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# Tactical Sedimentation of Architectural Reef System

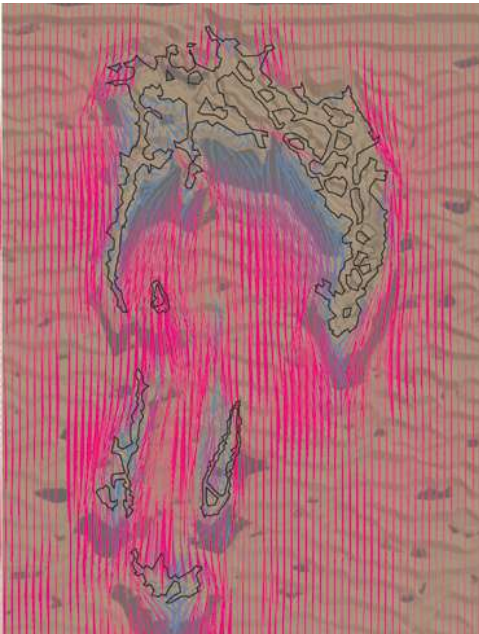
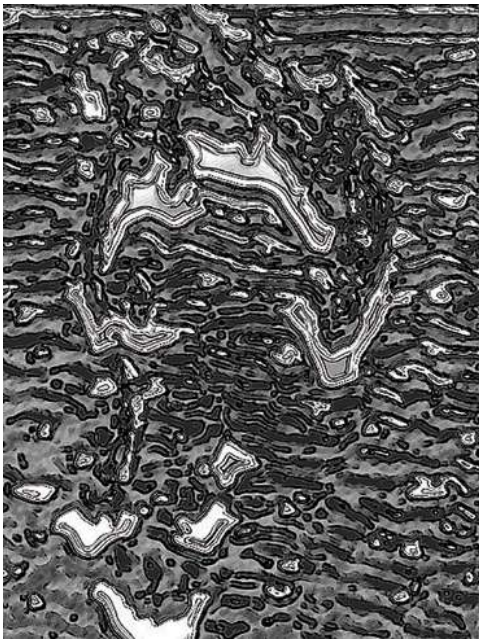
*Hanauma Bay, Honolulu, HI*

Coral reefs are rapidly dying due to climate change and anthropogenic activities. Because these sensitive ecosystems are critical to ocean health, new approaches for **designing synthetic reef systems** have emerged in the last 50 years **to sustain and promote coral diversity**. However, despite their success, these studies lack the larger-scale and higher-level ecological analysis that accounts for anthropogenic threats to these ecosystems. Without considering how contemporary near-shore environments are hybrid, novel landscapes, **artificial reefs are not designed for shared ecologies**.

This study proposes a novel simulation framework that expands the existing analytical modeling methods, allowing us to visualize and test underwater eco-spatial phenomena within dynamic systems to better identify a design space for intervention with the **goal of mitigating the conventional human-reef relationship through tactically choreographing sedimentation**.

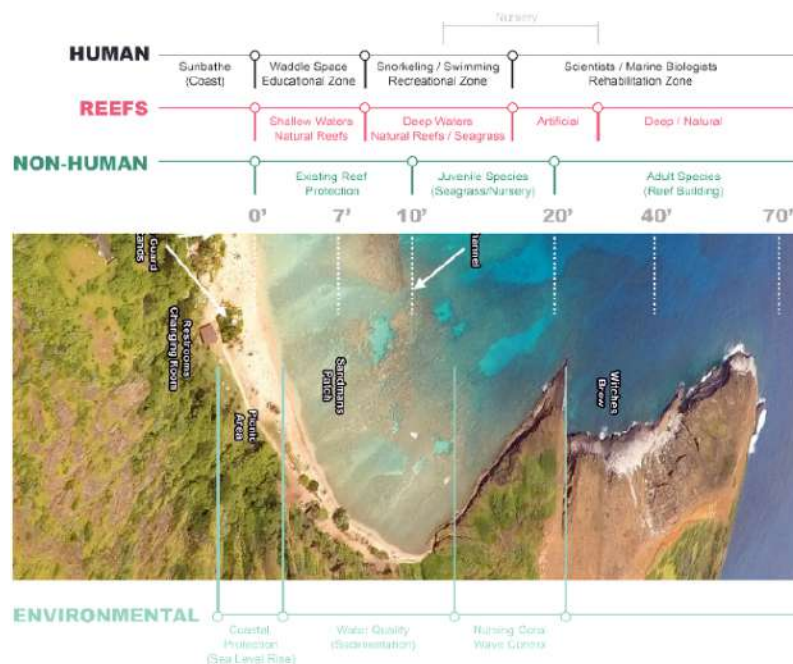
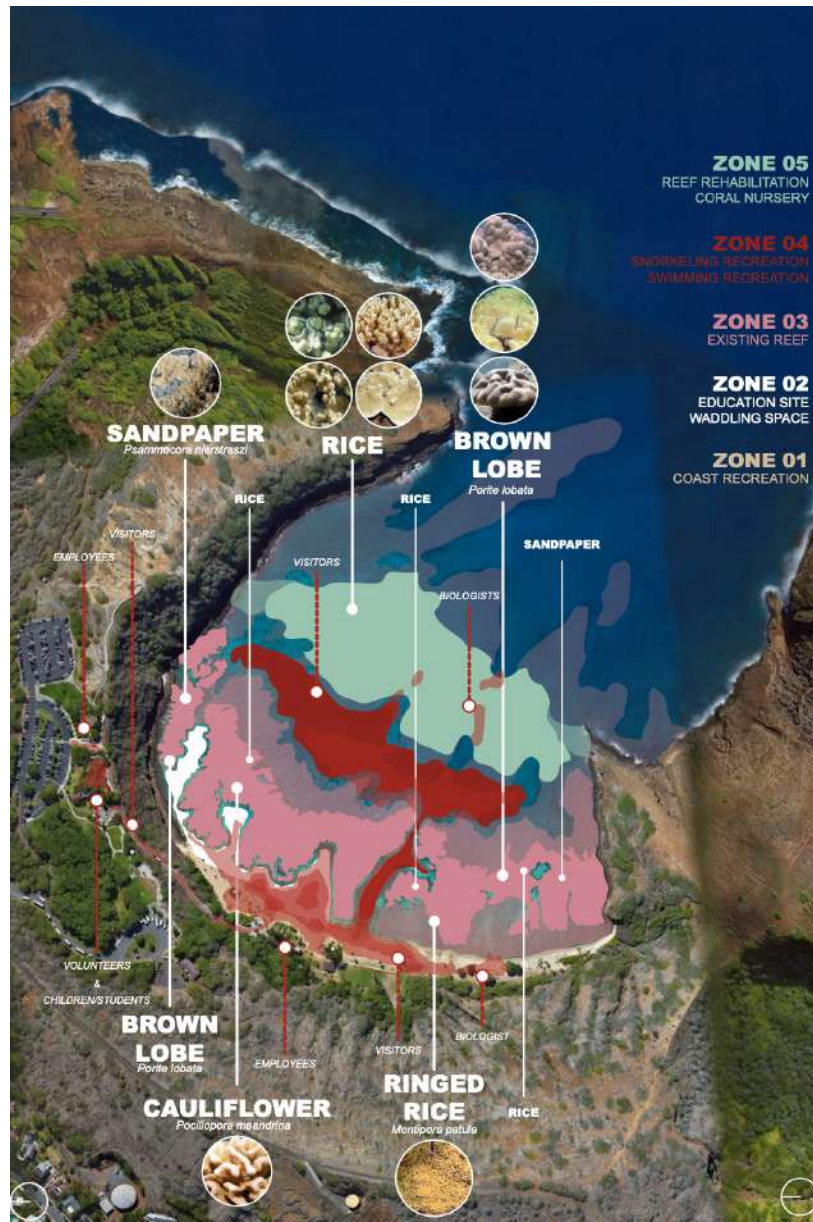
The simulation sequence proposes an overlay of (a) CFD analysis with (b) computational sand dune formation and (c) physical experimentation using a simulated sand and water table to study the sediment response to morphological intervention. The goal is to **identify zones of intervention within the dynamic underwater landscape that encourage strategic increase or decrease of sediment build-up, nurturing coral health**.

*The images to the left display the analysis workflow of overlaying digital CFD and sediment movement simulations to evaluate potential areas for safe sediment accumulation to enhance coral growth.*

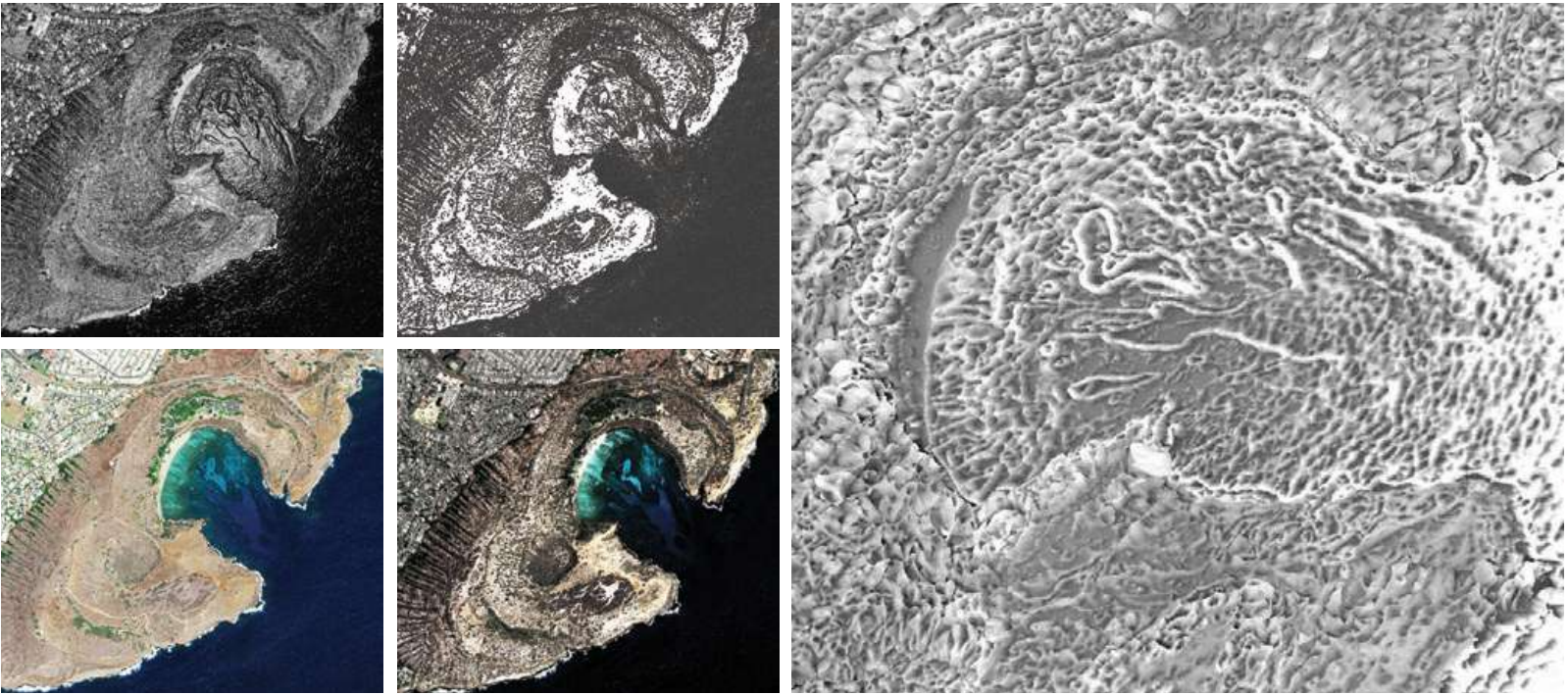




# Existing Site Conditions





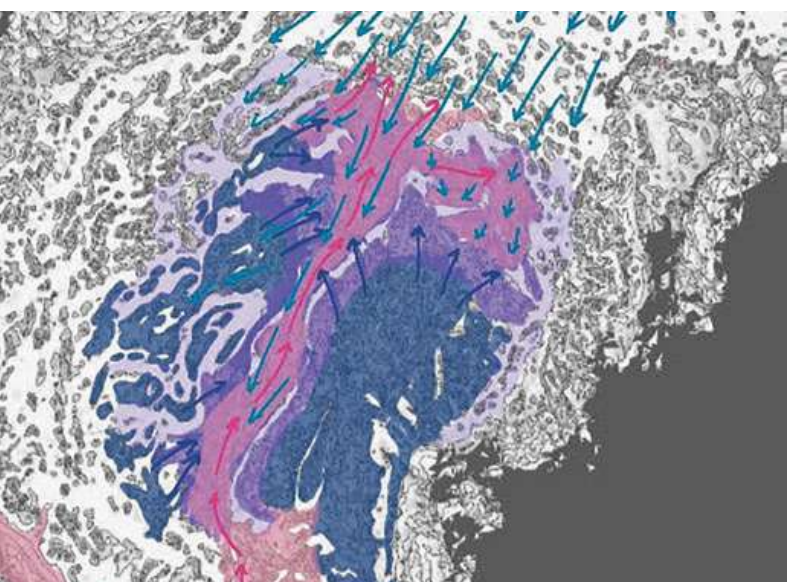
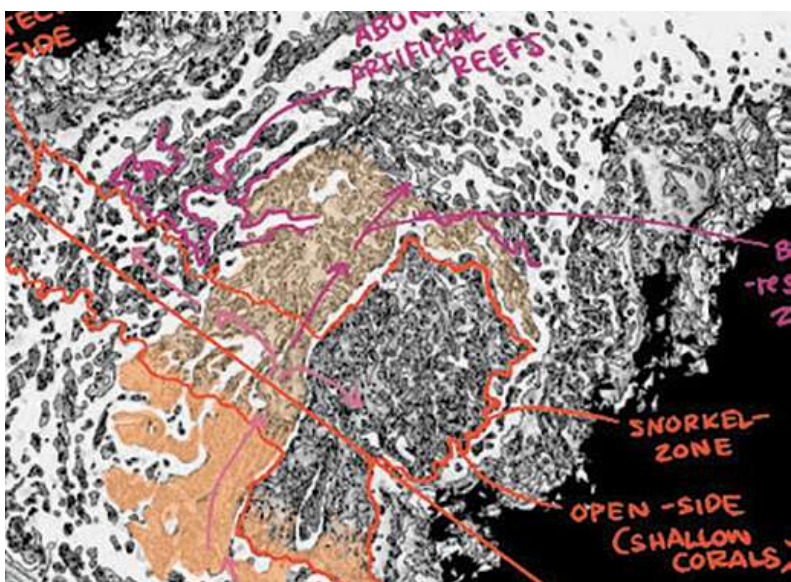
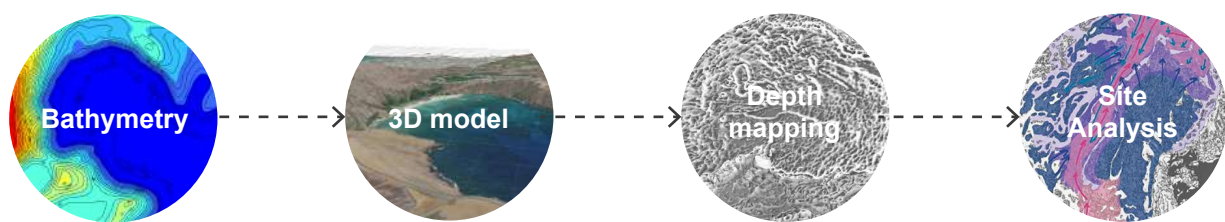


# Modeling the Site & Underwater Habitats

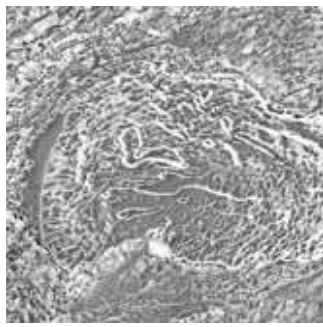
Many small islands that house coral reefs, like Hawai'i, lack digital databases due to their small size and secluded locations. Additionally, there is no standard method for modeling dynamic over-time relationships between coral reefs and recreational landscapes. To respond to this gap, a method developed using the scarce online resources was used to create a digital model for this reef typology.

*The images above display a 3D model of the coral reef in Hanauma Bay developed with depth mapping techniques utilizing google satellite and arcgis bathymetry data.*

*The images below is an analysis of site conditions based on existing research on current coral formations and forms created from the digital model produced.*



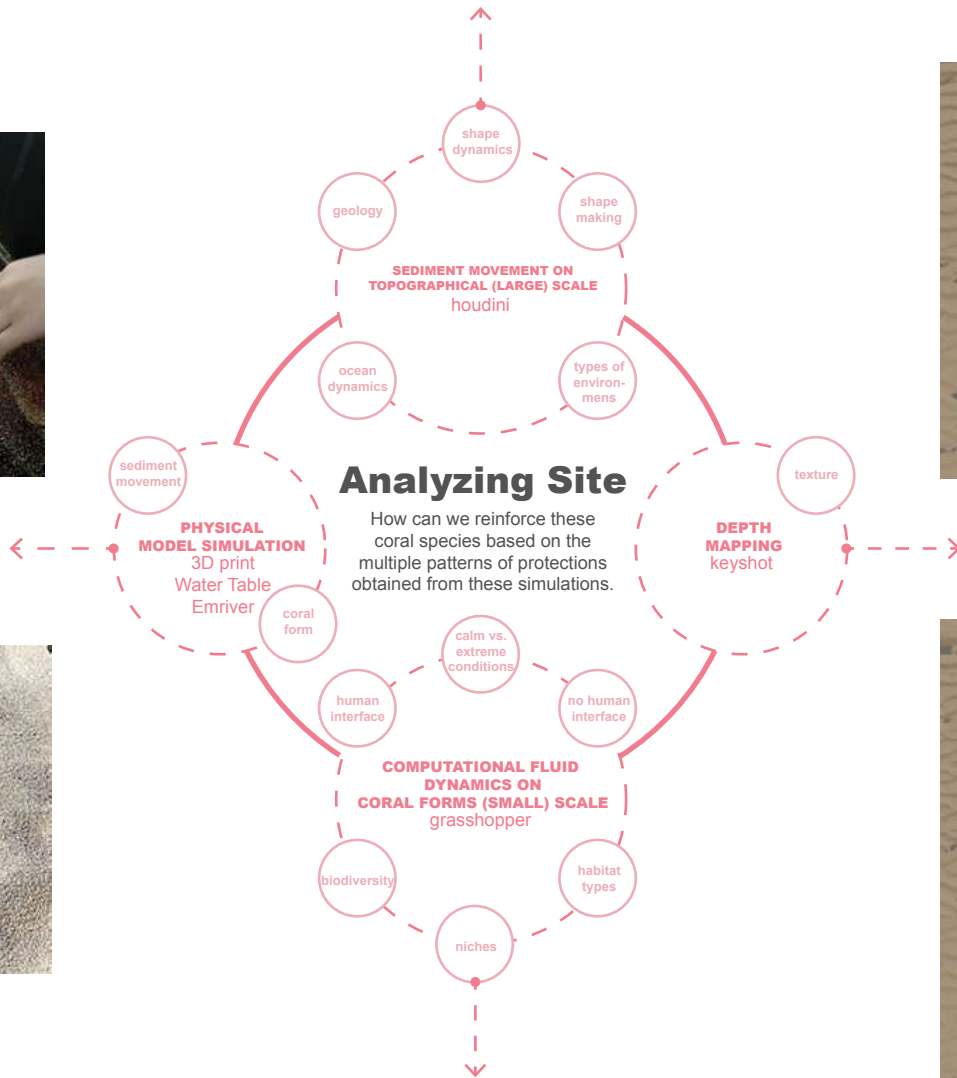




distinguishing relationships between coral form, resilient coral forms, and ocean dynamics for design.



beginning to build concept and creating a way of thinking about design morphologies through water and sediment to inform design.



identifying existing coral forms on site



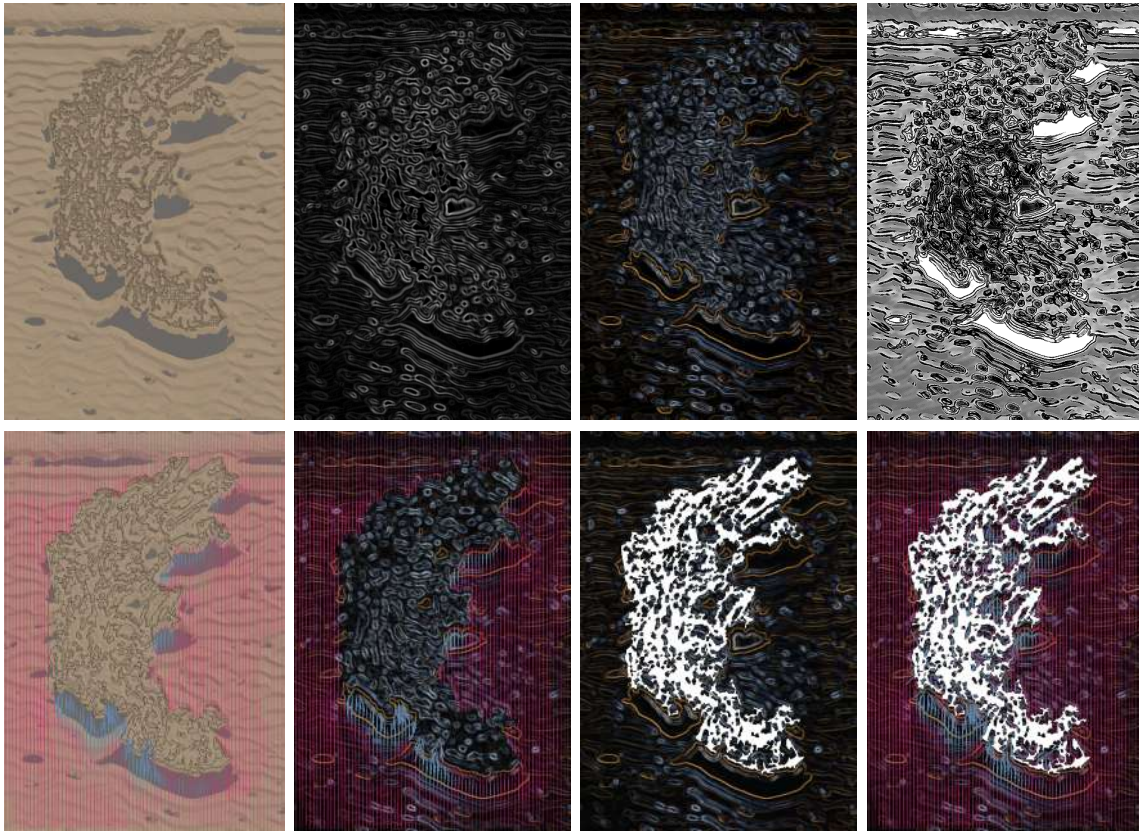
identifying real coral forms, their environment typologies and conditions, and understanding the varying coral species potentials on site.



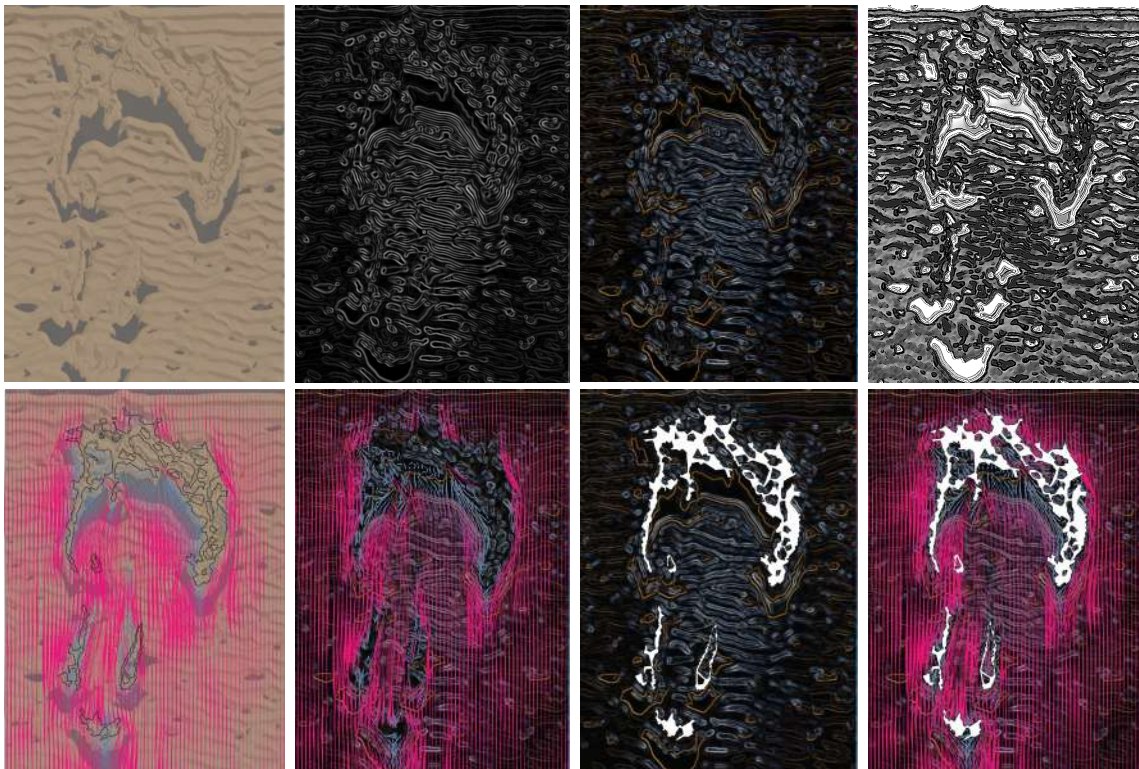








*The images show the workflow of conducting CFD simulations and sediment movement simulations then overlaying the two results on top of one another to locate potential areas for safe sediment accumulation to encourage vertical coral growth.*









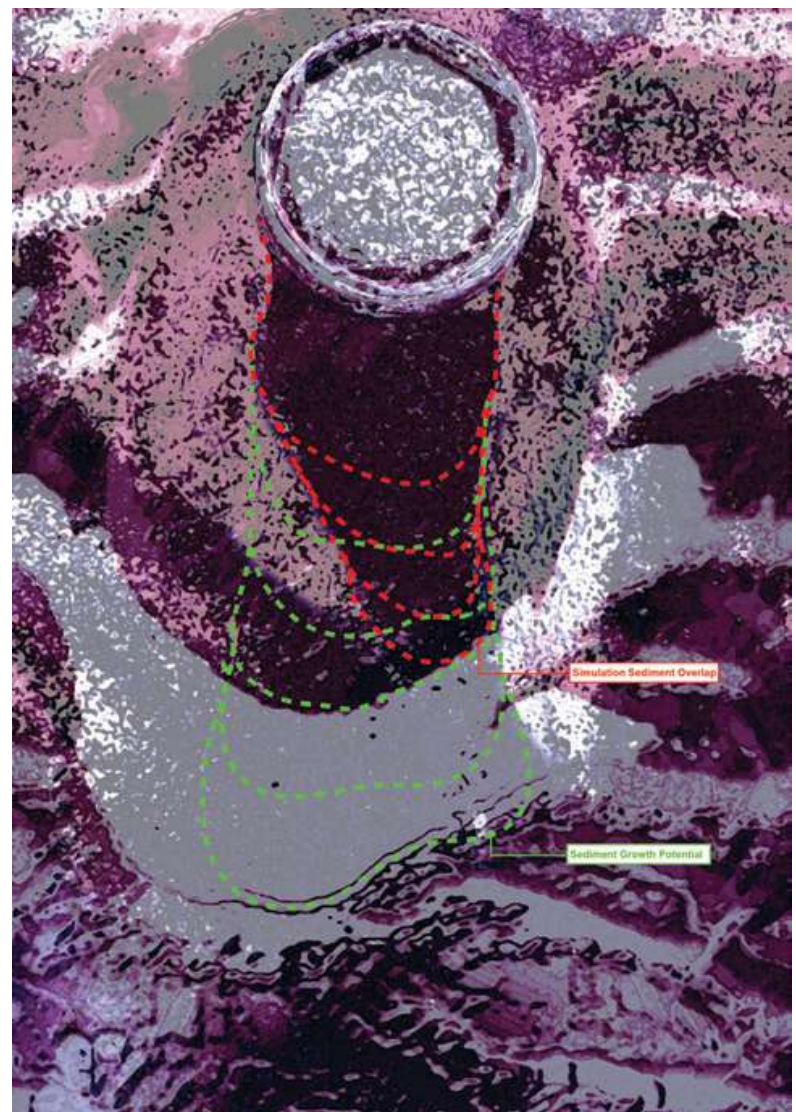


## Physical Simulations with Mixed-media Sediments

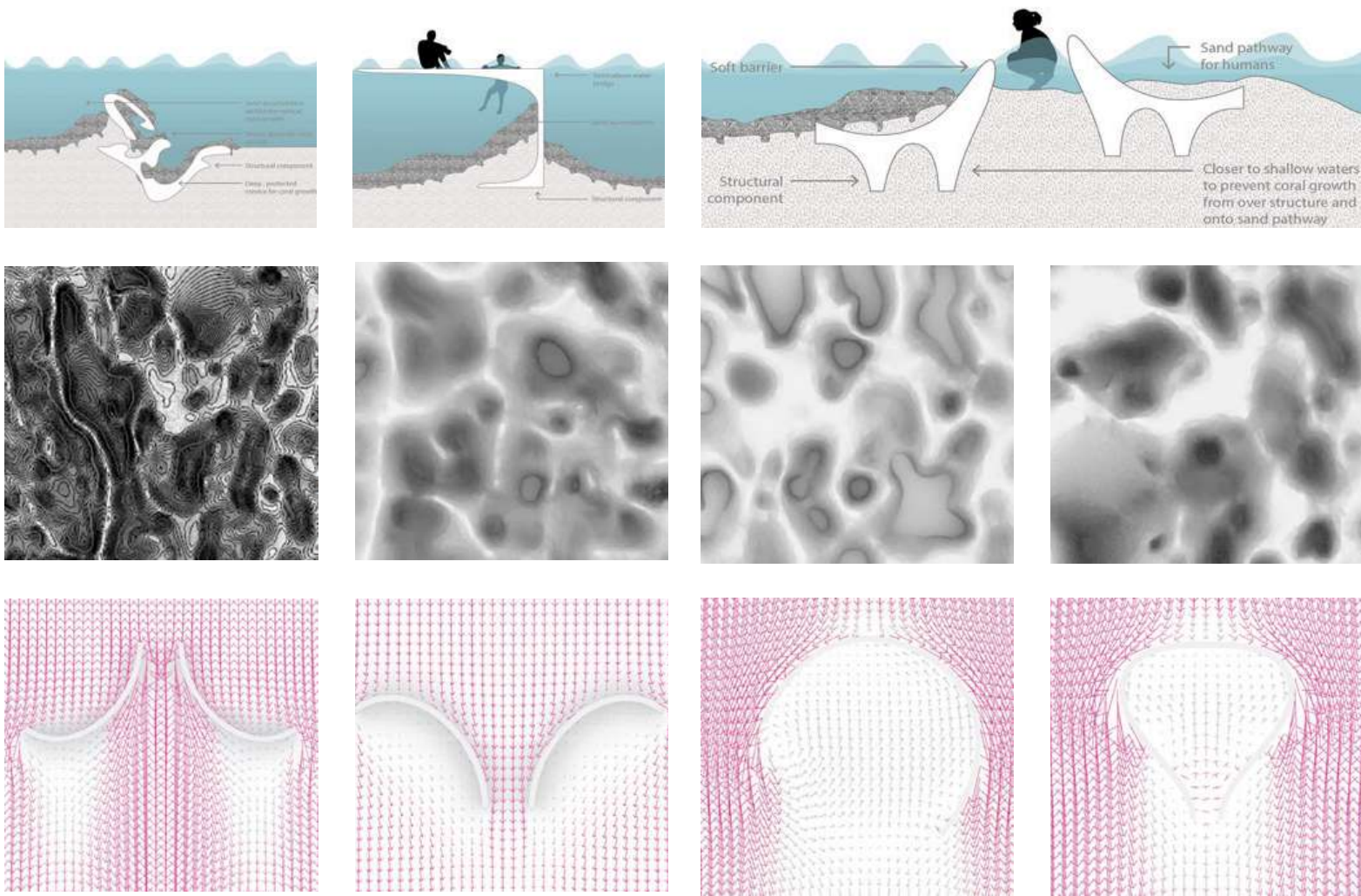
The physical simulations with the water table and engineered sand focused on sediment movement by comparing the results of the digital and the physical simulations. Overlaps between the two sets of simulations contributed to identifying more nuanced sedimentation phenomena and aided in the process of designing artificial reefs that can accumulate differing amounts and forms of sediment.

Overlaps of information show the shadow of sediment accumulation. The darkest areas shown in the simulation (outlined in red) show the locations with the largest potentials for sediment accumulation.

*The images showcase the physical simulation setup and engineered sand (Emriver) and the results of the simulation and overlap studies.*







## RE-SITUATING SIMULATION RESULTS ON SITE

### Designing New Lands

The results of the various simulations (digital fluid dynamics, digital sediment movement, and physical sediment movement) were combined and superimposed onto the Hanauma Bay coral reef model to study the potential for the formation of new land.

The design moves away from the traditional idea of mixed-use programming used in architecture, and begins to create hybrid dynamic fuzzy zones for multi-species engagement. Moving away from the typological segregation of public and private spaces in terms of marine creatures and coral reef ecologies for humans, this project prioritizes creating safe spaces for multiple species to interact without entirely separating them. The idea of 'private' is centered around creating specific areas that are directed towards rehabilitation and research rather than exclusion.

This creates 'safe public spaces' for humans, coral, and marine species to interact. These proposed strategies inspire us to rethink how these artificial reefs could construct self-maintaining, regenerative architectures for sensitive landscapes.

*The series of images above show:*

*(1) proposed designs of artificial reef barriers and bridges focused towards developing new lands and creating safe pathways for humans and non-humans,*

*(2) 3D depth mapping rugosity models of coral species that reside in Hanauma Bay,*

*(3) additional studies on forms that create water tunnels with increased water speeds, water barriers with slower moving water, and water vortexes to trap and clean out sediments.*



## REHABILITATIVE ZONE

### Users:

Coral Reefs (Juvenile, Adult)  
Marine Creatures (Juvenile, Adult)  
Marine Biologists  
Researchers  
Scientists

## RECREATION ZONE

### Users:

Coral Reefs (Adult)  
Marine Creatures (Adult)  
Snorkelers (Instructors, Adults, Children, etc.)  
Tourists / Visitors (Adults, Children, etc.)  
Locals (Adults, Children, etc.)

## EDUCATION ZONE

### Users:

Coral Reefs (Adult)  
Marine Creatures (Adult)  
Tourists / Visitors (Adults, Children, etc.)  
Locals (Adults, Children, etc.)  
Hanauma Bay Education Program  
Marine Biologists / Researchers  
Visiting Schools / Orgs  
Volunteers  
Employees  
etc.

### Water Valley

Wider, V-shaped, protected transitional lands with shallow water produce faster growing water tolerant coral and growth.

### Snorkeling Area

Area approximately 7' to 20' deep, surrounded by coral reefs located for deep enough sand to prevent injury.

### Sand Pathways

Paths for marine researchers, biologists, and tourists to move in from shallow waters and sand dunes to coral growth protection and study.

### Sediment Traps

In-Between Zones Areas for measuring relationships between water clarity and sand and beach erosion by wave activity (see inset).

### Research Niche

Wider area for research and possible studies from coastal areas of the bay.

### Floating Bridge Potential Space

Open area with potential to utilize floating bridge to allow for access to shallow underwater and beach for research, as well as areas of interest for birdwatching and bird study.

### Learning Niche

Surfaced area with embedded learning to provide educational space for deep ocean viewing and learning.

### Coral Reef Pathway

Swimming pathway to go over water with the snorkeling area that allows coral exposure on the ground to prevent coral trampling.

### Beach

Sandy shore for relaxation and sunbathing, complimentary service, and water table, recreational activities and views that already exist on the site.

### Deep Waters

Deep ocean separated by sand dunes to prevent snorkelers from going too deep into the ocean for safety as well as an area with a large, open space for undisturbed coral growth.

### Sediment Lands Breakwaters

Protected area from high intensity environmental elements, like strong waves, for more fragile coral species.

### Nursery Niches

Coral and sand land divisions to support more undisturbed, protected spaces for juvenile corals and possibly for sea urchins.

### Elevated Sand Land

Sand dunes to encourage vertical growth by raising the ground surface to allow for coral to grow on top, on or around sand dunes. Vertical growth allows for coral reefs to develop to healthy sea levels, bringing coral closer to surface of the water and the sun.

### Shallow Sand Land

Sand areas for reef for tourists to stand on when not swimming or snorkeling while viewing an area for coral viewing of the surrounding coral reef.

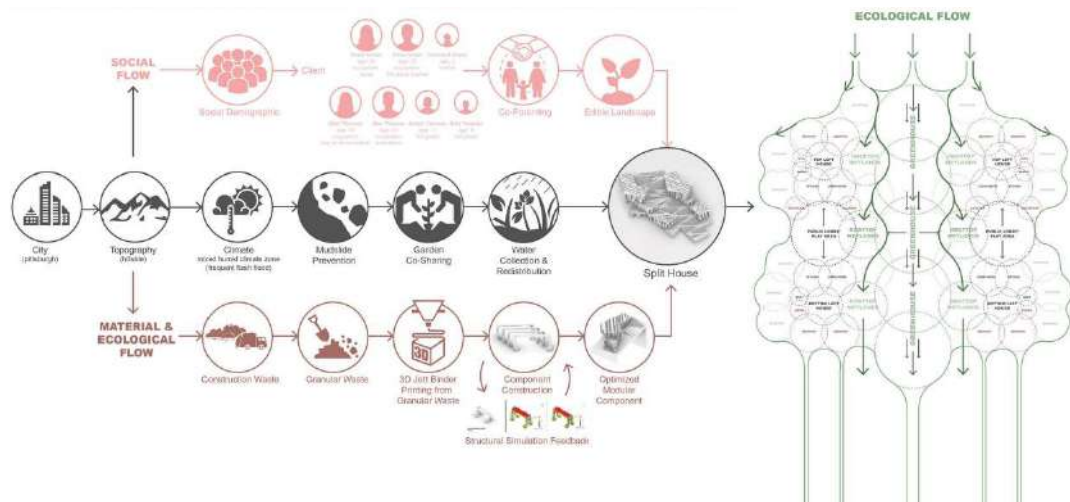
### Wading Area

Shallow shallow space surrounded for coral. A safe space for tourists to swim or relax.

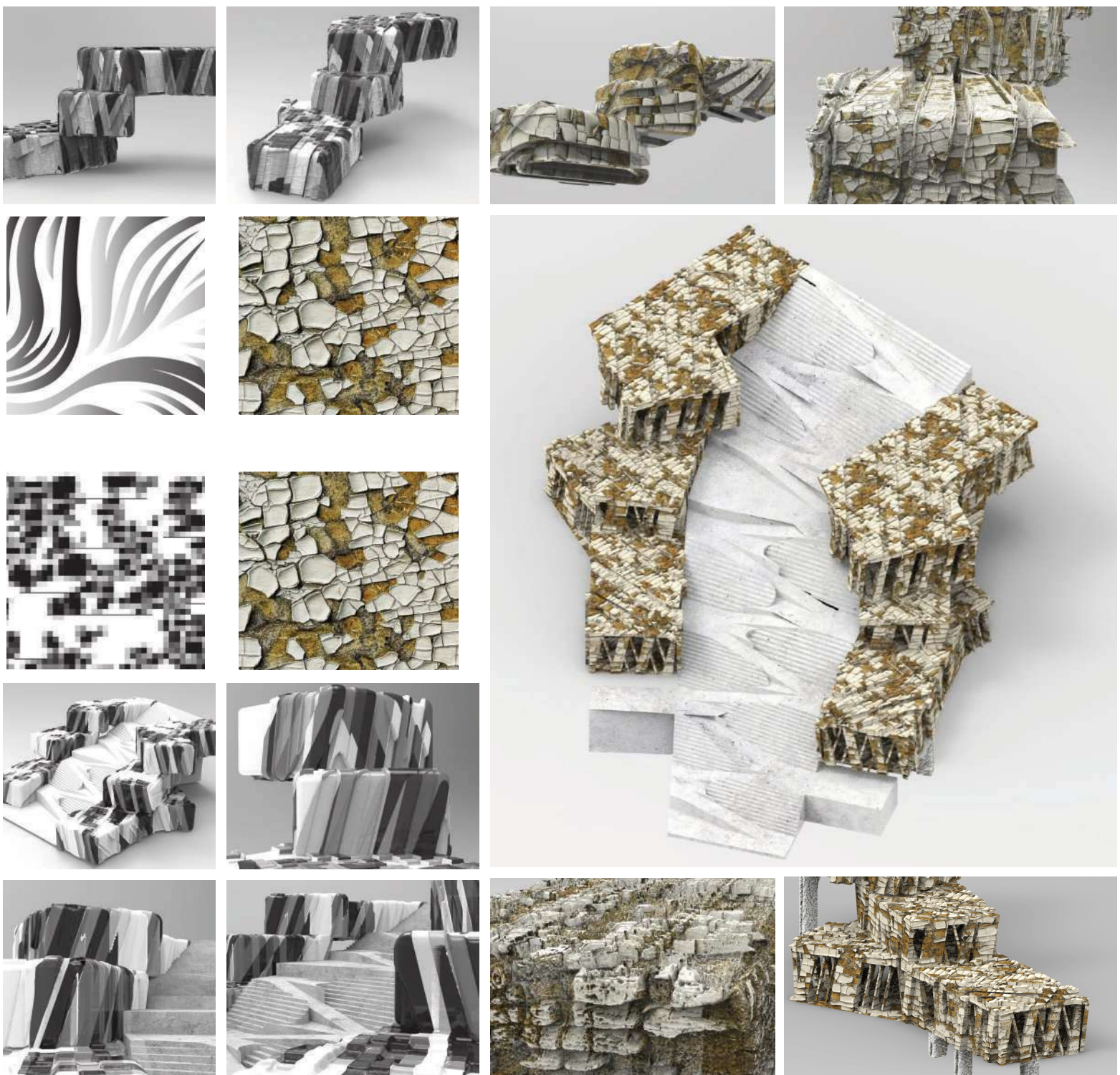
### Seagrass Homes

Shallow areas surrounded by coral reefs, it is a less populated area of the bay with mostly seagrass programs for juvenile corals, and juvenile fish. Protected area designed specifically for educational purposes.







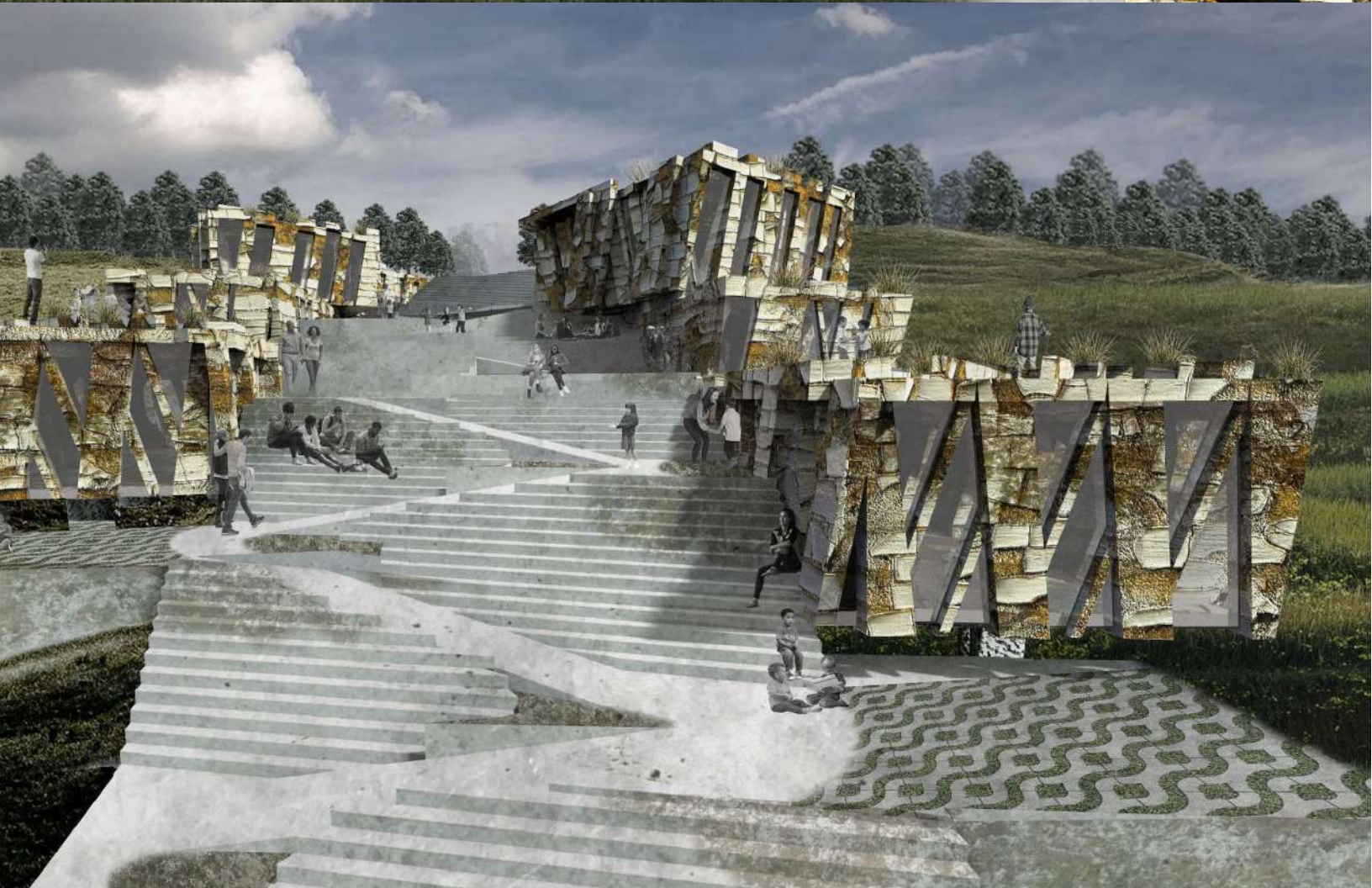


## Design Process Workflow

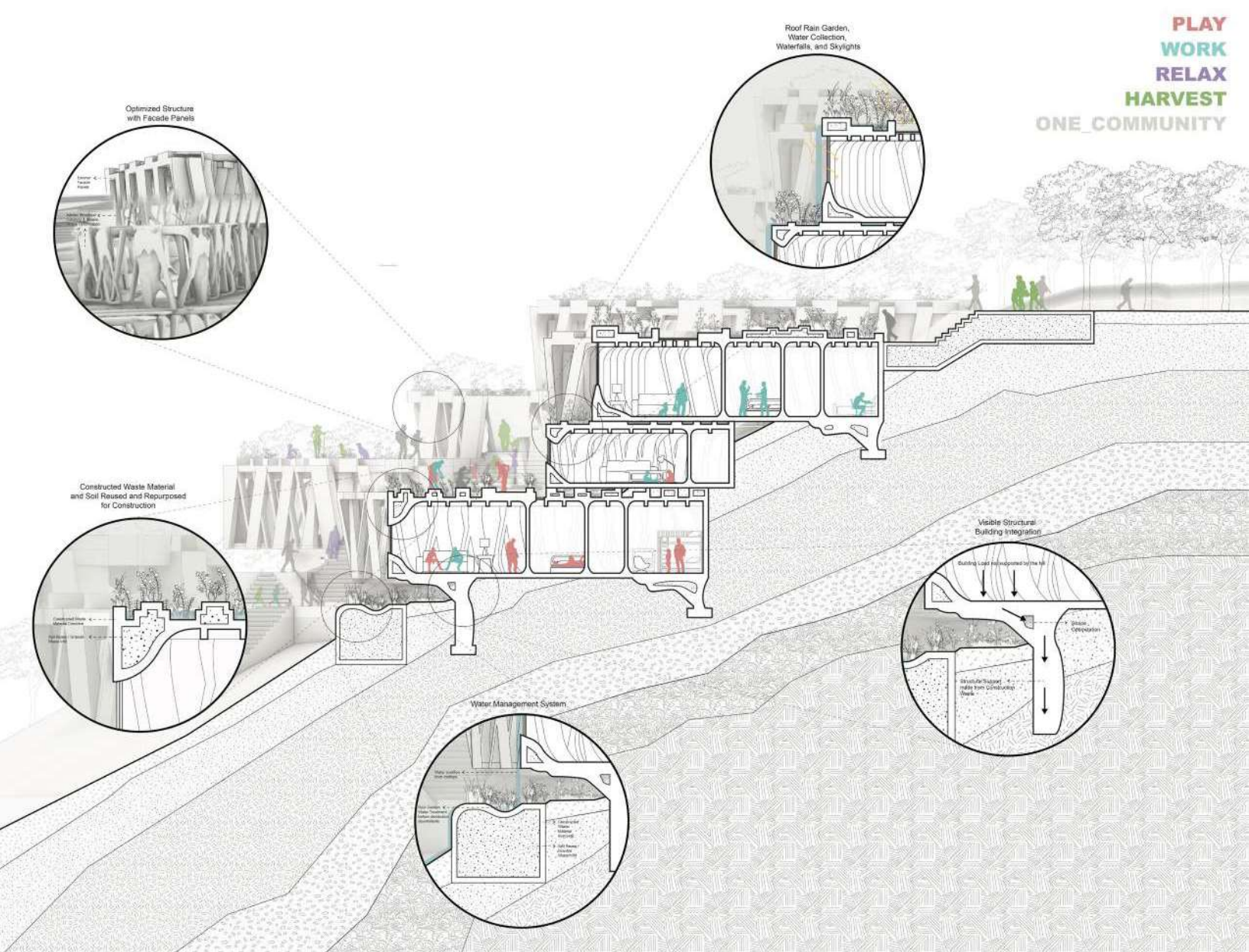
Using artificial intelligence to identify ecological patterns that would support plant growth integrated into the material form of the house.

*The images above show GAN (Generative Adversarial Networks) images that study how ecological textures affects the landscape and can be integrated onto building structures to begin to shift the building's relationship with the natural environment it sits within.*







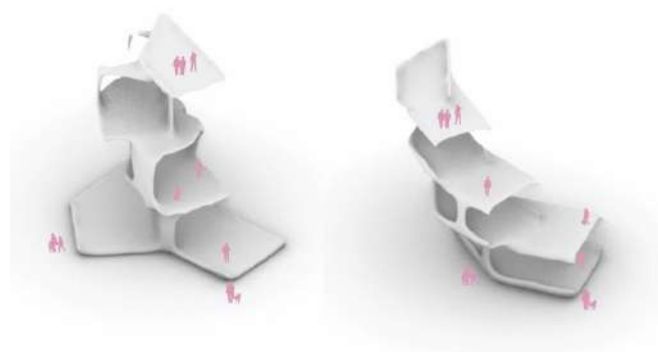


## Hillside Condition

Split House is a garden embedded into a hillside. It creates a form that allows flows of mud, water, and debris to be moved through, around, and over the entire structure, capturing the sediments into a new landform. Enforced by a central split that holds a stair-ramp circulatory greenhouse, this playscape manages natural flows as well as acting as a shared public space for families and for the community of Hazelwood.

*The image above describes the different components that make up the Split House.*

*The image to the right displays a short series of form-finding studies to determine how spaces would be shared amongst various families.*

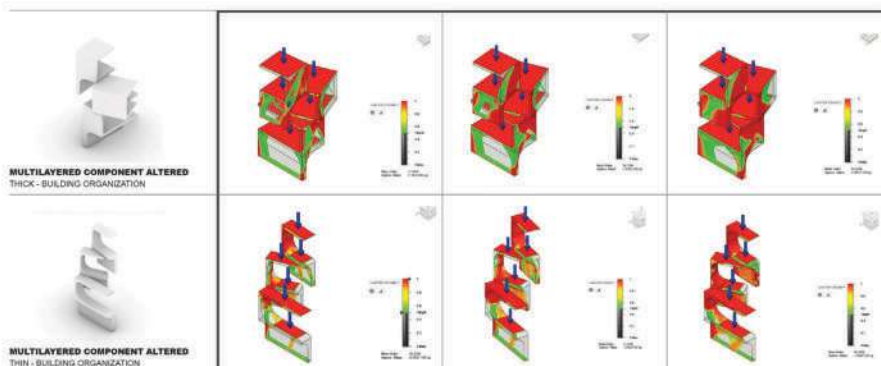
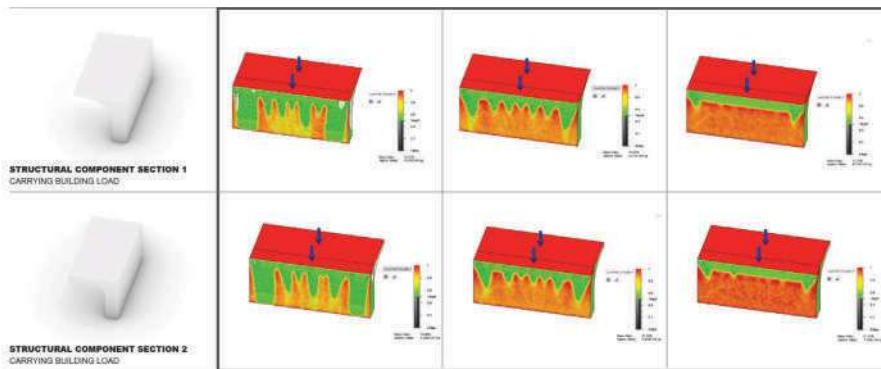
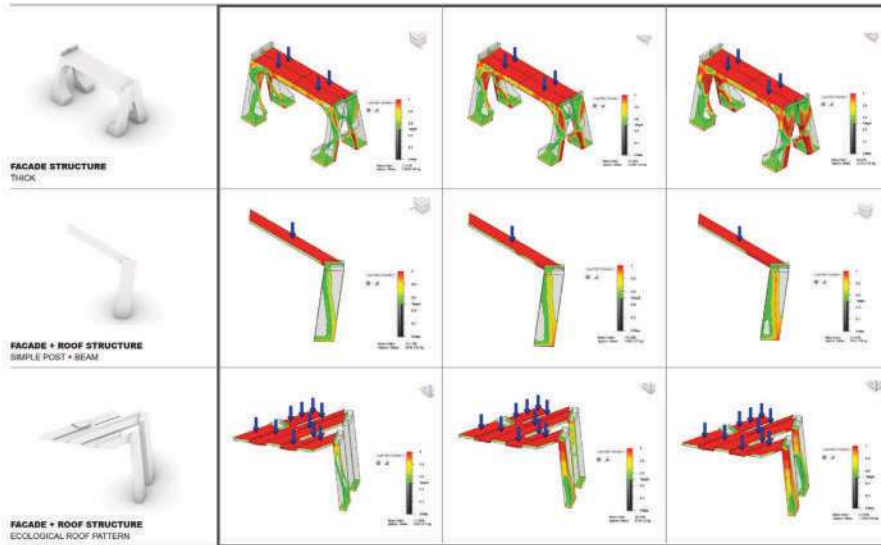
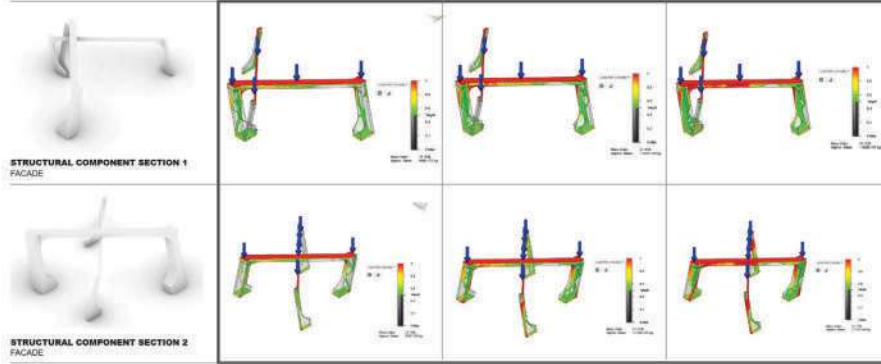




# ECOLOGICAL STRUCTURAL BUILDING EDGE COMPONENT ANALYSIS

## SHAPE OPTIMIZATION

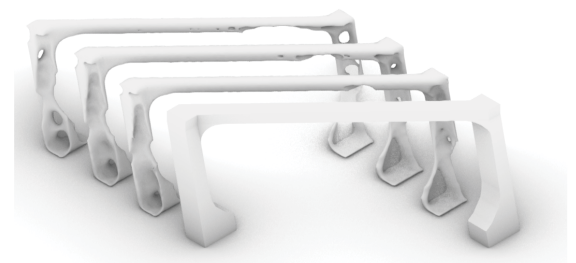
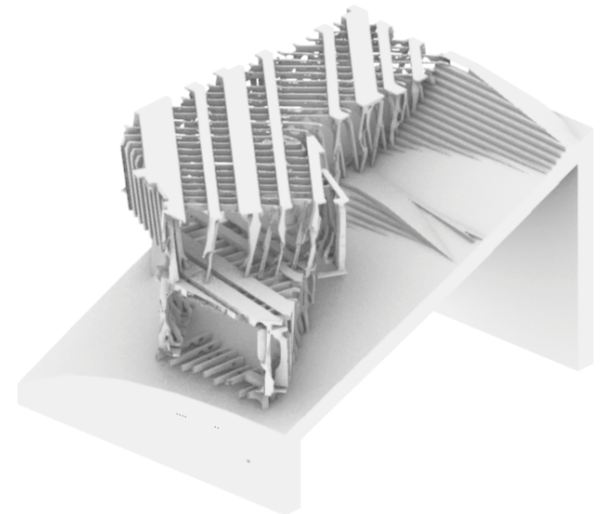
### STRUCTURAL LOGIC



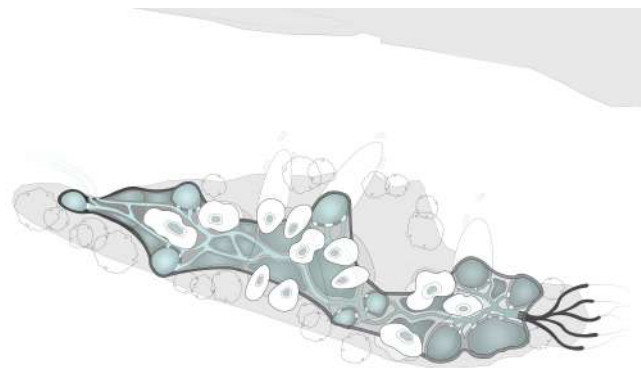
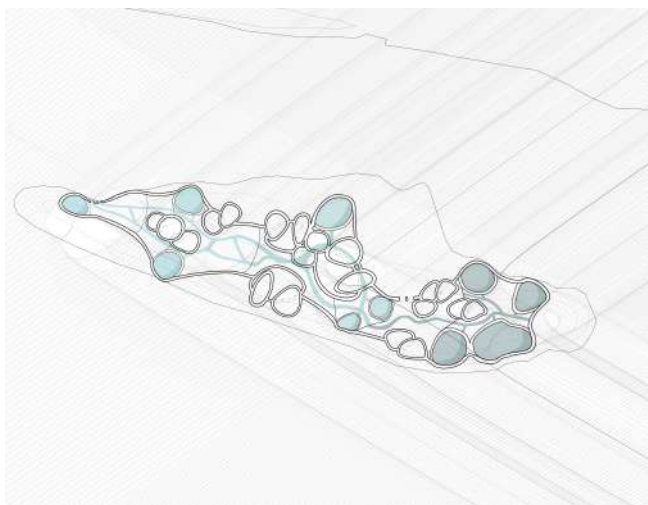
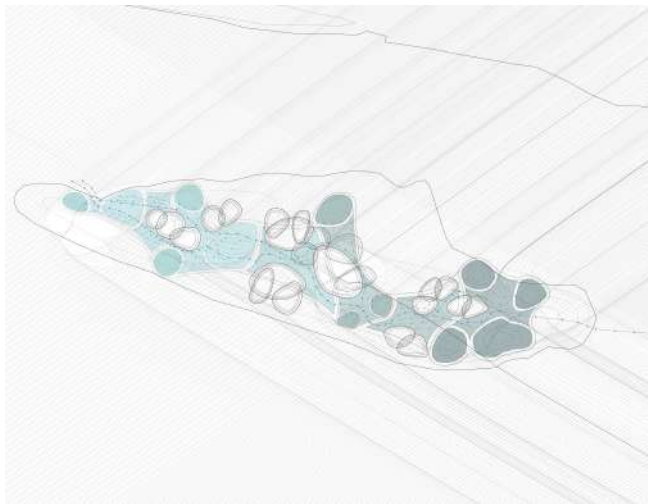
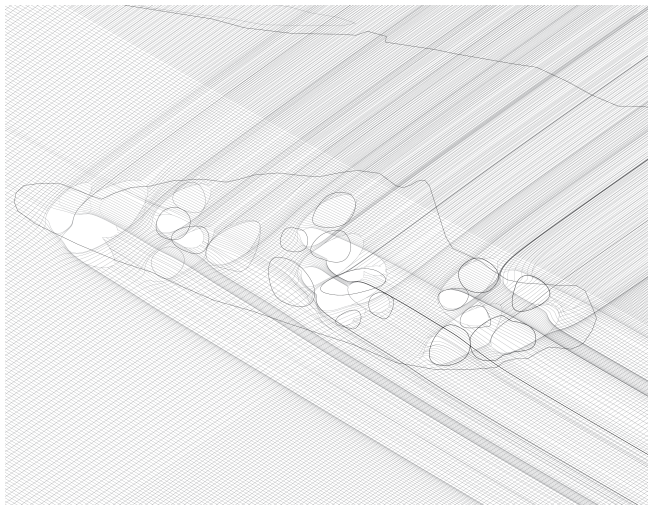
## Material Optimization

The images to the left are component studies that focus on understanding how much material can be optimized in the overall component's form to save material and reduce weight and waste.

The images below combine the optimized building components together into a building structure.







## ECO-MACHINE Co-Housing

*Six Mile Island, Pittsburgh, PA*

Utilizing urbanization strategies, a co-housing and eco-machine prototype was developed that began to utilize an understanding and focused knowledge on a specific system's behavior and logic and integrating it into both the site and the lives of those living there.

The goal of this design was to design a large biofiltration system that would take water from the Allegheny River, clean it, and return it back to the river. The biofiltration system aims to use streams, waterfalls, and greenwalls to treat the water.

*The images to the left display (1) a wind analysis on the existing site conditions, (2) using the wind data to begin to carve architecture out of the landscape, (3) studying potential stream flow and collection, (4) the project site plan.*

*The image below displays an initial study of a water system that goes into a structure, flows through a series of systems to filter it out, and sends it back out of the system.*

