



nest

A recent biological study concluded that no rare or endangered birds are anticipated to nest on this Guadalupe River site – to which I would like to ask, nest on **what** Guadalupe River site? It would be a real shame to limit our potential impact on our environment based on existing conditions and current trends. Instead, we should look at every opportunity available to create the best future we can.

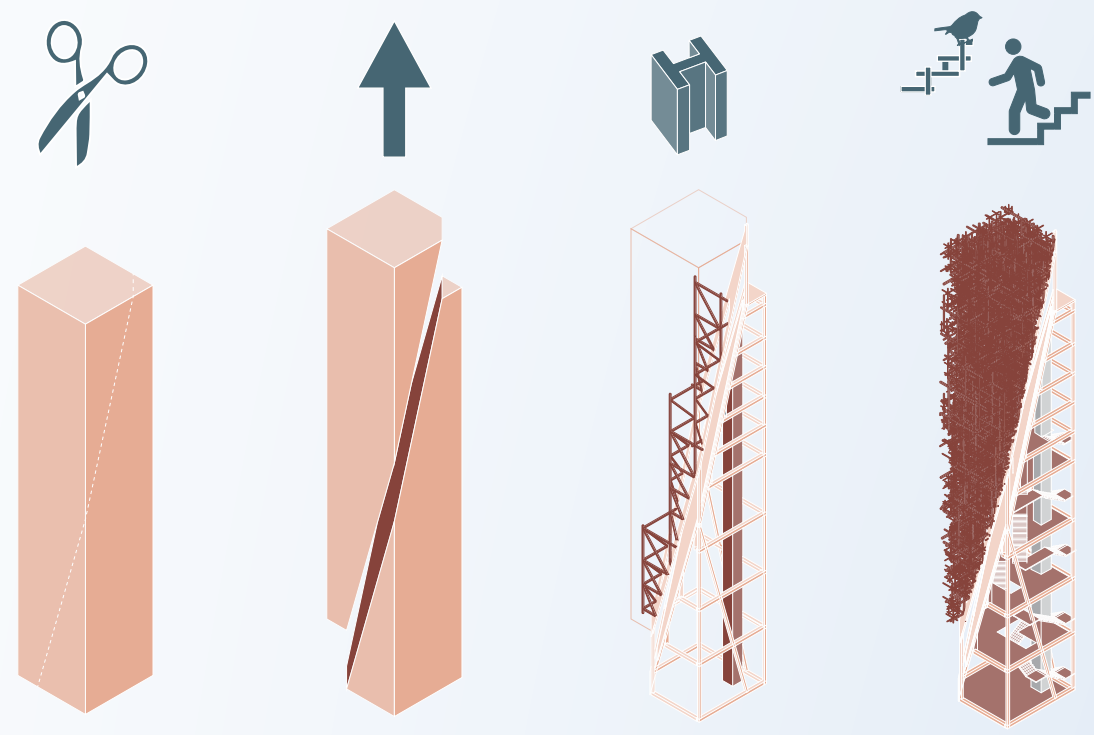
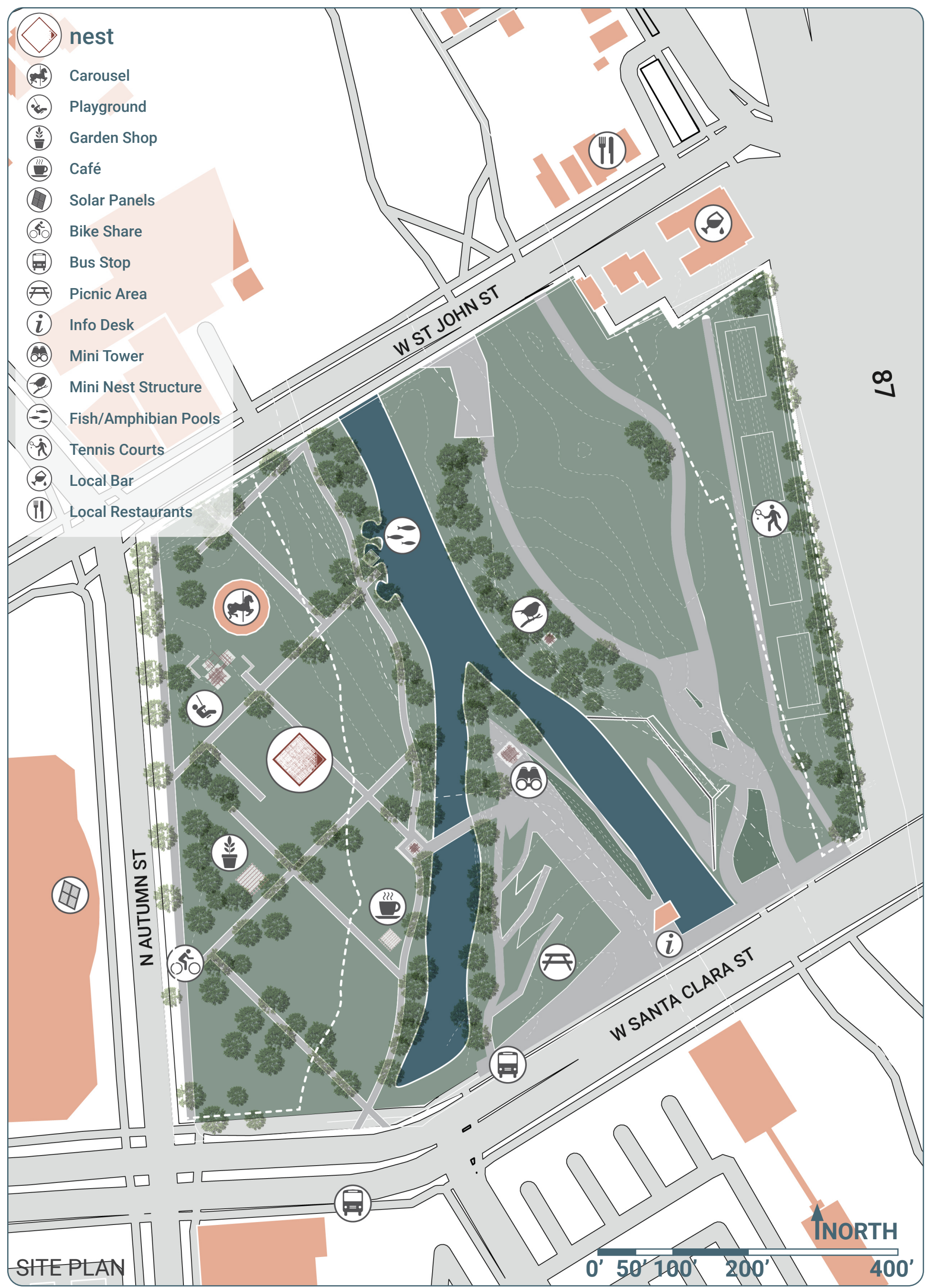
It is time we live differently. It is time to design a world that harmonizes our relationship with nature, rather than one that divides it. San Jose sits in a remarkable location: centered between the Coast Ranges to the East and West, and the San Francisco Bay to the North.

Situated within 10 miles of the San Jose Tower site, these diverse habitats include coastal, wetland, valley, desert, forested, mountainous, and urban biodiversity.

Within these habitats in Southern California, there are 24 birds on the endangered species list. While some of these birds require specific nesting sites, such as sand dunes or clay river banks, many birds find comfort in far more common environments. So far, our cities have failed at providing even the most fundamental spaces necessary to support basic bird populations. Some may even look to prevent their inhabitation, at a great cost to our quality of life. Birds provide very critical components to supporting a wider range of natural life.

They pollinate plants, spread seeds, eat insects, control rodent populations, and stabilize the greater food chain. It is time we receive nature in our cities, rather than eliminate it.

nest is a new kind of structure that aims to reinvigorate the biodiversity possible in San Jose. **It serves as a beacon for the city landscape and an icon for a necessary shift in urban developments – to find balance between humans and animals.** This tower marks a new relationship. One where humans and nature share the same land, the same opportunities, and the same future.



LOCAL ENDANGERED BIRDS

Timber

Bald Eagle
(*Haliaeetus Leucocephalus*)

California Condor
(*Gymnogyps Californianus*)

Clay/Rock

American Perigrin Falcon
(*Falco Peregrinus Anatum*)

Nesting Box

Elf Owl
(*Micrathene Whitneyi*)

Thicket

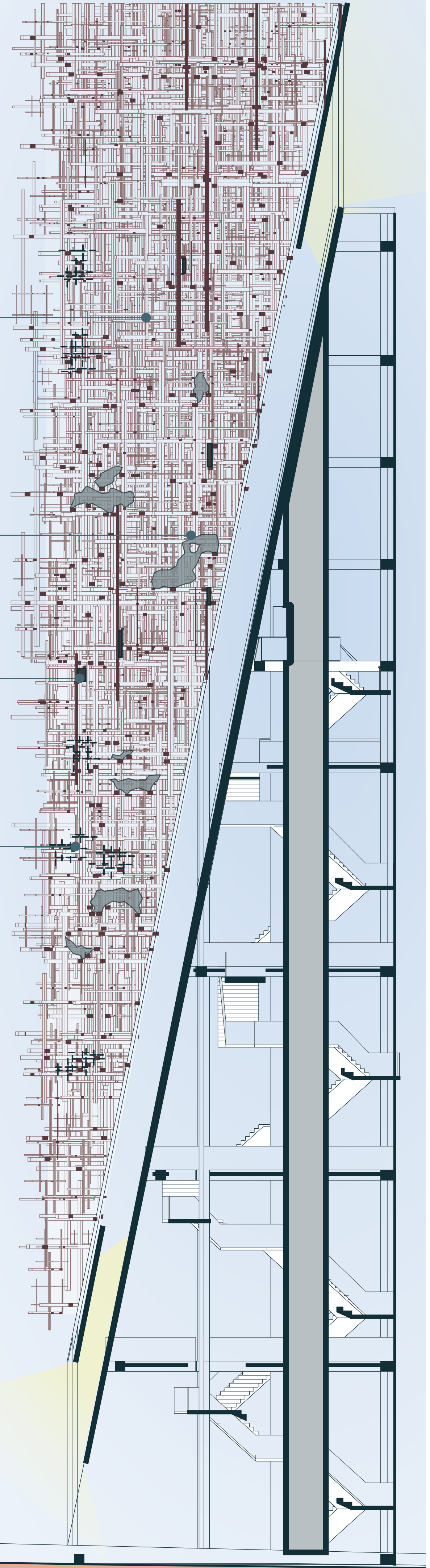
Gila Woodpecker
(*Melanerpes Uropygialis*)

Least Bell's Vireo
(*Vireo Bellii Pusillus*)

W. Yellow-Billed Cuckoo
(*Coccyzus Americanus Occidentalis*)

Marbled Murrelet
(*Brachyramphus Marmoratus*)

Gilded Flicker
(*Colaptes Chrysoides*)



VIEW FROM UPPER TOWER LEVEL

TOWER SECTION

It's time for a new kind of icon.

The tower is constructed of laminated timber around a concrete elevator core. A clear division slices through the tower diagonally to define equal zones of inhabitation. On one side, humans circulate up and down the tower via large sweeping stairs, or the central elevator. Views of downtown San Jose to the East, the winding river to the North, and the encircling mountains are enhanced as you climb higher into the tower. Behind you, separated by a 10' gap, is a network of timber perched atop the tower structure. Within this network are varying structural supports, ranging from 1/2" sticks for small nesting birds, to heavy beams reminiscent of large branches and tree trunks.



For more particular birds, portions of clay, stone, or prebuilt boxes are situated throughout the tower structure to encourage nesting of different bird species. The nesting habitat is always within sight, but never within reach, allowing the nesting sites to remain safe from unintentional human intervention.

Lights within the human side shine against the large wooden plane to illuminate the tower facing East. The orientation of lights and timber fully shield the nesting portion from glare. The tower falls dark for birds above, while below an icon gleams to the people, park, and city beyond.

Lastly, a story of harmony isn't complete without telling of its inherent net-zero qualities. Adjacent solar panels power the lighting and vertical transportation. The tower's 11,760 ft³ of wood sequesters 294 metric tons of CO₂*, making it net positive carbon. Its simplicity of construction saves another 114 metric tons, compared to non-wood construction. Lastly, heavy timber is not a single use material, it's beams, columns, and floors can be re-purposed even hundred of years from now.