

SITE C CLEAN ENERGY PROJECT

MANAGING INVASIVE PLANT SPECIES

Construction activities may create conditions where the spread of invasive plant species can impact native vegetation and cause damage to natural environments and agricultural production. When dealing with invasive species, prevention, early detection and eradication is the most effective management.

For Site C, BC Hydro has developed plans for invasive plant control on construction work sites and will coordinate control and monitoring activities with the contractors.

BC Hydro's plans for invasive plant management are outlined in the Site C **Construction Environmental Management Plan** (CEMP). As part of the CEMP, Site C contractors must submit Environmental Protection Plans (EPPs), including measures for controlling the spread of invasive plants. Contractors are required to:

- Review and incorporate surveys of existing invasive species populations and mapping provided by BC Hydro in their own plan.
- Ensure that weed material is not brought onto project work sites from non-project work sites, and that weed material from project work sites is not transported to non-project work sites.
- Manage vehicle movement in a manner that reduces seed dispersal both within and beyond construction sites.
- Use measures to control invasive plants, manage established invasive species populations and prevent invasive species establishment.
- Demonstrate compliance with the B.C. *Wildlife Act's* Controlled Alien Species Regulations.



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Site C contractors use a variety of measures to prevent the spread of invasive plant species, including:

- Vehicle inspections
- Installing wash stations
- Confirmation of pre-washing before entering and leaving work areas
- Regular tailboard topics throughout the growing season
- Weed monitoring and reporting, and
- Further treatments such as herbicides and weeding.

Monitoring

BC Hydro conducted pre-construction inventories of invasive plants at all Site C project work sites. BC Hydro provided the results of these surveys (including updates, as appropriate) to contractors, who are required to include the results of these surveys in their EPPs.

In addition, BC Hydro will undertake a post-construction site restoration monitoring program at each site, including evaluation of the effectiveness of site reclamation activities by a Qualified Environmental Professional. This monitoring will confirm that the requirements outlined in the CEMP have been met.

Invasive plants are defined by BC Hydro's CEMP as noxious weeds, and the seeds of noxious weeds, that are designated by weed control regulation in British Columbia and/or the Peace River Regional District Invasive Plant Program.