

The overarching context to this investigation can be grasped from the following resources. We would urge that the Expert Panel also bear in mind that the South Bank Quay capital dredge is ongoing, with phase 1 permitting 700,000 m<sup>3</sup> of sediment licenced for disposal at sea, with a further 1,000,000 m<sup>3</sup> approved for sea disposal from March 2023. The South Bank Quay sediments are arguable the most toxic in the UK and should not under any circumstances be disposed of at sea. The commencement of the South Bank Quay dredging work has already been coincident with mass mortalities of whelks, the newly recruited generation of *Carcinus maenas*, and most unusually, a large wash-up of dead and dying northern krill, with wash-ups occurring sequentially down the coast from Hartlepool to Scarborough. This pattern is reminiscent of that seen following the September/October mass mortalities (see our plume transport model).

- 1) A BBC documentary 'We Are England' that provides important context particularly from the impacts on the fishing community: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/m001d89v>
- 2) A Channel 4 News investigates piece on the impacts of the dredging on marine life and the questionable environmental protection and licencing conditions surrounding the Teesport development. <https://www.channel4.com/news/are-marine-life-deaths-linked-to-pollution-caused-by-river-tees-dredging>
- 3) A follow-up piece focused on the dredging of the South Bank Quay: <https://www.channel4.com/news/is-dredging-the-river-tees-killing-marine-life>
- 4) A detailed podcast looking at the societal impacts and the science behind the NEFC investigation: <https://www.theguardian.com/news/audio/2022/nov/14/the-mystery-of-teesside-dead-crabs-podcast>
- 5) The recording of the EFRA Select Committee which explores these issues in depth: <https://www.parliamentlive.tv/Event/Index/051d857a-9fbd-4fd8-9f65-a706d65535a5?agenda=True>