

Site C Construction Schedule: September 5 – 18, 2020



We continue to build the upstream cofferdam across the river. Once fully across, the cofferdam will seal off the river and channel the water into the diversion tunnels. See more project photos in the [image gallery](#).

News and highlights

- The mouth of the Halfway River is now [closed to boaters](#) until April 30, 2021. As part of reservoir clearing activities, BC Hydro will be building six temporary crossings over the Halfway River. Boaters will still be able to access the Peace River from the Halfway River boat launch.
- Regular updates on river diversion are now available on the [Site C website](#).

COVID-19 update

- BC Hydro continues to work with Northern Health and provincial health officials to [monitor for COVID-19](#) and protect our workforce and partner communities.

Regulatory notices

- BC Hydro has [submitted an application](#) to Transport Canada (Registry #2152) under the *Canadian Navigable Waters Act*, to build a causeway road along a side channel of the Halfway River, five kilometres upstream of where it meets the Peace River. The causeway is required to facilitate clearing in the lower Halfway River for the Site C Reservoir. The public can provide comments through Transport Canada's [Common Project Search](#) or by emailing NPPAC-PPNPAC@tc.gc.ca.

River diversion and navigational changes

- A section of the Halfway River is now [closed to boaters](#) until April 30, 2021. As part of reservoir clearing activities, BC Hydro will be building six temporary crossings over the Halfway River.
- Water is being pumped into the inlet and outlet channels, which will allow crews to excavate and open up the diversion tunnel cofferdams.
- Tunnel gates are being tested.
- Water is being run through the temporary fish passage, as part of the testing process.
- Upstream cofferdam construction is continuing as part of river closure. This includes placing interlocking steel piles.
- Construction of the remaining debris management structures on the Peace River continues.
- For safety reasons, a four-kilometre section of the Peace River near Fort St. John has been [permanently closed to boaters](#). This closure is related to in-river works associated with [river diversion](#) and dam construction.

Dam site area – north bank and south bank

- **New:** Road paving will take place at Gate B, near Old Fort Road between September 8th and 11th. Residents may experience minor traffic delays during this time. Construction of improvements at Security Gate B is continuing.
- Penstock deliveries will take place overnight on September 7, 9, 10, 14 and 17, between 10 pm and 2 am. This will result in occasional night-time traffic delays on Old Fort Road. Check our website for the latest [delivery schedule](#).
- A number of work fronts are active including earthworks, drilling and grouting, and roller compacted concrete placement. All work fronts are being monitored and maintained to meet environmental and regulatory commitments.
- Powerhouse construction is continuing. This includes concrete placements at the powerhouse and spillway, and construction of the super-structure for the powerhouse.
- Two powerhouse bridge cranes are now in service to support construction of the turbines and generators.
- Substation work is continuing. This includes testing and commissioning to prepare for energization in the fall.
- The turbine generator contractor continues to deliver components and materials to site for storage inside the warehouse and outside in laydown areas 24 and 27. The contractor is resuming operations at their on-site shop and beginning phased mobilization to the main service bay. Unit 1 turbine installation begins in the fall.
- Work may begin on the placement of riprap to [reinforce the piers](#) of the Peace River construction bridge.

Highway 29

Cache Creek East

- The contractor will mobilize and construction will begin on the Cache Creek East segment of Highway 29. The construction of the embankment is now complete.

Cache Creek West

- Cache Creek West construction is complete.

Halfway River

- Construction of a 1,042-metre-long bridge at [Halfway River](#) continues. This includes operation of a concrete batch plant, aggregate plant, aggregate pit development, construction of bridge abutments, installation of bridge pier rebar, formwork and concrete, and hauling and stockpiling of materials.
- The installation of bridge foundation piles at the east bridge abutment may begin.
- In-river construction of a berm may begin, depending on river levels.
- Surveying and vegetation removal will occur in the Halfway River area, for a new distribution line.

Dry Creek

- The contractor may mobilize and begin construction on the new highway and bridge at Dry Creek.

Lynx Creek

- The first phase of embankment construction is complete.
- Riprap materials will be hauled from Portage Mountain quarry and stockpiled near Lynx Creek.
- [Visit our website](#) for more Highway 29 schedules, maps and construction updates.

Reservoir area clearing

- Field surveys and investigations may occur along the reservoir in preparation for construction works this fall.
- Access road construction and deconstruction may occur in middle reservoir, near Halfway River.
- Processing of waste wood that is being left on site to meet engineering specifications may occur in areas of the eastern and middle reservoirs. Vehicles, boats and/or helicopters may be used by workers to access work sites. Road maintenance activities may occur, as needed.
- Hauling of logs to local mills may occur subject to suitable access road conditions.

Transmission works

- Work on the transmission line will continue including installation of line spacers and marker spheres on the transmission line conductor. Installation of final stringing spans and jumpers will occur.
- Stringing of transmission line will occur at Peace Canyon Dam.
- Tower assembly, installation of helical piles and micropiles is taking place at various locations.
- Site access and reclamation works will continue.

85th Avenue Conveyor

- The conveyor belt is being used occasionally, as needed.

Other areas

- **New:** Physical construction works to mitigate the impacts of diversion on the Peace River Regional District's Charlie Lake sewer outfall located in the Peace River may begin.
- Field investigations along the reservoir for shallow water fish habitat may occur.
- Installation of 25 eagle nest platforms may begin in various areas around the Peace River.
- Stockpiling of materials from Portage Mountain at a site on Canyon Drive will continue.

CONSTRUCTION BULLETIN

- Blasting and rip rap production is occurring at Portage Mountain Quarry. Other work includes loading of trucks and maintaining haul roads and stockpile areas.
- [Riprap hauling will occur](#) from Portage Mountain Quarry to various segments of Highway 29 construction.
- Aggregate and riprap production will continue in West Pine Quarry and Portage Mountain Quarry.

WHAT TO EXPECT

Work will take place during the day, night, and on the weekend, until the project is completed. During this time, residents can expect:

Boating

- The Peace River near the dam site has been permanently closed to vessel traffic. A patrol boat will monitor the area, which is also marked with beacons and signage.
- The lower reaches of the Halfway River is closed to boat traffic until April 30, 2020.
- Boaters are advised to watch for logs and debris flowing down the Peace River.
- Boaters should use caution in the Peace River when in the Lynx Creek, Dry Creek and Halfway River areas.

Traffic – please use caution and obey safety signage

- **Old Fort Road**
 - Near Gate A to the dam site, drivers may encounter loose gravel and increased commercial traffic.
 - Due to equipment delivery, there may be [occasional short road closures](#) along Old Fort Road.
- **Highway 29:** Construction-related equipment will travel along Highway 29 and Highway 97. Learn more at [drivebc.ca](#).
- **Other areas:** Trucks with heavy loads will be accessing the dam site and other project areas, using public and resource roads.

Equipment

- Heavy machinery will be in the transmission line corridor. Please stay clear of the work areas.
- Helicopters and commercial drones may be used to support investigative and construction works.

Noise and vibration

- Some noise and vibration may occur near the dam site and work areas, including the quarries.

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