Our vision for FLYHIVE is an environmentally harmonious modular shelter and collective space for those who would stay at Fly Ranch. Nature’s wisdom guides us to the most intrinsically powerful and sustainable systems, thus inspiration for the design is founded in biomimicry. Beehives exquisitely illustrate how modular communities work together to become more than the sum of their parts.

FLYHIVE, located between Fly Geyser and the hot springs, demonstrates a model of living where human minds live in peace and harmony with nature, a model where a community thrives, creates and invents. FLYHIVE is oriented along the east-west axis. It grows vertically towards the west to provide self-shading on the central arena and on the lower portion of the hive during the blistering hot summer afternoons while also shielding against the prevailing wind blowing from the southwest.

FLYHIVE is designed to support a multitude of activities. A major entrance leads to a public walkway that ramps up along the periphery of the central arena where large spectator gatherings and events of art making, performances, and community exchanges take place. Living units are accessed via the ramps, promoting chance encounters and conversations. Shaded semi-private spaces in between units provide opportunities for small gatherings of people to eat, meditate, hang out and more.

Recent studies show that people who live near water are generally healthier and happier. The immeasurable sense of peace that we feel around water is what scientists call “blue mind”, a human primal need, perhaps as a result of evolution where human civilization ignited around bodies of water.

In order to mitigate the extreme temperatures of the semi-arid Hualapai Flat, FLYHIVE is designed to support the successful survival of a bee colony. FLYHIVE is a model of living where human minds live in peace and harmony with nature, a place where a community thrives, creates and invents.