

**Field Studies Information Sheet – April 2014**

Port Metro Vancouver is continuing field studies in April 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 TEUs (twenty-foot equivalent unit containers) 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 Independent Review Panel.

**Field Studies – April 2014**

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

<b>Overview</b>
<b>Coastal Seabirds</b>
Effects of Lighting on Shorebirds
<b>Habitat Development</b>
Juvenile Salmon Observation Survey
Roberts Bank Onsite Habitat Development Survey
<b>Lighting</b>
Lighting Impact Assessment Study
<b>Marine Mammals</b>
Marine Mammal Observation Study
Underwater Noise Study
<b>Marine Fish</b>
Benthic Fish and Invertebrate Trophic Transfers Study
<b>Marine Vegetation</b>
Wetland Mapping

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 Seabirds – Effects of Lighting on Shorebirds</b></p>	<p><u>Purpose:</u> The purpose of this study is to assess the effects of artificial light on migratory shorebird spatial distribution and habitat use.</p> <p><u>Study Area:</u> This study will be conducted within the intertidal mudflats of Roberts Bank between the Roberts Bank causeway and Brunswick Point.</p> <p><u>Methods:</u> Surveys of shorebird abundance will be conducted at night at locations throughout the intertidal mudflats. Light measurements will be taken at each survey location.</p> <p><u>Timing:</u> This study will begin in April 2014. Survey locations will be scouted and confirmed during one daylight shift. All subsequent fieldwork will occur at night.</p>
<p><b>Habitat Development - Juvenile Salmon Observation Survey</b></p>	<p><u>Purpose:</u> The purpose of this study is to observe and note juvenile salmon use along the shoreline in the Burrard Inlet, and in the vicinity of berthed vessels and existing Port infrastructure.</p> <p><u>Study Area:</u> The study area includes the waters in and around Burrard Inlet.</p> <p><u>Methods:</u> Visual observation noting juvenile salmon use from along the shoreline, existing Port infrastructure, and by boat.</p> <p><u>Timing:</u> Work may occur during daytime hours in April.</p>
<p><b>Habitat Development - Roberts Bank Onsite Habitat Development Survey</b></p>	<p><u>Purpose:</u> The purpose of the survey is to investigate possible opportunities for habitat restoration in the vicinity of the marine terminals at Roberts Bank.</p> <p><u>Study Area:</u> The survey area includes Roberts Bank and the existing Port Metro Vancouver infrastructure.</p> <p><u>Methods:</u> The surveyors will walk along the dike and existing infrastructure to observe the natural habitat characteristics and identify opportunities for potential habitat enhancements.</p> <p><u>Timing:</u> This survey will take place during daylight hours in April.</p>

Study Name	Summary
<p><b>Lighting – Lighting Impact Assessment Study</b></p> <p>(continued from December 2013)</p>	<p><u>Purpose:</u> The purpose of this study is 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> This study may be conducted at the existing Roberts Bank terminals and from various viewpoints at Roberts Bank and the Lower Mainland, Galiano Island and Point Roberts in the United States.</p> <p><u>Methods:</u> Light meters will be used to measure existing lighting conditions at the Roberts Bank terminals and to assess light trespass and sky glow.</p> <p><u>Timing:</u> This study may continue in April 2014 and would take place during nighttime hours.</p>
<p><b>Marine Mammals – Marine Mammal Observation</b></p> <p>(continued from March 2014)</p>	<p><u>Purpose:</u> The purpose of this study is to document marine mammal presence and behaviour in the waters surrounding the marine terminals at Roberts Bank.</p> <p><u>Study Area:</u> The study area includes 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> This study will continue in April 2014 and will take place during daylight hours.</p>
<p><b>Marine Mammals – Underwater Noise Study</b></p> <p>(continued from March 2014)</p>	<p><u>Purpose:</u> The purpose of this study is 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 study area includes the waters in the vicinity of Roberts Bank.</p> <p><u>Methods:</u> At Roberts Bank, both ambient noise levels and marine mammal vocalizations will be recorded continuously for one year using a hydrophone cabled to shore.</p> <p><u>Timing:</u> Acoustic recordings at Roberts Bank will continue in April 2014.</p>

Study Name	Summary
<p><b>Marine Fish – Benthic Fish and Invertebrate Trophic Transfers Study</b></p>	<p><u>Purpose:</u> The purpose of this study is to assess polychlorinated biphenyl (PCB) trophic transfers within the food web of the Roberts Bank ecosystem.</p> <p><u>Study Area:</u> This study will be conducted offshore of the existing Roberts Bank terminals.</p> <p><u>Methods:</u> Benthic fish and invertebrate samples will be collected for subsequent analysis of PCB concentrations.</p> <p><u>Timing:</u> This study will begin in April 2014 and will take place during nighttime hours.</p>
<p><b>Marine Vegetation – Wetland Mapping</b></p>	<p><u>Purpose:</u> The purpose of this study is to map wetland and marsh ecosystems at Roberts Bank.</p> <p><u>Study Area:</u> This study will be conducted in wetland and marshy areas from Brunswick Point, southwest along the shoreline to the Roberts Bank causeway, and along the northern side of the causeway.</p> <p><u>Methods:</u> Wetland polygons will be delineated in ArcGIS through orthophoto analysis and classified using Terrestrial Ecosystem Mapping classification standards. Polygons will be field-checked to determine accuracy of classification and re-classified where necessary.</p> <p><u>Timing:</u> This study will begin in April 2014 and will take place during daytime 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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