

Field Studies Information Sheet – February 2020

The Vancouver Fraser Port Authority is continuing field studies in February 2020 as part of ongoing environmental and technical work for the Roberts Bank Terminal 2 Project.

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 TEUs of additional container capacity annually. The Roberts Bank Terminal 2 Project is undergoing a federal environmental assessment by an independent review panel, under the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act, 2012*, and requires other permits and authorizations before it can proceed. Please visit www.portvancouver.com/RBT2 for more information, including past consultation materials, to learn more about the project.

Field Studies – February 2020

An overview of field studies that will be taking place in February 2020 is below.

Overview
Coastal Geomorphology
Abiotic Parameters Study
Marine Vegetation and Invertebrates
Subtidal Habitat Survey

Some field studies taking place in February require environmental authorizations and/or access to public and private land. Prior to starting any studies, the port authority will obtain any required permits and landowner permission before accessing private property.

The port authority 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.portvancouver.com/RBT2.

A description of each field study listed above is provided on page two.

Study Name	Summary
Coastal Geomorphology – Abiotic Parameters Study (continued from January 2020)	<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> This study will continue in February 2020.</p>
Marine Vegetation and Invertebrates – Subtidal Habitat Survey	<p><u>Purpose:</u> To obtain field data on the distribution of subtidal marine vegetation, orange sea pen distribution, infaunal and bivalve communities, and fish habitats.</p> <p><u>Study Area:</u> The subtidal zone at Roberts Bank within, and adjacent to, the proposed terminal footprint.</p> <p><u>Methods:</u> Bathymetric and underwater videography data will be collected using vessel-based side scan sonar and a remotely operated vehicle to map subtidal marine vegetation, invertebrates and fish habitats. Sediment samples will be collected using a sediment grab sampler deployed from a boat. Samples will be sieved for infaunal macroinvertebrates and sent to a laboratory for quantification, biomass estimation, and taxonomic identification.</p> <p><u>Timing:</u> Field data collection on the distribution of intertidal and subtidal marine vegetation, orange sea pen distribution, and infaunal and bivalve communities began in October 2019 and was completed in November 2019. Data on rock reef fish habitat will be collected in February 2020 as part of SCUBA surveys.</p>

For further information

For further information, please visit our website at portvancouver.com/RBT2 or contact us at:

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