

Field Studies Information Sheet

PEACE RIVER SITE C HYDRO PROJECT

June 2009 Field Study Overview

BC Hydro continues to conduct environmental and engineering field studies on and around the Peace River, between the Williston Reservoir and the B.C.-Alberta border, as part of the Stage 2 evaluation of the potential Site C project. Below is an overview of studies that will be taking place in June. Additional study activities may occur; notice of these studies will be posted at www.bchydro.com/sitec.

Field Study (additional details are attached)	Timing
Wildlife Studies in the Peace River Region	June <i>Ongoing studies</i>
Peace River Fish Telemetry Studies	June <i>Ongoing studies</i>
Peace River Tributary Fish Studies	June <i>Ongoing studies</i>
Peace River Angler and River-Based Recreational Use Study	June <i>Ongoing monthly</i>
Reading of Slope Monitoring Instrumentation along the Peace River	June <i>Ongoing monitoring</i>
Wind Monitoring in the Peace River Region	June <i>Ongoing monitoring</i>
Foundation Pump Testing on the North Bank of the Potential Dam Site	June <i>Ongoing studies</i>

Because much of the information currently known about the potential Site C project is almost 25 years old, information from new field studies is required to update engineering, environmental studies, and other technical work.

No decision has been made to build Site C. BC Hydro is taking a stage-by-stage approach to the evaluation of the potential project and is currently in Stage 2 – Project Definition and Consultation.

Field study updates are available on the website at www.bchydro.com/sitec and in the Community Consultation Office: 9948 100th Avenue, Fort St. John.

SITE C FIELD STUDIES

June 2009

- Some field studies may require access to public and private land. BC Hydro will obtain permission before accessing private property.
- Ongoing, regular BC Hydro operations work may also be taking place on the Peace River and tributaries. This work is in addition to the Site C field study activities outlined here and is a component of BC Hydro's Peace River water license requirements program.
- For more information on ongoing, regular BC Hydro operations work on the Peace River, please visit www.bchydro.com/planning_regulatory/water_use_planning/northern_interior.html.



FOR GENERATIONS

www.bchydro.com/sitec

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Study Name	Description	Timing
Wildlife Studies in the Peace River Region	<p>BC Hydro is conducting wildlife surveys in the Peace River area from Hudson's Hope to the B.C.-Alberta border.</p> <p>Ground based ungulate (elk, moose, deer, sheep) pellet surveys and habitat assessments, and fisher tree cavity assessments will be conducted in June.</p> <p>Access to the survey areas will be by vehicle, boat and/or helicopter.</p>	<p>June 2009</p> <p><i>Ongoing surveys</i></p>
Peace River Fish Telemetry Studies	<p>BC Hydro continues to conduct periodic aerial surveys over the Peace River in the Fort St. John area to determine the locations and movement of radio-tagged fish in the Peace River and tributaries. These surveys began in April and will continue until fall 2009.</p> <p>Helicopter and airplane flyovers will be conducted every three weeks on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Peace River mainstem from the Peace Canyon Dam downstream to the B.C.-Alberta border and potentially as far as Peace River, Alberta • Halfway River from the mouth to the upper headwater tributaries • Pine River to the upper extent of the Sukunka and Burnt rivers, and the Murray River to Kinuseo Falls • Beatton River to the Doig River confluence <p>In addition to aerial surveys, telemetry stations are set-up on the ground to track the movement of radio-tagged fish as they move past these stations in the Peace River and tributaries.</p> <p>Telemetry stations are located on the:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Moberly River/Beatton River /Pine River/Halfway River <p>Researchers will access the telemetry station sites every three weeks by vehicle, ATV, helicopter and foot.</p>	<p>June 2009</p> <p><i>Ongoing studies</i></p> <p><i>Overflights every three weeks</i></p> <p><i>Monthly access to telemetry stations</i></p>

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<p>Peace River Tributary Fish Studies</p>	<p>BC Hydro continues to conduct fisheries studies on the Peace River and tributaries. The studies involve collecting baseline fisheries information from the Peace River and tributaries by sampling (and releasing) fish habitat by boat, backpack electro-fishing, beach seines (vertical fishing nets) and fish traps.</p> <p>Sampling site access will be conducted by foot and boat in the spring, summer and fall. Access to remote sampling sites will be by helicopter.</p> <p>The following sites will be surveyed: Peace River, Moberly River and Halfway River.</p>	<p>June 2009</p> <p><i>Spring, summer, fall, early winter</i></p>
<p>Peace River Angler and River- Based Recreational Use Survey</p>	<p>BC Hydro is conducting a multi-year angler and river-based recreation use survey along the Peace River and tributaries between Peace Canyon Dam and the B.C.–Alberta border.</p> <p>This study will result in a detailed survey of current angler and recreational use and valid estimates of total angler effort and catch each year. Estimates of angler effort will be made using flyovers of the study area in fixed-wing aircraft.</p> <p>The average catch will be estimated from shore-based interviews at boat landing or fishing sites. Flyovers and interviews will be conducted on a monthly basis through to fall 2009.</p>	<p>June 2009</p> <p><i>Surveys to run monthly through to fall 2009</i></p>
<p>Reading of Slope Monitoring Instrumentation along the Peace River</p>	<p>BC Hydro is conducting a program to read slope monitoring instruments and to confirm and document surface geology at various sites along the north and south banks of the Peace River, upstream from the potential Site C dam area.</p> <p>The monitoring of instrumentation on the north bank will continue weekly throughout the spring. The monitoring of instrumentation on the south bank commenced in May and will take place every four months.</p> <p>North bank access will be by vehicle or snowmobile via the North Bank Access Road. South bank access will be by helicopter and foot.</p>	<p>June 2009</p> <p><i>North bank: ongoing weekly monitoring</i></p> <p><i>South bank: ongoing monitoring</i></p>

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<p>Wind Monitoring in the Peace River Region</p>	<p>BC Hydro has initiated the collection of wind data to assist in engineering evaluations for the potential Site C project.</p> <p>Five temporary wind monitoring stations have been placed on private and BC Hydro owned land between Hudson’s Hope and the potential Site C dam location.</p> <p>Stations will be visited regularly to retrieve data. Access to the monitoring stations will be by vehicle.</p>	<p>June 2009</p> <p><i>Ongoing monitoring</i></p>
<p>Foundation Pump Test on the North Bank of the Potential Dam Site</p>	<p>BC Hydro is studying bedrock permeability at the north bank of the site of the potential dam. Testing of the foundation on the north bank will continue throughout the spring.</p> <p>North bank access will be by vehicle via the North Bank Access Road.</p>	<p>June 2009</p> <p><i>Ongoing studies</i></p>

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