



DROUGHT

Because the rapid discharge of water prevents it from infiltrating into the soil, the water table falls.

To combat the resulting desiccation, crops are irrigated with groundwater. Extracting too much groundwater leads to further drought.

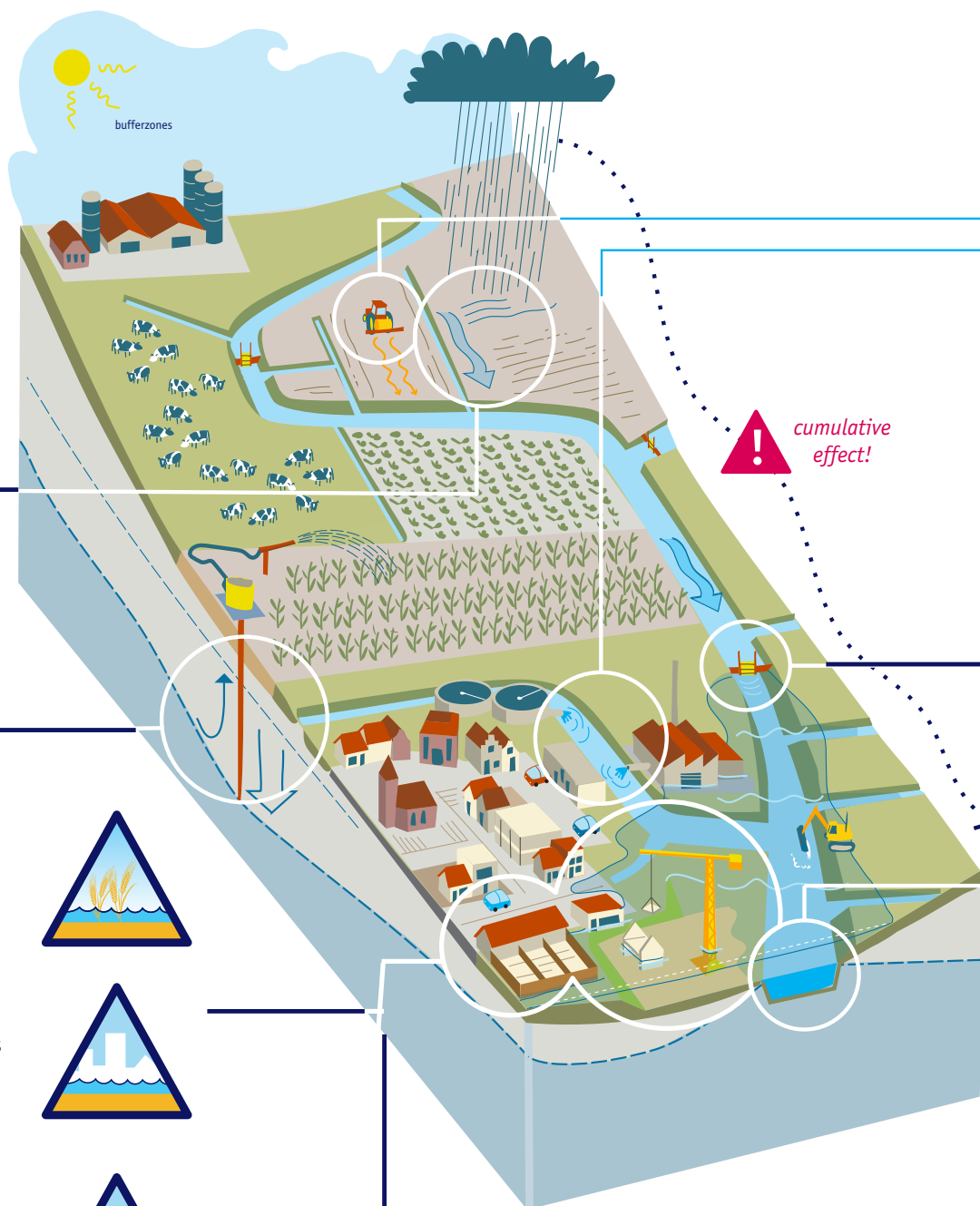
FLOODING

The rapid discharge in the upper reaches has a cumulative effect downstream, raising peak flows in the lower reaches.

Hard surfacing in urban areas and minimal space for streams hampers the smooth discharge of peak precipitation.

HEAT STRESS

In urban areas the lack of green space and open water causes rapid increases in temperature and slow cooling.



WATER QUALITY

Good water quality contributes to an ecologically resilient system, and therefore to a climate-resilient stream valley.

Water quality is under pressure. Intensive land use leads to pollution of streams with pesticides and fertilisers.

Heavy rainfall leads to storm overflows which discharge untreated sewage into the stream.



cumulative effect!



ECOLOGICAL DAMAGE

The straightening and regulation of streams largely prevents the operation of natural processes and degrades living conditions for plants and animals.