

# Field Studies Information Sheet

## PEACE RIVER SITE C HYDRO PROJECT

### March 2009 Field Study Overview

BC Hydro continues to conduct environmental and engineering field studies on and around the Peace River, between the Williston Reservoir and the B.C.-Alberta border, as part of the Stage 2 evaluation of the potential Site C project. Below is an overview of studies that will be taking place in March. Additional study activities may occur; notice of these studies will be posted at [www.bchydro.com/sitec](http://www.bchydro.com/sitec).

#### March 2009 Overview:

Field Study (additional details are attached)	Timing
Wildlife studies in Peace River region	March <i>Ongoing studies</i>
Peace River Angler and River-Based Recreational Use Study	March <i>Ongoing monthly</i>
Reading of Slope Monitoring Instrumentation on the North Bank	March <i>Ongoing bi-weekly monitoring</i>
Wind Monitoring in Peace River region	March <i>Ongoing monitoring</i>

Because much of the information currently known about the potential Site C project is almost 25 years old, information from new field studies is required to update engineering, environmental studies, and other technical work.

No decision has been made to build Site C. BC Hydro is taking a stage-by-stage approach to the evaluation of the potential project and is currently in Stage 2 – Project Definition and Consultation.

Field study updates are available on the website at [www.bchydro.com/sitec](http://www.bchydro.com/sitec) and in the Community Consultation Office: 9948 100th Avenue, Fort St. John.

#### SITE C FIELD STUDIES MARCH 2009

- Some field studies may require access to public and private land. BC Hydro will obtain permission before accessing private property.
- Ongoing, regular BC Hydro operations work may also be taking place on the Peace River and tributaries. This work is in addition to the Site C field study activities outlined here.

For further information, please contact:

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FOR GENERATIONS

[www.bchydro.com/sitec](http://www.bchydro.com/sitec)

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Study Name	Description, location and access needed	Timing
<b>Wildlife Studies in the Peace River region</b>	<p>BC Hydro is conducting wildlife surveys in the Peace River area from Hudson's Hope to the B.C.-Alberta border.</p> <p>Current surveys include :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fisher surveys</li> <li>• Ungulate winter range surveys</li> <li>• Stone Sheep surveys</li> </ul> <p>Fisher hair snagging boxes have been set-up within a 20 square kilometre grid (4.5 x 4.5 km) between the Peace Canyon Dam and the potential Site C dam location. Visits to the sites to place bait and collect hair samples will occur monthly between January and March 2009.</p> <p>Ground based ungulate and stone sheep winter track counts will be completed by the end of March 2009. Stone sheep surveys will continue into summer 2009.</p> <p>Access to the survey areas will be by vehicle, boat and/or helicopter.</p>	<p>March 2009</p> <p><i>Ongoing surveys</i></p>
<b>Peace River Angler and River- Based Recreational Use Survey</b>	<p>BC Hydro is conducting a monthly angler and river-based recreation use survey along the Peace River and tributaries between Peace Canyon Dam and the B.C.-Alberta border.</p> <p>This study will result in a detailed survey of current angler and recreational use and valid estimates of total angler effort and catch each year. Estimates of angler effort will be made using flyovers of the study area in fixed-wing aircraft.</p> <p>The average catch will be estimated from shore-based interviews at boat landing or fishing sites. Flyovers and interviews will be conducted on a monthly basis through to fall 2009.</p>	<p>Commenced May 2008</p> <p><i>Surveys to run monthly through to fall 2009</i></p>
<b>Reading of Slope Monitoring Instrumentation on the North Bank</b>	<p>BC Hydro is conducting a program to read slope monitoring instruments and to confirm and document surface geology at various sites along the north banks of the Peace River, upstream from the potential Site C dam area. The monitoring of instrumentation on the north bank will continue bi-weekly throughout the winter.</p> <p>North bank access will be by vehicle or snowmobile via the North Bank Access Road.</p>	<p>March 2009</p> <p><i>Ongoing bi-weekly monitoring</i></p>

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<b>Wind Monitoring in the Peace River region</b>	<p>BC Hydro has initiated the collection of wind data to assist in the engineering evaluations for the potential Site C project.</p> <p>Five temporary wind monitoring stations have been placed on private and BC Hydro owned land between Hudson's Hope and the potential Site C dam location.</p> <p>Stations will be visited regularly to retrieve data. Access to the sites of the wind monitoring stations will be by vehicle.</p>	March 2009  <i>Ongoing monitoring</i>
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