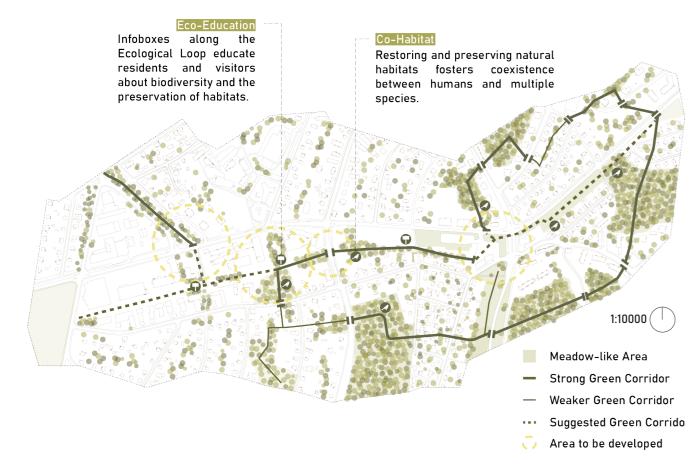
RE:wild

Green Spaces and Biodiversity

RE:wild is a vision to transform a neglected urban strip into a self-sustaining, biodiverse ecosystem. By restoring ecological processes and creating a rich mosaic of habitats, we reintroduce wildness into the city. This is an active rewilding effort that shapes a resilient landscape where both nature and community can thrive. Vähäheikkilä's green spaces are currently fragmented—small, disconnected patches that limit biodiversity. By planting native trees and cultivating dense undergrowth, we close canopy gaps to form a unified green corridor, ensuring a functioning ecological network. Here, multi-species co-living creates an enriching ecological loop that spans the project site and extends into the larger reflection

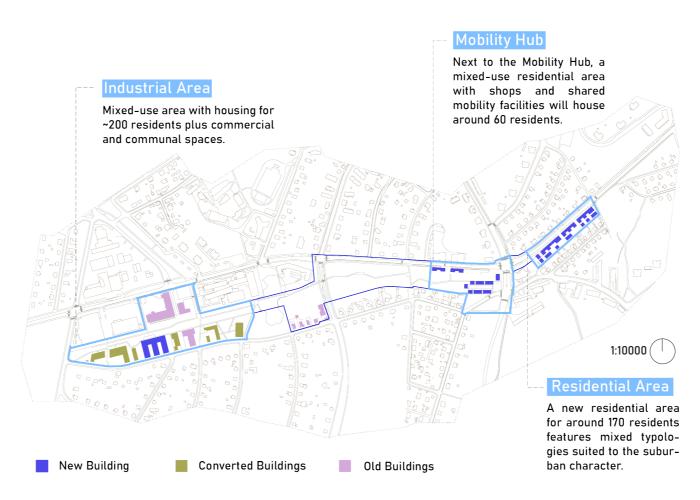


To bring this vision to life, our approach begins by addressing the fragmentation of Vähäheikkilä's existing green spaces. These isolated patches limit biodiversity and weaken ecological resilience. By strategically planting native trees and cultivating dense undergrowth, we aim to close canopy gaps and create a continuous green corridor. This corridor becomes a lifeline for species such as the protected Siberian flying squirrel, the Eurasian badger, and local bird populations, offering shelter and safe passage through the urban fabric. At the same time, it invites people into a more immersive relationship with nature, providing shaded, scenic pathways that enrich everyday urban experience.



Renewal and Infill

RE:wild is ALSO a prototype for sustainable urban transformation, turning a neglected industrial strip into a resilient, nature-first neighborhood. It balances densification with ecological regeneration, adding diverse housing while restoring habitats and supporting biodiversity. Green and blue infrastructure visibly manages stormwater. Walking and cycling are prioritized, with minimal car use. A mix of housing typologies integrates reused industrial buildings, preserving identity and reducing waste. Public spaces and wild zones foster learning, recreation, and inclusivity—showing how cities can grow regeneratively.



The project aims to create a coherent balance between densified housing, diverse communal spaces, and restored wilderness. Densification is focused in three key areas: the industrial zone, where existing building stock can be reused and renewed; the Mobility Hub area, to emphasize its new role as a vibrant anchor point; and the eastern strip, used for urban infill to close gaps in the city fabric.

RE:wild offers a variety of residential building types—from detached-style homes to apartment buildings of up to three stories—providing housing for diverse needs and increasing capacity. In the industrial area, housing is medium to large scale, with buildings up to three stories, allowing for higher density. Around the Mobility Hub, development is mixed-use and medium-density, with ground-floor commercial spaces and two- to three-story residential units above. In the western residential area, higher density is achieved with low-rise buildings that blend with the surrounding detached housing. Inspired by detached homes, these buildings share communal spaces, balancing privacy and community.

Stormwater Management

Stormwater management is one of the site's key challenges, but also a defining opportunity. The daylighted stream running through the project area gives the site its identity, offering both ecological potential and technical complexity. Following a thorough analysis of the terrain and flood dynamics, we identified high-risk zones and prioritized targeted interventions. A layered network of strategies was introduced to regulate, collect, retain, and reuse stormwater sustainably. Rather than relying solely on conventional underground drainage, we emphasized on-site solutions that bring water above groundmaking it visible, functional, and engaging. This approach not only reduces flood risk but also educates the public in a playful, health-promoting way.

