

Site C Project

Staying safe on and around the new reservoir

MAY 2025

The Site C reservoir has been filled, but there are still hazards on the water and shoreline. We continue to monitor for slope instability. BC Hydro boat launches remain closed. We ask the public to be extremely cautious and not access the reservoir until it's safe to do so.

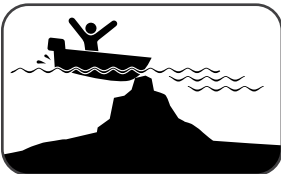
Hazards on the water

With the reservoir filled, there are several hazards on the water. This is why access to the reservoir is discouraged and BC Hydro boat launches remain closed.



Strong currents and undertow

Closer to the dam, there will be strong currents and undertow near the approach channel as water is drawn into the underwater intakes of the powerhouse.



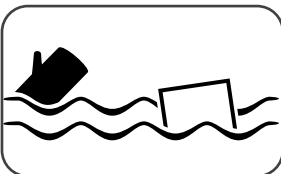
Submerged hazards

There are submerged hazards along the shoreline in shallow-water areas including shoals, vegetation, and woody debris.



Waves

There may be waves on the reservoir caused by wind or slope instabilities, as sections of shoreline respond to the reservoir during the filling process. In rare cases, the waves could run up onto the opposite shore. Hazards will be greatest during high flows and following extreme weather.



Floating wood debris

Wood debris that floats to the surface and moves downstream will be caught by a boom. We ask boaters to avoid this area and obey all signage.

Where to safely view the reservoir

- The **Site C viewpoint**, located immediately west of Fort St. John
- The **Peace River Valley viewpoint**, located east of the Halfway River

Hazards on land

Hazards on land are expected as the land and shoreline stabilizes. This is why all public recreation areas along the reservoir remain closed. We ask that you use extreme caution when close to shore, particularly when near steep slopes.



Unstable shoreline and erosion

There will be erosion and slope instability, with impacts varying in different locations.

Steep embankments and slopes are particularly prone to sudden slides, which may trigger waves on the reservoir. Now that the reservoir has been filled, erosion will take place and new slides may occur.

Erosion is more likely to occur after high wind and rainstorms. Please use caution when near the reservoir, look for signs of active erosion and slope movements, and maintain a safe distance from these areas.

Monitoring

BC Hydro has developed an extensive program to monitor and assess the reservoir shoreline and slopes. This program will take place for several years following filling.

There are many ways of monitoring slope stability and shoreline erosion:

- Periodic reservoir-wide aerial inspections
- Ground inspections (visual surveys) for specific areas
- Collection and review of manual and real-time instrumentation data

The monitoring data can point to slope movement, groundwater changes, or shoreline erosion. BC Hydro's geotechnical engineers will interpret all the monitoring data to assess shoreline stability.

After spring freshet in 2026, the monitoring data will be evaluated to determine when it's safe to re-open the boat launches.



How to stay safe

1. Stay off the water and away from the reservoir until it is deemed safe
2. Obey all signage
3. Visit sitecproject.com/reservoir for the latest conditions

911 operators respond to all types of emergencies, including those on the water. Emergency responders will coordinate with BC Hydro, if needed.

In the unlikely event there is an emergency at the Site C dam, BC Hydro will activate its emergency response plan which includes notification to Indigenous Nations, as well as municipal and regional governments. Each local government will notify their communities.

For continued updates, check your local government's website or local media. We will also post updates on BCHydro.com and our social media channels.

Emergency Response

Call 911 if you see someone in danger on the reservoir.