

Field Studies Information Sheet – October 2019

The Vancouver Fraser Port Authority is continuing field studies in October 2019 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 – October 2019

An overview of field studies that will be taking place in October 2019 is below.

Overview
Coastal Geomorphology
Abiotic Parameters Study
Marine Vegetation
Intertidal Habitat Survey
Marine Vegetation
Subtidal Habitat Survey

Some field studies taking place in October 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.

Study Name	Summary
<p>Coastal Geomorphology – Abiotic Parameters Study</p> <p>(continued from September 2019)</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> This study will continue in October 2019.</p>
<p>Marine Vegetation – Intertidal Habitat Survey</p> <p>(continued from August 2019)</p>	<p><u>Purpose:</u> To obtain field data on the distribution and density of marine vegetation in the Roberts Bank intertidal zone.</p> <p><u>Study Area:</u> The intertidal zone at Roberts Bank, and directly adjacent riparian habitat.</p> <p><u>Methods:</u> Follow up habitat surveys may be completed by biologists to further document the species composition and density of habitat forming marine vegetation types (e.g., eelgrass and intertidal marsh). Bare intertidal flats will also be classified according to the substrate types (e.g., mud flat, or percent sand, gravel, rock).</p> <p><u>Timing:</u> This study began in August and may continue in October if the need to collect further field data is determined.</p>

Study Name	Summary
Marine Vegetation – Subtidal Habitat Survey	<p><u>Purpose:</u> To obtain field data on the distribution of subtidal marine vegetation 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 (ROV) to map subtidal marine vegetation 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> Pending any necessary permits or authorizations, this study will take place in October 2019.</p>

For further information

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

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