HABITAT ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM

Program Overview & Proposed Tsawwassen Eelgrass Project

Port Community Liaison Committee

March 7, 2017
Presentation Overview

1. Habitat Enhancement Program overview
2. Proposed Tsawwassen Eelgrass Project
   • Project rationale & ecological benefits
   • Consultation/engagement
   • Schedule
3. Questions
About the Habitat Enhancement Program

• Proactively creating and enhancing fish and wildlife habitat
• A formal Agreement has been established with Fisheries and Oceans Canada
• Balancing future infrastructure development opportunities with a healthy environment
The port authority started enhancing habitat in 1990s

Since 2013, we have:

- Created or enhanced 11 habitat sites that would cover an area of more than 13 football fields
- Completed feasibility work for over 100 hectares of potential habitat enhancement
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Proposed Tsawwassen Eelgrass Project

BC FERRIES TSAWWASSEN TERMINAL

RECREATIONAL NAVIGATION CHANNEL

PROPOSED EELGRASS SITES

SITE 1

SITE 2

ROBERTS BANK

PORT of Vancouver
Project design
Eelgrass beds

- Important habitat for fish and wildlife including juvenile salmon, Pacific herring, Dungeness crab, migrating Brant geese, bivalves, shrimp, and sea stars
Consultation & engagement

• Public consultation from March 20 – April 7, 2017 (dates TBC)
  • Engagement with communities, stakeholders and the public regarding the proposed Tsawwassen Eelgrass Project
  • Includes: Discussion guide & feedback form
    - Online feedback form
    - Public open house (Delta)

• Consultation topics include: input on proposed mitigation measures during construction, notification of project updates

• A separate but parallel consultation process with Aboriginal groups is being led by VFPA
Tsawwassen Eelgrass Project

- Consultation/engagement: spring 2017
- Land agreements & final regulatory approvals in place by summer 2017
- Tender earthworks: summer 2017
- Construction start: late summer/early fall 2017
- Transplanting eelgrass: summer seasons 2018 & 2019
Questions

• Questions?