CONSTRUCTION BULLETIN

BC Hydro Power smart

June 30, 2023

Site C Construction Schedule: July 1 - 14, 2023



One of two tunnels that have been diverting the Peace River has been closed and water has been pumped out. One of the four large rings will be installed here. This is an important step to prepare for reservoir filling as early as this fall. See more photos in <u>our gallery</u>.

News and highlights

- We have begun the process of converting one of the diversion tunnels to prepare for reservoir filling, which could start as early as this fall. During tunnel conversion, four large rings will be installed inside Tunnel 2 to slowly restrict the flow of water. <u>Learn more</u>.
- Four Peace Region non-profits will receive a total \$37,500 to provide services to seniors, youths, and people struggling with addiction. To date, the GO Fund has distributed \$766,151 to 87 projects. <u>Read</u> more.

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Dam site

- New: Tunnel conversion is underway, with the installation of constriction rings inside Tunnel 2.
- Excavation of the approach channel, drilling and grouting, carpi liner installation, and placement of concrete and rip rap continues.
- 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.

Highway 29

- **New:** Line painting may occur along the Highway 29 alignment.
- Construction of an erosion protection berm on the east bridge approach at Farrell Creek may begin.
- Crews continue the remaining work at Lynx Creek, which is limited to the installation of signs and reflectors and finishing the stability berm at the east end of the project.
- Various outstanding works will take place at Cache Creek including repairing ducts on the bridge, installing fencing, and placing riprap in the flood plain below the bridge.
- <u>Visit our website</u> 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.

Peace River fish habitat enhancement

- Construction of new shallow water fish habitat at Wilder Creek may begin.
- Shoreline contouring and clean-up of the bridge abutments to the island near Old Fort have been completed.
- Fish habitat enhancement work is in progress near the dam site.

Reservoir area

- New: Site restoration and final works at the Maurice Creek fish habitat are complete.
- Site restoration and marker ball installations are taking place on the transmission line crossing of the Halfway River.
- Construction of the D.A. Thomas recreation site and upgrades to D.A. Thomas Road is expected to take place.

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- 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 is underway. Crews are 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 <u>Common Project Search Registry</u> or by emailing <u>NPPPAC-PPNPAC@tc.gc.ca</u>
- 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 <u>Common Project Search Registry</u> or by emailing <u>NPPPAC-PPNPAC@tc.gc.ca</u>

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. <u>Read more.</u>
- 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 <u>occasional short road closures</u> along Old Fort Road.
- **Highway 29:** Drivers may experience delays at the east and west tie-ins at Cache Creek. Construction equipment will travel along Highway 29 and Highway 97. Drivers are reminded to travel at a safe distance behind construction vehicles particularly near the Highway 29 road realignment sections. Learn more at <u>drivebc.ca.</u>
- **Other areas:** Trucks with heavy loads will be accessing the dam site and other project areas, using public and resource roads. There may be occasional minor delays.

Equipment and noise

• Helicopters and commercial drones may be used to support investigative and construction works.

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