

## FIELD STUDIES INFORMATION SHEET

### Small Mammal Study: August - October 2011

The Site C Clean Energy Project (Site C) is now in Stage 3, the environmental and regulatory review phase, which will include an independent environmental assessment. Stage 3 work includes conducting environmental and engineering field studies on and around the Peace River between the Williston Reservoir and the Alberta border. BC Hydro formally entered the environmental assessment process in May 2011 with the submission of a Project Description Report to the provincial and federal environmental assessment agencies.

BC Hydro is conducting a field-based study to identify the species of small mammals present within select habitat types in the Peace River Valley and to determine species abundance associated with each habitat type. This field work will occur within the proposed reservoir area between August and October 2011.

For the purpose of this study, small mammals have been defined as shrews, mice, lemmings and voles.

Approximately 24 pre-selected sites will be sampled. Trap lines will be placed to avoid human activity. Once the traps are laid, there will be a pre-bait period, where traps are locked open, and an active trapping period.

In addition to bait, traps will have bedding material, food and a moisture source. All animals captured will be marked (using hair dye or an ear tag) to allow biologists to identify animals that are re-captured. A Wildlife Act permit has been obtained for this work. All capture and handling of animals will be completed in accordance with Provincial Animal care standards and permit conditions. The capture of small mammals is being conducted by professional biologists and wildlife technicians with past small mammal trapping experience.

Accessing properties for the field studies will be through a mix of road, quad and foot. A boat may be required to access some portions of the river where there are no roads to access the requisite locations.

For further information, please contact:  
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#### SMALL MAMMAL STUDY August – October 2011

- BC Hydro is conducting a small mammal study in the Peace Region
- All capture work will be conducted under a Wildlife Act permit
- BC Hydro will obtain permissions before land is accessed
- Keystone Wildlife Research is leading the work