Plastics pollution from placement of blasted rock masses in the sea

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Plastics from tunnelling should not enter the sea

• During tunnel construction plastics are used in detonating cords and explosives, as well as fibrous reinforcement of shotcrete linings in tunnels.

• There is a need for further information and preventive measures to stop the plastics from entering the sea.

Detonation cords are made of plastic and have been found floating in large amounts in the sea. Source: Stavanger Aftenblad. Photo: Jon Ingemundsen.
75 % reduction in spreading of plastics to the sea from tunnelling

- The project shall identify strategies and measures to stop plastics from spreading from tunnelling and blasting rock to the sea.

- This should lead to at least a 75 % reduction in spreading of plastics to the sea from tunnelling and blasting compared to today’s situation.

Plastic fibres from shotcrete linings in tunnels also risk to end up in the sea. Source: Stavanger Aftenblad. Photo: Jon Ingemundsen.