

# Prioritization of biocides for Monitoring of Swiss surface waters

part of project “evaluation and sampling concept of micropollutants from diffuse sources”

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# Content

- Prioritization method
- Results
- Comprehensive analytical Screening
- Conclusions

## Goal of compound selection for surface water monitoring (water phase)

- Compounds are measured or expected in **high concentrations**/loads and/or
- Compounds are **ecotoxicologically relevant**
- most **important sources** on the national scale are represented

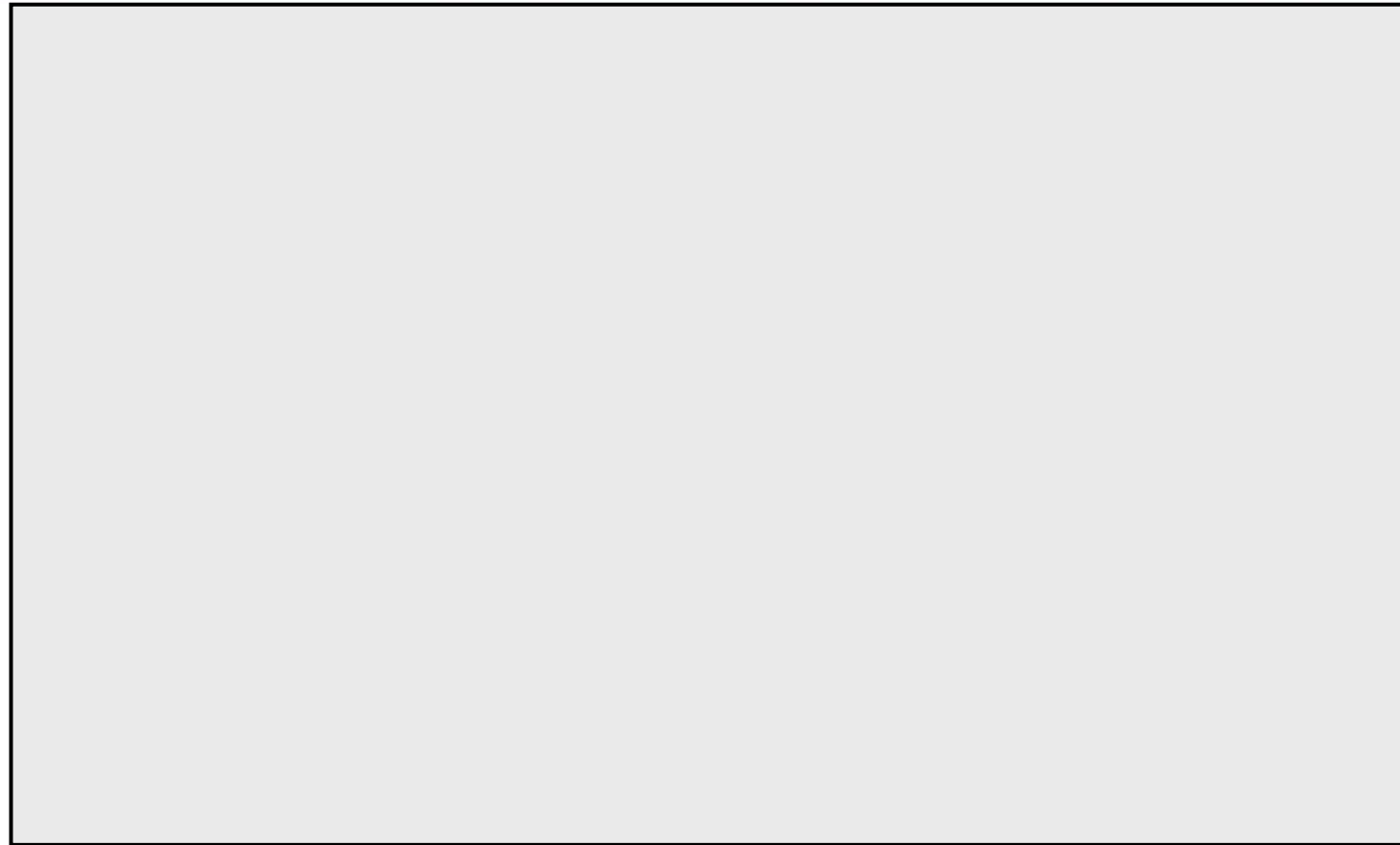
→ *The selection of biocides is part of a much larger project, where all compounds from communal waste water and diffuse sources are considered (In total 80 compounds)*

*Selection of 10-15 biocides for which environmental quality standards are derived.*

# Approach

1. Identification of surface water relevant biocides (categorization)
  - Available measurement data,
  - Environmental fate
  - Toxicity data
  - ~~Consumption data~~ (not available)
2. Selection of surface water relevant biocides based on further criteria
  - Sources (product types)
  - Screening,
  - Authorization
  - Expert knowledge
3. Discussion and final selection with stakeholders (federal offices, cantonal public authorities, industry)

# 1. Identification of surface water relevant biocides (categorization)



High measured  
environmental  
concentration

Input is likely  
and compound is  
toxic

Input is likely

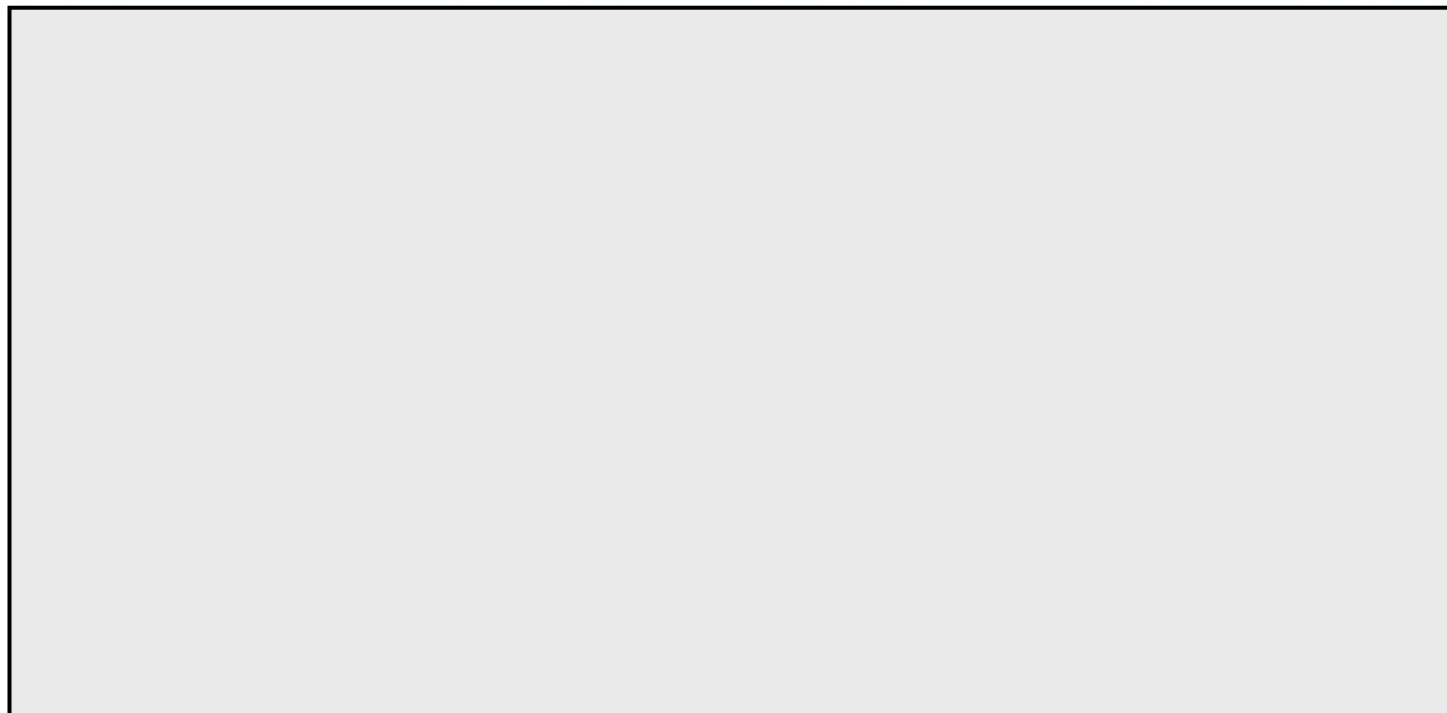
Not stable in  
water

Inputs are  
unlikely

**Surface water relevant**

**Not surface water relevant**

# 1. Identification of surface water relevant biocides (categorization)



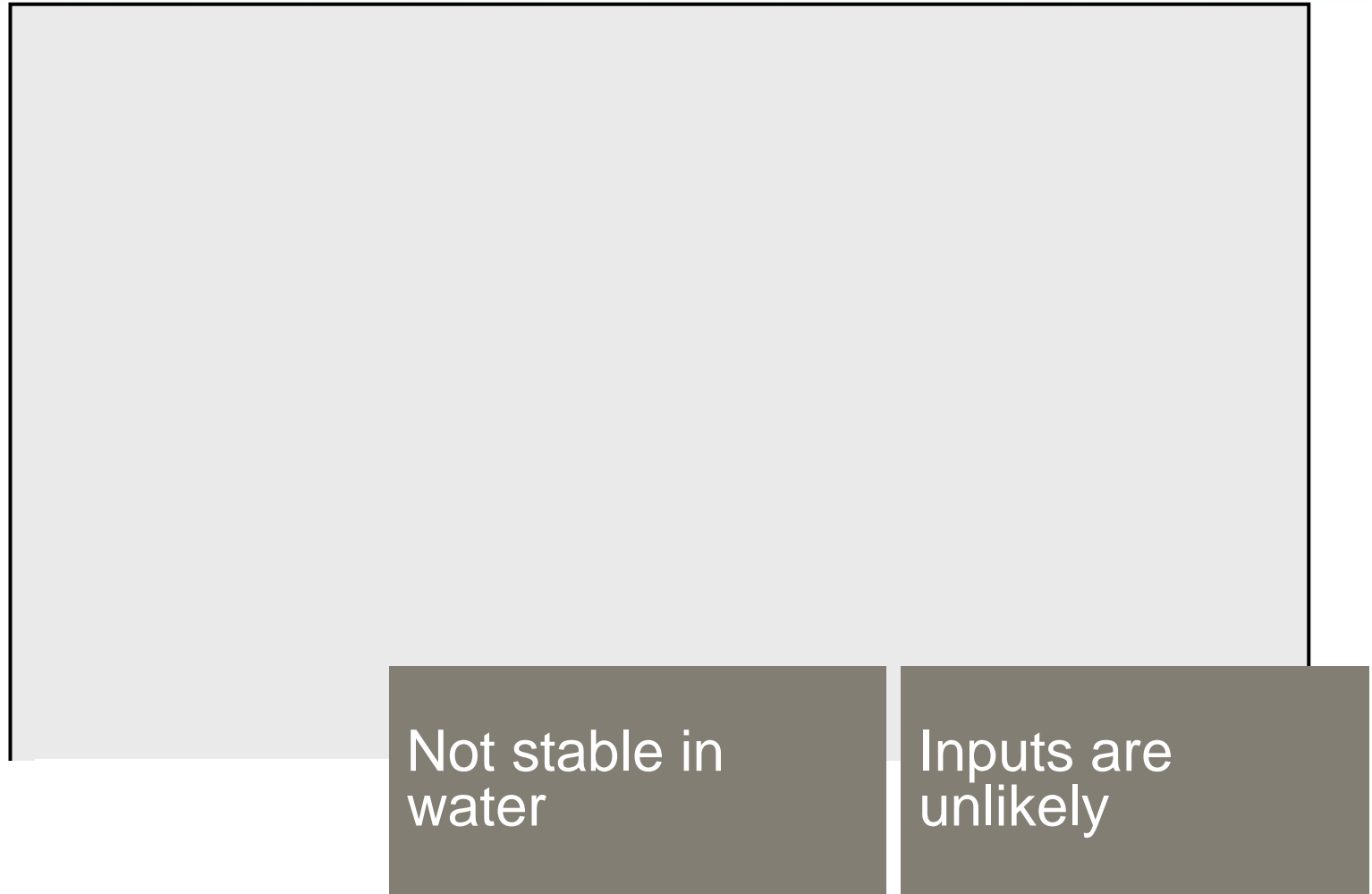
High measured  
environmental  
concentration

Inputs are likely  
and compound is  
toxic

Inputs are likely

**Surface water relevant**

# 1. Identification of surface water relevant biocides (categorization)



**Not surface water relevant**

# 1. Identification of surface water relevant biocides (categorization)

Measured  
environmental  
concentrations



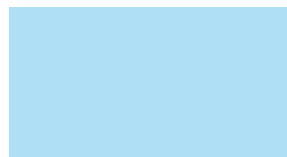
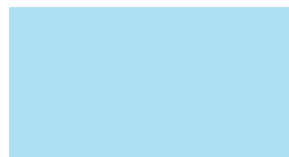
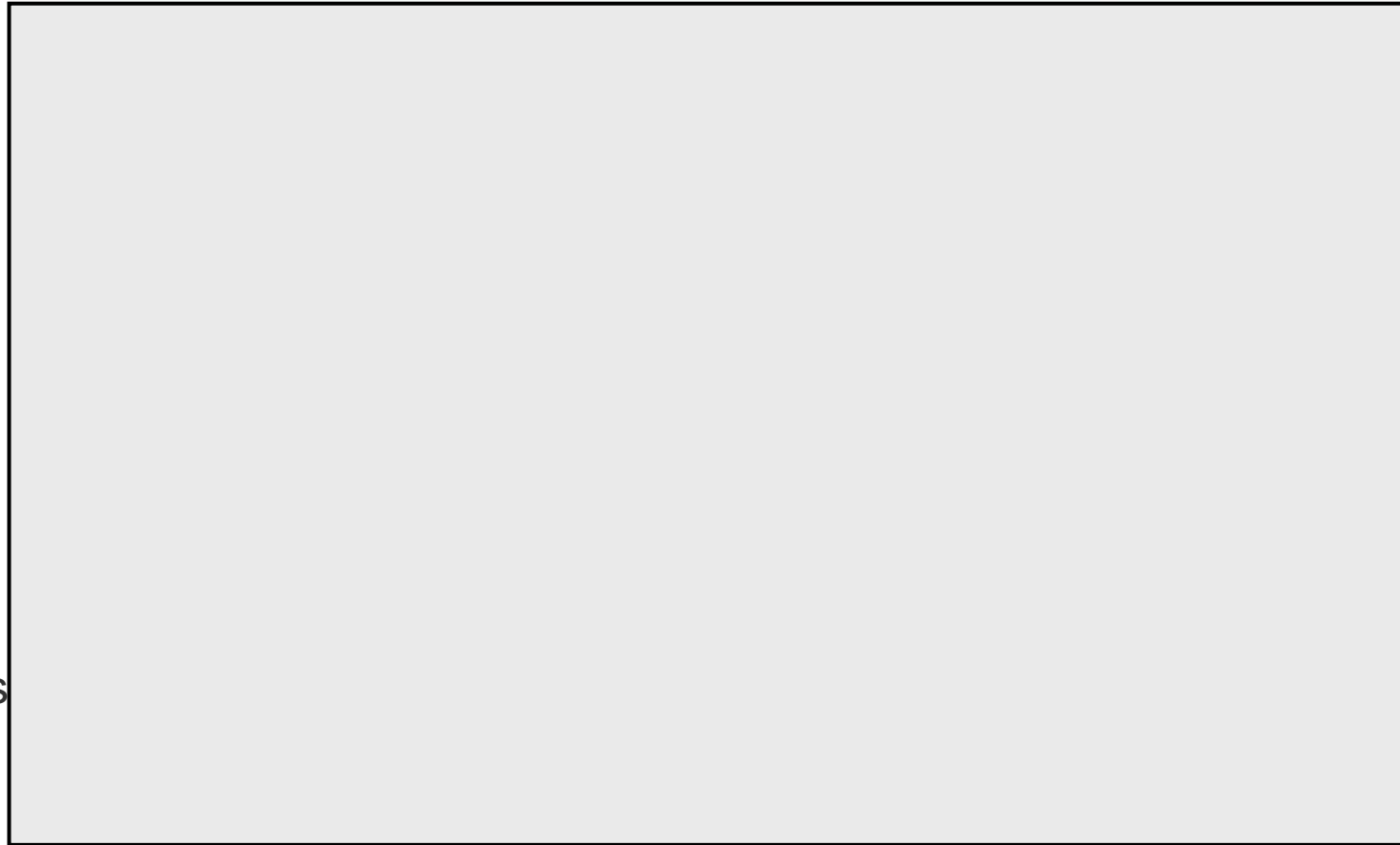
Estimated  
environmental  
occurrence



Prioritization  
environmental  
quality standards  
(prioUQW)



5 Categories

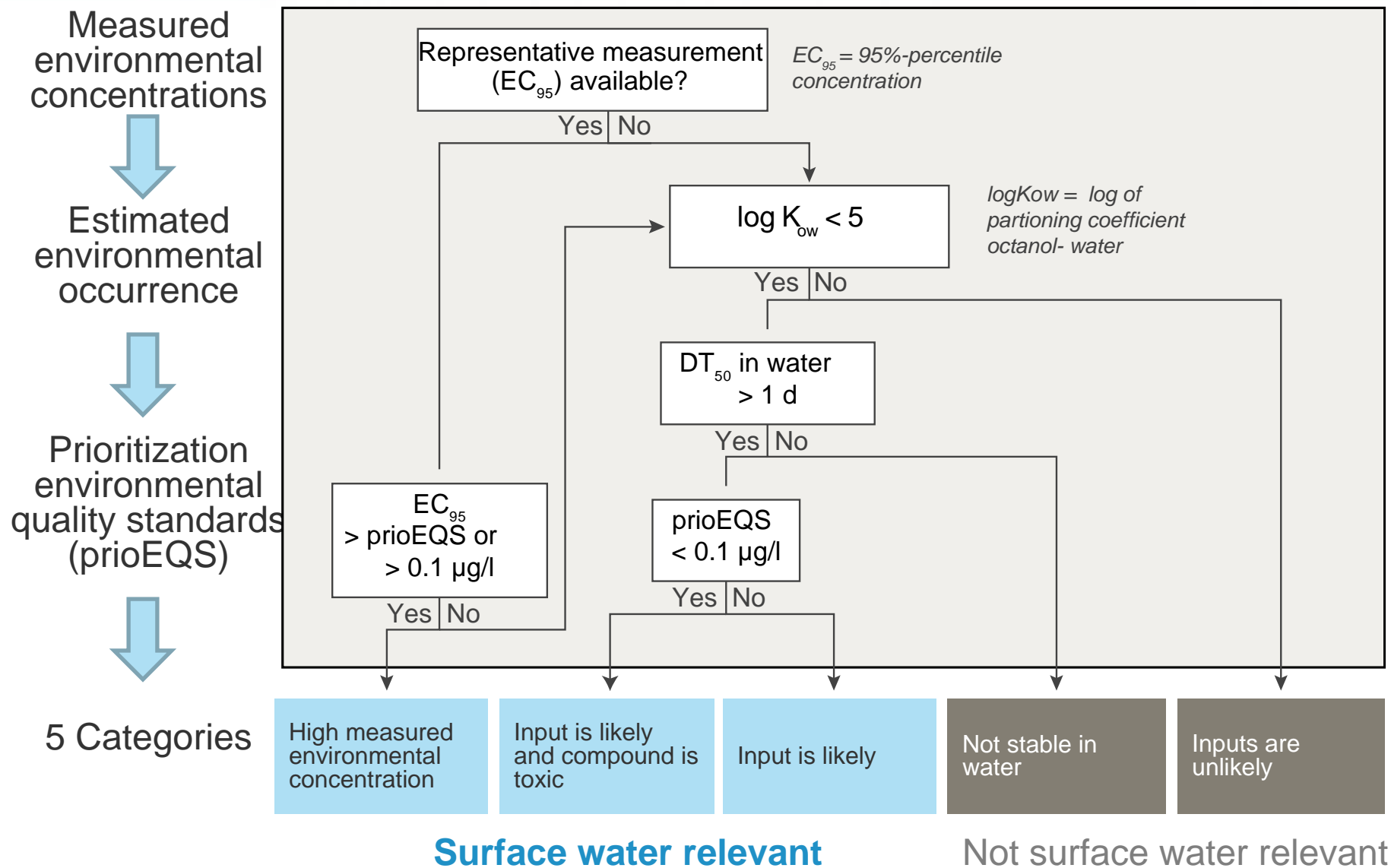


**Surface water relevant**

Not surface water relevant



# Categorization approach



# Results

## Number of compounds that are :

Notified (2012) **381** 

.. registered at least in 1 product +  
synthetic organic + no polymer + no QAC **151**

*QAC = quaternary ammonium compound*

Measured in Swiss surface water samples **46**

EC<sub>95</sub> > LOQ **13**

Measured and EC<sub>95</sub> high **2**

Measured  
environmental  
concentrations



Annual consumption data (2008-2010) **???**

Input likely... **74**

prio EQS < 0.1 ug/L **10**

Estimated  
environmental  
occurrence



# Results categorization of biocides

Number of compounds :

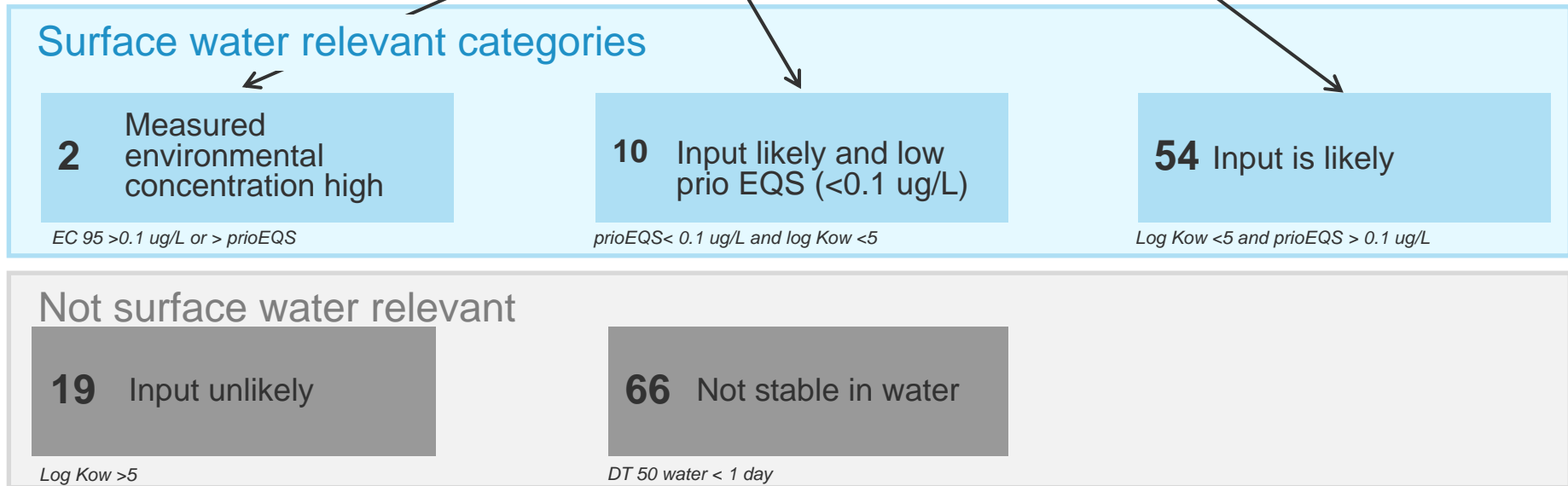
Synthetic organic etc. 151

Input likely... 74

...prio EQS < 0.1 ug/L 10

EC<sub>95</sub> > LOQ 13

Measured EC<sub>95</sub> high 2



## Selection of biocides I

A large proportion was not selected because they are :

33% (115) .. not synthetic organic

18% (66) .. not stable in water

25% (100) .. notified but were never allowed in any product

7% (26) .. quaternary ammonium compounds which are strongly sorbing

**→ Only 66 (<20%) of all notified compounds have to be taken into account.**

## 11 selected compounds are biocides but...

DEET	→ Insect repellent (MEC <sub>95</sub> > 107 ng/l)	(PT 19)
Mecoprop <sup>P</sup>	→ Bitumen sheets, garden and agriculture (cereals)	(not officially)
Diuron <sup>P</sup>	→ Facades and fruit	(PT 7,10)
Carbendazim <sup>P</sup>	→ Film preservatives and agriculture (fruit, cereal, rape)	(PT 7,9,10)
Diazinon <sup>P</sup>	→ No longer registered as biocide or plant protection agent, only as veterinary pharmaceutical	(forbidden)
Triclosan	→ Disinfectant, human hygiene	(PT 1,2,7,9)
Thiamatoxam <sup>P</sup>	→ Wood protection, pest control and agriculture	(PT 8,18)
Tebuconazol <sup>P</sup>	→ Wood protection and agriculture	(PT 7,8,9,10)
Terbutryn	→ Film preservative	(PT 7,9,10)
Irgarol	→ Antifouling	(PT 21)
Isoproturon <sup>P</sup>	→ Facades but main use rather in agriculture	(PT 7,10)

*P: also registered as plant protection product*

## Limitations for the selection

- Annual consumption data missing  
( Older (2007) rough estimations available (Biomik), new Estimations for PT 3,4,7,8,10,21 available soon)
- Registered in several product types and also used in agriculture
- The ten most toxic compounds belong mainly to pest control (PT 18) which probably have low consumption figures (Biomik)

Not represented product types:

- Veterinary preservatives (PT 3)
- Preservatives for processing systems (PT 11)

## Outlook- Biocide screening

- Screening of 2-weekly water samples (March-July 2012)
- 5 representative Swiss catchments
- 151 (surface water relevant and not relevant compounds) are analyzed  
(Target and non-target screening)

Potentially relevant compounds to be approved by screening:

Chlorkresol	→ Different uses	(PT 1,2,3,9,6,13)
Propiconazol <sup>P</sup>	→ Wood preservative (instead of Tebuconazole <sup>P</sup> )	(PT 7,8,9)
pyrethroids	→ (Deltamethrin, Tetramethrin) Analytical problems	

...

## Conclusions

- Only **66 of 381 (17 %)** notified biocides have been identified as potentially relevant for surface water (water phase) by the presented approach.
- **Consumption data** (as collect for plant protection agents) would improve identifying potentially relevant compounds
- Many potentially relevant biocides **are former or current plant protection agents.**
- **Quaternary ammonium compounds** are probably relevant but rather for the **sediment** and not the water phase.



**Thank you for your attention!!**

**Questions?**

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