

**Field Studies Information Sheet – December 2013**

Port Metro Vancouver is continuing field studies in December 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. 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 a thorough and independent environmental assessment.

**Field Studies – December 2013**

An overview of field studies that will be taking place in December 2013 is below.

<b>Overview</b>
<b>Coastal Geomorphology</b>
Continuous Measurement of Discharge Study
<b>Lighting Impact</b>
Lighting Impact Assessment Study
<b>Marine Mammals</b>
Marine Mammal Observation Study
Underwater Noise Study
<b>Sediment and Water Quality</b>
Sediment Characterization Study

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 – Continuous Measurement of Discharge Study</b></p> <p>(continued from November 2013)</p>	<p><u>Purpose:</u> The purpose of the study is to collect data relating to the flow discharge in Canoe Pass.</p> <p><u>Study Area:</u> The study area includes Canoe Pass (the southern-most arm of the Fraser River).</p> <p><u>Methods:</u> Sensors and probes will be installed within the study area. These will be connected to computers to collect and monitor data.</p> <p><u>Timing:</u> This study will continue in December 2013.</p>
<p><b>Lighting Impact – Lighting Impact Assessment Study</b></p> <p>(continued from November 2013)</p>	<p><u>Purpose:</u> The purpose of this study is to establish baseline lighting conditions at Roberts Bank terminals. The baseline visual inventory will then be used to conduct a lighting impact assessment.</p> <p><u>Study Area:</u> This study will be conducted from various viewpoints 100 to 200 m offshore of Roberts Bank terminals.</p> <p><u>Methods:</u> Digital photographs will be taken to build a baseline visual inventory of the existing lighting conditions at Roberts Bank. In addition, existing light levels will be measured using a light meter (photometer) and a sky quality meter which measures the relative darkness of the sky.</p> <p><u>Timing:</u> This study will continue in December 2013 and would take place during nighttime hours.</p>

Study Name	Summary
<p><b>Marine Mammals – Marine Mammal Observation</b></p> <p>(continued from November 2013)</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 may continue in December 2013 and would take place during daylight hours.</p>
<p><b>Marine Mammals – Underwater Noise Study</b></p> <p>(continued from November 2013)</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 is 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 December 2013.</p>
<p><b>Sediment and Water Quality – Sediment Characterization Study</b></p> <p>(continued from November 2013)</p> <p><i>Note: this study is tentatively scheduled for December</i></p>	<p><u>Purpose:</u> The purpose of this study is to characterize the physical and chemical features of the sediments that may be dredged or deposited as part of project construction.</p> <p><u>Study Area:</u> This study will be conducted in the main arm of the Fraser River, to the north of Westham Island and the South Arm Marshes.</p> <p><u>Methods:</u> Sediment will be collected from surface sampling locations using appropriate equipment from a small boat. Sediment samples collected will then be sent to a laboratory for further analysis.</p> <p><u>Timing:</u> This study may continue in December 2013 and would take place during daylight hours.</p>

**For Further Information**

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