

FIELD STUDIES INFORMATION SHEET

Amphibian Surveys: March – August 2014

The Site C Clean Energy Project is currently undergoing a cooperative environmental assessment by the Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency and the B.C. Environmental Assessment Office. BC Hydro is continuing to conduct environmental and engineering field studies on and around the Peace River between the Williston Reservoir and the Alberta border to inform detailed mitigation and monitoring planning. Project construction will not take place unless Site C receives environmental certification, regulatory permits and authorizations, and approvals to proceed.

BC Hydro is conducting additional amphibian surveys along existing petroleum access roads east of the Jackfish Lake Road on the south bank of the Peace River, to collect additional data that will be used to assist in mitigation planning. Surveys will focus on the western toad, which is a species of special concern that is known to breed in the area. During the summer months the juveniles can conduct mass migration away from breeding habitats. The study area includes the length of the existing access roads and an area up to 100 metres on either side of the roads.

This field study will build on the baseline data collected in 2006, 2008 and 2013. Spring surveys (to be conducted in late March, April or May) will focus on documenting the location and type of suitable amphibian breeding habitat while summer surveys (to be conducted in July or August) will document toad dispersal locations along the road alignment. A combination of pond-breeding surveys, juvenile migration surveys and wetland habitat assessments will be conducted.

The surveys will be conducted by two professional biologists. Data collected will be used to provide site specific recommendations for mitigation measures that can be incorporated in road design.

Field study updates are available at www.sitecproject.com and in the Community Consultation offices in Fort St. John and Hudson's Hope.

For further information, please contact:
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AMPHIBIAN SURVEYS March – August 2014

- BC Hydro is conducting amphibian surveys along the existing petroleum development roads in the vicinity of Jackfish Lake Road on the south bank of the Peace River.
- Surveys will focus on documenting locations and types of suitable amphibian breeding habitat and dispersal locations.
- Keystone Wildlife Research is leading the work.