

# Biomimicry Overview Presentation



Learning from and then emulating nature's forms, processes, and ecosystems to create more sustainable designs.

**Jacobs**



BIOMIMICRY 3.8

# What is Biomimicry and who is Biomimicry 3.8?

## BIOMIMICRY

Biomimicry is a unique innovation methodology informed by nature's 3.8 billion years of R&D to create sustainable and regenerative designs.



## BIOMIMICRY 3.8

A regenerative world is possible.

The global leader in nature-inspired innovation.



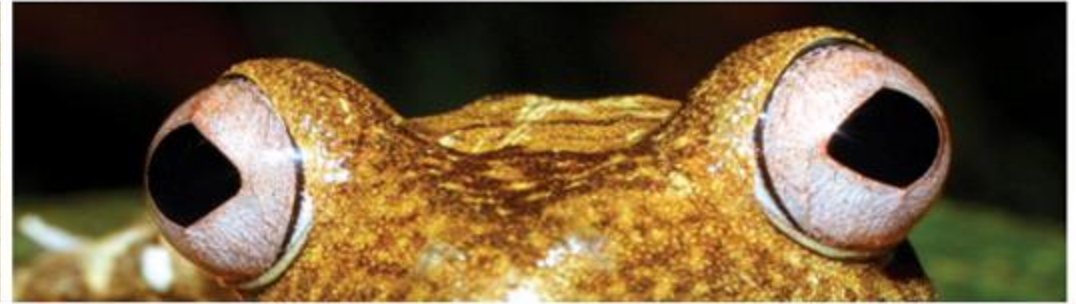
### CONSULTING

Innovate with nature's genius to drive sustainable and regenerative impact.



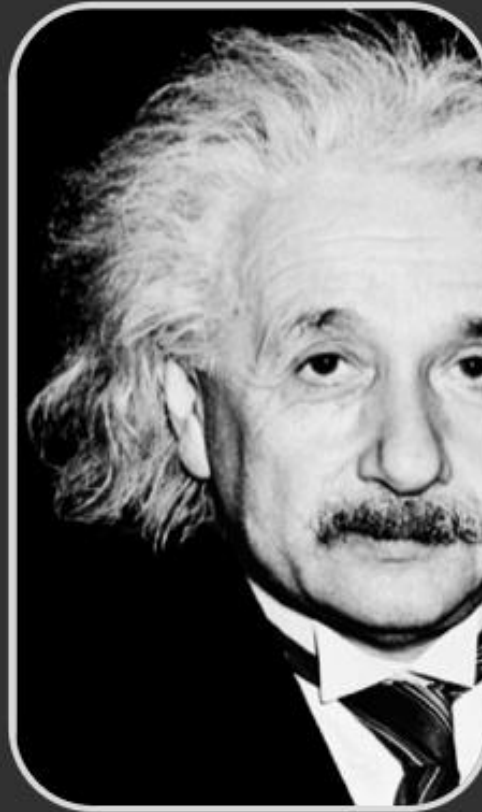
### PROFESSIONAL TRAINING

Integrate biomimicry into your career and organization.



Q: Why do we humans need to connect to nature and 3.8 billion years of genius?

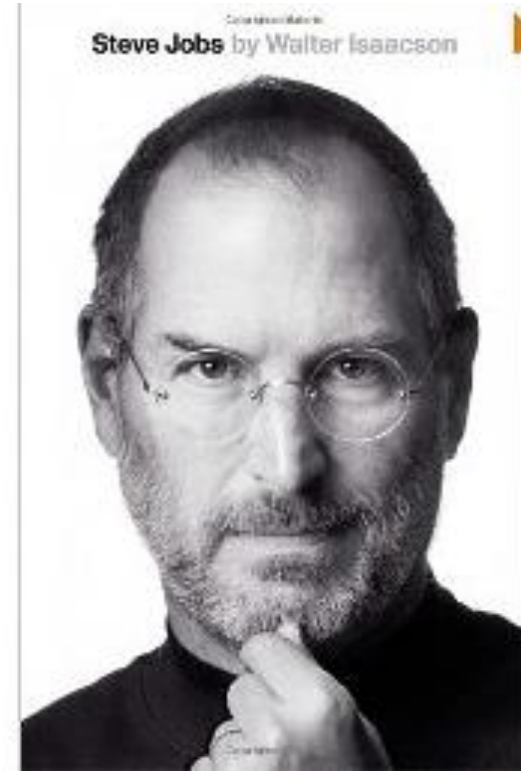
**“We still do not know one thousandth of one percent of what nature has revealed to us.”**



**~ Albert Einstein**

“I think the biggest innovations of the 21st century will be at the intersection of biology and technology. A new era is beginning.”

Steve Jobs



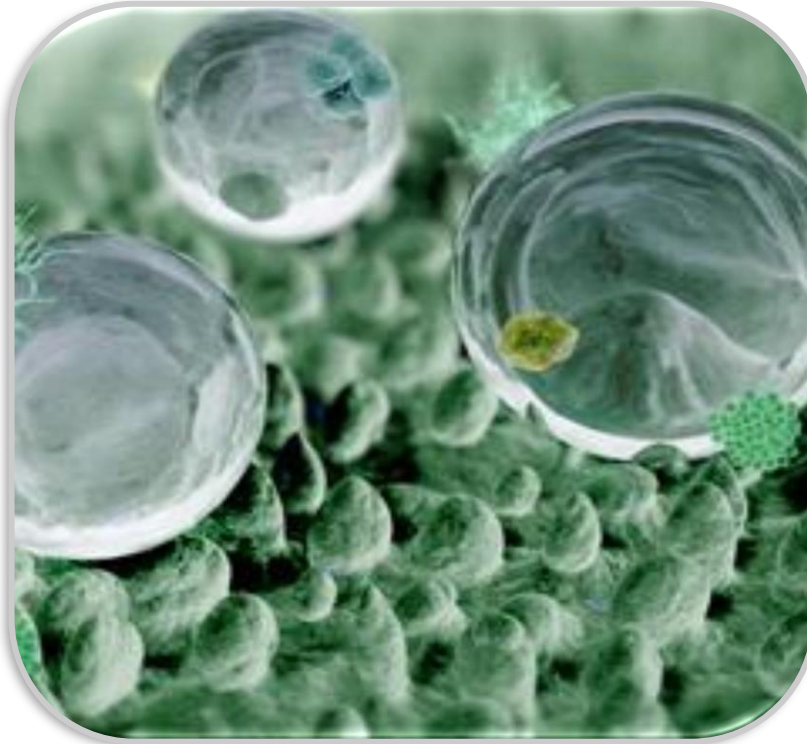


## Kingfisher - Aerodynamics



Stenocara Beetle - Water Collection





Lotus Flower – Stain Resistant Coatings



# AskNature.org

asknature

COLLECTIONS

BIOLOGICAL STRATEGIES

INNOVATIONS

FOR EDUCATORS

ABOUT

DONATE

SEARCH

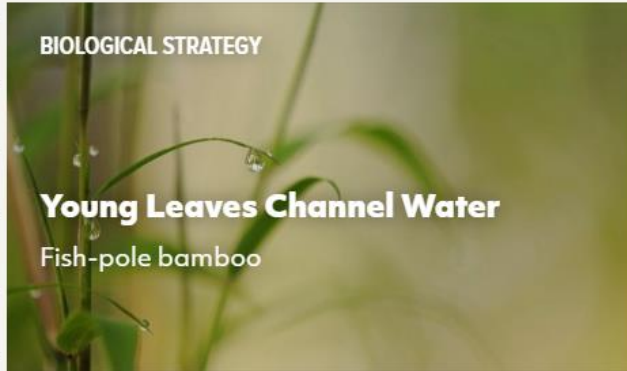
PROTECT FROM PHYSICAL HARM | BIOLOGICAL STRATEGIES

✕ CLEAR ALL

Break Down 85	+
Get, Store, or Distribute Resources 419	+
Maintain Community 213	+
Make 137	+
Modify 413	+
Move or Stay Put 306	+
Process Information 285	+
Protect From Physical Harm 813	✕
Manage Structural Forces 212	+
Prevent Structural Failure 82	+
Protect From Living Threats 246	+
Protect From Non-living Threats 313	+
Regulate Physiological Processes 152	+
Provide ecosystem services 1	+

## Protect From Physical Harm

BIOLOGICAL STRATEGY



**Young Leaves Channel Water**  
Fish-pole bamboo

BIOLOGICAL STRATEGY



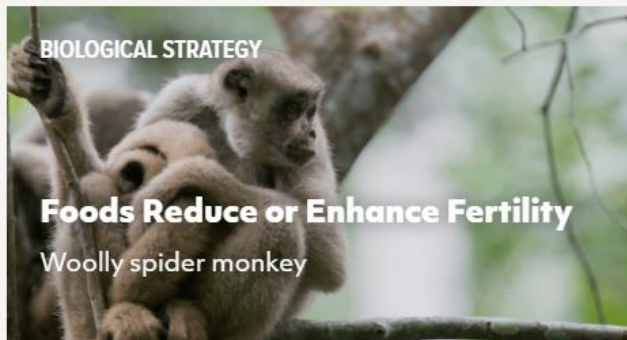
**Vessels Resist Bubble Formation**

BIOLOGICAL STRATEGY



**Walls Prevent Collapse Under Tension**  
Plants

BIOLOGICAL STRATEGY



**Foods Reduce or Enhance Fertility**  
Woolly spider monkey

BIOLOGICAL STRATEGY



**Defense Mechanism Deters Predators**  
Battersby's dwarf boa

BIOLOGICAL STRATEGY



**Wood Resists Fracture**

INNOVATION: ACADEMIA

# Extreme Event Prediction Model Inspired by Ecosystems

## Stanford

2020



Contents

- Innovation Profile**
- The Challenge
- Innovation Details
- Biological Model
- References

'Black swan' event prediction model from Stanford University uses data from a variety of ecosystems to mitigate disasters.

Benefits

- Increased accuracy
- Increased predictability

Applications

- Natural disasters
- Economics

UN Sustainable Development Goals Addressed

- Goal 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth
- Goal 11: Sustainable Cities & Communities

The Challenge

A disease outbreak or economic crisis can cause deaths, long-term suffering, widespread devastation, and environmental damage. 'Black swan' events are those that are highly unlikely but if they do occur, can have an enormous impact. An accurate prediction model could alert people to prepare for the worst before such an event happens, and potentially mitigate the damage.

Innovation Details

The prediction model uses a combination of empirical dynamic modeling and prior biological knowledge. The model uses long-term data from three ecosystems: an eight-year study of plankton from the Baltic Sea with species levels measured twice weekly; net carbon measurements from a deciduous broadleaf forest at Harvard University, gathered every 30 minutes since 1991; and measurements of barnacles, algae and mussels on the coast of New Zealand, taken monthly for over 20 years. The results indicate that fluctuations in different biological species are statistically the same across different ecosystems. This suggests there are certain underlying universal processes that can be used to forecast extreme events.

Biological Model

Various ecosystems seem to predict disaster before it occurs. The abundance and resistance of an ecosystem is consistently monitored and controlled by the individuals within. When an external force is exerted, the ecosystem responds with a series of discrete events of different magnitudes.

[SEE RELATED STRATEGY](#)

References

- [JOURNAL ARTICLE](#)  
**Forecasting unprecedented ecological fluctuations**  
PLoS Computational Biology

**FASTCOMPANY**

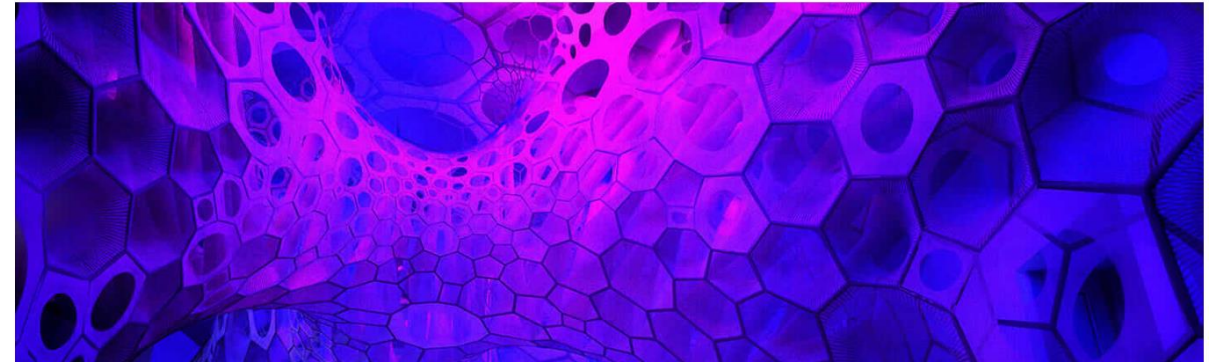
## Combining The Built And Natural Environments To Create Generous Cities Of The Future

Urban growth doesn't have to destroy nature—it can work with it.



## Nature Does It Better: Biomimicry in Architecture and Engineering

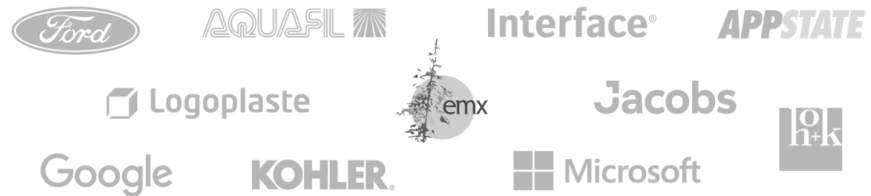
BY ZACH MORTICE ARCHITECTURE - JUL 11 2016 - 6 MIN READ





# Project Positive

Founding change agents represent the following companies and institutions:



# Project Positive

Regenerative design for a thriving world.



Benchmark  
Ecosystem Metrics

1

2

**IDENTIFY**  
context and  
conditions of place  
and/or site

**QUANTIFY**  
performance standards  
of local reference  
ecosystems

This section shows the first two steps of the process. Step 1, 'Identify', is represented by a white silhouette of a head with a brain inside. Step 2, 'Quantify', is represented by three horizontal lines with small circles at the end, resembling a control panel or a scale.

Design Generously  
Nature's Guidance

3

4

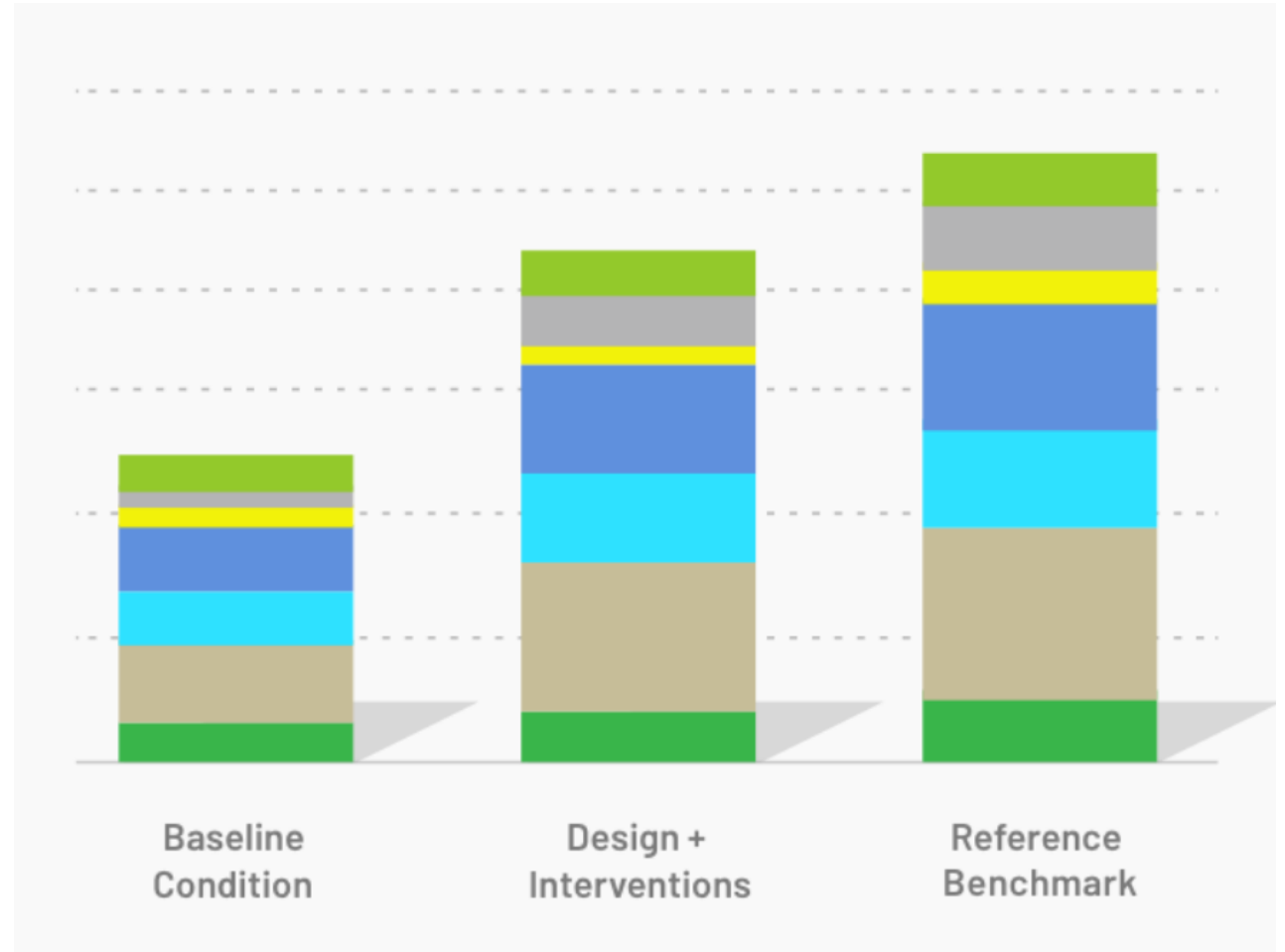
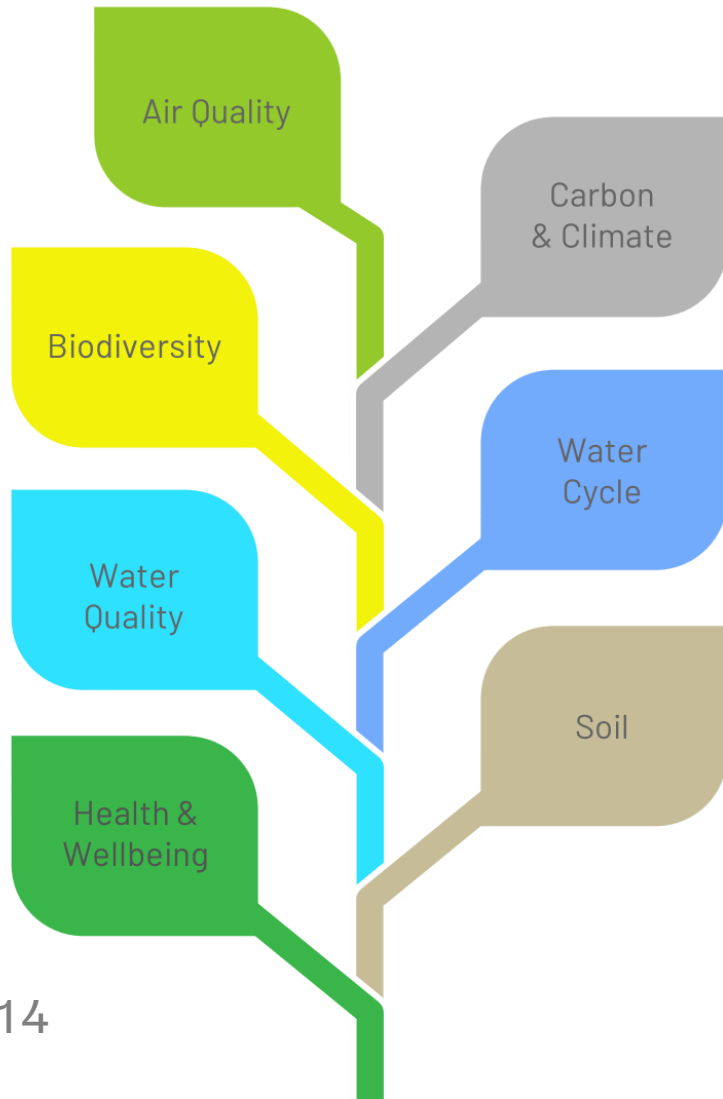
**CREATE**  
design strategies  
matching ecosystem  
performance metrics

**IMPLEMENT**  
strategies to move  
toward positive  
performance

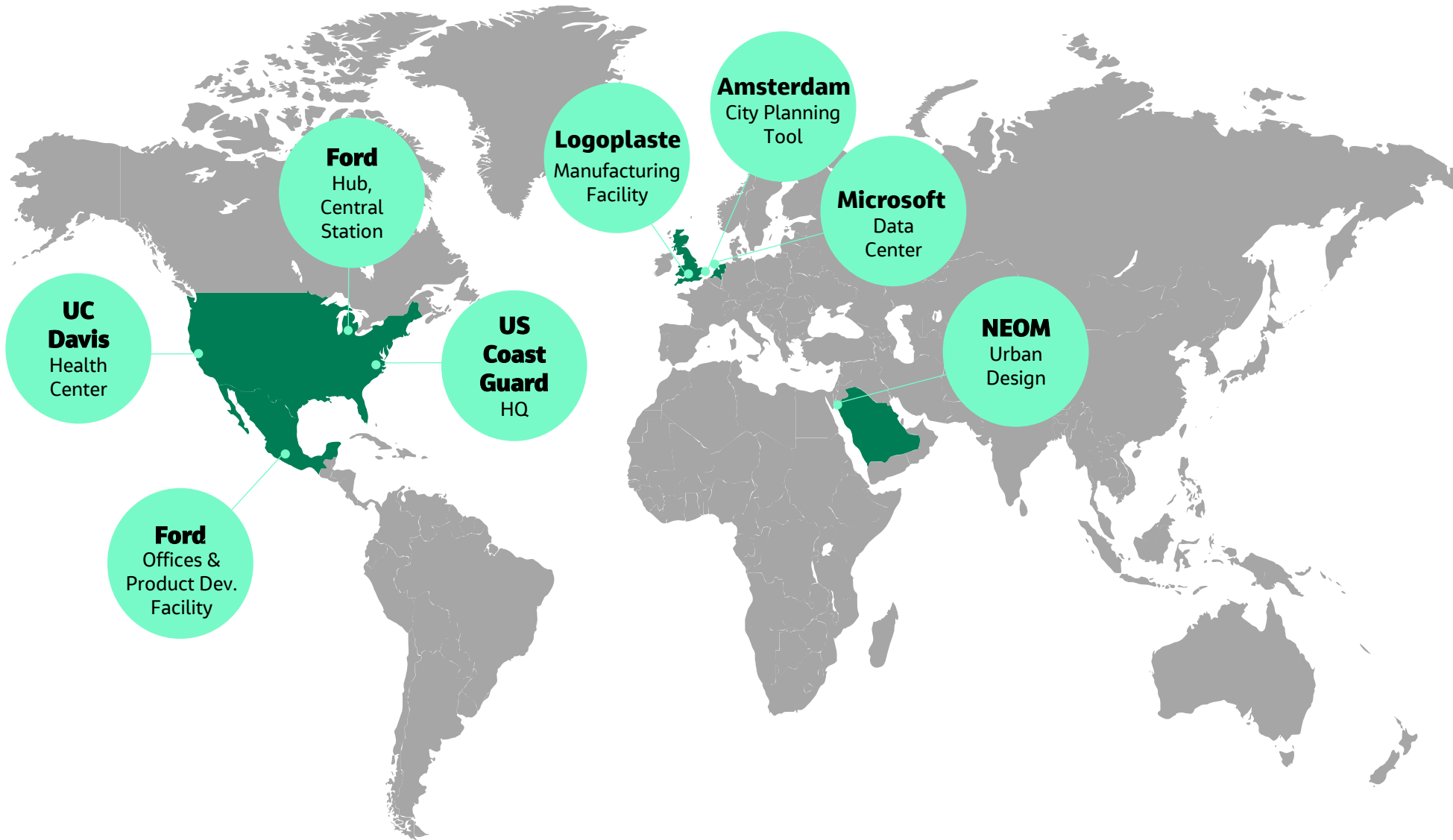
This section shows the final two steps of the process. Step 3, 'Create', is represented by two checkmarks in white boxes. Step 4, 'Implement', is represented by a white icon of a cross with four arrows pointing outwards, indicating implementation or movement.

# Quantifying Nature's Benefit

Ecosystem Intelligence Identification & Inventory Tool



# Where we've **made a difference**



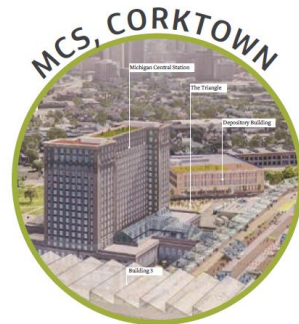
## Future Opportunities

Delivery of projects that would require multi-disciplinary cross-market delivery including:

- site infrastructure
- utilities
- renewables
- building design
- landscape architecture



Identifying the best design interventions for three built environment projects, including factories and office campus.





# Biomimicry Differentiator

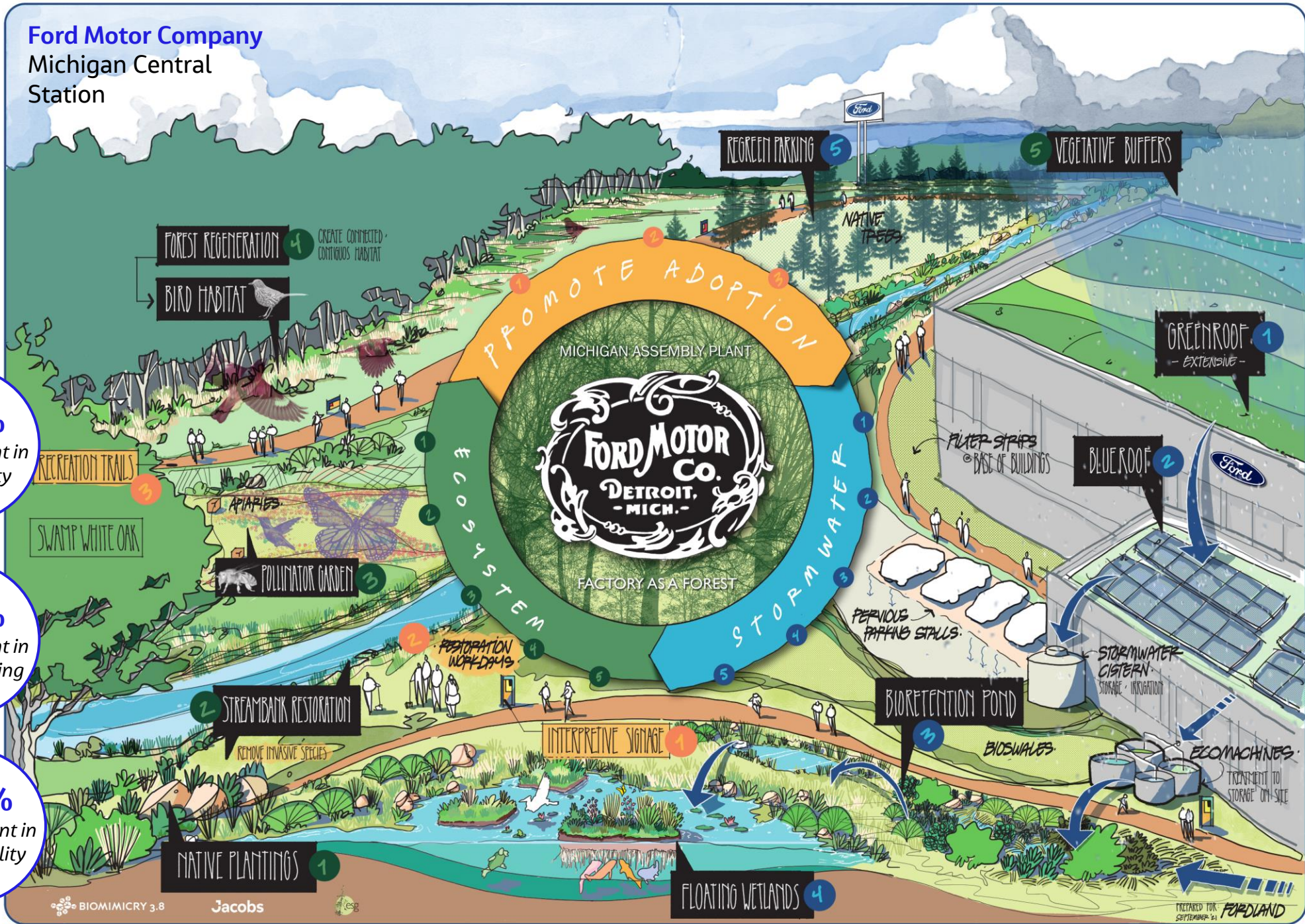
Measuring the contributions of ecosystem services

Ford Motor Company  
Michigan Central  
Station

**178%**  
Improvement in biodiversity

**250%**  
Improvement in carbon cycling

**167%**  
Improvement in water quality



Project delivered by  
Jacobs and strategic  
partner B3.8

# UC DAVIS HEALTH

Designing the South Placer Center for Health with Positive Performance meant expanding “care” from only humans to the whole ecosystem.



Vernal pool  
Complex



Freshwater  
Marshland



Riparian  
Woodland



Native  
Grassland

**ECOLOGICAL  
PRIORITIES**

Water  
regulation

Phytoremediation

Pollutant  
mitigation

Nutrient  
cycling

**FUNCTIONAL  
NEEDS**

- Stormwater management
- Slowing run-off

- Erosion control
- Surface-water storage

- Air nitrogen removal
- Air temperature regulation

- Soil health
- Slowing run-off

**CHAMPION  
ADAPTERS**

- Tadpole Shrimp
- Fairy Shrimp

- Cattails
- Willows

- Valley Oak
- Western Sycamore

- California Ground Squirrels
- Burrowing Owl



Where we've **made a difference**

# US Coast Guard DC Headquarters

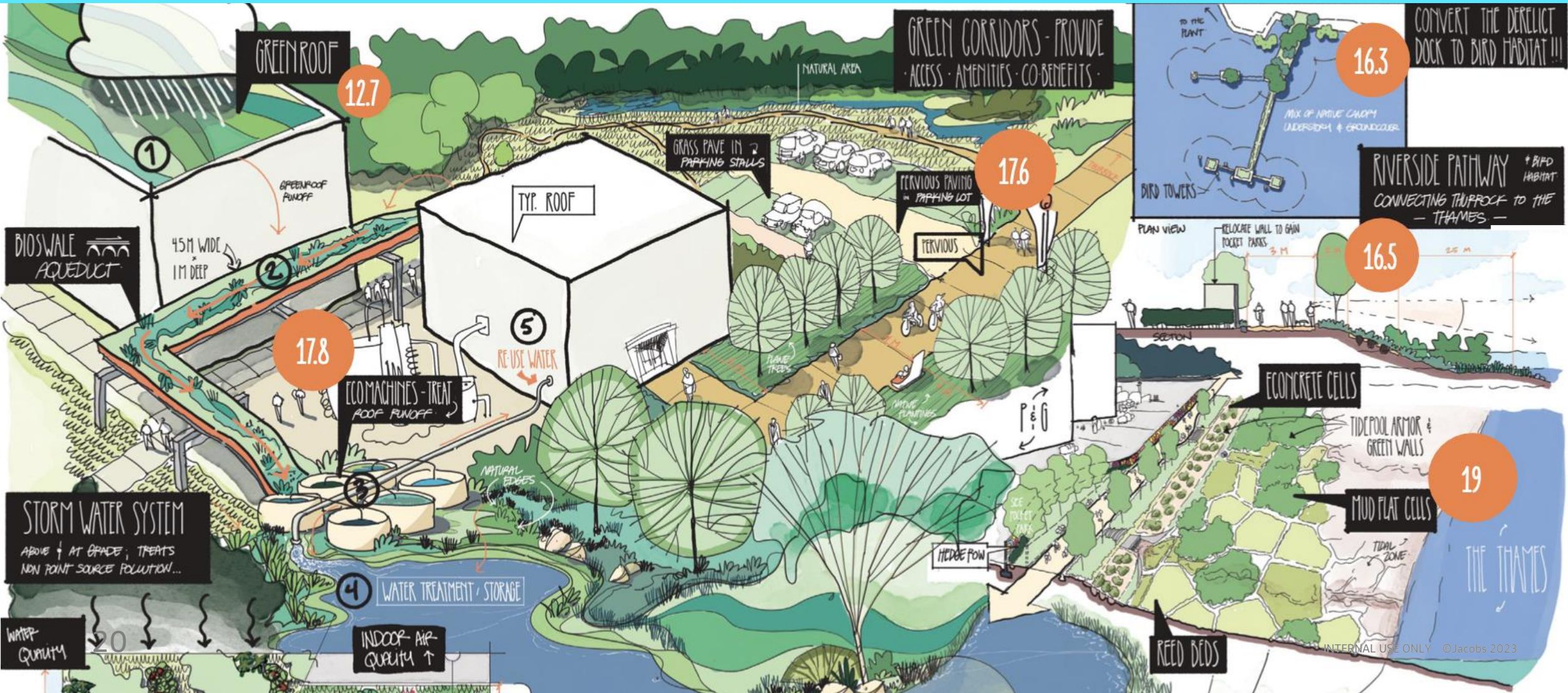
Seamless water management integration



Where we've made a difference



Improving site performance 1.5 to 2.5x compared to existing performance





<https://www.jacobs.com/reports/infrastructure/biomimicry-sustainability-regeneration>

PlanBeyond.  
INFRASTRUCTURE

# From Sustainability to Regeneration

The power of biomimicry in transforming the built environment





**Thank you!**

Chris Allen, Global Principal, Nature-based Solutions

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