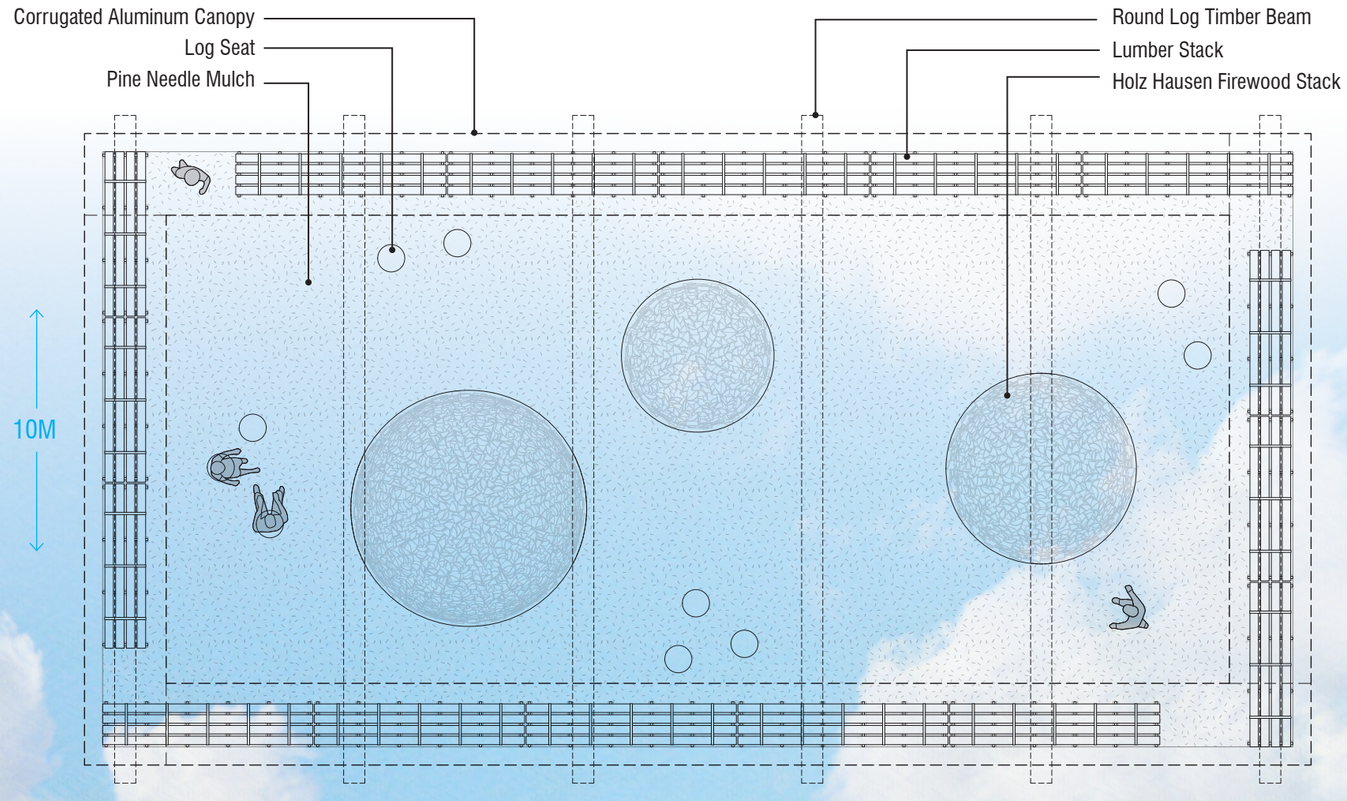
SEEKING EQUILIBRIUM

SEEKING EQUILIBRIUM highlights the essential process of drying wood, a critical step in removing moisture from newly harvested timber to make it suitable for use as building material or fuel. When a tree is cut down and processed into lumber, logs, or firewood, the resulting wood is considered “green.” For the wood to become usable, it must be dried to reach the same moisture level as the surrounding air, a balance known as Equilibrium Moisture Content (EMC).

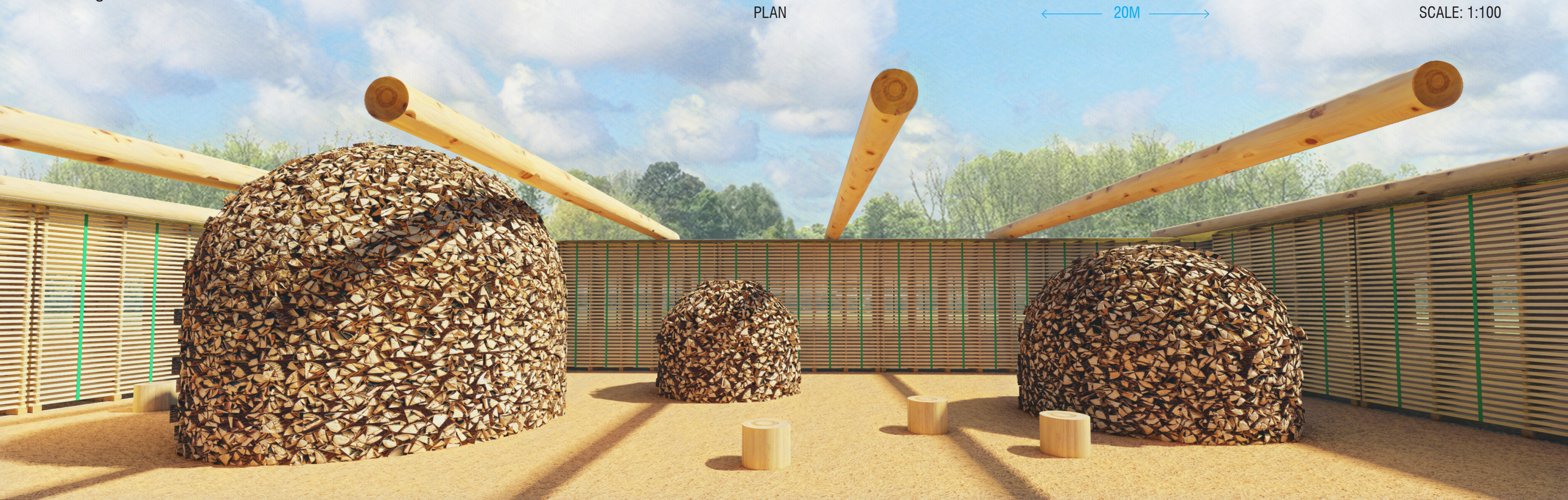
This installation includes three elements being air-dried: Lumber Stacks, Firewood Stacks, and Round Log Timbers. The Lumber Stacks form the garden walls, the Firewood Stacks create sculptural focal points, and the Log Timbers provide seating elements and the garden’s canopy.

The festival’s theme of *Borders* is exhibited at both the cellular and garden scales. Just as borders can serve as permeable membranes that allow for exchange, drying wood involves the passage of moisture through cell walls, gradually achieving equilibrium with the surrounding air. At the garden scale, the Lumber Stacks create a permeable border, demarcating the installation’s limits and recalling a classic Walled Garden.



PLAN

SCALE: 1:100

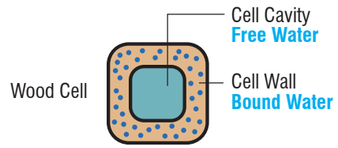


PERSPECTIVE VIEW

MOISTURE LOSS IN WOOD

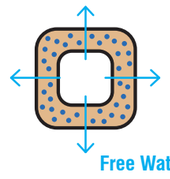
GREEN LUMBER

>30% Moisture Content (MC)
Free Water and Bound Water present



FIBER SATURATION POINT (FSP)

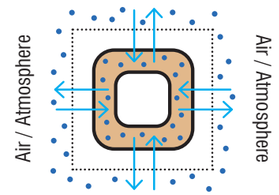
25-30% Moisture Content (MC)
Free Water evaporated
Bound Water present

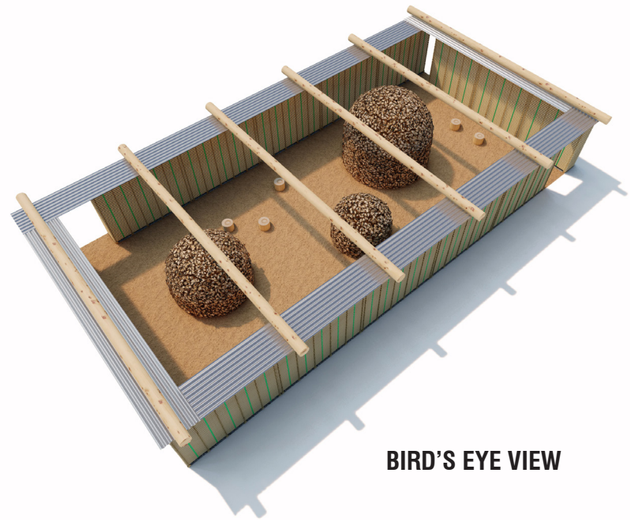


Free Water lost

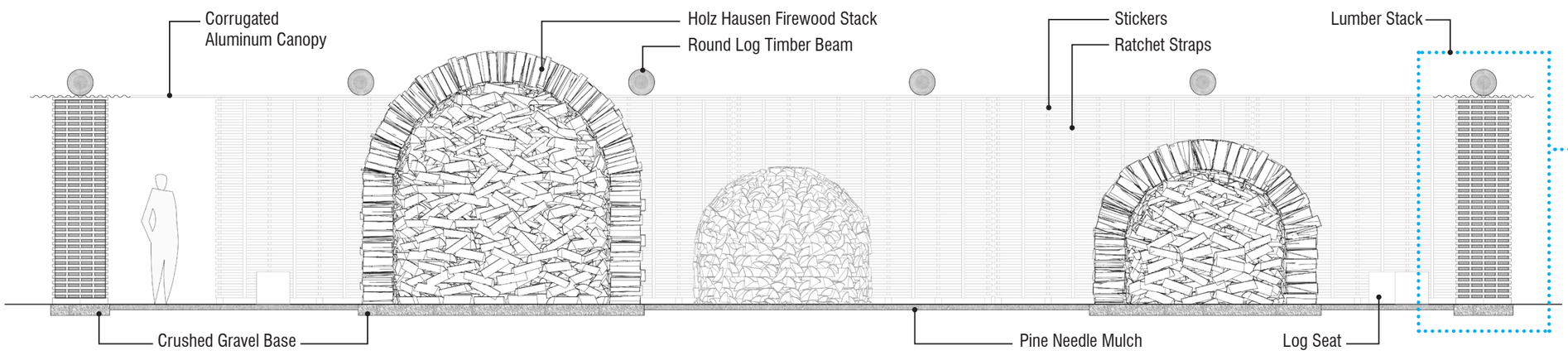
EQUILIBRIUM MOISTURE CONTENT (EMC) = AIR DRIED

15-20% Moisture Content (MC)
Bound Water in balance with
Relative Humidity (RH) in surrounding air

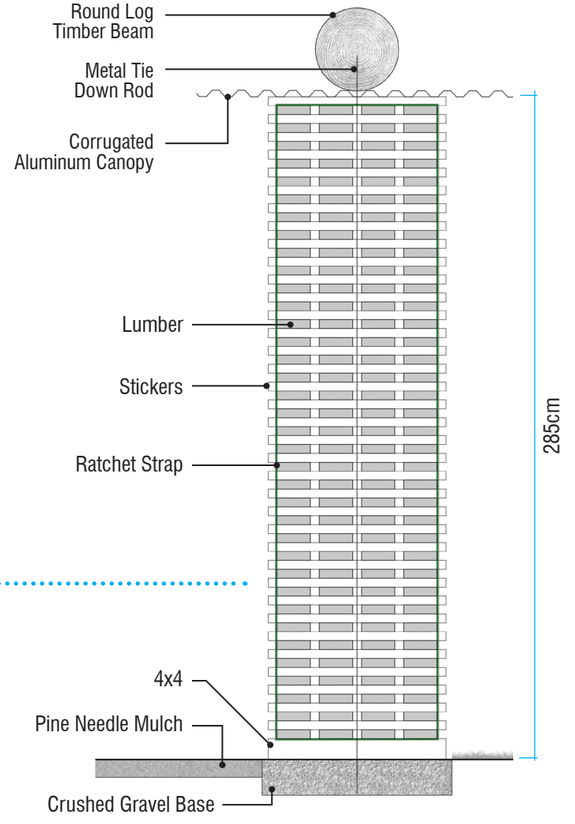




BIRD'S EYE VIEW



SECTION- 20m Side



ENLARGED SECTION - Lumber Stack