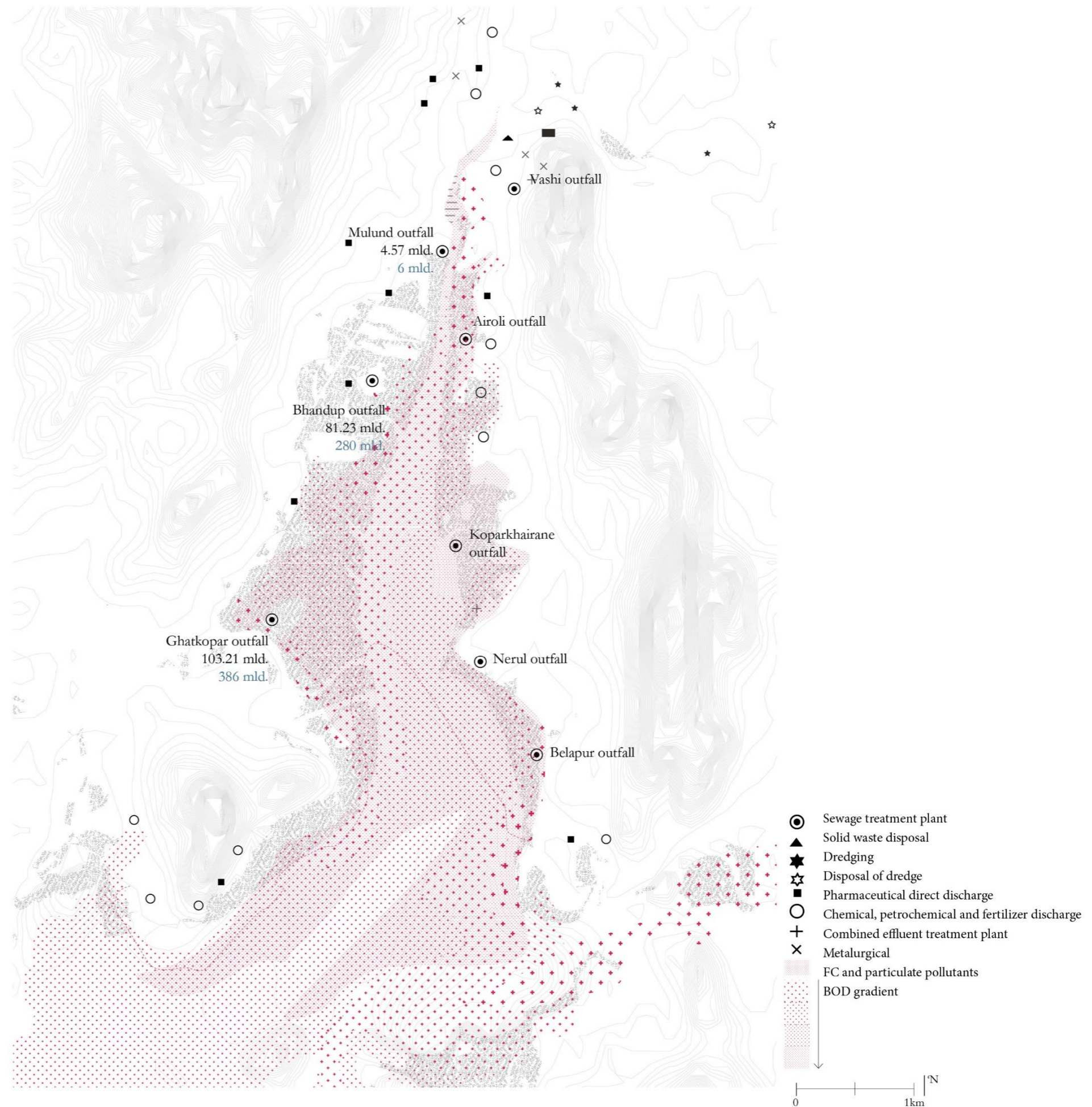
1260 million liters of sewage is discharged into the creek per day. With a projected increase by 10% in the next 5 years.

Quality:



○ volumes of matter as a **constant in time**

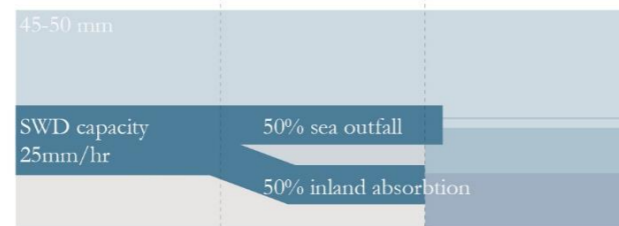
○ **internalise** its management



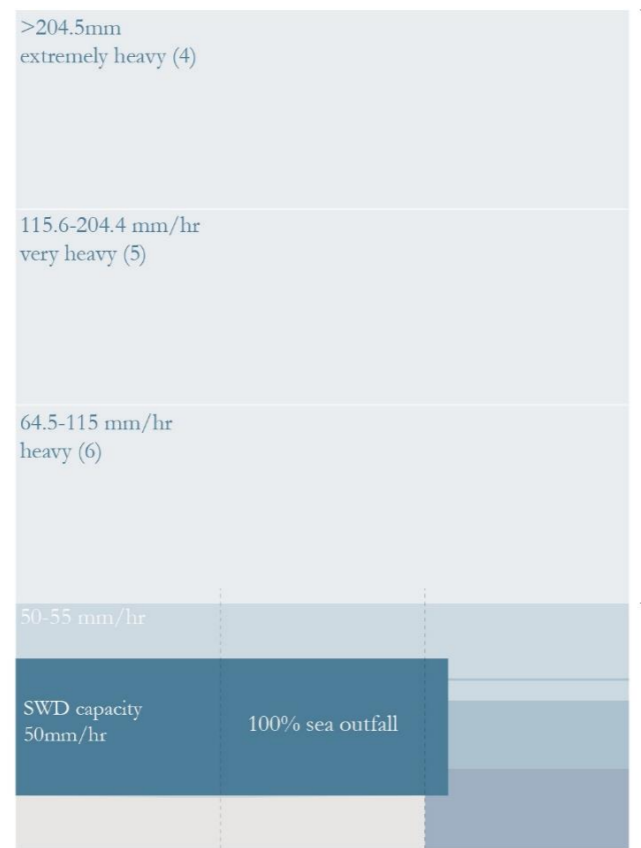
Matter Source

Stormwater discharge

- **Scalar intergration** of storm water management from the Basin level.
- Respond to landscape **materiality**
- **Innate capacity** to mitigate wetness extremities.

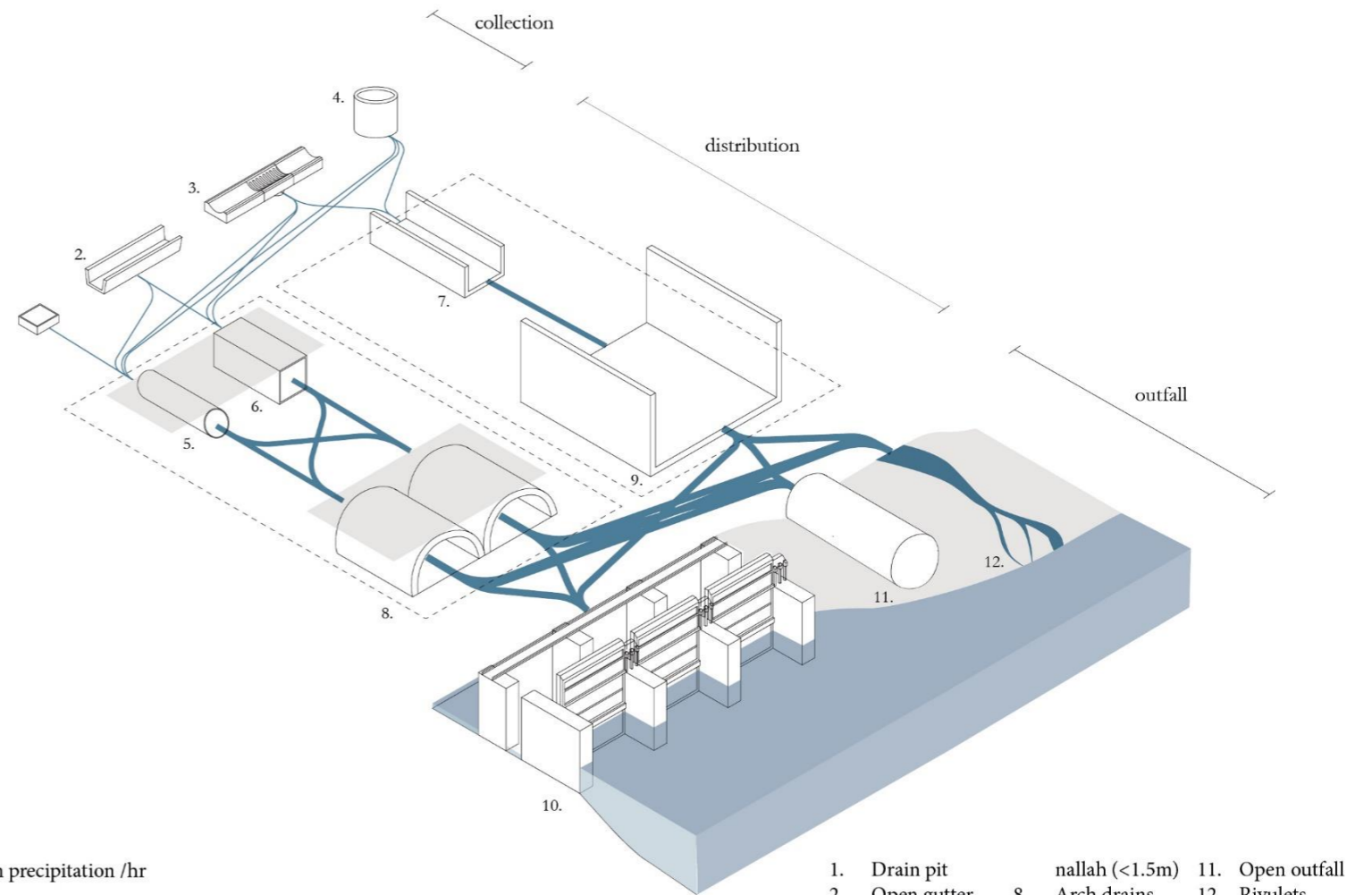


Stormwater Drainage 1960-93



Proposed Stormwater Drainage (partly executed)

- Monsoon precipitation /hr
- Stormwater drain capacity
- Sea
- High tide line (sea)
- Inland surface



- | | | |
|------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Drain pit | 8. Arch drains | 11. Open outfall |
| 2. Open gutter | 9. Open major nallah (>1.5m) | 12. Rivulets |
| 3. Drain collector | 10. Pumping station/ sluice gate | 13. Desilting System |
| 4. Manhole | | 14. Water Pump |
| 5. Trunk main | | 15. Rain gauge |
| 6. Box channels | | |
| 7. Open minor nallah (<1.5m) | | |

Matter Source

Socio-cultural practices

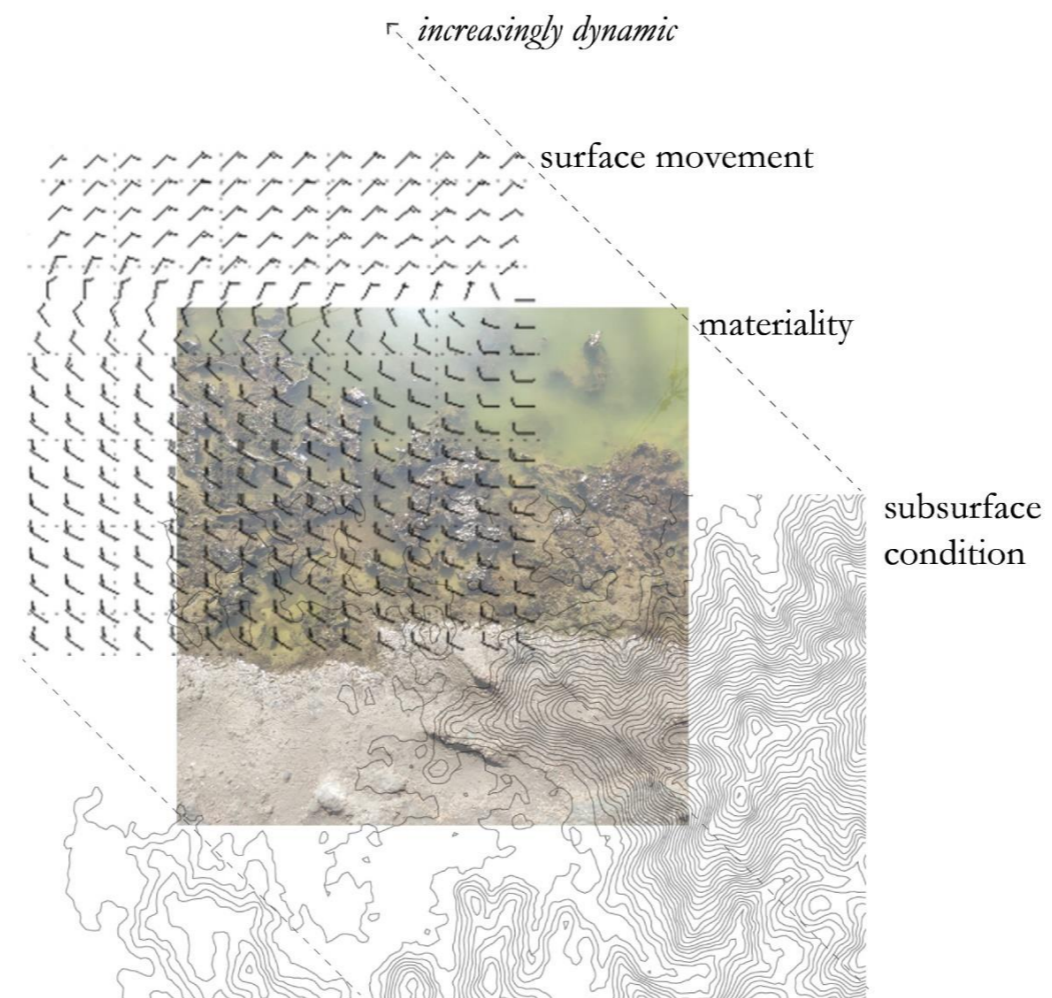
- Embedded constants





Water as a Substrate

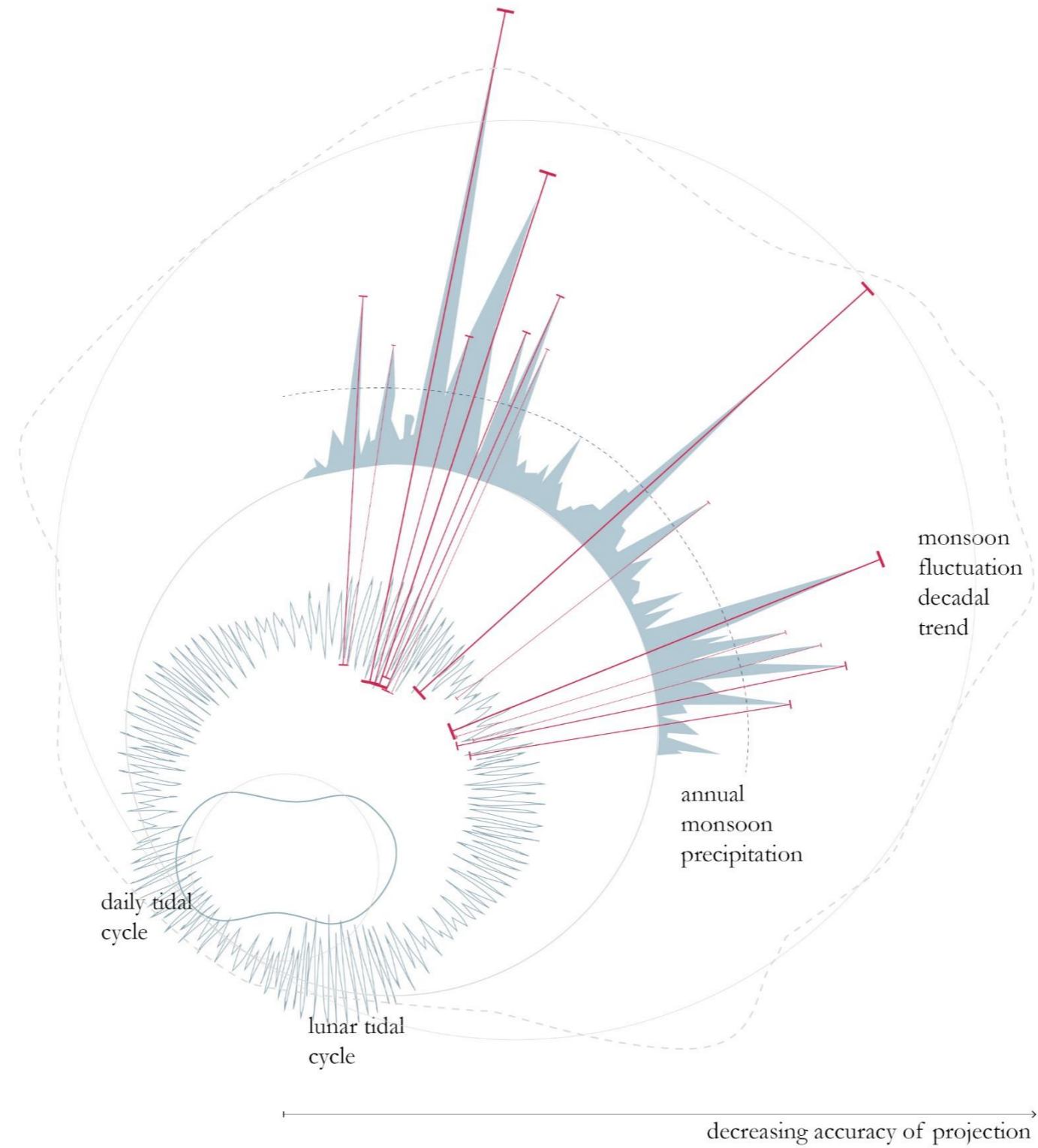
A morphodynamic agent



Water as a Substrate

A morphodynamic agent

A performance determinant



daily tidal cycle

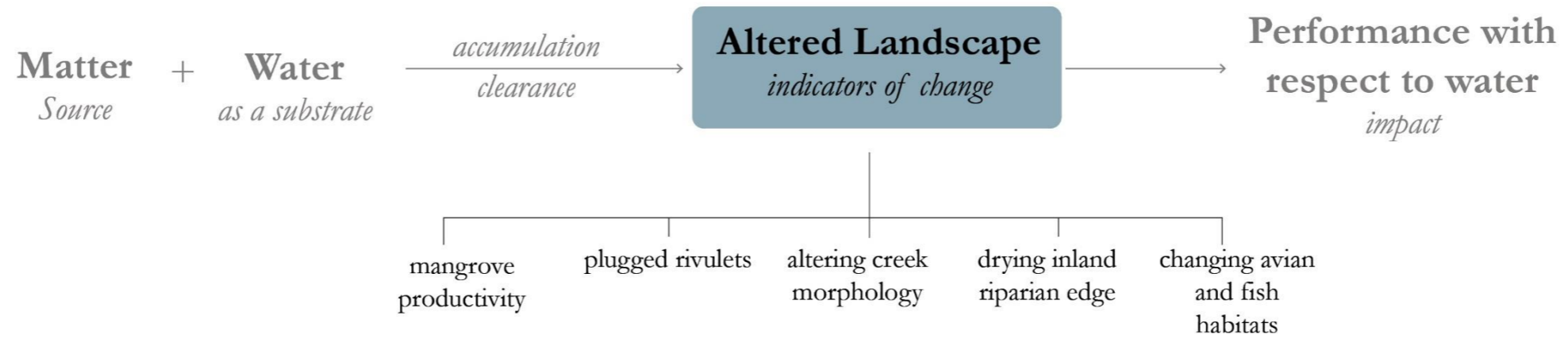
lunar tidal cycle

annual monsoon precipitation

monsoon fluctuation decadal trend

decreasing accuracy of projection

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



Altered Landscape

As indicators of change



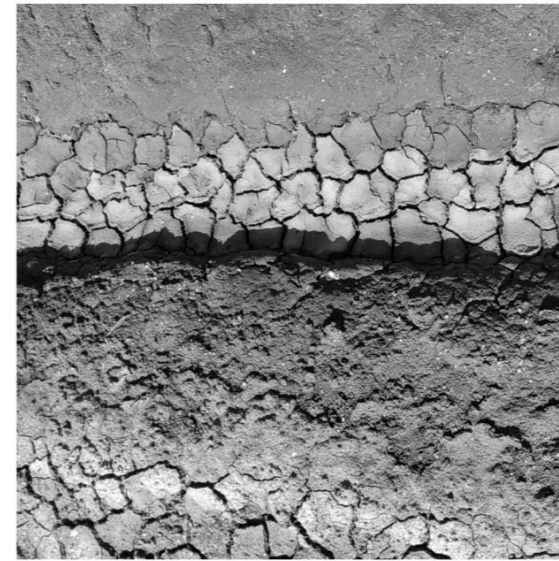
1. Mangrove Productivity



2. Plugged Rivulets



3. Altering Creek Morphology



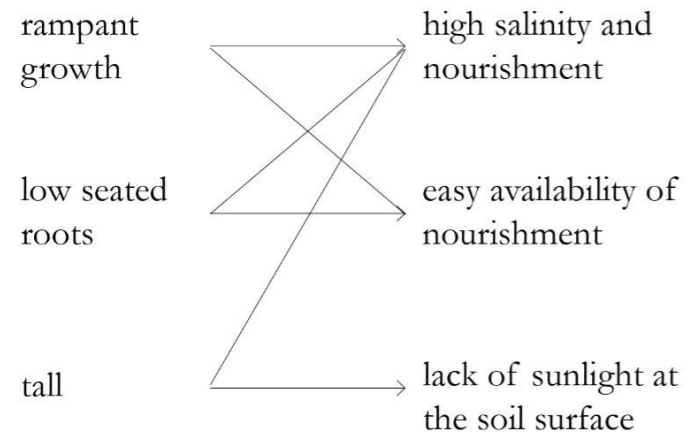
4. Drying Inland Littoral Edge



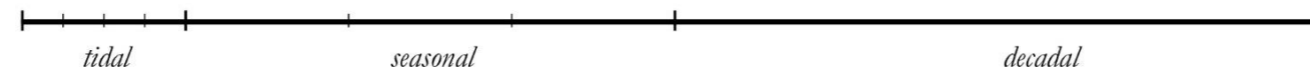
5. Aquatic & Avian Habitations Patterns

Altered Landscape

Mangrove Overproductivity



Alterations in the mangrove habitat. Data Source: WRI India, LandSat 5 and LandSat 8 (USGS)





Avecinia Marina- (bardy species but week structure)



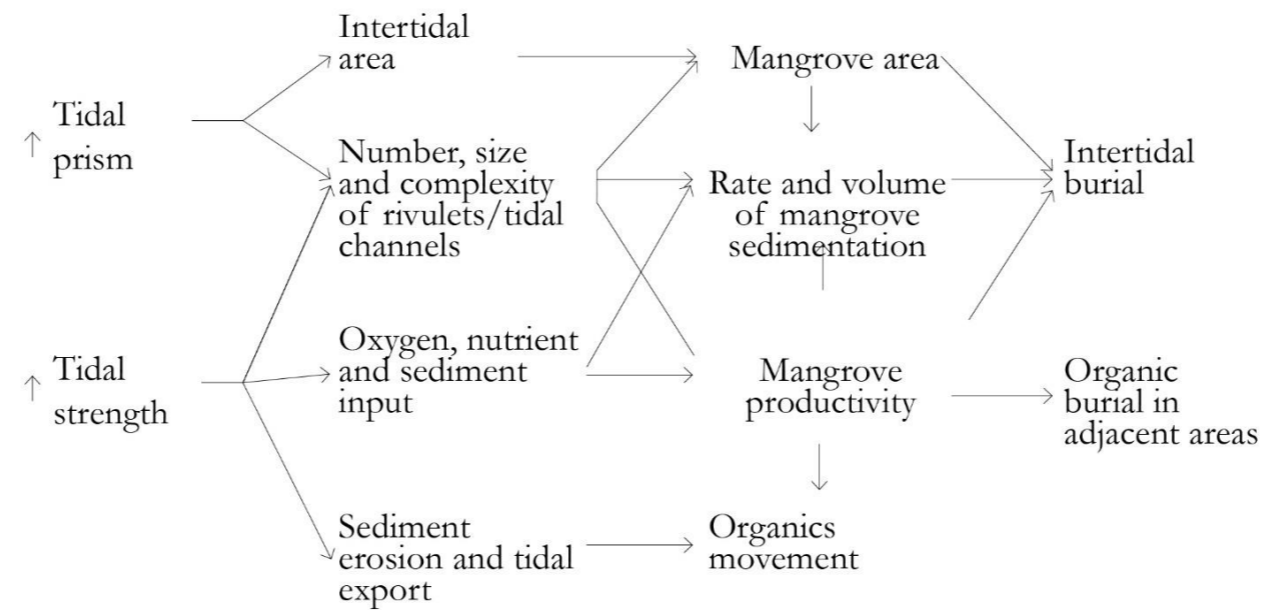
Heavy litter and felling during peak monsoons



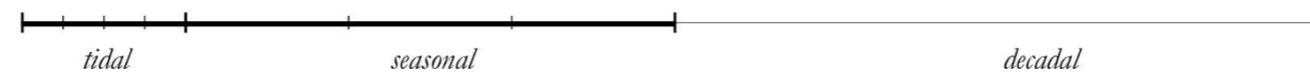
Trapped litter, propogating new plants

Altered Landscape

Plugged Rivulets

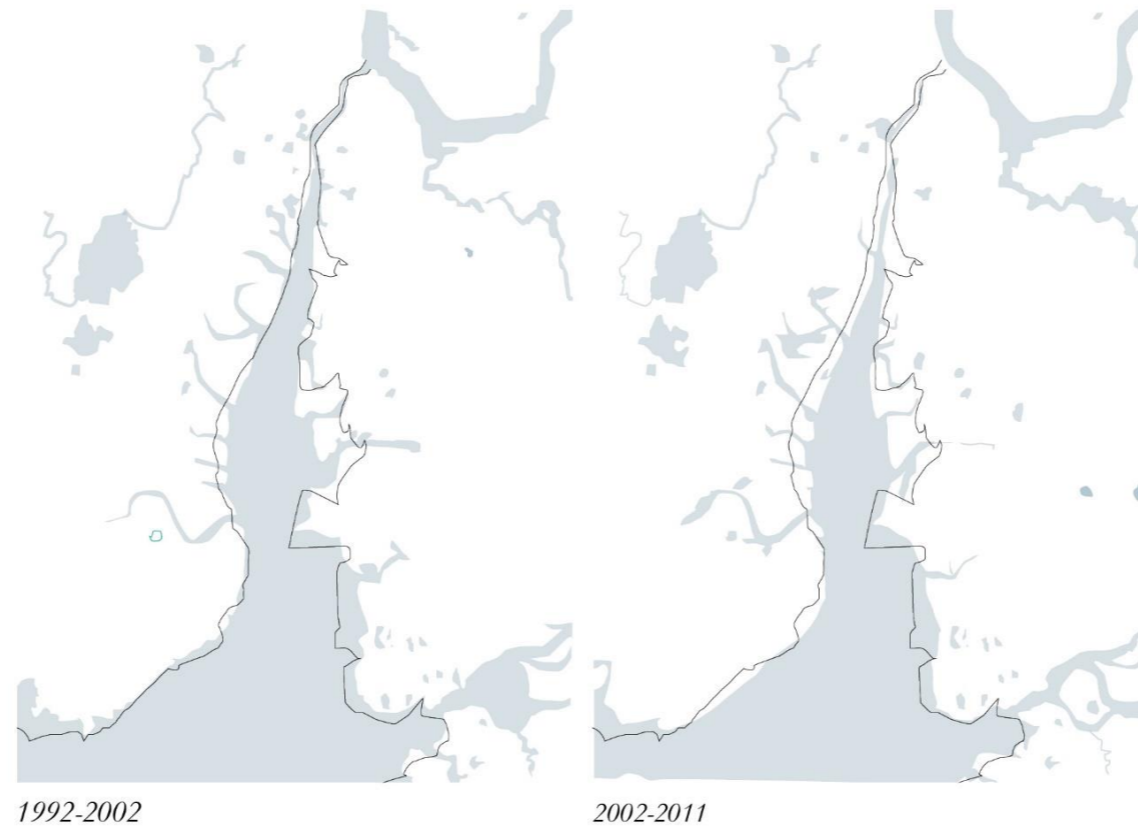


Clogged and vegetated creek streams

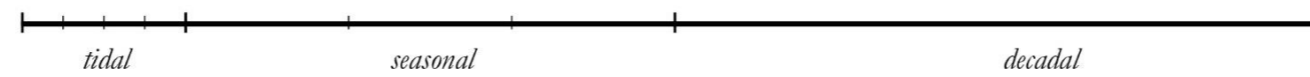


Altering Landscape

Changing Creek Morphology



Accreting marshland

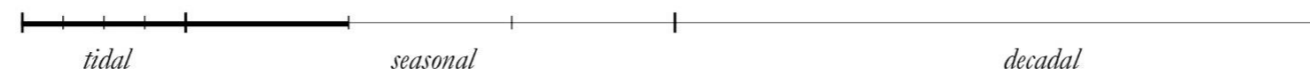


Altered Landscape:

Drying Inland Littoral Edge



LandSat Color grading band 1 and 2. To determine actual variation in vegetation as an indication of surface dryness.





Altering Landscape

Aquatic & Avian Habitations Patterns



Flamingoes and Grey Plovers .Information Source: local fisherman

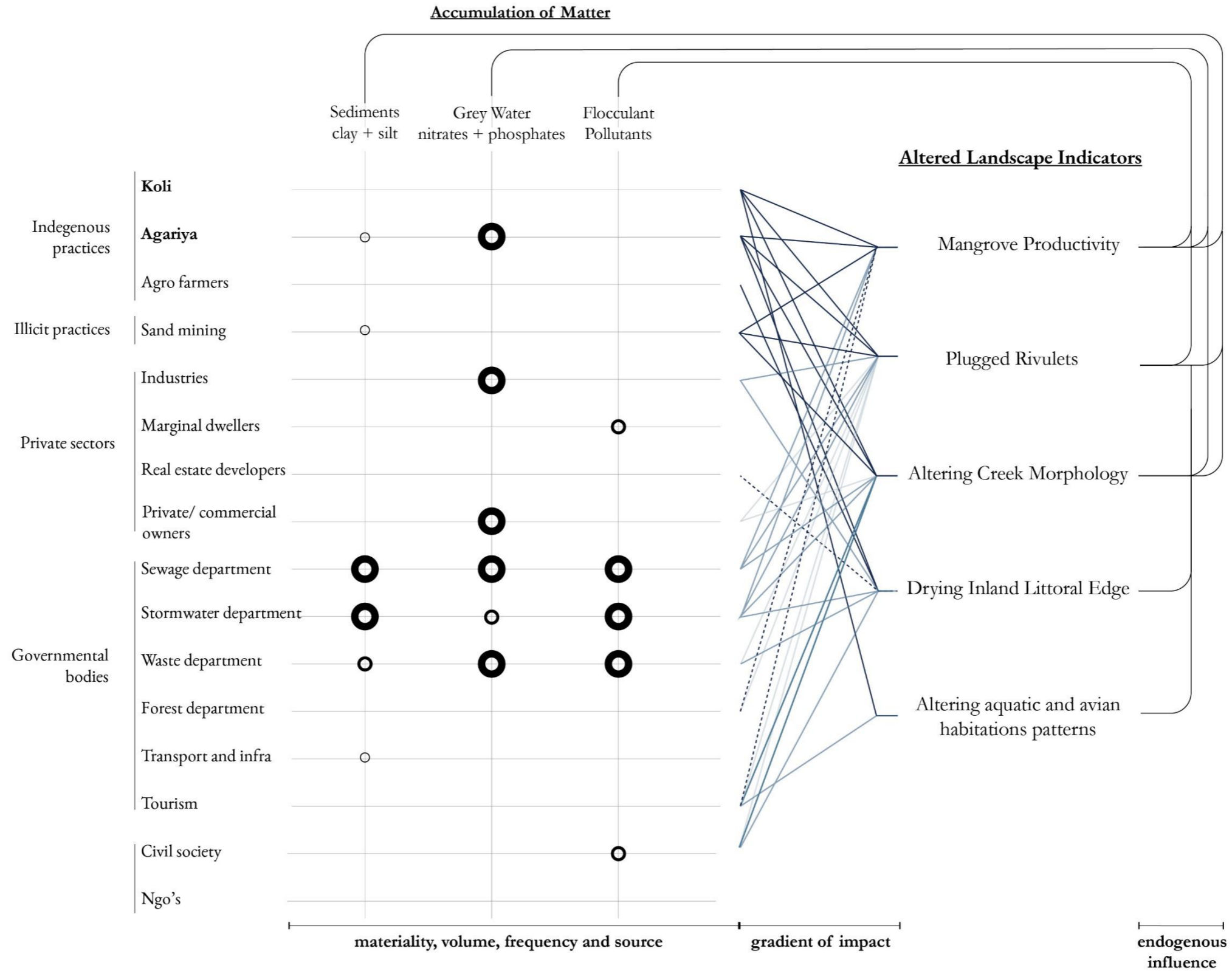


Mud crab burrow holes. Information Source: local fisherman





Impact



Accumulation frequency

● Diurnal (tidal)

○ Seasonal (monsoon)

One off Accumulation by volume

○

○

○

in decreasing order Frequency and intensity of impact based on the hydrological cycle

— Tidal

— Monsoonal

— Heavy monsoon (within predicted range)

— Off-off conditions of extreme or no precipitation. (limited to no-predictability)

Impact

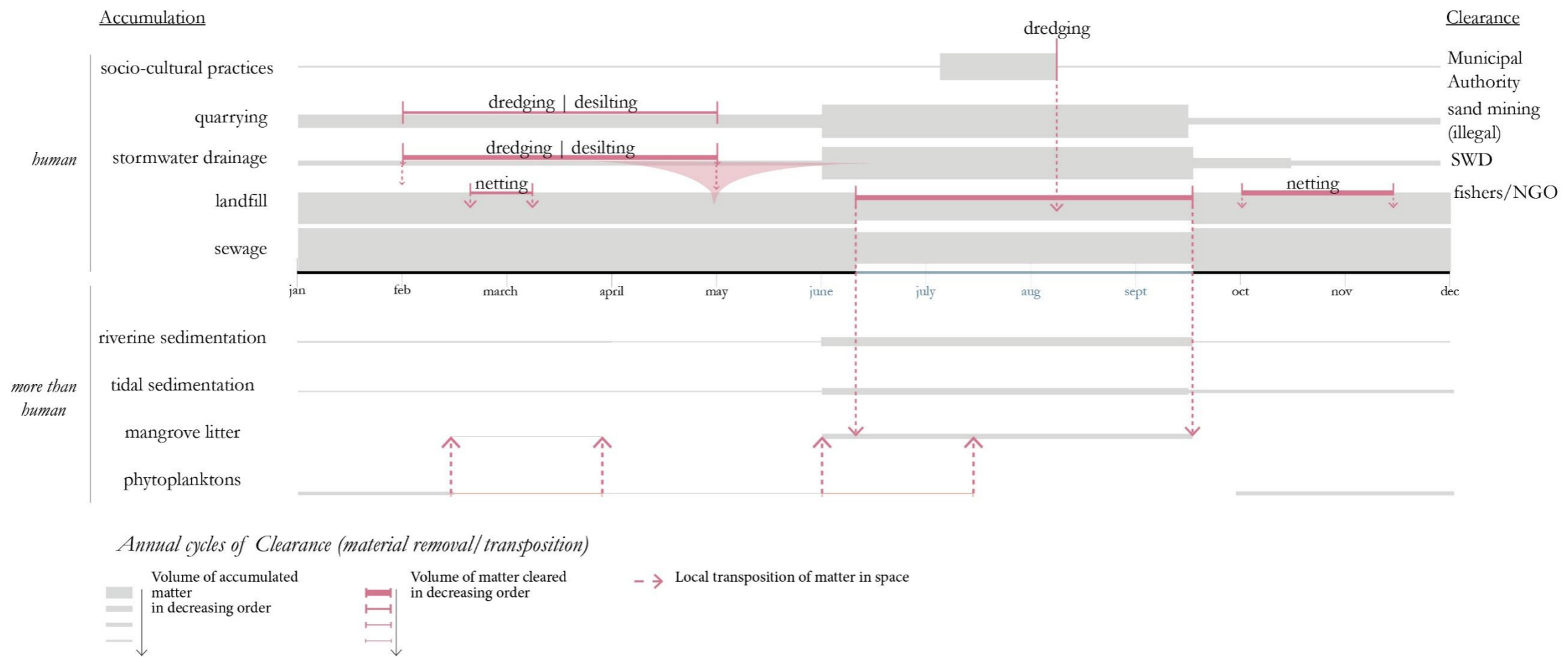
Koli Community



Impact

Agariya Community

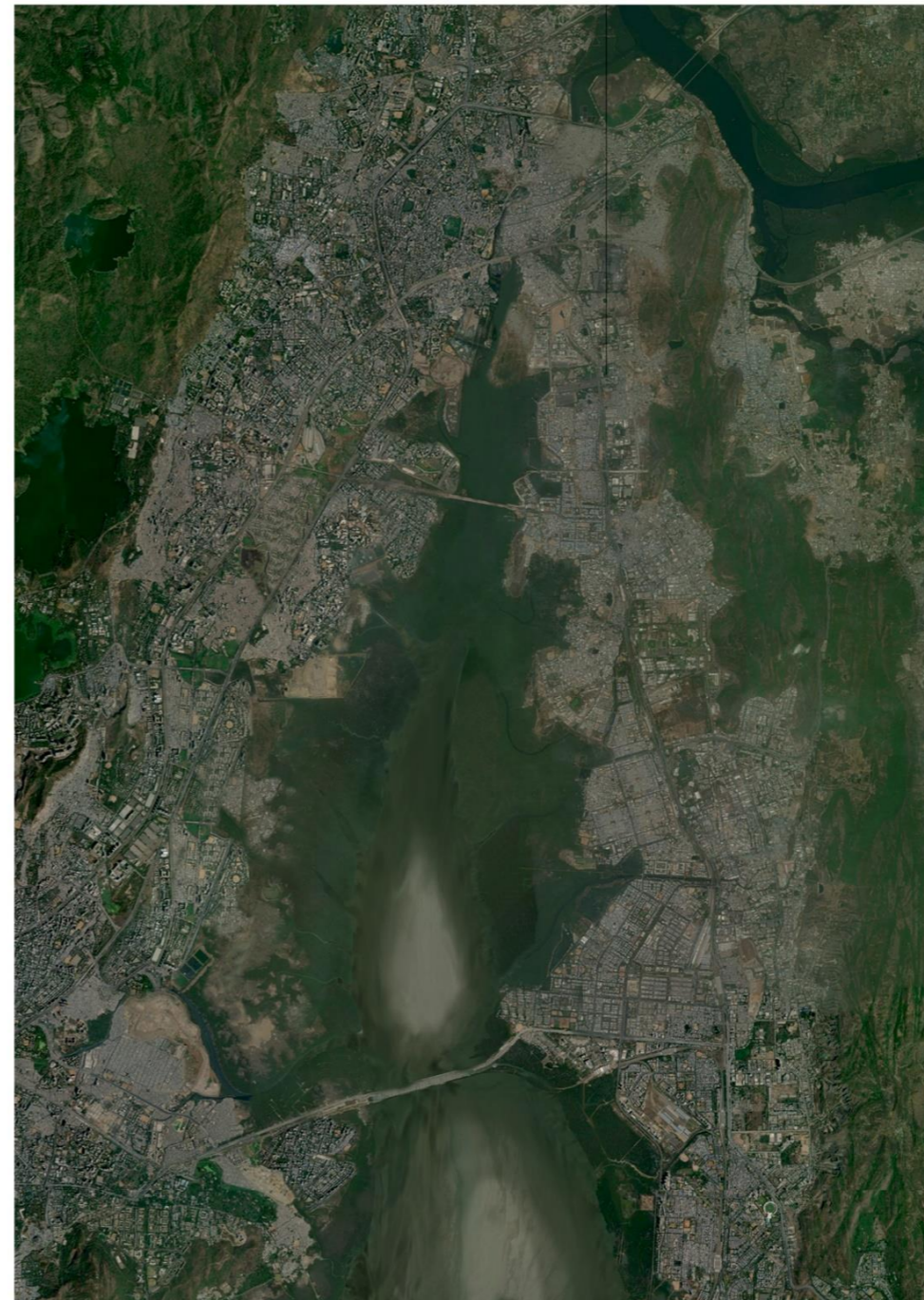




Where does the matter go ?
Whose matter is it?



Existing estuary - 2023

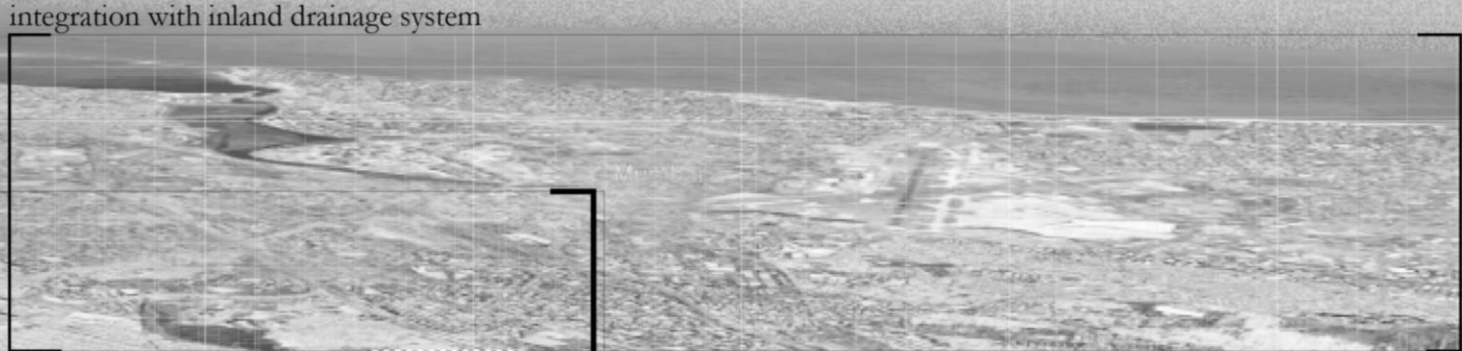
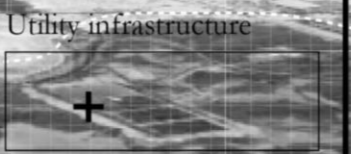
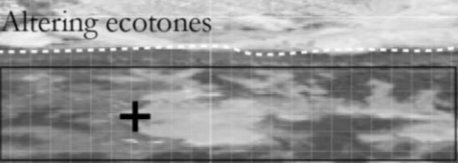
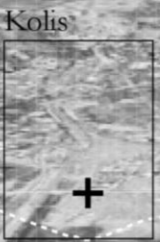
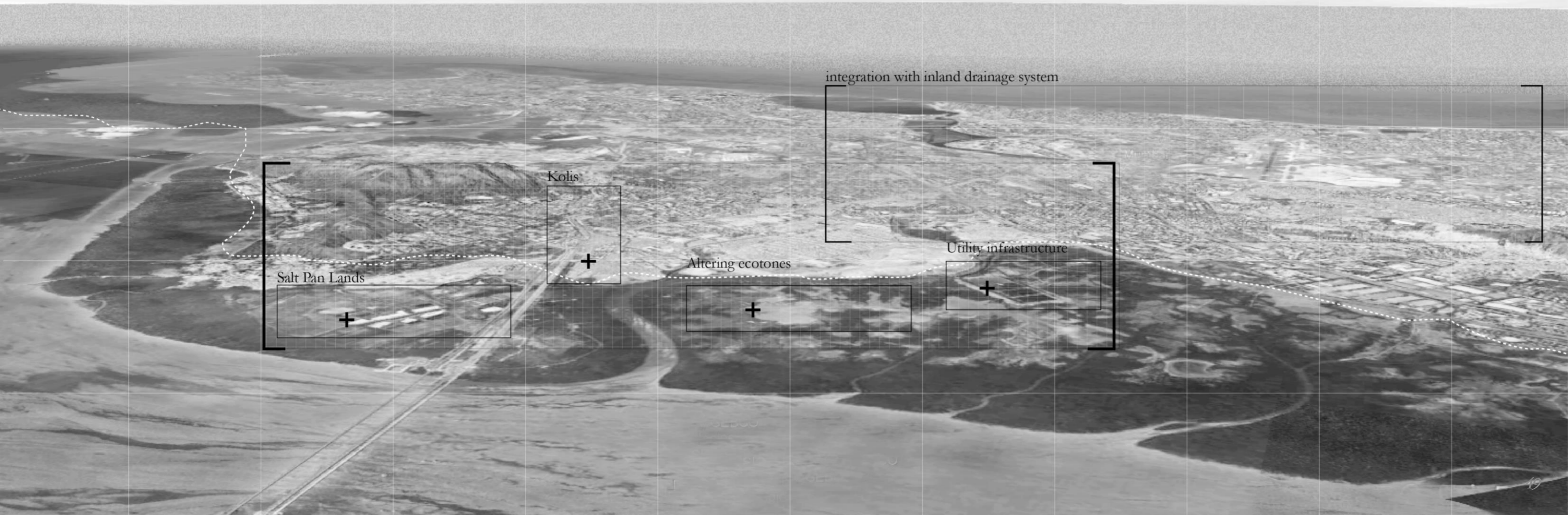


A non estuary- 2050

The Project: a landscape intermediary

Acknowledging the discordantly shifting environments, the project thus proposes a landscape of buffer - conducting **new synergies** between the inland territorial practices/dependencies in response to the altering ecology of the estuary. Aimed at achieving a **resilient co-existence** of both human well as more than human occupants of the territory.

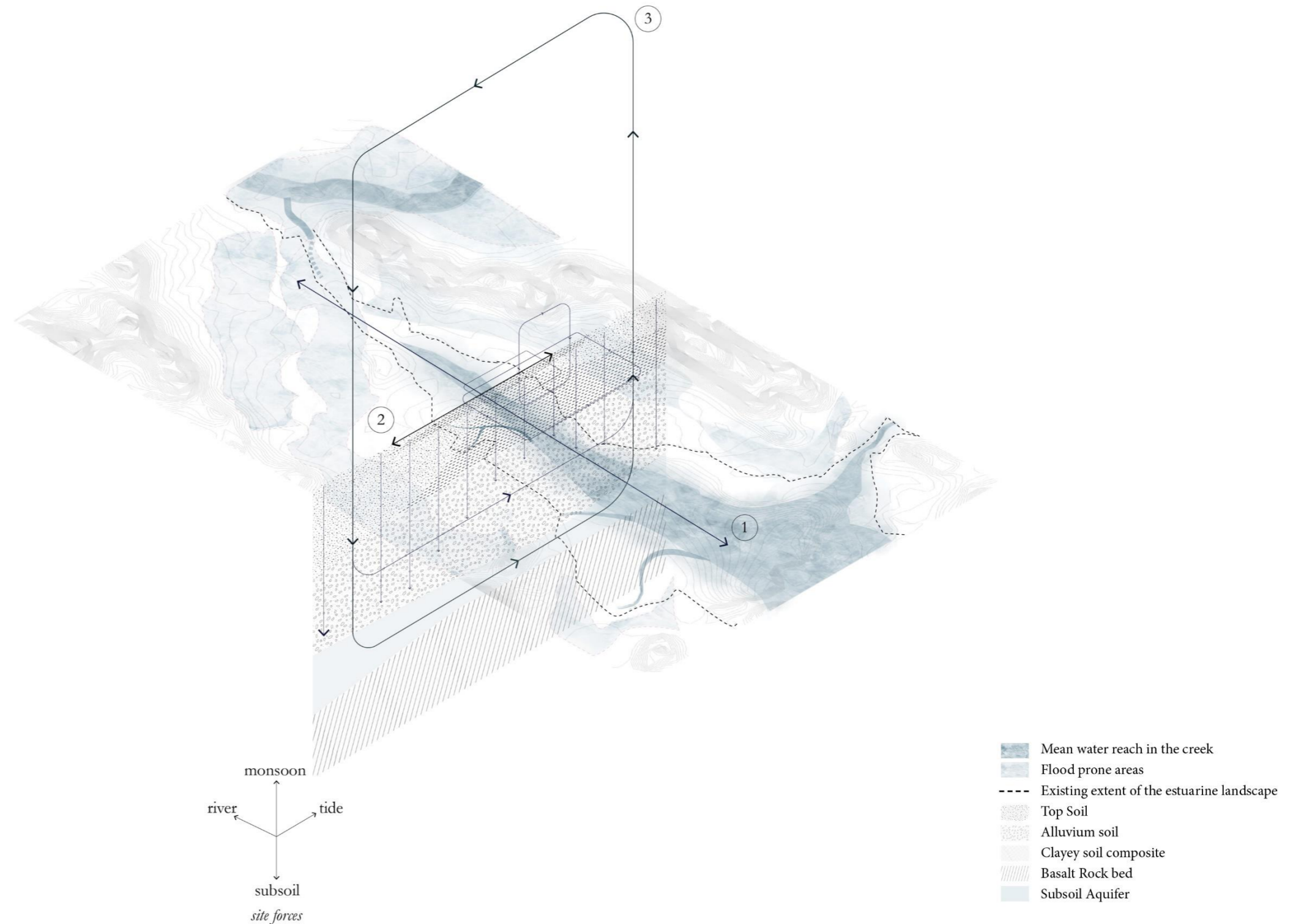
The proposal **breaks down the homogenous identity** of the wetland zone into smaller **local cycles of engagement with the water**. Stipulated by processes of **conscious release and clearance of the accumulated matter**, as a means of **maintaining the socio-ecological integrity** of the region. Such that it **cumulatively recalibrates** the hydrological cycle on a macro scale by harnessing the potential of the surface and subsurface to accommodate the rampant variations of water throughout the year. Thereby making it (the eastern catchment area of the city) resilient to annual flooding caused by heavy precipitation during monsoons.



Territorial Goals

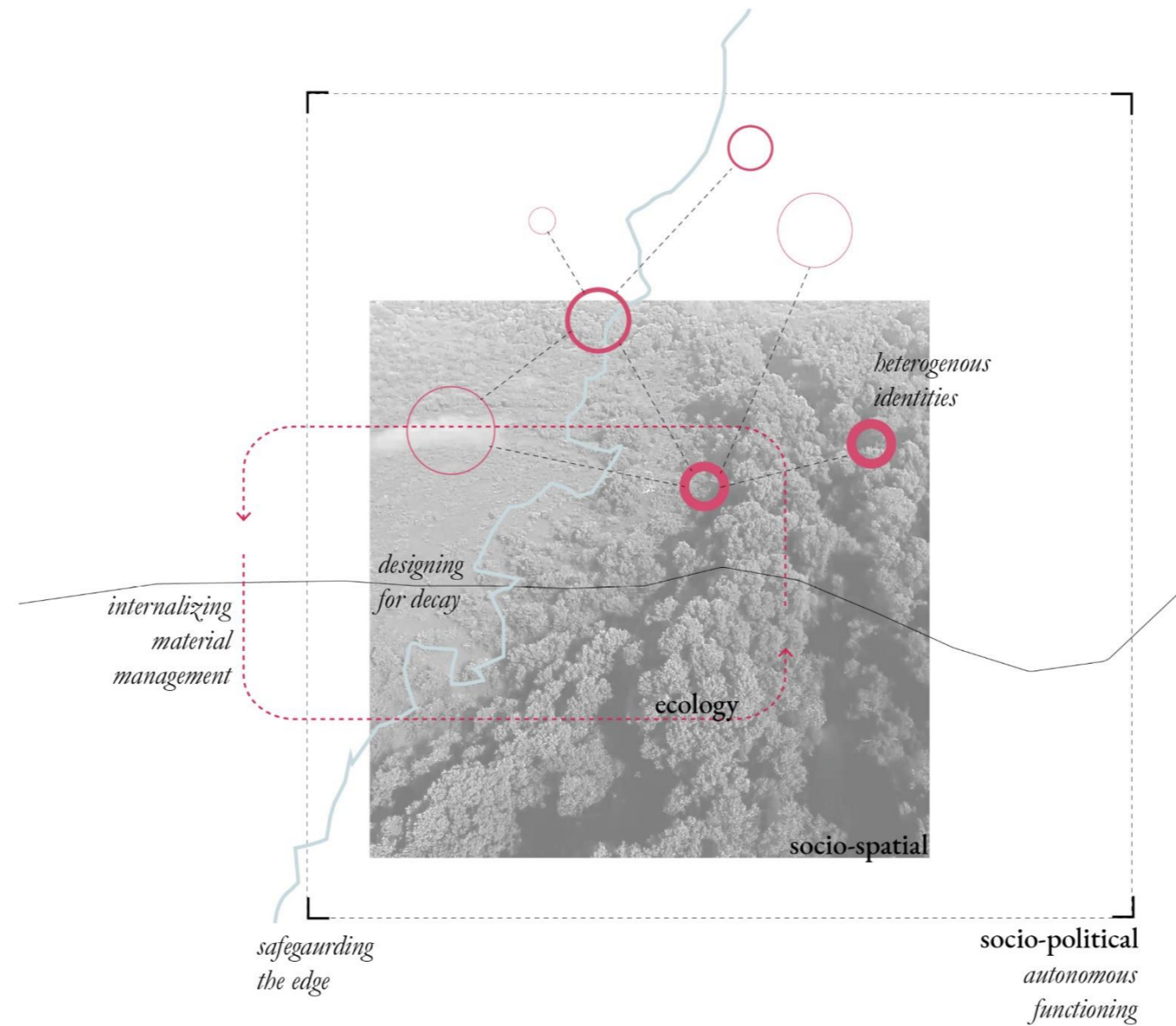
Hydrological reconfiguration

1. Lateral- Increase the influx of freshwater into the creek
2. Horizontal- Expand the influence of tidal waters into the inland reaches of the estuary to maintain its characteristic wetness.
3. Vertically- Harness potentials of the surface and subsurface materiality to capacitate the territory across scales (micro, meso and macro) against fluctuating volumes of water throughout the year.
4. Quality- Consciously ensure an acceptable biochemistry (refer to the quality page in terms of bod as parameter) of the water in the landscape to ensure survival of the estuarine landscape as well as its dependent habitats.



Meso-Micro Goals

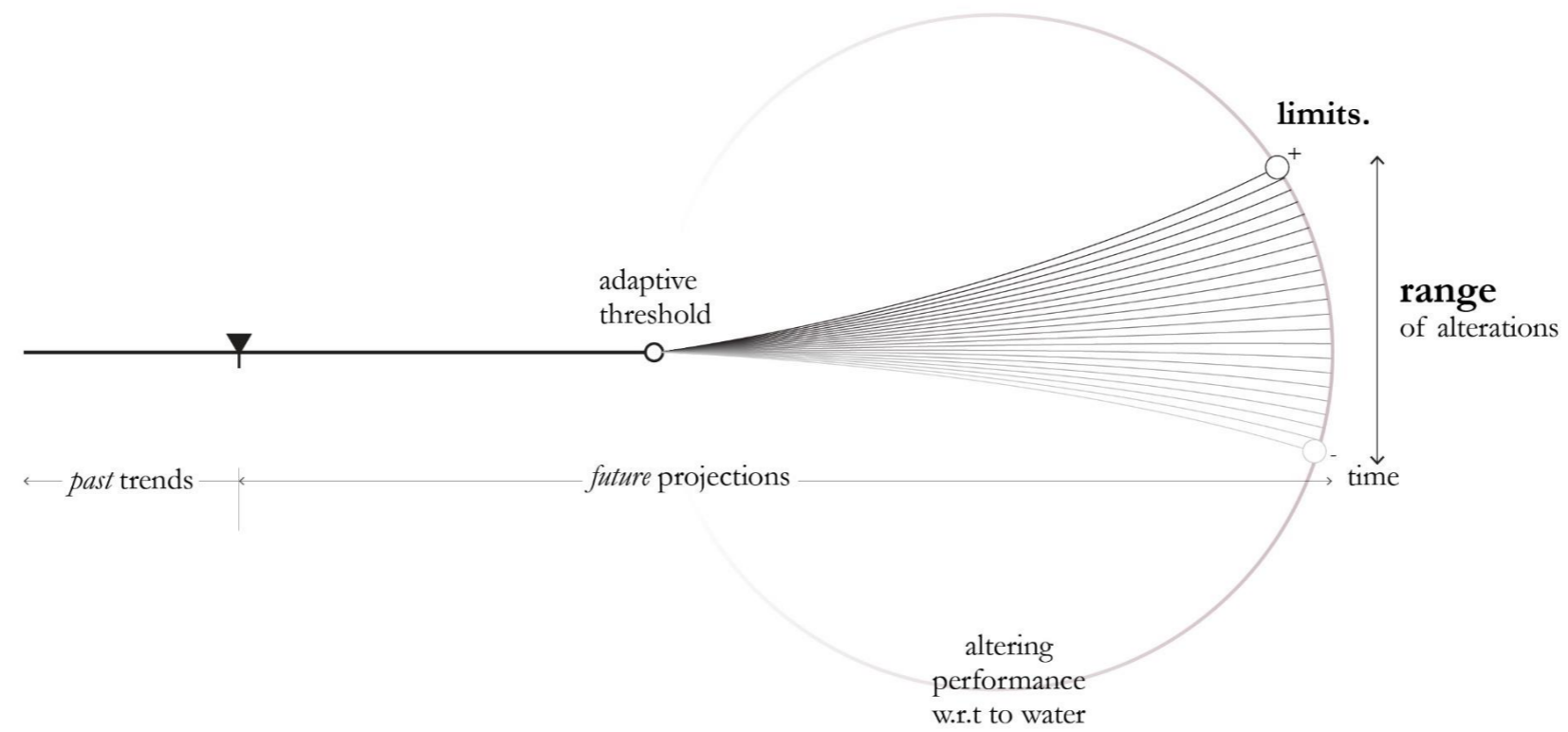
1. Internalizing the management of matter (circular matter management)
2. Thriving ecological habitat -revive, secure and create.
3. Safeguarding the edge
4. Bolstering local heterogenous identities and new economies
5. Designing for decay(growth by decay)
6. Autonomous functioning (political resilience)



Designing with time

Approach

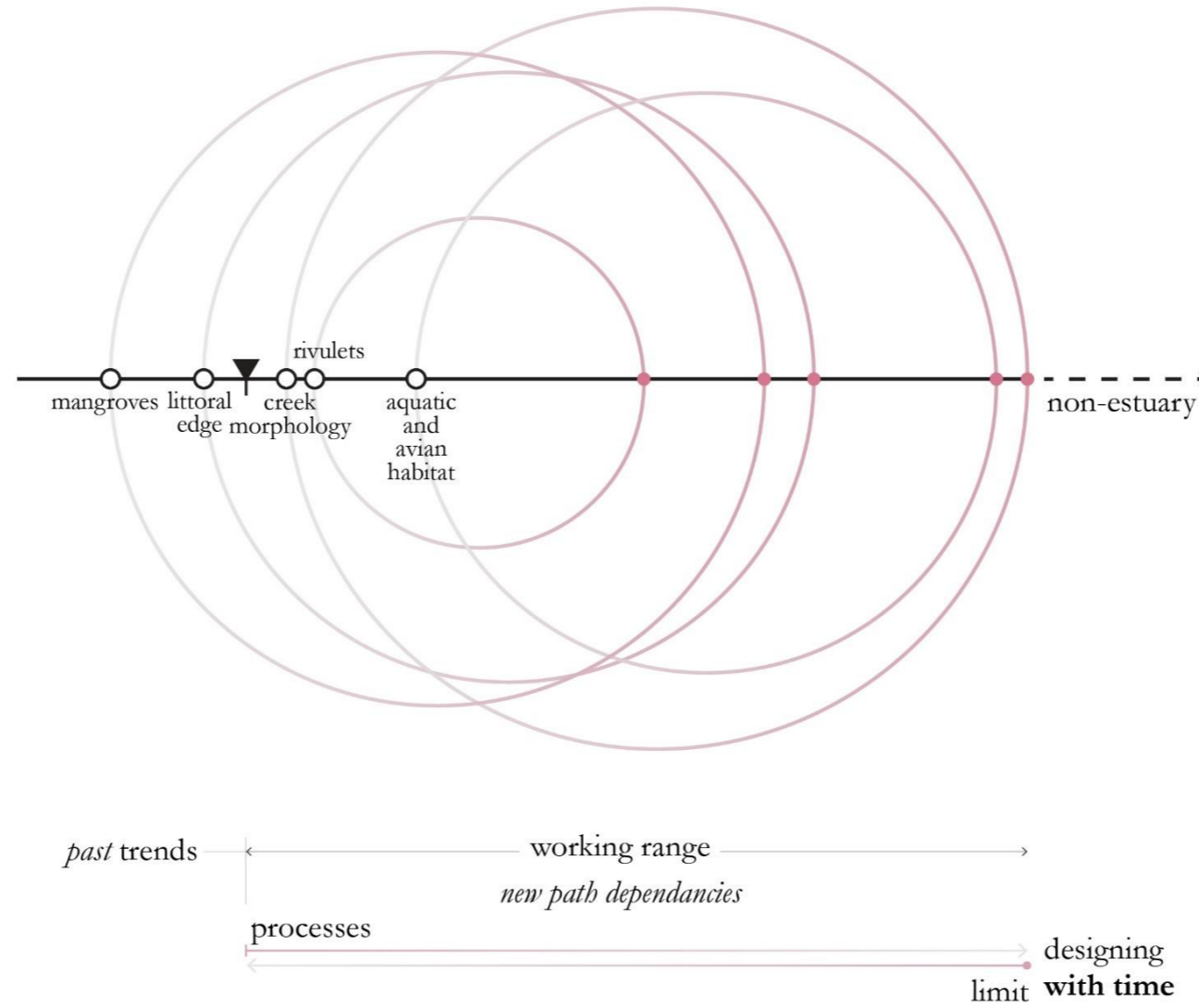
Macro scale of time, observed in the functional cycles of the estuarine ecosystem as a whole.



Designing with time

Approach

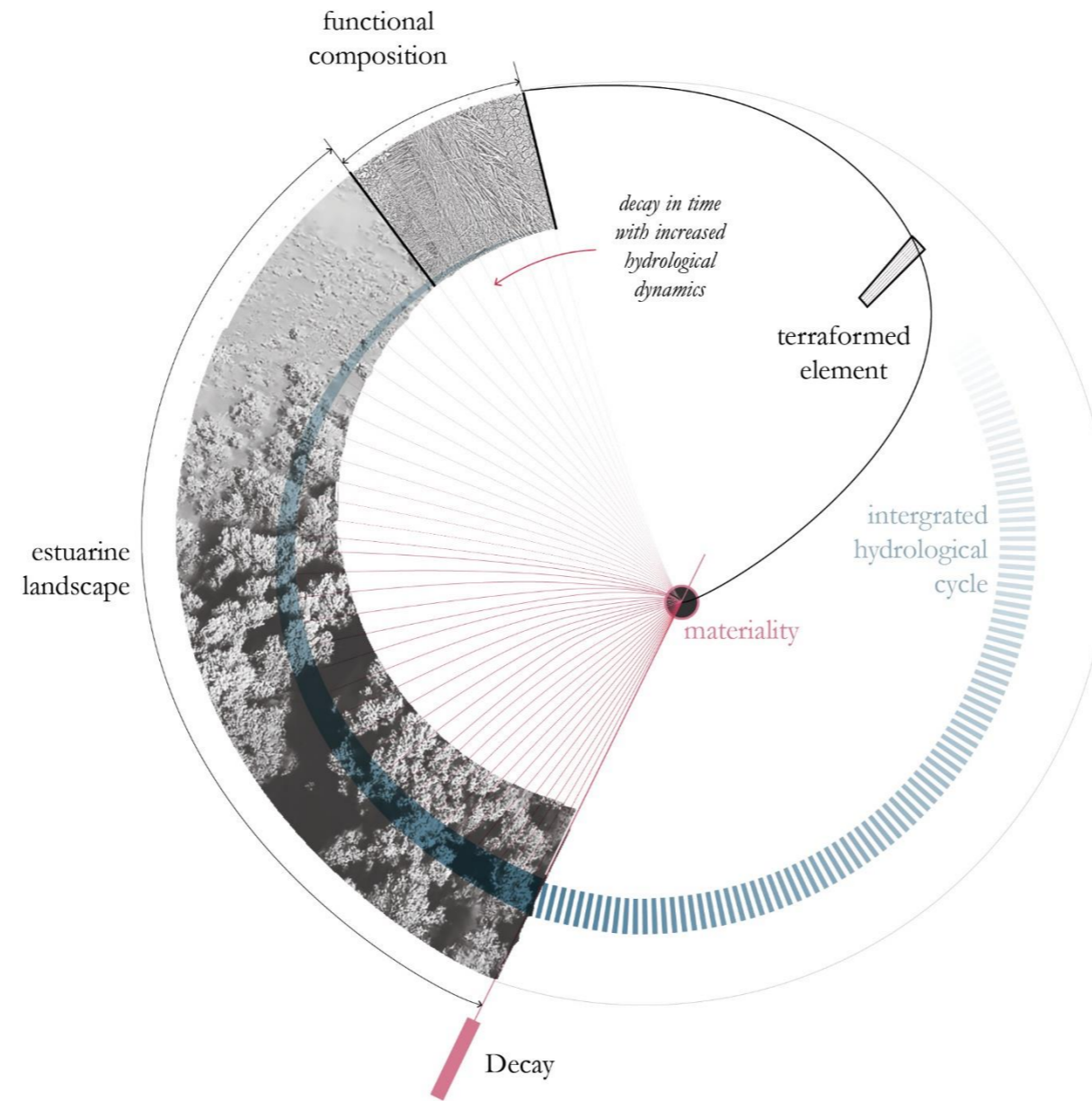
Meso to micro scales of time, observed in the paces of adaptation in individual estuarine elements.



Designing for time

Towards maintenance

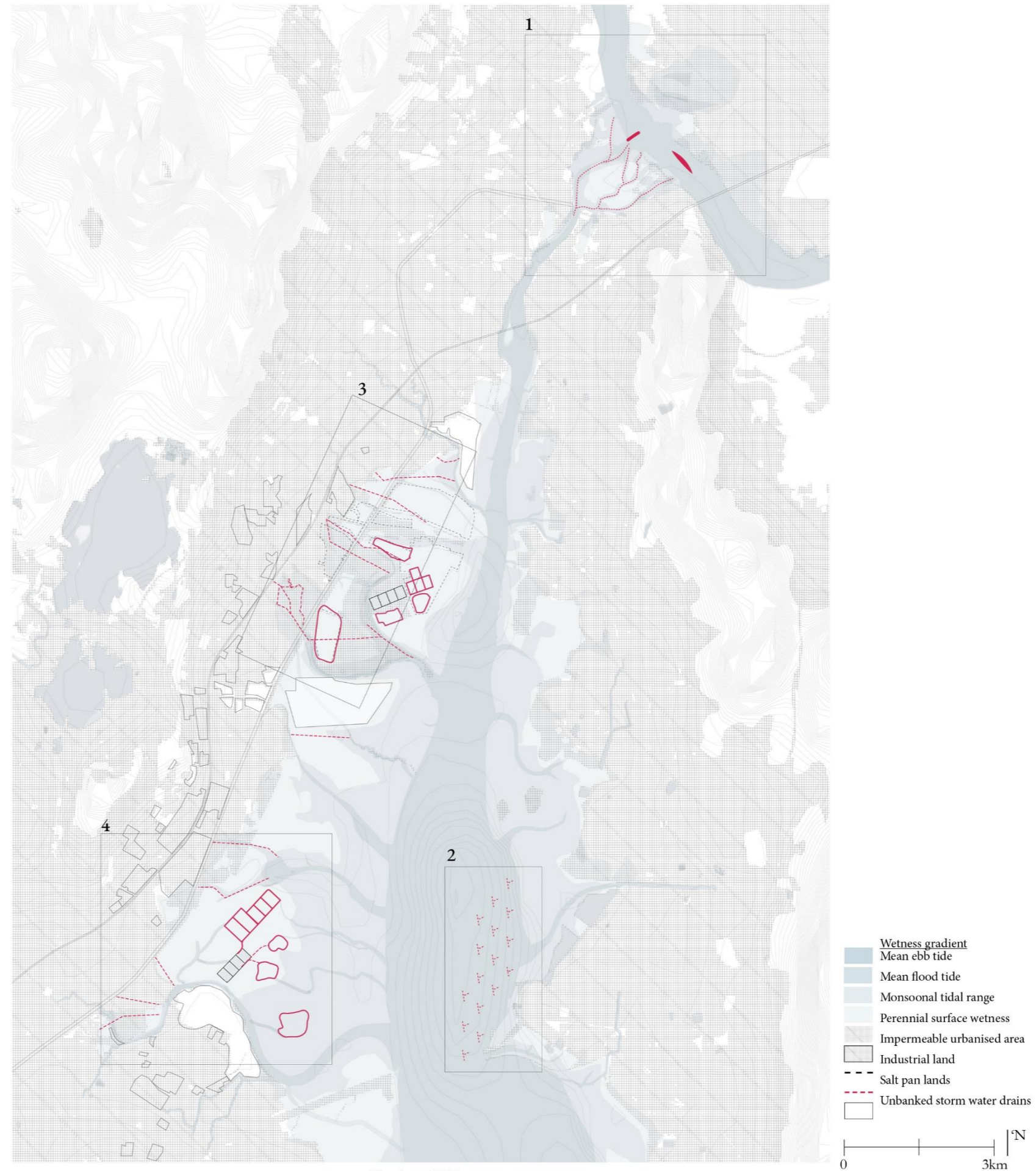
Calibrating landscape elements to function across scales that through their decay restore the hydrological integrity of the territory in time



The Landscape Collage

regional intervention

1. River avulsion
2. Sediment Traps
3. Un-banking the stormwater drains
4. Waste water aquaculture



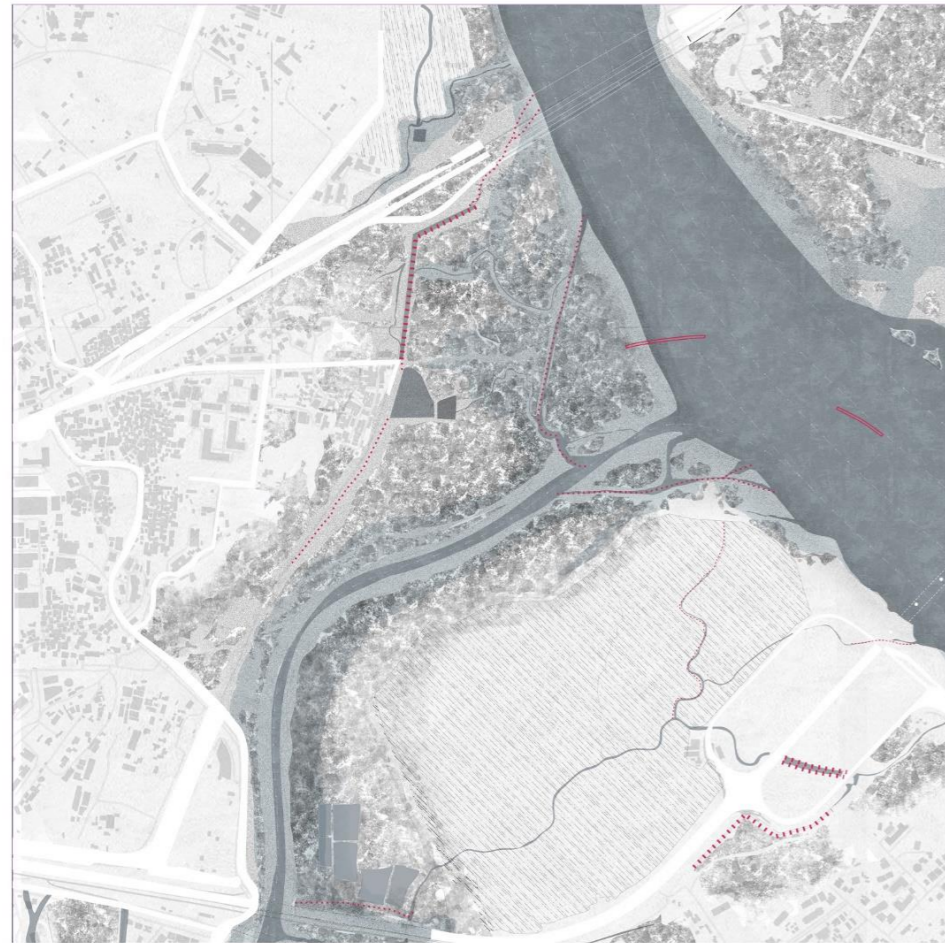
Regional Plan

I. River Avulsion

strategic intervention

Un-Earthing

Re-Earthing



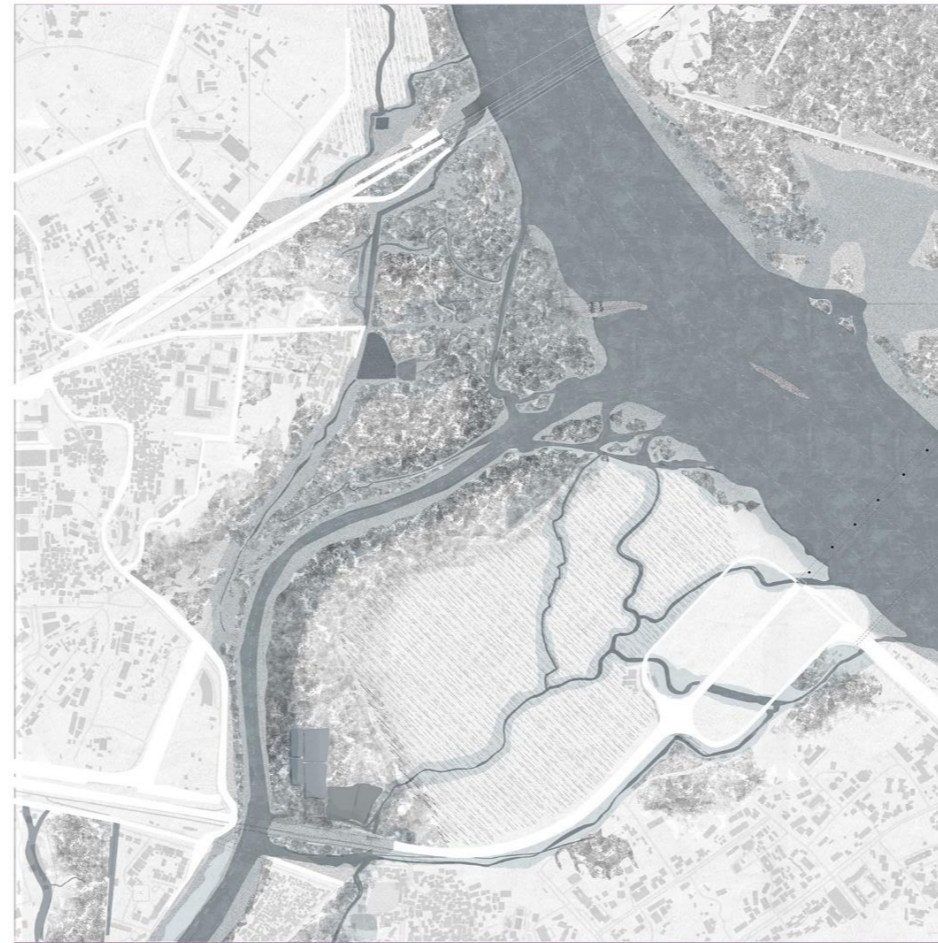
Initiation phase:
Desilting and Introducing barriers

Non-monsoonal clearance rate:

Ulhas River: 2.57days

Upper Creek: null

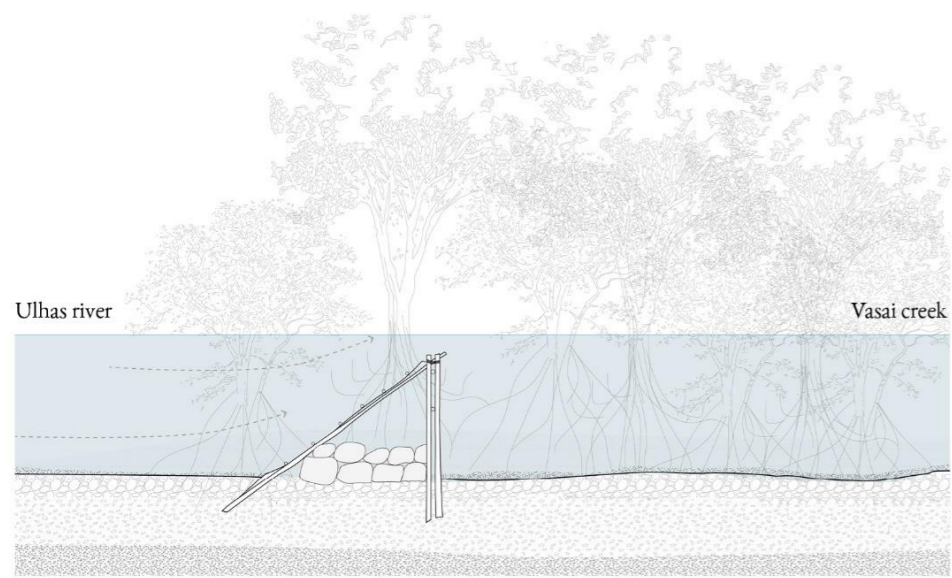
- Proposed sediment barrier
- - - Desilting paths
- ||||| Un-banking drains
- Mangrove vegetation
- Exposed tidal marshlands
- Farmlands
- Wetness gradient
- Mean ebb tide
- Mean flood tide



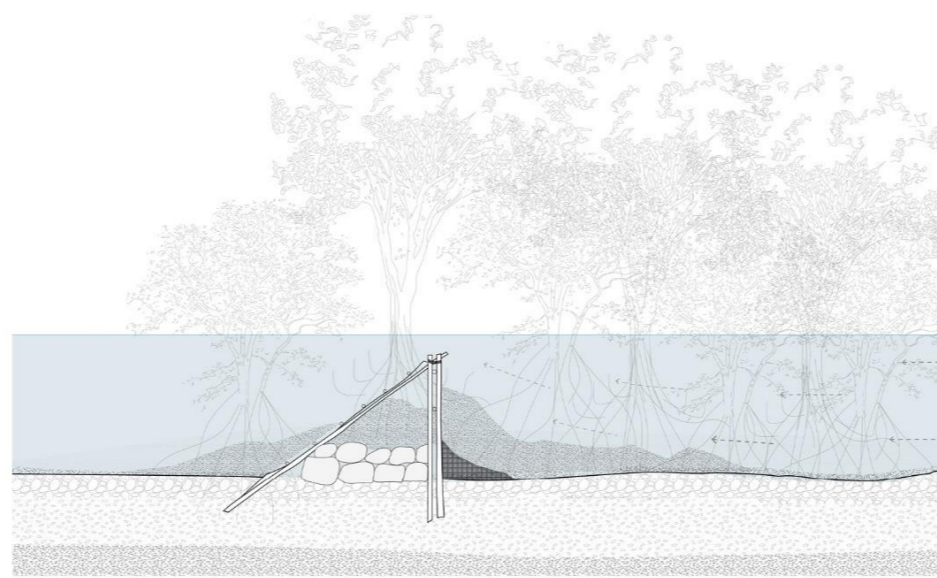
2 years
Annual Desilting (pre-monsoon clearance)



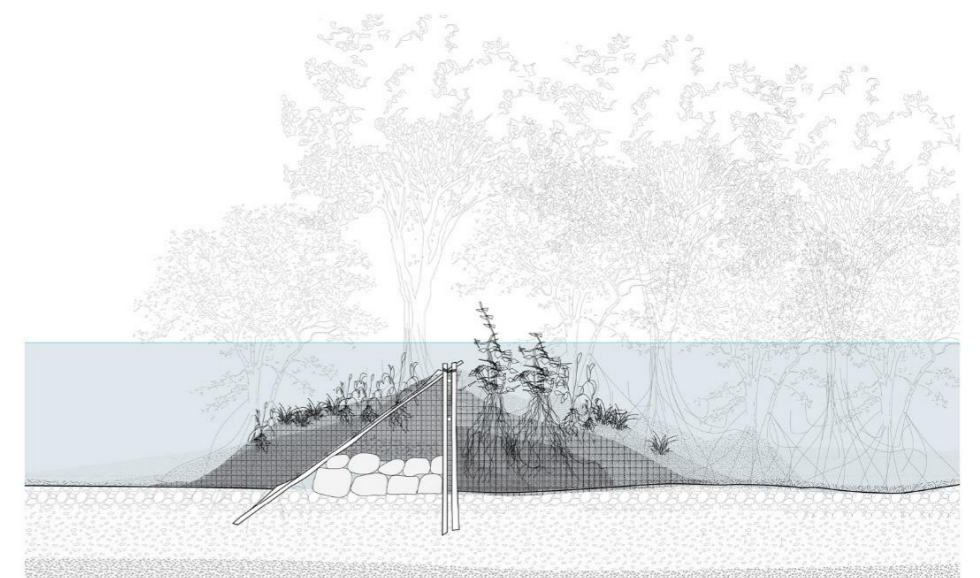
5 years
Non-monsoonal clearance rate:
Ulhas River: 2.57days
Upper Creek: aprox. 4 days



Initiation phase: Ebb tide. Predominance of riverine deposition



Initiation phase: Flood tide. Predominance of tidal deposition from Vasai



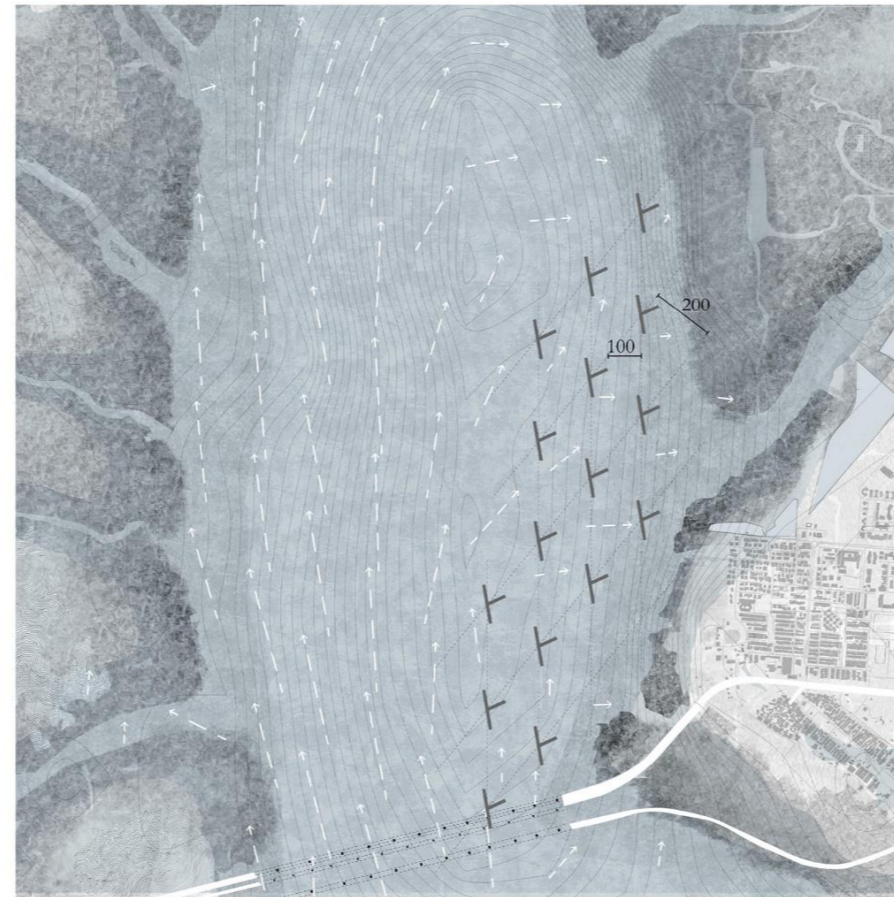
Stabalised tidal bar.

A thriving wetland by 2050 with regions of permanent wetness. New and revived rivulets flowing

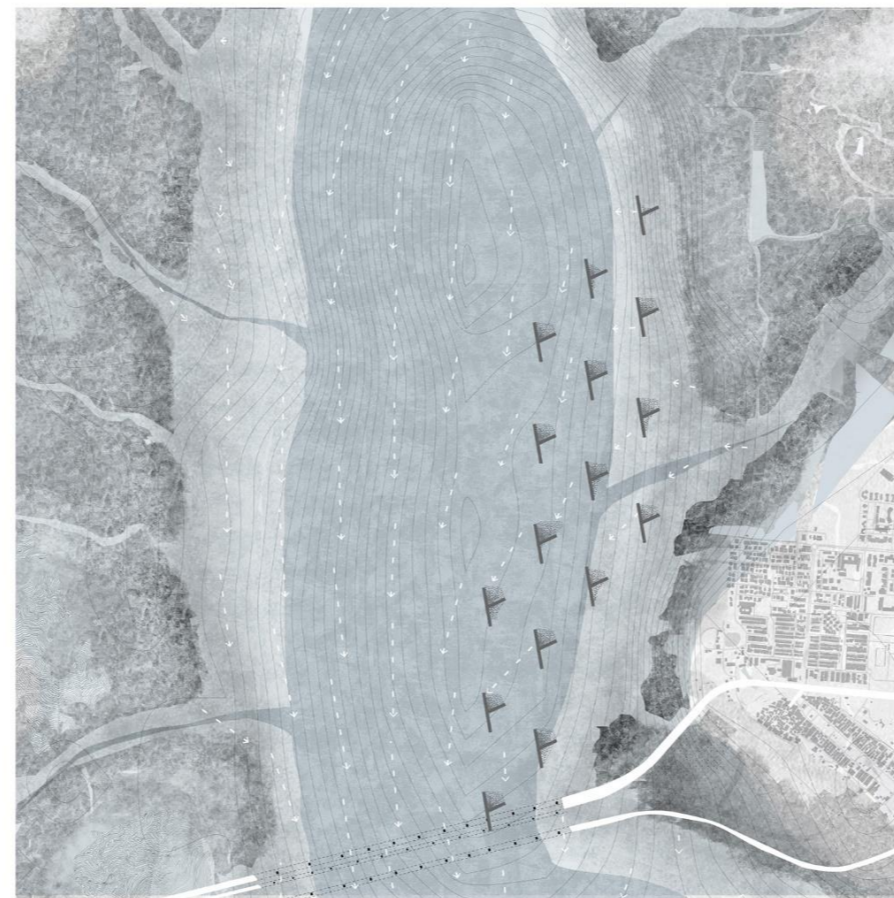


II. Sediment Trap

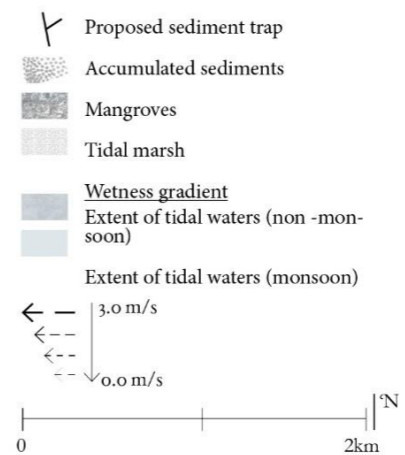
Strategic Intervention



Sediment deposition in flood tide



Sediment trapping in ebb tide



II. Sediment Trap

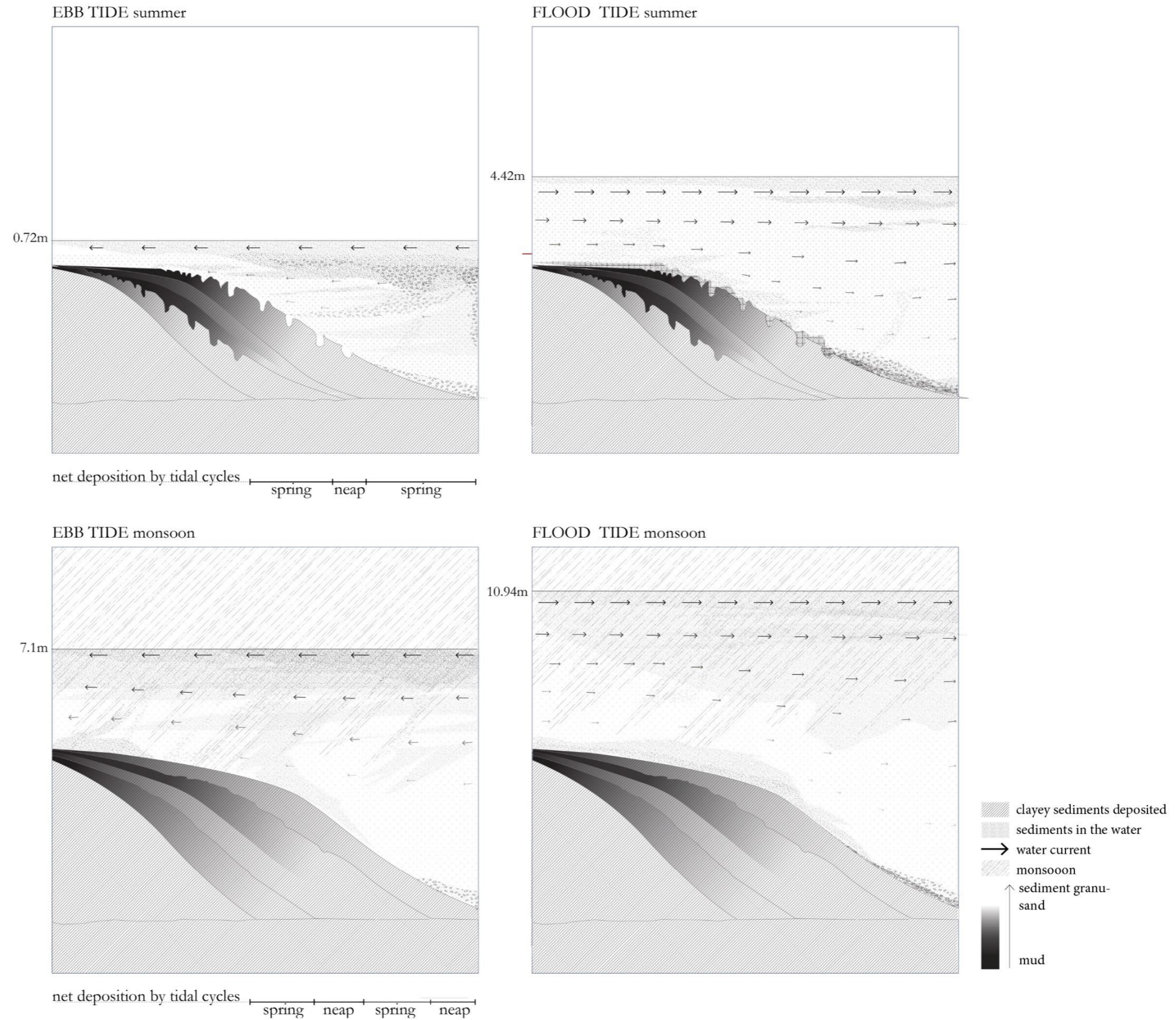
Materiality



- red laterite stone speculated with basalt
- coarse texture
- colloidal properties
- high iron oxide content

Ii. Sediment Trap

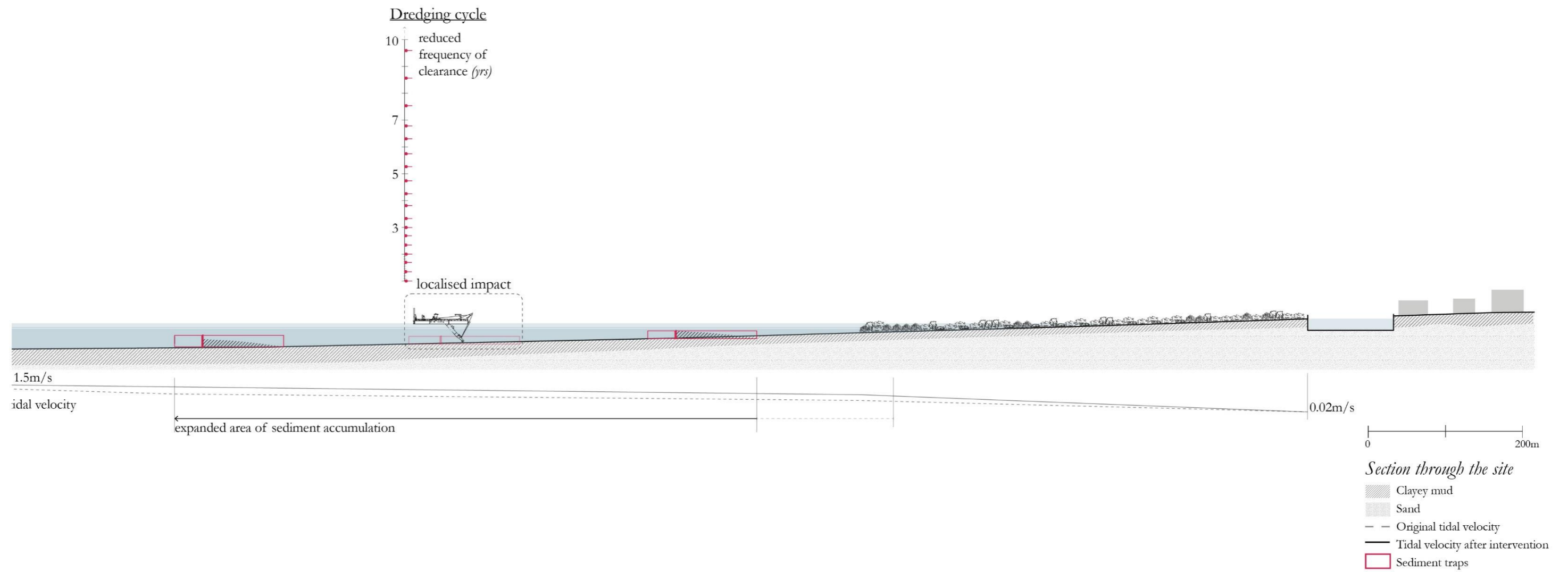
Hydrological Function



Hydrological Performance and shaping of the intervention in Non-monsoon and Monsoon conditions.

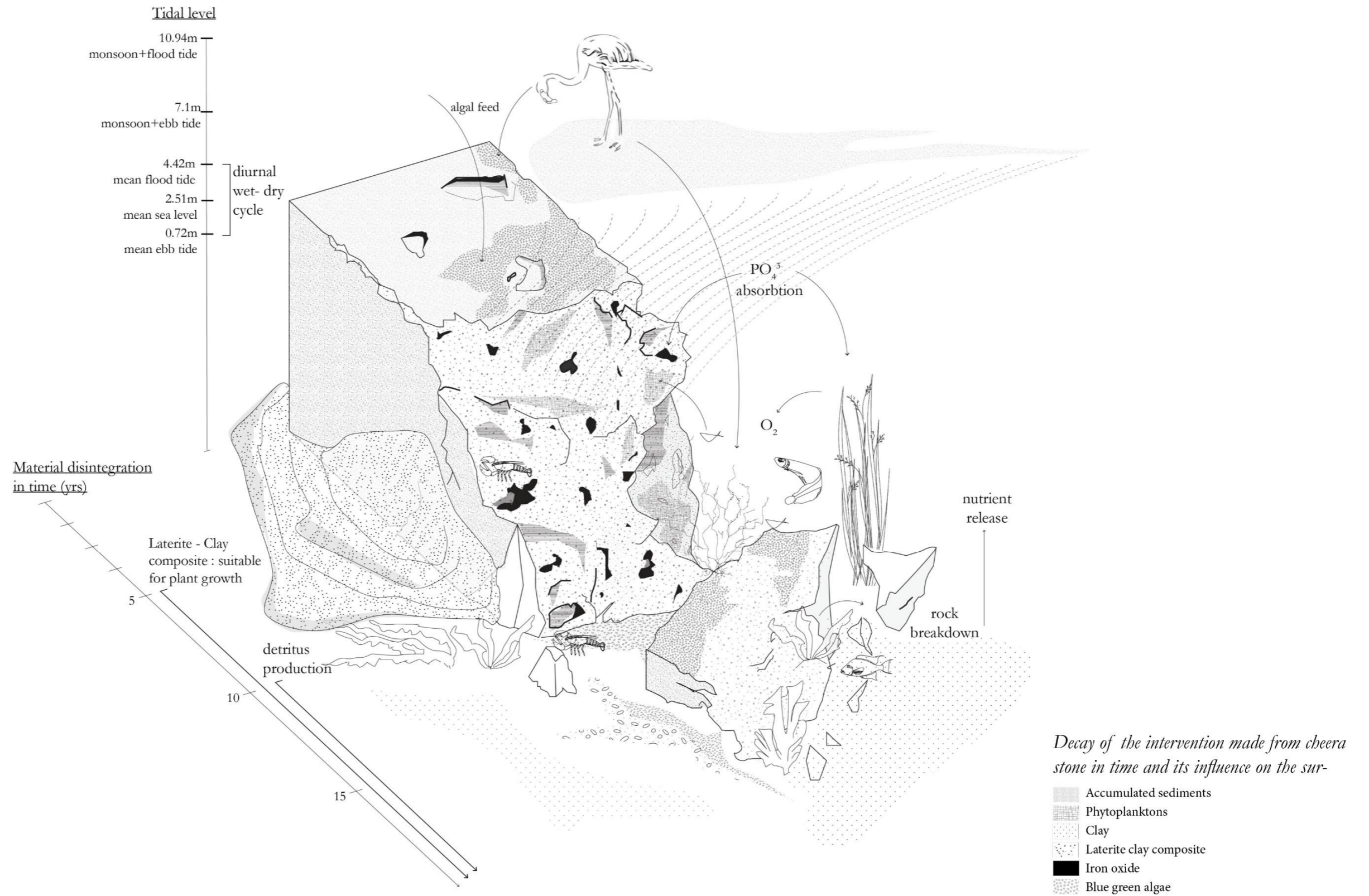
II. Sediment Trap

Cycles Of Maintenance



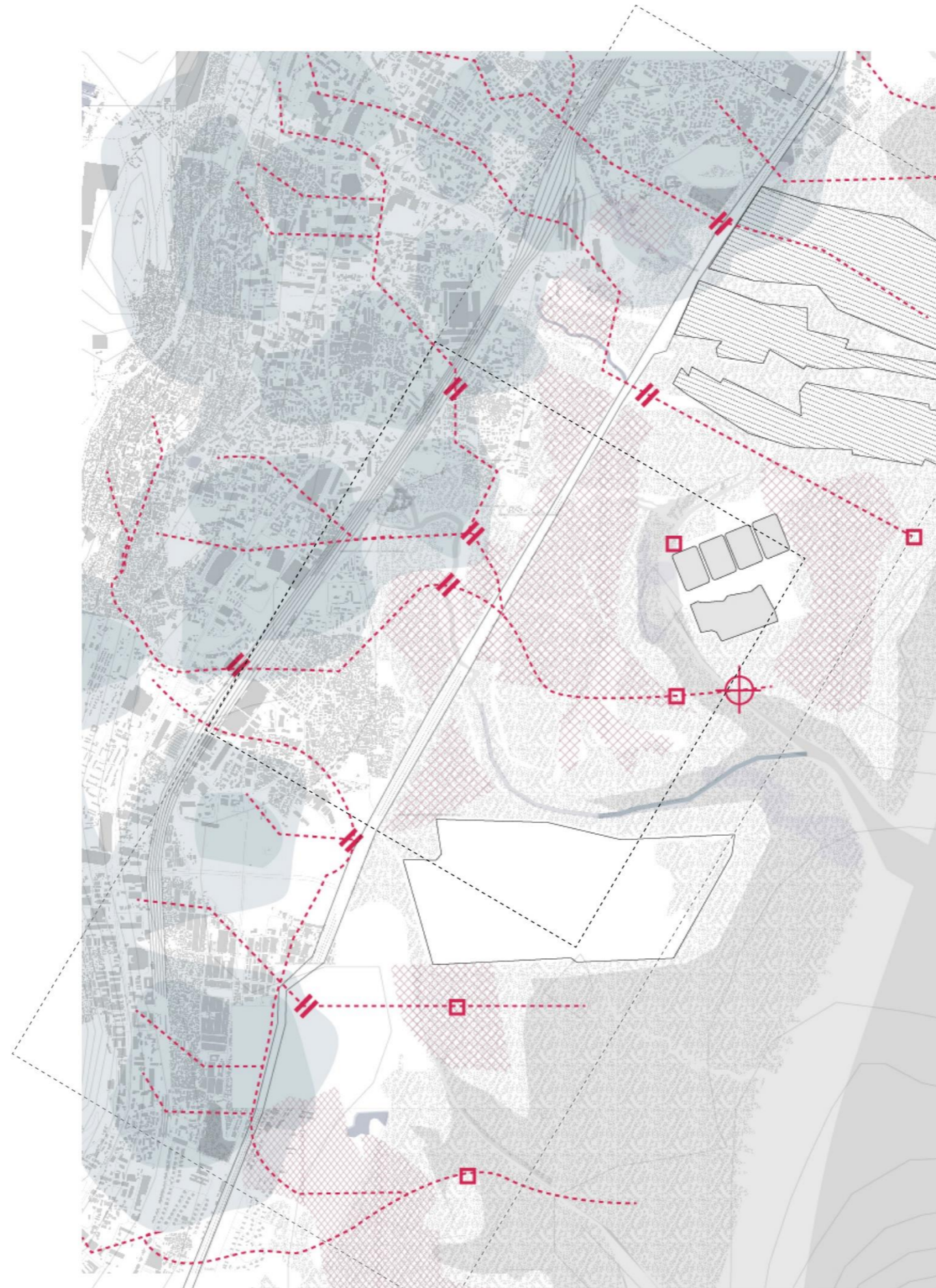
II. Sediment Trap

Designed For Decay



III. Un-banking drains

Strategic Intervention



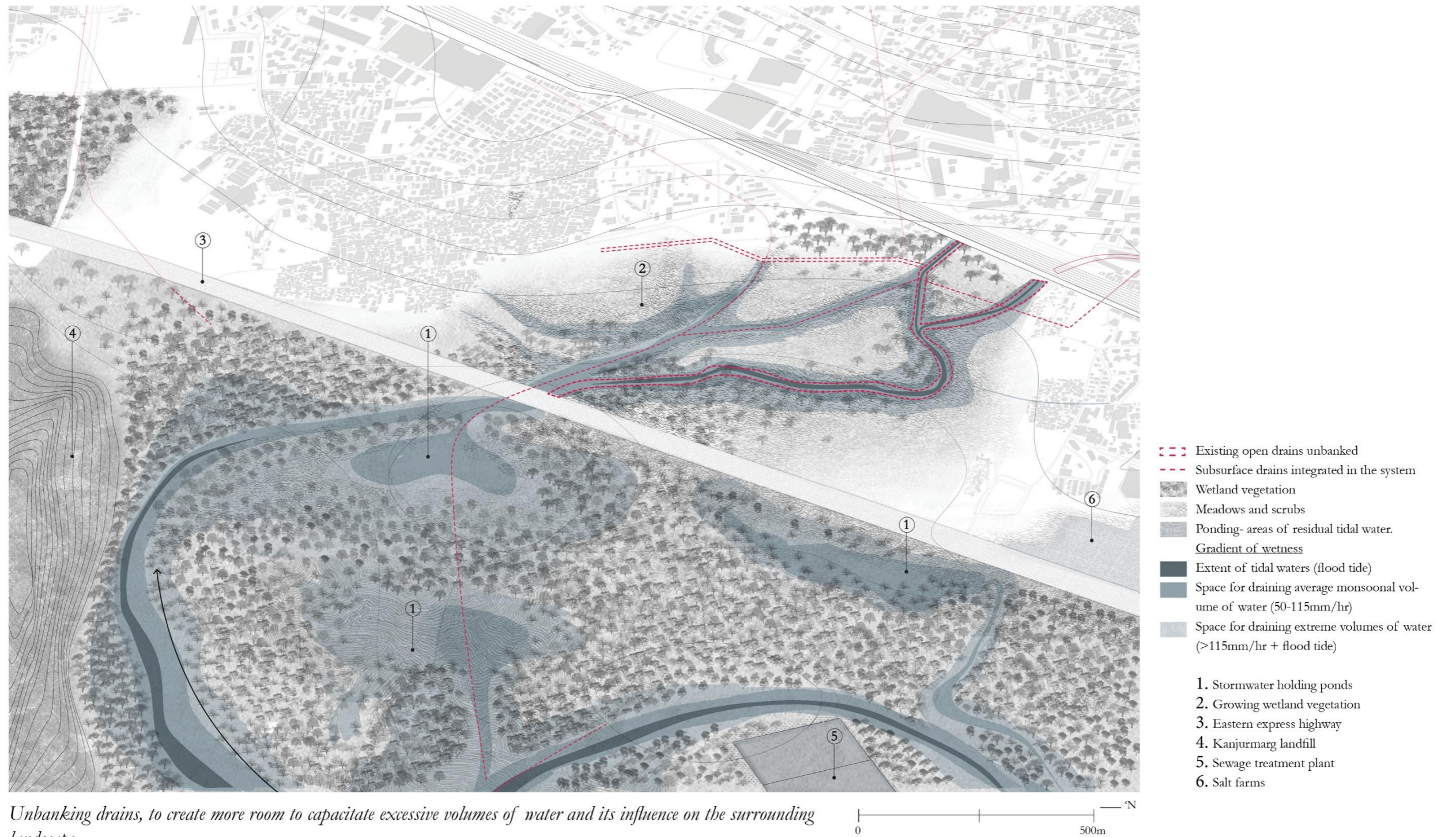
Exemplary site conditions



- Mean ebb tide
- Mean flood tide
- Critical vulnerability to flooding
- Mangrove vegetation
- - - Primary storm water drains
- ⊕ Combined outfall point for storm water and treated sewage water.
- Pumps
- || Primary storm water drain intersections
- - - Pilot site
- ⋯ Scope for expansion along the edge

III. Un-banking drains

Strategic Intervention



Unbanking drains, to create more room to capacitate excessive volumes of water and its influence on the surrounding landscape.



Decreasing need/
frequency for
landscape
maintenance

energy discipation and sedimentation

wetland vegetation
filtering for water quality

wetland vegetation

• high flow bypass to
surrounding marsh-
land ponds

porous rock
wall filter

wet meadow

scrubs

forested wetland

increasing salinity
and wetness

inland SWD
input

GL

overflow
buffer

mean monsoon
water lvl.

post-monsoon
volume

pre-monsoon
volume

shallow marsh

deep marsh

alluvium
top soil

weathered rock
and alluvium

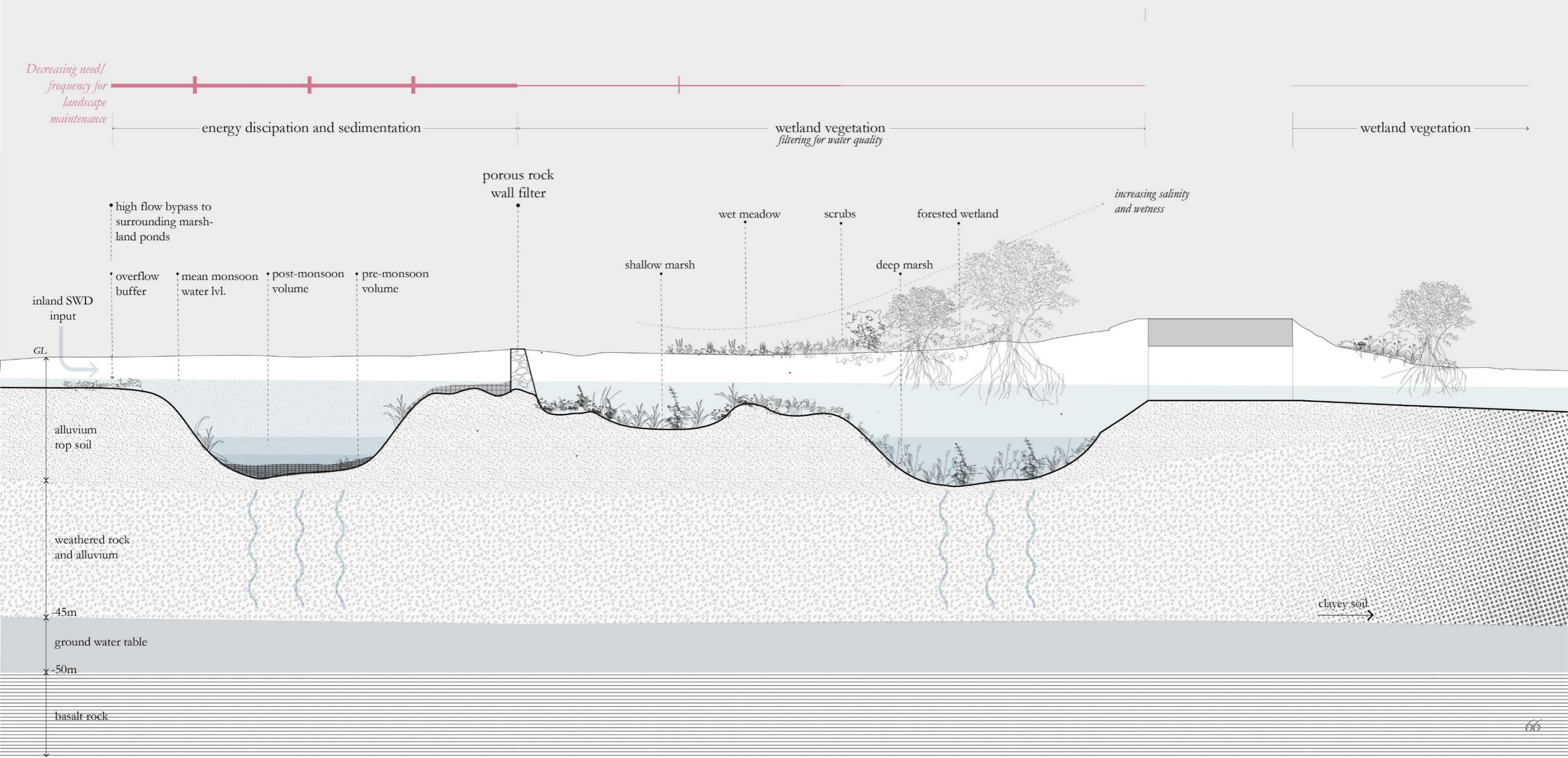
-45m

ground water table

-50m

basalt rock

clayey soil





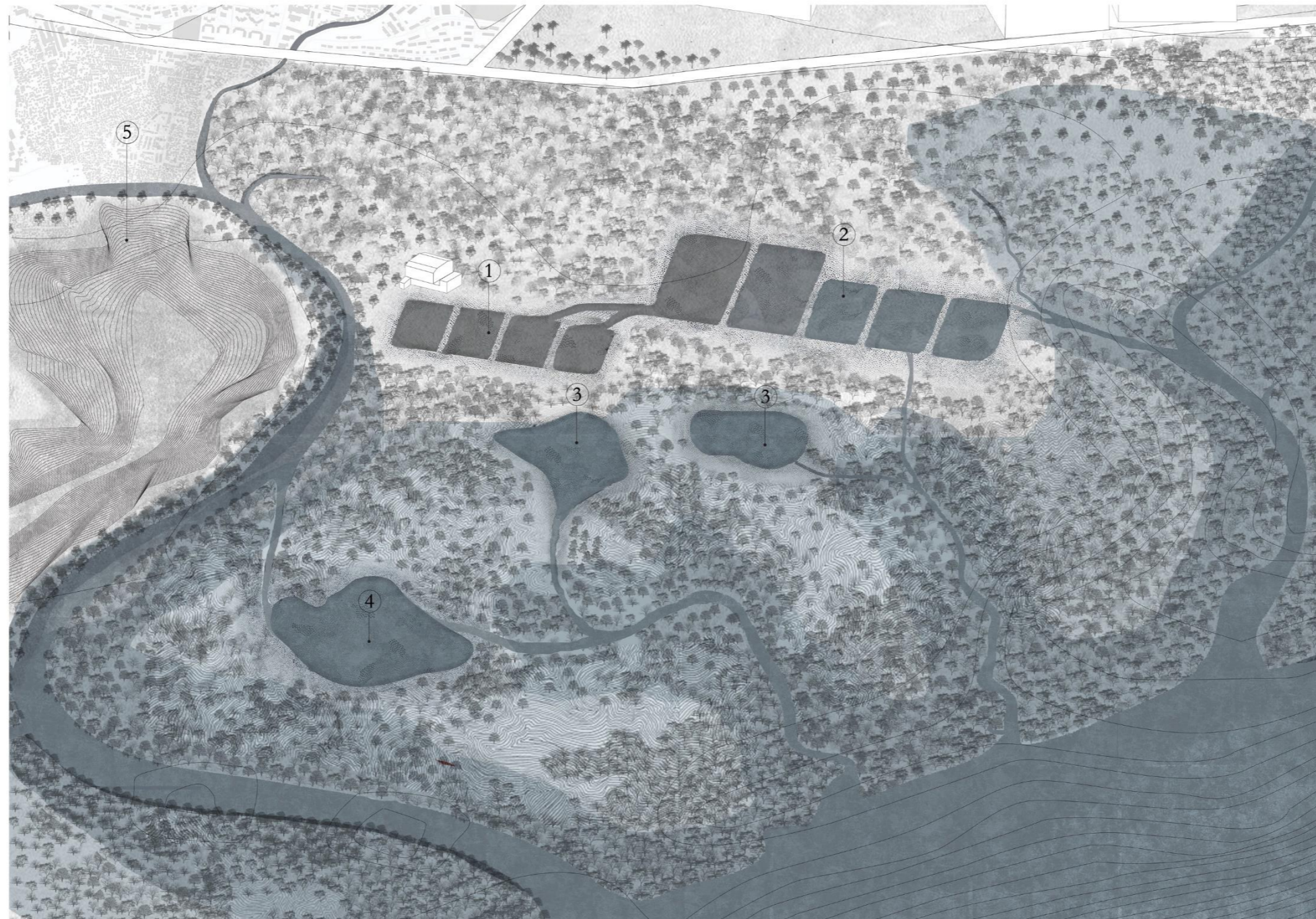
Landscape in the summer



Landscape in the monsoon

IV. Wastewater Aquaculture

strategic intervention



- Ponding- areas of residual tidal waters.
- Mangrove vegetation
- Gradient of wetness
- Mean ebb tide
- Mean flood tide
- Mean tidal extent in extreme monsoon events

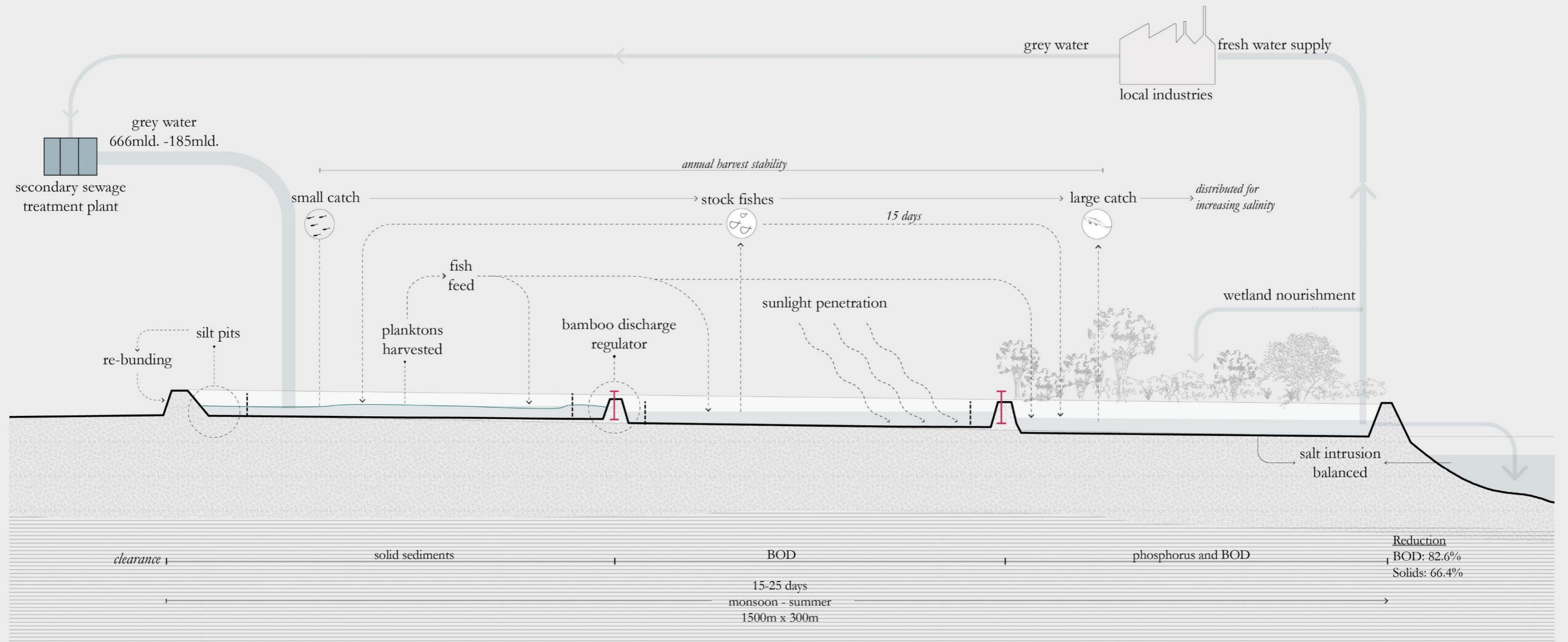
- 1. Existing sewage treatment ponds (secondary)
- 2. Waste water aquaculture ponds (fish farms)
- 3. Higher salinity ponds (crustacean farming)
- 4. Higher turbidity pond (mussel farming)
- 5. Deonar Landfill

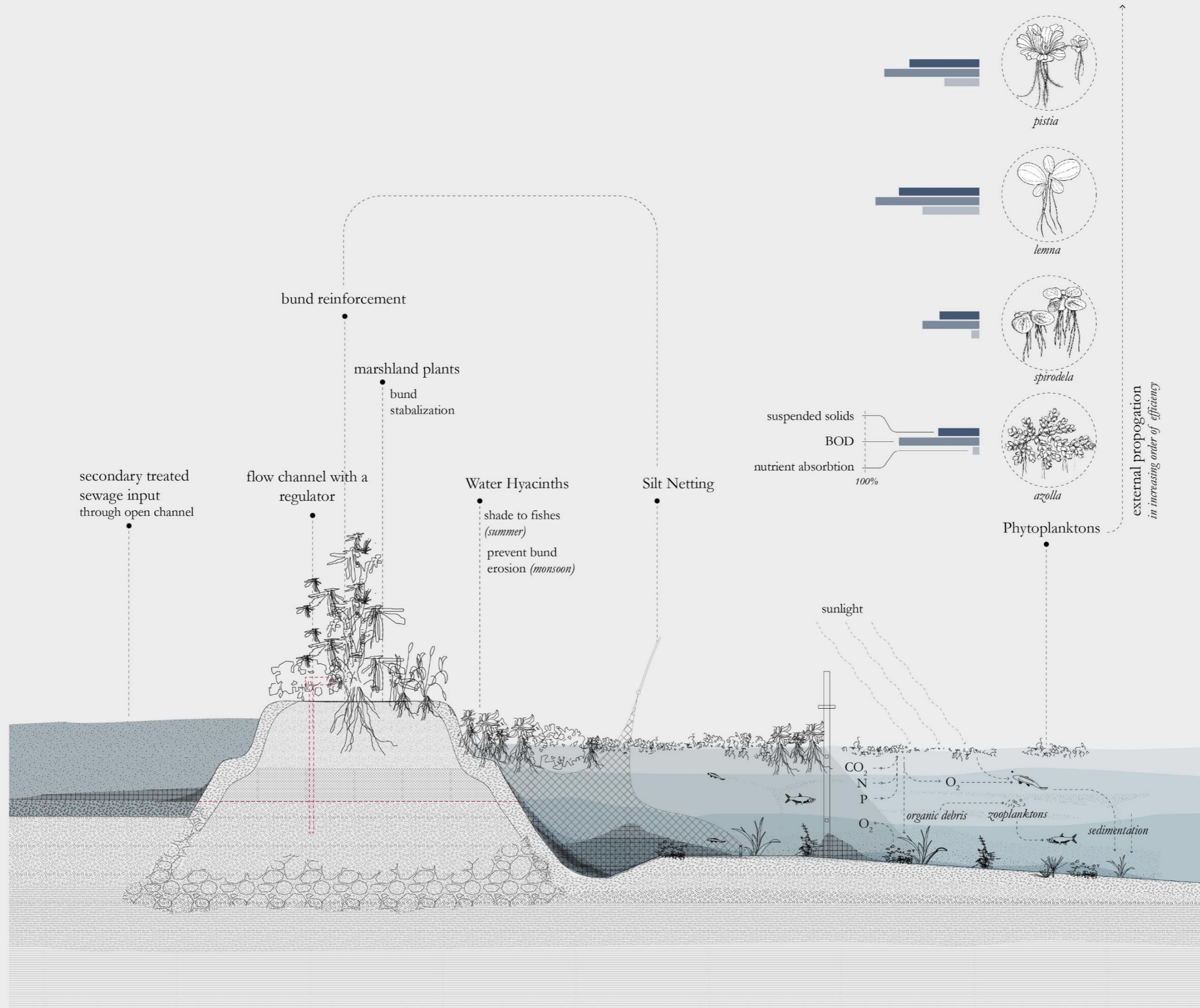
Wastewater aquaculture embedded in the wetlands.



IV. Wastewater Aquaculture

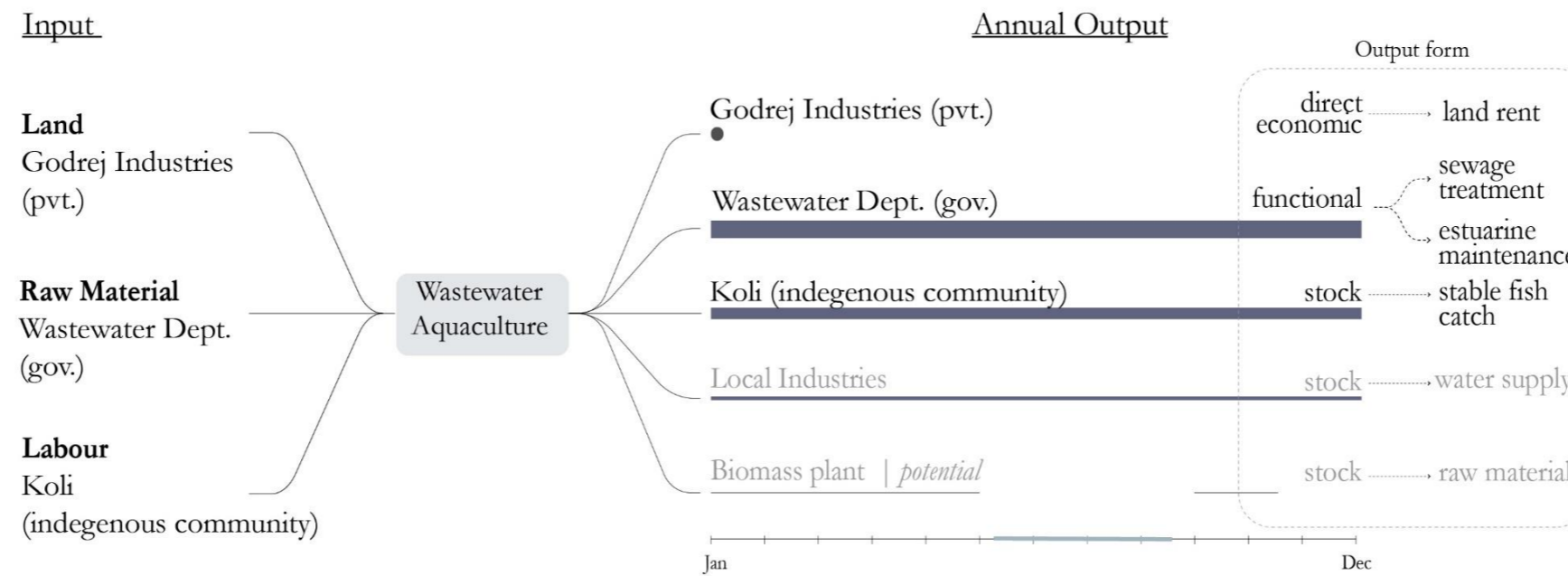
strategic intervention





IV. Wastewater Aquaculture

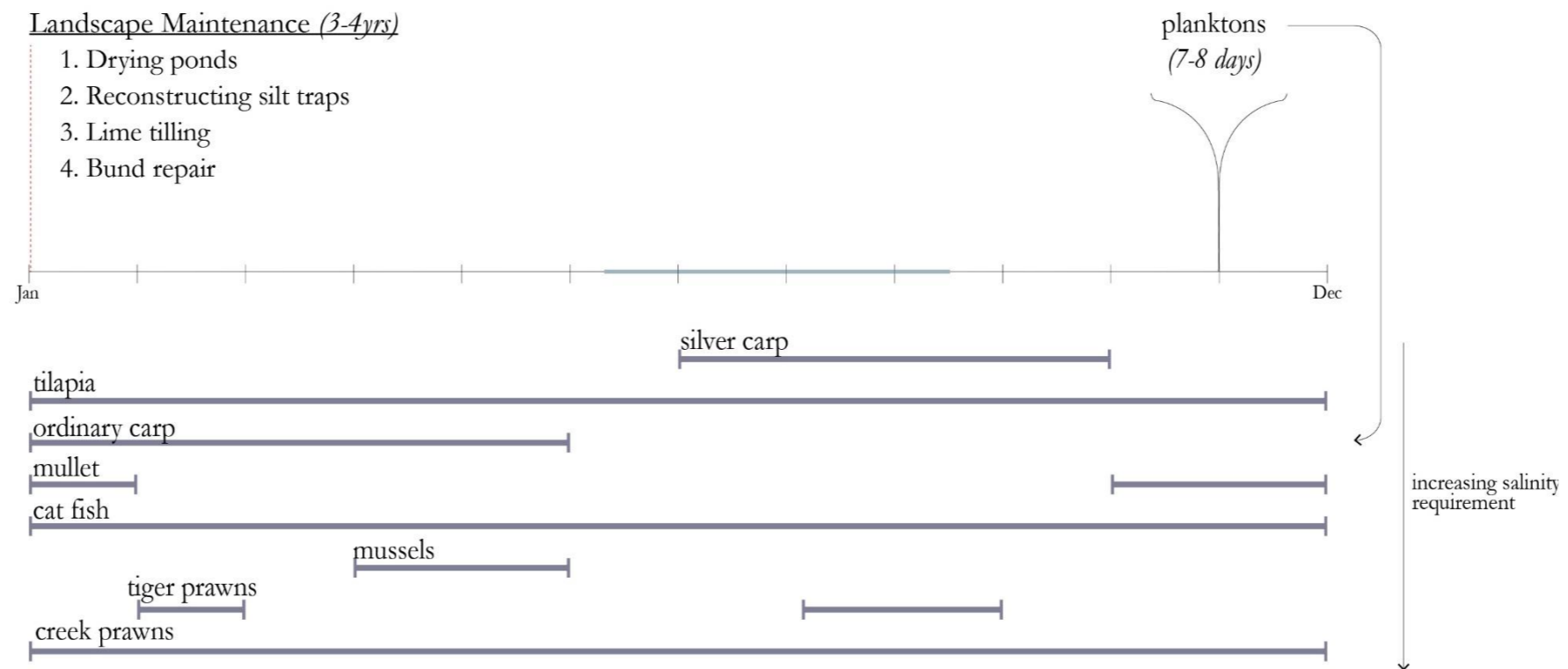
Implementation



Involvement and collaboration between the sectors on site

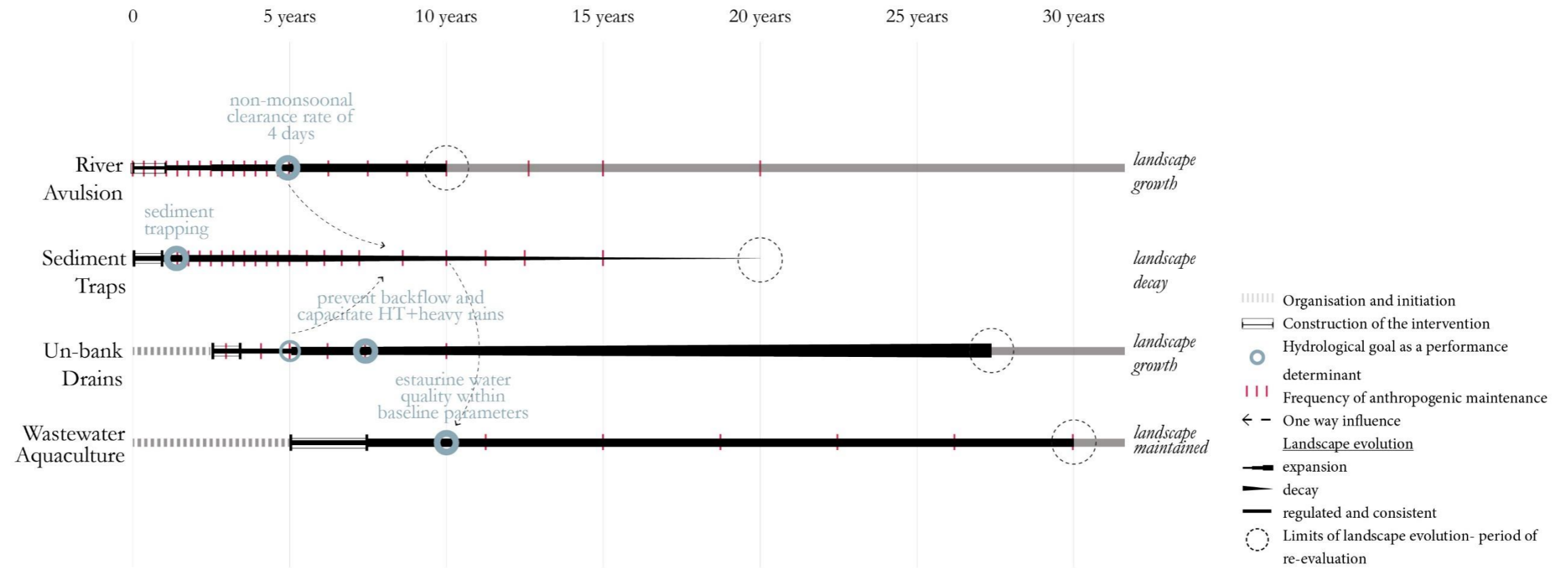
IV. Wastewater Aquaculture

Economic Viability



Functions and periods of landscape maintenance required to be done by the fishing community, thereby having a stable year round scope for fish harvest.

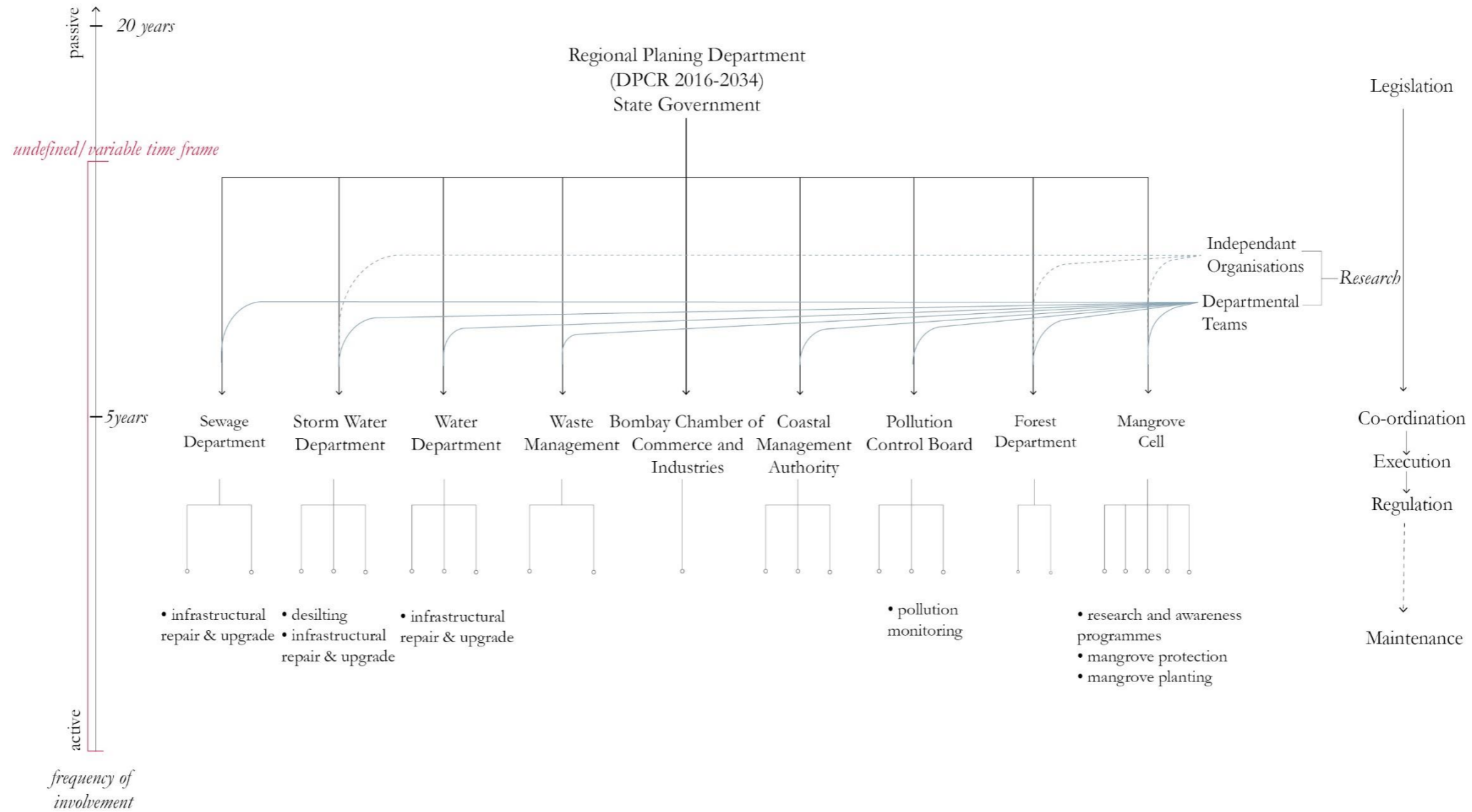
Project Phasing



Acupuncture in time. Phasing the project

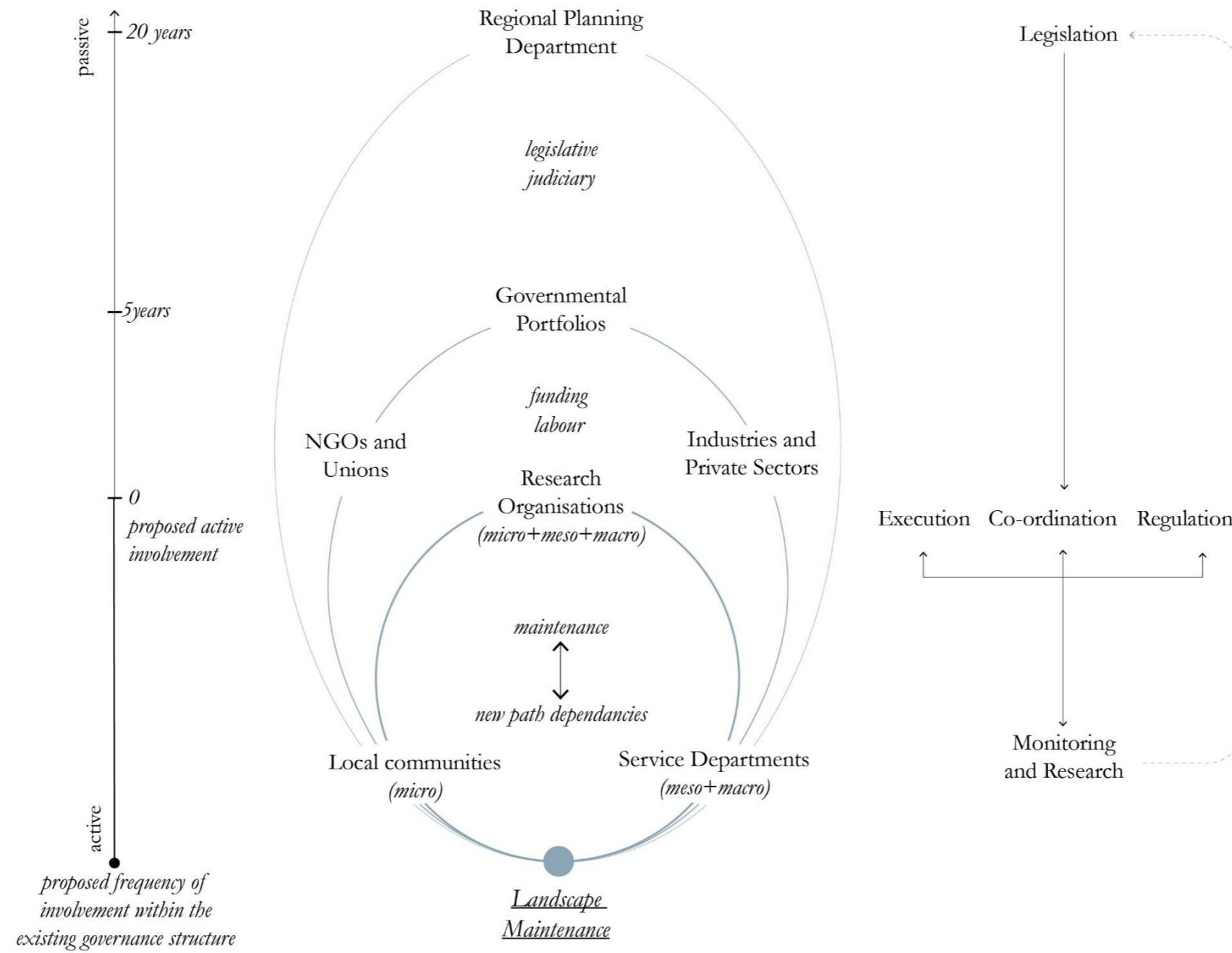
Implementation

*Prevalent governance structure
for urban development*



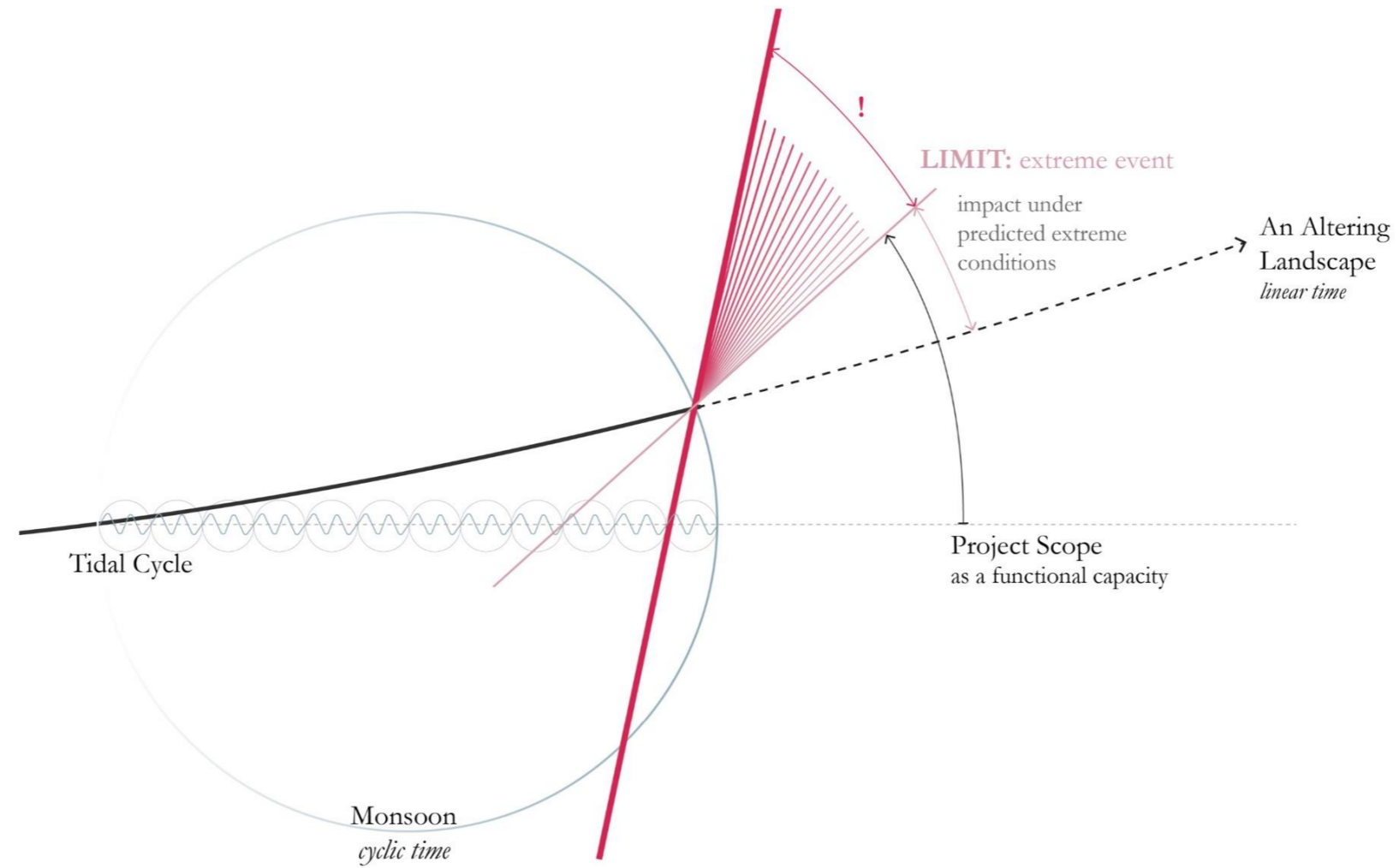
Implementation

Proposed structure for landscape maintenance



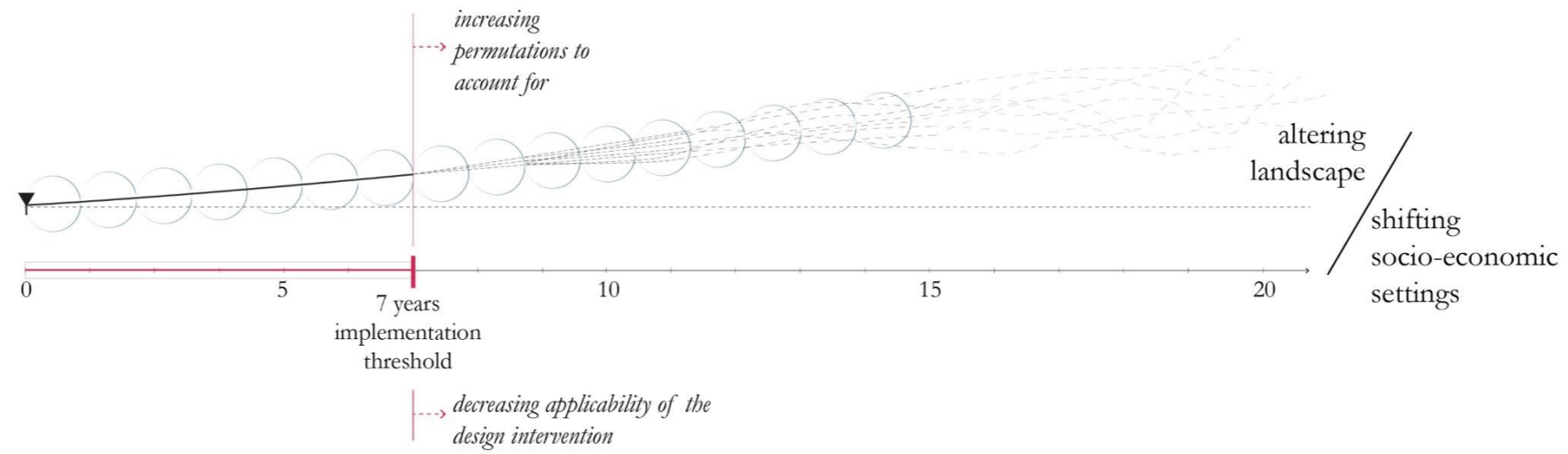
Critique and Limitations

Limited capacity to accommodate extreme or unforeseen hydrological upheaval beyond the projected scope.



Critique and Limitations

Necessity to initiate within the stipulated timeframe



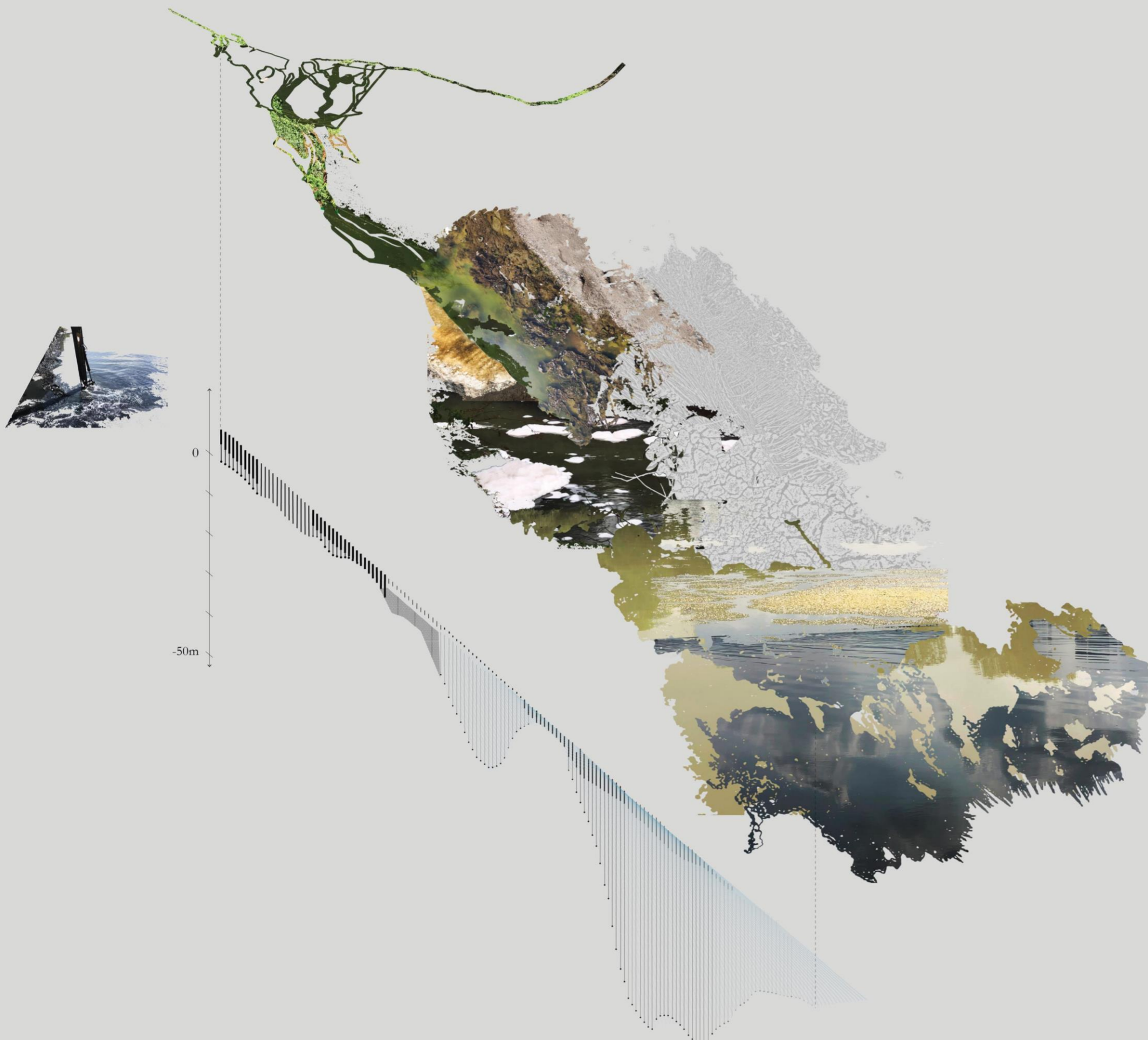
A New Material Reading







*A render of the proposed Trans-Harbour link in the Thane Creek.
Image Source: ARUP rapid environmental assesment report.*



An actual visual of the bridge under construction captured in September, 2022. Showing its material impact on the landscape. Bridge due for completion in November 2023. Image Source : @cldbage/Twitter



-  Tidal Water Vectors
in order of decreasing current speed
-  Materiality
 stratified extent (vertically in meters)
-  Density
in descending order
-  Settlement in a tidal clearance cycle

31st March, 2023

