# **Regional Community Liaison Committee Project Briefing**

**December 8, 2021** 



# **Zoom Meeting Reminders**

We'll be using a few basic tools, which you can find at the bottom of the screen





# Site C COVID-19 Update Shanna Mason



# Dam Site Construction Update Chris Waite



# **Dam Site Construction Update**

- > Main Civil Works
- > Powerhouse, Intakes, Penstocks, and Spillway
- > Right Bank Foundation Enhancements
- > Turbines and Generators



# **Dam Site Construction Update**





### Main Civil Works Dam and Core Trench





## **Roller Compacted Concrete (RCC) Dam Buttress**





# **Approach Channel**



# Powerhouse, Penstocks, Intakes, and Spillway



## **Powerhouse and Operations Building**

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### **Penstocks**



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Unit 1 Upper Pit Liner and spiral case installation



# **Powerhouse Turbine Unit Area**



# **Unit 4 Spiral Case Assembly**



#### **Teco Pit (Area E) Material Source & Ice Bridge Road Upgrades**



- Road, including Right-of-Way ~ 63 ha - Crown Land
- Area E Mine Site ~ 55 ha -Crown land that is licensed to BC Rail; BCH also seeking crown land tenure
- BC Hydro posted a request for proposals on <u>BC Bid</u> for Area E road upgrades, pit development and hauling work at Site C. Closing date December 8, 2021.



Material Source | Area E | Greg Scarborough

# 85<sup>th</sup> Avenue Laydown



- Temporary 3.46 Ha laydown area for outdoor storage for equipment and spares
- Scope: vegetation clearing, grading and compaction





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# Off Dam Site Construction Update Matt Drown



# **Off Dam Site Construction Update**

> Transmission

> Highway 29 realignment

> Hudson's Hope Shoreline Protection

Reservoir Clearing





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Powerline Technicians Splice Two Conductors Together





# Catching the Sockline for Line Stringing



# **Highway 29 Bridge Realignment Segments**



#### **Construction Schedule Start to Finish**

Lynx Creek – 8.1 km Dry Creek - 1.4 km Farrell Creek – 1.9 km Farrell Creek East – 3.0 km 2019 to 2022 2020 to 2022 2020 to 2022 2021 to 2022 Halfway River – 3.7 km Cache Creek West – 4.0 km Cache Creek East – 8.6 km Highway decommissioning: 2018 to 2022 2018 to 2020 2019 to 2022 2022 to 2023

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### Cache Creek East Realignment Bridge Construction

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## Cache Creek East Realignmen First Girders Placed



### Cache Creek East Highway Subgrade from West Abutment



# Halfway River Bridge



## Farrell Creek East Facing West Over the New Highway Alignment



## Farrell Creek Realignment Pouring Concrete on Pier 2, Pier Cap



### Dry Creek Realignment Bridge Deck Concrete Pour



## Dry Creek Realignment Bridge Deck Wet Curing and Parapet Heating



### Lynx Creek Realignment Bridge Steel Installation Completed

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# Hudson's Hope Shoreline Protection Laying Filter Cloth


## Hudson's Hope Shoreline Protection Placing Riprap and Filter to Bring Berm to Design Height



Fall/Winter Clearing work: Halfway River to Farrell Creek – Phase 2 Farrell Creek to Peace Canyon

> Farrell Creek

Farrell Creek to Peace Canyon

Hudson's Hope

Peace Canyon

Image © 2021 Maxar Technologies Image © 2021 Province of British Columbia Image © 2021 CNES / Airbus Halfway River to Farrell Creek Phase 2

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#### **Installing Bridge WR-33**











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# Shoreline Enhancement Work Katrina Kelly & Dave Hunter



## **Regulatory Background**

- Fisheries Act Authorization (for Main Civil Works and Project Operations) requires BC Hydro to construct Site C reservoir shoreline fish habitat enhancements
  - Spawning shoal
  - Enhanced shallow water habitat
  - Develop 33 ha of new shallow water habitat



## **Reservoir Shoreline Enhancement**

- Goal is to create a diversity of Site C reservoir shoreline habitats for fish and increase the area of productive shallow water fish habitat
- Most productive fish habitat in reservoir littoral or shallow water zones (456.0 m - 459.75m)
- Below maximum and minimum normal Site C reservoir operating levels of 461.8 and 460.0 m
- Littoral zones supports:
  - Increased light penetration leading to enhanced aquatic vegetation growth & aquatic bug density
  - Higher densities of fish (e.g. Rainbow Trout, Bull Trout, Burbot)



#### Example: small lake



## **Site C Reservoir Littoral Habitat**

#### **Background – How the sites were selected?**

- Vigorous selection process that considered:
  - Shallow sloped reservoir shoreline areas at risk for fish stranding (460 m 461.8 m normal operating zone)
  - Environmental impacts of construction access construction and clearing requirements (i.e. minimize forest loss)
  - Property ownership (BCH/Crown)
  - Site C reservoir hydrological conditions (e.g., water velocities, rate of sediment deposition)



## **Shoreline Enhancements - Map**



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## **Project Scope**

#### Wilder Creek (22 ha)

- Majority of the excavation is within the future reservoir footprint. Approximately 7 hectares of Agricultural Land Reserve will be excavated at Wilder Creek
- Excess material at Wilder Creek will be stockpiled on site and capped with topsoil. Area will be available for agricultural use post project
- Elevation of stockpile raised above Site reservoir 466 m Flood Impact Line



## Wilder Creek - Map





## Site C Fish Passage Update

December 8, 2021

#### Passed 2465 fish in 2021



Catch composition closely matched fish community composition

### **Adjustments to top of fishway**

• Lower than predicted passage and trapping efficiency (fish holding in top pool, immediately downstream of trap)



### **Adjustments to top of fishway**

- Consulted with experts from other facilities
- Experimentally manipulated light, flow and gate closures







#### **Adjustments to top of fishway**



- Passed 17 Bull Trout
- Released at the Halfway River
- Observed on spawning grounds





## **TUF to the PUF**

- Applied (100+) lessons learned from the TUF to update the design of the PUF
  - Trapping mechanism: simplify operations and improve trapping efficiency
  - Operate over wider range of water levels
  - Filters on pumps to improve effectiveness monitoring
- Construction of the PUF begins
  in spring 2022







# **Community and Social Mitigation Update**

## **Ben Rauscher**

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## **Boater Information**

# Updates to the Site C boater webpage have been completed with other values to be added:

- Boater safety information and advisories for the Peace River
- Status of the current boat launches at Halfway River and Lynx Creek
- Updates on the three new boat launch locations including renderings (where available)
- Bathymetric mapping of the future Site C Reservoir
- Reservoir Opportunities Plan
- Portage program seasonal information
- Updates to the <u>www.SiteCProject.com/boating</u> website will be shared with local government, indigenous groups, stakeholder groups and the public.



## **Fund Updates**

BC Hydro Peace Agricultural Compensation Fund

- On December 3, 2021, the recipients were announced for the fifth round of Fund grants with nearly \$517,000 being approved for 19 projects
- Since Fund establishment, over **\$1.2M** has been awarded to **53 projects**
- Application intake for the sixth round is currently underway, closing on January 31, 2022

#### GO Fund

- To date, **63 projects** have received **\$552,566**
- The December 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2021 application review announcements are pending
- Next application review meeting scheduled for March 2022
- Rustic Recreation Site Fund
  - The 2021 intake closed on October 31, 2021, and application review is ongoing

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## **Employment Statistics**

**Note**: The October workforce numbers reflect the Provincial Health Officer order for large scale industrial camps to gradually resume construction activities.

- BC Hydro requires all major contractors to report employment information.
- Total of **4,633** workers in October 2021: **3,259** from BC (70%), **984** from PRRD (25%)

Site C Employment Statistics – October 2021					
	# of total workers	# of B.C. primary residents	% of B.C. workers		
Construction and non- construction contractors	3,913	2,583	66%		
Engineers and project team	720	676	94%		
Total workforce	4,633	3,259	70%		



## Site C Jobs Annual Trends (October 2021)



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## **2021 Q3 Regional Business Participation**

Companies engaged by BC Hydro and Site C contractors to provide goods and services in relation to Site C construction between July – September 2021

Community	# of businesses	Community	# of businesses
Arras	1	Moberly Lake	20
Baldonnel	1	Montney	2
Cecil Lake	1	Pink Mountain	2
Charlie Lake	24	Pouce Coupe	2
Chetwynd	42	Prince George	29
Dawson Creek	28	Rolla	2
Fort Nelson	1	Rose Prairie	2
Fort St. John	410	Taylor	9
Hudson's Hope	10	Tumbler Ridge	3
Total		589	



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