

## SITE C: MONTHLY FIELD STUDIES SUMMARY

### December 2015

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. In December 2014, the Site C project received approval from the provincial government to proceed to construction.

This notice provides a list of field work planned for December 2015. Helicopters may be required for some of this work. BC Hydro will obtain permits, and complete environmental management plans and archaeological assessments as required.

Overview
<b>Environment Studies</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Bald Eagle Nest Platform Installation</li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Heritage Program</li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Water Quality Monitoring</li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Climate and Air Quality Monitoring</li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Peace River Turbidity and Suspended Sediment Monitoring</li></ul>

Current and previous field study activities are available at [www.sitecproject.com/news-and-information/field-study-notices](http://www.sitecproject.com/news-and-information/field-study-notices).

Regular and ongoing BC Hydro work may also be taking place on the Peace River and tributaries related to BC Hydro's Peace River water licence requirements or other operations work.

For further information, please contact:

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**Community Consultation Offices:**

December 2015

Study Name	Description	Timing
<p><b>Environment Studies – Bald Eagle Nest Platform Installation</b></p>	<p>BC Hydro will install nesting platforms to mitigate the removal of Bald Eagle nests within project construction areas. Platforms sites will be adjacent to the tree line or at the edge of openings near to the Peace River and future reservoir outside the erosion impact line, and to avoid interference with agricultural land use.</p> <p>Three platforms are planned to be installed in December, two at Wilder Creek and one south of Wilder Creek on the Peace River. During project construction approximately 38 platforms will be installed.</p>	<p>December 2015</p>
<p><b>Environment Studies – Heritage Program</b></p>	<p>BC Hydro will be continuing to perform surface inspections or concurrent monitoring post-ground disturbance of protected archaeology sites at the Site C dam site.</p> <p>This work will be performed in accordance with the requirements of permits issued under the <i>Heritage Conservation Act</i> (HCA) by the BC Archaeology Branch.</p> <p>Surface inspections or concurrent monitoring involves visual inspections and surface collections of exposed artifacts, for example.</p> <p>Additional heritage activities during the winter may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Required management of known Heritage Conservation Act-protected heritage sites<sup>[1]</sup> in the contract work area, including the Post-Ground Disturbance procedure; and</li> <li>• Appropriate response to the unexpected discovery (Chance Finds) of suspected palaeontological, archaeological, and historical resources during construction.</li> <li>• Possible winter methodology inventory</li> </ul>	<p>December 2015 – April 2016</p>

<sup>[1]</sup> *Heritage Conservation Act*-protected heritage sites: those areas recorded and protected under the *Heritage Conservation Act*, for which permits are required prior to ground-disturbing work, and for which permit conditions may apply.

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## December 2015

Study Name	Description	Timing
	<p>work, if required.</p> <p>For all heritage work, crews will be primarily on foot, with land access by road or boat, supported occasionally by helicopter or all-terrain vehicles.</p>	
<p><b>Environment Studies – Water Quality Monitoring</b></p>	<p>BC Hydro is conducting surface water and groundwater monitoring and sampling.</p> <p>Key locations have been selected within the Peace River Valley near the dam site, and between Hudson’s Hope and Taylor. Field technicians will be conducting site assessments on Crown and BC Hydro owned lands and on private lands, once permissions to access have been received.</p> <p>The water samples will be submitted to a laboratory for enhanced potability testing.</p> <p>The field technicians will access properties by vehicle and foot; a boat will be required to access locations along the Peace River.</p>	<p>May – December 2015</p>
<p><b>Environment Studies – Climate &amp; Air Quality Monitoring</b></p>	<p>BC Hydro is collecting climate and air quality data from monitoring stations on private and BC Hydro owned land between Hudson’s Hope and Old Fort, south of Fort St. John.</p> <p>Information on various climate parameters is being gathered, including: air temperature, humidity, wind speed and direction, fog frequency and density, snow depth and precipitation. Monitoring of particulate matter (mixture of solid particles and liquid droplets in the air) is being conducted at Old Fort, Halfway River and 85<sup>th</sup> Avenue.</p> <p>These data were used to establish baseline conditions that informed the effects assessment of the Site C project on in-valley climate and air quality in the area. BC Hydro is</p>	<p>Ongoing monitoring from February 2009</p>

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## December 2015

Study Name	Description	Timing
	<p>continuing to collect the data to verify actual changes and to forecast periods of high tributary inflows for construction planning.</p> <p>BC Hydro also monitors climate within the Peace River watershed in order to forecast periods of high tributary inflows for construction planning.</p>	
<p><b>Environment Studies – Peace River Turbidity and Suspended Sediment Monitoring</b></p>	<p>BC Hydro is continuing the collection of baseline turbidity and suspended sediment data in the Peace River to inform the evaluation of potential effects of project construction on water quality as it relates to fish habitat and municipal/industrial water supplies.</p> <p>BC Hydro will continue maintenance and operation of six turbidity monitoring stations located on either river bank both upstream and downstream of the Site C dam site, as well as just upstream of the community of Taylor and at the Spectra water intake.</p> <p>Field crew access will be by boat and foot.</p>	<p>Ongoing monitoring from 2012</p>

*Note: Access to public and private land may be required in order to complete study work. BC Hydro will obtain permission from land owners and provide notification to BC Hydro leaseholders before entry onto private or leased lands. BC Hydro will adhere to seasonal road restrictions.*