

### Field Studies Information Sheet – July 2014

Port Metro Vancouver is continuing field studies in July 2014 as part of ongoing environmental and technical work for the proposed Roberts Bank Terminal 2 Project.

#### Roberts Bank Terminal 2 Project

The Roberts Bank Terminal 2 Project is a proposed new three-berth container terminal which could provide 2.4 million twenty-foot equivalent unit containers (TEUs) of additional container capacity annually. The project is part of the Container Capacity Improvement Program, Port Metro Vancouver's long-term strategy to deliver projects to meet anticipated growth and demand for container capacity until 2030.

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, which began in June 2011 with Pre-Consultation, continued in October/November 2012 with Project Definition Consultation, and in October/November 2013 with Pre-Design Consultation. Please visit [www.portmetrovancover.com/RBT2](http://www.portmetrovancover.com/RBT2) for more information, including past consultation materials.

The proposed Roberts Bank Terminal 2 Project will be subject to an environmental assessment by an independent review panel.

#### Field Studies – July 2014

An overview of field studies that will be taking place in July 2014 is below.

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| <b>Overview</b>                        |
| <b>Coastal Geomorphology - UPDATED</b> |
| Abiotic Parameters Study               |
| <b>Lighting - UPDATED</b>              |
| Lighting Impact Assessment Study       |
| <b>Marine Mammals</b>                  |
| Marine Mammal Observation Study        |
| Underwater Noise Study                 |
| <b>Marine Invertebrates</b>            |
| Orange Sea Pen Reconnaissance          |
| <b>Marine Vegetation</b>               |
| Eelgrass Walking Survey                |
| Eelgrass Reconnaissance                |

Some field studies may require access to public and private land. Port Metro Vancouver will obtain permission before accessing private property. As part of the Adaptive Management Strategy developed as part of 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 will produce monthly field studies information sheets summarizing work to occur each month. These updates will be available at [www.portmetrovancover.com/RBT2](http://www.portmetrovancover.com/RBT2).

| Study Name   | Summary   |
|--|---|
| <p><b>Coastal Geomorphology – Abiotic Parameters Study</b></p>                                   | <p><u>Purpose:</u><br/>To determine the spatial and temporal variability of abiotic parameters influencing the known biofilm communities at Roberts Bank, and to supplement data collected as part of previous coastal geomorphology studies.</p> <p><u>Study Area:</u><br/>Roberts Bank in the upper and mid intertidal zones north of the Roberts Bank causeway.</p> <p><u>Methods:</u><br/>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><br/>To begin in July 2014 during daylight hours.</p> |
| <p><b>Lighting – Lighting Impact Assessment Study</b></p> <p>(continued from June 2014)</p>      | <p><u>Purpose:</u><br/>To assess existing visual impacts at Roberts Bank, as measured from selected vantage points, as well as identify any potential lighting changes associated with the proposed Roberts Bank Terminal 2 Project.</p> <p><u>Study Area:</u><br/>Terrestrial areas in Delta, B.C.</p> <p><u>Methods:</u><br/>Light meters will be used to assess light trespass and sky glow.</p> <p><u>Timing:</u><br/>To continue in July 2014 and during nighttime hours.</p>  |
| <p><b>Marine Mammals – Marine Mammal Observation Study</b></p> <p>(continued from June 2014)</p> | <p><u>Purpose:</u><br/>To document marine mammal presence and behaviour in the waters surrounding the marine terminals at Roberts Bank.</p> <p><u>Study Area:</u><br/>The waters in the vicinity of the marine terminals at Roberts Bank.</p> <p><u>Methods:</u><br/>A ground-based remote video surveillance system may be used to observe the proposed project footprint for marine mammals.</p> <p><u>Timing:</u><br/>To continue through July 2014 during daylight hours.</p>   |

| Study Name  | Summary  |
|---|--|
| <p><b>Marine Mammals – Underwater Noise Study</b></p> <p>(continued from June 2014)</p> | <p><u>Purpose:</u><br/>To capture baseline data on ambient underwater noise levels and southern resident killer whale (SRKW) presence at Roberts Bank.</p> <p><u>Study Area:</u><br/>The waters in the vicinity of Roberts Bank.</p> <p><u>Methods:</u><br/>At Roberts Bank, both ambient noise levels and marine mammal vocalizations are being recorded continuously for one year using a hydrophone cabled to shore.</p> <p><u>Timing:</u><br/>To continue through July 2014.</p> |
| <p><b>Marine Invertebrates – Orange Sea Pen Reconnaissance</b></p>                      | <p><u>Purpose:</u><br/>To evaluate existing orange sea pens and assess candidate sites for a sea pen transplant pilot project.</p> <p><u>Study Area:</u><br/>Roberts Bank subtidal sea bed.</p> <p><u>Methods:</u><br/>Reconnaissance via vessel-based drop-camera and SCUBA.</p> <p><u>Timing:</u><br/>Daylight hours over the course of two days.</p>  |
| <p><b>Marine Vegetation – Eelgrass Walking Survey</b></p>                               | <p><u>Purpose:</u><br/>To precisely map the edges of the eelgrass bed northwest of the existing Roberts Bank terminal.</p> <p><u>Study Area:</u><br/>Sand and mud flats skirting the northwest corner and edge of the existing Roberts Bank terminal.</p> <p><u>Methods:</u><br/>Two-person field crew pedestrian survey at the falling and low tides.</p> <p><u>Timing:</u><br/>Daylight hours on July 10<sup>th</sup> or 11<sup>th</sup>.</p>                                      |

| Study Name   | Summary  |
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| <b>Marine Vegetation<br/>– Eelgrass<br/>Reconnaissance</b> | <p><u>Purpose:</u><br/>To evaluate existing eelgrass beds and potential transplant recipient sites in and around Roberts Bank.</p> <p><u>Study Area:</u><br/>Eelgrass beds on the sand and mud flats in the Roberts Bank area.</p> <p><u>Methods:</u><br/>Reconnaissance via vessel-based snorkeling and SCUBA methods.</p> <p><u>Timing:</u><br/>Daylight hours in late July and extending into August.</p> |

**For Further Information**

For further information, please visit our website at [www.portmetrovancover.com/RBT2](http://www.portmetrovancover.com/RBT2) or contact us:

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