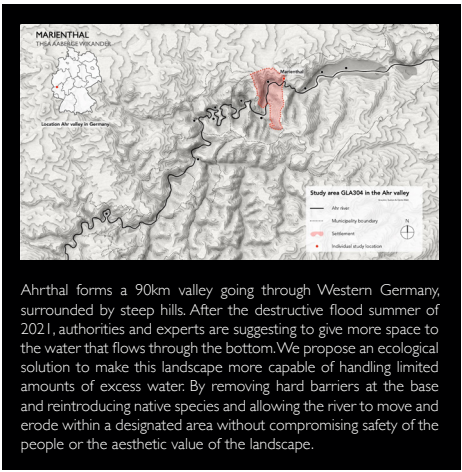


MARIENTHAL - AN ECOLOGICAL APPROACH



After weeks of ongoing precipitation, the soil became saturated and unable to contain the heavy rainfall of the last days. The steep topography of the hills caused water to pour down the valley at great speed where most of the settlement is located. At the bottom, large plain were cover in hard barriers of infrastructure and housing, causing the water to lie on top and displacing most of the residents.



Ahrthal forms a 90km valley going through Western Germany, surrounded by steep hills. After the destructive flood summer of 2021, authorities and experts are suggesting to give more space to the water that flows through the bottom. We propose an ecological solution to make this landscape more capable of handling limited amounts of excess water. By removing hard barriers at the base and reintroducing native species and allowing the river to move and erode within a designated area without compromising safety of the people or the aesthetic value of the landscape.

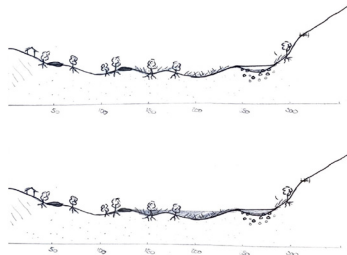


Currently they are tearing down houses that are not being rebuilt, removing barriers and debris, and have relocated city center and power station at an higher elevation, indicating they are in the process of moving away from the flood zone.



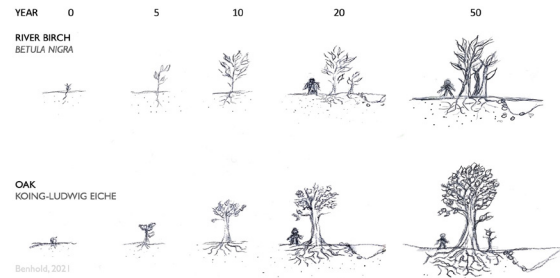
↑ before

↑ after



By digging the river to a slightly lower elevation, and using the excess sediment to create variations in the sediment rather than flat surface, it can contain water in a safe area. The slight expansion of the river ensures that. It is still able to flow, as it usually is a relatively small river; but still reducing the risk of flooding and funnel effect.

ECOLOGICAL RESTORATION- REWILDING NATIVE SPECIES



ECOLOGICAL RESTORATION- HEALTH OF THE RIVER



ECOLOGICAL RESTORATION- REDUCING SURFACE RUNOFF

