

Field Studies Information Sheet – September 2015

Port Metro Vancouver is continuing field studies in September 2015 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 Port Metro Vancouver’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, Port Metro Vancouver 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 Port Metro Vancouver’s jurisdiction include:

- The Deltaport Terminal, Road and Rail Improvement Project (currently underway); and
- The Centerm Expansion Project (preliminary 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. Port Metro Vancouver is undertaking a comprehensive multi-round, multi-year community, stakeholder and public consultation process regarding the project. Please visit www.portmetrovancover.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 – September 2015

An overview of field studies that will be taking place in September 2015 is below.

Overview
Biophysical Conditions
Biophysical Underwater Data Collection
Coastal Geomorphology
Abiotic Parameters Study
Geotechnical Conditions
Geotechnical Investigations
Marine Invertebrates
Orange Sea Pen Pilot Transplant Monitoring
Marine Sediment and Water Quality
Marine Water Quality Study
Marine Mammals
Marine Mammal Observation Study

Some field studies may require environmental authorizations and/or access to public and private land. Prior to starting any studies, Port Metro Vancouver will obtain any required permits and landowner permission before accessing private property. As part of the Adaptive Management Strategy developed for the Deltaport Third Berth Project, Port Metro Vancouver will continue studies at Roberts Bank in addition to those outlined in this information sheet.

Port Metro Vancouver 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.portmetrovancover.com/RBT2.

Study Name	Summary
<p>Biophysical Conditions – Biophysical Underwater Data Collection</p>	<p><u>Purpose:</u> To collect biophysical underwater data in the area of the proposed western extension of the Centerm Expansion Project as well as the Ballantyne water lot.</p> <p><u>Study Area:</u> The water lots directly to the west of Centerm terminal and water lot east of Ballantyne pier in Burrard Inlet.</p> <p><u>Methods:</u> SCUBA and CCTV will be used to record any marine vegetation and wildlife in the waters surrounding Centerm Terminal.</p> <p><u>Timing:</u> This study is anticipated to take place in early September 2015</p>
<p>Coastal Geomorphology – Abiotic Parameters Study</p> <p>(continued from August 2015)</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> To continue in September 2015.</p>

Study Name	Summary
<p>Geotechnical Conditions – Geotechnical Investigations</p>	<p><u>Purpose:</u> To determine the soil stratigraphy, grains size distribution and density of submarine soils in the footprint of the proposed Roberts Bank Terminal 2 Project.</p> <p><u>Study Area:</u> Drilling will be undertaken in and around the planned footprint of the Roberts Bank Terminal 2 Project.</p> <p><u>Methods:</u> Drilling will be carried out using core drilling and cone penetration testing equipment mounted on a marine barge. 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.</p> <p><u>Timing:</u> Drilling activities are anticipated to take place in late September or early October 2015.</p>
<p>Marine Invertebrates – Orange Sea Pen Pilot Transplant Monitoring</p> <p>(continued from March 2015)</p>	<p><u>Purpose:</u> To monitor the effectiveness of the pilot orange sea pen transplant completed in August 2014.</p> <p><u>Study Area:</u> Roberts Bank subtidal sea bed.</p> <p><u>Methods:</u> Evaluating the health and density of transplanted orange sea pens via vessel based SCUBA surveys and drop cameras.</p> <p><u>Timing:</u> Dive monitoring may take place in mid-September 2015 during daylight hours.</p>

Study Name	Summary
<p>Marine Sediment and Water Quality – Marine Water Quality Study</p>	<p><u>Purpose:</u> To collect additional data on the relationships between physical parameters such as turbidity, total suspended solids and salinity at Roberts Bank.</p> <p><u>Study Area:</u> Ten locations from outer Canoe Passage throughout the Roberts Bank area (including shallow areas to the north and south of the proposed terminal, and over the Roberts Bank foreslope).</p> <p><u>Methods:</u> Water quality measurements and samples will be collected from a small vessel.</p> <p><u>Timing:</u> This study may take place during daylight hours in September 2015.</p>
<p>Marine Mammals – Marine Mammal Observation Study</p> <p>(continued from August 2015)</p>	<p><u>Purpose:</u> To document marine mammal presence and behaviour in the waters surrounding the marine terminals at Roberts Bank.</p> <p><u>Study Area:</u> The waters in the vicinity of the marine terminals at Roberts Bank.</p> <p><u>Methods:</u> A ground-based remote video surveillance system will be used to observe the proposed project footprint for marine mammals.</p> <p><u>Timing:</u> To continue in September 2015 during daylight hours.</p>

For Further Information

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

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