A Deluge of Sand

A Deluge of Sand is a project that reacts and benefits from the harsh environment of Black Rock Desert in order to provide three primary services for the visitors of Fly Ranch and Burning Man: Food, Water, and Shelter. A Deluge of Sand is a product of the idea that, in order to prepare for the future, humankind must recognize that the built environment needs to respond to environmental conditions of every kind, no matter how extreme. A Deluge of Sand does so by not only allowing the environment to remain as is, but by becoming more useful as it spends more time in its environment.

Through the use of the fabric technology introduced and utilized by Warka Water, moisture is wicked from the air onto fins composed entirely of the fabric and a small hidden skeleton that can be assembled on-site as an activity for Burning Man as well as on Fly Ranch. The moisture is combined on the fins with the fertile dust that is kicked up from the Burning Man event to create a highly fertile soil that can be used to cultivate drought-resistant and heat-resistant crops such as figs, Sun King watermelons, Dark Star zucchini, etc. As the fins collect more dust and more water, they begin to sag downwards with the weight.

All that needs to be done is the soil be harvested and brought into the dome to be used in the growth.

The project is intended to be modularized and introduced in as many places as desired, as it is designed to be minimally intrusive and maximally adaptable so that it can even be used on the playa flats Black Rock Desert’s famous for. Each pod can be used interchangeably between a tent-like shelter for any who desire it and an agricultural element meant to provide provisions for the participants of Burning Man and any potential visitors to Fly Ranch.