

## Site C Construction Schedule: May 20 – June 2, 2023



We recently completed concrete work for the intakes. When the Site C reservoir is filled and the dam is operating, the intakes will funnel water into the penstocks, which lead to the turbines in the powerhouse. See more photos in [our gallery](#).

### News and highlights

- We recognize the wildfire situation in the region remains unpredictable and emergency preparedness plans are in place. Construction outlined in this bulletin will only take place if it is safe to do so.
- Our latest video shows the progress we made on various parts of the Site C project during the winter months. [Watch our video](#).
- Twelve projects in the Peace region will receive \$383,000 through the BC Hydro Peace Agricultural Compensation Fund to support agricultural production and related economic activity. [Read more](#).
- Treaty 8 First Nations, the B.C. Conservation Officer Service and BC Hydro have partnered to create a new conservation officer position to protect wildlife and the land around the Site C dam and future reservoir area. [Learn more](#).

## Dam site

- Excavation of the approach channel, drilling and grouting, carpi liner installation, and placement of concrete and rip rap continues.
- Construction of the concrete pile caps in the tailrace excavation continues as part of the [right bank foundation enhancements](#). The piles extend the foundation further into the bedrock.
- Construction of the erosion protection slabs in the tailrace channel downstream of the stilling basin continues.
- Construction of the powerhouse, intakes, and spillway continues. This includes concrete placements.
- Powerhouse Balance of Plant: Installation of cable tray and other electrical components, as well as connection of cables is underway on the generator floor. Crews are installing the isophase bus. Piping installation continues in the dewatering gallery and on the generator floor. The mechanical contractor will continue applying coatings in the draft tube cone access area.
- Installation of the spillway gates and intake gates is underway.
- Turbine and generator components and materials continue to be delivered to site, and some to storage, for future installation.
- In the powerhouse, installation and assembly of turbine components continues and generator rotors are being assembled in the main service bay. Three runners and one rotor have been installed.
- Construction of the dam, including placement of aggregates and riprap, construction of permanent dam access roads and grouting will continue.
- Work will take place in the right bank drainage tunnel, roller compacted concrete spillway, and dam buttress galleries.
- Construction of permanent debris handling facilities will take place, including the installation of concrete anchors.
- Construction of three transmission lines to connect the Site C powerhouse to the Southbank substation will continue.

## Highway 29

- **New:** Single lane alternating traffic will be in place at Lynx Creek, where highway paving is occurring.
- At Lynx Creek, crews continue to decommission the bridge and complete the remaining outstanding work including the removal of unsuitable material, placement of riprap, and construction of the new Lynx Creek boat launch. Riprap will be hauled to Lynx Creek from sources near Chetwynd.
- At Cache Creek riprap placement will occur below the west abutment of the bridge. The removal of temporary construction bridges continues. Various outstanding earthworks will also take place. An asphalt plant will be mobilized to site at the end of May.
- Riprap will be hauled to Cache Creek from Portage Mountain Quarry.
- [Visit our website](#) for Highway 29 schedules, maps, and construction updates.

## Decommissioning

- The old highways at Halfway River and Cache Creek are being decommissioned, which includes removing concrete barriers, signs, and asphalt. Asphalt from Halfway River is being hauled to various Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure pits for re-use in future projects. Asphalt from Cache Creek is being hauled to the dam site for future use in the permanent roads.

## Peace River fish habitat enhancement

- Restoration on the island near Old Fort has been completed and the bridge has been removed. Shoreline contouring and final clean-up of the bridge supports will be completed in the spring.
- Fish habitat enhancement on the south bank near the dam site continues with vegetation clearing and excavation of the new side channel area.

## Reservoir area

- Clearing work may resume at Watson Slough, dependant on conditions. [Clearing activities](#) include vegetation clearing, road construction, maintenance and log hauling.
- Removal or demolition of infrastructure within the future reservoir on BC Hydro-owned land will continue near Cache Creek and Lynx Creek. Equipment will mobilize to site and work may be visible from Highway 29.
- Field investigations may take place.
- Construction of the Halfway River boat launch has resumed. Crews will be constructing the boat ramp and parking lot.

## Regulatory

- On May 3, 2023, BC Hydro deposited three Applications for Approval to Transport Canada (Registry Numbers 7782, 7785, and 7796) under the Canadian Navigable Waters Act for fish habitat enhancement works.
  - These works are at KM 91 (Wilder Creek), KM 42 (Dry Creek) – post construction, and KM 77 (Peaceview) – post construction.
  - All construction activities occurred/will occur on lands outside of the Peace River.
  - The fish habitats will be inundated by the future Site C reservoir, making them part of a scheduled waterway.
  - The submissions can be found on the [Common Project Search Registry](#) or by emailing [NPPAC-PPNPAC@tc.gc.ca](mailto:NPPAC-PPNPAC@tc.gc.ca)
- On May 16, 2023, BC Hydro deposited an Application for Approval to Transport Canada (Registry Number 7859) under the Canadian Navigable Waters Act for retained piers and abutments of the decommissioned original Lynx Creek bridge on Highway 29.
  - The piers and abutments will be inundated by the future Site C reservoir, making them part of a scheduled waterway.
  - This submission can be found on the [Common Project Search Registry](#) or by emailing [NPPAC-PPNPAC@tc.gc.ca](mailto:NPPAC-PPNPAC@tc.gc.ca)

## 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 restrictions

- The Halfway River boat launch will remain open for most of the 2023 boating season. All area boat launches will be closed during reservoir filling, which could begin as early as this fall. [Read more.](#)
- 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 delays

- **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](http://drivebc.ca).
- **Other areas:** Trucks with heavy loads will be accessing the dam site and other project areas, using public and resource roads.

## **Equipment and noise**

- Helicopters and commercial drones may be used to support investigative, and construction works.
- There may be some noise near the dam site and work areas, including the quarries.

[Sign up for construction bulletins](#) and follow us [@sitecproject](#) on Twitter to receive updates.