Restoring the Lost Resacás in the Lower Rio Grande Valley

Restoring the Lost Resacás is a collection of ecological strategies for bringing back vanished resacás, oxbow wetland lakes in the Lower Rio Grande region which have significantly declined in the past decades. As a result, the Lower Rio Grande, an underserved and largely Hispanic area, is facing threats of declining water quality and quantity. Located in Mercedes, TX, the project site rests in the midpoint of the city and is divided by highways and railways, isolating the South Texas Independent School District (ISD) from other neighborhoods. The design brings back the native resacás ecosystem to achieve flood control, purify the water, vitalize vacant land, and create a trail system for the City of Mercedes.