

### Field Studies Information Sheet – May 2017

The Vancouver Fraser Port Authority is continuing field studies in May 2017 as part of ongoing environmental and technical work for the Container Capacity Improvement Program.

#### Container Capacity Improvement Program

The [Container Capacity Improvement Program](#) was announced in 2011, and is the port authority's long-term strategy to ensure the timely delivery of required infrastructure to meet anticipated growth in the container sector. A key objective of the program is the use and capacity maximization of existing terminals before the construction of any new facilities. In planning for future capacity with this objective, the port authority considered opportunities to:

- Increase the capacity and efficiency of existing container terminals;
- Convert existing under-utilized terminals to handle containers; and
- Build a new terminal.

Improvements to existing container terminals within the port authority's jurisdiction include:

- [The Deltaport Terminal, Road and Rail Improvement Project](#). This project provides improvements that address road and rail constraints on and off-terminal, and includes additional equipment on the terminal. Once complete in 2017, this project will increase the container capacity of Deltaport to approximately 2.4 million twenty-foot equivalent units (TEUs).
- [The Centerm Expansion Project](#). This project is a proposed series of improvements to Centerm container terminal and off-terminal road and rail. Subject to regulatory approvals, the project would increase the container capacity of Centerm to approximately 1.5 million TEUs.

However, even with these improvements, and capacity increases planned for the Fairview Terminal in Prince Rupert, Canada's west coast will still require additional container capacity by the mid-2020s. To meet this demand, the port authority has proposed the construction of a new terminal at Roberts Bank in Delta, B.C.

- [The Roberts Bank Terminal 2 Project](#). The Roberts Bank Terminal 2 Project is a proposed new three-berth container terminal that would provide 2.4 million TEUs of additional container capacity annually. The Roberts Bank Terminal 2 Project is undergoing a federal environmental assessment by an independent review panel, under the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act, 2012*, and requires other permits and authorizations before it can proceed.

### Field Studies – May 2017

An overview of field studies that will be taking place in May 2017 is below.

<b>Overview</b>
<b>Biofilm</b>
Biofilm Dynamics Study
<b>Coastal Geomorphology</b>
Abiotic Parameters Study
<b>Shellfish</b>
Shellfish Sampling and Analysis Study

Some field studies taking place in May may require environmental authorizations and/or access to public and private land. Prior to starting any studies, the port authority will obtain any required permits and landowner permission before accessing private property.

The port authority has produced monthly field studies information sheets summarizing work planned during that month. Past updates regarding the Roberts Bank Terminal 2 Project are available at [www.portvancouver.com/RBT2](http://www.portvancouver.com/RBT2).

Study Name	Summary
<b>Biofilm – Biofilm Dynamics Study</b>  (continued from April 2017)	<p><u>Purpose:</u> To assess factors influencing biofilm community dynamics at Roberts Bank.</p> <p><u>Study Area:</u> Roberts Bank upper intertidal zones.</p> <p><u>Methods:</u> Biologists will collect sediment samples from the Roberts Bank upper intertidal zone and may analyze the samples for biofilm species composition and indicators of nutritional value to shorebirds. Abiotic parameters (temperature, salinity and depth) will be monitored at the sampling locations during this study.</p> <p><u>Timing:</u> This study will be conducted in May 2017 during daylight hours.</p>

Study Name	Summary
<p><b>Coastal Geomorphology – Abiotic Parameters Study</b></p> <p>(continued from April 2017)</p>	<p><u>Purpose:</u> To determine the physical conditions (e.g., temperature and salinity) influencing biofilm presence and distribution at Roberts Bank.</p> <p><u>Study Area:</u> Roberts Bank in the upper and mid intertidal zones north of the Roberts Bank causeway.</p> <p><u>Methods:</u> Water quality measurements (conductivity, temperature and depth) will be recorded in the mid and upper intertidal zones of Roberts Bank.</p> <p><u>Timing:</u> This study is anticipated to continue in May 2017.</p>
<p><b>Shellfish – Shellfish Sampling and Analysis Study</b></p>	<p><u>Purpose:</u> To collect additional information on contaminant levels in shellfish at Roberts Bank.</p> <p><u>Study Area:</u> Roberts Bank subtidal and intertidal zones.</p> <p><u>Methods:</u> Crabs will be collected from the Roberts Bank subtidal zone, and clam samples collected from the Roberts Bank intertidal zone. The samples will then be analyzed for contaminants.</p> <p><u>Timing:</u> This study is anticipated to be conducted during daylight hours in May 2017.</p>

### For Further Information

For further information, please visit our website at [portvancouver.com/CCIP](http://portvancouver.com/CCIP) or contact us:

**Phone:** 604.665.9337

**Fax:** 1.866.284.4271

**Email:** [container.improvement@portvancouver.com](mailto:container.improvement@portvancouver.com)