

### Field Studies Information Sheet – September 2014

Port Metro Vancouver is continuing field studies in September 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 – September 2014

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

<b>Overview</b>
<b>Coastal Geomorphology</b>
Abiotic Parameters Study
<b>Marine Habitat</b>
Subtidal Reef Reconnaissance
<b>Marine Invertebrates</b>
Orange Sea Pen Pilot Transplant Monitoring
<b>Marine Mammals</b>
Marine Mammal Observation Study
Underwater Noise Study
<b>Marine Vegetation</b>
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>(continued from August 2014)</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 2014 during daylight hours.</p>
<p><b>Marine Habitat – Subtidal Reef Reconnaissance</b></p>	<p><u>Purpose:</u> To reconnoitre existing and proposed artificial reef locations near Roberts Bank.</p> <p><u>Study Area:</u> Existing and proposed artificial reef locations south of the existing Roberts Bank terminals.</p> <p><u>Methods:</u> Evaluating the existing conditions via vessel-based SCUBA and drop cameras.</p> <p><u>Timing:</u> September 2014 during daylight neap tide periods.</p>
<p><b>Marine Invertebrates – Orange Sea Pen Pilot Transplant Monitoring</b></p>	<p><u>Purpose:</u> To monitor the effectiveness of the pilot orange sea pen transplant completed in August.</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 and drop cameras.</p> <p><u>Timing:</u> To begin in September 2014 during daylight hours.</p>

Study Name	Summary
<p><b>Marine Mammals – Marine Mammal Observation Study</b></p> <p>(continued from August 2014)</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 may be used to observe the proposed project footprint for marine mammals.</p> <p><u>Timing:</u> To continue in September 2014 during daylight hours.</p>
<p><b>Marine Mammals – Underwater Noise Study</b></p> <p>(continued from August 2014)</p>	<p><u>Purpose:</u> 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> The waters in the vicinity of Roberts Bank.</p> <p><u>Methods:</u> 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> To continue in September 2014.</p>
<p><b>Marine Vegetation – Eelgrass Reconnaissance</b></p> <p>(continued from August 2014)</p>	<p><u>Purpose:</u> To illustrate conditions of existing eelgrass beds and potential transplant recipient sites in and around Roberts Bank.</p> <p><u>Study Area:</u> Eelgrass beds on the intertidal sand and mud flats in the Roberts Bank area.</p> <p><u>Methods:</u> Pedestrian survey by biologist on the falling and low tides.</p> <p><u>Timing:</u> To continue in September 2014 during daylight hours.</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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