Container Capacity Improvement Program
Field Studies Information Sheet

Field Studies Information Sheet – November 2016

The Vancouver Fraser Port Authority is continuing field studies in November 2016 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 (currently underway); and
- The Centerm Expansion Project (planning).

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 twenty-foot equivalent units (TEUs) of additional container capacity annually.

No decision has been made to proceed with the proposed Roberts Bank Terminal 2 Project. The port authority is undertaking a comprehensive multi-round, multi-year community, stakeholder and public consultation process regarding the project. Please visit www.portvancouver.com/RBT2 for more information, including past consultation materials.

The Roberts Bank Terminal 2 Project is undergoing a federal environmental assessment by an independent review panel, under the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act, 2012*. The Project is also undergoing an assessment under the British Columbia *Environmental Assessment Act*, and requires other permits and authorizations before it can proceed.

Field Studies – November 2016

An overview of field studies that will be taking place in November 2016 is below.

Overview
Coastal Geomorphology
Abiotic Parameters Study
Marine Invertebrates
Orange Sea Pen Pilot Transplant Monitoring
Marine Mammals
Marine Mammal Observation Study
Geotechnical Conditions
Supplemental Geotechnical Investigations

Some field studies taking place in November 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.

Study Name	Summary
Coastal Geomorphology – Abiotic Parameters Study (continued from October 2016)	Purpose: To determine the physical conditions (e.g., temperature and salinity) influencing biofilm presence and distribution at Roberts Bank. Study Area: Roberts Bank in the upper and mid intertidal zones north of the Roberts Bank causeway. Methods: Water quality measurements (conductivity, temperature and depth) will be recorded in the mid and upper intertidal zones of Roberts Bank. Timing: This study is anticipated to continue in November 2016.
Marine Invertebrates – Orange Sea Pen Pilot Transplant Monitoring (Continued from April 2016)	Purpose: To monitor the effectiveness of the pilot orange sea pen transplant completed in August 2014. Study Area: Roberts Bank subtidal sea bed. Methods: Evaluating the health and density of transplanted orange sea pens via vessel-based SCUBA and drop cameras. Timing: Dive monitoring will take place in November 2016 during daylight hours.
Marine Mammals – Marine Mammal Observation Study (continued from October 2016)	Purpose: To document marine mammal presence and behaviour in the waters surrounding the marine terminals at Roberts Bank. Study Area: The waters in the vicinity of the marine terminals at Roberts Bank. Methods: A ground-based remote video surveillance system will be used to observe the proposed project footprint for marine mammals. Timing: To continue in November 2016 during daylight hours.

Study Name	Summary
Geotechnical Conditions – Supplemental Geotechnical Investigations (continued from October 2016)	Purpose: To conduct a supplementary geotechnical investigation within the footprint of the proposed Roberts Bank Terminal 2 Project. Study Area: Drilling will be undertaken in and around the planned footprint of elements of the Roberts Bank Terminal 2 Project, including the marine terminal and widened causeway. Methods: Drilling will be carried out using sonic drilling and cone penetration testing equipment mounted on a marine barge in the marine environment and on a truck for the land-based sites. In the marine environment, an accompanying tug boat will anchor the marine barge in specific locations to reduce marine disturbance. Upon completion of drilling, the tug boat will pull up the anchors and tow the barge to the next location, leaving no structures on the seafloor. Land-based drilling will take place during low tide hours, and all equipment will be removed from the site during higher tide hours. Collected samples will be analyzed to characterize sediment physical and chemical properties. Timing: To continue in November 2016.

For Further Information

For further information, please visit our website at portvancouver.com/CCIP or contact us:

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