

FIELD STUDIES INFORMATION SHEET

Peace, Moberly and Halfway River Fish Inventories: May – November 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 anticipates formally entering the environmental assessment process in spring 2011 with the submission of a Project Description Report to the provincial and federal environmental assessment agencies.

The 2011 fish inventories will build on data from previous years to: expand knowledge of the Peace River, Halfway and Moberly River fish communities and contribute to existing baseline data and the current understanding of fish and fish habitat in the Site C study area. The study will describe the seasonal distribution and relative abundance of fish populations, biological characteristics and fish community assemblages.

The study areas are as follows:

- The Peace River study area includes from the Peace Canyon Dam into Alberta.
- The Moberly River study area includes the mainstream river from 19 km downstream of Moberly Lake to the confluence of the Peace River.
- The Halfway River area includes 18 km downstream of the Chowade River to the confluence of the Peace River, approximately 110 km in length.

The sampling sections have been selected because they represent fish habitats located in the major reaches of the rivers and they provide good spatial coverage of the study area.

The Peace River study period will occur during three seasons: spring (May); summer (August); and fall (October). The Moberly and Halfway study will occur in summer (August). Sample effort will be based on the number of sites that can be completed per crew-day using a particular fish capture method. A variety of sampling methods will be employed, including boat electrofishing, backpack electrofishing, and gill nets.

For further information, please contact:
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PEACE, MOBERLY, AND HALFWAY RIVERS FISH INVENTORY May – November 2011

- BC Hydro is conducting fish inventories in the Peace, Halfway and Moberly Rivers
- Mainstream Aquatics is leading the work