

## Site C Construction Schedule: March 19 – April 1, 2022



The spillway, penstocks, powerhouse, operations building and tail race on winter's day. See more photos in the [image gallery](#).

### News and Highlights

- The second 500 kilovolt, 75 kilometre [transmission line](#) has been completed and connected to the Site C substation and was energized earlier this month. The line supplies power to the right bank of the dam site and the communities Fort St. John and Taylor, and will eventually connect the Site C powerhouse to the BC Hydro grid. Read more on this project milestone [here](#).
- Highway 29 will have overnight road closures from 9pm to 4am March 18 to 24 at Farrell Creek Bridge. This work is weather dependant and may be adjusted. [Learn more](#). Additional updates are available on [DriveBC](#).
- Burning and processing of waste wood is complete for the winter season and will resume in October 2022. [Learn more](#).
- The 5-kilometre conveyor belt system, which runs from the 85th Avenue industrial lands to the dam site, resumes operation this month (weather dependent). [Read more](#).

### Dam site area – north bank and south bank

- Excavation of the approach channel, drilling and grouting, and underground works on the north and south drainage features are underway.
- Powerhouse, spillway, and dam and core buttress construction continues. This includes concrete placements at the powerhouse, intakes and spillways. Installation of penstock segments also continues.
- One penstock section will be delivered to site overnight in the coming weeks.
- Powerhouse Balance of Plant; installation of cable tray has started on the generator floor and the mechanical contractor has started to mobilize to site mid February.

- Installation of steel piles and tailrace excavation continue as part of the [right bank foundation enhancements](#). The piles extend the foundation further into the bedrock.
- Turbine and generator components and materials continue to be delivered to site for storage and installation. To date, four of six turbines arrived at site and the remainder will be delivered in the coming months.
- Clearing and road construction activities to access aggregate sources on the south bank (Area E and Area 24) are underway.
- Site preparation and foundation construction for the relocation of a portion of a 138-kilovolt transmission line on the dam site, to provide access to aggregates, may begin.

## Highway 29 realignments

- [Visit our website](#) for Highway 29 schedules, maps and construction updates.

### **Cache Creek East (596-metre-long bridge and six-kilometre-long highway realignment)**

- Construction of the highway grade is paused for the winter and will resume in April.
- The installation of pre-cast concrete deck panels on the steel girders will begin.
- The installation of formwork and rebar will begin for the construction of the concrete bridge deck.

### **Halfway River (1.05-kilometre-long bridge and a three-kilometre-long highway realignment)**

- Construction is paused for the winter and will resume in the spring.

### **Farrell Creek East (3.5-kilometre-long highway realignment)**

- Construction is paused for the winter and will resume in April.

### **Farrell Creek (417-metre-long bridge and 1.9-kilometre-long highway realignment)**

- Construction of the highway grade has paused for winter and will resume in the spring.
- Steel girders will continue to be delivered and stored on the site. Steel girder installation will continue and may require 24-hour work.
- The delivery of pre-cast concrete deck panels and onsite storage will begin.
- Single lane alternating traffic will be required periodically as well as road closures from March 18-24, weather permitting. Check [DriveBC](#) for details.
- BC Hydro crews will continue installing the new distribution line along the new highway alignment.

### **Dry Creek (158-metre-long bridge and 1.5-kilometre-long highway realignment)**

- Construction is paused for the winter and will resume in the spring.

### **Lynx Creek (152-metre-long bridge and 8.5-kilometre-long highway realignment)**

- Construction is resuming with the clearing of snow and the hauling and placement of riprap.
- Processing of aggregate on Gates Island will begin.

## Hudson's Hope shoreline protection berm

- The [construction of a 2.6-kilometre-long berm](#) to protect the shoreline of Hudson's Hope is in progress. Work includes processing, hauling and placing berm filter and riprap to bring the berm up to the design elevation. Riprap will be hauled to site from Portage Mountain Quarry.
- Excavation, crushing, processing and stockpiling of aggregate within the berm site will occur.
- The removal of the District of Hudson's Hope decommissioned water intake will continue.
- The installation of drainage ditches and culverts will begin.
- Water quality monitoring has been installed in the Peace River and a swift water rescue team is operating in the river during the work. Boaters are asked to obey signage and stay clear of the work area for safety reasons.

- BC Hydro continues to work with the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure regarding the road maintenance of Canyon Drive.

## Portage Mountain Quarry

- Road and quarry maintenance will continue to maintain safe access to the site.
- Rock hauling will continue from the Portage Mountain Quarry and stockpile areas to the berm worksite.

## Reservoir area

- Road construction and logging activities are occurring between Cache Creek and Peace Canyon on the north and south banks of the Peace River and on its islands. Boats and helicopters are being used to support clearing activities. Merchantable timber is being hauled to mills in Chetwynd, Fort St John and/or Dawson Creek.
- Helicopters will be transporting timber between Cache Creek and Peace Canyon as part of Site C reservoir clearing work. [Learn more](#).
- Construction of fish habitat will occur on an island of the Peace River near Peace Canyon Dam.
- Field investigations may occur.

## Transmission works

- Surveying, foundation painting, site clean-up and restoration activities will continue.

## Other areas

- Vegetation clearing will begin for the construction of access roads on the north shore of the Peace River, east of the dam site. This will support the creation of fish habitat this summer and fall.

## Regulatory

- On January 21, 2022, BC Hydro submitted Applications for Approval to Transport Canada under the *Canadian Navigable Waters Act* for activities related to downstream contouring activities for fish habitat enhancement work.
- Registry # 4959 is for the downstream contouring activities required to complete fish habitat enhancements. Contouring activities are located on the north and south bank of the Peace River, for an approximately 4km reach downstream of the Site C dam site. Downstream contouring activities are scheduled to commence in spring 2022 and be complete by winter 2024.
- Registry # 4957 is for the construction of a temporary crossing on a side channel of the Peace River, approximately 4kms downstream of the Site C dam site. Crossing construction is scheduled to commence spring 2022 and be in place until winter 2023.
- Comments on these applications can be submitted via the [Common Project Search](#) or by emailing [NPPAC-PPNPAC@tc.gc.ca](mailto:NPPAC-PPNPAC@tc.gc.ca).

## COVID-19 update

- Over the past several weeks, there has been a decrease in the number of COVID-19 cases related to the Site C project.
- With the support of Northern Health, the project has shifted its rapid testing program to focus on workers showing symptoms. Rapid tests continue to be used for case and contact management.
- The project continues to work with Northern Health to monitor the latest developments of the COVID-19 pandemic in order to help prevent the spread of the virus on the project.

- As of January 10, 2022, all workers on the Site C project are fully vaccinated.
- Information about the number of active COVID-19 cases, the number of people in isolation, and the overall number of cases at Site C continues to be updated on our website [here](#).

## WHAT TO EXPECT

Work will take place during the day, night, and on the weekend, until the project is completed. During this time, residents can expect:

### Boating

- The Peace River near the dam site is permanently closed to boater traffic. Being on or near the water around the Site C construction area presents a serious safety risk to river users. Boaters are urged to stay away from the area and observe and obey all signage and beacons.

### Traffic – please use caution and obey safety signage

- **Old Fort Road:** Near Gate B to the dam site, drivers may encounter loose gravel and increased commercial traffic. Due to equipment delivery, there may be [occasional short road closures](#) along Old Fort Road.
- **Highway 29:** Construction-related equipment will travel along Highway 29 and Highway 97. Drivers on the road are reminded to travel at a safe distance behind construction vehicles particularly near the Highway 29 road realignment sections. Learn more at [drivebc.ca](#).
- **Other areas:** Trucks with heavy loads will be accessing the dam site and other project areas, using public and resource roads.

### Equipment, noise, vibration and visibility

- Heavy machinery will be in the transmission line corridor. Please stay clear of the work areas.
- Helicopters and commercial drones may be used to support investigative and construction works.
- Some noise and vibration may occur near the dam site and work areas, including the quarries.
- There may be smoke and lower visibility in areas where wood debris burning is occurring.

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