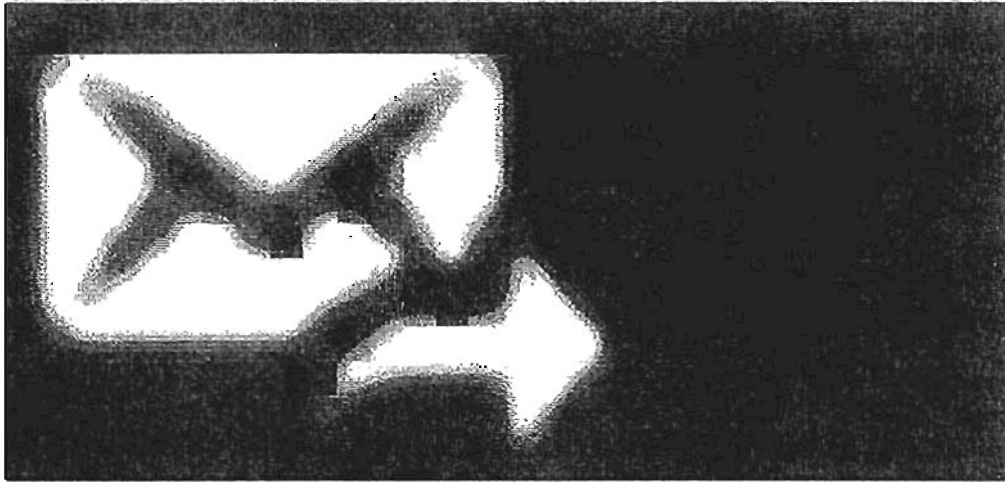


Mayor and Councillors

From: Port Metro Vancouver [public_affairs@portmetrovancover.com]
Sent: Thursday, 29 August 2013 10:15 AM
To: Mayor and Councillors
Subject: Habitat Banking Program - September Field Studies

Categories: 01-0140-20-PMVA1 - Port Metro Vancouver (Vancouver Fraser Port Authority - VFPA)



Habitat Banking Program - September Field Studies

As part of the Habitat Banking Program, Port Metro Vancouver will be conducting field studies at various sites throughout Metro Vancouver to inform the consideration of potential habitat restoration sites.

Field crews plan to visit Sturgeon Bank at Lulu Island in Richmond, and Maplewood Mudflat, east of the Iron Workers Memorial Bridge in North Vancouver in September, 2013. For more information, please read the Field Studies Information Sheet.

To learn more about Port Metro Vancouver's Habitat Banking Program, please visit the Habitat Banking page on PortTalk.ca.

Regards,
The Habitat Banking Team

PORT METRO VANCOUVER
100 The Pointe
999 Canada Place
Vancouver, BC V6C 3E4
telephone: 604.665.9100

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AUG 30 2013

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AUG 28 2013

Habitat Banking Program - Community Update & DISTRIBUTED

Dear Community Member,

Port Metro Vancouver's Habitat Banking Program involves creating and improving fish and wildlife habitat in advance of port development projects, to ensure potential impacts to existing habitat can be offset. This is a pro-active measure intended to provide a balance between the overall health of the environment and any future development projects that may be required for port operations.

Upcoming Restoration Works

Port Metro Vancouver is proceeding with salt marsh restoration works along Boundary Bay in Delta, BC as a part of its Habitat Banking Program, in September, 2013. The salt marsh restoration works at Boundary Bay will involve the careful removal of logs and other woody debris of predominantly human origin, where accumulations have negatively impacted marsh vegetation. Log removal works will include salvage for cultural purposes, shoreline garbage clean-up, and removal of contaminated materials such as creosoted logs. Strategically placed logs and root wads will provide perching opportunities for birds.

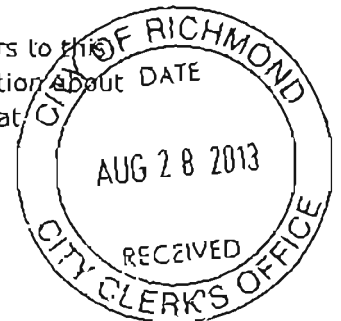
Restoration works will take place during daylight hours. Equipment on site will include excavators, large trucks and other smaller equipment. Access to dykes will remain during the works. Personnel will be on site to direct members of the public safely through the work site.

About Salt Marsh Restoration

Salt marsh habitat provides vital nutrients to fish. Heavy accumulations of woody debris can impact intertidal marshes, smothering marsh vegetation and compacting marsh soils. The removal of dense accumulations of logs encourages the rapid recovery of salt marsh, through the natural regrowth of native vegetation, restoring fish habitat. To learn more about the benefits of salt marsh restoration, visit porttalk.ca.

For More Information

Port Metro Vancouver will continue to provide regular updates to subscribers to this database. We will also regularly update Port Talk to provide timely information about Habitat Banking Program activities. We encourage you to visit the website at porttalk.ca to check for updates.



From: Harold Steves [mailto:haroldsteves.savefarmland@gmail.com]
Sent: September-02-13 4:09 PM
To: Silvester, Robin; heather.deal@vancouver.ca; clrdeal@vancouver.ca; mayor.corrigan@burnaby.ca
Subject: Fwd: FW: Leave Well Enough Alone

Hi Robin,

I can't believe you are doing this, destroying marsh habitat all around Boundary Bay in order to create new habitat where the old habitat was. Then claiming the new habitat as compensation for habitat you wish to destroy at Roberts Bank. It is totally absurd to replace one type of habitat with another and get credit for it..

Logs and tree debris have been part of the marsh building process in the Fraser River Estuary since the Ice Age 10,000 years ago. This is part of the natural succession as a mud flat turns to marsh and a marsh turns to upland. As the wood debris collects it decays and provides habitat, homes and protection for most of the small mammals and many of the birds found in the estuary. Eventually, over approximately a one hundred year period, it forms into a sea berm and shrubs, then trees, start to grow on it, first water loving willows, then Pacific Crabapple, Nootka Rose and other species. As the sea berm prevents erosion different types of grasses and sedges establish themselves inland from the berm than those outside the berm. This provides different habitat for different species. The West Dyke in Richmond was built on a Sea Berm called the "Crab Apple Ridge" in 1907. The house I live in is also built on the sea berm. One km beyond the West Dyke a new sea berm is forming and a few shrubs are starting to grow there. It is similar to the developing berm the Port wants to remove at Boundary Bay.

I have spent a lifetime watching and learning how marsh habitat and sea berms evolve over time. Our Belted Galloway cattle graze on our privately owned land between the West Dyke and the new Sea Berm.

Metro Vancouver's Boundary Bay Regional Park is located on a Sea Berm similar to the West Dyke in Richmond. The Boundary Bay Regional Park and a couple of smaller sites and Regional Trail are directly protected by the Metro Vancouver Green Zone. It does not appear that the wetlands are protected directly. However, they are protected by the International Ramsar Agreement, endorsed by Metro Vancouver and they are in a Federal Wildlife Management Area. Therefore Metro Vancouver has a direct responsibility to be consulted. The decision to remove the sea berm habitat should be a decision of Metro Vancouver in collaboration with the other agencies, not the Port.

I understand that the Ports' attack on the sea berm habitat is imminent. Please postpone this activity until we can have a full public discussion. The Planning and Agriculture Committee of Metro Vancouver meets on Friday, Sept. 6th. and the Environment and Parks Committee meets on Sept. 12th. I have copied this to the Chairpersons of those two committees. I would appreciate your immediate response.

↪ Regards,

Harold
7818073

Thu, Sep 5, 2013 at 1:53

PM

Silvester, Robin <Robin.Silvester@portmetrovanancouver.com>

To: Harold Steves <haroldsteves.savefarmland@gmail.com>, "heather.deal@vancouver.ca" <heather.deal@vancouver.ca>, "clrdeal@vancouver.ca" <clrdeal@vancouver.ca>, "mayor.comigan@burnaby.ca" <mayor.corrigan@burnaby.ca>

Hi Harold

Thank you for your email outlining your concerns regarding the Boundary Bay Salt Marsh Restoration Project. I would like to clarify that the salt marsh restoration at Boundary Bay is a part of our Habitat Banking Program, a corporate wide Port Metro Vancouver initiative. The Habitat Bank is being developed for use as required for any future port or waterfront development throughout Port Metro Vancouver. Should the proposed Roberts Bank Terminal 2 Project proceed, it would be

a candidate to withdraw credits from the Habitat Bank, amongst any other future needs that may arise from Port Metro Vancouver or its tenants and terminals. The project will rehabilitate once thriving marsh land through the removal of thick accumulations of sawcut logs and other debris including garbage and creosoted logs.

Regarding habitat credits, Port Metro Vancouver has a Working Agreement with the Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO) to create and improve fish and wildlife habitat in advance of port development projects. The Agreement includes criteria and process for the selection of habitat banking sites, guidelines around the measurement of credits and details regarding DFO regulation.

Regarding permits and authorizations, the Boundary Bay salt marsh restoration works are being undertaken on land in the provincial Boundary Bay Wildlife Management Area, which is managed by the provincial Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resources (MFLNRO). MFLNRO has permitted the restoration works at Boundary Bay and this authorization is posted online at <http://porttalk.ca/habitatbanking>. While a permit is not required by Metro Vancouver Parks for work within the Wildlife Management Area, a Special Use Permit for dyke access has been obtained.

Please let me know if you, or any of your colleagues, would like a briefing about the habitat banking program and proposed projects from the program leads.

Regards,

Robin