



All of the projects included here were developed in the “Site and Landscape Workshop,” a multi-semester space from sixth to tenth semesters (graduation projects) at the Universidad del Valle. The academic projects focus on addressing real-life problems with real-life interactions (users) of the rural and urban landscape of the municipality of Santiago de Cali, Colombia. Each semester, the workshop takes place in a different location, which, combined, aims to impact the entire territory of the municipality of Cali. The five projects presented below were selected based on the following criteria: 1) Relevance of the topic addressed in response to various impacts or disturbances of the natural and urban landscape, such as heat islands, fires, water pollution, etc. 2) Sensitivity to the location based on an understanding of the natural dynamics of the territory, materials, perceptions, and cultural appreciation. 3) Creativity in the spatial, geometric and perceptual proposal based on the reading of the intervention site 4) Rigor in the technical, constructive and pertinent information development to demonstrate a viable and landscape-sensitive proposal.



Country/City	Cali, Colombia
University / School	Universidad del Valle - Faculty of Integrated Arts / School of Architecture
Academic year	2024-01
Title of the project	Urban Oases - Proposal for Urban Ecological Connectivity
Authors	Alejandra Polanía - Santiago Ramirez

Title of the project	Urban Oases - Proposal for Urban Ecological Connectivity
Authors	Alejandra Polanía - Santiago Ramirez
Title of the course	Vertical workshop: Site and landscape
Academic year	2024-01
Teaching Staff	Gustavo Salazar Cosme
Department / Section / Program of belonging	Faculty of Integrated Arts / School of Architecture
University / School	Universidad del Valle



Written statement, short description of the project in English, no more than 250 words

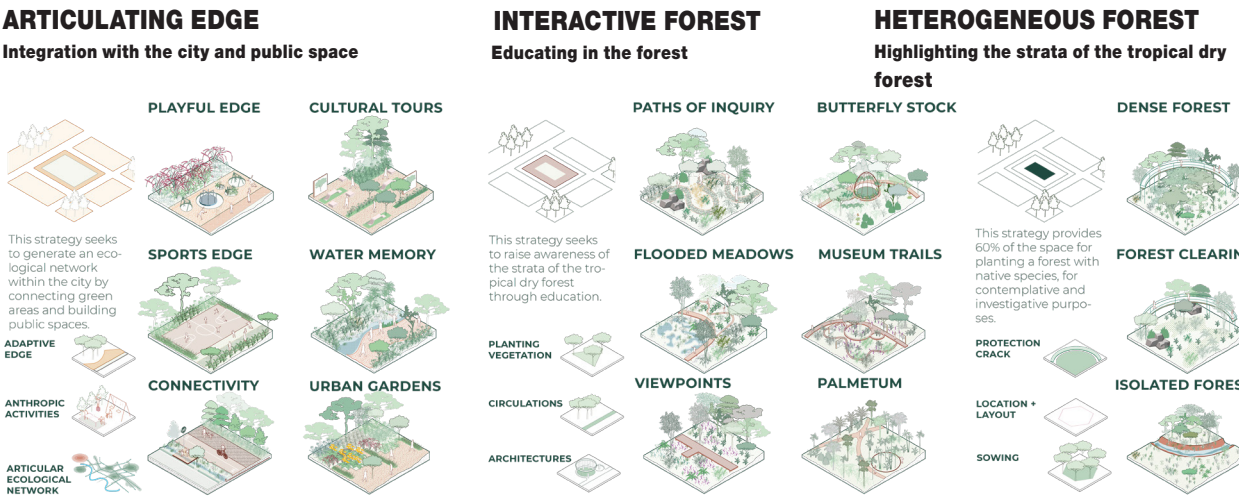
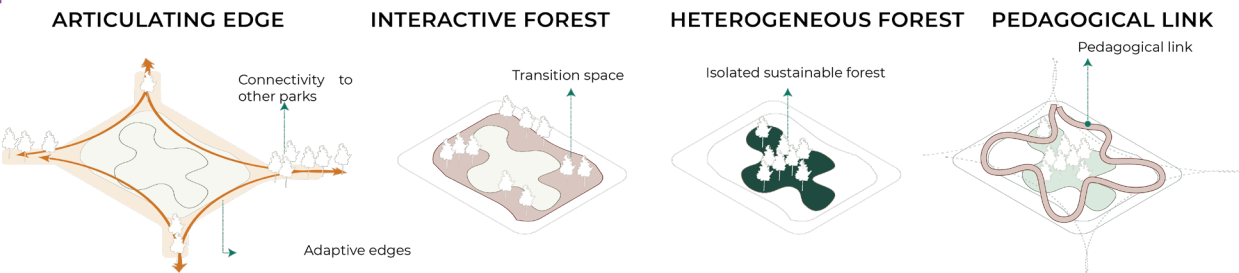
Colombia's Tropical Dry Forest (TDF) is experiencing severe deterioration due to urban expansion, habitat loss, the growth of heat islands, and ecological disconnection. In response, the "Urban Oasis" proposal proposes an urban planning strategy based on the "urban forest" concept, aiming to recognize, conserve, and reconnect fragments of the primary and secondary ecological structure, thereby improving connectivity between the foothills and the Cauca River landscape. These Urban Oases are designed as replicable, integrated structures, with the goal of facilitating ecological flow between natural areas within the urban landscape, strengthening ecosystems, and fostering harmony between city and nature. As a pilot project, an urban forest is proposed on the airbase grounds, structured in three transition rings. The first, the "articulating edge," connects with the urban environment through recreational activities; the second, the "interactive forest edge," allows for a transition with low-impact activities; and the third, the "isolated heterogeneous forest," located in the center, promotes natural development, limited to scientific intervention. The project applies a specific ecological restoration methodology to each ring, integrating recreational, educational, and conservation functions.

Barcelona International Landscape Biennial

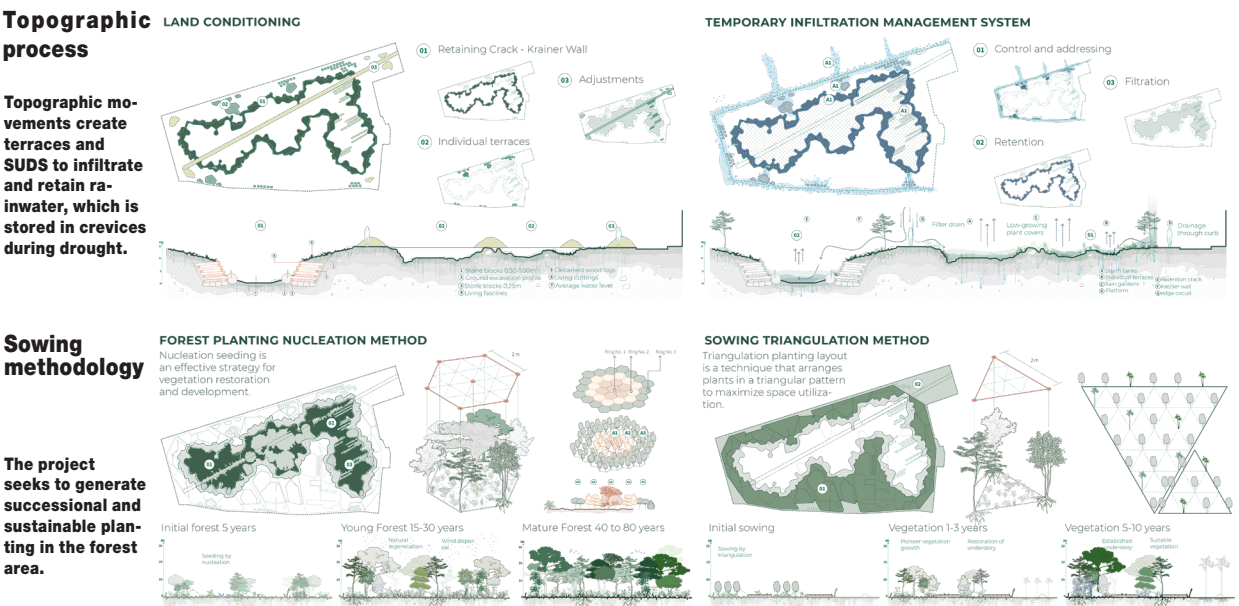
Contact via email:
biennialadm@coac.net

Venue:
COAC - Col·legi Oficial d'Arquitectes de Catalunya
Carrer Arcs 1-3, 08002 Barcelona - Spain

PROPOSAL FOR THE “URBAN OASIS” PILOT PLAN



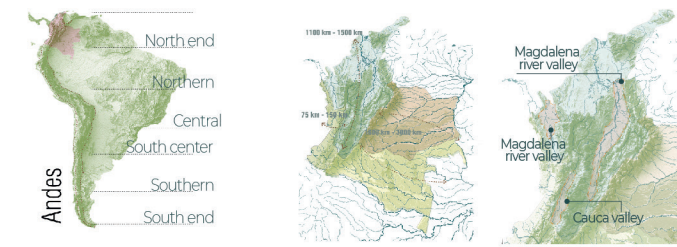
ECOLOGICAL RESTORATION



GENERAL ARCHITECTURAL PLAN



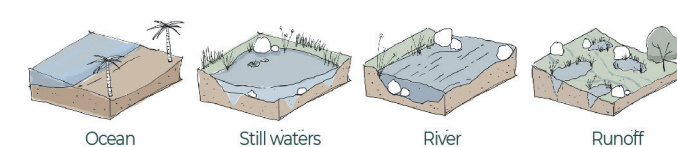
ANALYSIS OF THE COLOMBIAN TERRITORY
Andes mountain range and Colombian territory



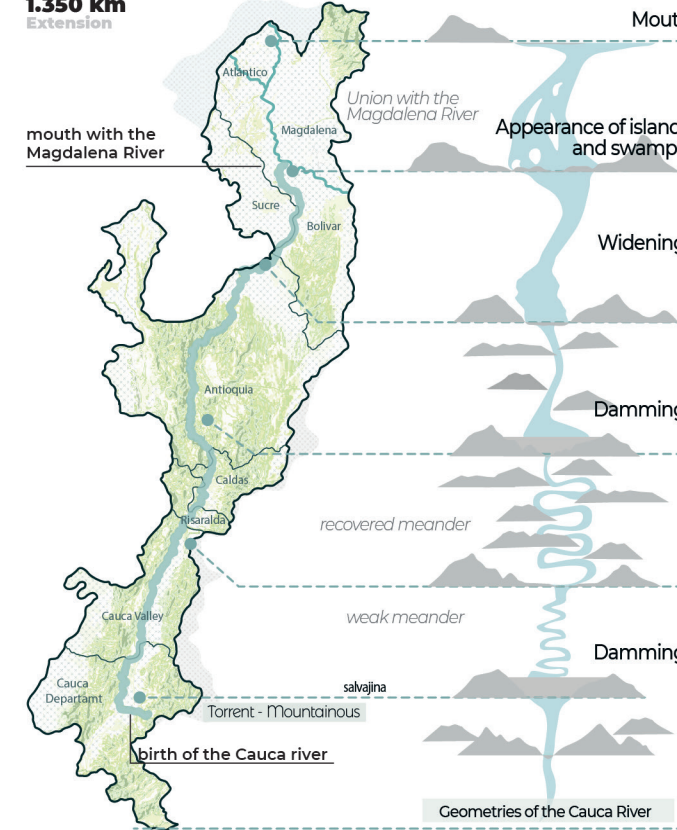
Cauca Valley and the Cauca River



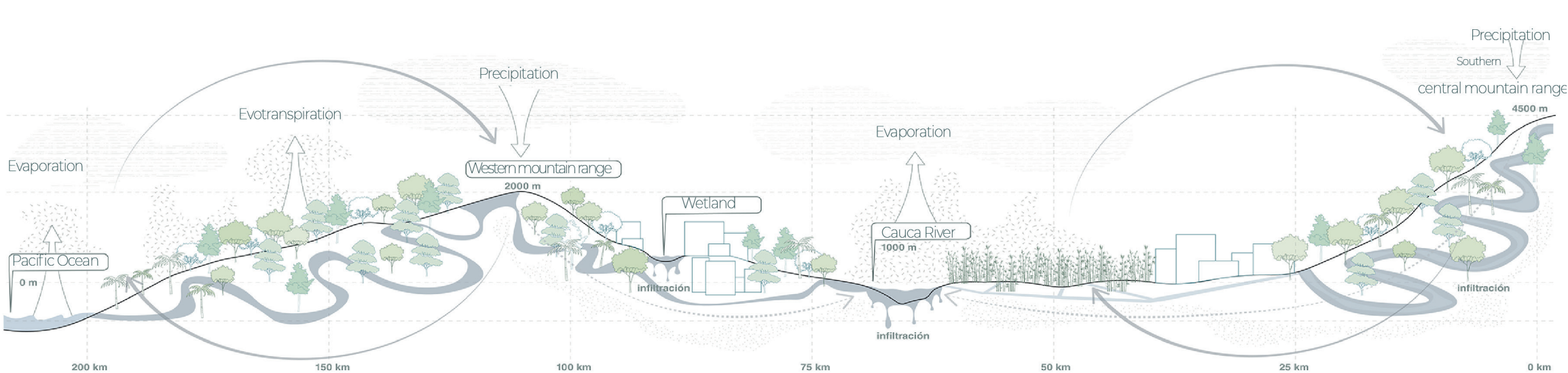
ANALYSIS OF THE CAUCA RIVER BASIN
Water scenes



Cauca river
1.350 km
Extension



THE MOUNTAINS AND THE CAUCA RIVER AS THE MAIN AXIS OF THE VALLEY
Through runoff and tributary rivers, pollutants reach the Cauca River.



Mouth of the Tuluá River. Implementation of the pilot project

The Cauca River rises in the Colombian Massif, in the department of Cauca, near the Páramo de las Papas. It flows into the Magdalena River, in the department of Bolívar. It crosses several departments such as Cauca, Valle del Cauca, Caldas, Risaralda, Antioquia and Bolívar. It is the second most important river in Colombia after the Magdalena River.



Country/City

University / School

Academic year

Title of the project

Authors

Cali, Colombia

Universidad del Valle - Faculty of Integrated Arts / School of Architecture

2023-02

“Jardines Filtrantes”

Natalia Hernández López- Juan Carlos Acosta Muñoz

Title of the project	“Jardines Filtrantes”
Authors	Natalia Hernández López- Juan Carlos Acosta Muñoz
Title of the course	Vertical workshop: Site and landscape
Academic year	2023-02
Teaching Staff	Luis Tombé.
Department / Section / Program of belonging	Faculty of Integrated Arts / School of Architecture
University / School	Universidad del Valle



Written statement, short description of the project in English, no more than 250 words

Natalia Hernández López- Juan Carlos Acosta Muñoz. This project aims to restore the sub-watersheds that drain into the Cauca River, which have been severely affected by mining, poor waste management, and the excessive use of agrochemicals—factors that have degraded water quality in its 39 tributaries. The strategy includes three levels of intervention. At the regional scale, riparian ecosystems will be restored and green corridors created to connect sub-watersheds with the Cauca River, improving water flow regulation, reducing flood risks, and capturing carbon. In urban areas, green infrastructure such as bioswales and rain gardens will help treat wastewater, reduce urban heat, and recharge aquifers. In strategic zones, nature-based solutions like artificial wetlands and natural filters will be implemented to purify water, create habitats, and enhance local climate resilience. The project uses the Tuluá River sub-watershed as a replicable model for other regions in Valle del Cauca. Ultimately, it seeks to integrate territorial planning, nature, and governance to achieve sustainable water management for the Cauca River and prepare the region for future environmental challenges such as global warming.

Barcelona International Landscape Biennial

Contact via email:
biennialadm@coac.net

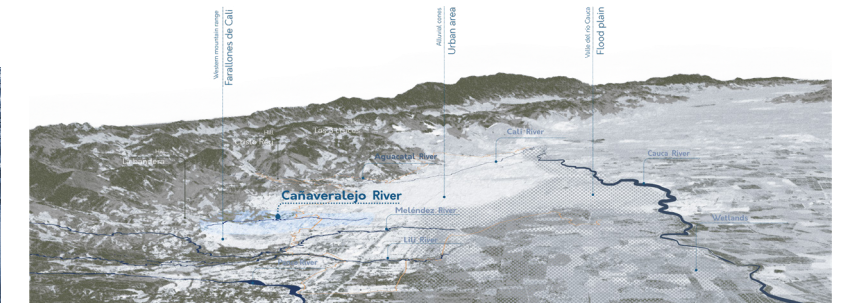
Venue:
COAC - Col·legi Oficial d’Arquitectes de Catalunya
Carrer Arcs 1-3, 08002 Barcelona - Spain

Conflict of landscape, Created a NEW landscape OF THE CITY

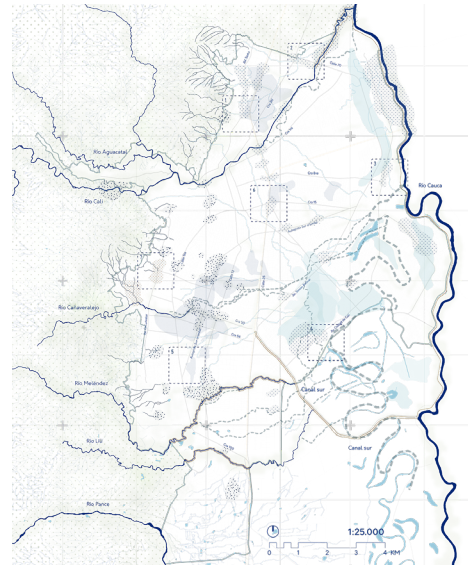
Transformation of the water landscape generated an increase in reports of urban flooding in the years



Territorial Structure

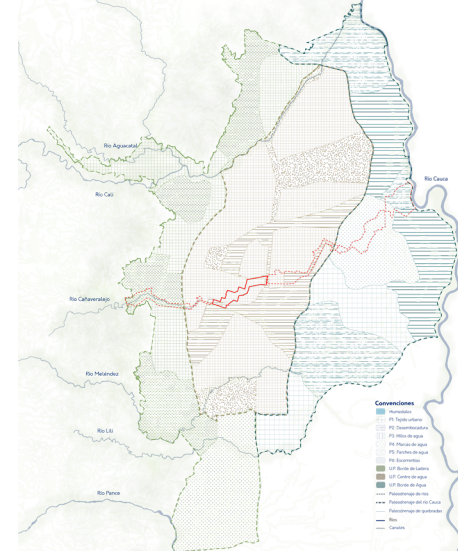


+ The Coincidence of floods tells us,

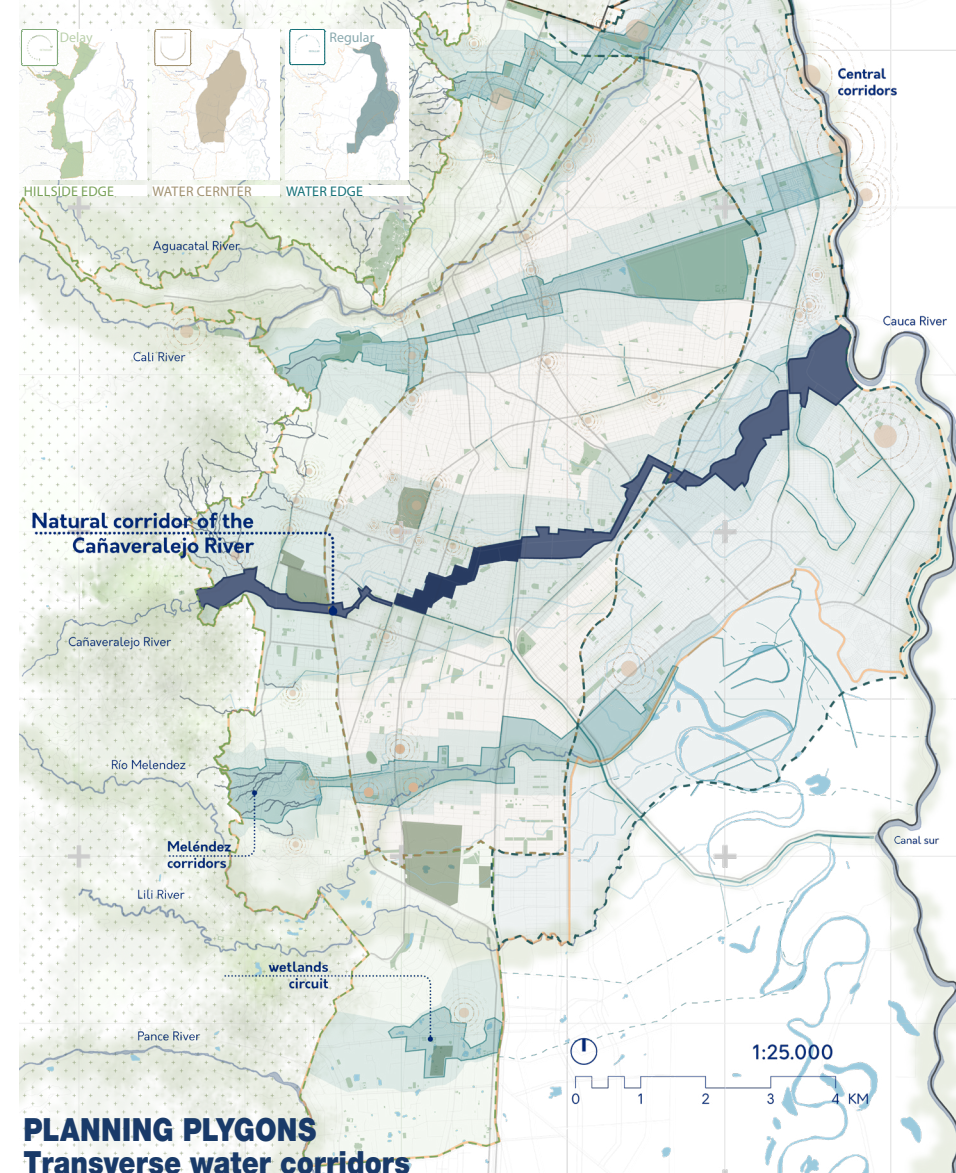


Natural floods
Water has memory

+ MANAGEMENT UNITS

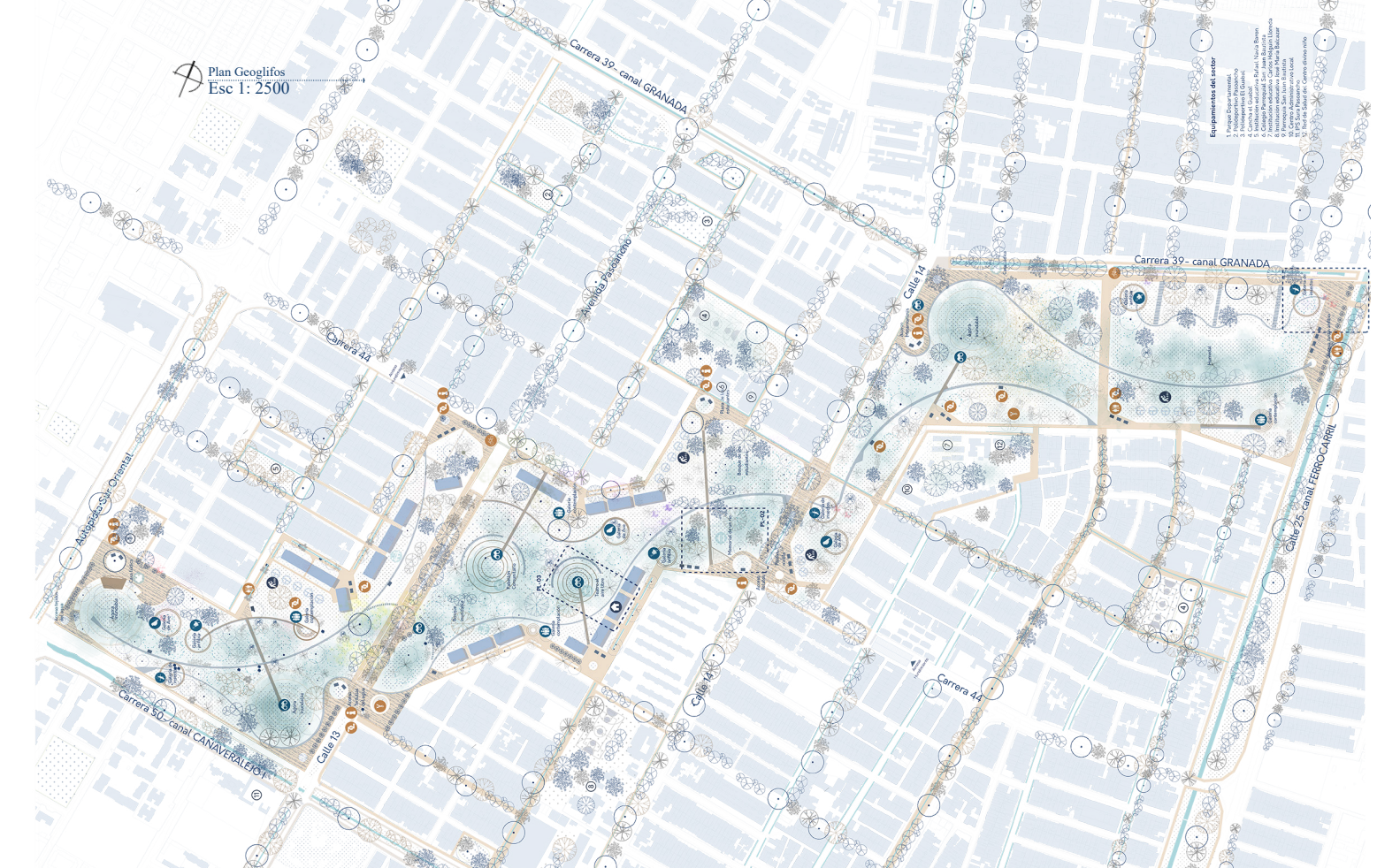


Water Geographies:
Designing with Memory
Pilot project:
Natural corridor of the
Cañavalejo River

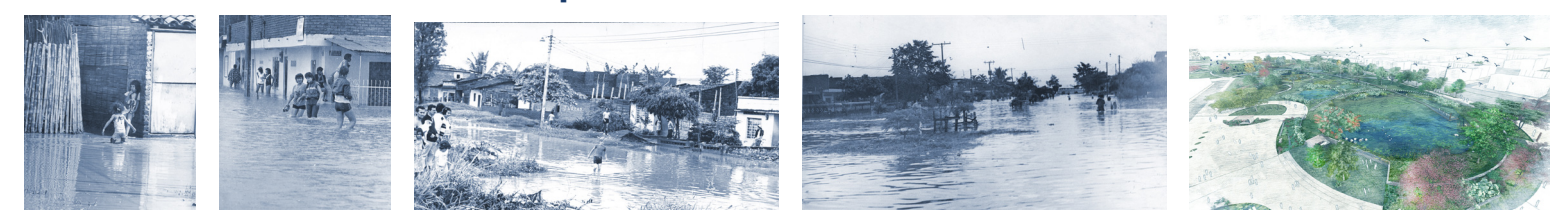


PLANNING PLYGONS
Transverse water corridors

case study:
GEOGLYPHS



Rehabilitation of the RIVERS Landscape



Country/City

University / School

Academic year

Title of the project

Authors

Cali, Colombia

Universidad del Valle - Faculty of Integrated Arts / School of Architecture

2023-01

Paisaje V I V O, Rethinking Territorial Planning Through River Landscapes

Danna Marcela Sarria Masmela

Title of the project	Paisaje V I V O, Rethinking Territorial Planning Through River Landscapes
Authors	Danna Marcela Sarria Masmela
Title of the course	Final Degree Project in Architecture
Academic year	2023-01
Teaching Staff	Hilda Ortiz , Luis Tombé, Gustavo Cosme
Department / Section / Program of belonging	Faculty of Integrated Arts / School of Architecture
University / School	Universidad del Valle



Written statement, short description of the project in English, no more than 250 words

“Paisaje Vivo” is a reflection on the relationship between territory, the Rivers landscape, and Cali’s cultural identity. The project questions how the city is being planned and what role river plays in that planning. During the rainy season, the city reveals its disconnection from water—a result of decades of interventions that have disrupted its natural river landscape. Historically, Cali has been an amphibious city, located in the Cauca River corridor and crossed by multiple rivers and canals. However, since the 1950s, the canalization of water bodies aimed to control flooding but ultimately fragmented the ecosystem and increased urban flooding. The project seeks to reconcile the city with its river memory through multi-scalar territorial planning that recognizes its three natural zones: hillside, center, and floodplain—each with specific water management strategies. “Paisaje Vivo” proposes diagnostic files to assess the current condition of water bodies, design territorial strategies, and promote a sponge city model that prioritizes blue infrastructure. The river landscape is positioned as the core of planning through the creation of water corridors, with the Cañaveralejo River as a pilot project. The case study Geoglifos Floodable Park exemplifies this vision, with four gardens that give new meaning to water in the city: Protection Garden, Habitable Garden, Collective Garden, and Ecological Garden—

Barcelona International Landscape Biennial

Contact via email:
biennaladm@coac.net

Venue:
COAC - Col·legi Oficial d’Arquitectes de Catalunya
Carrer Arcs 1-3, 08002 Barcelona - Spain

ARTICULATING PLAN FOR THE RIVER LANDSCAPE OF CALI

Matrix of diagnostic sheets



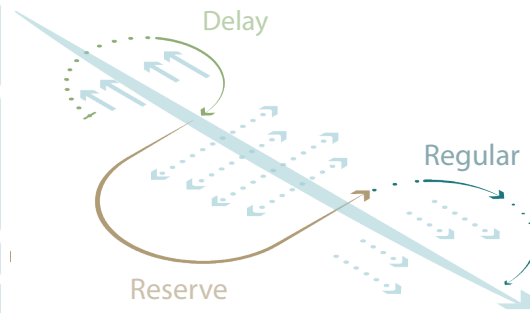
Water Sensitive Urban Design Guide

Planning guidelines

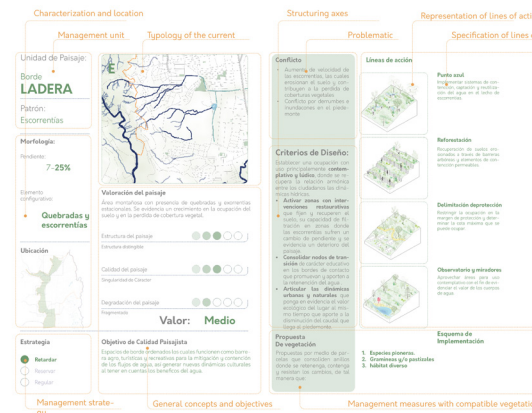
[illegible]

21 sheets

Weaving the city and its landscape

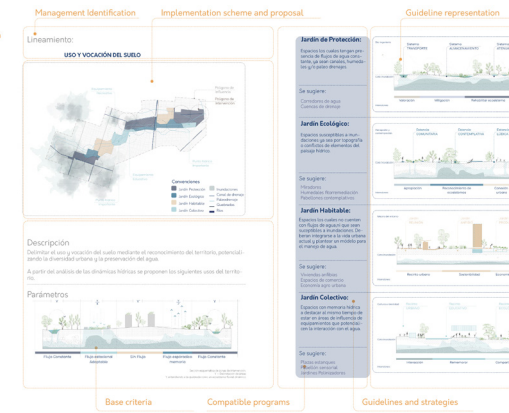


Management sheets



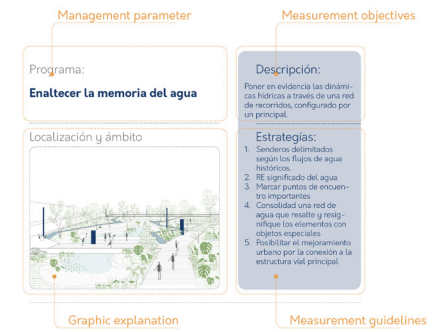
10 sheets

Guidelines sheets



6 sheets

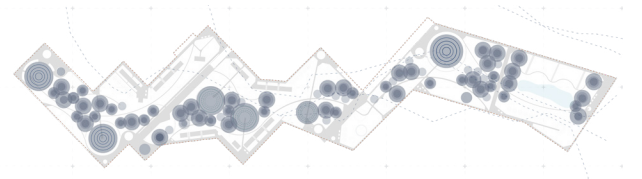
Landscape programs



8 programs sheets

Rehabilitate water flows

Protection garden



Growing around water

Habitable garden



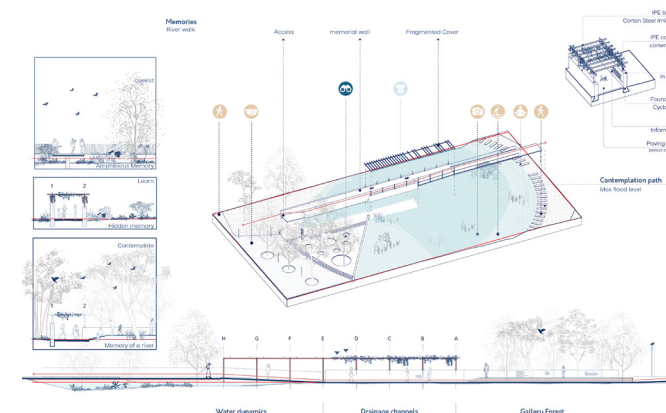
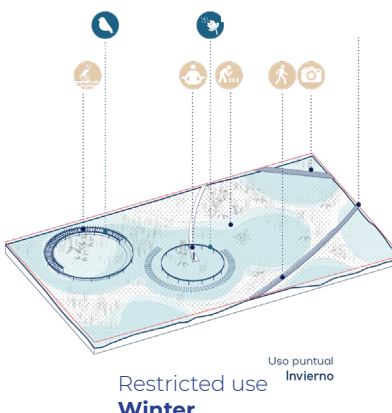
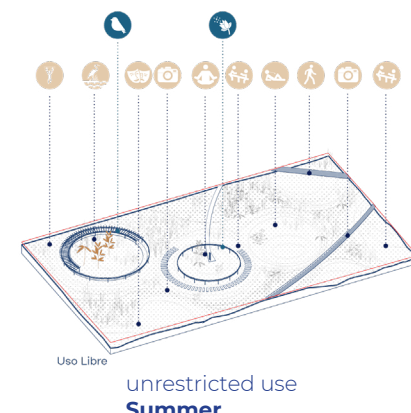
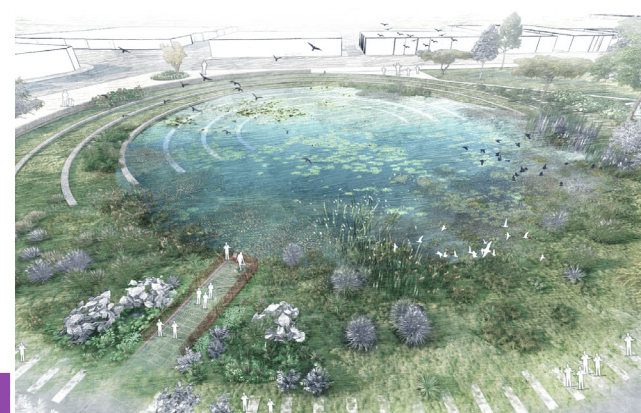
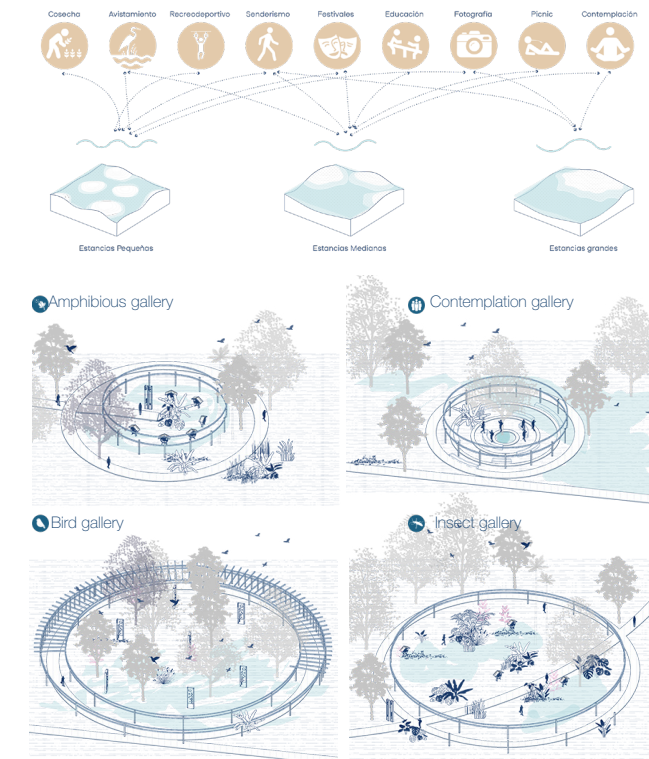
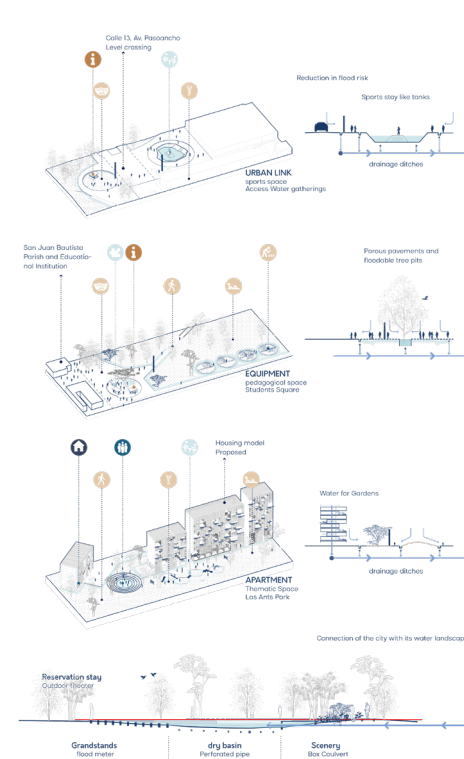
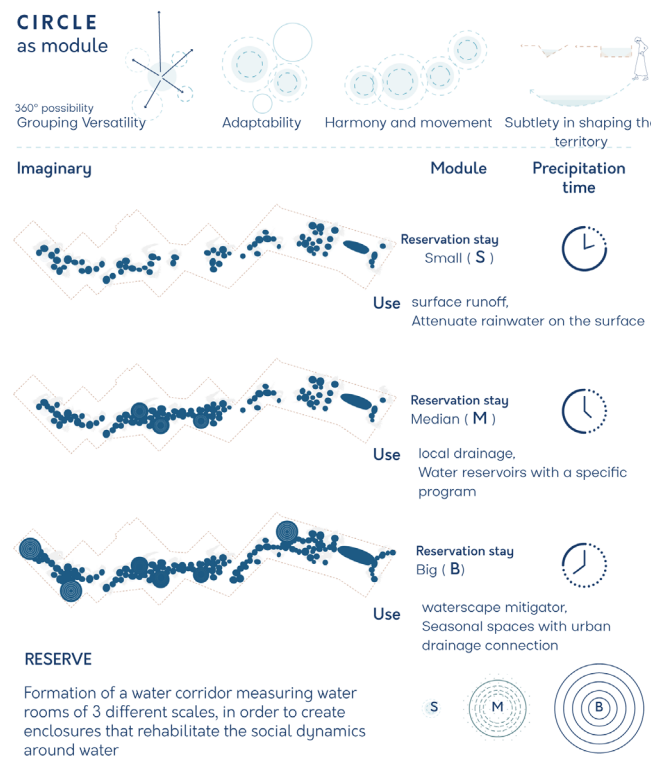
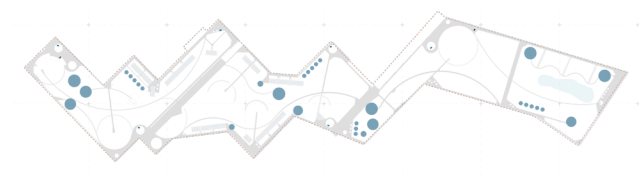
Resignifying water memory

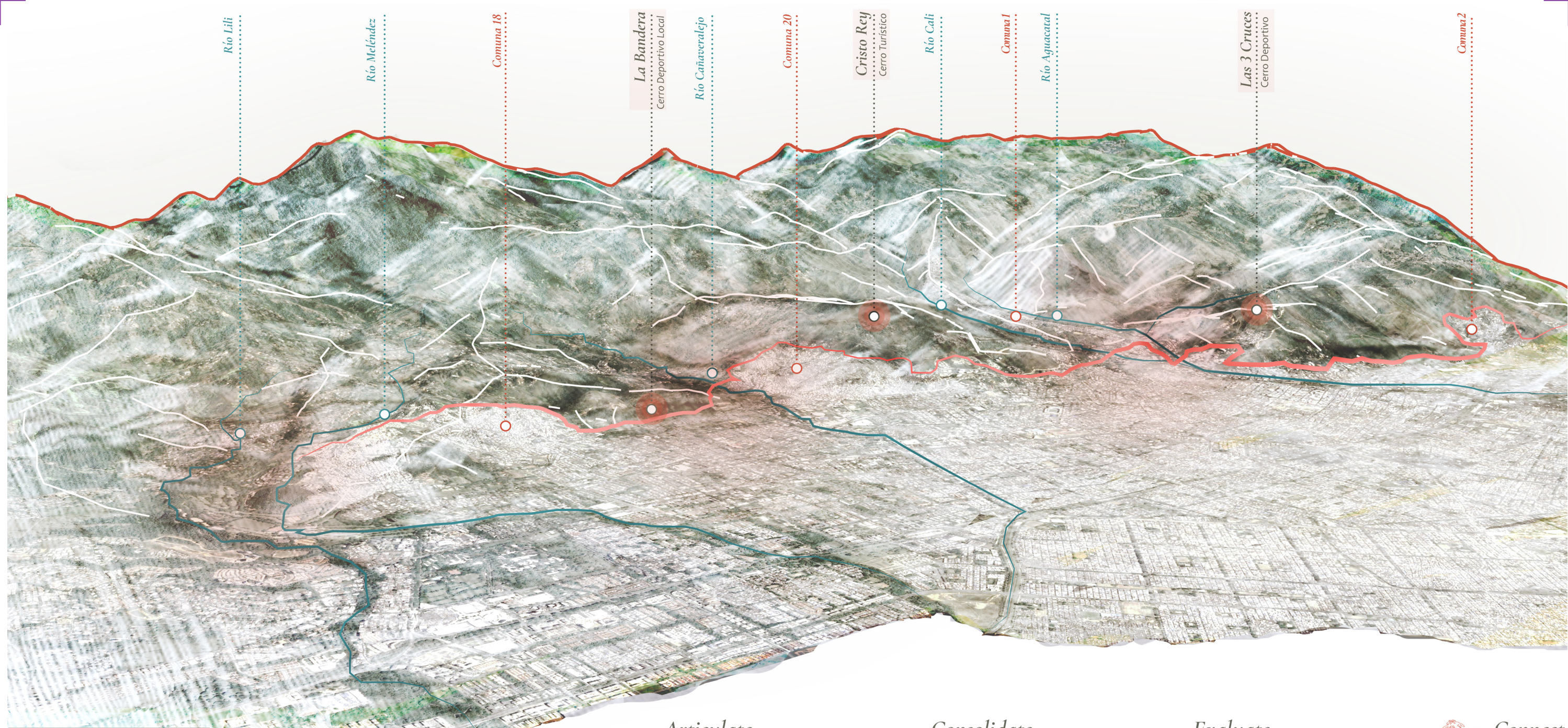
Collective garden



Spaces for everyone

Ecological garden





Recompose

Mountainous Landscape

Hills and city

Urbanization

Tutelary hills

Mountainous landscape

Watersheds

Articulate

Consolidate

Evaluate

Connect

Country/City

University / School

Academic year

Title of the project

Authors

Cali, Colombia

Universidad del Valle - Faculty of Integrated Arts / School of Architecture

2024-01

Peripheral Landscapes / Recomposition of the mountainous landscape

Kenhdruy Río Sepúlveda / Alejandro Díaz Burbano

Title of the project	Peripheral Landscapes / Recomposition of the mountainous landscape
Authors	Kenhdruy Ríos Sepulveda / Alejandro Díaz Burbano
Title of the course	Final Degree Project in Architecture
Academic year	2024-01
Teaching Staff	Hilda Ortiz, Gustavo Cosme
Department / Section / Program of belonging	Faculty of Integrated Arts / School of Architecture
University / School	Universidad del Valle



Written statement, short description of the project in English, no more than 250 words

Kenhdruy Rios Sepulceda, Alejandro Díaz Burbano. The project addresses the different problems presented by the peripheral landscapes, some of them being the fragmentation of their natural landscapes and the expansion of urban areas. The mountainous landscape of Santiago de Cali is one of the most affected landscapes by these problems, for which we propose the recomposition of the natural system of its tutelary hills (Tres Cruces, Cristo Rey and La Bandera) through landscaping strategies focused on its water and topographic dynamics, with special emphasis on its role as a climatic infrastructure. Based on the analysis of mountain ecological connectivity (watersheds, foothills, slopes and peaks), their capacity to provide crucial ecosystem services is also identified. The proposed catalog of interventions operates at two scales: urban (integration of the hills as a green corridor regulating the microclimate and mitigating heat islands) and local (geomorphological cards on hillsides to reduce carbon emissions, hydrological management and fire risk reduction). The restoration of these peri-urban spaces is a fundamental resilient and mitigation strategy for the different problems caused by both natural and anthropogenic agents, transforming vulnerabilities into resilience through nature-based solutions and thus leaving a legacy for future generations.

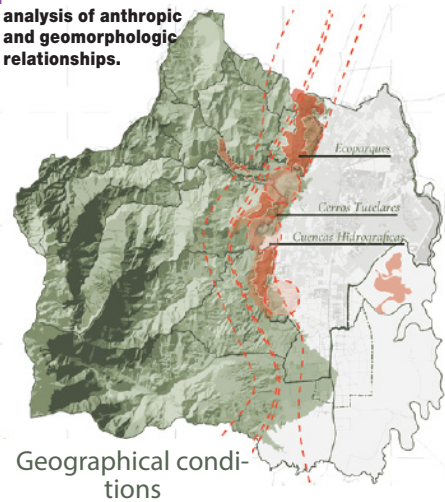
Barcelona International Landscape Biennial

Contact via email:
biennialadm@coac.net

Venue:
COAC - Col·legi Oficial d'Arquitectes de Catalunya
Carrer Arcs 1-3, 08002 Barcelona - Spain

BASINS AND HILLS

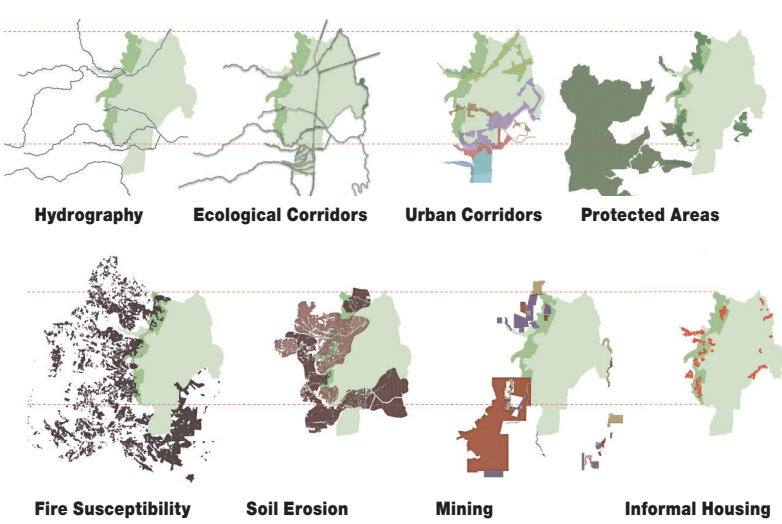
analysis of anthropic and geomorphologic relationships.



Geographical conditions

Opportunities

Affectations

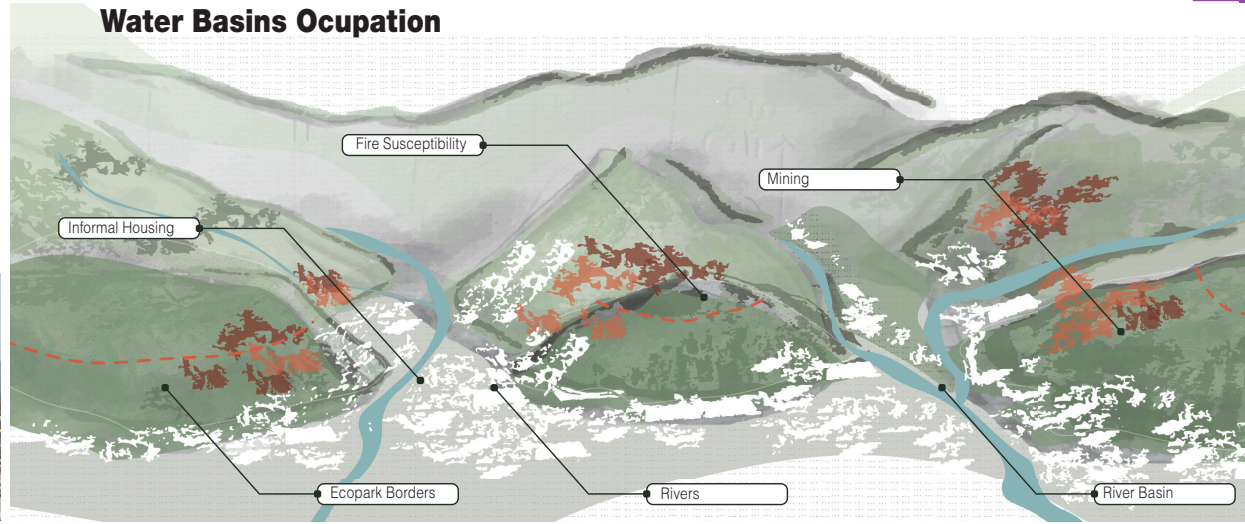


forest fires

High temperatures



Water Basins Occupation

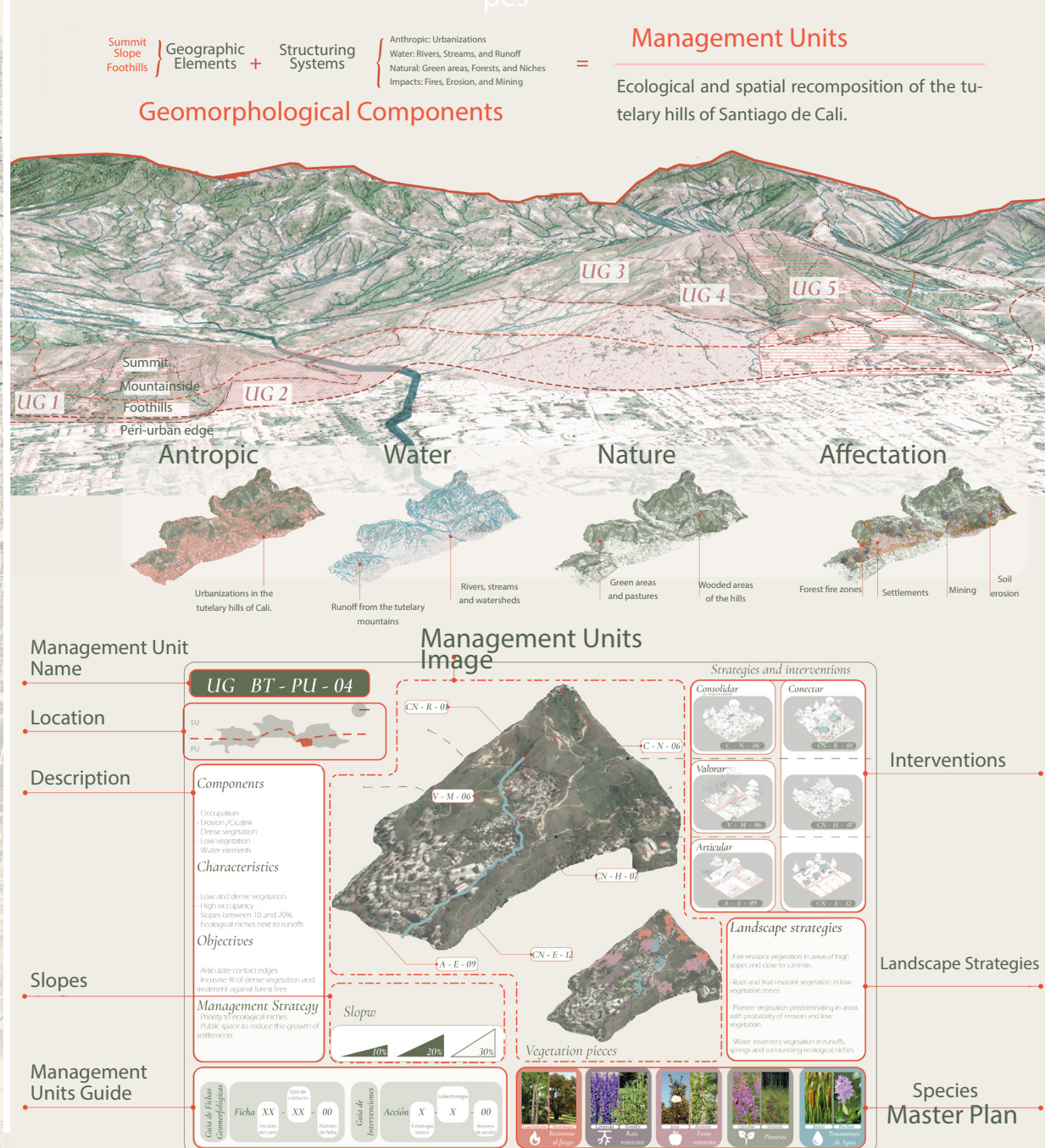


Ecopark cradle of biodiversity

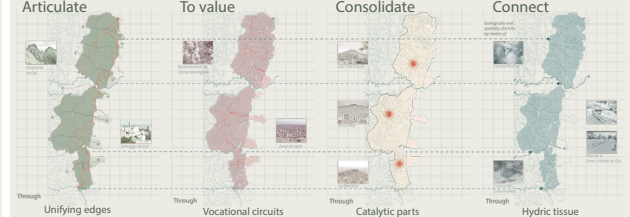


Master Plan

Land management for the restoration of mountain landscapes



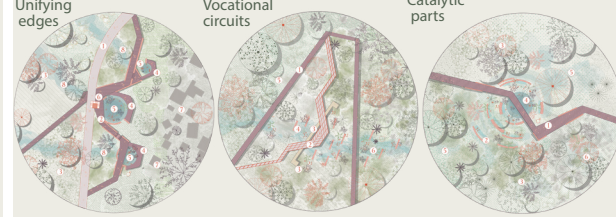
Bio-pedagogical Front



Case study Bataclán Hills



Environments in the landscape



Attractor centers / Water square



educational walks -/Ecological trails



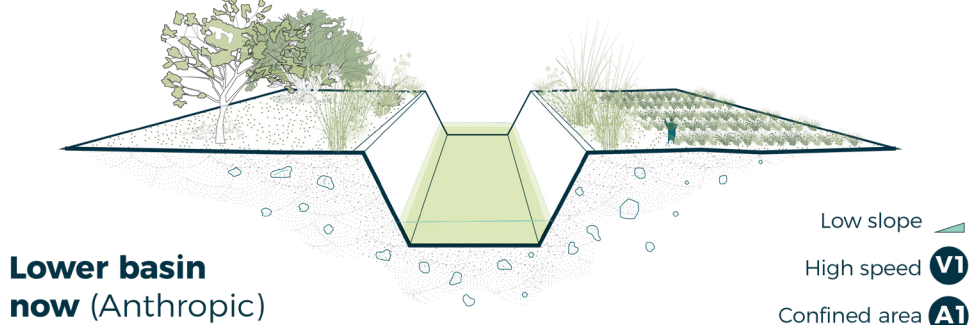
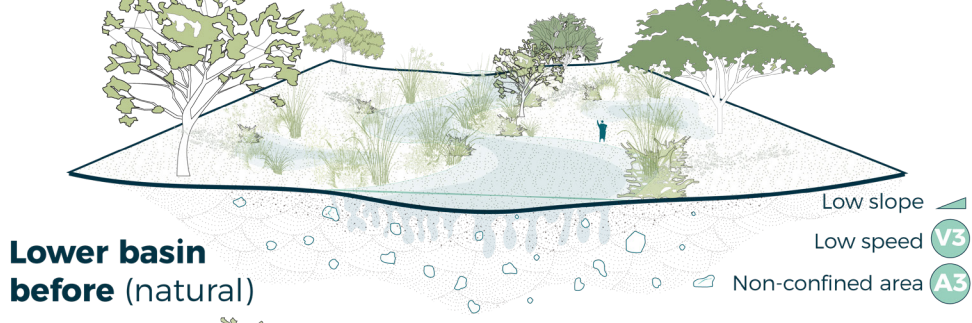
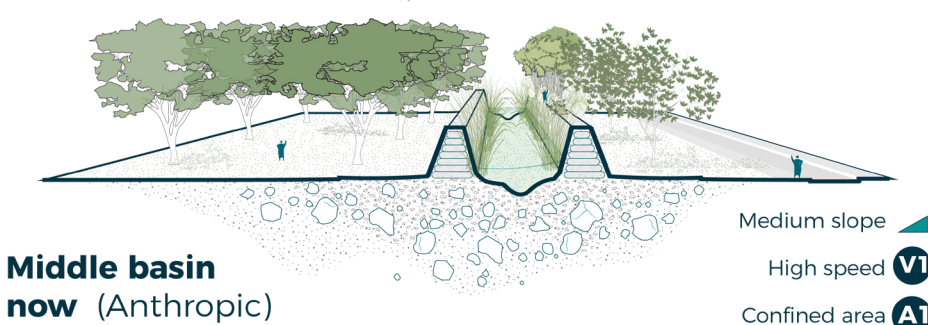
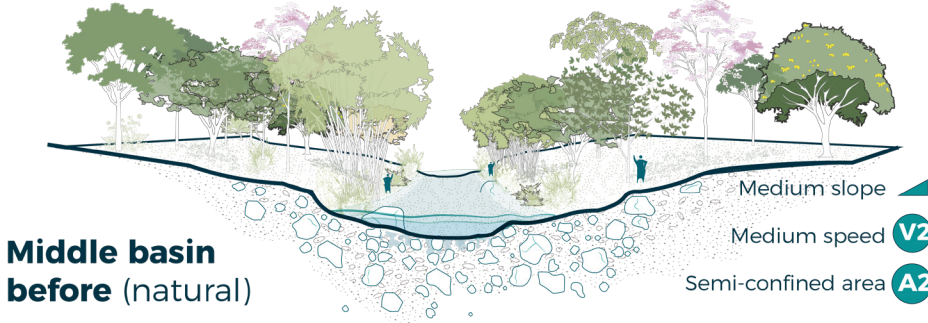
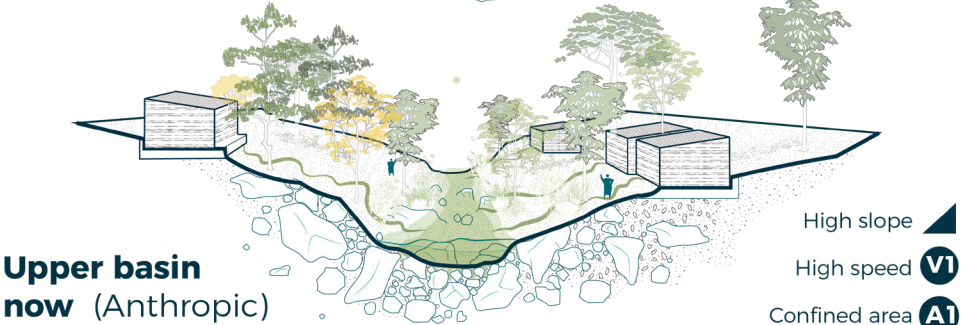
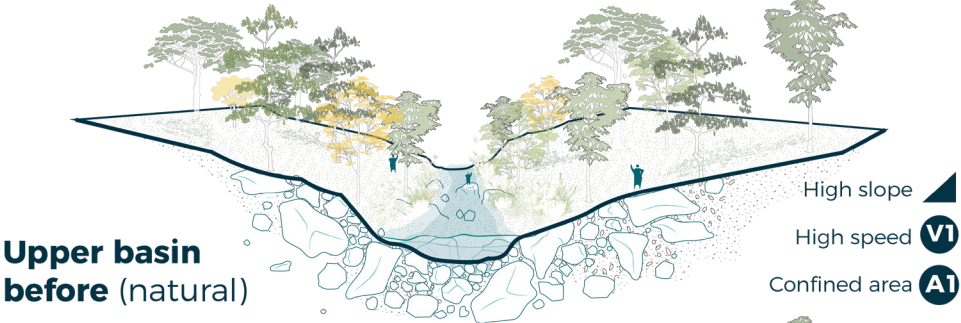
Sports stays /Green lungs



THE RECOMPOSITION OF THE MOUNTAIN LANDSCAPE AS A TERRITORIAL LEGACY

Much of the natural heritage of Cali's tutelary hills is fragmented and at risk from natural and human factors. It is crucial to reconcile the hills with the city, reestablishing the vital ecological connection and respecting their natural processes. This will not only restore the natural landscape, but will also ensure an invaluable legacy of biodiversity and well-being for future generations.

PROBLEMATIC: RIVER PROFILE CHANGES REDUCED INFILTRATION AND ACCELERATED FLOW



Country/City

University / School

Academic year

Title of the project

Authors

Cali, Colombia

Universidad del Valle - Faculty of Integrated Arts / School of Architecture

2024-02

Urban Aquifers

Santiago Pasquel, Valentina Ramos, Felipe Malpica

Title of the project	Urban Aquifers
Authors	Santiago Pasquel, Valentina Ramos, Felipe Malpica
Title of the course	Vertical workshop: Site and landscape
Academic year	2024-02
Teaching Staff	Luis Tombé, and Brayan Lerma
Department / Section / Program of belonging	Faculty of Integrated Arts / School of Architecture
University / School	Universidad del Valle



Written statement, short description of the project in English, no more than 250 words

The progressive loss of aquifers in Santiago de Cali, Valle del Cauca, along with the increasing impermeabilization of urban soil, has led to a hydrological overload in the Cauca River basin. This situation causes frequent flooding that affects both ecosystems and the surrounding communities. The Lili and Meléndez rivers, which are geographically close and historically connected in their lower basin through aquifers, have lost this connection due to the construction of the southern CVC canal. The project site is located precisely in this strategic area, which is experiencing a critical loss of aquifers. This has led to the disappearance of natural mechanisms for water flow retention and regulation. As a result, runoff into the Cauca River has intensified, and the soil's capacity to absorb and filter water has significantly diminished. In response, the project proposes a solution based on ecological restoration and sustainable water resource management by replacing the lost lower-basin aquifers with urban aquifers in the mid-basin. The main intervention consists of creating water management parks, conceived as multifunctional spaces that not only serve as urban green areas but also play a fundamental role in regulating the hydrological cycle. These parks divert part of the rivers' flow into lateral appendages designed to retain, filter, and progressively infiltrate water into the aquifers. The goal is to reactivate aquifer recharge, slow down river discharge, and reduce flood risks.

Barcelona International Landscape Biennial

Contact via email:
biennaladm@coac.net

Venue:
COAC - Col·legi Oficial d'Arquitectes de Catalunya
Carrer Arcs 1-3, 08002 Barcelona - Spain

