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Metal contamination of estuaries and the
inner archipelago in western Finland

- off-site effects of acid sulphate soils

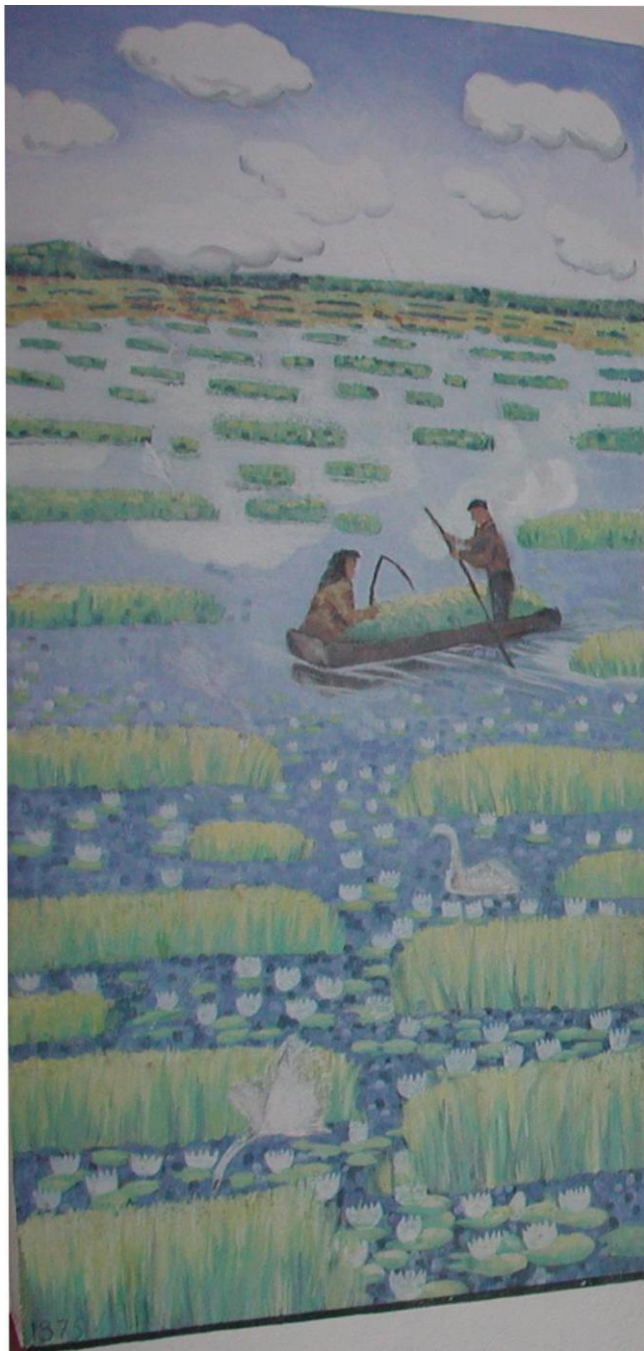






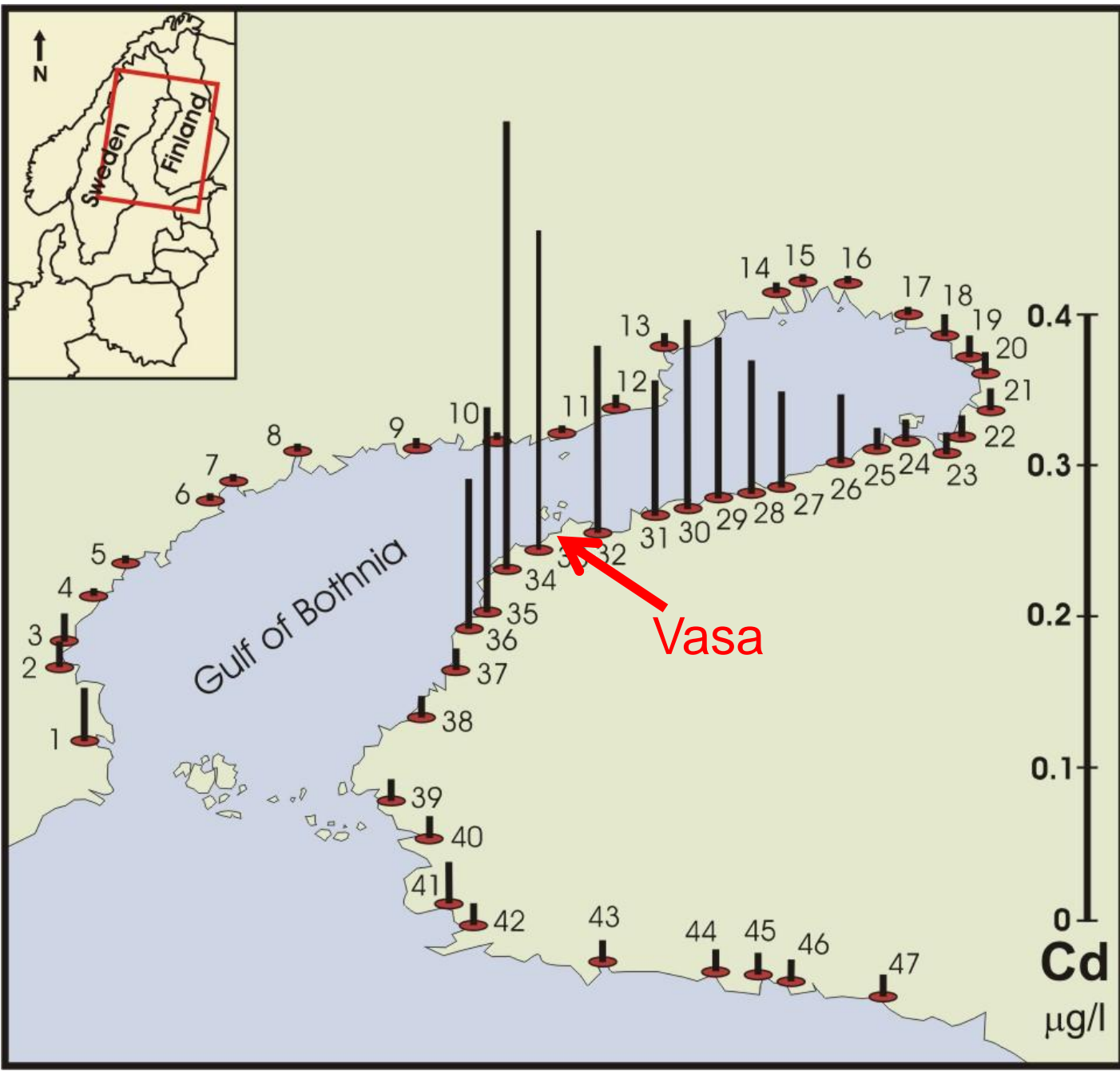
Photo: Gustav
Sohlenius







Acidified and metal-rich water



Western Finland, autumn 2006



What happens when the acidic and metal-rich creeks reach the estuary?

pH is neutralised

Metals will not disappear, and thus remain somewhere in the estuary/archipelago and possibly are transported to the sea

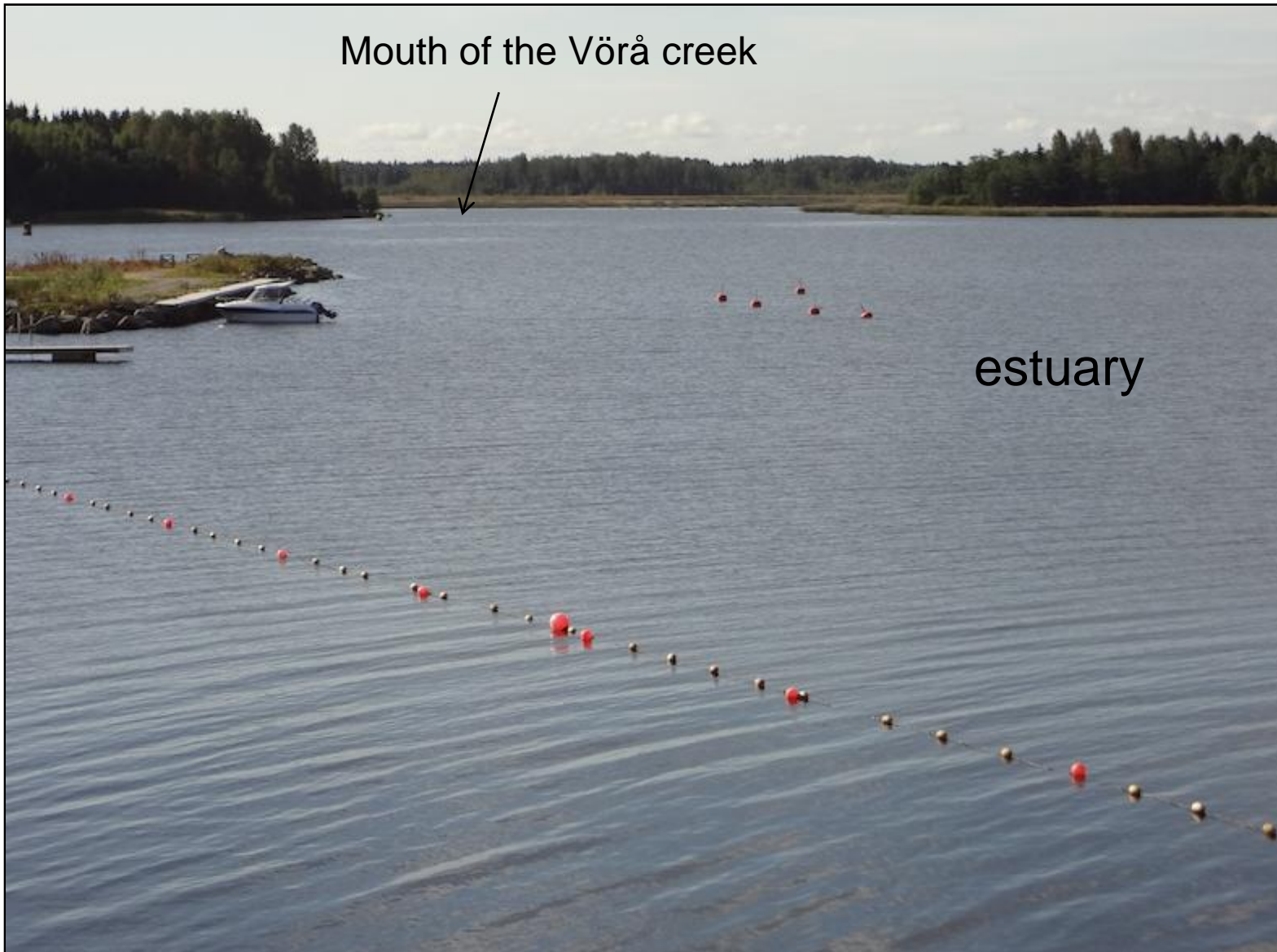


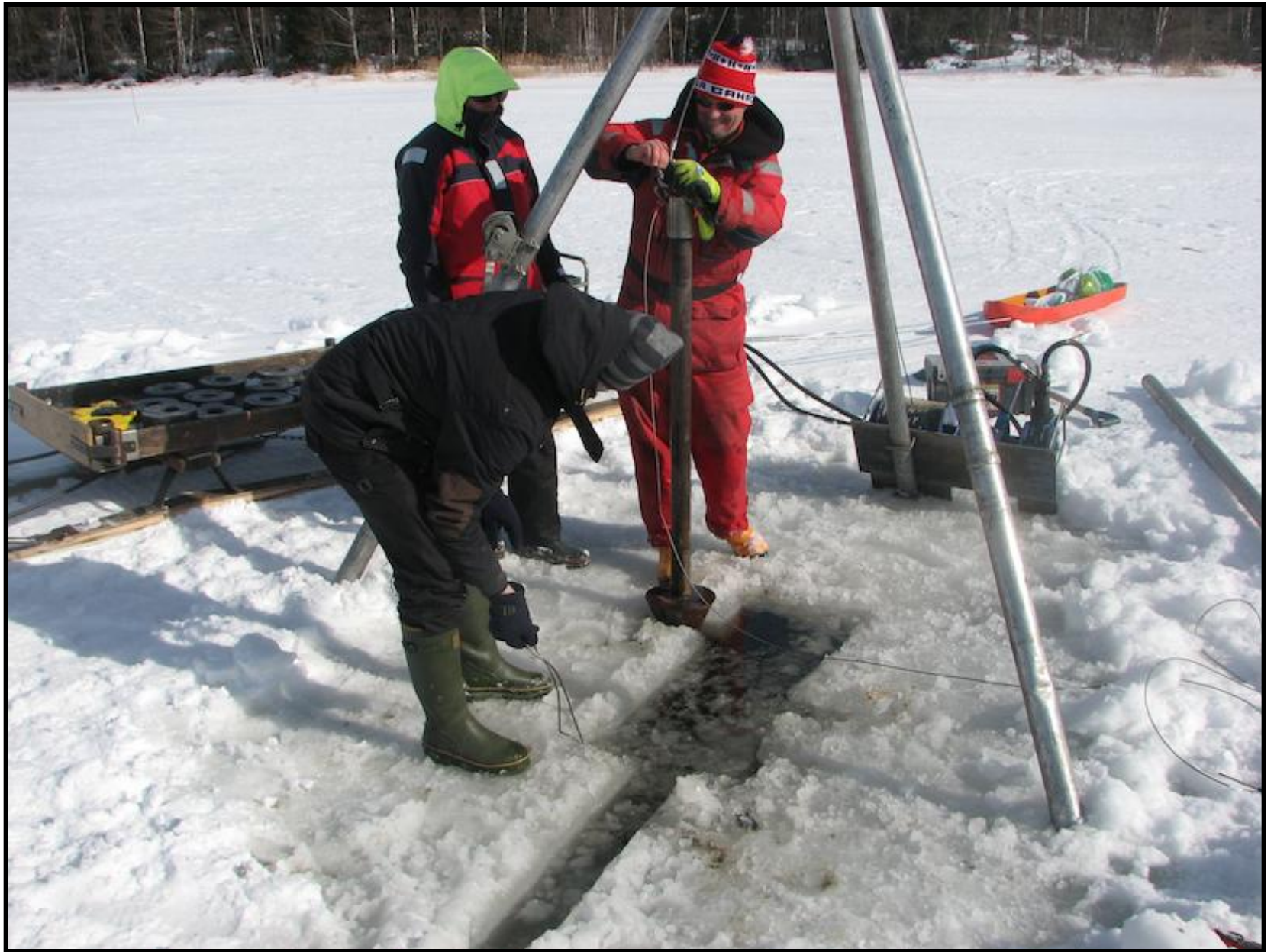


Mouth of the Vörå creek



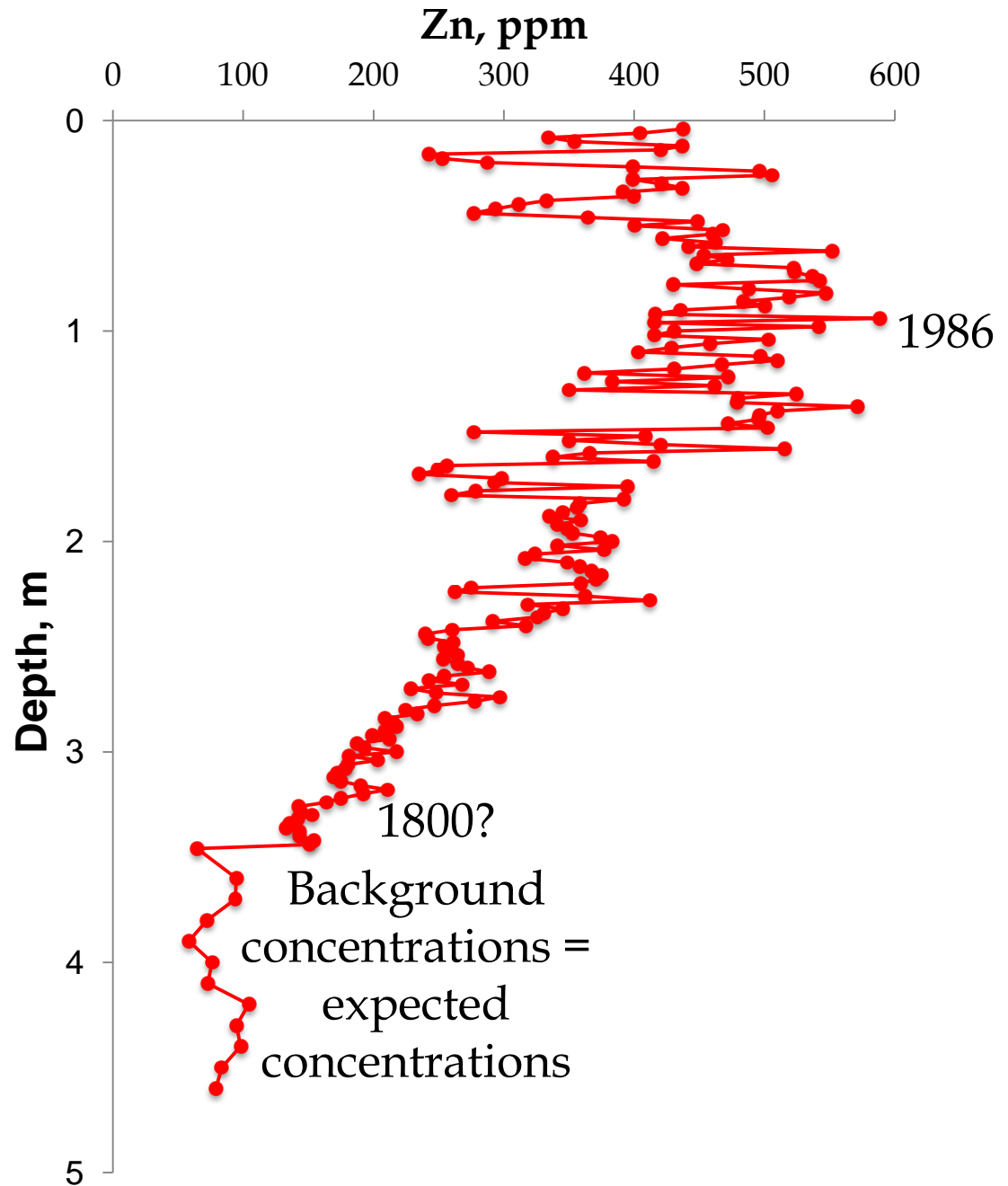
estuary

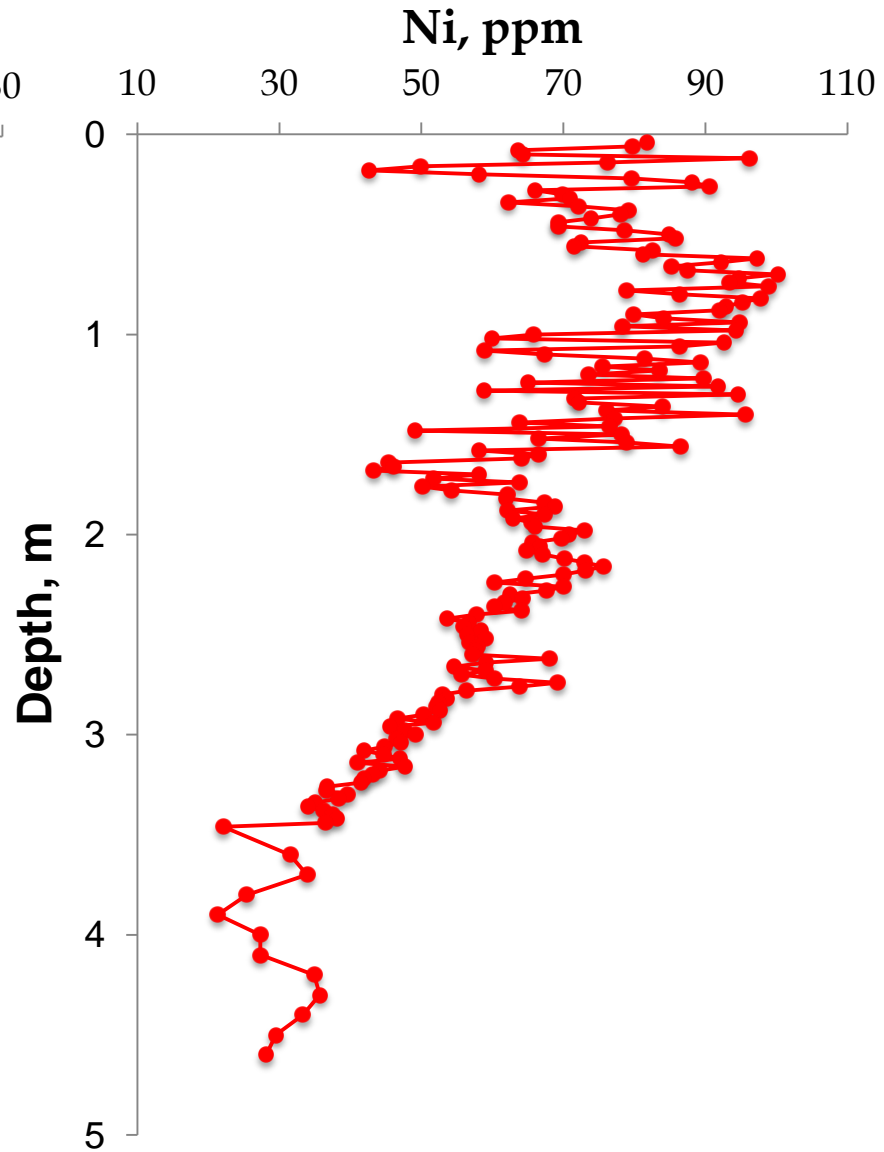
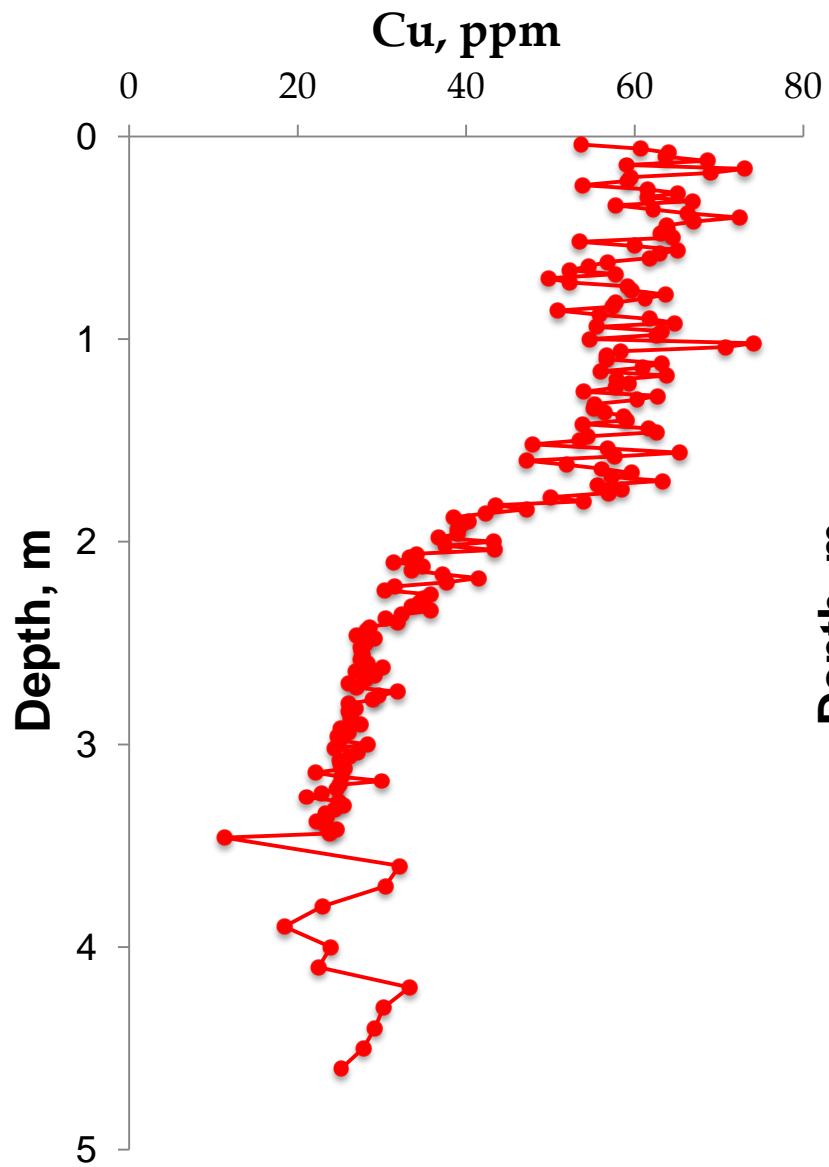


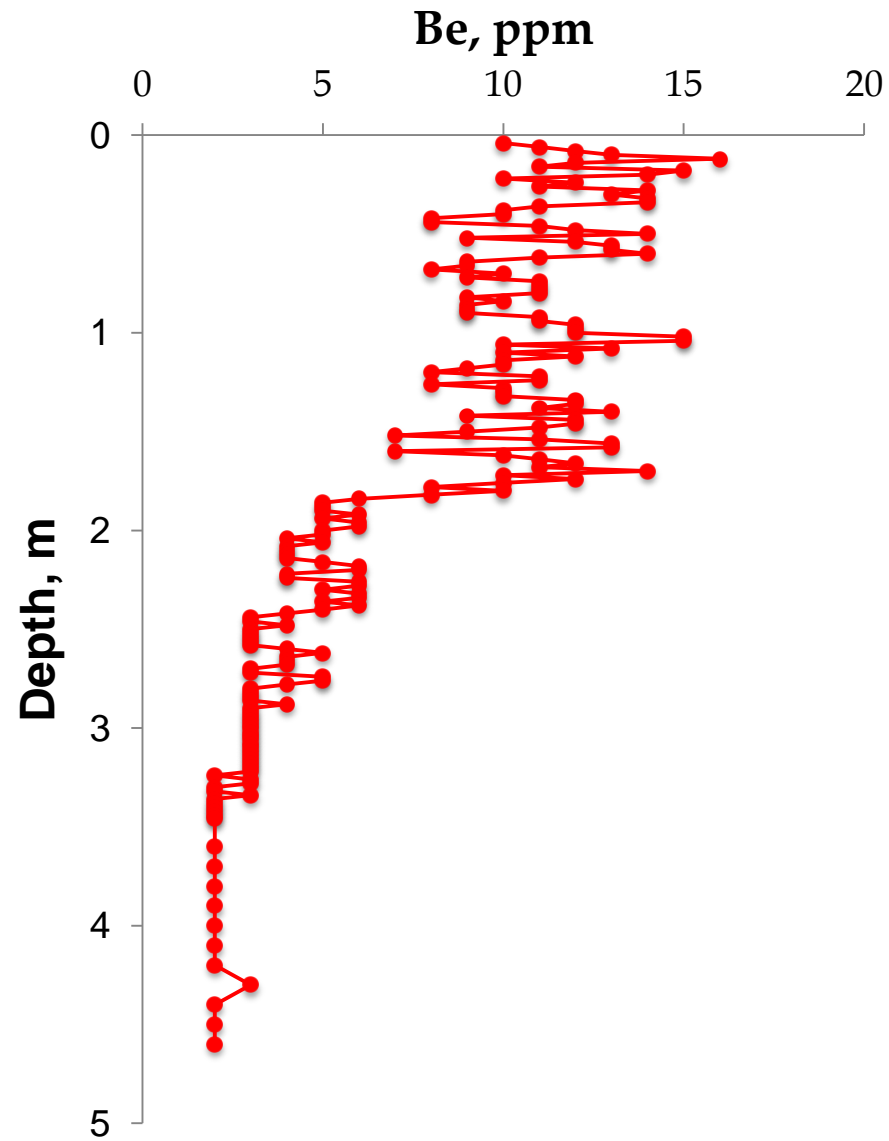
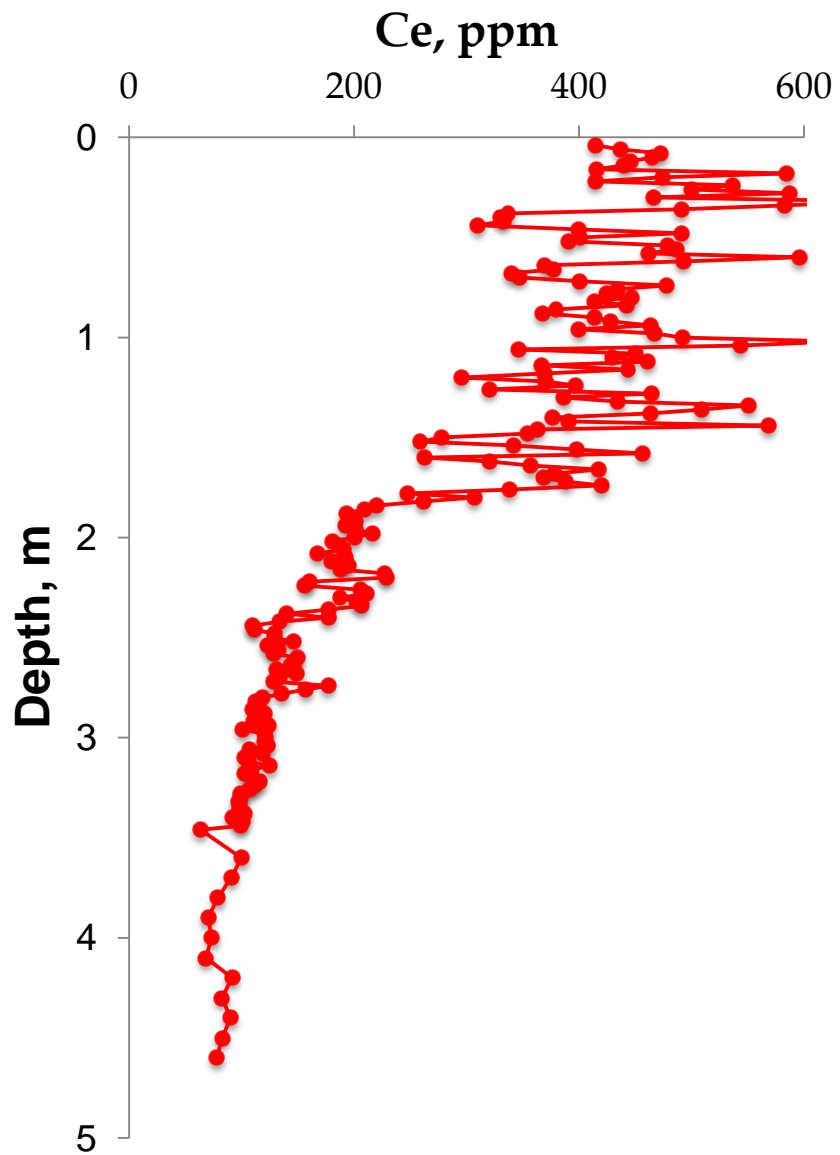














Metal contamination of sediments matters,
for several reasons:





estuary



The estuaries experience large variations in pH
and redox potential

.... leading to the possibility of metal release
from the sediments and thus contamination of
the waters

Harbor of Oskarshamn at the Baltic Sea, SE Sweden



The project of cleaning up the harbor sediments has a budget of 50 000 000 €

Thank
you!

