

# Field Studies Information Sheet

## PEACE RIVER SITE C HYDRO PROJECT

### October 2008 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 September and October. Additional study activities may occur during the month; notice of these studies will be posted at [www.bchydro.com/sitec](http://www.bchydro.com/sitec).

#### October 2008 Overview:

Field Study (additional details are attached)	Timing
Peace River Tributary Fisheries Study	October
Fish Tracking in the Peace River	Spring – Fall
Water Quality Baseline Study in the Peace River & Tributaries	October
Peace River Angler & River-Based Recreational Use Survey	October
Water Temperature Monitoring in Peace River Tributaries	October
Wildlife studies in Peace River region	October
Climate Monitoring in Peace River region	Oct – Nov
Geotechnical Investigations in Peace River region	Oct – Dec
Reading of Slope Monitoring Instrumentation	Oct – Dec

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](http://www.bchydro.com/sitec) and in the Community Consultation Office: 9948 100th Avenue, Fort St. John.

#### SITE C FIELD STUDIES OCTOBER 2008

- 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.

For further information, please contact:  
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FOR GENERATIONS

[www.bchydro.com/sitec](http://www.bchydro.com/sitec)

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Study Name	Description, location and access needed	Timing
<b>Peace River Fisheries Tributary Study</b>	<p>BC Hydro continues to conduct a fisheries study on the Peace River tributaries. The study involves a survey of upstream summer and fall fish migrations in the Peace River tributaries, by sampling with hoop nets and boats, and backpack electro-fishing. Fish surveys will also be conducted on foot and by boat in the summer to assess critical fish rearing habitat.</p> <p>The following sites will be surveyed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maurice Creek/Lynx Creek/Farrell Creek/Cache Creek/Wilder Creek/Red Creek/Moberly River and Halfway River</li> </ul> <p>Researchers will access sites by foot, boat and helicopter.</p>	October 2008
<b>Fish Tracking in the Peace River system</b>	<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 the week of March 31 and will continue until fall 2008.</p> <p>Helicopter and airplane flyovers will be conducted bi-weekly on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Peace River mainstem from the Peace Canyon Dam downstream to the B.C.-Alberta border and potentially as far as Peace River, AB.</li> <li>• Halfway River from the mouth to the upper headwater tributaries</li> <li>• Pine River to the upper extent of the Sukunka and Burnt rivers, and the Murray River to Kinuseo Falls</li> <li>• Beatton River to the Doig River confluence</li> </ul> <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"> <li>• Moberly River/Beatton River /Pine River/Halfway River/Graham River</li> </ul> <p>Researchers will access the telemetry station sites bi-weekly by vehicle, ATV, helicopter and foot.</p>	Spring to Fall 2008

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<p><b>Water Quality Baseline Study in Peace River and Tributaries</b></p>	<p>BC Hydro continues to collect water quality samples from various locations along the Peace River and tributaries between Hudson’s Hope and Fort St. John in a Water Quality Baseline Study that commenced in February 2008.</p> <p>Water samples will be taken at the following sites:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Peace River/Cache Creek/Halfway Creek/Farrell Creek/Lynx Creek/Moberly River /Boudreau River</li> </ul> <p>Researchers will use 4x4 vehicles and boats to access test sites.</p>	<p>October</p>
<p><b>Peace River Angler and River- Based Recreational Use Survey</b></p>	<p>BC Hydro is conducting a monthly 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 2008 and into 2009.</p>	<p>Commenced May 2008</p> <p><i>Surveys will run monthly through 2008 and into 2009</i></p>
<p><b>Water Temperature Monitoring in the Peace River Tributaries</b></p>	<p>BC Hydro is monitoring water temperatures in the Peace River tributaries using digital temperatures loggers.</p> <p>These loggers remain in the same position throughout the year and are held in place with blocks and cables. Access is needed twice a year to ensure that the loggers are working properly and to download stored data.</p> <p>Temperature loggers will be accessed in the following tributaries:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wilder Creek/Cache Creek/Halfway Creek/Farrell Creek/Lynx Creek/Maurice Creek</li> </ul> <p>Researchers will access sites by vehicles, ATV or foot.</p>	<p>October 2008</p>

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<p><b>Wildlife Studies in the Peace River region</b></p>	<p>BC Hydro is conducting wildlife surveys in the Peace River area from Hudson's Hope to the B.C.-Alberta border.</p> <p>Surveys will include :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Waterfowl Surveys (mid-September and mid-October)</li> <li>• Set-up for Fisher Surveys (early October)</li> </ul> <p>Fisher hair snagging boxes will be set-up within a 10.9 square kilometre (4.2 square mile) grid between the Peace Canyon Dam and the potential Site C dam location.</p> <p>Access to the survey areas will be by vehicle, boat and/or helicopter.</p>	<p>October 2008</p>
<p><b>Climate Monitoring in the Peace River region</b></p>	<p>BC Hydro is initiating collection of wind data to assist in the engineering evaluations for the potential Site C project. Five temporary wind monitoring stations will be installed on private and BC Hydro owned land between Hudson's Hope and the potential Site C dam location.</p> <p>Permission from land owners will be obtained prior to access or installation. There will be no subsurface ground disturbance associated with the placement of these temporary stations.</p> <p>Access to the sites of the wind monitoring stations will be by vehicle.</p>	<p>October – November 2008</p>
<p><b>Geotechnical Investigations</b></p>	<p>BC Hydro is drilling and conducting foundation investigations on the north and south banks of the Peace River in the area of the potential Site C dam.</p> <p>This work involves drilling, sampling and installing instrumentation to monitor and assess foundation conditions at the site of the potential dam.</p> <p>North bank access will be by vehicle via the north bank access road.</p> <p>South bank access will be by road via Chetwynd and boat from the north bank.</p>	<p>October - December 2008</p>

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<b>Reading of Slope Monitoring Instrumentation</b>	<p>BC Hydro is performing 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, and at various sites along the Highway 29 corridor.</p> <p>There will be no drilling or construction machinery use. Work will include surveying and running probes down boreholes to existing instrumentation to take readings where possible.</p> <p>Crews of 2-5 people will access sites by vehicle and foot. Helicopters may be used where vehicle access is not possible.</p>	October - December 2008
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