Midterm Review: Conceptual Design

For the midterm review, you are required to present a design concept for your project that responds to the dynamic conditions of the site. Your conceptual design will involve developing a site organization strategy for E. Montlake/McCurdy Park using a language of landforms and vegetation forms.

This is essentially a second take on what we did with the model, using landforms and vegetation forms that perform functions, however this time we're asking you to name your ecological design strategy (scaffold, grid, palimpsest) when you put it all together, using the basic forms as component parts (mound, bowl, swale, Bosque).

You may select from traditional strategies such as the use of the grid, axial relationship, and/or concentric rings. You may also select a strategy that makes explicit use of the dimension of time as a logic for structuring space, including palimpsest, the scaffold, the garden, etc. (see handout in class).

The goals of your site organization strategy for the park (including at least the first few hundred feet of Lake Washington and the marsh islands) should include:

1. Improving the quality of water in Lake Washington.
2. Improving the suitability of the park for a specific specie to live, forage, and/or reproduce within the park or along the park’s edge.
3. Revealing the ecological dynamics of the park to human visitors over the next 20 years. This may be interactive or simply visual.

Other park-related program elements will be introduced following the midterm review.

Presentation Requirements:

1. Site Strategy Diagram(s) showing a composite and separate layers of your selected form(s) and site organization strategy and how they will meet the project goals stated above. You may show the layers as landform(s), vegetation form(s), and water feature, as well as patches, corridors, etc. Make sure to identify your selected specie and habitats. (Scale: 1”=100’).
2. Time-Series Diagram(s) showing how the site may evolve in 5, 10 and 20 years. See example in Praxis No. 4 and in-class presentations. (Scale: 1”=100’)
3. Thick Section from the Site Investigation Exercise with selected form(s) and site strategy overlaid on top (to scale).