Sediment samples reveal the history

Harmful substances settle slowly to the sediment where they no longer affect marine animals.

Restrictions for use concerning harmful substances reduce the amounts of these substances in the water.

Simultaneously, new synthetic substances are introduced in the market. We do not know yet their effects, the effects of their decomposition products or their synergistic effects with other chemicals.

**HARMFUL SUBSTANCES**

**TRIBUTYL Tin**
- Antifouling paints in ships and ports
- Change of bleaching process
- Banned in 2010

**DIOXIN**
- Pulp bleaching, chlorophenol industry, combustion process
- Change of industrial processes
- Increase in use

**MERCURY**
- Coal combustion, chloralkali and wood processing industry
- Current load mainly from atmospheric deposition

*Measured off Loviisa in 2017*
*Measured in the offshore Gulf of Finland in 1998*
*Measured in the offshore Gulf of Finland in 2009*