

## FIELD STUDIES INFORMATION SHEET

## February and March 2011 – BC Hydro Mule Deer, Moose and Elk Monitoring Program

BC Hydro initiated a mule deer, moose and elk monitoring study in <u>2010</u>. The purpose of the study is to further the understanding of ungulate habitat use and movement patterns in the Peace River Valley.

The study will be completed in three phases:

- Phase I: capture and collaring
- Phase II: monitoring, data collection, analysis
- Phase III: recapture for collar recovery

BC Hydro is currently in Phase II: monitoring, data collection and analysis, which involves tracking collared animals and collecting data on their habitat use and movement for up to two years. During this phase, ground surveys are being conducted during birthing and winter seasons to support and complement the monitoring data.

Between **February and March 2011**, BC Hydro, with the assistance of the Ministry of Natural Resource Operations, will be leading the re-deployment of eight GPS collars on mule deer, moose and elk. Net gun capture will be used. Additional GPS collars that become available during these months will also be redeployed. An additional 10 mule deer will be captured and outfitted with VHF collars using drop-net stations. The re-deployment will take place in the Peace River valley between Hudson's Hope and the Alberta border.

For further information, please contact: Kate O'Neil, Community Relations Site C Clean Energy Project Community Consultation Office – Fort St. John Office: 250-785-3415 Cell: 250-793-5416

## MULE DEER, MOOSE AND ELK MONITORING PROGRAM February and March 2011

- BC Hydro is conducting a mule deer, moose and elk study.
- Between February and March 2011, eight GPS collars will be re-deployed on mule deer, moose and elk. VHF collars will be deployed for 10 mule deer.
- The study area is the Peace River valley between Hudson's Hope and the Alberta border, with collaring focused within approximately one kilometre of the Peace River.
- BC Hydro will seek permission before entering any private land.

